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YEAR CIX  
 ISSUE 5

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016

USPS: 448-080  
 ISSN: 1080-0263

# SNPJ Heritage Center springing into action

by KATHY PAULENICH (776)  
 SNPJ Heritage Center Committee

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — The spring snow is gone and the temperatures are swinging between warm and cold, which is typical for April and May. But the sure signs of spring are the budding trees, the growing grass and the water turned on at the SNPJ Recreation Center Trailer Court. Sounds like a holiday to me!

Another sure sign of spring is the SNPJ National Bowling Tournament held the first weekend in May at the Recreation Center. The SNPJ Heritage Center will be hosting a wine and cheese reception for the bowlers Friday, May 6, in the museum from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited!

Ladies, the Heritage Center gift shop will offer a clearance sale on last year's stock, with items discounted up to 50 percent off, so you'll want to stop in and check it out. We hope to have some new merchandise on the shelves too.

The next weekend, several of us — namely Ed Robich, Sue Mals, Cathy Kalenits and I — will be traveling to Washington, D.C., for the European Union Open Houses. We will represent the SNPJ Heritage Center with a display at the Slovenian Embassy Saturday, May 14, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Anyone in the area should be sure to stop by and say hello. We all love meeting new people and telling them all about

the SNPJ Recreation Center, Slovenefest and the Slovenian heritage.

A new event, the Brew & Bean Festival (a.k.a. Microbrew and Chili Cook-off) is scheduled at the Recreation Center during Memorial Day weekend. This new festival will be held Sunday, May 29, from 2 to 8 p.m. in the upper pavilion. Music will be provided by the Turcola/Kravos Orchestra.

Heritage Center Committee members will be working the Laško beer booth, and we will have items from the Heritage Center gift shop for sale. Since this is the first year for this event,

**SEE HERITAGE CENTER SPRING**  
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## briefly

### Meeting information for Lodge 153 members

**YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio** — SNPJ Lodge 153 meetings for 2016 will continue to be held at Shepherd of the Valley in Poland, Ohio; however, we will meet in the main building rather than the recreation building. The next meeting date is May 17.

**DIANE CHERMELY TANNER**  
 Lodge 153 Secretary/Treasurer

### June 12 meeting date set for Lodge 776 members

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — SNPJ Lodge 776 members will hold their next regular meeting Sunday, June 12, beginning at 2 p.m. at the SNPJ Recreation Center. Members are urged to attend.

**VONNIE DOMBROSKY**  
 Lodge 776 Recording Secretary

### Comets Lodge 715 will fill four offices in June

**UNIVERSAL, Pa.** — At the Lodge 715 April 18 meeting, two officers announced their retirement. Two other officers are resigning from their current positions to run for other positions. As a result, there will be four positions open for nomination, election and installation at the June 20 meeting: vice president, financial secretary, recording secretary and auditor.

**MARTY KUMER**  
 Lodge 715 President

### Take a bus from the Rec Center to the CAL Open

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — Are you participating in the CAL Don Gorjup Golf Open Memorial Day weekend? Then get on the bus and leave the driving to us!

A school bus will depart the SNPJ Recreation Center at 6 a.m. Saturday, May 28, to transport golfers to the course for the 9 a.m. shotgun start. The price depends on the number of riders, but we're estimating a cost of \$30 per person. Seats are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Sara Taylor at (724) 344-0461 to reserve your seat.

**KEVIN RICHARDS**  
 SNPJ Fraternal Director

### Volunteers needed for Slovenefest admissions

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — Volunteers are needed during Slovenefest to work the admission gates. Those interested in the morning shift, 9 a.m. to noon, on Saturday, July 9, and Sunday, July 10, or the evening shift, 6 to 10 p.m. on Friday, July 8, and Saturday, July 9, should contact me at [kpaulenich@roadrunner.com](mailto:kpaulenich@roadrunner.com).

**KATHY PAULENICH**  
 Lodge 776

## THE DEADLINE

The next two *PROSVETA* issue dates are June 1 and July 1. All material must be received by Wednesday, May 18, for the June 1 issue, and by Wednesday, June 15, for the July 1 issue. If you are concerned about making the deadline, send an e-mail to [prosveta@snpj.com](mailto:prosveta@snpj.com) or submit your material via the publications area of our website, [www.snpj.org](http://www.snpj.org).

# Consuls hosting a celebration of Slovenia's independence in Imperial

by JOSEPH C. EVANISH  
 SNPJ National President/CEO

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — In celebration of the Republic of Slovenia's 25th year of independence, Consul General of Slovenia Mr. Andrej Rode and Slovenian Honorary Consul in Pennsylvania Ms. Petra Mitchell cordially invite all to attend a reception which will be held Thursday, June 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. in Imperial.

The honored guests for the evening will be Minister of Slovenians Abroad for the Republic of Slovenia Mr. Gorazd Žmavc, and Secretary of the Ministry of Slovenians Abroad for the Republic of Slovenia Dr. Zvone Žigon. Their

special visit to the United States will commemorate Slovenia's 25th anniversary.

The event will take place at the SNPJ Lodge 106 Banquet Hall, located at 255 West Allegheny Road in Imperial. This venue is also known as the Imperial Room. We thank club president and SNPJ National Board member Stan Repos for assisting with the accommodations.

Sponsors for the reception include SNPJ and KSKJ. KSKJ board member Robert Lokar was instrumental in their support. Music will be provided by Frank and Darryl Valencic. No RSVP is necessary; everyone is invited and welcome to attend.

PERIODICAL MATERIAL



Photo submitted by Sis. Joann Krance (729).

### Yukon Lodge 729 Sprucing Up for Spring

SNPJ Silverstars Lodge 729 completed their second annual Yukon, Pa., community cleanup on April 2. The project was another tremendous success as Lodge members spruced up the community to make it litter-free for the upcoming spring and summer seasons. Participating in the cleanup were [front row, from left] JOANN KRANCE, BARBARA LIPTAK, ROSE MARIE GOVI, TONI COSALTER, LINDA POCRATSKY, CARRIE COSALTER, [back row] JAKE GIBAS, BOB ZAGAR, FRANK LIPTAK, LARRY KRANCE, KAREN KRISTOFF, JARED GOVI, GERALD GOVI, RON COSALTER and AL COSALTER. Sam Liptak is missing from the photo. Following the cleanup, the crew enjoyed a pizza lunch donated by Highway Street Pizza & BBQ in Yukon.

# A delicious festival ready for its debut at the Rec Center

by TIM JERGEL  
 SNPJ Recreation Center Director

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — On Sunday, May 29, the SNPJ Recreation Center will play host to its first-ever Brew & Bean Festival. Seasoned craftsmen of fine microbrews will present their wares, combined with a heated chili cook-off contest.

Everyone is invited to come sample the area's best hand-crafted beer and hard ciders, along with some of the more exquisite chilis known to man; recipes with names like "Sweet Breeze," "Chili Chili Bang Bang," "239 Plus One," "Slo-Simmer Below," "Backdraft," "Ice Cream Please" and "Notorious P.I.G.," among others. There will also be microbrew labels in a league of their own, and a delicious menu of descriptive nouns and adjectives will surely abound.

Come one, come all! Join us for a beautiful Memorial Day Sunday and soak in some classic "Campsite" love. You be the judge and vote for the region's best beer and bean. Polka party to the fabulous sounds of the two-Bob band, the Turcola/Kravos Orchestra, and others. Don't miss out on a wonderful memory-filled day of food, fun and fraternal fellowship — because, in the end, it's the memories we're left with and the results of that "Happy Ending" chili.

Hope to see you all soon. Happy spring!

# The deadline approaching for Miss SNPJ Pageant contestants

by KEVIN RICHARDS  
 SNPJ Fraternal Director

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — I extend an invitation to all eligible SNPJ young ladies to become part of history by entering this year's Miss SNPJ Pageant. Contestants must be single females between the ages of 18 and 28 by July 10, 2016, and a member of SNPJ for at least three months at the time of the pageant.

The Miss SNPJ Pageant is one of the highlights of Slovenefest weekend. The contestants

are introduced on each stage and are the honored guests at a special reception with SNPJ National Board members and other dignitaries. Of course, this doesn't even touch on the great time the contestants have during the pageant weekend, with all the royal treatment they receive.

The young woman who is crowned Miss SNPJ 2017 will win a \$2,000 scholarship award, and an official crown and banner. Miss SNPJ

**SEE PAGEANT DEADLINE**  
 ON PAGE 8

# SNPJ Lodge Bonus Program off and running in 2016

by KEVIN RICHARDS  
 SNPJ Fraternal Director

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — As we enter the month of May, many Lodges have already turned in their Activity Planners for the Lodge Bonus Program. Keep in mind that the deadline to submit these forms is May 2.

From traditional holiday parties to Lodge picnics and dinners, our members have many fun activities to look forward to this year. I encourage our members to keep informed on the activities that your local Lodge is hosting and support these events. You may even con-

sider volunteering to help.

We ask our Lodge secretaries to continue submitting photos and articles to *PROSVETA* about the events your Lodge hosts. I believe our membership truly enjoys seeing all of the wonderful activities from Lodges across the country.

Please note that Lodges must submit an Activity Planner by May 2, indicating four activities they plan to host in 2016. This enters them in the Activity portion of the Lodge Bonus Program. These Lodges will receive an Activity Report Form in September or

October to complete and return by Dec. 31, reporting on the activities that were actually held; this is how you receive credit for hosting these events. We will rely on articles and photos published in *PROSVETA* to verify the activities that are reported.

Our Lodges are also hard at work enrolling new members in order to meet their gold and silver goals for the new members segment of the Lodge Bonus Program. Great job!

Good job to all of the SNPJ Lodges that are taking advantage of the Lodge Bonus Program. Keep it up!



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Make [snpj.org](http://snpj.org) your first stop for SNPJ information on the go. Scan the code to get started.



# PROSVETA ENLIGHTENMENT

(USPS 448-080)  
(ISSN 1080-0263)

The Official Publication of the  
**Slovene National Benefit Society**  
247 W. Allegheny Road  
Imperial, PA 15126-9774  
Phone: (724) 695-1100  
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website: www.snpj.org

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Subscription rate is \$8 per year for non-SNPJ members in the United States (Fla. subscribers, please add 6 percent sales tax). Canadian and foreign subscriptions, \$50 per year. Advertising information available by writing our office. Material concerning the official workings of the Slovene National Benefit Society is given publication priority. Unsolicited manuscripts returned only if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.

Postmaster: Send all address changes to:  
**PROSVETA, 247 W. Allegheny Rd.,  
Imperial, PA 15126-9774**  
(Published monthly)  
(Periodical postage paid at Imperial, Pa.,  
and additional mailing office.)

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Enon Valley, PA 16120  
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Toll-free: 1-877-767-5732  
web site: www.snpjrec.com  
e-mail: snpj@snpjrec.com

# Online registration form available to Youth Roundup campers

by KEVIN RICHARDS  
SNPJ Fraternal Director

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — Hello, parents! It's not too early to send in the registration for your child to attend SNPJ Youth Roundup. This year's Youth Roundup will take place June 19-24 at the SNPJ Recreation Center in the Borough of SNPJ, Pa.

This camp is open to our 7- to 12-year-old members. Campers stay in the cabins at the Recreation Center under the watchful supervision of

trained adult counselors. We perform the same background checks on our counselors that are required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for childcare workers.

Youth Roundup campers enjoy a week of fun, filled with classes that focus on arts and crafts, sports, polka and line dancing, and much more. During their time at the Recreation Center, campers enjoy three nutritious meals each day plus an evening snack, swimming in the pool, learning camp

songs, bonfires, hayrides, field trips, and learning all about Slovenia.

