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# AMERICAN AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

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## SLOVENIAN CHRISTMAS QUIZ

By Stane Kranjc

Circle the correct answer:

- 1) Silent Night in Slovenian is called: --  
a) Velika Noč b) Božič c) Sveta Noč

- 2) Silent Night was first played on what instrument? --  
a) church organ b) guitar c) accordion

- 3) How do you say Santa Claus in Slovenian?  
a) Triglav b) Svetnik c) Sveti Miklavž

- 4) When does Santa Claus visit children in Slovenia?  
a) Dec. 25 b) Dec. 6 c) Jan 1

- 5) Where did the real Santa Claus live?  
a) in Slovenia b) North Pole c) Turkey

- 6) What did the first stamp ever issued for Christmas season depict?  
a) a rose b) Santa Claus c) an angel

- 7) In North America many families eat turkey on Christmas Day; where is the turkey native to?  
a) Turkey b) Slovenia c) Central America

- 8) In 1647 English Parliament passed the law that stated what?  
a) made Christmas official  
b) made Christmas illegal  
c) let prisoners go home for Christmas

- 9) In what country did traditional Christmas poinsettia originally grow?  
a) Mexico b) Canada c) USA

- 10) What is a traditional dessert in Slovenia at Christmas?  
a) apple pie b) strudel c) potica

- 11) What is approximate temperature in Slovenia at Christmas?  
a) 0 cel b) 15 cel. c) +10 cel.

- 12) Which of the following is NOT a name of one of the three kings?  
a) Gasper b) Balthazar c) Simon

- 13) Christmas tree in Slovenian is called:  
a) Božicno drevo b) smreka c) breza

- 14) -- Bonus question:  
The nursery rhymes of "Mother Goose" was named after:  
a) Elizabeth Goose b) Charles Dickens  
c) Clement Moore

Answers are printed below. A grade of 7 is passing. If you received a 10, consider yourself a Christmas genius.  
1) c 2) b 3) c 4) b 5) c 6) a 7) c  
8) b 9) a 10) c 11) a 12) c 13) a  
14) a

Traditionally in Slovenia there were no Santa Claus visits or gifts on Christmas day. Sveti Miklavž visited children on the 6th of

December, Saint Nicholas feast. Saint Nicholas was a bishop in the town of Myra Turkey in the early 4th century.

Turkey, is native to Central America. It was thought to be the same species as a known Turkish bird.

The Christmas festivities banned by English parliament in 1647 were re-instated in 1660.

In 1828 Dr. Joel Poinsett, the USA Ambassador to Mexico brought the first poinsettia to America. At that time the plant was called "The Flower of the Blessed Night," because the red leaves were thought to resemble the star of Bethlehem. After the plant became popular in the USA it was renamed Poinsettia.

Legends tell of decorated trees used in winter celebrations long before the advent of Christianity. It is generally agreed that use of evergreen tree as part of Christian Christmas celebrations started 400 years ago in Germany and spread to most of northern Europe.

Canada was first introduced to the Christmas tree in 1781 in Sorel, Quebec. Canadians borrowed various Christmas traditions and customs from many lands, but people who came from all parts of the world have adopted the Christmas tree as the symbol of Christmas festivities. As in the past, green tree still symbolizes our belief, hope, and faith in all mankind regardless of race or creed.

Mother Goose nursery rhymes were printed in Boston in 1719 by publisher Thomas Fleet, from verses his mother-in-law Mrs. Elizabeth Goose, created or remembered and repeated.

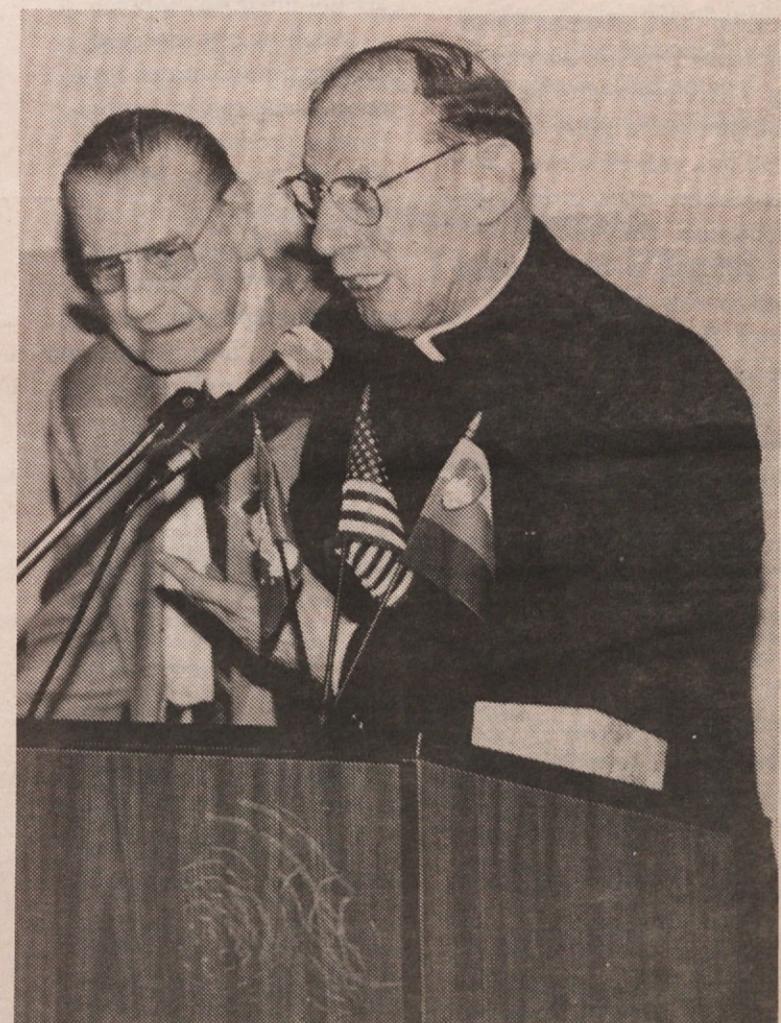
Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring to all of you good health and prosperity in overflowing measures.

Bolton, Ontario



### A.H. Holiday Printing Schedule

In December the American Home newspaper will be printed on Thursday, **Dec. 17 and Monday, Dec. 21**. Because of the holidays there will be NO American Home on Thursday, Dec. 31. -- See you next year.



In Cleveland the beginning of the Christmas Season is often spent on the Friday closest to St. Nicholas' Day (Dec. 6) in the company of Bishop Edward Pevec (pictured at right) at Borromeo Seminary. This year the Mass and singing by the Glasbena Matica choir took place on Dec. 4. Main speaker was attorney Fred Krizman, left, who gave a brilliant speech on the history of the sponsoring organization, the Slovenian American Heritage Foundation of which he was one of the founding presidents.

(Photo by TONY GRDINA)

### Ron Sega promoted to General

On Wednesday, Dec. 2, Colonel Ronald M. Sega was promoted to the grade of Brigadier General at a formal ceremony at 4 p.m. at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.

He is now the Commander of the Space Warfare Center there. Congratulations to Ron and his wonderful family!

### Live Christmas Radio Concert

**S**t. Vitus Parish (the first American Slovenian Catholic parish in Ohio) will be the primary sponsor of a choral Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec. 27 at 3 p.m. on the leading classical radio station WCLV-FM (95.5). The broadcast will be transmitted live from historic St. Vitus Church, 6019 Glass Avenue, Cleveland.

Under the direction of John Sršen, choral director, St. Vitus Choir, the live concert theme will be "Christmas Sacred Songs." St. Vitus Choir will be accompanied by string instru-

ments plus the sound of its original Holtkamp church organ. Songs will be sung in English, Slovenian, and Latin.

WCLV was established in 1962 and has gained an international reputation as a leading classical music broadcaster. Mr. Robert D. Conrad is the president.

Father Joseph P. Božnar is the pastor of St. Vitus parish.

Other sponsors for the live concert include Key-Bank NA, which also sponsors the nightly *Symphony at Seven* on WCLV since 1964.



The lights and sounds of Christmas.

The other evening we were in Westlake, Ohio looking at some of the Christmas lights home dwellers are displaying. There seemed to be more houses brightly decorated this year than ever. We also noticed a newer form of decoration. They are the crystallized "icicles" that are used to trim around the house. Because they are all the same, it seems that most people have decorated their entire homes in that one white color scheme.

They are all very beautiful and striking. You feel as if you are seeing an enchanted forest.

But as for myself, I took a few hours last Saturday afternoon to add lights to some evergreen trees in the back yard where I can enjoy them. All of the strings of lights I used were multi-colored. A few go way back many years. I think my father may have used a set.

The lights are those big bulbs with curving lines in them and are shaped like mini- footballs. Here and there I have diligently added blinking lights to give the entire effect of a multitude of stars winking and blinking in the night. Watching them you might think you're getting a glimpse of the heavens above.

They may not be as elegant as those draping crystal "icicles," but as we gaze out the back picture windows each night and see the colorful lights around the trees, it gives us a toasty, friendly feeling. It is very traditional, which is part of the Christmas season.

\*

Hearing a recording of the Mills Brothers singing

## Jim's Journal Brought Smiles

Editor:

This week's Jim's Journal brought smiles to me. Jim lost that large muskellunge while fishing in Canada. The same thing happened to me. While trying to net my husband's biggest catch -- with tears -- we lost the fish. No words were spoken, except by me. "I am so, so sorry." We also lost the muskie near North Bay, Ontario.

Another article that interested me was about the giant pinchers. I was a clerk at Oswald's Grocery Store on Grovewood Avenue. And

"Across the Alley from the Alamo," on the radio the other day, they mentioned two items that I bet nobody ever realized was there. If you listen closely, they quickly sing the words "Duz" and "Super Suds."

Now as us astute generation accumulators know, Duz and Super Suds were two soaps which were very popular "back then," but probably are not made any more.

Anyhow, we received four communications from people who remember the famous product "Duz." Al Flis of Cleveland, Millie and Fran Virant of Euclid, Ohio, and Anne Lawson of Elizabethtown, Kentucky were among the clever ones. Anne says, "Duz usually had a free glass or plate in it so people could collect them and build up an everyday set." Amelia Habjan of Lebanon, Oregon also remembers Duz.

The new washing soaps don't make many suds like they used to. Environmentalists are afraid the suds will clog up the rivers. We used to think that the more suds, the better job they did.

Speaking of radio, was listening to WQEW 1560 AM from New York City the other evening. They were

playing the top 156 "standards." (It was a long show.) Which song do you think was the No. 1 standard of all time? C'mon take a guess.

\*

O, for the good old days when people would stop Christmas shopping when they ran out of money!

Christmas is the season when gifts are gladly given, happily received and cheerfully returned.

Christmas is when the neighbor's loudspeakers keep you awake playing *Silent Night*.

Comments: Jim's Journal, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103; fax: (216) 361-4088, e-mail: [jim@buckeyeweb.com](mailto:jim@buckeyeweb.com)

yes, I did use the pinchers just as Jim said. Thank you, Jim, for bringing back such wonderful memories.

Do you remember the waffle wagon on Sundays?

Or the man with a hand cranked music box with a tiny monkey handing you a card for a donation.

Yes, these were the days in good Collinwood.

I am now an 85-year-old senior.

**Amelia Habjan**  
(nee Molly Tercek)  
(Charley Tercek's sister)  
Lebanon, Oregon

## 100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina



### MY CHILDHOOD ADVENT....

It was so long ago, yet despite my old age, it is still clear in my mind. Preparation for Christ's coming, for a Slovenian child raised on a farm, was not filled with shopping for gifts, watching Christmas parades on TV and hoping to get the latest toy. The preparation for Christmas was not a commercial venture but a spiritual one. TVs and parades simply did not exist. As a young child, I vividly remember annually building a new thatched roof on a manger, one straw at a time, for every good deed that I made on a particular day. Every evening during the Advent, the ritual of recounting the day's journey would begin, and based on my deeds, the straw roof would be built. Some evenings, only a half straw would be added to the roof. On still other evenings, to my dismay, no straw was placed on the roof, because I simply did nothing to deserve placing a roof over the manger that would house the baby Jesus. The building of the straw roof intensified as the 25th of December drew nearer. It would simply not be proper for Jesus to be born in a manger without a completed roof. Good deeds were more frequent as the time for completion grew shorter. It was great to be a kid then. Life was simpler and not as hurried. There was time to think and reflect on life as it should be. The meaning of Christmas was real.

HOW DID YOU SPEND THE TIME BEFORE CHRISTMAS DURING YOUR CHILDHOOD? PLEASE SHARE YOUR STORIES WITH FELLOW READERS.



## The Gathering

By Rudy Flis

**S**aturday evening a group of us had dinner. My wife, Therese, our daughter Sue, my sister-in-law Lorene and her husband Bob, and a cousin Linda were present.

There was a reason for this get-together -- the family tree.

Linda's grandmother and my wife's grandmother were sisters. Linda had been tracing their family tree, using her computer. She has gained valuable information. Copies of her findings were given to Therese and Lorene.

The main event of our evening was to have Linda and Sue meet. Sue is our computer gal. Sue gained valuable information on software and techniques used by Linda. Found out the "Church of Later Day Saints," in Kirtland or Westlake might be of help.

If my Mom and Dad were here, if all my aunts and uncles had not died -- if - if, -- this dinner meeting would not have been necessary. I could have just asked, "Dad, what village or town were you from?" or "Mom, what was your mother's maiden name?" or "Mom, why didn't you become a citizen of your adopted country?" When finished with all questions about heritage, guess what? I have a ream of paper (500 sheets) by my desk. I

would probably use it all with these types of questions, "Mom, what was your recipe for potica and strudel, and your technique in developing its taste?" I could have said, "Mom, I would like your recipes for nut horns, pecan rolls, and the cheese kuchen in the round cake pan you always spoiled us kids with on Sunday afternoons." I wanted to know, "How do you can kosher dill pickles like you do?" What great recipes.

My window of opportunity to gather answers to these questions is long past, and probably lost forever. What about you? Do you have paper? Is it blank, too?

If your family is lucky enough to have a living treasure, such as a Mom, Dad, Aunt, Uncle, or a close family friend who has experienced all or some of your family's past, use that paper. Jot down names, dates, places and recipes, all the information you are able to acquire.

Years from now there will be no wondering or asking of questions, with no answers, and there will be no endless research. You will have heard it from those involved in your family tree, and you will have written it down for all to hear at that enjoyable Saturday evening meal where all can speak of fond memories lived by loved ones of your past, your heritage.

# Life of Bishop Anton Martin Slomšek

(Continued from last week)

His vacations were spent traveling, mostly on foot. He thus got to visit most of Slovenia, Croatia, Upper and Lower Austria, and the Tyrol. Being a model of physical fitness, he would board a train or a carriage only when it was really necessary.

Whenever he found himself in a city which also happened to serve as a diocesan headquarters, he would visit the seminary in order to study its buildings, organization, curriculum, and spiritual guidance. Along the way he would be very observant with his eyes and ears, always ready to jot down notes when something of interest attracted his attention. These he would later incorporate in his writings. Naturally, he also spent part of his vacation at the rectory of his friend, Father Prasnikar. Refreshed in body and soul, he would then return to the seminary.

For nine long years Father Slomšek toiled in this special portion of God's vineyard. More by example than by word, he taught Christ's chosen ones how to lead a saintly life. He also showed them how souls should be led to Christ. In the confessional they learned from him Christ's love for the repentant sinner. They learned that to be a zealous apostle, the priest must not neglect his own spiritual life.

God blessed Father Slomšek's work. All of his seminarians became good priests, respected and loved by the people; they were his crown and glory. Later on, in their sermons, they would often refer to what Father Slomšek had told them. "He was a saint," many said at the conclusion of a sermon.

