



The Linden Tree

Quarterly Newsletter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society International

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LEAVE A LEGACY— SGSI GIFT IN KIND CAMPAIGN

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In this issue, guest writer, Silvia Žele shares with us the translation of her surname from the records found in the book, “**Od kod si? Kako se pišeš?**”...

Where are you from? What is your surname? published in 2006 by Slovenian author, Leon Kernel. This important book provides surname information found in the areas surrounding Šempeter. Mr. Kernel was born in Slavina, Slovenia and currently lives there with his wife and three children. He has a deep connection to his roots and is very involved with his local community. Mr. Kernel conducts historical, theological and genealogical research related to Slavina Parish. In our next issue (July), Silvia presents another article on surnames of the village of Kopačnica .



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT . . .

How can you help preserve your treasured heritage for future generations? By supporting the Slovenian Genealogy Society International through planned giving. Charitable giving is not only for the wealthy. Gifts large and small are equally important.

SGSI has many important historical projects to collect, preserve and maintain of our Slovene genealogy. Those tasks that are critical include the oral

history projects, digitization of church records in the Archbishopric Archives in Ljubljana and the indexing of Slovenian surnames to name just a few.

YOU can make a difference! With the large number of requests each of us gets every year and over the course of a lifetime to donate monies to this or that cause, there comes a time when we must step back and consider those most meaningful to us. Will you consider the SGSI (chartered as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation) as one of your choices?

Here are a couple of things you can do for SGSI:

- (1) Make an annual, tax-exempt cash contribution to SGSI,
- (2) Make a “planned” giving donation in the form of a gift or bequest.

Consult your attorney or tax planner to learn how easy and how beneficial it is to gift cash or securities including a portion of your retirement assets such as IRA or 401k or a portion of your estate. For additional information, contact Al Peterlin, SGSI Chairman of the Board (apeterlin@panetwork.com) or John Leskovec, SGSI Treasurer (jleskovec@msn.net).



FROM THE PRESIDENT - ROSE MARIE JISA



Exciting days lie ahead for SGSI! We have found a "home"! Yes, our library collection, our oral history program, our genealogy records--all will have a permanent home at the Slovenian Museum and Archives (SMA) being developed in Cleveland, Ohio where the largest number of Slovenians living outside of Slovenia reside. The SMA will be housed at the Slovenian National Home on East 65th and St. Clair Avenues, an area of Cleveland that is experiencing a regrowth!



How did all of this happen? Two years ago, Dr. Zivone Zigon arrived in Cleveland, Ohio to serve as the newly appointed Consul General from Slovenia. This gentleman has ignited the spirit of the Slovenian people!

As a result of his bringing together a representative group of Cleveland's Slovenian leaders to organize and present a 5-week-long "Celebration of Slovenia's 15 Years of Independence" in 2006, the Slovenian Museum and Archives Committee was born.

Through Dr. Zigon's leadership, the area's Slovenians realized the importance of preserving its culture for future generations. Luckily, SGSI has two representatives on this very important committee: Immigration Attorney, Linda Silakoski and Attorney John Kim.

Grant monies and donations are beginning to arrive to start the renovation of this two-story Slovenian National Home that spans an entire block. Actually, over the past several years, the grand ballroom, stage, lobby, bar/kitchen area and the parking lot have already been renovated. SGSI will have our own space on the second floor.

We, the SGSI, are part of this exciting new adventure for our Slovenian people, not only for those from the greater Cleveland area, but also for any Slovenian from anywhere in the United States and the world! Al Peterlin, our founder, had visions of our Society's becoming a significant part of the Slovenian scene in America. His dream soon will be realized!

However, with this expansion comes responsibility on our part. . . please encourage your family and friends to become members of our Society--\$15 a year—and begin making your own annual tax-exempt contributions to

SGSI for our projects: (1) the digitization of records located at the Archbishopric Archives in Ljubljana, (2) the translation of books important to our genealogy research, (3) the indexing of Slovenian surnames found in a multitude of publications, (4) the funding of special projects, and now, (5) our presence in the SMA!

