

TCS Activity - January

Membership Meeting – January 16, 2021

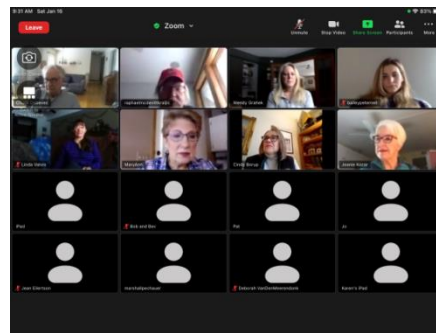
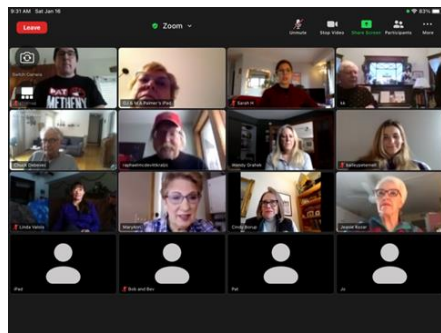


Dr. Seth Hawkins, with the technical assistance of Vince Chase – and support from John Perhay, took us on a virtual tour of the iconic Julian H. Sleeper House and Museum in St. Paul. Dr. Hawkins, an honorary member of Twin Cities Slovenians and resident museum curator, opened the Sleeper House in May of 1996. To enter the Sleeper House is to travel back to the 19th century. Furniture and decorations are true to the Victorian period - you have a sense that you have entered a time warp. A 5-day central European tour brought Dr. Hawkins to Slovenia

– where he became a lifetime devotee – and vowed to add an exhibition of Slovenian culture to the Sleeper House museum. This he did with vigor! Strolling through the myriad of displays with Dr. Hawkins, we encountered Kurantovanje masks, antique postcards of Postojna cave, photos and maps of Ljubljana, Piran, Ptuj and others. We saw Slovenian flags, umbrellas, native dress and much more. We all look forward to the day when we can return in person and share a cup of tea with Dr. Hawkins. Until then, this was just like being there.



Door prizes: Louise Morgan and Linda Valois each won a bottle of Slovenian wine – with personal delivery service by Norm and Mary Ann Setnicker.



CORRECTION- December Newsletter: In our summary of Sue Rademacher’s presentation, we mis-identified the church and her ancestors who married there. Sue’s GREAT-grandparents were married in Sv Jurij (St. George - not St. Nicholas). Our apologies, Sue – and thanks again for the great presentation!

Announcements

TCS Update – A message from our president – Mike Koski

You should have received my annual report with your membership donation renewal notice. I would like to give a brief update. First, let me say thank you to our members for their generous response to our renewal donation requests. Thanks to your generosity, we have a very strong bank account. Our biggest expense is the Festival of Nations, which did not take place in 2020 and will not take place in 2021. Also, not meeting in person at the New Brighton Community Center saves us money. The board voted to continue virtual meetings through May of this year. A decision has not been made about the fall. It is my hope, that beginning in September, we can again meet in person. There are several potential events for the summer still in the planning stages. These would be in person events and not virtual. We purchased a Zoom License last year, allowing for our virtual membership meetings and coffee hours. We have continued the wine raffle (without the need to purchase tickets!) and will do so through May. There will be an opportunity in February for additional door prizes.

Please contact Chuck Podominick (crpodomin@yahoo.com; 651-429-7331) if you have ideas for speakers or programs.

We strive to provide quality programs for our membership. The pandemic has required some creativity, but we continue to work to serve and engage our members.

At the last board meeting the 2021 budget was approved. It is available upon request at the email listed on page 4 under [US Slovenian Organization Sites/Links/Emails](#).

Thank you again for your generosity and for your support of the Twin Cities Slovenians!

Mike

2020-2021 Program Year – Program Updates

Saturday, February 20, 2021 (ZOOM)

Cindy Bradford will present "A Party in Ptuj: Kurentovanje Festival", the famous 10 day festival held in Ptuj each February. Cindy will recount her trip to the festival – prepare to be amazed!



Saturday February 27 9:30 – 10:45am (ZOOM)

Zoom Coffee Hour - Topic – General discussion

(Zoom link for the meeting will be sent on Friday, February 26th.)

Zoom in and enjoy a social hour with your fellow Slovenians – and Slovenian wannabe's.

