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AMERICAN HOME

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, MAY 4, 2006

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70¢

Slovenian students protest fees

LJUBLJANA, April 24 – About 10,000 students rallied Wednesday in downtown Ljubljana, demanding the government abandon plans for education reform that would include introducing university fees.

The students, carrying banners, protested in Congress Square, just 200 meters from parliament.

On March 28, student groups asked the center-right government to abandon the idea of introducing fees for university education, as well as to provide 20,000 more student-living scholarships each year, free student transportation and more state-funded housing.

University attendance is high in Slovenia, with some 30,000 students among the country's 2 million population.

Prime Minister Janez Jansa's government so far hasn't responded to the students' demands, but has said the education changes were part of wider economic reforms, which have yet to be clearly defined, but which could include a new flat tax.

Slovenia, which joined the European Union in 2004, has a healthy economy with 4% growth. Jansa has said, however, he wants to improve it further and make it competitive with Western European markets.

After Jansa announced the reform plans, some 20,000 workers protested in November in the biggest anti-government demonstration since Slovenia's independence in 1991.

--Phil Hrvatin



St. Mary (Holmes Ave.) Slovenian School students await their cue to join the Palm Sunday procession into the church.

(Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

New Subscriber Campaign

Put a NEW subscription to the American Home (Ameriška Domovina) newspaper on your spring "to do" list. Our usual anonymous donor will pay \$15.00 for each NEW subscriber to American Home (up to 35). This paper will kick in \$5.00 which means it will cost only \$15.00 for each NEW one year subscription.

Read all about your Slovenian heritage, plus activities in the Slovenian communities in the United States and Canada. This also makes an excellent gift because the recipient will remember your thoughtfulness each time this paper arrives.

Send \$15.00 check along with the name and complete address of the person who will receive the paper, to American Home, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.



Euclid police salute Victor Stepec

Left to right, Euclid Police Capt. Ralph Doles, Ursula Stepec, Euclid Police Chief David Maine, and Jail Warden Jan Clinton.

At the April 17 Euclid City Council Meeting, Victor Stepec was honored as "The Euclid Police Department Employee of the Year for 2005." Congratulations, Vic! – Vic is the son of Ursula and the late Cyril Stepec of Euclid, Ohio. He is an active member of St. Mary's Parish (Coll.) and is currently the Operations Commander at The Euclid City Jail. He has been employed with The City of Euclid Police Department for 23 years.

Slovenian Pride Can Have Its Limits

I was born in Cleveland and lived on the near North-east Side until age 19. My dad was born in Slovenia, leaving there at about age 10, never to return. He maintained a fierce pride in his ethnic heritage and worked hard to instill it in me. He provided examples of why I should be proud, including that: Slovenians were smarter, worked harder, and were more accomplished than other Yugoslav-heritage groups. As a child I had no basis for questioning what dad told me.

He often told the story of a soldier sticking the bayonet of his gun into the door of dad's humble farm house and then stealing their cow. I won't name the ethnic heritage of the soldier that dad mentioned. As a result, for much of my early years, I presumed that all persons of that heritage were terrible people. As an adult I became friends with some persons of that heritage. They never gave me reason to fear that, given the opportunity, they would steal my cow... if I had one.

Notwithstanding problems regarding the accuracy of my dad's anecdotes and claims, I developed my own reasons for my own Slovenian pride. One reason is that I can't recall reading of a person with a Slovene name ever being involved in a major

crime or public scandal in the Cleveland area while I lived there. A second reason

was that all the Slovene heritage public figures of which I knew, such as Frank Lausche and Edward Pucel, were capable and honest. A third reason was that the Slovene polka musicians were the best. As I have grown in age and wisdom, it has become clear that not all Slovenes were free of faults, including alcoholism, spousal abuse and plan old orneriness and spitefulness. Further, back in the "old

country," there were plenty of Slovene Communists that committed heinous crimes.

I left Cleveland in the late 1960s and have been out of contact with the main stream of Slovene culture life, including contemporary Slovene-American writers. A few years ago I did become aware of a detective novel series (written by a non-Slovene) whose lead character was a Cleveland area Slovene-American private investigator. While I began reading the books with a

(Continued on page 2)



St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian School students act out the "Passion of Jesus Christ" during the gospel on Palm Sunday April 9, in the church. (Mel Gibson, eat your heart out.) At left, St. Mary pastor, Rev. John Kumse, listens intently.

(Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

AMERICAN HOME AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

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No. 14 May 4, 2006

I Can Walk Again Without the Pain

by RUDY FLIS

Ten months past, I had my two knees replaced. They hurt so bad, that if it were necessary, I'd have had three knees replaced. That's memory, and it isn't hurting me anymore. Two weeks ago, I golfed for the first time in two years, and today I walked three miles in the Multiple Sclerosis walk, sponsored by my daughter Mary's company.

I have a customer who has kept an eye on my progress. Last week he told me I've almost got him convinced to get his bad knee taken care of. I encourage him to do it now, because now I wake up every morning, and I walk through my day without any pain in my knees. There is yet a numbness in my knees, but not pain. I can't kneel, but there is no pain. there's some things I can't do, although I can't think of too many right now. Life goes on, without pain. Thank you, Lord.

I walk as I walked in high school, before I messed my knee in basic training. I don't know where my knees are now, but I don't miss them, and I don't need them, as I don't have the pain and don't miss the pain. It looks like I

am going to live until I die, without pain. Old age has just gotten easier.

I don't like hospitals; I don't like operations and I don't like scars. I like getting out of bed painless, so I may better enjoy God's creation. If I have to stay in a hospital, be operated on, get a scar, and suffer for a few weeks of discomfort, it's worth it to be a stranger to pain.

This October, I will walk my youngest daughter down the aisle at her wedding Mass. There are many times I wondered if I would be there, or if I'd be able to walk at all. I don't like pain and I don't like suffering. If a doctor tells me he can fix my problem, and that I will have health and mobility, then let him practice his trade and let me be well.

I have been blessed with talented doctors and surgeons and nurses, and I have never stopped my therapy which goes back more than 19 years for my heart, and twice a day therapy since I came home with my new knees.

If, when at the pearly gates, I don't have all my original parts, I won't have all those wrinkles because of the pain I didn't have. That's heaven.

Slovenian pride... (Continued from page 1)

considerable measure of pride, I found that they followed a predictable story line and the personal behavior of the lead character was poor and embarrassed me. I stopped reading the books and even wrote a highly critical review of one of them for the Slovenian Women's Union *Zarja* magazine.

The most recent injury to my Slovenian pride came as a product of my Terselic family genealogy studies. I came into contact with three other families in America sharing the same name spelling – or with a “h” on the end. One of those families lives in central Illinois. A member of that family recently wrote a novel that refers back to his life in the Slovenian community in which he grew up. The main theme of the novel, whose title I will not divulge for fear of assisting sales, centers on a dark event involving a family member. While that event didn't bother me, the author gratuitously included numerous sexually-oriented anecdotes that probably did not happen, and added nothing to the story. Some of those anecdotes are downright disgusting. I know the author personally and have communicated my criticisms to him. However, he is unapologetic and defends the inclusion of the – steamy content as simply a normal component of modern literature.

While I still retain the robust Slovenian pride conveyed to me by my dad, it has become clear to me that we are

not a perfect group and that I have been fortunate in having lived so long without becoming aware of more bad behavior by persons of Slovene heritage... that dad failed to share with me.

--Richard A. Terselic
Urbana, MD

St. Mary's Concerts

On Tuesday, May 9th, the Goriski Oktet, *Vrtnica*, will perform in St. Mary's Church (Holmes Ave.) at 7 p.m.

This group comes from Nova Gorica, Slovenia and is being sponsored by the Cleveland Primorski Club.

A free-will offering will be taken in the church.

A reception will follow in the parish hall.

Everyone is most welcome to attend.

* * *

On Saturday, May 27, Igor and Ansambel Zlati Zvon-ski will perform in the St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) parish hall.

Doors open at 6 p.m. There will be food and refreshments available throughout the evening.

Donation is \$10 per person.

Everyone welcome.

Strudels

St. Mary's parish (Holmes Ave.) is offering homemade apple, cherry and cheese strudels for sale. Donation is \$7.50 for apple and cherry, and \$8 for cheese.

Call the rectory office to place your orders at (216) 761-7740.

St. Mary's Slovenian School Mother's Day Celebration

The St. Mary's (Coll.) Slovenian School invites all mothers to their annual Mother's Day program. It will start shortly after the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 21 in the St. Mary's Parish Hall.

As usual, the fathers of the Slovenian school will serve a delicious breakfast for everyone after the program.

Come and honor our mothers and enjoy the work and efforts of our Slovenian school students.

All Invited to Holmes Pensioners Dinner-Dance

The Holmes Avenue Pensioners Club invites all to their annual dinner-dance on Sunday, May 7 at the Col-linwood Slovenian Home on Holmes Ave., Cleveland.

Dinner will be served at 2 p.m. by Linda Plečnik.

Forget all your aches, pains, and troubles; come out and have fun with all recycled teenagers and dance or listen to Ray Polantz Orchestra from 3 – 7 p.m.

For tickets call 440 943-3784. Donation is only \$18.00.

Keep smiling and laughter is good.

--Matt Zabukovec

Krofe Sale

St. Vitus Altar Society will hold a krofe and noodles sale on Saturday, May 13 in the auditorium social room.

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

The “New” Immigrants

By the time you read this, you may have a clearer opinion on what our country should do about the “new” immigrants. You read about it in the written media, you hear it on the radio and you see it on TV. You can't even escape it as you go to church and it is made a part of a sermon. If you are lucky, you may even hear the new version of the U.S national anthem...sung in Spanish. The pressure is on all of us to decide how we personally feel. The squeeze is on. The European countries have Moslems and associated problems and we have Mexicans. I AM NOT UPSET WITH THE LEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND I WELCOME THEM WITH OPEN ARMS ... BUT I PERSONALLY DETEST BEIGN BLACKMAILED AND BOYCOTTED BY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO ARE IN FACT CRIMINALS BY COMING ACROSS U.S BORDERS ILLEGALLY. All of us, unless we are part American Indians, are somehow related to an immigrant family / individuals who probably came to the shores of America as legal immigrants. We obeyed the law, attended school, learned the English language, worked hard to achieve the American dream, fought and died for our new country and paid taxes. The same cannot be said of the illegal immigrants. The “Great American Boycott”, that was to occur this past Monday, was to raise awareness of the need for reform of the immigration laws. In my humble opinion, it did more damage than good for the reform. Since I personally do not have to be politically correct and agree with something that is being forced down my throat, I can have my own opinion on where all of this is leading our nation. It is time to make a decision on how illegal immigration will be handled and the laws respected. If you have an opposing view, let's hear it.

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Joyce Hribar Fiebig distributes dictionaries at Thomas Jefferson School in Euclid, Ohio.



Students hold their dictionaries high in celebration of their ownership of the informative books.

Euclid Rotary Club distributes dictionaries to 3rd grade students

The Euclid Rotary Club recently completed delivery of a dictionary to each third grade student in Euclid Elementary School System. Rotary President Joyce Hribar Fiebig led the team in delivering to each of Euclid's Elementary schools. The students were most thankful for "My very own dictionary which I may take home as my very own."

In addition to dictionary, added features to the books include a history of each state; a list of all U.S. Presidents and a copy of the U.S. Constitution, and other information.

Also helping in this endeavor was John Telich, Senior, a Rotarian since 1975. He said, "This project is one of the most worthwhile services we've ever rendered." Over 500 dictionaries were given.

Ohio Slovenian Genealogists Meet

The Ohio Chapter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society International will meet on Tuesday, May 9, at 7 p.m. in Recher Hall, 20713 Recher Avenue off E. 200th St., in Euclid, Ohio. Dr. Judy Cetina, Director of the Cuyahoga County Archives, will be the guest speaker. Her topic, The Naturalization Process, will give insight into the steps our forefathers had to take to become American citizens as well as

provide possible new sources of information for the Slovenian genealogy researcher.

Anyone interested in Slovenian ancestry is invited to attend. Future 2006 meetings will be held on Sept. 12 and Nov. 14. If you need directions to Recher Hall or have any further questions, please contact Rose Marie Jisa at 440-230-2251.

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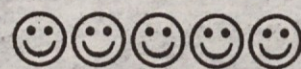
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HAPpy

News



Holmes Ave. Hall was buzzing with 160 HAPpy "Recycled Teenagers" April 12, all glad that nicer weather is finally here.

We always start on a sad note, remembering dear departed members and friends. Silent prayers were offered for Frances Nemanich, Tony Princic, Ann Smekal, (sister of Ed Morel) and Albina Zimmerman. May they rest in peace. Our sympathy to the grieving families.

Cheery cards were sent to Marion Bocian, Elsie Cesen, Joe Droblich, Fran Kajfez, Vickie Kozel, Dorothy Kravos, Josephine Rotter, Frances Simoncic, Ann Zgonc, and Mary Zimperman. Boy, was Ann Eichler busy... Glad to see Fran and Mary back with us, feeling so much better. Keep taking those vitamins!

A whopping \$8.50 was collected by Matt Kajfez. Keep forgetting those badges; all those quarters buy more goodies....

Reminder: Amish trip money is due by May 10. Fran Kajfez is working on a 4-day, 3-nite trip in September, in the Poconos area near Scranton, PA. More details next meeting. The Greentown trip was very nice, and lucky for some. Thank you, Fran!

Warm welcome to new member Marge Vargo. Glad you are one of us now!

Happy Birthday was sung to 20 members. Anne Orlikowski celebrated a very special 97th! The lady is spry and active, and still drives everywhere! What an ideal; God bless her.

Happy Anniversary wishes go to Marge and Al Mierke, 40 yrs; and Mary and Don Zimperman, 55 yrs. Many happy returns to all!

SHA Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following residents of the Slovene Home for the Aged on Neff Rd., in Cleveland, who were born in the month of May:

5-05 - Marjorie Cvar, age 90, born in Cleveland.

5-07 - Valerie Katai, 89, born in Cleveland

5-07 - Ann Luzar, 92, born in Minnesota

5-08 - Louise Jagodnik, 79, born in Cleveland

5-09 - John Bencin, 87, born in Cleveland

5-11 - Leo Pedry, 84, born in Urichsville, Ohio

5-12 - Alice Nohava, 94, born in Pennsylvania

5-15 - Mary Cerny, 86, born in Cleveland

5-20 - Vlada Abraitis, 98, born in Lithuania

5-22 - Margaret Pohl, 92, born in Dayton, Ohio

5-25 - Josephine Doljac, 90, born in Cleveland

5-26 - Anne Brewster, 93, born in Cleveland

5-28 - Edward Terlep, 81, born in Cleveland

5-29 - Lydia Murch, 75, born in Cleveland

5-30 - Peter Sloe, 88, born in Cleveland.

Myra Jerkic, with help from Marie Dular, led another successful 50/50 raffle; thank you, ladies! Myra still needs help for November and December; sign up now and avoid the holiday rush... It's fun handing out money to happy winners!

Many thanks to Ruth and Ed Morel and crew, for the tasty Italian sausage lunch. Waterloo isn't the only hall to have "kitchen angels"! Don't forget: May is pastry month, so bring in your specialty and delight everyone.

A nice group went to Slovene Home (it REALLY sounds better "Slovenian") on Neff Rd. after the meeting, to sing and entertain the residents. Kathy Hlad, Kenny Zalar, Bill Zabukovec, and Joey Zgonc provided the instrumental music. What an appreciative audience! They sing right along, too.

Wonder who will be in the Talent Show in September, 2006? We have so many gifted members. If YOU are one of them, sign up with Myra Jerkic. It should be lots of fun.

We will also hear Mike Polensek, councilman of Ward 11, speak on neighborhood concerns at our May 8, 2006 meeting.

May 7 is our Dinner Dance, \$18.00 pp. Doors will open at 1, and sit-down dinner will be served at 2PM. Music for your listening and dancing pleasure by Ray Polantz, from 3-7 PM.

Come one, come all!

R. Stiltzkin



I've got all the money I'll ever need; if I die by 4 this afternoon.

-Henny Youngman.

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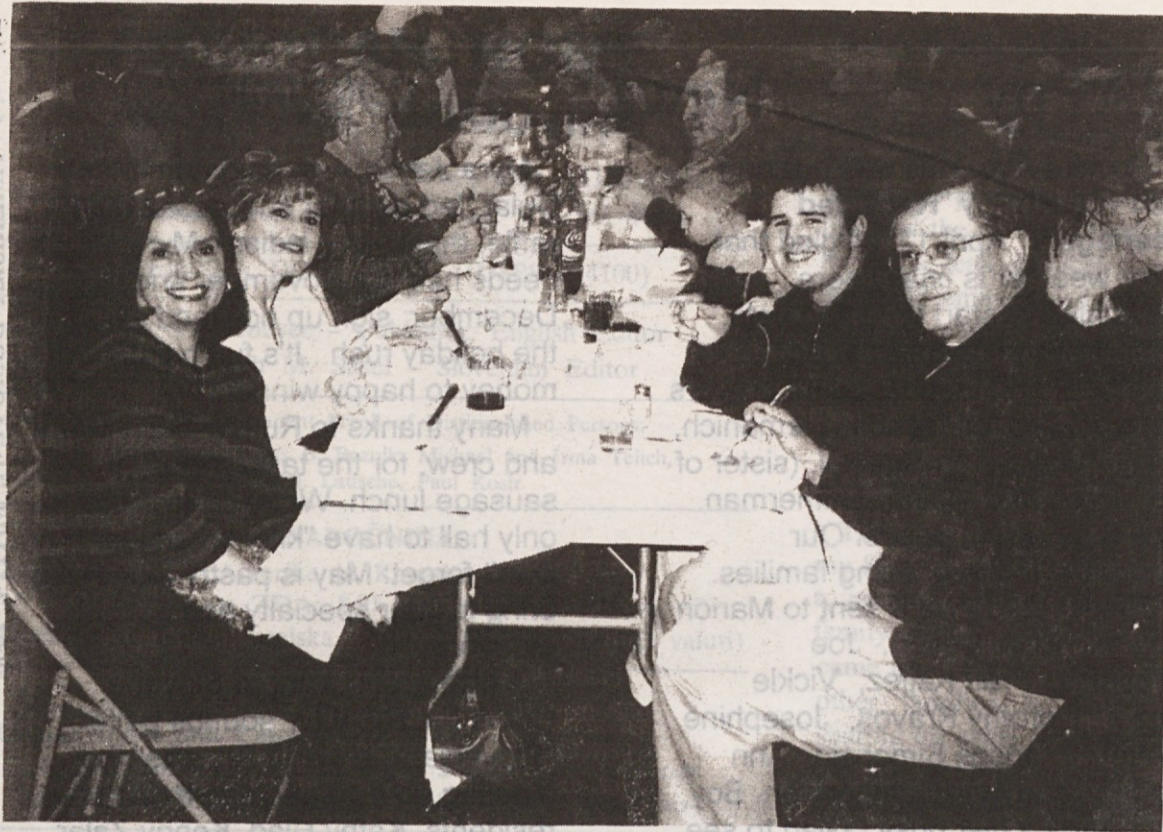
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Many of the 200 attendees enjoyed the appreciation dinner and company. On the left side, starting at the bottom of the photo are Anne Zakelj, JoAnne Celestina and John Srsen. On the right side, starting at the bottom are John Zakelj, (Anne's husband), Richie Celestina, Jonathan, Mark (Jr.), and Mark Celestina (Jo Anne's husband).

