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Permes' Adventure Around Lake Erie

by PHILIP L. PERME

Introduction:

On August 19, 2006 my dad, Elmer L. Perme, of Euclid, Ohio, and I began a Lake Erie Circle Tour of our own. The main characters were Phil, (the author), and my dad, Elmer, and the 2005 GTO, called the 'goat.' We met some real "characters" in our travels that we will smile about for years to come.

The trip was a six-day road trip around Lake Erie starting from, and ending in Cleveland, Ohio. The route was westerly to Detroit-Windsor, then easterly through to the Niagara region/Buffalo, back to American soil. We spent a night in five different cities, four in Ontario, Canada, and one in Erie, PA.

The theme was rolling relaxation and observation of some new towns to us. We dined well on Lake Erie perch and have a new appreciation for soy bean growing fields. Hopefully, the next few pages arranged day by day, will take you with us on the rolling vacation and give you the same laughs we had, same quandaries we had, and same desire to do a trip again, like we have.

Day One

Rain, Turnpike, Ambassador Bridge

Saturday morning, 8 a.m. came up fast. The night before was spent late at work transitioning work to co-

workers since I would be gone for two weeks of vacation. Add a few beers after that and 8 a.m. feels more like 8:45 a.m. After a bacon and eggs breakfast at my folks house, we were road ready.

We truly had the best in life – a travel plan, some iced tea in a thermos, one jacket between the two of us, and one piece of luggage each. Mine was a gym bag, dad's was a carry on size. We kept it simple and had no regrets.

It was on the verge of raining all morning, and it finally came down upon us somewhere around Elyria, Ohio. Merely a drizzle, but much more driving energy is needed to pay attention, keep distance and stay focused. We had a bite at a turnpike rest area near Toledo – money island for the owners. Had some overpriced food – chicken sandwich, burger and coffee for dad, and pop for me. This was a good move since we gauged my tiredness to drive.

Dad drove the 'goat' from near Toledo to Amberstburg, Ontario, Canada. We used the AAA Triptik, common sense, very watchful eyes – who designs those exits anyway? – and tolls. While around Detroit, they had some kind of car show that day. Saw an old 70's era Dodge with four youths looking for trouble. What a waste of a beautiful car on such yahoos.



Thorold, Ontario, Canada. Left to right, Elmer Perme, Paula Jenko, Phil Perme, Alojze Jenko on Aug. 22, 2006, prior to dinner at the Keifer Mansion Restaurant.

Finally, we got to Detroit/Windsor and to the Ambassador bridge. Sadly, nothing too pretty or striking in the Detroit area. Kind of like the older parts of Cleveland that needs a good washing. We paid a toll to use the bridge and get into Canada.

The customs man cleared us and we were now on Canadian soil. The trip is now official. The bridge was one long structure over the water. Not to mention a few hundred feet above the water.

We were on it for a long three minutes. Time to close eyes with holy thoughts.

The first stop was Amberstburg. This fort is famous for the War of 1812 era for us Americans. It seemed like a nice first stop. This is when we learned about the Canadians' sense of humor for road signs. We think they just don't like signs and view them like golf strokes – the less the better. After touring the lakefront in Amberstburg about three times, we finally reached the fort.

This is a national park? The fort was bordered by new housing on the east and west and a school on the north. To the south was the water. Outside of some really pleasing views of the water and the hunt of the huge expanse of lake – save your money. An online tour would be more educational and about as entertaining.

Canada may have a different appreciation for national landmarks. However, it was fun seeing / being educated from the Canadian point of view. Kind of refreshing to know that other countries have national pride like we do.

Now about 5 p.m., we set out for Leamington – AAA trip/tik and some directions

from the woman at the fort. A serene ride into Leamington, gassed up and went to the hotel. By the way, liters are about four to a gallon at about a dollar per liter. Ouch.

The hotel was a nice place, clean and new. As luck would have it, a bunch of motorcyclists stayed there, too. However, they were nice folks enjoying the road, too. So no worries.

The original plan was to attend the Annual Tomato Festival for food and beverage. Nix on that since it was more of a rockfest, beer drinking environment. Too old and too tired to belly up, so we dined at Applebees.

We learned another thing that night – can you say taxes? I think they tax you to kill the meal, cook the meal, serve the meal, then clean up the place. GST, PST and some other one as well. Tax on tax. National healthcare needs to fund on something. And this is how they do it.

Back to the hotel for some needed R&R. This was the theme – and we followed it proudly. R&R before breakfast, after breakfast, before dinner, and after dinner. What a tough life – someone has to do it, and that someone was us.

We called it a night.
(To Be Continued)



A Christmas play with a live baby "Jesus" was held during St. Mary's of the Assumption (Coll.) Children's Christmas Eve Mass at 5 p.m., on Sunday, Dec. 24. The excellent program was under the direction of Chris (Kosem) Vidmar and Toni Jo Kozak.

(Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

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No. 5

February 8, 2007

Groundhog Day

by RUDY FLIS

Today is February 2, and to many Americans it is also Groundhog Day, a day probably too cold for any little furry animal to see if the sun will shine on day number two of this cold month. But it wasn't too cold for me as I donned boots, coat, hat and gloves as I endured the elements of winter to finish my work week, which takes me to the snow-belt area of Cleveland.

And something I hadn't done all year I did today, while out among the snowflakes on the east side of Cleveland. I visited R&D Sausage Co. on Waterloo Road to renew my supply of klobase and zelodec which were completely depleted since the Christmas Holidays. I'm loading up and will continue to do so until Feb. 21st, Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent and the beginning of fasting and abstaining and the other little things we tend to do during this solemn season.

While Joe Zuzak was filling my order, we were dis-

cussing the past month and its happenings, as I consumed a few tasty slices of zelodec Joe had laying on the counter for me so I did not faint from an empty stomach which was swiftly filling with the aroma of the freshly smoked meats. It worked, for I made it home on a stomach lined with zelodec and a car that had the tantalizing fragrance of smoked klobase that caused a deep breathing exercise that could not be calmed until I exited the car. How can I thank the Lord for the delightful simplicity I just described that is my Slovenian heritage?

Know that I always enjoy the foods that are my heritage, and I enjoy them regularly, but not constantly. Moderation can go a long way, even when it consists of a klobase meal. When I die, I want klobasa and garlic on my breath as I stand in front of the gates of heaven so St. Peter will know where I'm from and my mom and dad and family will recognize that familiar fragrance and me.

Application for Grant Monies

The government of the Republic of Slovenia, Office for Slovenes Abroad, posted its public notice on Friday, Jan. 26 regarding its application for grant monies available to Slovenian organizations abroad. The deadline for application is Feb. 28.

The application can be viewed and downloaded at the Office for Slovenes Abroad web site www.uszs.gov.si.

The Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia, in Cleveland, has sent, via mail, information and application to each leader of the various Slovenian-American organizations. If your organization has not received an application, please contact The Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia, in Cleveland.

My First Limousine Ride

by MATTHEW CHAUBY

On Thursday, January 11th, my family went to Blake's Seafood Restaurant in Chagrin Falls, Ohio for my great uncle "Stric Joze's" (Lah) birthday. A limo picked up my Grandma and Grandpa at their home. The limo had already picked up my Aunt Irene and Stric Joe. Then it picked up Stric Joze and Teta Marinka. On the way to Chagrin Falls it picked up my Uncle Greg, Aunt Kristina, and their kids, Josef, William, and Shane. The limousine then took them down to Blake's.

I went with my Mom, Dad, and brothers, Michael and Marcus in my Mom's truck. When we came to Chagrin Falls we saw a huge limousine. I said, "Hey, that's probably the limo Grandma and Grandpa are in." My Mom said, "Maybe, but there are a lot of limos there."

We went into Blake's and the waitress asked us if we had reservations. My Mom said we were there for Joe Lah's birthday party. The waitress took us downstairs to a room just for us.

Everyone was there to help celebrate Stric Joze's birthday, all my aunts, uncles, and all my cousins. We talked with everyone, then the waiters gave us a menu with "Happy Birthday Josef!" on the top. We were able to order whatever we wanted from the menu.

We ate a lot of food. We got to see the river and falls which were located outside of the large window where we dined. We had cake and sang happy birthday, but all the while I kept wondering what it was like inside that limo.

After dinner, I asked my Grandma if she would tell me about the limo ride the next time I see her. I kept asking my mom what limos looked like inside. Finally, she said, "Why don't you ask if you could ride home with them in the limo since they only live a street away?"

I was afraid to ask, but my Mom said "Well, what is the worst they could say?" I replied, "No." Then she said, "So if they say 'no' you are no worse off than you already are, therefore it can't hurt to ask."

That made sense to me so I decided to ask my Grandma. She said, "You will have to ask Stric Joze." So I did and he said, "I don't see why not, but you better check with Uncle Greg." So I did and he said, "Yes." Then I asked, "Can my brother go too?" He said, "Sure." So it was decided my brother and I would be going on our first limo ride.

We were excited. We had to sit in the back with our cousins Victoria and Alexija, but we didn't mind. The limo was very cool; the driver opened the door and inside was colorful lights on the

ceiling and two lighted counters to put wine glasses. It had leather seats and three TV's. I thought it was really great and so did my cousin even though she had previously been on three limo rides. I still thought it was really cool.

During the limo ride I would joke around with my brother and cousins saying, "I had to go through a lot of trouble to get these seats." It was kind of like a bus ride because people were dropped off right at their houses and we could not be loud because the driver had to concentrate on driving.

After my Uncle Greg, Aunt Kristina and their kids were dropped off, we were able to move to the front where all the adults were sitting.

We continued on toward Chardon, Ohio, and as with all good things, our limo ride came to an end. When we came home we told our Mom and Dad about our limo ride and went to bed. The next day I went to school and told all my friends about my limo ride.

Matthew is 11-years-old and a 6th grader at Chardon Middle School. He played the part of "Ralphie" in the play "Christmas Story," last year. He is the son of Michael and Jennie Chauby and grandson of Lenka and Joe Chauby.

May you live as long as you wish and love as long as you live.

—Phil Hrvatin

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

CAN YOU GUESS MY AGE AND WEIGHT ?

It's 0430 hours on a Monday morning. I've had one too many to drown my sorrow since my favorite football team lost in the Super Bowl. It's dark outside and it is snowing and miserable here on the North Coast. No better time than now to come up with the ultimate quiz: CAN YOU GUESS MY AGE AND WEIGHT ON MY LAST BIRTHDAY? The prize will be an annual subscription to Mother Earth News if your NAME IS PICKED FROM THE CORRECT ANSWERS SNAIL-MAILED to the editor. Yours truly will help you by providing the following facts:

Mercina's age and weight is as follows on the planets listed below:

• Mercury	257.6	75.2
• Venus	100.8	180.4
• Mars	32.9	75
• Jupiter	5.23	470.4
• Saturn	2.1	182.2
• Uranus	.73	176.9
• Neptune	.37	223.8
• Pluto	.249	13.3

AGE: _____ WEIGHT: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

This and that from Emilee



by EMILEE JENKO

On Jan. 21 the George Knaus segment of Dale Bucar's polka program on WELW had piano selections by Joe Petrik. My kind of music. Thanks George. Get well wishes to Bea Tanko who is a temporary resident of Manorcare on Euclid Avenue. A good friend since we were bicycling on East 185 and Kildeer. Wishes for a speedy recovery.

50th wedding anniversary wishes to Marianne and Hank Haller from all your family and friends and your admiring fans. Make more music together in the future.

I hear from her Charter One bank friends that Gwen Slapnik Washington is hanging in there. Speedy recovery, Gwen, and love from all.

Did we see the Groundhogs likeness on Feb. 2nd? Will we have more snow or are we looking for some pleasant weather. I hope so.

It was a cold, blustery afternoon, but the attendance at the certificate meeting for Slovenian Workmen's Home was ample. The election took place and six were elected. Discussion about the non-smoking law in the SWH was talked over. Let's abide by the law and observe NO SMOKING. It is our home and we need it to be healthful and congenial.

Sunday, Jan. 30th was the date for the dinner and a belated Christmas Party for Klub Ljubljana and Lodge 10. They combined their groups for the festivities. A very intimate group, about 30 lovely ladies and one gentleman, Frank Sadar. It was held at Slovenian Society Home on Recher Avenue. Stefanie Segulin did a great job arranging the affair. Sophie Mazi and her efficient helper did the catering which was very excellent and mouth watering.

Frank Sadar graciously handled the raffle, which I must admit I was very lucky. My luncheon companions were Dorothy Boldin Kane, Elsie Zalar, Polly Juratovic, Mary Perusek, and Frances Klemencic. Thanks to Angie Shine and Mary Persin for the treat.

In Sarah Crump's column in the Plain Dealer on Feb. 1st, she wrote about Judy Zamlen Spotts' son David, a senior at University School. He asks supporters of the school to hunt around for treasures of heirlooms for University School Attic Food Bank fund raiser that he is organizing. David is doing a great job. Keep it up, David, your are our future. Judy, his mom, is an ex St. Vitus/St. Clair area resident. Keep us informed as to the result of the fund-raiser.

The "kitchen angels" at Waterloo Slovenian Home



Pictured above are several of the Slovenian Workmen's Home Auxiliary members (a.k.a. Kitchen Angels) in their Christmas attire. Front row, left to right, Sophie Matuch, Dorothy Smrtnik, Angie Zabjek and Dorothy Gorjup. Back, row, Eleanor Godec, John Vasilko, Gracie Fillippo, Jeanne Matuch, Vida Zak, President June Slapnik, Ellen Downer, Vida Kalin, and Mimi Struna. (Photo by PAT NEVAR)

for Fish Fries has a new recruit, Pauline Barbish. You have entered a very elite and prestigious group. Congratulations.

Happy wedding anniversaries to Hank and Lillian Pugel, 58 years, and to Dan and Helen Pavsek, 63 years. You have to be congratulated. Such happy couples. Again, many years of happiness and togetherness.

