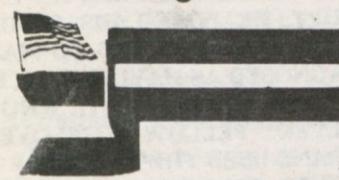


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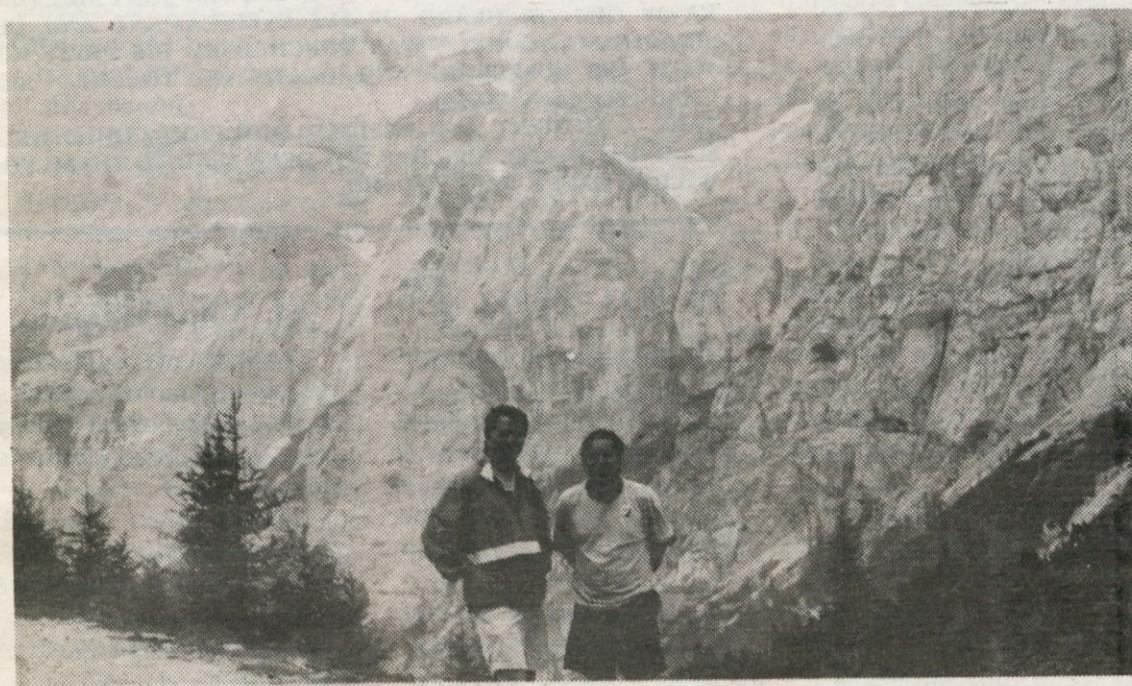
# AMERICAN HOME DOMOVINA

NEWSPAPER

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, JULY 20, 1995

ISSN Number 0164-68X

50c



Nejč Slak and Emil Knez enjoy the splendor of the view from Vršič.

(Photo contributed by Nejč Slak.)

## by MOJCA SLAK

The *American Home* had published a request for pictures from those who had participated in the commemorative tour called "Slovenia '95." I've just returned from that two week trip, June 14-28, but I took only video. Although I would love to share it with you, I am afraid the house would be too small for so many guests. Thus I've provided the words while others have provided the photos.

Slovenia '95 was a pilgrimage by Slovenian-Americans marking the 50th anniversary of the events now known as the Vetrinj Tragedy. A special committee in Slovenia called *Slovenski spominski odbor* had organized a week of observances to commemorate this anniversary throughout the country. The major purpose of Slovenia '95 was to allow Slovenian-Americans to participate in those observances. We Americans arrived in large numbers. Four buses carried the 180 people on the tour, but many more had come for the memorial week individually raising the total considerably.

The first observance was held on Sunday, June 18, just outside Celje in the Štajerska region. Teharje, first constructed by the Nazis, was used by the communist partisans as a death camp. Hundreds of Domobranci and civilians were killed here, their corpses sealed in the mines.

Because Mass was said in an open field, it was difficult to judge the number of people in attendance. I've heard estimates ranging from between four and six thousand.

At 11:00 a.m. the heat was already sweltering and grew worse every time the sun blazed from behind a cloud. I was gearing up to do some serious

whining about the heat, the standing room only, the prospect of a long Mass and program, the lack of shade, when two things occurred simultaneously which knocked some sense into me.

The Slovenia '95 Committee laid a memorial wreath at the Cross in the name of all Slovenian-Americans. The wreath was carried by three survivors: Brane Pogačnik, Tone Oblak, and Viktor Tominec. Preceding the wreath was the U.S. flag carried by Nejč Slak who was flanked by six-year-old Andrej and eight-year-old Matjaž Coffelt, each carrying smaller American flags. The symbolism of past, present, and future was jolting.

As the group processed, the Rosary was being prayed over the loud-speaker. After the announcement of each of the Sorrowful Mysteries, a woman's voice connected Christ's Passion with the sufferings faced by the Domobranci: the beatings, the nakedness, the shootings. At the fifth Sorrowful Mystery, she remembered those who suffered at home waiting for word of fathers, sons, brothers; word that would never come — officially.

These two, a sight and a sound, put my physical discomforts into perspective. The heat was still sweltering; the sun was still intense. It was still nearly three hours before most of us sat down again. But how insignificant these discomforts became when compared to the sufferings, both physical and emotional, of so many, or when compared to the historical ramifications of those sufferings on Slovenia and the U.S. as well.

The second observance was marked by a Mass and cultural program in Austria on Tuesday, June 20, at 5:00 p.m. The

site was Vetrinj. This was the place to which civilians and Domobranci had come expecting to find protection after the Communists had been granted dominion in Yugoslavia. This was the place from which the Domobranci were returned.

Despite the anguished memories this place holds, that day many of the participants were celebrating a fifty-year reunion. They had last seen each other as young adults leaving this place to face the challenge of making a life in new places or in old places changed by new ideologies. Now they had some difficulty recognizing each other. The hair, skin, and figures had changed. Barracks numbers and maiden names were often needed to sweep away the effects of time.

But recognition did come and with it came another recognition. Not only had they survived, they had prospered. Moreover, prosperity had not made them abandon their ideals. Instead they had passed on those beliefs to future

generations as evidenced by the number of children and grandchildren who had joined them for this observance. Their cause had ultimately triumphed.

On Friday, June 23, at 7:00 p.m. a cultural program was held at the Bishop's School of St. Stanislaus in Šentvid. The large building had been a seminary before the war then commandeered by the Germans during the war. Afterward the Communists used it as the major prison where Domobranci and many civilians were held, starved, and tortured before being sent to their deaths.

It remained a Communist holding until 1991. When the Yugoslav People's Army abandoned it, they managed to do as much damage to the structure as a bunch of unchaperoned, partying teenagers would. I visited it in 1993 while repairs were underway. I was highly skeptical at that time that it could ever be useable again. Imagine how surprised I was to see it now bright, clean, and lovely.

The centerpiece of the program was a dramatized presentation of the symphonic poem "Spev o naši gori" by Father Vladimir Kos, a Slovenian missionary to Japan. It was performed beautifully and enhanced by artistic renderings projected on the backdrop.

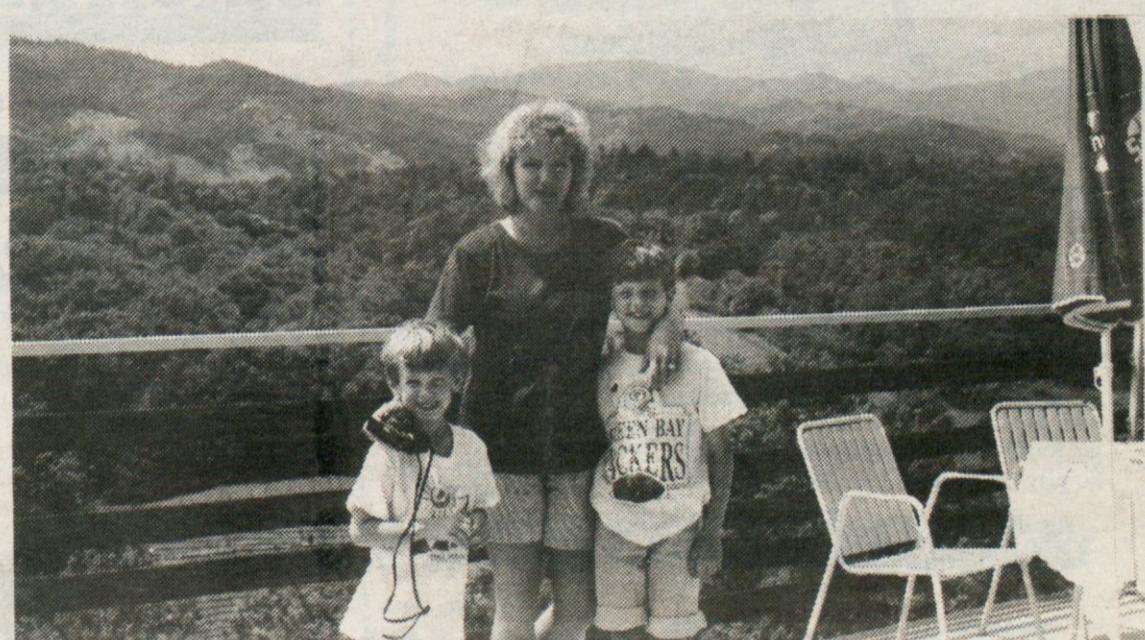
Two other parts of the program deserve mention. Representatives of each Slovenian community throughout the world briefly addressed the audience. Now I know that I am partial to the American

spokesman for several reasons, but barring even those, I can say objectively that Mate Roesmann was the most noteworthy of these speakers. Unlike the others, Mr. Roesmann pointed out that, although independent, Slovenia still has a long way to go before it is really resurrected into a new life of freedom, justice, and democracy. The audience showed its agreement with his words with louder and longer applause than it had granted anyone else.

The other notable part was the presentation of a stained glass window for the Domobranci Memorial at Šenjtoš. It depicts Christ crucified with representative Domobranci gathered at the foot of the cross. Although it shows suffering men, the emotional impact is one of resurrection. Mr. Roesmann's words took on special meaning when I looked at that window. Much needs to be done by the living to assure that the sacrifices made fifty years ago reach complete fruition.

Saturday morning, June 24, dawned rainy and cold, in fact, so cold that the mountain Stol towering over Lake Bled was capped by a doily of snow. A special celebration for those Slovenians living outside the territorial borders and throughout the world was scheduled at the Marija Pomagaj Shrine at Brezje. Mass was to begin at 10:00 a.m., but because the Slovenian chorus from Stuttgart, Germany was late, it was delayed until 11:00 a.m. Considering how beautifully the

(Continued on page 5)



Taking a breather after the climb up Ptujška Gora are Andrej, Muši, and Matjaž Coffelt.

(Photo contributed by Nejč Slak)

## by James V. Debevec

Some stories you think are going one way, end up in the other direction. A few situations have the paradox of being both happy and sad at the same time; others are simply audacious.

The first comes from a priest who bet a parishioner he could make the congregation both cry and laugh at the same time. The parishioner said it couldn't be done.

The next Sunday the priest got on the pulpit and began relating a sad, sad story. The people began to feel bad, tears finally started coming down their cheeks. All of a sudden, while telling the story, the priest pulled an extra-large red polka-dot hanky out of his pocket with a monkey puppet in the middle and began waving it around behind his back. Sure enough, the ones who saw it began to laugh, while the ones who didn't were still sobbing. — He won the bet.

Last Saturday evening, the Rev. Richard Evans, Associate Pastor of St. Vitus Church, began the Sunday Vigil Mass homily by pausing for a few seconds. The temperature was in the high 90s outside, and over a 100 inside the church. He said, "This is what hell must be like," then when everyone had their mind focused on the unpleasant possibility, he simply said,

## — The Unexpected —

"Be good." — The end of the sermon.

People were talking about it for days afterwards. — It had the quality of focusing on what may be awaiting for those caught in great sin at the time of death — while at the same time relief at the quick sermon.

While on vacation in London, we decided to take one of the huge black taxis back to the hotel from a shopping expedition. The taxi drivers, before getting their license, must have a thorough knowledge of the city, and are famous for their traveling from one destination another through straight-aways or backroads depending on traffic, without getting lost — or having to study a map.

They are also notorious for not saying a word during the journey. About the only thing you'll hear from them is, "Where to?"

Anyhow, as we came into the hotel taxi unloading zone, another taxi pulled in front of us and blocked the way. We waited a little bit, and the two ladies in the back were having a difficult getting out. Instead of sliding over and out the door, they stood up, were twisting around, stumbled a few times and were unable to detach themselves from the back seat.

Seeing this, our driver shouted out window, "What

are you doing back there, taking a bath?"

Naturally, this made the ladies more nervous and they embedded themselves further away from the door. But their driver, hoping to save the day and earn a good tip, shouted back at our driver, "Watch your lip, Alf. A little bit of manners never hurt."

We were amazed by the proceedings. In America the drivers would at this time be addressing each other in the most obnoxious and unflattering names. However, this was London, where everyone is supposed to be a lady or gentleman.

Upon waiting still longer, and all the while still unable to move around the bottleneck taxi, our driver again shouted out, "What are you going to do, mate, charge them by the tonnage?"

Finally, with practically no dignity left, the two women somehow exited from the cab. Whereupon our driver jammed the gas pedal to the floor and swerved in front of the doorman, narrowly missing the two ladies by only a few inches. Without looking back, they huffily marched into the hotel.

Although our driver had gotten us to our destination by avoiding most of the terrible traffic congestion, and he had taken narrow and back streets that hadn't been converted since horse-drawn hansom days, and we were in a state of wonderous excitement at seeing all these back roads first hand, our elation had vanished in the rude exclamations from the driver. I suppose London traffic is so ensnarled that the constant exposure to it makes one forget his civil upbringing. Anyhow, it was such a shocking and unexpected experience, it will not soon be forgotten.

## Overseas Jokes:

Always look out for number one — while never stepping on number two.