SGSI has a magnificent future and you are playing a vital role in that future! By your membership in SGSI, you are helping to preserve our Slovenian heritage in this "melting pot" of a society we call the United States of America! As your President, I thank you and future generations of Slovenians will thank you, also!

Until next time



NEWS FLASH! At press time, the SGSI Ohio Chapter has just been notified by the Slovenian government, Office of Slovenes Living Abroad, that they have been awarded a grant for \$1,500 to continue their Slovenian Oral History Preservation Program. Thank you, Slovenia!

SGSI MEMBER BITS AND PIECES

SGSI Website Update:

The new SGSI web site is progressing nicely, but is still under construction. An endeavor such as this takes time and we appreciate your understanding and continued support.

Maps of Slovenia Available Online:

Maps of Slovenia can be purchased online at many sites. One site in particular has many types of maps featuring Slovenia. Omnimap is located at: <http://www.omnimap.com/catalog/int/slovenia.htm>

- 1) The Slovenia "Excursion" Leisure Map Topographic Map Series.
- 2) The Slovenia Road Atlas.
- 3) Atlas of Slovene Towns.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES
REMINDER**

Dues are now payable for the period January through December, 2008. *(If you have sent in your check within the last few days, thank you!)*

Members without an email address, or using WebTV:
US \$20 per year

Members with an email address, and can read PDF files: US \$15 per year.

Write "dues" on your memo line and make your check payable to:

"SLOVENIAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL" or "SGSI, Inc".

Send your dues check as soon as possible to our membership director:

SGSI, Inc.
c/o John Leskovec
10829 Tibbetts Rd.
Kirtland, OH 44094-5194

Dues Questions? Check with John at:
jleskovec@msn.com

Newsletter Advertising Rates



The Linden Tree is now accepting ads pertaining to services or products connected to our Slovenian heritage.

Fee Structure per issue:

* Business Card	\$10
* 1/4-page	\$15
* 1/2-page	\$30
* Full page	\$50

Email your copy to sedaj_tesch@qwest.net one month prior to publication: December 1, 2007; March 1, 2008; June 1, 2008; September 1, 2008. Send your check to John Leskovec, 10829 Tibbetts Road, Kirtland, OH 44092-5194.



UPDATE ON SGSI CONFERENCE IN SLOVENIA- 2008

"The Roots and Vines of Slovenia"

Our second genealogical conference in Slovenia is only a few short months away. While the conference travel plans and itinerary were made available in the brochure recently mailed to all of you, the details of the presentations and the work towards making research facilities available goes on. Our Slovenian counterparts, led by Peter Hawlina – better known as “Mr. Genealogy” in Slovenia – are helping to provide access to the various archival facilities and attempting to arrange on-site visitations to various villages where your ancestors may have resided. As you may already know, genealogical research, rather than classroom lecture, is the primary thrust of this conference.



Deposits for the trip are due now, and billings for the remainder of the trip costs will be sent out shortly by Kollander Travel. Final payments are due in June. So far, about 50 people have made verbal commitments to attend and about half of those have made their initial deposits, as of



the end of March. With the value of the US Dollar dropping against the value of the Euro, there may be some variance in the final cost of the land portion (hotel, meals, local transportation) of the trip.

A number of potential attendees have asked about making their own plane reservations, often because of accumulated *frequent flyer* miles. While there is no problem with that approach, please be advised that Kollander Travel is available to help with those reservations, too, and coordinating with the travel agency will help us, overall, to make sure we will be able to provide timely transfers to and from the airport in either Trieste or Ljubljana (transfers included in the price).

Among the papers you will receive with the final billing will be a form you can use to inform us of any possible villages of interest to you as a possible visit site. Please fill out and return that form with your payments, as your interest dictates.

The stage is set for another great time in Slovenia – and there is still time to get your names on the list of attendees. The itinerary follows for those who aren't familiar with the conference dates.

We look forward to seeing all of you in September!

