

MILANOVICH KICKSTARTING SUCCESS



by Cissy Rebich

SNF Member John K Milanovich, of Bozeman, Montana, grew up in the Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church in Butte, which celebrated its 100th Anniversary in July 2004. While attending his home parish's celebration, John visited his father, local orthodontist and SNF member Philip J. Milanovich who in his free time as problem solver, creates inventions and patented designs. Among the designs Dr. Milanovich showed to his son that day was a tire pressure indicator "RightPSI" which screws directly onto your tire valve stem and has a color-coded cap to show when your tires are underinflated, correct pressure, or overfilled.

Several years later, after much testing and some improvements, they showed the gadget at a Specialty Equipment Manufacturers Association (SEMA) show in Las Vegas. Not only did it win Top Pick from SEMA but it received the Popular Mechanics Editors' Choice Award for outstanding achievement in new product design and innovation.

John received a MBA from Willamette and spent years as an investment consultant in Portland and with Credit Suisse in San Francisco, where he attended St. John the Baptist Serbian Church on Turk Street. John and his wife, Anita, were married at Holy Trinity Church, Butte, in August 2013 and John's family, parents, and grandparents are mem-

bers of Lodge 36-Crnogorsko Literarno Društvo, Butte. His maternal grandparents served as Lodge 36 officers and both parents' families were instrumental in the building and perpetuation of Holy Trinity Church. The Milanoviches also connect to the SNF via John's uncle, who is Dan L. Voyich, 2007 SNF Person of the Year.

In a search for capitalization and funding of the "RightPSI" design, John landed on Kickstart, where in a mere three days RightPSI became 75% funded. When the company reaches its \$20,000 goal, RightPSI will launch into production. The Kickstarter campaign can be found at: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/rightpsi/rightpsi-tire-pressure-at-a-glance>



Top: the "RightPSI" tire indicator
Left: Dr. Philip and John Milanovich
Right: John Milanovich receiving a Popular Mechanics award

200 YEARS OF SERBS IN THE UNITED STATES

by Milos Rastovic

On Vidovdan, June 28, the celebration of "200 Years of Serbs in the United States" will take place in Philadelphia, PA. In support of this event, St. Luke Serbian Orthodox Church in Washington D.C. and the Serb National Federation sponsored a lecture "200 Years of Serbs in the

United States" at St. Luke's in Washington D.C. on February 16.

Following Divine Liturgy, Father Aleksa Micich welcomed to all visitors. John Martich, 1st vice President of



Milos Rastovic



John Martich



Dr. Krinka V. Petrov



Aleksandar B. Slavkovic

the Serb National Federation, extended greetings to the hosts and all visitors on behalf of the Serb National

Federation. He congratulated the St. Luke community for their great
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support of this lecture.

Milos Rastovic talked about the history of Serbs in the United States including the history of the SNF. The first Serbian immigrants arrived to the United States in the early nineteenth century. According to Dr. Krinka V. Petrov, Serbian-American history can be divided into several periods. During the first period from 1820 to 1880, Serbian immigrants came from Montenegro (The Bay of Kotor) and Dalmatia and settled American coastal towns (New Orleans, Galveston, and San Francisco) that they found similar to their native lands. During the second period from 1880 to the second decade of twentieth century, many Serbian immigrants came from Krajina (Lika, Kordun, and Banija), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Vojvodina. A lot of the Serbian immigrants from Krajina settled in Pennsylvania; immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina settled in Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, and Wisconsin; immigrants from Montenegro settled in Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Illinois, and im-migrants from Vojvodina settled in Ohio (Cleveland and Akron).

Throughout their history, many Serbs became successful and respected citizens of the U.S., such as Congressmen, Oscar and Pulitzer winners, and heroes from World War I and II. Serbian immigrants and their descendants have built hundreds of Christian Orthodox churches across the country where they gather to preserve their ethnic and religious identity. The SNF sponsored the “200 Years” lecture at the Cathedral of Learning University of Pittsburgh on February 24. The English Room was used to accommodate the large crowd that turned out. Visitors were very inquisitive to hear the presentations including the history of the Serb National Federation.

Presenters were Aleksandar B. Slavkovic, Dr. Krinka V. Petrov and Milos Rastovic. Slavkovic, author of the book *The Immigrant, The Judge Fisher Story*, talked about Djordje Sagic, later known as George Fisher, the first Serb in America. Slavkovic described Sagic’s adventure spirit who pulled him to sail across the ocean to America through the Philadelphia port. Sagic was born in 1795 in Hungary by Serbian parents. After his father passed away, he was sent to a Serbian Orthodox Church School in Srem-ski Karlovci where he prepared himself to be a priest. However, in 1813 during the Serbian Upris-ing against the Ottoman Empire, Sagic left the school and fought for the independence of Serbia. When he came to the United States, he fought for the inde-pendence of Texas and Mexico. In Slavkovic’s story about Sagic, we heard about Sagic’s extraordi-nary talent for foreign languages. Because of his knowledge of many foreign languages, he worked as a translator in many public services. When he moved to California, he became a judge, and was involved in building the first Orthodox churches. He was an honorary consul of Greece. He died in San Francisco in 1873.