**CARL**  
HE LIVED IN THE GREATER CLEVELAND AREA AND HIS LIFE WAS SOMEWHAT NON-DESCRIPT. HE LOVED HIS FAMILY AND WAS LOVED IN RETURN. HE WORKED HARD TO MAKE ENDS MEET. THEN HE WAS DIAGNOSED AS HAVING CANCER. NEIGHBORS GOT TOGETHER AND HELPED OUT. WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD GOT INVOLVED. FELLOW EMPLOYEES GAVE UP A CHRISTMAS PARTY AND USED THE PROCEEDS TO HELP THE FAMILY. BOY SCOUTS BOUGHT A CHRISTMAS TREE. HOSPITAL STAFF CONTRIBUTED MONEY AND TIME. COMPLETE STRANGERS HEARD OF HIS PREDICAMENT AND PITCHED IN WITH DONATIONS. THERE WERE NO BLARING HEADLINES WHEN HE DIED BUT EVERYONE THAT MET HIM, KNEW HIM OR HEARD OF HIS PREDICAMENT AND DID SOMETHING TO HELP WAS TOUCHED BY HIS PRESENCE. WITH HIS SUFFERING AND DEATH HE TOUCHED AND CHANGED MANY LIVES.

TAKE A MOMENT AND REFLECT HOW YOU COULD HELP SOMEONE WHOSE LIFE HAS NOT BEEN KIND TO THEM. YOU WILL BE HAPPY THAT YOU DID.

## Who Am I?

By birth, I'm an American. My father was Polish; my mother Slovenian. My Polish grandparents really treated us "special." My father was the only boy with three older sisters. You know I was spoiled. So I'm Polish.

In 1989 I married my husband, a Croatian. My mother-in-law lives in Draše, by Zagreb. So we go there; I'm no longer Polish, I'm Slovenian. In a country being so patriotic to be Croatian, I find myself proud to be Slovenian. We visit "my country" so my passport is stamped Ljublj, Republika Slovenija.

I'm so proud to belong to such a beautiful country. I'm home..

Therefore... looking back, I am an American, Polish, Slovenian, and by marriage: Croatian Princess.

Joyce Cham Jaksa Bogović  
Daytona Beach, Fla.

## St. Vitus Winners

The recipients of gifts from the annual summer festival of St. Vitus Church held Sunday, July 16, at Slovenska Pristava, were:

Grand Prize — Anna Vidergar, Euclid

2nd prize — Edward & Catherine Cup, Chesterland

3rd Prize — Mary Cizel, Bonna Ave.

4th Prize — Gertrude F. Novak, Euclid.

The following received \$100 each:

Mary Slak, Standard Ave.  
Sandy Zibert, E. Park Dr.

Flo Slogar  
J. Taricska, Naples, Fla.  
Bob Leden, Concord, O.

John F. Svekric, Bonna Ave.

Edward & Catherine Cup, Chesterland

Sandy Tekavec, Bonna Ave.  
L. Lekan, Schaefer Ave.

Pam Slogar, E. 61 St.

Ljubljana, Slovenia. Austria and Slovenia were the two countries Governor Voinovich was not able to visit on his 1993 business to Central and Eastern Europe.

Prior to the mission, Governor Voinovich will attend the K Fair in Dusseldorf, Germany. The K Fair is the world's largest trade show for the plastics and rubber industries.

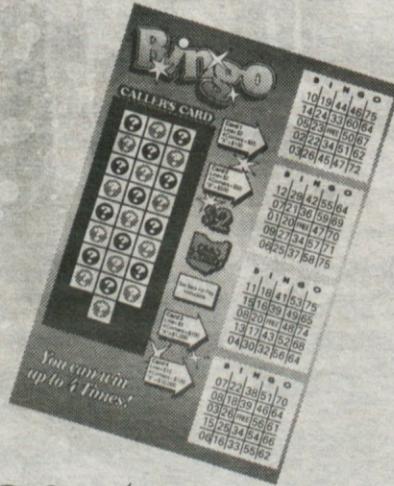


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# Liberation of Žiri

by ANTON ŽAKELJ,  
translated by  
JOHN ŽAKELJ

(Continued From Last Week)

I found out how much milk they processed each month and calculated that they should pay me a half-pfennig per liter per month. I didn't expect other work. I made my offer and the board accepted after a brief discussion of the chair's motion.

Even though this job began as only a small addition in the beginning, it soon grew to be my main work. There was always less milk, but the other work constantly grew. In 1941 there was a great deal of work involving the gathering of blueberries and raspberries. The fruit juice factory Pomona had them transported to Villach. Every week they brought empty barrels and took away full ones. Both berries had an exceptionally rich crop that year and people were earning a great deal gathering them. The following year there were none: the transportation had probably become too dangerous.

At the end of 1942, when there had already been a great many deaths in the civil war elsewhere in Slovenia, there was still peace in Žiri. But in 1943 it began: mobilizations, desertions, liquidations, reprisals...

#### January, February 1943

New Year's Day was one of three days in the year (the other two were Christmas and Easter) when I was free all day. On New Year's Eve, we usually did inventory every year. In the evening, I was usually counting and adding late into the night, so the trial balance would be ready for the new year. Our members wanted to know on New Year's, how much profit they had made and how much each one would get. Under the cooperative rules all profits were supposed to be reinvested in the cooperative, but our members were everything else before they

were members of the cooperative.

This morning, while I was still asleep, a farmer came to ask if he could get some artificial fertilizer. I answered that I was only able to give fertilizer to farmers who gave milk to the cooperative. "But those who don't have milk need fertilizer more than those who do," he said and "The hungrier people are, the sooner the war will end." (Before the war, he was the largest milk producer, but since the war started he had completely stopped producing.)

Back in the fall of 1942, the regional representative of the German occupation, Rainhold Huber, said at a meeting in the town hall in Kranj that the military was an honorable calling. That is why it had been reserved only for knights for a long time. But since all of Europe was now in danger, the Führer decided that even men from the occupied countries can now join the military. The war veterans will be able to, in their old age, tell their grandchildren how they participated in the battles for the salvation of Europe from the attack of the Asian barbarians.

On January 4, 1943, 50 young men, born in 1923 and 1924, received notices that they should report to German military headquarters in Kranj. On Sunday, January 10, the draftees gathered to discuss how they would travel to Kranj (the mail car was not running), but more to see how many planned to join the partisan resistance (the communists), and how many the Germans. They broke up their meeting just as undecided as when they had come.

Many wished that the partisans would surround them and take them along; this way they would have saved them a difficult decision. Nobody knew which way would be better.

They were convinced they would never return home if

they went into the German army, but they also knew the Germans would relocate their families and maybe burn their homes if they joined the partisans. Some of them also knew that the partisans were not what they said they were. The older veterans preferred a regular army, where a recruit has a roof over his head, clothes, shoes and three meals a day. The partisans could offer none of these things, but the younger ones said they could get all of these things at home (if they joined the partisans) and they thought they would be able to return home often.

Although there were other days when the partisans forcibly drafted individual men without bothering to check whether they were capable for war, today there was a group of 50 healthy young men, but the partisans did not bother with them.

#### Monday, January 11

At night a heavy snow fell, and in the morning 25 young men decided to join the State Work Service (the German "Reichsarbeitsdienst"). This was supposed to last half a year, but it was later shortened to a fourth of a year, when there began to be a shortage of soldiers. They were then sent directly to the front, usually in Russia. Everyone was afraid of being sent to Russia, but they sacrificed themselves for their families, so their families could stay in their homes and get ration cards for food.

The other 24 young men decided to join the partisans, likewise in good faith, that this was necessary for their homeland. They sent word to the partisans to come get them. They came and took them to a hay drying building, far from people. I don't know how the Germans found out about them, but they surrounded them, threw some grenades into their hiding place and strafed them with machine guns. No one died, but there were many who were wounded. The Germans put the wounded on spruce boughs and dragged them down into the valley, where trucks waited to take them to Begunje. From there they sent them to various places to be killed as hostages; first the healthy ones, and then the others when they became healthy enough to walk.

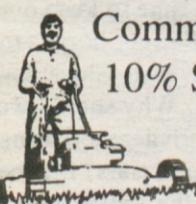
(To Be Continued)

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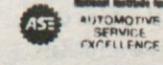
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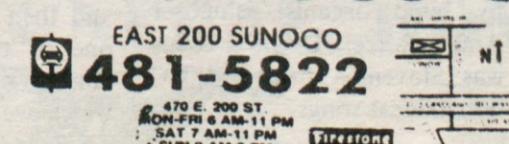
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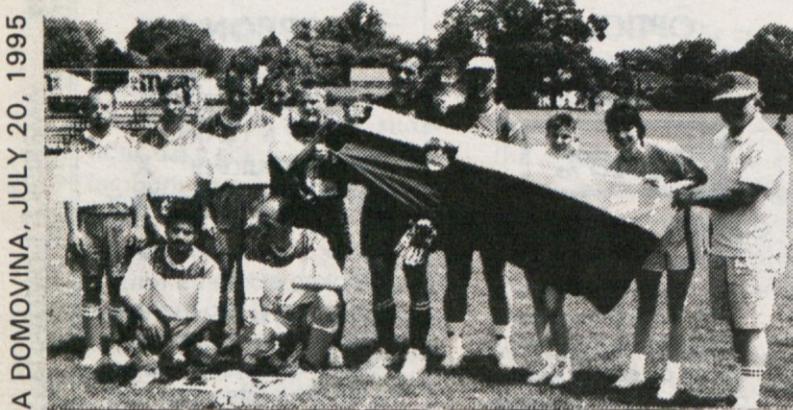
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Team Slovenia Soccer (football) with local Slovenians Kim Lagoja, Rose Visinski and Joe Piczko.

## Team Slovenia arrives in CT for Special Olympics

On June 27 Team Slovenia arrived at Beacon Falls for competition in the Special Olympic World Games held at Yale-New Haven, Connecticut.

Team Slovenia will compete in several events including cycling, soccer, track and field, swimming, and table tennis.

Susan Cable is the chairperson who organized the Host Town program for the Town of Beacon Falls. This is the first year the Special Olympics World Games included the Host Town Program. Each Connecticut Town applied to sponsor Special Olympians from certain countries.

The Town of Beacon Falls was selected to host athletes from Slovenia.

This program allows Special Olympians to spend four days with families of the Host Town prior to the Special Olympics World Games Competitions. During these four days, the Special Olympians

were allowed to adjust to the U.S. time zone and tour the local communities. Mrs. Cable organized several trips, parties, parades, and picnics for the Slovenian Special Olympians.

Some of the events included a large welcome party held on the Beacon Falls Green in the center of town. First Selectman D'Amico presented each Slovenian team player with a special gift provided by the Town of Beacon Falls. A visit to the local ice cream shop, where each Slovenian Special Olympians made their own home-made ice cream and a Parade for Special Olympians including countries sponsored by all the Valley Towns were just a few more events held during Slovenian Special Olympians stay at Beacon Falls.

All of the Slovenian Special Olympians are wished the best of luck in their world game competitions.

Ernest E. Lagoja

## Slovenian Fact Sheet

**745 AD.** — Baptism of Princes Gorazd and Hotimir by Bishop Modestus. Start of Christianity for Slovenian people. Bishop Modestus the first Slovenian bishop, symbolizing 1,250 years of Christianity for the Slovenian people.

**767 AD** — Consecration of "Gospa Sveta" (Blessed Mother) Church. The first Slovenian Catholic Church, located in "Gospovetsko polje" (Field of Our Lady) in Upper Carinthia.

**Carinthia.** — Currently the southernmost province of Republic of Austria. As established by the Treaty of Saint Germain (after World War I), measures 80 miles at its widest point, and 112 miles long. Estimated 7,000 square miles. Originally referred to as "Noricum" and later "Karanthia" during the Roman Empire. Surrounded by Karawanken and Cardic Mountains and Drava and Zilja River, weather is affected by the Mediterranean and Adriatic Seas.

Installation of Dukes of Carinthia. Initiated in mid-700s AD and lasted until 1414. Election of duke by the

presence of "free" Slovenians. Partial basis of social contract theory. Used by Jean Bodin and later Thomas Jefferson (Declaration of Independence). It was known as "the ancient democratic installation ritual."

**Bishop Anton Martin Slomšek** — 1800-1862, founder of the diocese of Maribor (Slovenia). He established the printing enterprise "Society of St. Hemagoras, enabling printed material to reach any Slovenian household. Literacy rate of Slovenians by 1920s was 90% +.

**Danica.** — Originally established in 1914 as part of "Catholic Enlightenment Association (CEA). It included children's choir, mixed singing chorus, instrument section, dramatic group, and other scholastic and practical endeavors (home library, home economics, etc.)

Mixed singing chorus Danica was founded in 1914 by blind organist/composer Andrej Mičej. Original focus was Slovenian folk and national/local songs.

—Stane Kuhar

## Slovenia '95...

(Continued from page 1) congregation sang during the interim, it really was unnecessary to wait for a choir.

Personally, I found this observance most disappointing. If its purpose was to pay tribute to those who had been forced by communist oppression to seek freedom in other nations, then why did it focus on those who had emigrated to Argentina? The Argentinians dominated the proceedings to the point where all the others were relegated to second-class status, barely mentioned as in attendance. The blessing of a special plaque presented on the occasion of the pilgrimage of hundreds of Slovenians from throughout the world and donated by Cleveland Slovenians was practically an afterthought to the lengthy addresses of the Argentines, one even delivered in Spanish.

Sunday, June 25 — Mass at Kočevski Rog, the focal point of our pilgrimage. Again cold and rain joined us as we left Bled at 7:30 a.m. for the 11:00 a.m. Mass. The further south we traveled, the grayer and rainier it became. It was not just the weather which created the somber mood on the bus. We were traveling to a place of profound significance, a place made holy not by a divine apparition but by human sacrifice in the face of incomprehensible hatred.

Even to an American used to traveling through long stretches of undeveloped land, Kočevski Rog is surprising. In a tiny country of neat fields and villages, Rog's expanse of wild terrain seems implausible. The buses traveled through its reaches a long time on a small dirt road before halting, the road now acting as a parking place. The Scouts directing the people, told us we had a forty-minute walk to the Mass site. But when we left the bus, the rain stopped.

Though the dirt road has been trampled hard over the years, muddy patches did ooze occasionally, making the walk sloppy at times. But the sea of humanity progressed steadily past an extraordinarily long line of buses. One count put the number at over 130.

I eventually found myself at the Mass site but at the very back of the crowd and down a gully. It was impossible to see more than the top of the altar canopy and the backs of those in front of me. Yet the sound system was excellent so that I heard and understood all clearly.

The cultural program which followed the Mass was deeply moving.

The master of ceremonies had asked that no applause be given so that the program moved along from poetry recitation, to song, to speech in a silence befitting a cemetery. Several of the performers were introduced according to their own merits and then identified as having one or two or more uncles buried in the pits around which we were gathered. The program paid tribute to the

Domobranci's simple peasant stock, their love of country, and their complete devotion to their Catholic faith. When we did applaud at the end, it was not for the performers nor for our own singing of "Oče, Mati." We applauded their sacrifice which fifty years later brought Slovenians from around the world and throughout the country together to this place in an independent Slovenia.

