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 ISSUE 5

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022

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Family fun in store at the SNPJ Recreation Center

by SUSAN ZARELLA (277)
 SNPJ Recreation Center

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — We're looking forward to the summer season at the SNPJ Recreation Center now that things are getting back to normal. We are counting the days until Family Week 2022, scheduled Sunday, July 31, through Saturday, Aug. 6.

Family Week is fun for all! Individuals, couples or families are all welcome to join us for the week filled with many activities, such as arts and crafts, balina, bean bag tournaments, bingo, a pool party, hayrides, picnics, karaoke,

or just hanging out at the cabins and enjoying the friendship of fellow SNPJ members. Of course, you can just come to enjoy the luxury of sitting by the pool and visiting the Tiki Bar for a relaxing week with friends.

Campers will enjoy three meals a day for the week. Although the meal service will conclude with breakfast on Friday, Aug. 5, you will be able to stay in your cabin and enjoy all of the Friday evening fun at the SNPJ Recreation Center. You can stay Saturday evening as well, for an additional fee. Please remember that the Gostilna kitchen is open on the weekends so you

can purchase food, and there is entertainment scheduled on Friday evening as well.

The Family Week registration fee for SNPJ members is \$165 per person; for non-members the fee is \$225 per person.

There is also an additional lodging fee based on the size of the cabin in which you will be staying. For a two-bedroom upper cabin (numbers 3-24), the fee is \$350 for the week. For a two-bedroom lower cabin, the fee is \$230 for the week. For a one-bedroom lower cabin,

SEE FAMILY WEEK 2022
 ON PAGE 4

briefly

Home Office closed for Memorial Day holiday

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The SNPJ Home Office will be closed Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day. Normal office hours, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., will resume Tuesday, May 31. We wish all SNPJ members and friends a safe, healthy and happy Memorial Day.

May merger unites SNPJ Lodge 355 with Lodge 142

IMPERIAL, Pa. — On May 1, 2022, SNPJ Lodge 355 in Fairport Harbor, Ohio, merged into SNPJ Lodge 142 in Cleveland. All Lodge 355 members have been notified by letter of the Lodge vote to merge, and have been provided with the contact information for Lodge 142 Secretary Carol Bacnik, 7271 Port Royal Ct., Mentor, OH 44060; along with Carol's phone number and e-mail address.

We thank all of the officers of Lodge 355 for their hard work and dedication to the Lodge over the years. We also thank SNPJ Lodge 142 for accepting these members into their Lodge in the true fraternal spirit.

KAREN A. PINTAR
 SNPJ National Secretary/COO

Society sympathies for Lodge 41 president

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The SNPJ Home Office has been notified of the April 2, 2022, passing of Bro. William L. Volkar, president and treasurer of Lodge 41 in Irwin, Pa.

On behalf of the entire Society, the members of the Executive Committee and Home Office staff extend their condolences to Bro. Volkar's family and friends on their loss. See page 6 for the complete obituary.

Convention information to be delivered mid-May

IMPERIAL, Pa. — All information regarding the upcoming Convention will be sent directly to all delegates either by regular mail or e-mail around May 16. This packet will include everything you need to make arrangements for your travel and accommodations, instructions on purchasing guest meal packages, and detailed information on the social events. All hotel and/or Recreation Center reservations will be made through our office, and all flight reservations must be made through our travel agents. Delegates will receive all of this information in the packet as well.

KAREN A. PINTAR
 SNPJ National Secretary/COO

Take the bus to the CAL Gorjup Golf Open

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — For SNPJ golfers planning to participate in the CAL Don Gorjup Golf Open over Memorial Day weekend, a school bus will depart the grounds of the SNPJ Recreation Center on Saturday, May 28, at 6 a.m., arriving at the golf course in time for the 9 a.m. start. A minimum of 20 passengers must register for the bus; the price will be determined by the total number of passengers. Seats will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Call Sara Tkach at (724) 344-0461 to reserve your seat today!

THE DEADLINE

The next two *PROSVETA* issue dates are June 1 and July 1. All material must be received by noon on Monday, May 9, for the June 1 issue, and by Monday, June 13, for the July 1 issue. If you're concerned about making the deadline, send an e-mail to snpj@snpj.org or submit your material via the publications area of our website, snpj.org.

The Society mourns the loss of former National Secretary Sis. Grace A. Doerk

by JOSEPH C. EVANISH
 SNPJ National President/CEO

IMPERIAL, Pa. — SNPJ mourns the March 28, 2022, passing of former SNPJ National Secretary, National Board Supervisory Committee member, *PROSVETA* scribe, SNPJ Pioneer Lodge 559 officer, and 72-year SNPJ member Sis. Grace A. Doerk, 90, of Burr Ridge, Ill., surrounded by family.

Sis. Doerk was born April 8, 1931, in Auburn, Ill., a daughter of the late Frank G. and Agnes K. Gerdanc. At the age of 5, Grace and her family moved to Chicago. The family later moved to Cicero, Ill., where Grace attended grammar school, high school and junior college. On Sept. 24, 1955, she married Otto G. Doerk Jr. She and Otto shared 61 wedded years prior to Otto's passing in June 2017.

Grace's involvement with the SNPJ began when she was only 6 years old and belonged to the former Perfect Circle 26 in Chicago. During those years she was a frequent contributor to the *SNPJ Mladinski List* magazine and made many lifelong friendships.

From the time she was 18 until the age of 25, Grace was active in Pioneer Lodge 559. Along with her parents, she attended many Lodge activities at the former SNPJ Hall located at 27th and Lawndale, and at the former Slovene Center on 23rd and Millard in Cicero.

Grace was hired as a part-time employee at the Lawndale SNPJ Home Office in 1973.



Sis. GRACE A. DOERK (559)
 • 1931–2022 •

When the office moved to Burr Ridge she took a full-time position, working a number of jobs.

Grace served as a Lodge 559 delegate to the SNPJ Conventions in 1974 and 1978, and at the 1982 Convention she was elected SNPJ National Assistant Secretary. She was then elected SNPJ National Secretary at the 1990

SEE Sis. GRACE DOERK
 ON PAGE 5

PERIODICAL MATERIAL

You're surely "Happy to BEE Slovenian" with the Heritage Center in June

by KATHY PAULENICH (776)
 SNPJ Heritage Center Director

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — When the crocuses and daffodils have bloomed, and the temperatures reach the 60s and 70s, that means spring has arrived and it's time to get ready for our busy summer season at the SNPJ Heritage Center. Committee members have been getting new items ordered for the gift shop and revising a few of the museum displays, so be sure to stop in for a visit at the museum and gift shop on opening day Saturday, May 28, between 1 and 5 p.m.

Our first event at the SNPJ Recreation Center is our annual Heritage Center weekend, themed "Happy to BEE Slovenian," scheduled June 10-12. We'll kick off the weekend with music by Patty C & The Guys in the Gostilna on Friday, June 10, from 8 to 11 p.m. Come early and have some dinner!

The fun continues on Saturday with a balina tournament organized by Denny Brand in the Balinarena starting at 10 a.m. Sign up for the tournament in the Gostilna on Friday night. The Heritage Center museum and gift shop will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. that afternoon.

A new event we're trying out is a Paint, Pour and Sip in the Wine Room starting at 4 p.m., led by Sarah Loudon. The number of participants will be limited, so you must register beforehand. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Gostilna. The fee to participate is \$5, payable that day. This activity is open to both men and women. Children under age 16 can participate if accompanied by an adult.

Bingo is scheduled Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Gostilna. Prizes from the Heritage Center gift shop will be awarded to the bingo winners.

