

Club Lovchen

Trip opens door to friendly relations between Detroit and Yugoslavia

By Marilyn Sambrano
special writer

The door for a stronger friendship and increased trade opportunities between Yugoslavia and Detroit has been officially opened, thanks to a local delegation's tour of that country, which was spearheaded by Farmington Hills' Club Lovchen.

The delegation consisted of Detroit's City Council president Erma Henderson, council member Clyde Cleveland, Birmingham accounting executive and developer Jack Martin and writer Marilyn Sambrano. About 80 families from the Detroit area belong to Club Lovchen, a Yugoslavian cultural group that maintains ties with relatives abroad. In October 1987, the club joined others of the metro area's 15,000 Yugoslavian citizens in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the birth of Yugoslavian hero Vuk Stefan Karadzic, renowned master of their country's folk tales. At the club's dinner at Vladimir's, Ben Marks, Farmington Hills mayor at the time, joined in the

festivities with guest speaker Erma Henderson.

When visiting journalist Slobodan Vukovic from the Yugoslavian republic of Montenegro interviewed Henderson at the gathering, he asked her if she had ever visited his country. Henderson's "no" answer inspired an invitation from abroad. Members of the Farmington Hills club helped with the two-week trip's arrangements.

UNLIKE other socialist countries, Yugoslavia blends socialism with capitalism. More and more Western ways are influencing its business world as Western culture slowly influences other phases of the country's customs. A popular McDonald's restaurant in Belgrade, stylish fashion, Mike Tyson's picture at a non-English-speaking worker's station at a spirits bottling plant and the delegation's hosts knowing all about the Pistons' latest bout with the Lakers greeted the visitors.

Martin discussed foreign trade programs (Detroit has the largest in

the U.S.) and other possible business opportunities with many Yugoslavian professionals. Businessmen there are interested in joint ventures with Americans; the country's constitution is expected to be changed in the fall to allow for more such transactions and to lessen the government's already scant involvement in business. Yugoslavians are looking for firms to represent them here, as well as for developers for resorts on the Adriatic seacoast.

The delegation met with members of Titograd's Chamber of Commerce, including business representatives from the fields of lumber, tourism, agriculture, mining and textiles.

"We don't know each other very well, we don't visit each other much. Your visit is progress," said chamber president Zarko Dragovic.

YUGOSLAVIAN resources, under the guidance of Vasilje Djuranovic, sponsored the Detroit delegation's trip. Vukovic and Djuranovic accompanied their guests to the many meetings requested by Henderson with top city officials and businessmen across the country.

Martin, the managing director of Jack Martin & Co., a Birmingham-based CPA and management consultant firm with offices in Detroit, Taylor, Battle Creek, Washington, D.C. and St. Paul, expressed surprise with what he saw abroad.

"I joined the delegation to discuss the possibilities of Yugoslavian businesses' forming joint ventures with American companies and to encourage them to open facilities in the U.S. particularly in southeastern Michigan. I wanted to see if there were any possibilities of creating jobs for us. I think the prospects are outstanding," said Martin.

Martin is completing plans to re-

turn to Yugoslavia at the end of September. He will take other Detroit-area businessmen with him to explore possible American investments in resort developments along the Adriatic seacoast. Its sandy beaches, clear water and warm climate remain virtually unknown to American tourists.

Yugoslavian businessmen are very interested in working with their American counterparts. Yugoslavia has been making changes in her policies throughout the years to suit the needs of her people and her economy. Rampant inflation there is causing Yugoslavians to explore many avenues for financial improvement.

THE DELEGATION's women met with representatives of a Belgrade women's organization. Henderson founded the Women's Conference of Concerns in Detroit in 1973. Speaking frankly with her Eastern European counterparts was an enlightening experience for the visiting council president. She learned about Yugoslavia's liberal maternity benefits. An eager women's rights activist, Henderson is anxious to see better child care and maternity benefits for the American woman.

The delegation toured many business sites in Yugoslavia. A textile corporation and a bottling plant are two of the locations that welcomed the delegation.