The walk back to the bus took longer because everyone was moving at once. Estimates ranged from 14,000 to 20,000 people, no one was going to get far very fast in that undulating yet subdued multitude.

It struck me that I traveled in a crowd similar in size to the number of those killed in 1945. I still could not comprehend the magnitude of that number 12,000. So I looked at the faces of the people moving with me. Some of those faces I knew as family, as friends, as countrymen. And to think of each being beaten and shot and dumped into a pit chilled my heart.

Eventually we reached and boarded our bus. Only then did the Hand which had held back the rain for the observance, allow it to fall again.

The *Slovenski spominski odbor* did a fine job planning and executing the observances of the 50th anniversary. An exceptionally appropriate touch was the symbol it created and used to mark all the publications. In the center was the numeral 50. Curving around the numeral to the left was a half a crown of thorns, while curving to the right was a laurel branch of victory. The dream for which they gave their lives 50 years ago has become reality.

The dream, this free and independent Slovenia, is now in the hands of the living. What an awesome responsibility for the living who owe a great debt to the sacrifices of the past,

and who must preserve and protect that dream for future generations! It is a task fraught with danger and difficulty. However, I did not get the impression that most Slovenians see it that way. There is a complacency born of what they have achieved over the past four years. As an outsider, I did not always share their rose-colored perspective. Several things I observed caused me concern about the future of this fledgling democracy.

The first involves the issue of reconciliation. Former communists still refuse to deal honestly and honorably regarding their part in the killing of the Domobranci. Most feign ignorance of what was done. Others dare argue that the Domobranci deserved what they got as collaborators, quislings, and murderers. As long as former communists close their fists when offered the opportunity to reconcile, Slovenia is a divided nation.

We Americans know what happens when a country is bitterly divided over an issue of

justice.

The second concern revolves around the longing of many for a return to the Balkans. At an outdoor cafe in Ljubljana, I eavesdropped on a conversation among some young adults, perhaps in their early twenties. They were convinced that Slovenia has no place in the European market. It is too small, too poor to compete with the likes of Germany or to become a second Switzerland. Its future, they believed, is in the Balkans.

One more beer and I might have castigated them on the absurdity of their view. Afterall, their behavior proved that Slovenians are a European people. Here they sat, chatting over coffee in the middle of the afternoon. In the U.S. at that time of day people their age would be flipping burgers, selling perfume, or working in some way to earn their spending money rather than enjoying the luxury of government stipends. If they did travel a few hundred kilometers south into their beloved Balkans, these young people would be spending the afternoon dodging or shooting bullets. And they certainly would not be permitted to speak Slovenian.

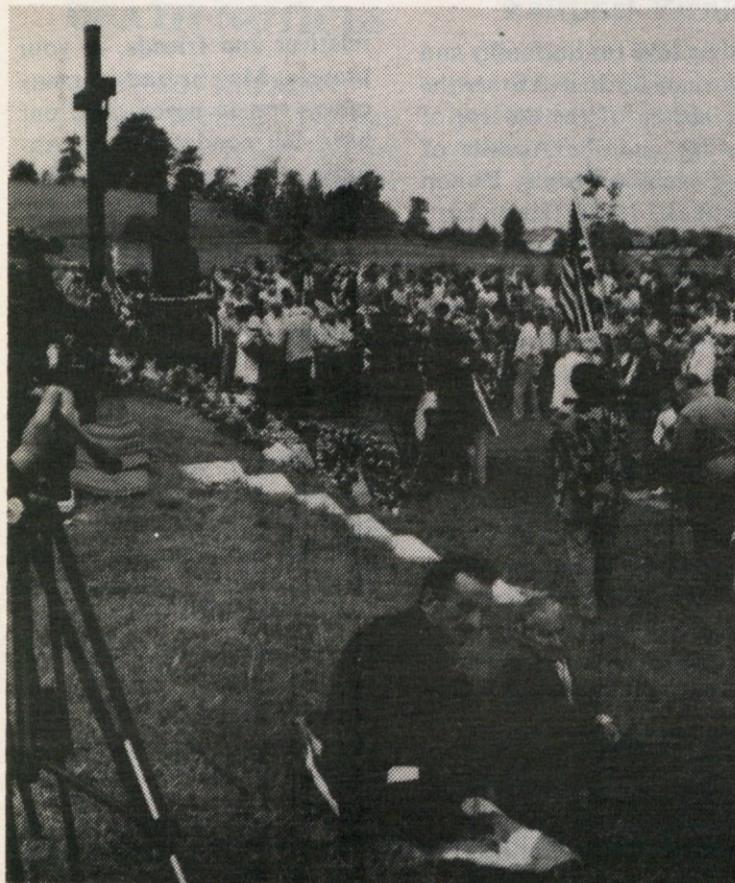
The third area is an apparent resignation to political corruption. Most voters I spoke to denounced their politicians in hate-filled terms. Now, most Americans are not thrilled with politicians, but as evidenced by the last elections, we will vote out those whom we do not approve. The ouster of Janez Janša from the government and allegations of tampering with election results were frequently cited as reasons that Slovenians do not view their individual votes as having much input. That attitude is dangerous and every effort must be made to rectify it.

Finally, I was concerned that advisors who have experience, training, and understanding of the politics of democracy, specifically Slovenians who are citizens of the U.S. and Canada, are systematically being ignored. In 1992, when Slovenia needed money and tourists desperately, political leaders fawned over the participants of the Slovenian-American Council tour. This year, those leaders were conspicuous by their absence. Of course, Slovenia still wants our money but would much prefer that we merely mail the check and keep our ideas to ourselves.

Perhaps it is time to keep our "foreign aid" at home to build up our own Slovenian organizations. Why should we pay for the privilege of being treated as second class? Maybe if we cut off the "allowance" Slovenia would start paying attention.

Yet I do believe we must make our experience and knowledge heard. Like an adult raising a child, we have to nag, coax, cajole, yell to make sure that child is raised right. To silently stand by

(Continued on page 5)



Before the Mass at Teharje June 18

(Photo by Anna Lunder)

## Slovenia '95...

**(Continued from page 4)**

while Slovenia moves in a direction we know to be wrong is a betrayal of the ideals so many died to defend. We must put Slovenia on notice: We have a stake in her future, and we are not going to abandon her no matter how much they would like us to.

Of course, there are many things right with Slovenia. The country does have a democratic constitution. It has had some economic success as explained by *Plain Dealer* European correspondent Elizabeth Sullivan in her recent series of articles. Because Slovenia is perceived as safe and secure, tourists are returning. Slovenians use their newly-won freedom of speech openly and often. Catholic organizations are growing, especially among young people. There is good reason to hope.

Now lest you think I spent two weeks solely in prayer and political analysis let me rectify that misconception. The fact that there were so many of us meant we could party — uh, excuse me — build strong community ties in a variety of ways.

The first three days we stayed at the mineral springs of Dobra, a town somewhat between Celje and Maribor. The rest of the time we spent at Golf Hotel in the beautiful resort town of Bled. We certainly could not have asked for more comfortable accommodations.

Each day we traveled to many of the famous sites in Slovenia. On average, we'd board the buses about 8:00 a.m. and not return until 8:00 p.m.

I discovered an interesting principle of physics riding that bus number three. The swaying motion of the last seat of a bus is so marked as to rock five grown adults into sound sleep within minutes, yet not allow those sleepers to tumble onto each other or out into the aisle. Of course, the late hours kept by those in the "galerija"

has nothing to do with how much they sleep on a bus.

Language provided some amusement in several ways. For example, how does one talk about another person so that person cannot understand what is being said? In Cleveland we use Slovenian. That ploy clearly does not work in Slovenia. Even English is widely understood, so you're stuck. In fact, English words have crept into everyday Slovenian to an amazing degree. Our parents reprimanded us for mixing English words into our Slovenian sentences. Now it turns out, we were pioneers of a movement marking those in the "in-crowd." American items are found on menus. You can order a *sendvič* or a *hot dok*. (Read it again, it will come to you.) How about this graffiti example for some interesting language hash? "Adijo pamet, jz sm v spajsu."

Two English words I wish they would learn and put to use: Mister Coffee.

As always, using public restrooms provided the greatest challenge and adventure. Finding the facilities often required directions from the natives. Just how do you ask for the "WC" in a language which does not have the letter W in its alphabet?

Decoding the pictures on the door regularly required a degree in modern art. When you did correctly decipher the door drawing, you faced the moment of highest anxiety. When you stepped into the stall, would porcelain greet you or a hole in the ground? What device would make it flush, and should you pull, push, or twist it? And when it was all over, and you felt you had met the challenge with the greatest combination of mind and manual dexterity — you looked and saw that purple medieval torture device euphemistically called toilet paper.

In general, we ate too much. But then we climbed a lot of steps and hills to make up for

it. Mountainous countries like Slovenia never seem to have their points of interest located on flat land. In fact, sometimes Slovenians appear not to know the meaning of the words *easy* and *flat*.

Our tour guide promised us a magnificent sight awaited us at the end of a three minute walk along an easy, flat path. A magnificent sight, the source of the tributary Mlinarica, did await, but the trek was reminiscent of *Romancing the Stone*. It actually took nearly ten minutes to traverse an uphill, rock-strewn path wide enough only for a single file. We crossed two swaying, wooden bridges which required that only one person pass over at a time. At the end of the second bridge was a ladder which had to be descended in order to see the cave. The view was well worth the trek, but I'm still not sure if he tricked us, or if he was convinced that this was an easy, flat path.

We ran the gamut of emotions during the tour. We cried, we laughed, we complained, we rejoiced. And like good Slovenians, through it all, we sang.

In fact, our singing made us some new friends. One was the assistant to the Bishop of Maribor. He celebrated a liturgy with us on Saturday, June 17. It was a simple Mass which only our tour attended, but we did fill up all the pews in the cathedral. At the end of it, the Canon told us we were better singers than his people. Because he did not strike me as a man given to flattery or even easy compliments, I believe he was sincerely impressed.

The second group of friends was made on the evening of June 25. Terri Jarem, president of the Slovenia '95 Committee, celebrated her birthday while in Slovenia (no, I won't say which one), so Boris Music made arrangements in the nightclub of Golf Hotel for a party in her honor. What kind of Slovenian party would it be if we didn't gather in singing the old songs?

Some tourists from England were also in the room. They

were so impressed by our singing that they could barely contain their admiration. Soon they were sitting with us, enjoying the party, and learning more about who we are as Slovenians and Americans.

On Monday morning June 26, the tour came to its official close. We were rather reluctant to go our separate ways. Activities would not be the same without the crowd that had become an extended family. Even little Andrej Coffelt was overheard to say, "Mami, I want to go back on the bus. It was fun." Out of the mouths of babes...

A great deal of the credit for

making the tour such fun goes to the Organizing Committee of Slovenia '95 and to Europa Travel Service. The Committee clearly put forth a great deal of loving care to make this 50th anniversary tour a significant event in the lives of those Americans who participated. Europa Travel went above and beyond the call of duty, bending over backwards to keep us happy.

Thank you to each and every one of you. You have given me memories which I will treasure and enjoy over another fifty years (from my pen to God's ear). For all you have done — *Bog lonaj!*

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## Mourns Passing of Vinko Rožman

by Stane Kuhar

The obituary column in *The Plain Dealer* simply stated the following: Vinko Rožman. Age 79. Beloved husband of Antonia (nee Meglič). Dearest father of Vincent, Theresa, Joseph, Kristina, and Antonia. Dear grandfather.

And so on.

But the notice did not explain the face nor the character of the person named Vinko Rožman.

As the former parish custo-

dian at St. Vitus Parish, Cleveland, Ohio, for many years, one could trace and see the happenings of a parish for many decades.

In the person, body and soul, one could see and evidence the love of faith, family, and culture in the person of Vinko Rožman.

Like many of his compatriots Vinko was forced to flee his native homeland due to his deep religious beliefs and strong ties to the local Catholic Church and the anti-Communist movement in Slovenia.

It was at many parish functions that one would witness Vinko doing all those most unpleasant and time-consuming tasks such as setting up chairs and tables, stocking and re-stocking various types of supplies, coming into the parish auditorium at 6:30 a.m. to ensure all the ovens and stoves were in working order, clearing the snow, taking out the garbage, and so many other mundane tasks that many of us would not like to do, yet are necessary to ensure the success of a benefit dinner and/or event. When you work side-by-side and evidence how and why a person works in their particular manner you become more appreciative of those who give all they can: an unselfish love.

All said, Vinko was a person of the people who lived our own personal concerns and fears about how to educate the children in a family, how to make sure your children would grow up with the sense of what is right and what is wrong, and just all those many parental duties experienced by his contemporaries; and others.

Vinko was active in the parish life of St. Vitus and the broader community by assisting in the annual pilgrimages to Frank, Ohio, the St. Vitus Holy Name Society, St. Vitus Slovenian School, the DSPB (Slovenian Anti-Communist Association), and his most beloved endeavor, the beatification and canonization process of Bishop Anton Martin Slomšek.

It was on many a hot summer day or evening when he and I would be working on some aspect of many a three-day summer parish festival that I would sense his deep and

abiding love for his family and how much he desired to see the first bishop of the diocese of Maribor and the Apostle of the Slovenian People, Bishop Slomšek, beatified and canonized, along with Slomšek's contemporary, Bishop Baraga. Even if he and I could not agree on a particular subject, his heart and soul were in the right place: to help or benefit others.

I often noted to Vinko that many of his doings may have been to the detriment of his own personal health or welfare of his family. He would simply state that life is short and you give and do what you think is right: your faith is your guiding light.

Please keep Vinko, along with our other departed

relatives and friends, in your prayers. May he and so many others rest in peace. And our heart-felt condolences to Antonia, children, and other family relatives.

## St. Vitus offers pre-school

Saint Vitus School is interested in offering a full day preschool for children three and four-years of age. Parents will have the option of choosing the half or full day program. Classes begin Sept. 5.

If you are interested in the program, please call the rectory at 361-1444 or you may call the school after August 7th at 881-1689.

Registration for full day kindergarten and grades 1 through 6 will be taken in August.



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## **8 Multi-Cultural Day at Ohio State Fair**

Ohio Governor George V. Voinovich this week announced the designation of Sunday, August 13 as Multicultural Day at the Ohio State Fair.

This year marks the fourth consecutive year of programming that celebrates the rich heritage and traditions of Ohio's multicultural communities.

The celebration features entertainment by performing groups and presenters from every geographical region of the state. Multicultural Day culminates with an evening performance in the Celeste Center beginning at 7 p.m. Included among the performers will be Živilii from Central Ohio performing the dances of the Southern Slavic Nations.

