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briefly

Delegate elections on the Lodge 138 March agenda

STRABANE, Pa. — Lodge 138 will hold its next meeting Monday, March 1. The meeting will commence at 7 p.m. at the Lodge 138 Hall. The primary order of business will be the election of delegates to the 2010 SNPJ Quadrennial Convention.

BOB LAWRENCE
Lodge 138 Secretary

Treat your sweetheart to a day on the lanes

CLEVELAND — Grab your sweetheart and head to Freeway Lanes for an afternoon of fun. The Cleveland Athletic League (CAL) invites all sweethearts to phone Linda Gorjup at (216) 731-2723 with the names and averages of those interested in registering to compete in the Sweetheart Doubles Bowling Tournament. Bowling will take place Saturday, Feb. 27, at Freeway Wickliffe Lanes beginning at 2 p.m. The cost is \$20 per adult and \$15 per youth, and includes bowling, prizes and dinner. Pre-registration is a must.

LINDA GORJUP (158)
Cleveland Athletic League

Stay updated on SNPJ athletics through e-mail

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The Fraternal Department is collecting e-mail addresses for SNPJ athletic programs. If you would like to receive periodic e-mails containing information about these programs, e-mail Fraternal Director Kevin Richards at krichards@snpj.com.

KEVIN RICHARDS
SNPJ Fraternal Director

Have you recommended a new member lately?

IMPERIAL, Pa. — Be sure to take advantage of SNPJ's Recommender Program which offers SNPJ members an enhanced benefit for encouraging family, children, friends and acquaintances to join SNPJ. The recommender will receive \$10 for each valid referral submitted. Every valid referral earns the recommender one chance in the quarterly drawing for an opportunity to win \$100 and an additional chance in the year-end drawing for an opportunity to win \$500. See page 6 for the Recommender coupon.

THE DEADLINE

The next two PROSVETA issue dates are Feb. 24 and March 10. All material must be received by Monday, Feb. 15, for the Feb. 24 issue, and by Monday, March 1, for the March 10 issue. If you are running short on time and concerned about making the deadline, try faxing your submission to (724) 695-1555 or e-mailing prosveta@snpj.com.



• **Keegan A. McLendon**
Born June 17, 2009
Boca Raton, Fla., Lodge 787

Lodge 787 welcomes Keegan Ambrose McLendon as its newest addition. Keegan is the son of Tony and Sarah (787) McLendon; grandson of Mr. and Mrs. David Cvetas (787), and Judy Martin; and great-grandson of Joe and Bea Cvetas (787), and Rudy and Joan McLendon. We welcome Keegan to SNPJ and extend best wishes to his entire family.

Take part in the PAGEANTRY

2010 Miss SNPJ Pageant a chance to become part of SNPJ history

by **KEVIN RICHARDS**
SNPJ Fraternal Director

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The Fraternal Department is officially opening the 2010 Miss SNPJ Pageant. This year's pageant marks the 54th anniversary of this time-honored Society tradition.

I would like to extend an invitation to all eligible SNPJ young ladies to be a part of history and enter the 2010 Miss SNPJ Pageant. Contestants must be single females between the ages of 17 and 25 by Dec. 31, 2010, and an SNPJ member for at least three months. The pageant will be held July 9-11 at the SNPJ Recreation Center in the Borough of SNPJ, Pa.; these dates coincide with Slovenefest XXIX. Additional pageant information and an entry form will be mailed

SEE PAGEANT OPENING
ON PAGE 7



Reigning Miss SNPJ 2010 **KARA MARUSZAK** (53) receiving her crown from Miss SNPJ 2009 **BRITTNEY ZEMKO** (643).

And the winner is...

SNPJ National President **JOSEPH C. EVANISH** pulled the name of the 2009 SNPJ Recommender Program year-end winner, Lodge 643 member Tony Trontel of Niles, Ohio. Tony, a longtime member of the Society, had four Recommender entries in the year-end drawing and received a check for \$500. You too can be a winner! The SNPJ Recommender coupon is available in this issue, online at www.snpj.org or by phoning the Home Office at 1-800-843-7675.



PERIODICAL MATERIAL

Member recommenders help SNPJ grow!

by **JOSEPH C. EVANISH**
SNPJ National President

IMPERIAL, Pa. — Bro. Tony Trontel, a member of Girard, Ohio, Lodge 643, won a \$500 reward because he made the effort to recommend friends and family to join SNPJ. We thank Bro. Trontel for turning in those SNPJ Recommender Coupons, which gave him the chance to have his name pulled in the annual drawing, and gave the Society the opportunity

to enroll more new members.

Along with the year-end drawing winner, there were also four \$100 winners in this year's SNPJ Recommender Program, one for each quarter of 2009. The SNPJ Recommender Program gives you the opportunity to be a winner each quarter of the year, as well as a chance to be the big winner, like Tony, at the end of the year.

The Recommender Program is a great way

for members to help SNPJ grow. We want you to tell your friends about SNPJ and make sure your family members aren't left out. Watching young family members, such as your children or grandchildren, become adult members is a great way to continue your SNPJ legacy and heritage.

Remember to use the SNPJ Recommender Coupons this year, and use them often. The more you turn in, the more chances you'll have to be a winner!

Lodge 53 marks the SNPJ Farm 70th anniversary

by **PAULINE BARBISH**
Lodge 53 President

CLEVELAND — A new year for Lodge 53 will begin Tuesday, Feb. 16, as we hold our first monthly meeting of 2010 which, as usual, will be held at the Slovenian Workmen's Home on Waterloo Road, upper hall barannex, beginning at 1 p.m. Our first order of business will be the swearing-in of officers for 2010.

If you followed the V-Boj Lodge 53 articles in the 2009 PROSVETA issues, you probably noticed an active and exciting year. One newsworthy item I failed to mention in 2009 was the Lodge's donation of two cast aluminum benches to the SNPJ

Farm in Kirtland, Ohio, to mark the Farm's 70th anniversary. The benches are located on the inside lane, a little beyond the house on the left.

V-Boj Lodge 53 anticipates sponsoring additional activities and more for 2010. Remember, a Lodge is only as good as its member participation.

With that said, please consider involvement with Lodge 53. We would like your presence to always be known within the Society and the greater Cleveland community. Only you can make this happen. Will we see you at our bi-monthly meetings? I hope so! 'Til then, take care and stay warm.



Lodge 53 auditor **ANN HERPAK** [left] and Secretary/Treasurer **MARTHA MEGLICH** test out one of two benches the V-Boj Lodge donated to the SNPJ Farm in honor of its 70th anniversary.

Golden Valley Lodge 745 ready to tackle 2010

submitted by
Dan Miller

GRASS VALLEY, Calif. — Golden Valley Lodge 745 readied itself for 2010 by holding the year's first Lodge meeting Jan. 24. This gathering served as the inaugural meeting for the Lodge's newly elected president, Matthew Mlakar, and vice president, Angela Mlakar. The meeting began with a recap of achievements from 2009, including Gold Star designation from the Home Office for the Lodge's membership growth. Last year's successes also include many well-attended social events like the spring picnic in wine country and casino night in November.

A significant portion of the meeting centered on establishing a list of events for the upcoming year. Activities in 2010 will build upon successful events from the previous year, as well as explore new ways to reach out to the Golden Valley community and strengthen the Lodge's connection to the Society.

One goal of Lodge 745 for 2010 is to reach out and contribute to the Sacramento, Calif., area through community service projects. The first of these projects, scheduled Feb. 28, will involve assisting Kaboom! (kaboom.org) with one of their volunteer playground building projects. A second community service project will be held later in the year.

To celebrate the Slovenian soccer team's qualification for the World Cup game, Golden Valley Lodge 745 members will gather at a Sacramento pub to cheer on the team as they match up against their first opponent, Algeria, April 18.

The Lodge will once again host a spring picnic and wine tasting in Amador County, Calif. Last year this affair proved to be great fun for members of all ages, and many of those members expressed a desire for its return. This year's festivities are tentatively scheduled for May with a more specific date forthcoming. The hope

SEE GOLDEN VALLEY 2010
ON PAGE 8

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Toll-free: 1-877-767-5732
web site: www.snpjrec.com
e-mail: snpj@snpjrec.com

Have something for Up-and-Coming?

Lodge/Organization _____
Type of Event _____
Site _____
If a concert or dance, who is performing? _____
Date _____
Time _____
Who to contact _____
Phone () _____

Complete and return to:
PROSVETA
247 W. Allegheny Road
Imperial, PA 15126-9774
e-mail: prosveta@snpj.com

Easter Bunny making an early visit to the Recreation Center

by JUDY GERMANI (715)
SNPJ Recreation Center

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — Hello to everyone out there in SNPJland! We're looking forward to you joining us Sunday, March 21, at the SNPJ Recreation Center for an Easter Bunny luncheon for children ages 1 to 12. Lunch is free for children and \$4 for

adults. We'd like you to call to reserve a seat for your child. Lunch will be served at noon.

The Easter Bunny will greet the children before lunch. Afterward, bright, candy-filled eggs will be placed for the children to gather. Please bring a bag or basket. Recreation Center Operations Manager

Sue Krispinsky will call the children in groups by age so each child will have a chance to fill his or her basket. After everyone has picked up their eggs, treat bags will be distributed to each child.

This is a very exciting day for the entire family, so bring your camera for this memorable event. The children

are always eager to see the bunny, and the afternoon is filled with laughter as the kids run to get their eggs.

Be sure to contact the SNPJ Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732 to make your reservation. Easter arrives early this year, on April 4, and we'll be awaiting your call. See you soon!

Youth Circle 7 Decks the Halls

Girard, Ohio, Youth Circle 7 Director and Miss SNPJ 2009 **BRITTNEY ZEMKO** joined a group of youth members for a visit with Santa, a.k.a. Lodge 643 President **ANDY KOCJAN**.

Photo submitted by Bro. Tony Kren (643).



Lodge 786 extends a welcome to transfers

by JEAN KOCI
Lodge 786 Secretary/Treasurer

ORANGE COUNTY, Calif. — I'm a bit late reporting on our Jan. 17 Lodge 786 meeting. The meeting, which was very productive, was held at the home of Fred and Rosemary Mlakar in Irvine, Calif. These members are so hospitable and generous in offering their home for our gatherings. We thank you so much!

All major officers were re-elected in a vote of confidence with a few minor changes. An audit of the Youth Circle and the Lodge books took place, and everything was found to be in order. The biggest task accomplished at the meeting was making plans for 2010. We had a lot of participation from the good turnout of active members. It's always a pleasure to have so much interest and thoughtful discussion

when scheduling activities.

It was decided to hold our next meeting at a clubhouse in Laguna Woods so we could invite the many new members of our Lodge who transferred from the former Los Angeles Lodge 615. This meeting will take place Sunday, March 7, at 2 p.m. This business meeting and welcome party will be held in Clubhouse 2, Dining Room 3, through Gate 12 in Laguna Woods. Gate 12 is just north of El Toro Road on Moulton Parkway. Just turn right through the gate where the main golf course is located. Moulton Parkway is about 1/2 mile west of the I-5. It's very easy to find; you don't have to weave through neighborhood streets to find it.

This will be a potluck party. The main dish and beverages will be provided by the Lodge. Please bring

an appetizer, side dish, salad or dessert to share. I'm sure there will be some music and a great deal of reminiscing going on. Remember, guests are always welcome.

If you plan to attend, we need an RSVP so that your name will be at the guard gate for entry. Please call or e-mail me by March 1. I'm really looking forward to meeting you or, in some cases, seeing you once again. We welcome all of you to Orange Coast Lodge 786 and hope you will soon become part of our active family.

