



## The Slovenian Genealogy Society International, Inc.

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



[SGSI Home Page](#)

Volume 10 Issue 1 Newsletter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society January 1, 1996

### NEW BOARD MEMBERS

One of the primary goals of the *Slovenian Genealogy Society* has been to help in the development of individual state chapters in those areas with a population large enough to support it. In July 1995, Donna Cuillard joined our board as an external coordinator, and she assumed the task of encouraging the formation of state chapters. We are proud to announce the formation of the first two such local chapters, one in the state of California and the other in Canada. Joann Hanson, 8588 Woodpecker Avenue, Fountain Valley, California, 92708 has accepted the position of President, *SGS California*. Christine Jensen, 17117 Lome St, Van Nuys, California, 91406 will serve on the board. [NO LONGER ACTIVE] Please feel free to contact Joann or Christine if you would like to become active in the California chapter. Linda Tomlin, 1383 Maple Bay Rd #5, Duncan, British Columbia, Canada V9L 4T6 will serve as President *SGS Canada*. Linda is also looking for additional help. Please join her and the SGS in compiling information on Slovenians in Canada. We are making progress in the formation of an *Ohio Chapter of the SGS*. John Leskovec, 10829 Tibbetts Road, Kirtland, Ohio, 44094, has taken on the task of serving as our publicity director, and he is actively seeking members and officers for an *Ohio Chapter of the SGS*. Newspaper ads have already appeared in several local papers in Eastern Ohio, and the December 20, 1995, issue of *Prosveta* carried a column seeking members. John has already started an advertising campaign to publicize the "Genealogy Day" the SGS will conduct at the **SNPJ Slovenefest** on July 13, 1996.

Christine Jensen has donated a photocopy of the ***Jubilee Book, 1890-1965, Saint Joseph Parish, Calumet, Michigan***. We will index the work and add it to our ongoing master-indexing project. I assume there has been an earlier jubilee booklet at the 50th anniversary: we would like a copy for our collection. Christine also donated photocopies of selected pages, those dealing with Slovenian parishes, of the 1906 publication titled ***History of the Diocese of Sault Ste Marie and Marquette*** by Reverend Antoine Ivan Rezek. The book photocopied was one of just 200 hundred copies printed. She also had access to another book detailing the lives of 3 Slovenian pioneering bishops of the Diocese, Bishop Baraga, Mrak, and Christine's g.g.uncle, Bishop Vertin. This last book was too fragile to withstand the photocopying process, so Christine typed the introductory pages on each Bishop for us. Thanks, Christine! Any members with access to these books or similar books on other pioneer Slovenians or other Slovene parishes are asked to contact us. Barbara Vodovnik has donated a copy of the program booklet from the ***50th Anniversary of the Slovenian National Home in Chisholm, Minnesota***. She also included a listing of the charter members of the **Slovenian National Home**.

Genealogy and genealogical activity is increasingly moving to the computer field. The *Slovenian Genealogy Society* has joined this revolutionary activity, and we are proud to announce the suite of genealogy homepages attended by World Wide Web meister, John Movius of the **Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEFHS)**.

The *FEEFHS* Internet homepage address is <http://feefhs.org>

The *SGS* homepage address is [~http://feefhs.org/slovenia/frg~sgsi.html](http://feefhs.org/slovenia/frg~sgsi.html)

The archive in Maribor, Slovenia is also online <http://www.pokarh-mb.si>

The Genealogy and Heraldry Society in Slovenia homepage address is <http://genealogy.ijp.si>

Many other agencies in Slovenia are also going online. <http://www.abm.si/si21/> is the address for information on Slovenia, including access to Slovenian newspapers and other information. Finally, think some group on the Internet has recently discussed any aspect of genealogy you might be interested in? An Internet archive address that might be very useful is <http://www.dejanews.com>. Another indexing service can be reached at <http://guide.infoseek.com>. **TRANSCRIBERS NOTE: To find out if these addresses are still useful please visit the Links Section on our Website.**

I recently received our copy of the book compiled by Virginia Humling titled: **U.S. Catholic Sources, A Diocesan Research Guide**. This is a relatively inexpensive text that provides a ready source of Diocesan addresses along with some explanation of documents archived and publications (generally diocesan newspapers) available. Parish records are without a doubt the most important religious resource for Catholics, but this publication is a very satisfactory supplement. We purchased our book through *Ancestry Inc, P.O. Box 476, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84110*.

We've written to the *Carinthian State Archives in Austria* seeking information on Slovenian records. Dr. Alfred Ogris responded that the Austrian archives in Styria and Carinthia have many records referencing Slovenes. He added that holdings in Austrian archives have been documented in a publication titled **Archive und Archivare in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Osterreich und der Schweiz (Archives and Archivists in the Federal Republic of Germany, Austria, and Switzerland)**. Apparently this book will be re-published soon. We'd like to add this text to our wish list. Write if you have a copy or a photocopy to donate. Don't hesitate to write directly to the archive if you have a question concerning a Slovenian ancestor in Austrian territory. The address is *Karntner Landesarchiv, A-9020, Klagenfurt - Landhaus, Austria*.

## THE ARCHIVES OF SLOVENIA

*Much of the information summarized within this series comes from a paper prepared by Dr Peter Pavel Klasinc and presented at the FEEFHS Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, 3 August 1995.*

The Historical Archives of Ljubljana, Mestni trg 27, P.O. B. 373, 61000 Ljubljana, Slovenia was formed from what was the Municipal Archives of Ljubljana founded in 1898. There are now branches in Gorenjska (Kranj), Dolenjska and Bela krajina, Skoflja Loka, and Idrija. The collection includes over 200 charters (the oldest from 1320), maps, photographs, and many administrative documents of the social and political organizations of the city and surrounding areas. Many technical records are included. Weekday hours are generally from 8:00a.m. - 2 p.m. Town hall records from towns such as, Bled, Idrija, Kamnika, Novo Mesto and Ribnica. Records of primary and high schools are available up to World War II.