In 1839, Father Slomšek was assigned to the parish of Vuzenica as pastor. Before leaving the seminary he wrote to a friend, "The

Slovenian language is going to wane here; but it will rise again in my students." His successor was a German, Father Wiery, who later became Bishop of Celovec.

Interest in the Slovenian language did indeed decrease in the seminary.

## VII. - PASTOR

On October 27, 1839, Father Slomšek arrived at Vuzenica to take over as pastor. With God's help he hoped to lift this neglected parish to the highest spiritual level possible. In his first sermon he introduced himself as their new shepherd, promising to lead his beloved flock to green pastures through his sermons and religious instructions. He would lead them to the sources of living water the Sacraments. He concluded his sermon by saying, "Do you know how I will judge the spiritual level of my parishioners? By their reception of Holy Communion on Sundays."

The first thing that the new pastor did was to organize a Sunday school. Twenty children enrolled at the start. During the winter months the number increased to 70. With the arrival of spring, when the children were able to come down from the highlands, the number rose to 150. He had no books for them, so he wrote his own pedagogical masterpiece: *Blase and Agnes in Sunday School*.

This literary gem was acclaimed by educators throughout Eastern Europe. Large orders came from the University of Moscow and the University of Prague. It was soon translated into several languages. Though meant to serve as a text book, it was written in story form.

This manual contained information on everything that a child or a peasant of those days was expected to

know. Besides serving as a reader, it simultaneously ennobled their hearts and enriched and elevated their minds. Had Father Slomšek never written anything else we would still own him eternal gratitude. He is considered the Founder of Slovenian Juvenile Literature.

In order to see for himself how his parishioners lived, he visited them in their homes. There was no hut so poor that he did not enter in order to bring consolation and peace. He was also at their disposal whenever they wished to see him. He would listen to the accounts of their troubles and crosses, with patience and friendliness.

Everyone left the rectory with a lighter heart.

When his people suffered, so did he; but he also rejoiced with them in their moments of happiness. His greatest joy was to be able to help the poor and the down-trodden. He fought for their rights like a lion whenever his sheep would be victimized by unscrupulous or corrupt officials. Like his Master, he was all to all.

Father Slomšek's assistants were treated with respect and kindness. He usually left the witnessing of the Sacrament of Matrimony and the conducting of funeral services to them. For sick calls they took turns, but he never allowed them to replace him if the night was dark or stormy, or if the dwelling were located in the hills. They were expected to be punctual and to follow a daily schedule. Extra work was always rewarded. Peace, friendship and harmony reigned in the rectory because the pastor treated both of his assistants with impartiality.

His household help was well paid. They, too, had to follow a schedule: daily Mass, monthly reception of the Sacraments, punctuality for meals, etc. Cursing, gossiping and table-bearing were not tolerated. During Advent and Lent Father Slomšek would pray the rosary with them; the rest of the year, only on Sundays. They were happy to be in his service.

The beauty of God's house was of special concern to him. He had the church painted, ordered two new bells, and bought new vestments. Upon his arrival at Vuzenica he discovered that the monstrance was made of brass so he asked for donations and soon a silver one replaced it.

Bishop Kutnar, in a report to his Archbishop, Cardinal

Schwartzburg, could not find adequate words with which to express his praise and admiration for Father Slomšek, who by now had been named dean. He called him, "Good pious, admirable, and a valuable priest. He was entrusted with a neglected parish but by his zeal, managed to transform it into a model one. The people are good, the assistants have no complaints, and the priests of the dean-

ery are zealous, good and pious."

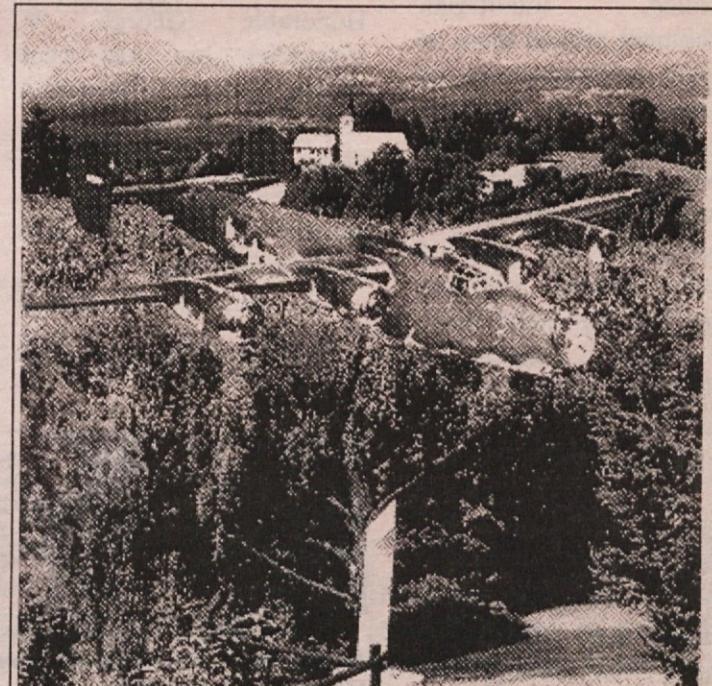
The bishop found the schools of the deanery well organized and the teachers up-to-date. Slomšek has been named the superintendent of the public schools in the urban areas. This cultured and dedicated priest must not be kept in a hilly country parish. He should be given higher responsibilities. So wrote his Ordinary.

(To Be Continued)

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# 4 Let Us Reorganize for Slovenia

Editor,  
Seven years ago Slovenia, the land of our fathers, gained its independence and began the journey to the future on its own. Nevertheless, Slovenia is still far from a TRUE democratic society and here, we Slovenians living in America, could be of help to our old homeland.

There is ample evidence that after so many years under totalitarian regime, not even people in the highest positions in Slovenia have the right notion of what real democracy is or should be. Passing through decades of a controlled, totalitarian environment robbed them of the right comprehension of democracy.

It was this policy of not understanding the meaning of true democracy and following the old lines of centrally guided political system that prevented them from being offered a membership in NATO. As Marjan Schifrer, member of the Slovenian Parliament said on March 7th in Toronto during the celebration of Canadian Slovenc Congress, "Changes are urgent and necessary." He repeated this message in Cleveland also.

But changes in politics are not the only ones necessary: not too long ago, it was announced that Slovenia was in second place in Europe as far as suicides were concerned. Fifty people a month, on average, take their own life in Slovenia. The property nationalized by the previous regime still has not been returned to its rightful owners, including the Church. Indeed, a short while ago the famous islet on Lake Bled was newly nationalized.

We Americans of Slovenian descent are rightfully concerned about all this and even more about

the image that land of our fathers projects in the world. Slovenians are the only national entity in America without an active lobby, safeguarding and promoting Slovenian interests in the forums of American government. We have a potential of many thousand members and if we all unite, we could represent a viable force. We are at the same time also citizens of the United States (or Canada), voters and taxpayers. The moment for action is also opportune because as most of you know, the Governor of the State of Ohio, the Honorable George V. Voinovich has just been elected to the U.S. Senate. A few weeks ago he wrote on these pages of American Home newspaper he will support such an endeavor to promote Slovenia.

In the past, *United Americans for Slovenia* contributed significantly to

the decision by the U.S. Government to recognize independent Slovenia. But the action to get Slovenia into NATO was unsuccessful. We should try again.

We should organize, revive the organization and give it new goals, the two immediate being acceptance of Slovenia in the European Union and admitting of Slovenia into NATO.

Both goals, however, will be realized only if Slovenia becomes and remains a true democratic country and proves it by its action and deeds. It is for this reason that the one-time organization *United Americans for Slovenia* should renew its activities and launch an effort to remedy these blemishes on the image of Slovenia, helping it to develop into a real democratic country.

--Duke Marsic  
Eastlake, Ohio



Traditionally, the Three Wise Men were known as Melchior, Gaspar and Balthasar, but the gospel of Matthew mentions neither their names nor how many they were.

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# St. Clair Pensioners Newsy Notes

Normally at this time of the year, as we move from fall into the winter season, our thoughts turn to the approaching cold days of pelted snow, slippery ice and frigid cold. The need to store away our summer garden tools, bring out the snow shovels, the need to secure the doors and windows against the winter winds and making sure our snow shovels and snow plows (if we have one) are ready when the white stuff makes its visit. If we have a car we need to have it winterized, battery checked, tires checked, wipers checked, etc.

The list goes on and on. Of course we then need to put away our summer clothes, bring out and check our winter wear, our heavy woolens, sweaters and jackets, gloves and boots. And don't forget the covering of our heads. Our health advisors tell us that it is important to keep the head covered; that a warm head helps keep the rest of the body warm. At least that is what they say. So why take a chance? Just do it and be safe.

Normally, we get our first taste of winter weather

around Thanksgiving day. And yet this year, to this late date of December 10, except for the bare leafless trees, we have had no other indicators of winter. "It looks and feels like spring," people are fond of saying. But don't be fooled; foxy "Old Man Winter" is lurking somewhere nearby, possibly around the corner ready to greet us with his frosty breath. So be prepared.

The year could not end without just another death. Sadly we report that life here on earth came to an end for member Mary Jeraj on November 21st. Due to an accident that left her with a permanent back injury, Mary spent most of her last 11 years at the Neff Road Home. Mary celebrated her birthdays, January 1st, New Year's Day.

Mary was very active in many lodges and clubs. She served as vice president for the Pensioners Club in 1973 and 1979 and as president in 1980. She also spent many hours knitting and crocheting afghans. In fact, her sister Josephine tells me the total completed for relatives and friends ran into the 70s. Truly amazing.

As her years approached the 90s, Mary was deter-

mined to hold a 90th birthday party to which she invited her many, many relatives and friends. Her wish was fulfilled, and she beamed as she greeted each one. And now just days away from her approaching 92nd birthday she quietly slipped away. May she rest in peace.

This past week member Adolph Kotnik suffered a severe heart attack. He is currently at St. Vincent Charity Hospital. Cards may be sent to him there. Please do. It is only a year ago that his wife, Frances, was laid to eternal rest.

Was just informed that Mary Urbancic was taken to Charity Hospital. Have no details on her problem or condition. Do send her a card of cheer. I am sure that your cards and prayers will help lift her spirits.

Today, on Thursday, Dec. 10, we will be enjoying our Annual Christmas Dinner. It is in this spirit of Christmas that we will end our activities for 1998. It is to ALL that we wish "Happy, Healthy, and Blessed Christmas and New Year."

Our next meeting date is January 21st. See you then.

--Stanley J. Frank

## The Perfect Gift

A gift subscription to the American Home Newspaper is the perfect Christmas present that will last the entire year. Your recipient will think of your thoughtfulness each time the paper arrives.

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Wouldn't life be worth the living;

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All the whole year thru?

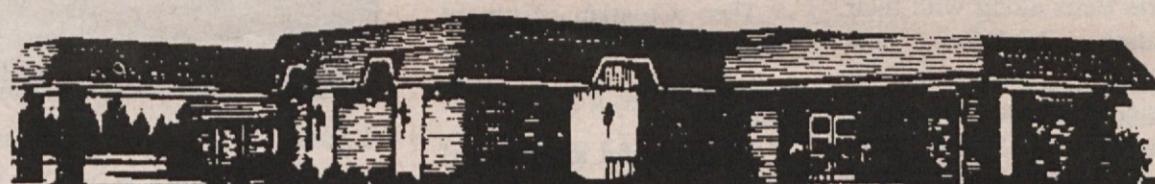
The time draws near the birth of Christ: The moon is hid; the night is still; The Christmas bells from hill to hill answer each other in the mist. — Lord Tennyson.

*Merry Christmas*

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# 6 Kravos, Bucar, Ziwich Win Top Polka Awards

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, DECEMBER 10, 1998

By Alice Kuhar  
Secretary, Polka Hall of Fame

Awards Show XI held on Saturday, Nov. 28 at Shore Cultural Center in Euclid, Ohio, saw the coveted Crystal Award bestowed on winners of various categories. A crowd of over 1,000 attended another spectacular show directed and produced by Phil Srnick. The opening act was the colorful Kres Dancers who performed two intricate Slovenian dances.

Chairman of the Polka Foundation, Tony Petkovsek, presented a touching tribute to the late "standard bearer" of polka music, Frankie Yankovic, who passed away in mid-October. His wife Ida and daughter Andrea were introduced on stage.

Spike Micale, Milwaukee musician and Wisconsin Polka Hall of Fame representative introduced 84-year-old musician **Louie Bashell**, the "Silk Umbrella" man, as a Lifetime Achiever, Gene Fedorchak, musician and polka DJ introduced his brother, **Joe Fedorchak**, musician and bandleader, who commemorated 50 years as a musician this year, as the other member enshrined as a Lifetime Achievement inductee into the Hall of Fame.

Recipients of annual Crystal awards of achievement in various categories which are voted upon by members of the Foundation were:

Cultural/Heritage: Slovenian Heritage Association (PA)

Support/Promotion: Denny Bucar

Button Box Group: Mahoning Valley Button Box Club

Button Box Individual/Duet: Fred Ziwich

Best New Young Band: Force of Habit

Musician of the Year: Fred Ziwich

Sideman, Individual: Bob Bacha, Ralph Delligatti, Eric Noltkamper

Recording of the Year: "Boys in the Band" Bob

Kravos

Band of the Year: Bob Kravos

The Greatest All-Time Cleveland-Style Waltz **Emily's Waltz** was performed by composer Norman Kobal on flute and vocal accompanied by the All Star Band, as he serenaded his granddaughter Emily for whom he had written the tune when she was born 13 years ago. Johnny Krizanic performed the second winner selection **Živila Brača**.

The show-stopper turned out to be the "Blast from the Past" which was the original Eddie Rodick Orchestra. As we watched the 24-year-old film from TV's Polka Varieties of Eddie with then band members Don Wojtila, Dan Wojtila, Dave Skrajner and Al Bambic, the live version of these same musicians broke in - to continue the tune. We then were introduced to a young 5-year-old Eddie Rodick III playing his small Tweety Bird drum set on the screen which then again was cut in to the live version of him playing with his dad's old orchestra.

We then enjoyed a musical performance by vocalist and accordionist, Nancy Seibert of Indianapolis, Indiana with an original tune.

Eight Trustee Honor Roll positions were awarded to the following: **Joe Stradiot**, musician drummer who broke into his signature tune "Green Valley" as he accepted his plaque; accepting for accordionist, bandleader and promoter, **Martin Serro**, was Tony Petkovsek.

Accepting for **James and Madeline Debevec** for the American Home newspaper (celebrating its 100th anniversary year) was Tony Grdina. Accepting the award for world-wide polka tour promoters **Kollander World Travel** (75th Anniversary year) were Michael and Ann Marie Benz along with their children Nicholas and Michelle. Accepting for musician, bandleader and promoter **John Korosa** were his widow Irene and daughter Cheryl Lynn. Accepting for accordionist and bandleader **Stan Kobal** were his

widow Jennie, son Norm Kobal and daughter Sandra Lynn Kobal-Habat.

Accepting for musician **Jack "Porky" Ponikvar** was his widow Judy. And vocalist Dolores Mihelich accepted for the vocal duet team of **June Price and Dolores Mihelich**.

This year's Hall of Fame All Star Band consisted of Fred Gregorich, Ray Polantz, Gary Byndas, Dan Wojtila, Mike Dragas, Jr., Wayne Habat, Ralph Delligatti, Music Arranger, and Jim Kozel, Musical Director.