500 Served at St. Vitus Dinner

The combined efforts of St. Vitus Altar and Rosary Society, St. Vitus Holy Name Society, St. Vitus Lodge #25 KSKJ, and parish families, participating in the parish scholarship program, enabled approximately 500 sit-down and take-out dinners to be served on Palm Sunday, April 9, in the parish auditorium.

The serving of boneless breaded chicken or pork roast with Slovenian style home-made soup with all the trimmings, left everyone with a smile on their faces. The friendly company and conversations as well as the prompt and warm service of the many volunteers left parishioners and supporters pleased that this type of parish endeavor is still being performed by this city-based parish that will observe its 113th year as a parish in 2006.

The net proceeds of the Palm Sunday benefit dinner will be used to pay down a bank loan that has a current outstanding balance of less than \$200,000. The entire parish capital improvement

project to replace the church and rectory clay tile roofs, in addition to other interior and exterior work of the church and rectory, cost a bit more than \$1.73 million.

Included in this expense is improvement work performed in and around the former parish elementary school building and parish auditorium for primarily the benefit of the new high school that leases the two buildings from the parish. These expenses as of Dec. 31, 2005 have cost a bit more than \$185,000. The incurred expenses for this work again demonstrate the parish's continuous work toward the opportunity of education. When the parish elementary school was in operation, approximately \$2 million was spent during its last decade of existence (1992-2002) to serve what was then the fourth highest level of poverty for households for elementary Catholic schools in the Cleveland area, serving families who were predominantly poor.

The matching grant funds portion to be provided to St.

Vitus Lodge #25 KSKJ from the national KSKJ home office from this benefit dinner will be used to support the current capital improvements work for a parking lot for the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue, in Cleveland. The parish is pleased to be able to assist this local institution.

A final note of thanks to the many parishioners who volunteered at this parish event and made possible a successful undertaking. Our thanks especially to head Cook Linda Plečnik, who took the time to order, prepare, and perform many countless tasks for this dinner. And thank you again to the organizations who participated in this endeavor, and supporters who came to the dinner, and the news outlets of American Home, Tony Petkovsek, Jr. (WELW-1330 AM), Tony Ovsenik (90.3 FM), and Friends of Slovenia Hour (WCSU-FM) for promoting this event.

--Stane Kuhar
Parish Finance Director

Palm Sunday Benefit Dinner a Big Success

The three St. Vitus parish organizations, Altar Society, Holy Name Society, and St. Vitus KSKJ Lodge #25 wish to thank Mrs. Linda Plečnik, the head cook, and all the many helpers who set up, prepared and served 490 dinners on Palm Sunday, April 9. The cooperation was outstanding and so was the food.

The net profit was approximately \$4,350 and is intended for the St. Vitus Roof Replacement Project.

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Fake Texans Joke

Bubba Wayne and Billy Bob, who are both from Oklahoma, traveled to Lewisville, Texas for a vacation.

While walking along a busy downtown street, they see a sign in a store window which reads, "Suits \$5.00 each, Shirts \$2.00 each, and Trousers \$2.50 a pair."

Bubba Wayne says, "Woo Hoo, Billy Bob. We could buy a whole gob of these clothes, take 'em back to Enid, sell 'em to all our friends and make a fortune."

Bubba Wayne continues, "Now when we go in there, don't you say a word. Just let me do the talkin' cause if they hear your Okie accent, they might think we're ignorant, and they won't wanna sell them clothes to us. Now,

I'll talk in a slow, fake Texan drawl so's they won't know."

They go in and Bubba Wayne says with his best fake Texan drawl, "I'll take 50 of them thar suits at \$5.00 each, 100 of them thar shirts at \$2.00 each, and 50 pair of them thar trousers at \$2.50 each. I'll just back up my pickup and..."

"The store owner interrupts and says, "Ya'll from Oklahoma, ain't cha?"

"Well... yeah," says a surprised Bubba Wayne. "How come you known that?"

"The owner replies, "Cause this here's a dry cleaners."

--Joe Snyder and
Ray Mlakar



Ashley Russ and Kristy Zivkovich play button box selections on Sunday, April 2 at the Super Button Box Bash 24 in Slovenian Society Home in Euclid, Ohio.

(Photo by TONY GRDINA)

Mlakar Under Weather

Ray Mlakar will not have a column this week because of illness.

Slovenian Society Home
(Recher Hall)

Fish Fries

11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

**Fish, Shrimp,
Pork Chops, and
Goulash Dinners**

JELLO SHOTS

1 (3 oz.) pkg. Jello (any flavor)

1 cup boiling water

1 cup schnapps or ½ cup liqueur of choice with ½ cup cold water

Dissolve Jello in boiling water, add schnapps or liqueur with water. Divide into 1 ounce soufflé cups. Chill and set.

--Emilee Jenko
Euclid, OH

Short Notes from Emilee

by EMILEE JENKO

I hope you voted on May 2nd.

Talk about togetherness, KSKJ Lodge #25 and St. Vitus Altar Society and Holy Name Society combined for a benefit dinner on Palm Sunday, April 9 in St. Martin de Porres auditorium. Linda Plečnik and her able crew did the catering. Very well attended.

Big day for Dale Bucar, host of Sunday radio show on WELW. It's his birthday. Many happy returns. May 22nd is the big day.

Rest in peace... Irene Toth, President of the Catholic War Vets Ladies Auxiliary and Sunshine Lady for the St. Clair Pensioners. Golub Funeral Home handled the arrangements. Services were at St. Andrew's Church, Superior and East 55th Street. God be with you.

May birthdays: Marie Orazem, Ray Novak, Shelli March, Gladys Luzar (Venice, FL), Betty Kazen, 53rd anniversary of Ken and Anne Tomsick. Best wishes to all.

A trip to see the Legacy of Euclid Avenue, Millionaires Row exhibit) will be taken on May 11 with members of SANAG (Slovenian Ameri-

can National Art Guild). It will be a delightful tour. I'll be going, so I'll give you a play by play description.

Blessed Communion wishes to Michael Joseph Mihelich, son of Anthony & Christy; grandparents Wayne and Francine Snyder, and Anthony and Dolores Mihelich and sister Elizabeth will join in the celebration. God bless.

Blessed Communion wishes to Taylor McGinnis, who resides in Wisconsin with her mom and dad Gina Skorich McGinnis and Frank McGinnis. Brian, her brother, will join in. Grandparents here in Cleveland are Bill and Marie Azman. Far away wishes from Cleveland to you.

The electric voting devices on May 2 were a bit tricky.

Congratulations to Edmund Turk who was named Latin Man of the Year, Class of 1943. Many years in our midst and a very helpful person when needed. Way to go, Ed.

Anna Lunder and Julia Floria have returned home from a very delightful trip to Australia. Welcome home. Let us know all about "down under."

A few quick jokes that were given to me.

Why did the rooster run away? ... He was chicken.

Why do chicks talk a lot? ... Because talk is cheap.

Is it true that chicken soup is good for your health?... Not if you're the chicken.

What do you call a frightened scuba diver?... Chicken of the sea.

Eyes of Love

You look at me with eyes of love;

You never hold a grudge.

You think I'm far too wonderful

To criticize or judge.

--Emilee Jenko

* * *

Happy Springtime to all.

April birthday wishes to Fran Kikel, James Logar, Marie Kotar, Nancy Slapnik, and Marcie Mills.

Get well wishes to Professor Edi Gobetz. He had surgery and will be convalescing at his home with the tender, loving care of his wife, Milena. See you soon.

You gotta listen to T.P.'s radio program every day from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. The opening song by Wojtila and Christine Hibbs is a show stopper. I love it and so will you.

More get well wishes: Eleanor Rasper, Lil Ribarich, Ed Arhar, Marcie Mills, Estelle Hickman, Jean Kuhar Jan Telich. Keep them in your prayers. I've been watching the series 6th Heaven for quite some time. It is such a "down to earth" show. It depicts all in every day life, the ups and downs, bitter and sweet. It is going off the cable after so many seasons. It will be missed, but everyone on the show is getting older and going their own way. Sorry you missed it.

Deepest sympathies to the family of Phil Ribarich who passed away this past month. Our condolences to his wife, Lillian and children. Arrangements were by Zele Funeral Home. He was a member of the St. Clair Pensioners. Services were at St. Vitus Church. God be with you.

Zarja's spring fling this year is titled, "And Justice for All." Tickets were \$22. The performance was on Saturday, April 29 with dinner from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the lower hall of the Slovenian Society Home on Recher Avenue in Euclid, Ohio.

Jeff Pecon's Orchestra provided the dance music.

What a congenial and friendly party was held at Sterle's Country House restaurant for "Sister Rosemary Hocevar's 50th Jubilee" given by family, mom Terri, brother Larry and sisters Joanne and Kathy. Nice meeting Joanne and Kathy, heard so much about them and finally met them face to face as they reside out-of-town. Lovely, beautiful gals and so into giving a great party. Not a thing missed. Joe Kocab from Karlin Hall and of radio fame was in attendance. He approached me and introduced himself as one reporter to another. He said he had to meet the gal that dishes out the info for the Ameriška Domovina. How gracious he is. Thanks, Joe, for taking the time to talk to me, I enjoyed it very much.

Met Joe and Audrey Kuhar friends of Tony and Mitzi Bostjancic (long time neighbors of mine). Audrey, Joe, Mitzie and Tony belonged to the Copain Club and they were nice to say hello to a stranger, but we are no longer strangers. Tony and Mitzie have long passed away. It was nice to be remembered. Also sat across from Ron, Marian and Kathleen Turaski (Primosch), long-time neighbors of the Hocevars. They traveled all the way from Atlanta, GA to attend this very happy affair.

What a fun group they are. Terri mentioned that Rita Schambaugh was also in attendance. Didn't get a chance to say hi... what a pity. Also, attending the festivities were Bishop A. Edward Pevec, Father Hayes, Father Godic, Father Cimperman, and Father Murphy. My dinner companions were Molly Strungie and Rose Zalneratis with daughter Irene.

Had a few words with Dolores Mlachak, friend and relative of Gene Drobnic. She was glad I hunted her down. We chatted a bit and she said she would write to Gene in Florida that we met at this wonderful affair.

The beautifully and elegantly decorated cake was fashioned by Sophie Mazi of Sophie's Catering. It was a sight to behold, but no more than expected by the cake expert, Sophie Mazi. Zivio.

God bless Sister Rosemary and family for inviting me to this auspicious time in her life. I will never forget it and neither will all your friends and family. God bless.

George Knaus and his brother-in-law Joe Petrich, will celebrate their 92nd birthdays at Euclid Slove-



Left to right, mother Terri Hocevar, Sister Joanne, and Sister Rosemary.

(Photo by EMILEE)

nian Hall on Recher Avenue in May. Admission is \$1. All are invited.

Till next time:

The best and most beautiful things cannot be seen or even touch. They must be felt with the heart.

Until next time, *adios*.

Let me leave you with this thought:

Education is what you get when you read the fine print.

Experience is what you get when you don't read the fine

print.

LUV YOU ALWAYS

Seasonal Joke

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why," they asked. "Because, I can't stand chess-nuts boasting in an open foyer."

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Illegal Immigrants are off base

by MARY GRABAR

In the northern suburbs of Atlanta (GA), just inside Interstate 285, formerly middle-class shopping centers house businesses whose signs read in languages other than English. Some are Korean, Chinese, or Vietnamese, but the dominant language is Spanish. In the Chamblee-Doraville area a special bus service unloads passengers coming from Mexico; family members wait in the parking lot crowded with cars and trucks. On a Saturday night Mexican men in jeans and t-shirts and women pushing strollers maneuver six-lane highways on foot. Just before dusk, the area with apartment complexes and businesses surrounding the northernmost rail transit station is bustling with activity. Getting lost there on a way to a friend's party, I felt like I had driven into a foreign land. I could not read the signs.

This, I think, is what it must have felt like for my parents when they first arrived in this country. Certainly, no one translated signs into Slovenian for them or gave them government documents in their language. But today, Spanish-speaking immigrants to Georgia expect to earn high school diplomas by taking the exams in Spanish. Billboards in Georgia advertise government services (welfare) in Spanish that have been available to illegal aliens.

I sometimes tell people that I am an immigrant. They are surprised because I don't have an accent (I came here as a two-year-old). I hold a Ph.D. in English. But as an immigrant, I did not have access to any of the special grants and scholarships available to those who look different from the American of European descent. I have witnessed the imposition of "multicultural" curriculums that have dealt only with cultures of those of different hues of skin tone: to put it crudely, the red (Native American), yellow (Asian), black (African-American) and (brown) Hispanics. Multiculturalism does not include Eastern European cultures.

My parents were part of a later, large wave of immigrants from Slovenia. They arrived in Rochester, New York in 1959; after spending some months in an Austrian camp, after escaping over the border by fording a river in the middle of the night. The story sounds similar to that of today's Mexicans at this point. But my parents had a sponsor: my father's brother.

He and my aunt had spent four years in an Austrian refugee camp. My uncle in turn had been sponsored by a stranger who became a close friend of the family, Irena. Irena had arrived on these shores after spending a year in an Austrian camp. For her it was a matter of life and death because she had been working as a nurse for the Domobranci, the Home Guard, who were resistance fighters to the Partisans during World War II. The Partisans had outlawed religion and it was while Irena was attending Mass in the cover of night that she was warned that the Partisans were out to kill her.

I grew up listening to high school teachers tell me how "privileged" I was simply because I was white. These were the teachers whose mothers had probably hired those like my mother to clean their houses. As a little girl, I accompanied my mother on her housecleaning jobs. When she went to work at the clothing factory, I was left to clean her house and take on her duties. I cleaned neighbors' houses before I was legally old enough to get a minimum wage job. I have also worked in the vineyards of upstate New York and in a variety of restaurants and bars. These are the types of jobs that apologists for illegal immigrants claim others won't do.

When I was in elementary school I identified myself as Yugoslavian and drew the taunts and jeers of children whose parents were Jewish, or of English, German, Italian, or Dutch extraction. But by the time I was in high school in the 1970s, I was told that it was Hispanic immigrants who had it tough, and that because of the color of my skin I was "privileged."

There weren't enough Slovenians in Rochester to support the privately funded Slovenian clubs and churches that abounded in Toronto and Cleveland, but I do remember accompanying my friends to the Ukrainian club. For Eastern Europeans, maintaining a cultural heritage was a private endeavor and consisted of speaking the language at home, cooking the food, and playing the music. Neither my parents nor the parents of my Ukrainian friends would dream of demanding special privileges from taxpayers. They learned English as best they could and their children who went to American schools translated their documents. My parents, for as long as I can remember, subscribed to the Slovenian newspaper, American Home,

published in Cleveland. The banner reads, "Over 100 years of serving American Slovenians."

But to have the "American," before the "Slovenian" would not serve the anti-American pieties of the left that now dominate our classrooms and have been behind the recent massive protests, including the "Day of Dignity" that was held here in Georgia last Friday. Hispanics staged work stoppages and students stayed home from school. Among their complaints was a state bill, the Georgia Security and Immigration Compliance Act that in part would deny welfare benefits for illegals. If the governor signs it, as he is expected to, Georgia taxpayers will pay welfare for illegals for only 15 more months, until July, 2007.

In the three decades since I was fed the political correctness by teachers in my riot-torn high school, things have only gotten worse. The demonstrations have disrupted daily life and threatened public safety in cities like Los Angeles. But imagine billboards advertising welfare benefits for Slovenians or Ukrainians in native languages. Imagine Slovenians taking to the streets at the threat of denial of welfare for those who are in the country illegally. The image is preposterous. It would be preposterous even to the educators and radical groups who support the protests on behalf of the Spanish-speaking illegal immigrants. They have spent the last three decades working to instill the idea of this particularly visible group as suffering special persecution. They have started with the most gullible - the young people, their students. And the masses have been emboldened to the point of taking to the streets and burning the flag of the country in which they live. Their claims to be part of the heritage of American immigration sound specious to this immigrant.

Mary Grabar teaches at Clayton State University located in Atlanta, Georgia. Thanks to Victor Nemec for submitting this article.

I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any.
-Phil Hrvatin

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Thursday, May 18

Polka promoter George Knaus and musician Joe Petrich celebrate their 92nd pre-birthday at Recher Hall in Euclid, Ohio. Jeff Pecon 6 to 8:30, New Generation 8:30 to 11 p.m. Joey Tomsick 7 to 10 p.m. Everyone welcome. Donation \$1.00.

Friday, May 19

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music by Wayne tomsic.

Saturday, May 20

Revive the "Nash," Reverse Raffle \$1,500 grand prize. \$50 per couple, \$35 single. Doors open at 6, dinner at 7. Music by Wayne Tomsic.

Sunday, May 21

Breakfast at Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave. Includes eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, toast, coffee. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donation \$6.

Sunday, May 21

St. Mary's Slovenian School Mothers Day program after 10 a.m. Mass in parish hall. Fathers will serve delicious breakfast.

Friday, May 26

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music by Frank Moravick.

Saturday, May 27

Igor and Ansambel Zlati Zvonski performs in St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) church hall. Doors open at 6 p.m. Donation \$10. Food and refreshments available.

Sunday, May 28

61st anniversary Memorial Mass for all Victims of Communism and Nazism sponsored by DSPB Cleveland, noon at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, 21281 Chardon Rd., Euclid, OH

Sunday, May 28

Slovenian Memorial Service at All Souls Cemetery, Chardon, OH, 3:30 p.m. All are invited to both events.

Friday, June 16

Pork, sauerkraut and dumpling dinner 5 - 7:30 at Newburgh, Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80 St., Cleveland. Music by Joe Novak & Friends. Donation \$8. Reservations (216) 341-6136.

Thursday, July 7

St. Vitus Alumni meet in St. Vitus Village, 7 p.m.

Saturday, July 15

Moonlight Bowling, 6:30 p.m. at Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80th St.

All Fridays

Fish Fry Slovenian Workmen's Home, 15335 Waterloo Road, Cleveland from 11:30 a.m. until 8 p.m.

All Fridays

Fish Fry dinners at Slovenian Society Home in Euclid, Ohio.

Friday, May 5

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music by Fred Ziwich.

Sunday, May 7

Newburgh Slovenian Home salutes Man of Year Joe Novak. \$18 person. Dinner 1 p.m. Music and dancing 2:30 - ?