The Henderson company also visited Mount Lovchen, the site after which the Farmington Hills' club is named. Mount Lovchen is the burial site of the Bishop Prince Vukica Danilo, a beloved Yugoslavian hero. A ruler of Montenegro in the early 18th century, this poet founded the Petrovic dynasty in what was then a small independent Adriatic country. Local residents fondly revere the Bishop Prince.



Erma Henderson poses with the mayor of Cetinje on top of Mount Lovchen, the mount from which the Farmington Hills-based club took its name.



On a Saturday night in Belgrade, one can expect to find at least 60 Yugoslavians in line for a McDonald's hamburger.

New emergency units save time, lives

A program to provide automatic defibrillation units for first-level emergency responses is a joint venture by Farmington Hills Fire Department, Botsford General Hospital and Community Emergency Medical Services (CEMS).

The firefighter Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) with the Farmington Hills Fire Department will now be able to defibrillate patients before the paramedics arrive. A patient who has ventricular fibrillations — irregular contractions of the heart resulting in weak, ineffective heart beats — is in great danger if he or she does not receive

early defibrillation. The automatic defibrillation unit enables first responder EMTs who arrive at a medical emergency to assess the patient and correct the irregular heartbeat as quickly as possible.

Without the automatic defibrillation unit, a patient would wait until the second tier of emergency response, the ambulance paramedics, arrived to use advanced life-support procedures.

"A recent study of a similar program in Seattle, Wash. showed that patients who were defibrillated by the firefighter EMT had a 30 percent survival rate," said Paul Phelps, chief executive officer of CEMS.

"Patients defibrillated after the paramedics arrived had a survival rate of about 19 percent."

THE FARMINGTON HILLS Fire Department EMTs will communicate with the Botsford General Hospital emergency services before and after defibrillating the patient. The automatic unit is equipped with a memory pack and stores a record of the patient's EKG so the emergency room team can review it when the patient arrives.

"The automatic unit is about the size of a portable typewriter and it's easy to learn how to operate," said Dr. Mark Cynar of Botsford Emer-

gency Services. "It will definitely expand the potential for saving lives in our area."

Botsford General Hospital is underwriting half the cost of the system and providing the necessary medical direction.

"We think this is an important service to the Farmington Hills area," said William Scheuber, Botsford administrator.

Botsford General Hospital is a 335-bed osteopathic hospital and nationally recognized teaching facility. Botsford General Hospital is at 28850 Grand River in Farmington Hills.

Women's Hall of Fame awards dinner planned

The Michigan Women's Hall of Fame's Fifth Annual Awards Dinner will take place Thursday, Oct. 27, in Southfield Hilton on Nine Mile Road in Southfield. A cocktail reception begins at 6 p.m. and the dinner be-

gins at 7 p.m. Tickets for the dinner are \$60 each and the cocktail reception honoring the inductees is \$75 each.

Tickets and information on the event is available through the Michi-

gan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame in Lansing. (517) 484-1888.

This year the honorees are Louise L. Sally Brown, Marcia J. Federbush, Fran Harris, M. Jane Kay and Agnes Mary Mansour in the Contemporary Division.

The Historical Division honorees are Dr. Ethelene Crockett, Helen Mandeville Martin and Sarah Goddard Power.

Dr. John K. Porter, president of Eastern Michigan University, has been selected to receive the distinguished Philip A. Hart Award.

Babbling brook calls for lots and lots of rocks

Have brook, will babble. To get babble, you need rocks; the more rocks, the more the babble. side of Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile. The first 100 rock contributors will be given a special commemorative chunk of granite, stones of any size, five certificate citing them as a bag of pebbles or even a pet rock "Rockers." Those who can lend a little get in touch with the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services. They are needed to help build a babbling brook in Heritage Park. Dave Justus, head of the city's special service department, is calling all Rock Aides to his Rock Party from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22. Admission price is a contribution of rocks. Rocks that are 3-8 inches in diameter make the best babbles, but plans to enjoy the beginning of nature's autumn color show by hiking the many marked trails at Heritage Park are asked to follow the new picnic area, the two sand volleyball courts and the six horseshoe trances to Heritage Park, on the west pits," Justus said.

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