



OUR VOICE

Official Organ of American Mutual Life Association

A legal reserve fraternal insurance society successfully serving its members since 1910
when it was originally incorporated in Ohio as The Slovenian Mutual Benefit Association

OUR VOICE (USPS 415180)

Vol. 72, No.11

Thursday, November 10, 2011

More than 1200 AMLA Members Respond to Date Surplus Distribution Promotion Reaches Half-Way Mark

As the autumn nights grow longer and colder, AMLA's Special Surplus Distribution promotion continues to gain momentum as we approach the half-way point of the program. By the end of October, more than 1220 applications had been received in the Home Office for processing. This means that during the first six weeks of the program more than 16% of members receiving this special offer decided to take advantage of it. We expect that pace to continue with six weeks remaining before the promotion comes to a close on December 22nd.

In our last issue, we published the answers to a number of 'Frequently Asked Questions' in connection with the promotion. If you still need clarification on the terms of the offer, or if you no longer have the original application form that was mailed to you, contact the Home Office at 216-531-1900.

If you sent in your application and were notified that it could not be processed because it was incomplete or erroneous in some way, please make the necessary corrections and return the application without delay.

If you have put off making a decision until later, remember that if you wait too much longer you'll miss this unique opportunity to receive a Special Surplus Distribution insurance dividend to be used to acquire additional fully paid up permanent life insurance.

If you've already returned your completed application form and check but have not yet received your Paid Up Death Benefit Contract, we ask you to be patient for just a short time longer. Due to the heavy response to this promotion, the Home Office staff has been hard pressed to process all applications as quickly as we would like. We can assure you, however, that your new contract will be forwarded to you with a minimum of delay.

The Home Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Children's Christmas Party Registrations
Parents: Please make certain you fill out and return the postcard that came with the invitation for your children and grandchildren to attend the party. The deadline is Nov. 23.
The planning committee needs to know the number of attendees in each age category to have enough gifts available!

Meet New AMLA Members



Tyler A. Hribar who is three, is a new member of Lodge 27, into which he was enrolled by the Home Office via the initiative of his mom, Marlene F. Hribar, and his grandmother, Linda F. Hribar. Tyler's mom is a graduate of Cuyahoga Community College with an Associate degree in Science and for the last 16 years has been a mail carrier working out of the Willoughby Post Office.

Olga M. Petek is a new member of Lodge 8, into which she was enrolled by campaigner Vida Zak. She and her husband Frank reside in Wickliffe and have three grown children and three teenage grandchildren. A retired tax preparer, Mrs. Petek pursues an interest in Slovenian folklore dancing and customs. She is a member of the Slovenian American National Art Guild and the National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame.

Abigail C. Lesnak, the youngest daughter of George and Carolyn Lesnak of Parma, is a new member of Lodge 27, into which she was enrolled by the Home Office. Abigail's dad is a full-time active duty member of the Army National Guard and her mom is a full-time stay-at-

(Continued on page five)



"Fully Charged"

The Q Arena was "fully charged" on the morning of October 22, when 150 AMLA members attended the Ringling Bros. & Bailey's Circus! Our AMLA members sat up front for the Greatest Show on Earth and witnessed some of the most amazing acts. The all access power up pre-show was a great way to meet some of the performers and see a preview of the show. I heard a lot of positive comments from members regarding the circus and how much everyone enjoyed the show. Our photo above shows just a few of our members present, most of them in family groups. Thank you all so much for coming! Hope to see you all again at the Children's Christmas party on December 11!

Fraternally, **Lisa Kane**

AMLA's Annual Christmas Party

Members: Mark your calendars for the AMLA annual Children's Christmas party on Sunday, December 11, at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland. This is always by far the biggest fraternal event of the year! Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there to greet the youngsters, hear their wishes for Christmas, and for family photos. Again this year we'll have nice refreshments and beverages in the lower hall, too. The hours for the party are 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We hope a lot of you will come to the hall even if you don't have children or grandchildren attending the party. You'll be sure to see a lot of your AMLA friends and for many it'll be a visit back to the old neighborhood.

If your child received an invitation to the party, be sure to return the completed post card. See you December 11. **Lisa Kane**

OUR VOICE - GLAS ADZ

Official newspaper of

THE AMERICAN MUTUAL LIFE ASSOCIATION
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Dr. Rudolph M. Susel - Editor

No. 11 Thursday, November 10, 2011

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Lodge 59 — Cerknisko Jezero

We met after dinner at Dino's Restaurant in Willoughby on October 19. Congratulations to AMLA's new 50 year members listed in the previous issue. Unfortunately, our lodge didn't have any such members this year.

Hopefully you're taking advantage of the opportunity to gain additional paid up life insurance through AMLA's special promotion.

The Children's Christmas party will be Sunday, December 11 at the St. Clair Slovenian National Home. Complete and return your child's reply card to ensure he or she

will get a gift from Santa that is appropriate for their age. Please join us in donating baked goods for the party. You can drop off your donation at the Home Office on Friday, December 9, or bring it with you to the party.

At our November 14 meeting we'll nominate lodge officers for 2012. If you're interested in becoming an officer of Lodge 59, contact Carol Pozelnik at 440-257-7669, and plan to attend the meeting. We'll vote for officers at the annual meeting on Sunday, December 4, at 11 a.m., at Bravo on Route 306 in

Upcoming Our Voice Issues

The *Our Voice* appears on a monthly basis. Lodge reporters are urged to remain familiar with the dates of publication and the relevant deadlines for submission of articles. They are encouraged to submit their articles in Microsoft Word format to: rvoice@earthlink.net and digital photos in JPEG format.

