



ZARJA - THE DAWN

URADNO GLASILO
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKE ZVEZE V AMERIKI

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA

NUMBER 4

APRIL, 1994

VOLUME 66



**Kot glavica malčkov se v košku tiščijo,
jim ličeca brhka prešerno žarijo
tem pirhom - v barvah blestečih**

V Samozaložbi ALBINA DOVJAK

ZARJA - THE DAWN

(ISSN 0044-1848)

Postmaster: Send all changes of address to: ZARJA - THE DAWN, 4851 S. Drexel Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615

NO. 4 APRIL, 1994 VOL. 66

Member, Illinois Fraternal Congress

Official Publication of the Slovenian Women's Union of America —
Uradno glasilo Slovenske Ženske Zveze.

Published monthly except January, June & August — izhaja vsak
mesec razen januar, junij in avgust.

Annual Subscription for non-members, \$15.00 — naročnina \$15.00
letno za ne-članice.

Publisher: SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA
431 No. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432
Telephone (815) 727-1926

Second Class Postage paid at Chicago, IL

All communications for the next issue of publication must be in the
hands of the Editor by the first week of the month — vsi dopisi za naslednjo
izdajo mesečnika morajo biti v rokah urednice do 1. v mesecu.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Apr 10 - ANNIVERSARY MASS, Br. 73, Warrensville, OH,
St. Jude's 10:30 a.m. followed by Breakfast.
- Apr 14 MASS FOR AILING MEMBERS, Br. 2, Chicago,
IL at St. Stephen's 8 a.m.
- Apr 17 COMMEMORATIVE MASS, Br. 43, Milwaukee,
WI, 8:45 a.m. St. John's Church followed by
Brunch. Call Matilda for reservations.
- Apr 20 SPAGHETTI DINNER/BAKE SALE, Br. 33,
Duluth, MN
- Apr 21 POT LUCK DINNER, Br. 24, LaSalle, IL
- Apr 24 SPAGHETTI DINNER & BAKE SALE, Br. 33,
Duluth, MN
- May 1 PLANT SALE, Br. 102, Willard, WI
- May 18 MOTHER-DAUGHTER LUNCHEON, Br. 54,
Warren, OH, Elks Clubroom, Rt. 422, 1 p.m.
- Jul 17 ZVEZA DAY IN LEMONT, Br. 2, Chicago, IL

MOTHER OF THE YEAR CELEBRATIONS

- Apr 17 Br. 102, Willard, WI at Parish Center, Pot Luck at
noon
- May 1 Br. 35, Aurora, MN, Program and Brunch at Com-
munity Center after 9 a.m. Mass
- May 2 Br. 23, Ely, MN
- May 12 Br. 6, Barberton, OH, Covered-Dish, SND, 11 a.m.
- May 14 Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL at Golden Shell
- May 15 Br. 79, Enumelaw, WA, Potluck at Kathy Vogel's
- May 18 Br. 32, Euclid, OH
- May 18 Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI, Old Country Buffet, 12:30
p.m. Call Matilda for reservations.
- May 18 Br. 54, MOTHER-DAUGHTER Luncheon, Br. 54,
Warren, OH, Elks Clubroom, Rt. 422, 1 p.m.
- May 19 Br. 28, Calumet, MI at Shawn's Restaurant,
Laurium, MI 6 p.m.

On the Cover...

Like little heads nestled together,
with happy and shining cheeks,
these Easter eggs, in brilliant colors.

Albina Dovjak, Publisher

MEMBERS...

are our treasure! Pass along the word to
your family and friends that being a
member of S.W.U. brings you in touch with
your parish, your community, your herit-
age. We welcome them.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS NEEDED!

Remember a loved one, make a memorial tribute,
or organize a fund-raising event for the benefit of our
SWU Scholarship Fund! The Fund is always in need of
funds so that we may assure a long future program of
grants to our young scholars.

Your contributions are welcome!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN APRIL

National Officers:

- Apr. 21 - Jo Lustik, Nat'l Auditor, Joliet, IL
Apr. 21 - Hermine Dicke, Cookbook Editor, Pots &
Pans, Madison, WI

Presidents:

- Apr. 1 - Frances Korosec, Br. 59, Burgettstown, PA
Apr. 4 - Margaret Gricar, Br. 71, Strabane, PA
Apr. 10 - Jeanette Killoran, Br. 6, Barberton, OH
Apr. 17 - Virginia Uhernik, Br. 74, Ambridge, PA
Apr. 24 - Charlotte Laurich, Br. 38, Chisholm, MN
Apr. 25 - Kathleen Emerson, Br. 105, Detroit, MI

Secretaries:

- Apr. 3 - Vida Lanari, Br. 19, Eveleth, MN
Apr. 3 - Matilda Simcic, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI
Apr. 10 - Alice Cacich, Br. 33, Duluth, MN
Apr. 17 - Mary Jo Hartman, Br. 71, Strabane, PA
Apr. 18 - Katherine Knuth, Br. 38, Chisholm, MN
Apr. 24 - Delores Puhek, Br. 2, Chicago, IL
Apr. 26 - Jennie Crea, Br. 52, Kitzville, MN

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

DRIVE ON, MEMBERS!
in the current
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!





NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT'S NOW THAT REQUIRES ATTENTION

Weren't the Olympics exciting? The Olympics played an important part of our television viewing, hence relieving us from "cabin fever." With Spring officially here, our minds and hearts have been focused on numerous signs of new life. The dogwoods appear brighter than ever, displaying a vivid red against a glistening snow-white background. The daily arrival of grosbeaks, woodpeckers, and other species of birds are a sure sign of spring. Longer days of sunshine reflects warmth and contentment to the body and soul. John, my husband, hopes that the snow will soon melt as he enjoys being outdoors, raking the yard and getting rid of winter's debris, while my thoughts are geared toward planting our flower gardens.

First National Auditor, Marion Marolt has been hospitalized due to illness and recent surgery. When talking to her, you'd think she could dance the polka. Her spirits are remarkable! Marion's address is: St. Luke's Medical Center, 2900 West Oklahoma, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53215, Phone No. (414) 649-6000 or her room Phone No. (414) 385-4364. A get-well card or phone call can do wonders!

A passage from one of my Lenten readings, titled, THE HIDDEN GARDEN, speaks of time; we continue to come back to the NOW in time. It might be properly said that there are three times: a present time of past things; a present time of present things; and a present time of future things. It is the NOW that requires our attention. The present time of the past things is our memory; the present time of present things is our sight; and the present time of future things our expectations.

How many times have we put off loving or doing because of expectation! of rejections, the memory of past disappointments.

"It isn't the right time; not now. I'll do that tomorrow. I'll call her, I'll call him, I'll apologize at some other date. Just now there's so much to do." Or, "Why should I? If she had done her part in the past, I would gladly meet her halfway!"

When Christ told us to "love one another" He put it in the present tense. There were no yesterdays or tomorrows in His words. We have no past; nor do we have a future. We have always been and always will be in possession of only our "NOWS." How trapped we can become by placing ourselves in other places which aren't even real; we are pretenders, living in a fantasy life when we do this.

May these reflections enhance our planning and define our direction in preparation for the S.W.U. National Convention in 1995.

Phase IV of our Membership Campaign begins on April 1st. Let us work together in love and sisterhood in attaining an increase in membership for this great organization, the Slovenian Women's Union of America.

As we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ this Easter, remember the suffering people of Bosnia, the Palestinians who were murdered during prayer and the hungry and homeless of Haiti, Africa, India and many other nations. Bless all of us who shall share dinner with Easter love and joy!

Victoria "Tory" Bobence



HISTORY OF S.W.U. BRANCHES

Looking Back

to the Future

BR. #14, CLEVELAND (EUCLID), OHIO

On Oct. 31, 1927, the second Cleveland branch was formed in the area of Nottingham, now called Euclid, by Frances Rupert and Mary Darovec. A few ladies gathered at the home of Matilda Ropret on Shawnee Ave. for its initial meeting. Mary Darovec was the first one to make a motion to initiate a branch of Slovenska Ženska Zveza in Nottingham, Ohio, and with the moral support of Frances Rupert, the branch was thus formed. Charter members were Mary Darovec, Frances Rupert, Frances Fortuna, Molly (Stergar) Legat.

These charter members were so successful in organizing the Nottingham ladies that on Dec. 17, 1927, the first meeting was held with 50 members present.

Officers were elected as follows:

President	Frances Rupert
Vice President	Angela Bencin
Secretary	Frances Novak
Rec. Secretary	Matilda Ropret
Treasurer	Mary Darovec
Auditors	Frances Novinc Anna Stupica Josephine Nagode

The first "veselica" (party) was held on January 11, 1928, with a nice crowd in attendance. By February 1928, Branch 14 could boast a membership of 71 members.

Meetings continued to be held in the Ropret's home but after a few years changed to the Slovenian Society Home on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.



**FRANCES
RUPERT**

Frances was an organizer of Branch 14 serving as the first president and remaining in office for 20 years of leadership and dedicated service. Her daughter, Mary Perdan

Dolsak, carried on in her footsteps and she celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the branch as a 50-year member.

Frances suffered much in her later years as she lost both of her legs but was remembered by her branch as well as many of her sister members in branches throughout the U.S. with gifts of remembrance. Her articles in the ZARJA revealed her acceptance of this misfortune and the kind, loving and heartfelt manner in which she remembered her work among the ladies of the branch and the entire society of Slovene sisters.

She is remembered as one of the hardest working pioneer officers in Zveza's history.

Top Picture:

**FOUNDERS OF BR. 14
EUCLID, OHIO**

First row: Anna Rehar, Mary Darovec, treasurer; Antonia Kaušek, vice-president; Frances Rupert, president; Frances Novak, secretary, Matilda Ropret, assistant secretary; and Mary Pretekcl, Jr.

Second row: Mary Črvan, Uršula Kalac, Amalia Stergar, Mary Pretekcl, Sr., Jennie Samša, Angela Benčin and Anna Škufca.

Third row: Mary Novinc, Anna Korošec, Uršula Trtnik, Justina Škufca, Frances Fortuna, Jennie Mandal and Mary Kočevár.



OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

posed for the lower picture in 1941 when it was in its greatest activity with sewing club, drill team and juvenile circle. On the photo are:

first row: Rose Ulle, rec. sec'y, Anna Slopko, vice-pres., Frances Rupert, pres., Frances Medved, sec'y, Frances Klein, treas. and Ursula Trtnik, banner carrier. Second row: Anna Kuhar, Mary Lauric, Mary Japel, Antonia Svetek, Rose Popovic, Cecilia Markun, Mary Jagodnik, Angela Kern. Third row: Frances Fortuna, Mary Sustarsic, Mary Pertekcl, Toncka Strlekar, Frances Stupica, Anna Korosec, Pavla Seseck. Fourth row: Mary Segulin, Josephine Klein, Frances Kristof, Alice Kausek, Mary Perdan.

PIONEER BR. 14 MEMBERS



S.W.U. HISTORY



FRANCES RUPERT CADETS, NO. 14 SZZ, CLEVELAND (NOTTINGHAM), OHIO

Presenting the Frances Rupert Cadets of No. 14 SZZ in new uniforms of green serge with gold trimmings made by the Fingerma Tailoring in Cleveland, Ohio. The team made its first appearance in these uniforms at the fourth annual field day.

Seated, left to right: Anne Troha, Olga Poje, Cecilia Troha, Rose Kraince, Frances Seme.

Second row, standing, left to right: Margaret Stakich, Steffie princic, Jennie Reja, Rose Troha (captain), Rose Fifolt (lieutenant), Marie Pajk (sergeant), Rose Grebenc.

Third row: Jean Kozlevcar, Josephine Kapler (president), Louise Kozlevcar, Rose Fink.

This drill team will celebrate its fourth anniversary January 4, 1941. Congratulations!

COMBINED BRANCHES

Branch 14 participated in many activities which were promoted by the combined branches of Cleveland. In an article in the ZARJA, August 1964, the reporter asked any member who could sew or knit to prepare an outfit for the bazaar or volunteer to model in the fashion show.

Many of the young women of Branch 14 also participated in the annual Cotillion Ball which was held for many years under the guidance of Frances Sietz.



CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Once a year the ladies donated a considerable amount of money to the following charitable organizations:

Mary Marec Schools for Retarded Children
Holy Family Cancer Home
Slovenian Home For The Aged

DAWN CHORAL GROUP



The Dawn Choral Club attired in their pink concert gowns perform Slovenian folk songs for a spellbound audience at their Fall Concert.



President of Branch 14, Pauline Krall, welcoming the guests at a Choral Club Concert.

The "Dawn Choral Group" was organized in 1967, by Mary Bostian of Branch 32 and who later was elected National President of the SWU. There were 37 ladies in the group many of whom were members of Branch 14.

The first director was renowned tenor, Frank Gorenssek, who rehearsed the ladies every Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Slovenian Society Home. Yearly concerts were held in the Fall and there were a variety of selections but mostly Slovenian Folk songs. This is one of the few branches of the SWU that formed a large Choral group and one which continued for a number of years.

Following Frank Gorenssek, there were other excellent directors who led the ladies to singing heights through the years. Frank Zupan was one of these directors,

Mr. Zupan assumed his role as the director of the Dawn Choral Group in Jan. of 1976. He was an accomplished organist and pianist with a great singing voice. After Mr. Gorenssek resigned because of heavy work demands in his engineering position, Mr. Zupan agreed to direct the ladies.

THE FIRST LADY



Mary Fischer Turvey

This month, Mary Fischer Turvey of Marquette, Michigan, the daughter of Margaret Fischer and granddaughter of Mrs. Prisland, will share her remembrances of "Grandma Marie," as she fondly called her grandmother. Mary mentioned in her letter which accompanied these memories:

"I wrote the article last spring and felt it was too long. I hoped during the summer to reduce it but when Fall came, I reread it and had to add more. It seems that about twenty more pages could have been written. I hope your readers will enjoy it."

Mary, I'm sure the ZARJA readers will enjoy learning about your personal experiences with your grandmother--the First Lady of ZVEZA. Many of our readers never had an opportunity to meet her personally or see her at a SWU function. I'm sure your testimony will establish a deep respect for her, not only a leader of Slovene women but a sensitive and caring individual.

"A Tribute to My Grandmother"



Grandmother, Marie Prisland had a lovely smile for Mary at the Prisland's 65th Wedding Anniversary party in Sheboygan in 1973.

One evening during the year 1930, the League of Women Voters held a meeting in the Sheboygan City Hall. Marie Prisland was the guest speaker that night, her speech was entitled "Slovenia is my Mother, America is my Bride". The intent was to inform those native to the area of life experiences of Slovenian women immigrants. "She felt she had left her Mother country to come across the sea and was happy to have freedom and honor to become a citizen. Mrs. Prisland stated, You have always been here, never have suffered anything, never been mistreated, always honored, enjoying freedom, also being 'first.' In my country, the man is first, the woman, second." (Sheboygan Press)

As a young girl I was fortunate to have been able to spend a great deal of time with Grandma Marie. As busy as she was, she always had time and interest in her family. Her attitudes and enthusiasm for life made a profound impression on me. She supported me during one of the most difficult times of my teenage life, when I experienced the bitterness, hatred, and tragedy that ensues in a small white-collar town, torn by a factory strike. I was from a blue-collar family and felt intimidated, as less of an individual. Grandma convinced me that any endeavor I chose could bring success. Today I can still hear her saying in a very firm voice, "There is no such thing as I can't. We must try."

Visitors felt welcomed in my grandparent's shining, airy, tastefully decorated home with its collections. There were a number of favorite soups cooking on the wood stove, some with juniper berries, others with freshly cut kohlrabi from Grandpa's precision-designed and maintained garden. There was a small desk with a typewriter in the dining room, covered with copies of Grandma's writing, waiting to be

edited and mailed; there were lightly starched chambray shirts of Grandpa's which would soon be meticulously ironed; there were small glasses of white wine at lunch and dinner from Grandpa's large casks in the basement.

We would make potica; wrap large boxes of clothing and dried foods with yards of bad tasting brown paper tape for Europe; go for traditional evening walks as those of the "old country" do, and often meet kindly Slovenian friends speaking their native melodic language, often anxious and almost insulted if samples of their newly made wines and sausages were not sampled.