"Janet and I are looking forward to this special day of programming at the Ohio State Fair," said Governor George Voinovich. "This full day of activities offers a tremendous opportunity for Ohio's many multicultural performing groups to share their talents with all Ohioans and visitors to our state. We encourage everyone to join us for what promises to be a quality fun-filled day of family entertainment for Ohioans of all ages, and an opportunity to see the great Ohio State Fair with family and friends."

For more information contact August B. Pust or Mark A. Ozanick in the Governor's Office.

### **Triduum to St. Ann**

The annual Triduum to St. Ann will be held at the Our

### **Paper is like 'home'**

My husband and I received a subscription from my mother for Christmas. It was the best gift. We love the American Home and will continue our subscription. It makes us feel "a little like being 'home'."

Joyce Cham Bogovich  
Port Orange, FL

### **SWU Branch Picnic**

Branch No. 14 of Slovene Women's Union will hold their annual picnic on Tuesday, August 29, starting at 1:00 at the home of Martha Koren, 30334 Ridge Rd., in Wickliffe.

Members are asked to bring a covered dish for this family event. Please call to confirm your attendance to either Vera Bajec at 481-7473 or Marty Koren 585-4227.

Alice Kuhar

### **Size of \$20 bill**

Did you ever notice how big twenty dollars looks when you take it to church, but how small when you take it to the grocery store?

—St. Mary's Church Bulletin

### **Birthday**

Happy Birthday wishes are extended to Eleanore Cham, auditor of West Park Slovenian Home from daughter Joyce Cham Bogovich and all her friends and relatives.

Her big day is August 18th.

Lady of Lourdes Shrine, 21281 Chardon Rd., Euclid, Ohio on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, July 24, 25, 26. Mass will be held in the evening at 7:30 p.m.

### **Donations**

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

Ciril Vehovec, Euclid, O. — \$10.00

John Turk, Richmond Hts., O. — \$10.00

Marija Markeš, Toronto — \$5.00

Vinko Rigler, Chicago — \$10.00

Jožef and Rosalie Selan, Wickliffe, O. — \$10.00

Frances Zadell, Cleveland — \$10.00

Magda Vassiley, Jackson Hts., NY — \$5.00

Joe Sitar, London, Ont., Canada — \$12.00

Louis Loncar, Kirtland, O. — \$15.00

Doris Sadar, Willoughby Hills, OH — \$10.00

Julia Kacin, Downers Grove, IL — \$5.00

Matej Hocevar, Cleveland — \$5.00

Joseph Kolman, Pittsburgh — \$5.00

Joseph Chauby, Willoughby Hills, O. — \$10.00

Franc Music, Wickliffe, O. — \$10.00

Ciril Benedejcic, Chardon, O. — \$5.00

Louise Trunkely, Euclid, O. — \$10.00

Anonymous, Parma, O. — \$20.00

Branko Pogačnik, Euclid, O. — \$5.00

Rudolf Merc, Euclid, O. — \$10.00

Jože Slobodnik, Downsview, Ont., Can. — \$10.00

Louis Burjes, Wickliffe, O. — \$10.00

Janez Platnar, Etobicoke, Ont. — \$5.00

### **Coming Events**

#### **Friday, July 21**

Dance at West Park Slovene Home Ballroom, 4583 W. 130 St., from 8 p.m. to midnight. Music by Frank Moravcic.

#### **Sunday, July 23**

St. Anne Lodge No. 150 KSKJ Annual Celebration: Mass at St. Lawrence Church at 10 a.m., followed by dinner at Sterle's at 12 noon.

#### **Friday, July 28**

Dance at West Park Slovene Home Ballroom, 4583 W. 130 St., from 8 p.m. to midnight. Music by Dan Peters.

#### **Sunday, July 30**

St. Vitus Slovenian Language School benefit summer picnic at Slovenska Pristava. Mass at 12:30 p.m. Pork roast dinners following Mass at \$9 for adults, \$5 children. No admission, nor parking charge.

#### **Friday, August 4**

Dance at West Park Slovene Home Ballroom, 4583 W. 130 St., from 8 p.m. to midnight. Music by Mike Wojtila.

#### **Wednesday, Aug. 9**

Fairport Harbor Slovenian Retirees Club picnic 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the American Slovene Club, 617 Third St. Free admission.

#### **Saturday, Aug. 12**

St. Clair Rifle Club Dinner Dance on the club grounds. Music by Jeff Pecon, featuring Lou Trebar. Everyone welcome. Call 942-4025 for further information.

#### **Saturday, Aug. 26**

St. Clair Rifle Club Steak Roast on club grounds. Music by Stan Mejak. All are welcome. Call 942-4025 for information.

#### **Sunday, Oct. 1**

St. Mary (Collinwood) 5th Alumni Reunion with 12 noon Mass followed by dinner in cafeteria. \$15. Send checks to St. Mary's School Alumni, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110.

#### **Sunday, Oct. 1**

Upstairs Downstairs Dance, Slovenian Society Hall, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid from 3 to 9:30 p.m. featuring 5 bands. Proceeds to Penn Ohio Polka Pals and Akron, Barberton, Canton. George Knaus sponsor. Donation \$6 advance — \$7 at the door. Call 481-9300.

#### **Sunday, Oct. 22**

Slovenian American National Art Guild, Annual Artists & Crafts Show and Sale at Slovenian Society Home from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### **Sunday, Oct. 29**

St. Vitus Alumni Hall of Fame Annual Event in St. Vitus Auditorium.

#### **Saturday, Nov. 11**

Jadran 75th celebration. Cok: Sophie Mazi; music: Don Wojtila Orchestra.

#### **Sunday, Nov. 12**

Senator Frank J. Lausche centennial of birth observance at St. Vitus Church and hall.

#### **Saturday, November 18**

Fantje na Vasi Concert, St. Clair Slovenian National Home.

#### **Saturday, Sunday, Nov. 18-19**

Slovenian Cultural Center Grand Opening Celebrations in Lemont, Illinois.

Creativity is inventing, experimenting, growing, taking risks, breaking rules, making mistakes, and having fun.

—Mary Lou Cook

# **Jerry Sustarsic**

## **Councilman-at-Large**

### **of the city of Euclid**

Jerry Sustarsic is the son of our American-Slovenian former Mayor of the city of Euclid, Mr. Anthony (Tony) Sustarsic.

His father was one of the greatest Mayor's in the history of the city of Euclid.

His son, Jerry, is following his father's footsteps and he is promising to the citizens of Euclid, that he will do his best for the citizens and that he will fight to protect them from crime. Especially the elder citizens who need all the protection they can get from their elected officials.

Jerry Sustarsic is a Democrat and he believes strongly in the Democratic principles; honesty and integrity. He believes in a strong family and old traditional values. He worked very hard all these years to benefit the citizens of Euclid as a Councilman-at-Large in the city of Euclid. He has a strong belief to work together with the Civil Service Commission as well as with all the Councilmen of the city of Euclid. Jerry is a graduate of Lakeland Community College majoring in public administration. His wife Gerry, who serves as Patient Services Supervisor at University-Mednet Clinic, will be right there to help him run the city of Euclid as a family. Please extend your vote for my son on November 7, 1995.

Jerry is a graduate of St. Joseph High School, and also attended Kent State University.

He is qualified to serve, he has a proven record of the civic leadership, he is a family man with strong family values. His family will lead the city of Euclid in the greater future. He is committed, he is concerned and he is capable to be your next Mayor of the city of Euclid. Don't forget, vote for Jerry Sustarsic for your next Mayor of the city of Euclid.

with the warmest regards, I thank you. Your former Mayor of the city of Euclid.

Tony Sustarsic  
(father of Jerry Sustarsic)

**VOTE FOR JERRY SUSTARSIC FOR MAYOR OF THE CITY OF EUCLID**

Paid for by Friends of Jerald Sustarsic,  
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## VESTI IZ SLOVENIJE

Predlagane bodo spremembe volilnega zakona — Težji vstop v parlament za manjše stranke — Redne volitve proti koncu 1996

Stranke, ki sestavljajo sedanjo vladno koalicijo, pa tudi opozicijske stranke, se zanimajo za morebitno spremembo sedaj veljavnega volilnega zakona. Deloma je to povezano s prihajajočimi rednimi državnozborškimi volitvami, ki bi morale biti proti koncu prihodnjega leta. Čeprav so v obravnavi razne določbe sedanjega zakona, naj bi bila poglavita sprememba v tem, da bi bil prag za vstop določene stranke v parlament zahtevnješi. Kot sedaj kaže, so vladne stranke in močnejše druge stranke dokaj naklonjene taki spremembi, vprašanje je, kako zahteven naj bi bil pogoj za vstop v parlament.

Na tiskovni konferenci SKD pretekli petek je glavna tajnica stranke Hilda Tovšak povedala, da bi SKD podprli spremembo, po kateri bi morala dobiti stranka najmanj 5 odstotkov glasov na volitvah, da bi bila zastopana v parlamentu. Na novinarski konferenci pretekli četrtek, je predstavnik LDS Bogdan Bičak dejal, da tudi ta stranka podpira spremembo zakona, ni se pa še opredelila o tem, točno kako.

Nekatere manjše in novejše politične stranke so do takšne spremembe zakona veliko bolj zadržane, ker bi bile predvsem prizadete. Tako govorijo nekateri, da želijo spremembo večje stranke, da bi mogle postati še močnejše, to seveda na račun manjših strank in gibanj, ki bi ne bile zmožne nabrat najmanj 5 odstotkov glasov po Sloveniji. Močnejše stranke sedaj so LDS, SKD in ZL, ki sodelujejo v vladni koaliciji, nato še SLS in SDSS.

**Vlada dokaj optimistična glede obetov za gospodarski razvoj v Sloveniji do l. 2000**

Na tiskovni konferenci pretekli petek je Janko Deželak, minister za ekonomske odnose in razvoj, dejal, da so tako sedanji kot za naslednjih pet let pričakovani gospodarski tokovi za Slovenijo zelo pozitivni. Deželak, ki je sicer član SKD, je trdil, da Slovenija že sedaj doživlja eno najhitrejših stopenj rasti ne le v okviru dežel v prehodu, temveč v Evropi sploh. Dodal je, da bo vlada še na-

prej vodila restriktivno denarno politiko, povečanje varčevanja pa lahko prinese tudi nižje obrestne mере.

Spregororil je tudi Ivo Strnišnik, direktor Zavoda za makroekonomske analize. Povedal je, da Slovenija doživlja splošno rast proizvodnje in da se brezposelnost niža. Tudi Strnišnik je rekel, da lahko Slovenija do leta 2000 pričakuje razmeroma visoke letne stopnje gospodarske rasti.

**LDS še vedno najmočnejša med strankami, sledijo SDSS, SLS, SKD in ZLSD**

Dnevnik *Delo* je 3. julija objavil redno raziskavo javnega mnenja. Ta je pokazala, da bi LDS dobila 18 odstotkov glasov, če bi bile volitve, druga stranka pa je bila SDSS, ki naj bi dobila 11,4%. Naslednje tri stranke so SLS, SKD in ZLSD, katerih vsaka naj bi dobila kakih 6 odstotkov glasov. Dobra četrtnina anketirancev pa je odgovorila, da še ne ve, kako bi glasovali.

Dalje, anketa je povedala, da je bilo 31,4 odstotka vprašancev zadovoljnih z delovanjem vlade, 44,2% pa ne. Na slabem glasu je parlament, kajti je njegovo delovanje zadovoljilo le 15,2 odstotka, za slabo pa ga je imelo kar 61,4 odstotkov anketiranih. Ti slednji podatki sicer naj bi veljali za letošnji maj. Izid potrjuje splošno razočaranje nad politiki, ki prevladuje v Sloveniji.

### — Kratke vesti —

**Slovenski krščanski demokrati bodo v letu 1996 organizirali 25. kongres Evropske zveze krščanskih demokratov.** Vzrok za to, da so bili SKD izbrani za organizatorji kongresa, je v njih uspehu, da so edina krščansko demokratska stranka v Srednji in Vzhodni Evropi, ki je izboljšala svoje uspehe v treh zaporednih splošnih volitvah, in da je kot nova demokratična stranka vseeno sprejela odgovornost za delovanje v vladni koaliciji.

**Kong. James L. Oberstar** se je med svojim obiskom v Sloveniji poleg predsednika Milana Kučana srečal tudi s predsednikom vlade dr. Janezom Drnovškom in obrambnim ministrom Jelkom Kacinom. Kong. Oberstar je rekel, da bo deloval v prid odpravi embarga zoper nabavo vojaške opreme za Slovenijo.



Na fotografiji zgoraj je g. Renato Podberšič, generalni vikar kopranske škofije. Znak, da se je marsikaj vendarle spremenoval v Sloveniji v zadnjih letih, je bila njegova vloga. Blagoslovil je novi odsek primorske avtoceste med Razdrtim, Čebulovicom in Divačo. Odprtje teh 14 kilometrov je bilo 12. julija. Kot je poročal *Slovenec* pretekli četrtek, je odprtje tega odseka uresničevanje prvih kilometrov programa graditve 342 km avtocest, ki bodo Slovenijo povezale v smeri vzhod-zahod. Poročilo se nadaljuje: »Prvi del nove avtoceste, odsek Razdrto–Čebulovica, je bil večinoma zgrajen od decembra 1990 do septembra 1993, zaradi težav z izvajalcemi se je zavlekla le graditev obe viaduktov Bandera in Goli vrh (dograjena sta bila majna letos), petkilometrski odsek med Čebulovicom in Divačo pa je bil končan celo petnajst dni pred rokom.« Izredno ambiciozen projekt za gradnjo avtocest v Sloveniji je po razdelitvi odgovornosti v sedanji vladi, predvsem v rokah ljudi iz vrst SKD.

## Iz Clevelandia in okolice

### »Pristavski dan« na SP —

To nedeljo ste vabljeni na Slovensko pristavo, na »Pristavski dan«. Od 1. pop. dalje bosta za vas skrbela kuhinja in bar, od 3h dalje pa z glasbo še Alpsi sekstet. Pridite, vstopnina ni!

### Nevburški dan piknik —

To soboto priredijo nevburška društva ADZ svoj letni piknik na letovišču ADZ v Leroyu. Piknik traja od 1. pop. do 8. zv., ob 4h bo daroval polka mašo škof Pevec, Vandjali bodo mašo spremljali z glasbo, nato igrali (5. do 8. zv.) za ples in zabavo. Vstopnina \$2 na osebo, odprta ves dan razen za časa maše bosta kuhinja in bar. Od 2. do 3.45 pop. bo igral harmonikarski ansambel z Maple Hts.