Frank Koenig, a loyal and responsible volunteer for the S.H. Aged for quite a few years, is on the sick list. I don't know exactly what the problem is, but he was hospitalized for a few days. He has racked up many volunteer hours tending to the SHA residents. And he assists me with my bingo sessions during June, July, and August. All my Bingo volunteers wish the best to you for a speedy recovery. You are missed. The residents just love you. Hurry back.

Until we meet again next time. I will leave you with this thought:

There are good ships, and there are wood ships, the ships that sail the sea. But the best ships are friendships, and may they always be. -- LUV YA.

--Emilee

Slovenian Style Fish Fry Invokes Secret Recipe

The slogan at Slovenian Workmen's Home has always been, "Your Home Away from Home," and the cooking there is "Slovenian Style." The Auxiliary Fish fries made the Plain Dealer's Top 10 List a couple of years ago. Their secret recipes are always requested but never given.

Repeat customers are many. Some try other establishments but always return and say, "We're back. We like it here best of all." Just ask George Knaus. He'll tell you about the special treatment he received a couple of weeks ago.

The Auxiliary is gearing up for the extremely busy Lenten season, which will begin on Feb. 23rd. Extra volunteers are always needed. If you are interested, contact President June Slapnik at (216) 486-4690.

Every Friday a different homemade soup is featured. During Lent, the popular Clam Chowder will be available most Fridays. Din-

ner choices are hand breaded walleye, breaded shrimp, "Catholic Senior Citizen Breaded Pork Chops," goulash or macaroni and cheese, cabbage and noodles, applesauce and the famous Slovenian coleslaw. Of course, strudels, various cakes and pies are available for dessert.

Most Fridays someone is celebrating a birthday. Last week Micki Mausser, Mary Fuerst and Paul Yanchar were served cake and serenaded by the Kitchen Angels, accompanied by Kenny Zalar and Kathy Hlad.

Serving at the Friday Fish Fry begins at 11:30 a.m. and continues until 8 p.m. Music by Kenny Zalar, Kathy Hlad and friends continues until approximately 10 p.m. For takeouts, reservations or information call (216) 481-5378. The Slovenian Workmen's Home is located at 15335 Waterloo Road, Cleveland, OH 44110. The Fish Fries are served in the lower hall.

Sawyer Skorich Pastwa will reach the delightful age of two, or is it the terrible two's? I don't think so. She is such a gem. She will celebrate on Feb. 28. Have a fun day, Mac. Love you.

Love Emma Pogacar's jokes. The Irish one last issue was a blast. Also her info on subjects is very interesting. Keep it up.

Belated wedding anniversary wishes to Kay and Frank Penca on 53 years of happy marriage. Congratulations and many more happy and healthy days ahead.

Belated birthday wishes to: Mary Persin, Betty and Joe Kovalan and Geri Hopkins who keeps the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair running smoothly.

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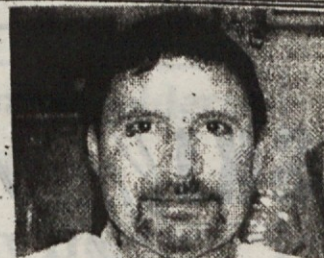
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European Leaders Hail Slovenia's Smooth Transition to the Euro

European leaders hailed the smooth euro switch in Slovenia on Monday, Jan. 15 as the former Yugoslav country held a high-profile ceremony to mark the historic event, said reports from the Slovenian capital, Ljubljana.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, whose country holds the rotating EU presidency in the first half of 2007, said Slovenia's adoption of the euro was a "moving moment," especially considering that she personally saw two changes of currency – first when Germany was reunified and then in 2002, when the euro was introduced.

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said the adoption of the euro was an important historic step for Slovenia and the European Union, as it proved the eurozone was not a "private restricted club; the euro is truly a currency of the EU."

The single European currency euro has been Slovenia's only legal tender since Monday (Jan. 15) after two-week transition period in which the Slovenian tolar and the euro were in dual use.

The European Commission said Slovenians were already making nearly all cash payments in euros. Almost 80% of tolar had already been deposited with banks and withdrawn from circulation. No notable problems

were recorded, despite fears of massive price hikes.

On Jan. 1 Slovenia became the 13th country using the euro. The country of some 2 million is the first among the 10 EU newcomers that joined the pan-European bloc in 2004 to have fulfilled the rigorous economic criteria needed to join the euro zone.

Merkel said Slovenia's successful switch to euro would encourage other EU newcomers to follow suit and reap the rewards of the euro, including the elimination of exchange cost and risk, relegating the threat of devaluation to history and encouraging cross-border trade and investment inside the eurozone.

Jean-Claude Trichet, president of the European Central Bank, praised Slovenia's achievement in economic development which saw its gross domestic produce per person growing from 50% to almost 80% of EU's average between 1995 and 2006.

Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Jansa said the adoption of the euro was a big step for Slovenia, a small step for the European Monetary Union and a step in the right direction.

"Since the disintegration of Yugoslavia, Slovenia has walked a successful path of development and transition," Jansa said.

Thanks for Philip J. Hrvatin for this news.

NUT CAKE

This recipe is from the "Slovenian Cookbook," *Our Favorite Recipes*, compiled by the American Slovene Club. This was always our favorite birthday cake, and should be frosted with Custard Frosting.

- Ingredients:**
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 C butter, softened | 1 t vanilla |
| 2 C sugar | 1 C chopped nuts (walnuts or pecans) |
| 4 egg yolks, beaten | 3 egg whites, (beaten stiffly) |
| 3 C flour | |
| 3 t baking powder | |
| 1/8 t salt | |
| 1 C milk | |

Directions:

Cream butter, add sugar, then egg yolks. Sift dry ingredients together, and add alternately with the milk, beginning and ending with the flour mixture. Add vanilla. To the ground nuts, add a little of the flour mixture and fold into the batter. Lastly, fold in the egg whites. Bake in a greased angel food pan for 50-60 minutes. Let cool, and frost with custard frosting (below)

CUSTARD FROSTING

This is Mom's and Aunt Betty's recipe. We always use this for birthday cakes when we were growing up. It is especially good on the nut cake. It is not real sweet, but takes a little more time and energy than other frostings. It is worth it.

- Ingredients:**
- | | |
|-----------|------------------------|
| Custard: | 3 T shortening |
| 1 C milk | 1/2 C butter, softened |
| 4 T flour | 1/2 C sugar |
| | 1 t vanilla |

Cook the flour and milk over low to medium heat, stirring constantly, until very thick. – Cool.

In the meantime, in the mixer, combine the other 4 ingredients and beat until combined. Add the cooled custard mixture and whip until fluffy.

--Kim Ann Kaifesh
Our Family and Friends Recipes

Now I'm Older, Here's What I Found

I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.
 My wild oats have turned into prunes and All Bran.
 I finally got my head together, now my body is falling apart.
 Funny, I don't remembering being absent minded.
 All reports are in; life is officially unfair.
 If all is not lost, where is it?
 It is easier to get older than to get wiser.
 Some days you're the dog; some days you're the hydrant.
 I wish the buck stopped here; I sure could use a few.
 The only time the world beats a path to your door is when you're in the bathroom.
 If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would have put them on my knees.
 It's not hard to meet expenses... they're everywhere..
 These days I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter. I go somewhere to get something and then wonder what I'm here after.
 The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.
 If you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you get old.
 Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make it wag its tail.
 After a certain age, if you don't wake up aching in every joint, you're dead.
 There are no new sins. The old ones just get more publicity.
 Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, and faith looks up.

--Phil Hrvatin

When a man assumes a public trust he should consider himself a public property. –Thomas Jefferson

It's COOL To Be SLOVENIAN

Newspaper Schedule

The American Home will continue to be printed three times a month in February, March and April.

In February, the remaining American Home will be printed on Feb. 15.

In March the American Home will be printed on March 1, 8, and 15.

In April the American Home will be printed on April 5, 12 and 19.

Remember, today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday. – Dale Carnegie

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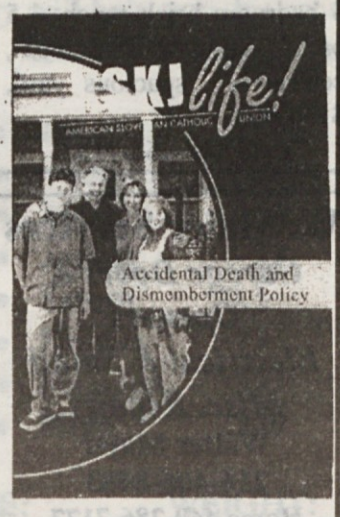
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We continue with our series of articles on the Regions of Slovenia, as they were originally prepared by Prof. Edward Gobetz for the program on Slovenia at St. Mary's Parish in Cleveland, on October 22, 2006,

Together with Koroška or Carinthia and Prekmurje in the north, Bela Krajina is one of the three smallest regions of the Republic of Slovenia. It lies in the extreme south and is encircled by Lower Carniola in the west and north and by Croatia in the south and southeast.

It was the white national costumes which gave the region its white (or bela) name. Made by the diligent and inventive ladies out of homespun flax linen, these white vestments gave the region of hills and hillocks and of narrow valleys on the Kolpa River the name Bela Krajina, the White March, or White Carniola.

The enumeration of bigger Slovenian towns by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia includes only two towns of this region: Črnomelj (18,575) and Metlika (8,425). Yet, this smallness in numbers is more than outweighed by the folkloristic and historical wealth of the region of this wonderland on the rim of Trdina's enchanted Gorjanci Mountains and within the little, narrow valleys, where we find small and tight population settlements. In spite of poverty which caused so many local natives to emigrate to various countries, particularly to America, this is the home country of industrious and capable people.

Thus, for instance, James Cow in 2000 quotes another Englishman, Simon Clements, who visited Metlika in 1715 and subsequently wrote about "wonderfully well cultivated vineyards" and "how the remarkable industry of the inhabitants exceeds that of the lazy Hungarians in their fertile plains."

Historical sources as early as 1228 mention "regio quae Metlica dicitur," using the Slovenian name Metlica, not the German Mottling, which was forced on the Slovenian population by foreign Germanizing lords.

As Slovenia's southernmost region, the White March was between the years 1408 and 1579 particularly exposed to the murderous and plundering raids of Muslim Turks. Črnomelj, which Oton Kraški started building in 1165 and which was granted City Rights in 1407, was in the 16th century a Christian defense post, with strong military units. The Turks attacked it nineteen times, yet could never subdue it.

Valvasor, in his important historic book, *Topographia Ducatus Carniolae modernae* (1679), as well as in some other publications, listed a number of castles and included their Slovenian names, thus, among others: Krupa, Smuk, Črnomelj, Pungart, Gradac, Turn and Vinica. The foreign local lords were relatively safe in their fortified castles, while the poor local

inhabitants usually took refuge in their churches, surrounded by walls and ditches.

General Ivan Lenkovič built strong fortifications around Podbrezje on the River Kolpa in 1557. In about the same period, the Slavic "uskoki" (invaders), mostly Croatians or Serbians from Lika, settled in Bela Krajina where their descendants can still be found in villages Bojanci, Marindol and Milica. As elsewhere in Slovenia, exploitation by foreign lords led to peasant rebellions, the most notable being in 1748 in Metlika.

From the earliest times, the viniculture flourished all over Bela Krajina, from Metlika to the hills of Semič. Many prominent wines come from these areas, including "metliška črnina" — the dark red Metlika wine. In addition to cultivation of vineyards, the locals engaged in agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, and various home crafts, including the making of linen from flax. Other efforts included the opening of a coal mine at Kanižarica near Črnomelj in 1857 and a little later of a brick factory close by. From 1851 to 1883 a foundry operated at Gradac, while another small foundry was established in Črnomelj by Janez Doltar, a repatriate from America. In 1929, a wine cooperative was established in Metlika. Later, and especially after the Second World War, the textile, food, metal and wood industries were established.

The pressures of population growth and limited resources, particularly in the 19th century, forced many residents of Bela Krajina to emigrate to other countries, especially to America. Thus it is not surprising that the natives of this region often constituted the first Slovenian settlements in the United States. The Vertins from Dobliče, for instance, built a very successful commercial business in Calumet, Michigan, and John Vertin became, in 1844, the bishop of Marquette, the diocese first established by the prominent Slovenian missionary, Frederic Baraga from the Lower Carniola who had earlier served as chaplain in Metlika. Ivan Stariha from Sadinja Vas served, between 1902 and 1907, as the first bishop of Lead, South Dakota.

Until the publication of our research findings, no one in Slovenia knew that a noted pioneer of American aviation, Max Stupar (1885-1944), was a Slovenian-speaking native from Metlika whom American sources incorrectly described as an Austrian from Mottling (sic). Similarly, it was also through our correspondence with the famous American physician and researcher Dr. John Totter that we discovered his own roots, and those of the prominent Hollywood star Audrey Totter,

were in Griblje, Bela Krajina. The more I came to know them, the more I have become convinced that not only their achievements, but also their character and exemplary life style can make the natives of Bela Krajina and all Slovenians truly proud of both of them. And let me add the recently confirmed finding that while the great-grandmother of the third Slovenian American senator, Amy Klobuchar, was from Ribnica in Lower Carniola, her great grandfather was an immigrant from Črnomelj in Bela Krajina.

Of course, many natives of Bela Krajina have also become noted achievers in their homeland, Slovenia, for instance, the prominent sculptor Alojzij Gangl (1859-1935), from Metlika, and educator, poet, writer and playwright Engelbert Gangl (1873-1959), who was also born in Metlika. Matija Tomc (1999-1986), whose birthplace was at Kapljišče pri Podzemlju, became a popular professor and a noted composer.

The foremost achiever, however, is Oton Župančič (1878-1949) from Vinica who is, together with Dr. France Prešeren from Upper Carniola, recognized as the greatest Slovenian poet. His poetry was translated into several languages, while he himself was an outstanding translator of world's greatest literature. Thanks to him all Shakespeare's works can be read in masterful Slovenian translation. No wonder that Bela Krajina boasts many rich collections in various towns and an impressive central museum in Metlika. A local archeological collection was bought by Harvard University.