One of the primary missions of the *Slovenian Genealogy Society* is to help individuals conduct their own research into their family history. However, many individuals still write to us looking for the names of individuals able to conduct research for a fee, especially in Slovenia. We have recently received a letter from the publishers of **Rodna Gruda, Cankarjeva 1/II, 61001 Ljubljana, Slovenia**, announcing a new genealogical service provided through the magazine. If you are looking for a researcher to conduct a search for you in Slovenia, it may be worthwhile to do so through **Rodna Gruda**. You should negotiate fees firmly, exactly, and in advance, and as with all genealogical requests, the more detailed and specific information you provide, the more likely it is you will obtain satisfactory results. Keep us informed of your experiences if you use this resource.

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

### Query 1:

I am interested in learning more about the area called Oklukaria Gora, north of Brezice, east of Krsko and a little south of Sromlje. I am interested in the region, including vine tending and the making of wine. Write to Marilyn Ciesulski, 447 LaSalle Drive, Somonauk, Illinois, 60552.

### Query 2:

I am interested in obtaining a published list of villages in Krain, Austria and their current Slovenian names. Examples of old Krain villages for which I have been unable to find the present village names: Roth, Brezougorica, Sela, and Malikal, Dul, Germ, and Kavze. Write to Delores Gerchman, 2800 Olive St # 16P, Saint Louis, Missouri, 63103.

**Query 3:**

I am searching for the family of Leonhard Lenasi and Marija Tornic from Smihel; Lorenz Bizjak and Josepha Michevcic of Mali Otok (Kleinotok); Symon Gruden and Marija Brezic of Smihel; and Josip Krizaj and Marija Brajdih of Orehek (Nufsdorf). Time frame is 1870's. I have much information on their descendants and I am willing to share. I lack information on siblings and/or other family members in Slovenia. Write to Linda Tomlin, 1383 Maple Bay Road, RR5, Duncan, British Columbia, Canada.

*The Slovenian Genealogy Newsletter is edited and published by Al Peterlin, 52 Old Farm Road, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, 17011-2604. Permission is granted to duplicate or photocopy this newsletter; however, you must give credit to individual authors and to the Slovenian Genealogy Society as the source of your information.*

**Volume 10 Issue 2 Newsletter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society April 1, 1996**

I'll be participating in a weekend of genealogy at the **SNPJ Slovenian Heritage Center** on July 13 and 14, 1996. The Center lies along the Pennsylvania border between Cleveland and Pittsburgh: presentations 3pm and 6pm on Saturday, 1pm on Sunday.

*Michiana Roots* is a weekly-genealogy, column carried each Sunday in the **South Bend Tribune**. Direct queries to: *Michiana Roots*, **South Bend Tribune**, 225 West Colfaax, South Bend, Indiana, 46626. The first four years of the column have been collected into book form and is available for \$15.95.

Don Kambic, 22115 Mariposa Street, San Francisco, California, 94110, has eight Adamic books (***What's Your Name, The Native's Return, Cradle of Life, Dinner at the White House, The House in Antiqua, Laughing in the Jungle, My Native Land, and The Eagle and the Roots***) for sale. Write directly to Don.

Dr. Branka Lapajne, 108 Hollywood Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario, M2N 3K3, Canada, announces the publication of her book titled ***Researching Your Slovenian Ancestors***. The book is \$15.00, including postage and handling. I'm purchasing a personal copy and will complete a review for our July newsletter.

A genealogical search can stall in the present. Looking for a lost classmate, cousin, or relative? You might begin at *The Reunion Company*, a national alliance of alumni associations that publishes a calendar listing upcoming events. Call 800/872-5353. Another option, a computerized search service called *Find People Fast*, St. Louis, Missouri. The company claims to have a database exceeding 750 million including telephone directories, mailing lists, and some registrations. A basic search, \$39.00 plus. Call 800/829-1807.

**Book Review: *Slovenes of Cleveland, The Creation of a New Nation and a New World Community; Slovenia and the Slovenes of Cleveland, Ohio*, by Matjaz Klemencic.**

This 416 page English language book, published in Slovenia, is available in American bookstores and is a "must read" for the Slovenian genealogist. Chapter One on Slovenia, past and present, is a readable historical treatise written with a European perspective. Chapter Two covers Slovene migration from mid 19th Century to the present. Chapter Three is a very thorough coverage of Slovenians in the Cleveland area. Chapter Five concentrates on Slovene parishes. Chapter Six covers the Fraternal Benefit Societies so influential in Slovenian history. Other chapters cover the Slovene National Homes, the Workers Movement, political activities of Cleveland Slovenes, and a final chapter filling in the details of Cleveland Slovenes and how they interacted with the Old Country up to and including the independence of Slovenia. This book is an excellent, quick read, but to do it justice, follow with a period of concentrated study.

**Book Review: *Slovenia, A Lonely Planet Travel Survival Kit*, by Steve Fallon.**

This book is a unique English language resource on Slovenia. The 336 page book, recommended to me by member James R. Dangel, is filled with historical facts about Slovenia, advice on travelling to and from, and a wealth of information on getting around inside the country, including in-depth information on

many of the larger cities (with simplified street maps) and the principle tourist attractions. This is not a genealogical tour book, but it is an excellent source of information for people visiting or travelling to Slovenia for the first time. The price is right, \$13.95, plus \$2.50 for shipping. It is available from most bookstores, or you can write Lonely Planet Guidebooks, Embarcadero West, 115 Filbert Street, Suite 251, Oakland, California, 94607. Phone 510/893-8555.

