



The Slovenian Genealogy Society International, Inc.

Founded by , Al Peterlin, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, in 1986



[SGSI Home Page](#)

Volume 7 Issue 1 Newsletter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society January 1, 1993

Another year has passed, another begins, may this year be a year of peace and prosperity for all Slovenians.

Again our society would like to thank Mr. Joseph Drasler for significant contributions. In the past month we've received copies of the ***History of the Slovene National Benefit Society*** written by Jose Zavertnik and translated into English by Joe. This translation is a portion of a large historical book written and published by Jose Zavertnik in Slovenian in 1925. Mr. Donald Kamvic is working on other sections of the books. We could use additional translators, as this is a very large project. Joe Drasler also mailed us a copy of a translation titled ***History of the Slovene People in the State of Colorado***. In addition, Mr. Drasler donated a copy of the book ***Slovensko Izseljensko Casopisje, 1891-1945***, by Joze Bajec. This book is a significant acquisition as it lists those publications printed by the Slovenian community between 1891 and 1945.

Mary Lou Davison completed every name indexes for another large group of the church histories we've been collecting for the last several years. We now have over 30 church histories from across the country indexed, and I've already mailed out another ten for Mary Lou to work on. Eventually, we'll combine all the indexes into a large master index and try to have it published by one of the genealogical publishing houses.

Joanne Fix mailed us the every name index she completed for the ***History of the Slovenian Community in Waukegan-North Chicago, 1893-1952***. As you see, indexing projects are very important to us. If you'd like to participate, please write.

Our 3 by 5 genealogy index card project is growing by leaps and bounds. A significant number of members added cards because of their personal genealogical search, and several of our volunteer workers also added a significant number of cards. Zdenka Mihelich translated a number of historical sketches of ***Slovenian Pioneers*** for us. Susan Fenner is making 3 by 5 cards from the translations. Olga Hankins continues to save and mail us obituaries from many Slovenian sources. Ruth Matuch puts them into our 3 by 5 format.

The *Society* has used the same introductory letter since it's founding. Thanks to Bob Bevec, the introductory letter and ancestry index request form has a new look and a more modern format. Bob has also edited and redone the letter writing guide. Thanks Bob.

Our *Society* has received a copy of the ***Souvenir Programs and Brief History of the Slovenian Women's Union of America Drill Teams 4th Annual Field Day, September 14, 1940***. The book is quite short on history, but there are numerous photographs of drill teams from across the country, and each photograph is meticulously documented with the names of women pictured. This book is a real treasure of genealogical significance. I'm sure there were other field days and more Souvenir Programs. Our *Society* would love to collect each of the programs published along with a more thorough history of the Drill Teams. If you can donate copies to us, please write.

In the past month, we've received copies of the ***1919 Ameriski Druzinski Koledar*** from Joe Drasler, and Pat Hagenmeir. The Slovene Heritage Library of New Smyrna Beach Florida is being incorporated into our library. I'll make a more thorough report on the texts added to our collection in the

next newsletter. I've encountered many different types of Koledar over the years. I wonder if any of our members knows the number of different groups publishing Koledars and the years each was published?

We're frequently asked for the address where Slovenian mementos and books can be purchased. We've recently learned that video cassettes and books, on Slovenia, can be purchased from a company called *Zalozba Triglav Drustvena 2, 61110 Ljubljana, Slovenia*.

THE SLOVENES OF FLY CREEK, NEW YORK

This was written using materials supplied by John Rucigay. He received it from Mrs. Florence W. Michaels of the Fly Creek Historical Society. The FCHS information was compiled by a student for her graduate thesis.

Many Slovenes fleeing the lack of opportunity at home came to America. They soon discovered that jobs available in the U.S. were low paying and usually in the mines. It was not going to be easy to get wealthy, but still, life was better in America than in Europe. Many Slovenians went to work in the coal mine's of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Because they were not members of the coal miners union, they had to work for lower wages. They were allowed in the union about 1905.

