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Changing of the Guard

Tim Jergel and Kevin Richards share duties during a transition of Recreation Center directors

by JOSEPH C. EVANISH
SNPJ National President/CEO

BOROUGH OF SNPJ, Pa. — Since May of this year, Tim Jergel and Kevin Richards have been working together transitioning in and out of the SNPJ Recreation Center director's position. To be more specific, Tim, who has served as director since 2009, is transitioning into retirement in April 2021. Kevin is

the new director and has been serving at the Recreation Center in that capacity since May.

This opportunity provides for an ideal transition for the top management position at the SNPJ Recreation Center. Tim is able to share his 11 years of experience and knowledge with Kevin

SEE REC CENTER TRANSITION
ON PAGE 6



With the impending retirement of SNPJ Recreation Center Director Tim Jergel in April 2021, SNPJ Fraternal Director **KEVIN RICHARDS** has been making the transition to Recreation Center director since May.



Photo submitted by Ron Luzar (604)

Now Those Are Some Happy Campers!

Although there was no polka music or bingo this year, the Luzar-Baucco families had a great time swimming, camping, fishing and enjoying playground activities during their annual weekend visit to the SNPJ Recreation Center in August, as evidenced by the thumbs-up reviews from the grandchildren, fourth-generation family members [from left] Eleanor, Brantley, Jameson, Lilliana and Annabel. The Luzar family has been vacationing at the SNPJ Recreation Center since the mid-1960s and plan to keep it their Slovenian tradition into the future, while remembering past generations, cherishing the present and rekindling friendships.

Lodge 34 sets year-end meeting date

by JERRY WATSON
Lodge 34 Secretary/Treasurer

INDIANAPOLIS — *Dober dan!* Lodge 34 members held their third quarterly meeting of 2020 on Sept. 6. Old business and new business were discussed, and the primary discussion was centered around the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lodge members attending the meeting decided that all Lodge 34 activities be put on hold until the threat of the virus has diminished. It is hopeful that our Lodge activities will resume soon.

Our fourth quarterly meeting will be held Friday, Dec. 11, at the Slovenian National Home starting at 7 p.m.

Lodge 142 member Dr. Gobetz receives Slovenia's Order of Merit

submitted by the Consulate General
of the Republic of Slovenia

CLEVELAND — The Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia in the United States, Alenka Jerak, bestowed the Order of Merit upon Dr. Edward Gobetz (142), a Slovenian immigrant to the United States, during a ceremony held Aug. 30, 2020, at Slovenska Pristava in Harpersfield Twp., Ohio.

Consul General Jerak, acting on behalf of the President of the Republic of Slovenia Borut Pahor, presented the medal in recognition of Dr. Gobetz's life work and his contributions to the recognizability of Slovenia, as well as for increasing the awareness of the achievements made by Slovenians in the United States and around the world.

Dr. Gobetz, a philosopher, sociologist, anthropologist and professor emeritus at Kent State University, is also the founder

SEE ORDER OF MERIT
ON PAGE 2



On behalf of the President of the Republic of Slovenia Borut Pahor, Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia in the United States **Alenka Jerak** bestowed the Order of Merit upon SNPJ Lodge 142 member **Dr. EDWARD GOBETZ** on Aug. 30.

briefly

Home Office closed as we celebrate Thanksgiving

IMPERIAL, Pa. — The SNPJ Home Office will be closed Thursday, Nov. 26, and Friday, Nov. 27, in celebration of the Thanksgiving holiday. Normal office hours, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., will resume Monday, Nov. 30. We wish all SNPJ members and friends a very happy Thanksgiving.

October meeting date on Sygan Lodge 6 schedule

SYGAN, Pa. — SNPJ Lodge 6 will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Oct. 12, beginning at 7 p.m. in the downstairs Club Room. Social distancing will be observed, and masks are required to be worn in the building.

KAREN A. PINTAR
Lodge 6 President

Lodge 723 will discuss the Fontana Slovene Hall

FONTANA, Calif. — At the regular meeting of SNPJ Lodge 723, to be held Thursday, Oct. 15, starting at 6:30 p.m., the current status and future viability of the Fontana Slovene Hall will be discussed and decisions will be made by Lodge members. To vote, a Lodge member must be in good standing.

The meeting will be held at the Fontana Slovene Hall. Masks are required to be worn over the nose and mouth at all times, and social distancing must be maintained while on hall property by order of the State of California. Anyone not adhering to these requirements will be requested to leave the premises at anytime before, during or after the meeting.

PHYLLIS M. WOOD
Lodge 723 Secretary/Treasurer

Have you recommended a new member lately?

IMPERIAL, Pa. — Take advantage of SNPJ's Recommender Program which offers members an enhanced benefit for encouraging family, children, friends and acquaintances to join SNPJ. The recommender will receive \$10 for each valid referral, and every valid referral earns the recommender one entry in the quarterly drawing for a chance to win \$100. Pay a visit to the SNPJ website, snpj.org, to complete an online Recommender form and get a head start on your reward.