Saturday, March 20, 2021 (Zoom)

Brianna Montgomery, lead wine trainer for Top Ten Liquors will present on Slovenian and Croatia wine. BYOW to toast our new Member of the Year – to be announced at the meeting.

This and That

St. Valentine's Day in sLOVENia



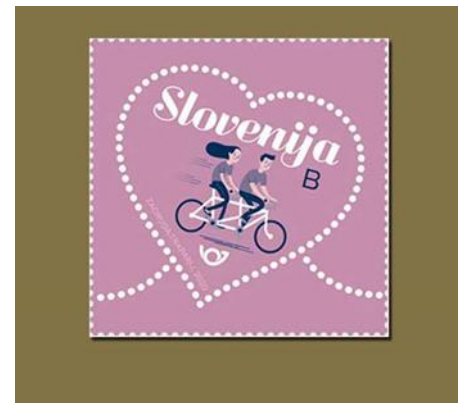
The Slovene version of **Valentine's day on February 14th** is called **St. George's day** and is celebrated on **March 12th**. This is when the “birds are merry and they get ready to be wed”, meaning the spring is coming and love is in the air. It is said that many years ago, for this occasion people used to dress up as brides, grooms and wedding guests, going around the villages asking for gifts, all for good luck. 😊

St. George's day also means that all the outside work on the farm can begin, due to the longer days and increased light. By tradition since lighting was not needed for daily tasks anymore,

people used to put the small lantern-like lights on the water and watch them float away. This tradition was forgotten after WW II, but it has recently started to come back to life.

Valentine's day has been known to Slovenes for a long time as well, but not in relation to romance. According to tradition, Valentin brings “the key to the roots”, meaning that the nature is ready to wake up, the winter is finished and people can start working in the fields.

These days, Valentine's day in Slovenia is a celebration of love. Small notes, chocolates, cards, flowers and all other sorts of gifts designed to show love. Shops are full of red hearts and red roses. Radio stations invite people to express their love on air; restaurants offer special menus for two, cinemas air romantic films, festival halls organize concerts and dances.



Hotels and thermal spas prepare their special offers for couples well in advance. Massage for two, romantic bath, weekend breaks in a romantic destination. All these offers have an aim to relax and to spend time with your loved ones and they are growing in popular demand. The most popular romantic destinations in Slovenia are **Bled, Piran** and other towns at the **Adriatic coast** as well as all **thermal spas** in Eastern Slovenia.

So, when you look for a new special gift to prove your love, whatever day it is, think about **sLOVENia**, the only country that carries love in its name 😊

Happy St. George day!



TCS Infomation

TCS Membership Renewal

This is membership renewal time for Twin Cities Slovenians. Thank you to all who have renewed your membership for 2021. Your participation and donations are key to the vitality of our organization.

To join/renew:

- Print the TCS Membership Form (attached).
- Complete the information requested.
- Mail with your donation to the address indicated at the top of the form.

Questions? Contact Jean Podominick at 651-226-3336 or tcslo2013@gmail.com

Zoom Meetings

For each scheduled membership meeting, you will receive an email announcement the day before the meeting. This announcement will contain your link to join the meeting.. Each meeting's link is unique... so be sure to use the current one. If you have questions about Zoom or would like to try a session, contact our Zoom Team: Elaine Barthelemy elaineab@yahoo.com

Or if you would like to become familiar with "Zooming", AARP has a great video – just click on the following link.... <https://www.aarp.org/home-family/personal-technology/info-2020/how-to-use-zoom.html>

Slovenian Information – Links, pages and emails

Slovenian Facebook Pages

Slovenska Kuhinja - Slovenian recipes
Slovenian Genealogy (Genealogy 2000)

Slovenian Links of Interest

Slovenian Consulate of Minnesota	https://www.sloveniaconsulatemn.org
Slovenian Genealogy Society International	https://www.sgsii.com
Slovenian Cultural Archives	http://www.thezaurus.com
Slovenian Tourist Board	http://www.slovenia.info/en

US Slovenian Organization Sites/Links/Email

Find us on Facebook:	Twin Cities Slovenians
Connect with SUA Website:	https://slovenianunion.org
Find SUA on Facebook (NEW!):	Slovenian Union of America
2021 TCS Budget (request)	TCSLO2013@gmail.com

If you have news to share – or a subject you would be interested in, please contact us at:
TCS Website: <https://twincitiesslovenians.org/>