



# ZARJA - THE DAWN

URADNO GLASILO  
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKÉ ZVEZE V AMERIKI

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA

NUMBER 12

DECEMBER, 1994

VOLUME 66



*Slovenian ethnic pride shines from the faces of our members as we commemorate the 68th anniversary of S.W.U. this month on December 19th!*



# ZARJA - THE DAWN

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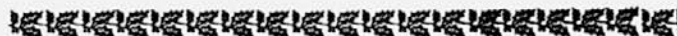
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hands of the Editor by the first week of the month — vsi dopisi za naslednjo  
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## CHRISTMAS PARTIES

- Dec. 1 Br. 5, Indianapolis, IN at SND  
Dec. 1 Br. 24, LaSalle, IL at the Paramount Club  
Dec. 3 Br. 2, Chicago, IL, Junior Christmas Party at noon  
Dec. 3 Br. 95, So. Chicago, IL  
Dec. 4 Br. 35, Aurora, MN, Community Bldg. 3 p.m.  
Dec. 4 Br. 47, Garfield Hts., OH, Pot Luck Lunch at SND  
Maple Hts., 1 p.m.  
Dec. 4 Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA, Potluck at VFW Hall in  
Enumclaw  
Dec. 6 Br. 14, Euclid, OH, 6 p.m. SSH Recher Ave., call  
481-7473 or 585-4227  
Dec. 6 Br. 56, Hibbing, MN at Open Pit, 5 p.m.  
Dec. 7 Br. 33, Duluth, MN, Christmas/Election Meeting.  
Dec. 7 Br. 40, Lorain, OH, German Villa, 1 p.m. Call Agnes,  
245-3919  
Dec. 7 Br. 81, Keewatin, MN at Tiger Town Eatery, 7 p.m.  
Dec. 7 COMBINED CLEVELAND BRANCHES at Sterle's  
Country House, for reservations call Evelyn Majercik,  
439-1825.  
Dec. 8 Br. 13, San Francisco, CA at noon.  
Dec. 10 Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL at the Crow Bar, for reservations  
call Edna, 221-5708 or Gladys, 221-0475.  
Dec. 11 Br. 50, Euclid, OH  
Dec. 12 Br. 26, Pittsburgh, PA  
Dec. 13 Br. 42, Maple Hts., OH at SNH Maple Hts.  
Dec. 14 Br. 32, Euclid, OH, 6:30 p.m.  
Dec. 14 Br. 38, Chisholm, MN at Iron World, Chisholm  
Dec. 14 Br. 54, Warren, OH, Elks on Rt. 422, 1 p.m.  
Dec. 14 Br. 55, Girard, OH at Little Peppino's  
Dec. 15 Br. 2, Chicago, IL, Party for Adults, following Mass  
at Stephen's at 6:30 p.m.  
Dec. 18 Br. 17, West Allis, WI after the meeting.  
Dec. 20 Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI at Rupp's, for reservations call  
Ruth, 452-8251 or Dorothy, 457-9371 by Dec. 17th.  
Dec. 28 Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI at Mayer's Restaurant, for reser-  
vations, call Matilda, 421-1243.

## ON THE COVER...

Volunteers from the Slovenian Heritage Museum exhibited Slovenian books, maps, art, and information about the Slovenian Women's Union at the Ethnic Festival held in August at the State of Illinois Building in Chicago. Millie Pucel, Helen Plut, Josephine Lustik, Olga Ancel and Marie Schiedt received a lot of attention in their colorful Slovenian outfits!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN DECEMBER

### Presidents:

- Dec. 14 - Josephine Mohorcic, Br. 25, Cleveland, OH  
Dec. 28 - Agnes Tomazin, Br. 40, Lorain, OH  
Dec. 31 - Josephine Kapla, Br. 81, Keewatin, MN  
Dec. 31 - Frances Vidmar, Br. 83, Crosby, MN

### Secretaries:

- Dec. 15 - Victoria Volk, Br. 99, Elmhurst, IL  
Dec. 29 - Marge Church, Br. 42, Maple Hgts., OH

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JANUARY

### National Officers:

- Jan. 6 - Irene Odorizzi, Cultural Heritage Officer, Re-  
ston, VA  
Jan. 15 - Evelyn Majercik, Regional President, Ohio-  
Michigan, Bedford, OH

### Presidents:

- Jan. 2 - Kay Yuratovac, Br. 73, Warrensville Hgts.,  
OH  
Jan. 11 - Frances Correll, Br. 93, Brooklyn, NY

### Secretaries:

- Jan. 5 - Mary Jackovich, Br. 28, Calumet, MI  
Jan. 12 - Mary Krall, Br. 37, Greaney, MN  
Jan. 21 - Mary Folio, Br. 23, Ely, MN



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## NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### LET'S BE OF SERVICE TO EACH OTHER!

What an exciting and momentous occasion it was for your president to attend the S.W.U. Ohio-Michigan Regional Convention on October 16th! Since my sister lives in Troy, Michigan it didn't take much to convince me to go.

This was a historic event as it was the first time the Ohio-Michigan Regional Convention was held in Michigan. Thanks to the able leadership of Kathleen Emerson, President of branch 105, members and guests and Regional President, Evelyn Majercik who arranged to have two bus loads of Ohio members attend, the entire day was exceptionally well-organized and festive.

Introductions to Branch 105 members and guests and renewing friendships upon the arrival of the Ohio delegation was pleasurable; one could feel the love and joy among us.

The convention began with an ethnic Mass with Slovenian polka music provided by the Klancnik Brothers Orchestra. Mass celebrant was Fr. Michael Green, OSB (Irish ancestry) who enthusiastically expressed his appreciation for our Slovenian music and culture. The message conveyed in Fr. Green's sermon was "SERVICE" which can be applied to our organization. Each of us should put forth our ENERGY, ENTHUSIASM and EFFORT in service so that greater things can be accomplished.

Presiding at the business meeting was Evelyn Majercik, Regional President of Ohio-Michigan. Reports and discussion ensued; a very informative and interesting session. Prizes were awarded, best wishes for a safe journey home, thank you's and the adjournment followed by farewells. My sincere appreciation for the gracious hospitality and generosity of host Branch 105; indeed it was an enjoyable and memorable convention.

One final reminder: The deadline for electing a delegate and alternate to the S.W.U. National Convention in San Francisco is December 31st.

We're into the Advent Season and perhaps we can prepare and plan for Christmas by being more Christ-centered. If we prayerfully focus on the coming

of our Savior, Jesus Christ, rather than being commercially entrapped, Christmas would be more meaningful and inspiring for all. It is ultimately our responsibility to be accountable for our actions.

I would like to share with you a story of the Christmas Candy Cane that was printed in a Cursillo newsletter.

#### THE CANDYMAKER'S WITNESS

A candymaker in Indiana wanted to make a candy that would be a witness, so he made the Christmas Candy Cane. He incorporated several symbols for the birth, ministry and death of Jesus Christ.

He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy. White to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus; and hard to symbolize the Solid Rock, the foundation of the Church and firmness of the promises of God.

The candymaker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior. It could also represent the staff of the "Good Shepherd" with which He reaches down into the ditches of the world to lift out the fallen lambs, who, like all sheep, have gone astray.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candymaker stained it with red stripes. He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received by which we are healed. The large red stripe was for the blood shed by Christ on the cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life.

Unfortunately, the candy became known as a candy cane, a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time. But the meaning is still there for those who "have eyes to see and ears to hear." May this symbol once again be used to witness to the wonder of Jesus and his great love that came down at Christmas and remains the ultimate and dominant force in the universe today.

A Joyous and Blessed  
Christmas!

Victoria Bobence





Irene M. Odorizzi,  
Heritage Director

## HISTORY OF S.W.U. BRANCHES

# Looking Back

# to the Future

## BR. #39, BIWABIK, MINNESOTA

### Origin of Branch 39

Mrs. Johanna Sever originated the idea of having a branch of the Slovenian Women's Union in Biwabik, Minnesota. She visited all her friends telling them of the organization and requesting that they support her in this endeavor. On Feb. 3, 1930, the twenty ladies of Biwabik became charter members of Branch 39.

The first officers elected were: President, Frances Sherek; Vice President, Mary Strukel; Secretary, Johana Sever; Treasurer, Katrina Tometz; Trustees, Anna Strukel, Angela Kure and Mary Miller.

The first meetings were held in the homes of members on a voluntary basis. Later on the meeting location was changed to the basement meeting room of St. John's Catholic Church in Biwabik.

At the present time, meetings are held on the second Sunday from September to May at 1:30 p.m. There are no meetings in July and August. The regular meeting opens with prayer followed by business and concluded with refreshments and conversation.

In reviewing the minutes of previous years, the refreshments were always praised since the members provided them on a voluntary and rotating basis. Presently, the refreshments consist of dessert and coffee. A door prize is presented to a lucky attendee.

Excerpts from previous meetings describe refreshments as follows:

*"In the minutes of March 19, 1972, Angie Karish, secretary, reported that Boja Pavic provided a banquet of ham, eggs, krofe, flancete, coffee and a very rich dessert, at the meeting."*

On Dec. 8, 1963, the minutes gave credit to Mary Berkness as Lunch Chairman, *"...every month, she has arranged to have volunteers take responsibility for the lunch at each meeting."*

We are proud of our Sunshine Girl who sends cards and well wishes to sick members who are reported at the meeting as being ill. The position was filled for many years by Maisie Gerzina, Mayme Mohar and Florence Milos. Ann Gerzina has been our Sunshine Girl for two years.

### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

#### Annual Christmas Party

This event occurs in December and includes a brief business meeting, election of officers for the coming year, full dinner and exchange of gifts by those who wish to participate. Finally the event is concluded with the enjoyment of games.

Previously, the dinner was prepared by members but in recent years this task has been relegated to caterers. The glass of wine before dinner prompts conviviality to the large membership which attends this holiday festivity.

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY

On February 8, 1970, the branch celebrated its 40th anniversary and the minutes of the meeting noted that ten charter members over 70 years of age, plus eight charter members of lesser years were present for this event.



Long-time president and spiritual advisor, the late Johann Zallar is seen in the center with her daughter, Jennie Ahlin on left and Margaret Urick, right.

## Slovenska Ženska Zveza.

SLOVENIAN LADIES UNION

Razpis assessmenta za mesec Februar 11, 1930.

Podružnica št. 59, v Biwabik, Minn.

Število članic zadnji mesec Nova podružnica. 000

Število novo pristopnih članic 20

Skupaj 20.

Število odstopnih in suspendiranih članic 20.

Podružnica šteje za mesec Februar 11, 1930, članice 20.

Za poslati na glavni urad S. Z. Z.:

Assessment za 20 članice po 25c \$ 5.00.

Pristopnina za 19 novih članic po 50c \$ 9.50.

Za poseben assessment \$

Za knjižice 20 po 15c \$ 3.00.

Za izkaznice, 20 po 25c \$ 5.00.

Skupaj 22.50.

Pripomba: Jožana Sever tajnica.

Odstopile članice morajo plačati za tekoči mesec, za suspendirane se pa assessment odšteje.

Naslov: Box 446,

Mesto: Biwabik, Minn.

Imena odstopnih članic:

The first membership and Assessment report form sent to the Home Office of SWU in 1930!

## REALLY LOOKING BACK!

Of interest to history buffs is a book written by Father F.S. Sustarsic on behalf of the society of Slovenian Priests of America that was issued in 1903 in Joliet where Fr. Sustarsic was the pastor of the Slovenian church of St. Joseph. Father "reveals" the situation in America in various communities where Slovenian immigrants might come to find work – and particular, the book is intended to give the potential immigrants in Slovenia some advice and the proper visualization of what they might find in the U.S. We will use excerpts from the book, which is kept in the SWU Home Heritage Museum & Library as they pertain to our SWU branch histories. Translation is as follows:

### BIWABIK, MINNESOTA IN 1903!

Slovenians began to come to Biwabik in 1892 and now there are about 200, among them 30 families and 70 single persons. Most came from Dolenjska region in Slovenia, a few from Gorenjska, and they work in the iron ore mines – 10 hour days for \$2. Employment is difficult to get, but it is better in the mines underground than above ground. Women and young ladies have little work here, except for a few who are hired to sew for some families, and this wage is about \$10 per month. In this town there are 9 who own their homes and land, among them 3 own saloons and one has a variety store. On company-owned land live about 24 Slovenians. They do not have their own priest, however, Fr. M. Bilban comes to say mass often. Besides one society of the KSKJ with 75 members there is a Slovak society with 89 members and a society of the Holy Rosary with 30 women members. It is not recommended that Slovenians would immigrate here.

Now we can really see how things were for the earliest immigrants – such as Mrs. Zaller who arrived in 1912. Undoubtedly, most of the first members of Br. 39 were from this period.

Editor

\* \* \*

Fr. Sustarsic refers to McKinley, Minnesota in only one sentence:

On the railway line from Duluth to the Iron Range of Minnesota, between the towns of Biwabik and Virginia, there are the communities of Elba and McKinley where a few Slovenians are employed in the iron ore mines. They are members of the Slovenian societies of neighboring towns where they also attend religious services. Their labor and social activities are the same as you will find in this region.

## S.W.U. HISTORY



On April 5-8, 1964, the Ad-hoc Bowling Team comprised of nine members traveled to Chicago as participants in the annual SWU bowling Tournament. The dynamic group was a versatile group of bowlers, cheerleaders and good singers as well. The group consisted of Margaret Setniker, Ann Kosteliz, Dorothy Potocnik, Dorothy Sherek, Angie Brennan, Frances Anzelc, Angie Karish, Helen Swanson and Mollie Plattner seen on photo above.

### CHARITABLE AND FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES

The secretary's minutes were checked for activities which related to the raising of funds and to the distribution of money for charities.

Annual donations are made to the church whose meeting rooms are used by the branch. Community and individual needs are discussed at the meetings and voted upon. Usually a donation is in order. The current annual fundraiser is participation in the community Weihnachtsfest (Festival of Lights) when walnut poticas, apple and cheese strudels are sold. All these specialties are made by our members.

The following excerpts are characteristic of a few branch activities taken from the minutes:

#### **Reported by Fran Anzelc on March 5, 1950**

"To raise funds, Branch 39, decided to serve chicken mulligan at the Park Pavilion from 5-8 p.m. Admission at the door was 75 cents and included mulligan, potica, rolls and coffee. Half of the proceeds were given to the church.

#### **Reported by Fran Anzelc on May 7, 1950**

Returns of the Mulligan Supper were thoroughly discussed. The report is as follows:

Gross receipts	\$140.35
Expenses	50.43
Donation	28.00
Net to treasury	61.42

#### **Reported by A. Karish on Jan. 14, 1974**

Einie Karish offered to make corsages for the women residents at the White Community Nursing Care Unit and the lodge provided the materials at cost.

#### **Reported by A. Karish on March 10, 1974**

The minutes reported Einie had made lovely corsages and the recipients were proud and happy to receive them.

#### **Reported by A. Karish on November 14, 1968**

Four of the ladies volunteered to replace the blood used by Boja Pavicic during her surgery this fall. The volunteers were: Fran Anzelc, Pat Hakala, Margaret Setnikar and Kathy Steblay.

#### **Reported by Mary Suhadolc on December 11, 1989**

It was voted upon by members to contribute \$100 toward the purchase of an electric wheelchair for the son of member, Jane Purkat and grandson of member Annie Purkat. Young Joey Purkat is attending college and requires a larger, more mobile aide."

## LATE GREAT OFFICERS OF BR. 39

### †Johanna Steblay Zallar

The long time members of Br. 39 regard Mrs. Johanna Zallar as the life center of our Zveza for all of its years. Born Johanna Osvald, our friend came from (Slovenia) Austria at the urging of a cousin who needed help on the journey to America with young children. Once here in Biwabik, she was courted by Jerry Steblay and married six months later in 1912, when she was eighteen years old. Father Sullivan married them.

They settled in McKinley in an apartment that was very cold in winter, with no running water. It was like that for most families. Neighbors helped each other cut wood and do other jobs as a daily way of life.

Their first child, Jennie was born the next year, with four brothers to follow, one dying in infancy.

Johanna said her husband was a good man, the only thing wrong was that he died too young. He was killed in 1928 in a mine accident after getting official recognition for saving fellow miners' lives in previous cave-ins. Johanna said people were very poor in those times, but they shared. For Jerry's funeral one woman brought two pies and another invited all the family to come to dinner in her home.

Johanna was interested in the budding fraternal movement in McKinley – to start a branch of the Slovenian Women's Union. The Lautizar (Lautigar) family took the initiative that Johanna picked up. So, in 1929, Br. 36 was founded in McKinley, Minnesota. Johanna said she believed it would make life better for women and their families to have a Union, just as men had their societies (Unions). She strongly supported the new McKinley branch in organizing a way to bring food to the homes of those members who had family funerals.

Johanna raised her children alone until 1932 when she married Mr. Zallar and moved to Biwabik; then she joined the already organized new branch No. 39. She became their Secretary-Treasurer and later, President, which position she kept for more than twenty years. She also served as Spiritual Director. For many years, the monthly meetings were held in her home or in the homes of other members. She actively recruited new members and went from house to house to do so. She remembered that at one time the husband of one woman shouted at her when she came to the door, perhaps embarrassed at not having the means to pay any additional cost such as lodge dues for his wife.

To raise funds, Zveza members would sponsor dances, dinners and bake sales, as they still do today. Everyone was short of money in the early years, said Mrs. Zallar, and it was hard for some women to join or take part even if they wanted to.

As times got better, the interest in Zveza stayed and members signed up, including the younger ones; in time,

they grew up and moved away, leaving the branch, too. But there were enough constant, supporting members who came to meetings, brought the lunches, had ideas for earning money and for donations to worthy causes. Mrs. Zallar continued to stress the branch's need to contribute to the community and to help sister members in times of need.

In 1955, the McKinley branch disbanded and members transferred to Br. 39, Biwabik; Johanna welcomed old friends and neighbors like Anna Spehar, the organizer of Br. 36.

Widowed for a second time, Mrs. Zallar moved in with her son, Frank Steblay and when his wife, Margie, a Zveza member, died in January of 1962, she helped her son raise his two children, Eddie and Donna. Even though Mrs. Zallar had a heart attack, she said she had no time to worry about it!

It is good to record this story of Mrs. Johanna Zallar, an exemplary woman. She was born on June 2, 1892 and was a most valued officer of Br. 39. She graciously gave the information for this story and information about Br. 39 shortly before her death in 1990. Son, Frank and daughter, Jennie Ahlin, six grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren survive.

### †Frances Anzelc

Besides being a long-time officer, Frances Anzelc was a spark-plug of enthusiasm for all the activities of Br. 39. She took part in all social events and was a most effective organizer of projects. She arranged to send members off to National Conventions, led members to enter bowling competitions with other S.W.U. branches in other states, put together great social get-togethers and was among the first to join trips, plan picnics, gave the funniest toasts and brought zest into many a life! She also participated in church work and was a reader at daily mass. Her apple strudel-making lessons to young members of Br. 39 were a treat as she also shared laughter with her baking knowledge.

Frances was charter president of Br. 39 in 1930 to 1932 and then for more than 16 years from 1965 to 1986.

She passed away in 1993 and is survived by her husband, Frank, three daughters and four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

**May they rest in peace – they are not forgotten!**

### CURRENT OFFICERS (1990–1994)

President, Jean Korsman; Vice President, Kathy Siskar; Secretary-Treasurer, Jane Purkat; Rec. Secretary, Angeline (Toots) Hietala; Auditors, Katherine Steblay and Mary Berkness.

## BEREAVEMENT CEREMONIES

Bereavement ceremonies are currently conducted for sister members. A rosary, led by the President, is said by the members of Branch 39 at the bier of the deceased member prior to general visitation and the parish rosary.

There is a formal reception of the deceased at the church entrance by the designated honorary pall bearers of Branch 39. Each honorary pall bearer holds a red carnation as she accompanies the deceased member into the church for the funeral mass. Later, at the cemetery, each pall bearer places the carnation on top of the coffin.

The SWU will prepare and serve a dinner, at cost, for the spouse and children living at home, if the customary church lunch which follows interment and which consists of sandwiches, cake and coffee is insufficient. The following excerpt is taken from the minutes and reflects the branch's practice of preparing dinner at the member's home when "wakes" were held at the home.

*"Mrs. Mary Delak expressed thanks and appreciation for the dinner prepared by members at her home during her recent bereavement."*

(Minutes of January 8, 1950.)

## MOTHER OF THE YEAR

The first Sunday in the month of May is selected for the Mother of the Year luncheon. The membership attends Mass and receives communion. Members decide if they wish to celebrate in a restaurant or have the event catered. The member to be "Mother of the Year" or "Woman of the Year" is selected on the length of membership and is recognized as an honored sister. This spring event is always well-attended.