THE DEADLINE

The next two *PROSVETA* issue dates are Nov. 2 and Dec. 1. All material must be received by noon on Monday, Oct. 19, for the Nov. 2 issue, and by Monday, Nov. 9, for the Dec. 1 issue. If you're concerned about making the deadline, send an e-mail to prosveta@snpj.com or submit your material via the publications area of our website, snpj.org.



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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:
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Ballet graduate heads to Chicago as a trainee with The Joffrey Ballet

LA SALLE, III. — SNPJ Lodge 2 member Katarina Jakimier, who recently celebrated her 19th birthday, graduated this July from the English National Ballet School in London with a diploma in dance.

Katarina debuted in London and Liverpool in 2020 with the English National Ballet Company, after debuting in Germany with the Stuttgart Ballet Company two years prior. She is now moving to Chicago to dance with The Joffrey Ballet as a trainee.

Katarina is the daughter of Eric O. and

Mary Y. Jakimier, Esq. She is a lifetime member of SNPJ Lodge 2 and comes from a long line of SNPJ members: brother Nicholas and mother Mary Jakimier, grandmother Barbara A. Mihelsic Pierson and great-uncle Steve Mihelsic, all Lodge 2 members; and great-grandmother Mary Lazar Mihelsic Skoda, great-great-grandparents John and Mary Demšar Lazar, and many other extended family members who were originally members of the former SNPJ Lodge 567 in Springfield, Ill.



After studying ballet in the U.K. and Germany, 19-year-old Lodge 2 member **KATARINA JAKIMIER** has returned to the U.S. to train with The Joffrey Ballet in Chicago.

St. Marys Lodge 581 returning to the kitchen for Nov. baking day

by JERRY TROHA
Lodge 581 Secretary/Treasurer

ST. MARYS, Pa. — The Lodge 581 third quarter meeting for 2020 was held at the St. Marys and Benzinger Township meeting room due to the Wildwoods Bar and Grill being closed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The meeting was called to order by President Marcia Klancer Bleggi with the fraternal greeting. Present at the meeting were Vice President Pat Moore, Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Troha, and auditors John Moore and John Troha. The minutes and treasurer's report from the prior meeting were read and approved, and Jerry read correspondence from SNPJ National Secretary Karen Pintar.

A thank you card was read from Kathy Bon acknowledging a gift in memory of her father, Alphonse Bon. Alphonse was a member of Lodge 581 for over 76 years and held several Lodge offices in prior years. He was also involved in the organization of the program involving the Slovenians in St. Marys and the Curry Avenue District.

President Marcia Bleggi commented that she keeps in touch with her relations in Slovenia, and adds information to our Facebook page regarding Lodge 581.

Several Lodge members played some accordion music for the “Ludlow Days Celebration” held in Ludlow, Pa. The group also entertained the nursing home residents at the Ecumenical Home in Bradford, Pa. All events were held outdoors due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

As of mid-September, plans were still underway for the St. Marys Historical Society Period Wedding Display event, scheduled Sept. 26-27 in the St. Marys Historical rooms. Private tours will also be available upon request.

Lodge 581 members have assisted with the display and will provide guided tours. Lodge 581 members John Moore and Jerry Troha have planned to play accordion wedding tunes during the exhibition on behalf of SNPJ Lodge 581.

Lodge 581 is also planning a baking day in November to bake traditional Slovenian tarragon cake with sour cream (*pehtranova torta*); the date will be announced.

The Lodge 581 fourth quarter meeting will be held Sunday, Nov. 8, in the St. Marys Historical meeting room.

For additional information on Lodge 581, contact Jerry Troha at (814) 781-6978 or e-mail jerometroha@gmail.com. Visit us on Facebook at St. Marys SNPJ Lodge 581.

Lodge 142 member honored with Slovenia's Order of Merit

ORDER OF MERIT
FROM PAGE 1

and administrator of the Slovenian-American Research Center, through which he has for many decades selflessly researched, compiled and archived information on Slovenian immigrants and their descendants whose creative activity in various fields has left a strong impression in the United States.

His findings are collected in the book

“Slovenian-American Inventors and Innovators,” a great work presenting collected archival documents which he donated to the National Archives of the Republic of Slovenia.

Dr. Gobetz is also the author of numerous articles and stand-alone publications about the Slovenian ethnic community in the United States, among which is the well-known publication “Proud That I Am a Slovenian.”



[Above] **Dr. EDWARD GOBETZ** (142), pictured with his wife, **Milena**, his grandchildren and Consul General **Alenka Jerak** at the Order of Merit award ceremony.

[Below] A portion of the crowd attending the Order of Merit festivities for Dr. Gobetz held in Harpersfield Twp., Ohio, in August.



best wishes to our Outlived Members

Longtime Cleveland Federation, Lodge 142 officer



Sis. SOPHIE MATUCH (142)

CLEVELAND — Sis.

Sophie Matuch, a member of Lodge 142 in Cleveland, outlived her SNPJ life insurance policy in August.