Master of Ceremonies for the Awards Show, Ray Somich, once again kept the show at a brisk and entertaining pace, especially when he called upon Lojze Trebar for a bit of repartee at the show's very beginning. Helping make this show such a success were Fred Kuhar, Foundation President, Cecilia Dolgan, Awards Chairperson, and many others.

Following the Awards Show XI, entertainment continued at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Cleveland with a Polka Mass accompanied by Barbara and the Karousels of Milwaukee and the "Meet the Winners Dance" with music by Del Sinchak Orchestra, 1996 and 1997 winners of Band of the Year Crystal Awards, Frank Moravcik's Orchestra, 1997 Winner for Best New/Young Band, and also the Hall of Fame All Star Band.



## Zivili presents Christmas in Croatia

Zivili Dance Company will present its acclaimed holiday production, "Christmas in Croatia," at the Croatian Cultural Center at 6 p.m. on Dec. 20th. Call (440) 951-4246 for tickets.

The Croatian Cultural Center is located at 34900 Lake Shore Blvd., in Eastlake, Ohio.

This colorful and spirited production takes place in a small village in Croatia. It begins with the more solemn choral works that are always a part of Croatian Christmas observances.

The mood becomes more light-hearted and spirited as the piece moves from church to a Croatian village home where various customs and traditions are being observed: Blessing of the yule log, the welcoming of the first visitor, the koleda singing groups who go house to house singing in exchange for small gifts, etc.



Tony Grdina accepts Trustees Honor Roll award for Madeline and Jim Debevec. At left is Alice Kuhar.

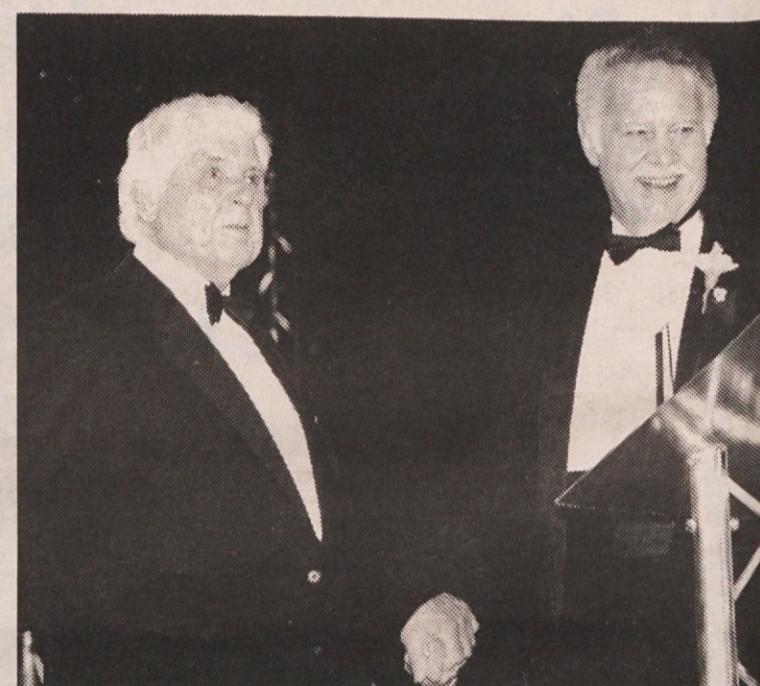


Dolores Mihelich accepts Trustees Honor Roll award for herself and June Price.



Joe Fedorchak, left is recipient of Lifetime Achievement Award. His brother Gene presented it to him.

All Photos by TONY and BETTY GRDINA



Louis Bashel, left, is Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. Presenter is Spike Micale.



Blast from the Past featured Eddie Rodick Orchestra with Eddie Rodick III on drums in front.



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## Decorations From America's Past

(NAPS)—Does decorating your Christmas tree ever make you wonder about tree trimming in the days before twinkling electric lights and fancy store-bought ornaments? Here are some facts about America's rich Christmas heritage uncovered by the experts at Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan:

### Early 19th century Christmas

- In the 1800s, some Americans decorated their humble homestead Christmas trees with handmade popcorn garlands, walnuts and small apples studded with cloves.

- Beeswax ornaments were cast in molds and hung from the tree by a ribbon loop.

- Paper garland, strung raisins, cranberries and a wide variety of homemade ornaments filled in the bare spots on a live Balsam Fir or Spruce.

- German immigrants, missing hand-blown ornaments from home, pasted scraps of material and tinsel to egg shells—creating flower baskets and nativity scene ornaments, to name a few popular variations.

### Late 19th century Christmas

- Evergreens of all kinds filled the home. Ferns, holly, ivy, asparagus fronds, palms, moss and flowers were used to transform doorways, mantels, banisters, chandeliers and picture frames.

- Decorative items in Victorian households like pitchers, teapots, coffeepots and chocolatepots were just a few of the paper ornaments popular on Christmas trees.

- In 1876, a box containing about 150 small glass balls could be purchased for 65 cents, plus nine cents postage.

- Fish, a Christian symbol and a Christmas delicacy in many countries, appeared in all shapes and sizes as tree decorations.

- Paper dolls, bought for a few cents apiece and dressed up with tissue paper wings and scraps of fabric and ornate paper, were popular gifts for little Victorian girls to select from among the tree decorations.



20th century Christmas

- In the 1930s, hand-blown glass ornaments from Germany were very popular. Colored strings of electric lights replaced candles on many American trees by the early '30s. Fragrant Balsam Fir was the most popular tree of the day.

- World War II put an end to the importation of hand-blown ornaments from Europe and Christmas trees were decorated with American-made glass ornaments, produced by the thousands on a machine originally designed to produce light bulbs.

- In the 1950s, trees were decked with American-made glass and plastic ornaments and lead foil icicles.

- Aluminum Christmas trees were the rage in the early '60s—displayed in a picture window and lit by a revolving color wheel.

- Twinkle lights and homemade, home-crafted decorations including beads, sequins and bits of ribbon were popular on trees in the 1970s.

Located in Dearborn, Michigan, Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village is the largest indoor-outdoor museum in the world with 90 plus acres of historic buildings and homes decorated for the holidays. For more information, call 800-835-5237.

## KISS COOKIES

1 3/4 cup flour  
1 tsp. Baking soda  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 cup light brown sugar - packed  
1/2 cup shortening  
1/2 cup creamy peanut butter  
1 egg  
2 Tbsp. Milk  
1 tsp. vanilla  
48 Hershey's Kisses



In a large bowl, combine flour, soda and salt. Cream together shortening and sugars in a separate bowl, add in egg, milk and vanilla. Mix with dry ingredients and peanut butter. Mix with an electric mixer on medium until well combined and smooth. Chill for 30 minutes.

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Roll dough into 1-inch balls. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet for approx. 12 minutes until light brown. Remove from oven and immediately press a kiss into the center of each.

Makes 4 dozen.

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Although forks were used as far back as 796, they did not become popular until the 17th century. Queen Elizabeth owned three, two of them studded with jewels, but preferred to use her fingers when her spoon and knife would not do.



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## Ride the St. Clair-Hough Community Circulator FREE For Two Weeks

Now there's a great new way to get around Cleveland's East Side — RTA's new #803 St. Clair-Hough Community Circulator. And for the next two weeks, ride it for FREE! Beginning December 14th, jump on RTA's St. Clair-Hough Community Circulator, Monday through Saturday, from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm, and you don't have to pay a cent. The St. Clair-Hough Community Circulator is FREE until December 26th.

And try the improved #4 Payne-Wade Park and the #38 Payne-Hough routes for great service to Downtown Cleveland.

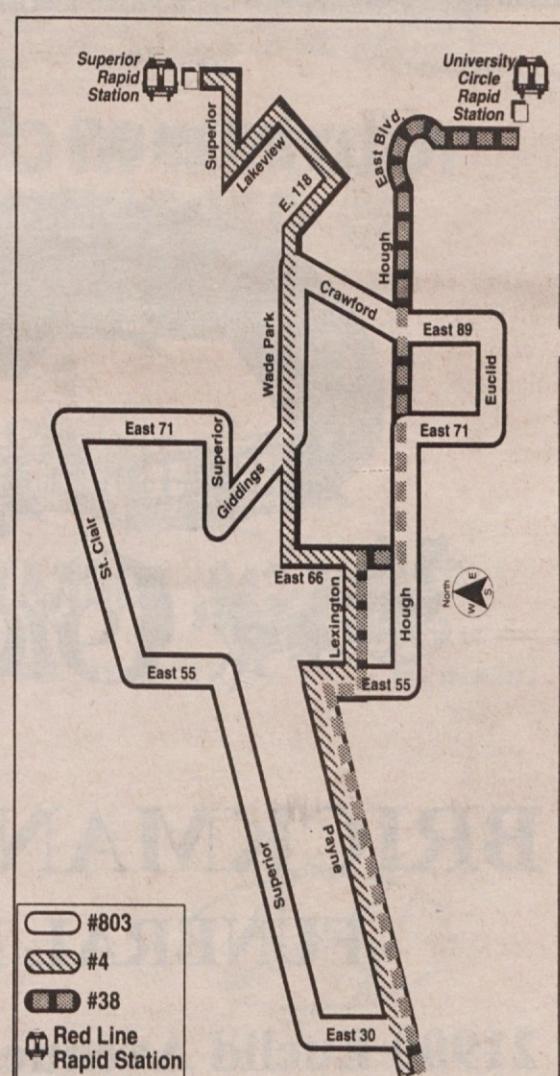
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## Holiday Season Poses Unique Fire Risks

Ohio Fire Marshall James McNamee says three factors pose an increased fire threat during the holiday season: unattended children, decorative lighting and live Christmas trees.

### Unattended Children:

Parents who may not normally leave their children alone might be tempted to do so during the holidays.

Children need to be closely supervised during the holiday season. Older children need to be warned to stay away from matches, candles and decorative lighting. In particular, younger children should be supervised at all times in rooms where candles are lit.

### Decorative Lighting:

Purchase decorative lights that bear the label of a nationally recognized testing laboratory.

Use the lights according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Do not connect too many light sets together. The manufacturer's instructions will indicate how many sets can be safely connected.

Install light sets outside the home only if they are specifically labeled for outside use.

Use the correct wattage replacement bulbs specified in the manufacturer's instructions. Replac-

ing several lower wattage bulbs with higher wattage bulbs can cause overheating.

Replace light sets and extension cords which are worn or cracked.

Use as few extension cords as possible. Do not run them under rugs or over sharp objects where damage may go unnoticed or where a door may close on them.

Decorative candles or menorahs should be secured so they cannot be tipped over. They should be kept away from draperies. Candles should be extinguished before leaving the house or going to bed.

### Live Christmas Trees:

Live Christmas trees should be as fresh as possible. Prior to putting up the tree, make a fresh cut at the base of the trunk to allow for better water absorption. The tree should then be placed in a sturdy stand.

To keep the tree from drying out, place it away from heat sources and water it daily. Be sure the tree does not block the normal exit ways. The longer the tree is kept inside the more dangerous it becomes. Remove the tree from the home as soon after Christmas as possible. Most fires involving Christmas trees occur near or after New Year's Day.



### Katie's Fund

Those wishing to make a donation to the Katie Shimko Fund, may write a check and bring it to any Key Bank, for Acct. # 350343003777.

Katie is almost 15 years old and is waiting for a double lung transplant. She is currently under doctor's care for primary pulmonary hypertension and treatment.

Katie is the granddaughter of Filip and Ida Oreh of Wickliffe, Ohio. Donations may be sent to Katie's Fund, 5221 Robinhood, Willoughby, OH 44094.

We're talking about major medical expenses. Please be generous.

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Call (Slovenian) Walter Majer at 216 - 732-7100. Emergency pager: 216-506-8224.

Scientists figure that the famous star that guided the Wise Men to baby Jesus was either a comet recorded about 4 B.C., or the convergence of Jupiter, Mars and Saturn in the constellation of Pisces in 6

## Christmas



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Thanks to the following for their generous donations to the Ameriška Domovina:

Walter Smrekar, Richmond Hts, OH -- \$5.00

Vladimir Pregelj, Washington, DC -- \$5.00

Rev. John Lavrih, Wichita, KS -- \$5.00

Emma Znidarsich, La-Cross, WI -- \$5.00

Stanley Krulc, Wil-loughby Hills, OH -- \$10.00

A. & V. Baznik, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Rev. Frank Perkovich, Gilbert, MN -- \$10.00

John Kramar, Thunder-bay, Ont., Can. -- \$10.00

Valentine Pfeifer, New Windsor, NJ -- \$10.00

Alojz Horvat, Berwyn, IL -- \$5.00

Joe Majer, Richmond Hts., OH -- \$5.00

Ciril Prezel, Guelph, Ont., Can. -- \$5.00

Joseph Zupancic, Duluth, MN -- \$10.00

John Hainrihar, Rich-mond Hts., OH -- \$10.00

John Cech, Highland Hts., OH -- \$10.00

Alois Staric, Lachene, Quebec, Can. -- \$5.00

Izidor Manfreda, Cleve-land, OH -- \$10.00

Nevenka Percic, Greer South Carolina -- \$10.00

Rose Godich, Bradenton, FL -- \$10.00

Francka Kavcic, Missis-sauga, Ont., Can. -- \$5.00

Leopold Zupancic, Euclid, OH -- \$5.00

Joseph Sojer, Bradenton, FL -- \$10.00

Joseph Kristanc, Euclid, OH -- \$5.00

**SHA Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to the following residents of the Slovene Home for the Aged who were born in the month of December:

12-05 Thomas Quate, 94, born in Glasgow, Virginia

12-10 - Edward Milnar, 80, born in Cleveland.

12 - 14 - Vida Turk, 68 born in Ribnica, Slovenia

12 - 15 - Mary Brack, 88, born in Cleveland

12 - 15 - Frances Zgonec, 87, born in Slovenia

12-24 - Anthony Wid-mar, 76, born in Cleveland

12-25 - Jennie Blatnik, 97, born in Cleveland

12-25 - Vida Zak, 88, born in Cleveland.

**Christmas Party**

Slovenian Women's Union Branch 25 will have their Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 12 at Sterle's Restaurant on E. 55th St., Cleve-land at 1 p.m.

**Slovenian Radio on WCPN**

A wonderful Slovenian radio show is being broad-cast in Cleveland on Saturday evenings, at 9 p.m. on WCPN-90.3 FM hosted by Tony Ovsenik.

The program is bi-lingual featuring all styles of Slovenian music.

For announcements call your host, Tony Ovsenik at (440) 944-2538.

**Merry Christmas!**

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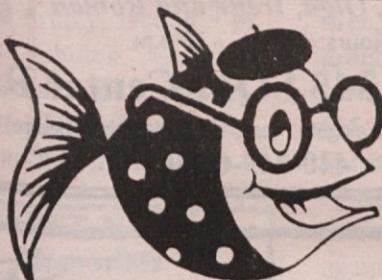
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*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*



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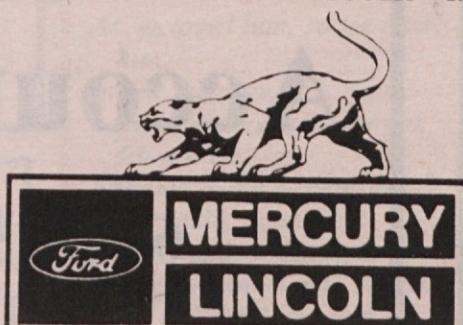
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## A.H. Christmas Printing Schedule

In December the American Home newspaper will be printed on Dec. 17 and 21. Because of the holidays there will be NO American Home on Thursday, Dec. 31. See you next year.



The custom of kissing under the mistletoe dates back to at least the early 17th century. The correct procedure is for the young man to pluck a berry as he kisses the young women. When there are no more berries, there is no more kissing.