**Angeline Karish**

was another "spark-plug" of Br. 39, serving loyally as secretary and reporter in both English and Slovenian languages for many years and as Regional President of Minnesota for some time.



**Mary Strukel**

was the first Vice-President of Br. 39 and chosen as Mother of the Year in 1952. Seeing her in this pose reminds us of so many "grandmas" sitting in their favorite chair, busily doing handwork with their never-idle fingers!

## Mothers-Women of the Year

The following is a listing of our chosen members:

51 - Johanna Zallar	74 - Frances Sherek
52 - Mary Strukel	75 - Mary Starich
53 - Mary Kerkes	76 - Mary Berknes
54 - Ursula Ulrich	77 - Rose Talus
55 - Margaret Steblay	78 - Angeline Brennan
56 - Gizela Kure	79 - Ann Gerzina
57 - Dorothy Sherek	80 - Frances Bezek
NONE between 1958	81 - Boja Pavicic
thru 1961	82 - Julia Croteau
62 - Anna Bezek	83 - Marjorie Dewhurst
63 - Johanna Gerzina	84 - Margaret Setnikar
64 - Anna Spehar	85 - Mary Gerzina
65 - Mary Krall	86 - Katherine Steblay
66 - Jennie Ahlin	87 - Annie Purkat
67 - Anna Mary Paulisich	88 - Frances Siskar
68 - Mae Globoker	89 - Mary Lou Crotty
69 - Angeline Karish*	90 - Lucille Starken
70 - Josephine Reishus	91 - Jane Purkat
71 - Anna Kosteliz	92 - Margaret Berg
72 - Amelia Mestnick	93 - Celeste Spehar
73 - Mayme Mohar	94 - Molly Zamlen

\*Minnesota Reg. President

## CONVENTIONS

Branch 39 has hosted four regional conventions. The first was called ZVEZA DAY and was guided by President Johanna Zallar. It was an entertaining, informative and profitable event setting a precedent for the Minnesota Day State Conventions that followed in the years 1964, 1976 and 1987. Br. 39 will host the Convention in September, 1995.

## BICENTENNIAL CONVENTION



Biwabik hosted the 1976 Minnesota Zveza Day. Here are the officers of that year, Margaret Setnikar, Treas./Sec'y. Ann Kroger, Pres., Angie Karish, Regional President of Minn. and Fran Anzelc.

## STATE PRESIDENT

The current president of Br. 39, Jean Korsman, was elected Minnesota Regional President in 1991, a position that she has undertaken with energy and responsibility. The members are very proud of her!

## OLDEST MEMBERS

The branch is very proud of having elderly members who represent the long history of Br. 39. The eldest member is Pauline Lopp who was formerly from Br. 31, Gilbert. Mrs. Lopp is 96 years young! In their 90's are Helen Potocnik, (Gilbert) 95, Angela Susnik, (Gilbert) 94, Annie Purkart, 92 and Mary Nekich, (Gilbert) 92. Over 85 are Mary Estelle Bodovinitz, (Gilbert) 89, Anna Paulesich, 87, and Frances Ribich, 87. They are all young at heart!

## OFFICERS OF BR. 39, BIWABIK

### Presidents:

Johanna Shain, 1930/39  
Frances Sherek Anzelc, 1931-32/1965-70/77-86  
Johanna Zallar, 1933-37/40/43-59  
Julia Servatka, 1938  
Angela Mestnik, 1941-42  
Marge Setnikar, 1960-61  
Ann Kosteliz, 1962-64  
Mayme Mohar, 1971  
Ann Kroger, 1972-76/86  
Mary Strukel, 1987-89  
Jean Korsman, 1990-

### Secretaries:

Johana Sever, 1930  
Mary Tometz, 1931  
Catherine Tometz, 1933-35/37  
Johana Shain, 1936  
Ana Kulaszewiza, 1938  
Mary Juzna, 1939  
Angela Karish, 1940-46/54  
Frances Anzelc, 1947-53/55-63  
Shirley Sherek, 1964-69  
Marge Setnikar, 1970-84  
Mary Suhadolc, 1985-89  
Jane Purkart, 1990-

### Longest Years of Service:

**Presidents**, Johanna Zallar, 23 years, Frances Anzelc, 18 years and Ann Kroger, 6 years.

**Secretaries:** Fran Anzelc, 16 years, Marge Setnikar, 16 years, Angie Karish, 8 years, Shirley Sherek, 6 years.

## THE END

Many thanks to Mary Lou Crotty, the committee organizer and the following members of Branch 39 who contributed information for the history of their branch: Fran Anzelc, Millie Mestnick, Dorothy Sherek, Anna Purkat, Marge Dewhurst, Kathy Siskar, Mary Suhadolc, Mary Strukel, Jean Korsman, MN Regional President, Olga Ancel, National Secretary, also Tory Bobence, National President and Corinne Leskovar, Editor of ZARJA.

You have all performed a great service to the history of Branch 39 by your research and concern to document the events during the nearly 65 years your branch is in existence. Many thanks.

*Irene M. Odorizzi*

# ILLINOIS-INDIANA REGIONAL CONVENTION

On Sunday, October 2, 1994, the Illinois-Indiana Convention was held in Oglesby, IL. Branch No. 89 was the Hostess Branch with Branch No. 85 giving a monetary gift to assist. Rose Ann Prey, President of Branch No. 89 and her ladies did an excellent job organizing the events of the day.

A Convention gathering greeted us at 9:00 a.m. in Holy Family School gym. The meeting opened with everyone joining hands as I recited my "Circle of Prayer." A warm welcome was extended to the National Officers and members. Our Recording Secretary for the day was introduced. She is a new member of Branch No. 89. Thank you, Barbara Bruch, for accepting the position.

A message was read from National President, Victoria Bobence. She ask that we all seriously consider attending the National Convention in May 1995 in San Francisco. She also asked that we remember the Scholarship Fund, and the Heritage Museum. Increasing membership in SWU is also of prime interest in all Tory's messages.



**Fran Kirbach, Betty Hamilton and Jo Schmidt**

Members gathered for the procession into church



**Holy Family Catholic Church**

Jo Lustik and Olga Ancel

Mass at 11:30 a.m. was held at Holy Family Church concelebrated by the new pastor, Rev. Raymond Guthrie, and Rev. Bernard Horzen. Dinner followed at Holy Family gym with the opening prayer given by Fr. Horzen. Judge Wm. Banich was introduced as our guest speaker. He is a native of Oglesby, and presently serves as Associate Judge for the 13th Judicial District. He spoke of his Slovenian heritage – his parents, his grandparents, how proud he is of his Slovenian heritage, and how he and his wife, Mitzi (Branch 89 member) are trying to instill the same Slovenian traits and values in their children.

Eight of the ten Branches in the Illinois-Indiana region were represented. The delegates reported on activities of their respected branches.

I reminded the members to consider who they would want as their next State President, as my four year term ends Oct. 1995.

Lovely door prizes were won by some lucky members.

Fr. Guthrie was unable to join us at the dinner due to other church commitments. Fr. Horzen then gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

**Romaine O'Brien Jablonski**  
Illinois-Indiana Regional President

## Pride and Hope via "Special Delivery"

When my wife, Mitzi asked me to speak to this group I was both pleased and happy to accept. I started thinking about what topics I could talk about. The first thing that went through my mind were recent events in the news. Recently we have seen freedom come to Slovenia. I know that we were all excited about the prospect of the freedom in our homeland and what that would mean to some of our relatives. I also thought about the turmoil in what was Yugoslavia. I know that we are all concerned about the turmoil in that area. Also, it came to my mind about the recent stories of the Cuban immigrants and their desire to become a part of this country. Certainly having been immigrants or come from immigrants ourselves, we can empathize with those feelings.

Then I talked to my father about my grandparents. Interestingly enough both of my grandparents had the same names. Peter and Frances. Peter and Frances Dobosik both grew up on farms north of Ljubljana. Frances Banich came from Novo Mesto. Peter Banich came from a farm right north of that village. Their stories aren't much different from other Slovenian immigrants. Both of my grandfathers were sponsored by relatives who were already here in this country. My grandfather Banich was only 16 when he came over. Once he had gotten a job and was established, he sent for my grandmother. My grandfather Dobosik came over alone and waited for my grandmother to arrive with her family. As I said, these stories are not much different from those most of you could tell.

Then I thought about a trip that my wife and I had made to New York City 12 or 13 years ago. We had decided to take a vacation to New York and we did many of the typical tourist things. One of those was to take the bus tour around the city. Part of that tour was a visit to the Statue of Liberty. I remember as we took the boat I couldn't help but wonder how my grandparents felt as they pulled into New York Harbor and got their first glimpse of the statue. I wonder what emotions they felt as they arrived in America with nothing. I also wondered as I passed Ellis Island what they were feeling as they went through the arduous immigration process. I felt that they must have been excited about the new prospect in their lives and by the fact that they had an opportunity to pursue the American dream. But they must have also been frightened coming to a country where they didn't know the language, where they were confronted with a large number of people that they had not dealt with in their home country, and extremely frightened about coming to this new nation with nothing. And now I think about how proud my grandparents would be if they were here now, proud of what all their descendants have accomplished. Just as proud as your ancestors would be, would they be able to see you and your children and your grandchildren today. As all of these thoughts went through my mind I realized that they all reflected directly on my heritage and they did have something in common.

When I thought about the joy we felt over a free Slovenia and our concern for the problems in that area, I was really thinking about a pride in our heritage.

When I thought about the Cuban immigrants and empathy that we feel for them, I was thinking about our pride in our ancestors' new home.

And when I was thinking of my grandparents and how proud they would be, I was thinking about pride in family.

When I thought about what we had accomplished I was thinking about the work ethic, strength of character and strong faith that were instrumental in bringing about those accomplishments.

When I thought about my grandparents being excited about the new prospects in their life, I was thinking about our ability to dream of a better life for our children.

And now I realize that I was wrong that day as I rode the boat to the Statue of Liberty, as I was wrong earlier today when I made a couple of comments. My grandparents weren't coming to this country with nothing. They were bringing with them pride in their heritage and expectation of pride in their new country, pride in their families, a work ethic, an abiding faith and a strength of character and the ability to dream of a better life for their children.

They brought these things with them and they have been handed down to me. I hope that I can pass them on to my children because these gifts, these beliefs, these ideals are truly a part of what it means to be a Slovenian-American!

**William Banich**

*Associate Judge, 13th Dist. of Illinois*



**Mitzi Banich and Angie Nico**

**Jo Savnik and Frances Puetz**



**Members from South Chicago #16 and #95**



## 22nd National Convention



SAN FRANCISCO

California

May 19, 20, 21, 1995

### DECEMBER IS DELEGATE ELECTION MONTH!

Please refer to the May, 1994 ZARJA for information on Delegates' elections and other important Convention regulations.

### YOU COULD BE A BIG WINNER!!

The Convention Committee is working on the convention program and we need your help to get as many ads as possible. The committee has put together a beautiful gift package of items unique to San Francisco and California. Included is California wine, a one-of-a-kind sweatshirt, Christmas ornaments, and a tote bag just to name a few of the items. The person or branch that submits the most ads and money, will win the gift package!

Ask your friends who own a business to take an ad, as well as your branch. You may also want to do an ad in memory of a loved one. The cost of the ads are:

Full page - 8" x 5"	\$100.00
Half Page - 4" x 5"	50.00
1/4 Page - 4" x 2-1/2"	25.00
1/8 Page - 2" x 2-1/2"	15.00
Patron (Name listed)	5.00

The ads must be camera ready (if special art work is required) and submitted by January 1, 1995. A check payable to *SWU Convention '95* must be submitted with the ads. Send to: Barbara Chiodo, 2324 Buena Vista Avenue, Belmont, CA 94002.

### For California Convention and Tour Information:

Barbara J. Chiodo, Chairman

1995 National Convention

Slovenian Women's Union of America

2324 Buena Vista Avenue

Belmont, CA 94002

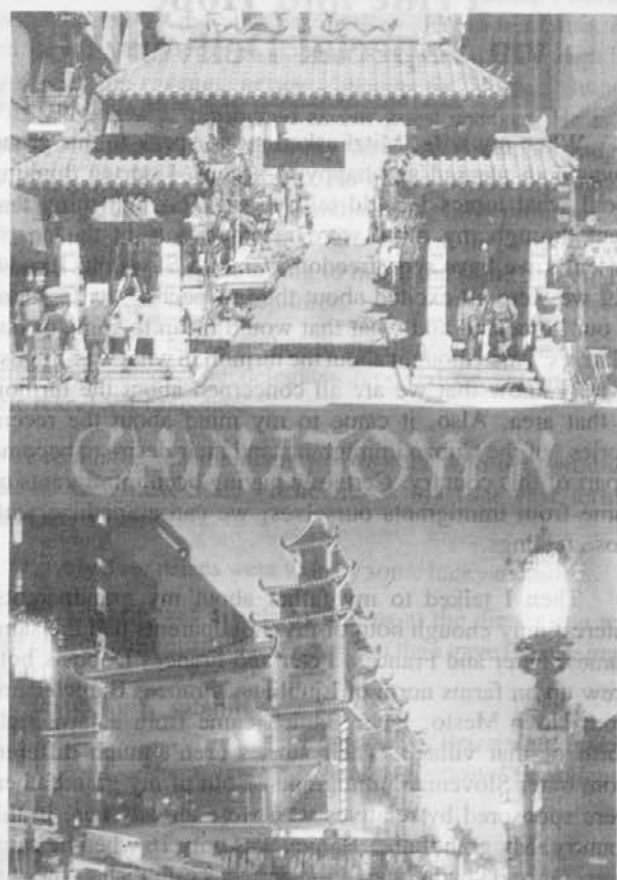
For Travel and other information, please contact the

S.W.U. Home Office

431 No. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432

Telephone: (815) 717-1926

## SAN FRANCISCO IS AWAITING YOU!!!



### San Francisco's CHINATOWN and see her treasures

In a recent poll taken by Conde Nast Traveler Magazine, San Francisco was chosen "the number one city in the world, people wanted to visit." Have you always dreamed of visiting San Francisco? Then make your dream come true and plan on attending the National SWU Convention in May of 1995. If you have ever been to San Francisco, we know you will want to return.

Nowhere but in San Francisco can you ride a little cable car that "climbs halfway to the stars." Or see hundreds of seals sunning themselves on the boat docks at Pier 39. Or visit Chinatown, the largest Chinese community in the United States. Or view the Pacific Ocean from the beautiful Golden Gate Bridge. And the list goes on and on. There is so much to see and do. And we plan on making sure you see and do it all!!!

In last month's issue of ZARJA, I wrote in detail about the fabulous tours that committee member Michele Twers has put together for us. Michele, who works for El Camino Lines, has done tours of the San Francisco Area for many years and is an expert at her job. I know Michele will be able to fill every free moment you have with something exciting to do or see. This is your chance to see San Francisco as it should be seen!

The Convention Committee is compiling a list of VIPs, who will be invited to attend the Convention Sessions and the Banquets. We plan on having the City of San Francisco roll out the Red Carpet for you!

# ACTIVITIES

## NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI

We want to thank the women in Willard for the very enjoyable day at the Wisconsin State Convention. The Mass with the choir in their Ethnic Dress, the beautiful music during mass and the entertainment after the delicious meal was all enjoyed. We were pleased to meet Msgr. Matthew Malnar and have him as our guest speaker to address our Convention. Thanks again for everything!

Our Oct. meeting was well-attended. Cookies, ice cream and apple cider was provided by the officers for lunch. We had our Founder's Day Mass. Nov. 12th with breakfast following in the church hall.

Our Christmas Party will be Tuesday Dec. 20th at Rupp's in downtown Sheboygan. We will have our annual meeting following dinner and election of officers. Call Ruth or Dorothy by Dec. 17th for reservations.

We have quite a few ladies on our sick list - Veronica Hosfeld recently had surgery - also Aggie Gruenke and Janet Maurin. Our prayers are with you all. We will be visiting our shut-ins and ladies in Nursing Homes some time in December to bring them a little Christmas cheer.

Merry Christmas and happy healthy new year to all the members of the Slovenian Women's Union - from Branch 1.

DOROTHY BREZONIK

## NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

Our theme for the October meeting was "Haunting"! The hall was decorated with everything to do with Halloween. We even had a visit by a Witch. It was Percy's birthday and he treated us all to a nice fall supper, hotdogs and the trimmings, apple cider and the members brought some very delicious cakes. Jo Lukas and Helen Fitzgerald gave each person a Ghost Glove filled with popcorn.

As this was a business meeting we had much to cover. Most important are

these five points: 1. The election of officers for 1995: President - Fran Morison; V.P. - Mary Foys Lauretig; Treasurer: Mary Reich; Recording Secretary: Jean Hraster; Secretary: Delores Puhek; One new auditor: Helen Fitzgerald; Kitchen Committee: Ray Nusko, Terry Morison, Tony Marton; Reporter: Daisy.

2. Delegates for S.F. Convention: 1st Delegate: Delores Puhek; Alternate: Mary Foys Lauretig. 2nd Delegate: Jeannie Zeleznikar; Alternate: Jennie Kovacic.

3. Penny Social. Money will be used for Children's Christmas Party and the remaining money will be used to purchase food for St. Stephen's Cheer Basket.

4. Starting in January, we will have a Rosary Tree for our sick members, each member will say a decade of the Rosary. Fran will discuss this at our January meeting. We should not forget to pray the Rosary for all the Graces that are offered to us by the Blessed Mother.

5. Please pay your dues for 1995 in January.

III./In. Convention: Oct. 2 - Met at St. Stephen's 6:00 - Thanks to Irene Kalina who made all the arrangements for the bus and driver "Ron". Percy lead us in prayer for a safe trip and off we started for Joliet to pick up Br. 20 to complete that 42 "Happy Slovenian Travelers".

Was good to see Romaine O'Brien Jabloski, (we all pray that the Lord will help her with the healing); thanks also to Barbara Brook who volunteered to take the minutes. The delegates gave their reports, most all said that ZARJA was enjoyed, especially the recipes. It was brought up that more cook books should be sold, get more new members, and more attention should be given to the scholarship fund. Br. 20 will be putting up a Slovenian Display at the State of Illinois Bldg./Chicago. Letter was read from Mayor Gerald F. Scott welcoming SWU to the city of Oglesby. Some of us even hiked from the hall to Mass and coming back collected acorns. Our guest speaker was Judge Banich. he spoke on Slovene Culture

and pride in our heritage which will be passed on to the next generation. Father Bernard Horzen brought the house down with a cute joke. He gave the blessing and then we were treated to a beautiful lunch. Br. 2 ladies were very lucky, Pauline Storgel won the "Mop Doll"; Mrs. Fischinger \$10.00; Kay Srabarnek \$5.00; Christine Pierman "Potica"; Mary Jagar "Pillow Cases" and Angie Benedict "Crystal cake plate". Thank you Oglesby, you did a great job; we appreciated all your hospitality. Thanks also to Father Ray, Pastor of Holy Family Church for such an inspiring Mass. Next year it will be South Chicago Branch 95. We will be electing a new state president. Also, a lot of attention was given to the National Convention in San Francisco May, 1995. Mark your calendars it should be fun; put on your Tony Bennet record and dream.

Congratulations to the Slovenian Radio Club of Chicago on their 43rd year - This year "ŠTAJERSKI 7" came from Maribor, Slovenija came to entertain and they were terrific.

The Slovenians were well represented at Governor Edgar's rally, Vince Rigler and Johnny Amon played some beautiful Slovene music. Fanika Gorsic, Nandi Puc had their pictures taken constantly as they had on their Narodna nošas. Also Lydia Gorsic and Martin Puc looked adorable in their outfits on the stage. Lydia Kores presented flowers to Mrs. Edgar.

Please pray for our sick members - especially for Patty Zubek Zeleznak and send cards to our stay-at-homes who no longer can come to our meetings.

Don't forget to mark January 15 on your calendar for the "BARAGA DINNER" at the Gym Hall.

Next SWU Meeting is January 12; and remember the 7:00 a.m. Mass for sick members that day.

May the Lord be with you during the holidays and throughout this coming year. Vsem članicam in članom SZZ želimo vesele Božične praznike in srečno in zadovoljno novo leto.

Love,

DAISY

## "Celebrating Christmas the Church's Way"

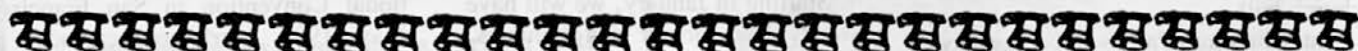


**Fr. Peter Muhich**  
Pastor of Holy Rosary Parish  
Spiritual Director of Br. 35  
Aurora, Minnesota

Here at Holy Rosary parish we try hard to observe the calendar of feasts and seasons that make up the church year. The Church in her wisdom has carefully laid out a way to celebrate the mysteries of the life and death of Jesus Christ. The great seasons of Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter, are intended to help us deepen our understanding and appreciation of the saving events of our faith.