Sophie (Kapel) Matuch, 96, was born Feb. 26, 1924, and grew up in the Holmes Ave. area of Cleveland, along with her parents, John and Jennie Kapel, and her two brothers and three sisters. Sophie married Michael Matuch on July 19, 1952, and raised four daughters, Dina, Cindy, Lorraine and Jeanne, in Euclid, Ohio.

Raised in a family that placed a strong emphasis on their Slovenian heritage and volunteerism, Sophie passed this love on to her children who were part of the SNPJ MPZ Circle 3 Chorus, where Sophie volunteered her time making costumes for the Spring Plays held at the Slovenian Workmen's Home (SWH) on Waterloo Road and the Annual Circus held at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio.

Sophie belonged to the Jadran Singing Society and the Progressive Slovene Women of America (PSWA), and continues her support with SNPJ Lodge 142, where she had served as vice president for many years. She has also been active with the Cleveland Federation of Lodges, the SNPJ Farm Board and the Cleveland Athletic League, and spent countless summers in the kitchen at the SNPJ Farm.

She has also been a “kitchen angel,” as the volunteers were known, at the SWH Fish Fry, and she continues to volunteer at the fish fry held at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Collinwood, Ohio.

In addition to raising her family, Sophie's main interests have been cooking and sewing clothes for her daughters and herself. When her children were in school, Sophie went to work at the cafeteria in the Euclid School system. After retiring from there, she worked at a local restaurant for another 15 years.

Sophie lives independently in Mentor, Ohio, and belongs to the Mentor Senior Center. Her daughters; her three grandchildren, Nicole, Danielle and Michael; and her great-granddaughter, Norah; all live in the area and visit her often.

On behalf of the members of Lodge 142 and the Slovene National Benefit Society, we extend best wishes to Sis. Matuch for continued health and happiness.

Help the SNPJ Home Office by keeping your e-mail address updated

IMPERIAL, Pa. — Does the SNPJ have your current e-mail address?

The SNPJ Home Office periodically sends out e-mails to advertise the many benefits we offer our members. You can also receive information about our fraternal programs, events at the SNPJ Recreation Center, athletic tournaments, and product and annuity updates through this e-mail communication.

In order to receive this information, we need your current e-mail address. If we don't have your e-mail address, we ask that you send an e-mail to the Home Office addressed to snpj@snpj.com. We will then be able to update your contact information.

We try to keep in touch with all of our members as often as possible, and e-mail is a very cost-efficient and timely way to deliver information.

Important figures to consider...



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DAVID C. ELY, CPIA
SNPJ Sales Director

Stay sharp!

This year has been taxing on everyone, and every day I hear more and more people talk about “being tired of it!”

We all fight the battle of fatigue every now and then, especially as we get older. Difficulty sleeping, demanding jobs and everyday stresses can sap us of our energy, leaving us exhausted.

While there's no magic potion that will instantly help you regain the energy of your youth, there are safe and natural things you can do to help boost your energy levels, according to Harvard Medical School.¹

- 1. Try to better manage your stress.** If your worries are keeping you up at night and plaguing you throughout the day, it's time to do something about it. Worry takes up an incredible amount of mental and physical energy, so talking to a friend, religious leader or healthcare professional is a good idea when you're feeling overwhelmed. You might also try relaxation therapies like meditation, yoga and deep-breathing exercises.
- 2. Lighten your load.** Look at everything you're doing and everything you're currently responsible for each day. Write it all down, then determine how much you can completely let go, put off temporarily, or delegate to someone else.
- 3. Move your body.** It may seem counterintuitive, but studies have shown that getting some exercise when you're tired can actually energize you.² And it's likely to help you sleep better at night too! Try a brisk walk around the block, walk in place in front of your television, or dance around the kitchen to a few of your favorite songs.
- 4. Quit smoking.** Aside from all the other reasons smoking is bad for you and those around you, it can also cause insomnia. Nicotine is a stimulant, so it makes going to sleep difficult, and cravings for more can wake you up during the night.
- 5. Eat foods that boost your energy.** Whole grains, high-fiber vegetables, nuts, and healthy oils like olive oil are low glycemic index foods. Eating these can help you avoid the crash you feel when you eat foods containing quickly-absorbed sugars or refined starches. Remember, always check with your doctor before changing your diet, particularly if you have any underlying health conditions.
- 6. Cut out late-night caffeine.** Try to avoid drinking large amounts of coffee after 2 in the afternoon. That buzz that gets you going in the morning can prevent you from sleeping well at night.
- 7. Limit your alcohol.** Alcohol has a sedative effect, so don't drink it at lunch if you need to be alert in the afternoon, or at dinner if you want to have energy in the evening. If you're going to drink, do it in moderation at a time when you don't mind having your energy impacted. But remember, alcohol should never be used as a sleep aid. While it may help you fall asleep, it impacts the quality of that sleep by disrupting it later on and preventing you from getting the deep, restorative rest that your body needs.³ That will impact your energy and concentration the next day.
- 8. Stay hydrated.** When your body is short on fluid, one of the first signs is a feeling of fatigue. Make sure you're drinking water regularly throughout the day.