## THE ARCHIVES OF SLOVENIA

*Much of the information summarized within this series comes from a paper prepared by Dr Peter Pavel Klasinc and presented at the FEEFHS Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, 3 August 1995.*

Nadskofijski Arhiv Ljubljana, Ciril Metodov trg 4, 61000 Ljubljana, Slovenia, is one of the better sources of information for the Slovenian American genealogist writing to Slovenia for the first or the one hundredth time. This central church archive holds documents dating to 1400, although diocesan files date from 1463. There are transcripts of parish registers of the entire diocese since 1832. Parish records include registers, land registers, files and various books of parished of the archdiocese up to 1920. For more recent records, contact the individual churches. The archive reading rooms are open to the public on Monday, from 8am to 3:30pm, Tuesday through Friday, from 8am to 1:30pm. The archive is generally closed to the public from July 20 to August 31. This record repository is a "must see" when visiting Slovenia, but it's always wise to write months in advance, confirming hours of visitation and making arrangements to have records ready and available for your use.

We have not yet had much luck getting information on Slovenians from Italian Archives but progress is beginning. The *Archivio di Stato, Provincia di Gorizia, Via Ospitale, 34170 Gorizia, Italy* has official records on Slovenians from the 18th to the 20th century. A letter we received from Professor Adele Brandi referenced death certificates, some as early as 1756; census records, and military records dating from 1852 through 1923. Additional information on Slovenians in Italian Archives can be found in a book titled **General Guide to Italian Record Offices**, Rome 1983, published by the Ministries dei Beni Cultrrali e Ambientali. The Institute is open weekdays 8:30am to 1:30pm. Let us know if you have a copy of this book.

We also received a lengthy letter from the *Archivio di Stato, Provincia di Trieste, Via Lamarmora 17, 34100 Trieste, Italy*. The Trieste Archives contains many military matriculation papers, lists, draft rolls (Miscellanea di attimilitari ex-austriaci) for people born between 18070 and 1899 and others born 1880 to 1925. The records are for individuals from Trieste, Istria, parts of Gorizia, and present day Slovenia. The records are not separated by nationality, but by birth class. The archives will respond to mail requests, but a self addressed and stamped envelope is needed. Civil records are not maintained at the Trieste archives, but in the various parish churches or in the archives of Trieste Diocese. Census records are maintained in the General Registry Office. We have a 40- page booklet in Italian outlining record holdings, and if we can find a volunteer to translate, we'll make that information known in future newsletters. If you write to these archives, keep us informed.

Helen Oppelli, Australia, has mailed us copies (1954 & 1955) of the Slovene language month magazine **Misli**. The religious and cultural monthly has been published since 1952. Helen also donated the book **Our Battle for Slovenia**, an English/Slovenian synopsis of the Slovenian pathway to independence.

Dr. Nancy Burnett donated copies of the Slovenian language magazine **Rodna Gruda** (1972 and 1973). As you know, our quarterly newsletter is carried in the English language section of **Rodna Gruda**. This is another opportunity to remind our members that we ask each member to actively seek out donations of old books, magazines, and photographs for our library. The only way to preserve our information sources is to collect them.

Marion Kutchever Trimmer has compiled a very thorough family history including some primary source documents, a very complete collection of newspaper obituaries and a very well planned photographic essay. The book is an ideal family gist, and we are pleased our Library was the recipient of a copy.

## SLOVENIAN IMMIGRANT NEWSPAPERS

*By: Rose Marie Jisa*

As an editor for the SGS, my first project involves keying and editing an English translation of a book titled **Slovensko Izeljensko Casopisje, 1891-1945**. Jose Bajec composed the book and Tone Strus

assembled it in Ljubljana in 1980. The book is a compilation of most of the Slovenian newspapers, pamphlets, books, etc., that were written and published by Slovenians between 1891-1945. Josephine Turkman accomplished the major part of the translation and my friend, Vesna Resinovic, of Cerknica, Slovenia, contributed her expertise to refine the translation. I am putting the material into final focus for publication.

There had been several attempts to gather information about Slovenian journalism in the early 1900's including work done by Professor Ivan Mulacek from 1891. He never published his work, but it was found among his possessions in 1907, reworked, and is recognized as the first of its kind. The next Slovenian journalist who attempted to record Slovene journalism was Frank Zaitz in the middle 1920's. He continued with his work in the American Family Almanac until 1948. Next and last was research done by Ivan Molek, who published 78 articles dealing with the Slovene emigrant during the latter part of the 1940's.

In Slovenia, the interest to begin collecting journalistic endeavors of Slovene emigrants came after World War II, when the need was felt to develop ties between the homeland and her emigrants. Although some emigrant Slovenian materials have been collected in Slovenia, no one showed enough interest in doing the work needed to complete the project. Then, in 1963, the Slovene Emigrant Bureau in Ljubljana received shipments of boxed newsprint from the Board of Directors of the Slovenian National Home in Cleveland, Ohio. The shipments arrived in very poor condition making it necessary to use microfilm to make them useable.

Today these major collections of printed materials about Slovenian emigrants and their lives outside Slovenia can be found in the National and University Libraries in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and in the United States at the Immigration Research Center in St. Paul, Minnesota, among other places.

Keying and editing the book into English, once completed, will make available the names of the newspapers, pamphlets, books, etc, with publication date, place of publication, editor(s), and the printery used. Volume numbers and page numbers identify where information can be found in specific publications. Estimated date of completion is the fall, 1996. It will be available through SGS.

This has been a significant learning experience for me as I did not know how to speak, write, or read Slovenian when I volunteered to be an editor for SGS. But, I'm learning very fast, thanks to the one-month immersion program into the Slovenian language at the University of Ljubljana, three Slovenian dictionaries, including one published in 1912, that my grandfather used, and my newly found relatives and friends in Slovenia.

## **EARLY FEUDALISM IN SLOVENIA**

*By: Edward Skender*

Our last article brought us to the fateful 10th century. The Slovene Duchy established by Duke Pribina and his son Kocelj, in Western Hungary, was effectively terminated with the establishment of the Hungarian territorial supremacy. Many Slovenes moved westward into neighboring Slovene lands, which for 100 years had been part of the Holy Roman Empire. Kocelj's death in the early 900's marks the end of early recorded Slovene national leadership.