With Advent almost here our parish is planning to highlight the beauty of this season of preparation for the birth of the Savior. One of the ways we do this is by not having Christmas parties at the church before Christmas arrives. For example, we have changed our S.W.U. Christmas Party into an *Advent gathering*, focusing more on prayer and the anticipation of Christmas.

It takes some effort to observe the season of Advent, but it is well worth it. Waiting for Christmas to come instead of starting to celebrate it as soon as Thanksgiving is over can help us focus on what Christmas is all about --- not presents and parties --- but the birth of the Son of God. After preparing ourselves prayerfully during the season of Advent we can rejoice with the Church throughout the world during the season of Christmas which starts with Christmas Eve Mass and continues through the Feasts of Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord.



### NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

Our October meeting began with refreshments served by hostesses Frances Simonich and Angela Meglen (Mary Tekavec was also on the committee) prior to the meeting.

Frances Simonich, Secretary-Treasurer, presided due to the absence of Mary Tekavec, President, who was unable to come due to having had foot surgery. She is recuperating at home.

After the regular order of business was over, the drawing for the mystery gift, which was donated by Rose Zupancic, was held. Steffie Barnett was the winner.

There were no sick members reported other than Mary Tekavec.

Catherine Kochevar was not able to come to the meeting due to the fact that she, husband Ed, and daughters Judy and Kathleen were in San Diego celebrating Ed's and Kathleen's birthdays.

There was a lot of activity going on at St. Mary's Church October 9. The Harvest Soup Festival and Bake Sale was a huge success thanks to the people who volunteered their time. Everyone enjoyed the delicious soups that were made by our generous ladies. Green Chili was also available.

Once again the Senior Sociable are

getting together for mass and then bingo along with meals on wheels being served. Eileen Kaplan and Margaret Cullen are in charge.

Condolences are extended to the family of Ann Hrobak, who passed away October 13, 1994.

Have a nice Holiday Season.

PAULINE PAUCHICK

### NO. 5, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

#### CELEBRATIONS FOR ALL!

Several of our members gathered for 9:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Trinity Catholic Church on Sunday, October 9, 1994. Coffee and krofee followed in Bockhold Hall. It was great to see such a nice turnout. This event certainly increased in number from last year. I believe everyone had an enjoyable time.

Branch 5 would like to say a Big Thank You to Father Kenny Taylor for the Mass and for the use of the hall. We would also like to extend thanks for their contribution to the set-up and clean-up to Sue Ann Yovanovich, Phyllis Fon and especially, Mary Frances Mohr.

Thanks to Frances Yovanovich for her Mass contribution in memory of Mary Konovsek and all our deceased members.

Without all of you these events would not take place; thank you for caring about our branch.

Branch 5 extends our sympathy to Antonia Molett at the death of her brother, Frank Cosnik. Antonia, our prayers are with you. Antonia Molett resides in Mississippi, but was in town for her brother's funeral. Although unfortunate circumstances brought Antonia to Indianapolis, my mother, Mary Frances Mohr, was able to meet with her. Mary Frances told me how much she enjoyed their little visit and that it is always nice to keep in touch with some of our far away members.

Reminder: Depending on when you receive your copy of ZARJA, this is a reminder that our annual holiday meeting is December 1, 1994 at 11:00 a.m. at the Slovenian National Home.

For those of you who have not turned your raffle tickets into Mary Frances Mohr, please bring them to the meeting.

Until next time, Love from Texas,  
BARBARA MOHR

See page 15  
for our Indianapolis group  
at the Heritage Museum in  
Joliet.



Our bus left Milwaukee bright and early on Oct. 2, heading for Willard and the State Convention. 23 members from Br. 12 and 22 from Branches 17 and 43, plus one member, Betty Fraid of Willard, Br. 102 were aboard. Betty was our co-pilot and was a big help to our bus driver. Thanks for coming with us, Betty.

We arrived on time with a big welcome from the group in their narodna nošas – and also, coffee and sweets. We proceeded with the Convention Meeting which was very inspiring. Joan Yaklich chaired the meeting for Janet Maurin who is having medical problems. Guest speaker was Msgr. Matthew Malnar, a wonderful person. He should be the Pope, then we would have Bishop Baraga canonized right away! He said it is our righteous pride to unite and keep our noble tradition to celebrate our culture and traditions. He said that the Slovenian people are simple but intelligent, they understand the language of the heart (love) and are generous, fun loving, devoted people and respect old people. When he was a young boy living in Willard and his parents had a tavern and were not too religious, he saw Fr. Svete who was the pastor, standing on the other side of the road holding a big apple and gesturing to him to come and get it. Monsignor never had seen anyone dressed in brown garb with a rosary hanging from his belt – the beads rattling as he walked. He was a little afraid but he came and got the apple and then Fr. Svete said to him, "when you grow up you will be a priest!" Monsignor spent 20 years as a chaplain in the military and two years in Rome on a sabbatical. What a brilliant and compassionate person he is.

The Mass was beautiful, celebrated by Msgr. Malnar with beautiful Slovenian hymns sung by the choir. Afterward we went back into the hall for a wonderful dinner. They are great cooks in Willard! We did some socializing and singing and then had to depart. Thank you to all the wonderful people in Willard and Msgr. Malnar. They all stood and waved goodbye to us as we left for home.

On a sad note, we had the funeral of Alma Hoeltzer who so generously

made all the corsages when we needed them for occasions in our branch. Sympathy to her family.

On Oct. 20th we had our luncheon and Style Show. We had a sell-out! Thank you to our members who were so generous in giving door prizes, raffle prizes, food or money toward the lunch. Special thank you to Julia Pesec and Lydia Jenich who made strudels so everyone got a treat. Of course, Phyllis kept the kitchen running smoothly with all the wonderful helpers. Without you we could not do it. So, whatever you did, members, a big thank you from me!

Merry Christmas to all. As Br. 17 will be dissolving soon, we welcome those who want to transfer to us, or wherever else you wish to join. You will be most welcome.

MARY KIEL

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**NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA**

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I cannot believe we have come to the end of another year. It has been a good year with many events for our Branch. Pot luck dinners, Sunday Brunches, bag lunches with great desserts, bus trips, and a lot of shared friendship.

Our Annual Pot Luck in October was a big success as usual. We had a wonderful turnout; although smaller than last year, it was a most enthusiastic group. Thanks for everyone's support.

Our Christmas Party will be the first Thursday of December at noon. Hope to see many smiling faces and a fun gift exchange.

Our Convention Chairman, Barbara Chiodo, says plans are well on their way and being received with a lot of good responses. The Ad booklet is coming along very well. If you would like to place an ad, a word of encouragement, a remembrance, or just support, contact Barbara.

We now have the raffle tickets for the Slovenian dolls, Franci & Katka. Irene Odorizzi has done a beautiful job on the color flyer of the dolls, so please buy those tickets. Our Heritage Museum is a wonderful cause. The winner will be drawn at the Convention. If you want extra tickets, please contact me, 359-0356. 1995 will prove to be a very exciting year for Branch 13. Hosting the National Convention, this a first for the West Coast. We have

many exciting plans and hope it will be the biggest and best ever!

I hope you all receive all you want for Christmas and may the holidays be blessed and full of joy.

And remember: Don't ever forget growing older, it is a privilege denied many.

God bless and happy holidays...

BEVERLY JACKSON

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**PLANNING A CLUB GARDEN**

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*First, plant five rows of PEAS*

*Presence*

*Promptness*

*Participation*

*Patronage*

*Preparation*

*Next to these plant rows of SQUASH*

*Squash gossip*

*Squash criticism*

*Squash indifference*

*Then plant four rows of lettuce*

*Let us be faithful to duty*

*Let us be loyal and unselfish*

*Let us be true to our obligations*

*Let us love one another*

*No garden is complete, of course, without TURNIPS*

*Turn up for the meetings*

*Turn up with a smile*

*Turn up with new ideas*

*Turn up with a positive attitude*

*to make everything count for something good and worthwhile.*

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**NO. 14, EUCLID, OH**

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As we settle in for another winter season let's hope that mother nature sends us a mild and bearable season with a minimum of the sniffles and flu.

Get well wishes to Ann Kozlevcar who had been ailing in October and is on the mend. Speedy recovery to all of our ill members.

Mary Strazisar (Arrowhead) and Ann Cicada have each returned from vacations in Slovenia where they found the autumn weather to be ideal.

Three of our members have reached the 50-year milestone as members. Congratulations to Antoinette Zabukovec, Margaret Pugel and Janet Bizay.

Election of officers was held at our November meeting with the present

Board re-elected unanimously for 1995: Martha Koren, President; Vera Bajec, Vice-Pres.; Diane Varney, Sect./Treas.; Addie Humphreys, Rec. Sect. Auditors are Stana Grill and Antoinette Zabukovec. Rose Rodgers, Sunshine Committee. Sentinel is Jenny Fitzthum; Josephine Kastigar, Banner Carrier; Alice Kuhar, Reporter. Spiritual Advisor is Rev. Francis Sterk of St. Christine's Church.

We're delighted to report that Stana Grill has been chosen "Mother of the Year" for 1995 by our members. Stana has been a loyal member for these many years and will be honored at our annual banquet celebration on Tuesday, May 2. So mark your calendar for this popular dinner event. Hope we see all of you there.

Annual Mass for living and deceased members will be held on Ash Wednesday, March 1 at St. Christine's Church.

Reminder to bring your dues up-to-date. Send your payment (indicate the name of member you are paying for if other than yourself) to Diane Varney, 1155 Easton Dr., Akron, Ohio 44310. You may call Diane at 1-216-923-4034.

May your New Year 1995 be filled with joy and good health!

ALICE KUCHAR

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

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What a beautiful month we had in October – the changing color on the tree leaves and the weather couldn't be better. In Texas where they had floods they are not so lucky.

Vida Kumse and Gladys Buck attired in their narodna nošas attended the Oglesby State Convention with Millie James and Dolores Hennelly from Br. 95. Vida gave a report from Br. 16.

It was nice meeting Elsie Grunhardt at the Lansing K Mart. She was buying yarn for her mother, Elsie Starceovich whose hobby is crocheting.

At the Oct. meeting, only 13 members showed up. There was a unanimous decision to send Vida Kumse to the National Convention as our delegate. Gladys Buck will be the alternate. Gladys read the plans and itinerary to everyone and we were all excited – so some members may plan to go to San Francisco, too.

Condolences to Mary Priesol on the death of her brother-in-law, Charles

Stiglich and at the same time, best wishes to Mary's husband who is coming along fine after quadruple by-pass surgery.

Ann Lustig and her daughter, Pat Schwer and Jo Hester spent five days in Las Vegas.

Mary Rago, Christine and Joe Tomasik and Andrea Kral took the Amtrak to Seattle and spent two days there doing bus tours and another two days in Portland. Joe Kral picked them up at Oxnard, California and took them to his home in Camarillo – then after a few days, on to Las Vegas where they met Kay and Bob Jurinci. They stayed with Fred Kral in Vegas and then flew back to Chicago.

Dec. 6th is the deadline for reservations for the Christmas party on Dec. 10th at the Crow Bar Restaurant. Call Gladys at 221-0475 or Edna Winters at 221-5708 for seating.

E.W.

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#### NO. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

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The beautiful fall season has ended to make way for winter and the anticipation of the Christmas holidays. This brings me to announce with sadness the demise of our Br. 17. We are merging with Br. 12 and hopefully, it will be a smooth transition. Seeing this is my last write-up in ZARJA, as your reporter for Br. 17, I must comment that it was with sincere pleasure that I have been writing for the last 30 years. Also, I've been the branch's recording secretary for 30 years. Sometimes it was a bit hectic to keep up with the deadlines. But, somehow, I made it. Sometimes it was difficult if the subject was of a sad nature, but that goes with the job, I guess.

I had the pleasure of being our Br. 17 delegate for the State Convention in Willard in October. It was a cool, cloudy day as we left St. John's at 5 a.m. for the trip to Willard where we arrived at 9 a.m. The cheerfulness of the ladies and, oh, yes! we had a number of men who braved being among so many women, too! So, the trip was friendly and enjoyable. Upon arrival, the chairperson of Willard, Mary Staut greeted us dressed in Slovenian National Costume as were many of the ladies who welcomed us at Holy Family church center. It was indeed a beautiful sight, to see so many ladies

in their beautiful narodna nošas, including the head-dress, "auba". We then enjoyed coffee and donuts before the meeting.

President, Pro-tem, Joan Yaklich called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. It was short and many issues were discussed, questions as to how to get new members and the transfer of members of Br. 17. It ended at 11 a.m. with plenty of time for visiting until mass at 11:30. Celebrant was Msgr. Matthew Malnar. Must say he was a marvelous speaker for the program. He held everyone's attention and interest. Mary Staut was absolutely great and made a perfect convention chairlady. The dinner and food was so good – and those tasty strudels! These ladies sure know how to cook and bake!

The program was delightful and afterward we enjoyed a sing-a-long. We just hated to leave at 4 p.m. – We arrived home at St. John's parking lot at 8:30 p.m. feeling fully satisfied with enjoyment all day of the people, the food, and the colorful scenery. Unforgettable! Thank you, Willard!

Hope all of you had a pleasant and enjoyable Thanksgiving with family and friends. Am wishing everyone a very blessed and happy holiday season.

FRANCES PIWONI

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#### NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

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Hello All! Am I coming or going, sitting or standing? This has not been a very good month. I work for the county and we are getting ready for the November 8th election. I never really knew all the preparations that went on before election day until I started working there.

First of all, we would like to extend get-well wishes to Romaine Jablonski, Mary Marvic, Carita Girman, Dorothy McKay, Betty Chinderle, Katherine Orenic, Virginia Frankovich and Millie Briskie. I hope by the time this magazine is printed all of you will be feeling and doing much better.

Congratulations to Lori and Tom Tezak on the recent birth of their daughter. Also, Ken and Annette Nelson had a baby girl. And Blake and Kathy Mullecker had a girl. Looks like the girls win! Congratulations and the best to you and your new family.

Anniversary bells are ringing for Al and Doris (Bistry) Papesh, who celeb-



On Sunday, August 21, 1994, The Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum hosted a Tour group of 40 people from Indianapolis, Indiana. The tour included viewing of St. Joseph's Church, with Don Leegerski, Church organist, providing a concert of Slovenian songs. The tour then proceeded to the St. Joseph's School playground, where they viewed the just completed Murals by Artist/Designer Lucija Dragovan. The four murals depict the Slovenian immigration to Joliet in the 1890's. The tourists then proceeded to the SWU Heritage Museum for viewing its artifacts. Strudel and Potica were served to the guests. The guests commented that they thoroughly enjoyed seeing the Church, Murals and Museum. The Museum staff hopes to see more groups in the future.



Thanks to Steve Fon for these pictures.

# HERITAGE MUSEUM VISITORS

rated 40 years on Oct. 16th. Tony and Julia (Cepon) Kaluza celebrated 35 years on Oct. 10th. Mark and Marian (Zelko) Schoener had 30 years counted on Oct. 17th. It's nice to see that marriage does work. And I am sure you all probably feel like you're still on your honeymoon. Congratulations to you all.

A very special thank you to "Hippy" owner of Stefanich's Restaurant. She treated all who worked on the Slovenian Mural on the Scott Street playground to a free dinner on Oct. 11th. The art designer was Lucija Dragovan, art co-ordinator was Lillian Brulc and volunteers were Jenny Skul and Mollie Gregorich.

I hope you all had a nice Thanksgiving and will see you at our Christmas Party on Dec. 18th at Town & Country

West at 11:30 a.m. Price is \$11.00 for members and guests. Reservations can be made by Dec. 9th by calling Mary Kay Demick 723-2324 or Jeanne Warsaw 436-5352. Make check payable to Pat Figuirowski. Cancellations must be made by Dec. 14th.

Our next meeting will be Jan. 15th, Sunday at 1:00 p.m. A free dinner will be provided.

Our Grape Harvest Dance on Sept. 25th was very successful. I'll have more on it next issue. Here's a picture of our first "Mayor", Rudy Pucel being given a haircut by our current Mayor, Joseph Babich who is one of our town's finest barbers! Rudy was selected in 1980, the year of our very first Grape Harvest Dance! How time flies!

Take care and may God bless.

JOYCE VICICH



Rudy was the first, in 1980 and Joe is the current "Župan (Mayor)" who presided over the Grape Harvest festivities of Br. 20!

## MARIAN BOWERS CREATES SLOVENIAN LOVE STAMP

Marion Bowers of St. Helena, California, has cleverly devised a method of creating a Slovenian postage stamp with the assistance of the "Love" stamp provided by the post office. Marian prints the necessary letters, to each side of the stamp to give it that special look. Thanks for sharing this idea with SWU members, Marion.



## LONG AWAITED BOOKLET PUBLISHED

Congratulations to Edward Gobetz, Ph.D. for his excellent publication, *SLOVENIA AND SLOVENIAN AMERICANS*, printed as a centennial Public Service project by the KSKJ.

Dr. Gobetz has, among his distinctions, the title of Professor Emeritus at Kent State University, Director of the Slovenian Research Center of America, Inc., Associate Editor of the *International Journal of Contemporary Sociology* and author or editor of sixteen books and numerous journal, magazine and encyclopedia articles. Dr. Gobetz is a recipient of many honors and awards and was selected an Outstanding Educator of America in 1971.

He is well-known as the historian of Slovenians throughout the world and is to be commended for taking the initiative to write this much-needed booklet which will improve the image of Slovenians in the U.S.

Dr. Gobetz is an important personage in the American-Slovenian community. There is no one in the U.S. that has worked so selflessly and devotedly toward documenting the contributions of Slovenians. He has placed this dedication above all else, lecturing, exhibiting and contributing on whatever level is needed to improve the image of Slovenians. We, of Slovene heritage must gratefully acknowledge this dedication for without his efforts this work would not have been accomplished and the contributions of Slovenians would have gone unnoticed. Hvala lepa!

Commendations to the National President of the American Slovenian Catholic Union, Eugene Kogovsek and National Secretary, Robert Verbiscer for their vision and promotion of this project and to the Board of Directors for approving the financial resources necessary for publication of ten thousand copies.

SWU members interested in receiving a copy of *SLOVENIA AND SLOVENIAN AMERICANS* are requested to send a self-addressed business size envelope with 52 cents postage to:

Slovenian Women's Union of America  
431 North Chicago Street  
Joliet, IL 60432

## GENEALOGY

### TRANSLATORS NEEDED

Nancy Burnett of the Slovenian Genealogy Society has requested that we print the following letter so that our members will be aware of the need for translators for genealogical resources.

*Dragi Slovenski Prijatelji!*

*The Slovenian Genealogy Society's goal is to collect as much information as possible about every single Slovene and their personal story. Through each individual we learn about our history and heritage. Our collections can then help individuals trace their Slovene ancestry in the U.S. and overseas.*

*Our genealogical resources are often in Slovenian and without comparable English translations. This is where you can help. We are asking you, as individuals or groups, to join us in our translation projects. All that is required is the commitment of time and Slovene fluency.*

*As volunteer translators, you will have the unique opportunity to become directly involved in the preservation of Slovenian culture and heritage. Together we can help ensure that the Slovenian Dream, the independent nation and culture of Slovenia, continues to be a reality.*

*Please contact me if you, as an individual, or your group would like to participate.*

*Please note that we welcome all translators. Individuals as well as groups are needed.*

*For information about the Slovenian Genealogy Society, please write Albert Peterlin, 2018 Springdale Drive, Martinsburg, WV 25401.*

*Hvala lepa!*

*Z iskrenimi pozdravi!*

**Nancy Svet Burnett, Ph.D.**

Please send your name, address, phone/fax to:

Nancy Svet Burnett  
Slovenian Genealogy Society  
P.O. Box 1676  
Sandpoint, ID 83864

Phone: 208-263-0276 FAX: 208-263-1694

## DONATIONS

Jenny Gerk, Past President and member of Branch 47 for fifty years, was remembered by her daughter Elsie Spellacy with a \$100.00 donation to the Heritage Fund. Her name will be memorialized on the wall plaque in the Slovenian Heritage Museum. Mrs. Gerk, who passed away on Aug. 26, undoubtedly loved the organization very much because she inspired her two daughters, Elsie and Olga, to be proud American-Slovenes and interested in promoting the goals of the SWU. How fortunate she was to have seen her two daughters carry on in her footsteps, Elsie Spellacy is Recording Secretary and Olga Dorchak is currently the President. Many thanks for remembering Heritage in your Mother's memory.

Alice Cacich, Secretary-Treasurer of Branch 33, Duluth, MN sent a donation of \$27.80 to the Heritage Fund. I spoke with Alice on the phone and she mentioned that at their recent annual meeting-dinner which was held in a local restaurant, a basket was passed around and the members donated money for Heritage. Alice mentioned that on two other occasions, the basket was passed and two other funds were supported. Many thanks, ladies. We hope other branches will take your lead.