Frankly, there was one subject I learned at a young age never to bring up: the subject of Slovenia. Grandma would become emotionally upset and sometimes tears would form as she talked about the suffering of "her people" during the war: the hardwork they did to survive, their poverty, and the difficulties of living under communistic domination. Sometimes she would reveal her deep resentment of being left behind as a six year old child. Her parents sailed for a better life to Brazil, intending to return for her, but Grandma's mother died shortly after her emigration and her father remarried in Brazil. Yet, casually, almost without thinking, she would describe the unbelievable beauty of Slovenia, of two large protective mountains on either side of the little valley village of Recica. The mountains protected residents from storms of the Julian Alps, served as a summer grazing source for animals, and were sources of wood for fuel and construction. As children, Grandma and her friends would hike into the foothills and count the number of times a coo coo bird called. The total number of calls told the counter how many years he or she would live. Sometimes the bird would only call three or four times – all would laugh and say "you are dead" to the counter.

Now I realize Grandma's relationship to Slovenia was truly a mother-daughter one: the mother always encouraging, almost driving the daughter to make the most of her life, to strive with courage to change what can be changed for the better, and to continually search for knowledge. Grandma saw the need for improvement of women's rights. She no longer had a mother or grandmother to give her support, but felt love for her country and sensed the needs of it's people. That same relationship she had with Mother Slovenia she was relating to me.

The Slovenians of Traunik, here in Upper Michigan remember Grandma. Many are members of the K.S.K.J. and used to drive to Milwaukee during World War II with cars filled with warm clothing that they helped others from the midwest pack into large boxes which were shipped to the freezing, starving people of the "old country". Grandma would be there, too.

Recently I attended a funeral for Frank Bartol's aunt. Frank is a retired English teacher, a journalist, a translator, and most importantly a Traunik Slovenian. Although knowing few at the funeral and the deceased not at all, I was warmly greeted. Later, a note of thanks came from the family stating that their loved one would have been very pleased to have had Marie Prisland's granddaughter at her funeral.

To think that after all of these years people remember my dear Grandmother through me was overwhelming; what an honor. What a lot is expected of me. I will keep that note forever.

*Mary Fischer Turvey
Marquette, Michigan 1993*

"Great Grandma" Marie Prisland

loved to have the little great grandchildren around her – as much as they loved visiting her. This old photo from 1979 shows the family of the Prislands' grandson, Robert and wife, Chris Dicke (Hermine and Bob's son). In front of Mrs. Prisland are the twins, Ann and Karen, left standing is Mary while Margaret and Robert are standing right. For a few years before her passing in 1979, Mrs. Prisland lived in a retirement home where this photo was taken.



S.W.U. SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

FROM JULY 1, 1993 thru DEC. 31, 1993

CONTRIBUTORS	IN MEMORY OF:	AMOUNT:			
SWU National Office, Joliet, IL	Stephen Malnerick	\$25.00	Litwin, Rose Mary, Chicago, IL	Luba Troha	20.00
SWU Branch No.			Lo Presti, Rose, Euclid, OH	Joseph J. Lo Presti, husband	25.00
16, S. Chicago, IL	Josephine Dykowski	10.00	Lustik, Josephine & Wally, Joliet, IL	Mary & Joseph Vidmar	10.00
20, Joliet, IL	Dorothy Cwudzinski	5.00	Malickar, Lillian, Euclid, OH	Edward F. Gliha, brother	5.00
20, Joliet, IL	Bertha Kennick	5.00	Mustonen, Adeline, Soudan, MN	Ursula Pahula Mavetz	5.00
20, Joliet, IL	Bernice Kostelec	5.00	Orazem, Anne & Anthony, Aurora, MN	Mary Helen Smolich	10.00
23, Ely, MN	Molly Richards	5.00	Orazem, Anthony R., Aurora, MN	Mary Helen Smolich	5.00
23, Ely, MN	Frances Zakrajsek	5.00	Orazem, Elziabeth, Anna Rose Smolich,		
47, Garfield Hts., OH	Frances Bricel	5.00	Joseph & Tom Smolich, Aurora, MN	Mary Helen Smolich	100.00
47, Garfield Hts., OH	Frances Mauer	5.00	Ovnik, Marie, Chicago, IL	Luba Troha	25.00
47, Garfield OH	Caroline Stare	10.00	Persin, Mary, Euclid, OH	Rudolph Massera, Sr., brother	10.00
55, Girard, OH	deceased members	50.00	Rebrovich, Mayme, Aurora, MN	Mary Helen Smolich	5.00
71, Strabane, PA	Mary Toplisek	10.00	Rom, Marie, Chicago, IL	Luba Troha	15.00
Ancel, Olga & Edward, Joliet, IL	Bernice Kostelec	25.00	Slovene Pensioners Club, Barberton, OH	Mary Pavlovich	5.00
Bledsoe, Henrietta & Paul, Napa, CA	Felix Peraza	5.00	Staut, Mary, Willard, WI	Mary Evanych	5.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Sr. Methodius Achin	5.00	Staut, Mary, Willard, WI	Frank Koprivetz	5.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Martha Anderson	5.00	Staut, Mary, Willard, WI	Stanley & Mary Raik	5.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Steve Brula	5.00	Staut, Mary, Willard, WI	John Snedic	5.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Winifred Carlson	10.00	Staut, Mary, Willard, WI	Anna Volovsek	10.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Crescence Chiabotti	5.00	Staut, Mary, Willard, WI	Patricia Baird Wimme	5.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Margaret Gornick	5.00	Staut, Mary, Willard, WI	Harry Zielinski	5.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Wilhemina Gornick	10.00	Tomsic, Helen, Cleveland, OH	Josephine Gerbeck, sister	10.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Jane Jokela	5.00	Zadel, Mrs. Vern, Chicago, IL	Luba Troha	10.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Rose Kraemer	5.00	Zefran, Debbie, Chicago, IL	Luba Troha	10.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Ursula Mavetz	5.00	SWU Branch No. 32, Euclid, OH	donation	50.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Eugene Myre	5.00	SWU Branch No. 33, Duluth, MN	donation	34.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Barbara Popesh	5.00	SWU Branch No. 101, Bedford Hts., OH	donation	100.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Kimberly Ruitter	5.00			
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Marlene Sjoberg	10.00	Anonymous Donor		1000.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Mary Smolich	5.00	Unclaimed SWU Death Benefit		100.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Mary Susterich	5.00	Unclaimed SWU Death Benefit		100.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	George Zupancic	5.00	Barman-Colmar, Frances, N. Olmsted, OH	donation	70.00
Bobence, Victoria & John, Ely, MN	Joe Zupancic	5.00	Kolenor, Frances, Euclid, OH	donation	3.00
Bovdik, Mr. & Mrs. Jim, Chicago, IL	Luba Troha	10.00	Oblak, Josephine	SWU death benefit	100.00
Fischer, Margaret, Kohler, WI	Robert Fischer	10.00	Sadar, Julia, Euclid, OH	In honor of 50th wedding anniv.	10.00
Golobic, Wanda, Euclid, OH	Robert A. Golobic, son	10.00	Stimac, Bertha, Chicago, IL	donation	18.00
Hodnik, Anna L., Aurora, MN	Mary Helen Smolich	10.00	Strnad, Frank, Fontana, CA	donation	10.00
Hutar, Angela, Euclid, OH	Matt Hutar, husband	20.00	Tavcar, Frances, Euclid, OH	donation	50.00
Jannik-Gornik, Josephine, Lainesville, OH	Mary Koss	10.00	Troha, Luba, Chicago, IL	Inheritance Benefit	500.00
Kasper, Ella, Chicago, IL	Luba Troha	10.00	Verdnik, Anne and Mary, Joliet, IL	donation	3.00
Kuhel, Anna, Euclid, OH	Edward J. Kuhel, husband	5.00	Voytko, Angeline, Lorain, OH	donation	5.00

Scholarship letters...

I would like to thank you once again for giving me the opportunity to continue my education by rewarding me one of the SWU Scholarships. It means a lot that my ethnicity and activities are recognized. I now know my hard work is worth it. I look forward to continue to be a part of SWU. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Volk

Enclosed is a check for \$100 for the SWU Scholarship Fund. Keep up the good work in this worthy venture.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Max L. Schuster,
member of Br. 35, Aurora, MN



ACTIVITIES

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

It has been such a long winter, it seems there is no end, but I think we do see the light at the end of the tunnel. I know everyone is tired of all this cold and snow and we hope that the beautiful spring is not far away, it certainly will be appreciated, especially what we have gone through this year. If there is one good thing about all the cold weather this year, it's that we did stay at home and got to enjoy the Olympics on TV. It was so nice to see that Slovenia won 3 medals as a young nation.

Once again, because of the nasty weather that night, our Valentine Party was spoiled; a lot of our members could not make the meeting because of the surprise snow storm, but those who were able to attend had a great time. Ray Nusko, as always, had the hall decorated for the occasion, Josie Lukas and Helen Fitzgerald made very pretty Valentine favors. Joe Worth donated Valentine Heart centerpieces that were raffled off and it made the winners very happy. A little stuffed bear was raffled and won by Frances Maxwell. Jean Hrastar treated the members with ham and cheese sandwiches and sent a large, beautiful, tasty cake she baked for her birthday. She was unable to be with us because of the weather, however, she is back at St. Stephen's at her desk. Happy Birthday Jean – and we are glad that you have recovered after your serious operations.

We did not select anyone for the "Woman of the Year" – those that were nominated, declined the invitation.

Our PICNIC at St. Mary's, Lemont, IL was discussed – date **July 17** – raffle books will be mailed to members to offset the expenses. Please keep the date open, it is always so much fun, and you will be able to see so many of your friends.

Our charity effort for the branch is the **Cheer Basket** – we need to fill the pantry shelves. Father Blase tells us the shelves are empty. So please, the next time you are shopping for yourself, please throw a few items in your cart

for the needy and either bring them to the next meeting or drop off at St. Stephen's.

We are happy to report that Wilma Sinkovec (Toplak) is now recovering at home after her terrible fall (she fell and broke her hip). We hope she will be able to attend the meetings soon. Also, Jennie Kovacic's husband Frank (Tarz) underwent surgery and is also back home for some R&R. Sally Bogolin fell in front of the church during an ice storm, and ended up with two black eyes and stitches. It seems you just can't be too careful, things just happen.

Our drive is on to get more new members for 1994. The member who brings in the most new members for the year will receive a very nice prize: Dinner for two at the Candlelight Theatre! So, invite your friends to our meetings, after they get to know us they will, we hope, be glad to join us. Let's get moving!

HAPPY EASTER TO EVERYONE!

Dates to Remember:

April 14 – Mass 7:00 for ailing members, meeting night.

April 10 – 75th Anniversary celebration Altar Society – Mass 11:30. Dinner following at gym hall.

Love,

DAISY

NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

Our February 2 meeting was well attended. Prior to the meeting, refreshments were served by hostesses, Margaret Cullen, Eileen Kaplan and Catherine Sinkovec.

Mary Tekavec, President, opened the meeting with prayers and then reports were given and approved.

Steffie Barnett, Retha Minton and Frances Nelson were reported ill and were missed at the meeting. Frances Nelson had surgery. A speedy recovery is wished for all.

Jennie Mishmash was chosen as the Mother of the Year. She is very deserving of this honor – never misses a meeting and is always willing to do more than her share.

As always, after the meeting, "B" was played.

The Lenten season has begun again with meatless soup being served in the church hall after the mass Ash Wednesday. The ladies of the parish will serve soup every Wednesday during lent and everyone is welcome. It was great to see so many partaking of this soup and contributions that are made are for the Operation Rice Bowl.

Jonathan Pachek, son of Elsie Pachak, was recently hurt on the job. Stanley Jersin had surgery. Mike Hiza and Mary Yanko had cataract surgery. We wish a speedy recovery to all.

Now on a sad note, condolences go out to the families of Mary Frances (Kochevar) Miller, Frances Kaplan, Mary Frances Hribernik, Fred Grahek, Jeanne Hochevar and Teresa Rotondo.

Our next meeting will be April 6th at 1:00 p.m.

Happy Easter!

PAULINE PAUCHICK

NO. 6, BARBERTON, OH

May 12, 1994

This is the date of our next business meeting and luncheon. We will be honoring our "Mothers of the Year" and our 50-year members. Please plan to bring your favorite covered dish, we will provide the meat. We will be meeting at the Slovenian National Home at 11:00 a.m. Please plan to attend. We hope to see you there.

Last year's raffle was a success, so we are considering having another one. Please plan to attend the meeting and let us know how you feel about a raffle.

Our sympathy is with Annie Lekse on the passing of her husband, Louis. Annie, we are thinking and praying for you and your family.

Do not forget to mark your calendars for the May 12 meeting.

Love from Texas,

BARBARA MOHR

From branch No. 74 secretary Jane Hudak:

"Thanks much for the whistle. My husband enjoys using it!"

FIVE GENERATIONS



Gertrude Jordan spent Thanksgiving with her daughter, Dorothy Spencer at which time five generations gathered. They took time to pose for his lovely picture that our reporter is sharing with us. (Thank you, Pauline!) Gertrude is on the left and next to her is daughter, Dorothy, then granddaughter, Pattie Moore, great granddaughter, Heather Cone and baby great great granddauhgter, Destinee Nicole Cone. They are all members of Br. 3, Pueblo, Colorado!

NO. 10, CLEVELAND, OH

The meeting for January was cancelled due to the bad weather. Our March meeting was on the 23rd. Members are reminded that the 1994 dues are now due and can be paid at the meetings or sent directly to our sec.-treas. Theresa Dagg at 1910 Rosemont Rd., East Cleveland, OH 44112, tel. 681-5379.

Get well wishes to all our sick members. To our sunshine lady, Joyce LaNassi, who fell and is recuperating, special wishes from all of us.

Check your policies to see if any changes need to be made in the beneficiary. To our members' families who lost their loved ones, we send our condolences.

Happy birthday to Millie Novak who celebrated her 95th! Woman of the Year will be selected and reported next month. Hope we had a good turnout at the March meeting. It's always nice to meet your sister members. Have a blessed, safe and healthy Easter.

ANN STEFANCIC

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

After having to cancel our Jan. meeting due to cold and snow, our Feb. meeting showed signs of winter. A hearty bunch of 25 women showed up, the smallest crowd in many in time. Quite a few are suffering the weather. I, for one, missed the meeting, threw my back out on Jan. 6th shoveling snow

and it's six weeks of suffering. Anybody want a shovel?

Sylvia Kotze and Ludia Jenich are in California; Estelle Kobow and Leona Zigman in Florida. Sophie Rozman spent a week in Indiana with her son and family.

We gave Phylis, our chief cook, a belated Christmas present.

I heard it was a long meeting with much discussion, as I wasn't there I can't comment on anything.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter and good health. Stay warm.

MARY KIEL

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

February has passed and we had our lovely Valentine's Party with about 20 members present, hot dogs and all the trimmings, and delightful desserts.

Sylvia Birkeland told me of her wonderful family reunion at Christmas time. She has four sisters and one brother and their families and they met in San Luis Obispo, Calif. There were 17 of them. Sylvia had a great picture of her and her brother and sisters in their bright colored sweatshirts with a logo from Butte. Sounded like a fabulous party.

We have a few members under the weather and send good wishes to: Ann Vercelli, Kate Lampe, Rose Scoff, Katie Pecavar. Congratulations to Mary and Jerry Lahane on the birth of beautiful Jessica. And if you don't be-

lieve me, just ask Great-Aunts Stanka or Ivanka or Grandma, Katica. Much joy and happiness to this blessed child with all these loving relatives.

We were very happy to see Yvonne Cosmi at our meeting on Thursday after Cateact surgery on Tuesday.

I received a beautiful note from Alouise Epley from North Randall, Ohio. I met this delightful lady and her family at the Convention. It is a joy to hear from these wonderful friends I made. This is truly what Zveza is all about. Meeting new people and building wonderful friendships.