A child must be an insured SNPJ member to receive the member rate, and the Society offers a discounted family rate. For 2016, the non-member rate for Youth Roundup is \$350 per child for the week. For SNPJ insured members, the weekly rates are as follows: one camper per family, \$200; two campers per family, \$350; and three campers per family, \$475. What a deal! Think about it – for one

member child, it's just \$40 per day to attend a week-long camp complete with 'round-the-clock supervision, lodging, meals and activities.

The registration form for Youth Roundup can be found on the "Youth Roundup" page of our website, [www.snpj.org](http://www.snpj.org). Of course, you can always e-mail me at [krichards@snpj.com](mailto:krichards@snpj.com) and I can send you the link.

The deadline to register your children for Youth Roundup is Friday, June 10.

# SNPJ Recreation Center ready to host a week of senior fun

by KEVIN RICHARDS  
SNPJ Fraternal Director

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — Are you a senior SNPJ member and interested in spending a week at the SNPJ Recreation Center, renewing past friendships with fellow members and enjoying a week filled with balina and bean bag toss tournaments, field trips, arts & crafts, and special entertainment? If so, then Senior Week is for you!

This year, Senior Week will be held the week of Aug. 21-27. In addition to lodging in our cabins, SNPJ members can enjoy three meals a day and plenty of activities and entertainment at a reduced rate. For an SNPJ member to attend Senior Week, the special rate is \$210 per person, plus tax,

for the week. The non-member rate is \$370 per person, plus tax.

Do you have an RV in the SNPJ Trailer Court at the Recreation Center and would like to enjoy all of the meals and fun of Senior Week? We have a special rate for that! For SNPJ members in the Trailer Court, the rate is \$170 per person, plus tax, for the week.

To make your reservation to attend this year's Senior Week, be sure to contact SNPJ Fraternal Director Kevin Richards for a registration form at 1-800-843-7675, or send an e-mail addressed to [krichards@snpj.com](mailto:krichards@snpj.com).

The deadline to register is July 31. For more details contact the SNPJ Recreation Center toll-free at 1-877-767-5732.

# Lodge 153 to meet in new location

by WILMA VUKOVICH  
Lodge 153 Secretary

**YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio** — The Lodge 153 March meeting was held in the main building at Shepherd of the Valley in Poland, Ohio. All officers were in attendance except Antoinette and Ed Steinke, who were under the weather.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to the families of Kevin D. Mager of Canfield, Ohio, who passed away Oct. 16, 2015; and Evelyn Machini, who passed away Dec. 13, 2015. Lodge 153 would also like to extend get well wishes to Ann Babich and Chris Cernic.

Plans are underway for our 2016 activities. Our Christmas party will be held Dec. 4.

Happy birthday wishes go out to Joe Pitko, who will celebrate his 85th birthday on May 22. We'd also like to extend birthday wishes to those who celebrated in January, February, March and April.

Our Lodge meetings will continue to be held at Shepherd of the Valley in Poland; however, we'll meet in the main building rather than the recreation building. The next meeting date is May 17 starting at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served. All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

## Home Office Position Available: Sales Director

SNPJ is currently accepting resumes for the full-time position of Sales Director at the Home Office. Qualified candidates will have a degree and at least 10 years of life insurance sales management experience. Preference will be given to candidates who have completed industry course work. Requirements include excellent communication skills, coupled with experience in recruiting, training and motivating agents. Travel is required.

Forward resume and letter of interest to:  
**Slovene National Benefit Society**

Att'n: National President Joseph C. Evanish  
247 West Allegheny Road • Imperial, PA 15126  
fax: (724) 695-1555 • email: [kbrown@snpj.com](mailto:kbrown@snpj.com) • [www.snpj.org](http://www.snpj.org)



Photos submitted by Bro. Bob Lawrence (138).

## Breakfast Is Served at Lodge 138

Lodge 138 members hosted a Sunday breakfast at our club in Strabane, Pa., on April 10. It was a new endeavor for us since it was only our third service. We had 83 very satisfied customers, judging from the comments we received. Most are looking forward to the next breakfast, and why shouldn't our customers be happy? We had a very talented crew of chefs, including [top photo] ERIC VALENCIC, chief chef RYAN BRUMBAUGH, CHRIS CADEZ, JASON SNIDER, KEN VOGRIG and KEN LAWRENCE. [Below] Our event manager was MIKE LUCAS [right], pictured with RYAN BRUMBAUGH, and our refreshment manager was KAREN BRUMBAUGH.



# Up-and-Coming...

## A look at events planned by the Slovene National Benefit Society

- MAY 5 .....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 bar bingo in the Lodge 106 clubroom. Early bird games begin at 6:30 p.m., regular games at 7. Kitchen will be open. For additional information contact the Lodge by calling (724) 695-1411 or e-mailing [snpj106@gmail.com](mailto:snpj106@gmail.com).
- MAY 7 .....Midway, Pa., Lodge 89 community bingo in the upstairs hall; 6 p.m. The kitchen will be open.
- MAY 7-8 .....SNPJ National Bowling Tournament hosted by Sygan, Pa., Lodge 6 at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. Games will be bowled at Colonial Lanes, New Castle, Pa., with Saturday evening entertainment by Mansfield 5 in the Gostilna.
- MAY 8 .....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 euchre tournament in the Lodge 106 clubroom; 2 p.m. Food will be available. For details contact the Lodge at (724) 695-1411 or [snpj106@gmail.com](mailto:snpj106@gmail.com).
- MAY 15 .....Fontana, Calif., Lodge 723 hosts the Chris Thomas Band at the Fontana Slovene Hall; 2-6 p.m. For details contact Frank Rote at (909) 987-8714 or [butnboxr@aol.com](mailto:butnboxr@aol.com).
- MAY 15 .....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 car cruise; noon-4 p.m. Music by Cool Change. A buffet will be available. For more information contact the Lodge at (724) 695-1411 or [snpj106@gmail.com](mailto:snpj106@gmail.com).
- MAY 19 .....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 bar bingo in the Lodge 106 clubroom. Early bird games begin at 6:30 p.m., regular games at 7. Kitchen will be open. For details contact the Lodge at (724) 695-1411 or [snpj106@gmail.com](mailto:snpj106@gmail.com).
- MAY 22 .....Region 2 No-tap Bowling Tournament in the bowling center at Sygan, Pa., Lodge 6. Sign up in the Lodge 6 clubroom or by phoning the Lodge at (412) 221-9862.
- MAY 22 .....Orange County, Calif., Lodge 786 Temecula Wine & Beer Tasting Picnic at Wiens Family Cellars; noon-5 p.m. Wine and beer available for tasting. Music by the Fontana Button Box Club. Advance tickets only. For additional information contact Jean Koci at (949) 495-0097 or [ajkoci@cox.net](mailto:ajkoci@cox.net).
- MAY 27-29 ..... Fontana, Calif., Lodge 723 Memorial Day weekend event at the Fontana Slovene Hall. Music by the Fontana Button Box Club and Polka Power of Sacramento. Special fund-raiser for the Wounded Warriors Organization. For information contact Frank Rote at (909) 987-8714 or [butnboxr@aol.com](mailto:butnboxr@aol.com).
- MAY 28 .....CAL Don Gorjup Golf Open at Rolling Greens Golf Course, Huntsburg, Ohio. Shotgun start at 9 a.m. For details contact Rick Gorjup at (440) 354-5001.
- MAY 29 .....Brew & Bean Festival at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa.; 2-8 p.m. Cast your vote for the area's best microbrew and chili recipe. Music by the Turcola-Kravos Orchestra and more. For details phone the SNPJ Recreation Center at 1-877-767-5732.
- MAY 30 .....Val Pawlowski's Memorial Day dance at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio; 1-7 p.m. Music by the Don Wojtila and Frank Stanger bands. For more information contact Val at (330) 318-3004.
- JUNE 4 ..... Tony Mlinar Sr. Memorial Golf Tournament at New Berlin Hills Golf Course, New Berlin, Wis. For details or to register, contact Tom Schweiger at (414) 543-7110 or [luckylanes13@yahoo.com](mailto:luckylanes13@yahoo.com), or stop by Lucky Lanes, 5014 W. Howard Ave., Milwaukee.
- JUNE 5 .....Fontana, Calif., Lodge 723 jam session at the Fontana Slovene Hall; 2-6 p.m. Open to all musicians. For details contact Frank Rote at (909) 987-8714 or [butnboxr@aol.com](mailto:butnboxr@aol.com).
- JUNE 5 .....Imperial, Pa., Lodge 106 car cruise; noon-4 p.m. Music by Renewed Memories II. A buffet will be available. For more information contact the Lodge at (724) 695-1411 or [snpj106@gmail.com](mailto:snpj106@gmail.com).
- JUNE 10-11 ..... SNPJ Heritage Center Family Fun Weekend at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. Friday evening entertainment will be featured in the Gostilna; a Saturday afternoon picnic/dance will be held in the Heritage Pavilion (lower pavilion) with music by the Frank Stanger Orchestra and Patty C & The Guys from 2-8 p.m. For details contact Kathy Paulenich at (724) 699-2691 or [kpaulenich@roadrunner.com](mailto:kpaulenich@roadrunner.com).
- JUNE 19 .....Fontana, Calif., Lodge 723 Father's Day Dance at the Fontana Slovene Hall; 2-6 p.m. Music by the Fred Mlakar Band. For information contact Frank Rote at (909) 987-8714 or [butnboxr@aol.com](mailto:butnboxr@aol.com).
- JUNE 19 .....Cleveland Lodge 53 picnic at the SNPJ Farm, Kirtland, Ohio; 2 p.m. Music by the Wayne Tomsic Orchestra. For additional information contact Martha Meglich at (440) 884-5043.
- JUNE 19-24 ..... Youth Roundup at the SNPJ Recreation Center, Borough of SNPJ, Pa. For registration forms or additional information, call Fraternal Director Kevin Richards at 1-800-843-7675 ext. 144 or e-mail [krichards@snpj.com](mailto:krichards@snpj.com).
- JUNE 21 ..... Fontana, Calif., Lodge 723 jam session at the Fontana Slovene Hall; 2-6 p.m. Open to all musicians. For details contact Frank Rote at (909) 987-8714 or [butnboxr@aol.com](mailto:butnboxr@aol.com).
- JUNE 26 .....Pretty in Pink Benefit Picnic at the Yukon Slovenian Hall, Yukon, Pa.; 2-6 p.m. Music by The Jack Tady Bears/Satin Dolls. Drawings, food and refreshments will be available. Admission is a \$10 donation. For more information contact MaryAnn Bebar at (724) 668-7394.

## 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](mailto:prosveta@snpj.com)

# We've Got You COVERED

DENISE HERRON  
SNPJ Marketing Department



## Always on the go

The weather is finally starting to warm up and for a family with children, the busy season is just beginning. If you are the typical family, you're on the go from the time you get up until your head hits the pillow at night. The kids have sports, school activities, parties, lessons and an endless list of places they need to be. They're on the go, and so are you.

With all your running about, it might seem like the wrong time to bring up life insurance, but it's actually a very good time. Take a look at all your children do and all that you do for them. Try to imagine how it could continue if you (and your income) were no longer here. How would the sports, the activities and the lessons be paid for? How would the children even get there? A lot of time and money is involved in raising healthy, active children, but if you or your spouse meet with an untimely death, you surely wouldn't want all that to stop.

There is one way to ensure that life on the go will continue, and that is life insurance. When you purchase a policy on each parent, you are assuring the survivors that they will be able to continue their lifestyle, and they won't be faced with financial hardship. Losing a spouse or parent is hard enough, but to lose a certain way of life would certainly compound the misery.

A 30-year-old father can purchase a \$300,000 30-Year Term policy for just \$389 per year; his 30-year-old wife can purchase the same policy for just \$275 per year. The total for the two plans for the year (\$664) is less than buying the family a \$15 pizza every Friday for a year (\$780). So for the cost of a weekly pizza, you can provide \$600,000 of protection for your children. It can be a big comfort knowing your family will have those funds to help them keep their life as normal as possible if the unthinkable happens.