Mid-December: Another meteor shower peaks on December 13. It is known as the Geminid meteor shower. Like the Leonids, which peak in November, it will be hard to see as the Moon is almost full.

## Greatest Gift

Are your children subscribers to the Ameriška Domovina?

A gift subscription makes the perfect present for your children, grandchildren, relatives, and friends. For only \$30 a year, think of all the knowledge they will gain plus you will be helping to preserve our Slovenian language, heritage, and culture.

Call (216) 431-0628 today and we will send a card to the recipient announcing your wonderful, gift.

Or you can mail it to American Home, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103, or fax: (216) 361-4088, or e-mail [jim@buckeyeweb.com](mailto:jim@buckeyeweb.com)

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4 sticks butter - softened  
2 packages 8 oz. each cream cheese - softened  
2 cups sugar  
2 tsp. vanilla  
4 large egg yolks  
2 of the egg whites  
4 cups flour  
Red and green colored sugar for decorating

Beat butter, cream cheese, sugar and vanilla in a large bowl with an electric mixer on high for 3 minutes. Beat in egg yolks until blended. On low speed, beat in flour. Divide dough into 4 sections, wrap each and chill until firm.

Start with one portion of dough and cut in half. Roll out on well floured surface. Cut out with cookie cutters and place 1-inch apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Leave remaining dough refrigerated until ready to roll out more.

Beat egg whites with a fork and brush lightly on unbaked cookies. Sprinkle with colored sugar and bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes until golden. Let cool for 1 minute on cookie sheet before moving. Makes approximately 96 cookies.

## NOSAN'S BAKERY

WISHES EVERYONE

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year*

We will not be open this Holiday Season  
But look forward to seeing you in 1999

*Thank You for your past patronage!*

There is "love" and "venison" in Slovenian

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Holiday Greetings

After all, Christmas is but a big love affair to remove the wrinkles of the year with kindly remembrances. — John Wanamaker.

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
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VISIT US!

## OVERSEAS GROCER

Overseas Grocer and Deli has many, many products imported from all of Europe. They have tortes and homemade pastries, perogi (plemeni) with cheese, meat and blintzes.

Also we have butter, dairy products, yogurt, white cheese, chocolate cheese balls. In the meat section, they have head cheese, smoked sausages, salami, Greek cheese, goose-liver, smoked hot and cold fish, caviar from Russia. There are bottled pickles and cucumbers, also various teas, including herbal teas. Various candies and jellies. There are also many other imported items that are too numerous to list here.

A trip to the Overseas Grocery will be a delightful adventure in European foods available for your selection with an Old World flavor and quality.

We invite you to come to see for yourself - the Overseas Grocery, 1341 and 1343 SOM Center Rd. (Rt. 91), in the rear side of Eastgate Plaza, next to the Regal Theater.

You are also invited to our Coffee & Café deli next door for a free salad, coffee or soft drink with any sandwich or coffee ½ price with any pastry. Offer valid until 12-20-98.

Order Party trays for your holiday  
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*Merry Christmas - and Happy New Year*

**Death Notices****AUGUST MALENSEK**

August Malensek, 84, passed away in the Queens of Lyndhurst on Friday, Dec. 4th.

Mr. Malensek owned and operated Malensek's Meat Market on Norwood Rd., in the Slovenian neighborhood of Cleveland. The store was opened by his parents in 1917 and Gus began working there at age 6. By the time he was 11 he was driving the delivery truck.

Gus was a member of the Cleveland Food Dealers Assoc., and KSKJ.

He was the husband of Ann (nee Korda) and the late Alvina (nee Koenig); the father of Kenneth, William (deceased), and Thomas; grandfather of six; and brother of Hank of California.

Friends called at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St. Wed., Dec. 9, where services will be held Thursday, Dec. 10 at 9:15 a.m., and at St. Vitus Church at 10 a.m. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery.

Donations to Alzheimers Assoc., 12200 Fairhill Rd., Cleveland 44120 in his memory.

**ALPHONSE GERM**

Alphonse Germ passed away on Monday, Nov. 30 in Mt. Sinai East Hospital.

Al was a resident of Richmond Heights. He was retired from the Food Terminal where he worked as a supervisor.

Mr. Germ was the brother of Vera, Maximillian and Rudolph (all deceased).

He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, and a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters Baraga Court #1317.

A Mass of Resurrection was held Friday, Dec. 4th at St. Paul Church, Chardon Rd. Burial in Calvary Cemetery. Donations to St. Paul Church in his memory.

**CARST-NAGY  
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**Zele Funeral Home****MEMORIAL CHAPEL****LOCATED AT****452 E. 152 Street****Family owned and operated since 1908****Phone 481-3118****Golub Funeral Homes****4703 Superior Ave. - 17010 Lake Shore Blvd.****-- 391-0357 --****Karla Golub Sodnicar and Emil J. Golub****"Service To Render A More Perfect Tribute"****KATHLEEN  
HUFFLESTON**

Kathleen Huddleston (nee Somrak) of Lakeside, died Saturday, Nov. 21, 1998.

Mrs. Huddleston was born in Cleveland, Ohio on August 30, 1953 and grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan and in Pittsburgh. She met Leigh Huddleston in Pittsburgh and they were married in June, 1972. They moved to Arizona in 1974 and lived in Lakeside for about six years. She worked as an office manager for Ace Hardware in Show Low and Pinetop and also as a bookkeeper for Leigh Huddleston Plumbing.

Mrs. Huddleston was a member of St. Mary's of the Angels Catholic Church in Pinetop. She enjoyed bowling and computers.

Mrs. Huddleston is survived by her husband, Leigh Huddleston of Lakeside; two children, Christine and Jace both of Lakeside; and her parents, Donald and Alice Somrak of Green Valley.

Services at mortuary by Father Oliver Curran of Saint Mary of the Angels Catholic Church.

Donations may be made to the American Heart Association, 2929 S. 48 St., Tempe, AZ 85282-3145.

Arrangements were under the direction of Fletcher's Mortuary of Show Low, Arizona.

**ERMA F. PRYATELY**

Erma F. Pryately, 71, formerly of Cleveland, but has lived in Conneaut, Ohio for the past 50 years, passed away on Monday, Dec. 7 in University Hospitals.

She is survived by husband Rudy J.; two daughters, Linda Pryately of Conneaut and Patricia Buchner of Euclid; son Rudy J. Jr. of Conneaut; five grandchildren; one granddaughter; two brothers, Lewis Stafford of Marietta, GA, and Herman Stafford of Farmington, NM.

Services at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Mary's Church, Conneaut.

There is no lesser or greater gift if the gift is love.

**EDITH ZUPANCIC**

Edith Zupancic (nee Hrobat), passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 8th in Hospice House.

Edith was the wife of Fred (deceased); the mother of Fred Jr.

Edith was preceded in death by her brothers Steven and Vincent J.

She was the aunt of Richard Karlinger, Vincent M. Hrobat, Joseph Hrobat and Maryann Mackey. She was a dear friend of Theresa Clements.

Friends may call at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St., Monday, Dec. 14 2-4 and 7-9 where services will be held Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 9:45 a.m. and at St. William Church in Euclid at 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in All Souls Cemetery.

**Monthly Mass**

St. Vitus Altar Society members will have their monthly Mass and Communion on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 10:30 a.m. Following will be the Annual Christmas Party and monthly meeting in the Slovenian Room.

**In Memory**

Molly A. Brodnick of Highland Heights, Ohio renewed her subscription plus enclosed an additional \$20.00 in memory of Joseph J. Brodnick.

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**In Loving Memory**

Of the eighth Anniversary

of the Death of Our  
Beloved Father,  
Grandfather, and  
Great-grandfather

**Louis Oswald**

Passed away Dec. 11, 1990

*As we loved him, so we miss him;  
In our memory he is near;  
Loved, remembered, longed  
for always,  
Bringing many a silent tear.  
Sadly missed by:  
Wilma — daughter  
Walter — son & wife Alberta  
grandchildren and  
great-grandchildren*

**Bishop of Koper  
says Thanks**

Frank Šega of Wilmoughby Hills, Ohio is chairman of the committee to raise funds to help the victims of the earthquake in the Posočje Valley of Slovenia. He received a letter from the Most Rev. Msgr. Metod Pirih thanking everyone who made donations.

Here is a translation of the letter:

"Received your check in the amount of \$6,578 in U.S. dollars for the earthquake victims in Posočje Valley, Diocese of Koper (Slovenia)."

"For your generosity and good will, I wish to express to all contributors my heartfelt thank you."

"May the Lord repay all of you with spiritual and material gifts for whatever you need in your life."

"With the best regards,  
gratefully yours,

Metod Pirih,  
Bishop of Koper"

**I am Slovenian -  
eat your heart out**

**Christmas Party**

The Newburgh-Maple Hts. Pensioners Club Annual Christmas Dinner Meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 16 at noon in the Slovenian National Home, 3563 E. 80th St., off Union Avenue. Note: the meeting will be on the third Wednesday of the month. Our attendance prize will be \$20.00.

Our January meeting will be on Wed., Jan. 27, 1999 at noon in the Slovenian National Home off Union.

Our February meeting will be on Wed., Feb. 24, same place.

--Richard J. Galla  
Secretary-Treas.

**Christmas Party**

Slovenian women's Union Branch 47 of Garfield Heights Pot Luck Xmas Party and yearly meeting with election of officers will be held on Saturday, Dec. 12 at 1 p.m. at Valley View City Hall. Bring door prizes for raffle.

Happy Holidays.  
--Mary Taucher  
Secretary

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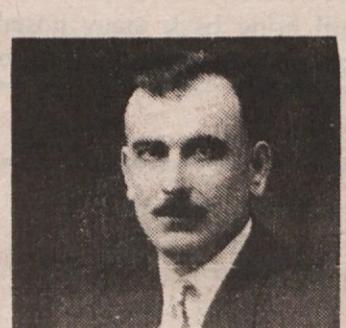
**In Loving Memory**

of Our Beloved Father, Mother,  
Grandparents and Great-grandparents

**7th Anniversary**

**Alojzija (Louise) Jamnik  
PUŠLJAR**

Died December 15, 1991

**51st Anniversary**

**JOHN JAMNIK**

Died August 12, 1947

In Life we loved you dearly,  
In death we love you still,  
In our hearts you held a place,  
No one else can ever fill.  
It broke our hearts to lose you,  
But you didn't go alone,  
For part of us went with you,  
The day God took you home.

Love,

Rose Arko and Vilma Jamnik - Daughters  
David Arko, Grandson and Wife Marjory  
Steven Arko, Grandson and Wife Serena  
Brian, Jennifer, Kevin, and Eric Arko  
Great Grandchildren

Wickliffe, Ohio

## The Crèche

The crèche refers to the animals' manger in which, according to Saint Luke, the Virgin placed Jesus when he was born. It later came to mean the place of the Nativity and then the Nativity.

The two oldest depiction's of the Nativity date from the 4th century.

The first is a wall painting which decorates the funeral chamber of a Christian family living around the year 380. This pictorial work was discovered in 1877 in the catacombs of Saint Sebastian in Rome.

The other reference is to a painted scene on a sarcophagus in the Basilica of Saint Maximin and depicts the three Wise Men worshipping the Christ Child.

The term crèche (from the German "Krippe") ap-



peared in the 12th century. Legend connects it to Saint Francis of Assissi; he was said to have celebrated Midnight Mass in 1223 with the approval of the Pope in Greccio, Italy in a stable where men and beasts re-enacted the Nativity.

Nativity plays date back to the Middle Ages when liturgical dramas, mysteries and plays were performed originally in churches and later just outside in the church porch or church square.

The first church crèches appeared in the 16th century and their mannered and stilted form replaced the theatrical style of medieval liturgies.

The fashion for family crèches expanded in the 18th century.

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### Mario's Christmas Show on WATJ - 1560 AM

WATJ-1560 AM radio in Chardon, Ohio will present 6 hours of Christmas music from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 26.

The host of the holiday music will be Mario Kavcic who has selected Slovenian and American Christmas carols that will bring back many nostalgic and memorable Yuletide sentiments and recollections of past Christmases.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*



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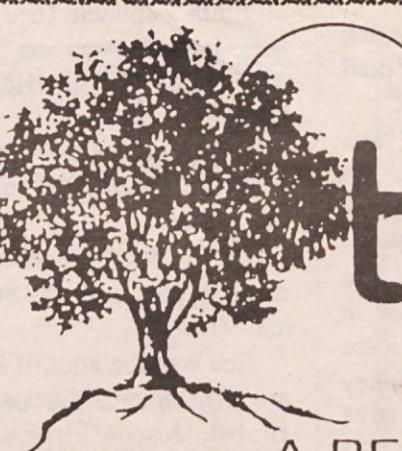
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**Happy Holidays**



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### A.H. Christmas Printing Schedule

In December the American Home newspaper will be printed on Thursday, Dec. 17 and Monday, Dec. 21. Because of the holidays there will be NO American Home on Thursday, Dec. 31. See you next year.

### INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

1560 on Your A.M. Dial on WATJ

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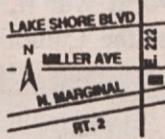
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Sat 7am-2pm



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## - Vesti iz Slovenije -



Pretekli petek je kakih tristo otrok iz razvojnih oddelkov ljubljanskih vrtcev, duševno in telesno prizadetih iz zavodov za gluhe in naglušne ter za slepo in slabovidno mladino, iz Malega doma in doma Janeza Levca odpeljalo na veselem decembrskem vlaku z železniške postaje v Ljubljani skozi snežni metež proti Škofji Loki in nazaj. Približno enako število otrok, ki jih je življenje nekoliko prikrajšalo, se je v sodelovanju z društvom Sonček odpeljalo iz Maribora proti Rušam. Na obeh muzejskih vlakih, ki ju vleče parna lokomotiva, je male potnike pozdravil in obdaril sv. Miklavž, brezplačno vožnjo pa so jim ponudile slovenske železnice. V soboto je božični vlak peljal otroke iz Ljubljane do Ivančne Gorice, preteklo nedeljo je in to nedeljo pa bo peljal od Ljubljane do Zidanega mostu.

Lokalne volitve zaključene v 190 od vseh skupaj 192 občin v Sloveniji – Izjemni sta le Koper in Horjul -- Župan Maribora postal Boris Sovič, član Združene liste

Preteklo nedeljo je bil drugi krog lokalnih volitev v Sloveniji. V prvem krogu, 22. novembra, je bilo izvoljenih 115 županov, v večini je šlo za ponovno izvoljene, prejšnjo nedeljo je pa bilo izvoljenih dodatnih 75. V dveh od 192 slovenskih občin volitev še ni bilo. V Horjulu bodo šele 20. decembra, v Kopru jih je preprečil ustavni spor glede razdelitve ali ne-razdelitve mesta v več občine. Kot kaže, je bila volilna udeležba v tistih občinah, v katerih so bile v nedelji volitve, še bolj skromna kot v prvem krogu. Takole je poročal *Delo* v ponedeljek:

"Včerajšnje volitve, na 1716 voliščih so med 150 kandidati izbirali 75 županov, so zajele nekako polovico slovenskega volilnega telesa oziroma 744.965 volilnih upravičencev. Po neuradnih podatkih se jih je do 16. ure udeležilo 41,9 odstotka. Na prvih lokalnih volitvah leta 1994 je bila volilna udeležba do tega časa 52,5-odstotna, na predsedniških in parlamentarnih volitvah leta 1992 69,8-odstotna, novembra lani pa se je predsedniških volitev do 16. ure udeležilo 56,9 odstotka volilnih upravičencev."