- Sources:
- <https://www.health.harvard.edu/energy-and-fatigue/9-tips-to-boost-your-energy-naturally>
 - <https://www.webmd.com/balance/features/get-energy-back#1>
 - <https://www.webmd.com/sleep-disorders/news/20130118/alcohol-sleep#1>



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Slovenian satellites now circling Earth

LJUBLJANA (STA) — Following a number of cancellations due to poor weather, the launch of Slovenia's first satellites, Trisat and Nemo HD, by the European space company Arianespace was successfully executed on Sept. 3.

The Arianespace Vega rocket, which carried a record 53 satellites from 13 countries, was successfully launched from French Guiana in South America. Both Slovenian satellites are now deployed, with Nemo HD orbiting at 600 kilometers (373 miles) and Trisat at 530 kilometers (330 miles) above Earth.

The satellites' first contacts with stations in Ljubljana and Maribor were also established.

These satellites are an important milestone for Slovenia, as well as European space technology efforts. Trisat, weighing only 4.4 kilograms (9.7 pounds), is capable of taking multispectral [a specific wavelength range] images of Earth in the short-wave infrared spectrum with a camera unlike any other in space. Trisat images could be used, for example, to aid scientists as they monitor marine pollution (oil spills or plastics, in particular), major fires, or the amount of volcanic ash in the atmosphere.

Nemo HD is a 65-kilogram (143 pound) micro-satellite that can produce panchromatic [a wide range of light wavelengths] and multispectral images. The images captured by Nemo HD will be used in the fields of agriculture, forestry, urban development and maritime transportation, among others.



tions' joint ventures. “Cooperation with the NIB has been successful so far, and we believe it will be even more successful and deeper from now on,” Papič said. Kuntner added that NIB associate membership created “a new basis for scientific and instructional excellence in Slovenian and international environments.”

The new status will enable NIB researchers to teach at the university, while university professors will be able to conduct research at the NIB, Papič explained. The new partnership will also allow the two institutions to further cooperate in joint research programs in Slovenia and abroad.

The university will also support the NIB Biotechnological Hub, a major investment into new research infrastructure. At the same time, the Ljubljana University Incubator, which offers support to start-ups, and the NIB Biotechnological Hub will jointly support new biotechnology companies.

The predecessor of the National Institute of Biology, the Institute of Biology at the Faculty of Biotechnology, was established by the University of Ljubljana in 1960. The institute was then renamed the National Institute of Biology after 1994 when the Slovenian government assumed the role of sole founder.

Slovenian-made electric bus tested in Maribor

MARIBOR (STA) — In mid-August, Tam-Europe, a Maribor-based bus and commercial vehicle manufacturer, introduced what it considers the first completely electric bus to have been designed, developed and built entirely in Slovenia. Marprom, Maribor's public transportation service, tested the electric bus during the last two weeks of August.

Tam-Europe delivered the electric bus free of charge so that Marprom could conduct a series of test runs in the vehicle's intended environment.

According to a Tam-Europe spokesman, a lot of effort went into the development of the eBus Vero vehicle, which started in 2014. Company representatives indicated that the bus was designed as an electric vehicle from the get-go, whereas most existing electric buses worldwide have been designed based on their diesel predecessors. This innovative approach comes with several benefits, including lower floors, more space for passengers, and bigger windows.

The final version of the vehicle will be used by urban and suburban public transportation systems, as well as at airports. The buses will be available in four different sizes, and will be easy to maneuver through Slovenia's narrow streets and city centers.

Slovenian company turning plastics into yarn

METLIKA (STA) — The Beti company, a leading European manufacturer of dyed polyamide yarns, is developing an innovative eco-dye yarn made of waste plastic bottles.

Maja Čibej, CEO of the Metlika-based company, says the project involves an optimized dye process that reduces water usage by almost a third, cuts CO₂ emissions, and saves energy. “The raw material for the yarn will be a fully recycled polyester made from waste plastic bottles,” Čibej explained. The company plans to introduce its eco-friendly yarn on the market in 2021.

Beti, which generates more than 90 percent of its sales abroad, mainly in the United States, the EU, Russia, Belarus and Israel, recently installed its first two robotic machines. The company has earmarked EUR 200,000 (\$234,000) for additional capital expenditures this year.

Hops harvest hailed as the best in a decade...

ŽALEC (STA) — This year's hops harvest in Slovenia is expected to be among the best in recent years, both in terms of quantity and quality. Because of the Coronavirus-related restrictions on foreign labor, Slovenian workers did some early work in the fields, while Romanian workers took over when the Slovenian workers returned to their regular jobs.

According to estimates, 2,500 to 2,600 tons of hops were produced this year, while 2,572 tons were harvested last year, Irena Friškovec, a representative from the Celje Agriculture and Forestry Institute, told the press.

This year, 125 producers grew hops on 1,480 hectares (3,650 acres), which is some 100 hectares (250 acres) fewer than last year, mostly because of the citrus bark cracking viroid, a disease hops growers have been struggling with for years.

Some 37 percent of all hops fields in the country grew Aurora hops, followed by Celeia hops (31 percent). More than eight percent of the fields produced new Slovenian hops varieties developed at the Slovenian Institute of Hop Research and Brewing.