Ed Kucler
Director, External Affairs

Sept. 10th (Wed) - Depart from your home city in the US for Slovenia.

Sept. 11th (Thurs) - Arrive in either Ljubljana or Trieste and transfer to the coast city of Portoroz. After checking into your hotel, enjoy the city at your leisure until our welcoming dinner at the hotel.

Sept. 12th (Fri) - Breakfast, followed by group Archive orientation sessions. Afternoon sightseeing or possible visit to Koper Archives. Dinner and boat ride along Slovenian coast.

Sept. 13th (Sat) - Breakfast, then morning training sessions. Afternoon free for sightseeing (possible sidetrips to Venice, Istria Peninsula, or inyards/wineries in various villages).

Sept. 14th (Sun) - Breakfast, open morning and early afternoon, transfer to Ljubljana hotel following via motorcoach through old cities and villages in Karst region.

Sept. 15th (Mon) - Breakfast, Conference Opening Address, open access to Archives for research, with available assistance.

Sept. 16th (Tues) - Breakfast, open access to Archives for research with available assistance. Conference banquet at a Slovenian landmark location.

Sept. 17th (Wed) - Breakfast, open access to Archives for research, with available assistance.

Sept. 18th (Thur) - Breakfast, open access to Archives for research, with available assistance. On either Wednesday or Thursday, there may be a trip to the Maribor archives or possible side trips to nearby Villages for those interested in visiting relatives or doing on-site research.

Sept. 19th (Fri) - Depart from Ljubljana for return to U.S. Some may choose optional three-day side trips to Alpine Slovenia (Lake Bled) or eastern Slovenia (Habakuk) with departure to the U.S. on Monday, September 19.

SLOVENIAN HISTORY BEING RECORDED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The SGSI Ohio Chapter members are busy recording oral histories of Slovenians. What is the process?

At the time the oral history is taken, the interviewee must sign a release form and complete a short family history. These documents become part of the interviewee's permanent file.

Once completed, the oral history is copied to a CD, transcribed, printed on archival paper, and maintained in that person's individual file at the Cleveland Museum and Archives. Other documents/pictures submitted by the interviewee are scanned to the computer and included in the file. During the transcription process, indexing significant words is being done to make research easier for genealogists and other researchers.

Each interviewee receives a free CD of his/her oral history; a transcribed, hard copy on archival paper is available for a modest fee.

Would you like to have your oral history or the oral history of a relative or friend become part of the SGSI Archives? If yes, email sgsipres.rmj@ameritech.net to receive guidelines on how to do this. Also, if you already have your family history published and would like to have it included in the SGSI Archives, send to Rose Marie Jisa, 12185 Pheasant Run Circle, North Royalton, OH 44133-5678. We will include it in our SGSI library collection.

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Help! SGSI is in need of volunteers to serve as SGSI Chapter Presidents or SGSI Chapter Co-Presidents of states/regions in the U.S. and abroad. The following members have indicated they will continue in their present positions:

President, State of Indiana	Sharon Miller
President, State of Ohio	Ed Oshaben
President, State of Texas	Mike Fox
President, Pacific Northwest Region	Gary Gorsha
Co-Presidents, Lake Superior Region	Elizabeth Delene, Upper Peninsula, Michigan Judy Jaukkuri, Lower/Central Michigan Terry Rugar, Minnesota Mary Lou Voelk, Wisconsin
Co-Presidents, Canada-Ontario	Frank Majzelj Frank Pinter

Of particular concern is having representation in areas where there are Slovenian populations such as Illinois, Pennsylvania, Colorado, California, Kansas, Wyoming, Montana, Florida, Canada—Pacific Northwest, Australia, Brazil, and Argentina. Primary responsibilities will be to keep your Chapter's web page on the SGSI website up to date and to list genealogy sources available to SGSI members in your state/region. Meetings will be optional; monies will be available for expenses such as printing and postage.

Please contact Rose Marie Jisa at sgsipres.rmj@ameritech.net if you are interested . . . we need YOU!!!

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