V Mariboru so volilci izbrali za svojega novega župana parlamentarnega poslanca iz vrst Združene liste Borisa Soviča. Pred volitvami je bil Sovič obljudil, da se bo v slučaju izvolitve odpovedal poslanski funkciji. Malce nerodno za Združeno listo je to, da je Sovičev nadomestnik Jože Jagodnik, ki pa je iz vrst ZL izstopil, vrh tega pa bil 22. novembra izvoljen za mestnega svetnika v Mariboru na listi LDS, to kljub temu, da niti ni član te stranke. Jagodnik se še ni odločil, ali bo Soviča v parlamentu nadomestil.

Župani (in občinski svetniki) so bili izvoljeni za štiri leta. Od 190 županov jih je 182 moških in le 8 žensk (med slednjimi je ljubljanska županja Viktorija Potočnik iz LDS). Od županov jih je kar 58, ki pravijo, da niso člani nobene stranke. Od ostalih jih 38 pripada SLS, 28 je članov LDS, 24 so iz vrst SKD, 22 iz SDS in 14 iz Združene liste. Dva sta člana Demokratske stranke, dva sta člana Zveze za Primorsko, eden pripada Zmago Jelinčičevi Slovensko nacionalni stranki, eden je pa član obrtnopodjetniške stranke.

Župan je v povprečju star 47 let in pol, najmlajši ima 28 let, najstarejši 73 let. 121 od 190 županov ima več kot srednjo šolo, trije imajo doktorski naziv, le dva sta končala pri osnovni šoli. Dalje, 174 od 190 županov je poročenih, štiri od njih ima pet otrok, prevladujejo pa župani s po dvema otrokom (108). Pred štirimi leti je imela Slovenija le 147 občin. Tisti, ki so bili župani v teh občinah, so v 105 od 147 občin svoje mesto ohranili.

### Nasvet s strani ameriške veleposlanice

Pretekli teden je imela v Ljubljani predavanje ameriška veleposlanica Nancy Ely-Raphel. Med drugim je rekla, da ima slovenski parlament ključno vlogo pri približevanju Slovenije tako Evropski uniji kot Nato. Poslušalci so njene besede razumeli kot kritika na račun državnega zbora, saj je dala jasno vedeti, da parlament ne bi smel dragocenega časa zapravljati s sterilnimi in brezplodnimi razpravami. Gre za to, da utegne Slovenija svoje vodilno mesto med kandidatkami za EU in za Nato izgubiti, če parlament ne bo učinkovitejši. Dodala je pa, da ZDA še vedno podpirajo prizadevanja Slovenije pri vključevanju v evroatlantske povezave.

## Iz Clevelandu in okolice

### Sprejem—

To soboto, 12. decembra, od 1. do 4. popoldne, bo sprejem za rojake in rojakinje v umetnostni galeriji Cleveland State University na 2307 Chester Ave. V tej galeriji je do 18. decembra razstava Ivana in Irene Jurjevič iz Ljubljane, ki barvata na steklu. Odprtje razstave je bilo 4. decembra. Navzoča na sprejemu bosta predsednik Slovenske izseljenske matice dr. Janez Bogataj in tajnik Janez Rogelj. Vstopnine ni in je javnost vabljena.

### Skupno sv. obhajilo—

Oltarno društvo Sv. Vida ima skupno sv. obhajilo to nedeljo pri maši ob 10.30, sledil bo sestanek z božičnico, v Slovenski sobi. Članice lepo vabljene.

### Novi grobovi

#### Erma F. Pryately

Dne 7. decembra je v University bolnišnici umrla 71 let stara Erma F. Pryately (roj. Stafford) iz Conneauta, O., kjer je živelka več kot 50 let, prej živeča v Clevelandu, žena Rudyja, mati Linde Pryately, Patricije Buchner in Rudyja ml., 5-krat stara mati, 1-krat prastara mati, sestra Lewisa in Hermana. Pogreb bo jutri, v petek, s sv. mašo dop. ob 10h v cerkvi sv. Marije v Conneautu. Pogreb bo v oskrbi Thompson Smith zavoda, 345 Main St., Conneaut, kjer bodo ure kropiljenja danes pop. od 2. do 4. in zv. od 7. do 9.

#### Anthony Tomsic

Umrl je 74 let stari Anthony Tomsic, vdovec po Theresi, roj. Pepock, oče Beverly Parsons, Debbie Compton in Monice Tomsic, 6-krat stari oče, zarušča brata in sestro, dva brata in štiri sestre so pa že pok., veteran 2. svetovne vojne. Pogreb bo danes s sv. mašo dop. ob 9.30 v cerkvi Our Lady of Mt. Carmel v Wickliffe s pokopom na pokopališču Western Reserve Memorial Gardens.

#### August Malensek

Dne 4. decembra je v zavetišču The Greens of Lyndhurst umrl 84 let stari August Malensek, ki je veliko let lastoval in vodil Malensek's Meat Market. Trgovino so odprli starši leta 1917 in je pokojni v njej pričel delati, ko mu je bilo 6 let, upokojil pa se je l.

(dalje na str. 19)

### Božičnice—

Podružnica št. 25 SŽZ ima božičnico to nedeljo pop. ob 1h, v Sterletovi restavraciji na E. 55 St.

Božičnica Kluba upokojencev Slovenske pristave bo v sredo, 16. decembra, v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Ave. Pričetek ob 1.30 pop. Kdor se še ni prijavil za kosilo, naj to storí še ta teden.

O božičnicah Društva slovenskih protikomunističnih borcev in kulturnih društev Lilije, Fantov na vasi, Korotana in Kresa (skupna) berte na str. 14.

### Prijeten večer—

Zelo lepo število rojakov se je zbral pretekel petek zvečer na nekdajnem semejniču Borromeo za tradicionalno srečanje s škofov Pevcem. Glavni govornik je bil g. Frederick E. Krizman. Več v angleškem delu.

### Preminula je—

Po kratki bolezni je v Bessemerju, Pa., preminula ga Paula Vrečar, rojena Kette na Igu pri Ljubljani, vdova po l. 1971 umrlem Franku. Pokojna zapušča sestro Mary Kette. K večemu miru so pokojno položili na pokopališču sv. Antona v Bessemerju. R.I.P.

### Prodaja peciva—

Oltarno društvo fare Marije Vnebovzete bo imelo prodajo peciva v soboto, 19. decembra, dopoldne v šolski dvorani.

### Še dvakrat letos—

AD bo redno izšla prihodnji četrtek, 17. dec., številka z datumom 24. dec. bo pa natisnjena že v ponedeljek, 21. dec., in oddana na pošto isti dan, v želji, da jo večina naročnikov dobi v roke že pred božičem. Dne 31. dec. AD ne bo izšla.

### Božični darovi—

Belokranjski klub je daroval \$100 v podporo našemu listu, ob božičnih praznikih.

Štajerski klub je prav tako poklonil \$100 v podporo AD.

Slovenska pristava je ob božičnem času darovala \$50.

Vsem trem kulturnim ustanovam ter ostalim, ki nam pošljajo gmotno kakor tudi duhovno podporo, se iskreno zahvalimo.

### Spominska darova—

Ga. Olga Kalar, Euclid, O., je darovala \$25 v naštiskovni sklad, v spomin moža Ludvika. Ga. Anna Vidergar, Euclid, je poklonila \$10, v spomin moža Johna. Hvala lepa!

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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA (USPS 024100)

James V. Debevec - Publisher, English Editor  
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No. 48

December 10, 1998

## Adventna priprava v družini

Advent nam ponuja milost obnove družinskega življenja. Kako bi se lepše mogli pripravljati na božič kakor s tem, da pomagamo vsak v svoji družini, da bo gostoljubnejša, prisrčnejša, bolj bratkovska! Včasih zadostuje malenkost, pa je v celi družini čisto drugačno razpoloženje, prijaznejše, vedrje: prijazna beseda, nasmeh, pripravljenost vsakega, da stori vse, kar je v njegovi moči. Vsi ljudje nosijo v svojem srcu skupno željo, skupno hrepnenje, po katerem je vsak človek brat drugemu, po katerem mu je blizu in eno z njim. Vsi ljudje so lačni in žejni prave ljubezni in teže za smislot življenja, ki ustreza potrebam njihovega srca.

Zdaj pa premislimo, kako bi mogel vsak v družini in drugim pomagati, da bi bilo v vsakem domu več topote, prisrčnosti in veselja. Koliko je družin, kjer starši in otroci, bratje in sestre žive drug zraven drugega kakor v družinskem penzionu. Jedo skupaj isti kruh za isto mizo, a so drug drugemu tuji. Duhovno so si daleč drug od drugega.

Če hočemo temu svetu dati nekaj topote, jo moramo najprej razdajati v svoji lastni hiši, drug drugemu se moramo razodeli in si deliti med seboj ne samo kruh, ampak tudi dušo in življenje. Le prepogosto se bojimo, da bi se vtičali v stvari drug drugemu in tako se iz neke napačne plahosti, obzirnosti, iz sramu ali jeze zaklepamo v slonokšeni stolp. V popolni duhovni osmljenosti žive ljudje naposled kakor puščavniki drug zraven drugega, namesto da bi drug drugemu pokazali svoj pravi obraz, se drug z drugim veselili, se spodbujali, si odkrivali težave in tako imeli občutek, da živimo resnično skupno življenje. Kadarkoli nam je mogoče prodreti v notranjost drugega človeka, smo zmerom presenečeni nad novim svetom, ki se nam odpre, nad njegovimi lastnimi pogledi in navadno tudi nad izredno dobro voljo.

Kako naj torej gradimo mostove med ljudmi dobre volje? Ali ni to vprašanje, ki se nam vsiljuje v adventu, na večer pred božičem, ki je bolj kot vsi prazniki v letu praznik zblževanja? Začnimo najprej v družini in ustvarimo tu trdne, prijazne, ljubezne odnose! Potem v podjetju, v tovarni, na ulici, povsod, kjerkoli se srečujemo z ljudmi dobre volje. Ali ni to najlepša priprava na praznik božjega rojstva?

Duhovno življenje

november - december 1975

# BOŽIČNICA

CLEVELAND, O. - Dramsko društvo LILIJA, pevska zborna FANTJE NA VASI in KOROTAN, in plesna skupina KRES, vabijo vse svoje člane in njih družine in pa vse prijatelje na božičnico v nedeljo, 20. decembra, ob 5. uri popoldne v Slov. domu na Holmes Avenue, in sicer v zgornji dvorani. Prav lepo sta tudi vabljeni obe slovenski šoli. Namen teh božičnic je, da naši mladini pokažemo duhovno stran Božiča, ko se je rodil naš Odrešenik v borni, revni bajtici med preprostimi pastirji na betlehemskej poljanah. Tudi mi odrasli smo potrebni, da se za par uric odmaknemo od predbožičnega hrušča in nakupovanja, da se v mislih utopimo v božično skrivnost. Obenem pa si bomo lahko izrekli voščila osebno, kar je pač več vredno, kot kakršnakoli božična kartica.

Gospodinje so pa prav lepo naprošene za pecivo, ki se bo prileglo k toplemu čaju. Pridite!

F.G.

## Božičnica

CLEVELAND - Društvo slovenskih protikomunističnih borcev pripravlja vsakoletno božično srečanje za v nedeljo, 20. decembra, ob 2.30 popoldne, v dvorani pri Sv. Vidu. Po kratkem programu, spomina na sv. večer, bo še petje božičnih pesmi in prigrizek ob čaju ali kavi in seveda prijateljski pogovori in voščili drug drugemu za bližajoči se praznik rojstva Gospodovega in prihajajočega novega leta 1999 božjega blagoslova, zdravja in sreče.

Društvo vabi slovenske rojake na to prijetno popoldne, da se ga udeležite v čimvečjem številu. Vstopnine, pripravljena pa bo škatlja za prostovoljne prispevke, za kritje stroškov. Vsi lepo vabljeni in na svidenje!

A. O.

## Slomškov krožek sporoča...

CLEVELAND, O. - Slovenija je zdaj uradno povabilna sv. očeta Janeza Pavla II., da v Mariboru slovesno proglaši škofa Antona Martina Slomška blaženim. Upamo, da bomo v najkrajšem času zvedeli za datum te slovesnosti.

Druga vesela novica je, da smo prejeli dar pet tisoč dolarjev za kritje stroškov te slovesnosti, to iz skладa pok. sen. Franca Lauscheta, kar bomo takoj poslali škofu Krambergerju v Maribor. Uradnikom Lauschetovega sklada, posebno predsedniku g. Jamesu Debevcu in g. Madeline Debevec se odbor Slomškovega krožka iskreno zahvaljuje.

Prejeli smo še naslednje darove: \$100 od Lojzeta in Vere Gregorič iz Lemonta; \$50 od Ivanke Košir in \$20 od Jožeta Stariha. Te zadnje darove bomo poslali v Maribor po Božiču in upamo, da bomo medtem prejeli še več darov.

Potniška pisarna Travel-Max ima v načrtu eno- in dvotedensko potovanje v Slovenijo, ob prilik posvetitve škofa Slomška. Pred

pripravljeno oddano.

Naša božičnica bo že po Novem letu in to 3. januarja. Za ta dan ste vse članice vabljeni, da se nam pridružite tako zjutraj pri deseti sv. maši, kot pri uru molitve ob pol dveh in nato na sestanku v šolski dvorani. Podale bomo poročilo o našem delu v preteklem letu, imele občni zbor in potegnile par srečnih imen. Na koncu bomo ob čaju in priziku še navezale nove stike, da bo začeto leto lepo steklo v veselje članic in župnije.

V imenu odbora želim vsem članicam in tudi vsem, ki berete te vrstice, prav lepo praznovanje Jezusovega rojstva, v Novem letu 1999. pa polno milosti in blagoslova. Bog z vami vsemi!

Lavriševa

Iz DELA, 30. nov. 1998:

## Replike slik na steklu Irene in Ivana Jurjeviča

Ljubljana - Slovenska izseljenska matica bo od 4. do 18. decembra letos na univerzi v Clevelandu pripravila razstavo replik slik na steklo Irene in Ivana Jurjeviča iz Ljubljane. S to prireditvijo bodo ameriški javnosti predstavili razmeroma neznano zvrst likovnega ustvarjanja. Ustvarjanje slik na steklo je bilo namreč značilno za srednjeevropski prostor med drugo polovico 18. in koncem 19. stoletja.

Z razstavo, kjer bo sodeloval tudi predsednik Slovenske izseljenske matice, prof. dr. Janez Bogataj, bodo tako ameriški javnosti, še posebej tudi potomcem "drugega največjega slovenskega mesta", Clevelandu, prikazali okolje, obzorja in verovanja naših ljudi v preteklosti.

Predsednik clevelandske federacije enote SNPJ (Slovenske Narodne Podporne Jednote) in direktor za stike z javnostmi na clevelandski univerzi, Joe Valencic, bo 12. decembra v razstavnem prostoru pripravil slovenski sprejem, kjer bodo zavrteli tudi dokumentarni film o Slovencih v Clevelandu.

D.B.

## Joseph L. FORTUNA

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DRAGO JANČAR

Ljubljana

## Temna stran meseca

II. del

(Op. ur. AD: V tej številki AD je na str. 17 že oceno o razstavi Temna stran meseca, ki je izšla v ljubljanskem tedniku Družina.)



Drago Jančar

**Že dolgo ni šlo več samo za maščevanje.** Niso obsojali, ubijali in zapirali samo tako imenovanih kolaborantov iz ljubljanske nadškofije. Zapirali so tudi duhovnike na Primorskem, delno v tolminskem procesu, na Štajerskem in v Prekmurju, na smrt so obsojali trgovce in industrialce, ki so med vojno pomagali partizanom.