### Poroka —

To soboto, 22. julija, ob 11h dopoldne, se bosta v cerkvi sv. Vida poročila Dominik Stupica in Emily Gobetz. Čestitajo in jima želijo vse najboljše na skupni živiljenjski poti starši in ostali sorodniki v ZDA, Kanadi in Sloveniji, med njimi teta Kristina Starič, ki je tu na obisku iz Slovenije.

## Novi grobovi

### Vinko Rozman

Umrl je 79 let stari Vinko Rozman, mož Antonije, roj. Meglič, oče Vincenta, Therese Golob, Josepha, Kristine Shoup in Antonije, 10-krat stari oče. Pogreb je bil 17. julija v oskrbi Zak zavoda na 6016 St. Clair Ave. s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Vida in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. (Gl. str. 11)

### Herman A. Sluga

Dne 17. julija je v Meridia Euclid bolnišnici umrl 87 let stari Herman A. Sluga z Euclidom, rojen v Sloveniji, v Cleveland prišel l. 1923, mož Josephine, rooj. Lonchar (poročena sta bila 66 let), oče Hermanna J., Ronald in Esther Kremer, 9-krat stari oče, 9-krat prastari oče, zaposlen kot strojnik pri Picker X-Ray do svoje upokojitve l. 1973, član ADZ št. 12, Kluba upokojencev v Euclidu in American Slovenian upokojenskega kluba. Pogreb je bil 19. julija v oskrbi Železovega zavoda na E. 152 St. in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

### John A. Grignon

Umrl je 81 let stari Johna (Jack) A. Grignon, mož Frances, roj. Urenjak, zapušča štiri brate in sestre, član društva Novi dom št. 7 ADZ. Pogreb je bil 14. julija s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Vida in pokopom na Kalvarije pokopališču.

### V podporo Slovenski šoli —

V nedeljo, 30. julija, bo na Slovenski pristavi piknik v podporo Slovenski šoli. Piknik se bo pričel s sv. mašo ob 12.30 pop., nato bo na razpolago kosilo s svinjsko pečenko. Cena za kosilo je \$9, za otroke pa \$5. Nakaznice za kosilo so na razpolago, če pokličete 585-1360.

### Seja in piknik —

Naslednja seja Kluba upokojencev na Maple Hts.-Nevburgu bo v sredo, 26. julija, v Stafford parku in bo združena s piknikom. Seja se bo pričela ob 12. uri opoldne, sledil jih bo piknik. Članstvo vabljeno.

### Dobitniki MZA srečolova —

Na nedavnem srečolovu MZA v korist slovenskim misjonarjem, je bila sreča naklonjena sledečim: Prvi dobitek, \$150, je dobila Anna Marie Zalar; drugi, Lovrenc Rozman; tretji, Rudi Knez; četrti, Rose Bavec; peti, Angelca Hribar, in šesti, Pepca Tominc. Bil je manjši srečolov v pomoč salezijancem v Želimljah. Prvi dobitek, afgan, delo Štefke Jarem, je dobila Marica Miklavčič, drugi, slika, delo Janeza Povirk, pa Tone Gorše. Vsem darovalcem dobitkov kakor tudi kupcem sreč se v imenu vse MZA in misjonarjev lepo zahvaljuje MZA Cleveland, kakor tudi za lepo udeležbo na pikniku in vse velikodusne darove. Na občnem zboru MZA je bil izvoljen odbor za 1995/96. Objava prihodnjih.

### Sporočilo Slov. pisarne —

Sprejemamo naročila za zbirko knjig Dr. sv. Mohorja v Celovcu za l. 1996. Če bi še kdo želel zbirko naročiti, prosimo, da to storí čim prej, ker Mohorjeva želi imeti imenik naročnikov. Zbirka stane \$39, knjige bodo poslane naročnikom na njih naslove. Naročila sprejema: Slovenska pisarna, 6304 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.

### Na počitnicah —

G. Joe Zuzak, lastnik R & D Sausage Co. v Clevelandu, sporoča, da bo trgovina zaprta od 7. do 22. avgusta. Lastnik gre na počitnice in bo trgovina po njih odprta začenši s 23. avgustom.

### Piknik lepo uspel —

Poletni piknik župnije sv. Vida preteklo nedeljo je žel lep uspeh. Na srečolovu so zadeli dobitke sledeči: Prvi dobitek je dobila Anna Vidergar, drugi Edward & Catherine Cup, tretji Mary Cizel, četrti pa Gertrude F. Novak. Dobitki v vrednosti \$100 so dobili: Mary Slak, Sandy Zibert, Flo Solar, J. Taricska, Bob Leden, John F. Svekric, Edward in Catherine Cup, Sandy Tekavec, L. Lekan, in Pam Slogar.

# AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

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**Komisija za povojne poboje zaslišala tudi emigrante iz ZDA**

## Pričal rešenec iz brezna

Poročilo, ki sledi, je izšel v Slovensku dne 12. julija izpod peresa Iva Žajdale.



France Dejak

Ljubljana — Včeraj (11. jul.) je preiskovalna komisija za povojne poboje zaslišala štiri priče: Franceta Dejaka, Toneta Oblaka, Branka Pogačnika (vsi trije so emigranti v ZDA) in Nika Hudoklina.

France Dejak, rešenec iz roškega brezna, je opisal svojo pot na Koroško, angleško izdajo in vrnitev domobrancev, pot čez kranjsko in šentviško taborišče v Kočevje. Podrobno je opisal dogajanje pred breznom, tik pred likvidacijo ter rešitev iz brezna. Komisiji je posebej poudaril, da so ga od Jesenic naprej spremljali izključno slovenski partizani. Nekatere, doma iz njegovih krajev, je tudi imenoval. Povedal je tudi zgodbo o hudem preganjanju matere, ki so jo samo zaradi njega zaprli, »obsodili« na 3 leta zapora in jo po 22 mesecih izpustili, težko samo 36 kilogramov.

Tone Oblak iz Grabna pri Ribnici je bil najprej vaški stražar, nato pa domobranec. Pričoved je začel s februarjem 1945, ko je bil ranjen pri Žužemberku, kjer je izgubil desno oko. Pred koncem vojne je prišel nazaj v Velike Lašče, kjer je pomagal v obveščevalnem uradu.

Tik pred odhodom domobrancev na Koroško je manjša skupina sklenila, da bo ostala v domačih krajih in počakala, da se vrnejo domobranci skupaj z Angleži (vsa družina je odšla na Koroško). Doma naj bi nadzorovali, kako partizani ravnajo z domačimi ljudmi.

Na Turjaku so z vozom in konjem zavili proti Grosupljiju, prespali v bližnjem kozolcu, zjutraj pa so jih presenetili partizani, ki so šli mimo. Ko

so se spuščali po lestvi, je enemu spodrsnilo. Partizani so jih slišali in začeli za njimi streljati. Uspelo jim je pobegniti. Ustavili so se v vasi Vodice nad Čušperkom. Nato so se tri mesece skrivali na območju Strug, Škocjana in Svetega Gregorja. Poleg njega so bili še Vinko Levstik, Janez Kožar, Matija Vintar in Lojze Koželj, slednji je bil prej vodja obveščevalne pisarne v Velikih Laščah.

Za poboje v Rogu so kmalu izvedeli, saj so srečali nekoga, ki mu je uspelo pobegniti z vlaka pred Kočevjem. Povedal je, kako so jih obkolili nad Pugledom nad Svetim Gregorjem, kako je prišlo do nesreče, ko je eden izmed njih pomotoma ranil drugega in kako jim je nato nek terenec dal obvezne in razkužilo, pri tem pa zahteval pisno potrdilo, ki bi ga lahko uporabil, če bi se vrnili domobranci.

Omenil je tudi svojega strica Alojza Riglerja, vozil je vlak z ujetniki v Kočevje in ki (je) pri Ortneku nalašč vozil počasnejše, da bi kdo lažje pobegnil. Na koncu je neka ženska v Ljubljani od Stanislava Leniča dobila priporočilo, da bo zanje bolje, če Slovenijo zapustijo. 29. julija 1945 so odšli v Trst.

(dalje na str. 11)



Dne 25. junija 1995 v San Franciscu, Kalifornija. C.g. Janko Žagar, O.P., in č.g. Serge Propst, O.P., somašujeta v Slovenski dvorani ob obletnici zaprtja cerkve Rojstva Gospodovega.

## Slovenci ob Zlatih vratih Tihega oceana še živijo

### (Ob obletnici zaprtja slovensko-hrvatske cerkve)

SAN FRANCISCO, Kalif. - Mnogo je tukaj brezdomcev. To so večinoma begunci iz juga in zahoda, delavci brez posla, delomržneži, obupani,bolehni in drugi. Razni zavodi in ustanove, cerkve in posamezniki jim lajšajo življenje, preprečijo jim načrte za tativno, ropanje, izsiljevanje ter prekupevanje in uporabo mamil. Mestna uprava jim nekoliko pomaga glede prenočišča.

Naša višja cerkvena oblast je pa pred enim letom ukinila nadaljnje bivanje živega Boga v Njegovi hišici (tabernaklu) v naši cerkvi Rojstva Gospodovega na Fell Street. V četrtek zadnjega junija lani je od škofijškega urada poslani ključavnica vpriča nas (bilo nas je deset) zamenjal ključavnice med zgodnjo jutranjo sv. mašo. G. župnik J. Mihovilovich je bil prestavljen daleč ven iz mesta.

Od takrat se redno vsako nedeljo zberemo na pločniku pred zakljenjeno cerkvijo k molitvi rožnega venca v treh jezikih ter zapojemo eno hravsko in eno slovensko pesem; molimo za naše pokojne in za žive, ki so v stiski, pomagamo tudi materialno; priporočamo se nadangelu bojevniku Mihalju za njegovo pomoč; porazgovorimo se o naši cerkveni lastninski zadevi in se opogumimo za nadaljnje vztrajno prizadevanje za odprtje naše cerkve, za zvestobo Bogu, za ljubečo vdanost božji Materi in sv. Jožefu.

Na vatikanskem Višjem sodišču (»Signatura«) se naša vatikanska odvetnica Martha Wegan in kardinal Sanchez potegujeta v latinskom jeziku za naše pravice. Čakamo, molimo, upamo, delujemo. Tudi naši prijatelji križem Amerike in Kanade ter tudi v Sloveniji molijo z nami. Prisrčna hvala vam vsem!

Od januarja dalje se zberemo enkrat na mesec k nedeljski sv. maši v vojaški kapeli na Presidio, kjer mašuje tamkajšnji župnik č.g. Frank Metzbauer v angleščini, naši zastopniki prečitajo berilo v hravskem in slovenskem jeziku ter naš zbor preveva naše priljubljene pesmi v poglobitev pobo-

žnosti in v naše veselje. Angleško govorečim tamkajšnjim vernikom ugajajo naše lepe melodije. Bojimo se, da bo tudi ta cerkev kmalu zaprta.

Pred našo cerkvijo na Fell Street smo posadili nekaj rožic in zelenja, skrbna roka pa postavi vazo s svežim cvetjem na cerkvene stopnice. Tudi na čistoči pred cerkvijo in župniščem redno skrbi naš neutrudljivi so-faran Nick Sindich. Veter pa nanaša papir in drugo nesnago na zaklenjene zunanjne hodnike.

Važnejša poročila in naročila nam spretno sestavi in natska ter razmnoži Lorraine Vallejo iz Berkeleya; Ann Sustarich vodi zadeve v San Francisco in pomaga tudi predsedniku Ivetu Ravniku, ki živi v Oaklandu.

Iz cerkve so nam že odpeljali kipe, križev pot, svečnike in drugo, in iz župnišča dragocene premičnine. Notranjščina cerkve in župnišča se kvari, a ne dobimo ključa, da bi preprečili škodo ali kaj popravili.

Od nadškofijškega vodstva smo dobili dovoljenje obhajati naš glavni farni praznik Rojstvo Gospodovo po »naš« v Slovenski dvorani na Kranjskem hribu. Zbral se nas je 180. Moški so uredili stole, večje ženske roke so pa imele skrb za kuhanjo in oltar. Na odru so pripravile praznično okrašeno oltarno mizo s križem, svečami in cvetjem, poleg oltarja so pa Šimenčevi po starini navadi postavili betlehemske hribček s svežim zelenim manhom ter hlevček in kipčke kot prejšnja leta v naši cerkvi.

Na steni v ozadju odra nas je živo spominjala na našo farno cerkev velika oljnata slika na platnu, »Božična skrivnost v gozdčku«, izvirno umetniško delo mestnega slikarja O'Sullivanja iz leta 1912 za takratno novo cerkev (že tretjo).

Dominikanec, upokojeni profesor bogoslovja v Oaklangu g. Janko Žagar je maševal v angleščini, stregel mu je naš bivši ministrant Tony Lukezich. Ivo Vucicevich in Ivo Ravnik sta čitala berilo v hravtskem oz. slovenskem jeziku; v ospredju, v kotu dvorane nam je naš pozrtvovalni cerkveni zbor spet pod vodstvom spretnega pevovodje Aleša Šimanca blažil srca in vlival pogum s prisrčnim petjem naših najlepših božičnih spevov. Obdajalo nas je veliko veselje, pa tudi hvaležnost tistim, ki so za vse to poskrbeli.

Za praznovanje Velike noči po »naš« smo se z dovoljenjem zbrali v Hrvatski dvorani. Ob udeležbi 220 vernikov je maševal spet naš zvesti prijatelj Fr. Janko Žagar, ki je tudi blagoslovil velikonočna jedila v praznično pregrnjene košaricah ob oltarju. Ob ubrannem petju naših mogočno donečih velikonočnih pesmi, četudi brez orgel, je bilo razpoloženje vseh res praznično. Del slovesnosti je bil pokazan na televizijski.

Ob zborovanju Slovenske ženske zveze v San Franciscu je pri njihovi sv. maši v nedeljo, 21. maja, sodeloval naš pevski zbor. Glavno odgovornost za sprejem in orientacijo

(dalje na str. 11)



Dne 2. julija 1995, v San Franciscu, Kalifornija. Č.g. dr. Vinko Potočnik in Fr. Jose Superiazo somašujeta v Slovenski dvorani.

## Ob odprttem grobu Vinko Rozmana

### 17. julija 1995

Dragi Vinko, draga vsa Rožmanova družina, - dragi pogrebci, ki ste Vinkota spremili na tej njegovi zadnji poti, skupaj še enkrat poglejmo, kaj nam je bil Vinko.

Vera je milost, ki se daje ponižnim.

Že ob prvem srečanju z Vinkotom, je vsak lahko spoznal, da v njem živi globoka vera. Mi, ki smo se družili z njim v clevelandski slovenski skupnosti nad štirideset let, smo videli najprej, kako je bil skrben, potrežljiv in delaven družinski oče. Videli pa so tudi, koliko dobrega in zglednega je za skupnost, v ponižnosti opravil le iz nagiba vere.