Sunday, May 7

Holmes Ave. Pensioners invites all to Annual Dinner-Dance at Collinwood Slovenian Home. Dinner served at 2 p.m. Dance to Ray Polantz Orch. 3 to 7. Tickets call 440 943-3784 before May 1.

Tuesday, May 9

Ohio Slovenian Genealogy Society meets at 7 p.m. in Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid, Ohio. Dr. Judy Cetina will be guest speaker on "The Naturalization Process."

Tuesday, May 9

Goriski Oktet, Vrtnica performs in St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Church at 7 p.m., sponsored by Cleveland Primorski Club. Free-will offering. Reception in parish hall. Everyone welcome.

Wednesday, May 10

Collinwood Slovenian Home Club Room Wing Ding Brunch Party, serving 3 to 6 p.m. 6 chicken wings, fries & cole slaw only \$4. Wings only .50 each, minimum 6 per order.

Friday, May 12

West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. with music by Frank Moravick.

Saturday, May 13

St. Mary's (Coll.) Slovenian School Reverse Raffle in Parish Center, 6 p.m. \$65 couple, or \$45 single. Includes dinner, open bar, music by Veseli Godci and number on Main Board. For tickets call (216) 731-0287 or (440) 350-9526. Benefit students educational trip to Slovenia next year.

Sunday, May 14

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland, Mother's Day Brunch from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Donation \$8. Reservations (216) 341-6136 or



The National Hockey League's oldest arena is Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens, which opened in 1931. Next oldest is the Civic Arena in Pittsburgh, built in 1961—six years before the Penguins began NHL play.

Death Notices

JOSEPH L. FORTUNA

Joseph Louis Fortuna "Sonny". Beloved husband for 52 years of Virginia "Jean" (nee Cvet); loved, respected and dearest father of Reverend Joseph J. Fortuna (Pastor of Ascension Catholic Church), Mary Ann Trzaska (husband Jim), John J. Fortuna (wife Roberta), and Jane DeMattia (husband Philip). Special and proud grandfather of baby Lori Ann (deceased), Sheryl and Anthony Trzaska, Joseph, Katherine and Kristen Fortuna, and David and Rebecca DeMattia.

Son of the late Joseph Fortuna and Mary (nee Pucell). Very dear brother of Alouise Dunne (Carroll), Betty Godnavac (Stan, deceased) Martha Gozion (Sam), Thomas and the following deceased: Frank, Mary, Agnes Hoffman (George), and Julius (Lois); cherished uncle and great uncle of many.

Visitation was on Sunday and Monday, April 23 and 24 at The Fortuna Funeral Home, 5316 Fleet Avenue. Interment Calvary Cemetery.

Funeral services Tuesday, April 25, 10 a.m. at St. John Nepomucene Church (E. 50th and Fleet).

Mr. Fortuna was a Korean Army Veteran.

In Mr. Fortuna's memory, family requests donations be made to the charity of your choice.



PHILIP RIBARICH

Philip Ribarich, age 82; beloved husband of Lillian (nee Ivancic); dear father of Lili Ann (Thomas) Behlke and Jeanette (Jerome) Golsenskie; grandfather of Michael (Meghan) Seifert and Kristin Marie Seifert; great-grandfather of Sebrina Seifert; brother of Anna (George) (deceased) Salinger, Rose (James) Finney and the following deceased: Mary Vambell; Martha Graham, John, Frank Fisher, Andrew and Joseph; uncle and great-uncle of many.

Friends were received at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St., Sunday, April 23 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 10 a.m. in St. Vitus Church on Monday, April 24. Interment in All Souls Cemetery.

Donations to St. Vitus Church, 6019 Lausche Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103 or to Hospice House, 300 East 185 St., Cleveland, OH 44119 in his memory would be deeply appreciated by the family.

In Memory

Thanks to Anne Debevec Mihalek of Sevierville, TN who submitted a \$100.00 donation to the American Home newspaper in memory of her wonderful father, **Edward M. Debevec** "For all his years of work and dedication at the paper."

In Memory

Thanks to **Joe and Karen Zigman** of Willowick, OH who donated \$50.00 to the American Home in memory of **Marty and Kay Guist, John and Mary Zigman, and all the deceased members of their families.**

Donation

Thanks to **Marie Sterle Newman** of Chisholm, MN who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation. She writes, "I used to live in Cleveland and Willowick and enjoy reading what's happening in the Cleveland area."

In Memory

Thanks to **Mrs. Agnes Koporc** of Bratenahl, OH who submitted a \$25.00 donation in memory of her wonderful husband **Al's 3rd Anniversary of death.** (March 28, 2003.)

Large Donation

Thanks to **Helena and Mario Percic** of Richmond Heights, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$65.00 donation. They write, "Keep up the good work!"

Donation

Thanks to **France Hren** of Richmond Heights, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$25.00 donation.

In Loving Memory

of the 6th Anniversary
of the death of



Mike Vidmar

who passed away on
May 3, 2000

Sadly missed by:
Daughters, Grandchildren,
and Great-grandchildren

Remembering Joe "Sonny" Fortuna

by JOSEPH T. SNYDER

As time flies, more and more of our friends from St. Lawrence pass away. It is a sad note when we recall the glorious days over a half-century ago when a close knit neighborhood was much richer than our sprawling suburbs.

We recall all of the good people who have passed away in the past couple of years including Tony Lekan, Joe Kuznik, my brother Jim Snyder, Johnny Turk, Billy Turk, Frank Rajar, Andy Scinkovec, Louie Perko, Ann Kapela, Sr. Albina, plus many more. Each one of these individuals could be counted as "Good Guys," or "Great Ladies."

A giant among these was Joe "Sonny" Fortuna. He was one of the middle children of Joe and Mary Fortuna and was undoubtedly the pride of this gracious family. He was a good student at St. Lawrence as Sr. Louise Marie remembered him when she was over 100 years old. Joe excelled as an athlete. He possessed a wicked curve ball, had the speed of a gazelle, the grace of Omar Vizquel, and the drive of a Vince Lombardi. I never remembering hearing Joe cuss or raise his voice in anger.

He was no pushover and had a very infectious sense of humor. He was always looked up to as a leader among his peers as he was elevated to the presidency of The Laurentian Athletic Club, Lodge 63 of KSKJ, the Holy Name Societies at St. Lawrence, and St. John Nepomucene, The Slovenian National Home on E. 80th. He was a leader among the Funeral Directors in Greater Cleveland along with many other accomplishments.

He had great judgment in evaluating tough situations as he was helpful to thousands in their times of bereavement. The stories of his kindness are legendary as his reputation speaks for itself. Joe was a soft touch for any organization, youth group, bowling, basketball or baseball team that needed financial backing. He was present at many weddings, dances and neighborhood fundraisers.

He had the good judgment to pick Virginia Cvet as his loving wife for 50-plus years who was the mother behind

the forces that brought up Fr. Joseph Fortuna, Mary Ann Trzaska, John, and Jane DeMattia, all credits to their respective professions. His grandchildren are now developing according to his high standards.

As a youngster Joe possessed wisdom beyond his years as his sisters and brothers looked up to him even in his youth. He had a keen insight into human nature as he never veered from his Catholic upbringing. I recall him telling me about my godfather, Billy Turk. He

Donations

Thanks to the following for their donations to the Ameriška Domovina, American Home, newspaper:

Andrej Lah, Cleveland, OH -- \$15.00

Charles Lončar, Madison, OH -- \$15.00

John Rucigay, Balston Lake, NY -- \$15.00

Marija Kovacic, Euclid, OH -- \$10.00

Mr. and Mrs. Matt Sese, Sedona, AZ -- \$15.00

Roman and Jozica Vitulich, Wickliffe, OH and Naples, FL -- \$15.00

Larry Sterk, Kirtland, OH -- \$15.00

Augustin Jokic, Willoughby Hills, OH -- \$15.00

Slovene Hall, West Park, Cleveland, OH -- \$15.00

Christine F. Ujcich, Richmond Hts., OH -- \$15.00

Rudy F. and Mary Ann Hren, Concord, OH -- \$15.00

Anonymous -- \$5.00

Victor and Jean Domin, Laguna Beach, CA -- \$15.00

Anton and Ludmila Skerl, Kirtland, OH -- \$15.00

Donna Ohman, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

Joseph Jursic, Douglasville, GA -- \$15.00

John Tegel, Woodale, IL -- \$15.00

Joseph and Milena Jarc, Willoughby Hills, OH -- \$15.00

Josephine Valencic, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

said that an outstanding athlete sometimes has a difficult time accepting the loss of his skills with age. Joe was a close friend of many priests in the Cleveland sphere and was very close to the Adrian Dominican Sisters. Coincidentally, he died on April 21, 13 years to the date of his beloved aunt, Sr. Matthew Marie Papesch.

Joe was a great conversationalist as he always had time to spend explaining or discussing just about any subject, at length, no matter what a person's social standing was. He was a regular at Big Mike's farm on Sunday afternoons where the Mirtel relatives frequently gathered. He always seemed to have time for others and as his life was nearing an end, he was ever present in conversations as to the progress or decline of his health.

His wife, Ginny, was a saint along with her children as they nursed him as far as they could in his declining months and years. Each of his close relatives, friends, parishioners, priests, Bishop Pevec, and other great and small people will feel the sadness of his loss as we pray that God will remember his charitable heart as he hopefully will be reunited with parents, brother Julius, sister Agnes, and Sr. Matthew Marie Papesch in their eternal reward.

As a personal note, I recall him stopping in my room as I awaited my first by-pass surgery in 1979. I said to him that he was the last person I wanted to see. He replied, "I probably will be." Sad to say, I will weep for him as his prophesy was erroneous. May God bless the Fortuna family and his extended family as we bid him a fond goodbye. R.I.P.

I am a big believer that you have to nourish any relationship. I am still very much a part of my friends' lives and they are very much a part of my life.
--Nancy Reagan

IN LOVING MEMORY

OF OUR BELOVED FATHER, GRANDFATHER
GREAT-GRANDFATHER, AND GREAT-GREAT GRANDFATHER



MATT KASTELIC

WHO PASSED AWAY 56 YEARS AGO

THE 5th OF MAY, 1950

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And died beloved by all.

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The life and times of Joseph Mihevc



1940 - 1945
My Apprenticeship
and After

(Continued)

In 1942 and 1943, I assisted in the construction of a water turbine and sawmill. When I visited in 1985, both were still in operation. The various demanding tasks that I undertook provided me with an opportunity to view things from a practical perspective. It is also possible that necessity from a very young age was "the mother of invention" which led me to observe and produce. After 12 hours of daily work in the shop as an unpaid apprentice. I helped at home and constructed two concrete block-making machines, before I completed my three years of apprenticeship in July, 1943. I started to build a band saw but the revolution prevented me from getting it operational.

The start of my apprenticeship meant I was no longer at home as much and I was unable to help out as much as I used to. I could only help out in the morning, evening and sometimes at lunchtime.

Even at an early age, I recognized the hardships that my parents suffered, especially my father who, as an illegitimate child, was severely discouraged and disparaged by his relatives and others. He possessed very little self-confidence and self-esteem. I can clearly recall him slowly making his way home one day from the parish office. He had been speaking to the parish priest on behalf of Tone, my brother, and had asked that he be accepted as an altar boy. The rejection clearly demoralized him and he walked with his head down. His instructions to me indicated his lack of confidence and I did not always follow them. His confidence grew, however, a few years before I began my apprenticeship. I had a big argument with him when we planned and completed the modification of the stable to accommodate one cow and two pigs. Nevertheless, he was very confident in my abilities and, in later years, he would ask me many questions. My help at home had always been appreciated up until the last

day, which was May 4, 1945 in the early morning hours when I left home for good.

The politics of the day had a major impact on our lives. The collapse of the Austrian empire after the First World War resulted in the creation of Yugoslavia, which included most of Slovenia.

Part of Slovenia, however, was ceded to the Italians and that is where I was born. Under Italian fascist rule, one was always careful about what one said or did in fear of possible reprisals. There were some killings and many were jailed or threatened. In 1930, my family moved across the border into Yugoslavia, where there was somewhat more freedom, even though there were some underground movements developing. The effects of the Russian revolution of 1917 had spread its influence also to Yugoslavia and there existed serious disagreements between the governing bodies and communist party members. It was rumored that some of these disagreements had even led to the "elimination" of certain individuals.

The communist party, having been outlawed at the end of the First World War, went underground where it organized itself and planned strategies which could be employed when opportunities presented themselves. The party did not succeed on a large scale during peacetime. It did, nevertheless, conduct important meetings right on Catholic church property and called trusted members to participate in army exercises, an activity that was considered normal at that time. In reality, these participants attended communist training sessions that took place in the "prison" in the south part of the state. Personally, I felt some discomfort about the situation and was never certain who could be trusted and what could be said, especially when it came to politics. I played in the local band where a few of the older men were communists, but there were never any discussions about these matters.

Some underground bulletins were circulated before the Italian occupation in April 1941 but I never bothered to read them. These bulletins were smuggled to various locations through ingenious methods and went unnoticed by the authorities. While I was an apprentice, I can recall delivering, in broad daylight and in full view, 20-liter square metal oil cans with false bottoms filled with underground ma-

terial. I was also instructed to deliver, in a small wagon, small wooden drums or bottles of wine to the guesthouse located at the end of town for loading onto the bus. The post office was avoided so as not to arouse any suspicions. The wine was for the "liberation army." In both cases, I was unaware of what I was transporting and only found out after the war. Communist party members also devised various methods to recognize each other. Younger males would wear a carnation or something else in their lapels or hats, or the tie would be worn in a certain manner, or a specific hand gesture would be used. There were also attempts at sabotage. For example, when I built my second block-making machine, the person for whom I had built the first machine threatened to take me to court for copying his machine. All kinds of attempts were made to restrict and hold back those who were not party members.

(To Be Continued)

Mother's Day in Lemont

Slomsek Slovenian School in Lemont, IL will be performing for Mother's Day program on Sunday, May 14.

10:30 a.m. - Smarnice at St. Mary's Catholic Mission.

11:00 a.m. - Family Mass at St. Mary's Catholic Mission.

12 noon - Entry for Program and Buffet Luncheon at the Slovenian Cultural Center.

3 p.m. - Concert by Slovenija's Goriski Oktet - "Vrtnica," Nova Gorica men's oktet.

Paid reservations are due at the Center by Monday, May 8th. For further information regarding reservations, please call 630-243-0670.

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7:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m. Sat

We love the Slovenian people. We want more of them as our customers.

Want to go on a pilgrimage?

The ladies of St. Vitus Altar Society are leaving for Carey, Ohio on Tuesday, May 9th for their Annual Pilgrimage in honor of our Blessed Mother.

There are still a few seats available on the bus. One does not have to be a member of the Altar Society to go on this trip.

The fee of \$35.00 will include the bus trip and lunch-

eon.. and of course, a lovely time in the company of many charming friends.

For more information, call Ivanka Matic (asap) at 216-481-1514. Mail checks to Ivanka Matic, 1874 Braeburn Rd., Euclid, OH 44117.

Best wishes for a Happy Spring.

--Agnes Koporc

Goulash

By Marien (Spisich) Kaifesh

Originally given to me by my mother as it is made in Slovenia:

Ingredients:

One lean piece of beef cut in cubes

3-4 med. onions

2 Tbs. oil

2 Tbs. paprika

1 1/2 cup water

2 cloves garlic

Caraway seeds to taste

1/2 can tomato paste

Pepper to taste

other seasonings to taste

Directions:

Cook onions in oil until done, but not golden. Keep stirring and add paprika and beef until browned. Add 1 1/2 cup water and rest of the seasonings. Simmer one hour and add tomato paste and simmer one hour longer.

--Kim Ann Kaifesh
Our Family Recipes

Celebrate Spring With Delicious Brunch



(NAPS)—Delicious and satisfying, Tomato-Bacon Quiche is perfect for a springtime brunch. Better yet, it's fast and easy to make. The frozen pie crust is ready to bake in its own pan and the ingredients take only a few minutes to assemble. For more spring pie recipes and pie-baking tips, visit www.pillsbury.com.

Tomato-Bacon Quiche

1 Pillsbury Pet-Ritz frozen deep-dish pie crust

6 slices bacon, cooked, crumbled

4 medium green onions, sliced

3 medium plum tomatoes, seeded, chopped

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon pepper

1 cup half-and-half

2 tablespoons all-purpose flour

2 eggs

1/2 cup shredded Swiss cheese (2 oz.)

1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (2 oz.)

Place cookie sheet on oven rack. Heat oven to 375° F. Remove crust from freezer; let stand 1 minute. Prick crust with fork. Bake on cookie sheet 9 to 11 minutes or until very light golden brown.

Sprinkle bacon, green onions, tomatoes, salt and pepper in crust. In medium bowl, stir together half-and-half, flour and eggs. Stir in cheeses. Pour over tomato mixture.

Bake on cookie sheet 25 to 30 minutes longer or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. 6 servings.

High Altitude (3500-6500 ft): Increase second bake time to 33 to 38 minutes.

Ptuj, a strange surprise in an old town

by Beverly Bevette
Los Angeles Times

I first saw them through the window of our train as it pulled into the station at Pragersko, on the way from Ljubljana to Ptuj. There they were, strange, woolly creatures with scary masks, jumping and whirling, the cowbells on their belts creating a cacophonous symphony.

These were the *kurents* I'd read about.

I was on a ratty old train — all smoking, all the time for 2½ hours — bringing me to Ptuj, the oldest town in Slovenia, for *Kurentovanje*, the annual pre-Lenten carnival at which the demonic *kurents* rule.

My introduction to Ptuj was the dismal one-room train station. There was not a soul about except a ticket agent who was kind enough to call a taxi to take me to Garni Hotel Mitra. As we drove up the narrow main street through the town's medieval center, another group of *kurents* appeared like woolly apparitions.

Over the next few days, I would see them here, there and everywhere, yet they would never fail to startle me. And, Ptuj, population 15,000 in northeastern Slovenia and little known to Americans, rarely failed to surprise me.

Slovenia, which shares borders with Italy, Austria, Hungary and Croatia, was part of Yugoslavia, but declared its independence in 1991. Unlike some of its sister states, its conflicts were confined largely to a 10-day period in 1991, and it suffered few casualties, escaping the horrors that plagued Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo.

Although Slovenia is a member of the European Union, this country of 2 million has not yet adopted the euro as its currency. (But hotels may quote prices in euros). It still uses the Slovenian *tolar*, which goes considerably further than those euros in Austria and Italy.

If there is something daunting about visiting, it may be the language. It is loaded with bumping consonants and can seem unfathomable to first-time visitors. "Goodbye," for example is *na svidenje*.

The influence of neighboring countries is evident in the cuisine, which includes Wiener schnitzel, pasta and risotto. If you're not careful when ordering — and not all Ptuj restaurants have English menus — you may find yourself face to face with blood

sausage or mystery meat.

But perhaps the most important thing to learn about Ptuj, about 95 miles northeast of Ljubljana, the capital, is how to pronounce it. "Pa-too-ee" is close.

"When people come from England, they say it like they (are) spitting," said

Sasa Krajnc, a law student who was my guide for a day.

