



ZARJA *The* DAWN

URADNO GLASILO
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKÉ ZVEZE

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SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION

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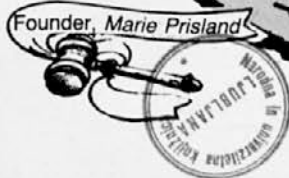


Slovenian National Costume parade
20TH NATIONAL CONVENTION, JOLIET, MAY, 1987



Founder, Marie Prisland

December is our Anniversary Month!



ZARJA - THE DAWN

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ON THE COVER...

We begin the 68th year since the founding of the Slovenian Women's Union on December 19th, 1926! It will be a glorious new year if we remember its meaning by increased activities, more new members, stronger commitment by our officers and a new spirit of cooperation by our membership!

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

- Dec 1 - Br. 33, Duluth, MN, Meeting and Party
Dec 1 - Br. 38, Chisholm, MN, Valentini's. You will be contacted.
Dec 2 - Br. 13, San Francisco, CA, Pot-luck at noon.
Dec 2 - Br. 24, LaSalle, IL, at Maples in Peru, Noon, Reservations, call Helen Swietek, Barbara Krogulski or Rosemary McLaughlin
Dec 3 - Br. 81, Keewatin, MN, Pot-luck at 6 p.m.
Dec 5 - Br. 35, Aurora, MN, Meeting and Party, Holy Rosary Church Hall, 3 p.m.
Dec 5 - Br. 47, Garfield Hts., OH, Pot Luck, SNH, Maple Hts., 1 p.m.
Dec 5 - Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA
Dec 6 - Br. 35, Aurora, MN
Dec 7 - Br. 14, Euclid, OH, Dinner, 6 p.m.
Dec 8 - Br. 40, Lorain, OH, German Villa, 1 p.m.
Dec 8 - Br. 55, Girard, OH, Jimmy Chieffo's, 4:30 p.m.
Dec 9 - Br. 71, Strabane, PA, Freddie's III in McMurray 7 p.m.
Dec 11 - Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL, Crow Bar, 1 p.m.
Dec 12 - Br. 2, Chicago, IL, "Brunch with Santa"
Dec 12 - Br. 50, Euclid, OH, Holmes Ave., SNH, 1 p.m.
Dec 13 - Br. 89, Oglesby, IL
Dec 15 - Br. 32, Euclid, OH
Dec 15 - Br. 54, Warren, OH Elks Clubroom, 1 p.m.
Dec 16 - Br. 12, Milwaukee, WI, Meyers
Dec 16 - Br. 28, Calumet, MN, St. Paul the Apostle Church Hall, 6 p.m.
Dec 16 - Br. 42, Maple Hts., OH, at Triple Crown Restaurant in Monroe Falls, Reservations by Dec. 3 - Call Marge
Dec 19 - Br. 17, West Allis, WI, 2 p.m.
Dec 19 - Br. 20, Joliet, IL at Town & Country, 11:30 a.m. Call Mary Kay Demick or Jeanne Warsaw for reservations by Dec. 8.
Dec 21 - Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI, Harbor Center of Ramada Inn, 6:30 p.m. meeting to follow



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. 29 - Marge Church, Br. 42, Maple Hts., OH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JANUARY

National Officers:

- Jan. 6 - Irene Odorizzi, Cultural Heritage Officer, Reston, 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
Jan. 13 - Bernardine Gudac, Br. 20, Joliet, IL
Jan. 22 - Margaret Planton, Br. 24, LaSalle, IL

Secretaries:

- Jan. 5 - Mary Jackovich, Br. 28, Calumet, MI
Jan. 12 - Mary Krall, Br. 37, Greaney, MN
Jan. 24 - Mary Slaney, Br. 26, Pittsburgh, PA

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NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WINTER IS A JOYFUL TIME!

There is a statement to be made when one witnesses the "first" of anything. As of this writing, we're experiencing our first snowfall of the season. With the opening of deer season a week away, this is a welcome sight as hunters like snow for tracking their deer. Children can hardly wait to play in the first good snowfall; their exuberance and laughter is a joy to behold. As a child we would make "snow angels" in the freshly fallen bed of snow. When the snow had a lot of moisture, what fun we had making the biggest snowman that we could handle, adding coal for the eyes, a carrot for the nose and topped with an old hat and scarf.

My fondest memory was sledding in the "hollow", a rather deep ravine that was only two blocks from home. All of the neighborhood children would bring cardboard to slide on and some of us who had sleds had great fun sledding and sharing rides. It was a miracle that none of us ever got injured; surely our guardian angels worked overtime on many occasions. There were no expensive toys to be had, money was scarce, but the togetherness was worth its weight in gold.

It's not too early to address basic information required for the 1995 S.W.U. National Convention which will be held in San Francisco. Please read the By-Laws carefully and if there are any questions, write

or call the Home Office or your National President.

Let me quote a few points:

A branch member is eligible to be a delegate or alternate to the National Convention if she is at least 18 years of age, a U.S. citizen and a member in good standing, a member for at least one (1) year, and must have attended five (5) meetings of her branch during the year prior to the convention. Article 4:10, page 17 states: A Convention year shall be considered the 12 month period ending on the last day of June immediately **preceding** the Convention. This means a branch member must attend five (5) meetings a year **before JULY 1, 1994** to be considered eligible. We're trying to avoid the confusion and misunderstanding which occurred prior to our last Convention. Simply stated: READ, HEED, then PROCEED.

Our ZARJA publication really needs a financial boost. Please remember to send in your donation for the 1994 Slovenian calendars for yourself and maybe purchase extras as gifts. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated!

As we prepare for the beautiful traditions of Christmas, decorating the tree, singing carols, giving gifts, and preparing Christmas dinner, let us be mindful of the most important part of our celebration, the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May our homes be filled with great joy and peace this Christmas season!

Victoria "Tory" Bobence



The joy of giving!

The spirit of Christmas is one of caring and loving, reaching out to help those in need, observing beautiful traditions in our homes and expressing generosity in many ways.

You have now received our gift to you for the New Year 1994, the ZARJA Anniversary Wall Calendar, a reminder of your valued membership. Please accept it with our best wishes for a very Blessed Christmas and peace every day of the New Year.

Editor

THE FIRST LADY

On December 19, 1926 a historic event happened – the first meeting of the Slovenian women called together by Marie Prisland, to establish a new organization. As we observe this event, and try to place ourselves in that time-frame of 67 years ago, one outstanding person remains visible, the Founder, Marie Prisland.

In her life-story we find many descriptions and events that help us picture her and get to know her better. Our Heritage and Culture Director, Irene Odorizzi has called on us to send in our personal memoirs of Marie Prisland, some of which have already been put into print in several past issues. We hope more are coming.

This anniversary month, Irene has a very special contribution. Editor

* * *

The excerpt you will read this month is special because it is from the pen of Marie Prisland's daughter, Hermine Dicke, the Editor of Pots and Pans, as well as the former Scholarship Director. Who would know a mother more completely than her daughter and so we are indebted to Hermine for taking time to write an article about her remembrances of golden days. In our first installment, we read of Mrs. Prisland's SWU work.

Irene M. Odorizzi

* * *

In response to Irene Odorizzi's request for "memories of Marie Prisland" I must write of so many wonderful recollections of all the memorable years with mother and father and how they held their family together with loving kindness and concern for all our welfare. My mother's fraternal spirit had an early beginning.

"My interest for society work started with the founding of the Christian Mother's Society at our Slovenian parish in 1913," wrote Marie Prisland, "and as a charter member of KSKJ Lodge 157 Queen of May Society in 1915." She was elected National Third Vice President for KSKJ (American Slovenian Catholic Union) in 1923. As a delegate from her Slovenian Parish in Sheboygan, Mrs. Prisland attended the National Council of Catholic Women Convention in Milwaukee, in 1926, with 2000 women in attendance. As wonderful reports were given by representatives of local, state and national organizations on services to the Catholic Church and their individual communities, she realized that Slovenian women were also accomplishing many similar services. Mother started to dream of a Slovenian national organization. That dream she composed in words for the daily Slovenian newspaper AMERIKANSKI SLOVENEK that was published on Oct. 26, 1926. The positive response was overwhelming from Slovenian women in many states urging a national organization. The Slovenian Women's Union was founded on Dec. 19, 1926 in Chicago "for the purpose of uniting and educating our women and to show them new life in a new country – America." There were opposition letters and calls from men and some women stating, "The woman's place is in the kitchen." Mrs. Prisland's leadership qualities and personal warmth and determination prevailed, inspiring other Slovenian women. Recently, I enjoyed hearing Josephine Muster from Joliet, IL, a former National Treasurer, when reminiscing about the founding of her Branch No. 20, in 1928, when she stated, "Marie Prisland changed our life-style."

Now, the SWU is a vital organization in 13 states and Washington D.C. and is about to celebrate its 67th anniversary.

In her devotion to the S.W.U. mother spent untold number of hours at her desk and typewriter promoting the organization:

Over the years with articles in ZARJA and other publications besides innumerable letters. She enlarged and



This photo of Marie Prisland and her daughter, Hermine is a treasure. Of her many talents Mrs. Prisland passed on to her daughter, cooking and baking are just a few of them. Another is an appreciation for graciousness and warmth in dealing with people which Mrs. Prisland utilized in full measure as she organized and directed the Slovenian Women's Union in its formative years.

edited the cookbook WOMAN'S GLORY – The Kitchen authored by Mrs. Albina Novak. Mother's book FROM SLOVENIA TO AMERICA was realized after forty years of research; she wrote humorous articles for ZARJA for almost twenty years about a fictitious character she named "Urna Nežka". She wrote a monthly column in ZARJA in Slovenian called, "Oh, Ta Svet" for over 50 years! And in English, she had a column called "Capsules" for over 10 years.

(To be continued)



Irene M. Odorizzi

HISTORY OF S.W.U. BRANCHES

Looking Back

to the Future

BRANCH #102, WILLARD, WI PART II

The following information about Willard, Wisconsin, appeared in the **Ave Maria** magazine, written in 1923, by Rev. J. Novak.

In 1902, the fields were covered mostly with pine, oak and maple trees. Bear, deer and other wild animals roamed these forests and now the Willard farms are beautiful with their lush green and grassy hayfields and pastures, dark green cornfields and golden grainfields.

Foster Lumber Co. had begun to harvest the trees for lumber. A railroad train wove among the heavily wooded area hauling the logs to a saw mill where they were sawed into lumber and shipped to various destinations.

The first settlers paid \$15.00-\$20.00 per acre and had to cut the brush and dig out the stumps and roots. The more stubborn roots were blasted out with dynamite, then hand sawed, piled to dry and burned. The work was slow, tedious, difficult and expensive. Many farmers said they wouldn't

go through the work and suffering again even if the land had been given to them, free.

However, when the fields were cleared and planted the soil was very productive and the corn and grain yielded well. The hayfields and pastures were thick and produced ideal feed for milk cow, growing calves and work horses. The farmers were able to purchase hogs and chickens which they raised year after year for their personal use.

For many years the small income was used as fast or faster than it was made. Schools and roads had to be constructed as well as their own farm houses and barns. This meant a poor living for themselves and their families. Potatoes, sauerkraut, buckwheat and coffee was the main food. Even though they had come to Willard with enough money to pay for the land, many of them had to borrow from relatives or banks to get them through those first difficult years.



Original Holy Family Catholic Church in Willard was built in 1912 by the early Slovenian pioneer settlers.

* * *

The statue of the Holy Family was donated to the newly built church 55 years later by our Branch 102 of Slovenian Women's Union. The dedication and first mass in the new church was celebrated on Christmas Eve in 1967. This was the largest project ever undertaken by the Willard community.





Three charter members of Willard, Br. 102: Anna Volovsek, Johanna Artac, organizer and 1st auditor of Br. 102 and Mary Selisnik, 2nd auditor. Mrs. Volovsek, until her death in 1990, was the last surviving charter member.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

- Slovenian Days** Slides from Slovenia were shown and artifacts were on display. A social hour followed with lunch. (1962-64)
- Strudel Day** and Social Hour is held in October (1963-)
- Clark County Historical Society was hosted by Mary and Vitko Staut who presented slides and displays from Slovenia. A Slovenian lunch with potica and sausage was served. (1970).
- Valentine Party** with Bingo was held in February (1975-).
- Mother of the Year** or Lady of the Year is honored at a dinner and presented with a gift. (1957-).
- Christmas Party** with gift exchange, bingo, and a pot luck lunch is held in December (1970-)

FUND RAISERS

- Dances** held in 1941, 43, 44, 45 but discontinued as the profit barely covered the cost of the musicians.
- Raffle** of a handmade quilt and various other items (1943).
- Potica Sale** is held in December.
- Palm Sunday Bake Sale** and Hunters Bake Sale is held in November. (1988-).
- Plant Sale** is held in May (1967-)
- Blind Auctions & Door Prize Raffles** are held at the meetings.

BRANCH DONATIONS

1941	\$ 5.00	Jugoslav Relief Fund
1944	\$ 5.00	Baptismal Font
1966-68	\$540.00	Purchased large wooden statue of Holy Family as memorial to the new church.
1968	\$ 62.00	Donation to the Slovenian Chapel in Washington, D.C.
1969	\$150.00	New Church Building Fund
1972	\$ 31.40	Purchased 15 new songbooks for the Church choir.
1972	\$100.00	Clark County Development Center for Handicapped.
1974	\$ 25.00	SWU Scholarship Fund
1982	\$ 50.00	Donation to the Slovenian Miners and Laborers Memorial in Chisholm, Minnesota.
1982	\$ 15.00	Donation for the Cerebral Palsy Fund
1983	\$ 10.00	Jaws of Life
1985	\$ 50.00	Restoration of the Statue of Liberty
1987	\$ 25.00	Wisconsin Vietnam Memorial, Neillsville, WI
1989	\$ 25.00	Bishop Baraga Association
1990	\$ 25.00	Chapel Project at Neillsville Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home.
1971		Valentine Fruit Baskets to area shut-ins at Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home. Donations to the needy in the area for accident, illness, disaster, fire. Donations for altar flowers and Masses in memory of deceased members. Gifts are also given to the Pastor for Christmas and his birthday.



On Sept. 16, 1962, when Marie Prisland, the Founder of SWU visited Willard for the first Wisconsin State Convention, she presented a Zveza gold pin to Br. 102 organizer, Johanna Artac for her 22 years of diligent leadership.

MOTHERS/LADIES OF THE YEAR

1957	Johanna Artac	1979	Ann Boh
1960	Anna Volovsek	1980	Mary Lesar
1961	Mary Selisnik-Kebl	1982	Jennie Igowski
1969	Mary Koschak	1983	Mary Rozich
1970	Josephine Artac	1986	Mary Staut
1971	Mary Djubinski	1988	Anna Lesar
1973	Betty Scherenbrock	1989	Agnes Lesar
1975	Josephine Bayuk	1990	Anne Collier
1976	Eleanor Bayuk	1991	Mary L. Lesar
1977	Rose Pakiz	1992	Rose Simonelic Pekol
1978	Anna Volovsek	1993	Sophie Trunkel



Display of Slovenian arts and crafts belonging to Janvid and Mary Staut were often on display – and here are exhibited at the Clark County Historical Society museum. The Stauts are generous and enthusiastic Slovenians!



LONG-TIME OFFICERS



Johanna Artac served as an officer for 21 years. Her daughter-in-law, Josephine Artac has served as president for 27 years. Mary Plantz Djubinski has served as Secretary-Treasurer for 17 years.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT YEARS IN OFFICE

Mary Zupancic	1941, 43
Dora Fortune	1944
Mary Zupancic	1949
Mary Zagar	1954
Johanna Artac	1957
Josephine Artac	1963–

VICE PRESIDENT

Mary Zagar	1941
Mary Plantz	1943
Mary Koschak	1963
Ann Boh	1990

SECRETARY

Anna Routar	1941
Mary (John) Lesar	1943
Mary Plantz	1944
Johanna Artac	1949
Mary Staut	1957
Agnes Lesar	1963
Mary Plantz Djubinski	1971

TREASURER

Gertrude Godec	1941
Johanna Artac	1941
Mary Staut	1957
Agnes Lesar	1963
Mary Djubinski	1971

ZARJA REPORTERS

Josephine Artac	1952
Mary Zagar	1954
Mary Staut	1962
Sophie Trunkel	1966
Elsie Perko	1970
Betty Scharenbrock	1987
Mary Staut	1989

S.W.U. INVITES YOU

Membership open to all members of the family.

Write to: **SWU Home Office**
431 N. Chicago St.
Joliet, IL 60432

OUTSTANDING MEMBERS

JOHANNA ARTAC

Johanna Artac was born on Nov. 15, 1889 to Joseph and Frances Lusina, in Borovnica, Vas Dule in the Notranjska region of Slovenia. In 1906, at the age of 18, she traveled, alone to America arriving at Waukegan, Illinois where her friends awaited her. In Waukegan, she met Michael Artac, who lived only 8 kilometers away, over the mountains from Johanna's home in Slovenia. Even though they lived close to each other in the old country they had never met. The young couple was married in 1907, and two daughters, Jennie and Amelia were born there.

In 1910, they moved to a 60 acre plot of undeveloped land which they purchased in Willard, Wisconsin, but soon returned to Waukegan to earn more money. Another daughter, Angeline, was born in 1912, before they returned to Willard.

There were no roads to the property at that time, so groceries and other necessities had to be carried from Willard, down a path through the woods, a distance of about 2-1/2 miles. Everyone worked very hard to turn the wooded acres of land into the beautiful farm that exists today. Many stones were picked off the fields before planting could be done.