Simultaneous with these events was the growth of the feudal system of government within the Holy Roman Empire. The Empire itself had changed from the days of Charlemagne. France became separate, and the Empire now consisted of German states, whose leaders elected the German Emperor. In 979, one of those states, Carinthia, was recognized as an Imperial Duchy. The Duchy of Carinthia contained the Margravates (border provinces) of Carniola, Gorizia and Styria, where the Slovenes lived. The Duke was appointed directly by the Emperor.

Feudalism was both a political and an economic system. Political rule emanated from the Emperor to the subordinate dukes who ruled the 40 or so duchies within the Empire. Within the duchies, counties were established which were ruled by counts. Below the counts were barons and knights who managed townships, villages and manors within the counties. Below the knights were the peasant-farmers, who worked the lands. It was a hierarchical system. The lower ranks (knights and barons) were appointed by the counts for local administration. They collected taxes from the peasant farmers, usually in the form of a portion of the farmers' produce, plus a specified number of days of labor to press the lord's apples into cider, haul wood to the castle, etc. Knights and barons also administered local justice, although more serious crimes were judged by the count himself. The knights and barons provided their counts with a

portion of their revenue and with military service, which was their principal obligation.

Because nearly all Slovenes now lived within the Holy Roman Empire, their territories came to be governed in accordance with the Imperial feudal system. Because the 10th and 11th century Slovenes had not native nobility, the Dukes of Carinthia and the Emperors appointed counts, who for the most part were German nobles. These counts were given large tracts of land (entire counties) over which they ruled. In some cases, Emperors and Dukes gave lands to various German and Italian Dioceses, in which case the Bishops became civil lords over the lands in their trust. The largest ecclesiastical landholders in the Slovene lands were the Bishops of Salzburg, Freising, Brixen (in Tyrol), Bamberg, and Aquileia (in adjoining Italy). In many cases, the bishops donated portions of their land to monasteries, and the peasant farmers on church-owned lands shared a portion of their produce with the abbots and bishops, who used the revenue mostly for the furtherance of church work in local parishes. Over the years, the feudal lords gradually established themselves and their families into powerful, hereditary clans. Many courtly families, such as the Andechs, Auerspergs, Absalterers, Cillis, Ortenbergs, Gorzes, Paradisers, Spanheims, etc., whose families were based on estates in Slovenia from the earliest feudal times, gained power and influence throughout the Empire for hundreds of years, some even into the 20th century. Members of the Ortenburg, Gorz and Spanheim families were often appointed Dukes of Carinthia.

With German feudal nobility came German knights, administrators, abbots, priests, artisans, craftsmen and peasant framers. Some view this as an effort to Germanize the Slovene people and their culture. Others view it as a positive accident of history, since it brought the Slovene people, located as they were at the crossroads of many bordering cultures, into the mainstream of Western Europe as it evolved from the early feudal system of the Holy Roman Empire.

The authentic Slovene custom of government, however, was not a feudal one, but a democratic one. Although thoroughly bound into the Western European feudal system, the Slovenes retained a certain continuity of their democratic tradition for six hundred years after their incorporation into the Holy Roman Empire. When a new Duke of Carinthia was appointed by the Emperor, his investiture in office was certified by an assembly of elected representatives (Kosezi), both rich and poor, of the Slovene communities in Carinthia, Styria, and Goricia. The Kosezi assembled at the Saalfeld (near Klagenfurt) and questioned the new Duke to ensure themselves that he was "good and true". After assuring themselves that he was, the Duke dressed himself in Slovene peasant clothes and was paraded on a white mare while the Kosezi sang songs of praise to God. The Duke then marched to an ancient stone throne, where he was formally installed in office by the Kosezi representatives. This ceremony was performed as late as 1570. Moreover, the early Dukes of Carinthia, although Germans, were expected to be able to speak the Slovene language. There are many records indicating that they, in fact, did speak the language. Thus, although feudalism was instituted throughout the Slovene lands, it was done with considerable recognition of the ancient tradition of the Slovenes that government rested on the consent of the governed.

The Ducal Installation Ceremony of the Slovenes was unique throughout Western Europe. Nowhere else did the common people have the right to legitimize their rulers. Indeed, this right was discontinued in the late 1500's because the rise of Protestantism, which among other things, was a revolt against absolutism of rule, and this threatened the ruling order in Europe. The notion, however, survived. The Ducal Installation Ceremony was well recorded in the middle ages, and by 1651, had been reprinted in England. In 1776, Thomas Jefferson noted the Slovene tradition of popular validation of national leaders in his arguments for the American Declaration of Independence.

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

**Query 1: BACNAR, STOJCEVICH/STOJCEVIC, REJC, TERCEK, GERKOVIC/GRKOVIC, KOPAC**

I am interested in obtaining and sharing information on these family lines: **BACNAR, STOJCEVICH/STOJCEVIC, REJC, TERCEK, GERKOVIC/GRKOVIC, and KOPAC.**

Write to Peggy Rasche, 5205 Brandonway Court, Dublin, Ohio, 43017

**Query 2: NAROBÉ, KOBILCA**

I would like any information on brothers Mathew and France **NAROBÉ** of Domzale. They immigrated to the United States about 1914; Mathew returned to Slovenia. The brothers married **KOBILCA** sisters, one named Katherina. The Narobe homestead was called "by Pipan's". Write to Stan Polich, 14 Colonial Court, Queensburv. New York. 12804.

Court, Queensbury, New York, 12804.

**Query 3: STRUTZEL, STRUCZL, STRUZEL, STRUZZL, STRUCELJ, STRUCL**

I am seeking information on any variant of the Strutzel surname to include: **STRUCZL, STRUZEL, STRUZZL, STRUCELJ, or STRUCL**. Write to Jeff Strutzel, PO Box 3014, Redondo Beach, California, 9027.