“Hops growers will remember this year for the novel Coronavirus that made employment of foreign seasonal workers difficult for them. Thus, most of the support involved Slovenian workers who, however, returned to their old jobs when Coronavirus restrictions were lifted in May, so the help of foreign seasonal workers from Romania was more than welcome,” Friškovec said.

This year, weather-related problems made life more difficult for hops producers, especially in the lower Savinjska Valley, which was hit by hail. Storms at the end of July and in early August also caused damage to the structures of overhead wires. “Some producers thus lost more than half of their hops,” Friškovec explained.

The harvest of the earliest hops variety, the Savinja Golding, started in mid-August, while the Aurora hops matured in late August.

...while salt harvesters suffered a rough season

SEČOVLJE (STA) — The weather this year has not been favorable to Slovenian salt harvesters, who have labeled the harvest as “very bad.” By the end of August, only 350 to 400 tons of salt had been processed in Sečovelje, which is a tenth of the average annual yield.

“This season has been disastrous,” Dario Sau, a representative of the company operating the Sečovelje Saltworks, told the press. “It seems that everything was good at the start of the season, in April and May, but the weather turned unfavorable in June, with many stormy days and ample rain,” he explained.

“This destroyed all the effort that had been invested up to that point,” Sau said, adding that the work had to be started from scratch during the last week of June, and that this affected the quality of the sea salt. The weather is still changing and the forecasts aren't favorable either, so this year's harvest will be further hampered.

While an average season brings between 2,500 to 2,700 tons of salt, Sau could not predict the total quantity expected by the end of this year. Last year, 1,300 tons of salt and 15 tons of *fleur de sel* (a fine, flaky sea salt) were produced at the Sečovelje Saltworks.

Cviček wine fountain starts flowing in August

ŠMARJEŠKE TOPLICE (STA) — The town of Šmarjeta in eastern Slovenia became a haven for Cviček wine lovers in late August when a Cviček fountain opened there. The light wine, known for its characteristic acidity, is a staple in the region and will boost local tourism offerings that have relied mainly on spas. The opening marks the latest in a series of Slovenian wine fountains, but is the first to celebrate Cviček.

According to Alja Razbelj, the director of the project (dubbed “Šmarjeta's Source of Cviček”), the costs of the fountain have been estimated at less than EUR 140,000 (\$165,000). The Šmarješke Toplice municipality and local associations of vineyard owners, which are supplying the wine, contributed to the project funding.

Razbelj told the press that the fountain utilizes the same system as Europe's first beer fountain, which opened in Žalec four years ago. The fountain has four automated wine pipes, and along with Cviček, visitors are able to taste three different wines produced from the grape varieties used to make Cviček.

The Cviček fountain, which is open every day from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., is located in the Šmarjeta town square, which was recently slated for renovation.

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

SNPJ FRATERNAL HONOREES

Members celebrating 50, 60, 70 and 80 years with the Slovene National Benefit Society

by JOSEPH C. EVANISH
SNPJ National President/CEO

Of the 2,000 life insurance companies and fraternal benefit societies operating in the United States, fewer than 100 have been in existence as long as the SNPJ. As a not-for-profit fraternal benefit society, we have successfully provided life insurance to our members since 1904, along with a full package of social, athletic and cultural programs, scholarships, community service projects, and much more. SNPJ also offers annuities that can be used for IRAs and Roth IRAs.

Our more than 115 years of longevity and success have been made possible by the loyalty and dedication of our members. The SNPJ's engine may have been built and its direction set by its founders and subsequent leaders, but its path has been traveled, cleared and paved by our dedicated members.

As a way to show respect and appreciation to our longtime and loyal members, we recognize mem-

bership milestones with a custom gift. The years of membership are counted in terms of adult membership years, not including youth enrollment years. These milestones of recognition include 50, 60, 70 and 80 years of adult membership.

We ask our Fraternal Honorees, once they have received their awards from the Society, to submit a short report on their past and present lifestyle, including their Lodge affiliation, hobbies and any other information that might be of interest to our readers.

In acknowledging these dedicated members, it is our privilege to show respect for these honorees by offering our thanks and appreciation for the loyalty they have shown the SNPJ for so many years. In this small way, through our official SNPJ publication, we can etch their names even deeper into the archives of the Slovene National Benefit Society.

On behalf of the entire membership, we extend our congratulations to those members reaching these anniversary milestones.



Bro. EDWARD F. KOREN (A01)



Bro. CHARLES R. BEAM (749)

Bro. PHILIP O'MAHEN
FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN

O'Mahen and raised in Hermitage, Pa., along with my brothers, David and Victor O'Mahen. My maternal grandparents, Maxwell and Anna (Kernic) Misley, and fraternal grandparents, John and Gertrude (Jancar) O'Mahen, immigrated from Slovenia.

"Upon graduating from Slippery Rock University, I was employed as a teacher of mathematics for grades 7 through 12 for over 35 years in the Hermitage School District in Western Pennsylvania.