So keep that on-the-go lifestyle going and buy yourself a little peace of mind. Contact your local SNPJ agent or Lodge secretary, or phone the SNPJ Home Office at 1-800-843-7675 for more information.

- **Thought for the Month** — It is difficult for sorrow to intrude on a busy life.

Anonymous



## Slovenians marked their annual flag day in April

VAČE (STA) — Slovenia's Flag Day celebration was marked April 10 with an annual ceremony held at the country's geometric center, near Vače. The organizers of the event, the Heraldica Slovenica Association, designated the event as a means of strengthening national identity, patriotism, and love of the nation's symbols.

The keynote speaker was former Prime Minister Janez Janša, who echoed the same point. Janša stated the flag was a "symbol of the time when Slovenia won independence, an era that represents the 'value center' of Slovenian identity."

Janša also noted that Slovenian national consciousness had seen a "revival" in recent years after a period in which national symbols were dismissed as anachronistic. "The outward manifestation of this is the tens of thousands of Slovenian flags at sports events and other events not necessarily related to national holidays," he said.

Slovenian Flag Day is celebrated to mark the date of April 7, 1848, the day when Slovenian patriot Lovro Toman first displayed a Slovenian flag on Wolfova Street in Ljubljana.

The present-day Slovenian flag and coat of arms were adopted by the Slovenian parliament on June 24, 1991, with amendments to the constitution of the former Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia.

## President calling for a modern defense system

KOPER (STA) — Slovenian President Borut Pahor has called for a modernization of the nation's defense system in the face of growing threats. "The escalation of security threats in our neighborhood demands that we analyze and, if necessary, modernize the entire defense system," he said.

Such an investment would be warranted since it would have a lasting impact. "It would upgrade the Slovenian Armed Forces, and modernize the Slovenian police, intelligence service and all other elements that the country uses to provide for the protection of people and property," Pahor explained during a military ceremony held in Koper to mark the 23rd anniversary of Slovenia's naval division.

As the supreme commander of the Slovenian armed forces, Pahor has been warning for several years that funding cuts are eroding the army's preparedness. In early April he received the annual report on the state of the army, at which time he repeated the warning.

Pahor said he "would not be surprised" if he were to once again conclude that army personnel are professional and dedicated, but that "better preparedness is hampered by financial means."

Slovenia's defense spending is currently below one percent of GDP, less than half the two percent of GDP recommended by NATO. Defense spending is expected to increase marginally in the coming years, but Slovenia has already started to receive warnings from NATO that budget cuts have seriously affected the nation's ability to respond to security challenges.

## Slovenia in line for six ex-Yugoslav properties

SKOPJE, Macedonia (STA) — Slovenia is preparing to receive another six diplomatic buildings from the properties owned by the former Yugoslavia according to the terms of a deal approved by successor countries in Skopje in April.

Most of the six properties are located in Africa, where Slovenia has limited diplomatic coverage at present. These include properties in Morocco, Tanzania and Mali. At least one property is located in Brazil. The two-day meeting in Skopje was the latest dedicated to dividing the ex-Yugoslav properties among the six successor nations as outlined in the 2001 Succession Agreement.

Slovenia is expecting to assume the six properties from Serbia later this year. These new properties will bring the total number obtained in succession to 10. Slovenia's previously assumed properties are located in Washington, D.C.; Klagenfurt, Austria; and Milan and Rome in Italy.

Slovenia has thus received more than two-thirds of the diplomatic properties to which it is entitled according to the terms of the 2001 Succession Agreement. Slovenia has also expressed an interest in properties that have yet to be discussed.



The successor nations also agreed to speed the tasks of a working group that is dividing up the artwork in ex-Yugoslav diplomatic buildings. Slovenia has received most of the work produced by Slovenian artists, the majority of which have become part of an exhibition.

## Post-war Slovenian-U.S. relations celebrated

POLZELA (STA) — Slovenian and U.S. officials hailed the friendly ties between their countries at an early April event held near the town of Polzela, dedicated to remembering the crash of a U.S. bomber at the site during World War II.

Addressing the annual remembrance ceremony, President Borut Pahor said that the salute to the U.S. airmen killed in the crash "reaffirms our commitment to sincere cooperation and our multifaceted alliance."

Pahor and U.S. Ambassador to Slovenia Brent Hartley laid a wreath at a memorial plaque remembering the 72nd anniversary of the tragedy at Andraž and Polzela.

Ambassador Hartley said that the ceremony was not only a way of remembering those who fell in defense of freedom, but was also a confirmation of a joint commitment to peace, human rights, and a free and united Europe. "The site represents the foundations of U.S.-Slovenian friendship and a military alliance which has persevered and expanded since World War II," he said.

In a statement from his office, President Pahor was quoted as saying, "While we have gathered here to remember a tragic event, we do so by keeping in mind the bravery displayed by the generation of that time and the Allied soldiers who helped defend freedom. Three-quarters of a century ago, our forefathers helped write a new chapter of hope... we have a responsibility today to open a new chapter of hope for our children by working to safeguard and reinforce peace."

According to media reports, two American F-16 fighters from the Aviano base in Italy conducted a flyover of the ceremony as part of the event.

This annual ceremony recalls the downing of the bomber Dark Eyes, an American B-17 Flying Fortress that flew missions in support of Allied forces. On March 19, 1944, the plane was shot down over Polzela in a skirmish with German fighter planes during a mission to destroy a Nazi supply factory in Austria. Eight crew members were killed in the crash and two survivors were captured.

## Lace making now heritage of national importance

LJUBLJANA (STA) — In mid-March, čipke, the art of making bobbin lace, which has a tradition in Slovenia dating back to the 17th century, was declared an intangible heritage of national importance.

"Lace making has been declared a heritage of national importance in order to spread its name and to promote preservation," government representatives announced.

Bobbin lace is best known in Idrinja (western Slovenia), but it is also widely practiced in nearby the towns of Železniki and Žiri. Idrinja and Žiri have held lace making festivals since the early 1950s, and the festival in Železniki has been around since the early 1960s. Government data indicates that there are over a hundred associations and groups dedicated to making bobbin lace.

Bobbin lace was traditionally used to decorate clothing and home textiles, but in recent decades its use has spread to include fashion accessories and stand-alone artwork.

## Temperatures projected to rise by mid-century

LJUBLJANA (STA) — Slovenia's Environment Agency (ARSO) has projected that temperatures across Slovenia will rise between 34 and 36 degrees Fahrenheit by the middle of this century.

Addressing a news conference marking World Meteorology Day in late March, ARSO representative Mojca Dolinar said that temperatures would increase the most during the spring.

Summers are expected to become drier with temperatures reaching up to 104 degrees Fahrenheit, while winters would see less snow and more rain.

The data compiled indicated that 2010 was one of the coldest years in recent decades, but overall, 2010 was still as warm as the warmest years during the 1960s and 1970s. "We won't be getting years as cold as [the 1960s and '70s] in this climate," Dolinar said.

Slovenia has been registering about 30 hot days (with daytime temperatures above 86 degrees) per summer in recent years, which is up from around 10 in the past. Similarly, tropical nights (when night time temperatures don't drop below 68 degrees) were once quite rare, but Ljubljana recorded 16 such night time lows last year.

Dolinar said that information on climate trends may help in the construction of roads, railways and energy-efficient buildings, as well as in the preservation of green areas and bodies of water.

Andreja Sušnik, a representative from the agency's Agrometeorological Department, said that increased temperatures may damage crops and pose a threat to farm animals. Slovenian farmers should monitor water supply, evaporation, ground temperature, and plant development on their land to keep track of these changes.

"Southeastern Europe is seeing more and more droughts lasting more than a year," Sušnik said, and warned that climate change brings about increased levels of migration, crisis management costs and geopolitical risks.

## Lipica stud farm now open after renovation

LIPICA (STA) — In late March, the Lipica stud farm, home to the famed white Lipizzan horse, welcomed the return of visitors after a comprehensive renovation project on the estate with an afternoon performance of the Lipica Classical Riding School. According to Janez Rus, director of the farm, Lipica will now offer a more genuine experience of the farm to visitors.

As part of the renovation, the mansion and the museum were updated, and visitors will now be able to enjoy a series of new tree-lined walking paths. "Visitors will be able to spend the entire day here and see more of the estate, Rus explained.

Throughout the month of April, the Lipica Classical Riding School presented its new performance. From May through September, performances are scheduled three times a week, on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

The farm in the village of Lipica, which lends its name to the horse, was established in 1580 and is now the world's oldest continuously operating stud farm.

## Portorož now home to a museum of handbags

PORTOROŽ (STA) — Visitors to the Slovenian coast, especially those interested in fashion and history, are now able to admire women's handbags in a museum and not just on the streets and in shop windows. Having opened its doors to the public in late March, Europe's second museum of purses, located in Portorož, boasts over 500 different handbags and purses.

Although the museum's collection isn't nearly as big as that of the Museum of Bags and Purses in Amsterdam, it offers insight into the development of this necessity-turned-accessory from the 18th century on.

As museum director Enida Hodžič explained to the press prior to the official opening, "Apart from historical purses, the handbags of several celebrities who have visited the coastal resort will also be on display, including a purse owned by former Slovenian Prime Minister Alenka Bratušek."

All of the most prominent Slovenian handbag designers and producers will be presented, including purses designed by Barlič and Grošelj, two of the biggest names in Slovenian design.

According to the website of Institute Mediteranum, which runs the museum, the handbags, which started to be recognized as true works of art even before the end of the 18th century, are displayed alongside their matching outfits.

Many female visitors will also be happy to find a sales gallery within the museum. According to Hodžič, several fashion events will be organized at the museum.

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

## SNPJ Heritage Center Free Family Fun Day

June 11th, 2016

FREE Dance Featuring Music by:  
Frank Stanger &  
Patty C. and the Guys  
from 2-8pm.

Free Events  
for the family  
Include:

Swimming  
Mini Golf  
Bouncy House  
Face Painting  
Scavenger Hunt  
Coloring Contest  
Fishing Lake Open

Food available for purchase.  
Cabins available for rent Call  
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# Lodge 34 launches a new season of activity

by JERRY WATSON  
Lodge 34

**INDIANAPOLIS** — Lodge 34 held its first quarterly meeting of 2016 on March 19. Our officers were reinstated and it was determined that we would sponsor a dinner at the Slovenian National Home (SNH) on April 15. It was also decided that our next quarterly meeting would be held June 11 at the Slovenian Festival in Clermont's Lions Park.

On April 15, Mary, Nancy and Jozef prepared and served a delicious dinner at the SNH. It was well



Grandfather **JERRY WATSON**, great-grandmother **STELLA WATSON** and mother **KRISTINA WATSON** were happy to welcome baby Mikaela Louise on behalf of Lodge 34.

received.

Lodge 34 members Jozef, Randy and Jerry will be representing our Lodge at the SNPJ National Bowling Tournament on May 7 and 8. We

hope they do well.

The Lodge was happy to learn of our newest member, who arrived on Feb. 24. Mikaela Louise is excited to join Lodge 34!

# Spartans Lodge warming up to summer fun

by TONI THOMEY  
Lodge 576 Recording Secretary

**CLEVELAND** — Hello to all Spartan Lodge 576 members! Spring is finally here, and I hope you all are taking advantage of the beautiful weather.

Happy birthday to all of our celebrating members, including Nancy Novak, Susan Novak-Dickinson,

Joe Monteleone, Audrey Dickinson, Mikey Lawrence and any other members that I might have missed.

We've been working diligently on our upcoming picnic at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio, planned for Sunday, June 26. Please continue to check *PROSVETA* for details!