As mentioned, Bela Krajina is folkloristically the richest region of Slovenia. In addition to other popular musical instruments, especially the ubiquitous Slovenian accordion, the locals made of clay their own unique instrument "gudalo." Many of their songs and dances are unique. In no other Slovenian region, has the "kolo" dance been adopted.

Their native poet Oton Župančič wrote the following verses (here quoted in English translation):

*Forge me, on thy anvil, Life!
Am I flint, then I will flash,
Am I steel, then I will sing,
Am I glass, then let me crash!*

Overall, we like to believe that the natives of Bela krajina have been firm and strong like flint and steel.

Edward Gobetz

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Membership Certificate Holders Annual Meeting

Slovenian Society Home

20713 Recher Avenue

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**Sunday, February 11, 2007
2:00 p.m.**

We invite all certificate holders and
Lodge and Club representatives to attend

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Slovenia Gets Snow (at last)

Slovenians woke up on Thursday, Jan. 25 to discover that the entire country was covered in snow, the first time this winter.

Ski lift operators sighed with relief as snow finally coated Slovenia. According to a website providing information on snow at Slovenian ski resorts, the layer of snow is 15-170-cm thick.

Get Well, Ray

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to American Home writer Ray Mlakar who is in the hospital undergoing tests.

Old Quiz,

by James V. Debevec II

OLD QUIZ: What is the world's most valuable company?

Nobody submitted the correct answer, so we will keep the question for another week or so.

Send your answer to ahp@buckeyeweb.net or regular mail to: James' Quiz, c/o American Home, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103-1627.

Slovenian School Benefit Dinner

The St. Vitus Slovenian Language School annual Benefit Dinner of Pork Roast or Chicken is being held on Sunday, Feb. 25 in the St. Vitus Auditorium between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Take-outs will also be available in the social room.

The cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. Tickets may be purchased in advance from Slovenian School parents or at the door on the day of the event.

Come join us for this community event and help support our school.

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Concert, Art Exhibit at SNH

The Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia, in Cleveland, during Slovenian Culture Month, presents: A **CONCERT AND ART EXHIBIT**.

Musical performances will be given by Slovenians from the Cleveland area. Performers include a saxophone quartet (Phil Hrvatin, John Nemec, Martin Marsic, and Dusan Marsic), violinist Joey Stepec, pianist Ed Ferrazzoli, guitarist, pianist and vocalist Johnny Srsen, pianist and vocalist Richie Celestina, vocalists John Jakomin, J.J. Zakelj, David Cup, Andrej Mejak, and others.

The program will be

conducted by Slovenian Consul General Dr. Zvone Žigon, reading Slovenian poetry and prose. Accompaniment by Joe Valencic in the reading of English translations of Slovenian poetry.

The Art Exhibit, consisting of painting, photography, sculpture and other works created by 25 Slovenians in the Cleveland area, can be enjoyed before and after the concert.

The event takes place on Sunday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Avenue. Free admission, cash bar following concert.

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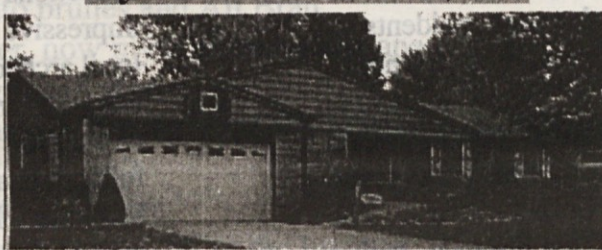
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Coming Events...

Friday, Feb. 9

Dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Ed Rodick.

Sunday, Feb. 11

Judge Ted Klammer speaks in St. Vitus Auditorium after 9 a.m. Mass. Free admission.

Sunday, Feb. 11

Concert and Art Exhibit at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair, Cleveland, 7 p.m. Free admission. Cash bar.

Friday, Feb. 16

Dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Wayne Tomsic.

Saturday, Feb. 17

Florida Baraga Day in Holiday, FL at church of St. Vincent de Paul, 11:30 a.m., followed by luncheon and program at Knights of Columbus Hall. Lunch reservations call (727)-376-2743. Special guest: Bishop Garland from Marquette.

Saturday, Feb. 17

Dinner, Dance Maskarada in St. Mary's (Coll.) new parish center, featuring Veseli Godci Orchestra. Tickets call Irena Mazi at 440-942-5083.

Sunday, Feb. 18

Immaculate Conception parish, Superior Ave., Cleveland, Social at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Avenue.

Sunday, Feb. 18

90th Anniversary of Lodge Bled #20 AMLA with 10 a.m. Mass in St. Lawrence Church, 3547 E. 80 St., Cleveland. Followed by dinner at Slovenian National Home, 3563 E. 80 St. at 12:30 p.m., including roast beef, breaded pork chops, Slovenian potatoes, mixed vegetables, etc. \$5 for Bled #20 members; \$15 guests. Call Anna Mae at (216) 341-6136.

Feb. 17 - 24

Slovenian Ski Trip to Val Gardena, Italy. Call John Kamin 718 424-2711.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Pustna Večerja - Shrove Tuesday - Rice or Blood Sausages & 1 garlic sausage, or 3 garlic sausages - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in St. Mary's Parish Center, Holmes Ave. Includes home fries, sauerkraut, coffee and dessert. \$12. Sponsored by Slovenian Cultural Garden Association.

Friday, Feb. 23

Dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Al Battistelli

Sunday, Feb. 25

St. Vitus Slovenian School annual benefit Pork Roast or Chicken dinner between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in auditorium. \$12 adults, \$6 children.

Friday, March 2

Dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Bob Kravos.

Sunday, March 4

Palčinka breakfast in St. Mary's (Coll.) parish center from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. \$7 adults, \$4 children. Benefit Slovenian School.

Friday, March 9

Dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Ray Polantz.

Friday, March 16

Dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Stan Mejac.

Sun., March 18 - March 25
Slovenian Ski Trip to Steamboat, Colorado. For info call John Kamin (718) 424-2711.

Friday, March 23

Dance from 7:30 - 11:15 p.m. at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland. Admission \$8. Featuring Jeff Pecon.

Saturday, March 24

Federation of Slovenian National Homes Man & Woman of Year banquet at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Ave., Cleveland.

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Death Notices

In Memory

Thanks to **Minka Cugelj** of St. Vitus Village in Cleveland who included a \$10.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Ivan Cugelj**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mary Koren** of Willoughby, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Joseph Koren**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Charles and Julie Hill** of Eastlake, OH who paid for a subscription and added a \$25.00 donation in memory of their parents, **Thomas and Mary Hill** and **Joseph and Josephine Mlakar**.

Large Donation

It gives us great pride to donate \$100 to such an outstanding newspaper, the American Home.

Glad we could help. Keep up the good work.

--**Holmes Ave. Pensioners**
Cleveland, Ohio
Bill Zabukovec,
Treasurer

Loves Paper

I love the American Home newspaper. I lived around 62nd Street in Cleveland practically all my life.

Started St. Vitus School at 7 years old. Lived in one of the houses owned by Mr. Gornik, the tailor. Got married at age 21, moved to an apartment owned by Popovic, later by Mr. Susnik. Lived there 17 1/2 years.

When the Second World War broke out, I was the first widow on St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland. My two children went to St. Vitus School. My daughter is now 68, and my son is 63.

I graduated from St. Vitus in 1931. Now I'm a young 90-years-old.

I still call the old neighborhood my home and call St. Vitus my church.

Keep up the good work.

--**Mary Stragisher**
Euclid, Ohio

Donation

Thanks to **Lillian Ribarich** of Euclid, OH for the new subscription and the \$10.00 donation!

Donations

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

Milan and Blazena Rih-tar, Willoughby Hills, OH -- \$5.00

Joseph Rus, Elk Grove, IL -- \$15.00

Flori Zazula, Wickliffe, OH -- \$20.00

Frances Petrich, Eastlake, OH -- \$5.00

Ana Cesar, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Ken and Anne L. Tom-sick, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Stan and Josephine Janezic, Greenfield, WI -- \$5.00

Rudy Resnik, Etobicoke, Ont., Canada -- \$10.00

Frances Mauric, Fremont, OH -- \$15.00

John P. Oberstar, Wau-kegan, IL -- \$15.00

Anonymous, Kirtland, OH -- \$20.00

Frances Kristanc, Euclid, OH -- \$10.00

Stanley and Marija Trauner, Waterford, WI -- \$15.00

Marija Hutchinson, Etobicoke, Ont., Canada -- \$5.00

Frances Cerar, Sanborn-ton, NH -- \$15.00

Donation

Thanks to the **Waterloo Balinca Club** of Cleveland, OH for the \$20.00 donation.

Large Donation

Thanks to **Daniel J. Hrvatin** of Willoughby Hills, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$200 donation.

Interesting

Albina Skocaj of Maple Heights, OH writes, "Enjoy reading the American Home. I find every issue very interesting and informative."

Donation

Thanks to **Stan and Denise Krulc** of Kirtland, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$35.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to **Lori Sier-putowski** of Highland Heights, Ohio who renewed her subscription and added a \$25.00 donation. She writes, "Wishing you continued success and a happy, healthy New Year."

Mass for Rev. Cerne

There will be a Mass for **Rev. Jože Cerne** on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 8 a.m. in St. Paul's Church, 1231 Chardon Road, Euclid, Ohio.

Good Work

My husband **Richard** and I really enjoy this paper. Thanks for all your good work.

--**Olga Kocevar**
Long Beach, CA

Krofe Sale

St. Vitus Altar Society will hold a krofe and noodles sale on Saturday, Feb. 10.

In Loving Memory of



Josephine Klemencic

10th Anniversary

of our
dear Mother,
Grandmother,
Great-Grandmother
Sister, and Aunt
who died Feb. 14, 1997

*Deep in our hearts you'll
always stay,
Loved and remembered
every day.*

Sadly missed by
FAMILY

In Loving Memory of the 42nd Anniversary of the passing of my dear "Pop"



John Muniza Sr.

died Feb. 16, 1965

*You have been gone
since Feb. 16, 1965;
But you have never
been forgotten.*

Loved and Missed
John - Son

Pequot Lakes, MN
Earp, CA

Stay Alive

Editor,

Gosh, I enjoy reading the American Home so much. - Thank you for your efforts in continuing to see that it stays alive.

--**Jackie Smith**
New Berlin, WI

Donation

Thanks to **Frank and Grace Sechnick** of Euclid, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$15.00 donation. They write, "We enjoy the American Home newspaper very much."

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In Loving Memory

14th Anniversary



Anthony M. Yert

1916 - 1993

In our memories you are always near. - Loved and remembered - But we miss you more as time goes by.

Your loving family
wife - Jeanette
daughter - Patricia
granddaughters:
Emily and Jennie

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95th Birthday Feb. 13

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Family

In Loving Memory of



Frank E. Zupancic

Died February 9, 2000

*With every act of kindness,
Every smile and word of cheer,
You built a lasting monument
In the hearts that mourn you here.*

May God grant you eternal peace.

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Radenska – Water With Hearts

In Slovenia, Radenska is synonymous with mineral water. It is one of those brands that Slovenian people have integrated completely into their collective consciousness. And when there is talk of mineral water, the first thing that springs to mind is Radenska.

Today, Radenska is a world-renowned company with a recognizable brand logo, the Three Hearts, and it is famous for its ecologically pristine natural resources of both water and environment. The company itself often says it is all a matter of the heart. The three hearts that constitute the brand logo commits them to quality, knowledge, and constant development.

On the right bank of the River Mura stands the town of Radenci with just over 5,000 inhabitants. Still, this small town is known around the world for its abundant mineral water springs, as well as the Zdravilišče Radenci health resort and spa, which has evolved to become a modern health and tourist center, surrounded by the green countryside of cereal fields and the gentle wine-producing slopes of the River Mura. It sits 208 meters above sea-level, not far from the borders of Austria and Hungary.

The health resorts rehabilitates patients after heart attacks, cardiovascular surgery, arterial disease of the lower limb, angina pectoris, and strokes, as well as patients suffering from high blood pressure.

Radenci's claim to fame is its mineral water springs which were first discovered in 1883. Dr. Karl Henn deserves special merit for this discovery. This is how he described his first encounter with the "babbler."

"As our coach was moving slowly through the village of Radenci – or Radein, as it was then known by its German name – the coach driver turned around to speak to me. "Can you hear," he said, "how the babbler is clattering and whistling today? Today the witches are getting ready for the ball." And indeed, I heard a terrifying hissing sound, which seemed fairly unusual in the magical moonlight.

I asked my driver almost timidly what the reason for this hissing was. "There's a spring here," he said, "and underneath it there's a huge cauldron in which the witches cook the dumplings which they then throw on the fields to destroy our crops. When you hear this hullabaloo and squeaking from the source, it means that thunder and hail are gathering."

As I was returning from my holiday I remembered the driver's forecast and went to take a closer look at the ominous spring. There was a wooden frame around the source which was blocking the flow of water; so the surroundings were very marsh-like. It seemed that in the middle of the source, the water was literally boiling; rising from it were countless bubbles of different sizes, hissing and bursting with such force that the contents of the frame were constantly fluttering. I presumed the water was rich in minerals and rushed off to fetch some reactive substances in order to help me determine its elements.

The water was indeed rich in minerals, while the intense bubbling and murmur pointed to a high carbonic acid content.

Dr. Henn named the water coming from the source "Radenska slatina" (or Radenci Mineral Water). At



first, drawing the water was very difficult. There were problems establishing the exact location of the spring, and the building of a catchment and its exploitation were challenging tasks for the technology of the day.

Almost four decades after the discovery of the spring, in 1871, a special brochure entitled "Der Sauerbrunnen zu Radein" (Virgin Springs of Radenci). This brochure was followed by numerous discussions in the specialist press, all of which drew the attention of medical doctors to the healing properties of this mineral water, while printed ads advertised it to the people as a cure for kidney and bladder conditions, stomach and bowel inflammations, gout, hemorrhoids and the common cold. It was also said to prevent cholera and fever. When mixed with sour wine or fruit juice, it produces an intense fizziness; it is therefore sometimes referred to as "mineral water champagne."