The original Holy Family Church was built by the settlers in 1912. Church picnics throughout the year, barn dances and house parties were the only social life in the community. Johanna being a seamstress made many beautiful altar cloths for the church, crocheted and embroidered them with Slovenian religious designs. Some are still stored away as souvenirs. Johanna also sewed clothes for other families. Her daughter, Angeline, was the church organist for many years, teaching the choirs beautiful Slovenian songs, some of which are still sung for special occasions.

Two sons, Frank and Ludwig were born in Willard. Frank was also organist for some years until he left for military duty. The farm was sold to Ludwig in 1954, when Johanna and her husband, Michael, moved into their new home in the village of Willard where they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1957. Michael passed away in 1965, and Johanna in 1969.

Johanna organized Branch 102 of the SWU in Willard on May 11, 1941, and served as secretary from 1949 to 1957, when she was elected as President and remained in that capacity until 1963. This dedicated officer also served as one of the first auditors.

Besides her many years of dedicated service to the SWU, Johanna was a member and treasurer of the KSKJ Lodge 174, Mary Help of Christians from 1924 until her death.

Johanna Artac will be remembered fondly as a dedicated, hard-working person, who gave many years of service to her church and community.

MARY ROZMAN SELISNIK KEBL

Mary Seneca was born on May 14, 1885, in Slovenia, then a part of the Austria-Hungary Empire. In 1900, at the age of 15, she immigrated to Calumet, Michigan where she met and married John Rozman (Rossman) in the early 1900s and bore one daughter.

In 1905, the small family moved to some acreage of land in Bakerville near Marshfield, Wisconsin. Here they worked very hard and developed the land into a very nice farm. Twelve children were born there. John Rozman died on Jan. 2, 1929.

On July 30, 1930, she married a nearby neighbor, Christian Selisnik, a widower with four children. Mary raised them along with her own thirteen. In 1935, Mary and Chris moved to an 80 acre farm in the town of Meed, about 7 miles northeast of Willard. By now, most of their children were grown. They resided in Meed until 1948, when they sold the farm and seven cows to Joseph and Mary Pastor for \$9,450. They continued living in a farmhouse about 2 miles east of their former farm for several years. Chris was an easy-going man and Mary referred to him as a "no worry sort of person." Chris died in Milwaukee, Sept. of 1949, the result of an accident.

Mary then married Frank Kehl, a retired shoemaker from Greenwood, Wisconsin on Oct. 9, 1950. They lived in Greenwood for almost ten years when Mary was widowed for the third time on June 26, 1960.

Mary Selisnik passed away at the age of 100 years in 1985. Her memory is unforgettable not only for her family, but the community in which she lived.



Anna Volovsek on her 96th birthday, was feted by her family and friends. Her daughter, Mary Staut carries on her tradition with her community and S.W.U.

At the age of 75, Mary moved to Milwaukee to be near her own children until she reached the young age of 98. Her remaining years were spent in a West Allis Nursing Home, where she reached the age of 100 and 4 months before passing to her eternal reward on Sept. 10, 1985. She had 13 children, 25 grandchildren 23 great-grandchildren and 11 great, great grandchildren.

Mary belonged to several organizations: The Slovenian Women's Union; KSKJ #173; and the SNPJ. Mary was a charter member and one of the first auditors of Branch 102 in Willard but transferred to Branch 17 in 1964, when she moved to West Allis. Mary was a wonderful housekeeper and loved to crochet when time permitted. She was a most kind, honest, religious, patient, understanding and hard-working person. Branch 102 was very proud to have had Mary as a member of the branch and of the community.

ANNA FLIS VOLOVSEK

Anna was born on April 19, 1893, in Gornji Grad in the Stajerska region of Slovenia. In October 1912, at the age of 19, she traveled to America with a small family, arriving in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, but later moving to Milwaukee in search of better wages. It was here that she met Frank Volovsek, a former schoolmate from her home town in Slovenia and married him on July 25, 1914, at St. Mary's Church in West Allis. Two years later a son was born to the young couple.

Frank was advised to look for employment in the country because of ill health. He found farm work on the outskirts of Milwaukee where two children were born. Being a carpenter by trade, he found it difficult to work with horses but soon learned and had the courage to rent their first farm, where a son and twin girls were born.

After several years they sold the farm and began renting

until they bought a farm near the Slovenian community of Willard. The 240 mile move was made in October, 1928, with the family of eight children. The farm work went well and three children were born in Willard increasing the children to eleven.

Then came the Depression of 1930-32, milk prices dropped, farm payments could not be made and the farm was lost. An abandoned farm was finally acquired in 1935, and in need of new buildings. Logs were cut into lumber, a new barn was completed before winter and after a few years a new house was built. Everyone worked hard and eventually a nice farm developed, and finally a real home of their own.

Anna and Frank celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1964, with family and friends. They settled in a little house in the village of Willard and from there they watched the new church being built. Frank died in 1968, but Anna lived in the little house until the age of 90 when she went to the Memorial Nursing Home at Neillsville where she was confined to a wheelchair but still maintained her friendly smile.

Anna was a charter member of Branch 102 and promoted membership wherever she could. She also was a member of KSKJ Lodge 174 and was president for 30 years. She can be remembered as a woman with strong faith having lived a difficult but full life.

CONCLUSION

Anne Collier sums up the Slovenian heritage in Willard in this passage taken from the *Spominska Zgodovina*.

"Our parents left us a great heritage, their love, the ability to cope with life as it comes day by day, whether there be joy or sorrow. We can not re-enter our past, we can however look back at all our yesterdays and know that we did the best we were able to do at the time. Times were poor and we didn't have many world possessions, but we have many wonderful memories as did our parents of their old country, Slovenia."

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to Mary Staut for the history of Branch 102. Without her dedication the article would not have been written. I wrote a special letter to Mary requesting that she work on the history of Branch 102 and even though she was quite busy, she tackled the research immediately. The information and photos which Mary sent were well-organized and easy to follow. Many thanks, Mary Staut.

Appreciation to Slovenska Družba of Willard, Wisconsin for allowing certain historical information and photos to be used from the book, *Spominska Zgodovina*. They are to be commended for compiling and printing such a fine history of Slovenes in Willard. Drawing by John Snedic.

Irene M. Odorizzi



Anna Flis and Frank Volovsek

ACTIVITIES

NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI

Our Oct. meeting was well-attended. It was good to see so many of our ladies present. Much old and new business was discussed. We had our Founder's Day Mass on Nov. 6th at St. Cyril's church followed by our monthly meeting and breakfast in the church hall.

Plans for the Christmas Dinner and meeting were made and it will be Dec. 21st, on our regular meeting night. Dinner is at 6:30 followed by our annual meeting at the Ramada Inn (same place as last year - new name). The price will remain the same. Please call Ruth at 452-8251 or Dorothy at 457-9371 for reservations by Dec. 15th. Thank you.

Janet Maurin told us about the Holiday Fair to be held at the Sheboygan County Museum in the near future and she asked for help in the Slovenian booth. Please cooperate.

Congratulations to Marie Fischer on her marriage to Christopher Schickowski in September at St. John's church in Kohler, WI. Marie and Chris will be living in West Allis. Congratulations also to Jolene Barbusch on her marriage to Terry Schmidt in August. They were wed at St. Cyril's and are now making their home in Terre Haute, Indiana. Best wishes to all the new-lweds.

Our long-time member and friend, Mary Godez passed away on Oct. 22nd. Our sympathy to the family. May her soul and souls of all the faithful rest in peace. Let us remember our home-bound members and all in nursing homes during the holiday season with a card or visit.

Thanks again to the ladies for our "treats" at the Oct. meeting. Happy holidays to all members of Br. 1.

DOROTHY BREZONIK

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

Our October meeting had a Halloween theme, the hall was decorated with pumpkins, goblins and ghosts. We were even greeted at the door by a great big hairy looking creature. Many of our

members came in costumes, there were a pair of beautiful gypsies, a M&M Candy Man, bunny rabbit, blond bombshell, a pair of hookers, Siamese twins, cowboys, Indians, sweethearts and a lot of happy members. It was such an uplift meeting, everyone had a good time laughing!

The business part of the meeting: DeLores Puhek gave an account of the State Convention - 23 of our members attended and everyone enjoyed themselves and are waiting for next year in Oglesby. Penny Social was discussed, also the children's Christmas Party. Please tell your children that BARNEY will be visiting them at the party, as well as, of course, SANTA CLAUS bringing the gifts. Remember our Christmas party theme is "Starlight Ball" so wear your brightest outfit, this will kick-off the holiday parties. Our hostess, Jean Hrastar will be there to greet you. Please bring your dessert for the "Sweet Table" - the Christmas committee will surprise you with the main course.

SWU # 2 kick-off for the new members drive will begin December, 1993 thru December, 1994 our anniversary date. Member with the most new members will be declared the winner and will receive 2 tickets to the Candlelight Theatre. Good luck to all of you and let's hope that we can increase our membership.

January meeting will be the installation of officers. Rick Rakovic made a motion that the present officers should remain for another year, and it was voted across the board by the members present.

The Slovenian Doll that Mary Foys made and tickets were sold at the picnic was raffled off at our meeting and Gen Buol was the winner.

Remember the "Cheer Basket" - there are so many of our people in the neighborhood who need help; as you shop for your holiday needs throw a few items in for the needy.

December 12, St. Stephen's will have "Brunch with Santa" - bring the children and have pictures taken with Santa.

Congratulations to Rose and Vic Ceferin on the marriage of their daughter,

Rose Marie to Joe Bezick; we wish them happiness in their new life.

Please remember our sick and those members who no longer can attend our meetings especially: Veronica Gorkis, Ann Mladic, Josie Lukas, Stefanie Osterman, Mary Slabe, Mamie Banich, Fuzzy Floral, Frances Zibert, Kathleen Tuzak and Father Fortunat; keep them in your prayers.

Mary Ann Oblak made the trip that was promised years ago by her grandfather Mladic that someday she would visit Slovenija where he was born. She met her cousins, attended the church where her people have attended for years, toured the country, had such a good time that she is thinking about going back.

1993 has been a very troubled and sad year for so many, with the flood in the Mid-west, the fires in California, the unrest in the world with all the fighting. Many of our members have been in hospitals and we have lost loved ones. Let's all pray that the new year will bring with it some sunshine and peace all over the world. We send our best wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy Peaceful Healthy New Year to all the members of Slovenian Women's Union and their families.

Vsem Članicam in Članom SZZ želimo Vesele Božične Praznike in Srečno In Zadovoljno Novo Leto, 1994.

Love,

DAISY

NO. 5, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

A THANK YOU to all those who gathered at Holy Trinity in October for Mass. We appreciate you coming over to the Hall for coffee and "krofe" afterwards. Those who especially deserve a BIG THANK YOU for their help are SUE ANN YOVANOVICH, for her assistance and donations, CAROL DOUGLAS, for helping to set up the hall, and FATHER K.T., for the use of the hall. FRANCES YOVANOVICH made a donation to Holy Trinity for the Mass intention in honor of our

living and deceased member. Thank you, FRANCES.

A group that deserves their own paragraph of HUGE THANKS is the HOLY TRINITY CHOIR. They sang some very beautiful SLOVENIAN hymns for us. It is always a pleasure to hear these songs.

My article had to be ready before the Holiday Celebration, so I will tell you about it next month. I am sure though that all those who attended had a good time.

During this holiday season as well as through the year, we pray for our sick and hospitalized members along with our shut-ins.

The Mohr Clan has increased in size by one. ANDY and LORNA MOHR had a baby boy, ANDREW MOHR II. This is a new grandson for member, MARY FRANCES MOHR.

PHYLLIS FON has graciously accepted to become our COOKBOOK chairwoman. She has the SWU COOKBOOK for sale, if anyone would like to purchase one. PHYLLIS can be reached at (317) 852-9850.

We are hoping to get a member list to all of you within the next couple of months. If any of you have moved or have other changes, please let us know, either Mary Frances Mohr, 852-8305, or myself, BARBARA MOHR, (214) 404-0637. I always have a strange message on my machine, so be prepared if you call me.

Until next month, with Love from Texas,

BARBARA MOHR

NO. 6, BARBERTON, OH

The holidays are here, came back from vacation and mail was piled up. Thanks to everyone. Had one sad news - Mary Pavlovic passed away. She was a 47 year member! She will be in our prayers.

As the end of the year is upon us, dues will be due January, 1994. Please don't forget that \$1 special yearly assessment that is collected and goes to the Home Office. Add it to your dues. Still need to find Victoria Belford, Margaret Pernell, Pat Good, Bernard Beck. These people need to contact me regarding dues for 1993.

Birthdays: In July: Bobby Winland, 19, August, Rochelle Winland, 20, October, Ron Lambright 23, Pauline Bar-

In Memoriam



Mary Pavlovic

Born, February 22, 1902

Died, September 16, 1993

When you lose someone you love

*Your life was one of kindly deeds,
A helping hand for others needs,
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
Beautiful memories left behind.*

*Two tired eyes are sleeping,
Two willing hands are still.
The one who worked so hard for us
Is resting in God's will.*

A native of Barberton for over 50 years, and a sister member for 47 years, Mary spent the last 10 years with her daughter, Mary in California.

She is sadly missed by daughters, sons, 16 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren and a brother and sister still living in Republika Hrvatska.

May she rest in peace!

berich, 90, November, George Hill, 53. Wish all these "old as well as new" members a Happy Birthday.

In November, we all received a 1994 Calendar on the 65th anniversary of ZARJA. Anyone wanting to make a contribution for the calendar should send it ahead to ZARJA in the envelope enclosed. It will help support the ZARJA.

If I missed any birthdays, please excuse. Have a happy holiday and new year.

Jackpot was won by Elizabeth Spolar. Bunko, Rose Vukich, 500, Val

Carlson, Canasta, Agnes Barkis. Lunch Committee for Nov. were Jennie Sator, Dorothy Oberstar and Ann Schubert.

Vesele božične praznike - Srečno novo leto.

Sincerely submitted,

LINDA K. LAMBRIGHT

Secretary

P.O. Box 221

Steubenville, OH 43952

1-614-283-1255

NO. 10, COLLINWOOD, OH

The annual Christmas Party was held on Nov. 17th at the Collinwood Slovenian Home on Holmes Ave.

Dues collections are due for 1994. Any changes in address or beneficiary also. Our secretary is Theresa Dagg, 1910 Rosemont Ave., East Cleveland, OH, Tel. 681-5379. Members must be paid up to remain a member.

On Oct. 17th, our president, Steffie Segulin and myself attended the Ohio-Michigan State Convention. The mass was at 11 a.m. at St. Lawrence Church on E. 80th St. Most Rev. Edward Pevec, Aux. Bishop of Cleveland, was the celebrant. We had a warm welcome from Br. 15 members. After mass a dinner was held at the Slovenian Home on E. 80th followed by the meeting. Regional President, Evelyn Majercik called the meeting to order and branch reports were given by those present. About 100 were in attendance. Many ideas were discussed, new members are welcome at all branches. Many thanks to the hostesses of Br. 15. The 1994 Convention will be held on Oct. 16th at Detroit, Michigan.

After the meeting was adjourned, a raffle was held and first prize winner was our president, Steffie! Congratulations.

Get well wishes to all our sick and ailing members. See you at the Christmas dinner. Make your reservations.

ANN STEFANCIC

**SWU Crest indicates the
65th Anniversary of this
branch in 1993.**

Congratulations!



NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

The wind blew us in and that is a sign of winter on the way. We opened the door and the aroma from the kitchen told us we were in for a good lunch. Our able cook, Phylis treated us to a dinner of polish sausage, boiled potatoes and sauerkraut. Leona supplied her delicious apple sauce again. The birthday girls treated for the desserts. Some women commented that they live alone and don't make this kind of meal any more - so, thank you from all!

Then we held our meeting. Tickets were sold for the Slovenian Doll which we received from the Home Office. Our Christmas party will be on Dec. 16th at Meyers. Reservations, a must. Our member, Anna Gorishek will be celebrating her 100th birthday in December. She is at the Shorewood Heights Nursing Home, 3710 N. Oakland Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211, so if you want to send her a card, please do. I'm sure it will be appreciated.

Connie Dobersek donated \$5 for attendance prizes so five people went home happy. Our auxiliary member, Tony Starich treated us to wine and helped with our game. He treated us again in November for his wife, Mary's birthday.

Nice to see Kathy Krainz back with us again after her misfortune. Alma Hoelzer is getting better and hope to see her soon.

Merry Christmas to all and stay healthy.

MARY KIEL

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Unbelievable as it seems, another year is coming to a close. We are looking forward to our Annual Pot Luck Dinner next week and then in December we will have our Christmas Party at noon. Please bring an exchange gift so you may join in the fun.

We have had another productive and fun year with our Bag Lunch meetings. Always with the promise of wonderful dessert. A BIG thank you to our officers for another dedicated year. We lost some of our old-time members, but may they rest in peace knowing all their work and efforts are not forgotten.

Several of our ladies, Betty Doherty, Louise Petrusich, Agnes Leach, Marion Lucchesi, Doreen Sustarich and Michele Twers went on one of Josephine Aiuto's famous trips to the Grand Canyon, Sedona, Laughlin and Barstow. I heard nothing but raves about the gorgeous scenery, marvelous accommodations, and just a real good time. They also said the food was pretty terrific.

