

TCS Activity - February

Membership Meeting – February 20, 2021

Cynthia Bradford presented "*A Party in Ptuj: Kurentovanje Festival*", recounting her 2019 trip to the famous 10 day festival held in the city of Ptuj each February. She shared their experiences via a wonderful Zoom slideshow of the sights and sounds of this famous festival, as well as a visit to the Ptuj Regional Museum and Ljubljana.

Cynthia was motivated to visit the festival by Dr.Seth Hawkin's presentation at the Julian H. Sleeper House a few years ago. So, in 2019, she and daughters Jill and Meredith, decided to take the Ptuj plunge. What they found was a marvelous cacophony of parades, traditions, food, sights and sounds that would provide memories for a lifetime. We were entertained by images of the famous Kurent mask wearers marching through the ancient streets of Ptuj, as well as marching bands, scary whip-crackers and costumed characters of all descriptions. Amazingly, the huge parade they witnessed, was only one of several parades taking place during this ancient pagan festival.... And described by locals as much smaller than the main event!

Sights of Kurentovanje



Door prizes:

Wine Winners: John Zakelj, Deborah VanDenMeerendonk

Sleeper House Calendar Winners: Kendra Kauppi, Denise Perhay, Sue Rademacher, Lawrence Debelak, Chuck Podominick, Chuck Debevec, Sarah Huska, Rick Pisa, Patrice Pakiz, Marion Brezovek

Slovenian Calendar Winner: Mary Rom

Announcements

2020-2021 Program Year – Program Updates

Saturday, March 20, 2021

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

Saturday March 27 9:30 – 11:15 (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, April 17, 2021 (Zoom)

Video – “A Walking Tour of Ljubljana – Tom Hall

Saturday, May 15, 2021 (Zoom)

Slovenia – World War II – Pat Dillon and Chuck Debevec

Do you have a topic to share? .. or a suggestion for a program?

Contact Chuck Podominick (crpodomin@yahoo.com)

2022 Calendar Photo Contest

Once again we will be offering our Twin Cities Slovenians calendar (2022). As such, we need your beautiful photos of Slovenia.

- They cannot be copyrighted or commercial pics.
- As long as you have a “connection” to them (yours, your relatives or friends, etc.) you can “claim” them and we can use them.
- If you are lucky enough to have "old" pictures of Slovenia, we would be happy to consider them.
- Pick the best that you have (up to 5-6) and send as e-mail attachment to Rick Pisa (rickpisa@gmail.com).
- Please identify the location of each photo and add a brief description if you can.
- Landscape-type (wider than tall) photos will work best. They should be of high quality (pixels), since they will be enlarged to fit 8 ½ x 11 inch size.
- By sending the photos, you agree that your name and photo may be used in our new calendar.

Please send photos by May 15th, 2021 to the above listed e-mail address.... You are guaranteed to have at least one of your photos in the final board selection process. Good Luck & start searching!



Winners of the contest (those who have had their photos selected) and the 2022 calendar itself will be unveiled in the fall of 2021.

Calendar order forms will be sent at a later date, along with pricing information. Due to the uncertainty regarding in-person meetings, calendars will again be delivered via US mail.

This and That

Slovenian Author Dragar Jančar

Slovenia is the only EU member state that celebrates its cultural holiday as a public holiday, with a day off work. To this end, this week Tamara Weingerl Požar, deputy permanent representative of Slovenia to the EU (COREPER I), presented copies of Drago Jančar's book *To noč sem jo videl* (I Saw Her That Night) in English, French, or German translations to her colleagues as a gift. In addition, she presented the cultural-promotional project [Europe Readr](#).



Europe Readr is a project initiated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia on the occasion of the upcoming Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union in July 2021 and realized in cooperation with EUNIC. Europe Readr aims to foster reading culture and critical thinking across societies about the future of living, support the creation of public spaces for exchange and debate on shared European values, dialogue on the European Green Deal, sustainability and urbanism through a curated program of activities.

The writer, playwright and essayist Drago Jančar is the most translated Slovenian author. He draws inspiration from history and life in all its nuances. He has received numerous awards for his work, including four Kersnik Awards for his novels, the Prešeren Award for lifetime achievement, the Herder Prize for Literature, and the Austrian State Prize for European Literature. The Slovenian Writers' Association has nominated him for the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Donations - Julian H. Sleeper House – Special Exhibition on Slovenia

Are you interested in donating to the Julian H. Sleeper House Exhibition on Slovenia? Dr. Seth C. Hawkins has provided some suggestions.

Main Criterion: Artifacts that illustrate and explain Slovenian history and culture. Items relating to the emigrant culture as exported and altered will be useful.

- Antique and recent items that reflect and illustrate everyday home and business life, such as household goods and implements. Antique advertising tins, periodic and commercial brochures, transit maps and timetables, restaurant menus in good condition; items with logos.
- Small musical instruments, decorative objects, homemade folk art and crafts, even compact disks (CD's) with clever covers.
- Items relating to festivals, holidays, small towns, unusual tourist sites, celebrities, businesses unique to a region or locality.
- Items that are one of a kind, rare or illustrate something.

Not sure? Contact the Julian H. Sleeper House at [651-225-1505](tel:651-225-1505)

Interested in visiting the Julian H. Sleeper House Museum or becoming a member? Check out the opportunities on their website:

<http://www.julianhsleeperhouse.com/>

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/>