**Query 4: PIRC, PEARCE**

I seek information on brother, Anton **PIRC** (wife Mary, five daughters, one son) and Janez PIRC (wife Angela, one son Lozje **PEARCE**, who may have worked for NASA). Angela was from Kamnik; Anton and Janez were from Rakek 4. Janez lived in Cleveland or Euclid, Ohio area. Write to Branka Lapajne, 108 Hollywood Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario, M2N 3K3, Canada

**Query 5: FABIAN, KOKEC/KOKECH, ZMRZEL**

I am looking for information on Theresa **KOKEC** (daughter of Joze **KOKEC/KOKECH** and Louise **FABIAN**), born 7 October 1883, in Gradec, married Louis **ZMRZEL** (son of Gregor **ZMRZEL**) in 1900/1903 and lived in Litija, Slovenia. Louis Zmrzel came to the United States in 1913, and sent for his wife, Theresa, and three girls, Caroline, Mary, and Sarah, in 1914. Gregor Zmrzel was a locksmith. Joze Kokec worked on the railroad. Gregor Zmrzel and his wife, Mary, had three sons: Louis, Yanez, and Srecho. Jose Kokec and wife, Louise, had children: France, Theresa, Johanna, Marcha, Jose, Julia, and Tatatina. Please write to Susan Peters Zmrzel, PO Box 10097, Fr. Mojave, Arizona, 86427.

**Query 6: BOGATJ, MIKLAVCIC, STALIC**

I am interested in sharing information on the John **STALIC** family, specifically Janez **STALIC**, father and soldier, who was stationed in Trieste. Mother, nee **MIKLAVCIC**. Also interested in the **BOGATJ** family of Skofija Loka. Write to Jeanne Stalick, 1644 Victorian Way, Eugene, Oregon, 97401.

**Query 7: KOSEDNAR**

I am seeking information on Stefan **KOSEDNAR**, originally from Gornja Lendava. Stefan lived somewhere near Lake Michigan. Write to Ed Dodich, 3966 Woodlawn Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois, 60031.

**Query 8: KMETT, KRULCE**

I am seeking information on the surnames: **KRULCE** and **KMETT**. Josephine Krulce, born 19 March 1876, in Slovenia (parish at Knezak), and died 26 July 1974, in Hibbing, Minnesota, was married to Louis Kmett. Also interested in information about the Minnesota era. Write to Ruth Krulce, 5355 Daniel Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46226.

**Query 9: LUBE, SCHNEIDER, TISOL**

I am seeking information on Frank **SCHNEIDER**, second husband of Frances **LUBE TISOL**. He probably moved to the United States after 15 June 1894, and before 14 September 1899, when he was in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Relatives came from the Cesta, Dobropolje, Planina area of Slovenia. Write to Marilyn Tisol, 445 E. Hickory Street, Hinsdale, Illinois, 60521.

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**Volume 10 Issue 4 Newsletter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society July 1, 1996**

This July newsletter provides a final informational note to our members that I will be holding a "Day of Genealogy" at **Slovenefest XV SNP** campground in Fern Valley, Pa. July 13-14, 1996. The

Genealogy" at **Slovenefest XV, SNPJ** campground in Enon Valley, Pa, July 13-14, 1996. The campground and Heritage Center is an easy drive from Cleveland and Pittsburgh. We hope you come out and join us. We are asking each attendee to donate a Slovenian book to our library. Those attending, who donate a book will be given a chance to win a copy of ***Researching Your Slovenian Ancestors***, by Dr. Branka Lapajne.

Our *Society* purchased a copy of the CD-ROM Home Phone database, an approximately 88 million record national telephone directory. We will accomplish limited surname searches for members.

Branka Lapajne, Ph. D., 108 Hollywood Ave, Willowdale Ont. M2N 3K3, Canada, is offering her book ***Researching Your Slovenian Ancestors***. The price is \$15.00 and includes postage. This book is a 101 page, bargain, and is a must for all genealogists doing research in Slovenia, either in person or via the mail. There are many books, some of encyclopedic length, helping the novice genealogist conduct the American portion of their genealogical search. There are no others written specifically for the genealogist searching in Slovenia. The book is not organized in a manner that facilitates a cursory or shallow treatment, but an in-depth thorough read offers insights into Slovenian records that very few Americans have ever had. With this book, you learn about the primary vital records (baptismal, marriage, and death) and about the many secondary records that are available, such as, Status Animarum and parish tithe books, Urbari. My only complaint, there should be another 101 pages.

The Spring 1996 issue of ***Slovenija*** magazine is an especially interesting one. Janez Keber continues his coverage of the *Origin of Slovenian Surnames*, and in this issue is an excellent piece on the fate of the German language region of Slovenia known as Gottschee.

The *LDS Family History Library* has always been an excellent source of genealogical documents, American and foreign. While Slovenian record availability is limited, there are many reasons for the Slovenian genealogist to frequently revisit local LDS libraries. Data from the World War I draft registrations are now available on microfilm. This is an especially useful tool for the Slovenian genealogist as those registering included the great wave of Slovenian men who entered the U.S. between 1880 and 1915.

Marilyn Coursen Tisol has donated a copy of the ***Genealogy of the Anton Tisol Family and Allied Lines*** to the SGS. This is an excellent family history, interesting, thorough, and still, a work in progress. Wonderfully, genealogy is a never ending process, thanks to the complexity of the humans we strive to learn about, and the dogged determination of those of wanting to know our ancestors and leave a legacy of knowledge for those who follow us.

Linda Tomlin, President, *SGS: Canada*, has been contacting Slovenian groups in Canada, and she recently received copies of anniversary books from the Church in Montreal and another from the Slovenian Federation of Canada. We offer our sincerest thanks for the donation. These are treasured additions to the SGS library and are visible examples of the usefulness of local chapters of the SGS. Thanks, Linda! Linda is now finishing an everyname index to histories of the **SNPJ** and **KSKJ**. This will be another excellent resource for our members. Hopefully, we will be able to have these documents available on the Internet, *SGS: Canada* Homepage.

