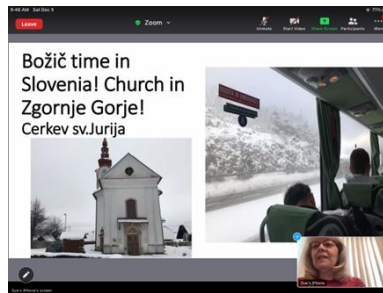
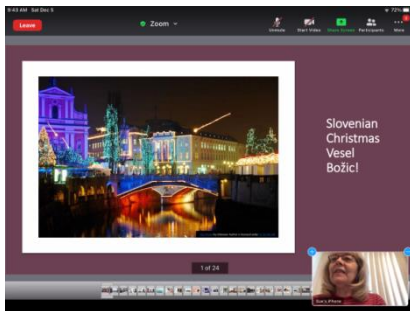


## TCS Activity - December

### Membership Meeting – December 5



**Sue Rademacher** entertained us with an excellent presentation entitled “Slovenian Christmas”. Her colorful slide show and narrative featured Slovenian Christmas traditions including the Feast of St. Nicholas and the three “Santas”: Sveti Miklavž, Santa Claus and Dedek Mraz. We were also treated to slides of Sue’s trip to Slovenia during The Feast of St. Nicholas. Great photos of Slovenia – including the beautiful church where Sue’s grandparents were married – St. Nicholas Church in Zgornje Gorje.



**Rich Samec** presented an enjoyable and varied program of Christmas music, food and traditions. We were treated to a variety of Christmas music performed by Rich on his button box, as well as selections from other artists. A great video on potica making by Edi Pečjak! It all ended with our favorite song – Cin Cin Cin (Jingle bells)!

Thanks to Rich for a great presentation!



If you missed these super presentations, you can view and listen to them on the TCS website:  
<https://twincitiesslovenians.org/>

# Announcements

## 2020-2021 Program Year – Program Updates

### Saturday, January 16, 2021 (ZOOM)



Honorary member, Dr. Seth C. Hawkins will conduct a virtual tour of the Julian H. Sleeper House – assisted by his technical staff. If you have not been to this wonderful house/museum, don't miss this opportunity. Dr. Hawkins has an amazing collection of all things Slovenian – as well as artifacts of interest to all. ... and no parking problems!!



### Saturday January 23rd 9:30 – 10:45am (ZOOM)

Zoom Coffee Hour - Topic – General discussion  
(Zoom link for the meeting will be sent on Friday, January 22nd.)

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

### 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!



### Member of the Year

Nominations for the 2021 Member of the Year are now being accepted. The **deadline for submission is January 26, 2021**. Members of the Year 2007 – 2020:

Miro Medved, Mary Ann Palmer, Mary Alice Schwanke, Frank & Mary Medved, Yvonne McComber, Sue Rademacher, Jean Rolstead, Norm Setnicker, Mike Koski, Rick Pisa, Chuck Debevec, Mary Ann Setnicker, John Zakej, Liz Miller

An illustrious list for sure! Who will be next??

## This and That



### Slovenians 1-2 Finish in Tour de France Distinctive and Significant

- *Analysis by Dr. Seth C. Hawkins, Julian H. Sleeper House Museum*

When two young and relatively unknown (but no longer!) cyclists from Slovenia finished first and second in the 2020 running of the famous and prestigious Tour de France, news reports were, as is so often the case, conspicuous by the absence of answers to questions that naturally and logically arose.

The race has been run for all but eleven years since 1903. Surely this was not the first time that riders from the same nation took the top two spots. One wondered which countries had done it, how often, and if any nation as far down the population tables as Slovenia would appear on the list.

The JHSH promptly phoned our top remote researcher, Greg Purello of Schenectady, New York. For both the JHSH and its Connecticut ancestor, the Gowie-Normand House, Greg has cheerfully, accurately and quickly served all manner of bizarre inquiries. Within two days, he had mailed a four-page, year-by-year report that revealed a unique record for Slovenia within the accomplishment.

In 107 Tour de France, the same country 1-2 finish happened 18 times, or 16.8%. Eight of these were in the first twenty years. The distribution of the 18 cases are:

11 – France	1 – Netherlands
2 – Italy	1 – Great Britain
2 – Belgium	1 – Slovenia

Slovenia is the only small nation with the distinction of 1-2 finishes in the same year. To a citizen of the USA, two of those nations may seem small, but that's not so. The Netherlands is 66<sup>th</sup> (top 35%) and Belgium 77<sup>th</sup> (top 39%) in population of 196 countries. Fully 73% of the nations of the world have more people than Slovenia.

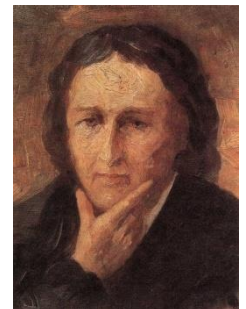
Therefore, Slovenia has the unique (in the true, strict meaning of that word) distinction of being the only small nation to finish 1-2 in any given year of the Tour de France. Having the topography of Vermont, Slovenia seems an excellent place to train for competitive cycling, since, to paraphrase an old folk joke, any long rural journey is “uphill in either direction.”

*Seth Hawkins at Julian Sleeper House*

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### Slovenian Culture Day

On February 8th, Slovenia celebrates Slovenian Culture Day – also known as Prešeren Day. Numerous events will be held all across the country, with the main celebration taking place in front of Prešeren's birthplace in the tiny village of Vrba. The ceremony in Vrba will be addressed by President Borut Pahor, who will also hold an open day at the presidential palace. In addition, a recital of Prešeren's poetry will be organized at the Prešeren monument in Ljubljana city center. Top national prizes for achievements in the arts are handed out on the eve of Culture Day. This year's recipients are author Tone Partljič and composer Ivo Petrič.



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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>

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## 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	<a href="https://www.sloveniaconsulatemn.org">https://www.sloveniaconsulatemn.org</a>
Slovenian Genealogy Society International	<a href="https://www.sgsii.com">https://www.sgsii.com</a>
Slovenian Cultural Archives	<a href="http://www.thezaurus.com">http://www.thezaurus.com</a>
Slovenian Tourist Board	<a href="http://www.slovenia.info/en">http://www.slovenia.info/en</a>

### US Slovenian Organization Sites

Find us on Facebook:	<b>Twin Cities Slovenians</b>
Connect with SUA Website:	<a href="https://slovenianunion.org">https://slovenianunion.org</a>
Find SUA on Facebook (NEW!):	<b>Slovenian Union of America</b>
Membership and Newsletter email:	<a href="mailto:TCSLO2013@gmail.com">TCSLO2013@gmail.com</a>

If you have news to share – or a subject you would be interested in, please contact us at:

TCS Website: <https://twincitiesslovenians.org/>