## NEWS OF RECOVERY

We're happy to hear that National President, Tory Bobence and Scholarship Chairman, Carita Girman, are well on their way to recovery after recent surgery. The Lord Bless you both with improved health.

## DON'T MISS "SLOVENIJA" MAGAZINE

If you usually read this column you have often noticed my praises for the quarterly magazine, SLOVENIJA, written in English and published in Ljubljana, Slovenia. This magazine continues to be the only periodical of its kind.

Should ZARJA readers be interested in subscribing to this magazine, for many enjoyable and informative hours of reading, send a check for \$25.00 payable to:

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**Helen Koželj Glivar:**

Br. 25, Cleveland, Ohio

## HOLYLAND PILGRIMAGE

### Part II

We stopped at Cana where Jesus performed His first miracle – here the married couples renewed their marriage vows and we were all given a taste of fine wine. At Tiberias in Galilee we checked into our Hotel – The Quiet Beach Hotel. We awoke at 4:00 a.m. to the beautiful strains of chanting of the Muezzin from the minaret towers of Moslem worship.

In a replica of a boat Peter used, we crossed the Sea of Galilee; then proceeded to Capernaum; celebrated Mass at a church built over St. Peter's house. The remains of that house and an ancient synagogue delighted us! In this city, Jesus chose Peter, Andrew, John and Matthew for His apostles; cured the centurion's servant, Jairus' daughter and the paralytic who was lowered down into Peter's house through the roof. When they excavated Peter's house, they discovered light removable roof tiles and ruins of the Basilica built in the third and fifth centuries and coins from the time of Emperors Hadrian and Vespasian, buried in mortar along with a fishhook. On the walls 131 inscriptions dating back to the first century, written in Greek, Latin and Aramaic, proclaiming the name of Jesus and Peter. The synagogue where Jesus taught, built of the original stones in Roman fashion with columns and carved capitals with a menorah and other Jewish motifs was interesting to see. We partook of a delightful lunch of St. Peter's Fish on the shores of Sea of Galilee.

At Jericho, the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world and 1300 ft. below sea level, we celebrated a Mass at the Good Shepherd Church and visited Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in a series of caves. At the Wadi Qilt, we visited the Monastery of St. George Koziba (an ancient desert structure) built high up into the mountain. Famous for their gracious hospitality, the Greek-Orthodox Monks offered us cold punch. Many bones of Monks are interned here. A few of us trekked into the Judean desert, walking 4 miles or rugged, rocky, arid mountainous terrain in 128 degree temperature! Near Jericho we saw the Mount of Temptation where Jesus was tempted by the devil.

In Bethany we visited Lazarus' Tomb where we climbed down precarious stone steps into a chamber room where we reflected upon our own mortality and resurrection. When we came to the Holy City of Jerusalem, we celebrated Mass at Dominus Flevit Church (The Lord Wept); later checking into the Notre Dame Hotel where we stayed 7 days.

Celebrated Mass at the Crusader Church of St. Ann (birthplace of Our Lady). Took a short trip to Ein Karem (Visitation site) and the birthplace of St. John the Baptist.

We visited the tomb of Nabi Samwill (Prophet Samuel). At Shepherd's Field near Bethlehem, we celebrated Mass

in a cave – Fr. Michael a Franciscan priest sang 'The First Noel' in French in a beautiful operatic voice! At Bethlehem where 60,000 people live, is still populated by Arab shepherds tending their flocks along the steep slopes amidst ancient live groves, living in stone quarried places under great slabs of rock blackened by their little fires or in houses identical to those of their ancestors. Most of Bethlehem is Catholic. We had to bend very low in the low doorway as we entered the Basilica of the Nativity which is 1600 years old. We made the Stations of the Nativity – a walking Scripture Service. The altar of the upper Basilica is situated directly above the CAVE where Jesus was born. In the lower Basilica in a Grotto there is a shallow recess with an altar; underneath it, into the marble floor, a golden-gilt star within a corona of points is seen the inscription 'Hic De Virgine Maria Iesus Christus natus est' – Here the Virgin Mary gave birth to Jesus Christ. We prostrated ourselves onto the stone floor to kiss the spot where Our Saviour was born! The mosaic-paved floor, a Baptismal Font, fragments of mosaic decorations on the walls, the Cave of the Holy Innocents, Chapel of St. Joseph, the Manger and the Magi Altar were very impressive!

High on top of Herod's Fortress, the Gihon Spring, Siloam Pool and King Hezekiah's Tunnel (1749 ft. in length and 3.6 ft. to 11.2 ft. in width) are archeological treasures. At the Temple Mount (135 acres) where Abraham brought his son Isaac for sacrifice, we entered the El Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock Mosques in stockinged-feet, seeing very beautiful mosaics and artistry with gorgeous Moslem rugs covering the stone floor. Between these two mosques is El Kas (The Cup), a sunken fountain where Moslems wash themselves before worshipping in the Temples. Jerusalem has 400,000 residents and is 2700 feet above sea level – here King David established his reign for 33 years, 3,000 years ago. The street called 'The Decumanus' leads to the Temple Mount; its carefully hewn paving stones contain grooves, to prevent slipping of carts or pedestrians on the smooth stones. The 2000 yr. old Western (Wailing) Wall is the only remnant left of the original Solomon's Temple where we placed our petitions within its crevices along with Hebrew women in the designated partition, separating the males from the females. Inside the Jaffa Gate, directly ahead are narrow alleys and overflowing Arab Souks (shops) along David Street – on the right is the Citadel (Tower of David). At the Holyland Hotel we saw a model of the Holy City as it was before the Roman destruction in 70 A.D. We celebrated the 'Last Supper' at the "Ad Coenaculum" (Near the Cenacle) on Mount Zion. Against the wall above the altar is an elaborate sculpture of the Last Supper with all the figures in relief with Jesus in the center holding the BREAD (which was the Tabernacle). On the slope of Mt. Zion, we visited the Church of St. Peter Gallicantu (the

## Holiday Wishes to all Members!

**Blessed Christmas and  
Prosperous New Year, 1995!**  
from your sister members at Branch 50  
Cleveland, Euclid, Ohio



cock crowed) which commemorates Peter's thrice denial of Christ. At the foot of the Mt. of Olives in the Kidron Valley, is the Garden of Gethsemane. The Church of the Agony is also called the Church of All Nations because people from all over the world contributed towards the building of this church – it has a mosaic ceiling like a night sky – the outside facade is decorated with a mosaic pattern showing Jesus identifying with suffering people, all being lifted up to God, the Father. The Lithrostros was next with the Church of the Condemnation with a Mass at the Church of the Flagellation. The Street of Sorrows (Via Dolorosa) was made with Fr. Halaiko leading the Stations of the Cross and for the last station, we entered the Church of the Holy Sepulchre – we stood in awe, realizing that this was the site of the Crucifixion, Golgotha and the Tomb. Close by we came upon the Stone of the Anointing which we kissed; touching this, our fingers had a perfumed fragrance. They informed us that this was the slab on which the body of Jesus was laid when he was taken down from the cross and prepared for burial. Jesus died on April 7 and on April 9, on the third day, He arose from His Tomb in the year 30.

On top of the Mt. of Olives in a round-domed Chapel in a walled yard, the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven is commemorated. Near this site is the Pater Noster (Our Father) Church. Its atrium is decorated with ceramic plaques; etched into the walls in panels, the text of the prayer 'Our Father' is seen in many languages. The Slovenians searched for the 'Oče Naš' and found it very quickly.

We then went to Mt. Zion where the Pentecost took place; visited the Dormition Abbey where Our Lady's death comes to mind and at St. Stephen's Church, we remembered our first Christian martyr.

We rode to Emmaus, 7 miles from Jerusalem where the disciples of Jesus recognized Him at the breaking of bread!

On Oct. 19, we bid JERUSALEM 'SHALOM and SALAM' and as we rode to Tel Aviv to depart to the U.S.A., we were overjoyed that we had the great privilege to walk in Jesus's footsteps which none of us will ever forget.

We arrived in Cleveland safe and sound and tired but HAPPY!

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## "A DAY OF MEMORIES!"

On Saturday, Oct. 1st, a beautiful wedding was performed, uniting Lorraine Ruth, the daughter of Fred and Jonita Ruth and Tyrone Lancaster, the son of Helega and Thomas Lancaster. The ceremony took place at St. Joseph Catholic Church with Pastor Tom Paul, a dear friend of the family, as celebrant. Servers were Zachrey Pucel and Mark Cepon, Don Lergerski was organist and Readers were Mary and RaeAnn Lancaster. The bridesmaids slowly walked down the aisle to the music of "Canon in D": Junior Bridesmaid, Kelsey Singletary, Bridesmaids, Janice Singletary, Caroline O'Brien, Sheri Longecker, Colleen O'Brien, Maid of Honor, Rosanne Ruth and the flower girl, Samantha Lancaster. Junior Groomsman was Thomas Lancaster III and other Groomsmen were Timothy Lancaster, James Lancaster, Brian Hasenjaeger and Dimitri Spartharakis along with ushers, Johanathan Withers and Aaron Riley. Best Man was Thomas Lancaster II. The father of the bride, Fred Ruth, *in all his glory*, walked down the aisle with the bride to the music of "Trumpet Voluntary". After a warm and touching ceremony, pictures and video, a receiving line was formed to greet the relatives and friends. The wedding couple and bridal party were met outside of the church by a shower of confetti.

The reception was held at St. George's Serbian Hall, an evening of food, refreshments and dancing. When the "Day of Memories" came to a close the couple was



Mr. & Mrs. Tyrone Lancaster

wisked off for a romantic honeymoon to the island of Kauai, in Hawaii.

The bride and members of her family are lifetime members of Branch 20, Joliet, IL. Lorraine is the youngest grandchild of the late Joseph and Josephine Erjavec.

### NO. 22, BRADLEY, IL

We say we like the four seasons but may we claim an exception? In our youth we were undaunted by snow, cold and ice. Now, not so. Thank God, though, for October past; it was beautiful!

Br. 22 met in October, with Gabrielle Lustig and her sister Antoinette Legris offering the pleasure of their hospitality. Thank you, madames! We missed Mayme Drassler, Marge Planton, Helen Sebastiani and Jo Zaletel and very much regret the message from Helen that she must resign her office of secretary because of family commitment. Until the next election of officers Barbara Rittmanic volunteered to assume the duties. Br. 22 is grateful for Helen's fine service and are sure Barbara will follow in her footsteps. Christmas plans include lunch at a relatively new restaurant at an old familiar location (Lil & Stan's), with meeting at Mollie McIntyre's home. Thank you, Mollie, for that kindness.

We're happy to report that Marge Planton is on the mend but there are

still the sick among us who need our prayers.

By next summer, some senior citizens will be living in spanking new apartments on Uncle Leo's Drive. Uncle Leo is none other than husband of our dear member Mary. Leo will soon be 90 years old and was honored with the unveiling of the new street sign in the presence of Secretary of State George Ryan, local officials, family and friends. In his lifetime Leo was very much involved with youth activities and other civic affairs. As Kathryn Ochwat, his daughter from Texas, explained, he was "everybody's uncle". Also sharing in this proud moment were Mary and daughters Barbara of Bradley and Helena Hoffmann of Appleton, WI. Congratulations, Leo! You earned it!

Condolences to Br. member, Emma Znidarsich of LaCrosse, WI, and to her family on the death of husband Frank after a long illness. Frank, 85, was born in Visejec, Slovenia, and after marriage to Emma in Europe came to U.S.A., settling in Bradley, in 1948. God rest his soul, we pray.

Oh, come! Oh come, Emmanuel!

And when the Lord does come this Christmastide may He bless you, and you, and you with Health and Peace, Strength and Light, to sustain you in the coming Year! Z Bogom!

EMMA LUSTIG

### NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL

There were nine members present at our October meeting. It was agreed to place a congratulatory advertisement in the National Convention Booklet. We decided to wait until the Christmas party to sell chances on the Slovenian doll couple. The chances are \$1.00 each and the drawing will be held on May 21, 1995 at the Convention in San Francisco. The proceeds will benefit the Slovenian Heritage Museum. We had further discussion regarding the Nat'l Convention and would like to send a delegate to represent our Branch. We had missed one of our faithful members at the September meeting and learned that Josephine Savnik had spent a month in Slovenia and had a wonderful time -- so good a time that she hopes to go back again next year!

It was good to see such a nice group of our members present at the State Convention in Oglesby. It was a productive convention and we always get ideas and understand more about SWU when we meet this way. It's always good to see some of the National officers and listen to what they have to say. We especially enjoyed the keynote speaker, Judge William Banich. All agreed that the Oglesby members are super hostesses and Branch 89 is to be commended on a super day.

We are concerned about our State President and hope that Romaine Jablonski is making a good recovery. You will be remembered in our prayers, Romaine, as will Anne Pieczynski who fractured her hip in August and is recovering at home and Doris Hallett who has been hospitalized at IVCH Hospital in Peru. May each day find you stronger, with God's help.

Helen Swietek has done an outstanding job as chairman of our Fall Project. Treasurer Anne Serri reports a nice return with something in the mail almost every day. This project will help us pay for our "over 80 years" member dues.

We are very proud of our Recording Secretary, Adele Gensler, who was recently recognized as one of many Senior Citizens who volunteer time to help elementary school students learn to read. Our local paper had a nice picture and article regarding this program. Adele had been involved with the La Salle Organization of Volunteers for Education for 11 years. She visits two kindergarten classes at Jackson School every Tuesday and reads stories to the students. Adele was born and raised in La Salle, the daughter of Frank and Antonia Jakse. She married after completing nurse's training in Chicago, and she and her husband, Robert, moved about the country. After Robert's death she returned to La Salle to spend time with her mother and care for her till she passed away. Her children and grandchildren are all away from this area. Her volunteering isn't limited to reading as she has been a CCD teacher at LaSalle Catholic School, instructing the second grade class and preparing them for their First Holy Communion. As she was interviewed, Adele's comments, "I really enjoy children. I love reading to the kindergarten classes. They are fascinating." Also, "I get more out of reading to the children than I give. It's a good feeling. It just makes

me feel good to be with the children." Adele became our Recording Secretary after the sudden death of Mary Gramce and she has done a very good job. We too, appreciate having her as a member and officer.

Theresa Wellner and husband, Henry, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on October 10th. We congratulate them and wish them many more years together. Theresa is our Parish secretary, one of our Church organists and also a soloist, always willing to help us in any way she can.

Our December birthday celebrants are: Junior member, Caitlin Collins, Olga Fritz, Michelle Gende, Marian Borisek, Evelyn Kastigar, Antonia Hoefflerle, Fannie Piletic, Jane Gruenwald, Mary Ann Weber and Stephanie Kobilsek. Two members will celebrate their birthdays in January, Gale Nowik and Cathy Jo Lenkitis. I hope all of you have a very nice birthday and many more to follow.

Our Christmas Party will be held on December 1st, at noon, at the Paramount Club. Mary Ann Brunner is the chairman and will be assisted by her nieces, Cathy Jo Lenkitis and Sharon Brady. We always look forward to the first party of the Christmas season and our SWU parties are the best! Reservations must be made in advance. Our Financial Secretary, Betty Stack, will not be collecting dues at the party so make arrangements with Betty to take care of your 1995 dues.

As in other years, we will not meet during the months of January and February. We will meet on March 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the La Salle Catholic School Library. At that time we will make plans for our After-Easter Potluck dinner.

I wish all of our members and their loved ones, a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.

ANNE M. WANGLER,  
Reporter

## NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH

Christmas is a certain feeling. It is timeless.

Preparing holly wreaths to be hung, getting together all the pieces for the Christmas Crib, preparing for baking poticas, preparing our souls for that special Someone to enter it on Christ-

mas Eve and stay with us throughout the year...

On Christmas Eve we gather in the churches where the mood is tender with candlelight, prayers, gentle Christmas songs about Jesus "who came upon a midnight clear..." He comes again and we are flooded with a feeling of love. What a hopeful, joyful and merry feeling it is!

Congratulations to the 50 year member, Albina Kostansek. Always friendly, always smiling.

Mitzi Mihalic's son, Father Peter, was recently installed as pastor of St. Anthony of Padua church in Fairport Harbor, Ohio. Congratulations to both, the proud mother and the new pastor. God bless!

Some late, some early, some just right... birthday wishes! The Chryzanowskis, Lynne and Derek, also Cecelia Kermavner, Josie Mohorcic and you and you... May you have, throughout the year, all the beauty near and far around you, love and joy in your heart.

Our deepest sympathy to the families of Iva Stransky, Frances Prah, Katarina Drazumerich. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Find peace in knowing that others share your sorrow with you in your loss.

Thank you to Fran Gazvoda for helping me to organize meetings.

Look in Ameriška Domovina and St. Vitus bulletin for our meeting dates. Please come and bring your children with you. They can entertain themselves as we have our meeting. And, bring in a new member!

(N.B. Lybarger)

Christmas

*May the star that shone in triumph  
O'er the manger where Christ lay  
Be your guiding light to happiness  
This blessed Christmas Day.  
So the gentle Christmas may  
As yuletide days depart  
Leave a glow of everlasting joy  
To linger in your heart.*

CIRILA KERMAVNER

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# VESELE BOŽIČNE PRAZNIKE -- SREČNO NOVO LETO

San Francisco Welcomes Us is an invitation to everyone to come to our convention city next May 1995 and be a part of our 22nd National Convention.

San Francisco Welcomes Us is also an invitation for everyone to become a part of our membership campaign which ends April 1, 1995.

To help keep our organization alive we need your cooperation by enrolling a member, family or friend, and help reverse our downhill trend. Every NEW member is important to our Zveza, as Zveza and its ZARJA is important to each of us.

As we enter our 69th year we extend our appreciation to officers and members for all their cooperation and conscientious effort on behalf of Zveza through the year. We look forward to more activity among the members.

"May the blessings of the Child Jesus through His loving Mother be yours at Christmas and every day of the coming year!"

VICTORIA BOBENCE, President

OLGA ANCEL, Secretary

SYLVIA VUKODINOVICH, Treasurer



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## About the Author

Diana Klima, a member of Branch 30, makes her home in Chicago, Illinois. She is a professional soprano who performs light opera and Slavic songs in her very versatile repertoire.

Diane is also an accomplished and prize-winning poet. Her column of poetry appears every two weeks in The Community News of Chicago. In January, 1994, her poem entitled, "The Embrace" was chosen to appear in a new volume published by the National Library of Poetry. In February, 1994, she won third place in a poetry contest sponsored by the newspaper, The Winter Park Manifest of Colorado.

SWU readers will enjoy Diane's submission to the ZARJA Poetry Corner entitled, "The Manger Garden," very appropriate for the season. We hope to print more of Diane's poems in future issues.

I.M.O.



Readers are encouraged to submit their own poetry for consideration in this column.

## POETRY CORNER

Irene M. Odorizzi,  
Heritage Director



*The soft winds blew near the manger  
- softly to be His blanket  
but She - only covered Him in roses and in eternity.*

*A star above - the far star!  
Bent with its little heart  
all open and glowing  
until it became the very new star  
at the manger about Him gleaming and knowing.  
- And yet She His Mother, She alone  
lit Her happiness and glory all around His littleness  
- and covered Him in only roses for His home.*

*The cattle and oxen came breathing new  
and the sparrow and humming-bird sang  
their winter willow-song so dear.  
And the spiders with their glowing eyes  
and tiny lady bugs so determined in their tiny footsteps  
to finally crawl to Paradise!  
- all came close to befriend Him  
- He Who spoke now without words  
so like themselves.*

*He Who only blest the bright star  
with the glimmer of His silent eye  
and Kissed the cattle with His falling tears  
and breathed a Baby breath on all the soft winds  
of all of His Jesus-Self most dear  
- as He caressed and redeemed  
the flow of ages  
far and near.*

*And yet, even tho' all of these  
- bright star, warm winds, cattle and tiny ants  
came to shield Him from the cold most tenderly.*

*- only His Mother covered Him in roses,  
She, the soft fragrant flower  
blest from the angels above.  
She alone covered Him in roses  
each time She smiled on Him  
and took Him up in Her arms in love!*

- Klima

At the first meeting after a lovely summer on Sept. 19th we had 19 women attending. Many of our active members had a special bus trip that day and were absent.

Our new Financial Secretary, Janet (Ujic) Rosenberger was elected and accepted the position. Mary Slaney was ill at this time and had to resign. At the meeting we all remembered Mary in our prayers and hoped for her recovery.

Reports from the Home Office were read by our President, Agnes Widina concerning the Convention coming up in May in San Francisco. Each branch is urged to send a delegate. Br. 26 has no delegate to send.

Dues to the organization were discussed and a motion made and passed that "if your dues have not been paid in the last three years, you are automatically cancelled". We have 75 full paid members and 14 social class members. Why, oh why, can't we get more members to attend our meetings?