Publication dates and deadlines through December, 2012 are:

Date:	Deadline:
December 15	December 7
— 2012 —	
January 12	January 4
February 16	February 8
March 15	March 7
April 13	April 5
May 10	May 2
June 14	June 6
July 12	July 5
August 16	August 8
September 13	September 5
October 11	October 3
November 15	November 7
December 13	December 5

Willoughby. Our November meeting is our last evening meeting until spring and so warmer weather. It is this Monday, the 14th, at 5:30 p.m., at Nick's Family Restaurant on Lake Shore Blvd. in Eastlake. Think about joining us.

Carol Pozelnik has 2012 AMLA calendars available. Call her and she'll arrange to get one to you or—better yet—come to our November session and pick one up!

Bonnie Blatnik

Lodge 45 Modern Crusaders

Crusaders have been staying busy this fall, helping out in a variety of community service projects. Since we were not able to sponsor an AMLA event this year, it was decided we would donate hours to community service for the balance of the year and plan an event in 2012.

Several members helped out at the Cleveland Food Bank sorting food, volunteering hours at a homeless shelter in Lake County, donating paper products and food to a local food drive. Also, this month, we are preparing and donating the evening meal at Project Hope for the Homeless.

Looking ahead to 2012, our November and annual meeting will be this Sunday, November 13, at the home of our secretary. We are always looking for a few new faces, so please plan to attend. Call Larry Young at 440-285-2605 for details and directions.

Please feel free to contact our lodge at any time at the number above or by e-mail at crusaders.aml@yahoo.com. Let us know of birthdays, anniversaries, and any other noteworthy accomplishments in the lives of our members. We would love to acknowledge them!

Fraternally,

Annie Lawrence

**Parents: Make Sure
You Return the
Christmas Party
Postcards!**

Annual Lodge Meeting Schedule — 2011 —

Lodge No. 1 Slovenec

A.M.L.A. Home Office, 19424 S. Waterloo Road, Cleveland
Sunday, December 4, 2011 11:00 A.M.

Lodge No. 9 Cleveland

A.M.L.A. Home Office, 19424 S. Waterloo Road, Cleveland
Sunday, December 4, 2011 11:00 A.M.

Lodge No. 12 Ribnica

Vittorio's, 29664 Euclid Ave., Wickliffe
Sunday, November 20, 2011 1:00 P.M.

Lodge No. 20 Bled

Slovenian National Home, 3563 E. 80th St. Cleveland
Sunday, November 27, 2011 11:30 A.M.

Lodge No. 22 Collinwoodske Slovenke

Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave., Cleveland
Saturday, November 19, 2011 3:00 P.M.

Lodge No. 24 Queen of Peace

Old Town Country Buffet, 1930 Snow Road, Parma
Tuesday, November 29, 2011 1:00 P.M.

Lodge No. 26 Soca

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130th St., Cleveland
Wednesday, December 21, 2011 1:15 P.M.

Lodge No. 27 Blejsko Jezero

Dubrovnik Gardens Restaurant, 34900 Lakeshore Blvd., Eastlake
Thursday, December 8, 2011 6:00 P.M.

Lodge No. 38 Martha Washington

Gateway Manor House Library, 4 Gateway Dr., Euclid
Wednesday, November 16, 2011 5:00 P.M.

Lodge No. 40 Clairwoods

Dubrovnik Gardens Restaurant, 34900 Lakeshore Blvd., Eastlake
Sunday, December 4, 2011 1:00 P.M.

Lodge No. 42 Slovenska Bistrica

Amen Corners, 20 W. Main Street, Girard
Saturday, December 3, 2011 1:00 P.M.

Lodge No. 45 Modern Crusaders

Larry Young's residence 216 Canfield Drive, Chardon
Sunday, November 13, 2011 12:00 P.M.

Lodge No. 50 Nas Dom

Maple Heights Library, 5225 Library Lane, Maple Heights
Sunday, November 13, 2011 3:00 P.M.

Lodge No. 59 Cerknisko Jezero

Bravo, State Route 306, Mentor, Ohio
Sunday, December 4, 2011 1:00 P.M.

Lodge 42 — Slovenska Bistrica

Lepa jesen, krasne barve, bliza se Zahvalni dan! — Greetings and best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving to all! Let us reflect and BE thankful for our families, our country, our freedoms, and our blessings from above.

Just a reminder — Our annual lodge meeting and Christmas party is planned for Saturday, December 3, at 1:00 p.m. at Amen Corners in Girard. We will be joined by members of Branch 55, Slovenian Women's Union. Please reserve the date for some great food, fun Christmas caroling, and just visiting with friends. Members are asked to donate non-perishables, paper products, or canned food for the Emmanuel Community Care Center in Girard. A 50/50 drawing will also be held, with donations allocated to the SWU Scholarship Fund.

Please, *prosim*, call me for reservations by Saturday, November 26 — at: 330-539-5893. *Hvala lepa!*

Veseli Zahvalni dan!

Nasvidenje, Maria Selak

Recalling AMLA's 100th Anniversary

Photos from the Celebration November 10, 2010 at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave.



FOR YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS — CONTACT YOUR Lodge Secretary or Campaigner