Hints of Roman history

Our day together began with a hike up the hill to Ptuj Castle, from where we looked down on the medieval town that sits snugly on the northern bank of the Drava River. (Modern Ptuj is across the river.) Through a haze, we could see the red roofs and the centuries-old town tower with its onion-shaped dome.

Krajnc told me there are Roman tombstones built into the base of the tower, and it's rumored there are buried riches, "but no one wants to go dig because they're afraid of being disappointed."

Later, we strolled the streets of the largely unspoiled old town, stopping at the Church of St. George to see the 14th century wooden statue of Ptuj's patron saint, and the Orpheus Monument, the carved marble tombstone of a 2nd century Roman mayor.

In the Middle Ages, it was a "shaming stone," Krajnc said. "They would tie people to it and throw eggs," as the judge and the mayor watched from the balcony of the town hall.

As we paused at the statue that stands in Mestni Trg, the town square and former marketplace, she explained the curious figure at the base: an angel with a bucket of water.

"After a fire in 1744 destroyed much of the town, the people turned for help to St. Florian, patron saint of firefighters, and erected this monument to him.

We walked Presernova Ulica, old town's main street. Some of its centuries-old patrician houses, reminders of Ptuj's prosperous past as a center for trade, have intriguing courtyards and ornately carved doors. Walk slowly and you'll find serendipities such as the grinning 14th century mask at No. 1.

On the streets, we passed little kids in costume and big girls in glitter and makeup. Buildings were decked out with balloons and streamers. *Kurentovanje* is definitely party time. The desk clerk at my hotel was dressed as a court footman, the bartender as a serving wench.

Although the *kurents*' role is to scare away the spirit of winter and usher in spring

and bountiful crops, judging by the frigid temperature they weren't doing such a hot job with the spring thing.

Today, *Kurentovanje* is mostly about having fun. There's precedent for that, too. In Slovenian folk mythology, Kurent is the god of hedonism, revelry and high spirits, kind of the Dionysus of Slovenia.

No one is certain about the origins of *Kurentovanje*, traditionally a 10-day event leading up to Shrove Tuesday, a bit of revelry before the privations of Lent. Some think the festival evolved from Greek and Roman rituals, others from ancient Slavic traditions. Celebrants dress in costume, much as we do at Halloween. A big costume ball was taking place in a carnival tent across the river the second night I was in town.

A few hours beforehand, I stopped by the Café Europe on town hall square, where a bartender in a green wig and oversized spectacles was pouring drinks for early celebrants. Couples spinning around the dance floor included Julius Caesar with a motorcycle mama and Santa Claus with a woman wearing tiger ears and a bowtie. I drank a glass of wine poured by Mr. Green Wig before ducking into the Pizzeria Sloncek in the old town for a quick bite. There, I encountered a travel first: ketchup offered as a pizza topping. The proprietor said most people hereabouts go for the ketchup.

By 9 p.m., the carnival tent was wall-to-wall people. I elbowed my way through a sea of bumblebees, nuns, Indians, geishas, toga-clad Romans and treading, all dancing a polka, and came face to face with eight two-legged sunflowers with petal headdresses and green capes.

Something in a red wig and white mask showered me with confetti as it danced by. Just then the polka musicians gave way to a rock band in glittery boots. As the crowd was really getting into "Dancing Queen," the music was drowned out by a chorus of cowbells.

The *kurents* had arrived, a large flock waving *jezevkas* (wooden staffs). Feathers and colorful streamers sprouted from the tops of their sheepskin headdresses, and they peeped through eyeholes circles in red on their leather masks. Long red tongues hung over their sheepskin chests, and they had comically big noses and twig whiskers; teeth made from white beans gleamed inside the mouth holes in their masks.



The *kurents* of Ptuj scare away evil, and bring good luck and good crops.

After they'd danced back out and shed their head-dresses, making them much less ominous, I stopped one, Samo Budju, and asked about the *kurent* mystique.

"It's a way of life," said Budju, 27, whose day job is in water heater installation. "It has to be a heart wish, to have your entire life turned around. Once you become one, you can't stop being one."

His *kurent* group included a butcher and a woodworker.

For starters, Budju explained, the costume — "very hot" — costs about \$750 and "there are only two people in the world who are making it," both in Ptuj. Historically, "a *kurent* has to be a single man, but today, even old men can be one, even women. Each village has its own. They go door to door to bring luck and vanquish winter."

One single-man tradition endures: Admiring young women give the most popular *kurents* handkerchiefs to tuck under their belts.

Back inside the smoke-filled tent, people were dancing on the tables. At midnight, I ducked a Raggedy Ann waving a lighted cigarette as I made my way to the exit. I was relieved to find the taxi that had brought me here had come to pick me up.

Village parade

It was a public holiday, the last day of the carnival, when Krajnc and I drove to the nearby village of Bukovci, where the *kurent* tradition originated, joining the crowd lining both sides of the street in anticipation of the parade. Vendors were selling hot mulled cider and cotton candy and a sound truck played Slovenian folk music with a sort of turbo-folk beat.

(Continued on page 10)

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10 Ptuj, a strange surprise in an old town

AMERISKA DOMOVINA, MAY 4, 2006

(Continued from page 9)

Then came the kurents, maybe 60 strong. Krajnc, stepping back, warned me, "Sometimes they want you to give them your hand and jump a bit." But eager to snap a photo, I stepped forward. Just then one of the ferocious-looking but playful, woolly creatures seized me and, jumping up and down, we briefly became part of the parade.

As is traditional, costumed residents of neighboring villages had come to the parade. There was a coven of witches and a little band of chimney sweeps carrying tiny ladders. A burlap animal with eight legs – a horse, I think, frolicked.

After the parade, we drove along a narrow road through the wine country, which stretches to the Croatian border. Wineries, scattered through the gently rolling hills, open to visitors each fall for tastings. Winemaking in the region dates to Roman times and was revived in the Middle Ages by monks who established monasteries that still stand.

A Slovenian legend tells of a man saving himself from raging floodwaters by clinging to a grapevine, much to the delight of the deity kurent, which caused the waters to recede in return for the man's promise that he and his descendants would always cultivate grapes for wine and buckwheat for deer.

One day I visited Ptuj Wine Cellar, Slovenia's oldest, started in 1239. An employee led me into the dark 500-year-old cellars along a path between huge fermenting barrels. He flipped a switch and on came a sound and light show, complete with the gurgling of wine being poured. He showed me the archive of 7,000 old bottles, including a 1927 white valued at \$10,000. (Tours, by appointment, are available in English.)

On my last day, I hiked back up castle hill to keep an appointment to tour the Ptuj Regional Museum that now occupies the castle, part of which dates to the 11th century. Slovenia is a country of castles (there are 600 with at least walls standing), and this museum is caretaker of treasures from some of them, as well as from some of Slovenia's 3,000 churches.

Some history has been lost along the way, however. "Some of the pieces we have are a complete riddle to us," said Irene Bezjak, my guide that day.

You'll see some Biedermeier furniture, an impressive weapons and arms collection; and a fine assemblage of vintage musical instrument, including a 2nd century Roman flute found in Ptuj in the 1980s.

One hall is devoted to Kurentovanje and the kurents. Pausing in front of a group of costumes figures, Bezjak explained that a costume weighs as much as 80 pounds and is as "hot as a sauna" inside. "If you drink alcohol, it is not possible to even walk around," she said.

The costumes, she added, must follow tradition. The wool leggings may be red or green, but the feet must be shod in black boots, "not sneakers." Kurents from the right bank of the Drava River tend to wear horns; those from the left bank, feathers. "Don't ask me why," she said, "Nobody knows."

The town also has three annual fairs dedicated to saints, St. George who was a soldier, is celebrated April 23 and St. Oswald, also a soldier, on Aug. 5. St. Catherine, the patron of philosophers and preachers, is celebrated on Nov. 25.

Merchants from throughout Slovenia and from Croatia set up stalls, and people flock to the old town to eat, drink, and socialize, as they have since the Middle Ages.

If you're visiting Ptuj, it would be a shame to bypass Ljubljana. Although the capital has been touted as "the new Prague," that's a bit of an overstatement. I spent a thoroughly enjoyable two days there on the way to Ptuj, but I felt that was long enough. The lovely old town is decidedly finite, the new town decidedly uninteresting. Besides, there wasn't a kurent in sight.

Slovenian School Fundraiser

Everyone is cordially invited to attend a Reverse Raffle on Saturday, May 13 sponsored by St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian School.

The raffle will be held in St. Mary's Parish Center. Doors and sideboards will open at 6 p.m. Tickets for the raffle are \$65 per couple or \$45 for a single ticket, which includes dinner, open bar, music by Veseli Godci, and a number on the Main Board. The Main Board prize will be \$2,000.

For tickets or more information, please call Christy Vidmar at 216-731-0287 or Julie Tromba at 440-350-9526, or email to stmaryslovenian-school@yahoo.com. All proceeds will benefit an educational trip for the students, to Slovenia in the summer of 2007.

Quiz Answer

What is the most valuable substance per gram?

Answer: Moon rocks. They are 10 times more valuable than a diamond.

Thanks to Hattie Bilsey of Cleveland for entering our contest.

NEW QUIZ:

What is the only mammal that can fly?

Send answers to Jim ah@buckeyeweb.com or mail to 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.

Does Anyone Know the Answer?



Teacher please don't look at me.
The answer is a mystery.
I'm staring into empty air
I'm sliding underneath my chair.
I'm making myself very small
I wish I wasn't here at all.
Please pick on some other guy;
Teacher, teacher pass me by.
I've not been paying attention
I've been playing in my desk
Now it's a huge mess.

Teacher, teacher call on me
Ooh, ooh I know the answer, can't you see?
This one's a wrap, a snap, a breeze
Just look in this direction, please!
I'm almost bouncing off my chair.
I'm waving both hands in the air.
Teacher ask me first
'Cause if you don't, I think I'll burst.

Kaylee Ann Kantz
Age 11

Published in "Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans 2005 edition.

NOTE: Kaylee Ann Kantz is the daughter of Jennifer Kantz, and granddaughter of Anne (Debevec) and Greg Mihalek. Kaylee attends school in Gatlinburg, TN.

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Slovenian Cultural Day in Florida

11
AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, MAY 4, 2006

Saturday, Feb. 4th was a very special night for Slovenians in the South Florida area. Slovenska Palma organized a celebration of Slovenian Cultural Day in honor of Slovenian poet France Preseren who's "Zdravljica" has been Slovenian national anthem since its independence in 1991.

With an outstanding lineup of guest performers including Alfi Nipic and Tony Klepec, the event tickets were sold out well in advance. Also making a special appearance were the Ed Vrscaj Trio - Ed Vrscaj, John and Michael Ferfolja from Kitchener, Ontario, Canada who serenaded the audience with their traditional Slovenian-style renditions of Slak tunes. Musical guests were also members of SNPJ 787 from Boca Raton, Jack Berfield and Joe Virant, who always bring their lively button-box music to Palma meetings, together with their drummer Jayne Debevec-Vadnal, wife of famous musician Johnny Vadnal, who continues with his tradition of promoting polka music. Ted Perkovic from Daytona Beach joined them on trumpet. Hosts of the evening were Franci Peternel, a radio personality on Radio Vese-ljak Ljubljana and Maja Lesnik, singer of M4M.

About 200 friends of Slovenian culture came from different parts of Florida, Ohio, California, New York, Canada, Argentina, Venezuela, Peru, and even Russia, as well as from Slovenia. Among guests we welcomed Ms. Miriam Mozgan, Assistant Ambassador from Washington, and Slovenian Honorary Consul Ms. Maria

Bacinich. Tony Petkovsek, Polka Ambassador came to visit us from Cleveland, as well as Milan Ribic, President of Slovenska Pristava.

The members and guests were treated to a traditional dinner featuring Slovenian sausages, jota, segedin goulash, kremsnite. It was all home-made under the supervision of Rezka Smuk, President of Belokranjski Klub of Cleveland. She and her husband, Tone, with her son Frank with their friends Rita and Ciril Skebe, prepared an authentic Slovenian dinner that everyone loved. Thank you.

Widely expected event of the evening was raffle with prizes donated by Greg Emersic from Funkshion Restaurant & Lounge in Miami's famous South Beach, and Peter Knezevic of Rusty Pelican restaurant located on beautiful Key Biscayne Bay. Alfi Nipic also donated a few of his CDs from his broad music collection.

The music, dancing, and singing continued until the early morning hours. It was a wonderful event as a result of a lot of planning and effort by the Slovenska Palma staff. You can check photos from this very successful event at www.slovenskapalma.org

Slovenska Palma is a non-profit organization uniting Slovenians in Florida, US, and around the world. Their main goal is promoting Slovenian culture and language. The club currently organizes four bigger meetings throughout the year, as well as many smaller ones. They are also very successful in connecting with other Slovenian clubs and Slove-



Standing, from left to right, Milan Ribic, Tony Petkovsek, Alfi Nipic, Silvester Subotnjicki, and in front, Frank Smuk.

nians around the world. The organization was founded in August 2004 by Mojca Klaves and Silvester Subotnjicki and held its first official reunion in November, 2004. Since then the organization's actions and events has developed into a wide range of activities.

Current officers are Silvester Subotnjicki (President), Mojca Klaves (Vice President), Aleksandra Zupan (Secretary), Klemen Kelgar (Treasurer), Ervin Jarec (Mis), Emil Juvan (Public Relations). The motivation to unite Slovenians into an organized club was certainly the feeling of home-sickness and the desire

to re-create Slovenian culture in Florida.

All of the efforts of Slovenska Palma are based on voluntary work and the events and activities are sponsored by members, other supporters and companies from the US and Slovenia. Among them are Kompas Florida, Sterling Vacations, Urad Vlade RS za Slovence v zamejstvu in po Svetu, and Ministry of Culture.

To support the organization, membership is available for \$50 yearly (\$30 for students and retirees). Every member gets a t-shirt with Slovenska Palma logo, bumper stickers, 10-20% discount for all events and meetings, and free access to the mobile library which consists of over 300 books for children, teens, and adults, and textbooks. In addition, classes of Slovenian language will soon be offered over the internet.

Slovenska Palma has big plans for the future. The biggest goal is to build a Slovenian home in Florida which

will serve as a Slovenian cultural center. Slovenians will therefore have its own place for meetings, and maintain Slovenian culture. It will also be a home for the Slovenian library and school.

The next meeting will be on Saturday, May 13, a day before Mother's Day. This is a traditional annual gathering of students from Slovenia. Under the guidance of Prof. Rok Ovsenik, students from University of Primorska, Turistica-College of Tourism, and a smaller group of students from University of Ljubljana, College for Social Work, will spend a few days in Florida. Students of tourism will prepare a short cultural program, as well as an interesting presentation of Slovenia. We will have some Slovenian style BBQ "picnic" with plenty of food, drinks and music.

You can contact Slovenska Palma thru the president Silvester Subotnjicki at 786-486-2229.

—Mojca Klaves



Ms. Miram Mozgan, Assistant Ambassador from Washington, Franci Peternel, and PRO PLUS (Slovenia), Natasa Briski.

Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

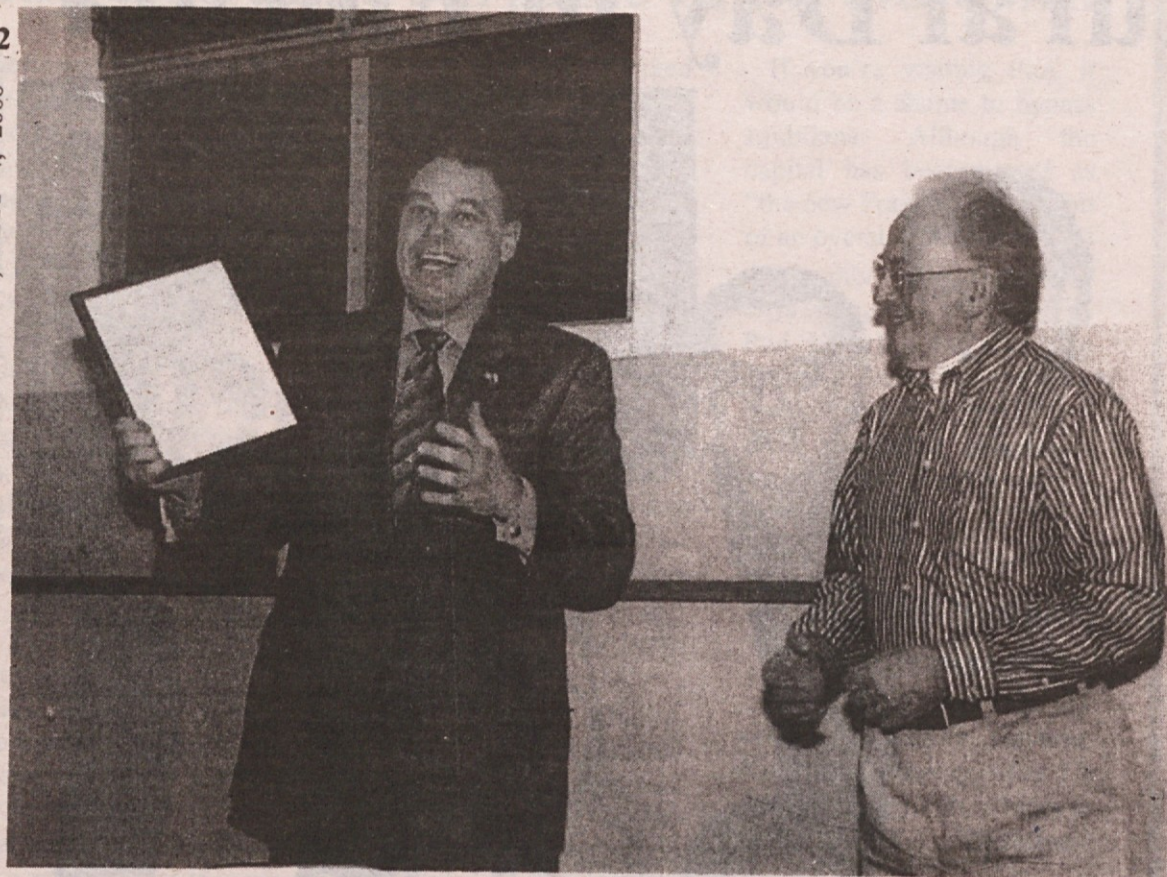
Please carefully note the change of place and time

The annual meeting of members of the
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To be held on **Friday, May 19, 2006**
in the LAURICH ROOM of the
SLOVENE HOME FOR THE AGED
18621 Neff Road, Cleveland, Ohio

Registration: 6:00 p.m. - Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Members are cordially invited to attend this important meeting. Members, as defined in the Bylaws, are those individuals and organizations who have contributed a minimum of \$25 during the preceding year. For the 5/19/06 meeting, this is the period from 4/1/05 through 3/31/06.



Ivo Ravnik, right, president of the Educational and Dramatic Club Slovenia, presents a framed letter of appreciation to John Hutar.