Many Slovenes did not like dangerous mine work and longed for life on a farm. These Slovenians settled in Fly Creek, New York. Some came from New York, Wisconsin, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, and Alabama, but most from the mines in West Virginia. By 1930 there were at least thirty families in Fly Creek. The busy farms dotted the hillsides with crops and pastures. The Slovenians kept to themselves, helping each other in time of need and rejoicing in celebrations. They were a close community and many refused to learn the English language.

Mrs. Mary Rupersek, the wife of Jacob Rupersek, was instrumental in forming the Farmers Independent Benevolent Society, Inc. for the purpose of providing funds to help in times of need. The Society was founded April 11, 1926, and incorporated on July 1, the same year. Dues were \$1 a day. For death, the family could receive \$200.

Charter members were Paul Puslar, Frank Trinkaus, Gertrude Trinkaus, Joe Skoda, Rosalyn Skoda, Ludwih Mohar, Kristina Mohar, John Zagar, Tricia Zagar, Adolph Krisch, Antonia Krisch, John Tercek, Frances Tercek, Mike Omerzu, Antonia Omerzu, Jacob Rupersek, Mary Rupersek, Blasco (Blas) Stergas, Francis Stergas, Joseph Pushlar, Rudy Omerzu, Frank Karasec. Officer in 1926 included Paul Pushlar, President; Joe Skoda, Vice-President; Frank Trinkaus, Sr., Secretary; Ludwick Mohar, Treasurer; and John Zagar, Recording Secretary. Adolph Krisch, John Tercek and Antonia Omerzu made up the Executive Committee.

After they became chartered, they held house parties to raise funds to build a hall that could accommodate more people. Frank Trinkaus was a professional Button Box accordion musician, who played at most of their fund raising events without charge. Mrs. Rupersek organized a group of women to plan the fund raising events.

A plot of land 250 feet by 150 feet with a right-of-way driveway leading to the nearby county road 26 was purchased from Frank Trinkaus, Sr. An old kiln from the Beaver Meadow Road was purchased for \$50 and used for rough lumber. A dance pavilion from the Otsego Lake Front was also used in the construction. The building was finished in two years and was dedicated on July 4, 1928. John Q. Trinkaus, the present President, says the floor is made of two-inch maple on edge. It is still in excellent condition after 62 years of use. The Farmers Independent Benevolent Society is still alive and well in Fly Creek. Recent officer are: John Q. Trinkaus, President; Shirley Tweedie, Vice President; Martin Tweedie, Secretary; and Elsie Steere, Treasurer. The Board of Directors are: Frank Selan, Bill Rupersek, Willis Huff, Edward Koshar, Ed Kukenberger, Lewis Gorence, Adolph Kriosh, Joe Mecklisina (Honey Joe), Joe Zagar, Mike Omerzu, Rudy Omerzu, John Tercek, Agnes and Blas Stergas, John Cop, Ludwick Mohar, Paul Pushlar, Joseph Kriosh, Mike Selan, Mr and Mrs. Hribar, Mr. Klun, John Pink, Mr. Slousek, Mr. Gus, Mr. Pochka and others.

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newsletter; however, you must give credit to individual authors and to the Slovenian Genealogy Society as the source of your information.

Volume 7 Issue 2 Newsletter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society April 1, 1993

I've recently learned of the birth of a new genealogical organization, the *Federation of East European Family History Societies*. Write to FEEFHS at 2968 Glenmare, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84108, for information. It is generally useful to share information with others in order to insure an even wider recognition of our efforts on behalf of Slovenian genealogical interests. We also encourage our members to supply information about their Slovenian ancestors to others.

A recent Paul Harvey newspaper article beautifully articulated the reasons for all of us to not only chronicle the lives of our ancestors, but to also leave a legacy of information for our children, indeed all those that follow in our footsteps. Paul recommended a book written by columnist Bob Greene titled ***To Our Children's Children***. The book is basically a guide to personal storytelling, a compilation of questions that stir the memory and will allow you to leave a biography that will be of real interest to your family. The Greene book might be an excellent holiday gift idea.