- 1 ** Joseph G. Zab 440.853.8022
9493 Deer Ridge, Mentor, OH 44060
LODGE MEETING 1st Sunday of the month
@ 10:00am Home Office
- 4 ** Louis Zigmund 440.256.3955
10518 Briar Hill Road, Kirtland, OH 44094
LODGE MEETING 1st Wednesday of the
month@1:00pm St. Vitus Village
- 4 ## Roseanne Jerina 216.741.3180
4359 West 56 Street, Cleveland, OH 44144
- 6 ** Janice Verch 440.285.5614
15065 Crimson King Trail Chardon, OH 44024
LODGE MEETING 1st Thursday of the month
@5:00pm Home Office
- 6 ## Theresa Aveni 440.256.4033
8082 Chardon Road, Kirtland, OH 44094
- 6 ## Joseph Petric 216.481.7167
21071 North Vine Street, Euclid, OH 44119
- 8 ** Anton Lavrishia 216.531.3413
1076 E. 176th Street, Cleveland, OH 44119
LODGE MEETING 1st Thursday of the month@
7:00pm Collinwood Slovenian Home, Holmes Ave.
- 8 ## Vida Zak 216.481.6247
1865 Sagamore Drive, Euclid, OH 44117
- 8 ## Maria Kristanc 440.256.3715
8715 Palomino Trail, Kirtland, OH 44094
- 9 ** Patricia C. Amigoni 216.531.8468
21051 Arbor Avenue, Euclid, OH 44123
LODGE MEETING 1st Sunday of the month
@10:00am Home Office
- 12 ** Carole Czeck 440.944.7965
988 Talmadge Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092
LODGE MEETING check Our Voice for details
Sunday@1:00pm Secretary home
- 20 ** Anna Mae Mannion 216.341.6136
4137 East 110 Street, Cleveland, OH 44105
LODGE MEETING 4th Sunday of the month
@ 12:00pm Slovenian Home E. 80th
- 22 ** Frank Koncilja 440.257.1021
6050 Thunderbird Drive, Mentor, OH 44060
LODGE MEETING 2nd meeting of the month@
6:00pm Collinwood Slovenian Home, Holmes Ave.
- 24 ** Rosemarie Pozarelli 216.524.1547
6165 Fieldstone Trail, Seven Hills, OH 44131
LODGE MEETING 3rd Tuesday of the month
@1:00pm Hometown Country Buffet
- 24 ## Lisa Kane 216.741.0406
2202 Tuxedo Avenue, Parma, OH 44134
- 26 ** Eleanore Simcic 440.842.3739
7349 Oakwood Road, Parma, OH 44130
LODGE MEETING 3rd Wednesday of the month
@1:15pm West Park Slovenian Home

(Continued on page seven)

This issue of the *Our Voice* carries the date of November 10, 2011, or exactly one year since November 10, 2010, when our *Zveza* celebrated its one hundredth anniversary. That celebration took place exactly one hundred years to the day since the founding of the Slovenska Dobrodela Zveza, our today's AMLA. So it is our 101st birthday!

If you don't recall your lodge number, please call the Home Office at 216-531-1900. We'll be delighted to respond to your inquiries!

Lodge 8 Member Turns Video into U. of Dayton Scholarship

At the right in our photo, taken from the Summer 2011 issue of the *University of Dayton Magazine*, is Amanda Morel, a member of Lodge No. 8. She is the daughter of Nancy and Michael Morel, and the granddaughter of Robert and Judy Morel. The article in the magazine, written by Sara Dorn, and with the title "How to make a video worth a \$40,000 UD scholarship" follows:



Incoming first-year student Amanda Morel didn't have any experience with video until she produced one that landed her a \$40,000 UD scholarship. The aspiring high school math teacher won enrollment management's video contest, "Your Question, Your Mark." Her burning question: "What factors promote long-term retention in the American high school's mathematics classroom?"

Winning was sweet — "I thought 'Oh my gosh, I'm going to be a Flyer,'" — but what made her video stand out? Morel has five tips she swears by. (Ed. note: "Flyers" is the UD nickname.)

1. Captivate Honesty was the best policy when asking her peers about math. "So many times students truly don't like math, so I told them to just be honest," she said. Morel is a natural star, too, with an obvious passion for teaching math.

2. Be concise Her original question was "What factors promote retention in the classroom?" but she narrowed in on high school mathematics. "You have to get really specific, don't be too detailed and get to the point," she said. And keep it under five minutes.

3. Perfect audio is a must Morel shot her video without a tripod. Luckily she has a friend who can edit video. Finding clear sound clips without the sounds of a high school hallway in the background was a challenge, but upbeat, subtle music complements the tone of the video.

4. Smooth moves Morel used creative transitions with music between student interviews, shots of classrooms and clips of her speaking. She also used a chalkboard-like font to emphasize points, introduce topics and cite her sources.

5. Variety show Morel featured dozens of students narrowed down from a massive pool of interviews done during study hall periods. "I got a wide range of classrooms," she said. "I wanted to get the entire high school, different teachers and different teaching techniques. I went to classes from transitional algebra to AP statistics."

AMLA congratulates member Amanda Morel on her success and we wish her the best as she continues her education. Thanks also to Vida Zak of Lodge 8 for passing on the article to us.

50 Memorable Years in AMLA



Carol Lesiak, a member of Martha Washington Lodge 38, is one of AMLA's class of new 50 year members in 2011. She was kind enough to send us her feelings about her half century in our organization:

"As the daughter of Carl and Josephine Stwan, I was raised in the spirit of fraternalism. As a child my family's social life revolved around lodge events. There were picnics in the summer, parties in the fall, and many get-togethers in the winter.

"As an adult I learned that fraternalism meant giving of yourself and in return you receive a much bigger reward.

"I've found that AMLA members give of their time and talents for the good of this organization. It makes me proud to be a 50 year member of AMLA and to carry on our Slovenian heritage.

"Fondly, Carol Lesiak"

AMLA expresses its thanks to Carol for her dedication to our *Zveza*.

Robert Szymanski Expresses Thanks

We received the following note from Mr. Szymanski:

Dear Sirs: Thank you for your letter of the 12th of October recognizing me with a \$10.00 check as a 50 year member. Naturally, I have a policy #9069 from Dec. 27, 1942 and have considered myself a 50 year member for many years. I would have sent a picture of myself 18-19 years ago when my real 50th year came but it was no big deal. Now, at soon to be 69, nobody wants to see what a 69 year member looks like!