It has been a very long seven months for this reporter with many meetings involving the Archdiocese. We have lived a very long time with the threat of the closing of our Church. It has been a difficult and emotional time. We have three more meetings and the Archbishop will make his decision. I am very grateful to my sister, Barbara Chiodo, as is everyone in our Church. She has put in many, many hours, much paperwork, and much heart. Everyone has shown so much support, love and unity and may God see fit to reward us.

We are also very busy with ticket sales for the Slovenian Doll for the Heritage Fund. We are very honored to draw the winning ticket and I'm very excited about "Maria" finding a loving home. She has truly become a part of my household as I see her smiling face every day.

As we bring this year to an end, our love and thoughts to all members on the sick list, our prayers for the members who have passed on, and our gratitude to those who so hard to keep this tradition going. May you all have a blessed Christmas, a healthy New Year and may we share this season in our beautiful Church of The Nativity.

God Bless!

BEVERLY JACKSON



14, EUCLID, OH

Autumn has come rushing into northern Ohio bringing a riot of rustic fall colors on trees and shrubs for us to enjoy.

Our popular Christmas dinner will be held Tuesday, December 7 at 6:00 at Recher Ave. Slovenian Society Home. You're welcome to bring your spouses or friends to this evening of socializing with friends and members and good food. Make your reservations with Vera Bajec at 481-7473 or Marty Koren 585-4227.

This year we decided to try something new. We'll have a cookie sale at our Christmas party, so bring your favorite cookies along on a disposable plate and you'll be able to purchase someone else's cookies if you wish. You're also invited to bring along a nice gift-wrapped item for our raffle.

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In Loving Memory OF OUR DECEASED MEMBERS

Branch 14, Euclid, Ohio



Proud parents Alma and John Tercek announced that their daughter, Sister M. Beth Anne, S.N.D. recently received her Ph.D. degree from Boston College. She is assistant professor of Economics at Notre Dame College in South Euclid, where she has been on the teaching staff for the past 16 years. Congratulations and best wishes to Sr. Beth Anne and her parents!

Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas surrounded by family and friends, and a New Year of health and joy!

ALICE KUJAR

on their 65th anniversary. The Slovenian flag blinking pins we bought were really delightful and eye-catching.

Congratulations also to KSKJ lodge of St. Florian #44 who celebrated the 100th anniversary with a banquet at Mr. D's Villa. They paid tribute to Ed Kucic who passed away this year.

On Sunday, Oct. 24th, the Calumet Park Seniors enjoyed a Brunch at Al's Steak House in Joliet, then boarded a bus to the Rialto Theatre to see "Music of a Generation" by Bruce and Kathy Korosa. Several members of Br. 16 attended.

This month, our member of 22 years, Josephine Dykowski passed away. Fifteen of us prayed the Rosary led by Marge Prebil and Sylvia Spretnjak at the Elmwood Funeral Parlor.

Sick members are:

Romaine O'Brien Jablonski, Regional President of Illinois-Indiana who was hospitalized with a bleeding ulcer. She is now recuperating at home. Andrea Kral is also recuperating from a quadruple by-pass operation at St. Margaret's Hospital. Jo Hester is up and about after hospitalization for an irregular heart beat. Olga Kolokowski had hip surgery the last part of September and her husband, Leo and brother, William also were hospitalized at the same time. To all our ill members and friends, heartiest wishes for good health.

Sandi and Bruce Bittner of Noblesville, IN vacationed in Hilton Head, So. Carolina with baby, Katie. Then they flew to Chicago to be with

grandma, Edna Winters on her birthday.

Don't forget the Christmas Party on Dec. 11th at the Crow Bar at 106th and Ave. C. It's at 1 p.m., on that Saturday. Don Reitsma will entertain on the keyboard. Call Gladys or Edna for reservations @ \$10 per dinner. A \$2 gift exchange is also optional. See you there.

E.W.



17, WEST ALLIS, WI

Regretably, our beautiful fall season came to an end, ushering in the winter season. With it, came the anticipation of the Christmas Holidays. This brings to mind our annual business meeting and Christmas social on Sunday, Dec. 19th at 2 p.m. The distribution of children's gifts and adult gift exchange – at a value of about \$3 (optional) – and as usual, goodies and bakery will be served after the meeting.

A big "thank you" to all our generous ladies who bake the delicious strudels, poticas, cakes and goodies for many of our social functions, including our Christmas social. Wishing all a very blessed and happy Christmas and holiday season and good health and happiness in the coming new year.

A very Merry Christmas to all and Happy New Year!

FRAN PIWONI



16, SO. CHICAGO, IL

At our Oct. meeting we enjoyed Pizza Pies and baked goodies for lunch. The birthday celebrants were Fran Zupancic, Dorothy Perko and Edna Winters and thanks for the soap bars we each got from Dorothy. Sorry to hear about her car accident – banged up car but no personal injury!

Mary Rago, Vida Kumse, Gladys Buck and yours truly, Edna Winters attended the Indiana-Illinois State Convention in Joliet in October. We wore our Slovenian national costumes. Members dressed in the Narodna nošas led the procession into St. Joseph's Church for the mass. The service was very impressive. After mass, we went to the Louis Joliet Renaissance Center for a delicious dinner and music by our own South Chicagoan, Frankie Kovacic and his trio. They have a fantastic old Slovenian style of playing and singing. Happy Anniversary to Br. 20

THINK HERITAGE!



20, JOLIET, IL

It was brought to my attention that in the Chicago Sun-Times (9/26/93) in the Travel Section the following appeared:

"Under 'Best Travel Destination', after Ireland, 'the peaceful and fascinating ex-Yugoslav nation of Slovenia' garnered the 1992-93 runner-up call -- just ahead of Paris."

At this time we'd like to extend get well wishes to Marla Lustik, Helen Skriner, Loretta Fuchs, Frances Suski, Deborah Vicich and Bernice Nemanich.

A special congratulations goes out to Amy Tezak, who was selected to attend The National Young Leaders Conference this past October which took place in Washington, D.C. The National Young Leaders Conference is a leadership development program for outstanding high school students who have demonstrated leadership potential and scholastic merit. Amy is a senior at Joliet Catholic Academy. She was one of 350 who attended the conference from across America.

Congratulations, also, go out to our newlyweds, Katrina and David Tarizzo and Kimberly (Doszak) and Daniel Doglio.

The winners of the Grape Festival's \$25.00 drawing were Jean Govednik and Albert Vidmar. Winner of one year's free dues was Carlene Kambic. Congratulations to you all.

As you all have probably heard by now, we met our goal for 65 new members. The top recruiters were Jonita Ruth-23; Pat Figuirowski-18 and Therese Papesh-9. Nice job, ladies!

It is with warm and gracious hearts we welcome our new additions. They are as follows: Elizabeth Ancel, Lanno Anderson, Meredith Anzelc, John Anzelc, Georgiann Bebar, Arnold Bennett, Victor Bostjancic, Michael Burke, Gary Bostjancic, Patricia Butterbach, Sue Bartholme, Cathy Cabrera, Christina Cabrera, Joseph Cabrera, Nancy Conrad, Ann Corp, Curtis Cwudzinski, Richard Demick, Barbara Delany, Elizabeth Delaney, Theresa Devereaux, John Emery, Catherine Emery, William Ferguson, Robert Figuirowski, Daniel Ivanich, Nicole Irwin, Anthony Golobitsch, William Govednik, Victoria Hill;

Robert Horvatin, Robert and Joanne Horvat, Rosemary Hrubos, Stacey Johnson, Dolores Klepec, Margaret Koncar, John Konopek, Robert Kostelc, William Kobe, Rose Marie Livingston, Jeffrey Lustik, Eleonora LaFontaine, Donna and Susan Markun, Jean Pucel, Rev. Thomas Paul, Pat Policondriotes, Jean Popek, Joseph Stubblefield, William Stubblefield, Phyllis Susner, Clara Schultz, Danielle and Margretta Strle, Mary Strle, Marie Shurtz, Patricia Shusterich, Denise Stout, Corinne Shields, Raymond and Cody Shields;

Colleen Starasinich, Lori Skaltsas, Christopher and Richard Tezak, Kathleen Turk, Joyce Trains, Amanda Tomac, Raymond Vertin, Nicholas Vidmar, Vangie Wolf, Christopher and Michael Worek, Max K. Welsh and Olga Robertson.

Transfers from Juniors to Adult: Kelly Allen, Jill DeJule, Tamara Gregorash, Jennifer Grisham, Cyndi Gudac, Tammy Kramerich, Pamela Lodewyck, Jeannine Marquardt and Erin Regis. Welcome to all!

DIANE HRUBOS



22, BRADLEY, IL

What could be cozier on a cold, clear October evening than to sit before a blazing fireplace, favorite beverage in hand, and pleasant conversation going on. Well, envy our Pres. Mollie McIntyre as she visited son Don in his new log cabin home. It's in Cadiz, KY, near Barclay Lake. Let your imagination fill in the surrounding scenery.

And that's the legitimate excuse Mollie has for her absence at our October meeting, when Helen Sebastiani and Emma Lustig entertained. Missing also was Mayme Drassler; she was in Indiana at the time to be with her sister, Frances. We're looking forward to Jo Zaletel becoming an active member again too. Thank you, Helen, for opening your home to the ladies and making all feel *po domače*. You'll get your reward in heaven!

Could hardly believe our eyes when we saw Mary Anne Barothy at a First Friday Mass, which happened to be for her mother. Mary Anne had motored from Indiana the previous day to attend a Marian program about 20 miles from Bradley. 'Tis always a pleasure to see her!

Congratulations to Eric Metschuleit, grandson of Mollie McIntyre, who was wed on September 4, and to John Lustig, who marked his 92nd birthday on October 23.

May I introduce you to a talented Slovenka, someone you should know! I never read reviews of drama and music critics in the Chicago Trib but the caption "Pianist Dubravka Tomsic, a joy to hear" lured me to further reading. John Von Rhein was profuse in his praise of her performance in Orchestra Hall (Chicago), ending his comments with "Tomsic **must** return to Chicago soon!" That's another feather in our ethnic hat!

The celebration of Christmas will have begun as you read this, and Happy Holiday greetings will fill the air. Here's a message from a Fr. Tom Royer: "Religion is not simply our quest of God but God's search for us. This is the meaning of the wondrous tale of Bethlehem. May you find the Lord, who is ardently seeking your company." This is what life is all about. So make for yourself a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

EMMA LUSTIG



23, ELY, MN

The night of our October meeting had a feel of "Fall in the Air", and everyone agreed, summer went by too fast and now we're getting ready for winter.

The members that attended Minnesota Days all said they had a wonderful time -- the food was delicious, the program was good and everything was organized really well. Thanks to the hosts.

Our meeting tonight was very much "to the point", and very informative. There were 35 members present and Ann Hutar won the door prize. The committee was appointed for our Christmas Dinner --- yes, before we know it, Christmas Carols will be in the air. The committee will give a report at our November meeting. The members of the December Committee are: Virgie Ivancich, Mary McNeal, Kathy Tome, Rose Pucel, Jennie (Chickie) Novak, Jennie Zaverl, Angie Mobilia, Olga Artisensi, Agnes Zaverl and Dolly Maki.

The November lunch committee are: Amelia Rozman, Lee Perushek, Mary

NEW MEMBERS OF BR. 24

Three lovely young ladies of the Pohar families are newly enrolled of our branch in LaSalle, Illinois. They are the granddaughters of late member Mary Pohar; their auntie Josephine Grabowski signed them up! This photo was taken at the IL-IN Regional Convention where their smiling and vivacious presence helped make the day even more memorable. Gerri Lynn Bima lives in Chicago, Bonnie Prokup is from Streamwood and Cathy Lenkaitis is from LaSalle. Another sister, Debbie Pohar of Tempe, AZ and mom, Barbara were not able to be present for the picture.



Ann Pulis, Mary Ravnarik and Frances Marolt.

This evening's coffee an' got us all in the pumpkin mood which was perfect for October, as the tables were decorated so beautifully and we had pumpkin treats of cookies, tarts, desserts and candies to choose from --- what a delight! Thanks to: Jeanne Polynier, Rose Gornik, Angela Mobilia, Dorothy Hutar and Mary Reichensperger. Socializing after was very challenging and everyone had a great time visiting, laughing and just being there --- what fun!

Yes, summer sure has been busy for everyone! I know for myself, my husband and I sure have been "on the go". Then in September we went to Renton, WA. To visit with one of our daughters, her husband and family, plus visiting with my niece and her husband in San Francisco, CA. We had a wonderful time, full of memorable experiences and some hilarious moments with the grandchildren. Yes, children sure can add "spice to your life"! --- If we could only bottle up half of their energy for later years, we'd have it made!!!!

JANE YADLOSKY
Reporter



24, LA SALLE, IL

Our October meeting opened with prayer for the sick and shut-in members followed by the prayer for the Canonization of Bishop Baraga. Eleven members answered the roll call.

Betty Stack, delegate to the State

Convention, gave a report on the convention proceedings. Other members who were in attendance at the convention added their comments. We all agreed that it was a very productive meeting and an enjoyable day. We would like to compliment the members and officers of Branch 20 for the excellent hospitality shown us and especially thank the delegates and guests who contributed to the speeding fine our bus driver received upon entering Joliet. The passengers on our bus added to the collection and he had more than the \$95.00 necessary to cover his fine. The bus driver would like to express his gratitude to those who were so generous and kind to him.

Our sympathy is extended to Treasurer, Anne Serri and to Josephine Spayer whose brother, Joseph Miklavcic, passed away on October 10th. Joe is survived by four sons, grandchildren and seven sisters and three brothers. We always conclude our meetings with prayers for our deceased members and we included Joe Miklavcic in our closing prayer. May his soul rest in peace!

Helen Swietek, chairman of the Bakeless Bake Sale, distributed letters to members present along with return envelopes to our Treasurer and said the mailing would go out to the membership the next day. This project has been very successful since its inception in 1987. This year our branch will be able to pay the 1994 dues for those members who are over 80 years of age.

It was decided to honor our 50 year members, Anne Serri, Josephine Spayer and Mary Sell at our Christmas

party on Thursday, December 2nd at the Maples in Peru at noon.

We welcome three new Junior members, Caitlin Collins, Ashley Collins and Julie Wangler.

Belated birthday greetings to Mary Gornik who celebrated her 97th birthday on Armistice Day, November 11th. Birthday greetings to our December birthday celebrants: Olga Fritz, Darlene Krueger, Michelle Gende, Marian Borisek, Evelyn Kastigar, Antonia Hoefflerle, Josephine Omahen, Fannie Piletic, Jane Gruenwald, Mary Ann Weber, Stephanie Kobilsek, and to those celebrating birthdays in January: Gale Nowik and Cathy Jo Lenkaitis. May you have a Happy Birthday and a good year to all.

As in previous years, we won't be meeting during the cold months of January and February. If you have any news for our magazine article, please call me and I will be glad to include it in the next issue. We'll be ready and anxious to meet in March for our first meeting of the year and I'm looking forward to seeing you there. Until then sincere wishes to each and everyone of you and your loved ones for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, healthy New Year.

ANNE M. WANGLER
Reporter

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

ILLINOIS-INDIANA REGIONAL CONVENTION

On Sunday, October 3, 1993, the Illinois-Indiana Convention was held in Joliet, Illinois. Branch No. 20 was the hostess branch. Charlene Kobe, President of Branch No. 20 and her ladies did an excellent job organizing the events of the day.

A convention gathering with sweet rolls and coffee greeted us at 9 a.m. in the Ferdinand Hall directly behind the church. The meeting opened with a prayer and a key address by Fr. David Stalzer, spiritual moderator for Branch 20. A warm welcome was extended to National Officers, members, and guests. Father congratulated Branch 20 on their 65 years of leadership and support to the community. He spoke of the need to get youth involved in preserving their Slovenian heritage. This same theme was highlighted by presentations given by the State President and National Officers.

Mass was held at St. Joseph's Church at 11:30 a.m. by Fr. Stalzer. Dinner was at 1 p.m. in the Louis Joliet Renaissance Center. Millie Pucel, Convention Chairman complemented the dinner with entertainment by Frankie Kovacic and his two assistants. Everyone present at the dinner received a beautiful 65th anniversary booklet of Branch 20's past endeavors. At the completion of the dinner there was a raffle; the lucky ticket holders received a choice of the beautiful centerpiece of red carnations, tickets to Joliet's gambling boat, a Slovenian cap, or a Slovenian totebag. I was lucky and received a centerpiece. Fifty year members were also honored.

Of the ten branches in the Illinois-Indiana region, seven branches were represented. The delegates reported on the activities of their respective branches. These reports included fundraising, enrollment of new members, plus many other activities in which the branches have been involved.

Our meeting closed with prayers for all SWU members living and deceased, for peace in Slovenia and Croatia. My final prayer was a repeat of last year, with all members joining hands, I recited my "Circle of Prayer."

Respectfully submitted,

Romaine O'Brien Jablonski
Illinois-Indiana Regional President

A Wonderful Christmas

By Ernest C. Wilson

What makes Christmas wonderful? Not only gifts, and gleaming trees, and lavish beauty. These all help, but the real riches of Christmastime are those of the inner life. This year perhaps we shall be more conscious of the blessing of those inner riches than at any season in recent years.

We shall treasure them in our hearts, and find room there too for love of others, and for kindness, and tolerance, and forbearance.

We shall remember the great man who came, a little child, in humble circumstances into the world, and whose inner riches, shining through His life, became the light of the world.

State President, Romaine Jablonski, called the meeting to order and congratulated Branch 20 on its 65th anniversary. She then invited Fr. David Stalzer, Spiritual Moderator of Branch 20, to lead the opening prayer.