Christine Johaneck mailed us a photocopy of Craig Boro's historical treatise on ***John Leo Zaplotnik and the Founding of Sts Peter and Paul Church of South Omaha, Nebraska***. It covers the years 1908-1925. It is an excellent addition to our library. We still need many historical booklets on Slovenian parishes.

I hope you'll notice the paragraphs included by the presidents of our local chapters in Canada, Kansas, and California. We have already organized local chapters in Maryland, Oregon, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Texas and Oklahoma. Look for information on their activities in upcoming newsletters. Each of these chapters can use your help. Please become active in the state chapter nearest you. There are still quite a few states with a significant Slovenian population that could support a local chapter. *Donna Cuillard, 6273 Anastasia Av, Simi Valley, California, 93063*, has been working hard to activate state chapters, and if you might be willing to serve as facilitator in your state, please contact her. Our standards are high, our demands are low, and our appreciation is overwhelming. Join us in a leadership position. Contact Donna. **Now John Leskovec**

## THE ARCHIVES OF SLOVENIA

*Much of the information summarized within this series comes from a paper presented by Dr. Peter Pavel Klasinc at the FEEFHS Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, August 3, 1995*

The *Historical Archives of Celje, Trg svobode 10, 63000 Celje, Slovenia* maintains the records of the city of Celje, including: records of the town hospital since the 17th century, the records of the Patrimonial courts since the 18th century, as well as administrative records of the town and district. There is an emphasis placed on recent economic records.

The *Regional Archives of Koper, Goriska 6, 66000 Koper, Slovenia* maintains many records of Koper and the surrounding area. Emphasis again is on the near term, that is, after World War I. Many early records dating back to the Venetian period (ends in 1797) are either held in Piran, or were removed by Italy during the war and not yet returned.

Also located in Koper is the *Skofijski Arhiv Koper (The Doicesan Archives of Koper), Trg revolucije 11, 66000 Koper, Slovenia*. Some early church records date to 1082. Parish records transcripts begin in 1835. Many church records are maintained in individual churches. Many church records from the Koper area are being held in the *Curia Vescovile, Diocese di Trieste, Via Cavana 16, 34100 Trieste, Italy*.

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

**Query 1: ARTAC, YARC/JARTZ**

I'm seeking information about Peter **YARC (JARTZ)**, born in Crnovas, 10 November 1872. His parents were Joseph and Margaret. There were four sons and one daughter. The sons all emigrated to America. The parents stayed behind. Peter married Johanna **ARTAC** in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, moved to Herminie where he worked as a miner and raised six children. I'd like to know if there is a Catholic Church and a cemetery in Herminie. One of the brothers, Joseph maintained a homestead in Colorado, possibly owned a saloon in Denver. Another brother Andrew may have lived in Cleveland, Ohio. Please share information with Elayne Stewart, 870 Dorncliff Lane, Buffalo Grove, Illinois, 60089.

**Query 2:**

How do you handle Slovenian accent marks on your word processing program and/or your genealogy program? John Leskovec, 10829 Tibbetts Road, Kirtland, Ohio, 44094, is researching programs and fonts and would like to hear of your experiences with what works as well as what doesn't. He will share the results with all who write, whether you have a solution or are still searching.

**Query 3: SUPANCIC**

Frank **ZUPANCIC** born 11 November 1877 in Sentvid, Slovenia, died April 1965, in Scammon, Kansas. He married Anna, born 1876, died 1952. Both buried in St Bridget's Cemetery in Scammon, Kansas. Children: Mary and Ann, Columbus, Kansas; Nancy and Frank, whereabouts unknown; Francis, Girard, Kansas. Frank Sr. had a brother Louis, both who mined in SE Kansas. Any information appreciated. Write to Christie Supancic Johnson, 2322 N. Payne, Wichita, Kansas, 67204-5840.

**Query 4: PUH, TEKAVEC**

I am seeking information on the family **TEKAVEC** from Javorje 4 in the parish of Skocjan pri Turjaku. Maria Takav was born in 1814 at Javorje 4. Although the family has lived at this address for hundreds of years, early records have been destroyed. Any information on the family or area in surviving records would be appreciated. I am also seeking information on the surname **PUH** from the parish Skocjan pri Turjaku. Contact: Joann Hanson, 8588 Woodpecker Av, Fountain Valley, California, 92708.

**Query 5: PRPIC, SORCAN**

Seeking information on Josef **SORCAN**, born 12 March 1878 in Slovenia. Immigrated to the United States in 1907 and was joined by wife Katherine **PRPIC** and daughter, Eva, in 1913. Moved to Eveleth, Minnesota, and worked in mines. He had five children in Minnesota. In 1923, at age 45, Josef left for Pennsylvania, possibly Braddock area. Brother Valentine, James, and John Sorcan lived in the Pittsburgh area. Please share any information on Josef with: Patricia Crnkovich, 110 Hope Dr, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, 15001.

**Query 6: DUH, HOCHEVAR, VEDIC/VIDIC**

Info needed on family of Matthew **HOCHEVAR**, born 11 March 1876 in Zabukovje. Father Matthew Hochevar and mother Marija **DUH**. Also looking for family of Anna **VEDIC (VIDIC)** born 7 July 1887 in Brezje. Father was Frank Vedic and mother Helena? Please reply to: Gypsy Crucil, Box 487, Crofton, BritishColumbia, Canada V0R 1R0.