Fara svetega Vida prav gosto ne pozna bolj požrtvovalnega človeka kot je bil pokojni Vinko. Pomagal je povsod, da je le v delu videl dober namen. Ni iskal pohvale ne dobička, ni delal, da bi si gradil spomenik, pa nam je v marsičem dal zgled, ki bo nanj spominjal, dokler bomo živel.

Vera je milost, ki je daje ponižnim.

Slovenska šola se je tudi sedaj, po tolikih letih, odkar je zadnji Vinkotov otrok dokončal sobotno šolo, v potrebah in zadregah še zmeraj obračala na Vinkota, in on je bil vselej pripravljen pomagati. Še več, sam se je oglasil in opomnil na to ali ono potrebo ter zraven dal ponudbo, da bi sam to postoril, če še ni urejeno. Take požrtvovalnosti je zmožen samo človek, ki veruje, da smo ljude drug drugemu potrebnii, ki brez pridržka veruje, da je za Slovence delo šole dobro in koristno. Slovenska šola dolguje Vinkotu hvaležnost za vselej.

Kako bi mogel našteti vsa romanjanym Lemont in v Frank, Ohio, pa ne bi omenil, pri kolicnih je bil Vinkotov trudista goniila sila, ki je vse uresničila. Njegov nasmeh in njegova dobra volja, posebej pa še njegovo organiziranje petja po prireditvah — kar po domače, kot je dejal —, v krogu pod drevesom ali pa v dvorani, je privabilo mnogo ljudi, da so že v naprej spraševali, kdaj se zopet srečamo. Sam je rad pel in pri petju so se mu pridružili vsi, ki so s pesmijo gojili rodo-

ljubje ali z njo hladili domotožje.

V svoji veri je Vinko razumel ene in druge in jih, ponjen kot je bil, skušal zadovoljiti. Vinko bo vsekakor pogrešan, ali v mislih vseh bo še vedno prisoten na naših romanjih v prihodnosti, kolikor nam jih bo še dano dočakati.

Še in še bi moral naštrevati, da bi mogel omeniti vsa dela, s katerimi je Vinko služil slovenski skupnosti in Bogu, v skoraj osemdesetih letih svojega življenja. Petdeset let je z nami preživel v begunstvu. Pa prav iz teh begunskega let nam je najbolj znana Vinkotova ljubezen do domovine in do boja, ki ga je za narod in za Boga vojevala domobranska vojska.

Tej ideji, ter spominu padlih in pomorjenih borcev je ostal zvest vse dni svojega življenja. Za trajen spomin izdanih, a nikdar premaganih domobranov se je trudil, ko je dolgo vrsto let predsedoval organizaciji Slovenskih protikomunističnih borcev. Še to pomlad, ko je bila njegova bolezen že močno razvita, je poskušal zbrati vse Slovence k skupni hvalni daritvi za žrtve komunistične revolucije. Ta daritev naj bi bil kot protiutež proslavam in hvalnicam Narodnoosvobodilnemu boju v Sloveniji.

Ceprav te skupne daritve ni bilo, ne moremo reči, da ni uspel. Sam je za petdeseto obletnico poboja, stopil pred žrtve Kočevskega roga in Teharij, pred svoje soborce in znance, jih pozdravil iz oči v oči in od njih za zvestobo ideji prejel večje priznanje, kot ga premorejo naše skromne besede.

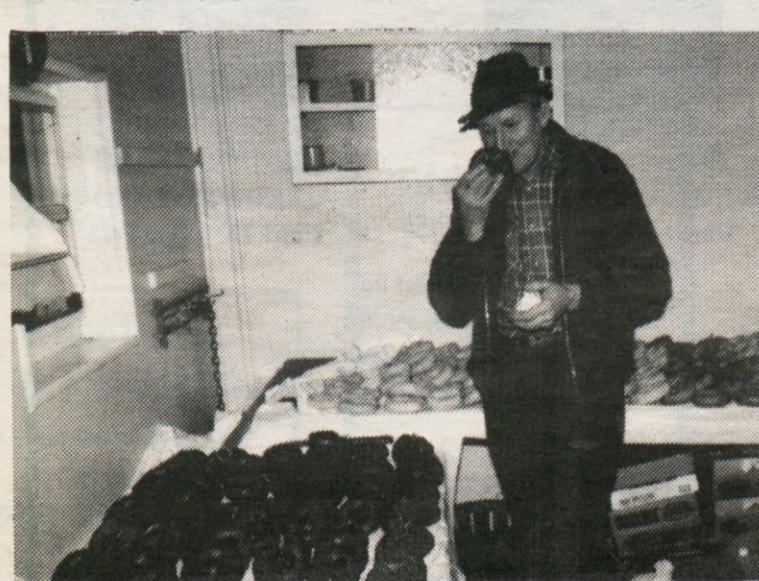
Tako nas uči vera!

Vera pa je milost, ki se daje ponižnim.

Ko se danes od Vinkota poslavljamo, se poskušajmo od njega učiti ponižnosti, da nam bo milostno podeljena vera, s katero je bil Vinko ves prežet.

Bog naj ti bo dober plačnik, Vinko, in naj ti bo lahka prst tujine, ki si jo vzljubil kot svoj domači kraj. V miru počivaj! Tvoji družini in sorodnikom pa naše iskreno sožalje.

**iml**  
Highland Hts., Ohio



Med številna dobrodelna dela Vinka Rozmana spadajo tudi krvavice, ki jih je pripravil nekajkrat za koline v dvorani Sv. Vida. Za to priložnost je bila prireditev v pomoč mesečniku Ave Maria.

## Slovenci ob Zlatih vratih Tihega oceana še živijo

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

zborovalk ter za spored sta imeli naši zelo delavnji bivši faranki Beverly in Barbara.

Več Slovencev je 13. junija odletelo od tukaj v Slovenijo na romanje k grobowom naših mučencev ob 50. obletnici največjega grozodejstva v naši domovini. Nam je pa nadškof dovolil imeti sv. mašo ob obletnici zaprtja naše cerkve, in sicer spet v Slovenski dvorani.

Isto nedeljo, 25. junija, se je zbral v naši nadškofijski katedrali okrog 1.700 ljudi različnih narodnosti, med njimi nekaj sto diplomatov s celega sveta, na praznovanje 50. obletnico ustanovitve Organizacije Združenih narodov v San Franciscu. Nekaj naših Slovencev in Hrvatov je pred tamkajšnjo sv. mašo skupno glasno molilo rožni venec ob vhodu v katedralo, nato so pa poshiteli na Kranjski hrib, kjer se je začela sv. maša ob 10. uri. (Zjutraj je na radiu govorila o naši cerkvi naša zvesta faranka Ceta Žagar.)

Somaševala sta Fr. Janko Žagar in njegov bivši učenec Fr. Serge Propst, O.P., ob ljudskem petju naših najbolj znanih slovenskih in hrvatskih pesmi. Spet smo čutili ugodje medsebojnega prijateljstva, saj je bila dvorana spremenjena

### Pričal rešenec iz brezna

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

Tone Oblak je želel pred komisijo navesti konkretne primere, zakaj so nastale vaške straže, vendar mu to zaradi naslova komisije (časovne »omejenosti« na povojni čas) ni uspelo.

Tako kot Dejak in Oblak je tudi Branko Pogačnik prišel iz Cleveland. Doma je iz Zgornjega Kašlja. Očeta in mater so mu partizani umorili že sredi leta 1942. Kot šestnajstletnik se je tik pred koncem vojne pridružil domobrancem v Dravljah, kjer je bila dopolnilna četa. Sodeloval je pri preboju čez dravski most v Borovljah. Potem so ga poslali v Škofto Loko. Na poti z železniške postaje na Trati do gradu je hotel njihov poveljnik Janko Habič pobegniti, vendar so ga ubili.

Branko Pogačnik je bil na gradu 17 dni, nato pa v Šentvidu skoraj dva meseca. Tam je med partizani videl generala Cerarja iz Polja ter Kocjančiča iz Zadvora. Posebej pa se spominja poveljnika Vasje Kogeja, ki ga je poznal iz Polja. Ko so ga izpustili iz taborišča, ga je nek oče spraševal po svojih dveh sinovih. Svetoval mu je, naj gre vprašat Kogeja. Šel je, vendar odgovora ni dobil. Tudi on je ves čas v zaporu videl samo Slovence.

Ko je prišel iz taborišča, je imel tifus. Dolgo nikjer ni mogel dobiti zaposlitve, končno pa se je zaposlil v tovarni usnjca Indos.

Decembra 1946 so ga aretrali in odpeljali v Kranj na vojaško sodišče. En mesec mu ni nihče povedal, zakaj so ga zaposli. Doma so šele devetih

na v svetišče: krasno opremljena daritvena miza z mnogimi gorečimi svečami in bujnim cvetjem, v ozadju na steni velika slika Sv. Druzine v gozdičku, pred oltarjem pa Praški Ježušek, edini kip, rešen iz naše cerkve. Joe Krizmanich je vodil molitev k medžugorski Mariji ob 17-letnici njenega prikazovanja. Sledilo je okusno okrepčilo z živahnimi razgovori.

Nato smo se spet zbrali v Slovenski dvorani v nedeljo, 9. julija, ko nas je obiskal iz Ljubljane mariborski profesor bogoslovja, psiholog dr. Vinko Potočnik, ki se je prejšnje dni v Kanadi udeležil važnega verskega zborovanja o veri in sociologiji. Prihodnje šolsko leto, ko bi zidava novega seimeniča v Mariboru gotova, se bodo tja vrnili iz Ljubljane mariborski bogoslovci in profesorji. Pričakujejo veselo srečanje s papežem v Mariboru v nedeljo, 19. maja, 1995.

Slovenskega gosta je spremjal in z njim somaševal Fr. Jose Superiazo, nadškofijski zastopnik za različne narodnosti. Prijetno je bilo spet poslušati duhovnika s čisto slovensko govorico. Pevski zbor je pod vodstvom Diane Fir lepo prepeval naše blagodoneče slovenske in hrvatske pesmi.

Pri obedu se je razvil zelo živahan razgovor, kot da bi bili že starci znanci. Dragemu gostu smo čestitali ob 23-letnici njegovega mašniškega posvečenja. Rožmarin in nageljčki na mizah so nas opominjali, naj bomo ponosni na svojo narodnost in kulturo ter zvesti in hvaležni Bogu za Njegovo pomoč. Priznanje in zahvala pa posebno velja tistim, ki so nam pripravili to veselo srečanje.

Imeli smo pa priliko srečati se tudi z drugimi Slovenci. Ljubljanski komorni zbor Ave je ob svoji desetletnici obstoja prepeval v naši nadškofijski katedrali v nedeljo, 9. oktobra lani. Spet so bile na vrsti naše narodne noše. Potem je zbor imel koncert z bogatim sporedom v Slovenski dvorani, naslednji dan pa v Hrvatski. Veselje poslušalcev je prekipevalo.

Sredi letosnjega maja so Kamniški koledniki v narodnih nošah s svojimi izvrstnimi in prijetnimi glasovi, s citrami in harmoniko v Slovenski dvorani osvojili srca vseh navzočih.

Vsak četrti torek v mesecu imamo v Slovenski dvorani skupno večerje, ki se začne z molitvijo rožnega venca (Nick Sindicich). Živahno, veselo je razpoloženje ob bogati izberi jedil in priboljškov, pa tudi s šaljivim srečolovom. Sledijo poročila cerkvenega odbora (Udruženje Hrvatov in Slovenev), razgovori in načrti za bodočnost.

Za vedno so se ločili od nas: naša blaga Minka Šturm iz Berkeleya, v januarju; najstarejša faranka Mary Ansel (roj. v letu 1898) je umrla v februarju; edini še živeči ustanovni član cerkvenega pevskega zboru iz 1. 1939 Jože Nanut je umrl v marcu.

Zadnjo nedeljo, ko to pišem, je bila med nami sedanja najstarejša Slovenka, brhka Rose Scuff, roj. 26. jul. 1899. Želimo ji zdravja in sreče še lepo vrsto let, saj ima v Ameriki mnogo znank in prijateljic med članicami Slovenske ženske zveze. V prejšnjih letih je tudi rada prepevala na koru v naši cerkvi.

Dne 17. julija je praznoval svoj rojstni dan in godi naš večki organist in skrbni pevovodja Aleš Simenc, ki je že tako okreval, da spet vodi cerkveno petje; njegove ljube orgle, ki jih je čudovito obvladoval, pa samevajo v zaklenjeni cerkvi. S hvaležnimi srci mu želijom srečo, blagoslov in trdno zdravje še lepo vrsto let.

Spoštovane in iskrene čestitke pa veljajo prijetni Heleni Starc roj. Pechaver, za srečno doseglo M.D.B.

**Angela Gospodarič**

## Veliki dar vere in Cerkve v osrčju Dolenjske

— Blagoslovitev župnijske cerkve in župnišča v Žužemberku —

Nedelja, 2. julija, bo v spomini velikega dela prebivalcev Dolenjske, posebno pa Suhe krajine, zapisana z zlatimi črkami. Petdeset let je bilo treba čakati, da se iz ruševin zopet dvigne pred koncem druge svetovne vojne (4. maja 1944) požgana župnijska cerkev svetih Mohorja in Fortunata, gradbena mojstrovina 18. stoletja. Dolga povojska leta so zmagovalci, ki so hoteli s požgom cerkve ustrahovati verno ljudstvo, pustili štrleti v nebo ruševine debelih cerkevnih zidov in zvonika. Prava mora za kraj, kjer se še danes čutijo med ljudmi rane državljanke vojne in revolucije!

To nedeljo so slavili vsi: domači duhovniki in redovnice (kar dvanajst duhovnikov in 13 redovnic je izšlo iz župnije v tem stoletju), ki so ob demokratizaciji Slovenije začeli javno spodbujati k obnovi cerkve; slavili so požrtvovalni žužemberški farani, saj so morali v zadnjih dveh letih kar dobro zavrhati rokave pri delu za obnovo pa tudi pri zbiranju nemajhnih sredstev; slavili so mnogi verniki širom po naši domovini, ki so se odzvali povabilu Družine pred tremi leti in začeli zbirati denarna sredstva.

Verniki iz župnij ljubljanske nadškofije so prispevali eno nedeljsko nabirko za obnovo te cerkve.

V posebnem spominu nedeljskega slavlja pa bodo ostali rojaki iz Združenih držav Amerike in Kanade. Oni so prvi začeli organizirano zbirati darove in so poslali lepo vsoto že takrat, ko so se dela komaj slutila...