The Corresponding Secretary for this year's convention, Diane Hrubos, was introduced to the gathering along with the Special Guests: Fran Morison, Women's Activity Director, Olga Ancel, National Secretary, Charlene Kobe, Delegate and President of Host Branch 20; Corinne Leskovar, Editor of ZARJA; Jo Lustik, National Auditor, and (absent due to illness in family) the new National Scholarship Director, Carita Girman.

Seven of the ten branches throughout the Illinois-Indiana region sent delegates. They were as follows: Branch 2, Chicago, IL - Delegate Delores Puhek; Branch 16, South Chicago, IL - Delegate Vida Kumse; Branch 20, Joliet, IL - Delegate Charlene Kobe; Branch 24, LaSalle, IL - Delegate Betty Stack; Branch 85, DePue, IL - Delegate Mary Jermene; Branch 89, Oglesby, IL - Delegate Angela Nico; Branch 95, South Chicago, IL - Mildred James.

Although unable to send a delegate, Branch 22, Bradley, IL and Branch 5, Indianapolis, IN sent their reports to be read to the gathering.

The main concern by all present was the aging membership and the need to recruit and involve younger members.

Corinne Leskovar announced that in honor of the 65th anniversary of ZARJA in 1994 every member was going to receive a pictorial wall calendar in full color. It will feature 12 original paintings from the membership. Donations received for the calendars will go towards the publication of ZARJA.

Delegate Mildred James of Branch 95, South Chicago, IL, voiced the opinion of her branch (although she said she did not agree with it) that the State Convention should be discontinued.

It was voted down by the membership present.

Delegate Angela Nico, Branch 89, Oglesby, IL announced on behalf of her branch that they had discussed and accepted the responsibility of hosting the 1994 convention.

State President, Romaine Jablonski extended National President Tory Bobence's greetings and congratulations to Branches 20, 16 and 24, who are all celebrating their 65th anniversaries.

She also relayed Tory's wish that every member take a chance for the Slovenian Doll. (Raffle ticket was on the back of ZARJA). Proceeds go to the Museum. Also, if anyone has an artifact to donate, it would be appreciated.

It was also announced by the new Scholarship Chairman that this year there is an increase in the scholarship fund donations.

State President, Romaine Jablonski, closed the meeting with a prayer.

Members adjourned meeting to attend Mass next door at St. Joseph's Church (Joliet, IL) and then to dinner at the Renaissance.

Diane Hrubos, State Convention Secretary

- LILLIAN BRULC - SWU'S RESIDENT ARTIST EXHIBITS AT GALLERY GENESIS

Paintings and prints by Lillian Brulc were exhibited at Gallery Genesis, 4201 S. Archer Ave., Chicago, IL, October 15 thru November 13, 1993.

Among the paintings exhibited were "Dreams of Peace - Four Icons". They are intended to express the suffering of people in war and their hopes and dreams of salvation. This is embodied in the dream-like figures of the four Archangels.

Archangel Michael, the defender, who rolls away the clouds of darkness and fire.

Archangel Raphael, the healer. So many children, men and women are injured and Raphael is the healer of God. Their dream is that hope will come to them in some form.

Archangel Uriel, bringer of light. This painting of Archangel Uriel brings a spinning orb or light brighter than the sun that creates a rainbow of hope over the destruction that surrounds the people.

Archangel Gabriel, the messenger of good news announcing peace. People are bathed in a kind of light that comes from the words of his mouth.

In all, seventeen pieces of Lillian's artworks were on exhibit.

In conjunction with Lillian's exhibit, a concert by the Chicago Brass Quintet, was held at Roosevelt University, Ganz Hall, Chicago, IL on October 29, 1993, featuring the music of composers Michael Adams and Regina Harris Baiocchi. Composer Baiocchi's compositions were inspired by Lillian's "Storms of War, Dreams of Peace" artworks.

Receptions were held at Gallery Genesis after the exhibit and at Ganz Hall following the October concert.

An exhibit of these works and others will be held at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin during the summer of 1994.

*Mollie Gregorich
Joliet, Illinois*



Archangel Gabriel

This painting of the messenger of peace has more meaning to us because of Lillian's use of the Slovenian word for peace; mir.

Storms of War - Dreams of Peace

OHIO-MICHIGAN STATE CONVENTION

The Ohio-Michigan State Convention began as always with our Liturgy that was celebrated at St. Lawrence Church, East 81st Street, Cleveland, Ohio. The location was chosen since it was the home parish of Branch No. 15 which was recently dissolved. The mass and the convention were dedicated to members, living and deceased, of that branch. We were privileged to have Bishop A. Edward Pevec as our celebrant. During his homily Bishop Pevec reflected on what the world was like sixty-five years ago when Branch 15 was organized. It gave us much food for thought. Music for the mass was furnished by the St. Lawrence Choir, a group of faithful parishioners who give of their time and talents every Sunday. We thank Lois Sever for her efforts in our behalf, and the organist, Claudette Burke for the accompaniment.

Prior to the beginning of mass, a bouquet of red carnations was placed on the Blessed Mother's altar, a memento to all deceased members of Slovenska Ženska Zveza. Singing of "Lepa Si" concluded our memorial.

Following mass we gathered at the Slovenian National Home, East 80th. There are many memories here for everyone, and some delegates reflected on those memories. We were pleased to have among us a sprinkling of former Branch 15 members. Our thanks to them for taking time to join us. There were also family members of deceased Branch 15 members present, a true tribute to what their mothers had accomplished.

Our catered meal was delicious and I don't think any of us went away hungry. Short interludes of music made the day delightful. We appreciate the talents of Pete Yuratovac on the guitar and Bob Mueller on the buttonbox.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:00 o'clock p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken. There are seventeen (17) branches in the Ohio-Michigan Region. Twelve (12) branches were represented, a total of 105 attending. It is a sad testimonial to the organization that every branch is not represented. Even sadder, officers of the branches do not choose to attend the conventions. Special recognition was given to Branch No. 101, the smallest branch in the region with a total of 29 members, 13 of whom were in attendance. A prospective new member was also in their group. Florence Mirtel (Br. 101) introduced Kimberley Ramacciato, an S.W.U. Scholarship winner who is now a Registered Nurse. Kim expressed her appreciation for the assistance she received through the scholarship program.

We welcomed Betty Kosak-Gawor and Betty Ann Harr and their families, members of Branch No. 42, from North Carolina. They had traveled the farthest to join us (while visiting in the area). It was no more than fair to recognize the person living the closest--Alice Arko, a former Branch 15 member, she lives across the street from S.N.D.

A real feather in our cap was having two members from Branch No. 105, Detroit, Michigan in attendance. We try very hard to get our outlying branches involved in the conventions.

Branch reports were submitted. It is quite evident that our membership is getting older and older. The reports included many members in nursing homes, etc.. It was suggested that branches make lists of their shut-ins available

to members so cards and greetings can be sent periodically.

Time was spent on plans for the 1995 National Convention in San Francisco. Emphasis was put on starting fund raising projects to help with the expenses of the delegates. It was also promoted that delegates should be chosen now, that a last minute choice is not a good idea and, because we do need new blood in the organization (as well as new members) that thought be given to what a delegate has to offer to the branch she will represent.

Correspondence was read from Corinne Leskovar regarding the seminars on Family Life, Marriage, etc. available through S.W.U. The matter was discussed and it was the consensus of opinion that a combined effort would be difficult to arrange and support. It was suggested that the best way to go would be for one branch to pick up on the idea. Their effort would be supported by other branches. It was also felt that because of the age of our membership, attendance at such a seminar would be difficult to estimate. It was reported that the previous seminar held at St. Mary's, Holmes Avenue, was poorly attended, although who did participate found the material interesting. There were no offerings from any branch in attendance to sponsor the program.

Branches were again advised to take time to update their records, making sure addresses are current, as well as beneficiaries. They were also advised that this president has received a few requests from members who are getting no results by contacting their own officers. They were asked that any requests received, especially from the elderly, handicapped, homebound members be handled promptly and carefully.

Keeping with our effort to move the convention site around for the convenience of all branches, Branch No. 105 volunteered to host the 1994 State Convention to be held in Detroit, Michigan. They were thanked for their offer and those present were advised plans will be made for transportation to Detroit.

At the 1992 Convention it was suggested that branches start a "Common Cents" program to defray expenses (especially for the National Convention). Branch No. 50 reported success with the program. Those attending this convention were asked to empty their pockets/purses of any pennies. These were collected and will be sent to the ZARJA connection, \$5.01 total.

Centerpieces of red carnations, ivy and red, white, blue ribbons had adorned our tables for dinner. Our thanks to Lisa Majercik for her time, trouble and talent. The pieces were given to the oldest member at each table.

With no further business to discuss, and no suggestions or questions from the floor, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 o'clock p.m. after the singing of "God Bless America."

I would like to thank Kay Yuratovac for taking the minutes of the meeting and Marge Church for help in preparing for the Convention.

After the formal meeting was adjourned, winning tickets for a split raffle were drawn and prizes were awarded.

Respectfully submitted:

Evelyn A. Majercik, Regional President



A Blessed and Merry Christmas to all you good people. May you enjoy family and friends during the holiday season with lots of good food!

For those of you desiring a smaller portion of holiday ham a simple recipe follows: **BAKED SLICED HAM WITH PINEAPPLE**. Our two wonderful S.W.U. National Officers share with us their very tasty recipes: Victoria Bobence, President, offers her **POPPY SEED CAKE** with **ICE CREAM FROSTING** and Olga Ancel, Secretary, submits her **DATE LOAF**.

At a cocktail party that Bob and I attended, Tess Klug, wife of the Wis., U.S. Senator, Scott Klug, brought a delicious hors d'oeuvre, **ARTICHOKE DIP**. Cocktail crackers surrounded the casserole dish. It was well received.

Affectionately,

Hermine

ARTICHOKE DIP

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 1 | can (14 ounces) artichokes,
drained |
| 1/4 | pound or 1 cup shredded
Cheddar cheese |
| 1 | cup mayonnaise |

Stir all ingredients together. Place in ungreased casserole and bake at 350° for 30 minutes, covered. Serve with crackers.

BAKED SLICED HAM WITH PINEAPPLE

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | slice (2 pounds) ham,
cut 1 inch thick | 1 1/2 | cup brown sugar |
| 1/2 | cup pineapple syrup, drained
from crushed pineapple | 1 | tablespoon prepared
mustard |
| | | 1/2 | cup drained, crushed pineapple |

Cut fat in several places to prevent curling of ham slice during cooking. Place meat in a 3-quart casserole; add pineapple syrup and bake, covered, in a preheated 350° oven for about 40 minutes. Remove from oven and spread ham with combined mustard and brown sugar. Spread pineapple on top and bake, uncovered, about 35 minutes longer. Baste occasionally with syrup in pan. 4-5 servings.

POPPY SEED CAKE

- | | | | |
|---|--|-----|-------------------|
| 1 | Duncan Hines Yellow cake
mix (without pudding) | 1/2 | cup salad oil |
| 1 | package (3.4 ounces) Coconut
Cream Instant Jell-O pudding | 1/4 | cup poppy seeds |
| | | 1 | cup boiling water |
| | | 4 | eggs |

Mix together the cake mix, instant coconut cream pudding, salad oil and poppy seeds. Add 1 cup of boiling water and beat well for 2 minutes. Add 4 eggs, one at a time. Put into greased 9 x 13-inch cake pan and bake at 350° for 25 to 30 minutes until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

ICE CREAM FROSTING:

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 4 | tablespoons flour | 1 | cup shortening, mostly
butter |
| 1 | cup milk | 2 | teaspoons vanilla |
| 1 | cup powdered sugar | | |

Blend the flour and milk together and cook until it forms a thick paste, stirring constantly. Cool. In mixing bowl cream together the powdered sugar and the shortening (I use butter and Crisco). Add cool paste and vanilla. Whip together thoroughly until the consistency of whipped cream. Then add more powdered sugar until it is a good frosting mixture. 12 to 15 servings.

DATE LOAF

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|----------------------------------|
| 1/2 | cup boiling water | 2 | cups sifted all-purpose
flour |
| 8 | ounces chopped pitted dates
or 2 cups pitted, cut up | 1/3 | cup sugar |
| 2 | tablespoons shortening | 1 | teaspoon baking powder |
| 1 | tablespoon grated orange peel | 1 | teaspoon soda |
| 1/2 | cup orange juice | 1/2 | teaspoon salt |
| 1 | egg, beaten | 1/2 | cup chopped walnuts |

Pour 1/2 cup boiling water over chopped dates; add the shortening and cool to room temperature. Add orange peel and 1/2 cup orange juice. Stir in the egg. Sift together the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Add to mixture; stir just until mixed. Lightly stir in the chopped nuts. Turn into greased 9x5x3-inch loaf pan and bake about 1 hour at 325° or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool bread completely (preferably storing, tightly covered, twenty-four hours) before slicing to prevent crumbling. Then I put a little vanilla frosting on as a dressing: 1/4 cup powdered sugar, 1/4 teaspoon vanilla and 2 to 3 teaspoons milk to spreading consistency.



Good wishes to all!

THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS

Marian L. Moore

*The year swiftly draws to its close;
Autumn is winter once more
And Christmas returns to the world
As it has done centuries before.*

*We pause for a moment or two,
Remembering all that it means
To hear the old story again...
More lovely than ever it seems.*

*The wonder of Bethlehem's star
And shepherds who stood in its light;
Three wise men who came from the East
To welcome the Christ Child that night.*

*The church bells' melodious chime
Ring their message of peace on earth,
The wonderful love God has given
To all through that heavenly birth.*

*May that love overflow your heart
And the ones of those you hold dear,
To bring you its peace and good will
Each day of the forthcoming year.*

CIRILA KERMAVNER



Oct. 18th meeting was attended by 33 members. Main discussion was the change of meeting day each month. It was unanimously voted to hold our future meetings on the third Monday of the month at 12 o'clock noon. Members who are actively involved decided that an afternoon meeting would encourage more women to attend.

Our Christmas Party was held in November instead of December, the reason being that December has so many affairs and preparations for the holidays. We hoped to see more new faces at the party. There would be beautiful prizes and delicious food.

Birthday greetings for our October members went to Mary Bratetic, Mathilda Martin, Angela Pawlak and Frances Parke, who resides in Florida. Best of health and happiness to all.

JANE LYNCH

Our regular meeting was held on October 15, there were 15 members present. Plans for the Christmas party were discussed, it will be held on December 16 at 6 p.m. in St. Paul The Apostle Church basement. Members are asked to bring a wrapped gift for the games, and if anyone desires to exchange gifts they can bring one of \$5 value.

Our beautiful yellow and red leaves that brightened our roadways and yards are falling steadily and we know bad weather is fast approaching. We will not be meeting in January, February, and March. It would be wonderful if as many members as possible could make it to the Christmas party.

Two of our members are in nursing homes, Mary Kump and Agnes Bastello. Please keep them in your prayers, and if you are in the vicinity of the nursing homes visit them, I'm sure they and all our shut-ins would appreciate the love and care.

Merry Christmas to all our sisters. Love and prayers for you all.

Respectfully submitted,

ROSE BARRONS

Rec. Secretary

Our Chinese Auction is over now and we can relax for a few weeks before we get too busy for the holidays as they are approaching very fast. Our fundraiser was very successful, but it takes a lot of time and hard work by the members. Thanks to all who donated gifts as we had many on the tables. The pastry table had all home-baked goods, poticas, noodles, strudels, cakes and cookies. The special raffle had two afghans, sweaters, gift certificate and many more articles that were all beautiful. Pres. Ann Cooke thanks all members and guests that came to the affair. Thanks to everyone who helped as it was very much appreciated.

Members who attended the Ohio-Michigan Conference were Pres. Ann Cooke, Rec. Sec'y, Frances Ogoreuc, Auditor Josephine Gornik, Josephine Comenshek and Alma Eppich. The mass at St. Lawrence church was very beautiful. Thanks to Bishop Edward Pevec, the celebrant, also to Fr. Anthony Rebol of St. Lawrence for our

We Mourn Jennie Femc

We have lost our long-time member, former National Officer, Jennie Femc, member of Br. 25, Cleveland, OH. She was an unforgettable person, with her witty and happy personality and her positive outlook on life. She passed away on Oct. 7th, 1993 at Wickliffe Country Place at the age of 90 and services were at St. Vitus Church on Oct. 11th officiated by Bishop Edward Pevec.

Jennie served SWU during the years 1970-73 as Auditor and was a member for 57 years.

Our sincere condolences to her bereaved son, Carl and daughter, Mary Ann Selan, three sisters, three grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. May she rest in peace!

convention mass. It was very kind of Bishop Pevec and Fr. Rebol to take the time to greet everyone after Mass. We thank them for their time. After mass we went into the Slovenian Home for a delicious dinner that was accompanied by Slovenian music. The meeting was so nice. Pres. Evelyn Majercik opened with prayer and every branch gave their report. There were twelve branches in attendance. All these reports were very interesting. Next year's meeting will be in Michigan on Oct. 16th. So, you have a year to make plans to attend the conference. Thanks to Pres. Evelyn for a very interesting meeting.

Our deepest sympathy to our member, Dorothy Lamm, her husband, Bob and family and friends on the loss of Dorothy's mother, Mary Koss. She passed away on Sept. 24th at the age of 94. Dorothy thanks everyone for remembering her in her time of sorrow.