Our annual picnic will be held Sunday, June 12, starting at 1 p.m., featuring the

SEE SNPJ HERITAGE CENTER
 ON PAGE 8



Photo submitted by SNPJ National President/CEO Joseph C. Evanish

FSGP Recognizes National Secretary Karen A. Pintar

During the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh (FSGP) annual Christmas party held in December 2021 at Rivers Casino in Pittsburgh, FSGP President **Joseph Stefka Jr.** presented SNPJ National Secretary/COO **KAREN A. PINTAR** with a plaque in recognition of her many years of service as FSGP secretary. The plaque reads: "In appreciation for 15 years of dedicated service as Secretary of the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh/December 2021." Having served the FSGP for the past decade and a half, Karen stepped aside from her role as secretary in November 2021. Sis. Pintar, who was the recipient of the FSGP Fraternalist of the Year Award in 2009, remains active in the FSGP. Congratulations, Karen!

PROSVETA ENLIGHTENMENT

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Music Festival & Craft Show returns to the SNPJ Farm in May

by DON SRNICK (158)
SNPJ Farm Board Vice President

KIRTLAND, Ohio— Please join us at the SNPJ Farm, 10946 Heath Rd. in Kirtland, on Saturday, May 21, for our second annual Music Festival and Craft Show sponsored by Monreal Srnick Funeral Home.

The gates open at 11 a.m., the craft show runs from 11 until 5 p.m., and the

music will start at noon and continue until 10 p.m. We have approximately 16 bands scheduled, along with more than 50 vendors.

Ticket price is \$10 in advance, \$15 at the gate. Guests age 10 and under will be admitted free of charge.

The SNPJ Farm is a family-oriented picnic grounds offering a large playground for kids, three balina

courts, and more. Billy Azman will be selling his award-winning Slovenian sausages, a food truck will be on the grounds, and the SNPJ Farm kitchen will be selling sandwiches.

Overnight lodging is available at Red Roof Inn, 4166 State Route 306, Willoughby, OH 44094; phone (440) 946-9872. To receive the special discounted rate, you will need to

inform them that you are attending the SNPJ Music Festival. The Red Roof Inn is located seven miles, approximately 13 minutes, from the SNPJ Farm.

The SNPJ Farm is a cash-only venue. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact SNPJ Farm Board Vice President Don Srnick at (440) 283-9373.

Lodge 715 announces a Polka Crawl for Slovenefest

by PATTI EVANISH
Lodge 715 Secretary

UNIVERSAL, Pa.— We hope everyone is doing well and getting back into some sort of normal routine. Speaking of normal, we are excited that Slovenefest is taking place this year, and we're looking forward to seeing our members.

With that said, we would like you to join us for our First Annual Lodge 715 Slovenefest Polka Crawl. If you haven't already decided to attend Slovenefest this year, please think of this activity as a way to reconnect with your fraternal Brothers and Sisters. We're still working out the details, so more information

will be provided in next month's *PROSVETA* issue.

We're also working on plans to hold our 50-, 60-, 70- and 80-year member luncheon in the fall. For those members we missed celebrating the last few years, please watch for more details.

Finally, I would like to mention social media; in particular, our SNPJ Lodge 715 Universal Comets Facebook page. We all know that staying connected with those we love and knowing what is happening around us is essential; therefore, we will be posting information to our page as it becomes available. Please join our page if you haven't done so already.

A good spring cleaning in Yukon, Pa., thanks to SNPJ Silverstars Lodge 729

by JOANN KRANCE
Lodge 729 Secretary/Treasurer

YUKON, Pa.— The forecast was for rain, but Saturday, March 19, turned out to be a beautiful day in Yukon!

A group of 70-plus volunteers met at the Yukon Slovenian Hall to participate in the eighth Annual Yukon Spring Cleanup sponsored by SNPJ Silverstars Lodge 729. The cleanup was registered with Pick Up Pennsylvania.

This yearly cleanup has turned out to be a beautiful community event. Besides the members of our Lodge, volunteers from the town, as well as from the Yukon Lions Club, Yukon Fire Department and Yukon Miners Baseball Club, were among the participants. Breakfast

pastries and coffee were available, and Lions Club member Charles Baker gave an invocation before the volunteers got started.

The Yukon Fire Dept. squad truck patrolled the streets of town, helping to keep the volunteers safe. MAX Environmental took charge of disposing all the old tires and electronics collected. Our Lodge also hosted a lunch of pizza, salad, cookies and refreshments.

The streets and outskirts of Yukon are litter free again! Our Lodge takes pride in sponsoring this cleanup year after year. Everyone went home with a good feeling of accomplishment. Our Lodge would like to thank Frank and Barb Liptak who chaired this event again – great job!



More than 70 volunteers met at the Yukon Slovenian Hall on March 19 to participate in the eighth Annual Yukon Spring Cleanup sponsored by Silverstars Lodge 729.



Photo submitted by Sis. Dina Haynosch (142)

Four Generations, Pretty as a Picture

In this four-generation photo, 80-year SNPJ member Sis. **SOPHIE MATUCH** (142) is pictured with her daughter, **LORRAINE MATUCH** (142), granddaughter **NICOLE BOWSER** (142), and great-granddaughter **Norah Konrad** as Norah celebrated her fifth birthday in January. Sis. Matuch was recognized as an 80-year member in February; her biography will appear among the Society's fraternal honorees in an upcoming issue.



SNPJ Lodge 142 and Youth Circle 94 members headed to Wickliffe Lanes for some bowling fun in April.

Lodge 142, Circle 94 share an afternoon of fun on the lanes

by CAROL MARUSZAK
Lodge 142 Recording Secretary

CLEVELAND— What do the terms “baby ball,” “bedposts” and “grandma’s teeth” have in common? They’re all bowling terms!

Lodge 142 and Youth Circle 94 held a family and friends bowling outing on April 2 at Wickliffe Lanes. The outing brought Lodge and Circle members together, and youth members showed off their bowling skills to their parents and grandparents, while everyone cheered for one another.

Lunch was provided by the Lodge, and for dessert we shared Ron Maruszak’s birthday cake.

The Lodge is excited to announce their annual picnic on Sunday, Sept. 11, with the Eddie Rodick Orchestra providing music from 3 to 7 p.m. Special children’s activities will be hosted by Youth Circle 94. More details will follow.

Finally, we wish a speedy recovery to Dorothy Kravos who had been recuperating at Breckenridge Village and is now back home.

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

Up-and-Coming...

A look at events planned by the Slovene National Benefit Society

- MAY 28 CAL Don Gorjup Golf Open at Rolling Green Golf Club, Huntsburg, Ohio. For additional information contact Tournament Secretary Rick Gorjup at (440) 354-4001.
- MAY 30 Chicago District Federation Memorial Day Services in Woodlawn Cemetery, Forest Park, Ill., starting at 11 a.m. For more information contact Tina Rigler at (708) 257-8312.
- JUNE 4 SNPJ Golden Valley Lodge 745 Wine Tasting and Lunch at Pescatore Vineyard and Winery, 7055 Ridge Rd., New Castle, Calif., starting at 1 p.m. Music provided by John and Joe Mlakar. For more information contact Joe Mlakar at (916) 380-7722 or e-mail loskadolina@surewest.net.
- JUNE 10-12 SNPJ Young Adult Conference at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For details contact the SNPJ Home Office at 1-800-843-7675 or e-mail snpj@snpj.com.
- JUNE 10-12 SNPJ Heritage Center Weekend at the SNPJ Recreation Center. For more information phone the SNPJ Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732 or e-mail snpj@snpjrec.com.
- JUNE 11 Western Pa./Lodge 138 Golf Tournament at Rolling Green Golf Course, Eighty Four, Pa.
- JUNE 26 11th annual Westmoreland County (Pa.) Federation of SNPJ Lodges “Pretty In Pink” fundraiser at the Yukon, Pa., Slovenian Hall; 2-6 p.m. Music by The Polka Classics, door prizes, 50/50 drawing, and a Chinese auction. For details contact Lois Denning at (412) 554-7404 or e-mail hvala348@aol.com.
- JULY 8-10 Slovenefest at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ (Enon Valley), Pa. For additional information phone the SNPJ Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732 or e-mail snpj@snpjrec.com.
- JULY 31-AUG. 6 ... SNPJ Family Week at the SNPJ Recreation Center. For more information phone the SNPJ Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732 or e-mail snpj@snpjrec.com.
- AUG. 7 SNPJ Spartans Lodge 576 picnic and the first annual Louis J. Novak Balina Tournament at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio. Music by Ron Likovic & Friends. For additional information and tournament registration, contact Karen Novak at (216) 965-3181.
- AUG. 15 ... The 32nd SNPJ Quadrennial Convention at the SNPJ Recreation Center.
- SEPT. 2-4 ... National SNPJ Days at the SNPJ Recreation Center. For more information phone the SNPJ Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732 or e-mail snpj@snpjrec.com.