Wishing everyone a blessed Easter. There is much sadness in our beloved Church of the Nativity this Easter Season because the Archbishop still plans to close our Church. If you have ever heard our beautiful choir, or witnessed the loving hospitality of our people, please and write and tell the Archbishop of San Francisco how our Church has touched your life and please not to close it. Also, a most blessed Easter to Alex Simenc and his family who has given us the most beautiful choir for over 40 years. We do love you, Alec, and we miss you.

BEVERLY

* * *

Branch 13 is very saddened to report the loss of our long time member, Kathryn Mahar, who passed away suddenly January 13, 1994. We are honored to say that Kay had been a member of our branch for 50 years. Although Kay and her husband Ed lived in Au-

burn, California they felt close to Br. 13's members and their friends on the "Hill", by reading the ZARJA. Kay leaves her honey Ed. They were married for 54 loving years. She also leaves her children Loretta, Barbara, and Kenneth, her grandchildren and one great grandson. This wonderful couple always had time for their family and friends. One of the best Christmas presents my sister Doreen and I received last December was a visit from Kay and Ed. We must all enjoy and appreciate life as Kay did, for you never know when the Lord needs you and takes you to heaven. Our deepest sympathy to Ed Mahar and his family.

MOREEN

NO. 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL

The Holy Father appointed the Most Rev. Wilton D. Gregory as Bishop of the Diocese of Bellville, IL after ten years as pastor of Vicariate VI. Bishop Gregory celebrated the Eucharist in Thanksgiving for his rewarding ministry with the celebration of mass on Sunday, Feb. 6th, 1994 at St. Michael Archangel Church at 82nd and So. Shore Dr. Mass petitions were presented in seven different languages, among them, Slovenian and Vida Kumse, our officer of Br. 16, was selected to read the Slovenian petition. As usual, she did a terrific presentation. We remember Bishop Gregory well in the Slovenian community because every year on Thanksgiving Day he celebrated mass at St. George's Church.

A reception was held in his honor at the hall after mass so everyone could congratulate him and bid him a fond farewell. Others from Br. 16 attending were Manda Maggio, Mary Bublich, Mary Ann Skibbie, Jo Hester and Gladys Buck. Fr. Raphael was also in attendance.

Even tho a storm was predicted for the afternoon of Feb. 12th, twenty-three brave ladies fought the weather and came to the Valentine Brunch and meeting. Elaine Strubel was chosen as Valentine Queen and was presented with a beautiful rhinestone brooch. After lunch, a few of the ladies had pictures from the cruise of the Slovenian Cultural Center held in late January that several of our members attended. Everyone enjoyed looking at the pictures and almost thought we



Vida Kumse, beautiful Slovenka!

were on the cruise with them.

Bunco was played afterward and all 23 ladies received prizes.

Bernice Jarkovich was nominated as Mother of the Year for 1994. She sold her home and will be staying with her daughter until her new condo is ready. We will be honoring her in May.

Marge Prebil became grandmother for the 11th time – a boy, Christopher. She immediately enrolled him in our branch as a junior member.

Rose Salakar, Ruth Cubra and Mrs. Stombulic, who is 94, sent thank-you notes for the Christmas cards we sent and they were so happy to hear from us. We also heard from Tina Martin who now has 8 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren!

Olga and Leo Kowalkowski and brother, William Zupancic are all under the weather. Romaine Jablonski also has some health problems and we wish her well.

Please remember Romaine and all other sick members in your prayers.

Sylvia Spretnjak attended the christening of her great nephew Paul Alexander.

Get your reservations in early for the Mother of the Year party which will be on Saturday, May 14th at 12 noon, at the Golden Shell Restaurant. Call Gladys or Edna.

Our condolences to the family of Kathy Anderson. She passed on and was buried on March 2nd. Mass was at St. George's Church.

E.W.

NO. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

With the arrival of spring and a bit of warmer weather we perhaps can finally put away our snow blowers and shovels. What a winter we've had! Mountains of snow and below zero temps. But now that's over, thank God, and it's time to enjoy the beauty of nature coming to life and the thrill of seeing the first robin.

President Marion Marolt is at St. Luke's hospital as of this writing after having serious surgery. We hope all went well. Must give her credit for the spunk and courageous nature she has shown thru all her various health problems. She came out of all of it very well and her determined nature is an example for all of us to follow! Good luck, Marion!

My sister, Helen Pizar has undergone surgery also and all went well. She is now recuperating at home, and it won't be long before she will be up and about, resuming her volunteer work at the West Allis Memorial Hospital in the gift shop, a position she enjoys. She plans to once again take part in the various activities she's involved in.

Happy birthday greetings are extended to Mitzie Marolt, Coletta Imperl and Loni Limoni and to all who have birthdays in April. Get well wishes are extended to Mitzie Marolt, Marion Marolt, Helen Pizar and all our sick and shut in members and friends. May God grant them better health soon.

Happy Easter to all.

FRAN PIWONI



NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

Hi everyone! When will it ever stop snowing and sleeting? This cold damp air goes right through you. I tell myself that when the temperature this summer gets up to 100° in the shade I won't complain. But then I am sure I'll complain about that, too. My husband says it's my nature.

The guest speaker at our February meeting was Dana Blatti, owner of



Blagoslovljene velikonocene praznike

Original drawing by
Lucille (Lucija) Dragovan

Floral Creations by Dana. She showed us how to put together some flower arrangements and answered our many questions on plants and flowers. The arrangements that she made were then raffled off and won by Ann Kobe and Sue Bartholme.

The members of branch 20 would like to extend their sympathy to the family of Frances Zelesnik who went to her eternal rest on Valentine's Day. Her husband passed away in 1985 and I can't help but think that this was probably of some comfort to her family that Frances and her husband William met again on "Valentine's Day."

We also have some get-well quick wishes for Marge Franze, Stephanie Kovacic, Bernadine Ukovich and Dick Tezak.

A baby girl was born to Stephanie and Tom Wicks on the 8th of February. They named their daughter Nicole Elizabeth. She weighed 8 lbs. 2 ozs and was 20" long. Our Vice-President Agnes Dobczyk is the proud great-grandma. Did you sign her up Agnes?

Our member Ann Kobe and husband William celebrated 69 years of marriage on February 18th. I can't imagine Ann being married for 69 years, she doesn't look old enough. Congratulations and have many more happy years!

When your dues are paid by December 1 of the current year, your name will go in for a drawing for 1 year free dues. The lucky winner to have her '94 dues paid for is Lucille Dragovan. So be sure to have your dues paid by December 1 and you too might be a winner.

The hostesses at our February meeting were Pat Figurowski and Mary Kay Demick. Winner of 50/50 prize was Dana Blatti. \$2.00 attendance prize was won by Jonita Ruth. Door prizes were won by Helen Minnick, Dana Blatti, Jim Sefcik and Marcia Judnik.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday April 19 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Park. Our Woman of the Year will be announced. The guest speaker for the night is our member, Phyllis Susner from Adventure Travel. She will show us slides on travels to Slovenia, Croatia and Medjugorje. I am sure I will never travel abroad so this will be very interesting to me as I am sure it will be to many of you.

Until next month, take care and may God bless.

JOYCE VICICH

NO. 23, ELY, MN

Yes, the Slovenian women in Ely, MN. Are brave women, especially on February 7, when the temperature was -25° and nineteen of us came to the meeting!

Vice President Jeanne Polyner conducted the meeting and Mary Folio gave the treasurer's report. We had "thank you's" from Kris Garni, Sister Cabrini, Jane Yadlosky and the SWU Scholarship Fund. Olga Feroni has accepted the position of Hostess Committee Chairman. Our method of picking committee members will stay the same. "Names in a Box", drawn at each meeting for the next meeting, and Olga will

check for any changes made plus making sure there is a chairman. There will be 5 people for monthly meetings and 10 people for special dinners or parties. We want to thank everyone for being so cooperative and understanding.

Our 1993 "Mother of the Year" will be Mary Jamnick. The special celebration and banquet will take place on May 2, 1993. Committee members are: Dorothy Popesh, Florence Markovich, Mary Kerntz, Theresa Zaverl, Francis Zupancich, Amelia Marolt, Mary Ann Starkman, Cecelia Harri, Pat Lammi and Mary Berrini.

The door prize of the evening was won by Rose Pucel.

Committee members for the March meeting were to be: Ann Stupnik, Janice Pucel, Dorothy Hutar, Fran Shepel and Mary Starkovich.

Valentine cupcakes and candy were served with coffee and a great time was had by all! Thanks to: Angie Godec, Mary Petritz, Sally Davidson and "yours truly". After socializing, many of us had to call our "better half" or a family member to pick us up, as many of us didn't want to leave the cars out on "that cold hill" by the church! Yes, we all were brave to "weather the weather" that night!

DAWN CLUB, Ely, MN

February 14, 1994 was a perfect time for a Valentine Party -- the weather was much nicer for one thing, and the timing was perfect!!!

Our evening started out with a nice social hour visiting with each other, then a beautiful and delicious dinner was served with the Valentine spirit in the atmosphere.

After a short breather and drawings for some door prizes, we played the "B" game which proved very competitive and hilarious! Our evening climaxed with entertainment by a newly-organized singing group, "The New Notes" who captured our sixty-plus members' attention with beautiful songs, perfect harmony and a spirit of love, friendship and giving. What a wonderful "Valentine Day Party"!!! Special thanks to the committee for a wonderful evening. Hope you all had a "Happy Valentine's Day"!!!

I am now recuperating from a broken right wrist and arm -- that is why you haven't heard from the Ely SWU for a while as it happened in November, but

now it will be therapeutic exercise when I report so you'll be hearing more often, ... what a winter!!!!

JANE YADLOSKY

NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL

Last month I wrote "spring is just around the corner" and as usual, the last week of February was the snowiest of the winter season with blizzard winds, drifting snow and cold. No more optimistic weather reports from me, we can't do anything about the weather so we might just as well make the best of it and enjoy it.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Jane Sherman whose husband Anton passed away on February 13, after a long illness. May God grant his soul eternal rest!

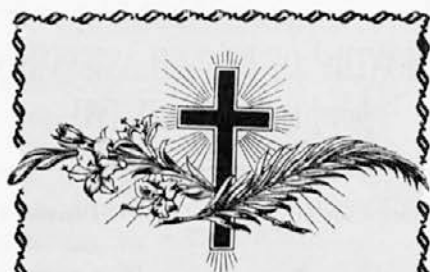
Our congratulations to Paula and Stan Illman on the birth of a granddaughter. Son Chris and his wife Cathy are the proud parents.

I don't have much news at this time since we haven't been together since our Christmas party on December 2. We will have had our first meeting of the year by the time you read this. Perhaps some interesting news will come from that meeting -- at any rate it will be good to get together and see one another again.

Happy April birthday to celebrants; Recording Secretary, Adele Gensler, Marianne Schweickert, Theresa Wellner, Frances Jean Ficek, Mary Ann Brunner, Ann Cassidy, Anne Piletic, Debbie Pohar and Mary Ann Potthoff.

Our next meeting will be on April 21, at which time we plan to have our after-Easter Potluck dinner. You will receive information and all details regarding the dinner through the church bulletin and the local paper. Plan to attend -- our dinner last year was a great success.

ANNE M. WANGLER,
Reporter



Departed Members

- 3 - Mary Hribernik (83)
48-yr member
Frances Kaplan (90)
44-yr member
- 6 - Frances Smrdel (87)
66-yr member
- 10 - Mary Wright (88)
47-yr member
- 14 - Anna Skok (97)
58-yr member
- 20 - Frances Zelesnik (73)
53-yr member
- 26 - Frances Moravec (93)
58-yr member
- 32 - Margaret LeCrone (83)
54-yr member
Josephine Posch (99)
66-yr member
- 39 - Anne Kostelz (85)
51-yr member
- 59 - Johanna Lawrence (91)
59-yr member
- 63 - Mary Savoren (89)
45-yr member
- 71 - Stella Casper (72)
48-yr member
- 74 - Antonia Somrak (94)
58-yr member
- 100 - Stefania Majcen (94)
62-yr member



28, CALUMET, MI

Our annual Christmas party was held on December 16, 1993, in the St. Paul The Apostle Church Hall. There were 26 members present. A delicious dinner was prepared and served by Anna Bacher, Tracy Strucel, and Theresa Skufca. We were honored to have three priests present, Frs. Cyprian, Srebernak and Ponton. Each was given a little gift.

Theresa Neimi provided a beautiful cake for a raffle, it was won by Bea Gasperich. Ann Heineman, our past president sent her best wishes for a Merry Christmas for all our members. She very generously donated the beautiful Santa Claus favors which she herself made. They were appreciated by all. Christmas gifts were exchanged and bingo was played. A good time was had by all.

On May 19, 1994, our Mother's Day dinner will be held at Shawn's Restaurant in Laurium, at 6 p.m. We will be honoring Kay Wickstrom as our Mother of the Year. Kay is a very active member of our lodge, a devout member of St. Paul The Apostle Church. She makes delicious poticas which are eagerly awaited for our church festivals and bake sales. She is active in the CLK Senior Citizen's Organization. Her hobbies include card playing and a daily walk (weather permitting). She also keeps tabs on her three hockey-playing grandsons. Kay always has a smile on her face, and a kind word for all.

Our next meeting will be held on April 21, 1994 at 7 p.m. at St. Paul The Apostle Church Hall. We hope to see as many members attending it.

Remember our shut-in sisters in your prayers.

God's peace to all.

ROSE BARRONS,
Recording Secretary



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SIX MONTHS' OF BRANCH ASSESSMENTS

July 1 to December 31, 1993

Branch	Amount	Adult	Junior	Social				
1. Sheboygan, WI	\$ 613.05	115	13	5				
2. Chicago, IL	1,474.95	266	155	42				
3. Pueblo, CO	994.00	179	19	13				
5. Indianapolis, IN	353.50	63	14	6				
6. Barberton, OH		25	2	3				
7. Forest City, PA	6.40	19	0	1				
8. Steelton, PA	15.75	5	0	0				
10. Cleveland, OH	806.85	151	7	26				
12. Milwaukee, WI	367.80	67	8	19				
13. San Francisco, CA	500.70	82	9	12				
14. Euclid, OH	806.70	192	17	13				
16. South Chicago, IL	664.55	105	26	18				
17. West Allis, WI	580.80	110	35	0				
19. Eveleth, MN	140.80	46	1	2				
20. Joliet, IL	3,330.35	555	103	51				
22. Bradley, IL	68.50	13	0	4				
23. Ely, MN	801.45	150	7	19				
24. LaSalle, IL	361.95	75	7	2				
25. Cleveland, OH	408.30	244	10	16				
26. Pittsburgh, PA	395.10	75	2	0				
27. North Braddock, PA	—	9	0	0				
28. Calumet, MI	177.80	34	2	0				
30. Home Office	189.80	119	3	33				
32. Euclid, OH	877.80	145	9	5				
33. Duluth, MN	828.10	148	18	9				
34. Tower-Soudan, MN	234.90	55	21	8				
35. Aurora, MN	555.15	72	43	17				
37. Greaney, MN	40.40	5	0	0				
38. Chisholm, MN	—	57	9	8				
39. Biwabik, MN	379.80	63	10	12				
40. Lorain, OH	372.45	63	3	5				
42. Maple Heights, OH	462.15	81	13	8				
43. Milwaukee, WI	909.50	156	15	10				
45. Portland, OR	—	23	2	3				
46. St. Louis, MO	29.60	13	0	0				
47. Garfield Hts., OH	447.85	86	14	1				
50. Cleveland, OH	1,962.95	327	30	60				
52. Kitzville, MN	74.20	24	0	2				
54. Warren, OH	110.70	23	0	1				
55. Girard, OH	198.00	27	7	1				
56. Hibbing, MN	127.95	38	1	1				
57. Niles, OH	143.50	32	2	0				
59. Burgettstown, PA	78.00	26	0	0				
63. Denver, CO	5.40	22	0	2				
64. Kansas City, KS	36.60	12	0	0				
66. Canon City, CO	170.10	32	0	0				
67. Bessemer, PA	166.80	34	0	1				
68. Fairport Harbor, OH	220.50	40	2	0				
71. Strabane, PA	427.20	68	10	1				
73. Warrensville Hts., OH	513.60	100	31	1				
74. Ambridge, PA	—	18	0	0				
79. Enumclaw, WA	161.00	43	5	5				
81. Keewatin, MN	—	17	0	4				
83. Crosby, MN	—	4	0	0				
85. DePue, IL	118.30	17	0	1				
86. Nashwauk, MN	23.40	4	0	0				
88. Johnstown, PA	14.40	11	0	0				
89. Oglesby, IL	105.75	28	0	0				
90. Bridgeville, PA	1.80	9	0	0				
91. Oakmont, PA	196.80	46	0	0				
92. Crested Butte, CO	21.80	11	0	0				
93. Brooklyn, NY	76.95	21	0	0				
95. South Chicago, IL	634.80	106	2	8				
97. Cairnbrook, PA	—	6	0	0				
99. Elmhurst, IL	7.20	2	0	0				
100. Fontana, CA	319.35	48	3	16				
101. Bedford Hts., OH	151.20	22	5	4				
102. Willard, WI	277.45	39	5	4				
103. Washington, DC	13.70	47	1	9				
105. Detroit, MI	251.95	49	7	6				
106. Meadowlands, PA	—	15	0	0				
TOTALS	\$24,808.15	5034	708	498				

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A CRAFTY IDEA!