Everyone should have received a welcome letter and 2010 calendar of Lodge events by now. I hope you will keep the information handy. Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions concerning our Lodge. We're looking forward to seeing you March 7!

An active 2009 launches Denver Lodge 218 into 2010

by ED TOMSIC
Lodge 218 President

DENVER — A year full of activities for Lodge 218 began by asking for non-perishable food donations that would be presented to an area food bank later in the year. This was followed by a merger with several inactive Lodges. Lodge 218 accepted the mergers with hopes of acquiring members who would be interested in possible Lodge activities. Accepted were Lodge 51 in Aspen, Colo.; Lodge 66 in Trinidad, Colo.; Lodge 278 in Leadville, Colo.; Lodge 297 in Raton, N.M.; Lodge 655 in Grand Junction, Colo.; and a few members from Lodge 800.

Correspondence was sent to all known addresses requesting suggestions that could be used to entice member participation, but responses were few. Communication

with Region 7 Vice President Johnnie Zibert brought to attention the fact that our region is lacking youth members and activities conducive to attracting youths. We appreciate the help we received from Johnnie Zibert and from SNPJ Marketing Director Greg Felton.

Our additional activities included a trip to the gambling town of Blackhawk, Colo.; a picnic at Morse Park in Lakewood, Colo.; and a post-holiday party.

Officers elected for the upcoming year include President Ed Tomsic, Vice President Julie Chamberlin, Secretary Julie Milavec, Treasurer Elizabeth Tomsic, and auditors Zora Gayet, Diana Yanko and Bonnie Lehnerz.

We are in the process of establishing a meeting site for this year and will advise members as to the decision.



Lodge 218 Secretary **JULIE MILAVEC** [right] presented boxes of donated food items that were collected by Lodge members to a representative of the Jeffco Action Center.

Up-and-Coming...

A look at events planned by the Slovene National Benefit Society

- FEB. 14 Herminie, Pa., Lodge 87 jam session in the Horizon Room, 2-7 p.m. All musicians are welcome. Free desserts for your sweetie. For additional information contact Shirley Bailey at (724) 864-1606.
- FEB. 18 Loyalties Lodge 158 "Pour Folks Social" at the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid, Ohio. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; admission is \$10 per person. For tickets phone Gina Volpe at (440) 205-1618 or Linda Gorjup at (216) 731-2723.
- FEB. 19-21 Florida SNPJ Days hosted by Samsula Lodge 603.
- FEB. 27 Cleveland Athletic League (CAL) Sweetheart Doubles bowling beginning at 2 p.m. at Freeway Wickliffe Lanes, Wickliffe, Ohio. To register phone Linda Gorjup at (216) 731-2723 with names and averages.
- FEB. 28 Herminie, Pa., Lodge 87 polka dance and cabbage roll dinner in the Crystal Ballroom, 2-7 p.m. Music by Mikey Dee and Dick Tady. For information contact Shirley Bailey at (724) 864-1606.
- MARCH 5-7 Florida Slovene Days and the SNPJ Florida Annual Golf Tournament hosted by Spring Hill Lodge 778. Entertainment features the Mahoning Valley Button Box Club and The Polka Quads. For additional details phone Rita Hren at (352) 382-3721; for golf tournament information phone Betty Keber at (352) 686-9579.
- MARCH 20 Lou Progar Memorial Scholarship spaghetti dinner, youth bowling clinic and celebrity bowling tournament hosted by Strabane, Pa., Lodge 138. For details contact Frank Mavrich at (724) 746-3549, or Karen Brumbaugh at (724) 745-3412, or e-mail kmb1208@hotmail.com.
- MARCH 21 Spring Hill, Fla., Lodge 778 dinner dance. Dinner served from noon-1:30 p.m.; dancing to Virgil Baker from 2-6 p.m. For details phone Carol Drongosky at (352) 237-8039.
- MARCH 28 Herminie, Pa., Lodge 87 polka dance in the Crystal Ballroom, 2-7 p.m. Music by Mikey Dee and Karl Lukitsch. Kitchen will be open. For additional information phone Shirley Bailey at (724) 864-1606.
- APRIL 11 Youth Circle 2 Annual Button Box Bash at the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid, Ohio.
- APRIL 25 Heritage Day in the SNPJ Heritage Center at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa.; 1-5 p.m. For additional information contact Carol Maruszak at (440) 944-4229.
- MAY 1-2 SNPJ National Bowling Tournament hosted by Indianapolis Lodge 34. For tournament information contact Fraternal Director Kevin Richards at 1-800-843-7675 or krichards@snpj.com.
- JUNE 20-25 Youth Roundup at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For registration information contact Fraternal Director Kevin Richards at 1-800-843-7675 or krichards@snpj.com.
- JUNE 25-27 SNPJ Young Adult Conference at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For registration information contact Fraternal Director Kevin Richards at 1-800-843-7675 or krichards@snpj.com.
- JULY 9-11 Slovenefest XXIX and the 54th Miss SNPJ Pageant at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa.

We've Got You COVERED



GREG FELTON
Marketing Director

The best gift for Valentine's Day

Forget the cards, chocolate, flowers and dinner. Valentine's Day is Feb. 14, a Sunday this year, and it's right around the corner. Here is a new idea from the Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education (LIFE): "Insure your Love." This new campaign is designed to raise awareness of life insurance, especially at this time of the year.

The concept is very simple. People purchase life insurance because they love someone, so why not accentuate this point around Valentine's Day? The most sincere love letter a person could ever write is a life insurance policy. Any plan would show those you love just how much you care about them. A life insurance policy is just a piece of paper until someone dies, then it becomes a sum of money for their family to use. This money can buy your loved ones freedom, peace of mind and flexibility when you are no longer here.

SNPJ can help you with a broad array of products. Our plans are so affordable, you'll still be able to buy the card, chocolate, flowers and dinner. Go ahead and splurge! Contact your Lodge secretary, local sales representative or the SNP timer Home Office at 1-800-843-7675 for more information.

- **Thought for the Week** — The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart.

Helen Keller



50-Year Members February 2010

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
A02	Charles H. Egan	289	Rose Marie Baumer
2	Robert H. Church	559	Edward J. Krasovech
5	Ana Pockaj	559	Thomas C. Slanec
33	Marie A. Posega	564	Gerald A. Dugar
87	Carol J. Duff	566	David A. Kaus
138	Frank F. Pasko	614	Nancy A. Knapp
138	Rose Marie Colussi	629	Martha A. Wise
138	Stanley Bostjancic	686	Donald J. Knafels
218	Jack S. Cohara	715	Rosanne Vogel
289	James H. Clement		

60-Year Members February 2010

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
A02	Thomas Vitunic	190	John Puchko
2	Robert J. Baird	218	Lorraine Grange
3	Elizabeth J. Gorentz	559	Lillian Camasta
6	Elmer F. Gasper	562	Alice Jane Courtright
6	Mary J. Rees	566	Marion L. Belle
8	Robert G. Sambol	576	Victor J. Nared
8	Dorothy D. Ray	581	Tillie M. Renosky
34	Donald Eugene Cesnik	584	Mary Ann Chuck
53	Louis J. Thomas	634	Dorothy M. Hellauer
107	Helen F. Thiems	723	Paul W. Lander
138	Roberta M. Tomsic	723	Lois M. Cuder
142	Ervin G. Prileson	749	Betty V. Klucik

70-Year Members February 2010

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
A02	Albert P. Smolensky	419	Mary F. Matko
1	Katherine M. Novotney	564	Elsie Flack
5	Angela M. Samkow	584	Tony Umek
6	Albert Merlock	604	John Pinasky
6	Alberta Merlock	665	August Rosenberger
87	Mary Smodic	715	Josephine Benn
106	Mary Frissora	723	Frances Rosich
218	Danny Tibljas	729	Ann Stanek
223	Bertha Barbi	764	John F. Zore
259	Robert J. Kocian	777	Christine Potthoff
321	Charles J. Tomazin	782	John Kokel
419	Jacob Pompe		

80-Year Members February 2010

Lodge	Member
A01	Andrew Meitherth
89	Joseph Jelovich
304	Rose A. Mara
559	Frank Jantz
614	Christine Lowry

Earthquake rumbles through parts of Slovenia

LJUBLJANA (STA) — An earthquake registering 3.7 on the European Macroseismic Scale struck the Postojna area, roughly 25 miles southwest of Ljubljana, the Slovenian Environmental Agency (ARSO) reported Jan. 15. The quake, which is considered "strong" according to the European Macroseismic Scale, could be felt in southern, western and central parts of the country.

According to seismologist Matjaz Godec, such earthquakes are common for Slovenia's geographical location. Each year, about 40 tremors can be felt, while many more go unnoticed and are only detected by precise seismological equipment.

Government talking tourism in the spring

LJUBLJANA (STA) — In late January, Slovenian Prime Minister Borut Pahor announced that he would call a special cabinet session at the end of March or beginning of April to adopt tourism-boosting measures. "Tourism is a great opportunity for Slovenia," Pahor told the press after meeting tourism executives in Ljubljana.

The government will adopt short- and long-term measures to help the tourism field bridge the recession and ensure its continued development. Pahor noted that tourism accounted for some 10 percent of Slovenia's GDP. "We will try to... draft a strategic vision for Slovenia to become an established destination in Europe and maybe even on the global map of destinations," Pahor said. "We want a green, tidy, clean and safe Slovenia," he continued, stressing the wish for the development of sustainable tourism.

The prime minister also expressed his desire to see additional foreign investment in Slovenian tourism, adding that the country should create an investor-friendly business environment.

Economy Minister Matej Lahovnik, who also attended the meeting, agreed with the prime minister. He welcomed Pahor's decision to call a cabinet session, as tourist activities concern all departments. Lahovnik also told the press that Slovenia had been very successful in drawing EU funds. To date, 93 tourism projects had been awarded a total of \$176 million, creating 1,320 jobs.

Cooperatives expect a tough year for agriculture

LJUBLJANA (STA) — "This year will be by far the hardest for Slovenia's agricultural cooperatives since the effects of the economic crisis manifest themselves in agriculture with a delay," president of Slovenia's Cooperatives Association, Peter Vrisk, told the press in mid-January.

"Considering how bad the financial and economic crisis is, we can say that cooperatives managed to get through 2009 quite successfully. But we believe 2010 will be much tougher," Vrisk explained as he presented the Cooperatives Association's plans for this year.

In 2010, the Cooperatives Association would like to ensure a place for cooperatives within Slovenia's emerging agricultural development strategy. The association will also help the cooperatives apply for ministerial funds.

The association would like to see the cooperatives improve their competitive position and increase their efficiency. The association would also like to reverse part of the legislative amendments passed in 2009 under which cooperatives cannot perform audits. The amendments abolished obligatory audits for all cooperatives, making audits mandatory for only the large cooperatives. The majority of Slovenian cooperatives are small, however, and hold some 45 percent of total capital owned by the cooperatives.

Cooperatives are the most important buyers of numerous agricultural products, including milk, grapes, tomatoes, stock, vegetables, grains, wood and hops. Many cooperative process these products as well. Cooperatives own a large portion of Slovenia's food processing industry, and they play an important role in the sale of phytopharmaceutical (botanical-based pharmaceutical) agents, seeds, mineral fertilizers and fodder.

The Cooperatives Association includes 76 cooperatives with over 16,500 members and 3,000 employees. These cooperatives create over \$980 million in sales revenues annually. The average Slovenian cooperative generates around \$12.5 million in revenues each year



and employs 40 people. A total of 437 cooperatives were registered in Slovenia in 2008, 117 of which were agricultural, hunting, forestry or fishing cooperatives.