Dr. Krinka V. Petrov, who was professor at the University of Pittsburgh and Serbian Ambas-

sador in Israel, pointed out her work at the Serb National Federa-tion and the importance of the *American Srbobran*, the oldest continuously publish Serbian newspaper in North American continent. She edited the book *Serb National Federation First 100 Years* among many others about Serbian-American history. She told interesting stories about Serbs in California and how they built their first Orthodox churches. One of the most distinguished Serbian figures there in those times was John Dabovich, who became the first American born Serbian priest. Father Dabovich was involved in establishing the first Serbian Orthodox parish in 1892 and built the first Serbian church in North America in 1894 in Jackson, California.

I gave a historical review of 200 years of Serbs in the United States based on Dr. Petrov’s works, highlighting the most important points in Serbian his-tory in the United States from the early nineteenth century to World War II. When Serbian immigrants came to the New Continent, they tried to organize in several ways. They established many cultural societies, fraternal organizations, churches, parishes and schools. They usually named these after Serbian rulers, writers, towns or saints. For instance, Czar Dusan, Karadjordje, Belgrade, Njegos, St. Sava, and Kosovo.

According to Marinel Mandres, there are more than 53,000 Serbian topographies in North America.¹ The Serbian name that most often appears in the United States is Belgrade, in 11 states. For example, there is a Post Office Belgrade in Colorado; Belgrade Lakes, North Belgrade, Belgrade Depot in Maine, as well as towns and cities named Belgrade in Illinois, Minnesota, Montana, North Caroline, Virginia, Texas, and others. At the end of nineteenth century, a town was established in California in honor of Nikola Tesla. This town was the most productive coil town at the end of nineteenth and early twentieth century in California.

The Tesla Science Foundation (TSF) will host the historical cel-ebration of “200 Years of Serbs in the United States” in Philadelphia, PA on Vidovdan, June 28, 2014. The celebration will be held at Independence National Historical Park where both the Declaration of Independence was signed and the founding of the Constitu-tion took place. TSF with others will celebrate contributions of all known and unknown men and women of Serbian heritage, Ser-bian organizations, and Serbian Orthodox Churches. They invite you to join this historical celebra-tion by representing your organi-zation, church, group, or commu-nity; bring your artists, dancers, musicians, inventors, speakers, teachers and businessmen.

The exhibition “Tesla’s Nation” about Serbian contributions to building of the United States will be shown in here and in Serbia and the Republic of Srpska. Let us show our strength by highlight-ing Serbian cultural, business, scientific, military, and sport contributions to the Americas and to world culture in general.

You are encouraged to submit your proposal and program at phillyvidovdan2014@gmail.com You can also visit the Facebook page “200 Years of Serbs in the United States.” A website will be launched soon.

NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION LODGE OFFICERS

File Form 990-N by May 15

It’s time to file Form 990-N (e-Postcard).

IRS REGULATIONS require each SNF lodge to file a short, online form electroni-cally by May 15 of each year if the lodge’s tax year ends on December 31. There are no exceptions.

If you do not file this form for your lodge by May 15, your lodge will lose your tax exemption and will be required to file an-nual Federal tax forms even if your lodge has no income. Failure to file Federal tax forms could result in fees and penalties.

- Here is a list of information that you need in order to file the online Form 990-N:
- Employer identification number (EIN), also known as Taxpayer Identification (TID). You can find this number on the bank statement for your lodge. If you do not know your lodge’s EIN, do not use the SNF’s. Please contact the Home Office at 412.642.7372.
 - Name of Lodge, Lodge #, and Lodge mailing address.
 - Name and address of the Lodge’s principal officer.
 - Confirmation that the Lodge’s annual gross receipts are less than \$50,000.

Once you know the above information, go to the e-Postcard website address, which is: www.epostcard.form990.org

Register as a new user, or enter your pre-viously registered login and password. Follow the directions to create and submit your lodge’s Form 990-N (e-Postcard).

If your lodge does not have anyone available to file this form, please contact the Home Office as soon as possible at 412.642.7372.

The Board of Directors has approved reorganization and merger for SNF lodges who lost tax exemption status and were unable to file applications for re-instate-ment. The following lodges will be contact-ed by our President, Michael Marjanovic, regarding merger with another SNF lodge.