Thanks to Caroline Deyak, Ely, Minnesota, the pattern for a slipper sock/boot is available. The pattern is simple, I completed three pairs in about a week's time. Caroline swears as to their comfort and warmth, and I have to agree. If you are a knitter and enjoy a project you can carry-along, you will enjoy this one. For the pattern, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope and \$1.00 (checks made payable to ZARJA) to:

Evelyn A. Majercik
31 Eldred Avenue
Bedford, Ohio 44146



32, EUCLID, OH

Meeting in Feb. was on Ash Wednesday. Vice-Pres. Faye Starman opened the meeting. Pres. Ann Cooke was still in Florida enjoying the sun and warm weather. Josephine Comenshek led us in the Slovenian prayer to start our Lenten season.

It is sad to report that we lost another member this year, Margaret LeCrone. She was 83 years of age. Margaret was the sister of our member, Ann Kundst who lives in Mentor. Deepest sympathy to the LeCrone family and friends.

Members on the sick list are Esther Garbincus, Mary Golobic, Rose Brancely and Mary Zifko. Helen Kovacevic's husband Frank had surgery. Get well wishes for a speedy recovery to all who are ill at this time. Alma Eppick thanked all who sent her cards, made phone calls and for the prayers during her illness. It was very much appreciated. Faye Starman thanked everyone for showing their kindness to her sister, Eleanore Latkovich and family during her illness and then, at the time of her death.

Thanks to all members who brought food for the Euclid Hunger Center. We will be collecting food at all our meetings. Josephine Gornik took care of the food as Esther Garbincus was not present. Thanks, Josephine, for doing a very good deed.

Members on the go! Christine Verch made a trip to Atlantic City to try her luck and have fun. Agnes and Don Hamilton were traveling to Scottsdale, Arizona to visit Agnes' daughter for two weeks.

In Feb. at our meeting, we usually

pick out a Sweetheart Queen. This year it was different as we had a Sweetheart King! The lucky King was none other than Charles Starman, Faye's husband. Congratulations, Charles! Thanks to Ann Rossman for making the Valentine Crown and also the Valentine name tags for all the members present.

Congratulations to Faye who won many prizes in the USS Bake-Off contest. She won **two** first prizes for potica, one second prize for cherry-nut potica and a third prize for chocolate chip nut potica! She also won first prize for flancate (Angel Wings) and... was the winner of a raffle! Great going, Faye! It sure was your lucky day!

Thanks to our hostesses Ceal and Adrienne McLean who had the table and room decorated so nicely. We were served cherry pie and Valentine candy.

Members, don't forget our Mother's Day Dinner on May 18th when we will honor our hostess, Ceal McLean. Make plans to attend and bring a friend. Let us make it a real happy occasion for Ceal as she is deserving of this honor.

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all celebrants. May all of you have good health and happiness for many more years, whatever the occasion you are observing.

Correction in my article from Jan.-Feb. ZARJA. Helen and Frank Kovacevic celebrated their 47th anniversary instead of 49th. My apologies to the Kovacevics for any inconvenience.

Many blessings and Happy Easter to all!

FRANCES OGOREUC



33, DULUTH, MN

Spaghetti Dinner/Bake Sale will be April 20th - a Wednesday.

Alice Cacich, Treas., asks all to send in 1994 dues which should have been paid in JANUARY as it is due each year.

Know of any sick members? Contact Virginia Mikrut. Prayers of sympathy or Lucy Olaf's daughter and Dorothy Jacobson's sister.

Feb. 19th, bulbs peeked out! Happy Easter! Happy Spring!

LOIS PELANDER
Reporter



34, SOUDAN, MN

Most on everyone's minds here in northern Minnesota right now is the weather and the effects of a long, cold winter - now we have to worry about our water pipes freezing. Many, many people have been affected, we will gladly welcome spring this year!

Our postponed January meeting was held on Wednesday, February 9th, at one o'clock in the afternoon and again we had to worry about the weather. In spite of this, we had a nice attendance with Sophie Spollar and Angela Tekautz serving a delicious lunch that included apple strudel.

Installation of our officers was held, with National President, Victoria Bobence as Installing Officer. Our roster is the same as last year: President, Adeline Mustonen; 1st Vice Pres. Angeline Morin; 2nd Vice Pres. Lorraine Berg; Rec. Sec. Emma Betourne; Sec. Treas. Molly Wilson; and Auditors, Mary Gornick and Angela Tekautz.

Our books were audited and found to be in good order. Contributions were made to MN Citizens Concerned for Life and St. Martin's Church.

We are happy to announce that we have chosen Marge Skala as our Mother of the Year and she will be honored at our meeting in May. During our social hour, Emma Betourne, Agnes Tekautz, Lorraine Berg and Angie Jannick were winners. Many of our members have been ill for weeks with the flu, Marge Skala and Angie Jannick, to name a few. With warmer weather, we hope people will be feeling better.

Members Agnes Tekautz and Margaret Yernatich became great grandmother and grandmother again, a baby girl was born to Dan and Crystal Yernatich of Buhl, she was named Jessica Mae, congratulations to all.

For our meeting in March, plans were made to have a games party for a fundraiser, with gifts brought by everyone to use as prizes. Our ladies seem to like this very much. Hostesses named were Adeline Mustonen and Emma Betourne, with Lucile Svatos bringing the door prize.

I think all of us will really welcome spring this year, we had what you would call brutally cold weather for weeks at a time. I hope all of you enjoyed your Easter. Happy Spring!

ADELINE MUSTONEN,
Reporter



35, AURORA, MN

We were happy to hear from our local and out of town members who sent along holiday greetings with their dues this year.

Treasurer Dorothy Jamnik reported that the books were audited and all 1994 dues paid by Jan. 10th. Thank you, ladies.

Congratulations to Christopher Cazin who made his Confirmation on Feb. 7th.

Our H.R. Church hall was busy with our SWU meeting and dime social and the dinner – all on one day. Our H.R. Youth Group entertained 40 couples at a Valentine Candlelight dinner. The hall was all decorated and the hosts greeted us at the door, took our coats and the hostess took us to our tables. We each had our own waitress to serve us a delicious spaghetti dinner. Thanks to everyone who made us feel so special. Several of our junior members belong to this group. (Katie M. we missed you at our dime social.)

Many interesting gifts were brought in for the dime auction which totaled \$41.50 for our over-80-year-members' dues. Thank you, ladies, and to our junior member, Courtney Kalar who drew the lucky winners' names. 23 adult members were present.

A short meeting will be held April 10th at 1:30 p.m. at our H.R. Church Hall to finalize plans for the Mother of the Year celebration. At 2:30 p.m.

A note about Nicholas

It is hard to believe that Nicholas is 8 years old and in the 2nd grade. He is turning into a young man right before our eyes. The year has already been an eventful one for him. This summer Nick participated in a ballet program for the physically challenged. Along with basic ballet exercises and steps, a few scenes from Cinderella were presented. Nick played the role of the prince, but said next year he wants to be king.

Nick has become active in the Cub Scouts. He and his father put a lot of time into making a pine wood racing car. Their hard work paid off when Nick received a 2nd place ribbon for his den. Later this winter (if weather permits), Nick will join his Scout Pack for a downhill skiing trip, where he will try skiing with special equipment for the 1st time.

Although we've had a cold winter, Nick has been doing some snowshoeing with the help of his dad. He also enjoys playing in his backyard on his playground set-sliding down the slide in every possible position and plowing into the snow at the bottom.

Nick's favorite indoor activities continue to be reading, using his computer



Nick Martinetto with his Derby Car

and any kind of word games. He frequently attends his sister Katie's basketball games and cheers her team on. This spring he will make his 1st Communion along with the other 2nd graders at Holy Rosary Church in Aurora.

Thank you to everyone for your continued interest and support of Nicholas!

Nancy Martinetto
(his mom)

Orsat Vidovic, our exchange student from Croatia, will be the guest speaker. Bring along a friend to hear what he has to say.

A program and brunch will be held at the Community Center after the 9 a.m. mass on May 1st for our Mother of the Year. Please plan to come and be with Ann on her special day. Hostesses will be Joanne Plevell, Linda Cazin, Betty Carlson and Gabrielle Goritchan.

Barbara Urick brought her TTD (a phone for the hearing impaired) and explained how it works. A message is typed by the operator to Barbara; she will then type her message back or use the "voice carry over" so she can talk to you. It takes a little time, but is a wonderful way to communicate on the phone. Barbara's son has a TTD too, so that he can put their call through

without the operator's help. Her granddaughter, Kaila knows Grandma will be talking to her whenever she sees her daddy using his TTD. When you answer the phone, and hear "Minnesota Relay Calling," don't hang up! It may be a call from Barbara!

Our prayers are with all members and families who are ill, especially Anna Hodnik who is recovering from surgery. We miss you at quilting, Anna!

Wishing you all a Happy Easter!

ANNE M. ORAZEM

SWU Crest indicates the
65th Anniversary of this
branch in 1994.

Congratulations!



Ambassador Alan Wendt Addresses Slovenes

The first American Ambassador to Slovenia, Alan Wendt, spoke to American-Slovenes in the Joliet-Chicago area recently. Jonita Ruth, clerk at the SWU National Office sent an article from the Joliet Herald News describing Ambassador Wendt's visit and address to the representatives from the SWU, KSKJ, AFU, SRC and various Roman Catholic Churches:

"Slovenia has excellent prospects for success. They need our attention and support... Slovenia is not a party to conflict. It is not in fear of war. It is no longer part of Yugoslavia... Few people in this country and even in Europe, know where Slovenia is."

Ambassador Wendt continued with promoting tourism to Slovenia by stating, *"We need to spread the word... Slovenia's economic and political progress should be an example to other countries..."*



**H.E. ALLAN WENDT,
UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO
THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA**

Ambassador H.E. Allan Wendt was born in Chicago and attended primary school and secondary schools in Winnetka, Ill.

He received a Bachelor of Arts degree magna cum laude from Yale in 1957, a Certificat d'Etudes Politiques from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris in 1958, and a Master of Public Administration from Harvard in 1967.

Following a variety of assignments at the Department of State in Washington and service at the American Consulate General in Dusseldorf, Germany, Mr. Wendt served at the American Embassy in Saigon, Vietnam, from 1967 to 1971.

From 1971 to 1974, Mr. Wendt was Financial Officer at the U.S. Mission to the European Community in Brussels. For the academic year 1974-75, he was State Department Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York City, where he prepared a research paper on European economic and monetary integration.

From 1975 to 1979 he was Director of the Office of

International Commodities at the Department of State from 1979 to 1981, Counselor for Economic and Commercial Affairs at the American Embassy, Cairo, Egypt; and from 1981 to 1986, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Energy and Resources Policy.

The Secretary of State appointed Ambassador Wendt Senior Representative for Strategic Technology Policy in May, 1987, with responsibility for strategic trade, technology transfer and export control issues.

In July, 1988, the President accorded him the rank of Ambassador following confirmation by the Senate.

In August, 1992, Mr. Wendt was named Charge d'Affaires upon the opening of the American Embassy in Ljubljana, Slovenia. In May, 1993, the President appointed him Ambassador.

Mr. Wendt holds a Presidential Meritorious Service Award, a Department of State Superior Honor Award, and the Department's Award for Heroism for his performance at the American Embassy in Saigon during the Vietcong Tet offensive in 1968.

He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the American Foreign Service Association.

Ambassador H.E. Allan Wendt, speaks French, German and Spanish, and is learning to speak Slovenian.

SLOVENIAN BASEBALL CLUB "LJUBLJANA"

A letter came to my desk from John D. Vodenlich of Whitewater, Wisconsin, one of the Slovene baseball team which hopes to participate in the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. John writes the following:

"Because of my Slovenian heritage and my baseball experience, I have been contacted to help organize and coach their baseball team... However, their dream seems unattainable. They still need bats, balls and other equipment to run a successful program... the Slovenians must often travel many miles to play their games and traveling is expensive... That is why they need the help of Slovenian-Americans like you.

"I have already donated three dozen baseballs and \$200.00 but this is not enough. Please help these player's dreams come true by donating money and/or baseball equipment (new or used). This is a chance to make a difference; a difference that can be witnessed in 1996 Olympic Games. Any amount is welcome."

Mr. Vodenlich sent his government authorization to raise money for the Slovenian Baseball Club along with the letter. The addresses for donations are as follows:

Donations: Baseball Club "Ljubljana", c/o Elmwood, Racine, WI 53405, Account 112888.

Baseball Club "Zajcki", Banka Slovenije, 61000 Ljubljana, Slovenia, No. 50120-620-557788.

Send Equipment: John D. Vodenlich, 340 A N. Newcomb St., Whitewater, WI 53190. Tel. (414) 473-2610.

OLYMPIC MEDALS

Country	G	S	B	T	Country	G	S	B	T
Norway	10	11	5	26	France	0	1	4	5
Germany	9	7	8	24	Netherlands	0	1	3	4
Russia	11	8	4	23	Sweden	2	1	0	3
Italy	7	5	8	20	Kazakhstan	1	2	0	3
United States	6	5	2	13	China	0	1	2	3
Canada	3	6	4	13	Slovenia	0	0	3	3
Switzerland	3	4	2	9	Ukraine	1	0	1	2
Austria	2	3	4	9	Belarus	0	2	0	2
South Korea	4	1	1	6	Great Britain	0	0	2	2
Finland	0	1	5	6	Uzbekistan	1	0	0	1
Japan	1	2	2	5	Australia	0	0	1	1



Alenka Dovžan, the first person representing Slovenia to win an Olympic medal.

It was with great excitement and expectation that American-Slovenes watched the Slovene ski team compete in the Winter Olympics on television and it was with great pride and many cheers when they witnessed the outstanding Slovene team win three Bronze Medals.

Congratulations are in order for the entire team and their coaches for a truly memorable occasion -- the first time the Slovenes skied under the Slovene flag at the Winter Olympics and won medals.

It was impossible not to stand and cheer when three of the team members won a Bronze Medal in their respective categories:

Alenka Dovžan

Katja Koren

Jure Kosir

Women's Combined

Women's Slalom

Men's Slalom

We look forward to their participation in future Winter Olympics and many more medals. Congratulations, Team Slovenija!

SLOVENIAN GENEALOGY DAY

Information reached my desk that the Slovenian American National Art Guild of Euclid, Ohio will host a Slovenian Genealogy Day on Sunday, April 17, 1994 at the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid.

The doors will open at 1:00 p.m. and the program begin at 1:00 p.m. Admission is free. For additional information call 481-4095 or 943-1959.

Topics to be discussed will be:

* "Using Western Reserve Historical Society to Discover your Ancestry," by Ann Sindelar of the Western Reserve Historical Society.

* "Treasures in the Rhodes House: Archives, Architecture & Ancestry," by Dr. Judith G. Cetina of the Cuyahoga County Archives.