Slovenia has two more bids for the UNESCO list

PARIS (STA) — Slovenia submitted the documentation for two group bids for the UNESCO World Heritage List in Paris in late January. Slovenia is participating in a transnational nomination for listing the Idrija mercury mine and the prehistoric pile-dwelling sites in Ig, near Ljubljana.

The first proposal, which includes the Spanish mercury mine in Almaden and the San Louis Potosi silver mine in Mexico, outlines the intercontinental mercury and "Camino Real" (Royal Path) silver route. The countries first entered the bid two years ago, but the UNESCO World Heritage Committee decided in June last year that the application for the silver mine required a better explanation of the role of silver along the route.

The new proposal, which includes additional documentation, is expected to be discussed at the committee's annual session in Brasilia, Brazil, in July 2010, the Slovenian Culture Ministry announced to the press.

Slovenia's second proposal, titled "Prehistoric Pile Dwellings around the Alps," is also a joint bid with Switzerland, France, Germany, Austria and Italy. Slovenia would like to list two prehistoric pile-dwelling sites in the Ig municipality near Ljubljana.

The Ljubljana Marshes were once home to settlers known as *koliščarji* ("kol" meaning a pile), who built their lake-homes on wooden platforms and piles driven in the soggy ground. Scientists say the *koliščarji* lived in the area approximately around 3,900 B.C.

All of the countries from the group have entered the archaeological sites on the UNESCO tentative list, which means they have taken an inventory of the sites' significant cultural and natural properties. However, a decision by the World Heritage Committee is not expected before the summer of 2011, the Culture Ministry added.

To date, Slovenia has only the Skocjanske jame caves in the southwestern Kras region on the UNESCO list. Three other sites are currently on the tentative list: the Kras region, the Fuzinske planine mountains in Bohinj, and the Franja WWII Partisan Hospital near Cerklje.

Ljubljana U the best of the ex-Yugoslav schools

LJUBLJANA (STA) — The University of Ljubljana has emerged as the highest-ranking university in the countries of the former Yugoslavia according to the results of a global survey of higher education institutions conducted in Spain.

Ljubljana University was ranked 201st of the 6,000 universities reviewed in the July 2009 survey conducted by the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC), which is affiliated with the Spanish Education Ministry. The second-highest ranked university from the former Yugoslavia is the University of Belgrade (299th), followed by the University of Maribor in 667th place.

The top 21 universities world wide are all American. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) tops the list, followed by Harvard, Stanford and Berkeley. The top-ranked European university, Cambridge, came in at 22nd.

The biannual survey is based on the research results and visibility of the universities. Among the European universities, the University of Ljubljana placed 63rd. The university was fourth among universities from central and eastern Europe.

New gaming program offered in Nova Gorica

NOVA GORICA (STA) — The town of Nova Gorica, the seat of Slovenia's biggest gaming company, will offer Slovenia's first gaming university program beginning in the fall. The program will be conducted by the Celje-based Faculty of Commercial and Business Sciences.

The program, which was created

by 20 Slovenian experts in the gaming and tourism fields, is comprised of five subjects, two of which are compulsory while the remainder are electives.

The Nova Gorica department expects to enroll 60 students. The department is hoping that 30 to 40 percent of its professors will be Slovenian experts.

The Lipica stud farm welcomes \$4 million in aid

LIPICA (STA) — Kobilarna Lipica, the authority which manages the world-famous Lipica stud farm which finished out the 2009 year with a loss of \$927,000, will get \$4.6 million in state aid for 2010, Kobilarna Lipica acting director Tomi Rumpf told the press. Rumpf also pointed to a program the company drew up earlier in January to increase revenues and cut costs in an attempt to finish 2010 in the black.

The stud farm is counting on additional investment in the tourist infrastructure, according to Rumpf. The debt-ridden Lipica Turizem Company would require some \$12.6 million for the renovation of a hotel, congressional center and mansion.

"Tourism in Lipica is still based on a system instituted over 20 years ago, when tourist flows and traveling habits were very different from what they are today. Restructuring has not been implemented yet because it should run parallel to a renovation of the tourist infrastructure which is 21 years late," Rumpf explained.

A recent analysis of the employee age structure revealed that more than 36 percent of employees were over the age of 50, "which makes the implementation of novelties and changes very slow, especially since staff training has been mostly neglected in the past," he continued. Rumpf assured that the 2010 action plan would focus on staff training.

Wolf attacks on the climb in Slovenia

POSTOJNA/SEZANA (STA) — The number of wolves attacking small cattle in Slovenia's Kras region (southwest) has been increasing every year since wolves were first spotted in the area in 1996 after an absence of several decades. The number of attacks reached a record high in 2009, according to the Slovenian Forest Service.

Speaking to the press in late January, Andrej Sila of the regional branch of the Slovenian Forest Service said, "In 2005, the number of attacks stood at 24, climbing to 177 in 2007. Last year, however, 251 attacks were recorded, during which 864 sheep, goats and donkeys were killed."

Sila explained that "the wolves returned to Kras with the spread of forested areas, which is home to their prey. The number of wolves, deer and wild boar is increasing, while the number of other beasts remains pretty much the same as in past years."

Packs of wolves, which can number up to nine animals, attack mostly in the autumn months, when females are teaching their cubs how to hunt, but "we get attacks throughout the year in our region," Sila said.

The estimated damage arising from wolf attacks eclipsed \$210,000 in 2009, according to the Slovenian Forest Service, while the year prior it reached \$169,000. Many of the animals killed by wolves were donkeys, which are much more expensive than sheep or goats.

Sila believes that humans are not in danger, but "a wolf is a wolf, a wild beast, and you never know what could trigger an attack on man."

Lake Bled camp takes active vacation honors

BLED (STA) — Camping Bled, a camp in the picturesque Alpine lake resort of Bled, was recognized as the Best Active Vacation Camp by the acclaimed Alan Rogers Campsite Guides, according to a press release issued by the camp's parent company, Sava Hoteli Bled.

According to the Alan Rogers Campsite Guides web site, Camping Bled "is an outstanding family site in a stunning setting on Lake Bled with a superb range of activities to offer." The Alan Rogers team considers the camp a perfect choice for families seeking an active vacation.

The articles comprising this feature have been reprinted with permission from the Slovenian Press Agency (STA).

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Slovenski nastop na dunajskem turističnem sejmu

HEADLINE: Slovenian participation at the Vienna Tourist Fair

TOPIC: The Vienna Tourist Fair, which focused on biking, walking and wellness, was recently held in the Austrian capital city. Among the 800-plus exhibitors from 70 countries, Slovenian companies again participated this year, including many health resorts, several cities (from Portorož and Idrija to Ljubljana), the Karst and Brda regions, the Jerusalem area and the Lipica stud farm. "The Slovenian booth again attracted many reporters, tourist agents and visitors," said Slovenian Tourist Organization representative Jan Ciglencečki.

Close to 148,000 visitors stopped by the Slovenian booth, the majority of whom were interested in Slovenian health resorts, the wine paths, the Slovenian sea and short culinary excursions.

Last year 195,000 Austrian tourists visited Slovenia, and this year the Slovenian Tourist Organization is hoping to attract even more tourists from this neighboring country.

V znamenju kolesarjenja, pohodništva in wellnessa je pred kratkim v avstrajski

prestonici potekal dunajski turističen sejem. Med več kot osemsto razstavljalci iz skoraj sedemdesetih držav so tudi letos nastopila slovenska podjetja, med njima številna zdravilišča in mesta od Portoroža, Idrije do Ljubljane, pa območja od Krasa do Brd, okolica Jeruzalema, kobilarna Lipica in še kdo.

"Slovenska stojnica je tudi letos pritegnila poglede, že na sprejemu je bilo z okrog dvesto ljudmi enkrat več gostov kot lani, med njimi številni novinarji, turistični agenti in drugi," je povedal Jan Ciglencečki iz Slovenske turistične organizacije (STO). Ob slovenski stojnici so se ustavili tudi številni od okrog 148 tisoč obiskovalcev, v Sloveniji pa so jih poleg zdravilišč še posebej zanimale vinske poti, morje in krajši izleti, povezani s kulinariko. Lani je Slovenijo obiskalo 195 tisoč avstrajskih turistov, letos pa v Slovenski turistični organizaciji upajo, da jih bo še več, saj je tudi pritožb zaradi cene in trajanja vinjet veliko manj, poleg tega pa po prepričanju Jana Ciglencečkega pozitivno ocenjujejo tudi izboljšanje odnosov med Slovenijo in Hrvaško glede Piranskega zaliva.

DELO

MILIJONI - "Star sem šestdeset let in ljubim štiridesetletno žensko. Ampak kljub mojim milijonom se noče z mano poročiti." - "Reci ji, da si star že osemdeset let!"

GLEDALIŠČE - Ko vstopita v gledališče, pravi Hladnik svoji ženi: "Po moje je bila napaka, da sem danes oblekel novo obleko." - "Zakaj tako govoriš, saj ti res dobro stoji." - "To že, ampak vstopnici imam v stari obleki!"

AVTO - Sinova se pogovarjata, kaj bi podarila očetu za rojstni dan. Pa pride eden na misel: "Pustiva mu, da se bo ta konec tedna kam peljal s svojim avtom, to ga bo gotovo silno razveselilo."

V GOSTILNI - Prijatelja se pogovarjata v gostilni. Prvi zavzihne: "Nenehno se bojim moje žene. Tudi ti?" - "Ne, jaz se bojim samo svoje!"

Ptuj pripravlja bogato in pestro 50. kurentovanje

HEADLINE: Ptuj is arranging a rich and colorful 50th Carnival

TOPIC: Ptuj's Carnival is a half century old. For this reason the organizers have arranged 11 Carnival days between Feb. 6-16 that will offer a particularly colorful and rich selection of various activities.

Even though this year's 50th Carnival will be extremely rich, it will only be an introduction to the world's largest ethnic festival which will be held in two years. At that time, Ptuj will be one of the suburbs participating in the European Cultural Capital (in partnership with Maribor), and the Art Heritage Carnival will be the main

display of European culture in Ptuj.

The organizers are expecting close to 250,000 visitors during the 11 Carnival days in Ptuj.

Ptujsko kurentovanje je staro pol stoletja. Zato so organizatorji za enajst pustnih dni med 6. in 16. februarjem pripravili posebno pester in bogat izbor najrazličnejših prireditvev. V Konzorciju Kurent, ki združuje Mestno občino Ptuj, Perutnino in Terme Ptuj, kjer zadnja leta pripravlja ptujjska pustovanja, so pred dnevi predstavili program.

Čprav bo 50. kurentovanje že samo po sebi izjemno bogato, bo pa to šele uvod v največji svetovni etno festival, ki ga obljublajo že čez dve leti.

Takrat bo Ptuj eno od predmestij evropske prestolnice kulture (partner Maribor)) in Art Heritage Carneval naj bi bila osrednja prireditev kulturnega prestolovanja Evropi na Ptuju.

Organizatorji in sponzorji morajo za letošnji nekomercialni del kurentovanja zbrati skoraj pol milijona evrov, celotna prireditev pa naj bi prinesla milijon zaslužka; to je celotni zaslužek pustovanje, ki pa ga ne bodo spravili v svojo blagajno le organizatorji. Na Ptuju pričakujejo v enajstih dneh na prireditvah četr milijona obiskovalcev, samo v glavnem sprevedu po mestu na pustno nedeljo pa okrog 70.000. Letos bodo povečali tudi karnivalsko dvorano na

dvorišču nekdanje vojašnice na Vičavi, tako da bo sprejela do tri tisoč ljudi na glasbenih in pustnih večerih.