V sicer zmeraj bolj oslabljenih krogih nasilja so pogromov, zaporov, izgube služb ali prepovedi potovanj deležni vsi: od Slovenske akademije znanosti in umetnosti preko univerze in umetniške sfere do srednjih šol, tovarn, uradov, župnišč in najbolj zakotnih vasi: povsod je bilo mogoče in je bilo treba najti sovražnika.

Kot daljni odmev Seliškarjevih besed iz leta 45 najdemo še dvajset let pozneje partijski dokument, v katerem je o otrocih razrednih sovražnikov rečeno, da je treba "iztrebiti gadjo zalego."

V tem letu dni, odkar je padla odločitev za razstavo o totalitarizmu, mi je bilo velikokrat žal, ker sem se spustil v to podjetje. Ne samo zato, ker je jemalo veliko časa in sem pogosto v sebi ali v prijateljskem kroužku besnel nad dejstvom, da vsi inštituti, muzeji, katedre in plačani ljudje v njih ne počnejo tega, s čimer se moramo mi ukvarjati skoraj da amatersko.

Tudi ne samo zato, ker sem se z razstavo ukvarjal ob obilici drugega pisanja in mi je jemala zanj potrebno zbranost. Pač pa predvsem zato, ker mi je zmeraj znova postajalo tesno ob

mislih na žive ljudi in njihove usode, ki so me gledale iz vsakega papirja, ki sem ga bil obrnil v rokah.

Profesorji, ki so v partijskih karakteristikah ovajali svoje dijake in podpisovali dokumente za izključitev iz vseh šol tedanje Jugoslavije, zasliševalci, ki so v celicah trpinčili nedolžne žrtve, kriminalistični policisti, ki jim je bilo naloženo, da vohajo za politično sumljivimi ljudmi, sodniki in porotniki, ki so jih z izsiljevanji pripravili do tega, da so izrekali kazni za politične prekrške, kot je bil, recimo, zapisovanje svojih misli o stanju v naši državi v osebni dnevnik.

Vemo, kaj se je zgodilo Pučniku, Blažiču, Vilčniku, Miklavčiču in mnogim drugim bolj ali manj znam.

**Toda, kaj se je zgodilo množici ljudi, za katere javnost nikoli ni slišala?**

Ko listam te papirje, mi postaja jasno, da se tudi sam nisem v celoti zavedal, kako daleč je ta stvar šla, kako je bila razlezena v vse kapilare družbenega organizma. Dokumenti govorijo o vsakdanjem življenju, a življenju, ki zaradi malih ovdab in zaniknih partijskih ocen pomeni hude pretrese za posameznika, izgube služb in stipendij, nezmožnosti potovanj, životarjenje v revščini, mnoge neizpolnjene sanje mladih ljudi, pobege v tujino, zaustavljenne poklicne ambicije.

Dokumenti govorijo o državi totalnega nadzora, poseganja v sleherno življenje, ki se ne želi ali se ni sposobno podrediti ali prilagoditi.

Ko je prvotni val nasilja minil in so ostali od časa do časa le še eksemplarični primeri sodnega kaznovanja ali metanja iz služb, se je družba, ali bolje rečeno, so se ljudje privadili življenju v novih razmerah. Pritisak se je občasno zmanjševal, kot ob koncu šestdesetih let, in se spet stopnjeval, kot skozi sedemdeseta, svinčena leta.

**Danes je komu težko do-povedati, da je bil tudi to čas totalitarizma.** Hodili smo v Trst, bili so filmski festivali in športni rezultati, življenje je, ob potrebnih in zdaj že samodejni previdnosti, teklo naprej.

Toda prav na začetku sedemdesetih let je morda imel jugoslovanski socializem še zadnjo možnost, da postane nekako verodostojen. Okupacija Češke in liberalizacija konec šestdesetih je celo marsikoga, ki je bil kritičen, pripravila do tega, da je začel verjeti v možnost nekako demokratičnega socializma. Veliko ljudi je prav tedaj stopilo v Zvezko komunistov. Toda zadnja iluzija je bila kmalu razpršena. Prišlo je nekakšno Titovo pismo, partija je začela preganjati liberalce in tehnikrate, kmalu se je na nas spet usul stari besednjak o notranjih in zunanjih sovražnikih, sovražni emigraciji in klerikalizmu.

Po mojem mnenju je prav v sedemdesetih letih prišlo do splošne družbene amnezije in z njo povezanega oportunizma. Takrat se je dokončno ustalila dialektika bonbonov in biča. Ugodni krediti, zvišan standard, odprte meje, vstopanje v partijo zaradi ljubega miru.

### Vse močne črke v tekstu so moje, op. ur. AD

Hkrati pa demagoške kampanje v tisku, od katerih je človek lahko obrnil pogled proč, zaporne kazni za nekatere, kar je bilo moč spregledati, vzpon malih karieristov, ki so skupaj s starimi trdorokci po uni-

## LITERARNI RAZPIS

### Svetovnega slovenskega kongresa

Sodeč po poročilih mednarodnih ustanov in po odmevih v tujih občilih se zdi, da Slovenija v zadnjem času čedalje bolj izgublja svoj ugled v svetu. Tudi doma čedalje več ljudi čuti, da je v naši deželi na številnih življenjskih področjih nekaj zelo narobe.

Svetovni slovenski kongres zato razpisuje literarni natečaj za izvirni esej na temo "Kaj bi bilo treba narediti, da bi bili lahko resnično ponosni na Slovenijo?"

Rokopise je treba poslati v dveh čitljivih pretipkanih izvodih (formata A4) na naslov: SVETOVNI SLOVENSKI KONGRES, Cankarjeva 1/IV, 1000 Ljubljana do 31. MARCHA 1999. Rokopisi morajo biti opremljeni samo z gesлом ali šifro. Podatki o avtorju in njegov naslov naj bodo v zaprti kuverti, opremljeni z enakim gesлом ali šifro.

Esej naj bo napisan v slovenščini, dolg pet do deset tipkanih strani. Natečaja se lahko udeležijo diplomski in postdiplomski študentje iz Slovenije in tujine.

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Svetovni slovenski kongres  
Ljubljana, Slovenija

## ZAPISKI

### Chronicle of the American Slovene Congress

NEW YORK, NY - Dvoježični The American Slovene Congress ZAPISKI, štev. 5 (jesen, 1998), katerega angleški del urejuje Paul Barbarich, slovenski del pa Pavle Borštnik, prinaša sledče članke in poročila: članek "Otvorite naše hiše za vse" Wolfganga Gombocza o delovanju slovenske manjšine v avstrijskem delu slovenske Štajerske; poročilo o nedavnem "Simpoziju Ameriškega slovenskega kongresa o slovenskih manjšini v mejah italijanske države" - na Kolumbijski univerzi v New Yorku, in poročilo o poročilu lista The News from the Harriman Institute (Columbia University), avgust 1998) o tej konferenci.

Sledijo članki: "Sprava - brezploden trud?" Pavleta Borštnika; "Acerbissima veritas/The Harshest Truth" Metoda Milača; Katalina Munda Hirnök "O Porabskih Slovencih v luči dejavnosti Zveze Slovencev na Madžarskem"; in poročilo dr. Silvestra Langa: "Slovene Physicians Meet in Bled and Otočec" - o poklicnem svetovnem srečanju slovenskih zdravnikov in zdravstvenih profesionalcev na Bledu in Otočcu v Sloveniji (16.-20. sept. 1998), o njihovih razgovorih o svojih poklicnih izkušnjah, in o svoji zdravniški in zdravstveni problematiki v današnji Republiki Sloveniji. R.L.L.

# Vesele Božične Praznike

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## Mraz vojakom ne more do živega

*Med udeleženci tudi tisoč petsto pripadnikov Slovenske vojske – Stotnica Mateja Petač zadovoljna z življenjem vojakinje*

Prva beseda, ki prešine možgane navadnega civilista, posebno če je ženska, je mraz. Mraz, ki kljub toplim volnenim oblačilom, dvojnim nogavicam grize do kosti. Vojaki pa – kot da niso ljudje. Nizke temperature jim ne gredo do živega. Nasprotno. Roka, ki mi jo je podal stotnik Ernest Anželj, eden od odgovornih za stike z javnostjo na vaji Nata in partneric za mir v Sloveniji, je bila topla. Četudi ni nosil rokavice.

*To poročilo o Natovi vaji v Sloveniji, ki je bila v drugi polovici novembra, je izšel v Delu 24. novembra, ko je vaja še potekala, izpod pere se Sonje Merljak. Napisano je v zanimivem stilu s podarkom bolj na slovenske vojake(-nje) kot na strogo vojško tematiko.* Ur. AD

Za Natove vojake so zimske temperature idealne, je povedal eden od častnikov

iz poveljstva kopenskih sil za južno Evropo, saj se njihovi fantje pogosto urijo na Arktiki, kjer temperatura doseže tudi minus 51 stopinj Celzija.

"Samo dopovedovati si je treba, da ne zebe, pa je vse v redu. Tako sem si sam nekoč pri minus deseti stopinjah – zeblo me je kot psa, čeprav je sijalo sonce – rekel, zdaj je pa zadost. Razpel sem jakno, slekel rokavice in se prepričal, da me ne zebe več," mi je razložil major **Marko Kruška** in povedal, da ima obute dvojne nogavice. Tudi zato, ker je hoja v vojaških čevljih potem udobnejša.

Vojško življenje razumejo predvsem tisti, ki so ga občutili na lastni koži. Slovenski vojaki, ki sem jih srečala med obiskom vojaške vase, so ponosni na svoj poklic – tudi nekdanja sodna tolmačica, prevajalka stotnica **Mateja Petač**, ki je oblekla uniformo pred enim mesecem:

"Pogodbo sem podpisala za deset let, za ta košar pa sem se odločila, ker se mi je zdelo delo zanimivo in ker sem želela spoznati vojaško terminologijo."

Pred vajo je trajal njen delovni dan v vojašnici od sedmih do petnajstih, med vajo pa se je raztegnil na 24 ur. Življenje vojakinje ji je všeč, pravi, da je uniforma topla, orožje, ki ga mora nositi med vajo, je nemotil in kolegi jo imajo za enakopravno. "Preden se odločiš za vstop v vojsko, se vedena zavedaš, da tu ni posebnega udobja. Vendar imam na voljo prho, topla obroka in posebno sobo, v kateri spimo tri vojakinje."

**Mateja Petač** je prevajalka v desetem bataljonu slovenske vojske za mednarodno sodelovanje. Njegovo poveljstvo in prva četa sta namreč vključena v vajo CAE '98 (Cooperative Adventure Exchange '98). V bataljonu so poklicni vojaki, ki so v stalni pripravljenosti, opravljajo naloge v mirovnih operacijah po svetu in sodelujejo v sestavi mednarodnih enot. Bataljon je sestavljen kot sorodne enote v državah, ki so članice Nata. Vojaki se usposabljam in urijo doma in na tujem, udeležujejo se tečajev in seminarjev, znanje pa kasneje

posredujejo drugim pripadnikom SV.

Enota uporablja na vaji avtomatske puške M-70, mitraljeze M-52, pištole TT M-57, metalce granat CIS-40 mm, protioklepne metalce zolja in osa, oklepna vozila BOV, ki so opremljena z mitraljezoma 12,7 mm browning in PKT, vozila puch GE 230 in pinzgauer ter Tamove tovornjake.

Slovenski vojaki so nastanjeni v bližini Sevnice. Nadzorovati morajo pretok prometa in ljudi, zato so uredili cestne nadzorne točke, na katerih skrbijo za oskrbovalne poti bataljona in brigade.

Vojaki enote za logistiko, nameščeni v gasilskem domu v Boštanju pri Sevnici, pravijo, da so jih vaščani zelo lepo sprejeli. Zlasti so jih po njihovem mnenju veseli okoliški gostilničarji. V vojski je precej mrtvega časa in vojaki se morajo zmotiti; kratke premore preživijo ob cigaretah in z igranjem nintenda, dalje pa v vaških gostilnah.

V Mokronogu je natakarica povedala, da jih vsak večer obiščejo vojaki iz bližnje sanitetne enote. Med seboj govorijo francosko in

nemško, z domačini (ti jim navdušeni plačujejo kozarce piva) pa angleško.

Vojaki v Boštanju si zjutraj umivajo zobe v odprttem šotoru pri minus deseti stopinjah Celzija, vendar na srečo teče iz pip topla voda, ki si jo pripravijo v posebnem tovornjaku, spijo pa v zidanih objektih. Na poveljstvu, ki je v lovski koči v hribih nad Sevnico, spijo v pritličju navadni vojaki, v prvem nadstropju častniki in podčastniki, v drugem pa višji častniki in tri častnice.

V bližnjem šotoru je jedilnica: čeprav imajo vojaki v lovski koči, ki so jo bili najeli, kuhanjo, jim vozijo hrano iz vojašnice Novo mesto. Kuhanja je namenjena le pripravi kave. □

**Anton M.  
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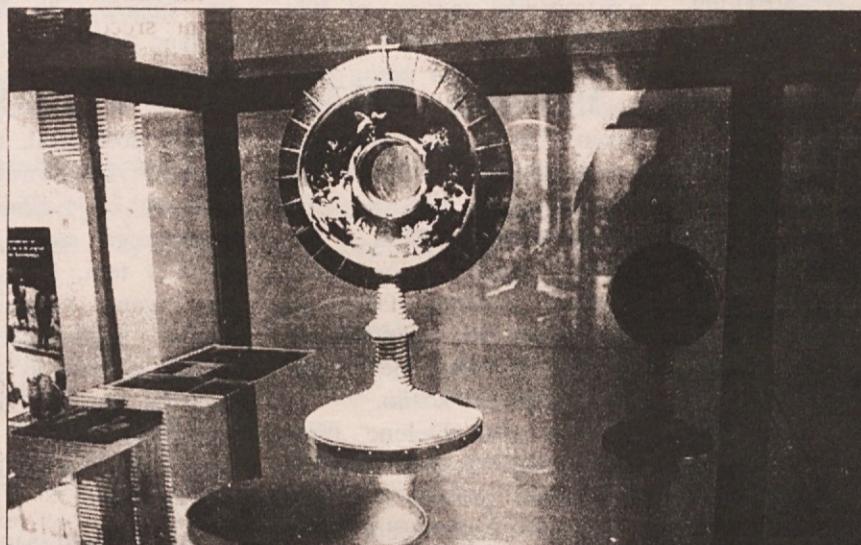
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# ... gledajo, pa ne vidijo ...

**TEMNA STRAN MESECA –**  
kratka zgodovina totalitarizma v Sloveniji 1945—1990



Na razstavi si lahko v delu, posvečenem emigraciji, ogledate monštranco, repozitorij in pateno, ki jih je izdelal Tone Babnik v begunskem taborišču Liechtenstein-Judenburg leta 1946 iz pločevine ostankov letal. Notranji obod monštrance je okrašen z dragimi kamni, ki so jih darovali posamezniki iz svojih prstanov.

Ali smo res še ne dolgo tega živeli v totalitarnem režimu, slišimo včasih vprašanje, v katerem je skrit namig, da "tako hudo pa kljub vsemu le ni bilo". Jansen odgovor na to vprašanje ponuja v četrtek, 26. novembra, v Muzeju novejše zgodovine (Cekinov grad v ljubljanskem Tivoliju) odprta razstava *Temna stran meseca*.

## Od javne polemike do razstave—

Rojstvo razstave je povezano z javno polemiko, ki se je razvila od postavitvi stalne razstave *Slovenci v 20. stoletju* prav tako v Muzeju novejše zgodovine. Več zelo kritičnih pogledov je bilo na to razstavo, nanjo pa se je odzval tudi pisatelj Drago Jančar.