"I coached boys and girls basketball for more than 30 years, including fourth graders through seniors in high school. I coached both varsity boys and girls at the high school level. I served as an assistant track and field coach, coached swim teams for private clubs, and for many years was a Red Cross Water Safety Instructor and lifeguard.

"For the last 20 years I have resided in The Villages, a retirement community in Central Florida. I have participated in many sports here: basketball, softball, water volleyball, bocce, shuffleboard and biking, as well as golf.

"I have been married to Peggy Flaherty O'Mahen for 55 years. We have two daughters, Karen Hancock (James) and Colleen Williams (Neil), and four grandchildren, Abbigail, Connor, Brianna and Seth.



Bro. PHILIP O'MAHEN (31)

Bro. PHILIP O'MAHEN
FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN

"Thank you for the acknowledgment of my 60 years of SNPJ membership."

Bro. PHILIP O'MAHEN
Sharon, Pa., Lodge 31
The Villages, FL

• Bro. **EDWARD F. KOREN** was recognized as a 60-year member of Sewickley, Pa., Lodge A01 in September. He writes:

"Thank you for the engraved 60-year pen. I am a proud member of the former SNPJ Lodge 393 in East Worcester, N.Y., where my grandfather and father, Frank Koren Sr. and Frank Koren Jr., served as executive officers for decades.

"What I remember best were the polka dances, local and distant, that we attended as a family – mom and dad, grandma and grandpa, aunts and uncles, lots of cousins, and Brothers and Sisters of the SNPJ family.

"After four years in the U.S. Navy, I went to work with the Southern New England Telephone Company in Connecticut for 40 years. My family and hobbies occupy my time, making for a great life. One more polka

Bro. **EDWARD F. KOREN**
FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN
dance would be nice, though. Slovenefest 2021?"

Bro. **EDWARD F. KOREN**
Sewickley, Pa., Lodge A01
Darien, CT

• Johnstown, Pa., Lodge 749 member Bro. **CHARLES R. BEAM** was recognized as a 70-year SNPJ member in September. He writes:

"I am the son of Anna (Pechak) Beam, who was also a member for many years. I am married to Mary Jane (Augustine) Beam, and we recently celebrated our 65th anniversary on June 25.

"We have two children, Richard Beam and Cindy Falcone; and one granddaughter, Carly Falcone, who will be graduating

Bro. **CHARLES R. BEAM**
FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN

with a master's degree in occupational therapy in December.

"I have been a member of Grove Avenue Methodist Church for 65 years. I was a manager at Overhead Garage Door company. I no longer drive, but I do get on my four-wheeler quad to cruise around the neighborhood."

Bro. **CHARLES R. BEAM**
Johnstown, Pa., Lodge 749
Johnstown, PA

• In September, Bro. **PHILIP O'MAHEN** was recognized as a 60-year member of SNPJ Lodge 31 in Sharon, Pa. In his note of appreciation he writes:

"I was born in September 1942 to John and Anne (Misley)

Bro. **PHILIP O'MAHEN**
CONTINUES NEXT COLUMN

Bro. **PHILIP O'MAHEN**
CONTINUES NEXT COLUMN

Loyalites Lodge 158 celebrating, looking forward to renewed activities

by DANIELLA VOLPE
Lodge 158

EUCLID, Ohio — Hello, everyone! Long time, no write. As we all know, COVID-19 has restricted us from holding our myriad of summer SNPJ events all across the country; nonetheless, we still have a lot to celebrate and hopefully look forward to.

First we have some birthdays that we hope everyone had a chance to celebrate to the (almost) fullest extent. Starting off, we want to wish a very happy belated birthday to Billy

Frank (Aug. 18), Tommy Zivkovich (Aug. 19), Nicole Elam (Aug. 27), Anna Horabik and Molly O'Malley (both on Sept. 10), and Marilyn Hulin (Sept. 26).

A birthday is coming up for Amy Gannon and our Lodge treasurer, Gina Volpe (both on Oct. 6). We hope everyone's days were filled with lots of love and celebration, even with a mask on.

There are also a lot of things happening with our younger members, including Nick Horabik who gradu-

ated from Cuyahoga Community College as a Level II Firefighter, and Philip Monreal who was accepted into Berklee College of Music. Congratulations, guys! We know that you'll go on to do great things.

Another great thing we can celebrate in these unprecedented times is love. Yes, you read that right, the thing we all hope and search for that supposedly makes the world go round and is the underlying theme of about 50 percent of all songs – love.

We can celebrate for Colleen Frank

and Cody Cleary who were recently engaged during their trip across the country. Cody proposed on top of a mountain in Colorado, a destination the couple had both been dying to see. We wish you both the best and know that your love will only grow in the years to come.

We here at Lodge 158 hope that everyone is staying safe and healthy while still being able to see friends and family. This pandemic won't last forever, and we must continue to look toward a brighter tomorrow. We will

get back to normal eventually, but for now we pray for those who have been affected personally by this virus, and anyone else who has had any ailments, or family and friends with any ailments during these restrictive times.

Soon enough we will be back to laughing and dancing to the sound of polkas, surrounded by loved ones, so hold on and keep an eye out for any upcoming events and updates posted here in *PROSVETA*.