* "Concept, Staff and Resources," by Albert Peterlin of the Slovenian Genealogy Society.

There will also be special exhibits and art displays to complete an interesting afternoon of heritage and knowledge. Should you be within traveling range, you may wish to attend this event which has been met with much enthusiasm on previous occasions.

Doris Sadar sent information about the history of the Slovenian American National Art Guild, the sponsor of this event. I'd like to quote a few excerpts of the historical information:

"The S.A.N. Art Guild observes its 21st Anniversary in 1994 and can boast two decades of promoting arts and culture in the community which have resulted in the introduction and fulfillment of numerous innovative pioneer 'firsts' adding to the enjoyment and involvement of people... the Art Guild has enriched its path with art, crafts, memberships and heritage. Members look back remembering art shows, workshops, demonstrations, exhibits, invited appearances, bus trips and the Guild-sponsored trip to Slovenia... The newest venture is in the field of Slovenian Genealogy, a timely topic which attracts men, women and young people. ...The documentation of Slovenian culture, available from the Guild through the arts, video, slides and printed publications is an important link to the future life of our nationality. These resources serve as legacies, speaking to the multitudes, identifying who we are as we get assimilated into the vast and an ever-growing multicultural world."

For further information about the Guild, contact Doris Sadar, 31827 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44094.

ARTISTS WANTED

If you are an artist who can sketch people or landscapes and are willing to volunteer your services in heritage projects please write or call at the address/phone number listed below.

Irene M. Odorizzi

2362 Paddock Lane, Reston, VA 22091 (703) 860-0556

**GREET APRIL
WITH YOUR SWU CALENDAR!**

So many beautiful pictures – so many wonderful thoughts – so many important facts and so many useful notes! That's all included in the 1994 SWU ZARJA Anniversary Calendar that you have received. Are you enjoying it as much as I am?

We appreciate your responses to our request for financial help for this publication and acknowledge the following members who have sent in their donations from Feb. 15 to March 15, 1994. Your contributions will be acknowledged every month as received. *Editor*

**Denotes contribution of more than \$10 and/or an order for more than one calendar. Listing is from Feb. 15 to Mar. 16. Thank you very much.*

Your Comments:

- I'm happy to add \$40 to your Calendar drive.
- Beautiful and very artistic.
- The Calendar is just beautiful. I am glad to see and read about Slovenian artists.
- Beautiful! Thank you for connecting me with my roots.
- I'm really impressed with it (calendar). I do have some favorite pictures and they are: Mimi Razman Bucik's *Brv na Soči*, Mary Foys Lauretig's *Slovenian Women in a Garden – after Monet* and Mary Cacic Robinson's *Country Road*.
I agree with you concerning remarks such as: getting too many calendars. It is surprising that some of our members would rather put their money into gambling, etc. Maybe I shouldn't be surprised!!! The purpose of our Zveza is to promote our Slovenian heritage and one way is this wonderful calendar. I love it! I really enjoy the ZARJA. The stories of our immigrants and the recipes are looked forward to by me. *Živio Slovenci!*

CALENDAR DONATIONS 1994

Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI	Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL	Br. 32, Euclid, OH	Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI
Dicke, Hermine*	Boyc, Dorothy	Krasovic, Zora S.	Dybul, Zenobia
Br. 2, Chicago, IL	Br. 20, Joliet, IL	Br. 33, Duluth, MN	Poterbin, Velma*
Gospo, Clare	Anceel, Olga*	Skull, Agnes	Royten, Marion
Jerry, Debbie	Govednik, Jean	Mikrut, Virginia	Br. 50, Cleveland, OH
Br. 5, Indianapolis, IN	Mahan, Dorothy	Br. 34, Soudan, MN	Blatnik, F.
Williams, Debby	Savol, Ann M.	Grahek, Angeline M.	Miller, Mary
Yovanovich, Frances	Br. 23, Ely, MN	Spollar, Sophie B.	Petsche, Helen T.
Br. 10, Euclid, OH	Erchull, Angela	Br. 35, Aurora, MN	Siewiorek, Josephine
Opalich, Alice	Yadlosky, Jane	Br. 59, Burgettstown, PA	Paskutis, Louise
Petric, Mary	Br. 24, LaSalle, IL	Br. 68, Fairport Hbr., OH	Miklavcic, Mary
Br. 12, Milwaukee, WI	Piletic, Fannie	Br. 95, So. Chicago, IL	James, Mildred
Ordway, Tillie	Br. 25, Cleveland, OH	Br. 102, Willard, WI	Staut, Mary
Br. 13, San Francisco, CA	Brodnik, Kristina*	Br. 39, Biwabik, MN	Br. 105, Detroit, MI
Coppinger Griffin, Patricia	Knaus, Mary	Purkat, Annie	McGee, Anne C.
Coppinger-Hilton, Gail	Krivacic, Janet J.	Br. 39 Total*	
Kinnear, Evelyn	Tonkli, Blanka M.	Br. 40, Lorain, OH	
McQuiller, Helen	Br. 30, Home Office	Donges, Agatha	
Spencer, Moreen	Jackson, Julie*	Pavlovic, Frances	
Sustarich, Doreen	Larson, Ann T.*		
Br. 14, Euclid, OH	Malensek, Margaret		
Kosir, Ann	Malone, Nancy Zevnik		
	Swintosky, Dorothy*		
	Zeleznik Zema, Alice		

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Pots and Pans



A beautiful lunch was prepared by the women of the Blessed Sacrament Church for the 110 members of the Madison Catholic Woman's Club attending the February meeting. The menu included: Rosé Wine, Swiss Steak, Twice-Baked Potatoes, Caramel Carrots, Coleslaw, Bread, Strawberry Surprise and Coffee. The potatoes (except for reheating before serving), coleslaw and dessert were made the day before.

After the luncheon, I visited with Joan Emmerich, a competent cook, who wishes you "Bon Appetit" with her recipes that follow.

A Joyous Easter to all!
Affectionately,

Hermine



CORRECTIONS

March Zarja

Pasta Delight: Please add these ingredients to the listing - they were included in the instructions.

- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 package (3 oz.) cream cheese softened

* * *

Irish Coffee: Please change the amount of whiskey to 1 1/2 oz., that's a jigger and a half.

**NEWLY REVISED COOKBOOK,
POTS & PANS
IS NOW ON SALE!**

SWISS STEAK

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| 3 | pounds round steak cut 1-inch thick | 2 | cans (10 3/4 ounces) cream of mushroom soup |
| 2 | envelopes Lipton Onion Soup Mix | 2 | teaspoons Kitchen Bouquet |

Cut meat into 4-ounce servings; place pieces in an ungreased baking pan, without browning meat. Sprinkle with onion soup mix and top with mushroom soup. Bake, covered, 2 1/2 hours at 325° until tender. "Check after 1 1/2 hours. If dry, add a little water if mixture seems too dry." Serves 12.

NOTE: Halve the recipe for 1 1/2 pounds of meat. Bake 2 to 2 1/2 hours until tender.

TWICE-BAKED POTATOES

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|------------------|
| 6 | medium potatoes | Salt, as desired |
| 1/3 | to 1/2 cup hot milk | Parmesan cheese |
| 3 | tablespoons butter, softened | |

Scrub the potatoes well, prick with fork to allow steam to escape. Rub with a small amount of shortening for softer skins. Bake at 400° until soft (about 1 hour). Cut off tops. Scoop out potato leaving a thin shell. Mash potatoes; add milk, butter and salt. Beat until fluffy. Fill potato skins. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Place potatoes in pan, cover and refrigerate overnight, if desired. These can be frozen. Bake at 350° until hot (about 30 minutes, if fresh; about one hour and 15 minutes if frozen). If they start getting too brown, cover loosely with foil.

CARAMEL CARROTS

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 | pounds peeled baby carrots | Salt, as desired | |
| 1/2 | cup butter | 1 | tablespoon cornstarch |
| 1/2 | cup dark brown sugar | 2 | tablespoons water |

Boil carrots for 5 minutes. Drain. Meanwhile melt butter; stir in brown sugar. Mix cornstarch in water; add to butter mixture. Bring to boil. Place carrots in ungreased baking dish. Cover with caramel mixture. Bake covered at 350° until tender, about 25 minutes. Serves 12.

NOTE: With 1 lb. carrots use 1/2 of butter and brown sugar, but the same amount of cornstarch and water, as above.

COLESLAW

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-------|---------------------------|
| 6 | to 8 cups cabbage (one large head), shredded or chopped | 1/4 | cup cold water |
| 1 | onion, small, chopped | 1 1/2 | cups sugar |
| 1/4 | large green pepper, chopped | 1 | cup Cider vinegar |
| 1 | or 2 carrots, shredded | 1 | cup Wesson Oil (or other) |
| | | 1 | teaspoon salt |

Dressing:

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1 | tablespoon unflavored Knox gelatin | 1 | teaspoon celery seed |
|---|------------------------------------|---|----------------------|

In 4-quart bowl add cabbage mixture. Set aside. Mix gelatin in water until dissolved. Heat sugar and vinegar just until sugar is dissolved. Do not boil. Stir gelatin into heated sugar and vinegar. Cool. Add oil and remaining ingredients. In blender mix until creamy and white. Add to cabbage; mix well. Cover and refrigerate overnight. If a smaller salad, the unused dressing may be kept refrigerated for several days. Makes 15 - 20 servings.

STRAWBERRY SURPRISE

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 box Betty Crocker Lemon Custard Angel Food Cake Mix | 1 carton frozen Strawberries (16 ounces), sweetened or unsugared, as desired |
| 1 large box Sugar-Free Strawberry Jell-O (6 ounces) | 1 large carton (16 ounces) Cool Whip |
| 1 1/2 cups hot water | |

Prepare cake according to package directions. When cool, cut $\frac{2}{3}$ of the cake into cubes or tear into small pieces (reserve remaining $\frac{1}{3}$ cake). In large sauce pan dissolve Strawberry Jell-O in $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups water. Stir in the frozen strawberries and refrigerate. Remove when mixture starts to thicken. With mixer on low speed, blend Cool Whip into Jell-O mixture. Cover bottom of 9 x 13-inch pan with $\frac{1}{3}$ strawberry mix, then layer with $\frac{1}{2}$ of cake pieces, $\frac{1}{3}$ strawberry mix, the remaining cake pieces and finally, top with strawberry mix. Freeze. Remove from freezer about one hour before serving. 15 to 20 servings.

HINT: The remaining cake is great with ice cream and fudge sauce – a dessert for another day!



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POTS & PANS

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Cookbook cost: \$11 plus \$2.50 postage-handling – (or pick one up from your branch secretary and eliminate the p & h). Application blank is free!

AN EARLY REMINDER FOR OCTOBER

The Oglesby Slovenian Women's Union Branch 89 will host the State Convention on October 2, 1994, the first Sunday of the month. In the past, the State Convention has been co-hosted with the DePue Branch 89. They are giving us their full support, including a monetary support. All activities will be held in Oglesby, only two blocks apart from the church to the school, 336 Alice Ave.

8:30–9:00 a.m. Coffee and rolls at Holy Family School, and Registration.

9:00–11:00 a.m. Convention meeting at the school

11:30 a.m. Mass at Holy Family Church, 311 N. Woodland Ave.

1:00 p.m. Dinner at Holy Family School

There will be plenty of parking space at both places.

Oglesby is easily located west of Chicago on Rt. 80 to Rt. 39 south to exit 54. Turn east to town. Turn left on Woodland Ave., after the public school, and continue north for one more block after you pass Holy Family Church. Look right and you will see the Holy Family School. Keep these directions for your driver, Mark the calendar for Sunday, Oct. 2, 1994. We will be looking forward to seeing you.

The Committee



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Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Br. 38 of Chisholm, MN, met on March 2nd at the Slovenski Dom. We were getting ready for the Luncheon and Bake Sale on St. Patrick's Day.

Our calling committees planned to phone all members, reminding them of the Bake Sale. Jennie Briski volunteered to create the decorations for the tables in a shamrock motif. The "Captain of the Kitchen", Jennie Samsa, had her crew all set to go, and we were hoping to have many in attendance to partake of the Brunswick Stew, and the delicacies baked by members. Our bake sale promised to be as usual -- excellent! This money-making project is to help pay for a delegate to the National Convention in 1995.

Our next meeting is on April 6th, at which time we will finalize plans for the Mother's Day Brunch on May 1st.

We were very sorry to hear that member Mildred Bashel has been hospitalized. We hope she will be well enough to attend our next meeting... she is one of our faithful members. Our prayers are for your complete recovery, Mildred.

Belated birthdays (March): Jennie Briski and Rose Faras. Winner of the traveling prize was Frances Zalec, and lucky winners of drawings were: Rose Faras, Jennie Briski, Jennie Samsa, Frances Enrico, and Anne Polichnik.

Lunch Committee for April will be: Jennie Samsa, Anne Polichnik, Fran Zalec, and for May: Angie Nelsen, Fran Komidar, and Fran Techar.

We are having a meeting on May 5th, and this will be a "hat" affair. We are toying with the idea of "resurrecting" hats from the early days when every woman wore hat to church. Remember those days? So start searching for a lovely hat.

And we will play cards after the meeting and Hat Parade.

ANN NUSICH,
Rec. Sec'y.

We had a delightful Valentine meeting on Feb. 6. Twenty members were in attendance, plus an extra guest, my grandson, Patrick Riordan, age 7. It wasn't his favorite thing to do on a sunny Sunday afternoon, but afterwards he said, "you should have told me it would be like this, grandma, then I wouldn't have fussed."!!! So I guess our S.W.U. meetings can't be too boring!!! The Valentine Motif and great dessert didn't hurt either.

In January one of our long-time members, Ann Kosteliz died in a nursing home where she had spent many years. Most of our members were busy helping at another funeral the same day, but we did get a group to go over to pray the Rosary. It is difficult to get our older members out in such bitter cold evenings as we have had here in Minnesota this winter.

Cookbook sales have really slowed down. Also we have been hearing that \$10.00 has been a hardship for some of the members to pay for the Calendars. We did send our lunch donations and took up a collection to send in. I hope a few more homebound members will send in some payment if they are unable to send the \$10.00. (I have my calendar hanging in my sunny dining room next to my hutch and I am reluctant to turn the page from Feb. I love those pears!!!)

Our Vice President Kathy Siskar brought her Junior member daughter Jaime to the meeting, but they had to leave before lunch as they were finishing up a paint job at her mother-in-law's house. Lucky Fran, Tootsie Hietala, our new recording secretary, is always doing crafts and gave me a beautiful gold-sequined cross she made, plus one in silver for my mom. I really appreciate hand work, as I am the least "crafty" person around.

The lunch committee, Aggie Licari and Fran Glatch served a delicious dessert, white cake drizzled with red (jello?) and topped with cherries and whipped cream. The door prize was won by Helen Zallar. Afterwards Phyllis Kukar piled my mom into her full car and took her home to Gilbert, saving me 15 miles. Thanks, Phyllis.

JEAN KORSMAN

Missed coming to the meeting on Feb. 9th because of the bad weather -- but that did not stop 19 faithful members from coming. Francine, Agatha, Irene Kokinda and our Pres. served a light lunch celebrating Valentine's Day. I wish to thank Agatha for taking the minutes for me. Martini won the door prize. They tried to elect officers but no luck as there were no takers, so as usual, the same ones are re-elected this year: Agnes Tomazine, Pres., Agatha Donges, Sec.-Treas., Mary Matos, Rec. Sec., Sue Tomazic and Agnes Serazin, Auditors, Mary Matos, Reporter. They could not get anyone for Mother of the Year, so they decided to honor all the mothers of our branch.

Try to come to future meetings and help us plan our Mother of the Year dinner. They also voted to suspend the dues for members 90 years and over, namely, Mary Mihelich, age 91 and Mary Ivanish, 103; and on April 8th, our Angie Kozjan will be 93 -- so, happy birthday to her!

Let's pray for our sick members, Mary Kurjan, Helen Sekular, Molly Glavan, Theresa Rajher, Frances Tilosanec, Angie Zgonec and Ann Rozanc. Sue Tomazic's sister passed away recently and Theresa Rajher's son, Joseph passed away also. We offer our sympathy to these families.

