

# The Twin Cities Slovenian

June 2020

#### Statehood Day (Dan državnosti) - June 25th



**Statehood Day** (*Dan državnosti*) will be celebrated on June 25<sup>th</sup>. This Slovenian national holiday celebrates Slovenia's declaration of independence from Yugoslavia. In December of 1990, Slovenia held a referendum on the independence of their country. Slovenians voted



in favor of establishing the independent Republic of Slovenia by 88.5%! Legislation relating to independence was passed on June 25, 1991 and the independence of Slovenia was publicly declared on June 26, 1991.

The declaration of independence also triggered the 10 Day War with Yugoslavia. This conflict played out primarily at border crossings, military installations and the Brnk airport, and resulted in less than 100 fatalities. It ended with the Brioni Declaration, recognizing the independence of Slovenia and Croatia. For more on the 10 Day War: <a href="http://www.sloveniatimes.com/slovenia%E2%80%99s-ten-day-war">http://www.sloveniatimes.com/slovenia%E2%80%99s-ten-day-war</a>

#### Member News - James A. Kotchevar

We are sorry to report the passing of James Kotchevar, long time Twin Cities Slovenian member and faithful Slovenian language class member.



James A. Kotchevar (April 21, 1932 – May 4, 2020), age 88 of Minneapolis, passed away May 4, 2020. Survived by loving wife of 57 years Ethel; son Jim (Carmela) Kotchevar; three daughters Anne (Alessandro) Faldi, Mary Kotchevar & Toni (Tony) Tallman; three granddaughters Gabriela, Susana and Veronica Kotchevar; grandson George Tallman; three sisters Elinor Zgonc, Terese (Carroll) Claeys and Mary Jean Nilsen. Preceded in death by parents Mayme and Anton Kotchevar. Jim was born on April 21, 1932 in Ely and excelled in sports at Ely High School, Class of 1950. He was a teacher at Tracy High School, Minnepolis Franklin Junior High, West, Washburn and Southwest High Schools. He was a proud Slovenian and Iron Ranger. Private

Mass of Christian Burial Tuesday, May 12 at the Church of the Holy Family, 5900 W. Lake St., St Louis Park. Int. Ely City Cemetery, Ely, MN. Gearty-Delmore 952-926-1615 gearty-delmore.com *Published on May 10, 2020 – Minneapolis Star-Tribune* 

#### **Announcements**

#### 2021 Calendar - Rick Pisa

Thank you to all who have submitted photos for the 2021 calendar. There are some great photos – and the board faced a tough challenge in selecting the finalists. We are confident that the 2021 edition will be a great addition to your collection, and, of course, will make a fine gift. (Think, Christmas, 2020!)

- Winners of the contest (those who have had their photos selected) will receive a free calendar and will be notified by June 12th. The 2021 calendar itself will be unveiled in the fall of 2020 at our September meeting or, if we are unable to meet, electronically.
- Since we do not yet know the schedule for resuming our meetings, ordering and distribution will take place by mail. There will be two opportunities to order calendars.
  - <u>Pre-order</u>: Order your calendars by <u>July 31st</u> and receive the fantastic pre-order price of \$12.00 per calendar!
  - <u>Final order</u>: Order your calendars by <u>September 15th</u> at the regular price of \$14.00 per calendar.
  - All calendars will be mailed on or about October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The 2021 Calendar pre-order form is included below. Please print, fill in the information, and send your order and check to the specified address no later than June 30. The calendar sale is our major fund raiser and helps cover our costs throughout the year. (Did we mention that they make excellent gifts!) We hope to hear from you soon!

Pre-Order Form – TCS 2021 Calendars

Name

Street

Apartment #

State

Zipcode

Number of Calendars Ordered

Total Amount Enclosed (Number x \$12.00)

Date ordered

Send Order form and check to: Twin Cities Slovenians

c/o Chuck Podominick 520 Koehler Road

Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Make check payable to: **Twin Cities Slovenians** 

## Slovenian Stamps - Dr. Seth Hawkins

Every March or April, the Julian H. Sleeper Museum's Special Exhibition on Slovenia receives its standing order of a philatelic "year set" to bring the collection up to date, starting with the very first 1991 issues. The 2019 stamps are now catalogued and placed in standard varied albums, awaiting your perusal when the JHSH re-opens.

Here is a selection of the 2019 issues. Bears and hydrangeas have strong visual appeal. A set of five stamps in a series in one year is unprecedented for Slovenia, but, the kozolec is a powerful and beloved icon.





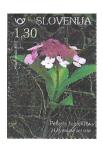
























## Slovenian Sayings - and how to use them



- 1. Slovenians don't get a hangover... They "have a cat" (*Imam mačka*).
- 2. And when it's a particularly bad hangover they.."Have a tiger" (Imam tigra).
- 3. A Slovenian does not express good fortune... They say "my axe fell into the honey" (*Sekira mi je padla v med*).
- 4. Slovenians don't give up... They "throw a rifle into the corn" (*Vržemo puško v koruzo*).
- 5. A Slovenian is not guilty... They "have a lot of butter on their head" (*Ima veliko masla na glavi*).
- 6. Slovenians don't throw up... They "call the reindeers" (*Kličemo jelene*).
- 7. They also don't move away or die... They go to "whistle to the crabs" (Šel je rakom žvižgat).
- 8. Slovenians don't laugh out loud... Rather they "smile like a roasted cat". (*Smeji se kot pečen maček*).
- 9. A Slovenian won't say "Bloody Hell!"... They'll say, "Three hundred hairy bears!" (*Tristo kosmatih medvedov*).
- 10. They also don't get fired... But do "get put on the shoe". (Dali so ga na čevelj).
- 11. A Slovenian is not broke... They are "on the dog" (On je na psu).
- 12. Neither are they bankrupt... Rather they "reached the drum" (*Prišel je na boben*).
- 13. A Slovenian won't cheat on you... But they will "jump over the fence" (Skačejo čez plot).
- 14. Slovenian's won't ask you to go away... They'll say, "go get yourself salted!" (Solit se pojdi).
- 15. You'll never hear of a Slovenian making a bad deal... But you will hear, "we bought a cat in the sack" (*Kupil je mačka v žaklju*).

### Slovenian Riddle of the Month - What am I?)

Če me s koli mlatijo ali s sablami sekajo, se ne solzim; če me le majhen otrok v roke prime in stisne, se pa koj solzim.

(English: If I am beaten with a sword or cut with a saber, I do not weep; if only a small child holds me in his arms and squeezes me, I will weep.)

Email your answer (in Slovenian or English) by June 25<sup>th</sup> to: **TCSLO2013@gmail.com**The first person to submit the correct answer wins a FABULOUS prize!! Winner and correct answer will be announced in the July newsletter.

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

TCS Website: https://twincitiesslovenians.org/ Find us on Facebook: Twin Cities Slovenians

Membership and Newsletter email: TCSLO2013@gmail.com