Letošnji princ karnevala je Milan Senčar, ki si je za to priložnost prilastil ime plemenitega Bernarda Ptujskega. V soboto, 6. februarja je na čelu uvodnega spreveda, ki je predstavil slovenske pustne like in navade, že naslednji dan pa je na ptujjske ulice pripeljal kar 50 pihalnih godb (toliko se jih v Sloveniji na enem kraju še ni srečalo) in mažoretke. Glavni karnevalski spreved bo po ulicah krenil v nedeljo 14. februarja, naslednji dan pa bodo svoje vesele maškare razkazovali otroci iz 50 slovenskih in hrvaških vrtcev.

DELO

To in ono iz Slovenije – This and that from Slovenia –

LJUBLJANA -Študentska organizacija Univerze v Ljubljani (ŠOU) je na Gospodarskem razstavišču priredila izobraževalni dogodek z naslovom *Te mika tujina - Evropa te čaka*, na katerem so podrobneje predstavili študijske izmenjave v tujini. Na stojnicah so bili na voljo zastopniki iz različnih evropskih držav in mednarodnih organizacij, ki se ukvarjajo s študentskimi izmenjavami. Udeleženci so lahko izvedeli, katere države in fakultete podpirajo izmenjave, kje, kako in do kdaj se zainteresirani za študij v tujini lahko prijavijo, na kaj morajo biti pozorni, katere dokumente potrebujejo in podobno. Svoje izkušnje s študijskimi izmenjavami so predstavili tuji študentje, ki so se z izmenjav v tujini že vrnil. Dodatne informacije o programih za študij v tujini so zbrali v brošuri *Te mika tujina?*

The Ljubljana University Students' Association recently arranged an educational program titled "Is a Foreign Country Attracting You? – Europe is Waiting for You" at the Gospodarsko razstavišče, during which they introduced in detail the student exchange program with other countries. Representatives from various European countries and international organizations were in attendance to answer the students' questions. The students were able to find out which countries and universities are supporting the exchange program; where, how and when they can register to study abroad; which documents they need; and much more.

BLEED - Kamp Bled je na turistični borzi v Utrechtu na Nizozemskem pred dnevi prejel nagrado za najboljšo ponudbo aktivnih počitnic v Evropi. Nagrado mu je podelil vodič po kampih Alan Rogers, ki je eden od vodilnih vodičev te vrste v Evropi. Strokovna komisija ocenjevalcev je za blejski kamp navedla predvsem izjemno naravo, bogato ponudbo športnih dejavnosti, program kolesarskih in pohodniških izletov ter širok izbor vodnih športov. Vodja kampa Nejc Kolbl je povedal, da so v zadnjih letih precej obogatili ponudbo, rezultat tega pa je tudi priznanje.

The tourist exchange in Utrecht, Netherlands, recently recognized the Bled Camp as the best active vacation in Europe. The award was presented by Alan Rogers, a camp guide who is one of the leading guides in his field in Europe. When assessing the Bled Camp, the committee of professional judges noted the camp's exceptional natural surroundings, numerous athletic activities and its wide selection of water sports.

DELO

Priznanje za Kendov Dvorec

HEADLINE: Recognition for Kenda Manor

TOPIC: Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report, an American magazine that has been reviewing prestigious hotels around the world for 31 years and presents an important source of information for demanding international tourists, extended Kenda Manor in Spodnja Idrija (Lower Idrija) a great honor in January.

"Andrew Harper" is the pseudonym for a traveler who travels incognito and writes impartial reviews about unique places and hotels. During a European trip last summer he visited Slovenia for the first time, where he was most inspired by the Julian Alps and

Slovenian culinary traditions.

The kitchen at Kenda Manor, with its excellent local culinary dishes created by head chef Franci Pivik and his assistant, Klavdij Pirih, convinced Harper. Besides the food, he was also impressed with the selection of Vipava-Brda wines, and he was delighted with the hospitality of the manor staff. The interior of the manor, with its period furniture, double small-pane windows, table linens, curtains and bedding featuring Idrija's lace – as well as the surroundings of the manor – also made an impression on the critic.

The proprietress of the manor, Ivi Svetlik, received the award with great joy. She stressed that the

award was the result of teamwork, and that the manor's culinary specialties would not be the same without the superb cooks and reliable local suppliers who provide them with the best natural ingredients.

Ameriška revija Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report, ki že 31 let ocenjuje prestižne hotele po vsem svetu in predstavlja pomemben vir informacij za zahtevnega mednarodnega turista, je januarja Kendovemu dvorcu v Spodnji Idriji podelila veliko priznanje.

Andrew Harper je psevdonim popotnika, ki potuje inkognito in piše nepristranske ocene o edinstvenih krajih in hotelih. Lani poleti je obiskal Evropo in prvič tudi Slovenijo, kjer so ga navdušile zlasti lepote Julijskih Alp in slovenska kulinarika.

Kuhinja na Kendovem dvorcu ga je prepričala z odličnimi lokalnimi kulinaricnimi posebnostmi izpod rok glavnega kuharja Francija Pivka in njegovega pomočnika Klavdija Piriha.

Poleg kulinarike in odličnih vipavsko-briških vin ga je navdušila tudi gostoljubnost osebja dvorca, ga sestavljajo Simona Golja Kosmač, Gregor Kosmač, Bogdan Tončič, Vanja Primožič in Irma Razpet. Velik vtis je na ocenjevalca naredila tudi notranost dvorca s stilnim pohištvo, dvojnimi okenci ter prti, zavesami in posteljnino z idrijsko čipko, pa tudi okolje dvorca in lepote Spodnje Idrije.

Gospodarica Kendovega dvorca Ivi Svetlik je priznanje sprejela z velikim veseljem in ob tej priložnosti

poudarila, da je to plod dela vse ekipe ter da kulinarike dvorca ne bi bilo brez odličnih kuharjev in zanesljivih lokalnih dobaviteljev, ki jih oskrbujejo z najboljšimi, zdravimi in naravnimi jedmi.

Revija Hideaway Report, v kateri pisec pod psevdonimom Andrew Harper objavlja svoje ocene, je v letošnji izbor hotelov uvrstila po dva hotela iz ZDA, Francije, Španije, Italije, Afrike in Azije, v jugovzhodni Evropi sta ga najbolj navdušila Kendov dvorec iz Slovenije, Villa Miločer iz Črne gore.

V Vipavski dolini pa je odkril Gostilno pri Lojzetu, ki jo je prav tako uvrstil na seznam najboljših restavracij.

RADIO ODMEV

The Ethnic Kitchen

OVEN-BAKED FLANCATI Pečeni flancati

2 cups all-purpose flour
½ pound margarine
2 egg yolks (unbeaten)
½ cup sour cream
1 teaspoon vanilla

Put flour in mixing bowl. Cut in margarine until crumbly. Mix together the egg yolks, sour cream and vanilla with a fork; add to flour mixture. Mix well with fingers to form a firm dough. Cover and refrigerate overnight. The next day, cut dough into 4 parts. Let stand, covered, for about 1 hour. Roll each portion into an 8-inch square. Cut into 2-inch squares with a pastry cutter and make a slit in the center of each, about 1 inch long. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake in preheated 350° oven on third shelf from bottom for 10 minutes, until very light brown. When cool, sprinkle with sifted powdered sugar. Makes 64 two-inch squares.

More Pots And Pans

HEADLINE: Evenings of kindred souls

TOPIC: Zoran Predin and Barbara Lapajne Predin have decided to resurrect a social-cultural-artistic event in the center of Ljubljana. Once a month, the Predins will arrange an "Evening of Kindred Souls" in the Dvorni bar.

As Zoran Predin said, their main idea is to create a friendly social atmosphere where notables will talk about those sides of their personalities which are not well known to the public, such as their hobbies, interests, desires, dreams, hidden talents, sense of humor... Guests will be able to talk about their favorite trips, foods, wines...

The music for the evening will also be selected by the guests.

Miro Cerar, the most successful Slovenian athlete of all time, will be the first guest to appear at the Dvorni bar.

Zoran Predin in Barbara Lapajne Predin sta se odločila, da bosta v središču Ljubljane oživila še eno družabno kulturno-umetniško točko. V Dvornem baru bosta v okviru produkcije Artbiroja enkrat na mesec pripravila Večer sorodnih duš.

Kot je povedal Zoran Predin, je bila glavna zamisel ustvariti prijetno družabno ozračje, kjer znane osebnosti spregovorijo o svojem drugačnem jazu, o tistih platih njihovih osebnosti, ki javnosti niso toliko znane, pa naj so to

njihovi konjički, zanimanja, želje, sanje, skriti talenti, smisel za humor itd. Gostje bodo med drugim predstavili svoje najljubše potovanje, naj jed, naj vino, naj šalo in še kaj. Glasbo, ki jo bodo predvajali tistega večera, bodo prav tako izbrali gostje.

Prvi gost, ki bo nastopil v Dvornem baru, bo Miro Cerar, najuspešnejši slovenski športnik vseh časov. Ob 70-letnici je pri Gimmastični zvezi Slovenije izšla njegova biografija z naslovom Miro Cerar in njegov čas, ki jo bo predstavil na večeru sorodnih duš. Naslednji gost bo Sašo Hribar, predviden pa so še Mateja Svet, Svetlana Makarovič, Vlado Miheljak in drugi. Kot je povedala Barbara

Lapajne Predin, sta želela pripraviti večere v središču mesta, kamor bi se odpravili s prijatelji stran od televizorja in spoznali nove zanimive ljudi. Ti večeri pa bodo tudi priložnost za predstavitev manj znanih glasbenikov. Na prvem večeru se bo tako predstavila akademska glasbenica Nataša Vester Trseglav, ki bo na klavir zaigrala svoja dela. Vstopnine na Večer sorodnih duš ne bo.

DELO

LOVCI - Lovska disciplinska komisija obravnava kmeta. "Zakaj ste ubili jelca, če pa niste član naše lovsko društvo?" - "Zato ker je jedel moje zelje, čeprav ni član moje družine."

best wishes to our
Outlived Members

Member honored with live music



Sis. MARY LUSTICK (764)

MILWAUKEE — Sis. Mary (Sterle) Lustick, a former auditor of Lily Lodge 764, has outlived her life insurance policy.

At 100 years old, Sis. Lustick is still vibrant. Her daughter, Lorraine, is married to Rudy Poklar. Her son, Stanley Sterle, a clarinet player, suggested to accordionist Eddie Vidmar that they head to East Troy, Wis., to play at the nursing home where Mary resides to commemorate this milestone.

On hand to celebrate were Stan's daughter, Kathy Rose, Larry Robb and his wife, Roberta (Lustick) Robb. They sang some Slovenian favorites. Before the celebration was over, everyone in the nursing home joined in.

On behalf of Lodge 764 and the entire Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend best wishes to Sis. Lustick.

Veteran a master of wood working



Bro. JOHN NAHORNIAC (749)

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. — Bro. John Nahorniak of Lodge 749 has outlived his life insurance policy.

John was born in Windber, Pa., in 1913, the eldest of eight children. His father worked in the coal mines where John worked while he attended high school.

During World War II, Bro. Nahorniak joined the U.S. Marine Corps and fought in the battle of Iwo Jima. From a fox hole he watched the raising of our flag on Mount Suribachi. After being wounded, he was awarded the Purple Heart along with many other service medals. Among his accomplishments were the duties of Marine instructor, drill instructor, expert rifle sharp shooter and parachute jumper. Bro. Nahorniak was discharged with the rank of platoon sergeant.

After the war, John graduated from Pacific University as an electrical engineer. He worked for the Atomic Energy Commission for several years before working with General Electric where he was a head engineer on projects in China, India and Europe. He retired from GE after 35 years.