Congratulations to our member, Ann Rossman, who will represent the Slovene Society Home as the Women of the Year 1994. She is very deserving of this honor as she works very hard for the Home. Ann is also very helpful to our branch and she will always be

there when needed. We thank her for the help she has given to the branch.

Charlotte Perdan and family traveled to Myrtle Beach for their last fling before the snow falls. They enjoyed the beach and came back with a nice tan.

Get well wishes and speedy recovery to our sick members, Faye Starman, Eleanor Latkovic, Esther Garbincus, Mary Golobic and to all other members who are not feeling well.

We will have our Christmas party at the regular monthly meeting on Dec. 15th. Please try to attend the last meeting of the year.

Happy birthday to all of our members with birthdays this month. Good health and happiness to all.

The New Year is approaching fast – don't forget to pay your dues on time. Let's make it a good year for the sec'y to help her out with her book work.

Happy Holidays to all.

FRANCES OGOREUC

NO. 33, DULUTH, MN

Greetings to all and belated birthday greetings to Rose Kresky (85) at Lake Haven Manor.

Suntina (Louis) Spehar and Dorothy Janchar are 50-year members. Congratulations.

Please contact Virginia Mikrut, 624-9577 about sick members.

Past "sick list" members are Ida Duncan, Fran Danko and Sunny Spehar.

Prayers of sympathy: Emily Skull, husband; Rose Kochevar and Helen Cheetham, Mary Ann Berntson and Katherine Broten, brothers; Josie Rzakowski, sister.

Congratulations to Winnie Ellena: new grandchild.

August spaghetti dinner added to treasury. Anniversary dinner was at "The Shack", Oct. 6.

Annual meeting and Christmas party, Dec. 1st.

LOIS PELANDER,
Reporter

NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN

We had our meeting during a week when we had some lovely, fall weather, but we all know it won't last!

Uppermost in our minds was our election of officers and our slate continues to be the same: Pres. Adeline

Mustonen, First Vice Pres. Angeline Morin, Second Vice Pres. Lorraine Berg, Sec.-Treas. Molly Wilson, Recording Sec. Emma Betourne, Auditors, Mary Gornick and Angela Tekautz... again I thank the ladies for their support. We have a good relationship so let's keep it up!

Plans were made for our Founder's Day on November 17. We will attend morning Mass and then have breakfast at the Tower Cafe, this seems to be what the ladies enjoy most. Fr. Pakiz will be a guest at the breakfast.

Some of our members have lost loved ones recently -- Angela Tekautz's brother, Louis Pechek of Ely died recently -- Agnes Mesojedec's husband, Herman, died the past week. Herman was also the brother of our member, Helen Adkisson. You have our sincere sympathy. Our large families are losing their members and it is not easy.

A new baby girl was born to member, Yvonne Rooney Yernatich, Megan Agnes was born on October 17 -- Megan's mother, grandmother Marcella Rooney, grandmother Margaret Yernatich and great grandmother Agnes Tekautz are all members of our branch. We are happy all went well for you, Vonnice.

Our hostesses, Helen Adkisson and Mary Gornick treated us with delicious Reuben sandwiches. During the social hour Angela Tekautz, Molly Wilson, Frances Tanko, and Emma Betourne were awarded green plants potted in containers with Halloween decorations... cute! Eileen Poderzay brought the door prize and was won by me -- they were four lovely blue, mauve and white placemats -- thanks, Eileen!

Now we will be preparing for the Christmas Season -- I wish all of you a most blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year, may you have the best of health.

ADELINE MUSTONEN
Reproter

NO. 35, AURORA, MN

Plans were made for our Christmas Party which will be catered on Dec. 6th. Our Jr. members will be our guests and they always add so much joy to our party. We will again give monetary gifts to our White Community Nursing Home Activities Dept. instead of a gift exchange. Hostesses will be Helen

Zuponcic, Mary Nosan and Pauline Karpella. A short meeting will be held before the party and annual dues will be collected then.

Florence Holland and Dorothy Jamnik gave an interesting report on the MN State Convention hosted by Br. 19 in Virginia. A special effort is being made to raise money for our ZARJA with a beautiful 12 month full-color calendar -- (we read more details in the Sept. ZARJA on page 9). Please support our ZARJA by sending in your gift donations. To help support our SWU Heritage Museum, a Slovenian doll was donated by our National Vice-President, Beverly Jackson and drawing for this doll will be this month. Thanks to all who bought raffle tickets -- this could be a very special Christmas gift for one lucky girl!

Congratulations to Mrs. Art Bell (Margaret Peterka) who retired after 30 years of service to our Holy Rosary Church. Coffee an' was served in her honor after mass. Enjoy your retirement, Marge!

To Rosie and Travie Bradich who made their confirmation on Oct. 31st, God bless you!

To Mark Williams who graduated from Michigan Technological University at Houghton, MI, with a major in metallurgical engineering with a material science option, good luck!

To Joseph and Robert Orazem (Isles, MN) who just finished their football season -- enjoyed your games in October!

James and David Wheeler and family vacationed in Texas for one week on October and visited the LBJ Ranch and Admiral Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg and the Lone Star Flight Museum in Galveston. James gathered information and took pictures at both museums for his 6th grade history report on World War II Airplanes. David gathered sea shells at Galveston Bay to give to his 1st grade classmates as souvenirs. A fun and educational trip for everyone. You may have guessed that Mark, Joseph, Robert, James and David are our grandsons and we are always happy to share in their activities!

Barbara Urick enjoyed having her 15 mo. old granddaughter, Kaila from Delano during MEA weekend as her guest.

Welcome home to Ernie and Fran-

cine Stellmach after a scary start for home from their summer job in Yakutat, Alaska. Their plane was struck by lightning shortly after they left the Yakutat airport and they had to return to have it checked out. Luckily, there was no damage to the plane, so they left 6 hours later. Francine is a cook at a lodge there and prepares many ethnic dishes (Slovenian and Croatian) which are enjoyed by guests from all over the world who come to hunt and fish in Alaska.

We enjoyed our visit with you, Betty Orazem, and were happy to see you doing so well. Our prayers are with all our members who are ill and in the nursing homes.

Happy to hear everyone is enjoying their blinking Slovenian pins! It all began when I met a gal from Indiana who was wearing this pin at a Polka Festival in Illinois. I ordered some for my family and friends. Everyone who saw them wanted one so a local organization decided it would be a good way to raise money for our scholarship fund and it really has become very lucrative.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!

ANNE ORAZEM

NO. 38, CHISHOLM, MN

Met on Oct. 6th on a glorious Indian Summer evening; 16 members attended (Las Vegas took a few). We had a productive meeting and an enjoyable time.

Ann Nusich gave a report on the Minn. Regional Convention of Sept. 12th. Treasurer Katherine Knuth shared a letter from Irene Odorizzi asking all SWU members to please enroll new members. She wishes this to be a priority for all branches.

President Charlotte Laurich appealed to members asking them to volunteer for office, or to nominate members and produce a slate of officers for 1994. Again, there were no "takers" present, so Charlotte begged all present to think about this and to contact persons who were not in attendance at this meeting. We officers are getting "stale", and we need new life at the helm!!! Besides, we need a rest!

Br. 38 planned to sponsor a Halloween Card Party and Luncheon on Sunday, Oct. 31, hoping some of us would dress up in Halloween costume! The

JO'S ANTIQUE CORNER

HERITAGE MUSEUM

Jo Lustik

Another of the treasures our museum has been fortunate to obtain is displayed in the picture with Marla Lustik of Br. 20.

The cloth which is between 150 and 200 years old and in excellent condition, was donated to us in 1983 by Elsie Melissa of Br. 2 in Chicago. The actual length of the cloth is about 81 inches. It was used by many generations in the family for their dead when they were laid on the bier.

The cloth was sent from Slovenia to Elsie's mother, Johanna Telban, here in the United States shortly after World War II. It was sent by her sister upon the death of their step-mother.

We wish to thank the Melissa family for their significant addition to the museum.



luncheon was to be prepared by Jennie Samsa with the help of Frances Zalec, Rose Niemi, and Jo Zupancich; the raffle table in the able hands of Rose Niemi, Frances Zalec, and Jennie Briski.

Our annual Christmas party is usually the 1st Wed. in Dec. More on this at our Nov. 1st meeting. On the lunch committee for Nov. 1st are: Jo Zupancich and Rose Niemi.

Frances Enrico was the lucky winner of the traveling prize. No birthdays during the month of October.

Branch 38 wishes to extend holiday greetings to all SWU members. We pray for a successful 1994 for all branches, and that we do not forget our heritage and our parents' homeland. We must keep their memories alive by remembering and keeping SWU alive and well.

October 31st News

Br. 38 hosted a most successful Card Party - Luncheon on Oct. 31. Jennie Samsa and her faithful crew prepared the luncheon. Members who worked are Jennie Samsa, Rose Niemi, Jo Zupancich, Frances Zalec, Rosemary Tanko, and Florence Fryckman. Servers were Charlotte Laurich, Ann McAlpine, and Mary Ruth Cameron. It was a delicious luncheon, beautifully served by the lovely Slovenian women of Br. 38.

Rose Niemi dressed up the hall, besides donating all the decorations. Those who donated for the raffle are: Frances Zalec who made the egg noodles, Jo Zupancich who made a cottage cheese strudel, Jennie Samsa, an apple strudel, Rose Niemi, a potica cake and coffee. What a great group of women in Branch 38!

We also had an unexpected entertainer -- Frances Zalec dressed up as "Urna Nežka" and sauntered from table to table with a Halloween treat. She surprised and delighted all of us! How fortunate Br. 38 is to have all these wonderful members!

Our regular Nov. meeting took place one beautiful evening, but, guess what? Only 11 members (which included 5 officers) attended! As there were no "takers" for any office, members will have to put up with the same officers for another year:

President - Charlotte Laurich; Vice-Pres. - Jennie Briski; Sec'y-Treas. - Katherine Knuth; Rec. Secy - Ann Nusich, and two auditors - Rose Faras, and Rose Niemi. We shall try to keep Br. 38 alive and well for another year. Thank you for your confidence in us.

Our annual Christmas Party is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 1st, at Valentini's Supper Club. Rosemary Tanko and Lorraine Novak will contact each member, and we are hoping all of you

will attend. This is our last get-together of 1993.

Our next meeting is Feb. 2nd at which time the officers will be hostesses.

Prize winners at this meeting were: Ann Nusich, Helen Kochevar, Ann McAlpine Jennie Briski, Rose Niemi, and Frances Zalec, and Charlotte Laurich.

Future Events: Bake Sale and Luncheon on Thursday, March 24; Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday, May 1st. Hopefully, more members will join us in 1994!

Wishing all a beautiful holiday Season.
ANN NUSICH

NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN

It was great to get together for our Oct. meeting. We don't meet in the summer so we miss each other. Our sec'y, Helen Milos had taken minutes at the State Convention in Sept.; she doesn't miss a word, so those who were unable to attend in Virginia in Sept. got all the news.

Our Sunshine Girl, Ann Gerzina has been busy sending out "get wells" and also greetings to those in nursing homes. (My sister Marge Walling, of Duluth had a hip-replacement re-done.)

The most important issue was the "Weinachfest" or Festival of Lights, to be celebrated in Biwabik on Dec. 4. Our branch has a Strudel and Potica booth every year and it looks like we will be having a successful project again. It's a lot of work, so we are fortunate to have all those willing workers. The proceeds will help our delegate to the California convention in 1995.

We will also be having a Christmas party, but I called the caterer from last year and she was booked, so we will have to make other arrangements, possibly a pot-luck. Let you know later.

Anne Tushar of Gilbert has graciously consented to translate into Slovenian some articles or stories of interest to all, so I'll have to get busy on that. Anne has taught Slovenian classes for years (I even attended a few times, but was not one of her star pupils.) We feel fortunate to have her join Br. 39 after Gilbert dissolved. We have only a handful of Slovenian-speaking members in all of the Minnesota branches, but our news may interest others.

I'm hoping to be the lucky winner of the beautiful Slovenian Doll. My daughter Kathy Riordan has started a doll collection and that would make a most wonderful addition. It is a real treasure!

I had the privilege of hearing a wonderful speaker last week! His name was Fred Schumacher, and he came to Pennsylvania from Europe after the 2nd World War; he gave some inciteful opinions on the situations in Bosnia! (He raises Certified Seed Potatoes with his father-in-law, so of course we had a lot to talk about afterwards!)

JEAN KORSMAN

NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

Here it is, October, as I write! Look around you and enjoy the beautiful colors in the trees and before you know it, winter will be here. 17 members came to our Oct. meeting. A delicious dessert was served by Agatha Donges, Angie Martin with the help of pres. Agnes Tomazine. Angie Voytko won the door prize.

Come to our Jan. 12th 1994 meeting when president Agnes will give us a report on the recent Ohio-Michigan Regional Convention. We will not have a meeting in December, instead we hope to see you at our Christmas Dinner at the German Villa on Dec. 8th at 1 p.m. Please make reservations by calling our president at 245-3919. The deadline is Dec. 3rd. No gift exchange but we will make donations to a worthy charity. Please remember when you pay your 1994 dues to add the extra dollar to help defray the cost of printing ZARJA.

Lest we forget: Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School hall. Hope to see you at the Jan. 12th, 1994 meeting.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Love,

MARY MATOS

NO. 42, MAPLE HEIGHTS, OH

Hello ladies! The Ohio-Michigan Annual State Convention held on Sunday Oct. 17th, was attended by 105+ members and was pleased to see that

Michigan had sent two delegates. Our branch was represented by 15 of our ladies, two of whom came from Summerville, NC, Betty Kosak-Gawor and Betty Ann Harr. Report of the convention is located elsewhere in this issue and will bring you up to date on the agenda discussed. It was wonderful to see our native dress outfits worn by Anka Kregar (Girard) and Cirila Kermavner (Cleveland) when they made the presentation of gifts at the Mass. The women were radiantly beautiful.

Ladies who need your prayers for their illnesses are Marge Lipnos, Millie Lipnos, Theresa Filips, Niki Lerchbacher, Mary Lou Prhne and Mary Prhne. "Keep the connection" by sending them and our shut-ins a card or a note. If you need addresses, call Marge.

Noteworthy news: Congratulations to Mark Scotton, Edna's son, who was named Teacher of the Year at Trinity High School, Garfield Hts. Mark is a Technology instructor there... Marie Vercek has moved to a condo in Painesville and loves it... Congratulations to Mary Tome's brother, Fr. Victor Tome who just celebrated his 50th year in the priesthood with fellow priest and longtime friend Fr. Victor Cimperman at St. Vitus Parish on Oct. 31st... Word went around how beautiful Terry Anzo's alto voice was when heard at the last Glasbena Matica concert... A traveler this season was Eleanor McArde who enjoyed a trip to Ireland which we understand was quite spectacular... A warm welcome is extended to Mary Perko who joined our branch in November. Come to the next meeting and welcome her personally; bring a guest as well.

December birthdays are being celebrated by Donna Stubljer, Julia Lipnos, Beth Carroll, Ellie Lipnos, Albina Skocaj, Yong Hui Shega, Jennie Lockard, Fran Wenckus, Marge Church, and Chris Hajek. Many happy returns!

The end of the year is upon us and some have not yet paid their dues. Please clear that up with your secretary as soon as possible. It is important to note that dues will go up \$1.00 per person effective January, 1994. Be sure to include that extra \$1.00 in your check when paying the 1994 dues. Make a note of it.

December 16th is our Christmas luncheon at the Triple Crown restau-

A CRAFTY IDEA!

It's SALE time! In anticipation of moving, and trying to get rid of a lot of things collected over the years, I find myself with left-over copies of patterns offered in this column. If you are interested in the copies, and are not particular which ones you receive, they are yours, three for \$1.00. You might get one you already have, you may get one you don't want, maybe even one that I haven't offered as yet. If you cannot use what you do receive, maybe you can share them with a friend. For the 3 for 1 offer, send a business size self-addressed stamped envelope and \$1.00 (make checks payable to ZARJA) to:

Evelyn A. Majercik
31 Eldred Avenue
Bedford, Ohio 44146

Note: For those of you who requested "Debbie's Afghan", after the ch 270, first row should start with a dc in 5th st from hook. Every row thereafter begins with ch 4, turn. Sorry.



rant. If you haven't made your reservations, do so PDQ.

Celebrate Christmas this year by living the year around for Him and sharing with others. Your ZARJA reporter, Dorothy Mehosky, and branch officers wish you faith, peace, health, joy and love for this Christmas season and in the years to come.

DOROTHY MEHOSKY

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

Just got home from our October meeting. We had a lot to accomplish since our Card Party was taking place on Nov. 14. It was nice to see Rose Lee Otto at the meeting; she is the daughter of our late member and former Secretary, Rose Kraemer.

I want to thank all the ladies who helped at the Card Party, who donated prizes, bakery, canned goods for the grocery basket and all who bought tickets or helped in any other way. Rose Lee, thanks a lot for selling tickets and donating many prizes! Your mom would approve.

Mary Mernik, who won an Afghan last year donated it back this year. It's very nice of you and thanks a lot. Like I said in my last article in the ZARJA: Together we can accomplish many things and whatever we do, we do it for our Branch and S.W.U..

Because of Thanksgiving Day we had to change our November meeting to November 22 at 12 noon. At this meeting we will have election of the officers for 1994.

There will be no meeting in December, 1993 because our 4th Wednesday falls on December 22 and is too close to Christmas. Our Christmas Party will be held in Jan., 1994. Date was not set, but we will report about it in my next ZARJA article.