First meeting adjourned at 2 o'clock. Birthdays for June, July and August were mentioned and songs sung to all - and greetings sent.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our Oct. 17th meeting was attended by 11 members. Baked goodies and Halloween treats were donated by our President. Small attendance due to another bus trip being taken at the same time by our members to see fall foliage.

All our meetings open with prayer for the sick and deceased members.

Our former financial Secretary, Mary Slaney passed away Oct. 2nd after a three month illness. Another member, Mathilda Martin died in August. The brother of member, Helen Milcic was sick for many years and passed away this past summer. Remember them in your prayers.

Quite a number of our members went to Cleveland on Oct. 9th to St. Vitus Church for the observance of the 100th Anniversary of the church as a historical site. St. Vitus was recently renovated and is beautiful. Mass was said by the Bishop of Cleveland and celebrated by seven priests. It was very touching and awesome. Afterwards we enjoyed a delicious dinner and everyone went home feeling light and



Mary Slaney

It is with deep sadness that I write this letter. Mary Slaney, our dear friend and member of Br. 26 died on Oct. 2, 1994 at the age of 82. Mary was a sixty-five year member, she also held different offices in Zveza for thirty years. She was always very happy and helpful to all. A life-long member of St. Mary Assumption Church in Law-

renceville, she also attended school there. She was a commentator for the 9:30 mass on Sundays.

renceville, she also attended school there. She was a commentator for the 9:30 mass on Sundays.

She worked for many years at the Gordon's Clothing Store close by her home. She was the financial secretary of the Slovenian Pensioners and active member of KSKJ.

Mary attended several National Conventions and in 1976 in Pittsburgh, she was the hostess for all the delegates and officers attending the 17th National Convention of SWU. She was also State President of Penna-NY-DC branches.

Mary is survived by five daughters and a host of grandchildren. Her daughter, Sister Barbara Mary, is the principal of the Notre Dame Sisters in Baltimore, Maryland.

Mary, rest in peace. Zveza will truly miss you.

AGNES WIDINA, President

*The above was submitted by our Br. 26 Reporter, Jane Lynch.*

holy after all the special blessings we received.

The Christmas party was discussed and decided to hold it on Dec. 12th.

Prayers were said for Mary Bubash, presently at St. Margaret's hospital.

A raffle ended the meeting. Remember to come on Dec. 12th.

Blessed and Happy Holidays to all.

JANE LYNCH,

Secretary

#### NO. 30, HOME OFFICE

It's Christmas time again, and the day we celebrate the birth of our Lord. Amidst all the hustle and bustle, let's not forget the meaning of this season.

This year, for the first time, my entire immediate family will all be together. I'll have Christmas dinner for 14 people, and I'm busy polishing silver, getting out the good china and linens, and of course, baking.

Baking potica and other sweet breads is a much anticipated tradition for Agnes Potepan of Reedsville, Pennsylvania and Mary Jane Sexton of New City, New York. Sheila Tenold of Carpinteria, California says, "The one

Slovenian custom in our home is my potica at Christmas time. Of course, it's my grandmother's recipe passed down by word of mouth. No one ever wrote any recipes out."

Gina Shavor Varani of Winter Springs, Florida wrote, "My early recollections as a child were of going to Grandma Petik's house in Eveleth, Minnesota for Christmas. When we arrived at her house there was always krofe and flancati, walnut and raisin potica. *Pots and Pans* cookbook has the recipes of the foods always found at grandma's house. One of my favorites, which was usually served on Fridays, was struklji made with cottage cheese. The traditions were always carried out, including praying the Rosary on Christmas Eve before any presents were opened. One year, Santa Claus mysteriously appeared to listen to a recitation of 'Twas The Night Before Christmas' by one of the grandchildren. This was not in Slovenian, but the children loved it. That year, Santa told us if we weren't good, we would get a potato for Christmas."

"Over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house we go!"

By the way, did you know there was a real grandmother's house? It's still standing and is located in Medford, Massachusetts. The song started out as a poem written by Lydia Maria Child in 1844.

I've been reading about 19th century Christmas customs. Those ladies were thrifty and inventive. They decorated the tree with bits of lace, handmade paper ornaments, cranberries, candles, and anything else they could find that would be festive. Their other decorations were fresh greenery, nuts and sometimes flowers. The gifts were mostly homemade; sometimes a poem, a sketch, needlework or a photograph. A real treat was an orange on Christmas morning. They seemed to have the right idea about Christmas – the most important thing was the gathering of the family from far and wide. Christmas Eve was for singing carols and Christmas morning usually found everyone in church.

I've been hearing rumors from you folks up north that we're in for a colder winter than last year! I hope it's only a rumor – last winter just about did us in!

Congratulations to Branch 30! Everyone, except two people who shall remain nameless, have paid their dues. Good work!

Merry Christmas everyone! In the words of Tiny Tim, "God bless us, one and all."

MARY PAVLIC



### 32, EUCLID, OH

The fall weather has just been beautiful. Pres. Evelyn Majercik had two buses going to Michigan for our conference on Oct. 16th. It was such a joyous ride to Detroit, sunny and colorful. Ann Tercek of Br. 50 was on the bus with us. Ann gave all the members a SWU pin and passed out candy. Thanks Ann, for your kindness. When we arrived at the Slovene-American Club in Melvindale we were greeted at the door by members of Br. 105. We were each given a rose which the members had made and a program book. They served us refreshments of coffee and sweets before mass. Fr. Michael Greene, an Irishman who traveled about 50 miles to be with us, had a wonderful mass. The Klancnik Bros. Orchestra did a ter-

rific job playing for the polka mass and it was just beautiful. We had a very delicious dinner, so much food which was made by the ladies of Br. 105. Thanks, ladies.

Our meeting was afterward and to our surprise in came our National President, Tory Bobence. Regional Pres. Evelyn gave her welcome address. And then the branches gave reports and told about their branch activity. Nat'l Pres. Tory gave her address and told us about the National Convention which will be in San Francisco from May 19 to 21, 1995. They will have tours in the afternoons – at your own expense. Tours sounded very interesting. Our 1995 convention for Ohio and Michigan will be in Cleveland at St. Vitus church and hall on Oct. 15.

We had 12 members in the group going to Michigan. Ann Cooke, Alma Eppich, Josephine Gornik, Ceal McLean, Adrienne McLean, Hermine Strainer, Dorothy Lamm, Anna Rossman, Mary Ster, Elizabeth Perme, Molly Sodja and yours truly. A raffle was also held with many gifts. We want to thank Br. 105 for the hospitality they have shown us and also for the Bishop Frederic Baraga card as a remembrance of the conference.

Member, Jean McNulty was very lucky at bingo. She won a trip for two to Las Vegas in October. This trip included her plane fare and hotel. She was also lucky playing the slot machines!

We are sorry to report the loss of our member, Caroline Kaliopé at the age of 93 on Oct. 5th. Our sympathy to Caroline's family and friends. May she rest in peace.

We wish our sick members a speedy recovery. Like to see them back at our meetings soon as we miss them!

Regional Pres. Evelyn Majercik in inviting branch members to attend a Christmas Dinner at Sterle's Country House on Dec. 7th at 1 o'clock at your own expense. Give Evelyn a call if you plan to attend. Our Br. 32 Christmas Party will be a week later on Dec. 14th at 6:30, so please mark your calendars. We hope to have many members attend

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

*Congratulations!*



– it will be a joyous affair. Also, don't forget to pay your dues for the new year. Make it easier for the secretary in the coming year.

May all of you have a safe, happy and healthy holiday and we hope the New Year will be good to all.

Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy New Year.

FRANCES OGOREUC



### 33, DULUTH, MN

Anniversary "Dinner Out" and 37 members voted Beverly Menart, Delegate, and Virginia Mikrut as Alternate for the Zveza Convention in May.

Our prayers and greetings to all members unable to attend our meetings.

LOIS PELANDER,  
Reporter



### 34, SOUDAN, MN

On our regular meeting night, Wednesday, October 19, Branch 34 celebrated their 65th anniversary, starting with a special Mass at St. Martin's, with our pastor, Fr. Pakiz, officiating. Seated in the front pew were Victoria Bobence, National President, Mary Tekautz Gornick, our charter member, and Adeline Mustonen, Branch President. Sr. Boniface Dragovan (Mary), who resides at St. Scholastica Priory in Duluth, was also present at the first meeting of our branch on October 6, 1929. We wore corsages, presented to them by Adeline, who also did the readings at Mass. We closed the Mass with "Angelsko Česčenje." Then we went to the Tower Cafe for dinner, with Father as our guest. We had a beautifully decorated cake for dessert. During our meeting which followed, we decided to hold our election of officers and name our delegate to the national convention at the November meeting. I want to thank Helen Adkisson, Emma Betourne, and Adrienne Micklich for being on the nominating committee.

We are happy to have Kay Dean for a new member, Kay's mother was Slovenian, so she is enthusiastic about joining our group -- welcome, Kay, I might add that Kay has a lovely singing voice, we hear her at Mass during the week and also on weekends.



Pastor, Fr. Rudolph Pakiz, Mary Tekautz Gornik, Charter Member, Adeline Mustonen, President and Reporter and Tory Bobence, National President.



# THE ALTAR OF ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH

provided the background for this group picture taken after Holy Mass. First row: Angela Tekautz, Rose Planton, Tory Bobence, Angeline Morin, Marge Skala, Margaret Mesojedec, Agnes Tekautz and Angie Jamnik; second row: Kay Dean, Helen Adkisson, Emma Betourne, Mary Gornick, Fr. Pakiz, Lorraine Berg and Lucille Svatos.

\*\*\*\*\*

All of us would like to congratulate Victor and Frances Tanko of Tower, who just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary -- may you have many more. Frances was our Mother of the Year a few years ago. Their daughter, Rosemary Tanko, is an active member of the Chisholm Branch of SWU.

We received the tickets for the Slovenian Dolls Raffle and they were well-received, I still have more in case anyone would like to purchase any.

Our next meeting was scheduled for November 16, with Mary Frances Jamnick and Jean Zupanich as hostesses and the door prize and it was won by our new member, Kay Dean.

I wish all of you a most blessed Christmas, we look forward to being with our families at this special time of the year. Have a Happy New Year and the best of health to all of you!

ADELINE MUSTONEN,  
Reporter

We have been enjoying beautiful weather this fall, but we did have a light blanket of snow one morning to remind us that winter was on its way!

At our Oct. meeting plans were made for the Dec. 4th meeting at the Community Center at 3 p.m. when annual dues will be collected and election of officers will be held. Ladies, we have had a year to think about replacing some of our officers who said they would serve only "one more year" and that year is now up. We need new officers to keep our SWU strong, so please take your turn. At 4 p.m. that day our Advent party will begin with a catered dinner. No gift exchange, please! Instead, we will give a monetary gift to our local nursing home. Hostesses will be Marcy Koski, Helen Simonich, Tona Soukup, Mae Rebrovich and Anta Vovk.

Dorothy Jamnick gave an interesting report on the Minnesota Day held in Hibbing in September. Biwabik will host the next one in 1995.

Remember, ladies, that we have Pots and Pans cookbooks available for Christmas giving and every other occasion. Contact Dorothy J.

Anne Orazem was chosen as our delegate to the National Convention in San Francisco in May; Dorothy Jamnik is our alternate. We will have a fund raiser, a suggestion was made to have a noodle sale. Any other suggestions? Thank you, ladies, I am honored to be chosen as your delegate.

President Florence Holland read a beautiful tribute to her mother which was written by her cousin, Louise Virant's son, Emil Belsky. He remembered Grandma Virant as a gracious, loving and caring person who always made his visits to her home so special. Some of you may remember Louise when she lived with the Virant family.

Welcome to our new members; Joanne Blevell's granddaughter, Kelly Soular and Barbara Vodovnik's grandson, Anthony Edgeton.

Congratulations to John and Mary Nosen who celebrated their 50th anniversary on Oct. 28th.

We are happy to hear that Katherine Hanka's husband, Henry is home after a month's stay in the hospital. Take care, Henry. We visited Betty Orazem at the Sandstone Nursing Home and

she is doing great and sends greetings to everyone.

Our sympathy is with Ann Mismash who lost her brother, Peter Milinkovich. May he rest in peace.

The Happy Quilters will be busy now making their quilts from recycled materials in January and we welcome anyone who wants to join us. We have received many beautiful letters of appreciation from the organizations that have received these quilts. After making our 1,000 quilts, we received thank you notes for the "beautiful, warm quilts" from some very grateful people.

We were honored to have the Slovenian Ambassador to the U.S. Dr. Ernest Petric as our guest speaker at the American All Slav Association Convention in Ely on Oct. 22nd. He spoke about all that is going on in the newly independent country of Slovenia and was very interesting. This was Dr. Petric's first visit to Minnesota and he enjoyed the friendly people who made him feel right at home.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

#### PARTICIPATION NEEDS:

P - people; A - activities; R - resources; T - talent; I - initiative; C - cooperation; L - involvement; P - phone calls; A - attendance at meetings; T - total commitment; I - ideas; O - ongoing interest and N - no-nonsense attitude!

ANNE ORAZEM

### NO. 38, CHISHOLM, MN

We had a very productive meeting on Nov. 2. Everything is in motion for the Card/Party and Luncheon and a Bake Sale is in the offing!

Sunshine chairperson, Anne Polichnik is ill so we are sending her a message of good wishes for a rapid recovery! Fran Zalec will cover for you, Anne, so take it easy and we shall see you at the Christmas party.

Yes, a Christmas Party! It sounds exciting as it is very possible it will be held at Iron World U.S.A., in Chisholm. Charlotte Laurich and Jennie Briski are busy working out details. This is a first for Iron World, and sounds wonderful --- a wonderful meal and also entertainment, in a Christmas setting! Hopefully we will have 50 members present. A tentative date is Dec. 14th. Members will be notified.

And, we have a slate of officers for 1995. A unanimous ballot was cast, voted upon and passed, for the following officers: President: Charlotte Laurich, Vice President: Jennie Briski Secretary-Treasurer: Katherine Knuth Recording Secretary: Gert Zakrajsek Auditors: Rose Niemi and Rose Faras. A formal installation will take place at the February 8th meeting. We have no meeting in January.

Br. 38 will be represented at the National Convention in San Francisco by delegate, Charlotte Laurich. The alternate is Katherine Knuth.

The following were prize winners at this meeting: Fran Zalec, Jo Zupancich, Gert Zakrajsek, Rose Niemi.

Christmas greetings and a happy new year to all SWU members from Br. 38. May God bless everyone!

ANN NUSICH

### NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

October was a beautiful time of the year. Before you know it winter will be here. 16 came to our meeting and a delicious dessert was served by our Pres. Agnes Tomazine and yours truly. Thanks to Francine Pavlovic for her help.

Our Pres. Agnes Tomazine, Francine and Angie Voytko went to the State Convention on Oct. 16th in Detroit, Mich. They planned to give us a report at our Nov. 9th meeting.

Don't forget our Christmas Mass Dinner will be held at the German Villa on Dec. 7th. Be there by 12:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 1 p.m. If you haven't signed up call Agnes at 245-3919 for reservations.

We decided not to have a gift exchange but instead, if you wish, to make a donation to our Angie Voytko's Slovenian Dancers. We will also send \$25 to the S.W.U. Scholarship fund.

Sue Tomazic's husband passed away recently. We wish to express our sincere sympathy.

Meredith Ferlic was named Volleyball player of the Week recently at Lorain Catholic Hi School. Meredith would like to play volleyball in college, hopefully in Kent or Bowling Green. Her sister Marin received a scholarship to Bowling Green University.

The proud grandma is our own Mary Ferlic. Brian Simaskevich, grandson of

Sophie and Andrew Pogachar, graduated recently from Kent State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Marketing. He also made the Dean's List just prior to graduating. We wish him success in finding employment.

Stephanie and Michael Polutnik celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in October with a dinner hosted by their family and a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Vincent De Paul Church. Congratulations to all.

Since the end of the year is fast approaching I wish to remind you to pay your dues for the whole year ahead in January and don't forget the extra dollar to defray the cost of the ZARJA and other expenses.

Don't forget meetings held the second Wednesday of the month at the Cyril & Methodius School hall at 1 p.m.

Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Love,

MARY MATOS

\* \* \*

We wish to thank the ladies of Branch 105 of Detroit, Michigan for the lovely affair on Sunday, Oct. 16th at the Ohio-Michigan Convention.

The hostesses were so gracious; they greeted us at the door and made us welcome. What a lovely surprise it was to find that a Polka Mass was to take place! This Mass we enjoyed so much. Then came a delicious Slovenian dinner, goulash, polenta, potica and apple strudel.

Our meeting was interesting. The ladies were so friendly. The bus driver was exceptional. He even got off the bus at the Holiday Inn with us to make sure we got started on the way home.

Thank you dear ladies of Lodge 105 for a memorable day!

Respectfully,

Angie Voytko, Aggie Tomazin  
and Francine Pavlovic,  
Delegates from Lorain

I enjoy reading about all the activities from different areas and at this age, when most of my friends are gone, it becomes lovely as we reminisce. Thanks, again. Sincerely,

Annie Barton,  
Traunik, MI



# Pots and Pans

I am pleased to feature Jean Krizman of Cleveland, OH, a member of Br. 50. She was graduated from Ohio University in 1943 with a B.S. degree in biology. Jean is the sister of Albina Novak, former S.W.U. National President and Editor and an aunt of Corinne Leskovar, our outstanding editor. Jean told me that she remembers doing proof-reading for her sister when Albina was editing the first cookbook of the Slovenian Women's Union, "Woman's Glory - the Kitchen."

Jean worked in restaurant management for the Stouffer Corporation for 31 years with management assignments taking her to Cleveland, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Chicago and back to Cleveland to the Stouffer Corporate Office where she was named Vice President of Food Service for the company in 1973. Upon retirement in 1980 Jean became a consultant in food concept, menu and recipe development. She is still affiliated as a limited partner and menu consultant to the Pufferbelly Restaurants in Berea and Kent, OH and Erie, PA and Hornblowers' in downtown Cleveland. In 1977 she won the YWCA Woman Business Leader Achievement Award.

A memorable experience was appearing on the national ABC-TV show "Good Morning America" with a rooftop buffet on the Cleveland's City Hall. Erna Bombeck served as commentator while Jean displayed ethnic food from 13 nationalities in Cleveland.

A few of her many volunteer activities: On Board of Trustees of the Slovenian Home for the Aged where she is chairperson for the Financial Development Committee. At the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair (the largest Slovenian Auditorium in the

United States) she organized the "Friends of the Slovenian National Home" which raises funds for the upkeep and preservation of this historical building. In 1993 she spearheaded a drive which provided funds to restore a famous Maxim Gaspari Curtain which is located on the stage of the Home. Jean is also on the Board of the Greater Cleveland Chapter Red Cross Board of Directors where she served as Chairperson of Volunteers 1988-1991.

Jean has traveled extensively in the U.S. besides trips to Europe, including five to Slovenia, also Japan, South America, Mexico, and last summer to Alaska.

## CHICKEN BREASTS STROGANOFF

- |                |                            |               |                          |
|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 6              | boneless, skinless         | $\frac{1}{4}$ | teaspoon dried dill weed |
|                | chicken breast halves      | $\frac{1}{4}$ | teaspoon salt            |
| 2              | tablespoons butter         | $\frac{1}{8}$ | teaspoon pepper          |
| $1\frac{1}{2}$ | cup sliced fresh mushrooms | $\frac{1}{2}$ | cup chicken broth        |
| 2              | tablespoons chopped        | 1             | tablespoon flour         |
|                | fresh parsley              | $\frac{1}{2}$ | cup sour cream           |
| 2              | tablespoons chopped chives |               |                          |

In large skillet, melt butter, brown chicken on both sides. Remove chicken and reserve. Add mushrooms, parsley, chives, dill, salt and pepper; cook until mushrooms are softened. Stir in chicken broth. Return chicken to skillet, cover and simmer 15 minutes or until chicken is tender. Remove chicken from skillet to a heated serving platter. In a small bowl, combine flour and sour cream. Stir sour cream mixture into skillet. Cook until heated through. DOT NOT BOIL. Serve sauce over chicken; "nice with rice."