If you have some wonderful news, a special event coming up, a joke or

a funny story to share, please feel free to contact me at (216) 744-4710 or e-mail [athomey28@icloud.com](mailto:athomey28@icloud.com). I would love to share our members' activities in our articles throughout the year.

Our next meeting will be held at Waterloo Hall on Monday, May 9, beginning at 6:30 p.m. I hope to see you all there!

# Polkas return to the Broughton Slovenian Hall

by JOHN VALDISERRI  
Lodge 138

**SOUTH PARK TWP., PA** — The Broughton Slovenian Hall Association is hosting its spring polka dance on Saturday, May 14, featuring the

stellar Klancnik & Friends Band. The doors will open at 2:30 p.m., and we'll welcome this high-energy group to our stage at 3. The donation is \$10 per person.

The Slovenski Dom (in the

Broughton/Curry/South Park Twp. area) is located at 1125 Edith Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15236. Remember to mark this date on your social calendar. We'll see you at the Broughton Slovenian Hall on Saturday, May 14.

# Badger Jabber

by BOB SMOLE  
Lodge 584

**MILWAUKEE** — The annual 2016 SNPJ Tony Mlinar Sr. Memorial Golf Outing is raring to go. Bro. Tom Schweiger will be at the helm for this event. The date for this fun-filled day on the links is Saturday, June 4. If you're interested in taking part, please let Bro. Schweiger know. Since this is his first year, he is looking for e-mail addresses, phone numbers and contact information from those who have enjoyed participating in the past and those who would like to participate this year and in the future. Now is the time to get your foursome together and sign up so that you can participate and enjoy this annual golf outing that has been part of the SNPJ and Badger Lodge 584 for many years.

Golfing will start at 7:30 a.m. with a modified shotgun start at New Berlin Hills Golf Course. A \$70 fee per golfer is payable with your entry form. Checks should be made payable to "SNPJ Badger Lodge 584." The entry fee includes your greens fee,

cart, prizes and lunch. The deadline for entries is May 23.

The SNPJ will also be sponsoring a hole-in-one contest for all golfers in this tournament. You can stop by Bro. Tom Schweiger's bowling allies, Lucky Lanes, at 5014 W. Howard Ave., Milwaukee, or contact him at (414) 543-7110 or [luckylanes13@yahoo.com](mailto:luckylanes13@yahoo.com). Anyone interested in lending Bro. Schweiger a hand in running this event or helping out on June 4 can volunteer by calling him.

Congratulations are in order for the following members for reaching SNPJ membership milestones: 60-year members Vera Switalski (584) and Arline Lunow (584), and 70-year members Ed Vidmar (584) and Carolyn Holvevatz (686). Congratulations!

The Milwaukee SNPJ Balina League has started its 2016 season. The league plays at the West Allis Veteran's Park, South 70th St. and W. National Ave. They are scheduled to play Monday evenings at 6 p.m. with the second shift at 7. You are welcome to come out, watch and, of course, cheer for your favorite team. It's a wonderful way to spend a beautiful evening at one of West Allis' fine parks while enjoying fellowship and

camaraderie.

The picnic season will begin at the beautiful Triglav Park on Sunday, May 30. Although there is no music scheduled, you can still enjoy the scenic and relaxing surroundings for the day. On Sunday, June 26, Ansamble Veseljaki will be on hand to get you in the dancing mood for another great day at the park. Sunday, Aug. 7, will feature the Mike Schneider Band, which assures you of a day of dance-motivating music. Grant Kozera and the Brewhaus Polka Kings will fill the air with invigorating Slovenian-style polkas on Sunday, Sept. 11. Make a note of these dates and try to attend and enjoy all of them. There is always plenty of food and beverages available for purchase.

Your calendar of must-attend events should also include Sunday, June 26, as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the independence of Slovenia. The Slovenian Cultural Society, Triglav and the USPEH Organization are partnering to make this a very memorable day at the beautiful Triglav Park. There will be a Mass at 11 a.m. followed by a day filled with good food, Slovenian and other delicious baked goods, pivo, vino and

# Loyalites Lodge looking forward to the picnic season

by LINDA GORJUP  
Lodge 158 Secretary

**EUCLID, Ohio** — The members of Loyalites Lodge 158 met April 14 at Recher Hall to handle the SNPJ business at hand. We want to start by congratulating William Kosmach on reaching his 80-year membership mark. We also want to acknowledge Jack Koss on outliving his certificate. Jack now lives in Florida; best wishes go out to him.

We purchased all of the tickets sent to us, as well as a flight for the CAL Don Gorjup Golf Open, and discussed our Sunday, July 17, picnic at the SNPJ Farm on Heath Road in Kirtland, Ohio. Bobby Kravos will supply the toe-tapping music and the kitchen crew will be cooking up some delicious food.

Now to catch up on some old business. Our chili cook-off was a huge success. Over 12 "chefs" supplied some of the best tasting chili I've ever had. Young adults Colleen Frank Jr. and Samantha Volpe, with help from Gina Volpe, ran a great event. It's good to see our young adults stepping up to the plate. Great job, girls!

Next, the SLO-ISH Bowling Tournament was also a huge success. Billy Jr. and Colleen Frank Jr. won the tournament. Billy Jr. rolled a 711 series and shot a 247 in the champion roll-off. Mike Brately had a 290 game and a 704 series. We had 80 adults and two youths participate. SNPJ National President Joseph Evanish attended and bowled very well. Once again, this event was a huge success.

Fred and Faye Martin flew to California to celebrate grandson Jake's graduation from physical therapy school. Congratulations to Jake and his family, from Gina and Greg Volpe.

May birthdays include Dorothy Gorjup, who will celebrate her 91st birthday on May 15. Please give a call to (440) 853-8776; she would love to hear from her friends. Also celebrating in May are Tom and Brett Gorjup, and Samantha and Daniella Volpe.

Happy anniversary wishes are sent out to Tom and Kim Gorjup. And a special shout-out to Jim and Susan Gorjup on their 25th anniversary.

Lauren Sebusch is heading to Peru in late May for a study abroad program with Edinboro University.

Get well wishes are extended to Fred Nevar, who is rehabing after a fall.

We elected five delegates to the Young Adult Conference: Colleen Frank Jr., Samantha Volpe, Elizabeth Smrdel, Kristy Zivkovich and Daniella Volpe. Congratulations!

The next Lodge 158 meeting will be held Thursday, May 12, at Recher Hall in the upper bar annex; enter through the service door in back. We will be voting on our five delegates for the TEL Workshop, scheduled Aug. 5-7 at the SNPJ Recreation Center in Enon Valley, Pa. A member must be 13 years of age prior to Aug. 5 and no older than 17 as of Aug. 7. Please text or call me at (216) 650-1279, call (440) 854-8776 or e-mail [lmg1020@att.net](mailto:lmg1020@att.net) if you are interested in attending.

As always, I appreciate your input on these articles and I extend an invitation for our Lodges members to send me any information that they would like to include. Our meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at Recher Hall in the upper bar annex starting at 7 p.m. We would love to see some new faces, so won't you consider attending a meeting?

great music. A program is also being planned. This will be a fun-filled day at this beautiful park nestled in the midst of large oak trees and the shade they provide. You don't want to miss this.

The regular Badger Lodger 584 meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Tim Donovan. A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Gus Orstrowski. Gus was a frequent meeting guest and good friend of Sis. Rose Chepeck. Gus was also a good friend to many Badger Lodge members. He was always willing to lend a helping hand, and he loved to polka. He will be missed.

The reading of the previous meeting's minutes were approved. The secretary/treasurer's report was read and approved as well. It was reported that the 2016 Lodge 584 youth Christmas party date has been set for Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Mary Queen of Heaven hall, 2360 S. 106th St., West Allis. Notices will be sent out by Sis. Mary Donovan at the appropriate time.

Sis. Donovan reported that Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jan Missiaen (686) presented \$88, a portion of the Lodge 686 sausage sale profits from the Ver-bick Memorial Bowling Tournament,

to be put into the SNPJ Scholarship Fund. A discussion was held regarding revitalizing a Lodge picnic again this year; it will be looked into.

The following individuals were nominated and elected to represent the Badger Lodge 584 during the upcoming Young Adult Conference at the SNPJ Recreation Center June 24-26: Bryan and Eric Donovan, John Bolka, and Jeremy Gorgas. Nominated and elected as TEL Workshop delegates for Aug. 5-7 were Amber and Carley Schweiger, Karen Bolka, Bailey Phalen, and Tyler Trickle. Birthday celebrants for the month were Brothers Bob Alper and Jeff Mlaker. Attendance awards were won by Sis. Mary Donovan and Bro. Don Lesar, with an extra gift donated by Bro. Tom and Sis. Jan Gehm going to Bro. Tim Donovan. The meeting was adjourned and coffee and delicious desserts were available for all to enjoy.

Badger Lodge 584 will hold its regular monthly meeting Thursday, June 9, at 7 p.m. in the Mary Queen of Heaven gym, 2360 S. 106th St., West Allis. Come see what takes place at these meetings; you could possibly come up with some new and exciting ideas for us to try.

# PROSVETA Crossword

Love Songs (#0516) by StatePoint Media

## ACROSS

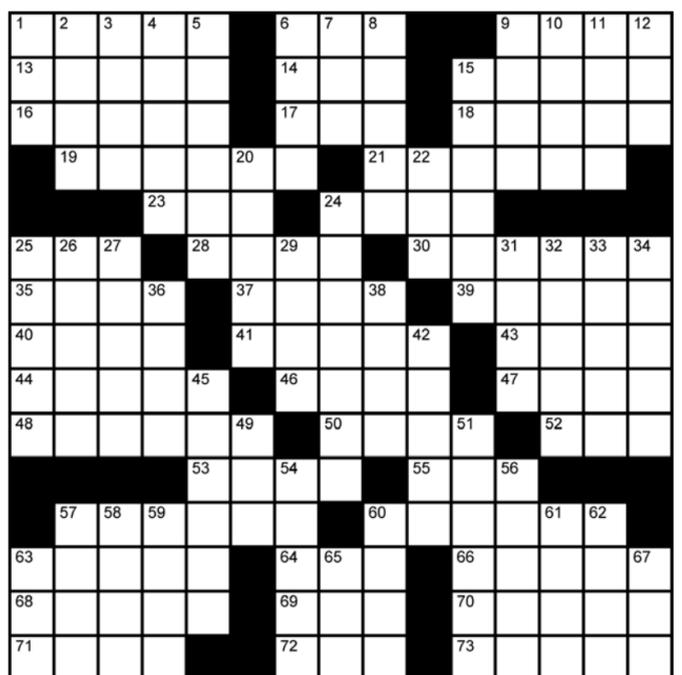
- Northern Scandinavians
- To use a Singer
- \*Al Green: "\_\_\_ Stay Together"
- Like unlucky straw
- Paleontologist's estimate
- Confusion
- Emotion at a funeral
- \*Beach Boys: "\_\_\_ Only Knows"
- Like worthless promise
- \*Billy Joel: "... just the way \_\_\_"
- \*Sonny & Cher: "I \_\_\_ Babe"
- Type of evidence
- "The Blair Witch Project" emotion
- School of thought suffix
- Obsolete phone feature
- The 1½ calorie breath mint
- Throat-clearing sound
- Lovers' quarrel blow
- \*Deniece Williams: "I just wanna \_\_\_, let's hear it for the boy"
- \*Depeche \_\_\_: "Just Can't Get Enough"
- Impede or bar
- Guesstimate phrase
- Scoops water out of a boat
- Symphony member
- Nile dweller
- Condition
- Someone \_\_\_
- Tarzan's adoptive mom

- Found on a rosary
- \*"\_\_\_ for Two"
- \*Bette Midler: "Some say love is like a \_\_\_"
- \*Simple Minds: "Don't you \_\_\_ about me"
- Bear Down Under
- Pitcher's stat
- Tiny amounts
- In an unfriendly manner
- And not
- Related on mother's side
- In 1492, it sailed the ocean blue
- "Much \_\_\_ About Nothing"
- Button on many mechanical units

## DOWN

- Lysergic acid diethylamide
- Call to a mate
- Ralph Lauren's inspiration
- Like honors student's parent
- \_\_\_ of hair
- Like Solomon
- Bigheadedness
- Type of salad
- Containing limestone
- Former Montreal player
- "Swan Lake" outfit
- "I \_\_\_" guessing game
- System used in most of world, except U.S.
- Employer's good news
- Quaker Man's cereal

- Roofless, sideless truck
- Metrical units in poetry
- Sheep + goat
- The press
- Additionally
- Colloquial British abbreviation for particular sweet
- "Earth" to Virgil
- Famous fabulist
- \*If he "could save time in a bottle"
- \*Modern English sang about doing this with you
- It can be indoors or outdoors
- Basil-based sauce
- Rapid transit
- \*"I'm Beginning to \_\_\_ the Light"
- Scarier
- Rome's Colosseum
- In the past
- Many focuses
- Been in bed
- Paella pot
- Wild West card game
- Estimated arrivals
- London art museum
- Kith partner
- \*\_\_\_ Stewart: "Have I told you lately"
- Part of tennis match



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The solution to puzzle #0516 will run in the June 1 issue.