Please try to keep your dues paid up to date. Any questions, call Agatha at 988-7768 and don't forget your extra dollar for the ZARJA.

Happy birthday to all who have April birthdays!

Hope you all have a happy and blessed Easter!

Love,

MARY MATOS

Greetings from Maple Heights. Hopefully all our winter weather will be over by now. At least all the skiers and cross country skiers were happy.

A reminder for all the members to send in their contribution for our "Bakeless Sale" to Marge Church by Easter. Also make certain that your dues are paid.

We want to wish Happy Easter to

Your Comments:

- Very nice magazine!
- It is truly beautiful. Thank you all who took the time to put it together.
- This Calendar of Art — a treasure to keep. Hvala lepa.
- I enjoy the comments, crafts illustrated.
- Sorry for being late with the contribution — the calendar is beautiful.

all our members and their families plus all the Zveza members.

Josie Gruden and Marie Vercek traveled to Florida with the Bus Bums on their annual trip during the first part of March. They had a wonderful time.

Our congratulations to the three Slovenians who won bronze medals at the Olympics in Norway. I'm sure you all were proud as we were.

Happy birthday to our April birthday members: Frances Stavec, Joyce Kosak, Margaret Roznik, Arlene Legan, Helen Prudec, Eleanor McArdle, Imelda Blazy, Terry Anzo, and Dorti Zidar.

Remember to send cards to our shut-ins and to all members who are ill.

DOROTHY MEHOSKY

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

Due to the cold weather and blowing snow we cancelled our February meeting. By now I hope you all made it thru this cold winter. We had our share of snow this year! Now we can look forward to another hot summer!

Reminder: Mass for living and deceased members is April 17th at 8:45 a.m. at St. John's Church. If you wish, we will again go to brunch at the Old Country Buffet after the Mass. Please let me know if you can join us.

On April 18th, yours truly will be leaving for Las Vegas. Last year the one arm bandit was good to me, so I will try my luck again. Need to get away for a couple of days! Mary Martino is visiting her daughter in San Francisco and will also make a stop in Reno. Mary Musich will visit her son in Illinois and spend Easter with him and the family. To all our travelers: Happy trails to you!

Mother of the Year celebration will be on May 18th at 12:30 p.m. at the Old Country Buffet, 4902 S. 74th St., Greenfield. We will honor a dear lady and good member. Rose Vodnik. She surely deserves the honor. Please call me for reservations. Would like to know how many will attend.

A few members did not pay their dues for 1994. Please do so as soon as possible. The secretaries of all our branches have to send in the dues to the Home Office in Joliet every 4th week of the month, so it's important that all the members pay on time. Thank you. Please let me know if you

want any changes in your policy or if you have moved. We need to know your correct address so you will be receiving ZARJA regularly.

A special member, Pauline Plesko will celebrate her 85th birthday on April 23rd. She resides at St. Camilus Health Center on W. Wis. Ave., in Milwaukee. Pauline, we wish you many more happy years among your loved ones. Her daughter, Jacque Nook reads the articles in ZARJA to her and altho she does not remember names any more she loves to hear about what we are doing. Pauline joined our branch one year after it was organized, that means that she is a 63 year member!

Another 63-year member is Josephine Verbick. She also resides in a nursing home on So. 60th and W. Layton Ave. Both members enjoy visitors. Please remember them with a card and a visit. God bless you, Pauline and Josie!

Greetings and good wishes to Ann Rebernisek, Jean Luzar, Ann Kuglitsch, Ann Hiller, Ann Weiselman, Mary Strazishar, Esther Schmitz, Tillie Slatinsek and all sick or shut-in members who can't be with us at the meetings. To Josephine Peterson of Manistique, MI, thank you for your letter and God bless you with better health.

To all April and May birthday members, Happy Birthday and many more in good health! Happy Easter to one and all.

Veselo Veliko noč, lepih pirhov in dobrih potic in vsega kar zraven spada na ta dan po lepi Slovenski navadi, Vam vsem želim:

MATILDA SIMCIC

(Ed. Note: Thanks to Matilda for sending us the beautiful picture we see on this month's cover of ZARJA! It is always nice to have our members' input!)

NO. 50, EUCLID, OH

Dober Dan! What wonderful excitement we had witnessing the Olympics especially the first Olympics for the small new nation, the Republic of Slovenia (less than 1/2 the size of Ohio), nestled below the Julian Alps and thereabouts, bringing forth three medal producing skiers we can all be proud of. The first to win a bronze medal for Slovenia was Alenka Dovžan

in the combined Alpine Skiing Downhill and Slalom. Then Katja Koren also won the bronze in the Women's Slalom. Jure Kosir, nice and solidly, did likewise in the Men's Slalom, followed by 20 year old Mitja Kunc who seemed to dance his way thru the gates. The next Olympics scheduled for 1998 in Nagano, Japan better be prepared for an even better showing by the skiing Slovenians! Gold for sure!

The cold weather seems to persist in our region. There have been a few lucky members who dodged a good deal of it by going to Florida. As of this writing, they are Stella and Frank Kostick, Nancy and Frank Mramor, and Teresa Clemens. Betsy and Stanley Zalar are sunning in Florida, too, and Mary and Bob Sterling are there to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Let's hope they send some of that sunshine our way for the rest of the year.

Congratulations are in order for Mary and John Cesnik celebrating their 61st wedding anniversary, and Jane and Angelo Vidic, their 64th. Imagine! Our love and blessings forever more, and more, and more.

Our sick members recently have been Angela Aversano, who is at the Wickliffe Country Place and Mary Budas. Also, our President, Ann Tercek had surgery on her trigger finger, not that she wants to use a gun! Our Treasurer, Jeane Miller, we have learned, is coming along much better. Living in new quarters is inspiring her better health. All in all, we must remember our not so well members with prayers and get well wishes and to have them return as soon as possible to our fold.

During our last meeting, Jo Smith delivered a marvelous synopsis of our doings in 1982. We have been delighted with the historic summaries delivered by Jo. It makes us appreciate our present to review the past from which we learn. Also, we had a Valentine Queen, none other than Ann (Buden) Hocevar. She was the most charming Valentine---and of all things---No Camera, egads!

We have a delightful surprise for you for our next meeting, April 20th. Our talented member, Frances (Tammy) Babic will be there to show us her fabulous Easter Egg Display. She ingeniously designs these colorful eggs de-

picting an assortment of patterns from various countries. Ladies, you must not miss this treat. Be sure to attend the meeting. By the way, please note that Tammy will be giving a slide presentation at the Euclid Public Library on Wednesday, May 25th at 7:30 p.m. on Slovenia. This should be a MUST for all of us and then some.

I will leave you this time with some words of wisdom just for the hang of it, "When you don't know what you're doing, don't do it all at once."

HAPPY EASTER!

Na svidenje!

VI MORAVCZEK

NO. 54, WARREN, OH

Happy Easter to all and Happy Springtime, too. It will be so lovely to see the flowers in bloom after such a long, bleak winter.

Our Mother-Daughter Luncheon will be on Wed., May 18th at 1 o'clock at the Elks Clubroom on Rt. 422. We shall honor all Mothers and are planning a nice afternoon for all. You will be called for reservations. You can bring a door prize and canned foods for the raffle if you so desire. We always have such a nice time at these affairs, so come and join us.

Back after two months in Florida is Isabelle Rek, where she visited her daughter and family and her sister. Anne Savor and family are planning to visit Florida, too. Her grandson and wife reside there. Get well wishes to Barbara Jaras who has had some health problems. She is our president's daughter and is a wonderful girl. Jo Kassin is so lucky to have her close by. Stay well, Barb!

We had a meeting last week but had so few attending we couldn't have a meeting. We did have lunch and enjoyed ourselves very much. Anne Savor said: "this is really nice!" Glad to have Vic Zuga with us, too.

God's blessing to you all.

JOANNE PONIKVAR

Your Comments:

- Compliments to a great job on the paintings on the calendars to members and friends.
- I'm glad I'm a member. Love the Dawn. Sorry I'm late.
- The calendar is beautiful — thank you for sending it to me.



Stanley and Ivanka Selak
are ready to cut their Golden Anniversary cake!

NO. 55, GIRARD, OH

To all members of Branch 55, I wish you and your families a Happy Easter! Wow, so much has happened since the beginning of this year. Our family recently had relatives from Medvode, in Slovenia visiting us. My cousin Frances and his wife Marija Sustersic travelled to the United States for their first overseas visit. We had a wonderful time entertaining them.

One of our branch members, Ivanka Selak and her husband Stanley Selak celebrated their 50th Wedding anniversary on January 22, 1994. May God Bless both you with many more years of happiness! Their son and daughter-in-law, Gus and Maria Selak along with their three children, Andrea, Mark and Monica, congratulated them with a party at their home.

Our April birthdays include, Lena Modic, Jason Sefcik and Virginia Bestic.

Please remember in your prayers those members of our branch who are ill, that God may give them the strength during their pain and suffering.

Spring arrived on March 20, 1994. I know most of you are happy that warm weather will soon be here, but I know one skier who definitely will miss that wonderful snow!!

Thought for the month: "Even a perfect egg must break for new life to begin." Edward Gloegler

Nasvidenje,

DORI KREGAR

The Ski-Bunny of Br. 55

NO. 56, HIBBING, MN

Meeting of Feb. 1st was held at the First Ave. Apt. It was opened with prayer. Jennie Obert and Pep Erickson delivered flowers to our shut-ins. They reported the members really enjoyed receiving the flowers. It was approved by all that we'll do the same for Mother's Day to give our ill members some joy.

Ann Satovich reported on all the preparations for our Regional Convention in September which will be at St. Leo's. Ann read the menu selection and the members chose the swiss steak dinner. Mary Sickness suggested we have a grocery raffle for our convention and all were in favor.

February birthdays were recognized. The charter was draped for Anna Soldensky who was a 41 year member. She passed away recently.

Another member, Veronica Schwartz died at the age of 100. She was a member for 56 years. Mrs. Schwartz lived in Menomonie, Wis-

consin. Her death came on Jan. 14th at the Dunn County Health Care Center where she lived since 1984. She was born on March 14, 1893 to Joseph and Ann Cuclie and married Ignace Schwartz in July, 1908 in Austria. They came to the U.S. in 1914, living in the U.P. until 1920 when they came to the Iron Range. She was a Red Cross Gray Lady at the Hibbing Hospital. Her husband passed away in 1946 and then she moved to Wisconsin. She is survived by one son, Joseph (Joyce) Schwartz of Shakopee and three daughters, Veronica McGowan of Chaska, Kathryn Costello of Shakopee and Frances (John) Furlong of Menomonie; also 18 grandchildren, 23 great grandchildren and 6 great great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, John, in 1984, daughter, Mary Crew in 1993 and a granddaughter, Patty Jo Schwartz in Dec. 1993. The funeral was held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Menomonie on Jan. 17th with Rev. William Neie officiating. She was laid to rest at Maple Hill Cemetery.

We deeply sympathize with the families of our departed and pray for their eternal peace.

Elizabeth Spolar won the jackpot and lunch was by Sylvia Lattick, Mary Micheletti and Mary Engy. Bunko winner was Edith Jones, 500, Liz Spolar and Cannasta, Jen Obert.

Sincerely submitted,

EDITH JONES

NO. 57, NILES, OH

Our January meeting was cancelled because of the bad weather; but we did go ahead and have our Feb. meeting. We had a very small turn out as the weather kept a lot of our members home. Our President opened the meeting with a prayer. Hostesses were Julia Sherlock and Marge Mollica for this month.

On the sick list we have Mary Lukz who was in the hospital and had surgery on her knee; she is doing fine at last report.

We are looking forward to our meetings this spring with the hopes of nice weather. March hostesses were Elizabeth Havaich and Helen Misel. February birthdays were Mary Spolaric and Frances Racher. Take care and stay healthy.

FRANCES STANEC

NO. 67, BESSEMER, PA

Since our last meeting in April, 1993, was a nice turn out, I sent cards to everyone to attend the meeting Feb. 13th. We had two members celebrating their birthdays in February, which we hoped to celebrate with them. They were Kathie Herbolich and Ann Novad – and we send them greetings through ZARJA.

We are having a problem trying to keep our lodge together. We want to do something about it and I know some of you ladies are talented in some things that we would like to know about. May be it would help us raise money for our treasury. No extra money is coming in since our expenses use it all up.

Ladies, think of something for us to do. We can all pitch in together as other lodges do things. If you read ZARJA you will see it is possible. Here there is just Ann and me trying to hold on to things.

Sad to report that last year our member Clara Simonsic's husband, Tony passed away. Born in Bessemer, he was the son of John and Mary Matus Simonsic. Tony and Clara were married in 1941. He served in the European Theater of World War II; retired after working as a packer at the Bessemer Cement Plant. Survivors include, besides Clara, his two sons, Gary of Los Alamos, NM and Michael of Berlin Center, two daughters, Joyce (Raymond) Beadling of Bowie, MD and Cynthia (James) O'Donnell of Flint, Texas. There are also three sisters surviving, Frances Meredith of Westerville, OH, Rose Poprick of Cleveland and Mary Pobega of Napa Valley, CA, and six grandchildren. Besides his parents, Tony was preceded in death by four brothers and three sisters. Our sympathy to Clara and family.

Also in December, Helen Snezic's husband passed away after a long illness. Born in Bessemer, he was the only son of our late President, Mary Snezic. Besides Helen (Kogut) he leaves four daughters: Priscilla Tomon of Ellwood City, Marilyn Argrio of New Castle, PA, Mary Jane Pusnik of Charlotte, NC, Gayle Kozina of Ontario, Canada, three sisters, Ann Markovich, our lodge president in Bessemer who is also our treasurer, Marie Fabian of Struthers, Esther Walker of

Pinellas Park, FL, 13 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. A sister, Frances Pitchintino is deceased. Our sympathy goes to Helen's family.

The 11 members who turned out for our meeting which was a tureen party got plenty to eat. They promised Ann and I that they will help us keep our lodge together. May God be with them. We sure need help. Keep in mind our sick. God bless everyone. Hope to see you at our meeting. Have a Happy Easter!

MARY PERCIC,
Secretary

NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE, OH

Spring has finally arrived. No doubt, there will be a few traces of snow to be found here and there, and brisk weather may remain, we will have to contend with showers and T-storms, but look to the bright side--rain doesn't have to be shoveled. And, isn't it nice to be able to shed some of the bulky clothing, the gloves, the boots? And moms, no more snow days where you have to keep the kids occupied and content! Rejoice, we made it through winter.

In checking my notes from a previous meeting, I find that GET WELL wishes were omitted to a couple of members. Though they are belated, we do hope that Helen Cergol and Lottie Timko both recovered nicely from their cataract surgery, and that Josephine Nowak's broken arm(s) have mended well. For all of you who struggled through the flu or severe colds, we hope that your symptoms disappeared quickly and that your tissue supply didn't run out.

Our Sympathy: Frances Kainec, eighty-three years old, a long-time member of Branch 73, passed away at her home in Longo, Florida. A letter had been received recently from Frances and she said she was feeling good, and expressed no immediate medical problems. To her family, our prayers and condolences. To Jeanne Fortuna, our sincerest sympathy on the passing of her mother, Anna Cvet, and to Louise Zabukovec whose husband, Damian, died early February. Many of us remember when Louise and her husband came to the United States, sponsored by the Turk family, and their struggle to find housing, etc. We pray

for strength and courage for those left behind, we ask for peaceful rest for the deceased.

Great Grandmothers: Helen Kunka, Virginia Nemeth and Syl Kocjan have all added another great grandchild to their birthday/Christmas shopping list. Do you ever reach a point where you forget their names--let alone the dates they were born? Congratulations to all, including the parents and the new arrivals. Will we see any new members from the group?

Travelers: Kay and Pete Yuratovac have made their escape to the south as they do each year. Ben and Helen Dodyk are among the "Bums" who made their way to Clearwater, Fla., they are joined by several members from sister branches. (Sun and relaxation sound so good). Joann French paid a visit to Connecticut to see her daughter. Hope your travel was safe, your

stays were enjoyable, we await your return.