## CHOCOLATE SOUFFLE ROLL

- |               |                                    |               |                       |
|---------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| $\frac{3}{4}$ | cup granulated sugar               | $\frac{1}{4}$ | cup hot strong coffee |
| 6             | eggs, separated                    | 1             | cup whipping cream    |
| 6             | ounces semisweet chocolate morsels | 1             | teaspoon vanilla      |

Preheat oven at 350°. Butter 10 x 15-inch jellyroll pan and line with parchment or waxed paper; butter paper well especially the corners. Beat  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar and egg yolks until thick and lemon colored, about 3-5 minutes. Combine chocolate and hot coffee in heatproof bowl. Place bowl over hot water (not simmering); stir until chocolate is melted and mixture is smooth. Cool chocolate mixture a little bit then blend into egg mixture. Whip egg whites in a separate bowl until stiff. Fold  $\frac{1}{3}$  of egg whites into cooled chocolate batter, then fold chocolate batter into remaining egg whites. Pour batter into prepared pan; smooth top. Place in middle rack of the 350° oven until cake is firm to the touch, about 12 to 15 minutes. Remove from oven; cover top with wet cloth wrung out in cold water. Cool for about 15 minutes. Invert pan holding towel in place to hold cake. Remove pan and then peel off parchment or waxed paper. Roll cake lengthwise in the cloth easing cake into curves as for jellyroll. Cool rolled cake in refrigerator. Whip cream with remaining  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup sugar and vanilla until firm peaks form. Unroll the cooled cake, leaving it on the cloth; spread unrolled cake with the whipped cream and re-roll. Chill. Serves 8 to 10.

These excellent recipes are from Jean who adds, "They would be nice for a Christmas menu".

Affectionately,

*Hermine*



A MERRY

AND

BLESSED

CHRISTMAS!

## MERRY CRANBERRY FREEZE

- |   |   |     |   |
|---|---|-----|---|
| 3 | cups cranberries, ground<br>or finely chopped | 1/2 | cup chopped walnuts                       |
| 1 | cup sugar                                     | 1   | 8-ounce package cream<br>cheese, softened |
| 1 | 8-ounce can crushed pineapple,<br>drained     | 1   | cup whipping cream,<br>whipped            |

Combine cranberries and sugar. Add pineapple and nuts; mix well. Gradually add to softened cream cheese, mixing until well blended. Fold in whipped cream. Pour into 6-1/2 cup ring mold; freeze. Before using place in refrigerator 30 minutes, before unmolding.



## Give a DOUBLE GIFT!

The new, fabulous, fourth edition  
of the SWU Cookbook,

### POTS & PANS

is a sure winner and everyone loves  
it!

Why not "double your pleasure"  
by enclosing a

### SWU

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

with each cookbook? This way you  
are sharing all the pleasure you get  
from being a member of SWU with  
someone else!

So, give a cookbook and applica-  
tion to your special friends!

For details, call or write to the  
Home Office,

431 N. Chicago Street  
Joliet, IL 60432  
Tel. (815) 727-1926

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

Recently I was talking with someone  
who indicated they had a Slovenian  
cookbook, POTS & PANS that was a  
MUST in every kitchen. I am very in-  
terested in obtaining information re-  
garding cost as I would like to order 2  
books.

Mary Donovan,  
Greenfield, WI

P.S. Mary ordered 3 cookbooks right  
away.

Please send me another cookbook. I  
had the "Woman's Glory - the  
Kitchen" two issues plus "Pots and  
Pans" but lost them in the "No Name  
Storm" that happened in March here in  
Florida and I miss them very much.  
They were excellent books. Please send  
as soon as possible.

Mary J. Strukel  
Spring Hill, FL

### NO. 42, MAPLE HEIGHTS, OH

It is difficult to believe that another  
year has past, but time stops for no  
one. Vida Vercek had a little setback  
recently, but she is now home and re-  
covering. Our love and prayers to her  
and all our members who are ill and  
are shut-in.

Our Christmas Party will be held on  
Tuesday, December 13th at the Slove-  
nian National Home in Maple Heights.  
Please call Marge Church at 467-0696  
with the number of guests coming with  
you.

Mildred Lipnos and Marge Church  
attended the Ohio-Michigan Conven-  
tion and it was a success. Held at the  
Slovene American Club in Melvindale,  
MI, Branch 105 hosted approximately  
110 members and guests with gracious-  
ness and professionalism. Every detail  
was attended from the moment of ar-  
rival of the Ohio contingency down to  
the last goodbye with a handshake or  
hug from 105's President, Kathleen  
Emerson who gave each attendee a  
memorial card printed especially for the  
Ohio-Michigan, 1994 convention day.  
The morning started with a Polka Mass  
officiated by a Benedictine Irishman by  
the name of Fr. Green. The Polka-  
Waltz Mass voice and music was pre-  
sented by the Klancnik Brothers Or-  
chestra (Polka Hall of Fame Nominee)  
whose "punch" could get anyone  
started on a happy day. A special sur-  
prise was the attendance of our National  
President, Victoria Bobence. Tory  
Spoke of the importance of our herit-  
age, survival, and the purpose and par-  
ticulars of our National 1995 Conven-

tion in San Francisco. Evelyn Majer-  
cik, State President, chaired the meet-  
ing and, after branch reports and  
routine business, included her thoughts  
on the importance of our future and the  
need for greater interest by our younger  
generation to give our Slovenes a future  
in our Ženska Zveza, this country and  
time by remembering our background  
with pride - and to have those younger  
women attend the SF convention to in-  
still into the rest of us and those forth-  
coming into a continuing, cherished  
love of heritage.

A reminder for dues. January is  
around the corner and we would like  
to collect dues at the beginning of the  
year rather than "whenever" throughout  
the year. That way when the secretary  
pays the dues monthly to National Of-  
fice the treasury will have the money  
and won't have to borrow from other  
funds to pay your dues. Please make a  
note to pay in January and please be  
sure to add the \$1.00 for the increased  
dues which went into effect in January,  
1994. (Jr. Members excluded from the  
increase).

Happy Birthday to our members with  
December birthdates: Donna Stubljer,  
Julia Lipnos, Beth Carroll, Eleanor  
Lipnos, Albina Skocaj, Young Hui  
Shega, Jennifer Lockard, Frances  
Wenkus, Marge Church and Christine  
Hajek. A Happy Birthday also to our  
members with January birthdates: Jen-  
nie Milavec, Mary Zito, Kelly Gaines,  
Patricia Wenkus, Karen Lockhard, and  
Camille Lao.

Christmas is here, May it be the most  
blessed and holy for you and your loved  
ones.

DOROTHY MEHOSKY

Year is coming to an end. It was a busy one for all of us, some more than others.

State Convention in Willard was like always, a pleasure to attend. Sorry to say that tho our Branch has the most members, only 8 of us attended. We have to take more interest in the S.W.U. organization and Conventions are where we meet our sister-members from other Branches. Willard always gives us "Red Carpet" treatment. Thanks, ladies, and Mary Staut, you did it again. Hvala lepa vsem.

By the time we read this article our Card Party and all the work will be over. I am sure everything worked out okay, for we have a nice group of members working at it.

At our October meeting we decided to have the Christmas Party on December 28th at Mayer's Restaurant on 6015 W. Forest Home Avenue, time: 12:30 p.m. Call me for reservations and please, let's meet at least once a year!

Dues statements will be sent out after January 1, 1995. The Secretary is asking all members to:

Please send your 1995 dues in by January 31. Secretaries have to keep their books in order and every member's dues has to be sent to the Home Office in Joliet every 4th week of the month. I must say that Branch 43 members are prompt except a few who have to be reminded again. It's hard to get officers these days, so, why not make their job easier? Our dues is such a small amount, plus, we are receiving a nice magazine ZARJA - The Dawn as a bonus. I find very interesting reading ZARJA, especially for us officers.

Our deepest sympathy to Zortz Families on the loss of their brother and sister-in-law. Also, get well soon, Frances. She is recuperating after surgery. We wish you speedy recovery.

To all other sick or shut-in, you are in our thoughts and prayers. Greetings from all of us.

If you change your address, please notify your secretary, she needs your correct address.

Happy birthday to December-born: Marge Lonkner, Vicki Sporis, Stella Pousha, Dorothy Pike, Stephany Sterbenz, Agnes Sagadin, Gina R. Giuffre,



## In Loving Memory

14 - Anna Novinc (94)  
65-yr member

25 - Anna Gustincic (99)  
61-yr member

Frances Prah (86)  
64-yr member

26 - Matilda Martin (77)  
21-yr member

Mary Slaney (82)  
65-yr member

30 - Alice Trattar (93)  
56-yr member

32 - Carolina Kaliopie (94)  
60-yr member

67 - Mary Slavish (98)  
57-yr member

83 - Molly Domin (83)  
57-yr member

95 - Louise Galdina (64)  
18-yr member

Dragica Vukasovic (89)  
48-yr member

105 - Mary Bedenko (89)  
39-yr member



Pat Goldmann, Jennie Kouchich, David Malmarowski, Angela Nankin, Helen Prijic, John and Judith Rechlit, Jennifer Lehmann, Mary Tutin. Have Happy Birthdays and may the Lord bless you with good health.

We want to wish every one of you a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year 1995.

Veseli praznik rojstva Gospodovega in Srečno Novo leto 1995 želimo vsem članom in članicam.

Greetings - in Lep pozdrav

MATILDA SIMCIC, Secretary  
*Officers and Members of Br. 43*

## NO. 50, EUCLID, OH

Dober Dan! Our Ohio Michigan Regional Convention in October near Detroit, Michigan became a real adventure. We traveled there by way of two buses. Members of Branch 105 welcomed us as gracious hostesses providing us with super hospitality, a delicious dinner after a very appropriate Polka Mass officiated by celebrant, Father Michael Greene of Oxford, Michigan. The music was performed by KBO or Klacnik Brothers' Orchestra of Melvindale, Michigan where the convention actually took place. The meeting agenda covered the usual procedures ending with the entire group singing "God Bless America."

A few days later, on Oct. 19th, we celebrated our 1994 picnic at the Euclid Club House near the Euclid Lake Erie shore. We had the usual good food brought in by our talented members with excellent culinary fair. Genevieve Bohinc, who was to bring Potato Salad, couldn't participate due to the fact that she came down with pneumonia. Genny, we missed your salad, but missed you more. Just get well so we can enjoy you any time and your salad next time. We were also delighted to see Mary Perusek and Vera Nosan at the event after a very long absence. Let us see you more often as well as all the others.

It is said that it is never too late for romance. Until now, I thought that meant at night, not in life. Our Charter member Antonette Celesnik, 85, proved it by accepting Philip Gaeta, 91, in marriage recently. We wish them all the happiness and ample fortune the good Lord allows them to accept.

Our fondest wishes to Justine Pirman who had a hip replacement and we say get-well to Josephine Justin!

Mamie Marin is coasting along after her eye surgery. She will be seeing us soon. Get well wishes go to Beatrice

Tomc too. She needs to be strong so she can continue to be the faithful nurse as she has been for her husband Marty who has not been well for quite awhile.

We will all look forward to seeing as many as possible at the annual Christmas dinner taking place December 11th at the Holmes Avenue Hall, the Collinwood Slovenian Home. We hope to give you a good belated report on this doing in the February ZARJA. The January issue is skipped for publication. In the meantime, Blagoslovljen Božič and Srečno Novo Leto.

As an added tidbit I would like to share this light hearted poem with you!

#### THE BUTTERFLY AND THE BEE

*Once upon a time,  
A handsome honey bee  
fell in love with a butterfly  
He met in a tulip tree.  
He said "I love you madly  
and want to share your life.  
Let's fly away together.  
Will you be my wife?"  
She shook her head in sorrow,  
"No, no, no" cried she.  
"For I'm a monarch's daughter  
and you're just a son of a bee."*

Na svidenje!

VI MORAVČEK

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#### NO. 54, WARREN, OH

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Our Christmas Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 21st at 1 p.m. at Elks Clubroom on Rt. 422. We will have a gift exchange and a food basket raffle. You can bring cookies for dessert, too.

Happy 80th Birthday to our faithful charter member, Vic Zuga. She was honored at a lovely dinner party given by her daughter and Harry and I were happy to be among the guests. She is a wonderful, caring and feisty lady! She has cared for her husband who had a stroke 6 years ago and can't communicate and she cares for him with such love and keeps plugging away. She is to be admired.

On a note of sadness, our dear and faithful social member, Millie Pollock passed away. It was sudden and we will really miss her at our meetings. She enjoyed it so much and always was willing to donate to our needs. She

never married and had a huge garden which she loved and for which she won many awards – especially for her roses. She was a member of the Rose Society, too. May you rest in peace, dear Millie.

Members, you will be called for reservations for our Christmas luncheon and we hope that we have a good turnout. Those of you wishing, may make your dues payments now before the year's end. Thank you.

A joyous and blessed Christmas to all and may the year 1995 be a healthy, peaceful and God-loving year for all.

JOANNE PONIKVAR

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#### NO. 55, GIRARD, OH

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Our October meeting was held at the Girard Library on 10/12/94. Seven members were in attendance. Tillie Cigolle read the minutes of the September meeting. We were notified that Rose Juvancic was hospitalized. We all hope and pray that Rose is doing well. We will be having our Christmas party on December 14, 1994 at Little Pepino's. We will be calling all of the members as the date approaches.

At our meeting, Nancy Dombrosky brought in a delicious cake which was raffled. Milka Kregar won the raffle and she was very generous in sharing the cake with us. I asked Nancy for the recipe and she gave it to me, from memory, right then and there. So, Nancy, I hope you don't mind if I share this recipe with our readers – It's awesome!

#### "Nancy's Delicious Cake"

##### Ingredients:

6 egg yolks  
1/2 c. oil  
3/4 c. water  
1-1/2 c. sugar  
1 t. vanilla  
2-1/4 c. flour and 3 tsp. baking powder

Combine these ingredients. Then, beat the egg whites with 1 tsp. of cream of tartar. Fold the egg whites into the egg yolk mixture. Turn batter into an ungreased tube pan and bake at 350° for 55 minutes. Invert pan immediately when taking out of the oven. Let cool.

Thanks again, Nancy!!

Just to let everyone know, I'm writing this newsletter at 33,000 feet in the sky. I'm on my way home from Phoenix, Arizona. So, if this newsletter

is a little bit "flighty", you'll understand why.

As we prepare for the celebration of the Christ Child's birth, let us all try to give him our whole heart. The tiny babe, lying in the manger, is a symbol for all times. God sent us his son, Jesus Christ, to save us. On Christmas Day and every day, let us reach out to all people. Jesus Christ came to save us all. What a wonderful gift we have been blessed with! "For God so loved the world, he sent us his son,..." From the officers and members of Branch 55, "Veseli Božič in Srečno Novo Leto 1995".

In the words of the beautiful Christmas hymn, "Sveta Noč, blažena noč, vse že spi, je polnoč,..."

I bid all of you a Blessed Christmas.

Nasvidenje,

DORI KREGAR

P.S. I almost forgot our December birthdays: Helen Dagati, Gala Jhoss, Ivanka Florjancic and Rose Juvancic.

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#### NO. 56, HIBBING, MN

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Our meeting was again held at the First Ave. Apt. at 7:30 p.m., opened with prayer and then, roll call read. Presiding was Ann Satovich as our Pres. Valerie Carlson was out-of-town. She needed a rest!

SWU has two new members, Ann Gibson and Lucille Zoerner. These ladies joined at our Oct. meeting. Ann Satovich gave the final report of our convention. Mary Sikich made a motion to put in the savings account and Pep Erickson seconded.

In new business, mass for our deceased members arranged at Immaculate Conception church for our members, Nov. 6th and we hoped for a large attendance and everyone was invited to go to Sportsman's for breakfast.

Our Christmas party was discussed and it was suggested that we have our party on Dec. 6th at the Open Pit at 5 p.m. It was passed on a motion by Mary Sikich, seconded by Pep Erickson.

Lunch committee for Nov. were Edith Jones, Ann Satovich and Ann Voiovich. Birthdays in October were recognized and jackpot won by Pep Erickson. Bunco winner was Lucille Zoerner, Cannasta, Agnes Barkis and 500, Mary Sikich. Meeting closed with prayer.

EDITH JONES

## NO. 57, NILES, OH

Here it is Oct. and fall is in the air! If you like to travel now is the time to do it; before you know it the trees will be bare and we will have cold weather and snow.

On Oct. 11th we met at the "Shepherd Home" for a very nice lunch with 16 members present. After lunch, our meeting was opened by Frances Stanec in the absence of our President, Frances Yerman, as she is spending some time in Florida with her son and his family while recuperating from her illness. We hope to see her back soon as we all miss her.

Minutes were read and Secretary and Treasurer's reports were given and accepted.

We didn't have much news to report except to make plans for our Christmas Party, which we will have on our regular meeting day at the Shepherd Home. We will discuss more about it at our next meeting.

Birthdays celebrated in Oct. were Mary Decapua, Louise Mateyko, Mary Visnosky, Caroline Fabijanec, Elizabeth Havaich and Catherine Grafius. We sang Happy Birthday to all that were present.

Our hostesses for Oct. were Mimi Shirkman and Josephine Fabian. They brought us lovely prizes for our games and very nice treats which we all enjoyed while playing games. Our hostess for Nov. were Esther Logar and Mary Luky.

Stay healthy and hope to see you at the next meeting.

FRANCES STANEC

## NO. 71, STRABANE, PA

The coolness tells us that '94 is on its way out! Our members are hoping that your year has been a healthy and happy one!

As reporter for our branch, I apologize for writing so infrequently. Time is so precious and the months slip by so quickly. To catch up on all our activities I will begin to summarize our events starting with April, 1994.

Due to the cancellations of winter meetings because of the heavy snows, the first meeting of the year was in April. A business meeting and social

were held. The May Mother's Day social was a success with Frances Dixon being honored as our "Mother of the Year". A dinner was held at a local restaurant and each member received a carnation, the Slovenian flower. It was a wonderful time -- once again seeing members that are unable to join us for the regular meetings.

Our members gathered together on Sept. 8th for the next branch meeting. Members attending brought covered dishes and everyone tasted the treats displayed. During the business portion of the meeting members were asked to pay their yearly dues to Dorothy Bruce, 254 Castle Dr., Washington, PA 15301 so that our accounts are balanced for the year. We were happy to hear that no members were on the sick list and "shut-in" members were being sent cards with well wishes. Marge Valencic happily reported that her daughter, Jennie Valencic was married to Gary Pernisek on July 23rd. We wish this couple happiness in their future life together.

Our next meeting was in October, the theme being "Halloween"! Everyone was asked to bring a small gift for the gift exchange.

We wish you all a very Happy Holiday!

PEG GRICAR

## NO. 73, WARRENSWILLE, OH

Branch 73 extends holiday greetings to everyone across the nation. We may not mention particular branches in our articles, but we do think about you in a sisterly fashion. We wish you the very best for Christmas and the New Year.

A new policy is being set forth in 1995 for Branch No. 73. Please read and remember the following instructions. In order to update records and to keep up with the request by the Home Office, we ask that your dues be paid within the first three (3) months of the new year. By April, **all members should be paid for 1995.** In conjunction with that request, we ask that your checks be made payable to S.W.U. No. 73. Dues should still be sent to Alouise Epley. She will record your payment and forward the monies to Angie Musil for disbursement. This is merely an effort to keep up with changes within the organization. Undoubtedly, dues (col-

lection, billing, etc..) will be a major topic of discussion at the 1995 Convention in San Francisco.

Our trip to Detroit, Michigan for the State Convention was very successful. We did fill two buses and everyone enjoyed visiting with friends they do not see for a time. The convention itself was top-shelf, from the Polka Mass, to Father Green's homily, to the luscious dinner, to the meeting -- to the very end. The Good Lord provided us with a sunny day and the foliage was at its' peak. Detroit, and in particular Kathy Emerson, President of Br. 105, we thank you for all your efforts. Good job!!

We do hope that Francis Cazin's boo-boo healed well after a small mishap. Some good ole' Slovenian first-aid ruled out any need for stitches.

We send our Get Well wishes to everyone who may be a bit under the weather, recovering from surgeries, confined to home, hospitals or nursing facilities. Stay warm during the upcoming winter, let's hope it's not as severe as they predict.

Combined branches will meet at Sterle's on December 7th at 1:00 o'clock p.m. for Christmas Party. Please include this on your calendar. We would love to have you with us.

If you are traveling during the holiday season, make it a safe journey. When you return, let us know where you journeyed to -- we can't mention your name if we have no information.

Christmas! A New Year! Where did all the time in-between go? As years roll on, the holidays take on a different meaning, instead of a lot of planning, it becomes a time for remembering all the past holidays. Needless to say there are many among us who can remember the weeks of baking, the hours of cleaning, the tedious decorating, the shopping!! Now, we greet with open arms the visitors who bring a plate of cookies, we tidy up a bit and boxes and boxes of decorations are left packed from the year before -- just too much "junk" to put around. And shopping! Gift certificatees and money replace all the packages that had to be wrapped. When you see all the after Christmas sale on cards, you realize that even that aspect is gone. Perhaps all this is good, may be we will get back to the basics and be true meaning of Christmas. I recently saw a saying, "God gives us memories so that in December we can

have roses." It's time to stop and smell those roses. Have yourself a beautiful holiday season, enjoy family and friends. Let's greet 1995 with a prayer for good health, lots of love and peace.