**SGS: Kansas, Christie Supancic, President, 2322 N. Payne St., Wichita, Ks 67204-5840**

SE Kansas is populated by Germans, Italians, Belgians, the French, Irish, and those of the former Yugoslavia. The region was mainly a coal mining area, and the results of strip mining can be seen today. The biggest cultural event of the year is known as "Little Balkans Day, a day of fun for all with polka bands, food, beer, friends, and family. South Central Kansas has a distinctive Germanic flavor. The Wichita Public Library has a wonderful genealogy department, supplemented by the local LDS, Midwest Historical Society and other area societies. One of the best libraries for research is on the campus of Wichita State University. Vital statistic records are best located in the county of origin. The state Department of Health has few records prior to July 1911.

Christie Reinelle Supancic Johnson, age 29, is a wife, and mother of 3(8, 2 & 9 months), a Spanish major at WSU, Office Manager for an aircraft ferrying company, member of NGS, and President of SGS Kansas. Prior to the death of a grandmother in Jan 1994, she enjoyed 5 living generations on her mother's side. Her goal is to make SGS Kansas a strong, family oriented group, with a desire to preserve the past for present and future generations. Christie can be contacted by E-mail at: Pep1024@aol.com and she is a regular in the Tuesday Eastern European Forum on AOL. She uses Family Tree Maker for Windows 3.1 CD-ROM, and is slowly acquiring the CD-ROMs that Banner Blue and Everton Publishers provide. She has the Social Security Death Benefit Index 1937-1993 and World Family Tree Vol 1 & 2. She will complete a search if provided: Name, date and place of birth and date and place of death. Include \$1.00 and SASE.

**SGS: California, Joann Hanson, President, 8588 Woodpecker Av, Fountain Valley, Ca 92708**

About 3 years ago I decided I wanted to learn about my heritage. My grandparents, Joseph Kochevar and Louise Puh came from Slovenia in 1902 and 1907. They were married in Aspen, Co in 1907 and settled in Spring Glen, Utah in the 1920s. Until 3 years ago, my family knew very little of their background and even less about how to gain access through public records. These past three years have been a learning experience I would like to share with others. I now have many records from California and other record sources, and I have now visited Slovenia twice. I believe the new book on Researching Your Slovenia Ancestors by Dr Branka Lapajne will help. I met Branka in the archives in Ljubljana last summer, and she has been a great help to me. I invite all SGS members to contact me. I would truly enjoy developing a strong working relationship with all our California members. Let's share experiences. My snail mail address is above. I can be reached on line at [jhanson143@aol.com](mailto:jhanson143@aol.com).

**SGS: Canada, Linda Tomlin, President, 1383 Maple Bay Rd, R.R. 5, Duncan, B.C. Canada V9L 4T6**

Many significant activities are now underway in SGS:Canada. SGS National and SGS Canada would like to thank Karen Valencic and Anthony Snyder of the **SNPJ** for the copy of the official history and all the other booklets and information on SNPJ. I am already completing an everynome index for this book and it should be available for member use shortly. We would also like to thank **KSKJ** for sending a copy of their latest history. Although the book is much smaller than the **SNPJ** history, there are many names included and again, an everynome index is being accomplished. Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Branka Lapajne for donating a copy of her new book **Researching Your Slovenian Ancestors** to SGS: Canada.

*The Slovenian Genealogy Newsletter is edited and published by Al Peterlin, 52 Old Farm Road, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, 17011-2604. Permission is granted to duplicate or photocopy this newsletter; however, you must give credit to individual authors and to the Slovenian Genealogy Society as the source of your information.*

I'm pleased that attendance at our genealogy talks at **Slovenefest XV** exceeded expectations. Over 50 people attended each of the 3 discussions, with many others coming and going as time permitted. While at **Slovenefest XV**, the *SNPJ Heritage Library* donated over 5 years of monthly issues of **Novi Svet**. These volumes contain many stories of our Slovenian ancestors, and we are in need of several more translators. Please volunteer your time. Also, remember we still need many Slovenian books and other publications. Our Slovenian Church history collection has received very few additions in the past several months. We can't save; we can't translate, if you don't go out of your way to solicit donations of books, photographs, and other written records of our ancestors.

Mary Lou Davison has donated a box of her father's (Louis Debeljak) books to our *Society*. The books are meticulously preserved; each volume individually hard bound. In addition, there is a volume of photographs of Slovenian artists and writers.

I recently wrote a letter to the Diocese of Birmingham, Alabama. While there is no large enclave of Slovenians in the state of Alabama, there was mention of a small number of Slovenians in the mining community of Blocton, Alabama in **Trunk (1912)**. Gerry Nabors, Diocese of Birmingham, P.O. Box 12047, Birmingham, Alabama, 35202-2047 told of a book titled **Catholic Church in the Deep South** by Rose Lovett, published in 1980. Included were short histories of several churches, *Sts Cyrius and Methodius (closed)*, *St Michael's (closed)*, and *St Thomas the Apostle in Montevallo*. The records for St Cyrius and St Michaels are housed at St Patricks Church, 301 Shamrock Trail, Adamsville, Alabama, 35005. St Thomas the Apostle is located at 80 ST Thomas Way, Montevallo, Alabama, 35115. If you have any information on how we can obtain a copy of the book by Rose Lovett, please contact us. If you have an unusual Slovenian connection in the state of Alabama, contact these churches.

The Slovenian language was not very well understood by many Americans at the turn of the century, so the records they generated can be especially difficult for us as we try and find the correct spelling of our ancestors' name or their place of residence. Indeed, through the 1900, 1910, and 1920 census, we can find many creative American solutions to our foreign sounding Slovenian names. Trying to determine an exact Slovenian spelling can be difficult, but there are some "tricks of the trade" that frequently work well.

1. Always substitute each vowel (a,e,i,o,u) for every other vowel in a name. Check the combinations. Just a little switch can make a big difference.
2. The letter "J" can play many roles in a Slovenian name. Pronounced in English as "Y", many misspellings can occur. In addition, many Slovenian town names can look quite different with a "J" thrown in for good measure. Slovenia can quickly become Slovenija.
3. Obvious transforms occur frequently, C becomes G; G becomes C; F becomes P; P becomes F; H becomes K and K becomes H and either can be mistaken for an R; U becomes V; V becomes W; and on and on. Within the body of names, m and w can be confused; j and f can be confused; and l and t are just a quick horizontal line away from misunderstanding.
4. C, S, and Z are often phonetically mixed and then there is the C and other letters with the dialectic to further complicate the matter.