Vicki Sporis had leg surgery in Sept. We hope, that by now she is back on her feet. Vicki, we wish you a speedy recovery.

Greetings and well wishes are sent to nursing homes, to Ann Hiller, Mary Strazishar, Josie Verbek and Ann Weiselman and if there are others, I am asking their families to please let me know. Our prayers are with all of them.

The year 1994 is almost here. Like it or not, but, statements and letters will be sent out in Jan. for 1994 dues. Again, I am asking members to, please make checks or money orders payable to: S.W.U. Branch 43 and mail them to the address in the letter.

At this time I want to wish all the members a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year, 1994.

Blagoslovljen Božič in srečno zdravo Novo Leto 1994,

Vam želi,

MATILDA SIMCIC

NO. 50, EUCLID, OH

Halloween night, raining and the first snow promised soon. At least we won't have to worry about shoveling it, one of the many perks we enjoy living at Gateway Manor. Florence Ross, manager and our member, oversees our needs and makes us feel like we are on a lasting vacation without home chores. We love it.

When packing for our move, I uncovered boxes of older ZARJAS and started reading them again, discovering how interesting they are, especially the recipes, newsy articles and The Immigrant. Second reading, you digest more, learning our Slovene ancestors worked hard to make it a lot easier and better for us. Our Br. 50 historian, Josephine Smith, read many interesting excerpts from past minutes of our branch and found out that our mothers were great pioneers.

At the Oct. meeting we had a very interesting and knowledgeable speaker from PUCO who drove in from Columbus; we learned a lot about our utilities in Ohio.

Our sick or convalescing members are Mary Sterling, Fran Kolenc, Tillie Nosse and Carole Traven. Cards or calls appreciated. Our sympathy to the family of Josephine Gerbec who died and Rose LoPresti whose husband died also. Jennie and Josie Arko lost their brother, John Tanko. May they rest in peace.

Our dedicated president, Ann Tercek and Alice Karberg, our cadet, did the honors at the wake and also visited Antoinette Celesnik, charter member, and Louise Mlakar, who is 94 years young and who both live in nursing homes.

Birthday cards were sent to our-of-town members, namely, Chris Duche of Lakewood and Carol Rozanc of Idaho. Happy Birthday to Vi Zak on Dec. 25th and to Frances Jerse in Canton. Many more healthy years to all.

Congratulations to Ann and Ray Sternot who celebrated their 50th anniversary and to Sherri Bencin, granddaughter of our late member, Molly Mauer, who will be just starting her anniversaries on Dec. 25 as a bride and graduate from college. Easy date to remember Sherri, just celebrate all at once. Happy memories to all.

Glad to see Helen Sturm, Vida Rup-

nik and Mary Frank who bought 8 cookbooks at the October meeting.

Our Ohio-Michigan Convention was successful with a good dinner, camaraderie and Mass by Bishop Pevec. 99 members were present including Barberton 2, Lorain 8 and Detroit 2. The Motor City will hold the 1994 State Convention. More news on the convention elsewhere in ZARJA, I'm sure.

Justine and Frank Picman were enjoying the company of her sister, Frances Petric and Frances' son, Fr. Franci Petric from Slovenia for 10 days. Father was invited to join in the celebration of the centennial of St. Vitus Church. Fr. Franci is the editor of the Slovenian Catholic newspaper, "Družina". He will undoubtedly have much to write about as the celebration was well-attended and impressive.

Hoping to avoid large traffic jams at Christmas time, when the new Denver airport is opened, Frank and I will spend Thanksgiving holidays in Boulder, Colorado with our son, Roger and family, but will be back in time to join you all at the Christmas dinner on Sunday, Dec. 12th at the Collinwood Slovene Home on Holmes Ave. at 1 p.m. Call Ann Terecek or Jean Miller for reservations. No meeting in December and no ZARJA in January.

Please pay your dues to Evelyn Pipoly at 23330 Williams Ave., Euclid 44123, and get your name in the bowl and maybe receive free annual dues for the year 1994 like our Pauline Seifert did last year in May (1993). By the way, Happy Birthday, Pauline.

Reminder as promised – put your dime out on the window sill right now and take it back in after the New Year. Casting out your bad luck and bringing in good luck. Try it, it doesn't cost you anything – you still have your dime and money will always come when you need it. Many people don't dare to forget – it's a ritual already, only about 40 years now. It's fun!

Have a beautiful Christmas season with family and friends and a happy, prosperous and healthy New Year.

* * *

Sorry I must give up reporting the news for Br. 50 as poor health and age for Frank and I (85 and 88!) has caught up with us. I appreciated the cooperation I received from our editor, Corinne Leskovic, all members and the officers, especially Ann Terecek who supplied

me with the names of sick people and members who passed away, plus social events. Thank you for your compliments in the 12 years of writing – made it all worthwhile to burn the midnight oil. Having to give up driving was the last straw – without a car you can't get to circulate around to social events where you meet members and so, you don't get the news to write about. I recommend you don't give up driving a car because you are grounded without it! Whenever I can get transportation I will be with you. Thank you again, for everything.

VERA SEBENIK

NO. 56, HIBBING, MN

Meeting was held at First Ave. Apt. – opened with prayer. Mass for deceased members was held on Nov. 7th at Blessed Sacrament church. Members had breakfast after mass at the Sportsman Cafe.

Motion was made and seconded to disregard donations to Heritage and Scholarship Funds.

In new business, Mary Sickich spoke to Father at St. Leo's about the Minnesota State Convention. Everything is planned for this, next September, after Labor Day.

Discussion was brought up about where to have our Christmas Party. It will be held on our meeting night. Ann Satovich was asked to inquire about having it at Woodlands Family Restaurant.

Meeting closed with prayers.

EDITH JONES

NO. 54, WARREN, OH

Our group will have their annual Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 15th at 1 p.m. at the Elks Clubroom, Rt. 422. You are asked to bring cookies to taste and for the raffle, as well as canned goods. In lieu of a gift exchange, we will have a basket and you can donate money to be given to the St. Vincent DePaul Society. You will be called for reservations. We always have a good time, so please try to attend. We shall have entertainment, too, and it will be very festive.

At our last meeting we voted to send a check to the Slovenian Radio Program out of Cleveland. They broadcast loc-

ally and we all enjoy the program. They need donations to continue and this is our gift to them. We had a nice group at this meeting and are happy to see Mayme Sporich, a young 90 years, and Vic Zuga, who will be celebrating a birthday soon, as are Jo Kassan, Anne O'Block, Ginny Petrich. Happy Birthday, girls!

Congratulations to Isabelle Rek's son, Bill, who was married to Cynthia Rutledge in October at St. James Church. Our best wishes to the newlyweds. Vacationing in New Jersey is Anne Savor with her husband, Martin. They have been married over 65 years! Back from South Carolina is our president, Jo Kassan, who visited her son, Jim and family. Her daughter, Barb drove her down. We'll be going to Alabama in a few weeks to see our son, Jim and family. We always enjoy the visit with them so much.

Merry Christmas to all and God's blessing. Hope for Peace world-wide for 1994! Next meeting is Feb. 16th at the Elks, noon.

JOANNE PONIKVAR

NO. 55, GIRARD, OH

December 1993

The Christmas season is upon us once again! There's so much to do – the baking, the cleaning, ... Sometimes, I feel that we get so caught up in the hustle and the bustle that the true meaning of Christmas is forgotten. God sent us Jesus, the greatest gift of love for all times. I pray that during this season, all of us will keep the true spirit in our hearts. Gifts are meaningless if not given from the heart!!

Our October meeting was held 10-13-93 and we had a nice showing. Keep up the good work ladies! Rosemary Gordon was hospitalized. Please keep her in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

Plans were made for our Christmas party. It will be held on December 8, 1993 at 4:30 p.m. at Jimmy Chieffo's on the strip on 422. Please mark this date on your calendar. We are looking forward to a fun-filled time of singing and enjoying each other's company. Anka Kregar, our secretary-treasurer, attended the Ohio-Michigan convention on 10-17-93 in Cleveland. She

wore her Narodna Noša. Thanks, Anka, for representing our branch. We are all very proud of you.

Best wishes to the following December birthdays: Helen Dagati, Gala Jhoss, Ivanka Florjancic and Rosemary Juvancic.

Joan Twaddle's in-laws visited her family from Indiana this summer. They came for her husband's birthday. Monica Selak had a Hawaiian birthday party. 22 of her classmates partied at the Selak's - A-L-O-H-A. Monica also won first place for the third grade art contest at St. Rose. Her brother, Mark, won third place for the fifth grade art contest. Keep up the good work!! Anka and I went on a shopping trip to Columbus. We had a terrific time-especially with all of the bargains we received. The Kregar and Rozman families went to Bellevue, Ohio for their annual pilgrimage and Slovenian mass.

In closing, my wish for you this Christmas is that all of you have a joyful holiday season, and may the New Year of 1994 bring you health and happiness.

Vesele Božične praznike in Srečno Novo Leto želim vam vsem!!

Nasvidenje, DORI KREGAR

NO. 56, HIBBING, MN

Fall meeting was held on Sept. 14th at First Ave. Apt. It was opened with prayers and reports were accepted as read. When we have our mass for deceased members, Pres. Carlson asked members if they would like to have breakfast. It will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Val Carlson, Milena Koehler and Mary Enge won prizes at the Minnesota Day Convention. It was suggested that Hibbing host the next convention, at St. Leo's.

No further business, so the meeting was closed with prayers. Jackpot won by Val Carlson, 500 by Elizabeth Spolar and Bunko, Ann Pintar. Lunch committee for October was Mary Sickich, Julie Snyder and Edith Jones.

Sincerely submitted by,
EDITH JONES

NO. 57, NILES, MN

Well, here it is, the autumn season and the weather has really been with us, as the leaves are just beautiful. But, it is also a sad time as soon we will be into winter and all the cold weather and empty trees.

Our meeting was held at the Shepherd Home with 14 members present. After our lunch the meeting was opened by our president with a prayer. Reports were read and approved. Marge Mollica, our secretary had raffle tickets to sell from the Home Office for a beautiful Slovenian doll. I am sure everyone would enjoy having one.

I am sorry there was no report in ZARJA last month as our minds went blank and it seemed nothing needed reporting.

There was no other business at the meeting so we enjoyed the rest of the afternoon playing games with prizes from our hostesses, Esther Logar and Mary Lukz - thank you, ladies!

Birthdays celebrated in October were of Mary DeCapua, Louise Mateyko, Mary Visnosky, Elizabeth Havaich, Catherine Graffius and Caroling Fabjanc. Sorry that only a couple of these ladies were present, but we enjoyed singing Happy Birthday to them.

Our hostesses for November were Ann Pease and Pat Rusk. Ann had spent a few days visiting her son and daughter-in-law and we were glad to see her back.

Don't forget, ladies, that we will be having our Christmas party soon and would like to have a good turn out, so do come to our meetings as they are always on the second Tuesday of the month.

Take care and God bless you!

FRANCES STANEC

NO. 71, STRABANE, PA

The members of Br. 71 celebrated summer with a picnic meeting on Sept. 9th, 1993. Delicious picnic foods were

made by the members; Peg Gricar and her daughter, Megan made hamburgers and hot dogs for all to enjoy. It was an enjoyable evening with a short formal meeting and a longer time for gossiping. During the meeting, Happy Birthday wishes went out to Denise Vance (Florida), and Frances Dixon, both celebrating being a year older. Prayers were said for Lila Koklich and Mamie Toplisek who were said to be in poor health. On the brighter side, the stork will be visiting two members homes this winter. Cheryl and Ken Vogrig are expecting a baby in December and Mary Jo and Paul Hartman are planning on a January birth for their new arrival. Oh, boy! Maybe we will be lucky enough to get "two" new juvenile members. Best of luck to everyone!

Members at the October meeting on the 14th were saddened by the passing of our member Mary (Mamie) Toplisek on Oct. 13, 1993. Members attended prayers at the wake held at the Joseph Salandra Funeral Home in Canonsburg just prior to the meeting. Mamie was a dedicated member and will be greatly missed. God bless her. A donation was sent to the SWU Scholarship Fund from Br. 71 in her memory.

Dorothy Bruce reminded everyone that all dues must be paid for you to remain in good standing as a member. All who still owe for 1993 should send their payment checks immediately to: Dorothy Bruce, 251 Castle Dr., Washington, PA 15301.

Thanks to Marge, Rose and Joanne for planning the Halloween social that followed the meeting. It certainly was festive and the treats were enjoyed by all. Happy birthday wishes were sent to Mary Progar and Rose Germovsek in October and November.

Members voted to hold the annual Christmas Party at Freddie's III Restaurant in McMurray. Make plans to arrive at 7:00 p.m. and bring a "cute" grab-bag worth \$5. Members will purchase their own dinners. Please try to attend to share some Christmas memories.

PEG GRICAR
President and Reporter

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Perhaps by the time this column is printed we will have welcomed our first snowfall. However, today (still October) is a bright, sunny, crisp, colorful day--the kind that says you never want to leave Ohio. For sure, that first snowfall will change that point-of-view.

The night of our October meeting was unusually warm and it brought us a good attendance. We enjoyed visiting with everyone, the refreshments were still to be served when I departed. We certainly hope that even more of you will take advantage of any good weather that will come our way, and join us on our meeting night.

Branch No. 73 has lost a good friend, and it's always hard to put into writing how you feel about these losses. On our meeting night we discussed the upcoming State Convention and Angie Musil mused about having an excuse for not attending, but assured us she would be there. Angie shared with a couple of close friends that her husband, Bob, was not feeling well and would be going for tests in the morning. Bob died the next morning. There were suspicions and fears about Bob's condition previously, his scheduled tests would confirm those feelings, or put the family's minds to rest. Bob Musil attended our cookouts, our Christmas parties, our birthday celebrations, anniversary masses--he was just always there. He will be missed by each and everyone of us. Angie, our hearts go out to you and your family. Sudden death doesn't make the ordeal any easier to cope with regardless of the circumstances. Her loyalties being what they are, Angie did attend the convention and those around her never knew the heavy heart she carried, having lost her husband less than a week before. Our every prayer remains with you and yours. (Angie is our Branch 73 treasurer).

It is equally as hard to express our congratulations to Angie's daughter who we affectionately call Angie, Jr. Angie and David Rees were married Sept. 25th, (two weeks prior to her father's death). We sincerely hope that what you have experienced early on in your married life will strengthen the bond between you, and that many, many happy years will follow.

Twenty-two of our members attended the State Convention, including a few spouses and "kids". We enjoyed the meal and the music, with our own Pete Yuratovac and Bob Mueller giving us reason to tap our toes. It was nice to meet up with so many of our friends from other branches.

As we come to the close of 1993 and await 1994, let's think about all we can do for S.W.U. We can attend meetings, we can pay our dues on time, we can buy/sell cookbooks, we can get a new member, we can participate in activities, we can merely keep in touch. Christmas, just like spring, gives us reason to make a fresh start. Let's reflect on what we did in the old year and try our best to make an improvement in the new year.

We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. When you're writing your Christmas cards, read the greeting that you send out and give some thought to what it says to the person you send it to. Add a short note to let that person know you truly mean what the card expresses. Don't let the tradition of sending cards become a habit, the purpose of Christmas cards is defeated when that occurs. Above all, let's not forget why we celebrate Christmas.

Have yourself a great holiday season. Stay warm, stay well, travel safely.

Respectfully submitted,

EVELYN A. MAJERCIK

NO. 81, KEEWATIN, MN

Members held an afternoon meeting on Oct. 27th in Fr. Frederick Hall as the women were already gathered for the making of apple strudels, their annual project for St. Mary's Fall Bazaar.

A discussion was held and it was decided to have a potluck Christmas dinner on Dec. 3rd, Friday, at 6 p.m. Special guests will be Fr. Walter O'Connell, Pastor; and Rose Maras, Past Pres. Games to follow dinner.

Tickets for the doll raffle were distributed and purchased by members to support the Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum; drawing in December at San Francisco.

Adjourned and women resumed strudel-making.

Next business meeting before Christmas dinner.

TONI DIORIO.

FROM THE EDITOR

Since last March when the SWU Board of Directors met for their annual meeting and the proposal to begin a service for young marrieds and parents, by which they could benefit from programs dealing with marriage and parenting, there has been limited interest. True, we are an organization of older women. True, we have 13 members over 100 years old and one third of our membership is 75 or over. What about the children and grandchildren of these members who are young marrieds and parents of younger children and teen-age children? What about helping them, our families, and helping our neighbors? Have we really lost all our energy and interest in anything but ourselves?

This subject would not be mentioned today if it were not for recent articles and reports telling of the trends in psychological therapy that is being offered in many different areas. For instance, in the judicial system of certain cities, the courts are ordering divorcing parents to take such courses in order to help the children of their families. The school systems are finding that parenting courses as a requirement help teachers do their jobs better by relieving them of discipline hassles.

A recent letter to the editor of the Chicago Tribune caught my eye. The writer refers to the subject by saying: "It is unfortunate and sometimes deadly for children that some parents are unfamiliar with effective discipline techniques and the normal stages of child development. There is assistance for parents who are lacking information and skills--they can obtain them by attending parenting classes"...

Does this column imply that our parents are inadequate and should go back to school? No, not necessarily. But, it does bring up a very interesting turn of events in our country and in our times. And, it does point out that the Slovenian Women's Union could do a lot more for our own families, our own people, if we would just put our minds to it.

Comments to the Editor would be welcome.