Ed. Note: AMLA considers adult membership to begin

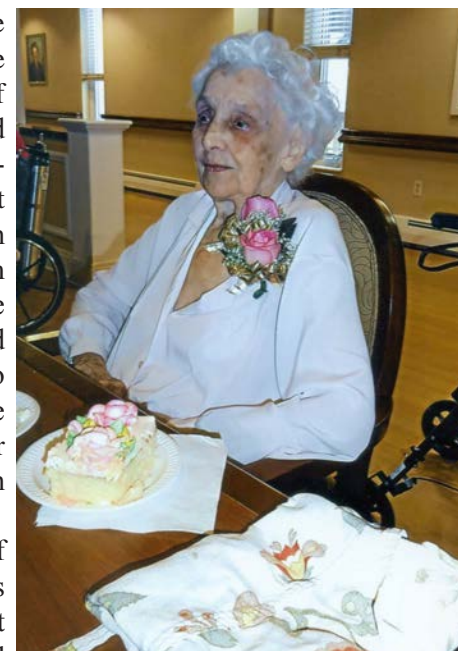
NUMBER NINE NOTES

Several members we have not seen in some time took advantage of the opportunity to attend our October lodge meeting, which was held at the annual Clambake on October 1. Among them were Rudy and Elinore Brundula, Frank and Mary Kure, Linda Szabo and Charlie Shaver. Sue and Brian Boehringer and daughters Elizabeth and Sara also joined us.

Likewise a number of Number Nine members that we don't often see at lodge meetings attended AMLA Family Day at the Circus on October 22. Among them were Tina and Luis Meza and Margo and Angie Amigoni.

Belated best wishes to our long time member Olga Maizel, who celebrated her 98th birthday with family and friends on September 13. Olga has been a member of our *Zveza* for over 80 years. We last saw her at this year's Join Hands Day project at the Slovenian Home for the Aged, and she looked great—as she does in our photo above from her birthday party.

Our annual meeting will take place on Sunday, December 4, at the Home Office upon the conclusion of our regular meeting, which will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. Following the annual meeting, we will again join with fellow AMLA members from Lodge #1 Slovenec for a combined Christmas social. A special invitation is extended to any lodge member who has never attended a meeting, as well as to those who haven't attended in a while, to join us for the December meeting. **Al Amigoni**



Olga Maizel on her 98th birthday!

Kras No. 8 Reporting...

President Celeste Frollo presided at our November 3 meeting. We stood in silence in memory of Edward March, 89, who died October 26. He is survived by his son, Randal. A member for 71 years, he resided in Willoughby Hills. May he rest in peace.

We welcomed new member Henry Bermidor-O'Donnell of Somerville, Mass.

Members present reported their very positive experiences at the recent Circus event. While it is a different kind of circus from bygone days, the non-cooperative tiger they saw undeniably was a throwback. We discuss-

when a when a young member turns 16. That is why Mr. Szymanski did not receive earlier recognition. Until then he was a member of the *Zveza's* juvenile division.

sed our December 1 Christmas party.

We then adjourned the regular meeting and began our annual one. Election of officers was the sole item on the agenda. Elected were: Celeste Frollo, president; Vida Zak, vice president; Sophie Matuch as recording secretary; Tony Lavrisha, secretary-treasurer and also reporter; Dorothy Smrtnik, Helen Joca and Rudolph M. Susel, auditors; and Jeanne Matuch, fraternal affairs coordinator.

Thank you to Joan Chermely and Val Cekada for the pastries they brought for our post-meeting social hour.

Our next meeting is Thursday, December 1, at 6:00 p.m. You're invited—just bring a dessert or a side dish. Call me at 216-531-3413 to let me know you're coming.

Tony Lavrisha



Enjoying a delightful day at the Circus October 22.

St. Anne's Lodge No. 4 Marks 100th Anniversary in AMLA



The officers of Lodge #4 — Front, l-r: Madeline D. Debevec, 1st vice president, and Emilee Jenko, president. In back, l-r: Stane Kuhar, 2nd VP; Ray Novak, auditor; Dolores Krause, treasurer; John A. Retar, auditor; Louis Zigmund, secretary.

Our lodge met Wednesday, November 2 in St. Vitus Village with president Emilee Jenko presiding.

We began with good news from lodge secretary Lou Zigmund regarding our recently concluded 100th anniversary celebration of the founding of St. Anne #4. Lou reported that more than 40 members were present October 8 at the 4:00 Vigil Mass in St. Vitus Church that was followed by a well prepared and served dinner in the Slovenian Room at St. Vitus Village.

Our lodge will realize nearly \$700 in net profit from the event. Our thanks go to Sophie Mazi and her dedicated staff for the wonderful dinner.

Lou mentioned a note of thanks to Anna Mae Mannion, AMLA 1st Vice President, for her kind words to our lodge, and to Joe Petric from Lodge 6 for his words and the nice plaque he presented. Lou also noted the presence of *Our Voice* editor Dr. Rudolph M. Susel. And I add my thanks to him both for coming and for the great dinner conversation, ranging from Slovenian culture to baseball.

Lou noted, too, that AMLA President Al Amigoni made a \$50 donation to the Stanley G. Zihelr Scholarship fund in honor of our lodge's 100th anniversary. We are also most grateful to Lodges 59 and 20

for their donations to our lodge for this occasion.

At our Nov. 2 meeting we gave a hearty greeting to Dick Mott, after his brief absence from our monthly sessions. We then concluded our regular meeting and convened our annual meeting for the election of officers for next year. After some discussion, the following were elected: Emilee Jenko, president and FAC coordinator; Madeline D. Debevec, 1st vice president; as 2nd vice president and lodge reporter, Stane Kuhar; Lou Zigmund, secretary; Dolores Krause, treasurer. Our auditors will be Ray Novak and John Retar. Our thanks go to these members for accepting their responsibilities. We also voted donations to the various charities our lodge supports.