Respectfully submitted,

EVELYN A. MAJERICIK

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#### NO. 79, ENUMCLAW, WA

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Branch No. 79's meeting was hosted by Barbara Dime in her beautiful new home in the Bellevue area. On a clear day Barbara has a awesome view, nearly 100 miles North to South, plus the waterfront areas of Seattle. What an incredible setting, and, as usual, a delicious meal was served after our meeting.

Nearly the same slate of officers was re-elected for 1995 as follows: President Mary Bratovich, Vice-Pres. Lynnette Ellertson, Sec.-Treas. AnnaMae Anderson, Rec. Sec'y. Kathy Vogel, Auditors Annette Johnson, Dorothy Sleigh and Mary Kell, Sergeant-at-Arms Monica Podolak.

Great interest was shown in the 1995 convention in San Francisco and hopefully we will have a good representation from the Northwest. Mary Kell was elected as our delegate and Barbara Dime is our alternate. Several members and families are planning on joining them to participate in activities we know will strengthen our ethnic roots that are being planned by the convention team.

Our big annual Christmas party is again planned for the first Sunday in December, the 4th, and will be as usual at the VFW Hall in Enumclaw - potluck, Santa, music, dancing; all the goodies and again will be combined with SNPJ Lodge No. 738. It's always a good party - mark your calendars.

It was great to have our younger members represented at our last meeting. They expressed a desire to be shown how to make some of our cherished ethnic foods and we will plan on that during our 1995 meetings.

Congratulations to Georgene and Gary Pearson who recently celebrated their 25th anniversary. Get-well wishes go out to Fran Potocnik who experienced a fall earlier in the year. Anna Faulk, our charter member, is doing well in her adult care home and Dorothy and Deryl Sleigh are grandparents

## A CRAFTY IDEA!

I attended a "Crochet Club" that consists of 8-10 women who, seventeen years ago, started the idea to pass the time their husbands were at the K of C meetings. Besides working on their own projects, they make lap robes for nursing homes. The robes are made out of scrap yarn, many patterns are used and no color is missed. Crocheters will be delighted with a pattern called "Kittens In A Row". The pattern does give the appearance of kittens hanging onto a rail with their front paws. So, get those yarns and hooks ready. For the pattern, please send \$1.00 (Checks made payable to ZARJA) and a legal size self-addressed stamped envelope to:

**Evelyn A. Majericik**

31 Eldred Avenue

Bedford, Ohio 44146

*CRAFTERS: January, February, March are excellent months to complete a project to donate for the 1995 National Convention in San Francisco.*

again, daughter Marti being new mom to potential member, Corissa Kathleen.

Best of holiday greetings from our Northwest members to all - hope to see many of you in California.

MARY BRATOVICH

President

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#### NO. 81, KEEWATIN, MN

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A Special Meeting was held on Oct. 25th. Election of officers for '95 took place following the opening prayer by Pres. Kapla. Those elected were Josie Kapla, Pres.; Mary Marolt, Vice-Pres.; Blanche Laurich, Sec.; Ann Michelich, Treas.; Toni DiOrio, Reporter. Auditors are Charlotte Gentile, Mary Brletich, Sophie Michelich. It was decided to hold our Christmas party on Dec. 7th at 6 p.m. at our New Tiger Town Eatery. Chicken Dinner with all the trimmings was chosen. Social time will follow at the Sr. Citizen's Center with games and exchange of \$1 gifts. Special guest will be our Spiritual Director, Fr. Walt O'Connell. No delegates to San Francisco Convention. Doll Couple raffle distributed and purchased by members, proceeds for the Slovenian Heritage Museum.

Closing with prayer and meeting was adjourned. Women resumed their project of apple and cheese strudel-making for the annual church bazaar. Michelich sisters provided the dessert.

Merry Christmas to all!

TONI D.

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#### NO. 85, DEPUE, IL

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I would be amiss if I did not write and compliment the ladies of Br. 89 Oglesby, for doing such a great job on the Ill.-Ind. State Convention. The Mass was beautiful and all the goodies the ladies baked for the early coffee hour were so nice. I don't know how Marilyn Argubright baked five big poticas and Rose Ann Prey made all those pizzeles, plus all the other goodies! Judge Banich's talk was very interesting and the dinner very nice. The little mirrors with Slovenia on the back were a very nice souvenir.

We would also like to congratulate Eunice Komater on being a charter member and for her many years of service to her branch. Hats off! to all of you lovely ladies of Br. 89.

Fr. Bernard Horzen had the Slovenian Litany on Oct. 16th and that is always enjoyable. After that their lodge had a delicious spaghetti dinner served by Jo Foley, Florence Dondelinger and another lady who always do the setting up and serving. Good work, "gals"!

By the time this is published Thanksgiving will be over and we'll all be busy baking cookies, poticas and other goodies for Christmas. My best wishes to all of Br. 85 and all the other branches of the SWU for a blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy, 1995.

Vesele Božične praznike in srečno novo leto 1995!

MARY JERMENC

# OGLESBY'S GREAT DAY!

NO. 89, Oglesby, IL

Let's start where it all began. Our President Rose Ann Prey deserves a few accolades on the many hours of work spent to make our State Convention a success. Her love for work, her goodness, and total giving of self to others and to our branch has put her over the top with all of Branch 89! We couldn't help but work side by side with her and see the finished product.

A few words to tell all of the branches present at the Convention that we were very delighted to have them present and also happy at the outcome of our day's activities. For the ones who could not be with us, we prayed that perhaps we'll meet in the future. We hope that you ladies found our meeting fruitful also.

We are reaping the rewards from the work of our deceased members who helped to establish the glorious history of our organization. Let's not forget the many sacrifices they made. It is up to us who are here today, to see that this branch, for which they laid the foundation, perpetuates the good work begun by them.

As a dedication to our deceased and living members we will be remembered at Holy Family School! We are buying a printer for their computer lab. A plaque on the printer will designate who the gift is from.

It is only fitting that we give credit to the students of Karen Krancic's class and also to Lynn Quick's class for helping to make the beautiful banners which

graced the church entrance and on the gymnasium wall. A beautiful fire side basket of red carnations was placed before the Blessed Virgin Altar; also on the lectern was a Slovenian flag.

Bunting of red, white and blue also decorated the Altar. Dorothy Parola of Br. 24 LaSalle was very gracious in letting us use her Slovenian tapes which were played during dinner. A special thank you also for the Slovenian flag, Dorothy. Marilyn Argubright also let us use her Slovenian tapes which we played before Mass and she baked the delicious poticas which were served for breakfast.

A special Thank You to Barbara Bruch, our new member, who handled the job of secretary at the Convention. We are proud of you, Barbara, for taking on such job. We are certain that you endured it with love and patience. Hope by the time you read this in ZARJA you will be on the road to recovery.

I would be remiss if I forgot our two altar girls at the Mass, Little Angela Hancock and Meg Fitzgerald. A job well done! We are proud of you, girls.

Excerpts of Judge Wm. Banich's after dinner speech can be read in the convention notes. His grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Banich and Mr. & Mrs. Peter Debosik would be very proud of him as I'm sure his, dad, Rudolph Banich is, too. I'm certain that his Mother looked down from above with a happy smile and said "This is my son in whom I am very proud!"

Greetings were read by Romaine O'Brien Jablonski from Mayor Gerald



**Eunice Komater is the only living Oglesby charter member. She also serves as recording secretary for the Oglesby branch and as reporter for ZARJA.**

F. Scott welcoming the convention to Oglesby. Also from Victoria Bobence wishing us the best of everything. I hope no members will be offended if I have overlooked anyone. I have tried to remember it as it was. Please forgive me if I fluffed!

\* \* \* \* \*

Our October 10th meeting was well-attended. On the agenda was the discussion of the National Convention and the correspondence which was also taken care of. Barbara Bruch is on the sick list. We all wish her a speedy recovery. Barbara's Convention report was read by Rose Ann Prey. All bills at this time were paid. Angie Nico and Mary Stubler were on the committee. Served was home made, date nut bread, nut bread, and pumpkin bread with cream cheese. The centerpiece was a ceramic pumpkin filled with fresh mint. The door prize went to Josie Argubright.

With Thanksgiving and Christmas around the corner, I felt like counting my blessings and good fortunes. We should give thanks that ours is a land where people still can laugh, and dream, and hope and speak our minds and worship as we please. Oh, we have so much to be thankful for. As we draw near the most joyous season of the year, we of Br. 89 offer you our sincere wishes for a Blessed Holiday. A Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones. Many thanks for the gift of your friendship. Treasure your joys and may God's Blessings be with you throughout the New Year!

Sincerely,

EUNICE KOMATER



**Mary Suarez and Mary Kuhar**



**Jane Sherman, Adele Gensler and Minnie Carter**

I am just filling in for Marie Maras, while she is enjoying her vacation. Once again it gives me the opportunity to invite our members to join us in the up-and-coming events of our branch. Soon we will have our once-a-year money-making project, a raffle, chaired by Ann Youse and Helen Santy, assisted by Fran Benkovich.

The Christmas Party will be held at the Jovial Club, 9615 Com'l Avenue at 12 noon to 5, Saturday, December 3rd. Dinner tickets are \$6.50. Members and friends are invited; there will also be entertainment.

A warm welcome to our member, Christina Hanson, now transferred to our adult group, congratulations! She is the daughter of Cathy Hanson and granddaughter of Amelia Cuzella. There are a lot of our members who have daughters and grandchildren that have not as yet joined. I just cannot stress the point enough that we need the youth of today to become members. Look around and ask somebody to join.

I don't know how many of you in our branch are aware that we have ladies who for years have given willingly and extended a helping hand. Stop to think how blessed we are to have these ladies, who give so much of themselves.

Get well wishes to Lucy Kopilash, Ann Brkljacich, Amelia Cuzella and Mary Possedi who is critically ill. Remember all of our members in your prayers, including Nick Svalina who is also ill.

On a happy note, Olga Krmpotic and hubby, John enjoyed their vacation with a trip around the Great Lakes. Also, Marge Krmpotic our skillful treasurer, who is a member of the National Federation of Croatian Americans, attended a prestigious luncheon honoring Cardinal Kuharic of Croatia. In his speech, the Cardinal stated that time and again, the Croatian Catholic Union of Hobart, Indiana, has shown that it can come together when needed. Such a time is now when we are laying plans for the political involvement this November, Marge said, this was one of the greatest honors that has been bestowed on her, just meeting Cardinal Kuharic.

I received a note from Diane

Wojnovich, sister of our departed member, Sylvia Werner, thanking me for the eulogy and the death benefit check from our branch.

Vida Kumse and Gladys Buck of Br. 16, Dolores Hennelly and Yours Truly of Br. 95 attended the State Convention in Oglesby. We would like to thank Angela Nico and her Committee and their members with all our hearts for their courtesy, generous hospitality and their kind welcome. The food was delicious, the ceremony grand, especially the beautiful sermon at mass by the Rev. Guthrie. We were deeply touched by his remarks. May all of your gatherings be successful and enjoyable as was this convention.

In conclusion, as we near the most joyous season of the year, I offer all of you my sincerest wishes for a most joyous holiday, and my warmest and kindest congratulations. A Merry Christmas to all of you and to those near and dear to you.

#### Louise Galdena

We are saddened by the death of one of our most beloved members, Louise Galdena, who passed away on September 26. She was the wife of Carl Galdena, loving mother of Carole (John) Prokopeak and Kathryn Galdena, fond grandmother of Lis Prokopeak, dear sister of Joseph (Ann) Maras, Matilda (late Gus) Constantine, Marge (Matt) Niksich, Ann (late Dan) Brkljacich, and the late Katherine (late Martin) Eagan. She was critically ill, but her physical incapacitation did not stop her from keeping house. She was known for her kindly mannerisms with everyone, always a lady. Her presence at all of our meetings and affairs will be missed, as will her many kind contributions to our branch. The example she has set will continue to influence and inspire us. May she rest in peace with the rewards she has earned. The officers and members join me in extending to the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy.

MILDRED JAMES

\* \* \*

This roving reporter finally has settled down to business - no more cruises for a while!

My daughters, Marcia and Cathy joined me on a Panama Canal venture

recently. As a travel agent, I enjoy the perks of the trade!

The November Br. 95 meeting was a busy one due to the yearly raffle and reservations being opened for our Dec. 3rd Christmas party at the Jovial Club. President, Millie James kept the ball rolling with the officers' reports. She thanked Ann Yosue, Helen Santy and Frances Benkovich for their usual stupendous job on our fund-raiser.

Winners were Manda Dosen, \$50 and Frances Benkovich, \$25.

Our of towners were especially thanked for their prompt cooperation, namely, Mary Barcevac, Ann Brkljacic, Matilda Grep, Maria Kompare, Fidelia Svalina and Theresa Traubarger. We would like to see more of our suburbanite members at the meetings, however, we thank them for their help. We ask them and the Indiana girls to plan on attending the Illinois-Indiana State Convention which will be held here at Sacred Heart Church Hall next fall, in 1995!

Belated report was made on the death of member, Sylvia Werner this summer. May she rest in peace.

On the mend are the following members: Helen Alb, Lucy Kopilash, Sylvia Vukodinovich, Mary Possedi, Stella Knazur, Manda Dosen, Amelia Cuzella, Frances Benkovich and Mary A. Perkovich.

Just out of the hospital is Evelyn Driscoll who was our hostess along with Bernice Morrison and Eleanor Bandera, our recent traveler to religious shrines in France. Other lucky players were Ann Cavlovic, Mary C. Perkovich, Mary Jurko, Ann Cikulin, Marge Niksic, Helen Nowicki, Manda Dosen and Bernice Morrison. Split the Pot was divided by Strina Ann Loncar and Marie Maras. No hanky-panky, honest!

Upon high school graduation, Millie Cuzella's granddaughter, Christina Hansen transferred to the adult department. Another great granddaughter for Harriet Isek; grandmother, Fran Griffin is also a member.

Lest I forget, happy birthday to my mom, Catherine Musa, on her 90th! Lots of love from daughter,

MARIE MARAS

#### 22nd NATIONAL CONVENTION

May 19, 20, 21, 1995

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



## WILLARD SLOVENIANS HOST SWU



### NO. 102, WILLARD, WI

Greetings, everyone!

The geese are still "honkin" and heading southward, warning us that colder weather is not far away! How time does fly! It seems that we just had our State Convention here and a full month has already gone by.

It was so nice to welcome our visitors from Milwaukee and Sheboygan and, of course, our local people, too. We were blessed to have such nice weather and doubly blessed to have Msgr. Matthew Malnar as our celebrant at mass and also as guest speaker. He grew up in our area and so enjoys coming back home. The choir, all dressed up in Slovenian costumes, sang his very favorite hymns. The organist was Judy Coughlin. Song sheets were distributed to the congregation. Offertory gifts

**Msgr. Matthew Malnar, celebrant and Marion Herrick, lector**

**Senior Slovenian Singers entertaining - seven are our members**



**Joan Yaklich,  
Presiding State President**

were brought to the altar by acting State President, Joan Yaklich and our Br. 102 officers, Pres. Josephine Artac and Sec.-Treas. Mary Djubinski who carried the statue of Our Lady, Help of Christians. The lector was Marion Herrick and altar boys were Baily Backus and Lance Gregorich. Ushers were Frank Govek, Vitko Staut and Bob Trunkel who also was minister of communion and dressed in Slovenian costume, too.

The convention meeting preceded the mass and was quite interesting. We are very grateful to past president, Joan Yaklich, for accepting the duty of presiding at the convention in the absence of State President, Janet Maurin who couldn't be with us because of ill

health. We did miss you, Janet, and do hope and pray that good health will return to you.

Msgr. Malnar gave an inspiring talk on the importance of retaining our heritage and merging branches will help to retain our members. A suggestion was made to elect a State Vice-President which seems to be difficult to add another officer to the roster, but would be a good idea. A suggestion was made by Msgr. Malnar later, that perhaps changing the original name of Slovenian Women's Union would probably help to add more men and keep younger male members in the organization. A few suggestions were: Slovenian Catholic Union or Slovenian Union of America. This could be brought up at the National Convention next year. I know this goes against the original purpose of the SWU but membership

**Holy Family Church Choir sang at the State Convention Mass**

**Junior Trio, brother and sister, Lance and Loni with Charlene Herrick, center**



seems to be a major problem at the present.

A Slovenian display was set up with the new Slovenian flag, a large replica of a Slovenian "kozolec" (hay drying rack) with 4 year old dry hay hanging from the crossed poles – a hold-over

**Ashley Trunkel, Bill Snedic, his mother, Ann and Trisha Severson**

**Ashley Trunkel, lower left and Trisha Severson, lower right**

from 1989! A large red umbrella and of course, a Slovenian couple! Here I must mention that my beautiful Slovenian young lady acquired a Slovenian "fantič" – a boy, at this convention! Thanks a whole bunch, Sophie Rifelj! There also was a rožmarin (rosemary – herb) plant plus a real Slovenian nagelj (carnation) plant!

A short program followed the delicious meal that the cooks turned out. A reading was done by Roberta Herrick about "What is a Grandmother". Cousins, Ashley Trunkel and Trisha Severson, granddaughters of Sophie Trunkel, sang two verses of "Mat' potico pečejo", which their grandmother taught them! Next was a Junior trio, brother and sister, Lance and Loni Gregorich with Charlene Herrick singing three Slovenian numbers, "Solnce čez hribček gre, Eno rož'co ljubim and Slovensko dekle". The senior Slovenian Singers, seven of whom are our members, then grouped to sing several Slovenian songs: "Zeleni gozd, Slovenija and Ljubezen do domovine", followed by "America, the Beautiful and Hej, Slovenci", a dedication to both the American and Slovenian flags that were displayed. All the groups were accompanied on the accordion by Frank Pakiz.

This concluded the day's activities and was followed by refreshments with more music at the Athletic Shelter – too soon it was time to say "na svidenje!"

Sincerest thanks to all our members for their 100% cooperation in making this a successful convention. We have only about 12 to 15 working members so, Sheboygan ladies, in spite of your small number, do hang in there until there are absolutely no more Slovenians in your beautiful city – and I'm sure that will never happen! After all, you are the "Mother Branch" No. 1, of S.W.U.! It was so nice to see you in Willard, all members of our Wisconsin branches. Until we meet again, here's wishes for a very happy holiday!

MARY STAUT

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

We are now in the midst of our beautiful autumn weather. The autumn, and spring seasons are exceptionally lovely

here in the Washington, D.C. area. How invigorating are the clear crisp breezes that beckon us to the great outdoors -- if only we could enjoy this experience for a longer period of time.

The October meeting was very productive with much discussion of future events. An important topic on the agenda was the nomination of a delegate to represent Branch 103 at the SWU National Convention to be held in San Francisco, California in May 1995. Matilda Ausich was elected to represent Branch 103 for this formidable position. Conventions, as we all know, are important functions of the SWU as every Branch is represented contributing a wide range of ideas and suggestions that are open for discussion. As is evident, conventions are melting pots for progress and planning for the future. Let's pray that all delegates will be successful in their endeavors.

Our member, Anna Skopce, underwent surgery on October 12. We hope, by now, that she will have recovered completely. Let's continue to offer our prayers for all those who are or have been ill or hospitalized. On a happier note, our member, Karen Dillon of Glen Burnie, Maryland, has submitted some art work for the greeting cards which will be printed for S.W.U. very soon. She also submitted some beautiful art work for the Heritage Recipe Greeting Cards which will be available for sale at the Convention. Thank you, Karen, for your efforts in sharing your lovely art work with us, and for caring. Branch 103 is indeed fortunate to claim some outstanding artists as members.

Our attendance at the October meeting was very good; however we continue to encourage everyone to make a greater effort to attend all meetings. We really miss you, not only for your excellent inputs and suggestions which contribute to the strength of our branch, but also for the strong friendships that are so precious to us all. So ladies, let's see you all at our next meeting so that you can be a part of our combined decision-making.

The holidays of November and December will be here before we realize it -- so let us extend our very best holiday wishes in advance to the faithful readers of the ZARJA.

Happy holidays,  
MATILDA AUSICH

# FROM THE EDITOR

The thought comes to me that not only is this the time of year when we enjoy the celebration of Christmas and all it means to us and our families, but it is also the time to review the past year in preparation for the new one at our doorstep. Although it does seem impossible to realize that 1994 is already history, and all our activities are only memories, it is also wise to see what kind of results the year 1994 has left, that is, what is the finished product of 1994, what were our developments, what fruit emanated from our work? Did 1994 mean anything in the bigger picture of our Slovenian Women's Union?

As a member, did you get anything from your branch meetings – even if it was nothing tangible, did you feel good afterward? Did your meetings accomplish anything? Did you do some good in your parish, your community? Did your branch help someone, make someone feel appreciated and glad to be a member? Or did you just sit there and let everything happen around you – as if you weren't even there?