We've Got You COVERED



by DAVID C. ELY, CPA, FIC
SNPJ National Sales
& Marketing Director

Fixed annuities... more than you think!

Fixed-rate annuities offer many attractive benefits to their owners. But oftentimes, their usefulness gets lost in the transition of assets.

Some people think of a fixed annuity as a holding spot, a place to protect earnings from the markets. Others, who may be risk-averse, look at these products simply as a safe "investment." And in the fraternal world, there are those who purchase annuities as their chosen path to full Society membership. These are all good and valid reasons to purchase an annuity.

However, what is being overlooked in most instances are some reasons for people to consider using fixed annuities as a tool to long-term financial success. Check out these 11 reasons to buy a fixed annuity. If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, I urge you to call SNPJ today to schedule a free examination of your current and future needs and how we may be able to help.

Ask yourself these questions:

1. Do I like the idea of having a guaranteed interest rate with downside protection?
2. Am I concerned about my future retirement income?
3. Should I consider preserving some of the gains that I have made in the markets?
4. Do I want to use a safe, guaranteed account to accumulate or hold assets for my beneficiaries?
5. Is my estate growing, and am I worried about possible estate taxes to my family someday?
6. Am I concerned about possibly having to fund a long-term care policy in the future?
7. Should I keep paying taxes on most or all the money I am trying to save?
8. As inflation keeps costing me more, do I want my assets to keep pace as much as possible?
9. Do I really want my family to have to deal with probate issues when I pass?
10. Would I like to have some more income coming in?
11. Wouldn't it be nice to lay down at night and not be worrying if my money is safe?

If you would like to discuss possibly using these fantastic tools to super-change your long-term financial outlook, give us a call at 1-800-843-7675! We can schedule a convenient time to discuss your goals and needs over the phone, in-person here in the SNPJ Home Office, or we can have one of our talented agents meet you right in the comfort of your home!



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Your loyalty with SNPJ is now being rewarded! Contact the SNPJ Home Office at 1-800-843-7675 and open your new SNPJ Loyalty Annuity TODAY!

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Slovenia, U.S. sign a new Fulbright agreement

LJUBLJANA (STA) — The U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana announced in late March that Slovenia and the United States signed a new memorandum of understanding on the Fulbright Program which provides the legal basis for the U.S. government-sponsored international educational exchange program in Slovenia. The agreement will be in force indefinitely.

The previous agreement expired in December 2021, and the new one, signed by U.S. Ambassador to Slovenia Jamie L. Harpootlian and Slovenian Education Minister Simona Kustec, removes the "sunset clause."

"By removing the sunset clause, the agreement will continue indefinitely. This will enable academics and scholars to make connections and build bridges which will deepen the ties between our two countries," Ambassador Harpootlian said.

"The signing of the Fulbright memorandum for an unlimited period is proof of the good cooperation so far, close ties and great trust, and both countries' support for knowledge for the future," said Minister Kustec, adding that many of the program's alumni have gone on to have "world-class international academic and research careers."

Since 1993, more than 400 PhD students and researchers have been involved in the program, including 212 Slovenians and 190 Americans, according to a U.S. Embassy press release. The program has been running for 75 years and has had more than 400,000 participants, including 40 heads of state or government and 61 Nobel laureates.

Presidential decorations for Olympic medalists

LJUBLJANA (STA) — In late March, President Borut Pahor conferred the Golden Order of Merit on two outstanding Slovenian athletes, climber Janja Garnbret and whitewater canoeist Benjamin Savšek, both of whom won gold medals at the 2021 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo.

The pair were honored for "outstanding sports achievements, promotion of Slovenia in the global sports arena, and for inspiring people," the president's office announced.

Garnbret reached the apex of her career by winning gold in women's combined sport climbing at the Tokyo Games after winning six world champion titles and taking the overall World Cup title four times. The president's office labeled her "an unbeatable and indisputable queen of her sport."

Savšek crowned his career in Tokyo by winning the men's C-1 slalom, making him only the fourth canoeist in the world to win Olympic gold as well as the European and world champion titles. He has won 18 medals at major competitions, including three European champion titles and one world champion title, and was praised as "one of the greatest Slovenian athletes."

Both Garnbret and Savšek were also hailed as an inspiration for the younger generation of Slovenian athletes.

E-care program to assist the elderly and disabled

LJUBLJANA (STA) — The Slovenian government launched an e-care project in March that will allow elderly and disabled people to live safely at home for a longer period of time by providing them with an around-the-clock link to an assistance center and health care professionals.

As Zvone Črnač, the minister of Development and European Cohesion Policy, told the press, the e-care project, which is being funded from EU grants, is an important step toward the implementation of the Long-term Care Act passed late last year. A total of 5,000 elderly, disabled and persons with chronic conditions across the country stand to benefit from the free service through September 2023.

Those who register for the e-care service will receive a free care phone and a bracelet with an assistance call button. They will also receive a pendant mobile movement detector, a SIM card with a mobile package providing them with unlimited calls and data transfer for the e-care service, plus free technical assistance and maintenance.

Users will be able to contact the assistance center by pressing the call button



on their free phone or bracelet that they should wear on their wrist all the times, or press the button on the pendant. In the event of a fall, the pendant movement detector will contact the assistance center automatically.

Those age 65 and up who live alone most of the time, along with those whose underlying chronic conditions make them vulnerable to coronavirus, are eligible for the service. Disabled persons, as well as those diagnosed with dementia, are also eligible to register for the free service.

Renovation planned for the National Archives

LJUBLJANA (STA) — A contract estimated at nearly EUR 14 million (\$14.5 million) has been executed to renovate and expand a building in Ljubljana that will house the National Archives and the newly-established Museum of Slovenian Independence.

The contract was signed March 1 at the Culture Ministry by Archives of Slovenia Director Bojan Cvelfar; Museum of Slovenian Independence Acting Director Željko Oset; and Igor Hvastja, director of the company selected to complete the work. Construction is expected to start later this spring and is slated for completion in September 2023, according to a post on the Culture Ministry website.

The archives are currently housed in Grubar Palace and several other locations, and will fully move to the new building, which already has a storage facility.

The Museum of Slovenian Independence was established by the Culture Ministry last year and does not yet have a permanent premises. The government adopted a decree on establishing the museum last March and funding has been set aside in the 2022 national budget.

The renovation and extension of the building at 40 Poljanska Street will be fully funded by the Culture Ministry. The building, a former barracks built in 1899 while Slovenia was under the rule of Austro-Hungary, had been used for military purposes until Slovenia's independence. During the country's independence efforts in the late 1980s, the building served as the Yugoslav People's Army barracks and also hosted a military court.