Thus began the successful story of the waters of Radenci.

Radenska Company

Today, Radenska is one of Europe's larger mineral water and soft drink bottling companies. The core business of the corporation is the drawing and bottling of Radenska mineral water from all its different sources as well as the production of soft drinks based on mineral and spring waters.

The company was founded in 1869, when Dr. Karl Henn, who had bought the source and the surrounding land, first started bottling the water. Fifty years later (in 1919), the water's beneficial

effects were officially confirmed. Since 1936, the bottles have had the three hearts logo. Radenska Tri srca (Radenska Three hearts) is one of the oldest brands in Slovenia. In 1961 the company opened a new bottling facility in Boračeva, which allowed for greater output and boosted sales.

Just 10 years later, Radenska became the first bottling company in former Yugoslavia to produce a low-calorie soft drink. It was based on its mineral water and called "Deit." Deit was followed by a whole range of sparkling soft drinks called "Swing." Then "Stil" and "Šum" which were added to the range of soft drinks.

"Radin," a mineral water with a lower content of carbon dioxide and a slightly lower concentration of minerals, was first bottled in 1986. And in the 1990's, Radenska launched a range of iced tea drinks made according to their own recipe, which came in three different flavors: peach, forest fruits, lemon, and a low-calorie version of forest fruits.

In 1996, Radenska started

bottling the purest source of water in Slovenia, which they named simply, "Izvir" (Source). A multi-vitamin drink followed a year later, which was named "ace," because of its anti-oxidants and vitamins A, C and E.

More than 50% of the mineral water sold in the Slovenian market is produced by Radenska. It is also the biggest national exporter of mineral water. Its products can be found in all corners of the world.

The major purchasers of Radenska mineral water are Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, Italy, and Austria. Radenska is also the exclusive bottling facility in Slovenia for Pepsi-cola.

Today Radenska is a PLC with more than 6,000 shareholders, the most being the Pivovarna Laško brewery, which owns almost 84% of the stock.

--Slovenija



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Meetings: SWUA Home Office, 431 No. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432. Tel (815) 727-1926.

LOŽKA DOLINA

President: Charles Zgonc; Vice President: John Telich; Secretary/Treasurer: Louis Zigmund; Auditors: Matt Zabukovec, Frank Sechnick, Albin Lipold.

Meetings April and September.

ST. CLAIR PENSIONERS CLUB

6409 St. Clair Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44103

President: Sylvia Plymmer (216) 391-9453; Vice President: Emilee Jenko; Recording Secretary: Marcie Mills; Financial Secretary: Lawrence Hočevar, 1364 E. 43 St., Cleveland, OH 44103; Sunshine: Ann Rose Clemence; Auditors: Danny Reiger, Emilee Jenko, Tony Baznik; Tour Coordinator: Jeanette Ruminski.

Meetings held on the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m., in the Kenik Room of the St. Clair Slovenian National Home.

EUCLID PENSIONERS

President: Lori Sierputowski; Vice President: Jackie Ulle; Recording Secretary/Reporter: Carolyn Janezich; Treasurer: Elsie Frank; Financial Secretary/Membership: Lillian Pugel; Auditors: Frank Sadar, Chairman, Stana Grill, Frank Sechnick, and Alternate: Lillian Dombrowski; Sgt.-at-Arms: Henry Pugel; Sunshine Lady: Doris Pokopac; Tour Organizer: Mimi Stibil.

Meetings held first Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. in the lower hall of Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Reher Ave., Euclid, Ohio. – New members are welcome

HOLMES AVENUE PENSIONERS

President: John Kozlevchar, Vice President: Matt Zabukovec; Secretary: Jennie Tuma; Treasurer: Bill Zabukovec; Sgt.-at-Arms: Fran Kajfez; Asst. Treasurer: Ann Beckert.

Meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 12:30 in Collinwood Slovenian Home

WATERLOO BALINCA CLUB

Co-Presidents: Brian Polantz, Oliver Markon; Vice President: Ray Polantz; Secretary: Eleanor Godec; Treasurer: Marilyn Vidmar; Auditors: Mark Vesel, Vi Rupena, Jean Zdanowicz.

WATERLOO PENSIONERS CLUB

President: Pat Nevar; Vice President: Eileen Markusic; Recording Secretary: Grace Marinch; Treasurer: Dorothy Gorjup; Auditors: Joann Heinz, Eleanor Godec.

Meetings held every 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at Waterloo Hall.

CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS BARAGA COURT No. 1317

Spiritual Director: Rev. Joseph P. Božnar; Chief Ranger: Robert W. Mills Sr.; Past Chief Ranger: Dr. Anthony F. Spech; Vice Chief Ranger: Anthony Baznik; Financial Secretary: Angelo W. Yogrigr, 17220 Tarrymore Rd., Cleveland, OH 44119. Ph: 531-2662; Treasurer: John J. Hočevar; Trustees: Anthony Baznik, Howard Eckert, Robert Mills, Sr. Youth Director: Angelo W. Vogrig; Field Rep. Richard Kuhar (Ph: 838-1889).

Meetings held the 2nd Friday of the month. Call Fin. Sec. for meeting location.

BARBERTON SLOVENE PENSIONERS CLUB

President: Sarah Kumse; Vice President: Betty Jevce; Secretary-Treasurer: Ann Novak; Recording Secretary: Shirly Fister; Auditors: Mary Poje, Betty Jevce. Fed. Reps: Sarah Kumse, Betty Jevce, Ann Novak, Ray Palcic; Alternate: Bill Stopar.

Meetings every first Thursday of the month at 12:00 noon at Slovene Center Hall, 70 – 14th St. N.W., Barberton, OH 44203.

KLUB UPOKOJENCEV SLOV. PRISTAVE:

Predsednik: Ivan Jakomin; Podpredsednika: Vinko Vrhovnik in Pepca Kastigar; Tajnica: Martina Stepec, 1958 Brushview Dr., Richmond Hts., OH 44143 (tel.: (440) 944-0016; Blagajnik: Pavle Intihar; Zapisnikar: Frank Urankar; Nadzorni Odbor: Minka Kmetich, Edi Veider; Odborniki: August Dragar, Julka Zalar, Marija Kocian, Mary Vrhovnik, Julka Mejac, Olga Kalar, Stefka Jarem, Tonckla Urankar, Stefka Zidar, in Tone Stepec.

KRES FOLK DANCERS

President: Peter Hauptman; Vice President: Maria Sedmak; Secretary: Moni Percic; Treasurer: Lauren Hauptman; Member-at-Large: Rachael Gaser.

FAIRPORT SLOVENIAN RETIREEES CLUB

President: Tony Satej; A. President: Rudy Schumer; Treasurer: Carol Satej; Rec. Secretary: Lee Jackopin; Auditors Jo Gornik, Jo Minnell, Sgt.-at-Arms: Alice Martincic; Ticket Sales: Dorothy Nemure.

GLASBENA MATICA SINGING SOCIETY

President: Dan Hrvatin; 1st Vice Pres.: Dolores Sierputowski; 2nd Vice Pres.: Paul Zimperman; Treasurer: Steve Royer; Music Director: Julie Parrotta; Accompanist: Michael Cercek; Historian: Joe Valencic; Auditor: Dan Ivancic.

KOROTAN

Predsednica: Cvetka Rihtar; podpredsednica: Mary Ann Vogel; podpredsednik: Frank Lovšin; tajnica: Maruša Pogacnik, 7628 Chappin Falls Lane, Kirtland, OH 44094; blagajnik: Helena Nemec; nadzorni odbor: Janez Nemec, Zdenka Zakrajšek, odborniki: Martina Jakomin, Cirila Kermavner, Mimi Rezonja, Blazena Rihtar, France Rihtar, Milena Stropnik, pevovodja: Janez Sršen.

SLOVENIAN SINGING SOCIETY ZARJA

President: Richard Tomsic; Vice President: Amy Trenton; Secretary: Josephine Rotter; Treasurer: Barbara Elersich; Director: Douglas Elersich.

For more information about Zarja, please call Richard Tomsic at 481-1379.

SLOVENSKA PISARNA

Predsednik: Fr. Joze Boznar, podpredsednik-blagajnik in upravnik pisarne: Felix Gasar. nadzorni odbor: Viktor Tomince in Frank Šega. Tajnica in zapisnikar: Zalka Likozar; knjizevni referent: Mara Cerar Hull; odborniki(ce): Milka Odar, Ivanka Vidmar in Vida Oblak.

Seje so po potrebi, v prostornih Slovenske pisarna na 6104 Lausche Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.

Telefonska številka: 216-361-03-; fax številka: 216-361-0300.

Pisarna je odprta ob sobotah od 10.00 do 12.00 ure in nedeljah od 9.30 do 21. ure.

SLOVENIAN JUNIOR CHORUS Youth Circle 2 SNPJ

President: Coleen Frank; Vice Pres.: Kristy Zivkovich; Rec. Secy: Elizabeth Penko-Suk; Att. Secy: Anthony Culkar; Treas: Ashley Russ; Historian: Samantha Volpe.

Circle Director: Cecilia Dolgan; Asst. Circle Director: Agnes Turk; Music Director: Shirley Stall; Rehearsals: Thurs. 7 to 8:30 p.m., Slovenian Society Home, Euclid, Ohio.

Next program: Slovenian Junior Chorus, Circle 2 Super Button Box Bash 25, Sun., April 1 – 12 bands; 1 to 9 pm., both halls, Concert: 3 p.m., Slovenian Soc. Home, Reher Ave., Euclid, OH

Fall Concert: Sun., Nov. 11 – 3 p.m., Slovenian Junior Chorus, Circle 2 SNPJ, Slovenian Society Home, Euclid, OH.

MISIJSKA ZNAMKARSKA AKCIJA (CATHOLIC MISSION AID)

MZA – CMA

Duhovni vodja: dr. Pavel Krajnik; predsednica: Marica Lavriša; podpredsednica: Helena Gorše; tajnica, zapisnikarica: Mari Celestina, 4935 Gleeten Rd., Richmond Hts., OH 44143; blagajničarki: Helena Nemec, 1019 E. 171 St., Cleveland, OH 44119 oz. Mary Tominec, 107 Snavelly Rd., Richmond Hts., OH 44143; nadzorni odbor: Ani Nemec, Tončka Urankar, Ivanka Tominec; odborniki: Ana in Rudi Knez, Viktor in Nežka Tominec, Marija Ribič, Tončka Lamovec, Vinko in Mary Vrhovnik; nadzornika: Lovro Rozman, Mari Miklavčič.

Oltarno društvo fare Sv. Marije Vnebovzete

Duhovni vodja: Rev. John M. Kumse; predsednica: Ani Nemec; podpredsednica: Nežka Cerer; blagajničarka: Paula Hauptman, 25922 Highland Rd., Richmond Hts., OH 44143, tel. 216-481-1871; tajnica: Marica Lavriša; zapisnikarica: Mari Celestina; nadzornice: Tončka Urankar, Mary Podlogar, Maria Frank; zastavonošinja: Josephine Sežun. Skupno sv. obhajilo vsako prvo nedeljo v mesecu pri sv. mašo ob 10. dop. Isti dan popoldne ob 1.30 ura molitve, po blagoslovu pa seja v sobi za sestanke v šoli.

KLUB LJUBLJANA

Meetings held the last Tuesday of the month, 1 p.m., at Slovenian Society Hall, 10713 Reher Ave., Euclid.

President: Ann Bauha; Financial Secretary and Treasurer: Stephanie Segulin (216) 451-1876; Recording Secretary: Louise Trunkley. Auditors are Ceil Zinder and Louise Trunkley. Bartenders: Frank Sadar and Frank Skoda.

SLOVENIAN SOCIETY HOME LADIES AUXILIARY

20713 Reher Ave.
Euclid, OH 44119

President: Jackie Ulle; Vice President: Marilyn Lazzarra; Recording Secretary: Val Korosic; Treasurer: Kathy Hlad; Auditors: Ann Adams, Norma Hrvatin, and Ruth Korelec.

ST. MARY'S HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Spiritual Director: Rev. John Kumse; President: Florian Osredkar; Vice President: Victor Nemec; Treasurer: William Kozak.

ST. MARY'S COURT No. 1640

CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS

Spiritual Director: Rev. John Kumse; High Court Trustee: Alan Spilar; Chief Ranger and St. Ct. Tr. Kathleen Spilar; Vice Chief Ranger: Mary L. Daley; Secretary: Jennie Jesek; Financial Secretary: John Spilar; Treasurer: Vicki Skarbez; Trustees: Gerry White, Hank Skarbez, Alan Spilar; General Agent: Dick Kuhar, Phone (440) 838-1889; Youth Director: Kathy Spilar (216) 289-3814; Past Chief Ranger: Alan Spilar.

Meetings every 4th Wednesday of second month: Jan., March, May, July, Sept, Nov. in St. Mary's school (meeting room), 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110.

ST. CLAIR RIFLE AND HUNTING CLUB

President: Eddy Ujcich; Vice President: Richard Beck.

All correspondence to Mr. Richard Beck, 38500 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44094.

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION Branch #14, Euclid, Ohio

President: - Secretary / Treasurer: Diane Varney; Vice President - Recording Secretary: Pat (Habat) Budzilek; Auditors: Stana Grill, Antoinette Zabukovec; Reporter: Alice Kuhar; Sunshine: Diane Varney; Banner Lady: Josephine Kastigar.

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION Branch #47

President: Olga A. Dorchak, 404 Dartmouth Trail, Sagamore Hills, OH 44067; Secretary: Elsie M. Spellacy (330) 699-0031; Vice President: Ann Harsh; Auditors: Kathleen Ferrante, Elsie Lavrencic; Zarja Reporter: Katherine Wallace, 393 Minnie Ct., Akron, OH 44311.

Meetings held the 2nd Sunday, March, September, and November at Maple Hts. Library.