Brrr... that wind is getting sharp and reminds us that winter is on its way. A few snow flurries also tell us of things to come. The fall has been just beautiful and I have never seen the trees more colorful and gorgeous. We have certainly had a lovely fall, and now it is time to look towards wonderful holidays and the new year.

It has been a hectic month as we had the Illinois-Indiana State Convention on Oct. 3rd at Joliet. That was very nice and we again congratulate Br. 20 on their 65 years. We also would like to thank the LaSalle Br. 24 ladies for inviting us to go to Joliet on the bus. It was a fun trip, except for the "speeding tickets"! Here, too, we would like to thank Ed Ancel and the other gentlemen (the "Jailer" with the lantern at the Grape Festival), for announcing it and collecting the money for the bus driver to help pay the fine. We also want to thank all the people who were so generous.

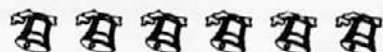
A thank-you to my cousin, Joe Sterle, the sponsor, my sister, brother-in-law, and my sister-in-law for their help in having the polka mass and dinner Oct. 17th. The Polka Masters from Joliet sang and prayed and it was just beautiful. Fr. Tom and everyone in church enjoyed it so much and commented that "wish we could have it at least once a month!" The musicians really are an outstanding group and seem to enjoy doing it so much. Quite a few of my cousins came to the mass and it is always good to see them.

On Oct. 16th the SNPJ had a banquet for the 50 and 60 year members. They certainly do a good job. Ann Retel and Bertha Marciniak made the poticas and Fran Krogulski, the apple strudel. They are our members. It was all very good and enjoyable.

We are hoping to have a meeting some time this month in the first part of December so I hope everyone can make it.

I would like to extend best wishes to all of our members and everyone for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year, 1994. Stay well and God bless.

MARY JERMENC



SLOVENIAN WOMEN UNSURPASSED CAMPAIGN

April 1 to November 1

Not much excitement during the month of October. There was an increase of nine members for a total of 96. This includes 22 Class A including 1 transfer, 43 Class B including 7 transfers and 30 Juniors.

Twenty-three branches and 38 individual campaigners participated. Top branches are: No. 20 Joliet, IL--50, No. 30 Home Office--11, No. 24 LaSalle, IL--11, No. 16 South Chicago, IL--4, No. 5 Indianapolis, IN--2 and No. 39 Biwabik, MN--2. Sixteen branches enrolled one each.

Top workers are:

Jonita Ruth--20, Joliet, IL	14
Irene Odorizzi--103, Washington, D.C.	13
Patricia Figuirowski--20, Joliet, IL	10
Theresa Papes--20, Joliet, IL	6
Josephine Grabowski--24, LaSalle, IL	6
Charlene Kobe--20, Joliet, IL	3
Dorothy Rossi--16, So. Chicago, IL	2
Bernadine Gudac--20, Joliet, IL	2
Lorraine Hrubos--20, Joliet, IL	2
June Muren--20, Joliet, IL	2
Frances Fisek--24, LaSalle, IL	2
Jean Korsman--39, Biwabik, MN	2
Nika Kovacic--103, Washington, DC	2

There were a total of 25 enrolling one each.

New Year's resolution: Enroll one new member for 1994!

Olga Ancel, Nat'l Secy.

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

Our meeting of October 11th was well-attended. Marilyn Argubright, alternate delegate to the Regional Convention, gave a report on the activities of the day in the absence of Angie Nico who could not attend as she was Florida-bound.

We were happy to hear about the National Convention in 1995 in San Francisco. We agree with the theme: "San Francisco, Here We Come!"

Br. 89 is looking forward to holding the next Regional Convention on Oct. 2nd 1994. Hope to see you all here.

Coming up: Our Christmas Party will be on Dec. 13th!

Hostesses for the Oct. 11th meeting were Darlene Wasielewski and Eunice Komater and for Nov. 8th, Marilyn Argubright and Frances Rolando.

Respectfully submitted,

EUNICE KOMATER

NO. 102, WILLARD, WI

The beautiful leaves have fallen and soon the winter white will cover the landscape. Each season has its own beauty.

On rather short notice, the Slovenska Družba put on another Harvest Festival, "Vinska Trgatev" on Oct. 3rd. This is one of the traditions we hope to pass on to the younger generation. It was so good to have so many of them participate. They especially enjoyed singing the song, "Živijo, oj, živijo!" Of course, the real fun was catching the thieves who stole the fruit and then taking them up to pay their fines or go to jail! We even had 5 year olds who mostly appreciated being dressed up in Slovenian costumes that are so colorful.

The hunting season is in full swing now with bow and arrow used in the early part of November, followed by

LOVE'S POWER UNITES

NO. 103, WASHINGTON, D.C.

gun hunting at Thanksgiving. Everyone hopes for that special trophy buck! In Mid-November we planned a Bake-sale with poticas, strudels, our favorites.

Next meeting will be in early December with election of officers and a pot luck Christmas Party and gift exchange. It is also time for everyone to pay their dues.

Msgr. Matthew Malnar returned to Rome on Oct. 6th for his final year of studies. On his return next June, he hopes to create a greater interest in our area for the Bishop Baraga Canonization Cause.

Our thoughts, and prayers go out to all shut-ins who are at home or in the nursing homes, especially to Angeline Berthold who is at the Clark County Health Care Center. A visit or card would be appreciated, I'm sure.

Until next time, hopefully with more news, Happy Holidays to all!

MARY STAUT

SHORTIES

Did you know?

Everyone smiles in the same language.

God gave burdens, also shoulders.

People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges.

Do unto others as though you were the others.

Our customary baking session was held on Saturday, 9 October 1993, at St. Ann's Catholic Church Hall, Washington, D.C., to prepare the dessert for our Annual Dinner Dance, that was held on October 23rd.

The members that volunteer for this baking session are to be commended for their skilled baking knowledge, enthusiasm, generous time and untiring efforts to provide a delicious homemade Apple Strudel Dessert for our dinner guests.

I wish to compliment and express my gratitude to the following baking team: Tillie Ausich, Jana Bevec, Tereza Bevec, Mara Chokel, Tončka Cigale, Angela Daly, Bernadette Kovačič, Nika Kovačič, Freda Michelitch, Mimi Mejac, Ana Skopec, Molly Thomas and Iča Zebot for an excellent job. However, this year our Ivanka Antolin's cheery personality and expertise in baking was, indeed, missed due to her recent cataract surgery. We pray and hope that Ivanka will improve every day.

Each volunteer member was busily occupied in the peeling and slicing of the apples, measuring the ingredients

that go into the dough, and the rolling and stretching of the dough to the right consistency. Finally the baking and the diligent watch to insure the Apple Strudel was flawlessly browned to perfection.

Due to the continuing serious illness of my husband, John, I was not able to attend the baking session. Therefore, in my absence, and that of our daughter, Loretta Kennedy, Nika Kovacic, our VP, graciously consented to take over the purchase and preparation of the luncheon to be served our baking group. I understand the luncheon was temptingly delicious.

The members of our Branch No. 103 are exceptionally caring and understanding, during this trying time for our family. They provide such comforting, loyal, and kindred relationship to John, our children, and me with their telephone calls, and cheerful notes of encouragement and beneficial prayers. I feel privileged and honored to be a member of our Branch No. 103.

With Love and Prayers for the continuing success of all Branches of our distinguished SWU. A Blessed Merry Christmas to each one of you and your families.

SABINA L. BARTOL
President

AMERICAN SLOVENIAN CATHOLIC UNION



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DINNER-DANCE IS A WONDERFUL EVENT

NO. 103, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Even though the autumn season has officially arrived, we are still enjoying some balmy fall weather, and the colorful leaves of the many varieties of trees couldn't be more beautiful.

The Branch 103 annual dinner-dance was held on Saturday, October 23. Once again we want to express our appreciation to the members of the John Dubravec Orchestra of Steelton, Pennsylvania for playing the danceable tunes and helping to contribute to an enjoyable evening. We were honored by the attendance of the Slovenian Ambassador, Dr. Ernest Petric, and members of the diplomatic corps.

The dinner was absolutely outstanding. Maria Paulin was the chef--the chicken and mushroom casserole was superb! Many unsolicited compliments were heard. In addition, the klobase were exceptionally good, as were all the other items on the menu prepared by the ladies of Branch 103 who always rally around when there is a need.

Vice President, Nika Kovacic did a superb job in filling in for the President, who was unable to attend; in addition, she joined with the rest of the ladies in the many details that are necessary. Thanks to Nika and the others who contributed the lovely raffle prizes.

Needless to say, we missed President, Sabina Bartol who was unable to attend because of the serious illness of her husband. Despite her absence, Sabina contributed a great deal for this event--though she was not physically in attendance, she certainly was there in spirit. Sabina, a mere "thank you" is so inadequate. Our best wishes for your husband, and God bless you.

Also, a big "thank you" to all the ladies of Branch 103 who worked to tirelessly and gave so much of their time for this event.

Best wishes to all,

MATILDA AUSICH,
Recording Secretary

PATER AŠIČ SVETUJE

PREHLAD:

Sirup: Čebula – onion; Čebulo lahko pripravimo na tri načine:

A) zrežemo jo na rezine, jih damo v kozarec in zlijemo nanje nekaj cvetličnega medu. Ko se po vrhu nebere tekočina, jo s kavno žličko sproti pobere in uživamo kot zdravilo;

B) sprazimo 3 žlice sladkorja in zalijemo s pol litra vode, (2 cups). Dodamo 2 sesekljani čebuli in pustimo, da počasi vre pol ure za šibkemu ognju. Jemljemo po žličkah večkrat na dan;

C) zrezano čebulo skuhamo z medom v gost sirup in jemljemo vsako uro po 1 žlico.

PA BOGU SE PRIPOROČITE!

CIRILA

LJUDSKA VERA IN OBIČAJI PREKMURJA



O božiču so kmetje postavljali ob polnoči pred hlevna vrata brano, da bi se živini ne približale čarovnice in ji škodovala.

Na dan pred božičem, ko je postni dan, so po kosilu tresli sadno drevje in pri tem govorili: "Naj bo tako polno, kakor je moje črevo." S tem so si želeli, da bi sadno drevje dobro obrodilo v naslednjem letu.

V Mali Poljani je pa gospodar, ko je prišel domov od polnočnice, šel v hišne, hlevne in gospodarske prostore. Vse, kar hoče prihodnje leto imeti v izobilju, strese, in premakne; živino v hlevu zgoni z mesta, denarnico s rese, žito, kruh in drugo. Ta dan prekmurski gospodar med obedom sedi na "povštru", da bo živina prihodnje leto bolj debela. Gospodinja pa odnese ta dan s sosedovega dvorišča nakaj kamenčkov, ter jih potrese po kurniku, da bi njene kokoši bolj nesle kot sosedove.

Med božičem in novim letom je tudi voda posebno zdravilna. Zato se mora po večerji na sveti večer vsakdo umiti v posebni vodi, v katero so dajali rože, ki so jih na veliki šmaren nesli k žegnu. Kdor se v "žegnanih rožah" umije, bo lep in zdrav; če pa se ne umije, bo dobil kraste in lišaje. Z istim namenom se tudi dekleta na Štefanovo umijejo z rdečim jabolkom, to je z vodo, v katero so vrgle rdeče jabolko.

Iz starih časov je ostala med ljudstvom tudi vera v adventne nočne prikazni. V nadaljših nočeh, da imajo duhovi največ moči. Skušali so jih na vse načine zagovarjati in si tako pridobiti njihovo naklonjenost. Pravijo tudi, da se samotnemu potniku prikažejo blodne lučke in ga spremljajo na njegovi poti. Niso zle, vendar je treba biti z njimi prijazen. Kakor tudi, da se v adventnih nočeh vračajo duše ljudi, ki so postavljali napačne mejnike, da tako vsaj malo popravijo krivico.

Značilno je bilo tudi dvanajst noči med božičem in svetimi tremi kralji, katere so se imenovala "volčje noči". V tem času je imel vrag moč nad hudobnimi dušami. Lahko se je pritihoval do hiš in odnesel s sobe tiste, ki so bili namenjeni zanj, jih vrgel v vodo in spremenil v volkove.

Blagoslov svete noči naj prinese v vaše duše mir in veselje.

Cirila Kermavner

V BOŽIČNO NOČ HREPENIM

Nič bolj ljubkega in prisrčnega ni za krščansko srce, kot je božična pesem na sveti večer. Nič lepšega nima za nas svet, kot so jaslice v krščanski družini. Naša srca se že veselijo tihote svete noči. Naša srca že hrepenijo k Jezusu in Mariji v Betlehem.

Pred leti so v Sloveniji neki delavci v mraku pretehal z delom. Ob robu gozda, kraj majhnega studenca so posedli, da bi se odpočili. Sonce je že zašlo za gore, nastajal je mrak, kmalu bo tema... Tedaj prihiti do njih dvoje otrok, ustavita se ob studencu, se napijeta vode, nato pa hočeta brž v gozd navzgor in naprej.

»Ja, otroka, kam gresta zdaj na noč? Tema je v gozdu.«

»Poznava pot, ne bova zašla,« sta bila otroka junaška.

»Toda otroci! V gozdu so volkovi, raztrgali vas bodo.«

»Ne bodo nas, smo premajhni,« se otroka nista bala ničesar.

»Pa v gozdu so razbojniki, požrli vaju bodo.«

»Ne bodo naju ne, saj nimava nič denarja,« se otroka nista zbala.

»Pa kaj vama je, da na vsak način hočeta zdaj v noč skozi gozd?«

»Tam gori visoko v hribih je naša hiša. Mama naju čaka. Žalostna bo, če naju ne bo... Mama naju čaka, mama...« sta se otroka srečna razveselila. Nič nista mislila na strahove, nič na temo. Le naprej tja k mami, ljubljeni materi domov...

Kakor ta otroka tako tudi naša duša in vsako krščansko srce hrepni k Materi, nebeški Materi, ki v skrbi in sreči varuje božje Dete v jaslicah. Tam daleč je Betlehem, tam daleč so jaslice. In tam nas čaka Marija z Jezusom.

Ob jaslicah nas čaka Marija. Kam gremo, če ne k njej! Žalostna bo, če nas ne bo. Le vneto naprej, tja k jaslicam, tja k Mariji in Jezusu! V sveto božično noč hrepni naša duša. Očiščena grehov v adventni spovedi zdaj duša z Bogom v srcu hrepni v sveto božično noč k jaslicam. Marija ob jaslicah se nas bo razveselila in sprejela kot mati svojega izgubljenega otroka.

Pripovedujejo, da je mati sama živela s hčerko Anico. Anica je rasla in doraščala. Nekega dne pa je Anica brez slovesa nenadoma izginila po svetu, mater pa pustila samo doma na domu. Iz mesta šele je sporočila materi, naj se zdaj ne briga več zanjo, zdaj ni več njena hči, dorašla je in dela, kar hoče.

Mati je bila žalostna, hudo žalostna.

Pa se je zgodilo tisto, česar Anica ni pričakovala.

Obolela je. Težko je obolela. Onemogla in zapuščena je ostala v bolezni sama. Nihče ni več maral zanjo. Svet je velik in ima dosti zdravih deklet.

In v tej nesreči se je po osmih letih spet spomnila svoje matere. Misli je: morda bi me mati le še sprejela, ob njej bi živela, tam bi imela vsaj streho nad glavo, seveda bi mater poprej iz srca lepo prosila odpuščanja.

Odločila se je in res odšla na pot k materi domov.

Ura je šla že na polnoč, ko je šla skozi vas. Ponoči je prišla, da bi je v vasi nihče ne srečal in prepoznal.

Približala se je domači hiši. Razmišljala je, kako bo mater iz srca lepo prosila odpuščanja, kako bo pokleknila prednjo in s prošnjo ne bo nehala prej, dokler ji mati ne odpusti.

Prišla je pred vrata.

Vrata so bila široko odprta.

»Kaj je,« se je začudila Anica. Previdno je stopila naprej v vežo, nato še naprej v sobo. In zagledala je, čeprav v temi, ob peči je dobro razločila dremajočo mater.

Pozabila je Anica na svoj sklep. Ni padla na kolena, nič ni prosila odpuščanja. Le v strahu je vzkliknila: »Kaj se je zgodilo, da ne spite? Zakaj so vrata na stežaj odprta sredi noči?«

Mati prvi hip ni prepoznala hčere, zato je odgovorila: »Odkar je Anica odšla od doma, nisem zaprla vrat. Odprta jo čakajo, da se vrne k meni nazaj. In ko se vrne, naj vidi: kako jo čakajo vrata hiše vedno odprta, tako je zanjo tudi moje srce. Samo da se vrne, vse ji bo odpuščeno!«

»Saj sem se vrnila,« je brez pomisleka vzkliknila Anica.

Presenečena se je mati zdrznila in začudila: »Kako, Anica, ali si res ti?« Vstala je in stopila bliže k njej. »Nič se ne boj, Anica, da si le spet doma,« jo je srečna objela.

In izgubljena – je spet našla zavetje in mir pri svoji materi.

Kakor ta mati tako ima Marija odprta vrata za nas. Odprta so vrata nebeška za nas, čeprav smo bili grešniki, čeprav smo z grehom zatajili Boga in Marijo, čeprav smo se kdaj sramovali svoje vere; vrata so bila vedno odprta. Marija je čakala, da nas s svojim Sinom spravi, svojemu Sinu priporoči.

Ko smo pri spovedi odložili greh, smo lahko trdno prepričani, da se nas je Marija resnično razveselila.