San Francisco bids heartfelt farewell to genial John Hutar

After serving as Vice President and General Manager of Hotel Nikko San Francisco since 1997, John Hutar has accepted the position with the MGM Mirage as Vice President of Hotel Operations for their new urban resort casino currently under construction in Detroit, Michigan.

Besides being a prominent member and supporter of several Slovenian organizations in the San Francisco area, as well as serving as the Honorary Consul for the Republic of Slovenia in San Francisco since 2002, John was also an important participant in many civic organizations. Some of these included membership in several of the Mayor's Committees, membership on the "Board of Directors of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, membership of the San Francisco Convention and Visitor's Bureau, as well as a two-year term as President of the Hotel Council of San Francisco.

To honor John and his family and to thank him for the continued support and his many contributions to the Slovenian community, the

Educational and Dramatic Club Slovenia, with particular help from Frances Jenko Chilcoat and Diane Judnich Brahney, organized a wonderful farewell party for him at its last monthly meeting. On this occasion, the President of Club Slovenia, Ivo Ravnik presented John with the book "San Francisco, Then and Now," as well as with a framed letter of appreciation which reads as follows:

"Dear John,

"As you are leaving this beautiful part of California, we feel fortunate and happy to have shared these last nine years with you. Ever since you, your wonderful wife and children, arrived in San Francisco area in 1997, you have endeared yourselves to our Slovenian community.

"You were always eager to help in every way. You freely provided your expert help and generous contributions to our raffles at our functions. You regaled us with your accordion playing. And how many times we enjoyed your company and delicious meals at the hotel, where you graciously welcome Slovenian visitors and

often provided lodging for them at the beautiful Hotel Nikko.

"It was fitting that for such active involvement and generous contributions to the Slovenian Community, you were appointed Honorary Consul for the Republic of Slovenia in San Francisco in 2002.

"We will miss you and your family. You have been a constant in our lives ever since you arrived. We have been enriched and honored by your presence among us. We are grateful to you and your wife, Lisa, for all you have done for us. As we bid you farewell, we wish you continued success in all your endeavors, and may you remember us and someday return to be among us again.

Ivo Ravnik,

President,

Martin Junkar,

Vice President"

We will miss John very much, for he leaves a great void in the Slovenian community. We wish him good health and happiness as he continues on his road to ever-greater successes.

Tony Ravnik

St. Vitus Alumni Meeting

(Sigh). What happened? You mean "it's over?" Tsk, tsk, you missed it, didn't you? Well, let me give you the "low down" of the meeting that you really "intended" to attend, but missed because you "forgot" to mark your calendar.

Thursday, April 6th. Does that ring a bell? Yes, that was the night of our quarterly meeting and by 7 p.m., everyone was seated, ready for the wrap of the gavel by President Dan Reiger (which he does so efficiently, bringing the room to order and silence.)

Long time member, loving friend to all, Father Vic Cimperman opened the meeting with prayer. A moment of silence was observed for recently deceased Vice President Josephine Perpar whose presence was and will be deeply missed.

Secretary Daniella Avsec then presented her minutes so vividly. It was like being at the last meeting all over again. Great presentation, Daniella.

Once again, a commendation for a "Treasurer's report" well done. Ray Gobec has it down to the penny. I reiterate, he should run for Treasurer of State. We would soon find out where and how our dollars are spent.

President Reiger then called on each committee chairmen for reports. All were in good order.

Scholarship chairman Florence Hotujac reported that she has received several letters for consideration for this year's scholarship awards. You still have time to send in your letters for the 2006 awards. The deadline has been extended to May 20th. If you are a paid-up member of the alumni, you can send in a request for your child or grandchild, if they are planning to attend a Catholic high school this fall. It is not too late. So get your letters in. Call Florence Hotujac 216 731-4563 for information or President Dan Reiger at 216 391-5428.

The meeting ended with prayer at approx. 8 p.m. during which time, all through the meeting the 'wonderful smell' of coffee brewing, etc. was tickling the noses of the members. A lovely spread could be seen from the corner of the eyes and our tummies were doing a bit of

nudging, just a little while longer.

Who was there you ask? Well, we did have a "new" face in our audience, and a lovely one at that. Someone who actually DID mark her calendar in January and decided to see what it was all about. Thank you Marilyn Vidmar; it was great having you. Hope you become a regular.

While on the subject of "regulars," noticeably missed and on the sick list was Ed Arhar. Annie, his wife was there relaying a message of thanks from a note she forgot in one of her moments of "sometimers." She claims she does not have Alzheimer's only Some-timers.

Then there were the sisters: Lil Ribarich and Florence Forsythe. Miss you all so much. Best wishes for a speedy recovery to all. Lil Ribarich's husband Philip passed away last week. Deepest sympathy to Lil and her family. Our prayers are with you.

It certainly was great seeing Marcie Mills "back on her feet" again after her knee surgery and she is doing so well. She told us she was going to "trip the light fantastic" with her hubby, Bob, soon. Get ready, Bob.

Our membership chairman, Albina Pozelnik never comes to a meeting that she does not bring surprise gifts for everyone. Thank you for all you always do and give. We truly appreciate it.

Seen "chatting" together were Mary Lunder, Bernie Sajovec and Babe Cizel. Wonder what is so interesting. I think they were solving the problems of the world.

There was Josepha Strauss, always helping out, bringing the 'goodies' out to Mary Cimperman and serving coffee, etc. Thanks, Jo.

Sharing the same table were our famous photographer Tony Grdina and last year's honoree Tony Baznik, also in deep discussion.

Wonder what kept 'regular' Marge Batis from attending. You were missed.

Remember, the next quarterly meeting will be in July, Thursday, the 6th. This time, please DO mark your calendar. Do it right now. 7 p.m.

Happy Spring to all. Good health and peace.

--Agnes Koporc

Movement is a medicine for creating change in a person's physical, emotional, and mental states. -Carol Welch



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50% More Tour Slovenia

The number of tourists visiting Ljubljana last year was 313,493, which is an increase of 50% over the last three years.

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— VESTI IZ SLOVENIJE —

Sporazum "Partnerstvo za razvoj" podpisan – Le LDS ostala zunaj

Predsedniki vseh parlamentarnih strank z izjemo LDS so podpisali sporazum o Partnerstvu za razvoj, s katerim so se zavezali k tvornemu sodelovanju pri iskanju najboljših odgovorov na prihodnje izzive in soglasja pri sprejemanju reform in njihovi predstavitvi v javnosti. Sporazum sta podpisala tudi poslanca za madžarsko in italijansko narodno skupnost. Pobudo za "Partnerstvo za razvoj" je bil dal premier Janez Janša.

Dokument, ki so ga v imenu strank podpisali njihovi predsedniki, za glavni cilj razvoja Slovenije navaja povečevanje človekove blaginje in kakovosti življenja. Vlada se je v njem zavezala, da bo vse zakonske predloge, ki se nanašajo na reforme, še pred začetkom uradnega postopka sprejemanja poslala v usklajevanje vsem podpisnikom sporazuma, slednji pa so se zavezali, da bodo naredili vse, da bodo njihove poslanske skupine v državnem zboru usklajene rešitve podprle.

"Partnerstvu" se je pridružila celo levičarska SD (nekdanja Združena lista oz. komunisti), to ko je njen predsednik Borut Pahor prepričal organe stranke, da je to pravi korak. Dejal je, da gre "Partnerstvo" za "eno najbolj pogumnih in samozvestnih odločitev doslej". Povedal je, da so reforme, ki jih je predlagala Janševa vlada, sprejemljive, da pa bo v okviru "Partnerstva" SD poskušala vplivati za to, da bodo bolj socialno sprejemljive.

Preoblikovanje medijskega prostora se nadaljuje – Imenovana nova direktorja Televizije in Radia Slovenije

Kandidata za direktorja Televizije in Radia Slovenija Jože Možina in Vinko Vasle sta bila v programskem svetu RTVS s prepričljivo večino potrjena na novih položajih. Možina je podprlo 19 svetnikov, Vasle pa 17. Možina je rekel, da bo največ pozornosti namenil informativnemu progra-

mu, kjer je opazen negativen trend gledanosti, Vasle pa je naglasil potrebo, izredno poslušan Val 202 ustvarja bolj avtorske in izvirne informativne oddaje. Po pridobitvi soglasja programskega sveta lahko generalni direktor javnega zavoda oba direktorja imenuje za štiriletni mandat.

Jože Možina je pred par leti pripravil zelo odmevno oddajo o medvojnih in povojnih pobojih, lani pa sodeloval pri pripravi DVD plošče pevskega zbora Korotan.

V Slovenijo prišla ena najstarejših in najuglednejših revij na svetu – *National Geographic* – izdana v slovenščini

Revija *National Geographic* ima po svetu več kot 40 milijonov bralcev. Leta 1995 se je društvo *National Geographic Society* odločilo za prvo mednarodno izdajo – v japonščini. Slovenska izdaja, ki se je pravkar začela, je 29. mednarodna izdaja.

Njena uspešnost je v Sloveniji že zdaj nesporna, saj ima ameriška izdaja skoraj 4000 naročnikov. Prihod slovenske izdaje bo zato zanimiv iz več razlogov, ker bodo morali bazo slovenskih bralcev oblikovati ob obstoječih bralcih ameriške izdaje; ob tem je *National Geographic* prva tuja revija v Sloveniji, ki jo izdaja neprofitna organizacija, ki hkrati od slovenskega založnika zahteva, da vsebino revije ustrezno lokalizira in priredi potrebam okolja, v katerem revija izhaja.

Uredništvo *National Geographic – Slovenija* bodo vodili: dr. Miha Kovač, glavni urednik, dr. Marija Javornik, pomočnica glavnega urednika, in Arne Hodalič, urednik fotografije.

Vedno večje prevzemanje odgovornosti

V začetku aprila je slovenska vlada odobrila napotitev dveh pripadnikov Slovenske vojske v mirovno misijo, ki deluje v Demokratični republiki Konge v Afriki. S tem vlada nadaljuje s sprejemanjem obveznosti, ki jih prinaša članstvo v raznih mednarodnih organizacijah.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Koncert okteta "Vrtnica"

Ta bo v torek, 9. maja, ob 7h zvečer, v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete. O oktotu smo poročali v zadnji številki, 20. aprila. Zbor, ki izhaja iz Goriškega, je na raznih tekmovanjih prejel več uglednih priznanj. Nastop sponzorira Primorski klub, ki vas lepo vabi na lep večer pristnih slovenskih pesmi.

Za nove naročnike

Naš večkratni dobrotnik je zopet ponudil precejšnjo podporo pri letni naročnini za povsem nove naročnike. Tako bodo ti dobivali AD za eno leto za le \$15. Vse podrobnosti najdete v oglasu v angleškem delu.

Novi grobovi

JOSEPH L. FORTUNA

Dne 21. aprila je v svojem stanovanju nad pogreb-
nim zavodom, ki ga je bil ustanovil, umrl 76 let stari Joseph L. Fortuna, rojen v Clevelandu, mož Virginije, rojena Cvet (poročena sta bila 52 let), oče Rev. Josepha J. (župnik fare Ascension), Johna J., Mary Ann Trzaska in Jane DeMattia, 7-krat stari oče, brat Louise Dunne, Betty Godnavec, Marthe Gozion, Thomasa ter že pok. Franka, Mary, Agnes Hoffman in Juliusa, bivši predsednik KSKJ društva sv. Lovrenca št. 63, bivši predsednik Slovenskega narodnega doma na E. 80 St. in leta 1975 izbran za "moža leta" tega doma. Pogreb je bil 25. aprila v oskrbi Fortunovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Janeza Nepomucena s pokopom na Kalvarije pokopališču.

Philip Ribarich

Umrl je 82 let stari Philip Ribarich, mož Lillian, roj. Ivancic, oče Lilli Ann Behlke in Jeanette Golen-skie, 2-krat stari oče, 1-krat prastari oče, brat Anne Salinger, Rose Finney ter že pok. Mary Vambell, Marthe Graham, Johna Franka Fisher, Andrewa in Josepha, stric in prastric, Pogreb je bil 24. aprila v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Vida in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojnikov spomin Hospice House, 300 E. 185 St., Cleveland, OH 44119.

(DALJE na str. 20)

Materinska proslava

Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti vabi vse matere na Materinsko proslavo, ki bo v župnijski dvorani po 10. maši v nedeljo, 21. maja. Očetje učencev bodo pripravili in servirali okusen zajtrk za vse po programu. Učenci šole pripravljajo nastop v čast materam. Vsi vabljeni!

Praznovanje 15-letnice

Odbori, ki pripravljajo obsežno praznovanje 15. obletnice neodvisne Slovenije, so pridno na delu. Med številnimi prireditvami bodo: 5. junij – v clevelandski mestni hiši z županom in mestnim svetom; 15., 22. in 29. junij – slovenski filmi v Euclidski javni knjižnici; 23. junija – v Columbusu, ko bodo dvignili slovensko zastavo; 24. junij – Slovenski dan na Slovenski pristavi; 25. junij – slovenska maša pri Sv. Vidu, odkritje Lauschetove plošče pri Ameriški Domovini, osrednje praznovanje 15. obletnice neodvisnosti v SND na St. Clairju ob sodelovanju vseh slovenskih zborov; 7. julij – veleposlanik Samuel Žbogar bo gost na odmevnem petkovem kosilu pri Cleveland City Club forumu, njegov govor in odgovori na vprašanja bodo posredovale številne radijske oddaje po vsej ZDA. In še več drugih prireditev, med drugim več nastopov Slovenskega okteta. Bomo naknadno poročali.

Krofi in rezanci

Oltarno društvo sv. Vida ima prodajo krofov in rezancev v soboto, 13. maja, ob običajnem času v društveni sobi. Ne pozabite!

Spominska sv. maša

V nedeljo, 28. maja, vabi Društvo SPB na spominsko sv. mašo pri Lurški Materi božji na Chardon Rd. in sicer ob 12ih popoldne. Ob 3.30 pop. pa bodo skupne molitve za vse pokojne na pokopališču Vernih duš pri Chardonu, O.

Otvoritev Slov. pristave

Prva prireditev sezone na Pristavi se bo začela v nedeljo, 4. junija, s sv. mašo, ki jo bo ob 12.30 pop. daroval Rev. Janez Kumše. Po maši bo kosilo, zanj si rezervirajte nakaznico in pokličite Elizabeto Žalik na 216-486-0660. Po 3. uri bo za ples in zabavo igral ansambel Veseli godci.



ZGODBA O POSTAVITVI DODATNIH DVOJEZIČNIH KRAJEVNIH TABLAH NA KOROŠKEM TRAJA ŠE IN ŠE – To sicer predvsem zaradi koroškega deželnega glavarja Jörga Haiderja. Z njim sodeluje tudi več koroških Avstrijcev na uradnih mestih; med drugim sedaj, ko vendar postavljajo dvojezične table, uporabljajo izraze, ki so del koroškega slovenskega narečja in ne več imen, ki so med tamkajšnji Slovenci v vsakdanji rabi. Tako se je vnel spor tudi zaradi tega početja. Na fotografiji primer tega. Članek, ki foto spremlja, je na str. 19 današnje AD

NIKO KURET ...

Marijin mesec

Lepi mesec majnik je Cerkev posvetila Materi božji. Nad stopetdeset let je že, kar se na Slovenskem v mesecu majniku obhajajo šmarnice, vsakodnevno pobožnost v čast Marijino. Med tem je nastala vrsta ponarodelih šmarničnih pesmi. Povsod je znana Vavkno-va *Spet kliče nas venčani maj*.

Marijino posebno češčenje v mesecu majniku sega že v 16. stoletje, toda redne pobožnosti so se razvile v Italiji šele v 18. stoletju. Prve šmarnice obhajali v Ljubljani leta 1851 v bogoslovnem semenišču. Pobožnost se je kmalu razširila po drugih zavodih in župnijah, tudi zunaj Ljubljane, in se je ljudstvo brž močno priljubila. Prvo knjigo šmarničnih beril je izdal skoraj deset let prej, leta 1842, Davorin Trstenjak ("Mesec Marije ali častenje presvete Device Marije skozi eden cel mesec z vsakdanjimi molitvami in zgledi iz življenja svetnikov"). Pobožnost, ki so jo začeli imenovati po majniških cveticah, šmarnicah, so kmalu pričeli opravljati tudi zunaj cerkve – na vasi, pri kapelicah in znamenjih. Tako se je splošno udomačila. Metod Turnšek je lepo opisal takšno vaško pobožnost:

"Čudoviti so ti majniški večeri. Ko se stisne mrak in ljudje povečerjajo in zazvoni pri cerkvi ali vaški kapeli 'večno luč', glej, se sredi vasi ob svetem znamenju zbere vsa vas. Modri očetje in živahni mladeniči, skrbne matere in smehljajoča se dekleta, stare babice s stolčki in živ vaški otroški drobiž. Pred Marijino podobo prižgo sveče. Dekleta prično Marijino pesem, ki jo za njimi povzame staro in mlado. Sledi duhovno branje ali rožni venec z litanijami Matere božje. 'Molec', po navadi najpobožnejši in najuglednejši mož v vasi, ki moli tudi pri mrliču in je tudi sicer nekak vaški 'svečenik', vodi vso pobožnost...

Skrivnosten je majniški večer. Na nebu žare biseri migljajočih zvezd, po sočnih tratah in mladnem žitnem silju ubirajo svoj nočni spev črički, po cvetočih jablanah in hruškah žužljajo hrošči ali se spreletavajo prve šentjanžve muhe; v grmovju žgoli slavček in tudi vaški potok pošumljava in poživlja mehki božajoči majniški večer. Vse stvarstvo je kakor čudovita kitara, polna lepih melodij, ki spremljajo molitev in petje verne soseske. Vsa je kakor ena družina, zbrana okrog nebeške Matere Marije, pod katere varstvo se zateka. Zlasti lepe so šmarnice ob nedeljskih večerih, ko so pete litanije..."

Na Jezerskem so v majniku po hišah postavljali okrašene majniške oltarčke.

Še en vremenski rek iz Besnice: *Majnikova luža pa kresna suša napravljata dobro letino*.

(Vzeto iz majske AVE MARIA 2006)

Obvestilo

(Sledi kratko sporočilo izpod peresa mag. Janeza Krambergerja, predsednika Komisije Državnega zbora Republike Slovenije za odnose s Slovenci v zamejstvu in po svetu:

Spoštovani, obveščamo Vas, da Komisija Državnega zbora Republike Slovenije za odnose s Slovenci v zamejstvu in po svetu tudi letos pripravlja **tradicionalno vseslovensko srečanje Slovencev**, ki živijo zunaj meja Republike Slovenije.

Vseslovensko srečanje, ki bo letos potekalo šestič, bo v četrtek, **6. julija 2006** v veliki dvorani Državnega zbora Republike Slovenije.

Vabilo in program obiska Vam pošljemo kasneje.