Our next business was the planning for our December gathering and luncheon. It will be on December 7. All Lodge 4 members—and especially the thirteen who are observing 50 years of membership in AMLA this year, are invited to attend and urged to call Lou Zigmund by November 30 at 440-653-5154, this so our caterer will have an accurate count.

We noted that the following members are celebrating their birthdays in November: Ken Tomsick, John Retar, (Continued on page seven)

Lodge No. 1 News...

All our lodge members are invited to attend its annual meeting on Sunday, December 4, at 11:00 a.m. at the AMLA Home Office, 19424 S. Waterloo Rd. Lunch will be provided following the meeting.

For further information or for any questions regarding existing or new insurance policies, our lodge, or AMLA, please feel free to contact me by phone at 440-853-8022, or e-mail at nolamla@att.net.

Joe Zab

Lodge No. 24 Queen of Peace

Greetings to all lodge and AMLA members! I can't believe—as I write this—that the holiday season is upon us. The years seem to go faster than ever. The Surplus Distribution Program is under way and it is something of which all members should take advantage. This is another great benefit AMLA is offering its members. The deadline is December 22, so sit down and complete the form and get it in before the press of holiday activities starts.

Our next lodge meeting is Tuesday, November 29, at the Old Town Country Buffet in Parma.

Happy Thanksgiving to all lodge and AMLA members!

Rosemarie Pozarelli

Lodge No. 22

Here is just a reminder of our annual meeting. It will be on November 19 at the Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave., at 3:00 p.m. We will have election of officers, then enjoy refreshments, distribute door prizes and just a lot of fun. Every member is invited to join us. We're looking forward to seeing you! Unfortunately, we don't have any 50 year members in 2011.

I want to thank everyone who joined us October 16 at the Holmes Ave. hall for the polka tour event. The Joey (Continued on page seven)

Meet AMLA's Newest Members

home mom looking after not only Abigail but also siblings Timothy, Rachel, Samuel, Emily, and Nicholas. Abigail was enrolled in honor of her great-grandmother, Geraldine Blanc, who enrolled the children in AMLA except for the most recent two.

Abigail is a busy baby. She goes to the pool and watches her older siblings play soccer. A cordial welcome to Abigail



The six Lesnak children

and our other new members as well as thanks to those responsible for making them a part of our fraternal family!

Just a Thought from Lodge 50

October has passed us by...., where do these months go? I remember my Grandma Rezin talking about how much faster the time flies when you get older. I didn't understand the concept then, but I sure do now. I read somewhere that life is like a roll of toilet paper—the older it gets the faster it rolls!

Having just worked on my datebook, entering activities for November and December, I can see that the rest of this year should fly by. Of course, that means that our AMLA Christmas party will be here before we know it—on Sunday, December 11. Be sure to get your cards mailed back to the Home Office so that Santa's elves can get all the gifts ready.

One of our younger members, Rachel Gardner, is a true athlete. She participates in multiple baseball and volleyball leagues. She was most recently playing for Garfield Hts. Middle School on its

volleyball team. They played in a tournament at Cuyahoga Falls HS and finished third. Soon it will be time for her to start with a traveling volleyball league that takes them to tournaments in many large venues.

Rachel also played fall baseball for Garfield Hts. on a fast pitch league. In their championship game, Rachel brought in the winning run in the tenth inning and earned lots of hugs from her happy teammates. Her grandma, JoAnn Paluscsak, is the one who enrolled her in AMLA and who keeps me updated on her accomplishments.

There is lots of excitement in the Lampa household this month, this since Ken is officially retired as of November 1 and I will be celebrating my official "Medicare" birthday. Now there will be plenty of time for our driving adventures.

If you haven't already done (Continued on page seven)



Among the many dozens of family groups enjoying the Circus October 22 were Matt, Amanda and Andrew Fordyce.

Blejsko Jezero Lodge No. 27

This past year we tried different places and times to get more members to attend our meetings, but with minor results. Our October meeting was a little better attended. It might be because of the Halloween treat served by Mitzka and Pat Sands!

Our long time member Molly Blatnik passed away, but we were happy to welcome a new member in seven-month-old Abigail Lesnak (see photo on p. 5).

We will elect our officers for 2012 at our annual meeting. It will be December 8 at the Dubrovnik Gardens in the Croatian Lodge building on Route 91 and Lake Shore Blvd. It will start at 6:00 p.m. If you'll be able to come, please call 440-943-3784 by December 1. It will help us in our planning.

Our lodge reserved a table for the Joe Bradac dinner at the Slovenian Workman's Home on Waterloo. Joe is a member of Lodge 45 Modern Crusaders and is the man of the year for the Waterloo Hall. He is a hardworking volunteer at the hall and is the husband of member Mary Jean and the son-in-law of member Mary Lampe. It was a good pork chop dinner.

The AMLA Christmas party is Sunday, December 11. The setting up is the previous morning and helpers are welcome. The parents of the children are urged to return the cards to the Home Office as soon as they can.

There are a lot of events coming up. Attend as many as you can. Have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. *Pa se vid' mo!*

Matt Z.

Clairwoods Lodge No. 40

Did any one of you get to see the aurora borealis in the sky near the end of October? It does not usually come this far south. I still haven't adjusted to the darkness yet, in the morning or at night. But the colors are beautiful this fall. I've enjoyed them while driving in from Munson to Wickliffe.

Thanks to AMLA for the Circus event. I went with my daughter, Connie Jones, her

husband Mike, and their sons and my grandsons Ethan and Joshua. I have to say it was the best circus I've ever seen. It all came together nicely.

Congratulations to our 50 year member this year, Mimi Lisac. She is invited to our annual meeting and Christmas party on Sunday, December 4, at the Croatian Lodge on Rte. 91 and Lake Shore Blvd. It is in the Dubrovnik Restaurant and members are wel-

come to join us, but please do call Ron Jeric at 440-205-9358 so we can get an accurate count for the restaurant. This is a wonderful way for you to get to know your Lodge 40. We are looking for a great turnout. Ron has the details.