# Annual Slovene Radio Program picnic moving to Imperial Lodge 106 in July

by KEVIN RICHARDS  
Lodge 106

**IMPERIAL, Pa.** — Greetings from Lodge 106! Our bar bingo fun continues on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month in the Lodge 106 clubroom. Come out to the club on those Thursdays, sign the weekly book and enjoy an evening of bar bingo. Special early bird games start at 6:30 p.m.; the regular games start at 7. Our kitchen will be open

during bar bingo.

It is with sadness that we mention the passing of George Suhon. George and his musicians entertained us at Lodge 106 during many of our events and he will be truly missed. Rest in peace, dear friend.

Our first car cruise is set for Sunday, May 15. Our good friends Cool Change will be providing the entertainment, and car cruise schedule magnets will be available to the

first 100 cars.

Our Sunday, June 5, car cruise will feature music by Renewed Memories II and dash plaques for the first 50 cars. On Sunday, July 17, The Messengers will be providing the car cruise entertainment; dash plaques will be available for the first 50 cars.

To honor Elvis Week, our Sunday, Aug. 14, car cruise will feature "Elvis Lives: A Tribute to the King!" There

will be dash plaques for the first 50 cars.

Our final car cruise of the 2016 season will be a Black and Gold car cruise which will take place Sunday, Sept. 18. We'll be giving out SNPJ Lodge 106 Car Cruise Terrible Towels.

All Lodge 106 car cruises are scheduled from noon until 4 p.m., and each features live entertainment, a food buffet, drinks, 50/50 drawings and door prizes on our level,

paved parking lot and in our air-conditioned clubroom. The Coors Light and Miller Lite girls will be on site for all of our car cruises, and bikes are always welcome too.

Lodge 106 is proud to host the annual Slovene Radio Program picnic Sunday, July 31. Entertainment will be provided by the Frank Stanger Band and there will be food booths throughout the grounds of Lodge 106.

Would you like to receive periodic e-mails from Lodge 106 about upcoming events and important announcements? If so, e-mail [sn timer106@gmail.com](mailto:sn timer106@gmail.com) and we'll add you to our list.

Keep track of all the activities going on at Lodge 106 by visiting the "Upcoming Events" page on our website, [www.sn timerimperialpa.com](http://www.sn timerimperialpa.com). Don't forget to check out SNPJ Lodge 106 on Facebook and "Like" us.

## Official Proceedings

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting  
Jan. 13, 2016

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

The minutes from the Nov. 3, 2015, meeting were read and approved.

Discussed the agent sales campaign for 2016, details of point system, and revising computer program to track agent points.

Reported that President Evanish, Sis. Pintar and a couple of our managers and staff met with website development company to review the websites and discuss goals for updates.

Reported that we did purchase cyber security insurance that is effective Jan. 1, 2016.

Reported that President Evanish attended a reception hosted by the honorary consul in Pittsburgh to meet new Consul General Andrej Rode.

Approved the continuation of the current health care plan at a slight increase over the previous year and some increases in co-payment amounts for the employees.

Approved to send Sis. Pintar to Samsula, Fla., for Florida SNPJ Days hosted by SNPJ Lodge 603.

Discussed annuity sales and efforts to increase sales of annuities.

Approved payment of \$25 to Friends of Killbuck Lodge for an ad for their fund-raiser.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.

JOSEPH C. EVANISH  
National President/CEO

KAREN A. PINTAR  
National Secretary/COO

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting  
March 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by President Evanish with Sis. Pintar and Bro. Lawrence in attendance.

The minutes from the Jan. 13, 2016, meeting were read and approved.

Discussed the proposal we received from 3Seed, the website development company. We agreed to propose a website update to the board at the upcoming meeting.

Discussed the presentation by our actuary, Joseph Steimla, that will be part of the board education plan for this March meeting.

Discussed the cabin refurbishment proposal for the board that the Recreation Center Committee would like to pursue.

Discussed Lodge and secretary awards, and the dividend reduction recently approved by the board.

Approved to send Fraternal Director Bro. Kevin Richards to the Fraternal and Communications Section meeting in April sponsored by the American Fraternal Alliance.

Approved a cultural donation in the amount of \$200 payable to the Westmoreland County Federation for their annual Grape Festival.

Approved payment of \$75 to West Allegheny School District for a half-page ad in musical theatre program book.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

JOSEPH C. EVANISH  
National President/CEO

KAREN A. PINTAR  
National Secretary/COO

## Lodge 53 making plans for summer activities

by MARTHA MEGLICH  
Lodge 53 Secretary

**CLEVELAND** — Another year has passed, and it's again time to plan the V Boj Lodge 53 activities for 2016.

According to the calendar it's spring, but it seems as though Old Man Winter isn't about to go away. As I write this, it's snowing on April 9... although one shouldn't complain too much considering the mild winter we had in Northeast Ohio.

A few of the activities I want to mention at this time are the annual picnic, our bus trip and our 110th anniversary party.

First of all, our annual picnic is scheduled for June 19 and will be held at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio. June 19 is Father's Day, so what an excellent opportunity to bring dad and the family out for a delicious dinner. The menu will include either cabbage rolls, roast pork or sausage,

plus potatoes, a choice of vegetable or sauerkraut, roll and butter, and coffee. All of this for the low price of \$9. At what restaurant could you find that?

V Boj Lodge 53 members are invited to attend the Spring Pancake & Sausage Breakfast at the Farm on Sunday, May 22. Breakfast will be served from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. If you can attend, please see me for a ticket.

Plans are also being made for a bus trip to Amish country. There will be very little walking, so please plan to join us. It will take place in early September; the date will be announced later. Among the activities planned is a visit to a farm to feed the animals. We'll tour the grounds on a flatbed trailer equipped with benches so that we can sit comfortably. Dinner will be at a local restaurant — you know you can't beat that Amish cooking! The other stop

will be made at an Amish theater. This trip is open to anyone wishing to join us. More details will follow.

V Boj Lodge 53 is celebrating its 110th anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 5, at the Slovenian Workmen's Home on Waterloo Road in Cleveland. Remember the date and please plan to attend.

Congratulations to our 2016 honorees: 50-year members Gary Paine, Patricia Dugach and John Kerns; and 70-year member Evelyn Melinsky. I hope to see you all at these upcoming events.

Our Lodge meetings begin at 1 p.m. at the Slovenian Workmen's Home. We would like to see some of our members at these meetings. The remaining dates are the third Tuesday in the months of June, August, October and November. We're off December and January, but start again in February.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Fond memories of the Evanstown Picnic Grove will be cherished

Over all the years I helped run the Evanstown Picnic Grove, I met so many nice people. I am sad; nothing to look forward to this summer. Yes, there are other dances, but none like those hosted at the Grove, with the outside air, good smells from the kitchen, great music and loads of happy people. I have so many happy memories.

Moving on is going to be hard, but we will have happy times and happy memories at other facilities, making some

new friends and meeting old friends, and maybe not working so hard. This age thing can get you down.

Thank you, one and all, for all your support over the years. I hope to see you in Yukon, Pa., on June 26 for our "Pretty in Pink" fund-raiser for the Arnold Palmer Cancer Center. The event will run from 2 to 6 p.m. Bring a friend and join in. Look for further advertising in *PROSVETA*.

MARYANN BEBAR  
Lodge 41, Irwin, Pa.

PROSVETA welcomes letters to the editor from all SNPJ members. All submissions to Letters to the Editor must include a name, address, Lodge and telephone number for verification, and all are subject to editing. The views expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the contributor and not necessarily those of the Slovene National Benefit Society or PROSVETA.

Letters to the Editor submissions should be addressed to SNPJ PROSVETA, Attn: Letters to the Editor, 247 West Allegheny Rd., Imperial, PA 15126. Letters may also be faxed to (724) 695-1555 or e-mailed to [sn timer@sn timer.com](mailto:sn timer@sn timer.com). Not all letters will be printed or individually acknowledged.

## SNPJ Scholarship Fund Donations for the months of February & March 2016

SNPJ Cleveland Athletic League.....\$250	Merle & Rosemary Flemmer, and Elizabeth Ruzicka, Sacramento, Calif. .... \$75 In memory of John Sadar	John & Carole (138) Pankas, Canonsburg, Pa...\$25 In memory of Emma Mavrich
Verbick Memorial Fraternal Bowling Tournament, Milwaukee.....\$217	Joe & Carol Pellitteri, Buena Park, Calif. .... \$50 In memory of John Sadar	Frank & Amy Mavrich (138), Canonsburg, Pa...\$25 In memory of Bea Cvetas
SNPJ Lodge 225, Girard, Kan.....\$200	SNPJ Lodge 31, Sharon, Pa.....\$35 In memory of Frank J. Mlakar	SNPJ Lodge 786, Orange County, Calif..... \$25 In memory of Kathleen Brost
SNPJ Lodge 757, Price, Utah.....\$150 In memory of deceased members of Lodge 757	SNPJ Lodge 686, West Allis, Wis. .... \$30 In memory of Josephine Kasseckert, Emil Holvevat and Anne Ojala	SNPJ Lodge 786, Orange County, Calif..... \$25 In memory of Edward Guy Johnson
Fontana Slovene Button Box Club .....\$100 In memory of Joseph C. Umeck Jr. and Frank J. Vidergar		
Mary Lou Vidergar (723), San Mateo, Calif... \$100 In memory of John Sadar		

## PROSVETA 2016 Publication Dates

<p><b>JANUARY 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>MAY 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>SEPTEMBER 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>
<p><b>FEBRUARY 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>JUNE 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>OCTOBER 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>
<p><b>MARCH 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>JULY 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>
<p><b>APRIL 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>AUGUST 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>DECEMBER 2016</b></p> <p>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</p>

Publication dates are highlighted in black boxes; deadline dates are circled. The deadline for submissions is noon on the third Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise noted above or on the front page. Submissions may be mailed to PROSVETA at 247 West Allegheny Road, Imperial, PA 15126; faxed to (724) 695-1555; e-mailed to [prosveta@sn timer.com](mailto:prosveta@sn timer.com); or submitted via the Publications section of the SNPJ website, [www.sn timer.org](http://www.sn timer.org).