While retired, John attended St. Vincent College to study stained glass, a craft he taught for many years. He was a master woodworker, furniture designer and artist. Some of his work can be found in local churches.

On behalf of Lodge 749 and the entire Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend best wishes to Bro. Nahorniak.

Lodge 777
News & Views

by EVELYN VRHOVNIK
Lodge 777 Secretary

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Having neglected my writing during the holidays, I'll bring you up-to-date on current Lodge 777 activities.

The biggest news out of South Florida is our record-breaking cold spell. At this writing, we are just recovering. After breaking away from the cold in Chicago 45 years ago, I've never experienced temperatures below 60 degrees for more than a day or two during the winter months. For a period of several weeks, our temperatures dipped down into the 30s and 40s at night, and below 65 during the day.

My readers up north are probably laughing at me right now, thinking that 65 degrees would be an unusually warm day. "What is she complaining about?" you ask. Some of my friends who have never seen snow went out and bought all of the heavy winter clothes they could find and drove to the mountain areas of North Carolina so the kids could play in the snow. When they came back, they told me they felt like they were at the North Pole.

Back to the present. As I write and look out the window on a 75 degree afternoon, I see remnants of the cold; grass turning brown and plants dropping their leaves. The farmers have suffered crop losses, which means higher prices in the food markets.

Lodge 777 members and friends took time out of their busy holiday activities to enjoy our Christmas party at The Wine Cellar Restaurant in the northeastern section of Broward County, Fla. This was a return visit for our members. You visitors to Florida would certainly enjoy the old world atmosphere and the Austrian-German food down to the last bite of apple strudel and



Lodge 777 members and guests enjoyed a holiday luncheon at The Wine Cellar Restaurant.

palačinke. The restaurant personnel joined right in and enjoyed Conrad Mohar's performance of Christmas favorites, Slovene and German traditionals, and old-time favorites from our generation. Conrad is a very versatile, educated musician and we are so fortunate to have him in our midst when he is in South Florida.

Our first Lodge meeting of 2010 was held Jan. 17 at our regular meeting place, the Collins Oakland Park Community Center. Val Burnside administered the Oath of Office to our officers. After our usual meeting procedure, we discussed our first activity for the year which will be an oceanfront luncheon and promotional meeting Sunday, March 7, at noon at the Sea Watch restaurant. This has become one of our favorite gathering places as it exemplifies the ambiance of South Florida food and provides good service.

A great majority of our members do not

attend Lodge meetings. I would especially like to extend an invitation to you to attend our quarterly meeting in April. This will be a very important meeting concerning the future of our Lodge. We are facing the same problems other merged Lodges have experienced. We've reduced our meeting schedule to every quarter instead of every month, but our ongoing problem is obtaining Lodge officers. Our present officers are serving in dual capacities, and we would like to see more of you get involved in making our Lodge stronger. I'm sure many of you have ideas that would be helpful to us, and I would like to hear from you. I'm sorry I don't have an e-mail address, but you can write to me at 173 N. W. 95th St., Miami Shores, FL 33150; or call me at (305) 759-1890.

Anyone wishing to make a reservation for our March 7 activity, please call me. Happy 2010 to all!

Golden Eagle's talents reach the NASA ranks

by TONY KREN
Lodge 643 Secretary

GIRARD, Ohio — When looking back on 2009, I had the pleasure of working with some really dedicated members of SNPJ and Golden Eagles Lodge 643. Our conversations mostly centered around our American-Slovenian heritage, and the roles our parents, close families and friends played in building the Society into what it is today.

During a recent breakfast at Kuzman's in Girard, Joe Fedorchak shared with me some very interesting highlights of his polka orchestra, his profession in the steel industry and his involvement in the Slovenian community. Joe, as you may or may not know, is of Slovak ancestry and has been a Lodge 643 member since December 1979. He still plays his accordion in polka jam sessions in and around northeast Ohio, Arizona, Florida and Pennsylvania, among other places.

Joe is an "honorary Slovenian" and the maestro of the Cleveland-style polka in Mahoning Valley, along with

Del Sinchak, Del Rezek, Ray Kovac and Jack Vasko.

Joe mentioned to me an experience he had with the mother of an American-Slovenian astronaut. The mother and her daughter, astronaut Suni Williams, wanted to present Joe's "Best of Fedorchak" album at the 15th annual National Science Festival in Slovenia where they would be attending as invited guests.

Bonnie (Zalokar) Pandya, Suni's mother, is originally from Cleveland. Suni spent time with her grandparents enjoying concerts and family reunions, and sampling potica, apple strudel, Slovenian smoked sausage and sauerkraut. During her stay as flight engineer aboard the International Space Station in 2007, she and her Discovery crew feasted on *kranjske* sausages and sauerkraut!

Anyhow, Joe sent 11 of his "Best of Fedorchak" CDs to Bonnie. She presented them to Dr. Dušan Petrač, Slovenian physicist connected to NASA; Mr. Borut Pahor, Prime Minister of Slovenia; Dr. Edward Ko-

bal, Director of the Slovenian Science Foundation; Professor Andrej Umek, President of the Board of Trustees; Dr. Ljubica Jelušič, Minister of Defense; Professor Jože Trontelj, President of the Slovenian Academy of Science and Art; and other notable dignitaries in attendance. Needless to say, Joe was very proud of this accolade. This presentation is a tribute to his hard work and strong

dedication to our Slovenian music and heritage.

Joe Fedorchak's achievements and notoriety reflect very highly upon his capacity as an accomplished musician and an ambassador of good polka music, both at home and abroad. Congratulations, Joe. The members of Golden Eagles Lodge 643 are very proud and honored to have you as part of our fraternal organization!



Lodge 643 President ANDY KOCJAN [center] enjoyed the music of RAY KOVAC and JOE FEDORCHAK during the Lodge's December Christmas party.

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CORRECTION

In the 2010 Miss SNPJ Calendar, Detroit Week at the SNPJ Recreation Center should be dated Saturday, July 31, through Friday, Aug. 6. Our apologies for the error and any confusion it may have created.

PROSVETA Crossword
Winter Olympics (#0310) by StatePoint Media

ACROSS

1. Type of alec
6. "To & ___"
9. Orator's stand
13. Eucharist bread
14. Tennis shot
15. Sing like Tony Bennett
16. Santa Anna's target
17. Be in debt
18. Speed skating multi-medalist
19. It happened on ice, 1980
21. Musical composition
23. Symbol for golden ratio
24. Actress Olin
25. A taxing job
28. Highest volcano in Europe
30. Like a white mushroom, unlike a toadstool
35. "Rome" in Italy
37. Resides at Georgetown University
39. Dora the Explorer's goodbye
40. Pitcher
41. Plural of #40 Across
43. Vietnam's neighbor
44. Jeans fabric
46. Proofreader's "disregard" word
47. "Do it, or ___!"
48. Appoint a priest
50. Queen of Hearts' baked goods, singular
52. Money spent at the 1998 Nagano Winter Games

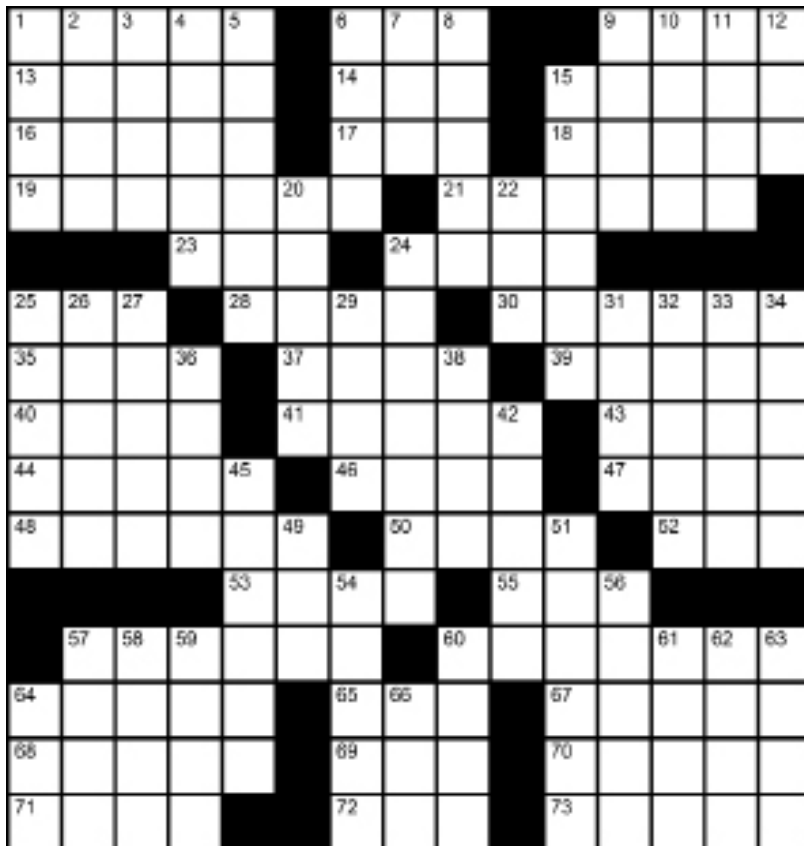
53. Finland did it in 2006 gold medal hockey game
55. Charged particle
57. Easy to manage
60. "Cool Runnings" country
64. Some need an extra one of these to get started
65. Maiden name indicator
67. Determine the sum
68. Cowboy movie
69. NHL great
70. Parts of a wedding cake, e.g.
71. Baseball great Musial
72. East Indian tree yielding yellow dye
73. Talk pompously

DOWN

1. What Phelps did last summer
2. a.k.a. French Sudan
3. From a great distance
4. To make another map
5. Medicated lozenge
6. Arctic floater
7. It's perpendicular to a column
8. Like one with high BMI
9. River in Armenia
10. Debatable point
11. Cowboy's necktie
12. Yoko
15. 2010 Olympics host country
20. Like a figure skater?
22. A gold medalist's number

24. Newborn's clothes & accessories
25. Any system of beliefs
26. Superhero's quality
27. Set right
29. "___" the time"
31. Opposite of busy
32. Onion roll
33. These lips sink ships
34. Industrial center of Ruhr
36. Toreador Song from "Carmen," e.g.
38. S squared in a square
42. Parallel lines or grooves
45. Ryan or Bode for U.S. team
49. Motion of assent
51. Shaun White, a.k.a. "The Flying ___"
54. Ecclesiastic council
56. Opposite the pinnacle
57. One of 5 Ws in investigative journalism
58. Tiny amount
59. "___-steven"
60. The slightest of these & a luge may hit the wall
61. It sometimes comes to mind
62. Like a short reply
63. Altar location
64. International distress signal
66. Major division of geological time

The solution to puzzle #0310 will run in the Feb. 24 issue.



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Lodge 603 anticipating your attendance at Florida SNPJ Days

by JEANNETTE HUMPHREY
Lodge 603

SAMSULA, Fla. — Samsula Lodge 603 welcomed everyone to a Super Bowl party Feb. 7. Pauline Lockwood served as chairwoman for the party and prepared a buffet that was provided by the Lodge. Everyone enjoyed the evening while watching the game between the Indianapolis Colts and New Orleans Saints on our big screen television.

The Lodge 603 cooks are still serving Friday night meals starting at 6 p.m. The meal, which comes complete with dessert, is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children through age 12. Coffee is available and the Lodge bar opens at 5:30 p.m.