Številni dobrotniki in prijatelji Žužemberka so se to prvo julijsko nedeljo zbrali pri cerkvi sv. Mohorja in Fortunata (godujeva 12. julija) in se veseli velikega dne. Avtobusi in avtomobili so bili parkirani daleč naokrog, kar kaže, da se je zbralo okrog dva tisoč vernikov.

Slovesno, kakor ob najpomembnejših dogodkih, je dobel že uro pred začetkom veliki zvon in skupaj z drugimi tremi v sosednjem zvoniku vabil ljudi iz vse Dolenjske: prišli so iz Bele krajine, pa iz Novega mesta, Šentruperta, Ljubljane, Kranja, z Vrantskega, iz Ar-

gentine in Združenih držav Amerike...

Zboru skoraj tridesetih duhovnikov je predsedoval ljubljanski nadškop in slovenski primas dr. Alojzij Šuštar, ob njem sta bila stiški opat dr. Anton Nadrah in novomeški prošt prelat Jože Lap.

S slovesnimi fanfarami lovčev in sprevodom z župnijskim banderom se je začelo slavje, pri katerem je ubrano prepeval domači zbor pod vodstvom s. Kriste Povirk. Na začetku maše je nadškof zaželes dobrodošlico predstavnik domačega gradbenega odbora Franci Mrvar in predstavil priprave in delo pri obnovi cerkve in zidavi župnišča. Povedal je tudi, da dela še niso dokončana, prav tako pa še dolgo ne bodo plačani dolgov, zato se je obrnil na vse ljudi dobre volje za pomoč.

Nadškof Šuštar je v pridigi čestital Žužemberčanom k tako pomembnemu dosežku, zahvalil se je vsem, ki so zaslужni za gradnjo, posebno župniku Francu Povirku, in povabil župljane, naj zdaj še z večjo vremeno skrbijo tudi za duhovno rast svoje skupnosti, da bodo v njej rasli duhovni poklici kakor nekoč.

Ob koncu maše se je številnim zaslužnim javnim delavcem, podjetju, različnim dobrotnikom in predvsem domačinom, posebno gradbenemu odboru, zahvalil tudi domači župnik, ki bo še nekaj časa nosil breme skrbi za odplačilo vseh dolgov. Potrebno bo še veliko dela za dokončno urediv cerkev in njene okolice (v cerkvi še ni orgel in ne oltarjev...).

Domačini so se na izviren način zahvalili z darili nadškofu in nekaterim domačim duhovnikom ter arhitektu inž. Francetu Kvaterniku, ki se je skupaj s svojo hčerko arhitektto Matejo Zupan zavzel za obnovo cerkve po starih načrtih in poskrbel tudi za načrtovanje župnišča.

Od prve julijske nedelje 1995 ima Žužemberk spet svoj pravi okras in staro krono: cerkev svetih Mohorja in Fortunata. Naj je nikoli več ne požge ali poruši sovraštvo, kakor se je to zgodilo pred 51 leti!

Franci Petrič  
Družina, 9.VII.1995



Fotografija iz Družine kaže do zadnjega kotička in čez zasedeno novozgrajena župnijska cerkev svetih Mohorja in Fortunata. Blagoslovitev cerkve je bila v nedeljo, 2. julija 1995.



Novozgrajena žužemberška cerkev svetih Mohorja in Fortunata na dan blagoslovitve 2. jul. 1995

Dr. Jože Pučnik za mesečnik *Rodna gruda*:

### Povojni čas je bil čas mnogih krivic

Ena izmed komisij Državnega zbora je tudi »Preiskovalna komisija o raziskovanju povojskih množičnih pobojev, pravno dvomljivih procesov in drugih tovrstnih nepravilnosti«. Za delo te komisije vlada

precejšnje zanimanje tudi med številnimi Slovenci, ki žive na tujem, saj so se nekateri izmed njih, ki so preživel, prav zaradi preganjanj umaknili v tujino. O delu te komisije, o nekaterih ugotovitvah in o Zakonu o popravi krivic, smo se (Jože Prešeren, urednik *Rodne grude*, op. ur. AD) pogovarjali s predsednikom te komisije dr. Jožetom Pučnikom.

»Komisija je doslej prišla že do številnih objektivnih ugotovitev. Na prvem mestu moram reči, da ti poboji niso bili izraz nekega osebnega sadizma posameznih funkcionarjev Ozne, temveč so bili politična odločitev, ki je bila sprejeta nekje v Beogradu, bila prenešena v republike in je bila tam tudi izvajana, kakor je bilo tudi načrtovano. Pri tem je treba poudariti, da so bila ta navodila, ki niso ohranjena v pisni obliki, po vsej verjetnosti zelo splošna.«

Zahvaljujem se vsem, ki ste bili navzoči v soboto (10. jun.) zvečer v molitvi pri Spominski kapelici in nato ob prižiganju kresa. Tako tudi vsem, ki ste prisostvovali pri nedeljskem mašnem obredu. Maševal je č. g. France Kosem. V pridigi je podal misel svečanosti za naše padle. Hvala pevcem pod vodstvom Dominika Goršeta, ki so s petjem dali še bolj skrivenostno pozornost te mašne daritve.

Tako se zahvaljujemo radio oddaji »Pesmi in melodije iz naše lepe Slovenije«, Dušanu Maršiču, ki je v slovenski urbi na Tony Petkovšovi oddaji vabil na to svečanost. Dalje, Ameriški Domovini, ki je objavljala obvestila in članke za proslavo. Za sobotno razsvetljavo hvala Gregorju Dolinarju in ženi, ki sta tako lepo razvrstila barvaste luči na Orlovem vrhu. Hvala ženam, ki so prinesle in darovale pecivo.

Ob nedeljskem mašnem obredu je bilo navzočih veliko število narodnih noš. Kako čudovit je bil pogled na to — duša slovenskega človeka, kako skrito bogastvo se vidi ob tem pogledu — ljubezen, veselje, srčna dobrota in podoba naroda pod kraljestvom mogočnega Triglava.

Zahvala vsem, ki ste pripomogli, da smo se spominjali teh naših mučencev. Naj bo z vami mir in ostane spomin na njih v vaši notranosti in domu.

Tabor DSPB - S.V.

med njimi toliko nedolžnih, tudi žensk in otrok; znani so primeri, ko so bili v taborišču zaprti celo enoletni otroci.

Ti sklepi so se izvajali po naslednjem hierarhičnem postopku: odgovorno je bilo najožje politično vodstvo, o tem sploh nikoli niso razpravljali člani centralnih komitejev, zato verjamem, da niso vedeli za te poboje številni člani takratnih širših političnih vodstev; naložge so bile prenešene na Ozno, ki je bila ustanovljena kot »oborožena pest partije« (13. maja 1944); Ozna je imela izjemna pooblasti, tudi nad takratnim Knojem, saj so morale enote Knoja brezpogojno izvrševati njene ukaze.

O številu likvidacij nimamo točnih podatkov, glede domobrancev govorimo o 11 do 12 tisoč pobitih, pri čemer pa ne gre samo za tiste, ki so bili vrnjeni s Koroške, temveč tudi za tiste, ki so se skrivali doma in so bili naknadno aretirani, ali so se javili sami.

Poleg tega spadajo sem tudi drugi civilisti; na Štajerskem npr. ni bilo domobrancev, vendar so kljub temu likvidirali takrat veliko ljudi, nekdajnih »kulturbundovcev« in drugih, ki so bili osumljeni sodelovanja z Nemci; tudi med njimi pa je bilo veliko takih, ki jih je preprosto nekdo prijavil, čeprav so bili popolnoma nedolžni. Med temi je bilo na (dalje na str. 14)

### V BLAG SPÖMIN NAŠIM LJUBLJENIM STARŠEM



ANA JESENKO  
Umrla 31. julija 1991



JAKOB JESENKO  
Umrl 12. julija 1972

*Odkar sta odšla od nas,  
počivata oba v miru  
v mehki ameriški zemlji.  
Bog Vama daj večni pokoj.*

Žalujoči ostali:

Ann Lekan — hčer

Myron Jezenko — sin

Ruth Abbott — hčer

Eugene Abbott — tast

Vnuki, vnukinje, pravnuki in pravnukinje.

Ambasadorji Republike Slovenije v znanosti: prof. dr. Rado L. Lenček

## Slovenec iz generacije, ki je prestopila v svet brez značilnih manjvrednostnih kompleksov

ALENKA PUHAR, Ljubljana

Profesor dr. Rado L. Lenček je slavist, primerjalni jezikoslovec in kulturni zgodovinar, ki je bil do leta 1992, ko se je upokojil, profesor za slovenske jezike na Columbia University v New Yorku. Večino svoje delovne dobe je prebil na tej znameniti ameriški univerzi in tam tudi odločilno sooblikoval slovenistiko — to je nekaj, česar prej v Ameriki oziroma angleško govorečem svetu sploh ni bilo. Predvsem na tem je utemeljeno letošnje priznanje ambasadorja znanosti, ki ga je dobil nedavno.

Vendar je v nasprotju z drugimi dobitniki (tega in prejšnjih let) Rado L. Lenček pri nas skoraj neznano ime, kar je mogoče ugotoviti po odsotnosti v priročnikih in podobnih publikacijah, pa celo po napakah. Začnimo z eno, objavljeno pred nekaj leti v tem istem časopisu (*op. ur. AD: Delo*). Samokritično moram, za uvod v pogovor, izdati, da se je stik med sogovorcema vzpostavljal pred leti in to po zaslugu zaniknosti, ki je terjala popravo.

V nekem spisu se mi je zapisalo Lado Lenček in ne Rado L. Lenček, kot bi bilo pravilno. Saj ne gre za to, da bi prevega ne bilo; oba za zelo bila (prvi je od leta 1993 pokojni), a prvi je bil duhovnik, drugi slavist, prvi je živel v Južni, drugi v Severni Ameriki. Oba sta bila — kar pomoto vsaj pojasni, če že ne opraviči — v slovenski zavesti in natisnjeni dokazih zanje skoraj popolnoma odsotna. Oba sta namreč od leta 1945 živela v tujini, tega pa tukajšnji Slovenci nis(m)o zlahka odpuščali.

Da je ime Rada Lenčeka razmeroma neznano, torej ni krična znanstvena zahtevnost njegovega dela — Slovenci se s svojimi slovničarji veliko ukvarjamamo — temveč posebnosti našega povojnega političnega razvoja, ki so omejevale tudi stike z znanstveniki.

### Pot v slavistiko ni bila naključna

Rado L. Lenček, ki se je rodil leta 1921 v Mirni na Dolenjskem, večino otroštva in mladosti pa preživel v Novem mestu in Ljubljani, sodi med tiste ljudi, ki so že v otroštvu vedeli, kaj bodo. Slavist in jezikoslovec je torej po prepričanju, z dušo, pa tudi profesor je od glave do peta.

Njegova pot v slavistiko in jezikoslovje torej ni bila na-



ključna, denimo v odsotnosti boljše ideje, vendar pa je na njej tudi nekaj drobnih malenkosti, ki so vredne kakšne besede.

Najljubljivejša ima podobo redke in pomembne knjige, ki je bila v družinski lasti: prva izdaja Kopitarjeve Grammatik der slavischen Sprache (1808), ki jo je oče nekoč prinesel iz zakotne vasi Krupa v Beli krajini in jo potem hraničil z ljubečim spoštovanjem. Za ljudi, ki so zaljubljeni v skrivnosti jezika in njegova pravila, je prva, sto let stara slovenska slovnica sama po sebi zaklad, ta pa je imela še dodaten čar, podpis lastnika: »Janko Lavrin, drugošolec«, je stalno v njej.

Rada Lenčeka ni vodila le v slovnico, temveč tudi k občudovanju Janka Lavrina, svetovljana, ki je v angleškem svetu širil slovenska obzorja: »Lavrin je bil my obsession. Ko sem se odločil za psevdonimi, sem postal Riko Lavrin,« pravi danes in s tem poleg poklona pokojnemu Lavrinu ponuja še ilustracijo za *code switching* med ameriškimi Slovenci (ali slovenskimi Američani), ki bi lahko nastopal v knjigi *Half pa pu Nade Šabec*.

Njegovih službovanj je bilo veliko in bila so raznovrstna, v skladu s pisanostjo usod, ki so jih bili deležni tisti slovenski izobraženci, ki so po drugi svetovni vojni odšli na tuje. Po študiju slavistike in etnologije na ljubljanski univerzi (1940–1944), kjer so ga oblikovali Rajko Nahtigal, Fran Ramovš, France Kidrič in Rajko Ložar, je odšel v Gorico, kjer je učil na nemško-slovenski gimnaziji.

### Joseph L. FORTUNA

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**V BLAG SPOMIN**  
moje ljubljene mame  
**MARIAN DEBEVC**  
ki me je nenadoma  
zapustila 19. julija 1963.  
32 let je že, odkar  
si me zapustila,  
nepozabljena mama.  
Hčerka — Julia Grabelšek  
Madison, Ohio, 20. julija 1995.

## Že dan se je prevesil...

NEW YORK, NY - To je tisti čas po skrivnosti polni kresni noči, ko so naši predniki na Slovenskem verovali v moč praprotnega semena. To je čas, ko v deželi pod Triglavom borovnice dozore in so sladke. To je tisti čas, ko se tam ječenova žetev skončava in psečina začenja.

To je tisti čas, ko tam na Slovenskem in tu na Njujorku se nam svetel dan začne krajsati in ko se nam vročina in soparica veča.

Spremembe v naravi, spremembe v človekovem življenju. Kako bi mogli ob vsem tem pričakovati, da ne bi bilo v tem času nobenih sprememb pri Sv. Cirilu na Osmi? Letos je šel na župnik p. Krizolog v zadnjih pomladnih tednih na Slovensko, vrnil pa se je v prvem pasjem času. Pater Kalist je prišel iz Chicaga za te tedne spet med nas, koder nam je nekaj let župnikoval.

Med nami je bil torej v času, ko se nam še tista vrsta stalnih »nedeljnikov« sv. Cirila skrči, ko so nedelje tihih maš. Bilo pa je tako v teh nedeljah, da so naše manjkajoče svetocirilske farane nadomestovali obiskovalci iz Slovenije; da je naša Ozana Stojanovič nadomestila pri orglah Nejceta Zupana. Ozana je tudi dobra pevka in tako je nadomestila naše pevce. P. Kalist pa je dober in čustven pridigar in tako smo imeli v teh nedeljah tudi bogate Gospodove daritve.

Njuprški slovenski farani sv. Cirila se smrti korajnici upiramemo že kar četrto stoletja, čeprav se nam srenja manjša. Veča se sicer z novimi prišleki, vendar so redki od njih stalni

obiskovalci fare.