Don't forget about the Surplus Distribution Program now under way. It is a real deal. You can't get a better return on your investment.

Happy November birthdays to Michelle Surtz (on the 1st), Andy Stover (the 3rd), Richard Wozniak (9th), Kyle Kurzawa (the 23rd), Travis Jeric (the 27th), and to John Penca (the 28th).

Our next meeting is on November 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wickliffe Public Library on Lloyd Rd. off Euclid Ave. We have very nice meetings and would like to build up our attendance.

God bless you all!

Mary Ann Surtz

Lodge No. 6 Slovenski Dom

2011 has been great, but it is not waiting for us. We just had Halloween, now Thanksgiving is just ahead and after that Christmas. I hope the weather will be kind to us.

As you're reading this, our 100th anniversary celebration is over. I'll have details in my next report. We had an attendance of 58 and enjoyed a fine dinner.

Happy November birthday wishes are extended to the following: Virginia Kotnik (on Nov. 8), Robert Frank (the 13th), Ray Pugel (the 18th), and to Anthony Verch Jr. (the 19th). My own October 8 birthday was celebrated at our October lodge meeting with a delicious cake.

On October 8 I attended the St. Anne Lodge 4 centennial dinner as well as the 4:00 Mass at St. Vitus Church. I even sang in the choir; it was very satisfying. The dinner was in the St. Vitus Village Slovenian Room and was excellent. I presented a plaque to Lodge 4 from our Lodge 6 and it and my remarks were

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AMLA CLIP A COOKBOOK

Turkey Meatballs in Lemon Sauce

1 beaten egg	1 cup chicken or turkey broth
1/4 c. whole bran cereal	1/4 c. plain yogurt
1 t. Worcestershire sauce	1 T. corn starch
1 t. grated lemon rind	1 T. lemon juice
1 lb. ground raw turkey	1 small carrot shredded
2 T. cooking oil	1 green onion, sliced

In a bowl, combine egg, cereal, Worcestershire sauce and lemon rind. Add turkey and mix well. Shape into eight (8) balls, using about 1/4 c. for each. Brown meatballs in hot oil, then drain off fat. Add the broth. Cover and simmer for 20 mins.

Using a slotted spoon, transfer the meatballs to a serving dish — reserving the juices in a skillet. Cover to keep warm.

Sauce: In a bowl, combine yogurt, corn starch and lemon juice — add to the reserved juices in skillet. Cook and stir until mixture is thickened and bubbly. Cook and stir for two minutes more. Add carrot and onion. Pour over meatballs. Serves four.



This recipe comes from Mary Jean Bradac, a member of Lodge 27. AMLA thanks her for contributing to this monthly feature. Give her recipe a try!

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Recipes coordinated by VIDA ZAK

Mark My Words

by Larry Hocevar

Annual Meeting: The Martha's will have their annual meeting at the customary time and place — 6:00 p.m. in the library of #4 Gateway on Wednesday, November 16. A review of 2011, our plans for 2012 and our Christmas party will be the agenda items. We will also have election of officers. Anyone interested in taking an office please plan to attend the meeting.

Christmas Party: The Martha's will celebrate the Christmas season at Sterle's Slovenian Country House on Thursday, December 1. Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. will be followed by dinner at 6:30. Each member in attendance will receive a special gift from Martha. For reservations and additional information, call Susan Schumacher at 440-946-4260.

We will order from the usual Thursday menu.

Clambake: Seven Lodge #38 members attended the AMLA Clambake at the SN-PJ picnic grounds on October 1. Maple Heights Catering did its usual excellent bake.

Circus: The AMLA Family Day Circus event October 22 was attended by lodge members Daniel, Julie and Joshua Jankowski, Amanda, Andrew and Joanne Fordyce, Tommy and Julia Mansfield, and Rosemary Kozar. Many of our members have not been to the circus since they were children, when it was held in Cleveland's Public Auditorium. Quite a different and enjoyable evening.

50 Year Members: Lodge #38 congratulates our 50 year members, who are Rudolph

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Deaths Reported for October, 2011

Lodge #	Name:	Date:
1	Anthony F. Skettle	10-04
1	William A. Verbic	10-26
4	Carole Traven	10-14
6	Josephine Kalac	10-27
6	Mary Peters	10-17
8	Joseph J. Zakelj	10-13
12	John Greceovich	10-28
26	Frank L. Mahnic	10-24
27	Molly Blatnik	10-21
27	Mary Primc	9-29
27	Allan E. Sinkovic	10-11
30	Justine McGuire	10-10
38	Frank Bizily	10-03
42	Mary F. Fredericks	10-06
50	Pauline Moenich	10-26
50	Ronald J. Sternot	10-11

Lodge Secretaries, Campaigners and Lodge Meetings

(Continued from page three)