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION Branch #50

Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Euclid Public Library, 1 p.m.

Mother of the Year: Rose Mary Toth
President: Rose Mary Toth; Vice President: Cookie (Catherine) Maxin; Treasurer: Frances Kajfez; Recording Secretary: Evelyn Pipoly; Dawn Reporter: Ann Tomsick; Auditors: Louise Troglia and Dorothy Ann Winters.

ST. VITUS ALUMNI

President: Danny Reiger; Vice President: Josephine Perpar; Recording Secretary: Daniella Avsec; Treasurer: F. Raymond Gobec; Corresponding Sec'y.: Daniella Avsec; Sgt.-at-Arms: Louis Shenk; Trustee: Joseph Zelle.

Meetings, 7 p.m., on the first Thursdays of January, April, July, and October in the Social Room of St. Vitus School. Dues are \$5 per year. Officers are nominated in October and sworn into office in January.

ST. VITUS CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS POST 1655

Commander: Robert W. Mills Sr.; First Vice Commander: Steve Piorkowski; Second Vice Commander: Thomas Kirk; Third Vice Commander: Daniel Reiger; Officer of the Day: Edward Arhar; Welfare Officer: William Lipold; Treasurer: Steve Piorkowski; Historian: Anthony Grdina; 1 Yr. Trustee: James Logar; 2 Yr. Trustee: Joseph Baskovic; 3 Yr. Trustee: Edward Kotar; Adjutant: Thomas Kirk; Judge Advocate: Al Lipold; Liaison Officer: Joseph Mismas; House Chairman: Richard Mott; Chaplain: Rt. Rev. Bishop Edward Pevec, Rev. Joseph P. Boznar, Rev. William Jerse, Rev. Richard Evans, and Rev. Victor Cimperman.

ALTAR SOCIETY OF ST. VITUS

Spiritual Director: Fr. Joseph P. Boznar; President: Ivanka Matič; Vice President and Slovenian Recording Secretary: Jelka Kuhel; English Recording Secretary: Harija Košir; Secretary: Helena Perčič; Treasurer: Nevla Avzlahar; Auditors: Ann Arhar and Ivanka Pretnar.

NEWBURGH-MAPLE HTS. PENSIONERS CLUB

President: Art Zanutic; Vice President: Florence Mirtel; Financial Secretary: Olga Dorchak (330) 468-7989; Recording Secretary: Clara Hrovat; membership/Sunshine: Olga Sray; Auditors: Tony Kaplan, Kay Yuratovac, Frank Hrovat.

Meetings held 4th Wednesday of each month at 12:00 noon.

SLOVENIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY TRIGLAV

Spiritual Director: Rev. Dr. Joze Gole; President: Craig Frohna; Vice-President: Jake Modic; Treasurer: Carmen Strmsek; Recording Secretary: Elisabeth Gordon; Corresponding Secretary: Helena Frohna; Park Manager: Charlie Strmsek; Auditing Committee: Anne Sagadin, Vicky Schneider, Tom Smolic.

Activities:

May 28: Memorial Day Remembrance
June 24th: Prvi Piknik
July 22nd: Mission Picnic
August 19th: Drugi Picnik
Sept. 16th: Vinska Trgatev
Dec. 2nd: Sveti Miklavž

SLOVENIAN AMERICAN PRIMORSKI CLUB

President: Mejak Joakin; Vice Pres.: Milavec Aldo; Treasurer: Ramsak Silva; Secretary: Stropnik Angela. Board Members: Grdina Srecko, Grdina Mary, Jenko Joseph Jr., Manjas Danilo, Milavec Sabina, Mejak Brigita, Ramsak Joseph, Sedmak Kristjan, Udovic Vera. Board of Review: Grdina Srecko, Milavec Sabina, Manjas Danilo.

BELOKRANJSKI KLUB

President: Theresa Smuk; Vice President: Rudy Benedejcic; Secretary: Mimi Blanchard; Recording Secretary: Agnes Golobic; Treasurer: Alenka Winslett; Stock Master: Brian Winslett; Hospitality Chair: Milena Dovic; Auditing Committee President: Mark Blanchard; Auditing Committee: Agnes Cerer, Frank Smuk.

ŠTAJERSKI - PRIMORSKI KLUB

President: Mimi Kozina-Cupar; Vice President: John Kozina; Treasurer: John Cupar; Secretary: Majda Zorman. Odbor: Tonica Simičak, Martina Simičak, Mimi Kozina, Rezka Zelko, Kristina Ferline, Ančka Leben, Frank Fuja, Joe Ramšak, Paul Skale, Karl Hozjan, Majda Rožič.

SLOVENIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION

President: Anthony W. Hiti; Vice President: Dr. Alexander Ukmar; Secretary: Joan Chermely; Treasurer: Dana Leonard; At-Large: August B. Pust, Dr. Rudolph M. Susel, Ann M. Opeka; Past Presidents: Dr. Karl B. Bonutti, Frederick E. Krizman, Esq., Hon. August Pryatel, Dr. Vladimir J. Rus, Edmund J. Turk, Esq., Joyce Ann Hribar, Esq.

SLOVENE HOME FOR THE AGED 18621 Neff Road, Cleveland, OH 44119 (216) 486-0268

President: Robert Klancher; Vice President: Phil Hrvatin; Treasurer: Celeste Frollo; Secretary: Vera Marsic. Trustees: Chris Chermely, Doug Elersich, Sutton Girod, Rudy Kozan, Dale Luzar, Joe Miskulin, Milan Ribic, Richard Tomsic, Agnes Turk, Florence Unetich, Scott Zele; Alternate: John Pestotnik; Honorary Trustees: John Cech, Frederick Krizman, Ronald Zele. Administrator: Jeffrey S. Sas, LNHA.

SLOVENIAN AMERICAN NATIONAL ART GUILD

President: John Streck; Vice President: Patricia A. Habat; Secretary: Jeannie Somrak; Treasurer: Lillian Bratina; Auditor: Ann Opeka; Heritage: Doris Sadar; Membership and Circulation: Carol Maruszak; Newsletter: Patricia A. Habat.

Meetings held the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid, Ohio.

AMERICAN SLOVENE CLUB

President: Gene Drobic; Vice-President: Emilee Jenko; Secretary: Terry Hočevan; Corresponding Sec'y.: Emilee Jenko; Treasurer: Agnes Koporc.

Meetings: 4 times a year.

LILIJA

Predsednik: Peter Dragar; Podpredsednik: Matija Grdadolnik; Podpredsednik: Srečo Gaser; Tajnik: Zdenka Zakrajšek, 10740 Angela Dr., Kirtland, OH 44094; Zapisnikar: Frank Hren; Blagajničar-ka: Marija Marsic; Programski odbor: Matija Grdadolnik, Srečo Gaser, Peter Dragar, Zdenka Zakrajšek, Mojca Slak, Ivan Hauptman, Ivan Jakomin.

Oderski mojster: Slavko Stepec, Kuhinja: Ani Nemec, Julka Zalar; Točaja: Rudi Hren, Tone Stepec; Reditelj: Joze Tomc, Ivan Tomc, Lojze Zupančič; Sportni referent: Matija Grdadolnik; Nadzorni odbor: Marija Tominc, Frank Zalar Ml., Stefka Smolič

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION Branch 25

President: Frances M. Gazvoda; Vice President: Josephine Perpar; Sunshine Lady: Albina Pozelnik; Recording Secretary: Emilee Jenko; Treasurer: Ann R. Clemence; Auditor: Emilee Jenko.

DRUŠTVO SLOVENSkih PROTIKOMUNISTIČNIH BORCEV (D.S.P.B. Cleveland, Ohio)

Viktor Tominec, predsednik, tel. 216 531-2728; Anton Oblak, tajnik, Frank Šega, blagajnik; Stane Vidmar & Frank Kuhel, nadzorni odbor; Lojze Drobnič, tiskovni referent.

Društvo prireja v mesecu maju spominsko sv. mašo in obisk pokopališča.

V mesecu avgustu spomonsko romanje za vse žrtve komunizma, nacizma in fašizma.

ST. VITUS LODGE

No. 25 KSKJ

Spiritual Director: Rev. Joseph P. Boznar; President: Joseph S. Baskovic; Vice President: Joseph V. Hočevan; Secretary: John C. Turek, Tel.: 531-0230; Treasurer: Al Orehek; Auditors: Ron Fabo, Marty Turek; Youth and Athletic Director: Ralph Prawdzik; Sergeant-at-Arms: Tony Baznik.

ST. JOSEPH LODGE

No. 169 KSKJ

Spiritual Director: Rev. John Kumse; President: Phil Hrvatin; Vice President: Sandi Green; Financial Secretary: Anne Nemec, 708 E. 159 St., Cleveland, OH 44110, (216) 541-7243; Treasurer: Catherine Clack; Recording Secretary: Laura Miller; Youth & Athletic Director: John Nemec; Auditors: Jennie Tuma, John Hozjan, and Evelyn Pipoly

Meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the club room of the Collinwood Slovenian Home (Holmes Ave.). New members (up to age 90) are always welcome.

For information on life insurance and annuities call licensed agents John Nemec (216) 541-7243 or Sandi Green (440) 946-2500.

SACRED HEART OF JESUS LODGE No. 172 KSKJ

Duhovni vodja: Rev. Joseph P. Boznar; Castna predsed: Ludmila Glavan; Predsednica: Rela Zadnikar; Podpred.: Frank Kuhel; Tajnik-blag: Draga Gostic, 1440 Timbertland Lane, Twinsburg, OH 44087 (tel: 1-330-405-6272; Zapisnikarica: Gabriel Kuhl Revizorji: Gabriela Kuled, Vilibald Zadnikar, Anuska Lekan; Athletic/Youth Director: Anuska Lekan; Sergeant-at-Arms: Frank Kuhel.

Meetings held every Third Friday at 1 p.m.

KRISTUS KRALJ Št. 226 - KSKJ

Duhovni vodja: Rev. Joze Boznar; predsednik: Joseph F. Rigler, tel (440) 256-3137; podpredsednik: Raymond Zak; tajnik in blagajnik: Erika Kurboš, 1875 Braeburn Pk. Dr., Euclid, OH 44117, tel (216) 383-1212; zapisnikarica: Rosemarie Zupancic; nadzorni odbor: Timothy Klodnick, John Zupančič in Chuck Potenga. Direktorica mladinskih aktivnost: Judy A. Ryan; šports referent: Ronald Zak; vratar: Bob McDonough.

Seje društva vsako drugo nedeljo v mesecu ob 12. uri v SND, 6417 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

KSKJ vam nudi mnogovrstno zivljensko zavarovanje za vsote od \$1k,000 naprej. Poleg zivljenskega zavarovanja vam KSKJ nudi tudi večvrstne naložbe >anujties<. Vse pod zelo ugodnimi pogoji. Za podrobnosti se brezobvezno obrnite na tajnika društva.

OUR LADY OF FATIMA Lodge No. 255 KSKJ

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. John Kumse; President: Robert A. Schulz; Vice President: Jackie Hanks; Secretary-Treasurer: Connie Schulz, 5495 C. Sierra Dr., Willoughby, OH 44094-3513, Tel: (440) 944-2015; Auditors: Larry Duggan, Donna Duggan; Athletic Director: Darlene Schulz.

Meetings held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Secretary/Treasurer's home.

BALINCARSKI CLUB SLOVENSKA PRISTAVE

Casni Pred.: Felix Breznikar; Predsednik: Lojze Mohar; Pod. Pred.: Janez Svigelj; Taj-Blag: Tone Skerl. Odborniki: Ani Breznikar, Mici Mohar, Toncka Svigelj, Tone Vogel, Janez in Rezka Breznikar, Vera Znidarsic, Marija Vrhovnik, Lojze in Angelca Debeljak, Toncka Berkopec, Zdenka Kavcic. Nadzorni odbor: Lojze Hribar, Vionko Vrhovnik.

PRISTAVA UPRAVNI ODBOR 2005-2006

Predsednik: Milan Ribic; 1. Podpredsednik: Metod Ilc; 2. Podpredsednica: Metka Zalar; Tajnica/Campground: Ani Sterle; Pomozni tajnik: Edi Sedmak; Blagajnik: Marjan Percic; Zapisnikarica: Kati Cup.

Odborniki in odbornice: Cerer Joze; Cerer Tony; Cerer Tony, Jr.; Champa Tony; Ferkulj Frank; Frank, Larry; Grear Joze; Intihar Pavel; Kogovsek David; Kosir Benjamin; Kosir Michael; Kozina Mimi; Kristof Verena; Krulc Stanley, Jr.; Luzar, Ernie; Mejak Joakin; Novak Joze; Oreh Filip; Osenar David; Pisorn Branko; Ribic, Andrej; Ribic Valentin; Rote Frank; Rus Mike; Rus Ron; Rus Stane; Sedmak Kristjan; Slemc Vid; Stepec Tom; Tominc Martin; Veider Edward; Vogel MaryAnn; Vogel Tony, Jr.; Vrhovnik Vinko; Zalar Frank, Jr.; Zalik Elizabeta; Znidarsic Thomas; Znidarsic, Joe.

Nadzorni odbor: Kmetec Viktor, Srsen John; Zalar Frank. Razsodisce: Kosir Joseph; Stepec Tom; Urankar Frank.

ST. ANNE'S LODGE #4

AMLA

President; Emilee Jenko; 1st Vice President: Madeline Debevec; 2nd Vice President: Stane Kuhar; Secretary: Lillian B. Novak (440) 238-9291; Treasurer: Dolores Krause; Recording Secretary: Louis Zigmund; 1st Auditor: Ann Opeka; 2nd Auditor: Dorothy Stanonik.

Meetings every first Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. in the Slovenian Room of St. Vitus Village.

SLOVENSKI DOM No. 6 AMLA

President: Joe Petric; Vice President: Walter Frank; Secretary-Treasurer: Theresa Aveni; Recording Secretary: Lillian Pugel; Audit Chairman: Janice Verch; Auditors Elsie Frank, Dorothy Lamm, Coordinator: Elsie Frank, Josephine Markatos; News articles: Joe Petric.