Check your calendar for April 10th and join us at 10:30 o'clock a.m. Mass at St. Jude's Church for our anniversary mass, and you're invited to stay for breakfast.

Personal note: Steve is home at this time and doing as well as anyone expects of him. Our thanks to the many friends who have taken time to call or have sent cards. Support of that kind sure does help during the rough days.

If ZARJA does not reach you in time for Easter, we hope that your holiday was pleasant and that the new life that is expressed in so many ways finds a path to your doorway. Please try to join us at a meeting or two, now that the weather will steadily improve. Dues are due. Have a happy spring.

Respectfully submitted:

EVELYN A. MAJERCIK

ST. JOE'S OF JOLIET

Come enjoy all the fun of a summer picnic... INDOORS... at St. Joseph's School PTO's Spring Indoor Picnic. The Picnic will be on Sunday, April 17, 1994 from 12-8 p.m. at St. Joseph Park Hall, Raynor & Theodore Sts., in Joliet.

From 12-4 p.m. there will be games for children and adults, BINGO, food, bar and a bakery sale. There will be raffles for a 20-speed bike, apple strudel, and cash. It promises to be fun for the whole family!

From 4-8 p.m. there will be music by "sidemen" with Bob Doszak, Jr., Ron Zola from Joliet and members from Wisconsin. Admission will be \$2.00 per adult after 3:30 to cover the live entertainment.

All proceeds will benefit St. Joseph School, Joliet. Everyone is invited to attend.

(Submitted by Annette Koncar, Member of Br. 20).

*Happy Easter! Happy Easter! Happy Easter! Happy Easter!
Happy Easter! Happy Easter! Happy Easter! Happy Easter!*



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NO. 74, AMBRIDGE, PA

It is with deep sorrow that Br. 74 is losing yet another charter member. Antonia Sumrock has been a faithful member since 1936. She was born on May 27th, 1900 in Austria (Slovenia) and died Feb. 9th, 1994. She did not attract a lot of attention with hustle and bustle – she was, instead, quietly helpful, always there for anyone who wanted to talk, always ready to help if that was what you needed. Her friends and family will have her example to follow and to her son, daughter-in-law, two daughters, 13 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren, we extend our most sincere sympathy.

JANE HUDAK,
Secretary

NO. 79, ENUMCLAW, WA

Branch No. 79 has re-elected the same slate of officers for another year. Here we go again, ladies. We had a well-attended meeting at the home of Kathy Vogel in Auburn at which we selected our 'Woman of the Year' who for 1994 is Stacy Layman. She will be so honored at a potluck celebration to be held at Kathy's again, on May 15th – all members please save the date, we want to make it special for Stacy.

It is good to see our younger members deserving of this selection. Flyers will be mailed to all members with further data.

Mass cards will be sent to our ailing mothers, Anna Faulk and Jenny Tasker. We do wish them well.

Our ladies also decided to take over the kitchen at the SNPJ 738 sponsored dance to be held at the Black Diamond Eagles on August 13th. We will need your help on this fund raiser. We also have been invited to join the SNPJ lodge at their picnic on September 11th at the Cumberland Fire Hall – potluck, come enjoy good friends, food and music.

Have a great spring, everyone. Our winter has been wet, but very mild.

MARY BRATOVICH

Want to know about plans for the Illinois-Indiana Regional Convention in Oglesby, IL this fall? Read about it on page 21.

We Remember

In loving memory of a lady proud of her Slovenian Heritage. Albina (nee Magdalence) Konecny passed away on January 9, 1994. She loved her Newburgh-Maple Hts. Pensioner Club and her Ženska Zveza and it was evident of the love given to her by the attendance at the funeral.

A happy lady who smiled easily and a lot, who loved people, danced and enjoyed a good time. Until her last days she asked for polkas to be played at her bedside.

A loving sister and mother who gave so much of herself to her sisters, two daughters, one son and ten grandchildren. Her kindness, gestures and many actions will always be remembered.

A gracious lady who extended herself to all around her.

We mourn Albina Konecny from Branch 101 and we will miss her.

Florence Mirtel

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

Our first meeting of 1994 was held on Feb. 14th. The officers of 1993 will serve in the year 1994. Installation of officers was conducted by Darlene Wasielewski. Marilyn Argubright and Darlene Wasielewski, auditors, found all of the books in order.

Congratulations were extended to Marilyn Argubright who became a grandmother for the 4th time.

Condolences to Angie Nico and Mary Stubler on the death of their brother-in-law, Charles DeLarbre. We were sorry to hear that Alice Piecha's husband, Casey broke his hip.

The Dept. of Conservation had a nice compliment for Jo Schmidt on managing the Starved Rock Lodge from 1984 until 1988. She did quite well on filling the State Park coffers. They did not have the upgraded facilities to work with as they do now. We are very proud of "Schmidt Concessionaire" on their untiring efforts. Congratulations on a job well done.

After all that ice and snow I think we are all ready for the Easter Bunny!

Vesele Velikonočne praznike!

EUNICE KOMATER

NO. 102, WILLARD, WI

Hello, everyone! After a warm week of February thaw we are having our second big snowstorm, blowing full blast as I write. I'm sure, tho, that this will eventually disappear as spring approaches.

Our main announcement at this time is that Willard will be having the next State Convention this fall on Sept. 25th, 1994. This is a year ahead of schedule, but we are exchanging dates with Br. 43 as they will be celebrating their anniversary next year and would like to have the State meeting at that time. I will be submitting more details about our Convention as soon as we can get things organized here.

Our February meeting was well-attended. A number of letters were read from our far away members. It is so nice to hear from you, ladies! We will honor our Mother of the Year, Dorothy Gregorich on April 17th with a noon pot-luck dinner at the Parish Center. This was a unanimous choice as we have a more homey atmosphere there.

Our Plant Sale is set for May 1st also at the Parish Center.

It was voted to send a \$100 donation to the Slovenian Cultural Center in Lemont to help in the building of the structure, a very worthy cause.

Two of our social members were called to their heavenly reward this past month, Angeline Berthold and LaVerne Laib. Our sincere condolences to their families. In your prayers, please remember them as well as all our members in nursing homes.

Our member of many years, Jennie Artac, who lives in Milwaukee, underwent serious eye surgery where one eye had to be removed. Let us remember her in our prayers for her recovery. Jennie is the daughter of Mike and Johanna Artac who was the organizer of Br. 102.

The auditors examined the treasurer's books and found everything in order. Mary, you do a super job. Thanks!

Irene and Corinne, thanks for such a fine job in giving us the history of our Br. 102 in ZARJA!

Until next time, greetings to all!

MARY STAUT

A LITTLE MIRACLE HAS HAPPENED IN RAZKRIZJE!

When the 1993 Slovenian Woman of the Year was selected by vote among readers of the monthly publication JANA, it wasn't a film actress, political figure or well-known journalist. It was a Catholic nun from a little town called Razkrižje, in Prekmurje! How she became Woman of the Year is an interesting story.

It begins with Sr. Vida Žabot returning to her home town after quite a few years in Italy, where she was assigned by her religious order to teach high school girls. Her impeccable education and training were accomplished in schools from Slovenia to Rome and in her specialty, experimental psychology, she is well qualified. Earning a one year sabbatical after almost two decades away from home, Sr. Vida came to Razkrižje to be with her mother and large family of brothers and sisters. There she was pressed by the people to begin teaching their children catechism in the Slovenian language. Because Razkrižje's population belongs to a church administered by the diocese in Zagreb, Christian doctrine was always taught by their Croatian



Sr. Vida Žabot

pastor. All the happenings of the past two years in regard to the emergence of the new Republic of Slovenia did not influence the parish situation much and Sr. Vida found that her interest in beginning Slovenian

classes was not in agreement with the authorities. But, she determined to follow the ruling that the native language of the people should prevail in religious education, and was supported by her Order, and ultimately, by the church hierarchy in Slovenia. Thus it happened, that the people succeeded in getting their wish, because of Sr. Vida! This considerable achievement became the basis of much publicity and good will created in the media, and Sr. Vida became a celebrity!

She is a very quiet, intelligent and determined woman whose presence on Slovenian TV prompted an interviewer to express admiration for the selfless efforts made by the religious women of Slovenia. Her dedication and love for her countrymen became headline news at a time when Slovenia needs to awaken patriotism in its people.

Sr. Vida Žabot was the recipient of prizes and tributes, but she expressed her gratitude by saying that the one person deserving of praise is her mother, who is also her best friend.

Editor

Anita Vovk:

The Demšar Tradition

A man bends over his work bench, zealously pouring his heart and soul into the wood he shapes. Vilim Demšar, a master at his craft of violin making, continues the family traditions. Vilim's workshop is located on Stari Trg in Ljubljana. Vilim sent me a lovely letter which was quite lengthy but I will try to tell his story as briefly as possible. He tells a lot about his father who was his mentor and with whom he collaborated with for many years.

Vilim's grandfather Franc Demšar was a "škafar", a tub maker, from Selca above Škofja Loka. I believe this is where the talent originated in the family.

His father, Blaž Demšar was born in 1903 in Selca and as he grew up he

helped his father with felling the trees, preparing and drying the wood and also working alongside him learning the crafts. When Blaž became a cabinet-maker apprentice he already knew all kinds of wood. His first acquaintance with the violin came in the third grade when they had singing class. The teacher played it while they sang. This violin had only one gut string and it was making Blaž wonder how this could make music.

When Blaž was still in his apprenticeship he had a second meeting with the violin. He did such good work that a master, who the nuns brought to the school in Škofja Loka, trusted him to repair a violin. His excellent work was given high praise which was his greatest reward. After receiving his appren-

ticeship he went for training as a practical assistant. This was customary for apprentices to do. He returned first to Selca but there was no work for him there in his craft.

Blaž knew that he must understand and be able to perform each kind of work in connection with wood. He left to go to Jesenice after one year and went to Ljubljana. Here he earned so poorly, many times in the morning he could not decide whether to buy bread or cigarettes, he could not afford both and his meals and lodging were very expensive due to an economic crisis at that time.

From Ljubljana he left for the Adria-

(Please turn to page 32)

Sestra Vida, ki sicer predava psihologijo, didaktiko, pedagogiko in versko vzgojo v zasebni šoli v Torinu, je prišla lani poleti v Slovenijo povsem slučajno, na študijski dopust. V njeni rodni razkriški fari jo je, tudi zaradi napetih odnosov med Slovenijo in Hrvaško, čakalo neljubo presenečenje. Verski obredi in verouk v tem slovenskem kraju namreč potekajo v hrvaščini, ker Vatikan cerkvenih mej še ni uskladil z državnimi. Vida Žabot je na lastno pest, vendar v skladu s koncilskimi usmeritvami, da naj Cerkev svoje delo opravlja v materinem jeziku, poučevala slovenske otroke v Razkrižju verouk v slovenščini in si s tem nakopala težave na eni strani in odobravanje na drugi.

Vida Žabot je bila rojena 24. junija 1956 leta v številni družini. Že v tretjem letniku Poljanske gimnazije v Ljubljani je zaprosila za vstop v salezijansko družbo in potem kot kandidatka za salezijansko sestro končala gimnazijo. Po maturi je šla za dve leti na Bled v noviciat in tam naredila prve zaobljube. Ker pri nas razmere še niso bile zrele za njeno vzgojno delo z otroki in mladino tako kot so danes, so jo poslali v Torino, kjer je začela študij vzgojnih znanosti. Po drugem letniku so jo usmerili na pedagogiko in napotili v Rim. Tam je opravila dveletno podiplomsko specializacijo iz eksperimentalne psihologije. Skoraj deset let je predavala na srednji in visoki šoli v Portogruaru v bližini Benetk in kot psihologinja delala v svetovalnem centru. Potem je bila premeščena v Ligurijo. Predavala je psihologijo, didaktiko, pedagogiko in versko vzgojo. Po dveh letih je zaprosila za leto počitnic v Sloveniji. In zdaj se za anonimost samostanskih zidov vrača kot naša Vida, naša Slovenka leta.

Njena mati Julijana, ki je skupaj z ostalimi sorodniki in Razkrižani prisostvovala svečani prireditvi v ljubljanskem hotelu Bellevue, je Vidina največja prijateljica. Sestra Vida



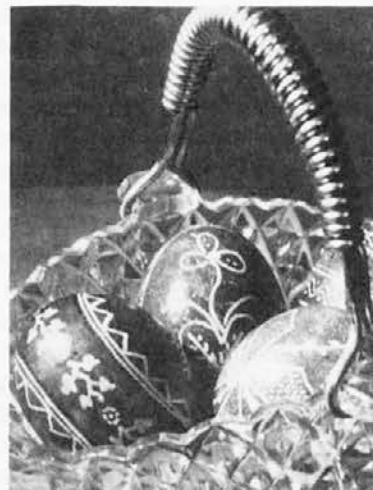
Slovenka leta Vida Žabot z mamo Julijano.

bi, če bi sama o tem odločala, prav njej podelila častni naslov. Tako pa jo je, močno pred ostalimi kandidatkami, za žensko leta izbralo 2840 glasovnic bralcev in bralk. Vsi v en glas so ljudje v številnih novinarskih anketah ugotavljali, da prinaša sestra Vida, morda tudi zato, ker sicer ne živi v Sloveniji, ampak v daljnem italijanskem Torinu, v slovenske loge nov veter sprave, prijateljstva in ljubezni. Ta izjemna redovnica je namreč pokončna in močno poduhovljena ženska, ki ve, kaj hoče in ki predvsem verjame v ljubezen. Na zahodu, kjer so preplavljeni z novimi duhovnimi gibanji, bi jo prav gotovo prej kot v rodni Sloveniji, spoznali za glasnico New Age gibanja.

Morda je bil tudi njenemu stanu ne preveč običajen način karizmatičnega obnašanja in nastopanja razlog, da se častne podelitve naslova, ki ga je organizirala revija Jana, ni udeležil noben predstavnik Cerkve.

Kakorkoli že, kaže, da so najbližje resnici tisti, ki pravijo, da se je zgodil fenomen Vide Žabot nekoliko pred časom. Šele prihodnost jo bo, brez politikov, ki so se tokrat hiteli fotog-

rafirati ob njej, najbrž v nekakšen dokaz, da so tudi sami znanilci demokratičnih sprememb, uvrstila v tisto mesto v slovenski demokraciji, ki si ga bo uspela, zdaj ko jo poznamo in imamo radi, izboriti tudi v vnaprej. Vidino znanje in ljubezen bi doma še kako potrebovali, tako kot duhovno pogastvo premnogih Slovencev, ki jih je takšna ali drugačna enostranskost domovine pregnala na tuje. Da bi se le vse, po tujini hrepeneče lepe Vide, nekoč vrnile domov, in da v prihodnje ne bi več odhajale!



BARAGA



Začetki Katoliške Cerkve v Ameriki

FRANC JAKLIČ

VII. BARAGA V L'ANSU

ZAČASNO V L'ANSU. POTEK ZA STALNO (Pomladi in jeseni 1843)

Na sredi južne obale Gorenjega jezera, desno od polotoka Keweenaw (Kivinaw), leži ob 100 km dolgem Keweenawskem zalivu mestece L'Anse (Lans). Ime je francosko in pomeni po naše lok, ker je obala tam res zleknjena v obliki loka. Okoli leta 1600 je tukaj oznanjal vero francoski jezuit o. Renát Menárd, potem pa ni bilo več stalnega duhovnika ne sv. maše. V Baragovem času je stala nekoliko proč od današnjega L'Ansa indijanska naselbina enakega imena. Na vzhodni strani zaliva je imela Ameriška družba za kupovanje kož svoja skladišča. Pri tej družbi je bil tri leta nastavljen kanadski Francoz Peter Crebassa (Krebasa), pobožen mož, ki je ob nedeljah, ko ni imel priložnosti za sv. mašo, s svojo ženo Ano bral francosko sv. pismo in molil. Stari Indijanec Penanši je hodil k tej njuni pobožnosti in Crebassa mu je potem razlagal krščanske resnice. Penanši je vzljubil krščanstvo in si je želel stalnega duhovnika v L'Ansu. Edini duhovnik daleč naokoli je pa bil Baraga. Ko ga je bil Crebassa Penanšiju omenil, je ta tako dolgo silil vanj, da je leta 1840 res pisal Baragi v La Póinte. Baraga je pa bil takrat sredi načrtov za novo cerkev in ga ni bilo. Naslednje leto tudi ne. Leta 1843 je pa zvedel, da je prišel v L'Anse protestantovski metodistovski paster. Baraga je takoj

pisal Crebassi, da v maju pride in ostane do konca julija; ako bo videl, da se jih mnogo želi spreobrniti, se bo pa pozneje za trajno ustabil pri njih, če bo le škof zadovoljen in če bo mogel za La Póinte dobiti naslednika. – La Póinte z vso okolico je bil že skoraj ves katoliški. Samo stari poglavar Bivol in peščica njegovih privrženecv so ostali zakrknjeni pogani. Bivol se je spreobrnil šele nekaj dni pred smrtjo leta 1853. – Baraga si je zaželel novega poganskega misijona.