Companies develop a smart, zero-energy home

MARIBOR (STA) — A dozen Slovenian companies have developed an innovative net-zero-energy house that can serve as both a home and a workplace. With its smart appliances and fittings linked to cloud storage, the house can be monitored and managed remotely.

The Dom24 (Home24) model was displayed April 5 at the headquarters of Marles, Slovenia's oldest and largest producer of prefabricated homes, in Limbus near Maribor. In addition to Marles, the project also includes the Gorenje, Petrol, Hellos, Alpes, Danfoss, Robotina, Eti, Jub, Intectiv, Smartis and Spica companies.

The companies, each of which developed innovative solutions in its own field, invested EUR 12 million (\$13.2 million) in the project, with Slovenia's Economy Ministry and the European Regional Development Fund chipping in a grant of EUR 5 million (\$5.5 million).

Marles representatives said the idea, conceived in 2018, was to make a home in which people could spend 24 hours a day, meaning they could also work in it. "Then came the Covid-19 pandemic which showed how visionary our idea had been," a Marles spokesman added.

Dom24 is powered by the sun through an integrated photovoltaic plant; any excess electricity is stored in an integrated storage battery or fed into the electricity grid. The power plant provides a two-way connection to community energy systems and can operate efficiently on its own, or as a smart community unit.

The home also utilizes environmentally-friendly building materials, superinsulation, an innovative ventilation system, highly efficient heat recovery, and special paints and coatings designed to control humidity. In addition, the home includes ceiling heating and cooling, as well as a charging station for electric vehicles.

Olm "guardians" are finalists for Natura Award

POSTOJNA (STA) — The guardians of the olms ("baby dragons") at the Postojna Cave have been selected as finalists for this year's Natura 2000 Award, the only representatives from Slovenia. The company operating the world-famous Karst cave recognizes their selection as a great compliment to the olm, a cave-dwelling amphibian; to the Postojna Cave; and to the entire country.

"Awards are usually given out for outstanding business achievements. But in this case, the international award rewards care, excellence and consciousness in managing protected natural areas, and highlights the importance of preserving the ecosystem for the local community and economy of the entire EU, which is much more than an outstanding business achievement," Postojnska Jama chairman Marjan Batagelj was quoted in a press release.

Having received the nomination in the "communication" category, the company wrote that the award "recognizes achievements in communication which contribute to raising awareness about Natura 2000 and bring a lasting change in attitude toward the environment."

One of the Postojna Cave olms started laying eggs in 2016, marking the first time the blind cave salamander (*Proteus anguinus*) had been witnessed reproducing "in the wild." Thanks to the team's intensive care of the embryos and young olms, 21 five-year-old "baby dragons" have survived, a feat that has attracted a great deal of media attention.

Of the olm guardians themselves, the jury indicated that "their activities are a good example of how a charismatic species can be used to find political support for the protection of threatened habitats and species."

A total of 21 finalists were announced in five categories for the Natura 2000 Award. The finalists receiving the most votes in each category will receive the Citizens' Award.

Rog creative center expected to open in 2023

LJUBLJANA (STA) — A new creative center that is emerging from the defunct Rog bicycle factory in Ljubljana will open its doors in the summer of 2023. The new Rog Centre will promote cultural and creative activities, in particular craft production, applied arts, architecture, and design.

"The former factory building, which at the end of the 19th century housed a tannery, is part of Ljubljana's key industrial history and will as such be preserved at the new center," Renata Zamida, deputy director of Rog Centre, told the press.

The new creative center will feature seven production labs – for textiles, wood processing, ceramics and glass, and green and culinary arts – for which a membership fee, similar to a library fee, will be charged. A total of 25 production facilities will be available free of charge; use of the facilities will be limited to three to four years. Five residential areas will also be available to those from other countries; a nod to encouraging cultural exchange.

The center will also include a large area for social activities and exhibitions, a library, several cafes, and two smaller shops where products manufactured at the labs will be sold.

The building comprises four floors for a total of 8,500 square meters (91,500 square feet); a solar roof will allow the building to be partially self-sufficient in terms of energy usage. Outside the building, a park will stretch across 8,000 square meters (two acres). The center will be open 24 hours a day.

The Rog building, where bicycles were first produced in 1953, was the first reinforced concrete building constructed in Slovenia, according to Zamida. The building renovation is estimated at some EUR 20 million (\$21.7 million), and the project is partly funded by the EU.

Meta Štular, the acting director of Strategic Development and Programs, said a very diverse program will be offered at Rog. The creative center will be open and accessible to all citizens. Young women in particular will be invited to lead the technological labs, while older users will be encouraged to share their knowledge and serve as mentors to younger Rog users.

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



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Commission sharing Miss SNPJ history and tradition as the pageant nears

by KRISTEN CUSHMAN BARNOT (138)
Miss SNPJ Pageant Commission

STRABANE, Pa. — As excited as we are to invite eligible females to enter as contestants in the 2022 Miss SNPJ Pageant, we'd also like to encourage former Miss SNPJs to attend Slovenefest the weekend of July 8-10 when you will be rec-

ognized and honored as part of the Miss SNPJ tradition and legacy.

After a reign officially ends and the crown is passed on, all Miss SNPJs should continue to be celebrated, and we've been having so much fun featuring former queens on our Facebook and Instagram Miss SNPJ pages. We're shar-

ing calendar portraits alongside favorite memories from "then," and updates about where life has taken our former Miss SNPJs over the years.

To any former queen who hasn't done so yet, please send a brief biography to missSNPJlegacy@gmail.com. We look forward to sharing

a custom write-up with your Miss SNPJ calendar portrait.

The Miss SNPJ Pageant Commission would like to thank the following donors who recently contributed to the Pageant Booster Fund: Miss SNPJ 1986 Kathy Roginski Labelle (in memory of her sister, Miss SNPJ 1973 Linda Rogin-

ski Russell, 1953-2006); Anne Evanish; Jamie and Patti Evanish; SNPJ Lodge 257 (Cleveland); SNPJ Comets Lodge 715 (Universal, Pa.); Dave and Kathy Skrajner; and the Slovene Federation of SNPJ Lodges of Western Pennsylvania. Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated!

Join in the fun of Family Week at the Recreation Center

FAMILY WEEK 2022
FROM PAGE 1

the fee is \$120 for the week. These lodging fees are constant whether one person or six people are staying in the cabin.

Naturally, if you will be staying in your RV in the Trailer Court, there is no lodging fee.

You must turn in your registration form and a \$25 cabin deposit (if you didn't pay it when you checked out last summer) to the SNPJ Recreation Center by June 22. The balance will be due when you check in on Sunday, July 31. Please call Sue Zarella at the Recreation Center, 1-877-

767-5732, if you are unsure if you left a cabin deposit. If we haven't received your registration and deposit before the deadline, you may lose your deposit and your cabin may be rented to somebody else.

Daily member guests are welcome for \$75 per person, per day; non-member guests

are welcome for \$100 per person, per day. Please register guests at check-in.

The Family Week registration form is available online at snpj.org/membership/senior-adult-life/family-week/. If you have any questions, contact Sue Zarella at 1-877-767-5732 or e-mail snpj@snpjrec.com.

Memorial May

by MARTY KUMER
Lodge 715 President

UNIVERSAL, Pa. — May is the month we honor our departed. Memorial Day is a national holiday designed to honor our brave soldiers who fought and died to save our democracy and establish peace on earth.

Many SNPJ members were participants, including my uncle, Mike Kumer. He was a lieutenant, serving with Intelligence in England during WWII.

As some of you may know, Mike evolved after the war to become one of the most influential members of the SNPJ. Though never the president, he became chairman of the SNPJ Supervisory Committee, which looked over the shoulders of every other operation, including the Executive Committee.