SNPJ fraternal sympathies

**BRO. DANIEL TIBLJAS**  
• LODGE 218 •

**DENVER**—The Tibljas family and members of Lodge 218 sadly announce the Jan. 10, 2016, passing of Bro. Daniel “Danny” Tibljas, 93, of Mesa, Ariz., formerly of Raton, N.M. He was a 76-year member of SNPJ Lodge 218.

Bro. Tibljas was born Feb. 10, 1922. He grew up in Sugarite, a coal mining town near Raton, and graduated from Raton High School in 1942. Danny proudly fought for his country in World War II while serving in the U.S. Navy as a motor machinist on the USS Alcayone AKA-7, a transport combat ship that was active in both the European and Pacific theaters, under the command of Admiral Halsey. He was awarded eight Bronze Star medals for his bravery and honor.

After the war, Bro. Tibljas returned to Raton and was employed for 30 years with Raton Public Service Company as chief engineer. In addition to his longtime SNPJ membership, he was a member of the VFW and held many offices with the BPOE Elks Lodge.

Danny loved all sports and was an official high school baseball umpire. He was an avid outdoorsman, spending much time hunting and fishing. He loved music and, above all, dancing. “Dancing Dan” served as a Lay minister at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church for over 30 years. He loved people and life. He always had a smile



Bro. DANIEL TIBLJAS (218)

and was always ready to help. Bro. Tibljas was preceded in death by his wife, Pauline; his parents, John and Teresa Tibljas; two brothers, John and Jim; and a sister, Mary. He is survived by his daughter, Nancy Foxen, whom he joined in Arizona when he moved to Bella Vista Senior Living in 2014; a son, Gary Tibljas; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; a sister, Josephine Phillipich, 96; and several nieces and nephews.

Life celebrations for Bro. Tibljas were held Feb. 10 at the National Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Phoenix, with full military honors. A Mass of celebration was held Feb. 17 in the chapel at Bella Vista Senior Living Center, Mesa. Interment will be in June with Mass at St. Joseph’s/St. Patrick’s Catholic Church and Fairmount Cemetery in Raton, where Danny lived for 92 years.

On behalf of the members of SNPJ Lodge 218 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our sympathies

to Bro. Tibljas’ family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**BRO. CHARLES J. TOMAZIN**  
• LODGE 321 •

**WARREN, Ohio** — With sadness, the members of Lodge 321 announce the Feb. 1, 2016, passing of Bro. Charles J. Tomazin, 93, at Shepherd of the Valley in Warren.

Bro. Tomazin was born in Warren on Feb. 14, 1922, the son of the late Karl and Louise Tomazin. He was a graduate of Warren G. Harding High School, and a decorated veteran, serving in the U.S. Army, 83rd Infantry, during World War II.

Charles was involved in the food service business his whole life. He worked for Youngstown Creamery, and was previously the owner of Wonder Market on Youngstown Road and Charles J. Tomazin Wholesale Distributing Company.

Bro. Tomazin was a member of Blessed Sacrament Church, where he had been an adult server and Eucharistic minister. He volunteered at St. Vincent de Paul Society and ran the church’s bingo fund-raiser for years. He enjoyed playing gin at the Elks BPO 290, and was a very active officer of the Warren Chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division and SNPJ Lodge 321. “Charlie” was an avid fan of the Ohio State Buckeyes and the Cleveland Indians.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Ann E. Tomazin, whom he married Aug. 23, 1947, and who passed away June 6, 2015; a brother, Edward Tomazin; and a sister, Dorothy Strah.

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

**SIS. ALBINA M. SWELTZ**  
• LODGE 254 •

**BON AIR, Pa.** — The Sweltz family and members of Lodge 254 sadly report the Feb. 21, 2016, passing of Sis. Albina M. Sweltz, 94, of Johnstown, Pa., at Memorial Medical Center.

Born Oct. 10, 1921, in Carnegie, Pa., Sis. Sweltz was the daughter of the late Frank and Ursula (Swete) Pristow Prsrchin.

Before her 30-year career as an operating room nurse at Conemaugh Valley Memorial Hospital and providing nursing care at the Hiram G. Andrews Center, Albina ran a grocery store in Bon Air with her husband, John. She served as the town’s postmaster as well, and worked as a crane operator at U.S. Steel during World War II.



Sis. ALBINA M. SWELTZ (254)

Proud of her Slovenian heritage, John and Albina traveled to Slovenia to meet relatives with whom they kept active contact. Sis. Sweltz was a lifelong member of SNPJ Lodge 254, where she bowled and was a balina team champion member. She was a familiar figure at polka dances throughout the area as her enthusiasm filled the room, and she brought that same joy to her love of bingo, which she played regularly until her passing.

Albina sang with the Senior Center Serenaders, volunteered at the Chamber of Commerce and was a dedicated parishioner of St. Barnabas Church, all while pursuing her hobbies of flower arranging, candy making, crafting and gardening.

Her ardent rooting for all Pittsburgh teams was matched only by her devotion to the teams on which her grandchildren played or coached, often traveling hundreds of miles to see them play. Albina’s yearly vacation to the beach with her extended family was one of her favorite times of the year.

A staunchly loyal daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother and friend, Albina’s kindness, humor and sense of adventure will be missed. She truly loved living every moment.

Sis. Sweltz was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, John J. Sweltz; and two sisters, Ann Fichera and Florence Newton. She is survived by two daughters, Nanci (Bill) Gaborek and Shyran (James) Albert; a son, Curtis (Brenda) Sweltz; two sisters, Frances Hillman and Matilda Blozevich; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 254, we offer our condolences to Sis. Sweltz’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**BRO. JOSEPH M. BRIGICH SR.**  
• LODGE 138 •

**STRABANE, Pa.** — With sadness, the members of Lodge 138 report the March 4, 2016, passing of Bro. Joseph M. Brigich Sr., 83, of South Fayette

Twp., Pa.

An honors graduate of Chartiers-Houston High School, Bro. Brigich owned and operated Brigich Brothers Dairy in Cecil, Pa., and later retired as vice president of the Croatian Fraternal Union of America (CFU). He was a 43-year SNPJ Lodge 138 member.

Joe was a lifelong CFU member, enrolled in Nest 272 at birth. CFU continued to be a way of life for him throughout the years. He served as president of CFU Lodge 567 in Canonsburg, Pa., for 55 years, and as president of United CFU Four County Lodges. In 1978 he was elected director of member services by the CFU national board. In 1983 the title changed to vice president/member services, the position he held until his retirement in 2011.

He was also a member of a number of fraternal societies and had been active in the former National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA); the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress; and the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh (FSGP), serving as president and vice president. He also served as vice president of the National Fraternal Federation of Croatian Americans. Bro. Brigich received numerous awards throughout his lifetime, including Man of the Year for the United CFU County Lodges, and Fraternalist of the Year for the FSGP in 1994.

He was the beloved husband of Dolores “DE” Brigich and the late Louise Brigich; the loving father of Karen (the late Gary) Randall, Joseph Brigich Jr. and Kathy (Paul) Sharkady; and stepfather of Matthew (Tisha) Heufelder and Todd (Julie) Heufelder. He was the brother of Marko (Marilyn) Brigich Jr., Catherine (John) Obenour, and the late John and Carl Brigich. Also surviving are three grandchildren, four stepgrandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Bro. Brigich on March 8 in Holy Child Parish, Bridgeville, Pa.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 138 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend our sympathies to Bro. Brigich’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**SIS. IRENE R. KOVAL**  
• LODGE 643 •

**GIRARD, Ohio** — The Koval family and members of Lodge 643 sadly report the March 18, 2016, passing of Sis. Irene Rowan Koval, 89, in Westerville, Ohio.

Sis. Koval was born in Girard on April 1, 1926, the daughter of John and Anna (Bozick)



Sis. IRENE R. KOVAL (643)

Rovan. She graduated with Honors from Girard High School, and went on to attend the University of Mount Union (Mount Union College) in Alliance, Ohio. She graduated Summa Cum Laude as salutatorian with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Her address at Baccalaureate exercises was “Slovene Poetry.”

Irene began her teaching career in Alliance as a junior high English teacher. The following year she studied for a higher degree at the University of Cincinnati. Spanish was her language of choice, and she obtained a Master of Arts degree with Honors.

Sis. Koval and her husband Paul worked in education in both Alliance and Dover, Ohio; she as a teacher and he as an administrator. They accompanied students to Mexico and Spain so that they gained fluency in their language study. After her husband’s death in 1997, she moved to the Columbus area of Ohio to be near her children and grandchildren.

Irene was enrolled in the SNPJ at birth. She was a lifelong member of the former Lodge 49 and Lodge 643 in Girard. Following the example of her parents, she took part in many Society activities until she left for college. As a youngster, Irene and friend Eleanor Gary sang and tap-danced at Lodge socials. Irene was an active Youth Circle 7 member, helping as a pianist for the chorus and participating in meetings and activities. Just as her parents were Lodge boosters, so was she. She regularly contributed articles to *PROSVETA* and *Mladinski List*. Even after enrolling in college, she came home to attend Lodge dances. Lodge 643 was a vital part of her growing years.

Sis. Koval lost her husband in 1997 after 45 years of marriage. She leaves a son, Paul (Lisa) Koval; a daughter, Dr. Ann Renee Koval (Jeff Wakefield); and her grandchildren, Elyse, Jillian, Jacob, Eden and Drake.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 643 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we offer our condolences to Sis. Koval’s family, relatives and friends on their loss.

**SNPJ Crossword**  
THINK SPRING (#0416) solution

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**DEATHS REPORTED**  
For the month of January 2016

LODGE NAME	DATE OF DEATH	CITY-STATE
A18 Royce Rae Pfeiffer	10-03-2015	Freedom, Pa.
2 Ronald J. Brian	12-02-2015	Springfield, Ill.
6 Paul M. Entinger	12-02-2015	Pittsburgh, Pa.
6 Edward J. Smelko	12-31-2015	Morgan, Pa.
6 Sylvia Carman	08-19-2015	Bridgeville, Pa.
8 Dolores J. Bobnic	10-22-2015	Mesa, Ariz.
8 Anthony M. Serapin	08-07-2015	Whiting, Ind.
41 Mary Soltys	12-17-2015	Claridge, Pa.
87 Catherine G. Daugherty	11-28-2015	Seven Fields, Pa.
138 Elizabeth S. Lautar	08-19-2015	Benwood, W.Va.
138 Vincent T. Batista	12-06-2015	Tallmadge, Ohio
138 Bernard M. Luketich	12-08-2015	Cokeburg, Pa.
153 Evelyn L. Menichini	12-13-2015	Hubbard, Ohio
158 Betty K. Smith	12-02-2015	Thompson, Ohio
158 Marilyn A. Vogrig	12-09-2015	Cleveland, Ohio
218 Violet A. Sandri	11-25-2015	Denver, Colo.
223 Patricia A. Smith	12-19-2015	Jeannette, Pa.
225 Carolyn R. Girard	11-13-2015	Joplin, Mo.
225 Andrew M. Rezin	12-29-2015	Kansas City, Kan.
254 Gerald Lee Korber	08-09-2015	Meridian, Idaho
254 Paul T. Firm	12-16-2015	Stoystown, Pa.
254 Marie A. Nolte	11-26-2015	Alexandria, Va.
254 Elsie J. Kluchar	11-04-2015	Denville, N.J.
268 Frances Baldrice	11-13-2015	Boise, Idaho
268 Vladimir Nosan	08-24-2014	Chisholm, Minn.
268 Frances J. Perko	12-16-2015	Biwabik, Minn.
304 Rafaela Dohrmann	11-18-2015	Sparks, Nev.
449 Nancy L. Tucci	11-17-2015	Boca Raton, Fla.
559 John Cretnik	11-27-2015	Lisle, Ill.
562 Virginia M. Potnick	09-28-2015	Pataskala, Ohio
576 Patricia J. Candela	12-02-2015	Ashtabula, Ohio
577 Mary F. Giordano	11-11-2015	Canon City, Colo.
581 Katherine Plesnicher	12-24-2015	Pottstown, Pa.
584 David J. Kohl	07-28-2015	Muskego, Wis.
584 John F. Zore	12-08-2015	Machesney, Ill.
603 Mildred K. Cesen	12-03-2015	Willoughby, Ohio
626 William D. Ennemoser	12-14-2015	Barberton, Ohio
629 Olive E. Ruffing	09-04-2015	Irwin, Pa.
723 Elfriede L. Duran	11-17-2015	San Bernardino, Calif.
723 Thomas J. Langdon	11-08-2015	Charlotte, N.C.
738 Frances F. Potocnik	11-02-2015	Enumclaw, Wash.
770 Adolph J. Katich	12-23-2015	New Castle, Pa.