1. Steubenville, OH/ Lodge 22
2. Sacramento, CA/ Lodge 29
3. Clairton, PA/ Lodge 88
4. Cincinnati, OH/ Lodge 101
5. Chisolm, MN/ Lodge 116
6. Toledo, OH/ Lodge 137
7. Jackson, CA/ Lodge 144
8. Hazelton, PA/ Lodge 166
9. Escondido, CA/ Lodge 176
10. Lyndora, PA/ Lodge 175
11. Ambridge, PA/ Lodge 188
12. Bovey, MN/ Lodge 242
13. Ambridge, PA/Lodge 188
14. Park Ridge, IL/Lodge 86

AMERICAN SRBOBRAN PUBLISHING DATES & DEADLINES FOR 2013

As approved by the Board of Directors of the Serb National Federation

DEADLINE DATE	PUBLICATION DATE
MAR 21	APR 2
APR 4	APR 16
APR 18	MAY 7
MAY 9	MAY 21
MAY 23	JUN 4
JUN 6	JUN 18
JUN 20	JUL 2
JUL 3	JUL 16
JUL 18	AUG 6
AUG 8	AUG 20
AUG 22	SEP 3
SEP 5	SEP 17
SEP 19	OCT 1
OCT 3	OCT 15
OCT 17	NOV 5
NOV 7	NOV 19
NOV 21	DEC 3
DEC 5	DEC 17
DEC 19	JAN 7

75th Basketball Tournament

June 6-8, 2014
North Canton, OH
Hosts: St. George Serbian Orthodox Church and SNF Lodges 143 and 223

SNF Three Day

July 18-20, 2014
Pittsburgh, PA
Hosts: Tri State Lodges

73rd Summer Golf Tournament

July 31 - August 2, 2014
Merrillville, IN
Hosts: St. Elijah Serbian Orthodox Cathedral and SNF Lodge 170

SNF BOARD MEMBERS

President:
Michael Marjanovic
1st Vice President:
John Martich
2nd Vice President:
Peter Raketic
Secretary:
Melicent Bielich
Treasurer:
Greg Volitich
At Large Members:
John Lovrensky
Dane Medich
Milana Milosh
Rob Zurich
George Mistovich
Ted Potkonjak

HAPPY WISHES

Send your message (including the special event date) to “Happy Wishes” c/o Radoja, 1255 Blue Bell Trail, Schererville, IN 46375 with a check made payable to the SNF for only \$5!

Include a photo if you want for no extra charge. (If photos are to be returned, you must include self-addressed stamped envelope).

MEMBERS ONLY

Take a picture or send us one you already have. To submit, email to sandi.radoja@comcast.net or snail mail to Member Photos, Sandi Radoja, 1255 Blue Bell Trail, Schererville, IN 46375.

We also need a description of who is in the photo and who is submitting it. Tell us a little about when or where it was taken. Photos do not have to be taken at SNF events, but we want photos of SNF mem-bers only and we’d like the lodge number of the members, too. Original photos will only be returned if a self-addressed stamped envelope is included. Email photos are preferred in JPG format.

ANNOUNCEMENT PUBLICATION POLICY

Adopted by the SNF Board of Directors - Effective May 1, 2007

BIRTH

Birth announcements are published at no cost to Serb National Federation mem-bers when verifiable lodge membership information for one or both parents is provided at time of request for publica-tion, and shall not exceed 100 words. Birth announcements for non-members are not considered.

ENGAGEMENT

Engagement announcements are pub-lished at no cost to Serb National Fed-eration members when verifiable lodge membership information for one or both parents is provided at time of request for publication, and shall not exceed 200 words.

Engagement announcements for non-members are published at the rate of

\$50.00 and are strictly limited to 100 words or less.

WEDDING

Wedding announcements/articles are published at no cost to Serb National Federation members when verifiable lodge membership information for one or both persons is provided at time of request for publication, and shall not ex-ceed 300 words.

Wedding announcements for non-mem-bers are published at the rate of \$100.00 and are strictly limited to 150 words or less.

DEATH/OBITUARY

Obituaries under 350 words are pub-lished at no cost to Serb National Fed-eration members when verifiable lodge membership information is provided at time of request for publication. Obituaries

over 350 - 500 words will be published at a cost of \$30.00 for SNF members when verifiable lodge membership information is provided at time of request for publi-cation. Requests to publish obituaries exceeding 500 words will be considered only if paid in advance at the regular rate for advertising at the time of publication (i.e. 500 words is approximately 1/4 page in space. \$100.00 for SNF members).

Obituaries under 350 words for non-members are published at the rate of \$50.00. Obituaries are 350 - 500 words for non-members are published at the rate of \$100.00. Requests to publish obituaries are non-members exceeding 500 words will be considered only if paid in advance at double the regular rate for advertising at the time of publication (i.e. 500 words is approximately 1/4 page in space, \$200.00 for non-SNF members).

RECIPE

LENTEN BLACK BEAN SOUP - Slow cooker/Crock pot recipe

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 3 carrots, thinly sliced
- 2 stalks celery, thinly sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- ½ tsp. ground cumin
- 1½ tsp. dried basil
- ½ tsp. chili powder

- ½ tsp. dried oregano
- ½ tsp. Tabasco sauce
- 2 16 oz. cans black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 14½ oz. can crushed tomatoes
- 2 14½ oz. cans vegetarian broth
- 1-1/2 cups cooked rice

Combine all ingredients except rice in a crock pot. Cover and cook on low 8 to 10 hours (or on high 3 to 4 hours). Add cooked rice just before serving.

1. “Srpski tragovi u Americi,” Kancelarija za saradnju s dijasporom i Srbima u regionu, www.dijaspora.gov.rs/srpski-tragovi-u-americi/.