O Marija ob jaslicah pri Jezusu! Znova se ti zahvaljujemo za tvojo dobroto. Ob jaslicah se bomo veselili tvoje dobrote. Ob jaslicah bomo hvaležni Jezusu za milost svete spovedi, za krščansko vero.



BARAGA



Začetki Katoliške Cerkve v Ameriki

FRANC JAKLIČ

ŠTIRI LETA IN POL MIRNEGA DELA V LA POINTU (1839–1843)

Iz pisma vidimo, da so ga vzdrževali pol Indijanci, rojeni iz zakonov kanadskih Francozov z Indijankami. Vsi so imeli francoske primke. Vincencij Roy našteva mnogo teh priimkov.

Amaliji tudi sporoča, da se na otoku naseljuje vedno več belokožcev. Cerkev je polna tudi pozimi, čeprav takrat odide mnogo Indijancev v južnejše kraje. Pirca ni več v Grand Portageu, zato se mora sam voziti tja. Toliko dela ima, da ne more potovati v Green Bay z rokopisom indijanske knjige, da jo natisnejo. "Pri tej priliki Ti moram še povedati, kaj se je pripetilo predvčerajšnjem našemu indijanskemu "kralju". Rojaki in vlada ga priznavajo za poglavarja očipvejskega rodu. Ima veliko srebrno medaljo, tri prste v premeru, s podobo predsednika Združenih držav, in pa veliko zastavo. Velik je in neznansko debel – tukaj misli na starega Bivola, ki so mu zaradi njegove obilnosti zdeli to ime – in zelo oblasten. Ta mož je torej hotel iti predvčerajšnjem z nekaterimi Indijanci, ki ga na njegovih potih vedno spremljajo, čez led na celino k poganskim daritvam. Je namreč še vedno pogan; njegov najstarejši sin, 36-leten mož, je pa eden mojih najboljših kristjanov. Ko so bili že več kakor eno miljo (poldrugi kilometer) od tega otoka, se je pod njim udril led, da se je do vratu pogreznil v vodo, z rokami se je

pa še ujel. Ubogi mož se je kopal iz mrzle vode, led se je pa sproti lomil. Med spremljevalci je bil tudi star Kanadec, ki pripoveduje, da je bil indijanski vladar več ko eno uro v tem žalostnem položaju, preden so mu mogli pomagati, ker si niso upali blizu, da bi se še sami ne udrli. Naposled so mu vrgli dolg jermen in ga z veliko težavo izvlekli na led. Zdaj je od velikega napora in prehlada hudo bolan. Vsak dan ga obiščem, kar ga zelo veseli. Sem tudi njegov tajnik. Kadar dobi pisma ali jih hoče pisati, pride k meni, ker mi zaupa, kakor pravi, da jih najbolj točno napišem, in ker mene najbolj razume, kadar mu po indijansko tolmačim angleška in francoska pisma, ki jih prejema."

V juniju leta 1840 je začel Baraga pisati slovenska "Zlata jabolka" in jih je že v septembru poslal Klemensu v Ljubljano. Natisnjena so bila šele leta 1844 pri Blazniku na 286-ih straneh osmerca. Slovenci so knjigo tako radi brali, da je doživela štiri močne natisne; zadnji natis, ki je izšel deset let po Baragovi smrti, ima tudi mašne molitve. Ob izrekih svetnikov razlaga Baraga najvažnejše čednosti: začenja s ponižnostjo in končava z zedinjenjem z Bogom. V predgovoru razlaga naslov knjige: "Preljubi moji Kranjci. Duh božji, ki govori v sv. pismu, pravi, da so besede, o pravem času izrečene, zlata jabolka. Torej imenujem besede svetnikov po vsej pravici "zlata jabolka". Naš Gospod Jezus Kristus se je prikazal sv. Magdaleni v podobi vrtnarja. Zares je Jezus vrtnar. Kakor pa vrtnar med svoja lepa jabolka kakšno zeleno peresce vplete, da je lepše videti, kadar jih na mizo da, tako sem tudi jaz

med besede svetnikov kakšno svojo lastno besedico vpletel." Čitateljem želi: "Bog daj, ljubi moji Kranjci, da bi vsi ta zlata jabolka veselo uživali in da bi vam teknila v večno življenje."

V La Pointe se jih je toliko priselilo, da je tudi povečana cerkev, ki je pa bila slabo zgrajena, po treh letih postala pretesna. 7. okt. 1840 piše Baraga Leopoldinini ustanovi: "Prihodnjo pomlad, če me Bog ohrani pri življenju, se bo zidala nova cerkev. Stavbna pogodba s tukajšnjo nakupovalno družbo je že podpisana. Cerkev bo lesena in znotraj ometana. Vsi tramovi dosedanje cerkve se bodo porabili zanjo, ker so še čisto dobri; zato bo stala samo 1000 dolarjev, drugače bi pa v tej silno dragi deželi nanесли stroški na več kakor 1400 dolarjev. Eden tukajšnjih Kanadcev je tudi spreten kipar. Oltar bi nam on izdelal. Da bi tudi bolj oddaljeni slišali vabiti k službi božji, sem iz New Yorka naročil precēj velik zvon, ki tehta 477 funtov (267 kg) in je v New Yorku stal 178 dolarjev. Dne 2. tega meseca so ga pripeljali. Indijanci so kar strmeli, ko so ga videli in slišali." Ob sklepu pisma se zahvali za 100 goldinarjev, ki jih je darovala neimenovana pobožna gospa iz Solnograda.

Med tistimi, ki so v Evropi prispevali za Baragov misijon, je bil tudi francoski vinotržec Loisson (Luasón) v Pierru nedalče od Esperneya ob Marni. Prispeval pa ni v denarju, ampak v svojem blagu, v vinu šampanjcu. Baraga je njegovo prvo ponudbo odklonil, ker se mu ni zdela primerna. Ko je pa bil v velikih denarnih zadregah, je drugo ponudbo sprejel. Loisson mu je več kot sedem let pošiljal, od jeseni leta 1837, navadno po sto zabojev šampanjca. Baraga je naprosil svojega znanca Ramsaya Crooksa v New Yorku, da je njegovo uvozno in izvozno podjetje prejemale in razprodajalo vino. Prevozne, uvozne in druge stroške je moral nositi sam. Upal je, da bo izkupiček kljub temu velik, a se je zelo uračunal. Takrat so bili slabi časi; ljudje niso imeli kaj jesti, kaj šele, da bi si bili mogli privoščiti šampanjca. Vino je bilo za Amerikance predrago. Tudi se je Ramsayjevo podjetje, ki je tudi samo razpečevalo Loissonovo vino, za pošiljke za Barago premalo brigalo. Zato je moral večkrat podregati, zlasti ker je s tem dohodkom že kar z gotovostjo računal. Dajal je tudi nasvete, kje in kako bi se vino hitreje in bolje razprodajalo. To misijonska podpora ga je sicer veselila in si jo je želel; vendar ga je bolelo srce, da si mora na ta način pomagati. Res da ni imel vseh Amerikancev za take pijance, kakor so bili Indijanci, za katere je bila popolna zdržnost od alkohola edina rešitev. Vendar si je v svoji tenkovestnosti delal očitke, da se to nič kaj ne sklada z njegovim treznostnim apostolatom. Te pomisleke je izrazil tudi Crooksu. To je razvidno iz dopisa z dne 21. avgusta 1843, v katerem skuša podjetje njegove pomisleke razpršiti. To podporo je sicer s hvaležnim, a tudi s krvavečim srcem še tri leta sprejemal.

nadaljevanje



Drage članice in člani SZZ,

mesec december, ki je pred nami je eden najbogatejših mesecev v letu. To pa ne zato, ker morajo nekateri globoko seči v žep, da za praznike obdarijo svoje bližnje, ampak je bogat predvsem po svoji vsebini. In kakor koli se nam od vseh strani ponuja in vsiljuje potrošniško pojmovanje božičnih praznikov, se moramo kristjani zavedati tiste vsebine, zaradi katere ti dnevi res zaslužijo, da so praznični: to je praznovanje rojstva našega Odrešenika Jezusa Kristusa.

Ves ta čas pa je tudi bogato prepleten z našimi narodnimi običaji. V slovenskem izročilu ima večina narodnih običajev versko osnovo in pomen. Vsebine praznikov so človeškemu razumu, še posebej preprostu človeku težko razumljive. Kdo pa more do konca doumeti, zakaj je moral Bog postati človek in priti na svet kot druga božja oseba? Kdo more popolnoma razumeti, da je moral trpeti, umreti nasilne in tako strašne smrti? Kdo more doumeti skrivnost smrti iz katere vstane večno življenje? In ko odpove razum, spregovori naše srce, spregovori naše življenje, ki hoče tudi na zunaj in na preprost način pokazati, kaj doživljamo v svoji notranjosti. Naši bogati narodni običaji so nas zato skozi vsi zgodovino ohranjali pri življenju. Pomagali so ohranjati našo vero, krepili so našo narodno zavest in pomenijo pomemben del tega, čemur pravimo naša slovenska kultura.

V življenju moramo vedno združevati potrebno s koristnim in prijetnim. Tudi adventni čas in bližajoči se božični prazniki nam dajejo priložnost za to, ko bomo veselje nad odresenjem združevali s praznovanjem ob družinski molitvi, ob adventnem vencu, ob srečanju pri jaslicah, ob blagoslovu stanovanja, praznični potoci, prepevanju božičnih pesmi...

Drage članice in člani SZZ, želim vam, da bi te dneve res lepo doživeli in preživeli in da bi se Kristus ponovno rodil v naših srcih, v našem življenju, v naših družinah in v naši skupnosti. Tedaj bo božič zares blagoslovljen.

P. David Šrumpf

(p. David, ki je prisel iz Slovenije, je novi kaplan v Jolietu.)

PERSONAL PRONOUNS (Continued)

The longer forms are used when personal pronoun is emphasized and after prepositions, except when used with the accusative.

The shorter forms are used when personal pronouns are not emphasized and after prepositions when used with the accusative.

e.g.

Vprašal sem **njega**, ne **tebe**. (emphasized)

(I asked **him**, not **you**.)

To lahko storim tudi **brez njega**. (preposition with genitive)

(I can do this **without him**.)

Vprašal sem **ga**, če **te** pozna. (not emphasized)

(I asked **him** if he knew **you**.)

Zate in **zanj** bo dovolj. (preposition with accusative)

(It will be enough **for you** and **for him**.)

Personal reflexive pronoun **sebe** (**se**) is the same for all persons and numbers.

Let's have a look at personal pronouns in some sentences:

- Peter** je delal, **Marija** pa ne. **On** (Peter) je pisal, **ona** (Marija) pa spala. (**Peter** was working, **Marija** wasn't. **He** (Peter) was writing, **she** (Marija) was sleeping.)
- Moji starši in jaz** smo se kopali v morju. **Mi** (moji starši in jaz) smo se kopali v morju. (**My parents and I** were swimming in the sea. **We** (my parents and I) were swimming in the sea.)
- Ti in tvoji starši** pa ste bili na kosilu. **Vi** (ti in tvoji starši) pa ste bili na kosilu. (**You and your parents** were having lunch. **You** (you and your parents) were having lunch.)
- Videli so samo **tebe**, Janez, in **mene**. Videli so samo **naju** (tebe, Janez, in mene). (They only saw **you**, Janez, and **me**. They only saw **us** (you, Janez, and me)).

Now you can check your understanding of personal pronouns in two exercises:

- I. Rewrite the following sentences using the correct form of personal pronouns instead of the underlined nouns.

- Videla sem Jožeta.
- Pismo sem dala očetu, ne mami.
- Pri teti je vedno veselo.
- Ali si videl mojo mačko?
- Petra in Toneta ni bilo doma.
- Prepričaj mamo naj sinu da kolo.
- Deklici so všeč filmi, fantu pa knjige.
- Z menoj in mojo sestro se ne boš igral.
- Povej očetu, da ti in jaz ne greva z mamo.
- Pri tebi in tvojih starših se dobro počutim.

- II. Fill in the correct form of personal pronouns:

- Kar pri (midva)..... ostani.
- Če povem (ti)....., moram še (on).....
- Vprašal sem (on)....., ne (ona).....
- Bil se pri (ona).....
- Zakaj odhajaš od (mi)..... ?
- Kaj (midva)..... strašiš ?
- Ali (oni)..... ne vidiš ?
- Prosim, kupi (jaz)..... sladoled.
- Pusti (on)..... !
- To bova opravila tudi brez (vidva).....

Solutions:

I.

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1. ga | 2. njemu, njej | 3. pri njej | 4. jo videl |
| 5. ni ju | 6. jo, mu, ga da | 7. njej, njemu | 8. z nama |
| mu, midva, z njo | 10. pri vas | | |

II.

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| 1. pri nama | 2. tebi, njemu | 3. njega, nje | 4. njej |
| 5. nas | 6. naju | 7. jih | 8. mi |
| 9. ga | 6. vaju | | |

To be continued...

"FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

Happy Holidays

I visited my friend, **Suzy Snowflake**. She runs a resort. Suzy goes all out for her guests and in old world style traditionally celebrates the **Twelve Days of Christmas**.

"I'd love to stay, for I know you'll **Have a Holly Jolly Christmas**," I said. "But I promised my folks that **I'll Be Home For Christmas**."

"Then stay as long as you can," Suzy said. "You can help **Deck the Halls**. There'll be no **Silent Night** around here. I intend to spread **Joy to the World**, or at least my little corner of it. So, **Go Tell It on the Mountain**, tonight we're **Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree**, and tomorrow we're celebrating **Christmas Country Style**, right down to the **Chestnuts Roastin' on an Open Fire**."

Just then there was a knock on the door, so Suzy excused herself.

"**What Child is This?**" Suzy asked as she opened the door. "Billy is that you? Your nose is as red as that of **Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer**. Come in and warm up. You're just in time to help turn this place into a **Winter Wonderland**."

We hung **Silver Bells** over all the doors and and decorated **O Tannenbaum** in **Silver and Gold**.

"I wanted to be **Good King Wenceslaus**, but my teacher made me the **Little Drummer Boy**, instead." All of a sudden Billy froze. "**Do You Hear What I Hear?**"

Jingle Bells! It's **Jolly Ol' St. Nicholas**. He's early."

"**Santa Claus is Coming to Town**," I said. "But I doubt he's early."

"You're right," Billy said as he looked out the window. "It's just one of the locals on a sleigh. I know I get excited. It's just that I can't wait for **Santa Baby** to come."

"What do you want for Christmas, Billy?"

"**I'm Gettin' Nuttin' For Christmas**," a gruff young man said before Billy could answer.

"Don't mind **Frosty the Snowman**," Billy said once the man was out of the room.

"VESELE BOŽIČNE PRAZNIKE" is the holiday greeting in Slovenia

Preparations for Christmas Eve, the most important time of the season, begin many weeks before the actual day. Mother is busy baking cookies and poticas (poteetsa, Slovenian nut roll); children excitedly search the woods for moss for the manger scene, and with their parents, select a Christmas tree to decorate their home. On Christmas Eve final touches are made to the Nativity Scene by the father. He is, by tradition, the one delegated to set up the crib which is a "must" in every home. Mother bakes a special egg bread, which is characteristically twisted into braids, and covers it with a cloth. This bread called "poprtnjak" (Popertnyak), will remain on the table until the end of the Christmas Season, the Epiphany.

A customary procession is made by the family on this occasion in which the father and mother use incense and holy water to bless each room of the house. Members of the family pass through the rooms praying, as the parents bless everyone and all their belongings. Finally the blessing is performed around the outside of the house as well. Upon returning to the house, the father places the Christ in the manger officially announcing the arrival of the Savior. This act is followed by the praying of three rosaries and/or the reading of the Gospel. Christmas carols are sung and the family feasts on all the goodies prepared for this occasion. As Christmas bells ring out with their traditional rhythm, people arrive at the Church to partake in the solemn celebration of Midnight Mass.

These customs are carried out in a selective, individualized manner, to the extent each family chooses to observe them. After Midnight Mass, all return home to rest, greeting each passer-by as they go and wishing him "Vesele božične praznike".

"Who?"

"Cold as a snowman, so I call him Frosty. He's been that way ever since his **Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer**."

"To answer your question, All I

From all of mine to all of yours, **We Wish You A Merry Christmas!**

DAVY

DAVY'S COLUMN

Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth. That's **The Best Christmas Gift** I could get.

"Did you ever **Wake From Your Sleep** and creep downstairs for a peek?" I nodded. "Me, too, and one year I **Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus**."

When all the decorating was done, before the festivities began we attended Mass. Like **The First Noel**, Mass was held **Away In A Manger**.





VESELE BOŽIČNE PRAZNIKE -- SREČNO NOVO LETO

As we enter the New Year of 1994, we will have a "New Look" at the Home Office. With the advent of riverboat gambling in Joliet, the downtown area is being renovated, which includes the Slovenian Women's Union property. Construction is in progress to give us a new street, sidewalks and landscaping. We also had the exterior of our building painted.

Now all we need to complete the "New Look" is new members and that is up to you. At your next meeting look around at the women who are there. Are there new, younger members in your branch, who are prepared to carry on your work? *Slovenian Women Unsurpassed Campaign* needs your input.

Early November every member will receive a beautiful 1994 Zveza Calendar commemorating ZARJA's 65th anniversary. Please encourage your members to make a contribution for the calendar to support the ZARJA fund.

Since interest income has been drastically reduced, we rely on your monthly assessment to meet our current obligations. Receiving your dues on a timely basis is appreciated.

To the precious and dedicated branch officers and members a VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU is extended for your accomplishments during the past year.

"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