I read frequently the complaints about "no new members" or how hard it is to get members. I know it is a big worry, especially for the officers and members who really love our Zveza

and want it to progress. There is no secret to enrolling new members.

It is a process that requires the following:

1. Be an active branch – do things that show you to be successful;
2. Tell the world that you exist – publicize your fine activities;
3. Offer membership by personal contact, letter, calls to people you know, and
4. Be a proud member yourself!

I know it's not as simple as I may be making it sound. Can you help by adding, changing or improving this "recipe?" I'd love to hear from you so that at the National Convention, we can make a plan that works, and not just be pessimistic and idle!

## Thank You, Reporters!

I know every branch joins me in expressing gratitude to our many reporters who bring news and views to our members. You are always appreciated. New reporters are also welcome and encouraged to be a "voice" where, perhaps, there hasn't been one in the past. To ALL reporters, I extend a warm invitation to be diligent in reporting in 1995

Corinne Leskovar

## LETTERS FROM THE MAILBOX

Enclosed is a donation to the Slovenian Women's Union ZARJA KEEP THE CONNECTION fund. It is given with deep appreciation for the work and cooperation of my sister officers and members of Br. 89 of Oglesby.

God's blessings to one and all. Sincerely,

Rose Ann Prey,  
President, Oglesby, IL

I am sending \$5 for ZARJA. Our member, Maxine Micklich and her mother, Anna Pugh enjoy ZARJA so much as it brings back memories of Pueblo to them. Love,

Frances Simonich,  
Secretary, Pueblo, CO

I decided on my own to join, but I guess you could say I was recommended by my grandmother Theresa Terselic and my mother Betty Bray both of whom are deceased. I read my aunt's ZARJA for a long time. They are Helen Gorgal and Gail Hoffman. They all belonged to LaSalle. I stayed at Tory Bobence's resort in Ely, Minnesota and she encouraged me to join also.

Barbara Bruch,  
Branch 89, Oglesby, IL

I would also like to thank you for loving my family, starting with my grandmother, Anna Pachak, and my dad, William Pachak, who died 14 years ago today. My grandma was my very special friend. Both she and my grandpa, John Pachak, outlived all of their children. Can you imagine how

difficult and hard that had to be for her?

My son, Michael Miller, was a recipient of your scholarship award in 1986. He has since enriched his life because of the values and love of the Slovenian culture that we tried to give. Last summer he was married to wonderful Sheila. They will become proud parents around Christmas. Needless to say, I am the happiest grandmother-to-be in the entire world. My precious mom, Elsie Pachak of Pueblo, is almost as proud of her grandson.

Please know that my heritage is so special for me and my family.

Marcia Pachak Holteltz  
Monte Vista, CO

Dear Mrs. Girman,

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$100 in memory of our mother, Jennie Gerk. Mama was a loyal member of Br. 47 for more than 50 years and past president. She was always eager to support the Scholarship Fund.

My sister, Olga Dorchak, the current president of Br. 47 and I, (current recording secretary), respectfully tender this check for the advancement of our future generation.

Sincerely,

Elsie Spellacy

The family of our late beloved member and officer, Jennie Gerk, presented \$100 check also to the ZARJA publication fund and another \$100 to the Heritage Fund for which we are very grateful. Not only are these substantial donations, but show the deep devotion Mrs. Gerk had for the S.W.U., which she also instilled in her daughters. We thank God for families like this, of which there are many, that inspire us to keeping working for our common goals.

C

I don't want to miss The Dawn and look forward to it every month. It brings back any memories. I've reached 75 years, laid up with back and leg problems, had surgery, too, but it helps some when I am in much pain. I belong to Br. 14 for 53 years. My mom was Frances Klun, a very active member with Mrs. Rupert. They made a good team. May God bless you all. Love and prayers from,

Franny Kristoff  
Parkman, OH



## **Sveta noč, blažena noč,**

vse že spi... pojejo božični glasovi. Vse je praznično, veselo, razpoloženo, ker je vstalo novo življenje in ker se je v naša srca naselilo novo upanje. Tega si vsi želimo in v nekem smislu kar pričakujemo. Veselimo se božičnih darov, polni pričakovanja odpiramo božična darila, veselimo se vsakega obiska in smo srečni, da zopet preko voščil postanemo povezani z vsemi, ki jih imamo radi.

Nadvse pa nas vedno veseli postavljanje jaslic in seveda božična dekoracija ne sme manjkati. Naši domovi zaživijo novo, praznično življenje. Vse je praznično razpoloženo, veseli obrazi nas pozdravljajo vsepovsod in zdi se, da veselje in novo življenje preveva tudi najbolj temne kraje našega življenja.

In vendar, ko se na božično noč oziramo nazaj v preteklost, komalo pobrskamo po spominih, vedno vstaja božično bogoslužje ob polnočnici v slovenski cerkvi, kot višek našega praznovanja in božičnega razpoloženja. Tam smo peli slovenske božične pesmi, prezeblji vztrajali pri bogoslužju, a v naših srcih je bilo toplo, ker smo bili zbrani kot ena družina ljudi, ki se imajo radi in vse nas je družila zavest, da imamo skupno slovensko mater, slovenske vrednote in običaje, ki nas najtesneje združujejo. Zdelo se nam je, da se je Kristus zares rodil še čisto posebej za nas. Čutili smo, da se je rodil v naši slovenski cerkvi za vse

nas in nam na poseben način osvetlil in osmisli našo zgodovino. In radi smo mu postavili jaslice, prepevali božične pesmi, okrasili božična drevesa in molili za srečo v novem letu...

Marsikaj se je z leti spremenilo, mnoge naša cerkve so zaprli, naši ljudje, ki smo jih imeli radi, so odšli, se odselili, vendar slovenski božič je ostal čist in kristalen. Še vedno ga praznujemo v naših srcih. Božič je ostal del našega slovenskega praznovanja. Še vedno postavljamo jaslice in slovensko božično drevo in to bomo storili tudi letos.

Pa še nekaj nam bo letošnji božič spremenil v naših življenjih: zavest, da bo slovenstvo ostalo očitno v naši skupni cerkvi Marije Pomagaj v Lemontu. Tja bomo poromali v duhu in se pridružili slovenski polnočnici. Spomnili se bomo naših staršev in vseh naših dragih, položili bomo vroče želje v jaslice za srečo naših družin, za zdravje in da bi slovenska beseda in pesem nikoli ne utihnila v naših domovih.

Vesel slovenski božič!

Cirila Kermavner:

## *Božična vrtnica – teloh*

Tam na pašnikih okrog Betlehema, pod skalci so male rožice vzdihovale in se trudile, da bi pokukale ven iz zemlje, da bi videle kaj se vse dogaja okrog njih. Slišale in nekatere tudi čutile tek malih in velikih nog, cepetanje ovčic za njimi. Vse je nekam teklo. Slišale so tudi petje. Nekaj čudovitega mora biti tam gori nad njimi. Še enkrat so poslale močan vzdih pred božji tron. Glej, kar naenkrat se se vrtele okrog njih angelčki. Kjerkoli je bila rožica pod travco ali skalco, samo dotaknili so se tal in že so se rožice kopale v prekrasni svetlobi. Gloria in excelsis Deo je odmevalo od nebesnega svoda, zvezdice so bile tisočkrat svetlejše kot kadikoli, pastirji so stali tam nemi in nepremični kot ravnokar izklesani kipi, vmes se je pa slišalo meketanje ovčic. Vse je zrlo tja proti hlevčku.

Toda komu velja vsa ta krasota noči in veličastno petje? Angelčki so jim povedali, da se je rodilo božje dete – Sin Boga – Kralj Sveta. Rožice so povzdignile svoje cvetne glavice v višavo na čast novorojenemu Detetu.

Pastirji so zagledali te čudovite rožice okoli sebe, natrgali so šopek rožic in jih ponesli v hlevček Mariji in Jožefu kot dar Jezuščku.

Čez leta, ko je Jezušček že postal mož in sta s Petrom vandrata po svetu je nekoč ugledal tam rožice. Spomnil se je lepega šopka, ki je bil prvi prinesen k njemu v štalico, ob Njegovem rojstvu in rekel: "Prve ste me počastile, zato naj bodo vaši cvetovi beli, zeleni, rožnati, škrlatni. Imejte lepe zelene liste. Razmnožite se po vsemu svetu. Klubujte mrazu. Cvetite skoz vso zimo vse tja do pomladi. Imenujte se božična vrtnica – teloh. Rodite znamenje upanja v preživetje."

Tako pravi legenda.

Še dandanes cveti teloh skoro po vsemu svetu. V najhujši zimi boste našli pod snegom, ob obronkih gozdov teloh, glavico zavito v dlani listov in mahu.

# BARAGA



## Začetki Katoliške Cerkve v Ameriki

FRANC JAKLIČ

### VII. BARAGA V L'ANSU

#### POTOVANJA IN NEVARNOSTI V LETIH 1848–1851

Spomladi leta 1848 ga je škof Lefèvre kot generalnega vikarja za indijanski del škofije povabil v Detroit k posvetitvi nove stolnice. Baraga se je za povabilo zahvalil, a se tudi opravičil, da ne more priti. Doma in pri rudnikih ima polno dela. Vožnja v Detroit in nazaj bi ga stala vsaj 50 dolarjev; za ta denar pa lahko postavi v indijanski redukciji hišico.

Leta 1848 je na Dunaju in sploh po Avstriji izbruhnila revolucija. Baraga se je bal, da bo Leopoldinina ustanova nehala delovati in da bo tako ostal brez pomoči. Globoko se je oddahnil, ko so mu od ustanove poslali pomirilno pismo.

Tisto leto je v Fond du Lacu postavil cerkev. Sto dolarjev je dal zanj škof Henni, o. Škola 50, Baraga pa 300.

Pozimi 1848/49 je prirejal 4. izdajo očipvejskega molitvenika "Otchipwe Anamie-Masinaigan", ki je bil spet pošel in so celo jezuiti iz Kanade in misijonarji drugih sorodnih indijanskih rodov prosili zanj. Dne 25. avgusta 1849 je v pismu zapisal: "Indijanci zelo ljubijo svoje molitvenike in jih tudi na potovanja jemljejo s seboj, da na krajih, kjer prenočijo, bero in pojo iz njih. Videl sem Indijance, ki so še na smrtni postelji prosili, naj jim njihov molitvenik položijo v grob na prsi, da bi

tako rekoč z molitvenikom v roki stopili pred Jezusov sodni stol."

Iz istega pisma tudi zvemo, da se je bil v februarju spet vzdignil na misijonsko pot. Ne pove nam pa, kam; najbrž v rudnike. Mnogo dobrega je storil tam, a je prišel dvakrat v smrtno nevarnost. Takole pripoveduje:

"Ker mi je bila pot dobro znana, sem šel prav sam in nesel vse cerkvene potrebščine na hrbtu. Sprva je šlo še kar dobro; bilo je nekaj gazi in moje krplje so bile lahke. Obiskal sem več majhnih selišč, kjer sem pridigal in krščeval. Nekega dne sem imel do bližnje vasi samo deset milj (16 km). Sneg, ki je prejšnji dan na debelo zapal, je pa pokril in zabrisal pot. Kmalu sem videl, da bom imel velike težave, vrniti se pa nisem hotel, ker sem želel priti v vas, ki leži na visokem gričevju in gre pot do nje čez hribe in doline. Sneg je bil čedalje bolj debel; ker je bil še popolnoma svež, je bil tako mehak, da se mi je pri vsaki stopinji noga globoko udrila in sem jo le z veliko težavo potegnil ven. Nič ni bolj utrudljivega kakor gaziti debel sneg v celo. Kakšne tri ure sem tako hodil, potem so mi začele pojemat moči. Nisem pa izgubil poguma in tudi ne zaupanja do Dobrega pastirja, kateremu sem iskal izgubljenih ovčic. Malo sem se odpočil, nato pa gazil dalje. Pa kmalu sem tako oslabil, da prtljage nisem več mogel nesti; zato sem jo obesil na drevo in šel naprej, a zmeraj bolj počasi; že komaj sem gazil, zlasti navkreber. Večkrat sem že mislil, da se bom od onemoglosti zgrudil in se ne bom več mogel spraviti pokonci; če bi bil pa obležal, bi bil gotovo zmrznil, ker

## Ozeblina

Skrbite za pravilno prekrvitev delov telesa, ki so izpostavljeni mrazu (nos, prsti na nogah in rokah, ušesa).

Ozeblina kopajte v poparkih kolmeža-calamus (sweet flag), krompirjevih olupkih (potato peelings) orehovih listih (walnut leaves) smrekovih vejicah (pine branches – small).

Mažite obolela mesta s tinkturo arnike (tincture of arnica), s čebulnim in hrenovim sokom (onion and horseradish juices).

Pa Bogu se priporočite!

CIRILA

**ZDRAVJA IN USPEHOV POLNO  
SREČNO NOVO LETO,  
ŽELI VSEM VAŠA ZARJA!!**

\*\*\*\*\*

je bilo strahovito mraz, jaz pa zaradi slabosti že nisem mogel nabrati drv in zakuriti. Pa sem se vendarle poganjal naprej, a sem moral pri vsakem koraku počivati. Končno sem se privlekel na kraj, odkoder je do omenjene vasi samo še tri četrt ure hoda; pa sem bil že tako slab, da sem za to kratko pot potreboval še skoraj tri ure. – Ko sem se bil zjutraj odpravil na pot, sem mislil, da bom okoli enajstih dopoldne prišel v vas; prišel sem pa šele ob petih zvečer. Dobri vaščani so se čudili in me pomilovali, ko so me videli tako onemoglega. Drugo jutro so poslali mladega moža po prtljago, ki sem jo bil pustil na potu."

V pismu z dne 25. avgusta 1849 piše dalje:  
"V drugi silni nevarnosti sem bil na tem misijonskem potovanju, ko sem se vračal domov. Bil sem čisto sam in sem imel do bližnje hiše še 30 milj (49 km). Rajši bi pa bil v enem dnevu tam, kakor pa da bi bil prenočeval pod milim nebom in na snegu. Prav zgodaj sem se torej ob svitu meseca odpravil na pot. Dokler sem hodil skozi gozd, je bilo vse dobro, ker me veter ni mogel ovirati. Ko pa sem prišel iz gozda, je šla moja pot čez velika zamrzla jezera. Veter, ki mi je bril naravnost v obraz, se je sprevrgel v vihar. Bil je tako krut, da me je večkrat skoraj vznok podrl, pa tako leden, da sem mislil, da mi bo kri zastala po žilah. Spet sem mogel le počasi naprej, pot je bila pa še tako dolga! Razen tega sem večkrat zgrešil smer. O kakšni gazi ni bilo sledu; vse je bilo zabrisano in sem moral iti kar povprek. To je bilo pa silno težavno, ker večkrat niti deset korakov nisem videl pred seboj; vihar je s snegom tako pometal, da sem bil kakor z gosto meglo obdan. – S tem viharjem sem se moral boriti 17 milj (27 km) daleč in imeti krpelje zmerom na nogah. Če bi me bila obšla slabost, da bi bil moral samo za kakšne pol ure počivati, bi bil v tako ledenem viharju gotovo zmrznil. Prav tisti dan je bilo nekoliko Kanadcev na poti; enemu so odmrznili ušesa, drugemu nos. Meni se sicer ni zgodilo nič hudega, samo koža na obrazu se mi je olupila, ko sem prišel domov."

Baraga je doživel mnogo takih smrtnih nevarnosti, ki jih pa ni nikjer opisal in je glas o njih nesel s seboj v grob.

Nemški znanstvenik in potopisec dr. Kohl (Kol) je leta 1855 potoval tudi po deželah okoli Gorenjega jezera. Štiri leta nato je v Bremenu izdal nemško knjigo "Kiči Gami ali pripovedke z Gorenjega jezera". V tej knjigi piše o Očipvejcih in tudi o katoliških misijonih med njimi. Barage z imenom sicer ne imenuje, piše pa večkrat o njem. Tako n. pr. poroča, da ga je na povratku s tega misijonskega obiska, v februarju 1849, na zamrzlem Torčkem jezeru (torch Lake) v sredini Keweenawskega polotoka zalotil silen vihar, še preden je prišel do srede jezera. V snežni vihuri je vid popolnoma izgubil. Veter ga je premetaval, led je pa imel globoke razpoke. Tako se je opotekal in boril z viharjem več ur. Telo mu je postajalo vedno bolj brezčutno in trdo; že je bil na tem, da zmrzne. Tedaj je pa prav po naključju prišel do hiše ob bregu jezera. Njen lastnik ga je takoj prepoznal, saj ga je nekočkrat vodil na njegovih potovanjih. Začuden ga je pogledal in povabil v hišo.

V juliju leta 1849 je Baraga nesel v Detroit ponatisnit svoj očipvejski molitvenik, čigar 4. izdajo je pozimi pripravil. Za 3500 izvodov je plačal 600 dolarjev. Leopoldinina ustanova mu je bila poslala 391 dolarjev, ostalo so pa zložili dobrotniki v Detroitu. Ko se je po Huronskem jezeru vračal domov, se je drugi dan vožnje vzdignil silen vihar, kakršnega mornarji še niso pomnili. Polovico tovarnega blaga so pometali v vodo in se z vso hitrostjo obrnili proti obali. Da je šlo bolj hitro, so kurili parne kotle s slanino, ki so jo v dvajsetih sodih vozili s seboj. Šele v pristanišču so opazili, da ima kotel na dnu veliko luknjo. Potniki so se morali z drugo ladjo vrniti v Detroit in začeti vožnjo znova.

nadaljevanje

# "FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

## DAVY'S COLUMN

### Loved Ones Live Through Traditions

It's funny how some of the simplest things get to be a tradition. For example, Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without a box of chocolates, and when I sit down and think about it, it really isn't the chocolates themselves that make the season special, but who they represent.

When I was a teenager and first started driving, it became an annual job to take my grandma to the mall so she could get her box of chocolates, which would be her contribution to the Christmas Day festivities.

Come to think of it, as a child when we visited grandma and grandpa on Christmas Eve night, there was always a box of chocolates for everyone to share. As soon as we came into the house grandpa would take our coats and give us the chocolate box to pick from. I think it was grandpa's idea for the candy. (He had a sweet tooth.)

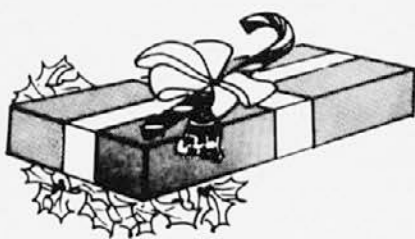
After grandpa died, grandma carried

on the tradition. I guess it was her way of keeping grandpa a part of Christmas.

Looks like the tradition has been past to me. Last Christmas Eve I found myself running to the mall for a box of chocolates. The chocolates were a tradition started by grandma and grandpa. It would be Christmas without them.

Merry Christmas!

DAVY



St. Nicholas' Day is Dec. 6th!

## CANDY CANES

- 1/4 tsp. cream of tartar
- 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- 1/2 cup water
- 3/4 tsp. peppermint extract
- 1 tsp. red food coloring
- 2 cups sugar

Mix together cream of tartar, corn syrup, water and sugar. Stir over heat until sugar dissolves. Cool to 265° F. (very hard ball stage). Remove from heat. Add peppermint. Divide mixture in half. Add food coloring to one part. Pour on greased platters. Pull each part separately into ropes. Twist red part around white. Cut into 8-inch lengths. Form into candy canes.



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CLEVELAND .....	314*
MILWAUKEE .....	328*

\*Round trip fares to San Francisco as of Nov. 1, 1994. Fares subject to change and availability.



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# SLOVENIAN DOLL COUPLE RAFFLE

**Help support our Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum!**

**Take a chance on winning this beautiful  
Slovenian Doll Couple**



*Franci and Katica come together, as a young couple, representing the many wonderful, young Slovenians who immigrated to the United States in the last 100 years. The dolls are 16" and 15" tall, respectively. Franci has a nice vest and velvet pants – Katica swishes as she dances in her pretty silk skirt. His "klobuk" and her "avba" as well as all other parts of their costumes are authentic reproductions of the Slovenian native dress of the region of Slovenia called Gorenjska. Our master doll-maker, S.W.U. Vice President, Beverly Jackson of San Francisco crafted them expressly for this fund-raiser.*

Tickets are \$1 each.

The drawing will be held at the National Convention  
in San Francisco, CA, in May, 1995!

\* \* \* \* \*

Please use the coupon below as your ticket for the raffle.  
More tickets are available from your branch, or you can make  
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*S.W.U. Heritage Museum  
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## SLOVENIAN DOLL COUPLE RAFFLE

**Benefit SLOVENIAN HERITAGE MUSEUM**

DRAWING WILL BE HELD ON MAY 21, 1995  
AT OUR CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO, CA

**DONATION\* - \$1.00 each**

All entries must be received before May 1, 1995  
At 431 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432