Ko to pišem je p. Kalist odšel nazaj v Chicago in je med nami zopet p. Krizolog.

Novinarji in uredniki, tako tudi urednik julijske Ave Maria, so poimenovali te vroče in soparne dneve za čas »kislh kumaric«, ko nimajo kaj in ne vedo kaj pisati. Ameriška Domovina je spet prišla v New York. Pričakoval sem vsaj skromni zapis, kako je cleve-landski Korotan v junijskih dnevih prepeval na Slovenskem ob 50-letnici pokolov.

Ko ta kroniški zapis pravljam, in mi vročina ter vлага mučita živce, se spomnim tistih poletnih dni v zapori pred 50. leti na Miklošičevi v Ljubljani. O teh pasjih dneh se je spomnil tudi slovenist Janko Moder v razgovorih z novinarjem *Mladine*.

O tistih dnevih in nočeh bi tudi jaz lahko veliko pisal. O tem, kako takrat nismo imeli kaj jesti in smo kot sardine ležali po tleh. O tem, kako je noč jemala te »sardine« in jih požrla za zmeraj. Zadnje take nesrečne, odbrane za smrt v teh zaporih, so na dveh kamionih odpeljali v prvih urah 15. avgusta 1945.

A teh trpinov, pobitih, in pa tistih, ki so tudi do 12 let preživeli za zamrežnimi okni, se ob 50. obletnici »osvoboditev« in pokolov ne spomni nihče. Kot da to ni bilo trpljenje za svobodo naroda in človekovega duha. Vsaj za mene je moje čeprav nesrečno rojstvo v Ameriki pomenilo rešitev tega trpljenja po enem letu in tako sem se mogel vrniti v to mojo rojstno deželo, ZDA.

Tone Osovnik

sem prišel leta 1965, pa je bil zares challenge. V razmeroma kratkem času smo producirali 15 ali 16 doktoratov.

Ker je v tistem obdobju država te programe tudi finančno podpirala, da so se razširili na kakšnih deset univerz, so potrebovale ustrezne kadre. Ameriška slavistika se je tedaj res zelo razmahnila. Ker pa je bilo med slavisti tudi nekaj ljudi slovenskega rodu, se je prav kmalu oblikovala tudi tudi ameriška slovenistika, ki je prej sploh ni bilo. Kar je bilo, je bilo bolj izjema kot kaj drugega. V zadnjih dveh desetletjih pa je to postala trdna znanstvena disciplina.«

### Danes ima SSS tristo članov in članic

Za to, da je mednarodno slavistično obzorje začelo zajemat in razpoznavati tudi Slovence, je posebej zaslužno združenje Society for Slovene Studies. Prav Rado L. Lenček je dal leta 1973 pobudo za to strokovno društvo, bil dolgo njegov prvi predsednik in ga postavil na noge:

»Najprej so bili v njem zbrani predvsem slovenski visokošolski učitelji v Ameriki, denimo Viktor Antolin, Toussaint Hočvar, Bogdan C. Novak, John Arnež, saj je bil prvi mo

(dalje na str. 14)

## Dr. R. L. Lenček: Ambassador RSlovenije v znanosti

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

tiv vzpostaviti komunikacije med nami, nato širiti strokovo delo s srečanji in konferenci, končno pa tudi poskrbeti za natis znanstvenih in pojudnejših del.

Prvi dvajsetični so se nato pridružili še mlajši in v vse večjem številu tudi tisti, ki s Slovenijo nimajo družinske vezi, pač pa se ji posvečajo zgolj kot raziskovalnemu predmetu.« O teh zadnjih pač nekaj povedo že imena, ki se berejo čisto neslovensko, čeravno se njihovi lastniki posvečajo slovenistiki in to pogosto v najbolj eksotičnih segmentih (denimo dialektom v Reziji): Henry R. Cooper Jr., Kenneth E. Naylor, Thomas Butler, Tom M. S. Priestley ali Han Steenwijk.

»V teh triindvajsetih letih je šla SSS skozi tri faze razvoja — od etnično osredotočene znanstvene skupine slovenskih akademskih učiteljev v Ameriki do interetnične in nato internacionalne delovne skupine znanstvene orientacije. Imela je tri v tem pogledu oziroma po poreklu različne predsednice in ker so predaval na treh različnih univerzah, se je tudi sedež društva premikal, s tem pa se je tudi prenašalo zanimanje za Slovenijo iz ene zvezne države v drugo, se širilo in utrjevalo.

Danes ima SSS tristo članov in članic, že dolgo ni več samo ameriška organizacija, po bližni oceni pa je polovica članstva neslovenskega rodu. Po strokovnem profilu pa gre za jekoslovce, ekonomiste, zgodovinarje, literane zgodovinarje, geografe, muzikologe, pedagoge, antropologe...«

Rezultati so mnogoteri. V čisto konkretni obliki so vidni v šestnajstih letnikih revije *The Journal of Slovene Studies*, kjer je v angleščini natisnjena množica slovenističnih razprav; med njimi prevladujejo študije iz jezikoslovja, literature in kulture. O dosežkih po svoje, še bolj v živo pričajo tudi tuji udeleženci, ki se redno udeležujejo slavističnih znanstvenih konferenc — denimo nedavne ljubljanske o Brižinskih spomenikih. Ali pa te, ki se je pravkar končala, prav tako v Ljubljani, in je bila posvečena sonetu: na njej je nastopila tudi Lena M. Lenček, nagrajenčeva hčerka, ki nadaljuje družinsko tradicijo predanosti slavistiki.

Society for Slovene Studies je bila ves čas izrazito strokova, nepolitična (oziora ideolesko nevtralna) organizacija. Z drobnim popravkom — že v samem njenem obstoju je bil tudi kanček političnega:

»Bili smo ena prvih skupin, ki je izstopila iz skupne slovenske gmote, kjer se je, v najboljšem primeru, govorilo o južnih Slovanih ali jugoslovanstvu, ne pa o posameznih narodih, o njihovih razločnih kulturnih in posebnostih. Naš pravilnik, sprejet ob ustanovitvi, je postal nekakšen model za številna druga združenja, od hrvaškega do slovaškega.«

Toda če to društvo širi raziskovanje vsega, kar je slovensko, to ne pomeni, da širi slovenščino ali da bi kje v ozadju tičala sentimentalna misel o slovenskem jeziku, ki naj se ga sliši po svetu. Vse komunikacije in vsa strokovna dela so v angleščini (s tem da mnogi člani, tudi dr. Lenček, veliko objavljamajo tudi v nemščini), saj je prav v tem tudi vodilna ambicija: Širiti slovenistično znanje v angleško govorečem svetu, kar že dolgo ne pomeni le Severne Amerike in Velike Britanije, saj je angleščina postala lingua franca sodobnega sveta. Natanko take ambicije ima tudi ameriški del Slovenskega svetovnega kongresa, kjer je Rado Lenček zadnja leta posebej aktiven:

»Ne gre nam za to, da bi ohranjali jezik ‘starega kraja’ in njegove navade. Naše ambicije so usmerjene v to, da bi ljudem v jeziku, ki ga edino razumejo in ki je postal svetovni jezik, širili znanje o Sloveniji in s slovenskega zornega kota osvetljevali različne probleme — v zvezi z Italijo, denimo. Pri tem se seveda angažirajo predvsem intelektualci in to zlasti tisti, ki so Slovenijo zapustili v zadnji polovici stoletja. Med starejšimi za to ni nobenega zanimanja, kot sem osebno izkusil pred kratkim. Vabilo za aktivno sodelovanje pri tovrstnih projektih sem poslal desetim najmočnejšim ‘starim’ izseljenskim združenjem, pa ni bilo niti enega samesa odgovora.«

»Naš svet je bil univerzalen«

Rado L. Lenček je torej tiste vrste ameriški Slovenec (ali obratno), ki v ničemer ne ustrezta tukajšnjim predstavam. Slovenistika, ki jo je pomagal ustvariti, nima nič s potico in polko, pač pa z intelektualnim delom, opravljenim z upoštevanjem najvišjih svetovnih kriterijev.

»Naš svet je bil univerzalen in ne lokalnen, ker se je oblikoval na univerzah,« pove v obrazložitev prepade, ki loči njegovo generacijo o tistih preprostih kmetov brez zemlje, ki so pred stotimi leti odhajali čez lužo s trebuhom za

kruhom. V Lenčkovem pluralnem svetilju zaimku so zajeti tisti Slovenci, ki so ob odhodu v tujino ohranjali svoje ambicije in ki zaradi slovenstva niso imeli nobenih kompleksov. V njem so zajeti tisti, ki so kulturni šok sprejeli kot izviv, se prilagodili urbanemu svetovljanju in niso nikdar iskali utehe v poustvarjanju starovskega slovenstva.

To je čutiti tudi v njegovem odnosu do Slovenije in Ljubljane. Z veseljem pride v nekdanjo domovino, a njegovo mnenje o Ljubljani ni nostalgično tarnajoče, pač pa priznalno: »Moderno, dobro organizirano, čisto, dinamično mesto.« Risba, s katero je anonimnost hotelske sobe popestril njegov vnuk, se sklada s tem: na njej je concorde. V tej družini niso nadarjeni samo za slavistiko, ampak tudi za risanje.

*Delo, 5.VII.1995*

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### V BLAG SPOMIN

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NAŠEGA DOBREGA  
MOŽA, OCETA  
IN STAREGA OCETA**



**FRANK ZEVNIK st.  
ki je umrl 20. julija 1990**

*Počivaj v miru in večna Luč  
naj Ti sveti*

*Spi mirno v tihem grobu,  
Bog Ti večni daj pokoj.  
Upamo, da v svetem raju  
združimo se spet s Teboj.  
Pozabili Te ne bomo  
vse do konca naših dni,  
v srčih bomo Te nosili,  
dokler nam življenje tli.*

Žalujoči:

- Pavlina, žena
- Ann Hirselj in Rosemary Blatnik, hčerki
- Frank in Jože, sinova
- 8 vnukov
- snahi in zeta
- Ančka Zevnik, sestra, v Sloveniji

## Spominski simpozij v Tinjah



V petek, 30. junija, so se za ves dan v katoliškem domu prosvete v Tinjah zbrali nekdanji študentje-begunci, ki so študirali v povojučem času na fakultetah v Gradcu in živijo sedaj v različnih državah po svetu. Medse so povabili ugledne predavatelje Johna Cor-sellisa, grofa Nikolaja Tolstoya, nadškofa dr. Alojzija Ambrožiča in dr. Janeza Zdešarja, ki so spregovorili o dogajanjih med vojno in po vojni v Sloveniji in še posebej na Koroškem. Nekdanji »graški študentje« so v povojučih dneh doživljali hude preizkušnje, veliko lakote in pomanjkanja, pa vendar dosegli izjemne študijske uspehe in kasneje odlične službe, kjer so širili ugled našega naroda in si prizadevali za spoznavanje in širjenje resnice o revoluciji in državljanški vojni v Sloveniji med drugo svetovno vojno. Tinjsko srečanje je bilo prvo, kjer so se zbrali z vseh koncev sveta v tak velikem številu (preko sto). Ob koncu srečanja je nadškof Ambrožič blagoslovil posebno spominsko sobo škofa Gregorija Rožmana v novem delu Tinjskega doma.

F.P.

Družina, 9. julija 1995  
Spominskega simpozija v Tinjah se je udeležil kot poslušalec in opazovalec tudi urednik AD, to po zaslugu ge. Rozine Šventove, ki je bila v začetku junija na obisku v ZDA in to skupaj z bivšo predsednico Konference za Slovenijo Svetovnega slovenskega kongresa dr. Irene Mislejivo. Bilo je res izredno zanimivo. rms

## Povojni čas je bil čas mnogih krivic

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

Štajerskem tudi veliko Kočevarjev, ki so bili naseljeni na domove izseljenih Slovencev.

V številnih krajih so imeli domači oznovci neomejena pooblastila, to velja zlasti za prve povojne mesece, pozneje so se zadeve nekoliko pomirile.

V komisiji se ukvarjamо tudi s političnimi procesi, ki jih je bilo takrat zelo veliko, od preprostih glob do večletnih zapornih kazni, do odvzema političnih pravic in zaplemb premoženja ter do smrtnih kazni. Po teh procesih je bilo veliko ljudi tudi dejansko justificiranih.

Mnogi so bili takrat poslani na tako imenovano »družbeno koristno delo«, na katerega so bili obsojeni pogosto brez vsekega dokaza kakršnekoli krivde in tudi brez procesov. Znano je, da so tako preganjali npr. ljudi, ki so redno hodili v cerkev, cerkvene pevke in pevce ipd.

Stevilo teh kaznovancev je nemogoče ugotoviti; podobno je bilo tudi v času »informbiroja«. Sodišča so obravnavala prek 25.000 primerov, sem pa so vključeni tudi tisti, ki so dobili denarne kazni.

Zdaj preučujemo še mehanizme samih procesov, pogovarjamо se s tožilci takratnega časa, s sodniki, ugotoviti pa želimo predvsem to, kako je mogoče, da je prihajalo do tako malomarnega ugotavljanja krivde. Tu se srečujemo z zelo grobimi metodami nacionaizacije premoženja, z vpliv-

anjem na šolstvo in tisk, in seveda z nenehnimi pritiski na Cerkev, ki so jo na vse možne načine ovirali pri opravljanju njenega poslanstva.«

• Na komisiji ste se pogovarjali tudi s številnimi neposredno osumljenimi za obravnavna dejanja in z nekatrimi udeleženci. Ste morda med njimi imeli tudi koga, ki je prevzel nase odgovornost za očitne nepravilnosti?

»Imeli smo samo dva prima-funkcionarje Ozne, ki sta nekaj povedala o sebi. Vendar pa česa bistveno novega nista povedala. Najbolj odgovorni pa nočejo ničesar priznati in očitno lažijo, vendar proti njim ne moremo ničesar ukreniti.«

O tem lahko rečem naslednje: splošno navodilo, ki je verjetno prišlo od Tita, se je izvajalo v Sloveniji. Tu so verjetno izdelali posebna navodila, kako je bilo treba ravnati. Menda so bila le nekatera ustna posvetovanja, pisnih dokazov o tem pa ni na voljo. Nedvomno pa je odgovornost tudi pri visokih slovenskih funkcionarjih, ne za samo idejo, temveč za njeno izvajanje.

Pri zaslišanjih teh visokih funkcionarjev pa je zaznati, da smatrajo to za šikano, da proti temu protestirajo, kot da je bilo vse v najlepšem redu. Občutek imam, da nihče ne obžaluje ničesar. Kvečemu da reče, da je bilo vse skupaj malo pretredo.«

Rodna gruda  
maj 1995

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