KRAS No. 8

President: Vida Zak; Vice President: Celeste Frollo; Secretary / Treasurer: Anton Lavrisa, 1076 E. 176 St., (216) 531-3413, meti@aol.com; Recording Sec.: Sophie Matuch.

Meetings the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m., at Slovenian Home on Holmes Avenue in Cleveland except July and August.

AMLA LODGE CLEVELAND No. 9

President: James Pavlik; 1st Vice President: Robert Menart; Secretary: Patricia Amigoni, 21051 Arbor Ave., Euclid, OH 44123 Ph: (216) 531-8468; Recording Secy.: Gertrude Menart; Audit. Chm.: Gertrude Menart; Auditor: Ana Mihelich; F.A.C. Coordinator: Gertrude Menart; F.A.C. Jr. Coordinator: Robert Menart; Lodge Reporter: Albert Amigoni; Lodge Contact: Patricia Amigoni.

Meetings First Sunday, 11 a.m. in AMLA Home Office.

LODGE RIBNICA No. 12 AMLA

President: James E. Czeck; Vice President: Vincent F. Ilacqua; Secretary-Treasurer: Carole Czeck; Recording Secretary: Gina Ilacqua; President Auditing Committee: Jaime Loncar; 1st Auditor: Lillian Bratina, 2nd Auditor: Philip J. Yan, Sr.; F.A.C. Coordinator: James E. Czeck; Lodge Reporter: Carole Czeck/James Czeck.

Meetings Sundays July 16, Oct. 15, and Dec. 17 at 1:30 p.m. 988 Talmadge Ave.

ST. MARY'S SENIORS

Spiritual Director: Rev. John Kumse; President: Zora Kocin; Vice President: Elsie Jacobs; Secretary: Mary Ziperman; Treasurer: John Spilar.

Meetings are held every 1st Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in St. Mary's School. For particulars and membership call Zora Kocin at (216) 289-0467.





— Vesti iz Slovenije —

Liberalno demokratska stranka (LDS) dejansko v razsulu

Na kongresu LDS, ki je bil 27. januarja, so poskušali ohraniti to stranko, ki je kar dvanajst let imela oblast v državi. Zdaj je zelo oslabiljena, pravzaprav v razsulu. Na kongresu so se soočili samo z možnostmi za njeno preobrazbo in nadaljnji obstoj ali pa za ukinitve in s tem za izginotje iz slovenske politike. Prihaja čas, ko bodo v Sloveniji morda ustanovili novo stranko, ki bi čez čas utegnila nasprotovati koaliciji Janeza Janše, ki ima sedaj oblast v državi.

Iz LDS so medtem izstopili nekateri znani funkcionarji v Ljubljani. Med temi nekdanja županja in soustanoviteljica stranke Vika Potočnik in poslanec Matej Lahovnik, poimenovan tudi kot "čudežni deček slovenske politike". Vika Potočnik je ob izstopu iz LDS dejala, "da je Slovenija za mnoge iz LDS bila le pladenj, s katerega so samo jemali in odnašali".

Janez Janša na vrhu lestvice stotih najbolj vplivnih Slovencev v letu 2007 – Njegova vlada uživa trenutno kar večinsko podporo

V Sloveniji ob začetku vsakega novega leta sestavljajo spiske oz. lestvice najbolj vplivnih osebnosti na raznih področjih. Pred leti se je na prvo mesto najbolj znanih in uglednih posameznikov skoraj redno uvrstil bivši predsednik države Milan Kučan. Tedenski magazin *Mag* je objavil lestvico najbolj vplivnih Slovencev v letu 2007. Časnikarji in uredniki so že tretje leto menili, da to mesto pripada Janezu Janši. Po moči drugi v Sloveniji pa je finančni minister Andrej Bajuk, sledita mu ministra za zunanje zadeve in javno upravo, Dimitrij Rupel in Gregor Virant, najvplivnejši gospodarstvenik v državi pa naj bi bil predsednik uprave Istrabenz, Igor Bavčar.



TROJNO PREDSEDOVANJE EVROPSKI ZVEZI VELIKO OBETA – S 1. januarjem 2007 je prevzela predsedovanje EU za šest mesecev Nemčija. S 1. julijem ji bo sledila Portugalska, s 1. januarjem in nato do 20. junija 2008 bo pa na vrsti Slovenija. Dne 17. januarja je v Strasbourgu na sedežu evropskega parlamenta potekala predstavitev skupnega leto in pol dolgega predsedovanja Nemčije, Portugalske in Slovenije. Gre za novost, ki bo – tako predvidevajo – omogočala kontinuiteto pri izvajanju pomembnejših projektov iz enega polletja v drugega, posebej za Slovenijo pa naj pomeni odlično priložnost za nabiranje izkušenj. Zato je premier Janez Janša iniciativo pohvalil in poudaril večjo učinkovitost, ki bo iz tega izhajala. Na fotografiji so Janša, nemška kanclerka Angela Merkel in portugalski primer José Sócrates.

V zadnji javnomnenjski anketi, ki jo je opravil časnik *Dnevnik*, je 51,7% vprašanih delo Janševe vlade ocenilo kot uspešno.

Šeststo slovenskih vojakov za zavarovanje miru na Kosovu

Ena izmed najboljše usposobljenih in znanih enot Slovenske vojske, deseti motorizirani bataljon, bo kmalu odpotoval na Kosovo, kjer bo sodeloval pri ohranjanju miru in reda. V njem je okoli 600 pripadnikov.

To bo prva operacija Slovenske vojske v tujini, kjer bo enota lahko delovala brez nacionalnih omejitev, kar pomeni, da bodo slovenski vojaki lahko posredovali tudi ob morebitnih množičnih nemirih, česar v prejšnjih misijah niso smeli. Ker je napetost na Kosovu med srbsko manjšino in albansko večino na višku – EU predlaga za provinco skoro dejansko neodvisnost –, možnost nemirov nikakor ni izključena. Deseti bataljon bo deloval v sestavi namenskih sil v Peči, ki jim poveljuje italijanski general.

Kadilci v Sloveniji predstavljajo skoro četrtino vsega odraslega prebivalstva

Evropska komisija se pripravlja na baje močne omejitve kajenja v javnih stavbah v vseh članicah EU, torej vključno v Sloveniji. Ne gre pri tem samo za varovanje zdravja kadilcev oz. uporabnikov tobaka, marveč tudi zdravja nekadilcev.

V zvezi s tem nameravanim ukrepom so pri komisiji zbrali podatke o kadilcih v državah EU. Podatki kažejo, da je največji odstotek kadilcev med odraslim prebivalstvom v Grčiji (37,6%), najmanj – in to daleč najmanj – na Švedskem (17,5%). V Sloveniji predstavljajo kadilci 23,7 odstotka odraslega prebivalstva, cigarete so sorazmerno precej poceni v državi (daleč najdražji v Veliki Britaniji).

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Koncert in razstava—

Danes, 8. februar, je v Sloveniji Prešernov dan, največji kulturni praznik. Tu v Clevelandu bo pa to nedeljo, 11. febr., v SND na St. Clairju program slovenske kulture, na katerem bo sodelovalo več naših lokalnih umetnikov, prav tako bo na ogled razstava umetniških del. Slednja bo sicer na ogled tudi od 17. do 21. febr. pred dvorano župnije Marije Vnebovzete. To nedeljo zvečer ob 7h ste pa vabljeni v SND; vstop je prost. (Gl. str. 12)

Sodnik Ted Klammer—

To nedeljo bo po sv. maši, ki se pri sv. Vidu prične ob 9h dop., v farnem avditoriju govoril sodnik iz okraja Lake Ted Klammer in to o zakonih, ki se tičejo zapuščinskih zadev. Ta govor bo gotovo hkrati zanimivo in koristno. Javnost je vabljen, vstop je seveda prost.

Maša za Rev. Černeta—

V soboto, 17. februarja, bo v cerkvi sv. Pavla na Chardon Rd. ob 8. uri zjutraj spominska sv. maša za Rev. Jožeta Černeta, ki je umrl zelo mlad pred nedavnim v Los Angelesu, Kalif.

Krofi in rezanci—

To soboto ima Oltarno društvo pri sv. Vidu prodajo domačih krofov in rezancev, to ob običajnem času v društveni sobi farnega avditorija. Pridite!

Popravek in opravičilo—

V "Zahvali" za go. Marijo Rantaso, ki je bila objavljena pretekli teden, je bil pomotoma po naši odgovornosti izpuščen stavek, v katerem se svojci pokojne zahvaljujejo č.g. Jožetu Božnarju za vso njegovo izredno skrb in sočustvoivanje za go. Rantaso. Za napako se iskreno opravičujemo.

Na letni seji SND—

Preteklo nedeljo popoldne je bila letna seja lastnikov certifikatov SND na St. Clairju. Potekala je brezhibno ob spodbujajočih poročilih o uspešnem delovanju. Na volitvah ob koncu so bili vsi dosedanja direktorji, ki jim je bil mandat končal, zopet potrjeni in sicer: Michael Japel, Sylvia Plymesser, Lawrence Hocevar, David Hocevar, Marjanca Hocevar, Jeff Zabukovec in Heather Davidson.

Kosilo Slov. šole sv. Vida—

Kosilo bo v nedeljo, 25. februarja v šolski dvorani s serviranjem od 11. dop. do 1. pop. Cena za odrasle je \$12, za otroke \$6, nakaznice imajo starši učencev, dobile se bodo pri vходу na dan kosila.

Podpora Am. domovini—

G. Daniel J. Hrvatini je podaril \$200 v podporo našemu listu Klub upokojencev na Holmes Ave. je daroval \$100. Balinarski klub pri SDD na Waterloo Rd. pa je daroval \$20. Tem darovalcem in vsem ostalim gre naša iskrena hvala!

Novi grobovi

Anna A. Skebe Stanley G. Skebe

Umrla je Anna A. Skebe, rojena Urankar 1. maja 1927 v Clevelandu, vdova po Stanleyju, mati Jeffreyja, Stanleyja, Gerarda, Marianne Rohwer in že pok. Mary, 1-krat stara mati, sestra Mary Aucin in Frances Vidmar, članica SZZ št. 50, KSKJ št. 169, Kluba upokojencev na Holmes Ave. in več drugih organizacij. Pogreb je bil 5. febr. v oskrbi zavoda Brickman-Donato s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Paskala Bajlonskega.

Umrl je Stanley G. Skebe, rojen 15. oktobra 1924 v Clevelandu, vdovec po Anne, roj. Urankar, oče Jeffreyja, Stanleyja, Gerarda, Marianne Rohwer in že pok. Mary, 1-krat stari oče, brat Daniele Isakson, Mary Long in Frances Hocevar, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški mornarici, član dr. sv. Jožefa št. 169 KSKJ in Kluba upokojencev na Holmes Ave., vneto se je zanimal za svojo slovensko dediščino. Podatki o pogrebu so isti kot za svojo ženo.

Tony Godina

Umrl je 82 let stari Tony Godina, vdovec po Millie, roj. Kramar, oče Marka, Garyja in Candice Moore, 5-krat stari oče, 3-krat prastari oče, bratranec Vincenta Godina. Pogreb je bil v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s kropjenjem v sredo 7. februarja. Družina priporoča darove v pokojnikov spomin Hospice of the Western Reserve, 300 E. 185 St., Cleveland, OH 44119, ali pa za Club Room pri SDD na Recherjevi ulici v Euclidu.

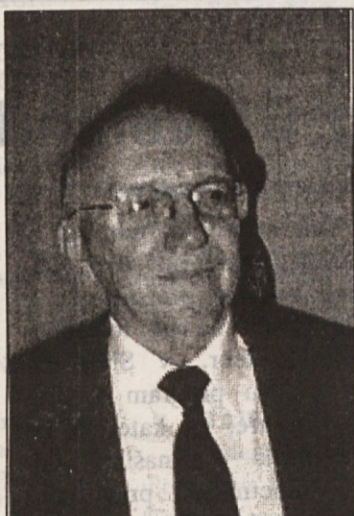
Mons. FRANCI PETRIČ

Ljubljana

S srcem vedno v Sloveniji

90 let dr. Milana Pavlovčiča iz Clevelanda

V nedeljo, 21. januarja, je praznoval osebni jubilej dr. Milan Pavlovčič, ugleden kulturni delavec v slovenski skupnosti v Clevelandu.



dr. Milan Pavlovčič

Ko smo pred nekaj leti predstavili dejavnost dr. Milana Pavlovčiča v slovenski oddaji clevelandske državne univerze WCSB je za *Družino* izjavil:

"Ves čas sem živel v Slovenijo. Tole življenje tu je bilo le 'gostovanje'. Zelo sem hvaležen, da sem po vseh peripatijah prišel sem v Ameriko. Tu sem se vživel, čeprav je slovensko okolje že precej 'zvozeno'. S srcem pa sem še vedno v Sloveniji."

Pokončnost, zvestoba slovenstvu in narodni kulturi je tisto, kar dr. Pavlovčiča uvršča med tiste odlične Slovence v svetu, na katere smo lahko v domovini upravičeno ponosni, čeprav pri tem lahko z bridkostjo pomislimo, kaj bi ljudje s takimi kulturniško obarvanimi talenti lako naredili šele v domovini, če se jim ta ne bi odrekla ob koncu vojne.

Milan Pavlovčič se je rodil 21. januarja leta 1917 na Brezovici pri Ljubljani očetu fotografu Jakobu in gospodnji Mariji, roj. Udovč. Po končani osnovni šoli je bil na ljubljanski klasični gimnaziji deležen temeljite izobrazbe, šolanje je nadaljeval na pravni fakulteti, kjer je 5. julija 1941 doktoriral, nato pa nastopil na sodišču kot notar-ski pripravnik.