Dne 24. maja 1843, kakor je sam vpisal v tamkajšnjo krstno knjigo, se je pripeljal z ladjo v L'Anse. Leto pozneje je zapisal: "L'Anse je neprijazna, žalostna, nerodovitna pokrajina, ki se z La Póintom še primerjati ne da."

Pisatelj Ducatel iz Baltimore jo je 1. 1845 opisal: "Kakšnih 10 do 15 milj (16 do 24 km) proti severu od L'Ansa je zemlja izvrstna. Porastla je s travniki in z lepimi logi sladkornega javora, hrasta in vedno zelenega drevja; in ko je otrebljena, rodi dovolj krompirja, koruze in zelenjave. Pobočja gričev so na gosto pokrita z jágodovjem, malinjem, grozdíčjem borovničevjem in grmiči kosmulje. Tod so tudi studenci slastne hladne vode, ki je posebno zaželena poleti, ko jezernica ob obrežju ni dobra."

Indijanci iz L'Ansa so bili razvpiti kot veliki pijanci; zamenjevalci za divjadne kože so jih preplavljali z žganjem. Ko je Baraga prišel k njim, jih je dobil sredi pijančevanja. Dvajset let pozneje je v Cincinnatiju na predavanju opisal ta prizor: "Ko sem prvič prišel tja,

da bi videl, ali bi se dal ustanoviti misijon, so bili Indijanci ravno pri sodčku žganja. Vsa številna družba je bila v najstrašnejšem stanju pijanosti. Seveda mi je to jemalo pogum. Vendar sem ostal in več dni čakal, dokler niso sodčka izpraznili. Počakal sem potem še nekaj dni, da so se popolnoma streznili. Šele potem sem šel mednje in jih povabil, naj pridejo in me poslušajo. Vsi so se odzvali. Živo sem jim opisal vso gnusobo njihove razvade in jim obljubil, da jih hočem s svojim naukom dvigniti, če me hočejo ubogati. Poslušali so me s sklonjenimi glavami. Naposled sem jim rekel, da naj mi odgovorijo. Tedaj je vstal star mož in mi rekel v imenu vseh: "Če si nas prišel samo mimogrede obiskat, te ne bomo poslušali in ne bomo ubogali tvojih besed. Ako pa prihajaš, da pri nas ostaneš, te bomo pa morda poslušali in sprejeli tvoj nauk." S tem sem bil zadovoljen."

To zapito in poživinjeno indijansko množico je začel zdaj Baraga spreobračati, dvigati in vzgajati.

Crebassa mu je odstopil pol hiše, da je v njej priredil zasilno kapelo. Ostal je pri njih 20 dni, jih v kapeli učil in 30 krstil. Ob odhodu jim je obljubil, da se bo jeseni vrnil. Ta čas naj pa ob nedeljah hodijo h Crebassi poslušat krščanski nauk in molit. Dva Indijanca sta ga v čolniku peljala v La Póinte; tam je hotel biti navzoč, ko se bodo Indijanci v avgustu pripeljali v čolnih po plačo. Po tema dvema Indijancema se je Crebassi 18. julija pismeno zahvalil za gostoljubnost in sodelovanje.

V La Póintu je dobil sporočilo od sestre Amalije, da je njenega moža Jožefa Gressla 23. marca do smrti zadela kap. Pokopali so ga na starem trebanjskem pokopališču ob cerkvi. Še zdaj je na desnem cerkvenem zidu vzdana njegova nagrobna plošča.

Dne 12. septembra 1843 je Baraga pisal iz La Póinta dunajskemu nadškofu Mildeju: "To jesen nameravam začeti z novim misijonom ob Gorenjem jezeru, na kraju, ki je 180 milj (okoli 300 km) od tu in kjer upam rešiti mnogo duš, kakor so mi obljubili in zatrdili tamkajšnji pogani. Tukaj v La Póintu se še redkokdaj spreobrne kakšen pogan. Gotovo jih bom tam dobil dosti več kakor tukaj. O kako velika tolažba, kako neizrekljivo veselje, Jezusu Kristusu dobivati neumrjajočih duš!"

Škof Lefèvre je razložil v pismu, kako potreben bi bil misijon v L'Ansu. Jeseni leta 1843 se je ustanovila nova škofija Milwaukee (Miluóki) na zahodnem bregu Michiganskega jezera in dodeljen ji je bil tudi La Póinte. Škof Lefèvre ni hotel izgubiti Barage iz svoje škofije, zato mu je rad dovolil, da se preseli v L'Anse. V La Póinte je pa obljubil poslati o. Školo.

24. oktobra 1843 se je Baraga drugič in za stalno pripravljal v L'Anse, da tam preživi deset let, polnih dela in truda, pa tudi polnih najlepših sadov.

Peter White je zapisal, da je bilo 1. 1850 – torej sedem let pozneje – v L'Ansu okoli 800 Očipvejcev, 100 ali nekaj več pol Indijancev in 20 do 30 kanadskih Francozov, poročenih z Indijankami. Pravi, da so vsi Barago "ljubili in naravnost oboževali".

V štirih mesecih jih je spet krstil 56, kakor je poročal na Dunaj 12. februarja 1844. Med temi 56-imi krščenci

je bilo tudi nekaj otrok, ki so kmalu potem umrli v krstni nedolžnosti.

V Crebassovi hiši je odprl šolo. Nekaj je učil sam, nekaj so mu pa, kakor piše, pomagale, "nekatero pobožne in večče osebe", ki jih je zato pripeljal s seboj iz La Póinta. Posebno delavna učiteljica je bila Cottéjeva žena, ki se je z možem preselila v L'Anse. V šolo je hodilo 20 dečkov in trije mošje, 19 deklic in 9 žen. Najprej so jih naučili branja in katekizma, potem pisanja in računstva. Nekaj jih je še prej ko v dveh mesecih znalo brati.

V omenjenem pismu so tudi stavki, važni za njegove Indijance: "Ko preudarjam vse okoliščine, zmerom bolj spoznavam božjo voljo, da tukaj ustanovim stalen misijon. Zato sem kmalu po svojem prihodu začel pripravljati vse, kar je treba, da se postavi majhna lesena cerkev in hiša za misijonarja, pa tudi šola in nekoliko hišic za spreobrnjence; dokler namreč Indijanci živijo raztreseni po gozdovih v svojih kočah, jih ne bo mogoče civilizirati (olikati) in naučiti pridnosti in snage. Zato sem sklenil, po zgledu nekdanjih paraguajskih jezuitov ustanoviti majhno redukcijsko (ločeno naselbino) in združiti divjake v eno vas okoli cerkve. Mojim Indijancem je ta misel prav všeč in vsi mi obétajo, da bodo poslej stanovali v hišah in živeli kakor beli. Obljubil sem jim, da bom že letos postavil 15 hiš; drugo leto jih bom dal še več napraviti, če le dobim kaj pomoči. Taka naselbina bo precëj stala. Res da so naša poslopja vsa iz lesa, ki je tukaj zastoj; delavce pa je le treba plačati in deske za tla sežagati na róko, ker vodnih žag tukaj ni. Toda kako velika bo korist, če se ta misijon ustanovi! Koliko surovih divjakov, ki zdaj stanujejo po kočah, podobnih medvedjim brlogom, in ki zato tudi temu primerno živijo, se bo potem civiliziralo; postali bodo kristjani in služili Bogu. Po mojih dosedanjih računih bo ta naselbina stala 400 do 500 dolarjev."

Kaj je Barago spomnilo na paraguajske jezuitske redukcijske?

Na polotoku Keeweenawu, ki ga je vlada kupila od Očipvejcev, so zasledili velika ležišča rud, zlasti bakra. Že tisto leto 1844 je vlada začela odpirati rudnike. Čedalje več tujcev se je priseljevalo: Francozov iz Kanade, Ircev, Angležev in Nemcev. Takoj so začeli staviti hiše in delati ceste. Baraga je pa vedel, da velja o Očipvejcih isto kar o Otavanih: če bodo še naprej živeli po indijanskih navadah, lenarili in pili, jih bo vlada preselila onstran Mississippija, ali jih pa prepustila belim, ki jih bodo strašno izkoriščali in izrabljali. Treba je torej, da se tudi Očipvejci odpovedo lenobi, opustijo nestalno lovsko in ribiško življenje, se skupaj naselijo in oprimejo poljedelstva, živinoreje in obrti. V skupnih naselbinah bodo bolj varni pred žganjem in razuzdanostjo belokožcev. Tudi ne bodo več zahajali v gozdove med pogane in se tam udeleževali poganskih plesov, slovesnosti in praznovernih čarovnij. Ne bodo več sklepali mešanih zakonov s pogani, ki so toliko kristjanov pahnil nazaj v poganstvo. Tudi je bil L'Anse že od nekdanj važno tržišče Očipvejcev; Baraga je torej lahko upal, da če bodo v L'Ansu živeči Očipvejci sprejeli krščansko omiko, jo bodo po njihovem zgledu tudi mnogi drugi.

DEMSAR TRADITION cont'd from pg. 28:

tic coast, rumors were that work could be found there. He first went to the city of Rob on the Island of Rob. He worked there for three months without any machines and made two bedrooms. This was difficult as he had to work in a cellar workshop with dim lights. For this reason he left to look for employment in Split and then Dubrovnik. There, too, was no work to be found. He went on to Sarajevo where he remained for ten years. Here he met and married his wife, Maria Ganzitti. Three sons were born to Blaž and Maria. Vilim is the oldest. Cvetko, the second son, 51 years old, is a violist, soloist in the Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra in Ljubljana. Stanko, the youngest, 41 years old, is a cellist in the Symphonic Orchestra Radio-Television (RTV) in Ljubljana.

The first year in Sarajevo, Blaž was between irregular employment and unemployment. It came to him the thought of "easier" bread, about making violins. He purchased a cheap violin but since he had no money for a teacher, he taught himself to play. In some years he acquired so much knowledge that he then directed a jazz orchestra and choir at the Slovenian Cultural Society "Ivan Cankar".

In the first three years Blaž made sixty violins. Because of his ten years of work in Sarajevo the local newspaper dedicated an entire page to his story, praising him and expressing regrets that such a professional would now leave Sarajevo for Ljubljana.

Since 1938 he worked in Ljubljana. All of his searching and researching cost him so much that he was not able to even obtain a decent apartment; it was no better than a poor attic. Circumstances and the people around him did not permit him to live from just an artist's work. Only after a bad heart ailment appeared in 1960 did Blaž, after three years, receive an artist's recognition and pension. He was fortunate to work another 18 years after that.

Already at the beginning of his violinist's path, Blaž knew that no where in the books was it written how to make a good tone, and still no one has made a tone that would be the same as Stradovari. For this reason he worked as a hermit or recluse and autodidaktician. He was a very skilful and extraordinary fast worker and also genuinely clever. Somehow after thirty years he discovered a method for the making of the "Italian Tone". Experts acknowledged this to him privately and publicly.

Vilim Demsar in his dad's footsteps

Vilim uses a resonant high-mountain pine-wood and maple for the box (upper and bottom). Both top and bottom, are chiselled, not bent; white ebony for the fingerboard and horsehair from a white horse--tail is used for the bow. On a finished instrument the tone starts to develop and "settle" as it is "played in" and matures. As a rule, a violin maker can hear the results of his work only after the instrument has been played for some years, only then can he judge his success. A well-made instrument can enjoy an active life of 300 years or more.

Today Vilim would like to try a different wood and would above all like to demonstrate that it is not the material that gives the tone. He made two from ash and the results were the same as from maple.

Lacquer does not have any influence on the tone. Vilim says the control for the tone is known as the first oil. This oil comes in the wood; it changes or alters the wood. Lubricating with an oil material softens and it is for this

* * *

"The results of good workmanship is not only the time involved with the actual work but we must do complicated research, especially on a string instrument. This includes not only playing these instruments but having certain skills to produce the instruments. You must have a certain knowledge of the materials used, you must also study acoustics and above all have as sharp a sense as possible for listening to sounds. All these things are required to form the tone of a string instrument and at the same time for functionally and esthetically perfect modelling of all the parts of the instrument. The violin maker is continuously searching for perfection and the environment has a great influence on him."

* * *

reason that the tone is more dim or obscure, he also made experiments with colored lacquer and in 1981 an entire film was made on his use and procedure of the red lacquered violin. In 1988 Vilim made two violins in the blue lacquer.

Vilim makes instruments of all sizes. For all the instruments he uses a computerized program, which he uses for the calculation preparations before beginning the upper and bottom boards. Because of the use of a Calculation Program, each instrument tone is for certain a good tone.

His violins begin at a price of \$3,500 dollars and up. If you live in the St. Paul area in Minnesota, Vilim has two violins at "Miller and Fein, Stringed Instruments" at the Blair Arcade. Stop in if you are in that area.

Now Vilim's son, Matej will attend modelling school to learn this skill and then join his father in the workshop. It certainly seems like the Demšars will continue to create and produce their string instruments which over the many years have become a high mark of quality.

*(Parts of this article from
"Slovenija" magazine)*



Vilim Demsar tests a new violin



"FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

April, A Month of Celebrations



Hey, boys and girls, aside from all being in April, what does April 1st, April 8th, the 1st Monday of April, the 3rd Wednesday of April, the 4th Friday of April (usually) and April 30th all have in common?

They're all holidays. Most obscure and unknown, except for various groups of people.

April 1st or April Fool's Day is probably the most familiar. Nearly all of us at one time or another have been the victim of an April Fool's joke.

The eighth of April is a special day to the Buddhists of the world. It's Buddha's birthday. He's believed to have lived from 563 B.C. to 483 B.C. Until age 29 he lived a sheltered, luxurious life. It was at age 29 that he ventured from his palace for the first time and saw poverty, suffering and death for the first time. He decided to dedicate his life to enlightenment, which he did. Feeling he achieved his goal at age 35, he began a 40-year ministry of travel and teaching others how to achieve enlightenment through four holy states: compassion, joy, peace and equanimity.

The third Wednesday of April is known as Shad Planking. In the earlier days of America's history, political rallies were followed by elections and a flamboyant feast, usually consisting of fish, it was plentiful as most of the states bordered the Atlantic Ocean. The political importance of this day has faded, but Americans hate to give up a reason to party, and Shad Planking is as good a reason as any.

Celebrated, usually, on the Fourth Friday of April is Arbor Day. Tradi-

tionally a day to help replenish nature by planting a tree. The first Arbor Day took place in 1872. On April 22, 1970, even more importance was given to this day when it was renamed by environmental groups as Earth Day.

April 30th, Beltane, is no longer celebrated, but deserves to be mentioned as it played a part in Tennessee folklore. The Celts are responsible for this feast, celebrated May Day Eve. On top of a hill a Beltane fire was kindled in honor of the Celtic "sun god." In Scotland two fires were constructed and

DAVY'S COLUMN

cattle driven between them. This was their way of warding off disease and bad spirits before sending the cattle to pasture. Also, this day marked the end of the first quarter of the year. All debts and rent were to be settled.

DAVY

America Celebrates!
A Patchwork of Wierd & Wonderful Holiday Lore. Hennig Cohen & Tristram Potter Coffin © 1991.



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