



Generalni Konzulat Republike Hrvatske u Sjedinjenim Američkim Državama
General Consulate of the Republic of Croatia to the United States of America

4119 White Bear Parkway, Suite 220, St. Paul, MN 55110

Telephone (651) 429-6183

Fax (651) 429-6079

August 30, 2004

Mrs. Mary Ann Novak
3421 Roosevelt St. NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

RE: "Lou Novak Croatian American Studies Memorial Fund"

Dear Mary Ann,

Many thanks for your letter date August 25, 2004. I welcome the idea of a memorial fund for Lou, as it will raise public consciousness and understanding of Croatian history and culture.

More than that, this would honor the major contribution Lou has made, along with you at his side, for the work at the Croatian Consulate General with Consulate affairs in St. Paul since its inception in 1995. His work should never be forgotten and should serve as an example to future generations of Croatian Americans. I am pleased that Dr. Rudy Vecoli, Director of the University of Minnesota Immigration History Research Center (IHRC) has made the suggestion to initiate and establish the Croatian American Fellowship at IHRC.

It is my honor to make a \$5,000.00 contribution towards the establishment of the "Lou Novak Fund". I am forever grateful and will cherish the memory of my friend Lou, who has given us all so much. His kindness and ever smiling face and soul when he spoke with anyone, his unselfish gift of time, energy and love for his beloved Croatia up until the time of his passing this past July, will always be remembered.

Mary Ann, I know these are difficult times for you and your family. Please accept our words of support and our friendship for everything Lou and you have stood for and done for me, Anna, our community.

Kindest Regards,

Boris A. Miksic
Honorary Consul General
Republic of Croatia

Mary Ann Novak
3421 Roosevelt St NE
Minneapolis MN 55418
612-789-5063
lpnovak@iprimus.com

September 7, 2004

Mr. Boris Miksic, Consul General
Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Croatia to the
United States
4119 White Bear Parkway
St. Paul MN 55110

Dear Boris:

Last Friday I went to the Immigration History Research Center and took your check and mine to fund the Louis P. Novak Croatian American Studies Fellowship. Dr. Rudy Vecoli and his staff were very appreciative and ecstatic for this new Fellowship. We expect the Fund to grow to \$21,000 shortly. As soon as it reaches \$25,000 the University Foundation will match the income earned by the Fund annually. With the help of Lou's friends, I expect we will reach that goal by the end of this year.

My family and I want to thank you for your very generous contribution of \$5,000. The fellowship is truly a tribute to Lou. We are so proud of his success in life especially when his family never expected him to amount to anything more than a shoemaker. One of the proudest moments in Lou's life is receiving the Daughter of the American Revolution History Award in 8th grade for his excellence in history. When you consider that he spoke only Croatian and Hungarian until he was 5 years of age, this was quite an honor and accomplishment.

We made trips to Nikitsch Austria, the birthplace of his family and of course, to Croatia. He would be very proud of the fellowship and the fact that we will continue to raise public consciousness and understanding of Croatian history and culture but more than that, he was so proud of his Croatian heritage.

Again, thank you for your very generous contribution. Lou would've been very humbled by this. We thank you again for your warm thoughts, prayers and acts of kindness these past few months. My love to Anna.

Sincerely,



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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College of Liberal Arts*

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September 21, 2004

Boris Miksic
21 Evergreen Road
Saint Paul, MN 55127-2077

Dear Boris:

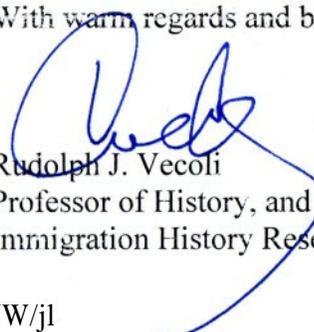
Thank you very much for your generous contribution of \$5,000.00 in memory of Lou Novak to the Immigration History Research Center. I know your gift means a great deal to Mary Ann - as it would to Lou himself.

Your gift has been deposited in the Louis P. Novak Croatian American Studies Fund. As a contribution to the IHRC endowment campaign, the donation will be matched in part through a Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In order to receive this federal matching money, we are required to certify all eligible gifts. Enclosed is a form letter that accomplishes this record keeping requirement. Please sign this document and return it in the enclosed envelope.

Since the Novak Fund is dedicated to the support of a graduate fellowship in Croatian American Studies, it also qualifies for the University 21st Century Fund. Under the terms of this fund, the Graduate School will match the annual return of the fund once it has reached the sum of \$25,000.00. It appears that we will attain that goal in short order.

You will receive an acknowledgment from the University Foundation that will serve as a record for your tax-deductible contribution.

With warm regards and best wishes,



Rudolph J. Vecoli
Professor of History, and Director
Immigration History Research Center

JW/jl

Acknowledgement to Mary Ann Novak