We received a translation of an article titled ***Coal Mining In Southern Colorado; The Role of the Yugoslav Coal Miner*** from Joseph Drasler. Joe also enclosed a copy of ***Slovensko Izseljensko Casopisje, 1891-1945*** by Joze Bajec. This listing of United States Slovenian publications is written in Slovenian. While useful, it would be even more valuable if we could locate a volunteer to translate it into English. Write us if you'd like to take on this project. The project will be easier than it appears since much of the publication consists of lists of proper names.

Speaking of translating, Donald Kambic continues translating the second part of ***Ameriska Slovenci*** by Joze Zavertrnik. Pat Hagemeyer will begin helping on this project shortly. Joe Drasler translated the first portion of this *SNPJ* history in 1981.

We've had several people ask for the address of individuals or firm capable of compiling name lists from United States telephone books. If you need such a name list, write to: Professional Search Services, Ancestry Inc., Box 538, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84110. Ask for price lists.

Anne Cademartori mailed us a photocopy of a short article titled ***Going Back: A Journey to Slovenian Milwaukee*** by Christine M. Ermenc. The story is excellent. A short paragraph on the author, Christine M. Ermenc, noted she was the Oral History Coordinator for the Portland Neighbor Project in Portland, Oregon. If you know the current address of Christine, please contact us. She might be a source of additional information for our Society.

A Slovenian magazine called ***Novi Svet*** was published monthly between 1938 and 1965. In many issues, a section called *Slovenski Pijonir* detailed the lives of many Slovene immigrants. We have several copies from 1946 and 1947, and we've translated the histories of the immigrants. However, there are many more issues we do not have. Please donate copies if possible. We've included some of the translated "Pioneer" pieces in this newsletter.

Kathy Tepesh, 110 East 84 Street, New York, New York, 10028, publishes a yearly booklet called the ***Slovene Business Directory***. There are 55 pages of listings that include over 900 names and addresses of Slovene businesses. Listing in the directory is free, but costs of the project are born by advertisers. Write to her for a copy of the directory and to obtain advertising rates.

We've recently received some information from Doris Sadar about the *Slovenian National Art Guild*, 31827 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills, Ohio, 44094. She enclosed a very well done booklet on Splasher Cloths, a traditional Slovenian stitchery. The *Art Guild* has recently become interested in genealogy, and they are planning to hold several workshops in the Cleveland, Ohio area. We have offered to help in any way possible.

We've noticed several newspaper accounts recently about Alex Haley and the controversy over possible plagiarism and the fabrication of source information. The Haley work was a commercial novel and it helped bring an awareness of genealogy to an entire generation of people. Sadly, the mishandling of source data continues to be one of the main criticisms historians bring to the table when berating genealogists. While there is no defense for fabrication of data, neither is there academic pride in the rewriting of history to promote a social agenda. Our *Society* promotes the strict observance of accuracy in data collection, interpretation, and publication.

The local Martinsburg newspaper carried an obituary on Wednesday, February 17, 1993, for Ily Bratina. Ily, a former Olympic gymnast, was born in Slovenia, on May 23, 1896. He emigrated to the US in 1927. He died on February 16, 1993.

We received a letter from Branka Lapajne, 108 Hollywood Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario, M2N 3K3, Canada. Dr. Lapajne notes that she has been studying Slovenian history and genealogy for years. She will be visiting Slovenia later this year and she is willing to conduct research while in Slovenia. Her initial fee is \$40 for the first two hours, more for research in the 1600's and 1700's should records be available. Write directly to her for additional information. Again, always negotiate fees and define the expected work before you consummate a contract for research. Dr. Lapajne is interested in obtaining information on John and Angela Pirc, who settled in Euclid, Ohio, also John's brother. Other surnames include: Willman/Vilman; Meznar and Zima from Mojstrana; Tonejec, Simnic from Gorje; Zupan, Muhovec, Legat, Pristov, and Preseren from Moste; Ogrin and Schlebir from Cerklje pri Kranju; Pirc and Mekinda from Rakek; Lapajne, Tratnik, Ferjancic, Voncina and Likar from Vojska near Idrija; and Stenovc and Certance from Smlednik.