- 27 ** Matt Zabukovec 440.943.3784
29937 Enid Rd., Wickliffe, OH 44092
LODGE MEETING 2nd Thursday of the month @1:30 or 6:30pm. See "Our Voice" for details
- 30 ** Tim Ulle 440-354-6343
58 Hickory Hill Road, Painesville, OH 44077
LODGE MEETING 1st or 2nd Monday of the month @ 7:00pm American Slovenian Club, Fairport Harbor
- 38 ** Susan Schumacher 440.946.4260
35160 Dixon Rd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
LODGE MEETING 3rd Wednesday of the month @ 5:00pm Gateway Manor Library #4 Euclid
- 40 ** Ronald Jeric 440.205.9358
7324 Demshar Drive, Mentor, OH 44060
LODGE MEETING 3rd Thursday of the month @7:00pm See "Our Voice" for location
- 42 ** Maria Selak 330.539.5893
1058 Susan Lane, Girard, OH 44420
LODGE MEETING 1st Monday of the month @ 6:00pm., 1575 Norwood Ave., Girard
- 42 ## August Selak 330.539.5893
1058 Susan Lane, Girard, OH 44420
- 42 ## Lisa Garren 330.862.2449
3910 Fox Avenue, NE, Minerva, OH 44657
- 45 ** Larry Young 440.285.2605
216 Canfield Rd., Chardon, OH 44024
LODGE MEETING 3rd Sunday of the month @ 12:00pm., Home of Secretary
- 45 ** Gina Volpe 440.205.1618
6990 Ohio Street, Mentor, OH 44060
- 50 ** Olga Dorchak 330.468.7989
404 Dartmouth Trl, Sagamore Hills, OH 44067
LODGE MEETING 2nd Sunday of the month @ 2:00pm., Maple Hts., Public Library
- 59 ** Carol Pozelnik 440.257.7669
9321 Lorrinch Drive, Mentor, OH 44060
LODGE MEETING last Sunday of the month @ 11:00am., See "Our Voice" for details

** Lodge Secretary
Lodge Campaigner

The roster of Lodge Secretaries and Campaigners are individuals you may contact to obtain AMLA insurance. AMLA's plans of insurance are well designed to meet your individual needs. They include: Single Premium Whole Life; 3 Payment Whole Life; 20 Payment Whole Life; Ordinary Whole Life; Single Premium Juvenile Term to Age 30, and 20 Year Convertible Term. The premiums are competitive and suited to fit your budget. We're confident we can find a plan that will suit you and will fit within your budget.

Don't hesitate to contact your lodge's representative for any questions about insurance that you may have.

Remember that when contacting our secretaries or campaigners about becoming a member of AMLA, they will need to know the gender, date of birth, and whether they are a non-smoker or a smoker.

Why wait any longer, make your call today!!!!!!

Theresa Aveni, Secretary/Treasurer

Mark My Words

(Continued from page six)

T. Bukovec, Robert F. Cimperman, Joan Gregorcic, Carol M. Lesiak, Richard Menart, Marion A. Nirode, Kathleen Norton, Robert H. Szymanski, and James A. Troha. I hope some of them will be able to attend our Christmas party at Sterle's on December 1.

Condolences: The Martha Washington's extend our sympathy to the family of Frank Bizily, who died September 26 at the age of 97. He leaves daughter Sharon Konet, son Dale, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Mr. Bizily worked at the W.S. Tyler Co. for 42 years, and later at Margaret Wagner House, retiring at age 72. He was an avid golfer and devoted caregiver to his wife Genevieve, who preceded him in death on November 15, 2003.

Martha's Pearls: "The May 15, 1929 meeting was called to order at 8:45 p.m. by President Skully.

"Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as read."

"All officers were present."

Lodge No. 4

(Continued from page five)

Mary Yuhas, Betty Orehek, David Stanonick, Josephine Stinziano, and yours truly.

We noted in our closing prayer to keep both Rev. Vic Cimperman and David Stanonick in our daily prayers as they are both having serious health related concerns.

Remember December 7 at 1:30 p.m. in the St. Vitus Village Slovenian Room for our last meeting of the year and our Christmas social! Let Lou Zigmund know you're coming! Fraternaly,

Stane Kuhar

Lodge No. 22

(Continued from page five)

Tomsick Orchestra was great and people from the neighborhood were joined by many who drove in from far away. It was just like the old times!

Joyce Segulin

"A request was made for a girl to help at the S.D.Z. picnic to be held at Mocilnikar's farm on June 30. Sr. Skully volunteered to help.

"On further discussion of the Dance we found that it was a failure and we were \$24.50 short, but sister Kalsic encouraged us, stating that all the money was not turned in yet.

"Meeting was adjourned with prayer at 10:00 p.m."

The Martha Washington meeting of October 17, 1929 was brief, starting at 8:15 p.m. and adjourning with a prayer at 9:00:

"All officers were present. Minutes accepted as read.

"Cards were sent out for the basketball meeting. Those present could give no information regarding the meeting, so the subject was dropped.

"Minutes pertaining to money making were taken up, such as raffles, etc., but nothing definite was decided.

"Bunco parties will be held after the meetings."

Recalling History: *Ed. Note:* On October 26, 1971, *Cleveland Press* Nationalities writer Theodore Andrica wrote a column on the key to immigrants' success as he saw it. The column was submitted as part of this article, but its length precludes its reproduction in full, so I have abstracted it. The central point of the column was the view that the immigrants to America bought only what

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Slovenski Dom

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well received. Emilee Jenko, who is Lodge 4's president, was most appreciative of our fraternal gesture.

I must thank Stane and Margie Kuhar for their kindness in driving me from my home to the dinner and back.

I happened to speak to Rich Zele of the Zele Funeral Home the other day and was surprised to hear of his health issue, from which he has recovered nicely. Take care of

Lodge No. 50

(Continued from page five)

so, be sure to send in your applications for the Surplus Distribution Program that AMLA is currently offering. They have to be in the Home Office with the remittances no later than December 22.

Last, but not least, I hope you get this issue of the *Our Voice* in time to be reminded of our November lodge meeting. It will be held this Sunday, November 13, at 3:00 p.m. at the Maple Heights Library. Just ask one of the library personnel and they will direct you to the Committee Room upstairs. You'll enjoy seeing your fellow lodge members and socializing after the meeting.

Fraternaly,

- JoAnn Lampa -

yourself, Rich.

We extend condolences to the Sinkovic family on the recent passing of Allen Sinkovic. He was a former president of Lodge 27.

Remember that our December meeting will be on the 1st. It will be our Christmas meeting and will start at 6:00 p.m. in the AMLA Home Office. You are asked to bring a side dish or a dessert. The rest will be provided by the lodge. Also, please bring a gift with a value of up to \$5. Dorothy Lamm will be in charge of the games—maybe you'll be lucky. If you'll be able to attend, please give Theresa Aveni a call at 216-531-1900, Ext. 17, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. It will help us plan for a really fun evening.