Razlog? Razstava *Slovenci v 20. stoletju* "prikriva temno stran slovenske zgodovine po letu 1945 in lakira totalitarni sistem". Takrat je Jančar javno in glasno pomislil na to, da bi bilo zato potrebno postaviti alternativno razstavo, kjer bo videti tudi teharsko taborišče, roške lame, obsojence z dachavskih procesov, prepovedane revije in časopise, ...

Odgovor muzealcev je bil dokaj nepričakovani — Jančarju so ponudili, naj zbere sodelavce in v Cekinovem gradu postavi razstavo, ki bo razkrivala njegov pogled na novejšo slovensko zgodovino. Ponudbo je sprejel, oblikovala se je skupina sodelavcev (ob Jančarju sta za koncept in postavitev razstave zasluga zlasti zgodovinar dr. Vasko Simoniti in arhitekt Janez Suhadolc, sicer pa je pri razstavi in zborniku sodelovala vrsta posameznikov z različnih področij), zastavljen je bil temeljni okvir celotnega projekta.

**Filmsko gradivo, pričevanja, dokumenti** — Pričajoča razstava je, kot pravi njen podnaslov, kratka zgodovina totalitarizma v Sloveniji od

konca vojne do leta 1990. Glede na gradivo, ki ga prinaša, pa ima trojni značaj: obiskovalci si lahko v projekcijski sobi ogledajo filmsko dokumentacijo, ki jo je pripravil Slavko Hren: prisluhnejo lahko petim živim pričevanjem, posnetim na zgoščenke (dr. Ljubo Sirc, Franc Dejak, Agna Javornik, Oto Valter Vilčnik in Viktor Blažič); osrednji del razstave pa predstavljajo panoji s fotografijami, dokumenti in razstavnimi eksponati. Tematsko so panoji razdeljenih v štirinajst sklopov, v katerih so predstavljene različne pojavnne oblike totalitarizma pri nas (poboji, emigracija, procesi, taborišča, partija in volitve, kultura, zapleme, Cerkev, šolstvo, cenzura, če naštejemo le nekatere).

Ob snovanju razstave se je nabralo zelo veliko dokumentacijskega gradiva, ki so ga avtorji dobili v sodelovanju z nekaterimi ustanovami (NUK, Sova, različni arhivi) in iz zbirk posameznikov,

tako da je bilo potrebno zbrano selezionirati (mnogo tega, kar ni našlo mesta na razstavi, boste našli v obsežnem spremjevalnem zborniku, ki ga izdaja Nova revija).

Marsikaj tega je bilo v takšni ali drugačni obliki že videno — nekaj je tudi že neobjavljenih dokumentov —, je pa prvič v takšnem obsegu zbrano na enem kraju in tako ponuja razmeroma celovit vpogled v slovensko dogajanje po drugi svetovni vojni.

Tu pa se zastavlja morda ključno vprašanje razstave; namreč, zakaj ni ideja o celostnem pregledu totalitarizma pri nas zrasla med strokovnjaki za to področje, med zgodovinarji in muzealci; zakaj pri nas nimamo posebne ustanove, ki bi se, tako kot v vseh pokomunističnih državah, ki gredo resnično po demokratični poti, ukvarjala z raziskovanjem komunističnega obdobja?

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Božični prazniki so tik pred nami. Še je čas, da pošljemo našim dragim božična voščila. Božič je dan Gospodovega rojstva, zato naj bi bile tudi kartice v tem duhu. Slovenska pisarna jih ima še na razpolago. Kartica s Sv. Družino in slovenskim voščilom za Božič in Novo leto, stane samo \$1.00. Ne opustimo lepega slovenskega običaja kajenja in škopljena z blagoslovjeno vodo naših domov. Vonj po kadilu, škopljene, in, če le mogoče, veseli del rožnega venca ter nato še polnočnica, nas popelje v pravo božično razpoloženje. Kadilo tudi lahko dobite v Slovenski pisarni ali v cerkvi sv. Vida.

Slovenska pisarna sporoča, da je iz Celovca dobila Mihorjeve knjige. V letosnjem "knjižnem daru" so 4 knjige: Koledar za leto 1999, roman Jantarska zveza, ki jo je napisal Lev Detela; Neznani Bog, avtor Klaus Einspieler, izdajatelji: Teološka fakulteta v Ljubljani, Dom prosvete v Tinjah, in Slovenski dušnopastirski urad krške škofije. Četrti knjiga je "Skrinjica pravljic"; priljubljene pravljice bratov Grimm in Hansa Christiana Andersena, z barvnimi ilustracijami za otroke, primerno za slovenske šole. Vse štiri knjige stanejo \$45.00.

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Poleg omenjenih, ima pisarna še precejšnjo zalogo knjig. Vabimo vas, da pridete in si jih sami ogledate in mogoče kakšno izberete. Sprejemamo naplačila za najnovejšo knjigo *TEMNA STRAN MESECA*, ki bo v kratkem izšla v Sloveniji. Prednaročila bodo s posebnim popustom. Knjiga bo imela več kot 800 strani, od tega 400 strani fotografij in dokumentov o komunističnih povojnih zločinah. Knjigo zelo priporočamo!

Za odbor Slovenske pisarne:

Anton Oblak

Morda pa bo prav razstava *Temna stran meseca* spodbudila nove, temeljitejše raziskave tega obdobja. Avtorji se namreč dobro zavedajo, da je predstavljeno gradivo le vrh ledene gore dokumentov in pričevanj iz 45-letnega obdobja totalitarizma, zato lahko razstava in zbornik opravita predvsem vlogo "pozitivne kulturne provokacije in postaneta predmet za razmišlanje".

**Jasna resnica o "drugih Slovencih"** — Kakšen je torej, ob vseh omejitvah, ki nujno spremljajo takšno razstavo, njen temeljni namen?

Uporabimo kar besede avtorjev: "Dokler je še čas, dokler je še živ spomin, je treba spregovoriti povsem jasno o 'drugih Slovencih' v drugi polovici dvajsetega stoletja. O tistih, ki so obdobje socializma preživel drugače, namreč kot drugorazredni državljanji; ki so ostali brez pravice do svobodne besede, ki so jim omejevali svobodo gibanja, političnega združevanja, od katerih so bili mnogi zaprti, mnogi pa so tudi izgubili svoja življenja."

Bistveni razlog za razstavo torej ni "samo pomanjkljivo zgodovinopisje", ampak "ledena gora preteklosti, ki nam hoče še naprej vladati. Tudi zato, ker je nočemo videti. In kdor je ni hotel videti doslej, je

najbrž ne bo videl niti potem, ko bo odšel s te razstave / .../. V koncentracijskem taborišču Dachau stoji napis: Narod, ki ne pozna svoje preteklosti, je obsojen, da jo bo ponovil. Obstajajo še starejše besede o tem vprašanju, zapisane pred nekaj manj kot 2000 leti: *glejajo, pa ne vidijo, in poslušajo, pa ne doumejo*.

Zbornik in razstava sta takoj zato, da te besede ne bi postale vsakdanje resnicnost naše sedanjosti in prihodnosti. Kajti zdaj ne gre samo za preteklost, ampak predvsem za prihodnost" (Drago Jančar).

**Ovajani duhovniki, menjane naslovnice ...** — Ker je pričajoči zapis objavljen v katoliškem tedniku (*Družina*, 6. dec. 1998, str. 13, op. ur. AD), je prav, da najprej opozorimo na tisti del razstavnega gradiva, ki prikazuje položaj Cerkve v totalitarnem primežu.

Ob fotografijah nekaterih od desetih porušenih cerkv na Kočevskem si lahko med drugim ogledate poziv na nočna zaslišanja, naslovjen na škofa Antonia Vovka, sodbo, s katero je bil septembra 1945 dr. Jožef Počepnik obsojen na devet let zapora s prisilnim delom, osebni list zapornika duhovnika Jakoba Šolarja iz KPZ

(dalje na str. 19)

**temna stran meseca**

kratka zgodovina totalitarizma v Sloveniji 1945-1990

razstava v muzeju novejše zgodovine decembra 1998, januar 1999

*Ob razstavi Temna stran meseca (odprta bo do konca januarja) so prireditelji izdali katalog, pri Novi reviji pa je izšel tudi obsežen zbornik z istim naslovom (860 strani, od tega 460 strani fotografij in dokumentov).*

# TEMNA STRAN MESECA

(nadaljevanje s str. 15)

V dneh pripravljanja razstave Temna stran meseca sem prvič po dolgih letih zablodil v labirint dokumentov, sodnih odločb, pisem in vsakvrstnih zapiskov iz časa, ko so me pritisnili k zidu in za kratki čas za zidove.

Danes težko verjamem, da je v mojih pritožbah in pismih, pa celo v peticijah mojih priateljev mrgolelo toliko "socialističnih vrednot" in "naše družbe". Težko rečem, ali sem se sprenevedal ali bal ali je bil to dogovorjeni jezik oportunituma, obredni obrazec, ki ni pomenil nič.

Verjetno mešanica vsega skupaj. Vsekakor tudi v svojih očeh ne izpadem vselej ravno junak.

Vseeno so me zaprli. Kot so Pučnika, čeprav je v nekaterih spisih skupaj z drugimi perspektivaši zahteval pač pravičnejši in boljši socializem od obstoječega. Jezik in njegove besede niso pomenile nič. Oni so dobro vedeli, kaj kdo govoriti in kaj v resnici misli. Kaj govoriti zanje, za sodišče, za javnost in kaj govoriti svojim priateljem. Brez dvoma tudi to, kaj govoriti med štirimi stenami svojega stanovanja. Vse so vedeli. Tudi kako sem se nekomu smešno baha: "Kar naj me zaprejo. Star sem šestindvajset let. Ko bom prišel ven, bom še zmeraj samo sedemindvajset. Potem bodo pa videli."

Vedeli so, da sem razmisljjal o begu čez mejo. O mojem privatnem življenju so vedeli vse, kot je neki udbas pozneje zapisal. Danes mi je jasno, da so me opazovali kot miš v laboratoriju, ki se zaletava ob ste-

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klene stene. Nisem jih mogel pretendirati, niti malo ne. In samo z mojim malim primerom so zapletli celo množico ljudi, ki so me morali, če že ne glasno obsojati, pa vsaj na teh ali onih sestankih dvigovati roke za mojo ekskomunikacijo, se cmeriti na sodišču ali se zvijati pred udbaši na tajnih sestankih.

Da, to je bil totalitarizem. In njegova moč sega daleč, še v današnji čas. Mnogim ljudem kakšna malenkost iz preteklosti, nekaterim samo članstvo v partiji jemlje pogum, da bi se mu odpovedali. Sistem je deloval tudi tako, da je zlomil vsako solidarnost. Ustvarjal je množico nehotenih sokrivcev. To je tisto, kar danes jemlje moč in jasnost pogleda.

Ceprav mu vsaj glede solidarnosti to zmeraj ni uspeло. Tudi v mojem primeru ne v celoti.

7.

**Človek rad pozabi na hude stvari.** Še laže je pozabiti na hude stvari, ki so jih preživel drugi: saj ni bilo vse v redu, ampak meni se pravzaprav ni slabo godilo. Seveda so zapirali ljudi, a v zaporu je bil zmeraj nekdo drug. Jaz sem si takrat z inflacijskim kreditom gradil hišo ali avto – to je še danes pogosto blebetanje.

Res, Zupan je bil dolga leta v zaporu. Toda dobil je tudi Prešernovo nagrado dvakrat. Izgovorov za to, da bi priznali, kako je vsa družba in velika večina njenih posameznikov padla prav na izpitu solidarnosti, ne bo nikoli zmanjkalo. To je tisto, zaradi česar se bo dedičina komunistične represije še dolgo držala. Ne morejo nam odpustiti svojih grehov, je zapisal Arthur London v Priznanju. In to ne velja samo za hladnokrvne cekajevske in udbovske zatiralce, pač pa za mnoge ljudi, ki

se v srcu čutijo krivi, ker so sodelovali, ker niso bili vsaj solidarni z zatiranimi, izobčenimi, zaprtimi in vrženimi iz služb.

Ne moremo biti zadovoljni in pomirjeni z dejstvom, da se je na koncu vseeno za vse skupaj in vsakogar posebej nekako izšlo. Tudi ko bi se. Vendar se ni. Za obešene v Murski Soboti se ni. Za mnoge se je končalo s hudimi zapori, boleznimi, revčino, zagrenjenostjo do zadnje ure. Tudi za Ludvika Mrzela se je slabo, strašno slabo izšlo. In potem ko so pisatelja Mrzela uničili, so nas iz šolskih čitank pitali z njegovimi teksti: Bog v Trbovljah.

Če hočemo v zvezi s tem obdobjem kaj razumeti, je treba videti in misliti posamično človekovo usodo. In prepletost človekovih usod.

Ni bilo dovolj, da so na

božični večer aretilali umetniškega direktorja mariborskega gledališča in znanega pisatelja Ludvika Mrzela in ga za sedem let poslali v najstrašnejše zapore, ni bilo dovolj, da so uničili njega, kaznovati je bilo treba vsakogar, ki je bil z njim solidaren. Da komu kaj podobnega ne bi prišlo na misel.

Pred nekaj leti, ko sem bil na kongresu PEN v Toronto, je zvečer v moji sobi pozvonil telefon. Glas na oni strani je zazvenel po mariborsko, vabil me je naslednji dan na kosilo.

Bil je Ivan Dolenc, pisatelj, nekaj njegovih dobrih novel sem prebral v *Rodni grudi*. Pri kosilu sem izvedel, da je bil, takrat mladi diplomirani slavist, v začetku petdesetih let urednik v kulturni rubriki mariborskega *Večera*.

Ko je prišel iz zapora Mrzel, mu je Dolenc poskušal pomagati, tako da je objavil dve njegovi pesmi. Zaradi tistih dveh objavlje-

nih pesmi so ga klicali na Udbo in ga tako pritisnili, da je emigriral. In ne samo njega, tudi tehničnega urednika, ker jih ni opozoril na objavo. V Kanadi je Dolenc začel kot gozdni delavec na mrzlem severu, dokler si ni opomogel in še enkrat doštudiral, tokrat primerno književnost.

Pouk, ki je zame sledil iz kanadskega srečanja, ni bil samo v tem, kaj se je zgodilo Ivanu Dolencu zaradi drobne solidarnostne geste, ki mu je povsem spremenila življenje, pač pa tudi v neverjetnem dejству, da je okrog tega dogodka vladal popoln molk.

Jaz, ki sem samo dvajset let pozneje delal v isti hiši, nikoli nisem slišal niti besede o Ivanu Dolencu, o tem nisem slišal takrat, ko sem bil sam v težavah, in ne pozneje, vse do srečanja v Toronto. Še danes ne vem, kaj se je zgodilo s tehničnim urednikom, menda se je pisal Horvat. To se pravi, da je bil poleg strahu najmočnejše orožje totalitarizma prav molk. Zamolčane osebe, zamolčana življenja, zamolčani grobovi.

(Konec prihodnjih)

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naj večna luč mu sveti,  
ker si dobrate vir,  
uživa raj naj sveti.