SLOVENE PIONEER New World (Novi Svet)

Frank Palcer: Frank, nicknamed Kapin's boy, was born in Velika Racna, Kopanj, Ljubljana. He came in 1912 to Biwabik in Keewatin. He has been working for Oliver Mine Company. In 1918 he opened a tavern. Since 1933, he has been working on constructions, especially renovating and rebuilding homes.

Joseph and Ann Preseren: Joseph was born in America, son of John and Anna, who came from Crnomelj. His wife, Anna, nee Arko, nicknamed Razik's daughter, was born in Dolenja vas Ribnica, Lower Carniola. She came in 1910. In 1917 they were married in Ely (St. Anthony's Church). They had two sons. She spent some time in Ely and Chisholm.

Anton and Josephine Schweiger: Anton, nicknamed Feronov's son, was born in Loka, Crnomelj, White Carniola. He came in 1899. His wife, Josephine, nee Sterk, nicknamed Cehin's daughter, was born in Crnomelj. She came in 1908. They got married in 1908 in Calumet, Michigan. They had three sons and one daughter. Anton worked for 15 years in a copper mine in Calumet, spent three years in Seattle, Washington, and then returned to Calumet, where he was married. Since 1913 they've been living in Calumet.

Frank and Theresa Schweiger: Frank's nickname was th same as Anton's. They are brothers. He came in 1912. His wife, Theresa, nee Traven, nicknamed Burjev's daughter, was born in Kamnik, Upper Carniola. She came in 1912. In 1913 they got married. Frank, too, came first to Calumet. In 1913 they came to Keewatin.

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Volume 7 Issue 3 Newsletter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society July 1, 1993

My family recently presented me, with a copy of **Black Lamb and Grey Falcon** by British author Rebecca West. The book is available as an expensive paperback. It's advertised as a "great" book

Rebecca West. The book is available as an expensive paperback. It's advertised as a "great" book with a definitive treatise on Yugoslavia and the Slave personality. It's a difficult book to read with a Serbian bias, little on Slovenia, and moderate coverage of Croatia and Bosnia Herzegovina. This is a historical perspective to check out of your public library. There is no need to add this book to a Slovenian library.

The *Slovenian Art Guild in Willoughby Hills, Ohio*, held a very successful Slovenian Genealogy session late in May. We provided the Guild with copies of our **Letter Writing Guide** and back copies of our newsletters.

In the past several weeks, I've received the **1991-92 edition of the Slovenian Telephone Book** and several copies of the magazine **Slovenija** from Dr. Sylvia Onusic. These are welcome additions to our library. We now have copies of the 1979, 1982, 1989-90, and the 1991-92 telephone book.

The magazine **Slovenija** is published quarterly by Slovenska Izseljenska Matica, Cankajeva 1, 61001 Ljubljana Slovenia. If you subscribe, request an additional emphasis on genealogy.

Speaking of **Slovenija**, I received an interesting letter from Josef Laposa, informing me of a Janez Keber article on Surnames in the Winter-92 issue. While going through the Summer-92 issue donated by Dr. Onusic, I noticed an early surname article by Keber. It's my understanding that Mr. Keber has published a book titled **Leksikon Imen (Lexicon of Names)**. Our *Society* is trying to obtain a copy of this Keber book. If we're successful, we'll have it translated into English. The articles also listed the following books that we should obtain: **Zacasni Slovar Slovenski Priimkov (Provisional Dictionary of Slovene Surnames)**, **Pot Slovenskih iz Seljencev na Tuje (The Path of Slovene Emigrants Abroad)**, **Slovenska Vodna Imen I (Slovene Water Names)**, and **Krajevni Leksikon Slovenije I (Lexicon of Slovenia)**. If you have access to any of these books, please contact us. If you travel to Slovenia in the future, please visit used bookstores. Our total book-buying budget is very small, but we can always appeal to our members for help if we can locate any or all of these volumes.