A small store owner from Universal, his real life was devotion to the SNPJ. Many referred to him as "Mr. SNPJ." He

and "Gish" Remezo built Lodge 715 into one of our Society's largest. He recruited Roger Evanish to become Lodge secretary. Roger was the father of our current president, Joe Evanish.

Another SNPJ icon, the late Joe Cvetas, once told me, "If Mike wanted to enter politics and leave the SNPJ behind, he could be a U.S. Senator."

The Kumer family honors our departed on Memorial Weekend Sunday. From my grandparents to my whole family, and aunts and uncles, all are buried in Plum Creek Cemetery.

Some years ago my cousin, Judi March, started to come from Detroit, where she resided and worked as a Powers Model Agency president, to decorate the graves of her parents, "Teanie" Kumer Marovich and her husband "Nutsy" George (an outstanding uncle).

Judi started a tradition of generously hosting the surviving Kumers at a fine restaurant. The attendance started at a modest six to 10, and grew in 30 years to 40 or more. She retired five years ago and my daughter, Holly Lazzaro, carried on by renting a park in Monroeville, Pa., where we continue our reunions; this year, Evergreen Park.

On Memorial Saturday, our Kumer family — me, Max Sr., Max Jr., Jack, Uncle Lou and Cousin Lou — along with a dozen or more Universal golfers, started attending the SNPJ golf tournament in Cleveland run by Don Gorjup. That was 50 or more years ago. I claim it's the best SNPJ tournament of all.

Our many forays to Cleveland were legendary, if not bizarre. For some years Max and I made homemade wine and took a gallon jug to the tournament. We made a lot of friends there, including "Big Jim" from 'Bama (Alabama) and a guy named Rudy and his buddies, George Kasalones and I few others whose names I've forgotten. Bro. Max and Big Jim golfed nine holes "bah-foot," using just a 4-iron.

We had many rides back home which included stops along the way — I could write a book!

Finally, one more memorial. I just learned that Grace Doerk passed. Some years ago I wrote an article praising Grace and several other SNPJ ladies. I always read Grace's articles in *PROSVETA*. She was an inspiration.

So there are plenty of reasons to celebrate Memorial Weekend... and to remember.

Polka Hall of Fame Radio takes to the airwaves

by JOE VALENCIC (5)
Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame

CLEVELAND — The National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame and Museum takes to the airwaves with a two-hour weekly radio and internet polka music broadcast. "Polka Hall of Fame Radio" airs live every Saturday from noon to 2 p.m. EST on Cleveland radio WINT, 101.5 FM, 1330 AM, and WINRadio.com. The show is also streamed worldwide on 247PolkaHeaven.com. The show repeats on Tuesdays and

Thursdays at 2 p.m. EST.

Polka Hall of Fame Radio features polka and waltz music; in particular, the Cleveland-style polka, the genre of American dance music that emerged from Cleveland's Slovenian and nationality neighborhoods a century ago and became a national sensation in the 1940s and 1950s.

In addition to music, the Polka Hall of Fame will produce exclusive programming, such as new artist releases, album premieres, interviews and profiles, on-location shows,

community news, and live entertainment.

The show is hosted by long-time polka DJ Denny Bucar, along with Joe Valencic and Joey Tomsick. All three were among the founding trustees of the Polka Hall of Fame in 1987.

Denny Bucar has been broadcasting for 50 years; Joe Valencic presents music and news from Slovenia, announcing in both English and Slovenian; while Joey Tomsick provides "Button Box Beat" with music featuring the diatonic accordion, unique to the

Cleveland-style polka.

With Polka Hall of Fame Radio, Denny, Joe and Joey continue the radio legacy of the late Tony Petkovsek who launched the broadcast in 1961. They co-hosted on Tony's programs for many years.

For more information on Polka Hall of Fame Radio, call (216) 261-3263 or e-mail PolkaShop@aol.com. Check the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame Facebook page and PolkaFame.com for announcements and details on upcoming events.



SNPJ Recreation Center 2022 Fraternal Events Schedule

June 10-12	SNPJ Young Adult Conference
June 10-12	SNPJ Heritage Center Weekend "Happy to BEE Slovenian"
July 8-10	SLOVENEFEEST 2022
July 31-Aug. 6	SNPJ Family Week
Aug. 15	32nd SNPJ Quadrennial Convention
Sept. 2-4	National SNPJ Days

Official Proceedings

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting Oct. 21, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. by President Evanish with Sis. Pintar and Bro. Lawrence in attendance.

Approved the minutes from the Sept. 13, 2021, meeting.

Reported that the re-sealing of the Home Office parking lot was completed.

Reported that we are conducting research into obtaining a new insurance administration system and accounting package.

Reported that the new roof for the balina courts at the SNPJ Recreation Center was completed at a cost of \$11,700 and that the donations received to date were in excess of \$4,000.

Reported on the dinner held for the 30th anniversary of Slovenia's independence at the SNPJ Recreation Center with National Board members and dignitaries.

Approved a donation of \$100 for Jubilee Soup Kitchen.

Approved a donation of \$150 for the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Scholarship.

Approved a donation of \$25 for Scout BSA Troop 830.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Dec. 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by President Evanish with Sis. Pintar and Bro. Lawrence in attendance.

Approved the minutes from the Oct. 21, 2021, meeting.

Discussed the reporting requirements for the auditors for Heritage Life and the amount of information requested. Discussed the reporting from the system on the annuity blocks.

Discussed the requirements from the Pennsylvania Insurance Department for the five-year examination and reviewed what we need to provide to them.

Discussed year-end processing and final payments for the year for claims, withdrawals, etc.

Approved a donation of \$250 for the FSGP Children's Hospital Drive.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