Zalujoči ostali:

Antonija, žena  
Sinova in hčere: Maria  
Yaecker, Josie Taricska, Pavel  
ml., Anton in Ann Bloom, vsi  
v ZDA

Sestri: Minka Jančar in  
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# KANADSKA DOMOVINA

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## Četrти rod in stari starši

**Darinka Ferletič že dvajset let poučuje slovenščino v Hamiltonu – Podpora kanadske vlade – "Pošljite nam pravljicarja"**

"Druga, tretja ali celo četrtja generacija tako imenovanih kanadskih Slovencev so Slovenci le še po imenu. Največkrat ima samo eden od njihovih staršev slovenske korenine, otroci ne znaajo slovensko. Če imajo stare starše, še ujamejo kakšno besedo, največkrat pa ne," z otožnostjo v glasu pravi Darinka Ferletič, učiteljica slovenščine v kanadskem Hamiltonu.

"V nasprotju s tem je po italijanskih domovih čisto drugače, saj celo sedma generacija še zmeraj govori italijansko. Očitno smo Slovenci vse preveč pripravljeni

*Kanadske oblasti se zavzemajo, da poleg uradne angleščine in francoščine vsak govorje jezik, ki mu je najbližji. Uradno je priznanih 67 jezikov. Za slovenske otroke je najbolje poskrbljeno samo v Hamiltonu. V drugih manjših slovenskih središčih so učitelji prepričeni samim sebi ali jih sploh ni.*

pozabiti na svojo tradicijo in kulturno dediščino," je nadaljevala Darinka Ferletič.

Sola slovenskega jezika v Hamiltonu, industrijskem mesto ob vznožju Niagarskih slapov, obstaja že 37 let, letos je bilo vanjo vpisanih 53 otrok med šestim in trinajstim letom. Slovensko društvo sodeluje s hamiltonskim župniščem, kjer ima poleg prelep slovenske cerkvice tudi gledališko dvorano; zraven je šola.

Na slovenski šoli imajo med drugim tečaj za študente srednjih šol, ki se jim slovenščina šteje kot vsak drug tuji jezik. Pripravila ga je Darinka Ferletič, kanadsko ministrstvo za šolstvo pa je potrdilo njen program (skupaj z učbenikom in knjigo vaj), ki je primeren tudi za odrasle.

"Otroci na naši šoli imajo tri ure in pol slovenščine na teden, berejo, pišejo, spoznavajo slovensko deželo, pojejo, rišejo, pripravljajo časopis in ga končajo ob koncu šolskega leta. Seveda v tem času ne moremo otrok naučiti dovršeno pisati in govoriti, naš glavni cilj je, da spoznajo Slovenijo, od njenih naravnih lepot prek kulturne dediščine do literature. Seveda jim posku-

šam zbuditi tudi občutek pripadnosti in ponos, da so Slovenci," je razložila Ferletičeva.

In kaj pri svojem delu najbolj pogreša slovenska šola v Hamiltonu? Za učence bi bila zelo koristna krateka in jedrnata zgodovina Slovenije v poenostavljenem jeziku, da bi bila razumljiva, potem knjiga o slovenskih

*Darinka Ferletič, ki v Hamiltonu uči slovenščino že 20 let, je odšla iz Slovenije z mamo, gimnazialno učiteljico, leta 1957 – njen stari oče je bil v Kanadi od 1927. Leta 1960 je Darinka mama ustavila slovensko šolo v Hamiltonu, pouk je bil takrat kar v zasebnem stanovanju. Po končanem učiteljisu se je Darinka odločila, da bo nadaljevala mamino delo in takoj poučuje od 1978.*

pokrajnah, antologija pravljic in pesmi za otroke. Te knjige naj bi bile vzporedno pripravljene še v angleščini. Potrebovali bi preproste igrice za otroke, saj so pred vratimi Miklavž, božič in drugi prazniki.

Darinka Ferletič se je, da bi zapolnila največje praznine, lotila pisanja učbenika, njegovo izdajo je podprla tudi kanadska vlada. Knjigo je zastavila tako, da se otroci vsak semester vživljajo v tekoči letni čas, berejo in pripovedujejo pesmi. Na koncu vsakega poglavja so vaje iz slovenščine, testi razumevanja besed in fraz, na koncu učbenika je slovensko-angleški slovar.

"Če Slovenci res želijo pomagati Slovencem po svetu in želijo ohraniti stik s tretjimi in z naslednjimi roduvi, morajo razumeti naše potrebe. Recimo: če pride pet strokovnjakov iz Slovenije v Kanado, ji bo slišalo petsto ali več ljudi, če pet strokovnjakov povabi v Slovenijo pet kanadskih Slovencev, je ves njihov trud znamenljiv."

V Kanado nam iz matične domovine največkrat pošljajo glasbenike in pevske zbole po svoji izbiri, tu in tam kakšno športno moštvo, samo enkrat smo dobili lutkovno predstavo. Ne spominim se, da bi kdaj prišli v goste lutkovno gledališče, pesnik, ki piše za otroke,

## Odlikanje dr. Zlatku Verbiču

OTTAWA, Kanada - Slovenski veleposlanik v Kanadi dr. Božo Cerar je slovenskemu izseljencu iz Toronto dr. Zlatku Verbiču izročil red svobode Republike Slovenije, s katerim ga je odlikoval predsednik države Milan Kučan.

Verbič je v obdobju 1991-1993 vodil slovenski urad v Torontu. Prejeto odlikovanje je označil kot priznanje prispevka celotne slovenske skupnosti v Kanadi k oblikovanju slovenske državnosti, hkrati pa je izrazil upanje, da pomeni korak h krepitvi dvostranskih odnosov med Kanado in Slovenijo.

B.M.  
DELO, 4. dec. 1998

pripovedovalec pravljic. To smo že razložili mnogim predstavnikom društev in organizacij v Sloveniji, vendar je bilo vse zaman," je dejala Darinka Ferletič.

Opozorila je tudi, da Slovenija rojakov po svetu ne bi smela odrivati v stran. Bolj bi morali sodelovati in se povezovati, zlasti v prosti. Seminarje za slovenščino naj bi selili iz ene države v drugo, kjer žive Slovenci.

"Sočustvujem z učitelji, ki niso strokovno usposobljeni in se kot amaterji trudijo, da bi ohranjali slovensko kulturo, jo posredovali prihodnjim rodovom. Morali bi biti vsaj pohvaljeni. Žal je vsa obljudljena pomoč iz Slovenije ostala le pri besedah, našega dela in truda nične ne ceni, vendar sta pri nas ljubezen do domovine in ponos močnejša, pa tudi želja, da bi nekaj pristno našega izročili potomcem," je poudarila Darinka Ferletič.

Ifigenija Simonovič  
DELO, 2. dec. 1998

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## ... gledajo, a ne vidijo ...

(nadaljevanje s str. 17)

Ljubljana, seznam zaprtih duhovnikov mariborske škofije, ki si ga je sproti sestavil škof Maksimiljan Držičnik; pomenljiv pa je tudi dokument, ki priča, da je še leta 1982 SZDL (ozroma njen "koordinacijski odbor za urejanje odnosov med samoupravno družbo in verskimi skupnostmi") s strogo zaupnim dokumentom svojim funkcionarjem na terenu dajala navodila, kako naj spremljajo dejavnosti duhovnikov ob takratnih delegatskih volitvah (*kakšna je bila njihova udeležba na volitvah, ali so volili ali ne; kakšna je bila njihova predvolilna aktivnost: javna s pričnic, da je agitiral za ali proti udeležbi, ali ona, ki jo je izražal v osebnih stikih z ljudmi?*).

V razdelku o šolstvu pa lahko vidite poročilo organov za notranje zadeve iz leta 1964 o delovanju celjskega opata Petra Kovačiča med šolsko mladino, iz katerega je razvidno, da si je opat drnil govoriti o verski svobodi v SFRJ, o gmotnih težavah Cerkve in o lastnih težavah pri obnavljanju župnijske cerkve, o tem, kako lahko duhovniki v drugih državah svobodno opravljajo svoje poslanstvo, dijake je seznanjal z dogajanjem na drugem vatikanskem cerkevem zboru ipd.

Med razstavljenim gradivom v drugih tematskih

sklopih pritegnejo pozornost mikrofoni, ki so jih našli v stanovanju Edvarda Kocbek-a; tako imenovani fond D – direktorjev fond – iz NUK-a (katalog knjig, ki so bile v Sloveniji sicer prevedane, a so se zbirale v osrednji knjižnici. Za vlog v določeno knjigo ali publikacijo je bilo potrebno posebno dovoljenje direktorja oziroma ravnatelja NUK-a); v razdelku o cenzuri pa najdemo že kar tragomične primere: tako je na primer revija Otrok in družina na eni od števil iz leta 1982 hotela objaviti fotografijo Igorja Modica. Številka je bila že stiskana, ko je članica izdajalskega sveta opazila, da ima otrok na fotografiji sklenjene roke, torej moli. Posledica – 10.000 naslovnic so strgali z revije in natisnili novo.

Bogomil Štefanec ml.

## NOVI GROBOVI

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

1996. Bil je mož Ann, roj. Korda, in že pok. Alvine, roj. Koenig, oče Kennetha, Williama (že pok.) in Thomasa, 6-krat stari oče, brat Henry (Kalif.), član KSKJ. Pogreb bo danes zj. ob 9.15 v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Vida ob 10. s pokopom na Kalvarije pokopališču. Darovi v pokojnikov spomin Alzheimer's Assoc., 12200 Fairhill Rd., Cleveland, OH 44120 so lepo priporočeni.

## V BLAG IN LJUBEČ SPOMIN JOŽE IN FRANČIŠKA GAZVODA



umrl 2. marca 1970



umrla 6. decembra 1996

Gospod, daruj jima mir,  
naj večna luč jima sveti;  
ker si dobrate vir  
uzivata raj naj sveti.

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## Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

### 1259. S prvo adventno nedeljo smo začeli

tretje leto priprave na veliki Jubilej 2000. To tretje leto je posvečeno Bogu Očetu. Leto Boga Očeta bo dobito smisel le, če se bomo ljudje zavedali, da je Bog vedno z nami. Da je navzoč v vsakem trenutku našega bivanja, da nam je blizu v prijetnih in neprijetnih, veselih in neveselih trenutkih v obdobjih našega življenja.

Kratka molitev ali meditacija k Bogu Očetu nam bo v pomoč poglobiti in povzdigniti duha, ko se bomo pripravljali v mesecih pred nami na Jubilejno leto.

1. - Bog in Oče našega Gospoda Jezusa Kristusa, po oznanjanju tvojega učlovečenega Sina, ki daruješ svojo ljubezen in odrešenje ljudem v vsakem času in kraju.

2. - Poglobi našo vero v Tvojega Sina, Odrešenika Svetega, ko se pripravljamo na veliki jubilej.

Pomagaj nam postati eno z Duhom ljubezni.

3. - Prostimo Te po našem Gospodu Jezusu Kristusu, Tvojem Sinu ki živi in kraljuje s Teboj v edinstvu Svetega Ducha, Bog na vse veke. Amen.

**IZ ZAMBIJE** se je oglašil misijonar Lojze Podgrajšek z žalostno novico, da je bil doma na pogrebu svojega brata Toneta. Obenem je obiskal v bolnici bolno mamo; je zelo slaba in morda so tudi njena leta šteta. Ko se je poslavljala od nje, mu je rekla: "Imaš veliko prijateljev, zato le rad pomagaj ubogim sirotam in beguncem, o katerih si mi tolkokrat pisal." In res, vse kar dobim od dobrotnikov gre za begunske sirote. To so uboga dekleta od 12 do 14 let, katere nimajo star-

šev. Skrbim za šolnino in hrano za kakih 13, vse pa seveda ne morem preskrbeti. Prav lep pozdrav in hvala za vas vaš trud za nas!

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Darove, ki jih namenjate za misijonarje, prosim, nasejavljajte na Misijonsko Znamkarsko Akcijo, jih pošljite potem na poverjenike, ali na avtorico teh člankov. Tako poskrbimo, da se darovi odpošljejo na osebe, za katere so bili darovani. Za pravilnost poslovanja odgovarja vsak poverjenik in blagajnik moralno in materialno. Toliko v pojasmilo, ker nekateri darovalci sprašujejo, komu naj pošljejo dar.

Sestra **Marija Andreja Šubelj** je poslala iz Čileja sledeči sestavek za MSIP:

"Smo v letu, ki je posvečeno Bogu Očetu, zato se obračam nanj s prošnjo za razsvetljenje pri delu MZA in pri delu za sv. Cerkev. Njegova pomoč naj bo vedno prisotna. Pa tudi Jezus govori v evangeliju: *Kdor hoče biti moj učenec, naj vzame vsak dan svoj križ in hodi za menoj.* To je pot v tej solzni dolini in cena za zveličanje mnogih! Naj vas spremlja ljubeča prisotnost božje Matere Marije, prav iskreno želim.

Imam deset dni oddih po petnajstih mesecih velikih odgovornosti. Hvaležna sem Bogu zanj in za navdušenje, ki mi ga ohranja. Dela je ogromno. Malo manj administrativnega in več pastoralnega. Če Bog da, imamo v Domu duhovne vaje za univerzitetne študente. Oni nam redno pomagajo pri vzgoji deklic. Prosili so za to možnost; jih je okrog 40.

Vse sodelujoče pri MZA ter vse dobrotnike lepo pozdravljam in molim za vse,

naj vas blagoslavja in spremlja pri vsem misijonskem delu ljubeča prisotnost Marie.

Sr. Marija Andreja Šubelj"  
Misijonarja iz Burundija

Gusti Horvat in Danilo Lisjak pišeta:

"Sem (sic.) že res velik dolžnik! Že večkrat sem se pripravljal k pisanju, pa vedenko kaj prida in sem res v zaostanku. Potem pa tudi mi smo še vedno pod blokado in smo čakali na kakšno priložnost, če gre kdo v sosednjo državo Ruando, ali pa v Evropo, in tam seveda potem odda kakšno pošto.

Pošte sem malo prejemal, in sem se tako počasi odvadil pisati. Vaše pismo sem dobil in se prisrčno zahvaljujem. Zahvaljujem se tudi za vaš dar in vsem v MZA, ki ste ga posredovali preko sr. Bogdane Kavčič. Za vse naj vam dobrski Bog bogato poplača. Tu v misijonih vsak dar, pa še takoj majhen, prav pride.

Jaz posebej pomagam dijakom in študentom. Veliko je revščine zaradi državlanske vojne in veliko študentov nima staršev, bili so pobiti, ali pa imajo samo očeta, ali samo mater. Tu vladala velika lakota, kajti zadnja žetev, posebno fižola, ki je glavna hrana, zaradi prevelikega dežja, je bila slaba.

Za praznike pripravljamo ljudi po skupinah. Tako svak dan na podružnicah. Ljudje prihajajo z vsemogučimi problemi, tako nam dan hitro mine.... Pa še drugič kaj, ko bom imel malo več časa.

Želim vam in vsem sodelavcem MZA, vesele in blagoslovljene praznike. Bog plačaj za ves vaš trud, in vsem dobrotnikom, ki darujejo in nas spremljate z molitvijo, katera dela čudežne in je največji dar pri našem delu.

Hvaležni Gusti Horvat"

Tokrat se moramo spomniti misijonskih dobrotnic in pionirk MZA, ki jih je Gospodar življenja odpoklical ter jih nagradil za njih dobra dela: Rozalija Vičič je umrla v 101. letu življenja že v avgustu, Angela Železnik pa v starosti 96 let, obe v Clevelandu. V Chicagu pa Marija Pečarič, tudi v novemburu. Vse so vzdrževali tudi po več bogoslovcev za afriške misije. Spomnimo se jih v naših molitvah. Večna luč naj jim sveti in naj se spočijejo v Gospodu.

Vsem sodelujočim pri MZA in dobrotnikom želim veliko božjega blagoslova v pripravi na božične praznike. Molimo drug za drugega, da bo naša priprava temeljita, ter delo za misijone blagoslovljeno! Za MZA

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