Vseskozi ga je privlačilo gledališče in kulturno udejstvovanje, zato je še istega leta začel študij na gledališkem oddelku takratne glasbene akademije v okviru ljubljanske univerze. Direktor Ciril Debevec je uvidel njegov izjemen režiserski talent in mu sredi vojne poveril v Drami režijo Linhartove komedije Matiček se ženi. Doživela je petnajst uprizoritev.

Druga svetovna vojna je kruto posegla v njegov študij, saj se je tik pred njenim koncem zaradi groženj komunističnega

Začela sta jo dr. Stane Šušteršič in Rado Menart 11. oktobra 1953. Z njima je dr. Pavlovčič sodeloval vse od začetka. Po odhodu dr. Šušteršiča v Washington je vse breme oddaj padlo nanj. Kasneje mu je pri delu pomagal tudi sin Mitja, tiho in neopazno pa tudi soproga Barbara.

Iz te oddaje so v času njegovega vodenja dihalo slovensko življenje, slovenska kultura in slovenska zemlja, ob spremljanju svetnega in cerkvenega leta, običajev in praznikov.

Dr. Milana Pavlovčiča je oblikovala katoliška vzgoja, ki jo je dobival v družini in katoliških organizacijah. Od vsega začetka se je pridružil gibanju za slovensko državo (Ehrlich, Žebot, Jurčec, Dolinar, Jeza,...). Ta ideja je bila ves čas osnova njegovega narodno-političnega delovanja.

Bil je podpisnik "Majniške deklaracije 1989", od katere sta, kot večkrat poudari, danes uresničeni le samostojnost in neodvisnost Slovenije. Ni pa še uresničena demokratizacija vsega slovenskega življenja.

Tudi ni duha in volje za popravo neznanskih krivic, ki jih je zagrešila revolucija. Sloveniji je potrebna dekomunizacija, kakor je bila zahodni Nemčiji potrebna denacifikacija, večkrat ponavlja.

Ob vsej predanosti slovenski besedi, slovenskemu slovstvu in gledališču se je dr. Pavlovčič ves čas zanimal tudi za slovensko glasbo in likovno umetnost ter za slovensko kulturo v najširšem pomenu te besede. Njegovo zavzetost za likovno umetnost izpričuje njegova umetniška zbirka, ki predstavlja predvsem emi-

Generalni konzulat Republike Slovenije v Clevelandu pripravlja v februarju, slovenskem mesecu kulture,

KONCERT IN RAZSTAVO V IZVEDBI SLOVENSKE ROJAKOV IZ CLEVELANDA IN OKOLICE

V kulturnem programu bodo sodelovali:

Kvartet saksofonov (Phil Hrvatin, Janez Nemec, Martin in Dušan Maršič)

Joey Štepec (violina) – Ed Ferrazzoli (klavir)

Johnny Sršen (klavir, kitara, vokal)

Richie Celestina (klavir, vokal)

John Jakomin, J. J. Žakelj, David Cup, Andrej Mejak,

Joe Valenčič (branje angleške poezije) in drugi.

Program bo tudi letos z branjem slovenske poezije in proze povezoval generalni konzul dr. Zvonko Žigon.

Koncert bo v nedeljo, 11. februarja,
ob 7. uri zvečer

v Slovenskem narodnem domu na St. Clair Ave.

Pred in po koncertu bo na ogled razstava slik, fotografij in skulptur 25 slovenskih ustvarjalcev iz Clevelanda in okolice. Razstava bo nato od 17. do 21. februarja na ogled tudi pred dvorano slovenske župnije Marije Vnebovzete.

PROST VSTOP, po koncertu možnost osvežitve v baru.

grantske slikarje in kiparje. Njegovo ljubezen do slovenske glasbene umetnosti pa so izpričevale posebej njegove radijske oddaje.

Za vsem tem pa stoji neopazno, a vedno pozorno in zvesto njegova soproga Barbara, roj. Hren, s katero se je po-

ročil leta 1961. V skladnem družinskem življenju, kjer se prepletajo molitev, delo, branje, glasba, tudi danes najde čas za *Družino* in jo vestno prebira. Svojemu zvestemu bralcu zato vošči vse najboljše tudi *Družina*.

DRUŽINA
28. januarja 2007

SEN O VRNITVI

Koncert ob 85. obletnici skladatelja
p. dr. Vendelina Špendova

Mešani pevski zbor Lipnica je rojaku p. dr. Vendelinu Špendovu ob njegovi visoki obletnici pripravil niz koncertov z njegovimi skladbami.

Ljubljana – Sen o vrnitvi so pevci iz Kamne gorice in okolice naslovili koncertni program v spomin duhovniku, skladatelju in dirigentu p. dr. Vendelinu. Kratko slovensko mašo, ki jo je napisal leta 1967, skladbe Spevi najlepši, Materam (na besedilo Ksaverja Meška), Sen o vrnitvi (na besedilo Franceta Balantiča) ter venček slovenskih narodnih je mešani zbor Lipnica pod vodstvom zborovodje Slavka Meška izvajal trikrat: v cerkvi v Srednji Dobravi (12. decembra), v domu krajanov Kamna Gorica (22. decembra) in v frančiškanski cerkvi v Ljubljani (7. januarja).

"Bendelnov Franci", kot p. Vendelina kličejo najstarejši vaščani Spodnje Dobrave, kjer je preživljal otroštvo in zgodnjo mladost, je ljubezen do glasbe podedoval od očeta. Z osemnajstimi leti je stopil v frančiškanski red in bil l. 1947 v lateranski baziliki v Rimu posvečen. Kmalu po novi maši je odšel v ZDA, kjer živi in ustvarja še danes.

Glasbo je študiral v Chicagu, leta 1971 pa je kot drugi Slovenec doktoriral na Papeškem inštitutu za cerkveno glasbo v Rimu z disertacijo Slovenska orgelska glasba.

"Glasba je del mojega življenja, z glasbo pridigam. Glasba odpira srca, vsak jo razume, če je iskrena," je povedal v pogovoru za *Družino* ob zadnjem obisku v Sloveniji (poleti leta 2004).

P. Vendelin je v Chicagu vodil cerkveni zbor,

(DALJE na str. 14)

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SLOVENIJA v letu 2006

Pregled dogodkov

AVGUST

Križnar v zaporu

V začetku avgusta se je agonija z nakupom operacijskih miz, ki je trajala nekaj mesecev, končno razpletla. Minister Andrej Bručan se je namreč na podlagi sprememb zakona o javnih razpisih, ki jih je le malo pred tem sprejel državni zbor (slednje so po novem določale, da se lahko postopek javnega naročanja nadaljuje kljub reviziji, če je ogroženo zdravje ljudi), odločil, da bo pogodbo s podjetjem Soča podpisal, še preden bodo končani vsi revizijski postopki.

Pogodba med ministrstvom in Sočo je bila podpisana 4. avgusta, v njej pa se je podjetje obvezalo, da bo vse mize dobavilo najpozneje do konca oktobra.

Medtem ko so se bolniki in zdravniki veselili novih miz, tega ne bi mogli trditi za slovenskega popotnika in humanitarne delavca Toma Križnarja, ki je že od sredine julija sedel v enem od sudanskih zaporov.

Križnar se je tam našel, potem ko je kot posebni odposlanec Janeza Drnovška brez potrebne vizuma prečkal čadsko-sudansko mejo. Ker je Drnovšek Križnarja v Čad poslal brez vednosti parlamenta in vlade, je vlada Drnovška očitala neusklajeno in škodljivo zunanje politične delovanje. Drnovšek pa ji je vrnil z očitki, da vlada za Križnarjevo izpustitev naredi premalo.

Konec primera Petek

Avgusta so v negativni luči zablestela tudi slovenska sodišča. Tako je Višje sodišče v Mariboru vsem vpletenim v primer napada na Mira Petka izdalo rabsodbo v tej zadevi, njena vsebina pa je prišla v javnost že vsaj dva tedna prej.

V rabsodbi je sodišče potrdilo sodbu nižjega sodišča, s katero je to vse obtožene za napad na Petka spoznalo za nedolžne. Rabsodbo so nekateri označili za triumf pravne države, večina pa se je nad njo zgražala.

Za novo presenečenje je konec meseca poskrbelo še Višje sodišče v Ljubljani, ki je po dveh mesecih odločanja odločilo, da preiskave v primeru Mitje Ribičiča ne bo, s čimer je primer za zdaj končan.

Mesec smo si zapomnili še po napovedi LDS, da bo po parlamentarnih počitnicah v parlament vložila nedoločeno število interpelacij, in odločitvi Franceta Cukjatiča, da bodo lokalne volitve 22. oktobra.

SEPTEMBER

Predvolilni golaž

Začetek meseca je zaznamovala izpustitev Drnovškovega odposlanca Toma Križnarja iz sudanskega zapora, za kar pa je bilo potrebnih veliko diplomatskih naporov.

Hkrati je bilo na zunanje političnem področju še vedno vroče zaradi že tradicionalnih zapletov s Hrvaško glede meje v Istri, kasneje pa se je nevarno zapletlo na Hotizi, kamor so zaradi enostranskih hrvaških posegov na območju ob Muri prišle posebne policijske enote.

Svoj lonček je postavil tudi koroški deželni glavar Jörg Haider, ki je napovedal, da bo Koroška odslej enojezična, s čimer se je začela intenzivna akcija odstranjevanja dvojezičnih krajevnih tabel na Koroškem.

Začetek volilne kampanje

September je bil zaradi bližajočih se lokalnih volitev predvolilno obarvan, saj se je začela intenzivna predvolilna kampanja. Najbolj vroče je bilo v Ljubljani, kjer so ankete najbolj kazale nekdanjemu direktorju Mercatorja in znanemu tranzicijskemu tajkunu Zoranu Jančiču, ki je svojo kampanjo začel že poleti. Njegov najresnejši tekmeč je bil dr. France Arhar, nekdanji guverner Banke Slovenije, medtem ko so ankete slabše kazale dosedanji županji Danici Simšič pa tudi kandidatu LDS dr. Jožefu Kuniču. Za slednjega je LDS celo zahtevala, naj časopis Delo objavi intervju

(DALJE na str. 14)

Zelena
Štajerska
(Styria)

Nadaljujemo s prikazom nekaterih najvažnejših značilnosti slovenskih pokrajin, kot so bile na kratko prikazane na enem izmed praznovanj stoletnice župnije Marije Vnebovzete v Clevelandu, Ohio, dne 22. oktobra 2006.

WILLOUGHBY HILLS, OH.–

Nikjer v Sloveniji ne manjka zelenja, vendar se je prav Štajerske prijelo ime "Zelena Štajerska." Zeleni so seveda njeni čudoviti gozdovi na Kozjaku, Pohorju, Boču, Donački gori in drugod, zeleni njeni travniki na Dravskem in Ptujem polju in kot smaragd zelena čudovita Logarska dolina in vsa Savinjska dolina, kjer je bila v Ljubnu doma babica slovitihs drsalcev Erika in Beth Heiden, v Rečici pa ustanoviteljica Slovenske ženske zveze in ena najbolj zaslužnih Slovenk v Ameriki Marija Prisland.

Štajerska je največja pokrajina severovzhodne Slovenije. Na severu meji na za Slovenijo rešeni delček slovenske Koroške (z zgodovinskimi kraji Slovenj Gradec in Prevalje, industrijskim železarskim mestom Ravne in rudarsko Mežico) in na Avstrijo, na severovzhodu na Prekmurje, na jugovzhodu na Hrvaško, na jugu in jugozapadu pa na Dolenjsko in Gorenjsko.

Statistični urad Republike Slovenije navaja v poročilu za leto 2005 naslednje podatke za število prebivalcev v največjih štajerskih mestih: Maribor, ki je tudi drugo največje mesto v Sloveniji, 145.768; Celje, ki je bilo do nedavnega drugo največje spodnještajersko mesto, se je s številom 63.074 pomaknilo na tretje mesto, na drugem pa se zdaj prvič pojavi Ptuj, ki šteje 69.171. Sledijo: Velenje (45.104), Žalec (40.328), Slovenska Bistrica (34.345) in Gornja Radgona (20.649). Ker je velik del Štajerske, z glavnim mestom Gradec (Graz) pod nemško govorečo Avstrijo, ločimo med avstrijsko Zgornjo Štajersko in slovensko Spodnjo Štajersko, ki ji je posvečen ta članek.

Skozi Maribor in Ptuj teče reka Drava, znana po splavarjih, ki so po njej na splavih tovorili les vse do reke Donave in po slednji do Beograda in še dalje na jug. Zadnje čase pa Drava poganja tudi moderne elektrane, kot npr. v Fali. Iz Savinjske doline priteče skozi Celje reka Savinja. Med manjšimi rekami so Voglajna, Dravinja na Dravskem polju in Sotla, ki po njej poteka del državne meje med Slovenijo in Hrvaško. Čeprav Štajerska polagoma prehaja v Panonsko nižino, se vendar na zapadu ponaša tudi s Savinjskimi Alpami, bolj vzhodno pa z grebeni Kozjaka in Pohorja (znanega tudi po smučarskih tekmah), s Konjiško goro, Bočem in Donačko goro in gričastimi vinorodnimi Slovenskimi gorami in Halozami ter Kozjanskim hribovjem. Res, pestra in prelepa dežela!

Najpomembnejša stara zgodovinska slovenska štajerska mesta, z bogatimi muzeji, so Ptuj (znan že v Rimskih časih kot

Poetovio), ki je dobil mestne pravice v letu 1250 in je najstarejše slovensko mesto; ter Celje (rimski Celeia), znano po slovitihs celjskih grofihs (1341-1456) in grbu trehs zvezdic, ki so vključene v grb Republike Slovenije. Slovenski Celjan je humanist Brikcij Preprost (Briccius de Cilia), ki je bil v petnajstem stoletju trikrat izvoljen za rektorja dunajske univerze in je tudi prvi dobil naziv "rector magnificus". Od leta 2006 pa je Celje tudi sedež novoustanovljene škofije pod vodstvom znanega filozofa in teologa dr. Antona Stresa, doma izpod Donačke gore v dekaniji Rogatec.