JOSEPH C. EVANISH
National President/CEO

KAREN A. PINTAR
National Secretary/COO

PROSVETA Crossword

Who Am I? (#0522) by StatePoint Media

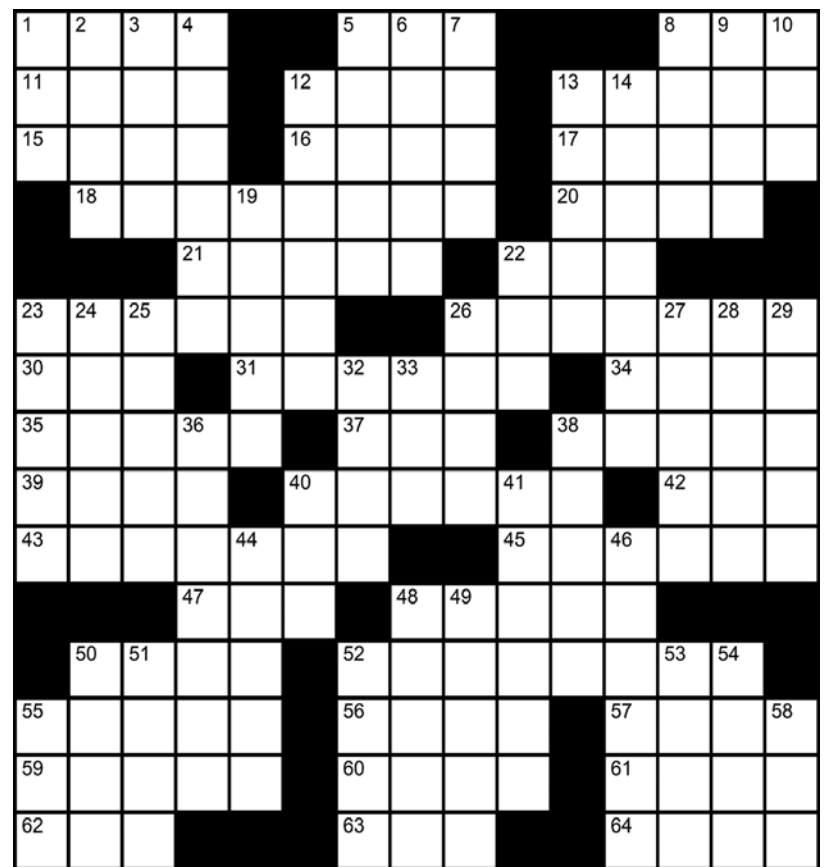
ACROSS

1. Campus military org.
5. Pilgrimage to Mecca
8. 1968 hit "Harper Valley ____"
11. Turkish honorific
12. *I captained the Millennium Falcon in "Star Wars"
13. Inlet in Greenland
15. Map out
16. Pharaoh's symbol
17. Austin Powers and Shrek to Mike Myers
18. *I developed the theory of relativity
20. Sailor's hail
21. Lyric poem
22. Solar system center
23. Portable stairs
26. *I am Sgt. George Baker's inept comic strip character
30. Mine deposit
31. Shape
34. Fairy tale cannibal
35. Feline sneakers
37. Lawyer group
38. *I have a coiled shell and eyes on stalks
39. Very dark black
40. Free from obstruction
42. ____ Aviv
43. Most buffoonish
45. Rest or hydration for common cold, e.g.
47. Hot springs resort
48. "...he found a crooked sixpence upon a crooked ____"

DOWN

1. Do like Drake
2. Eye up and down
3. Bangkok native
4. Like preserved peaches, sometimes
5. Sharpened
6. Like Huck Finn's dad, e.g.
7. *Some people call me the Rocket Man
8. *I starred as Pam in the "Meet the Parents" movies
9. *I used to host a sports show with Mike Golic
10. Commercials
12. Buddhist's enlightenment
13. Sham
14. *I am a WWE Champion, an actor, and my nickname is geology-related

19. Vision correctors, colloquially
22. Greek letters on campus
23. *My résumé includes Fly Girl and "American Idol" judge
24. Curaçao neighbor
25. Evil one
26. Fence board
27. Popular gemstone
28. Shed tears
29. *I am an American who became Princess of Monaco
32. Harangue
33. Network with an eye
36. *My TV role became synonymous with a hair style
38. Perform at the bee
40. Canada's neighbor
41. Beginning
44. Strong adhesive
46. Contemptibly small
48. Dry white Italian wine
49. Radio receiver
50. Dr. Seuss: "The more that you read, the more things you will ____"
51. Piercing woodwind
52. Water quantity
53. Loafer, e.g.
54. Adventure story
55. United Nations labor agency
58. Homer's catchword



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The solution to puzzle #0522 will run in the June 1 issue.

A change of date, from July to August, for the Loyalites Lodge annual picnic



The team of Kim and Rick Miller (pictured), representing the Slovenians, narrowly defeated their Irish opponents, John Harwood and Billy Frank, in the championship roll-off in this year's Slo-Ish Bowling Tournament.

by DANIELLA VOLPE
Lodge 158 Treasurer

EUCLID, Ohio — Happy spring, everyone! We hope you had a wonderful Easter filled with lots of love, and maybe a few too many jelly beans. Once you awaken from your sugar coma, you can look forward to many more things from the Loyalites.

Before that, however, we have some reasons to celebrate. We want to say happy birthday to a few Loyalites members, including Nick Horabik on May 12 (it's his big 21st!); to Miss Emerson Elam on her first birthday on May 14; to Samantha Lorenzato on May 17; to Marianne Lorenzo on May 19; and to Mr. Carter Elam, who will be turning the ripe old age of 3 on May 28. We also want to say happy anniversary to Marianne and Mike Lorenzo in May.

A huge congratulations is in order for Lodge Secretary Jan

Srmdel who will be retiring after many years as a school teacher on May 26. Jan dedicated her life to teaching children, and we're sure that there are many people out there who remember her warm energy and helpful nature, even years after they left her classroom. Jan will now have more time to spend with her grandchildren as well as her husband, Gary, who we're sure will be happy to have her around.

A little bit of news from a southern member: Former Lodge 158 President Pat Nevar wants to express how much fun she had during all the visits she received from her Cleveland friends this winter. She had visits from Nancy Vuchinich, Greg Volpe, and Tony and Jan Verch, as well as Lodge 576 member June Slapnik.

Pat was happy to see the large number of fellow Slovenians who attended Polka Nights at the Tiki Bar in Cape

Coral, Fla. She loves seeing her northern friends when they come to Florida, so if you're ever in the area, don't be afraid to give her a call—she is always open to being a tour guide for the day. Next time, Pat, send some of that Florida sunshine and warm weather back up north with one of your visitors!

Next, we want to extend a huge thank you to everyone who participated in and/or helped with the annual Slo-Ish Bowling Tournament on April 9. The tournament was a huge success, and whether they had lots of strikes or gutter balls, everyone had a great time.

A big shout out to Colleen Kuhn who organized the entire tournament, as well as the after party. This event truly wouldn't be possible without her. We hope that this event gets bigger and better every year.

I am also very happy to report that the trophy has made its way back to the Slovenian

side with our winners, Kim and Rick Miller, defeating their Irish opponents, John Harwood and Billy Frank, by a very close 16-pin margin in the championship roll-off. Way to go, Slovenes!

Looking ahead for the Loyalites, I have a correction to make from our last article. We have since switched the date of the Loyalites annual picnic from July 24 to Aug. 21. This change made it possible for another Lodge to be able to host their event, and we want to make sure as many Lodges that want to can host picnics this summer. The picnic will be held at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio.

All events and updates can be found both here in PROSVETA or on our website, snpj158.wordpress.com. As always, we send our thoughts and prayers to all of our ailing members and their families during these difficult times.

Lodge 559 elects three delegates to the Convention

by KAITLYN CHIAPPETTA
Lodge 559 President

CHICAGO— Pioneer Lodge 559 finally held our first in-person meeting in quite some time as members met at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant on March 11 for the first meeting of the year.

We had a productive meeting, at which we nominated and elected our three delegates to the SNPJ Quadrennial Convention. Our delegates will be members of our board; namely, Kaitlyn Chiappetta, Melanie J. Matiasek and Geri Matiasek. We're all looking forward to attending a Convention again, and meeting up with members from around the country at the SNPJ Recreation Center.

Our meeting also included a food drive, items from which were donated to the food pantry at a local church, St. Cletus, that Vice President Geri Matiasek attends. Our next meeting will include another food drive, so feel free to donate in person or contact our Lodge secretary for information on how to donate.

We are saddened to report the loss of our longtime Lodge recording secretary and former SNPJ National Secretary



During their March meeting, Pioneer Lodge 559 members conducted a food drive to benefit the food pantry at St. Cletus. The Lodge will host another food drive at the May meeting.

Sis. Grace Doerk. We thank Grace for her many years of service to the Lodge, including her many PROSVETA articles we all had the opportunity to read and enjoy throughout the years. Our con-

dolences to her family.

Our next meeting will be held Friday, May 13, at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant starting at noon. Please join us for lunch!

May meeting date on the Lodge 153 schedule

by WILMA VUKOVICH
Lodge 153 Recording Secretary

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio — The Lodge 153 March meeting was a virtual meeting. All officers were in attendance.

During the meeting, Diane Chermely Tanner and Michelle Phillips were elected as our Lodge delegates, and Mary Lou O'Riley and Wilma Vukovich as our alternates, to the 32nd SNPJ Quadrennial Convention.

Condolences go out to the family of Edward P. Steinke Jr. who passed away Nov. 21, 2021, at the age of 64.