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



Back in February, Lodge 603 members **SUE REICHEL**, **RHONDA TESAURO** and **DIANA HEILMAN** stretched the dough for apple strudel served during Florida SNPJ Days. All of the pre-festivities preparations paid off and helped make Florida SNPJ Days weekend a successful event.



SNPJ Region 4 Vice President **TRACEY ANDERSON** [center] presented Lodge 603 officers **RUTH** and **GEORGE BENEDICT** with a plaque recognizing the Samsula Lodge's 90th anniversary.

## Lodge 603 men hosting Mother's Day dinner

by JEANNETTE HUMPHREY  
Lodge 603

**SAMSULA, Fla.** — The members of SNPJ Lodge 603 in beautiful downtown Samsula met April 5 and had a good turnout for supper and the business meeting.

Lodge 603 is hosting its annual Mother's Day dinner May 8 from 12:30 until 2 p.m. The men of the Lodge and community will prepare baked ham and chicken with all the fixings, including dessert. Youth Circle 57, under the direction of Tonya Stein, will make and hand out flower corsages to all mothers attending the dinner. The men will recognize the mothers as well and give out gifts in several categories.

The donation for the meal is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. Proceeds will benefit the Lodge 603 scholarship fund. The public is welcome, but reservations are required by phoning President George Benedict at (386) 427-1410 or leaving a message at the Lodge at (386) 428-3983. Reservations will help the cooks know how much food to prepare.

Our Florida SNPJ Days event in February went well and we had a good attendance this year. Ruth and George Benedict chaired the event. They want to thank all who attended our annual celebration, as well as those who came to volunteer for the weekend.

We were so delighted by a visit from Miss SNPJ 2016 Julie Rockwell (138), who flew in for the weekend from Pennsylvania with her mother, Janice. Julie is representing our Society quite well and gave a very nice speech at our program.

Also in for the weekend was Region 4 Vice President Tracey Anderson (677). We enjoyed her visit very much and appreciated her presentation of a 90-year plaque to our Lodge. We are the only surviving Lodge in the State of Florida, and we'll be celebrating our 90th anniversary later in the year.

We enjoyed the music of the Bob Turcola and Bobby Kravos Orchestra Friday night, and the Marc Bouchard Orchestra Saturday. Lenny and Mary Shaw provided homemade wine for the Florida SNPJ Days greeting, potica was provided by Pauline Lockwood, and the Shaws donated bottles of wine for our visiting dignitaries. We are so lucky to have so many from the National Board spend time at our Lodge.

Gifts were given away during our fund-raisers and some very happy winners went home with cash. Ruth would like to thank all who donated gifts, including the vegetables from the Bill Tomazin Farm and the fruit from Bill Hester that was harvested by President Benedict, and so many more. Special thanks to Fraternal Director Kevin Richards and the SNPJ Home Office for sending so many terrific gifts for our give-aways, and for the handouts we distributed to our members and guests.

We were sad to learn that National Secretary Karen Pintar took sick and would not be able to attend. She did send a letter congratulating Lodge 603 on turning 90 years old and a \$200 donation to continue with our heritage promotion. We also received a nice plaque and an additional \$90 for our milestone.

Our Lodge has recently lost several members, and one we knew best was Bea Cvetas. Bea was born in 1926. She had been an active member of the Society for the past 71 years, and she had visited our Lodge numerous times. Our sympathy is extended to the Society and to her family. Also a Lodge 603 member, Janet Davis of Tennessee passed away recently and was recognized at our Lodge meeting. President Benedict and the members of Lodge 603 extend get well wishes to Albert "Shorty" Tomazin, who is undergoing treatment for a recent illness.

Lodge 603 hosted SPARC of Volusia County for their annual St. Patrick's celebration. SPARC is an organization that provides social, recreational and sporting activities for people with developmental disabilities. Everyone in attendance enjoyed a corned beef and cabbage meal followed by lots of dancing in our hall. Connie Massey organized this special celebration for the group. President Benedict and wife Ruth, Jeannette Humphrey and Jeane Novotny assisted with serving.

The Lodge 603 auditing committee reported that both our checkbook and record book were in good standing again this year. John Tesauro is chairman of this committee.

There will be a business meeting and supper May 2 at 6:30 p.m. There will be no meetings in June, July and August. Jeane Novotny won the meeting gift for March and Jennifer Luznar for April.

Until next time, enjoy reading your copy of *PROSVETA*.

### SNPJ Recreation Center 2016 Dance Schedule



May 7	<b>National Bowling Tournament</b> Mansfield Five (Gostilna)	8 to Midnight
May 29	<b>Brew &amp; Bean Festival</b> (Microbrew & Chili Cookoff) Turcola-Kravos Orchestra & more	2 to 8
June 11	<b>Heritage Center Weekend*</b> (lower pavilion)	2 to 8
July 2	<b>Val Pawlowski's 65th Birthday Bash</b> Celebrating 21 years in polka radio	3 to 7
July 8-10	<b>SLOVENESEST 2016</b>	Day-long
July 30	<b>CivapFest</b> Turcola-Kravos Orchestra	4 to 8
Aug. 20	<b>Western Pa. Fraternal Weekend*</b> Eddie Rodick Orchestra & Don Wojtila Orchestra	4 to 10
Sept. 4	<b>National SNPJ Days*</b> Joe Grkman Orchestra & The Polka Bros. (lower pavilion)	2 to 8
Sept. 24	<b>Rec Center Wine &amp; Sausage Fest</b> Turcola-Kravos & more	2 to 8

\*Denotes free dance

Admission is \$5. Dances offer a wood-fired barbecue, a farmers market, blind draw bean bag tournament and free polka lessons in the dancing booth. Dances are held in the upper pavilion unless otherwise noted. Schedule is subject to change. For information phone the SNPJ Recreation Center at 1-877-767-5732.



San Francisco Lodge 304 member **DENNIS BRAHNEY** proudly displays one of his artistic sculptures. [Below] Just a few of the 40 pieces Bro. Brahney exhibited at the San Francisco Slovene Hall.

## Lodge 304 artist showcases sculptures

by DIANE FABIAN BRAHNEY  
Lodge 304

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Recently, at the Slovenian Hall in San Francisco, Lodge 304 member Dennis Brahney exhibited his art work. Shown were 40 pieces in porcelain sculpture, wood sculpture and oil painting.

Being a master stair builder for close to 40 years, Bro. Brahney honed his artistic skills on the job. Upon retirement 20 years ago and with encouragement from his talented mother, he started oil painting and then progressed to porcelain and wood sculptures.

For his grandchildren he has built toys, a wooden wagon, toy box, cradle and crib, and has surprised each one of his three sons with an oil painting of personal meaning on their 50th birthdays. In addition to his sculptures and paintings, each room of his house bears something of his artistic touch, be it the kitchen table, kitchen cabinets, desk, media center or coffee table.

The art show fulfilled Dennis' desire to share his passion for art, which was much appreciated and well-received.



## Utopians raise funds for Parkinson's Moving Day

by GERRI TREBETS  
Lodge 604 Secretary

**CLEVELAND** — The SNPJ Lodge 604 Utopians hosted a fund-raising dinner for Parkinson's Moving Day at the Slovenian Society Home in Euclid, Ohio, on April 11. Scott Perdan, son of Bro. Bill Perdan, was diagnosed with Parkinson's several years ago. He is now the co-chairman of the Cleveland Moving Day

event, scheduled for June 18 at Wade Oval in University Circle, Cleveland.

Over 100 were in attendance at the fund-raising dinner, and enjoyed Southern-style barbecue sandwiches, cole slaw, baked beans and peach dump cake. Music was provided by Patti Candela and Joe Strukel.

Thank you to all who attended and supported this worthwhile event.



Utopians Lodge 604 hosted a fund-raising dinner for Cleveland's Moving Day, co-chaired by **SCOTT PERDAN** [back]. Working the April 11 dinner were Lodge 604 members [from left] **KATHLEEN TREBETS**, **GERRI TREBETS**, **RUDY PERDAN**, **CHARLOTTE PERDAN** and **PAM DIRK**.

## SNPJ Trailer Court sets date for opening events

by AMY MAVRICH (138)  
SNPJ Trailer Court Civic Assoc.

**BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa.** — The SNPJ Trailer Court Civic Association will hold a meeting Saturday, May 28, at 11 a.m. in the dorm. Coffee and donuts will be served. Our annual opening party will also be held this day beginning at 4 p.m. in the barn. The menu and additional information will be included on flyers that will be distributed throughout the trailer court, but we do ask that everyone please bring a covered dish. This is sure to be a

great party, so plan to be there!

President Rowland Hudson, Vice President Joyce Hudson, Treasurer Sonny Jurkowski, and Secretary Amy Mavrich encourage everyone with a trailer at the SNPJ Recreation Center to become a member of the SNPJ Trailer Court Civic Association. Dues are \$20 per person, per trailer, and children 16 and under are free. We have a lot planned for the summer and we'd love to see everyone be a part of fun times!

Until then, see 'ya at the Gostilna!

## A busy spring in the works for the SNPJ Heritage Center

**HERITAGE CENTER SPRING**  
FROM PAGE 1

the Recreation Center is hoping everyone will come out to support it. What could be better than some eats, some drinks, and polka music to celebrate the start of summer!

Another event you'll want to mark on your calendar is the SNPJ Heritage Center's "Bring Back Your Heritage" weekend. On Friday, June 10, the Mahoning Valley Button Box Club will be performing in the Rec Center Gostilna from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Please note the new start time of Friday music in the Gostilna

beginning in May.

Then on Saturday, June 11, the "Bring Back Your Heritage" picnic will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. in the lower pavilion featuring the Frank Stanger Orchestra and Patty C & The Guys. This is a free-admission dance, compliments of the Heritage Center, to encourage young and old alike to attend as generations of family. The lower pavilion is close to the playground and balina courts, so everyone can enjoy the day.

As a final reminder to residents of the Mahoning and Shenango Valley areas, the Simply Slavic event is planned in down-

town Youngstown, Ohio, for Saturday, June 18, starting at noon. The Heritage Center will have a display at the ethnic tent, plus we'll have wares for sale in the Marketplace. This is a great event offering food, drink and music.

It's not too early to make your plans to attend Slovenefest weekend July 8-10. Check out the Slovenefest website, [www.slovenefest.com](http://www.slovenefest.com), for information on hotel reservations. This is an event you don't want to miss. The Heritage Center Committee is working on some mini-program presentations for Slovenefest which I hope to report on next month. Until then...



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# Submit your entries for the CAL Don Gorjup Golf Open tournament

by RICK GORJUP (158)  
CAL President

**CLEVELAND** — Get ready for the annual CAL Don Gorjup Golf Open! We have a great bunch of golfers, and with our CAL reps, friends and volunteers, this year's outing should be the best! The outing is less than 30 days away now, and we hope to have a record

crowd. After the weather we've had, we pray that Mother Nature treats us well. This will be our 52nd year of hosting this golf tournament, so don't miss out on a great day of fun and fraternalism.