Mag. Janez Kramberger
predsednik Komisije

(Ko bomo prejeli vabilo in program, bomo seveda naknadno poročali. Ur. AD)

Poletna šola za slovenski jezik julija letos

Ljubljana – Center za slovenščino kot drugi/tuji jezik vabi v

MLADINSKO POLETNO ŠOLO SLOVENŠČINE.

V poseben program, ki bo potekal od 3. do 14. julija, vabijo srednješolce, stare od 14 do 18 let.

Več informacij lahko dobite na internetni strani:

www.centerslo.net.

POVABILO NA

10. Tabor slovenskih otrok po svetu

Ljubljana – Slovenska konferenca Svetovnega slovenskega kongresa (SSK) letos že desetič organizira vsakoletne jezikovno-družabne počitnice – Tabor za otroke slovenskega rodu po svetu.

Potekal bo na slovenski obali, v Mladinskem letovišču in zdravilišču Debeli rtič od 30. julija do 6. avgusta 2006.

Tabor je namenjen druženju mladih slovenskih rojakov iz zamejstva in po svetu, v starosti od 12 do 17 let. Znanje slovenskega jezika ni pogoj za udeležbo na taboru.

Na taboru mladi rojaki v medsebojnem druženju odkrivajo in spoznavajo kulturno in naravno dediščino Slovenije, utrjujejo znanje slovenskega jezika, se učijo slovenskih pesmi, spoznavajo običaje in se preizkušajo v različnih športnih igrah. Med druženjem se stkejo prijateljske vezi, ki ponavadi trajajo do naslednje-

ga snidenja na taboru in še dlje.

Otroci skupaj z vodniki bivajo v počitniških domovih. V letovišču je zagotovljena 24-urna zdravstvena oskrba (obvezno je veljavno zdravstveno zavarovanje!!).

Prijavnice za 10. tabor slovenskih otrok po svetu lahko dobite na spletnem naslovu

www.slokongres.com.

Izpolnjene prijavnice, potrjene s podpisom staršev oz. skrbnikov, pošljite na naš naslov:

Svetovni slovenski kongres, Cankarjeva cesta I/IV, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenija.

Prijave sprejemamo do 25. maja oz. do popolnitve prostih mest.

Ostala vprašanja glede Tabora nam lahko zastavite po e-pošti na naslov: ssk@siol.net.

Luka Klopčič,
strokovni sodelavec
Svetovni slovenski kongres (SSK)

Misli prof. Rudice Požar

SIMON GREGORČIČ

Pesnik po milosti božji

Ob stoletnici smrti

Trst – Pred sto leti je v Gorici umrl slovenski duhovnik in pesnik Simon Gregorčič. Milina njegovih pesmi gotovo seže do srca vsakemu Slovincu. Gregorčič pa je poet predvsem svoje ožje zemlje Primorskse, kar potrjuje tudi vzdevek "goriški slavček".

V zgodovini slovenskega slovstva lahko srečamo o Gregorčiču različne zapise, tudi take, ki težijo k vsaj delnemu razvred-



SIMON GREGORČIČ

notenju njegove pesniške in s tem duhovne moči.

A Gregorčič je bil predvsem sin primorskega ljudstva. V sebi je nosil bol človeka te zemlje, človeka, ki se je iz roda v rod mučil, da bi na tej zemlji preživel; vzljubil jo je in se neprestano bal zanjo.

To je posebnost primorskega človeka, zato le ta do dna dojame Gregorčičevo poezijo, ne kot "melanholično" ne kot izraz "pomanjkanja razumske volje", pač pa kot sad globoke duhovnosti, bodi ko razmišlja o življenju ali človekovi minljivosti.

Posebno Gregorčičevo rodoljubje je sad močne razumske zavesti in jasne osveščenosti o zgodovinski in socialni usodi ljudstva, iz katerega je izšel, mu z vso voljo in ljubeznijo služil kot dušni pastir in kot glasnik-poet.

Gregorčičeva razmišljanja in izpovedna pesem izzzveni kot tožba ali prošnja; ali ni vsaka tožba in prošnja le molitev? Gregorčičeve izpovedne in razmišljujoče pesmi so v svojem bistvu vprašanja, ki izhajajo iz notranje biti vsakega človeka.

V razmišljanju je pesnik ponižen, zavedajoč se večnih pregrad, prek katerih človek ne more. Občuduje stvarstvo in v njem popolno harmonijo in ravnovesje, kjer ni potrebno ničesar dodati in ničesar odvzeti. Pesnikova veličastna izpoved pa je vera v življenje, ki ne mine, a preide v novo in večno.

Bistvo in moč Gregorčičeve lirike je prav v tem, da je zmozel vdihniti v svojo poezijo tisto pristno čustvo, ki je vkano tako v izpovedno kot v domovinsko pesem. Vsa Gregorčičeva pesniška estetika je izvirna, vezana na globoko doživljanje, iz katerega je lahko nastala tako izrazita melodioznost besede in verza.

Mnoge Gregorčičeve pesmi so ponarodele in tako so še hitreje prodrle v dušo ljudstva, zlasti primorskega. Kdo ne pozna vzvišene pesmi Soči, spesnjene v obliki slovesnega nagovora reki, ki krasí domačo zemljo med planinami, prek ravnin do morja.

V planinah je tok reke vesel, reka teče še po č-

(DALJE na str. 16)

Petdeset let Slovenske kulturne akcije

Dr. LJUBO SIRC

Komentar

LEV DETELA

"Najpomembnejša slovenska kulturna ustanova v svetu, Slovenska kulturna akcija v Buenos Airesu, je ob koncu lanskega leta s posebno proslavo praznovala svoj zlati jubilej, petdesetletnico delovanja. Ob tej priložnosti je izšel kot njena 81. publikacija poseben spominski *Zbornik 1954–2004*, ki ga je uredil Marijan Eiletz."



Knjiga, ki obsega 356 strani, je razdeljena na sedem posameznih enot (Besede v spomin, Tako smo pisali, Tako smo razširjali kulturo, Iz arhiva NUK, Tako smo peli, Tako smo upodabljali, Takšne so nas videli).

Na zadnjih straneh je objavljen aktualizirani seznam vseh članov in članic Slovenske kulturne akcije in reprodukcije zunanje opreme knjig nekaterih njenih članov.

50-letnica Slovenske kulturne akcije, ki je skoraj neopazno zdrsela mimo javnosti v Sloveniji, je tudi 50-letnica ustanovitve njene revije *Meddobje* (ki pa bo zaradi težkih pogojev izhajanja z 1. 2006 vstopila šele v štirideseti letnik), o kateri razmišlja v zborniku zdaj v Ljubljani živeči pisatelj Zorko Simčič, ki je revijo sourejeval prvih dvanajst let.

Dolgi razvojni proces SKA, ki ga je Lev Detela v svojem prispevku poimenoval "povezovalni projekt idealistične duhovnosti in kulture", je Rozina Švent v posebnem sestavku (ponatisu nagovora ob odprtju razstave 50 let v službi kulture in umetnosti v razstavnici dvorani NUK 1. jul, 2004) razdelila na tri obdobja, na čas kulturne pomladi v ustvarjalno plodnih začetkih, na čas utrjevanja slovenske kulturnosti v svetu in na obdobje kulturnega dialoga med zdomstvom in domovino po demokratizaciji v Sloveniji in dialoga med starejšo in mlajšo generacijo mlajših ustvarjalcev v svetu.

V publikaciji je natisnjen tudi antologijski iz-

bor nekaterih pomembnejših sestavkov, ki so jih v posameznih knjigah ter v reviji *Meddobje* in v informativnem glasilu *Glas SKA* objavili nekateri vodilni člani ustanove (med drugimi Ruda Jurčec, Tine Debeljak, Vladimir Kos, Nikolaj Jeločnik, Ladislav Lenček, Jože Velikonja, Marijan Eiletz, Milan Komar, Vinko Brumen in Andrej Rot).

Jure Vombergar piše o knjigi *Breve historia de la literatura eslovena* avtorja Mirka Vasleta, ki je izšla v Buenos Airesu v samozaložbi in je prvi pregled slovenske literature v španskem jeziku.

V posebnem delu "Tako smo peli" je objavljen dovolj obširen izbor iz zdomskega pesništva, v katerem se vrsti po abecednem redu nad trideset pesmic in pesnikov od Vinka Beličiča st. in ml., Vladimirja Kosa, Božidarja Kramolca, Karla Mauserja, Milene Merlak Detela, Antona Novačana do Franceta Papeža, Humberta Pribca, Toneta in Vinka Rodeta, Karla Vladimirja Truhlarja, Milene Šoukal in Rafka Vodeba.

Da je Slovenska kulturna akcija še tudi po petdesetih letih delovanja in nastopu že tretje in četrte generacije potomcev slovenskega rodu (ki pa že pišejo pretežno v španščini) aktivna, dokazujejo tudi zadnje dva zvezka njene kulturne revije *Meddobje*, v kateri sodelujejo iz Argentine in iz različnih drugih držav po raznih celinah ter iz Slovenije.

V zadnji dvojni 3. in 4. številki lanskega letni-

ka objavlja na Japonskem živeči Vladimir Kos slavlne verze Polstoletna hiša (Ob 50-letnici SKA in *Meddobja*), še posebej zanimiv pa je živahno napisani literarizirani potopis Vinka Rodeta Hovenia dulcis, v katerem popelje bralce v tropske pragozdove, med vodovje in slapovja Misionesa, Milena Merlak Detela sodeluje z Dnevnimi beležkami 2003, Jože Rant pa kritično razmišlja o zdaj mednarodno znanem slovenskem filozofu Slavju Žižku, ki da s svojo banalno mešanico od Descartesa in Hegla ter Marxa in Englesa do Freuda in Lacana daje vsem marksističnim različicam nekaj "intelektualnih razlogov za preobstojo oziroma obnovo socializma – komunizma".

Sledi zapis Leva Detela V pasti Udbovskih seznamov ob Lajovčevi knjigi *Med svobodo in rdečo zvezdo* ter zapis Jožeta Ranta o pomembnem prispevku Jožeta Pučnika k demokratizaciji Slovenije.

V prvi letošnji dvojni številki *Meddobja* so med drugim v španščini in v prevodih v slovenščino natisnjene pesmi treh avtorjev mlajših generacij: Gregorja Papeža, Damijana Ahlina in Andree Florencie Russo.

Zadnja se v pesmi Ristanc spominja svoje slovenske babice in njene čudne španščine o vojni in ladji: "Iz daljne Slovenije" (de lejana Eslovenia). Lev Detela objavlja prvo varianto tridelne daljše pesnitve Balada kresne noči. Joži Vovk sodeluje z objavo ljubljanske univerzitetne diplomske naloge "o slovenski glasbeni kulturi in njenem vplivu na ohranjanje etnične identitete med Slovenci v Argentini".

Zanimivi so odlomki iz vojnega Dnevnika 1943–1945 izpod peresa Marijana Schiffererja. France Pibernik piše o dokaj kritičnem pogledu slovenske katoliške emigracije na delo Edvarda Kocbeka, vendar pa je *Meddobje* v času pesnikove politične izolacije leta 1959 natisnilo devet Kocbekovih pesmi, "kar je sploh prva objava Kocbekovih pesmi po demisiji leta 1952".

(DALJE na str. 16)

Sprenevedanje je odveč

Potem ko je parlamentarna skupščina Sveta Evrope sprejela resolucijo o potrebi, da zločine totalitarnih in komunističnih režimov mednarodno obsodimo, se je Mikis Theodorakis, grški glasbenik, pritožil:
"V imenu naših mrtvih tovarišev, vseh, ki so trpeli pod gestapom in v lagerjih smrti... sramota tistim, ki hočejo spremeniti žrtve v krvnike in komuniste v nacistične."



Ljubljana – Vzemimo, da so nacisti z zavezniki povzročili smrt kakih petdeset milijonov ljudi, toda kaj komunistom pravico, da so spravili ob življenje nekako sto milijonov ljudi, ki z nacisti niso imeli nobene zveze? Kaj je npr. dajalo slovenskim komunistom pravico, da so morili komuniste, ki so jih nacisti odpeljali v Dachau?

Komunisti poskušajo svoje zločine svetohlinsko skriti za nacističnimi. Delajo se, kot da bi bili njihovi zločini odgovor na fašistične in ne del njihove ideologije.

Lenin in Stalin sta uvedla ubijanje kot sredstvo revolucije, ko še ni bilo nikjer nobenega fašista. To ni niti najmanj čudno, saj je revolucija, nasilna polastitev oblasti, med najpomembnejšimi načeli komunizma.

Drugo Leninovo sredstvo v boju za oblast je bila njegova strategija in taktika – gre za oblast partije, toda trdiš, da ti gre za nekaj drugega, ker je na ta način lažje pritegniti ljudi. Lenin in Stalin sta kmetom obljubljala zemljo, da bi jih pridobila, nato pa sta jim zemljo vzela ob množičnem umiranju kmetov zaradi lakote.

Celo v španski državljanski vojni Stalin ni dovolil, da bi se komunisti predvsem borili proti Francovim fašistom, ampak jih je poslal nad anarhiste, prvotne "zveznike", kljub nevarnosti, da bodo fašisti zmagali.

Končno je Stalin ukazal komunistom, naj pod-

prejo Hitlerja, da je leta lahko začel vojno proti "imperialistom" in zasedel vso evropsko celino. Ko je kasneje Hitler napadel Sovjetsko zvezo in se je Stalin pritoževal, da se zahodni zavezniki niso izkrcali v Franciji pred 1. 1944, bi se moral prijeti za nos. On in njegovi komunisti so omogočili nacistom, da so zavzeli vso celino na Zahodu in so se morali Britanci z Američani vračati.

Kar navajam, so ali bi vsaj morale biti znane stvari. Zato je sprenevedanje o tem, kaj se je zgodilo med drugo svetovno vojno, docela odveč. Dvomi so mogoči le, če komunisti popolnoma izključijo pamet in spomin, še posebej kar zadeva ideologijo, na katero so prisegali.

Od vsega začetka jim je šlo za to, da se polastijo oblasti ne glede na sredstva. Dokler Hitler ni napadel Stalina, so se igrali igro protimperialističnih front in so imeli za glavne sovražnike Francoze in Britance.

Z 22. junijem 1941 so se obrnili proti "fašistom" in taktično razglasili za cilj narodno osvoboditev, medtem ko so v resnici računali, da si bodo z nepoštenjem pridobili oblast.

Pravimo z nepoštenjem, ker je nedvomno nepoštenje prava beseda za ljudi, ki se med vojno proti tujim sovražnikom, fašistom povrhu, lotijo svojih sonarodnjakov.

(DALJE na str. 18)

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SIMON GREGORČIČ

(NADALJEVANJE S STR. 14)

sto slovenskem svetu, "a ko priteče na ravnine, tam jo "živa radost mine". Pesnik ve za njeno bol, reka namreč teče "prek grobov slovenskega domovja". Napoveduje boje za to zemljo in se boji zanjo. Reko bo pojila kri slovenskih mož, zato jo poziva na pomoč.

Gregorčič jasno izpoveduje hrepenenje po svobodni slovenski zemlji, ki so jo posetili tujci. Z domovinsko mislijo je krepil narodno zavest v ljudeh, ljubezen do materejnega jezika in slovenske zemlje.

V pesmi V pepelnici noči je slovenskemu narodu nakazal socialno in narodno vstajenje, ki ga je slovensko ljudstvo zaslužilo s stoletnim trpljenjem.

Gregorčičevo hrepenenje po svobodni slovenski domovini se je uresničilo. Danes imamo samostojno slovensko državo, ki je v skupnosti Evrope. Meja ni več med nami, zato bi bilo pričakovati močno prizadevanje za tesnejše slovensko povezovanje, skupno krepitev

narodne zavesti in skrb za ljubezen do slovenskega jezika. Brez jezika ni naroda in kako osiromašen bi bil narod, če bi le v tujem jeziku izražal svoje znanstvene in druge miselne dosežke.

Rodoljubna misel je zdravi del naroda, ki nosi v sebi vse vrednote preteklih rodov. Če ne ljubimo materinega jezika, smo opeharjeni za skupen duhovnih vrednot, ki so se iz preteklosti v današnji čas prenašale prek lastnega jezika. Če ne gojimo v sebi ljubezni do lastnega jezika, nam tudi ni več mar za narod, iz katerega smo izšli, in ne moremo docela dojeti ljubezni Gregorčiča, pa tudi drugih slovenskih književnikov, do slovenskega jezika in skrbi, da ne bi izginil skupaj s slovensko zemljo.

Rodoljubna misel nam je tudi danes še kako potrebna. Slovenski narod štejemo med male narode. Razpet je tudi med sosednje države, ki niso naklonjene slovenskim narodnim skupnostim. Če se hočemo ohraniti kot narod, se moramo zavedati, da nimamo drugega orožja, kot materin jezik, ljubezen do lastnega naroda in zemlje, kolikor jo je še ostalo.

Gregorčičeva rodoljubna misel ostaja živa tudi za današnji čas. Skupaj z drugimi slovenskimi književniki je bil varuh jezika in s tem naroda. In če je bil pesnik po Božji volji, je bil tudi varuh naroda, ki se je ohranil po Božji volji. Zato čuvajmo ga, vsak po svoji moči. Bodimo prepričani, da rodoljubje ni nacionalizem. Nacionalizem je sovraštvo, rodoljubje je ljubezen. ■

NOVI LIST, 6. IV. 2006

SLOVENSKA
KULTURNA
AKCIJA

(nadaljevanje s str. 15)

Vinko Rode v posebnem sestavku "ob branju Kocbekovih dnevnikov" v isti številki poudari vse tisto, kar je bilo osnovno mnenje politične emigracije o Kocbeku. Predvsem mu očita "ambivalentnost", češ da je bil "mož nihanja, omahovanja, brez premočrnosti..." Gotovo krivična obsodba, ki pa še enkrat dobro opredeli Kocbekovo outsidersko pozicijo med dvema stoloma, med dogmatičnim komunizmom in dogmatičnim katolicizmom.

V obeh zadnjih zvezkih Meddobja so, kot vedno, objavljene barvne reprodukcije del slovenskih slikarjev v svetu, tokrat Adriane Omahna iz Argentine in Jožeta Vodlana iz Združenih držav Amerike. ■

Književni listi

Delo, 1. marca 2006

LJUBO SIRC

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 15)

Jeseni 1941 so najprej prepovedali, da bi se kdo bojeval proti fašistom, kolikor ne sprejme komunistične nadoblasti, nato pa so razglasili in začeli razredno vojno. Ob tem so poskušali z umori prisiliti sonarodnjake, da se zatečejo k okupatorjem. Hkrati sami niso niti najmanj oklevali s ponudbami Hitlerju, da bodo pustili njegove nacistične v miru, če jih ti ne bodo nadlegovali pri napadanju sonarodnjakov.