With love from your friends and family at Loyalites Lodge 158!

PROSVETA Crossword

Things Ghastly & Macabre (#1020) by StatePoint Media

ACROSS

- *Like Freddy Krueger's fingertips
- Roman goddess of fertility
- Late comedian Bob
- Painter's support
- Ornamental pond dweller
- New York's amusement Island
- *Morticia to Fester
- Not decaf.
- *_____ hell, or cause trouble
- *Bram Stoker creation
- *Día de los _____
- Geological period
- Queen of Spades, e.g.
- It's all the rage
- *Like Zombie's skin color
- Fine-_____ pen
- Miners' passage
- Marinate, e.g.
- Miss America's topper
- Unacceptable
- Proprietor
- Jet black
- One thousand in a kilogram
- Country dance formation
- Cincinnati players
- Croatia's neighbor
- Shower with affection
- *Horror movie actor Christopher

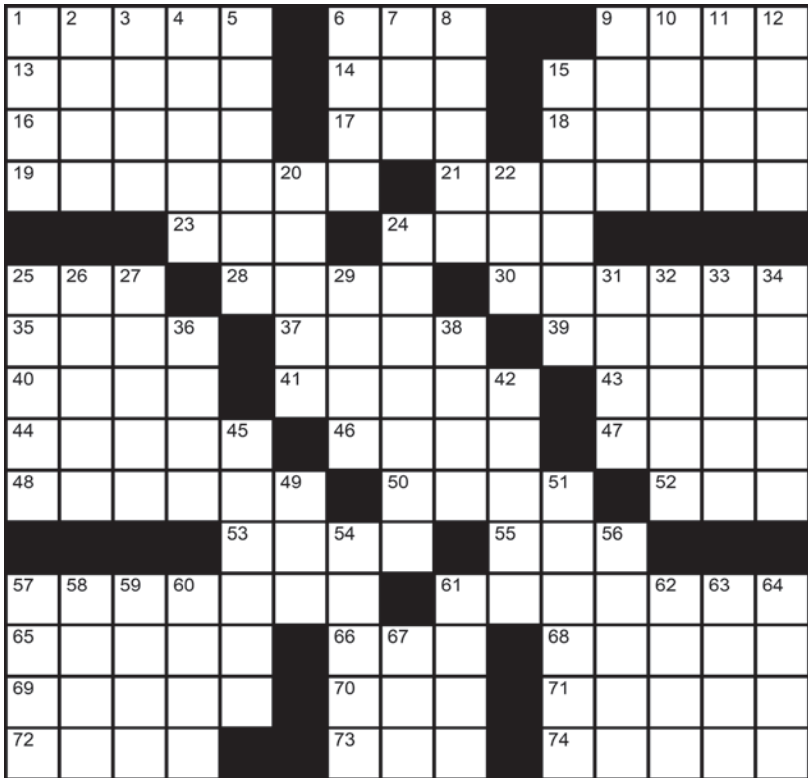
- Fireplace conduit
- French vineyard
- *Like some Mansions
- *Paris Opéra House inhabitant
- Come to terms
- Indigo extract
- Quickly fry
- Sucrose
- Long time
- "Sesame Street" Muppet
- Jury colleague
- Tire depression
- Slap

DOWN

- Email button
- *Medusa's snakes
- Between ports
- Reconnaissance, for short
- Lung-covering membrane
- Southern stew staple
- *Author known as Master of the Macabre
- Fraternal letter
- Gray-haired
- "Put a lid _____!"
- Acapulco money
- *Coraline's buttons

- Kudos
- Rodeo rope
- *Crematorium jar
- *Jonestown poison
- *Vampire's canines
- Love intensely
- ¹/₁₀₀ of a rial
- *Werewolf's cry
- *Coffin's stand
- Confusion of voices
- Wear away
- *_____ Macabre
- *Mummy's home
- Lotto variant
- Throw up
- Flour fluffer
- A in IPA
- Wipes blackboard
- Bovine milk dispenser
- Render harmless
- Door fastener
- Chills and fever
- Strong desire
- Getting warm
- Closely confined
- Chicken of the sea?
- Related to ear
- Spiritless
- *"He Knows _____'re Alone"

The solution to puzzle #1020 will run in the Nov. 2 issue.



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Transition of Recreation Center directors in progress

REC CENTER TRANSITION

FROM PAGE 1

during this period.

During Tim's tenure, the financial picture at the Recreation Center improved consistently. In fact, the best financial performance at the Recreation Center since 1968 was recorded in 2019.

Some of the popular attractions that Tim added during his time include the Wine & Sausage Festival, the Brew & Bean Fest, and the ever-popular Tiki Bar.

Tim brought decades of entrepreneurial business experience to the director's position from the family business

he started with his brothers. "Jergel's," located in the North Hills area of Pittsburgh, has been a very popular and successful restaurant and entertainment venue in Western Pennsylvania since 1984.