We would like to extend

birthday wishes to those who celebrated birthdays in February, March and April.

Plans are underway for our 2022 activities. The Christmas party will be held Dec. 4.

Our Lodge meetings for 2022 will continue to be held at Shepherd of the Valley club room in Poland, Ohio. The next meeting is scheduled Tuesday, May 17, starting at 7 p.m.; refreshments will be served. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

We hope you all had a happy Easter. Please stay safe!

SNPJ Scholarship Fund Donations for the month of March 2022

Proceeds from the Verbick Memorial Bowling Tournament, Milwaukee..... \$225

Pauline E. Barbish (604), Willowick, Ohio..... \$50
In memory of Veronica Progar

Susan M. & Daniel Pasqualucci (643), Wexford, Pa..... \$50
In memory of Frank M. Gradisek

Shirley M. Shaw, Louisville, Ky..... \$50
In memory of Frank M. Gradisek

SNPJ Lodge 782, Glenshaw, Pa..... \$50

Donald W. Kranitz, Sr. (87), Winston-Salem, N.C..... \$50
In memory of Frank M. Gradisek

SNPJ Lodge 31, Sharon, Pa..... \$40
In memory of Linda Draper

Janice A. Bolka (584), Waukesha, Wis. \$30
In memory of Delbert Rezek

Phyllis Jobes, Cortland, Ohio \$30
In memory of Frank M. Gradisek

Robert J. & Rose Marie Lawrence (138), Strabane, Pa..... \$25
In memory of Veronica Progar

PROSVETA 2022 Publication Dates

JANUARY 2022	MAY 2022	SEPTEMBER 2022
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
FEBRUARY 2022	JUNE 2022	OCTOBER 2022
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MARCH 2022	JULY 2022	NOVEMBER 2022
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
APRIL 2022	AUGUST 2022	DECEMBER 2022
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Publication dates are highlighted in black boxes; deadline dates are circled. The deadline for submissions is noon on the dates circled above. Submissions may be mailed to PROSVETA, 247 West Allegheny Road, Imperial, PA 15126; faxed to (724) 695-1555; e-mailed to prosveta@snpj.com; or submitted via the Publications section of the SNPJ website, snpj.org.



Three different types of bread, five different cheeses, french onion dip, peppers — all combined for a gourmet twist on the classic grilled cheese, served up by chef JOZEF WATSON at the Indianapolis SNH in March.

Lodge 34 grilled cheese adds gourmet flair to the SNH March dinner

by JERRY WATSON
Lodge 34 Secretary/Treasurer

INDIANAPOLIS— *Dober dan!* Lodge 34 members held their first quarterly meeting of 2022 on March 4 at the Slovenian National Home (SNH). During this meeting, Mary Dragan and Jerry Watson were elected to serve as Lodge 34 delegates to the SNPJ Quadrennial Convention in August.

Our chef for the SNPJ Friday night dinner in March was Jozef Watson. He prepared grilled cheese sandwiches to order, using three different types of bread, five different cheeses, french onion dip and peppers. Tomato soup and a dessert were

also prepared and served to the SNH patrons, many of whom expressed their enjoyment of the gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches. The SNH thanked our Lodge for providing the dinner and donating all of the proceeds.

The next Lodge 34 quarterly meeting will be held June 10 starting at 7 p.m. at the SNH, 2717 West 10th St. Our Lodge will again prepare the Friday night dinner. Mary Dragan will be serving her famous chicken salad, and Jerry Watson will provide his special deviled eggs, beets and a dessert.

Please try to attend our meeting to enjoy our dinner and fraternalism.

The SNPJ Heritage Center will make you “Happy to BEE Slovenian” in June

SNPJ HERITAGE CENTER
FROM PAGE 1

Western Pa. Button Box Club and the Ron Likovic Band in the Heritage Pavilion. Bryn Snow will organize games for the children (ages 3 to 13) in an area near the Heritage Pavilion from 10 a.m. until noon. Food and drinks will be available for purchase at the dance, and dinners will be available for purchase in the Gostilna. We will be asking for a monetary donation at the door to help cover some of the expenses.

With our theme of “Happy

to BEE Slovenian,” we will be debuting our new T-shirt design for the summer, a golden yellow shirt with black print to commemorate the May 20 date of Slovenian Bee Day. The T-shirts are available in both youth and adult sizes. These tees would be great to wear for a Christmas family photo or a family reunion.

The Heritage Center will have several other new items for sale in the gift shop, and our shelves will be fully stocked. I will inform you of these items in the next PROSVETA issue.

Anyone in the Washington, D.C., area might be interested in attending the EU open houses. Heritage Center Committee members Tracey Belle, Patty Candela and Ed Robich will be attending the Slovenian Embassy open house on Saturday, May 14. This event is open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

We have participated in this event for several years now with our traveling museum on display. This event was canceled for the past two years, so we’re looking forward to its return. We welcome over 3,000 guests

that day as we promote our Slovenian heritage, Slovenefest and the SNPJ.

Several committee members will be taking our traveling museum, along with items from the gift shop, to Simply Slavic in Youngstown, Ohio, on Saturday, June 18, and to the American-Slovene Day Picnic on Sunday, Aug. 7, in Cheswick, Pa. If you have never been to either event, pick the one closest to you to attend. You will enjoy the food, drink and music as they promote our Slovenian heritage.

Finally, let’s not forget the dates of July 8-10 for the biggest outdoor event of the year, Slovenefest; another event that hasn’t been held for the past two years. I’m sure you are as excited as I am for the return of Slovenefest. Please note that the Miss SNPJ Pageant competition will be held Saturday, July 9, and the crowning ceremony on Sunday, July 10.

Music will be performed in the Gostilna, on the Outside Stage, in the Heritage Pavilion, and in the outdoor Food and

Jam Tent. The Heritage Center will be open on Friday from 4 to 7 p.m., on Saturday from noon to 7 p.m., and on Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

We will once again erect a tent on the patio outside the Heritage Center to showcase the speakers participating in our “Closer Look at Slovenia” program. The speakers are scheduled Saturday and Sunday afternoons during Slovenefest. Visit the Slovenefest website, www.slovenefest.com, for the complete entertainment schedule.

Support the Rec Center Cabin Renovation Project



by JOSEPH C. EVANISH
SNPJ National President/CEO

IMPERIAL, Pa. — For many years, SNPJ members have enjoyed the unique and truly remarkable facility that is the SNPJ Recreation Center. The experiences and countless memories that have been made there are treasured by thousands. The Recreation Center is now more than 50 years old and, as with so many things, time, along with wear and tear, have taken their toll.

The large upper cabins, situated opposite the lake along Martin Road, are some of the first structures that were built on the property. Cabins #1 and #2 have already been completed. The budgeted cost to complete one cabin was \$28,000. There are a total of 24 large cabins and 12 motel units as part of this project. It will take a significant amount of capital to finish this project, and will likely take years to complete. The more donations we receive, the quicker we can complete the project. Since this is not a cultural or educational (scholarship) cause, but

rather, recreational in nature, contributions are not considered tax deductible.

We encourage Lodges, Federations, members, friends and other organizations to contribute. Several have already contributed. While we do offer “Club Level” recognition, all donations will be listed in PROSVETA.

Donors at the following Club Levels will receive their name on a plaque inside the corresponding cabin: Bronze Level, \$1,000; Silver Level, \$5,000; Gold Level, \$10,000; and Platinum Level, \$25,000.

Donation checks can be made payable to “SNPJ.” Please indicate “Cabin Renovation” in the memo area. Provide your name and address, and the acknowledgment name and address if the donation is made in memory of someone.

Send your donation to Slovene National Benefit Society, 247 West Allegheny Rd., Imperial, PA 15126. All donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support!