This year's CAL Don Gorjup Golf Open will be played at Rolling Green Golf Course in Huntsburg, Ohio, on Saturday,

May 28. With 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 you can pick up your goodie bag and scorecard before heading out on the links. Hot dogs and pivo will be available at the turn, and a great steak dinner will be waiting at the 19th hole. And remember, the beer, pop

and bottled water are free — all day long!

The entry fee of \$80 for adults (\$72 for youth) includes your greens fee, cart, prizes, a goodie bag, dinner, and a sandwich and beverage at the turn. We're again offering our hole-in-one prize, awarding \$5,000 to the lucky golfer who can obtain that elusive ace. More

prizes will be offered on other par-3 holes, and your friendly hostesses will be around to visit each foursome for a photo op and a toast to Don.

To add even more fun to this event, dress in something unusual for the day. You never know which theme is going to dominate the dress code on the course. The party bus

will also be running from the SNPJ Recreation Center in the Borough of SNPJ, Pa.

Donations are coming in for our many drawings, and we are planning a few surprises as well this year. See the entry below. Call your golf buddies and sign up soon. We hope to see you on a beautiful, sunny and warm Saturday, May 28.

# Orange Coast Lodge 786 members preparing for spring, summer activities

by JEAN KOCI  
Lodge 786 Secretary/Treasurer

**ORANGE COUNTY, Calif.** — As I write this, Orange Coast Lodge 786 has not met since my last PROSVETA article, but we will be gathering in a few days to make final plans for our Temecula Wine Tasting Picnic scheduled May 22. We will also be choosing delegates for the Aug. 5-7 TEL Workshop. We have at least two youth members who are interested in attending and we're waiting to hear from a couple of others. This is such a great weekend for the youngsters to meet other teens from around the country. Jacob Fajnor has attended twice and looks forward to going again. Devin Leathers was a bit too young last year, so he

hopes to attend this time.

July 17 is the date of our annual Lodge BBQ & Swim Party at the Rancho Niguel Recreation Center in Laguna Niguel, Calif. Paula and Jim Manning have arranged this picnic at their homeowners' park, and we hope that many of you will plan to attend. We always get a good turnout for this fun-filled day.

Southern California has been having some summer weather this spring. Many people are getting out to the beaches, going on bike rides, playing tennis and volleyball, and enjoying other outdoor fun. Baseball is in full swing, and we had a chance to see our grandson Roger pitch in a Western Tournament here in

Anaheim, Calif., over Easter weekend. We will be traveling to Reno, Nev., to see what might be his final high school double header. Roger loves baseball, as do his brothers, but he may just play for fun when he gets busy with college. Congratulations, Roger! Big sister Mia will be starting medical school in the fall, so it's a busy time.

We're happy to see that Virginia Zajc Johnson is getting out more, thanks to the various members who bring her to our meetings and outings. Virginia has been such an active SNPJ member for so many years, serving as a Lodge officer and planning many special events. She still loves the activity and social aspects, but her vision is

quite diminished so her activity is limited. Her charming personality keeps her in the midst of good friends from various periods of her life. We've missed seeing Frances Ambrozich, but her son Gary brings her to as many events as possible. She was always such an independent person, and really misses being able to drive and get around.

Our family will have cousins visiting from Slovenia this summer, and we're excited about that! We'll be hosting a family of six coming from a mountain top above Idrija. They have a beautiful farm and we have visited with them a couple of times. It will be the first time in the United States for most of them. Mom

Milana is the granddaughter of my first cousin, Polonca, who passed away about a year ago. Milana was here with her sister twice before, but now she will bring her husband Marko and their three sons ages 4, 7 and 8. Her younger brother Nejc is also coming to help with the kids, and to see Hollywood and Venice Beach.

We wish our Young Adult Conference delegates a suc-

cessful trip to Pennsylvania and hope that those interested will be able to make appropriate arrangements to take advantage of the opportunity.

And since vacation time is on the horizon, we wish all of our members and friends safe and enjoyable summer trips and excursions with friends and family. We're looking forward to seeing many of you during these busy months.

# Enjoy a summer celebration in Strabane with the Western Pa. Federation

by DON PROGAR (138)  
Federation President

**STRABANE, Pa.** — The Slovene Federation of SNPJ Lodges of Western Pennsylvania met April 10 at Strabane Lodge 138. The following is a brief summary.

We discussed how to assist the youth members attending Youth Roundup. After debating, a donation of \$500 was approved to sponsor one of the daily activities.

In the past, the Western Pa. Federation has supported Slovenefest. This year will be no different, as it was approved to become a Silver Sponsor for \$300.

On Monday, July 4, Strabane Lodge 138 will host Klancik & Friends from 6 to 10 p.m. This dance will be sponsored by the Western Pa. Federation. Food will be available for purchase.

For those who aren't familiar with the Fourth of July

festivities in the Strabane and Canonsburg areas, it's a very eventful day filled with activity and fun. The day starts with the annual Canonsburg parade at 10 a.m. This parade is the second largest Fourth of July event in Pennsylvania, usually attracting 30,000 people. Tomsic Motors and the International Button Box Club are annual participants, providing a float with button box music.

Many people park in the Strabane Lodge 138 parking lot, which is a short walk to the parade route. After the parade, Lodge 138 is always very crowded as everyone continues the day-long party. Around 10 p.m. there are fireworks shot from the Canon-McMillan football field, which is nearby, making the Lodge's parking lot a prime location to watch this 30-minute display.

With the parade, the post-parade party, the polka dance



Strabane Lodge 138 shares a long history with the Canonsburg, Pa., Fourth of July festivities, including an appearance by Miss SNPJ 2015 NICOLE VEHAR (138) in last year's parade.

and fireworks, this is an all-day party at Strabane Lodge 138 that you don't want to miss.

This year's Night At The Races event will be held Saturday, Nov. 12, at Lodge 138. This is our annual fund-raiser, and your support is appreciated. Without your help we wouldn't be able to make donations and support SNPJ activities. The dinner will start at 6 p.m. and the races at 7. Additional details will be discussed at our next meeting.

The Slovene Federation of SNPJ Lodges of Western Pennsylvania will hold its next meeting Saturday, Aug. 20, at the SNPJ Recreation Center in the Borough of SNPJ, Pa. The meeting will start at 12:30 p.m. in the Gostilna. This is Fraternal Weekend at the Rec Center. Please come and attend our meeting so you can see what the Federation is about. The meeting will be finished in plenty of time before the bands start.

# Chicago Federation to host memorial services

by GRACE DOERK  
Lodge 559

**CHICAGO** — The Chicago Federation of SNPJ Lodges will once again be sponsoring memorial services in the SNPJ section of Woodlawn Cemetery on Monday, May 30, starting at 11 a.m.

We will be honored to have Slovenian Honorary Consul Janez Vidmar deliver the main speech. He presents himself very well, and we are very proud to have him as a member of the SNPJ. This will be Bro. Vidmar's 10th appearance as the main speaker at this event.

We will also be honored to have the Zbor Spendov Male Chorus from the Slovene Catholic Center in Lemont, Ill., and the Boy Scouts of America appearing on the program.

Following the memorial services, everyone is invited to attend a luncheon at the Plaza Restaurant. If you are interested in attending the dinner, please contact Grace Doerk at (815) 439-3596 by May 23. The cost of the dinner is \$15 per person.

We're looking forward to having you join us on this day of memoriam.

# Entry deadline nearing for the Miss SNPJ Pageant

PAGEANT DEADLINE  
FROM PAGE 1

also receives the opportunity to travel to SNPJ functions across the country and will appear on the 2017 SNPJ calendar. The winner of the Miss Activity crown will be awarded a \$1,200 scholarship, and Miss Talent will receive an \$800 scholarship.

All young ladies who participate in the pageant will receive a \$50 participant award. In addition, all contestants who enter before June 1 will receive an early-bird bonus of \$50. Par-

ticipation in the pageant fulfills the activity requirement of the SNPJ Scholarship Program.

The Miss SNPJ Pageant Booster Fund is currently accepting donations. Any donation, large or small, will truly be appreciated and will be recognized in the pageant program. Checks can be made payable to "SNPJ," noting "Miss SNPJ Pageant" on the memo line, and mailed to Slovene National Benefit Society, Attn: Fraternal Department, 247 West Allegheny Road, Imperial, PA 15126.

## 50-Year Members May 2016

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	Kathleen J. Utz	218	Thomas Dymesich III
6	Andrea L. Aloe	459	Marie J. Menosky
34	Robert N. Kukich	559	Camille G. Woodward
87	Michael G. Briscoe	559	Jane K. Goodrich
142	Peggy A. Watson	566	Dorothy J. Johnston
142	Joseph L. Trunkely	576	Edward A. Ozanick Jr.
158	Carol A. Mogyorody	665	Frank R. Bell
174	Susan Pecherkiewicz	721	Thomas J. Wuchina

## 60-Year Members May 2016

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
2	James P. Spitzmiller	584	Lillian Mae Skrobis
6	Robert G. Krek	629	Patricia M. Todd
113	Leonard K. Shield	629	Catherine A. Wilber
223	Sondra K. Long	719	Rev. Richard G. Terdine
225	Mary D. Yates	782	Thelma M. Micklow
254	Joan D. Marhefka	782	Helen A. Yaworski
257	Kenneth J. Ivancic		

## 70-Year Members May 2016

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
FD4	Joseph T. Popiden	106	Bertha Hayes
2	Vivian Yaklich	106	Alberta Anzlovar
6	Pauline Korzi	138	Ernest Mikec
31	Frances Giewont	216	William J. Martincic
53	Evelyn Melinsky	562	Mary F. Krulcic
89	Josephine Lonick	729	Albert L. Potisek
89	Betty Jane Dumbovich	745	Mildred R. Rowe

## 80-Year Members May 2016

Lodge	Member
2	Rose Rupnik
126	Amelia Kochevar

## 2016 Wisconsin SNPJ Golf Outing Tony Mlinar Sr. Memorial June 4, 2016

at New Berlin Hills Golf Course, New Berlin, Wis.  
Modified shotgun start at 7:30 a.m. • Team scramble

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

Team captain's name & e-mail address:

The \$70 per person entry fee covers greens fees, cart, prizes and lunch.  
Return this form, along with entry fees, to:

**Tom Schweiger**  
5014 West Howard Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53220  
Phone: (414) 543-7110 • e-mail: luckylanes13@yahoo.com  
**Make checks payable to SNPJ Badger Lodge 584**  
**ENTRY DEADLINE IS MAY 23, 2016**

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.

## 52nd CAL Don Gorjup Open Golf Tournament May 28, 2016 at Rolling Green Golf Course, Huntsburg, OH 9 a.m. Shotgun Start

Check Entry:  
Men  Ladies  Youth

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

The \$80 entry fee covers greens fees, cart, prizes, dinner, and sandwich and beverage at the turn. Youth entry fee is \$67.  
Return this form, along with entry fees, to:

**Rick Gorjup**  
7180 Kory Ct., Concord, OH 44077-2221  
Phone: (440) 354-5001 [H] or (440) 773-3233 [C]  
**Make checks payable to**  
**SNPJ Cleveland Athletic League (CAL)**  
**ENTRY DEADLINE IS MAY 22, 2016**

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.

## 2016 SNPJ Western Pa./Slovene Federation Golf Tournament Saturday, June 4, 2016

Shotgun start: 1 p.m.  
Rolling Green Golf Course, Eighty Four, PA  
Auspices of Lodge 138

Check Entry:  
Men  Women

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

The \$70 per person entry fee covers green fees, cart 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, c/o Golf Tournament**  
269 Latimer Ave., Strabane, PA 15363  
Phone: (724) 745-9860  
**Make checks payable to SNPJ Lodge #138**  
**ENTRY DEADLINE IS MAY 20, 2016**

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.