Tim's SNPJ and Recreation Center experience dates back to his childhood when his family secured spot number one in the newly-built Recreation Center Trailer Court in the 1960s. During his teenage years he was part of the summer help at the "Campsite." And, of course, for the past 11 years he has been responsible for hiring the summer help.

In 1981, Tim was one of the

founding members of SNPJ Northern Lights Lodge 782 in Glenshaw, Pa., a Lodge that he helped initiate. As a charter member, he also served as the first Lodge treasurer.

We are grateful for the valuable management that Tim Jergel has provided over the past 11 years. The SNPJ Recreation Center has benefited greatly from his dedication and service.

Kevin Richards has served as SNPJ Fraternal Director since 1993. He has many years of experience managing the fraternal activities, many of which have taken place at the Recreation Center, so he is

quite familiar with the inner workings of the facility. His deep knowledge and experience with SNPJ, as well as his wide network of SNPJ relationships, make this a natural fit.

Kevin will continue to provide appropriate oversight and management of the Society's fraternal programs. Some programs will require the assistance of additional staff, individuals or committees.

As we look ahead, we are confident that Kevin will continue to provide SNPJ with the dedication required to make the SNPJ Recreation Center successful for years to come.

Support the Rec Center Cabin Renovation Project



by JOSEPH C. EVANISH
SNPJ National President/CEO

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

The large upper cabins, situated opposite the lake along Martin Road, are some of the first structures that were built on the property. Cabins #1 and #2 have already been renovated. It will take a significant amount of capital to finish this project, and will likely take years to complete. The more

donations we receive, the quicker we can complete the project.

We encourage Lodges, Federations, members, friends and other organizations to contribute. While we do offer "Club Level" recognition, all donations will be listed in *PROSVETA*.

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

Donation checks can be made payable to "SNPJ." Please indicate "Cabin Renovation" in the memo area. Send your donation to Slovene National Benefit Society, 247 West Allegheny Rd., Imperial, PA 15126. All donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support!

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17. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete.

JAY SEDMAK
Editor, SNPJ Publications

SNPJ Membership Anniversaries

October 2020

80-Year Members

Lodge	Member
749	Sylvia L. Latchney

70-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
1	Florence L. Strand	257	Victor R. Hochevar
6	Theodore L. Mitchell	581	Elsie L. Tomazic
87	Frances V. Rendulic	584	Marianne L. Murphy
87	Louise E. Gerber	715	Helen Haney

60-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
5	Joseph Prijatel	562	Richard L. Burlinski
6	Kathleen A. Jaquay	562	Joseph A. Zaboroski
8	Kenneth L. Bogolin	562	Sandra K. Minento
34	Michael J. Smole	564	Mary Ann Filo
87	June P. Feltes	576	Janice M. Metcalf
87	Dianne L. Ermlich	584	Carol A. Scharlat
89	Paul F. Machak	584	Theodore P. Sterbenk
106	John J. Krawchuk	604	Nancy A. Klein
138	Susanne Gomez	604	Albert M. Podrasky
142	Ronald J. Strancar	629	Robert C. Odorcich
218	Joleen D. Lastelic	715	Adele E. O'Connor
218	Donna A. Brown	723	Joan R. Roncevich
223	Edward W. Kuznik	723	John F. Cepak
254	Rudolph F. Msrnik	782	Joyce A. Valerio
371	Lois J. Balint	A01	Lawrence Schuster
371	Charlotte E. Balint	A02	William W. Pierce
559	Janet A. DeBartolo		

50-Year Members

Lodge	Member	Lodge	Member
1	Martin F. Vlcek	207	Roma J. Hoiland
2	Mary A. Knauf	223	Jack Bewsher
5	John A. Lonchar	225	Deborah V. Jolly
8	Michael S. Meges	254	Marlene Truscello
31	Frank E. Cvelbar	254	Constance L. Ponczek
34	Nancy J. Kronoshek	257	Mary L. Uchaker
53	David Milosovich	321	Denise C. Cerny
87	Victoria L. Zunic	371	Brian G. Laush
89	Howard J. Tournay	371	Keith W. Kladnik
106	Rosemary K. Hoag	562	Donna E. Burlenski
138	Arthur B. Keys	577	Rudolph L. Mohorich
138	Gary T. Vinisky	581	Robert J. Bizzak
138	Marta J. Odoski	581	Victor S. Bizzak
138	Dennis L. Ferlich	584	Robert G. Hibbard
138	Barbara A. Craig	584	Lynn M. Strysick
142	Bruce A. Moze	584	Roy A. Tonkovitz
158	Patricia Polivchak	715	Jennie L. Bregant
158	John E. Trepal	723	Marvine M. Cirar
174	Cathleen D. Bilberry	749	Georgianna McCaffrey
174	Bonnie C. Gozdik	FD4	Eugene T. McCue

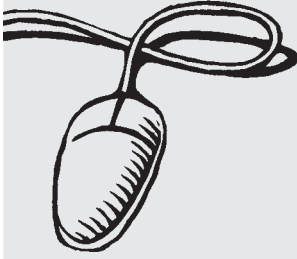
SNPJ Crossword

DRIVER'S ED (#0920) solution



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