We extend congratulations to our lodge's 50 year members for 2011. We'd like to see you at our Christmas party and meeting on December 1. Plan on joining us!

And to the parents of our youth members—be certain to return the post cards indicating they'll be attending the Christmas party on Dec. 11.

I and all the officers of our Lodge No. 6 wish you and yours a beautiful and enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday!

Joe Petric

Two more photos of AMLA at the Circus October 22. We're hoping for an equal success at our annual Children's Christmas Party set for Sunday, December 11 at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave.



Mark My Words

(Continued from page six)

they absolutely needed. This permitted them among other advances to fairly quickly purchase their own homes. Mr. Andrica writes: "Since all refugees lost their homes in the Old Country, the first thing they want to do when they get here is to buy a house. They are extremely punctual in paying the mortgage rates."

He argues the same principle of frugality applied to the clothing and food the immigrants purchased. Andrica cited several examples of this approach. He also emphasized the fundamental honesty of the immigrants. Of course, given that he wrote in 1971, Mr. Andrica focussed on European immigrants to America.

Although he did not mention Slovenians specifically (he referred to "Yugoslavs"), his observations certainly run very true to anyone who is himself or herself a Slovenian immigrant or the child of one or both. Mr. Andrica wrote four decades ago, but the recollection of the kinds of attitudes the immigrant generation had and followed then can prove useful to many confronting the economic stresses of today. If space will permit the entire article will eventually appear.

Glasbena Matica Sings in Concert with Dinner and Dancing



Mark Saturday, November 19, as a grand night for singing, dancing and dining. The Glasbena Matica Slovenian Singing Society invites you to "Sing, Sing! Sing! Sing!," a concert with dinner at the Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland. You'll enjoy favorite Slovenian melodies and familiar songs from Broadway, the movies and the Hit Parade.

The sopranos, altos, tenors and basses of Glasbena Matica will blend their voice to delight you with their repertoire. You'll listen to classic Slovenian art songs and traditional folk arrangements. There will be a special dedication to the late Lojze Slak, Slovenia's beloved bandleader and songwriter.

Thrill to a rousing choral rendition of Louis Prima's swing sensation, "Sing! Sing! Sing!, and other selections from Irving Berlin and the state. The singers present numbers from both America's and Slovenia's best-loved musicals, "The Sound of Music" and "Melodija Srca (A Melody of the Heart)," It's Glasbena Matica's tribute to what they do best — sing!

Start your evening with a home-style dinner prepared by Joe Tavcar. Happy hour opens at 4:30 with dinner serving at 5:30 and the concert at 7:00. After the curtain closes, stay for dancing with the Joey Tomsick Orchestra at 8:00. It's a great way to start off the year-end holiday season.

Angela Perrine directs the chorus with accompaniment by Michael Cercek and Glasbena Matica members. Admission to the concert, dinner and dance is \$25 per person. Tickets are available from chorus members and the Polka Hall of Fame, 605 E. 222 St. in Euclid. For more information, contact Lori Sierputowski at 440-449-5643.

When You Call the Home Office

When you phone the AMLA Home Office during regular business hours from a touch-tone phone, you can reach individual staff members directly by using their extension numbers. You can also leave a message for a return call. Just dial (216) 531-1900, then use the extension for the staff person you want to contact. If you're just calling the Home Office, you can wait for someone to come on the line (this is also necessary if you use a rotary phone). Each staff member now is also available via e-mail. The e-mail for *Our Voice* is: rvoice@earthlink.net. Below are the telephone extension numbers and e-mail addresses for every Home Office employee:

Ext.	Name	Position
10	Maria Kristanc amla-mek@earthlink.net	Staff
13	Roseanne Jerina amla-rfj@earthlink.net	Certificate Services Manager
16	Albert R. Amigoni amla-ara@earthlink.net	President
17	Theresa Aveni amla1@earthlink.net	Secretary-Treasurer
18	Carol Pozelnik amla-cap@earthlink.net	Staff
21	Patricia Amigoni amla-pca@earthlink.net	Staff
29	Vida Zak amla-vfz@earthlink.net	Staff

Below is a listing of departments and services and the extensions to use to receive appropriate assistance:

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Conversion Information	21
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Dividend/Paid-Up Addition Information	18
Insurance Rate Information	21
Life Insurance - New Business	21 or 29
Certificate Loan Information	13
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Ownership Changes	13
Name/Address Changes	29
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SWH Spaghetti Dinner

It will all be happening on Tuesday, November 29, at the Slovenian Workmen's Home

15335 Waterloo Road,
Cleveland, Ohio

For tickets: 216-481-5378

Dinner includes:

spaghetti, meatballs, salad,
dessert and coffee.

Cost: \$10.00 per person

There will be a cash bar.

Dinners will be served
from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Five door prizes will be
drawn for \$20 each.

Come and join your friends!

Hope to see you there!

Joe Bradac
Lodge No. 45

"CABIN FEVER"

BALINA / BOCCE / BALINCA

TOURNAMENT @ SWH

Slovenian Workmen's Home – 15335 Waterloo Road, Cleveland
Phone 216/481-5378 – E-mail: swh-waterloo@sbcglobal.net

MARCH 2 & 3, 2012

Entry fee \$10 per person (Includes a Sandwich & Soft Drink)
Double Elimination – Cash Prizes
Teams may consist of 4 Men, 4 Women or Mixed Teams
Play to 11 points or 45 minute games
Kitchen & Bar will be open
Entries must be submitted by February 25, 2012

For entry forms or additional information, contact:

JOE – 440/376- 8317, CHARLIE – 440/773-1470 OR RUDY 216/383-0612
Home – 440/729-3568