The dates are drawing near for the annual Florida SNPJ Days and Samsula Polka Festival at the Lodge 603 Hall Feb. 19-21. This three-day celebration is open to the public. Bill Tomazin, Ruth Benedict and I are chairing the event that kicks-off Friday, Feb. 19, from 4 to 9 p.m. with Ron Luznar and his Polka Pals. Saturday the doors will open at noon with music until 10 p.m. On Sunday, the Lodge will open at 11 a.m. with music from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday will feature the music of the Marc Bouchard Orchestra of Daytona Beach, Fla., and Joe Novak & Friends of Ohio. You are welcome to bring your instrument and musical talents to share during the weekend as well.

Early Sunday afternoon, the musicians will take a short break for a brief Slovenian program to welcome National Secretary Karen Pintar,

Miss SNPJ 2010 Kara Maruszak (53) and other visiting dignitaries. There will be a lot of ethnic and American food on the menu, including klobase and sauerkraut made from the recipe of our great-grandparents who came from Slovenia in the early 1900s. Pierogies, cabbage rolls and apple strudel will be available all three days, and other dishes will also be served each day. Pauline Lockwood has volunteered to serve as kitchen chairwoman for Friday, with Debbie and Clay "Clarice" Benedict volunteering Saturday afternoon, Nancy Bass and Teresa Clancy Saturday night, and Ruth Benedict and Mary Pleterski Sunday.

Friday's special admission price will be just \$4 in honor of the 84th anniversary of Lodge 603. You don't want to miss the great music promised for Friday night! Ted Perkovich has volunteered to bring a group of jammers to entertain during breaks.

The admission for both Saturday and Sunday is a \$10 donation each day. We are always happy to welcome Tony Klepec and Bob Turcola, who bring more musical talent to share. George Benedict has volunteered to run the Lodge bar.

The weekend promises daily giveaways and a good time for all! For information or directions phone (386) 427-1689. You can leave a message on the Lodge answering machine at (386) 428-3983, or phone Ruth and George at (386) 427-1410. See you at the festival!

Get well wishes are extended to Bea and Joe

Cvetas as they have both undergone surgeries and are on the mend. They have traveled to our Lodge several times through the years, and we will miss them this year.

Mark your calendar for St. Patrick's Day at Lodge 603. A corned beef and cabbage dinner will be served beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 17. Irish tunes will also be offered through the Lodge's music system. Dinner, including dessert, is \$10 per person. Make your reservation by phoning the Lodge hall at (386) 428-3983.

Lodge 603 welcomed newlyweds Amanda Edwards and Jeremiah "Bubba" Clevenger Jan. 30 for their wedding reception. It was a very nice affair, and it was good to see our Lodge hall once again filled with everyone enjoying themselves.

The next Lodge 603 meeting will be held Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. The meeting will begin with a covered dish dinner at 6 p.m. followed by a business session at 7. Youth Circle 57 will also be at the Lodge for a 5 p.m. meeting followed by dinner. The newly-elected officers will be installed. Bill Benedict has been re-elected as Lodge president. His fiancée, Sheryl Lauck, and Debbie Benedict are the new Circle directors. It has been a happy time in Samsula since the announcement of Bill and Sheryl's engagement. Congratulations to both of them.

Don't forget to come and visit us in beautiful downtown Samsula, the home of SNPJ Lodge 603!



Lodge 603 President **BILL BENEDICT** and Youth Circle 57 Director **SHERYL LAUCK** recently announced their engagement.



Many Slovenian-American families continue to farm in Samsula. Pictured are **EMILY, MIKE** and **BILL TOMAZIN**, and **GEORGIA NYBURG**.

Badger Jabber

by BOB SMOLE
Lodge 584

MILWAUKEE — The Jan. 21 Badger Lodge 584 meeting was called to order by President Tim Donovan at 7:30 p.m. The Lodge observed a moment of silence for recently deceased member Bro. Ed Starich. The minutes of the previous meeting and the secretary/treasurer reports were read and approved. Senior Lodge member Bro. John Poklar installed the 2010 newly-elected Lodge officers as he has done for many years.

During the reading of official communication from the SNPJ Home Office, a lengthy discussion was held regarding the 2010 Young Adult Conference scheduled the weekend of June 25-27. If you are planning to apply for or are a recent recipient of an SNPJ scholarship, one of the requirements is that you attend at least one Young Adult Conference. Here is your chance to fulfill that requirement.

If you will be 18 years of age on or before June 25, you can attend this event at the beautiful SNPJ Recreation Center in Pennsylvania. There is no cost to you or your parents aside from any personal expenses you may encounter; the trip is paid for by the Society.

Are you interested in attending? Badger Lodge 584 is entitled to four delegates. Let Lodge President Tim Donovan know so that your name can be submitted for nomination for this wonderful experience. President Donovan can be reached at (414) 817-0192. Delegates will be selected at the April 15 regular Lodge meeting. This is a great opportunity to do some traveling, see the Recreation Center, learn a little more about SNPJ and make new friends your age from other parts of the country. Step up and take advantage of the opportunity!

A letter regarding the election of adult

delegates to the 2010 SNPJ National Convention was read and discussed. If you would like to be a delegate to this legislative body of SNPJ, you must be 18 years of age, you must have attended at least 50 percent of the regular meetings held in the past 12 months, and you must have signed the Lodge's bound ledger attendance log. You can not be a representative of any other life insurance company, or a national board member of another fraternal or mutual benefit society. The Lodge has decided to elect its delegates and an alternate at the April 15 regular Lodge meeting. The Badger Lodge is entitled to four delegates, one of which is automatic and will be Lodge Secretary/Treasurer Jeff Mlaker.

The next order of business was the election of the 2010 auditing committee. Due to the absence of a few auditors at the last meeting, the Lodge decided to fill the positions at the regular January meeting. Nominated and accepting were Brothers Jerry Wucinski, Rudy Papa and Sal Sanicola, with Bob Smole as alternate. A unanimous ballot was cast for the auditing committee.

Sis. Mary Donovan gave a thorough report on the recent Verbick Fraternal Memorial Bowling Tournament held Jan. 16. Sis. Judy Price, Tony Verbick's daughter, was on hand to throw out the traditional first ball to start the tournament. Sis. Donovan indicated that it was another successful, fun-filled tournament with 12 teams competing. Several Lodge members attested to the fun-filled part only because someone told them they had fun; they barely remember the 10th frame of the last game! "Great time. Great tournament. One of the best," as quoted by one of the bowlers.

The Lodge voted to place Sis. Mary Donovan into nomination for our area's representative on the SNPJ National Athletic Board. Sis. Donovan has been on

the National Athletic Board for a number of years and has agreed to accept the nomination again. She has been working very hard to keep local sporting and youth activities in the Milwaukee area with great success.

Badger Lodge 584 members joined together to sing "Happy Birthday" to Sis. Judy Price and Bro. Jerry Wucinski. The attendance awards went to Sis. Toni Needham and birthday boy Bro. Jerry Wucinski.

Waiting patiently for the meeting to be adjourned was our kitchen committee, Sisters Marge Alpner and Josephine Manson. Their expertise is cutting, preparing and setting out all of the donated goodies for the social that normally follows the meeting. Captain of the coffee pot and coffee creator Bro. Bob Alpner indicated that the serve light was on and the coffee was ready.

Another annual bowling event that has been very popular in the past is the Fun-O-Leer 9-Pin Tap Bowling Social. This year it will be held Saturday, April 17, at Rivera Lanes, 86th and W. Greenfield Ave., beginning at 11 a.m. Because of the social's popularity, teams will be made of six bowlers (also the reason for the early start time).

The cost for this gala event is \$12 per person, which includes three games of bowling, food and that amber fluid that makes for great bowling; soda will also be available. Contact new Fun-O-Leer member Cary Donovan at (262) 682-4244 for additional information. Entry forms can be found on the Fun-O-Leers web site, www.funoleers.org. Follow the link for the April 17 bowling social.

The third Thursday of February falls on the 18th. This is the date of the next regular Badger Lodge 584 meeting. The gavel will fall at 7:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Church hall, 7929 W. Lincoln Ave in West Allis. Come and join us!

Official Proceedings

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
Aug. 26, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m. by President Evanish with Sis. Pintar and Bro. Lawrence in attendance.

Approved the minutes of the July 16, 2009, meeting.

Discussed the plans for the upcoming National Board meeting, tentative dates for the spring and summer meetings, and presentations for the board.

Reviewed and discussed the Marketing Plan.

Reviewed and discussed the contact forms that will be added to the web site for SNPJ and the SNPJ Recreation Center.

Approved payments totaling \$105 for the champions in the 2009 SNPJ CAL Don Gorjup Golf Tournament as cash awards in lieu of jackets.

Approved payments totaling \$805 to the 2009 SNPJ National Bowling Tournament champions as cash awards in lieu of jackets.

Approved the payment of a deposit at the Gold Coast Bowling Center in the amount of \$100 to hold our spot for the Las Vegas Bowling Tournament.

Approved payment of \$500 to Lodge 776 as the second installment of the grant money to host the 2009 National Bowling Tournament.

Approved payment of \$300 to Steimla & Associates for the Minnesota filing fee.

Approved payment of \$105 to the winners of the 2009 SNPJ Athletic Board Golf Scramble.

Approved payments totaling \$900 as stipends for those counselors who worked the TEL weekend.

Approved payments totaling \$375 as stipends for the 2009 Miss SNPJ Pageant Committee.

Approved payment of \$11,500 for the retention pond project at the Home Office in which the township required us to install pipe from catch basin to headwall, regrade and relocate swales, and also for work involved with grading the area and seeding.

Approved dues payment to the Society for Slovene Studies in the amount of \$80.

Approved payment to Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney, the Society legal counsel, for services rendered in the amount of \$560.

Approved a \$100 donation to the California Fraternal Congress to support their fraternal project, the Children's Receiving Home of Sacramento.

Approved a \$100 donation for the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress 2009 scholarship program.

Cash Withdrawals:

July 22 - There was one Matured Endowment and six Adult Cash Withdrawals, one of which was a conversion. Cash value, \$3,504.75; insurance, \$11,986.

July 29 - There were six Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$4,379.23; insurance, \$54,000.

July 31 - There were three Youth Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$0; insurance, \$30,000.

Aug. 4 - There was one Adult Cash Withdrawal, which was not a conversion. Cash value, \$0; insurance, \$10,000.

Aug. 5 - There were six Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$5,943.44; insurance, \$17,965.

Aug. 10 - There was one Adult Cash Withdrawal, which was not a conversion. Cash value, \$0; insurance, \$10,000.

Aug. 11 - There were two Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$431.53; insurance, \$153,051.

Aug. 12 - There were two Outlived Policies and five Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$7,581.58; insurance, \$74,136.

Aug. 19 - There were two Matured Endowments, two Outlived Policies and three Adult Cash Withdrawals, none of which were conversions. Cash value, \$6,947.42; insurance, \$10,083.32.

Aug. 24 - There was one Youth Cash Withdrawal, which was not a conversion. Cash value, \$0; insurance, \$10,000.

Aug. 26 - There were two Youth Cash Withdrawals and eight Adult Cash Withdrawals, one of which was a conversion. Cash value, \$4,857.53; insurance, \$34,209.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

JOSEPH C. EVANISH
National President

KAREN A. PINTAR
National Secretary

SNPJ RECOMMENDER PROGRAM



The SNPJ Recommender Program provides an opportunity for adult members to encourage family, friends, children and acquaintances to join the Slovene National Benefit Society and take advantage of SNPJ's competitive products and numerous fraternal benefits. Not only will you be helping a friend and strengthening our Society, you'll also be receiving benefits yourself.

Recommender Benefits

- Receive \$10 for each valid referral submitted.
- Every valid referral earns the recommender one chance in the Quarterly Drawing for an opportunity to win \$100.
- Every valid referral also earns the recommender one chance in the Year-end Drawing for an opportunity to win \$500 cash.