Rec Center Cabin Renovation Donations for the months of February & March 2022

Club Level Donations
Bronze Level

Myra L. Samsa Glick (138),
Cleveland Heights, Ohio..... \$1,000

Amelia S. Zaluski (643), Pauline Mascola,
Struthers, Ohio; and Mark DeLost (277),
New Port Richey, Fla..... \$200
In memory of Donald E. DeLost

Family of Stanley J. Repos Jr. (106),
Groveport, Ohio..... \$100
In memory of Stanley Repos

Dave & Peggy Cushman (138), Houston, Pa... \$50
In memory of Veronica Progar

Denise (5) and Robert Kneisley,
Springfield, Ohio..... \$50
In memory of Bob and Dorothy Lamm

SNPJ Lodge 782, Glenshaw, Pa..... \$50

James & Monica Progar (138),
Washington, Pa..... \$20
In memory of Donald Verholtz

Make the deadline to enter the CAL Golf Open

by RICK GORJUP (158)
CAL President

CLEVELAND — We’re looking forward to seeing all of you at this year’s CAL Don Gorjup Open Golf Tournament, so get your entries in as soon as possible!

This year marks our 56th year of hosting this golf tournament, so don’t miss out on a great day of fun and fraternalism. We have a great bunch of golfers, and with our CAL reps, friends and volunteers, this year’s outing should be among the best! The tournament is about 28 days away now, and we hope to have a record crowd.

This year’s CAL Don Gorjup Open Golf Tournament will be played at Rolling Green Golf Course in Huntsburg, Ohio, on Saturday, May 28. Since we’ve scheduled a 9 a.m. shotgun start, we ask that you arrive at the course by 8:15 a.m. for check-in at the pavilion. Here’s where you can pick up your goodie bags and scorecards before heading out on the links. Hot dogs and pivo will be available at the turn, and a great steak dinner awaits at the 19th hole.

This is always a fun day, meeting old friends and making new ones. And remember,

this year the beer, pop and bottled water are free – all day long!

The entry fee of \$90 for adults (\$80 for youth) includes green fees, cart, prizes, a goodie bag, dinner, and a sandwich/beverage at the turn. Your friendly hostesses will again be stationed on the course to provide some libation and a toast to Don. Since this is the 56th year for the tournament, we’ll also have some extras to commemorate the anniversary.

The last two years have been anything but usual, with the pandemic and weather

canceling our last two tournaments. We hope to see you this year, with all expectations of a great time for all. Donations are coming in for our drawings, and we’re planning a few surprises this year.

The entry form is published below; please be sure to include your phone number and e-mail address on all entries in case we need to contact you. The entry deadline is May 22. As always, guests are welcome to participate.

Call your golf buddies and send in your entries! We hope to see you on a beautiful, sunny and warm Saturday, May 28.

Lodge 581 conducts research of historical records

by MARCIA KLANCER BLEGGI
Lodge 581 Secretary/Treasurer

ST. MARYS, Pa. — Lodge 581 members met at the St. Callistus Parish Center in Kane, Pa., on March 23 to organize and study Lodge records from 1926 to the present. We were fortunate to have our original charter and treasurer’s and secretary’s books; photos from some SNPJ Conventions; and paperwork from our most recent officers: Gabriel Uljon, John and Katie Troha, Robert and Mimi Troha, and Jerry Troha.

Gabriel Uljon had sent an article and pictures from a 1946 Lodge anniversary celebration to a Slovenian newspaper, which we were able to find and add to our collection.

Our Lodge was busy preparing for the clean-up of Jackson Road and the Rathbun

area of West Creek Road held on April 23. John Troha and his sons took care of the planning through Pennsylvania Clean Ways with the help of Jerry Troha’s family members, Dan, Daryl and Mitchell. Daryl Troha planned the lunch, Marcia and Don Bleggi baked potica for the breakfast, and John Moore played music on the accordion.

We have received applications for the Jerry Troha Music Scholarship and will report on the scholarship recipients in the next issue.

Those interested in signing up for the bus trip to Slovenefest in July should contact John and Pat Moore at (814) 837-9218. You can also register on Facebook or at any of the local polka dances. The next dances are scheduled May 15 and May 22; both will be held at the Firemen’s Hall in



Four charter members of SNPJ Lodge 581 in attendance at a 20th anniversary event held in 1946: [standing, from left] MARY BON, ANNA BURDICK and MARY ZORE; [seated] JOHN ROLLIK. The Lodge was chartered May 27, 1926. John Rollick was elected treasurer during the Lodge 581 organizational meeting.

Kersey, Pa., from 2 to 5 p.m. Anyone interested in any of our Lodge activities should check our Facebook page, SNPJ Lodge 581, St. Marys, or phone Lodge Secretary/Treasurer Marcia Bleggi at (814) 335-4983.

SNPJ Membership Anniversaries May 2022

70-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	John R. Ravnikar	8	Sara J. Cavataio
3	Agnes Kordon	138	Marjorie J. Valencio
5	Jo Anne A. Zupancic	776	Freda J. Boben
6	Rosella Giehl		

60-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	Nancy Jebesen	559	Philip R. Branshaw
6	David J. Volosky	584	Raymond Johnson
87	Sandra F. Chopp	614	Edward T. Miklavcic
138	Helen Mazza	643	Edward Klavzar
274	Marcella L. Micko	677	Robert J. Stimac
371	Gertrude McMillin	677	Bonnie Kroeger
559	Linda K. Nydahl	715	Evelyn A. Kumer

50-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	Leesa M. Tipton	254	Phillip J. Brandle
3	Donald Bulka	254	Carol L. Martin
89	Ronald Colpo	304	Rudolph J. Kraintz
107	Frances M. Todd-Zicari	559	Richard Snyder
138	Susan M. Boushehri	584	Susan M. Block
142	Patricia M. Ivancic	584	Jeanne M. Jakel
174	Maureen R. Zadel	665	Margaret A. Dillsworth
174	Charles J. White	719	Kathy D. Pietras
218	Michelle M. Komarowski	729	Donald L. Kocevar
218	Diane M. Chandler	745	Arnold L. Pike
218	Gerald J. Skrzyznear	782	Mary J. Hutchinson
218	Kathleen K. Obechina	782	Charles W. Pipich
225	Brian W. Purkat		

2022 SNPJ Western Pennsylvania/ Lodge 138 Golf Tournament
Saturday, June 11, 2022
Shotgun start: 1 p.m.
Rolling Green Golf Course, Eighty Four, PA

Check Entry:
Men Women

	Name	Lodge
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

The \$75 per person entry fee covers green fees, meal and prizes. The entry fee is non-refundable. Field limited to the first 72 entries. Return this form, along with entry fees, to:
SNPJ Lodge 138, Att’n: Golf Tournament
269 Latimer Ave., Strabane, PA 15363
Phone: (724) 745-9860
Make checks payable to SNPJ Lodge #138
ENTRY DEADLINE IS MAY 28, 2022

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.

56th CAL Don Gorjup Open Golf Tournament
May 28, 2022
at Rolling Green Golf Club, Huntsburg, OH
9 a.m. Shotgun Start

Check Entry:
Men Ladies Youth

	Name	Lodge	Phone	Hdcp.
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

Contact name: _____
e-mail: _____

The \$90 entry fee covers greens fees, cart, prizes, dinner, and sandwich and beverage at the turn. Youth entry fee is \$80. Return this form, along with entry fees, to:
Rick Gorjup
7180 Kory Ct., Concord, OH 44077-2221
Phone: (440) 354-5001 [Home] or (440) 773-3233 [Cell]
Make checks payable to
SNPJ Cleveland Athletic League (CAL)
ENTRY DEADLINE IS MAY 22, 2022

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.