

**On June 4, 2022, the WFWP SLOVENIA celebrated the 30th anniversary of the founding and its activities in Slovenia at the beautiful venue at the old castle of Manison Lisicje in Skofljica, Slovenia**

The event started with Slovenian folk singers "Taščice", as ambassadors for peace, opened the celebration with the song "Slovenian girl" and presented the guests with bouquets of wheat ears. The WFWP Slovenia president, Ms. Sonja Grčar, welcomed guests who came also from Austrian Carinthia and Northern Italy. She introduced the founders of WFWP Dr. Sun Myung Moon and his wife Mrs. Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon from South Korea and their wisdom to promote the active role of women together with men through the contents of WFWP by believing that peace can only begin when women begin to unite in concern for the co-existing humanity. This is also discussed in their autobiographical books, "As a Peace Loving Global Citizen" and "Mother of Peace", which have been also translated into Slovenian and are available at the WFWP headquarters. The president mentioned the programs through which WFWP Slovenia connects with various institutions and groups to promote cooperation between men and women in society, work intergenerationally and spread the spirit of motherly love.

WFWP Slovenia received congratulations from the director of the WFWP office at the UN Geneva, Ms. Carolyn Handschin and the two presidents of the WFWP of Austria-Carinthia Ms. Merle Soquila Blaschke and of the city of Padua, Italy, Ms. Flora Grassivaro. Together with all the participants, Holy juice was toasted with the words of Mother of peace: **"History calls for reconciliation, compassion, love, service and sacrifice. Today, problems cannot be solved by the logic of power. Our current problems can only be solved by the logic of love."**

The members Ms. Erna Košmrlj, Hungarian living in Slovenia and Ms. Ljuba Jevtič from local municipality Tržič spoke about spreading the Culture of Heart from personal growth to the social integration. Franci and Aleš Bratkovič, longtime supporters of the WFWP, emphasized the indispensable cooperation of a man when a woman works for the common good. Jubilee awards were awarded to 15 members for more than 25 years of their active work in the association, and also some men were thanked for their long-term work assistance. All 50 participants enjoyed a festive cake, which was ceremoniously cut by the president and vice-president WFWP Slovenia and the president of the FFWP Slovenia, Ms. Janine Waldmann and delivered with a help of youth. A pleasant atmosphere was provided by the association choir "The sound of Peace", soloist Ms. Sun Woo Irgl with guitarist Mr. Miha Kitič and duo Ms. Vida Lambert and accordionist Mr. Alfred Waldmann. The program was dynamically coordinated by Ms. Kristina Bačovnik, vice-president of the association. With the sponsorship of the Austrian and Slovenian FFWP, and as good mothers, we arranged for a feast with a picnic and the continuation of pleasant socializing at WFWP and FFWP headquarters at the Embassy for Peace, Dolenjska cesta 419, Škofljica, Slovenia.

We are grateful to the local municipality of Škofljica for the opportunity to use the premises of the Lisicje Castle, as well as everyone who helped in any way in the organization and implementation of this joyful celebration.

Sonja Grčar and Kristina Bačovnik, WFWP Slovenia

## REPORT FROM THE WFWP EVENT CELEBRATION of the 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY IN SLOVENIA JUNE 4, 2022

### WFWP – Carinthia Report

It was a beautiful and sunny Saturday morning when we drove from Carinthia to the Peace Embassy in Ljubljana, Slovenia. From there together with some leaders & other members and participants we drove 10 minutes by car to the venue at the old castle of Manison Lisicje in Skofljica, Slovenia. The program started with an opening song “Slovenian Girl” by the folk singers TASCICE followed by a warm WELCOME greetings from our dynamic programme moderator Ms. Kristina BACOVNIK. Then there were congratulatory remarks by a representative from the Municipality of SKOFLJICA and also from WFWP – SLOVENIA Pres. Ms. Sonja GRGAR. presentation of gifts by Ms. Merle BLASCHKE of WFWP Carinthia and a time for toast were introduced by the moderator of the program for the 30 years of WFWP’s successful work in Slovenia and around the world. A melodious Korean lyric “Song of Wind” was sang beautifully by Ms. SUN WOO IRGL. Four speakers gave a talk about the topic of spreading the culture of heart:

1. Ms. Erna KOSMRLJ – Personal growth of the heart.
2. Ms. Ljuba JEVTIC – Caring for the wider community, local integration
3. Ales & Franci BRATKOVIC – Men and women working together for the common good.
4. Ms. Slavica Elizabeta NAVODNIK (Awarded as an AFP) – The path to a happy future

Songs from the WFWP SLOVENIA CHOIR „ZVEN MIRU” (Where time flies, Three Mountain flowers) were performed.

The WFWP Slovenia President, Ms. Sonia GRGAR, led the jubilee awards ceremony, in which 9 women received award certificates. Photo of the award winners taken.

Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday song was sung by the attendees while the candles were lighted and blown out by 3 women (Ms. Kristina BACOVNIK, Ms. Janine WALDMANN & Ms. Sonja GRGAR) and then was cut and distributed to the delight of all the attendees.

A joyful song was performed before the end of the program ( Alfred Waldmann – accordeon, Vida Lambert – solo)

Afterwards we all drove back to the Peace Embassy in Ljubljana. A barbecue was prepared and enjoyed accompanied with regional music. The celebration was extended till late afternoon.

It was really a beautiful event with a positive happy atmosphere. Thanks to the team of organizers who did really a wholehearted investment of love and dedication in

preparation of the event. We had a wonderful day spent with our dear brothers and sisters in Slovenia. We hope to continue to stay in touch in order to collaborate and work together in the future.

Written by Merle Soquila Blaschke