In another section of **Slovenija**, I noticed a mention of Poet and Travel Book writer, Radivoj Peterlin-Petruska (1879-1938) from Kamnik. Since my grandfather was from this area, I'll be working hard to find copies of his books and a history of his life. **Slovenija** is a magazine worth reading.

The LDS Family History Library has prepared a new booklet titled, **FHL Research Outline: Tracing Immigrant Origins**. It does not specifically cover Slovenia, but it is useful for all those with immigrant ancestors. It can be purchased from the LDS Family History Library, 1999 West 1700 South, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84104-4233.

We frequently receive letters from individuals seeking living family members. In this age of massive computer databases, there are many firms willing to search their databases for a fee. *Ancestry Inc., Box 476, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84110*, offers a national telephone directory search. A non-profit group called *Seekers of the Lost, Box 84518, Vancouver, Washington, 98684*, offers searches of phone white pages, vehicle registrations, and some social security records. Of course, a call to directory assistance may be all that is needed, and many libraries maintain telephone books for many cities across the country. A letter to the Veterans Administration or to the Social Security Administration can also work. Whatever you try, always ask for a written estimate of charges, if any.

The German Genealogical Society of America, Box 291818, Los Angeles, California, 90029, recently ran an article by Carol Mehr Schiffman called **The Mapping of Central and Eastern Europe**. Write for reprints if interested.

THE SLOVENES OF STEARNS COUNTY

By: Joanne Fix

Stearns County lies in the center of Minnesota. Its rolling countryside is dotted with lakes and is drained by the Sauk River. The Mississippi River forms its eastern boundary.

In the late 1850's and 1860's, a number of Slovenes, looking for farmland, settled in the wooded eastern half of the county. It is believed they were encouraged to come to the area by the Slovenian missionary priest Father Francis Pierz/Pirc. One of the first to arrive was Pierz's nephew

missionary priest Father Francis Pierz/Pirc. One of the first to arrive was Pierz's nephew, Bartholomew, who came in 1854. Settling in Eden Lake Township, he soon became involved in local government, eventually serving three terms in the State Legislature.

In the 1860's, John Mayerle settled in Eden Lake Township. He was followed in 1862, by Michael Weis and his wife Katherine Kraker, George Weis and wife, Maria Mayerle, the daughter of John Mayerle's half brother, George. In 1867 they were joined by another Weis brother, Mathias and his wife, Katherine Dershaj, and their son, John. All settled in Eden Lake and Munson Township. Their inconspicuous arrival was typical of early Slovene immigrants.

More attention was paid to the 50 to 60 "Krainers" who arrived as a group in 1865. They settled in Krain and Brockway Townships and built the churches of St. Stephen (the first by Slovenians in the US) and St. Anthony. Of interest at St. Stephens is a replica of the painting of Marija Pomaga (Mary, Help Us), which is enshrined at Brezje, Slovenia. It was there these immigrants gathered for a blessing before leaving for the United States.

Father Pierz had come to the United States in response to a plea from Bishop Baraga, and he was successful in recruiting others. In 1864, Pierz returned from Slovenia with one priest, Father Joseph Buh (publisher of the Slovenian newspaper, *Amerikanski Slovenec*) and 15 seminarians who completed studies and were ordained in the U.S. At one time, 58 Slovenian priests served the people of Minnesota.

The immigrant group in Krain and Brockway Townships held more closely to native customs and language than did the scattered early arrivals who quickly integrated into the community. While they called themselves Austrians, to distinguish themselves from the Germans in Stearns County, they spoke fluent German and contributed to the churches in the nearby towns of Richmond, Roscoe, Cold Spring, and Albany.

Using the George Weis family as an example illustrates their integration into the community. One of his sons, George, Jr., married Katherine Blomker. Another, Michael, married Margaret Mehr. Son Nicholas married Elizabeth Hannasch. All of the wives were of German descent. Son John married Ana Schaefer whose father Herman was German and whose mother, Gertrude Traun, was Slovenian. Only George's daughter, Katherine, married a Slovenian, Joseph Plut.