Njihov končni uspeh je bil popoln, ker se normalni ljudje niso znašli med podlostmi, ki so si jih privoščili komunistični voditelji. Vso to podlost so opravičevali z zagotavljanjem, da bodo uvedli nov red, ki bo prinesel neverjetno blaginjo in razvoj. Da je bil obet nesmiseln, bi morali vedeti vsaj vsi tisti komunisti, ki so obiskali Sovjetsko zvezo in videli, kako turbotno je bilo tam. Vendar so bolj verjeli svoji bolni fantaziji kot svojim očem.

Šele po izgonu iz Stalinovega tabora so se jim odprle oči in so spoznali, da Stalinovo načrtovanje ni za nobeno rabo. Opuštili so ga torej kljub vsej krvi, ki so jo prelili zaradi te zablode, in si izmislili nov sistem, od tedaj naprej edino pravilen, tako da so zaradi njega spet morili in lagali.

Kljub novim zločinom in nesmiselnim prizadevanjem je samoupravljanje propadlo hkrati s sovjetskim komunizmom. Komunisti so bili dovolj zviti, da so popustili po skoraj petdesetletnem zatiranju ne fašistov, ampak vseh, ki so bili dovolj pametni, da so videli, da komunizem vodi le k zaostajanju.

Potem ko so komunistični voditelji popustili in poskušali ohraniti vodstvo v nekakšni novi ljudski fronti, nas prepričujejo, da so se vedno bojevali le za narodno osvoboditev. Pozablajo, da so dejansko morili in lagali (prenekateri pravijo tem zločinom "legitimna revolucija"), da bi uvedli svojo oblast in svoj sistem. ■

Demokracija,
20. april 2006

Mali simpozij o IVANU HRIBOVŠKU

Pesnik, ki se je rodil
petdeset let po smrti*Hribovšek je danes del slovenskega literarnega kanona, a še zmeraj v pregloboki senci Franceta Balantiča*

Ljubljana – Slovenska matica se je 22. marca skromno posvetila Ivanu Hribovšku, pesniku, ki je komaj dvaindvajsetleten izginil v povojnih pobojih, čakal svojo prvo knjižno izdajo šele leta 1965 v Argentini, v slovenski duhovni prostor pa se je zasedel še kasneje, v času po osamosvojitvi.

Danes je Hribovšek sicer del slovenskega literarnega kanona, a zagotovo še zmeraj v pregloboki senci Franceta Balantiča, s katerim ga družijo posebna pesniška in politična usoda.

Oba predavatelja, akademik Janko Kos in France Pibernik, ki ima največ zaslug, da se je Hribovšek "vrnil" v slovensko literaturo, sta pravzaprav pripovedovala zgodbo o recepciji njegove poezije, se pravi podajala razloge, zaradi katerih je ta opus doživel tako pozen sprejem.

Pibernik je natančno predstavil mladeničevo biografsko in duhovno situacijo, se ustavil na glavnih postajah njegove kratke življenjske poti in nanizal dejstva posthumnega življenja te poezije.

Povejmo najnujnejše: Hribovšek, kmečki fant iz Radovljice, najprej dijak na Škofovih zavodih, v letih 1943/44 pa študent klasične filologije na Dunaju, se je nekaj časa izmikal vpoklicu v nemško vojsko, ko to ni bilo več mogoče, je iskal zvezo s partizani, potem pa je jeseni 1944 pristal med gorenjskimi domobranci.

S činom adjutanta se je znašel v Vetrinju, bil deportiran nazaj v Slovenijo in usmrčen, kje je njegov grob, med kočevskimi ali teharskimi žrtvami, se še danes ne ve.

Jeseni 1944 se je Hribovšek ukvarjal z mislijo, da bi pesmi objavil v knjižni obliki, a je zaradi neugodnih okoliščin ni mogel uresničiti. Po vojni so rokopisi ostali pri njegovi sestri, leta 1965 jih je v Argentini dobil Tine Debeljak in

izdal zbirko z naslovom *Pesem naj zapojem*; v njej so poleg pesmi v prvotni Hribovškimi redakciji zbirke tudi njegove mladostne, vsega okrog sedemdeset besedil.

Leta 1993 je, sledeč pesnikovi zamisli zbirke, za njegovo poezijo poskrbel France Pibernik in izdaja z naslovom *Himna večeru* pripisal tudi tehtno spremno besedo.

Leta 1994 je izšel tudi Balantič-Hribovškov zbornik, ki je prinesel prispevke s simpozija o obeh, a poudarek je vendarle na Balantiču.

Ne glede na to, da je Hribovšek danes tudi šolski avtor, zavest o njegovi poeziji vendarle še ni primerljiva z enakovrednimi avtorji. A kdo so to? Janko Kos na to vprašanje ni odgovarjal z imeni, ampak s pesmimi, ki po njegovem pač sodijo med antologijske v slovenski poeziji.

Takšnih pesmi je kakšnih dvajset, pravi Kos, nekatere je tudi predstavil. V njih najdeva izvirne modernistične izpeljave znotraj vrhunske klasične oblikovanosti. Povsem očitno je, da je Hribovšek eden tistih pesnikov, ki so "morali" dozoriti (pre)zgodaj. Hribovšek na primer že pri sedemnajstih. ■

DELO, 24. marca 2006

V blag in
ljubeč spomin

ob drugi obletnici smrti



JANEZ KLOPČIČ

*Srčno ljubljani mož,
prezgodaj si šel od nas.
Pogrešam Te, a v duhu
z menoj živiš.*

Žena Slavi
vnukinji Shelli in Debi

FRANCE M. DOLINAR, Zgodovinar

LJUBLJANA

Škofije na Slovenskem v preteklosti

Slovensko ozemlje je bilo od konca 8., oziroma od začetka 9. stoletja cerkvenoupravno razdeljeno med metropolitanska sedeža v Ogleju in Salzburgu. Meja med obema cerkvenima pokrajinama je po dogovoru salzburskega nadškofa Arna in oglejskega patriarha Pavlina leta 796 in potrditvi tega dogovora s strani Karla Velikega leta 811 tekla po reki Dravi. Na vzhodu se je sčasoma ustalila ob Sotli in Kolpi, v Istri pa je mejila na škofije Piran, Novigrad, Koper in Trst. (Iz revije za pastoralna vprašanja *Cerkev v sedanjem svetu*, Ljubljana, št. 2 (2006), Leto 40)

Do prve večje spremembe cerkvene uprave je prišlo v Panoniji. Po propadu Metodove nadškofije z vdori Madžarov v Panonijo (862) je cerkveno upravo na ozemlju svojega kraljestva obnovil kralj Štefan I. Sveti (997 – 1038), ki naj bi ustanovil deset škofij in jih podredil metropolitu v Ostrogonu (Esztergon).

Za slovensko cerkveno zgodovino sta pomembni škofiji Győr (ustanovljena leta 988 in podrejena metropolitu v Ostrogonu) in Zagreb (ustanovljena 1094 in podrejena metropolitu v Kaloczi). Győrskemu škofu so bili podrejeni porabski in prekmurski Slovenci v arhidiakonatu Murska Sobota, zagrebškemu škofu pa prekmurski Slovenci v arhidiakonatu Lendava.

Na ozemlju salzburske nadškofije so se duhovni interesi salzburskega metropolita prepletali s političnimi interesi salzburskega knezonadškofa kot državnika.

Na ozemlju svoje obsežne in zaradi visokih gor težko prehodne kneževine je knezonadškof ustanovil pet "lastniških" škofij z miniaturnim ozemljem. Njihovi škofije niso bili ordinariji v pravem pomenu besede, ampak neke vrste njegovi generalni vikarji z različnimi pooblastili.

Za Slovence so pomembne predvsem škofije v Krki (1072), Sekovi (1218) in Št. Andražu v Labotski dolini (1228).

Njihovo ozemlje se je spremenilo šele v času jožefinskih cerkvenih reform v drugi polovici 18. stoletja, ko so škofje teh škofij tudi dejansko postali pravi ordinariji, obenem pa ostali sufragani salzburskega nadškofa.

Oglejskemu patriarhu Bertoldu Andeškemu, ki se je leta 1238 iz nezdravega Ogleja preselil v Videm, je cesar še potrdil svetno oblast nad Furlanijo, Istro in Kranjsko, vendar je zaradi slabljenja cesarjeve politične moči in uveljavljanja Benetk ta začela slabeti, leta 1445 pa se ji je moral patriarh tudi dokončno odpovedati. Politični antagonizem med Habsburžani in Benečani je seveda že pred tem močno bremenil celotno pastoralno dejavnost na ozemlju patriarhata. Meja med političnima nasprotnikoma je namreč od l. 1420 ozemlje patriarhata delila na dva neenaka dela.

Na pastoralnem področju si je patriarh Bertold sprva pomagal s samostani (Stična, Gornji Grad, Podkloster), leta 1273 pa je načrtoval celo prenos pičanske škofije iz Istre v Gornji Grad na Štajerskem.

Zaradi nedorečenih materialnih obveznosti patriarha in benediktinske opatije v Gornjem Gradu do prenosa škofije ni prišlo. So pa pičanski škofije mnogokrat opravljali naloge generalnega vikarja oglejskega patriarha na Habsburškem ozemlju in v tej vlogi večinoma bivali v Ljubljani.

Z Ljubljano so ostali tesno povezani tudi po ustanovitvi ljubljanske škofije, saj so večkrat potegovali za mesto ljubljanskega stolnega prošta.

Dvesto let za patriarhom Bertoldom je pobudo reorganizacije škofijskih meja na svojem ozemlju prevzel cesar. Pri tem je Friderik III. zasledoval prvenstveno svoje politične cilje: na habsburškem ozemlju oglejskega patriarhata je želel

še zaostriť odnose s patriarhom.

To pa je bil tudi eden glavnih razlogov, da vse do Jožefa II. niso uredili pravnega statusa med nekaterimi samostanom in korporiranimi župnijami ljubljanske škofije do ljubljanskih škofov.

Opatje in opatinje "izvzetih redov" (Stična, Kostanjevica, Velesovo) so se tudi v pravno formalno ljubljanskemu škofu podrejenih, vendar njihovim samostanom inkorporiranih župnijah obnašali kot pravi ordinariji.

Pri tem jih ni motilo, da so posamezne pokrajinske sinode, predvsem pa tridentinski koncil celotno pastoralno dejavnost v škofiji podredili škofu. Prav primer oglejskih patriarhov in pozneje goriških nadškofov jasno kaže, da pastoralni razlogi pri upravi škofije v tem času pravzaprav niso imeli nobene vloge ne pomena.

Pač pa so pastoralni razlogi botrovali predlogu

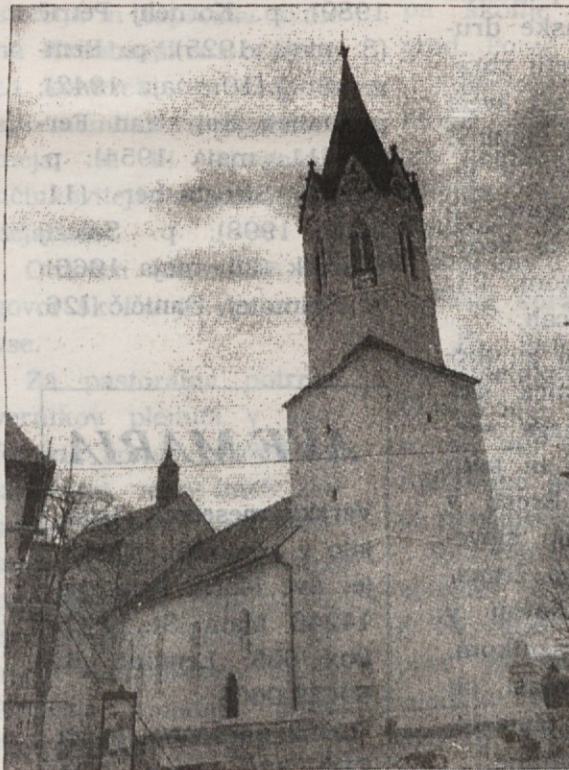
goriškega arhidiakona in nato ljubljanskega škofa Janeza Tavčarja (arhidiakon 1577-1580, ljubljanski škof 1580-1597) da bi za habsburško ozemlje oglejskega patriarhata ustanovili škofijo v Gorici. Zanj si je prizadeval tudi notranjeavstrijski nadvojvoda Ferdinand. Dolgotrajna pogajanja so kljub občasni naklonjenosti papeža ostala neuspešna predvsem zaradi že omenjenega političnega antagonizma med Benetkami in Dunajem.

Podobno usodo sta doživela predloga, da bi ustanovili škofijo v Celju in Novem mestu.

Nesmiselnosti škofijskih meja in posledično neučinkovitosti pastoralne dejavnosti v avstrijskih deželah se je zavedal že ljubljanski škof Buchheim in neuspešno predlagal v Rimu in na Dunaju bolj smiselno zaožrožitev meja ljubljanske škofije.

Za takšne pobude je postala dojemljiva šele

(dalje na str. 19)



Stolna cerkev sv. Nikolaja, Novo mesto



Stolna cerkev sv. Danijela, Celje



Stolna cerkev sv. Nikolaja, Murska Sobota

LEMONTSKI ODMEVI

P. Bernardin Sušnik

Majnik je povsod po svetu imenovan Marijin mesec. Slovenci imamo v tem mesecu posebno pobožnost, ki jo imenujemo šmarnice po cveticah, ki so značilne za ta mesec.

Žal se je do zdaj že par let zapovrstjo zgodilo, da so se pri naši lurški votlini, kjer so gozdna tla kar prekrita z njimi, zaradi pozne pomladi razcvetele šele na koncu meseca namesto na začetku.

Vsekakor pa pozna pomlad ne bi smela biti ovira naših šmarničnih pobožnosti.

Doma so šmarnice vsak dan, tradicionalno je bila to pridiga ali šmarnično branje in litanije Matere božje, ki so bile ob nedeljah redno pete. Po bogoslužni reformi so šmarnice v domovini združene tudi z večerno mašo. V Lemontu praznujemo šmarnice vsako nedeljo. Po razporedu naj bi bile vedno ob 2.30 pop., vendar zadnja leta opazamo, da je pobožnost do Matere božje na zadnjem mestu – kakršna koli druga prireditel v Domu je zadošten razlog, da se morajo šmarnice umakniti.

Pri takem osebnem in tudi skupnem odnosu do Marije se pač ni čuditi, če navsezadnje ugotovimo, da je tudi Marija včasih gluha za naše priporočanje in prošnje, saj je res Gospodova dekla, kar pa ne pomeni, da bi

morala biti tudi naša dekla, na razpolago, kadar jo potrebujemo in odrijena na stranski tir, kadar nam je to bolj priročno.

Materinski dan je vsako drugo nedeljo v maju, letos 14. maja. Ta dan je tudi zaključek Slomškove sobotne šole. Ta dan naj bi bil priložnost, da se spomnimo ne samo mater, ki so takrat navzoče med nami, ampak tudi vseh tistih, ki so že odšle po svoje plačilo, pa se jih moramo hvaležno spominjati.

Zavedati se je treba, da se v življenju vse pravično vrača in plača – kdor danes pozablja svoje rajne, bo ob svojem času tudi sam pozabljen. Vsekakor pa vsem našim materam, živim in mrtvim, želimo vse dobro.

Marija Pomagaj, zavetnica slovenskega naroda, goduje 24. maja. Na predvečer tega praznika naj bi se slovenske družine po vsem svetu zbrale doma ob goreči sveči in se združile v molitvi za božji blagoslov. V lemontski cerkvi bomo to molitev opravili na nedeljo pred praznikom, 21. maja, po šmarnicah.

Marija Pomagaj je obenem tudi zavetnica slovenskega narodnega svetišča na Brezjah in tako tudi ameriških Brezij v Lemontu. Zunanjo slovesnost lemontskega žegnaja bomo praznovali v nedeljo pred praznikom, 21. maja, pri maši ob 11. dopoldne in šmarnicah ob 2.30 popoldne.

Kot vsako leto smo tudi letos razposlali pi-

sma s tiskovinami, s katerimi lahko naročite prižiganje lučk na čast Mariji v maju in na čast Srca Jezusovemu v juniju.

Za odgovore in priložene darove se vam že vnaprej zahvaljujemo.

Meseca maja praznujemo tudi Gospodov vnebohod. Po bogoslužnih predpisih naj bi bil v četrtek po 6. velikonočni nedelji, ki je letos 25. maja. Tako ga v domovini tudi praznujejo.

Predpisi pa dovoljujejo, da se lahko vnebohod praznuje tudi na nedeljo, ki temu dnevu sledi, in tako ga bomo v Ameriki praznovali 27. maja. O tem ne odloča posamezen župnik ali škof, ampak celotna škofovska konferenca dežele.

Rojstni dan praznuje v mesecu maju p. Metod Ogorevc (9. maja 1965).

Godujeta: p. Atanazij Lovrenčič (2. maja) in p. Bernardin Sušnik (20. maja).

Umrli člani slovenske kustodije v maju pa so: p. Tadej Trpin (7. maja 1989); p. Kornelij Petrič (8. maja 1925); p. Benigen Snoj (10. maja 1942); p. Janez Kapistran Ferlin (11. maja 1954); p. Rafael Straghisser (11. maja 1998); p. Salezij Glavnik (25. maja 1966); br. Timotej Daničič (26.

maja 1995) in br. Viktorin Perc (26. maja 1919). Naj v miru počivajo in naj jim sveti večna Luč!

Kot vsak mesec, tako tudi v maju darujemo sveto mašo za žive in rajne naročnike našega mesečnika. Poleg tega so tudi vsi živi in rajni naročniki vključeni v naše skupne in zasebne molitve.

Naročnikom za zahvaljujemo za redno poravnavanje naročnine in še posebno za priložene darove. Oboje pomaga, da nam do sedaj kljub višji poštnini ni bilo treba zviševati naročnine. K sreči imamo res solidno tiskarno, ki se vztrajno drži svoje cene (ne kot bencinske družbe, ki jim je vsak, tudi najbolj za lase privlečen razlog dovolj, da dvignejo cene bencina, same pa delajo milijardne dobičke z denarjem, ki ga vlečejo iz naših žepov).

Nam tiskarna že več kot leto dni ni dvignila cene, pa še takrat, ko jo je zadnjikrat, je šlo za v bistvu zanemarljivo vsoto par deset dolarjev. Seveda pa opravimo vse delo, od postavljanja besedila do urejanja slik in oblikovanja strani, doma, kar omogoča sedanja računalniška tehnika. Tiskarna dobi vse na CD, ki ga dene v svoj računalnik in njihov tiskalnik natisne celoten mesečnik že kar na kovinsko ploščo, ki gre v tiskarski stroj.

Moramo pa upoštevati termine. Če naj gre naša nova številka na pot najkasneje 24. v mesecu za naslednji mesec, jo je treba dobiti iz tiskarne nekaj dni prej, da jo lahko zapakiramo in pri-

pravimo po poštinih predpisih, ki so precej komplicirani.