By submitting one valid referral, you have the opportunity to earn a total of \$610 in cash prizes!

I would like to introduce

for SNPJ membership

Please contact: _____
(Parent or guardian if under age 18)

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Indicate Preferred Agent _____
(Optional)

My Name: _____

My Lodge Number: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

e-mail _____

Each individual must be informed that an agent will contact him/her and the referral must have some interest in SNPJ in order for the recommender to be considered valid.

Complete this coupon and return to
Slovene National Benefit Society
Att'n: Marketing Department
247 West Allegheny Road • Imperial, PA 15126

News from Here & There

by GRACE DOERK
Lodge 559

CHICAGO— Winter continues, but can spring be far away? I hope not. It seems that this year's winter hasn't bothered me so far; I keep busy with all my meetings, doctors appointments, socials, etc. Otto and I are looking forward to our annual polka cruise, which departs from New Orleans in February. This will be our very first visit to New Orleans, where we intend to stay for a couple of days.

The Chicago Federation of SNPJ Lodges held their meeting Jan. 22. There were eight delegates in attendance. Two officers were absent, Vice President Frank Novotny (8) and

Sergeant-at-Arms Justina Dabrowski (449) who is undergoing physical therapy following a stroke. We hope that Frank Novotny is feeling better, and we look forward to hearing that Justina Dabrowski returns home.

The Chicago Federation approved a \$100 donation to the SNPJ Scholarship Fund. Representatives of all four Federation-affiliated Lodges (Lodges 1, 8, 449 and 559) delivered their reports.

The Chicago Federation will continue to meet at the Slovene Catholic Culture Center in Lemont, Ill., beginning at 7:30 p.m. on March 26, July 23 and Sept. 24, 2010, and on Jan. 28, 2011. The Federation will continue to sponsor its Memorial Day services at Woodlawn Cemetery as well as the annual youth Christmas party in December.

Federation officers for 2010 include President Edward Dabrowski

(449), Vice President Vince Rigler (449), Secretary Marianne Murray (1), Recording Secretary Tina Rigler (449) and Sergeant-at-Arms Justina Dabrowski (449).

Vince Rigler introduced a very good idea – that the Federation sponsor a gathering for all Federation member Lodges at the Slovene Catholic Center. This topic will be discussed further. The next Federation meeting is planned Friday, March 26.

I thought I would never get on Facebook. Well, I did; and seriously, between phone calls, e-mails and now Facebook, my days aren't long enough. It has, however, been nice to make a reconnection with Robin (Zavertnik) Hall. I have so many memories of when Robin, Tina (Dabrowski) Rigler, Debbie (Doerk) Wysopal, Ed Doerk, Andrea Zupanic and Ed Durda attended Youth Roundup at the SNPJ Recreation

Center. Otto would drive us out and then pick us up when the week was over. It was during Youth Roundup and SNPJ Youth Conventions that I met so many friends with whom I'm still in contact with today.

For all of you polka lovers in the Chicago area, you can attend Bob Doszak's Polkafest Feb. 5-7 at the Holiday Inn in Lisle, Ill. We're hoping that Bob Doszak will be in attendance since he's had heart surgery. We hear he won't be attending the Feb. 19-28 polka cruise.

Speaking of polkas, I have been in my glory since receiving videos from Spring Hill, Fla., Lodge 778 events that were sent to me by Daria Perse. I met Daria last year in Spring Hill, and she and I have become very good friends. Thank you, Daria, for keeping me in contact with the polka world. What's even more interesting is the fact that I can recognize some of the

people on the dance floor.

The Slovene Catholic Center in Lemont will host its annual Koline dinner Feb. 14. I'm sure there will be a full house, and no doubt some Slovenian music. Attending the many events at the Slovene Cultural Center has certainly kept me in touch with the Slovenian culture and heritage I so long for.

Otto and I recently spent a wonderful afternoon with our dear SNPJ Perfect Circle 26 friends. Otto, Ella Mae Kovacic and I drove to the home of Sylvia and Ronnie Ericksen. Believe me, there's nothing like old friends. Sylvia is looking good, and we hope she continues doing so well. We all had to agree that those good old Youth Circle days were something we will never forget.

Well, February is here, and with that we wish everyone a very happy Valentine's Day.



Miss SNPJ 2010 **KARA MARUSZAK** [center] pictured with 2010 SNPJ co-Miss Talent **CYNTHIA BOBER** (138) [left] and 2010 SNPJ Miss Fraternalism **DANIELLE BRAND** (6).

Join the Miss SNPJ Pageant and make your mark on SNPJ history

PAGEANT OPENING

FROM PAGE 1

out to all 17- to 25-year-old female SNPJ members.

The young woman who is crowned Miss SNPJ 2011 will win a \$2,000 scholarship award, and an official crown, banner and trophy. Miss SNPJ will have the opportunity to travel to Society activities across the country and will be featured on the 2011 SNPJ calendar. The winner of the Miss Activity crown will be awarded a \$1,200

scholarship; the young woman selected Miss Talent will receive an \$800 scholarship.

Participation in the pageant fulfills the SNPJ Scholarship Program activity requirement. All contestants who participate in the pageant will receive a \$50 participation award. Each young lady who enters the pageant before June 1 will also receive a special \$50 early-bird bonus.

I'll see you at a fraternal event soon.

Lineup change announced for Florida Slovene Days

by WALT HARFMANN
Lodge 778 Vice President

SPRING HILL, Fla. — Due to illness, the Mahoning Valley Button Box Club will not be entertaining Friday evening, March 5, or Saturday afternoon, March 6,

during Florida Slovene Days at Lodge 778.

The entertainment schedule now includes performances by Bob Turcola of Youngstown, Ohio, Friday evening from 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturday afternoon from 2 to 6 p.m.; and The Polka Quads of Steepleton, Pa., Saturday evening from 6 to 10 p.m. and Sunday afternoon from 2 to 6 p.m.

As always at our Lodge, jam sessions are planned throughout the weekend, so be sure to bring your musical instrument!

Lodge 2 members enjoy a holiday celebration

by DELORES SPELICH
Lodge 2 Secretary/Treasurer

LA SALLE, Ill. — The Lodge 2 holiday luncheon was well attended, but we missed seeing some of the regulars due to inclement weather and illness. We thank the Home Office for the gifts, and Mary Rudzinski for the table favors.

Birthday wishes are extended to Lodge 2 celebrants Olga Baker, Juanita Suarez, Marilyn Schneider, Emil Kotar, Alice Mankowski and Lois Volk.

Sincere condolences to the Stubler family of Oglesby, Ill., on the loss of Donald, a longtime Lodge 2 member. His mother, Mary, is a dedicated member who attends many of our get-togethers. Sincere sympathy is also extended to the family of Marjorie Novak Barto of Spring Valley, Ill. She was a longtime Lodge 2 member, as is her daughter, Rita, and brother, Lefty Novak.

Frank Dernach's daughter, Kris, passed away in Florida recently. Frank, a Lodge 2 member, is an accordionist who often played with the Frank Yankovic group at our local Dom years ago. Another button box player friend from Gilbert, Minn., passed away in October. Louie Sherek performed at various taverns in the Iron Range area of Minnesota when he was a teenager, and at the Ironworld Fests in Chisholm, Minn. We'd dance to his music at the Dom after being at the park all day. He came to Joe Doszak's dances in Oakbrook, Ill., and played for the folks on the bus trips. The Hobnecks of Oglesby are Joe's cousins.

What a surprise to read about the passing of Ken Dimpfl (749). Evelyn and Ken sat with us during our trip to Slovenia a few years ago. We also had fun with them at the luau pool party at the last Convention. Sympathy goes out to all of the bereaved families.

Over the holidays, the Ed Udovick (1) family of Portland, Ore., wrote and told me their daughter is making her second tour overseas to Afghanistan. We wish them well and pray for her safe return.

Lodge 2 member Bill Gregorich spent his 94th birthday in rehab, but we hope to see him at one of our future luncheons.

Tony Petkovsek's 48th Thanksgiving Polka Fest was wonderful. He and his committee always do a great job. At Sterle's, we sat near the Ed Tomsic (218) and Joe Gruđen (218) families of Colorado. Kathy Paulenich (776) and her group were on the other side of us as we all enjoyed the strolling button box player, Fred Ziwich. We saw the "Big Joe Polka Show" when Don Lipovac and Fred Ziwich performed on stage. Of course we liked their sweet music best.

At the Cleveland Marriott, Jack and Marie Videtich had a table of relatives from New York, Colorado and Michigan. We were happy to see that Don Kamins flew in from Arizona. We visited the "Alaska Polka Chips," sisters Patti Gersich (the chicken squawker on their cassette) and Marge Ford. When Marge was inducted into the Ironworld Polka Hall of Fame several years ago, we saw her there with her mother and family from Chisholm.

The Singing Slovenes from Duluth, Minn., were well received with their continued exuberance. We saw them in Ironworld, and two years ago they performed at the SWU Starved Rock convention. Frank Bucar (2) told us they will be performing in Chicago this fall, so we look forward to seeing them again.

During the Thanksgiving Polka Fest, we kept going from the ballroom to the side room to listen to various groups. We marvelled at 15-year-old



Matt Frank and Kolman Weindorfer entertained at Tony Petkovsek's Thanksgiving Polka Fest in Cleveland.

Matt Frank, who has grown six inches since his last appearance with Kolman Weindorfer. Having played the button box for five years now, he is a perfectionist. He joined Dr. Turk's jammers. How we Slovenians love to sing and dance! "Dolina" is one of the favorites; it had the whole room singing.

The Saturday Awards Show was another beautiful presentation. It was performed so professionally and left us with a joyous feeling. Watching Kathy Vogt's Canadians sing afterward is always fun. It's such a happy weekend filled with singing, dancing and visiting with friends.

The 70th celebration of "Gone With the Wind" in the Marietta, Ga., town square was a treat. The city set a Guinness World Record for the world's largest "Virginia Reel," as 70 costumed dancers performed in conjunction with the Turner Classic Movie event. Our daughter Lynn is a "Windy" and attends any event pertaining to the movie.

Fans came from all over the world, dressed in their best Civil War-era garb. Ann Rutherford portrayed Careen O'Hara, one of Scarlett's sisters. She also starred in "Pride and Prejudice" and appeared as Polly Benedict in the Andy Hardy series. When it came to snagging a role in GWTW, it all came down to her eyebrows. She recalled bumping into David Selznick before being

considered for the part. She complained that her make-up artist at MGM plucked all the womens' eyebrows to look like Greta Garbo's. "It looks terrible!" she said. Months later, when the director cast her as Careen, he said after reading the author's description of Scarlett he thought she was correct. He cast Barbara O'Neil as the mother, Ellen O'Hara (since he couldn't get Judy Garland because she was making "The Wizard of Oz"). He chose Rutherford because she looked enough like O'Neil to be her on-screen daughter.

At the celebration, Ann was dressed in a beautiful soft peach outfit. She now has white hair but is recognizable by her twinkling eyes, eyebrows and pretty face. Other cast members in attendance included Mickey Kuhn (Beau Wilkes), Pat Curtis (Baby Beau Wilkes) and Greg Giese (infants Bonnie and Beau). There was a six-foot tall, eight-foot long cake and a dozen 1939-era antique automobiles. There was also an evening costume ball.

Two blocks north of the town square is the Civil War cemetery where we saw thousands of white crosses over the graves of the soldiers. It makes you think. War is never-ending, and it's sad there are so many young victims.

Our next meeting is scheduled Monday, March 8, at 1 p.m. at the Oglesby Dickinson House. See you there!