While the first Slovenians came in search of farmland, the next generation frequently moved into business. In the George Weis family, the farm stayed with son, Michael, and it remains in that family now as a Centennial Farm in Munson Township. George, Jr., set out on his own in Eden Lake Township. Nicholas became a blacksmith. John and Joseph helped develop the town of Roscoe. Other Slovenians successful in business were Kraker and Vertin in Albany, and the Aurin brothers in Cold Spring.

A search of census records through the years in Stearns County reveals the "Austria" ancestry of many of its inhabitants. Researching the house books in Slovenia yields many of the same names. In the house books there will frequently be a notation next to the listing of a family that sums up in a few words the courage, the daring, and the resourcefulness that took them away from their native village-- "All are in America. House is empty." So it is recorded in Jernej Vas, Crnomelj, the village where once lived the Weis brothers.

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Volume 7 Issue 4 Newsletter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society October 1, 1993

Our *Society* received a significant donation of books from *Slovenska izseljenska matica, Cankarjeva 1/III. 61001 Ljubljana, Slovenia* the publishers of *Rodna Gruda* and *Slovenija* the magazine. Books

1/II, 61001 Ljubljana, Slovenia, the publishers of **Rodna Gruda** and **Slovenija**, the magazine. Books received include: 1) **Priročniki in karte o organizacijski strukturi do 1918**, 2) **Wodnik Po Fondih Zgodovinskega Arhiva Ljubljana**, 3) **Vodnik Po Maticnih Knjigah Za Območje Sr Slovenije I, II, and III**, 4) **Arhivski Oddelkih V Sr Sloveniji**, and 5) three years of back issues of the magazine **Slovenija**. In addition, they provided us with a copy of the book **Leksikon Imen** by Janez Keber. The books are all written and published in Slovenian. This is a magnificent addition to our library. We need translators to start translating these books into English. If you're willing to help, contact us immediately.

We received two other wonderful books recently. Patricia Sink donated a copy of **Spominska Zgodovina**, a history of Willard, Wisconsin. The book is a soft covered volume of 220 pages, filled with lengthy account of and many pictures of the Slovenian residents of Willard. The book is a genealogical gem and should be in the collection of any Slovenian with possible ties to the community of Willard. Also, Barbara Puchnik donated a copy of a **Photographic Overview of Early Slovenes of Forest City, Pennsylvania**. This wonderful book is a soft covered volume of 166 pages of pictures of pioneer Slovene residents of Northeastern Pennsylvania with accompanying histories. Again, if you trace your lineage to the Forest City area, read this book. It was compiled by Mary Zupancic Machek and Barbara J. Puchnik for the *American Slovenian Heritage Club of Forest City* and can be purchased from them.

John Dremel donated a copy of the **Dremel Family History**, a booklet he prepared for the Dremel family reunion, Bakersfield, California, June 26, 1993. This is a very well documented family history, and an appreciated addition to our library.

I personally purchased a copy of the **Atlas of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, 1892**, from *Genealogy Unlimited, Inc., Box 537, Orem, Utah, 84059-0537*. It's excellent for locating larger towns and villages, but it is not of sufficient detail to locate smaller villages.

We'd like to remind our members that the fraternal associations our ancestors so frequently belonged to offered insurance, fellowship, and a sense of belonging. Today, they offer us much of the same thing, and then even more. The "more" is a chance to research and learn about our cherished ancestors. Many societies maintained meticulous membership records, a complete file of insurance applications, and sometimes even published a newspaper that documented many of the vital events of their lives. One of the first activities of any Slovenian genealogist should be to contact all of the fraternal associations asking about their ancestor's membership, insurance application, and any vital events appearing in their newspaper. Member James Gertscher contacted the *Slovene National Benefit Society, 166 Shore Drive, Burr Ridge, Illinois, 60521*, and received photocopies of his grandfather's records. The publication records for **Prosveta** were also checked without success. However, the *SNPJ* employee noted that death notices in 1928 were expensive and not frequently reported. Finally, James was advised he could advertise in the **Prosveta's** Searching Information Column at a rate of \$5 a column inch, and that our *Slovenian Genealogy Society* might be of use to him. James sent us a copy of the *SNPJ* response. We can only add that the *SNPJ* has always been a strong supporter of our *Society*, and that with service as kindly and timely as this, we wish them many more years of fraternal success.