Individuals trying to find lost relatives in the United States can try to make contact via the Social Security Administration. Write to the *Social Security Administration, Letter Forwarding Unit, 6401 Security Blvd, Baltimore, Maryland, 21235*. You will need a cover letter listing the address's birth date, parents, and social security number if known.

Canadian naturalization records after 1918 are available to the researcher. Write to *Director, Information Management, Public Rights Administration, Citizenship and Immigration, 140 Promenade du Portage, Phase IV, 4th Floor, Hull, Quebec KIA 1L1, Canada*. This is a Freedom of Information request and there will be a fee. Prior to 1918, naturalization occurred in the provinces, but the vast majority of Slovenians arrived in Canada after 1918.

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

**Query 1: BRODNIK, JERIC/JERICH/YERRICK, PLUT/PLUTE, SIMONICH**

Seeking information on Jerry JERIC/JERICH/YERRICK, born in Vas Mala Racna, Krain (Slovenia) and immigrated to Pueblo, Colorado, in 1901. His parents were Francis Jeric and Mary BRODNIK. He married Theresa PLUT/PLUTE on 11 January 1909 at St Mary's Church in Pueblo. She was the daughter of George and Margaret SIMONICH. Margaret was born in Duchorf (?) Austria, and immigrated to the United States in 1886. George was born in Austria and immigrated to the United States in 1884. Write to Anna M. Moore, 5209 SW 32nd Terrace, Topeka, Kansas, 66614-4014. I will answer all letters

**Query 2:**

Stefan Vilar, b Sep 11, 1929 in Ljutomer, Slovenia is searching for Stanley Rodgers (Pepi Vilar), possibly living in California. Forward any info to Bogdana Smejkal, c/o Hitchcock, 10 Gracie Sq, Apt 5B, New York, N.Y. 10028

Milton Doles mailed me a photocopy about a miner's funeral in Aldridge, Montana. The photographs are filled with Slovenian miners. There was mention of a Catholic Church and a town cemetery. If any of our members know of this church and have a church history, please contact us.

I must say I've already made good use of Dr Branka Lapajne's book, **Researching Your Slovenian Ancestors**. I mailed a letter written in English to the central church archive in Ljubljana asking for a printout of the Status Animarum for the houses of my great grandparents. I had the address from my grandmother's baptismal certificate. Within four weeks I had my positive response: a listing of the house occupants, parents and children. To my surprise, my maternal great grandfather married twice, and both families were listed on the Status Animarum. The fee for services was \$10.00, cash (no check). I immediately searched every baptismal and marriage certificate for additional house numbers and mailed off my request for more information. The new address for the central church archive is: Nadskofijski arhiv Ljubljana, Krekov trg 1, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia.

The *Western Montana Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 2714, Missoula, Mt 59806-2714* has several indexes to local newspapers. These could be of use to Slovenian genealogist. The mines of Montana were one of the more exotic draws to our mining ancestors.

We have been hearing from many members that being able to meet with fellow Slovenian genealogists would be helpful. To facilitate this, we have been trying to organize state chapters in many sections of the country. Donna Cuillard has been especially helpful in organizing local chapters. We still someone to offer to lead a local chapter in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Michigan. A list of local chapter Presidents is attached. Help if you can.

Several members have been asking for the names and addresses of other members. While I have supplied the Presidents of our state chapters with the names of SGS members in their states, I have not generally provided a complete listing of members to all other members. Should I? Please let me know if you would like me to send a full membership list to each member with our January 1997 newsletter? Also, many of our members have E-mail addresses. Should I collect member E-mail addresses and make them available to all our members in the January newsletter? I'm sure you've heard it said many times before, but I must say it one more time. The *Slovenian Genealogy Society* exists to serve our members. If you have an opinion, please let me know it.

Thankfully, we are growing at a very nice pace. We now have 11 local chapters, 9 states, Canada, and Australia. Three of the states with the largest population of Slovenians--Ohio, Illinois and Pennsylvania--still have no state chapter. If you have the time, please become active. Each state chapter need help organizing local meetings, collecting books, photographs, and records, and in becoming better known in active Slovenian organizations. Even if you can't actively participate, you can forward our local chapter presidents your suggestions and help spread the word to the broader Slovenian community in your area that we are available to serve. For information on becoming active in a local chapter, contact:

Dr Theodore Chiappelli, President SGS Maryland, 207 Drum Av South, Pasadena, Md 21122; Michael Fox, President SGS Texas, 14511 Star Cross Trail, Helotes, Tx 78023;

Joann Hanson, President SGS California, 8588 Woodpecker Av, Fountain Valley, Ca 92708; Joseph Hren, President SGS Australia, 34 Camp Street, Daylesford, 3460 Victoria, Australia; Christie Johnson, President, SGS Kansas, 2322 N. Payne, Wichita, Ks 67204-5840;

Catherine Kimmel, President SGS Colorado, P.O. Box 1391, Fairplay, Co 80440;

Terry Rupar, President SGS Minnesota, 417, N.W. 9th St, Chisholm, Mn 55719;

Alfred Stoinich, President SGS Oregon, 5755 Gardenia Av, Cloverdale, Or 971129629;

Linda Tomlin, President SGS Canada, 1383 Maple Bay Rd #5, Duncan, B.C. Canada V9L 4T6; Mary Voelk, President SGS Wisconsin, Rt 1 Box 258A, Iron River, Wi 54837;

James Wagner, President SGS Missouri, 450 N. Phillips Lane, East Prairie, Mo 63845.

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