2010 Miss SNPJ Pageant Official Entry Form

Entrants must be between the ages of 17-25 by Dec. 31, 2010, and an SNPJ member in good standing for at least 3 months.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE () _____

BIRTH DATE _____

POLICY NUMBER _____ LODGE _____

PARENTS' NAMES _____

GRANDPARENTS' NAMES _____

HOBBIES _____

LOCAL NEWSPAPER _____

I will compete in the Miss SNPJ talent competition

YES NO

Type of talent _____

(NOTE: Talent is not necessarily proficiency on a musical instrument or singing ability. Creativity is encouraged. Everybody has a talent.)

On a separate sheet of paper and in your own words, please describe any school honors you have received, and any organizations, clubs and activities you were involved with. Be sure to include specific SNPJ Youth Circle, Lodge or Federation activities.

Mail completed application, along with a clear, color photo, to:

Slovene National Benefit Society

Att'n: Fraternal Director
247 West Allegheny Road
Imperial, PA 15126-9774

Application Deadline: June 14, 2010

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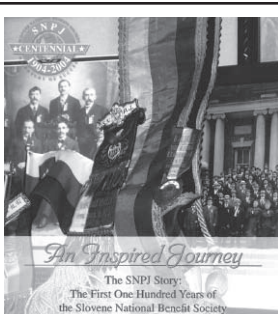
62%... people who own coverage, but don't know what they have or why they have it

82%... people who are under-insured

If your coverage is over 5 years old, contact SNPJ for a policy review.

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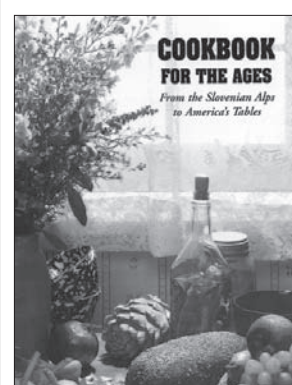
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Cookbook for the Ages

The cookbook sponsored by the SNPJ Heritage Center is now on sale! For additional information, contact Carol Maruszak at (440) 944-4229.

\$20 each

plus \$3 s/h for first 2 copies

For 3 or more books, add \$1 shipping for each copy.

Return this order form to:

SNPJ Heritage Center • 270 Martin Road • Enon Valley, PA 16120

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Make check or money order payable to SNPJ Heritage Center.

SNPJ fraternal sympathies

Sis. HELEN ETZEL
• LODGE 113 •

PRICE, Utah — With sadness, the Etzel family and members of Lodge 113 report the Jan. 1, 2010, passing of Sis. Helen Pestotnik Etzel, 94, just 28 minutes into the New Year with a blue moon present for her passing.

Sis. Etzel was born in the warmth of summer, July 5, 1915, in Kenilworth, Utah, a daughter of Louis and Helen Pongratz Pestotnik. She married Archie Etzel June 19, 1936, in Price. He passed away Oct. 1, 1960.

Helen lived in the Hiawatha and Price areas of Carbon County, Utah, until the last seven months before her death. She was a talented seamstress and cook who worked hard all of her life. She was a member of the Catholic Church and SNPJ Lodge 113.

Sis. Etzel is survived by her loving daughter, Elsie (Lavell) Holmes; four adoring grandchildren, Archie (Margaret) Holmes, Helen Jones, Kathy (Lyle) Obray and Brenda (Steven) Matern; six great-grandchildren, Kelli, Nicholas, Derek, Nathan, Chad and Brendan; sister Louise

Kankelborg; and many loving nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Archie Etzel, her parents and three siblings.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Applegate HomeCare and Garden Terrace Care Center in Salt Lake for their incredible care.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 6 in Notre Dame de Lourdes Catholic Church, Price. A committal service followed in Price City Cemetery.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 113 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend sincere sympathies to

Sis. Etzel's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

Sis. HELEN KOLOVICH
• LODGE 321 •

WARREN, Ohio — The Kolovich family and members of Lodge 321 sadly report the Jan. 6, 2010, passing of Sis. Helen Kolovich at St. Joseph's Health Care Center, Warren.

Sis. Kolovich was born Feb. 20, 1929, in Acmetonia, Pa., to the late Ivan and Mary Sostrich Yurchick. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and SNPJ Lodge 321 since 1949,

where she formerly served as president.

After 13 years of service as a custodian in the Champion School District, Helen retired in 1992. She enjoyed sewing, homemaking, crossword puzzles, reading, polka dancing and her grandchildren's activities. Helen loved spending time with her family and preparing holiday dinners.

Sis. Kolovich is survived by her husband, Louis Kolovich, whom she married May 1, 1954; daughters Sue Vajda and Karen Carpenter of Vienna, Ohio, and Julie (Dan) Belden of Champion, Ohio; sister

Mildred Anderson of Natrona Heights, Pa.; grandchildren Amy (Chris) Lockney, Drew Carpenter, Danny (Shayna) and Kayla Belden, and Timmy Vajda; and great-grandson Byron Belden.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers John, Stanley and Steve Yurchick; sisters Barbara Cortese and Mary Woiewodski; and granddaughter Kimberly Vajda.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 321 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Sis. Kolovich's family, relatives and friends on their loss.

Senior Corner

by CARL ZVANUT
Lodge 107

DEVON, Pa. — The "donut hole" in Medicare Part D provides an interesting study of the handling of its cost. When approved some six years ago, passing part of the cost of meds on to seniors was said to be the only affordable way. Maybe so, maybe not. The goal now is to eliminate that hole, and that's where it gets interesting; where will the money come from?

Right now the money comes out of seniors' pockets. A good piece of change — up to 70 percent of the cost of meds — can come out of the insured's pocket so yes, it would be nice to eliminate the hole. However, it doesn't seem to be all

that easy for health reform since a 10-year goal was set for the change. Even that much depends on the drug companies chipping in to help out, as well as how their help would work in practice. What I understand from all of this is how easy it must have been six years ago to simply pass the cost on to the insured.

It's time to take care of the books, to close the past and open the new. I've been making budgets and keeping track of expenses and income for so long that it's almost a habit. Something I look forward to receiving is my pension statement. Invariably, it always gets to me by regular mail on the last day of the year and it didn't break the pattern this year. I don't look forward to the work involved in closing the books, but the change in style over the years has been something to look

back on. It started with a large sheet of paper and a pencil, and has evolved into today's computerized version. No matter the method, paper or computer, the fun begins when I try to balance my checkbook and budget book against the monthly bank statement; these fingers don't always hit the intended keys.

The Christmas rush is long gone around this place and the decorations put away until next year. Right now, Girl Scout cookies have become the subject of the hour. A few boxes came as a gift in advance of making a direct purchase from my great-granddaughter at her sales location in front of a supermarket. It was a great way for me to get a break from this place and enjoy one of the several real satisfactions of being around for as long as I have been.

SNPJ Crossword
THE SUPER BOWL (#0210) solution

UN	APT	ARC	SHAY
RA	JA	SIR	ATONE
DR	AP	HOY	LABEL
SC	RAWNY	PRO	BOWL
	SHE	UTAH	
CAD	OPEN	MADAME	
ONYX	ALTO	SOLID	
SILL	LAWNS	STAG	
EMAIL	NICE	SAME	
CANVAS	SETH	RID	
	BOAT	TOO	
ARIZONA	COWBOYS		
VICAR	RAY	LEVEL	
ICONS	OPS	ELUTE	
DENY	NET	TIMID	

Lodge 11 loses a longtime member

by MICKEY BREZNIKAR
Lodge 11 Recording Secretary

AUBURN, Wash. — Greater Northwest Lodge 11 was saddened by the Dec. 5, 2009, passing of longtime member Anthony Primozich, 95. He was born April 23, 1914, in Eveleth, Minn. He is survived by his daughter, Nancy Schneble of Redmond, Wash.; his sister, Frances Skalko of Virginia; and five grandchildren. He and his wife, Tina, moved to Bellevue, Wash., in 1971. He will be missed by all SNPJ members.

Our son, Dennis E. Breznikar of Bellevue, received his SNPJ 50-year pin. We congratulate him on this milestone.

Our Lodge has not been as active as we would like since most of our members are in their 80s; however, we do keep in touch with each other. We wish everyone a happy and healthy 2010.

Sharon Pensioners slate April meeting

by FRAN NESPOR
Lodge 31

SHARON, Pa. — The Slovenian Home in Sharon, Pa., held its Pensioners Club meeting and picnic Jan. 17. Members enjoyed delicious food and several games were played throughout the afternoon.

The next Sharon Pensioners Club meeting will be held April 11 beginning at 2 p.m. at the Slovenian Home. Please make plans to attend.



Photo submitted by Sis. Pat Nevar (158).

Ohio Honors Slovenian Independence

The Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia held a reception in honor of Slovenian Independence and Unity Day Dec. 9 at the Slovenian Museum in Cleveland. Honored guests were the Ambassador of Slovenia to the United States, Mr. Roman Kirn, and his wife, Mrs. Jovana Kirn. Among those in attendance at the reception were SNPJ members [from left] GERRI TREBETS (604), DOROTHY GORJUP (158) and PAT NEVAR (158), pictured with Slovenian Consul General JURE ŽMAUC.

Lodge 745 preparing for a busy 2010

GOLDEN VALLEY 2010
FROM PAGE 1

is to pair this event with a visit from California Federation representatives. This gathering will allow Lodge 745 to share some character from the Golden Valley area with our visitors as well as strengthen the connection between Federation Lodges.

The Lodge elected to send Angela Mlakar and Julianne Wood as representatives to the Young Adult Conference at

the SNPJ Recreation Center in June. In addition, a group of Lodge 745 members and friends are looking forward to taking a trip to the Rec Center for Slovenefest XXIX in July.

Other events were discussed and details on these will certainly be explored at the next Lodge meeting, scheduled Sunday, April 11. For details on any of these events or information about Golden Valley Lodge 745, visit the Lodge web site at www.snpjlodge745.com.

Membership Certificate Holders
ANNUAL MEETING

Slovenian Society Home
20713 Recher Avenue
Euclid, OH 44119

Sunday, February 14, 2010, at 2 p.m.

We invite all certificate holders and Lodge & Club representatives to attend.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John & Frances Ambrose



Now we're together. May we rest in peace and may we both be blessed. No one can part us now, and the family will think of us both as always "one of the family zlahta."

2010 SNPJ Florida Annual Golf Tournament

at Rivard Golf & Country Club
18001 Rivard Blvd., Brooksville, FL 34604
Phone toll-free: 1-866-404-2152

Saturday, March 6, 2010 (tee times start at 8 a.m.)

Sunday, March 7, 2010 (shotgun start at 8 a.m.)

Individual Event – Saturday, March 6

Name	Lodge No.	Handicap
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

Team Scramble Event – Sunday, March 7

Name	Lodge No.	Handicap
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

Prize fees for team and individual events are \$7 per person. Prize fees will be collected by the Tournament Committee. Greens fees of \$15 per round are payable at the course. Greens fees include compulsory golf cart.

Return this form, along with prize fees, to:

Betty Keber
196 Oak Lake Dr., Spring Hill, FL 34608
Phone: (352) 686-9579

Make checks payable to SNPJ 778

The Home Office will verify all memberships. Complete tournament rules are available by contacting the SNPJ Fraternal Department, 247 West Allegheny Road, Imperial, PA 15126.

PROSVETA 2010 Publication Dates

Publication dates are highlighted in black boxes; deadline dates are circled. The deadline for submissions is noon on the Monday a week prior to the issue date, unless otherwise noted below or on the front page.

JANUARY 2010

				1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8
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DECEMBER 2010

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