Tiskarna pa spet potrebuje svoje čas, tako da je 10. v mesecu prav zadnji čas za oddajo nove številke.

Zato se včasih zgodi, da mora pismo, ki je prišlo tik po zaključku redakcije, čakati na objavo v prihodnjem mesecu.

Poglavje zase so občasne pritožbe (posebno iz Kanade), da ta ali ona številka pride poškodovana. Tukaj uredništvo ne more pomagati. Predlog, da bi posamezne izvode pošiljali v kuvertah ali plastičnih ovojhi, je neizvedljiv, saj bi to občutno dvignilo ceno ne le zaradi kuvert ali plastike (za to je potreben poseben stroj), ampak tudi zaradi poštne, ki se ravna po teži.

Res pa je, da so tako poškodovani izvodi izjeme in če se to istemu naslovu dogaja večkrat, se je treba pritožiti na krajevni pošti, saj do tja potuje več izvodov v skupnem paketu, ki ga šele tam odpro.

Očitno je torej, da je take poškodbe kriva zanikrnost ali celo nagajanje, za par pa seveda uredništvo in uprava ne morata odgovarjati in še manj preprečiti.

Na odhodni pošti v Bolingbrook so nam zagotovili, da so naše pošiljke pravilno pakirane in v redu odpremljene. Za vse, kar se dogaja kasneje, pa odgovarja pošta, ki je za pošteno plačilo dolžna dostaviti nepoškodovane pošiljke.

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maj 2005

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V BLAG SPOMIN

Ob 10. obletnici smrti



GREGOR VASLE

UMRL 6. MAJA

Pozabili Te ne bomo vse do konca naših dni; v srcih bomo Te nosili, dokler nam življenje tli.

Njegovi žalujoči:

Francka, rojena Švigelj - žena Gregor Vasle - sin Milka Zelodec, Milena Starlein - hčerki Dorica - snaha vnuk, vnukinja in pravnukinja Andrej - brat, v Sloveniji in ostalo sorodstvo

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KOROŠKE BURKE

piše Mitja Volčanšek

Predvolilna farsa, ki jo na avstrijskem Koroškem igra deželni glavar Jörg Haider, je dosegla enega od vrhuncev.

Z zbranimi 15.000 podpisi Haider zdaj napoveduje čimprejšnjo izvedbo referendum o dodatnih dvojezičnih krajevnih tablah.

Ljubljana (Demokracija, 20. IV. 2006) – Podpise je Haiderjevo Zavezništvo za prihodnost Avstrije oz. BZÖ zbiralo vse od sredine februarja. Referendumsko vprašanje naj bi predvidelo tri možnosti. Volivci bi morali odločiti, ali naj se table postavijo v občinah s 15-odstotnim manjšinskim deležem (vendar le v krajih z vsaj 15 odstotki Slovencev) ali v krajih z 20-odstotnim manjšinskim deležem (a le v krajih z 20 odstotki manjšinske populacije) ali pa jih sploh ne postavijo, s čimer bi vprašanje dvojezične topografije ostalo odprto.

Referendum, ki ga napoveduje Haider, naj bi potekal jeseni in bi po glavarjevih besedah imel "obvezujoč" značaj oziroma bi bil podlaga za nadaljnja pogajanja o postavitvi dvojezičnih napisov. Vsakršno reševanje tega vprašanja pred referendumom je Haider ožigosal kot nedemokratično. Poudaril je celo podporo Avstrijske ljudske stranke (ÖVP) v deželni vladi, kar bi omogočilo referen-

dum še pred poletjem, a so v tej stranki to možnost kmalu zavrnil.

Ustavno sodišče je sicer določilo 30. junij kot skrajni rok za izpolnitev odločbe glede dvojezičnih napisov v Pliberku in Drveši vasi.

Referendum je brezpredmeten

Haider je sicer zbral potrebno število podpisov, kot to zahteva deželna ustava, ki pa hkrati predvideva, da je referendum izvedljiv za "ugotovitev volje prebivalcev dežele glede predmetov iz samostojnega področja delovanja dežele".

Večina pravnikov se strinja, da gre pri dvojezičnih napisih za zvezno in ne samostojno deželno vprašanje Koroške. Poleg tega bi moralo biti vprašanje oblikovano "kratko, stvarno, jasno in brez pripomb vrednotenja", kot je pojasnil strokovnjak za ustavno pravo Bernd Christian Funk.

Upoštevajoč napisano je zanimivo ugotavljati, da je Haiderjev BZÖ ostala popolnoma izolirana, saj referendumu poleg ljudske stranke nasprotujejo socialdemokrati, zeleni in celo Haiderjeva prejšnja stranka – svobodnjaki.

Tako je referendum za socialdemokrate v neskladju s pravom, ne strinjajo pa se niti s tem, da bi večina odločala o zadevah manjšine. Po mnenju vodje koroških zelenih Rolfa Holuba gre za "mobilizacijsko kampanjo za državnozborske volitve", v vrstah svobodnjakov pa Haiderjevo soloakcijo označujejo za irrelevantno in neobvezujočo.

V ÖVP so kot podlago za dogovor iz predala potegnili t. i. kompromisni predlog, ki se je oblikoval na lanski konferenci o konsenzu in govoru o postavitvi tabel v 158 krajih tja do leta 2010.

Haider pa vztraja pri svojem in ostaja gluh tako za strokovne kot politične argumente. Po nje-

govo "poskusi bojkota s psevdoznanstvenimi ekspertizami ne bodo učinkovali", izjave predstavnikov ÖVP pa je zmanipuliral in stranko predstavil kot razdeljeno glede vprašanja izvedbe referenduma.

Slovencev ni strah

Oglasili so se tudi pri Narodnem svet koroških Slovencev. Za podrobnosti smo se obrnili na osrednjega tajnika NSKS Marjana Pippa. Ta nam je ponovil razloge, zaradi katerih referendum ne more biti.

Nedopustno je, da bi o pravicah manjšin odločali na referendumu. Poleg tega so tu pravni vidiki, saj vprašanje dvojezične topografije ni v deželni, temveč zvezni pristojnosti. Po avstrijski ustavi niso dopustni referendumi o zadevah, "o



Marjan Pipp, tajnik NSKS

katerih odločajo ali so celo že odločala sodišča".

Referendum v takšni obliki pa bi ne nazadnje pomenil, tako Pipp, "razveljavitev avstrijske državne pogodbe".

Zato so v NSKS tudi pozvali deželno volilno komisijo, da zavrne izvedbo referendum. Komisija je tista, ki odloča, in Haider referendum, za katerega je "čisto jasno", da je nezakonit, preprosto sam ne more izpeljati, meni Pipp. ■

Škofije na Slovenskem

(NADALJEVANJE S STR. 17)

Marija Terezija sredi 18. stoletja in zaprosila škofo na Habsburškem ozemlju za konkretne predloge o spremembah škofijskih meja, ki bi omogočale učinkovitejšo pastoralno dejavnost.

Odločen odklonilen odgovor škofov je presenetil vse.

Za pastoralne potrebe vernikov plemiči v škofovskih vrstah, z redkimi izjemami, niso imeli posluha. Tako je tudi razumeti zavrnitev predloga po združitvi ljubljanske in goriške škofije po smrti ljubljanskega škofa Ernesta Amadeja grofa Attemsja leta 1757.

Edina izjema je bil ljubljanski škof Janez Karel Herberstein, ki je svoje predloge po spremembah škofijskih meja utemeljeval iz pastoralnih potreb in se pri tem skliceval na določila tridentinskega koncila.

Prvi korak k prenovi cerkvene uprave je bila ukinitvev oglejskega patriarhata leta 1751 ter ustanovitev goriške nadškofije za habsburški in nadškofije v Vidmu za beneški del nekdanjega patriarhata.

Meje goriške nadškofije na habsburškem ozemlju se niso spremenile, metropolitu so bile podrejene škofije Trident, Como, Trst in Pičan, vi-

demskemu metropolitu pa škofije Koper, Novi grad, Poreč in Pulj.

Ljubljanski škof je odklonil podredivitev goriškemu nadškofu in si je za svojega metropolita zgolj formalno izbral nadškofa v Estrogonu (Esztergom).

Drug korak na tej poti je bila ustanovitev sombotelske (Szombathely) škofije leta 1777, v katero so bili iz goriške in zagrebške škofije združeni prekmurški Slovenci. Radikalnejši glede preureditev škofijskih meja je bil cesar Jožef II., čeprav je svoje odločitve vendarle še usklajeval z Rimom. Škofijske meje so sicer prilagajali mejam političnih okrožij, čeprav zaradi nasprotovanja prizadetih škofov niso uresničili vseh sprva zastavljenih ciljev (npr. ustanovitev graške metropolije za notranjeavstrijske dežele. V tem primeru bi bili namreč v graški metropoliji razen prekmurških združeni vsi Sloven- ci).

Novigradska in pičanska škofija sta se delili s tržaško. Za kratek čas je bila ukinjena goriška nadškofija in skupaj s tržaško združena v novi škofiji v Gradiški ob Soči.

Leta 1787 je postala Ljubljana nadškofija in sedež metropolita za ško-

fije Senj Modruš (1787), Gradiška ob Soči (1788, od 1791 goriško gradiščanska škofija), Trst (1791) in Koper (1797).

Zaradi objave pastirskega pisma leta 1804 brez cesarjeve odobritve je papež na zahtevo cesarja Franca I. leta 1806 ljubljanskega nadškofa in metropolita Mihaela Brigida prestavil v Spiš na Slovaškem in naslednje leto Ljubljano degradiral v navadno škofijo, neposredno podrejeno Svetemu sedežu.

Spremembe meja ljubljanske škofije v času Ilirskih provinc (1809-1813) so bile kratkotrajne. Francozi se namreč niso ozirali na pristojnosti Rima in so samovoljno "uskladili" meje ljubljanske škofije z državnimi mejami Ilirskih provinc.

(DALJE PRIHODNJIČ)

Slovenija kandidira

Dunaj – Slovenska vlada je 2. marca sprejela sklep, da naj Slovenija, trenutno članica sveta guvernerjev Mednarodne agencije za jedrsko energijo (IAEA), kandidira za predsedovanje svetu guvernerjev IAEA v obdobju 2006/07.

S slovensko kandidaturo sta generalnega direktorja IAEA Mohameda el Baradeija 15. marca na Dunaju seznanila stalni predstavnik Slovenije pri organizacijah Združenih narodov na Dunaju dr. Ernest Petrič (bivši in prvi veleposlanik Slovenije v ZDA) in direktor slovenske uprave za jedrsko varnost Andrej Stritar.

O slovenski kandidaturi bo odločala generalna konferenca IAEA konec septembra na Dunaju. Slovenija je svetu guvernerjev enkrat že predsedovala, in sicer v obdobju 1998/99.

Prihajajoče obdobje bo precej izpostavljen, predvsem zaradi mednarodnega pritiska na Iran, ki očitno skuša razviti lastno jedrsko oborožitev, pa tudi zaradi Severne Koreje in njene jedrske politike.

DELO, 16. marca 2006

Z AMERIŠKO DOMOVINO
STE VEDNO NA TEKOČEM

V BLAG SPOMIN

Ob šestnajsti obletnici smrti našega dobrega moža, očeta, starega očeta in brata



ANTON CESAR

ki ga je Gospod poklical
5. maja 1990.

V miru božjem zdaj počivaj,
dragi, nepozabni nam.
V nebesih rajsko srečo uživaj,
do svidenja na vekomaj.

Zaljujoci ostali:

Zena: Ana Cesar
Sin: Steve Cesar z družino
Hčer: Ani Zudic z družino
in ostalo sorodstvo v Sloveniji
in Ameriki.

Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

1584. Ob priliki Misijonskega kosila,

je bila tudi možnost podpisa voščila našemu novemu kardinalu, prefektu dr. Franc Rodetu. G. Rudi Knez je dobil prav lepo zahvalo za čestitke in dobre želje s prošnjo, da molimo za njega, da bi obrodilo obilne sadove v blagor Apostolskega sedeža, milega slovenskega naroda ter vse svete Cerkve.

Vključimo ga v naše molitve – to bo največja podpora!

Misijonarka, s. usmiljenka Marija Pavlišič, ki deluje na Madagaskarju, nam je poslala obširno pismo o njihovem delu: "Spoštovana! Včeraj (18. febr.) sem prejela Vaše pismo, pa Vam bom takoj odgovorila. Hvala za Vaš trud in prizadevanje. Res lep znesek za uboge. Vem, da je g. Tomc vesel darov, ki so jih darovali njegovi domači in prijatelji. Jih bom pisala in se zahvalila za lep dar. Hvala!

Pri nas imamo veliko vročino in ker že dalj časa ni dežja, je še bolj soparno. Opozorili so nas na ciklon, smo v pripravljenosti, a upam, da se bo obrnil v drugo smer.

Tu pri nas je veliko ubogih, saj iščejo delo, a ni nobenega zaslužka, le tu in tam en dan ali dva. Ni industrije, delo v pisarni pa zahteva gotovo izobrazbo. Mi – z Vašo pomočjo – skušamo pomagati mladim do izobrazbe, da dobijo potrebno spričevalo, da se morejo zaposliti.

Naš delokrog je res lep – priznam, da je težak. Imamo osnovno šolo z 1250 otroci, 50 za osnovno znanje, otroci iz ulice, ki nimajo ob prihodu rojstnega lista. Prvo šolsko leto jim preskrbimo preko sodišča potrebne papirje, da vsak dobi rojstni list. V otroškem vrtcu imamo 186 otrok, 3, 4, 5 let stari. To je živ-žav na dvorišču. Imamo šolsko kuhinjo za 200 otrok. Otroci iz ulice imajo opoldne tudi topel obrok hrane, za večino je to edini obrok.

Imamo velik dispanzer z laboratorijem in potrebnim osebjem, socialni center, kamor prihajajo matere samohranilke, ostareli in bolni. Tuberkulozni bolniki, ki so na zdravljenju v bolnici ali so že odpuščeni. Pri nas je zelo veliko tuberkuloznih bolnikov med otroci, mladino, odraslimi ali starejšimi. V bolnici dobijo zdravilo, a ne hrane. Zato pridejo dvakrat na teden, da dobijo riž, fižol, zelenjavo, olje, dvakrat na teden tudi meso in nekaj denarja. Tudi ko gredo domov pridejo enkrat na teden, sicer bi prišli dva, tri mesece pozneje v bolnico in jim ne bi bilo več pomoči. Skrbimo tudi za invalide.

Imamo tudi internat za 50 deklet med 16. – 20. letom, ki študirajo v gimnaziji in pridejo 100, 200 km daleč.

To je, na kratko, strnjeno območje našega dela. Sestre obiskujejo ljudi po domovih, poučujejo verouk, vodijo molitev na misijonskih postajah in še marsikaj.

Še enkrat hvala za trud, ki ga imate, da nam pomagate. Vem, premalo pišem, čez dan ne morem, zvečer sem pa utrujena in tudi ne morem. Če bi ljudje vedeli, kakšne so potrebe, vem, da bi radi darovali, to posebno, če veste, da bo res za uboge. Bog naj bo plačnik za vse!

Iskren pozdrav, Vaša hvaležna sestra Marija Pavlišič, usmiljenka.

P.S.: Iskren pozdrav in Bog povrni vsem misijonskim dobrotnikom!"

Zamislite si, kakšne številke otrok so okrog teh sester, koliko živ-žava na dvorišču, ko je pavza! In potem vse to okrotiti in peljati šolske ure naprej. Bog ima za vsakega svoj načrt, važno je, da sodeluješ ter sprejemaš, kar pride naproti. Molimo za vse naše misijonarje, misijonarko, ki se razdajajo po svetu!

Imam še eno pismo, od s. Marjete Mrhar, ki je lansko leto šla v pokoj, a je ostala na Madagaskarju:

"Spoštovani člani in dobrotniki MZA! Vsem iskren Bog povrni za Vaš velikodušni dar v pomoč ubogim, ki vedno stegujejo roke proti nam in nas prosijo pomoči. Res sem vesela, da po Vaši dobroti lahko kaj priložim v njihovo skupno blagajno. Bog in Marija naj Vam vsem obilo nadomestita, kar ste darovali za njihove najnужnejše brate. Ja pa se Vam hočem od-

dolžiti s svojimi skromnimi molitvami.

Sem srečna med sosestrami, kjer živi ljubezen, razumevanje in medsebojna pomoč. Izčrpale smo se v služenju ubogih in je zdaj naše delo molitev ter darovanje starostnih neprilik za nje in za vse, ki so nam stali ob strani ter nas duhovno in materialno podpirali v tej službi.

Bogu sem iskreno hvaležna, da še marsikaj sešijem. Imam sobico, kjer vsak dan nekaj ur dopoldne in popoldne v tihoti združena z Jezusom krojim in kombiniram obleke, bodisi za otroke, pa tudi za odrasle. In ko jih potem vidim, kako se podijo po dvorišču v teh oblekah, ki sem jih sešila, mi iz srca privre ena sama misel: Hvala ti, Jezus, za moč, da še lahko na ta način pomagam.

Tako, dragi misijonski prijatelji, kar lepo preživljam leta, ki mi jih je še odločil Gospod. Sedaj ni nobene naglice, zato je tudi molitev bolj iskrena in doživeta, v kar ste vključeni tudi Vi vsi.

Še enkrat iskren Bog povrni in prisrčen pozdrav vsem od sr. Marjeta!"

K vsem zahvalam se pridružujem tudi podpisana in želim prav lepo veselje, ko gledamo ta naša drevesa v polnem cvetju in mislimo na Božjo dobroto in lepoto. Ljubi maj, krasni maj, konec zime je sedaj!

Prav lep misijonski pozdrav od vseh sodelujočih in

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NOVI GROBOVI

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 13)

William K. Okorn

Umrli je William K. Okorn, mož Letty, oče Linde Trojan, 5-krat stari oče, 2-krat prastari oče, brat Rudolpha ter že pok. Anne McGee, Johna, Berthe Zang in Georgea, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški pehoti, bil dvakrat ranjen ter prejel srebrno medaljo in kar pet bronastih. Pogreb je bil 3. maja s sv. mašo v cerkvi St. Thomas More in pokopom na Sv. Križa pokopališču.

Helen F. Trebec

Umrli je 98 let stara Helen F. Trebec iz Munson Twp., rojena Centa, vdova po Josephu, mati Richarda, 5-krat stara mati, štirje bratje in sestre so že pok. Pogreb je bil 2. maja v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda, kjer so bili pogrebni obredi, s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Albert Simonie

Dne 19. aprila je umrl 91 let stari Albert Simonie, vdovec po Ameliji, roj. Skala, oče Allana, stari oče Scotta, brat Jamesa, Mary Koziura, Angeline Belu in Emme Dieterich, zaposlen pri U.S. General Accounting pisarni v Clevelandu skoraj 40 let, veteran 2. svetove vojne, v kateri je služil v Evropi v medicinski službi ameriške pehote. Pogreb je bil 22. aprila v oskrbi Želovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi Sv. križa in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

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