We've received another large batch of newspaper obituaries from Olga Hankins. If you'd like to prepare 3 by 5 ancestor index cards for our ancestry file, write, and I'll forward the clippings to you.

Doris Sadar, *Slovenian American National Art Guild*, provided us with copies of the papers the offered participants in their genealogical workshop in the past year. We've been working with Doris, and we are pleased they've been providing copies of our paperwork, including the **Slovenian Letter Writing Guide**, to those interested. The *Guild* has invited me to a genealogical workshop they will sponsor in the Cleveland area in the spring of 1994. I will be discussing the many projects we in the *Slovenian Genealogy Society* participate in.

We would also like to thank Doris Sadar for providing us with the name and address of Mary Pavlic. Mary, 2112 Parkridge Crescent, Camblee, Georgia, 30341, has agreed to join our board and become library curator for the *Slovenian Genealogy Society*. May has offered her services to the *Society*, and she will be charged with increasing the size of our library and collecting Slovenian texts and publications for donation to Slovenian Heritage museums and libraries. She will also compile listings of all libraries in Slovenia, the United States, and other countries where Slovenians settled.

listings of all libraries in Slovenia, the United States, and other countries where Slovenians settled along with documenting their genealogical holdings. Mary is already contacting Slovenian groups across the county, seeking the donation of book collections before they are discarded or destroyed. Mary is a dynamic and meticulous researcher with an abiding interest in all things Slovenian. We welcome her as the newest member of our Board. Mary can be reached via fax at 404-457-7698. Welcome aboard, Mary!

The *Society* is in need of yet another volunteer to join our Board. The number of translators available to us seems to become smaller and smaller every day while the number of projects to translate seems to increase every day. We need a volunteer to donate a significant amount of time over the next five years to search out prospective translators, manage translation projects, and prepare finalized projects for publication. If you enjoy working with people, please make us an offer.

QUERIES: Queries are free to members. Be brief. We will edit as space dictates.

Query 1: PUCELJ

Anton **PUCELJ** married Lucia **CAMPA** in Slovenia in 1880. They lived at Susje 12, Ribnica which was then called Reifnitz, Krain, Austria. There were three children born: Johann (12 December 1882), Mary (24 June 1885), and Anton (13 Aug 1887). Sometime thereafter, Anton Sr. went to America to work in the copper mines of Montana. He sent money to the family so they could follow. Sometime in 1897 or 1898, Lucia and daughter, Mary, left Slovenia for Montana, with a stop to relatives in Cleveland, Ohio. When they arrived in East Helena, Montana, Anton Sr. could not be found. He apparently left in search of gold, and was never heard from again. Lucia took employment as a housekeeper to George **LUSIN/LOVSIN**. Lucia was buried in Resurrection Cemetery. Her obituary erroneously states she and Anton Sr. are buried together.

Mary **PUCELJ** married John **RIGLER** in Helena, Montana, on 15 August 1900. Sons, John and Anton Jr., came to America in 1903, traveling separately as John was likely fleeing from the Austrian Army. John married Franciska **BOJC** on 29 January 1908, Lucija and Anton Jr. moved to Bearcreek, Montana, with Mr. Lusin around 1 September 1908. Anton married Gabriela Rezen on 3 May 1914 but was divorced the following year.

Any assistance or information on the fate of Anton Sr. would be greatly appreciated by Patricia Sink, 33 Robin Lane, Fenton, Missouri, 63026.

There is so much more to share with you this quarter but time and space are running out. We have a piece on Slovenian resources available on microfilm through the LDS by Joanne Fix, ready for the next newsletter, and we haven't been able to consider all the letters written to us. All will be included in future newsletters. Keep writing!

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