Prestolnica slovenske Štajerske je Maribor, ki je uradno postal mesto leta 1254 (ali štiri leta pozneje kot Ptuj) in so mu Avstrijci skozi stoletja vsiljevali ime Marburg an Drau (kot je moralo biti Celje znano pod nemškim imenom Cilli in Ptuj kot Pettau). Pred ponemčenjem sta rešila Maribor in velik del Spodnje Štajerske predvsem veliki štajerski rodoljub s Ponikve, vzgojitelj evropskega slovesa, skromni ljudski pesnik in vodilna osebnost evropskega ekumenskega gibanja, blaženi Anton Martin Slomšek (1800-1862), ki je leta 1859 tja prenesel sedež lavantinske škofije, in pesnik ter odločni in zmožni general Rudolf Maister (1874-1934), doma iz Kamnika na Kranjskem, ki je po prvi svetovni vojni s svojimi prostovoljci, Maistrovimi borci, zasedel mesto in rešil za Slovenijo ozemlje od Dravograda do Radgone. Maribor je postal verski, gospodarski, politični in kulturni sedež slovenske Štajerske, kjer od leta 1975 deluje tudi druga največja slovenska univerza. Ponaša se še z najstarejšo trto na svetu, ki je stara že nad 400 let in še vedno bogato rodi.

V bližini Celja je Laško, znano po toplicah in laškem pivu, kakor je Savinjska dolina, zlasti Žalec, znana po hmelju. Logarska dolina je ena najlepših dolin v Evropi. Med štajerskimi zdravilišči so znana zlasti Dobrna ter Rogaška Slatina in Slatina Radenci, ki slovita po odlični zdravilni in namizni mineralni vodi, ter Rimske Toplice in Atomske toplice v Podčetrtku. Štajerska, zlasti Podravje, Slovenske gorice, Haloze in Prlekija, prideluje odlična vina (beli renski in laški rizling, rdeči traminec, rumeni muškat, šipon, jeruzaleščan in radgonski biser).

Rudarsko in industrijsko Velenje v Saleški dolini je štajersko mesto, ki se je razvilo kot rudarsko in industrijsko središče predvsem po drugi svetovni vojni in ga je Tito "gojil" in uporabljal v komunistične propagandne namene, saj se je pod njim uradno imenovalo *Titovo* Velenje. V bližnjem Šoštanju je velika termo elektrarna, v Tržišču pri Rogaški Slatini pa ena največjih steklarn, ki po vsem svetu slovi po svojem kristalu.

Del Štajerske je tudi Prlekija, znana ne le po svojem značilnem narečju in dobrih in duhovitih Prlekih, ampak tudi po odličnih vinihs, umnem poljedelstvu, velikih nasadih čebule (luka) in sladkorne pese in po konjskih dirkah. Središče Prlekije je Ljutomer (18.021 prebivalcev), kjer je bil leta 1868 prvi slovenski narodni tabor, ki se ga je udeležilo okrog 10.000 zavednih slovenskih rodoljubov. Tam je bil rojen dr. Franc Miklošič (1821-1901), ki je kot profesor in rektor dunajske univerze slovel kot največji jezikoslovec v takratni Evropi. Iz

(DALJE na str. 15)

SLOVENIJA v letu 2006

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 13)

z njim (podobno kot z Jankovičem, Arharjem in Simiščevo), vendar se uredništvo ni uklonilo političnemu pritisku.

V Kopru je najbolje kazalo "staremu" županu Borisu Popoviču, v Mariboru pa Gregorju Pivcu. Vsekakor je bilo težišče volitev na mestnih občinah. V tem času je imela SDS svoj festival v Izoli.

Med drugimi dogodki velja omeniti izkop grobišča Konfin pri Grčaricah, kjer so zakopane žrtve poveljnih pobojev, pa tudi vložitev interpelacije proti ministru za kulturo Vasku Simoniti.

Začeli so se tudi napadi predsednika države Janeza Drnovška na vlado, ki mu ni odobrila novih sredstev za njegovo delovanje, zaradi česar je protestno odpovedal svoj obisk v Španiji.

OKTOBER

Spopad za občine

Oktober je predvolilna kampanja dosegla vrhunec. V tem času so namreč prišle na dan Jankovičeve nečednosti iz časa, ko je vodil Mercator, saj se je pokazalo, da sta bila njegova sinova v poslih z Mercatorjem v privilegiranem položaju, plega tega je Janković ob razrešitvi z mesta predsednika uprave Mercatorja prejel odpravnino v višini skoraj sto milijonov tolarjev, po zamenjavi pa je še pol leta prejemal tudi plačo.

Kljub temu (ali pa prav zaradi tega) je Janković na lokalnih volitvah 22. oktobra premočno zmagal že v prvem krogu in tako pometal z drugimi županskimi kandidati. Posebej pa je presenetila njegova lista, saj je dobila več kot polovico sedežev v ljubljanskem mestnem svetu.

Pri tem je LDS doživela pravo polomijo, kar pa niti ni bilo presenečenje glede na to, da je imela v zadnjem času velike težave. Poleg tega je več vidnejših članov ljubljanske LDS kandidiralo na Jankovičevi listi.

V Kopru je zmagal Boris Popovič, v Celju pa Bojan Šrot. Največja poraženka volitev je bila LDS, saj je ogromno iz-

gubila, nič bolje pa se ni zgodilo SD, ki je izgubila župana v Ljubljani in Mariboru.

S tem pa se volitve še niso končale, saj je kar nekaj županskih kandidatov čakalo na drugi krog, pri čemer so bila izpostavljena mesta Tržič, Kranj, Maribor, Novo mesto, Izola, Piran ...

Boljše stanje v medijih

Oktober je bilo vroče tudi na področju medijev, saj je LDS začela stopnjevati javnomnenjski pritisk na ministra za kulturo Vaska Simoniti zaradi zakona o RTV in njegovih posledic.

Da stanje medijev ni tako zaskrbljivo, kot ga prikazuje LDS, je dokazalo pregledno poročilo o stanju slovenskih medijev, ki ga je izdelal inštitut IRSA, pa tudi javnomnenjske ankete so pokazale, da mediji poročajo bolj objektivno kot prej.

Prišlo je tudi do zamenjave v uredništvu Mladine, kjer je dotedanjega urednika Janija Severja zamenjal nekdanji Delov novinar Grega Repovž, predsednik Društva novinarjev Slovenije.

NOVEMBER

Srhljivka v Izoli

V novembru so se spopadli županski kandidati, ki so se uvrstili v drugi krog, pri tem pa je prišlo do več presenečenj. V Mariboru je Franc Kangler premagal Gregorja Pivca, čeprav je slednji vodil po prvem krogu (pred tem so o obeh kandidatih krožile različne anonimke), v Tržiču pa je Borut Sajovic iz LDS premagal Pavla Ruparja, ki je pred tem odstopil z mesta poslanca državnega zbora.

V Novem mestu je zmagal Alojz Muhič, v Piranu Tomaž Gantar, zapletlo pa se je v Izoli, kjer je prišlo skoraj do izenačenja glasov dosedanje županje Brede Pečan in njenega protikandidata Tomislava Klokočevnika. Pokazalo se je namreč, da je pri štetju glasov prišlo do več nepravilnosti, saj je bil med drugimi v volilni komisiji mož Brede Pečan.

Zaradi tega je prišlo do protesta in celo na-

pada z molotovko, za katero so mediji zapisali, da je pristala na sedežu SD, vendar se je pokazalo, da je pristala tam, kjer imajo sedež občinski odbori vseh strank v Izoli, še najbližje kraju napada pa je bila pisarna OO SDS Izola.

Začele pa so se tudi priprave na predsedniške volitve v letu 2007, saj je svojo kandidaturo napovedal evropski poslanec Lojze Peterle.

Ciganski golaž

Novembra je počilo v Ambrusu, kjer so se vaščani razburili zaradi fizičnega napada na enega od krajanov. Za napad naj bi bil odgovoren človek, ki je živel med tamkajšnjimi Romi, natančneje pri družini Strojani, ki naj bi se precej ukvarjala s kriminalom in naj bi že kar nekaj let sejala strah in trepet med prebivalci okoliških vasi.

Na prošnje krajanov Ambrusa za posredovanje se varuh človekovih pravic Matjaž Hanžek ni odzval in ni obiskal kraja, kjer je prišlo do napadov, po preselitvi družine Strojani v Postojno pa je napadel vlado.

V tem času je LDS vložila še eno interpelacijo in sicer proti ministru za zdravje Andreju Bručanu, SNS pa je vložila predlog interpelacije proti ministru za delo, družino in socialne zadeve Janezu Drobničju, vendar po nepotrebnem, saj je Drobničev odstop zahteval Janša. Ker ga ni dosegel, je državnemu zboru predlagal, naj Drobnič razreši, in to se je tudi zgodilo.

DECEMBER

Novi pretresi v LDS

Potem ko je državni zbor razrešil ministra Drobničja, je na njegovo mesto imenoval Marjeto Cotman, dosedanja državna sekretarka na ministrstvu za delo, družino in socialne zadeve, Janez Drobnič pa se je vrnil v poslanske klopi (od poslanskega sedeža pa se je poslovil Franc Capuder).

Uspešno sta interpelacijo odbila ministra Vasko Simoniti in Andrej Bručan, ki pa si je kmalu prislužil nove kritike opozicije zaradi domnevnega izbora zasebnega helikopterja za reševanje in medicinsko pomoč.

V državnem zboru je bil končno sprejet tudi

zakon o verski svobodi, za katerega niso hoteli glasovati poslanci DeSUS, zakon pa je bil deležen tudi ostrih kritik, češ da uzakonja monopol in dodatne privilegije Katoliške cerkve.

Zbudil se je tudi policijski sindikat in pripravil zborovanje na Bledu, zbrani člani pa so izzvižgali direktorja policije Jožeta Romška.

Z notranjimi težavami se je morala znova spopasti Liberalna demokracija Slovenije, saj je njen poslanec Slavko Gaber zahteval odstop predsednika Jelka Kacina. Hkrati so stekle tudi priprave na januarski kongres LDS, ko bodo morali voliti tudi novega predsednika. Stranko je neprijetno presenetil izstop njenega nekdanjega generalnega sekretarja Gregorja Golobiča.

Z mesta varuha človekovih pravic se je poslovil Matjaž Hanžek, ime leta na Valu 202, nasledila ga je psihiatrinja Zdenda Čebašek Travnik, ki jo je predlagal Janez Drnovšek, potrdil pa državni zbor.

V začetku meseca je bilo precej vroče v Ambrusu, kjer je prišlo celo do spopada med policijo in krajanji, vaške straže pa so se že v novembru organizirale v drugih krajih po Sloveniji, kjer bi lahko bila morebitna nova lokacija, kamor bi se naselila romska družina Strojani.

Vlada je za predsednika vladne komisije za romsko skupnost imenovala Janeza Podobnika, ki je nadomestil prejšnjega predsednika Milana Zvera.

(KONEC)

Sen o vrnitvi

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

ki je bil tako kakovosten, da so v šestdesetih letih nastopali tudi na nacionalnem radiu in televiziji.

Predvsem pa je poznan kot skladatelj. Čeprav je večina njegovih skladb še v rokopisu, pa jih je kar nekaj že natisnjenih v pesmaricah Slavimo Gospoda in v cerkveni zborovski pesmarici. Na slovenskih korih že prepevajo dve njegovi slovenski maši, spevi med berili pa so zbrani v petih zvezkih.

Znan je tudi po kantatah, najbolj poznani sta *Stvarniku* in *Turki na Slevici*.

"Uglasbil sem vedno le tisto, kar me je nagovorilo, kar mi je bilo všeč. Nikoli nisem sedel za klavir in si rekel: zdaj bom pa eno zložil. Za to moram imeti poseben navdih, poseben trenutek in besedilo, ki me nagovori," je povedal za Družino p. Vendelin.

Spomladi bo izšla notna zbirka Špendovih skladb, ki jih je na jubilejnem koncertu izvajal mešani zbor Lipnica.

"Dve domovini imam: Slovenijo in Ameriko," je ob zadnjem obisku dejal p. Vendelin. "Tu imam družino, sorodnike, v Ameriki pa sem preživel doberšen del življenja. Rad se vračam domov, na Dobrovo, v ta lepi kraj blizu Brzlj, rad se srečam s sorodniki, prijatelji, vaščani, sobrat, ampak rad se spet vračam tudi v Ameriko. Slovenci v Ameriki me potrebujejo in jaz potrebujem njih."

K. H.

Družina, 28. jan. 2007

Sprememba naslova

Ko se selite, trajno ali začasno, ste lepo naprošeni, da naši pisarni posredujete tako Vaš novi naslov kakor sedanji oz. stari. To omogoča, da boste brez prekinitve dobivali naš list.

Nov naslov

Datum začetka: _____

Vaše ime: _____

Naslov: _____

Star (dosedanji) naslov

STZ banket v Torontu

TORONTO, Ont. – Sloven-
ska telovadna zveza (STZ)
je 20. januarja 2007 pri-
redila svoj letni lovski
banket v cerkveni dvorani
Marije Pomagaj na Man-
ning Ave. v Torontu.

Kakor vsako leto doslej
je bila kuharica Minka
Hace, ki je pripravila tu-
di prvi "lovski banket" že
leta 1955.

Minka je začela s ku-
hanjem že v Sloveniji, v
gradu Windischgrätz, in
nato nadaljevala v dvora-
ni na Manningu, v Slo-
venskem domu na Pape
Avenue, to poleg mnogih
drugih klientov v Toron-
tu.

Divjačino "Caribou" je
okusno pripravila Amy
(Carmen) Škulj na svoj
filipinski način, kakor nas
pač gosti že nekaj let na
STZ izletu v Bancroftu.

Napovedovalka progra-
ma, vodja natakarc in
pozneje še loterije je bila
Stephany, sicer študentka
na univerzi York; pripada
ji veliki del hvale za us-
peh tega večera. Bar je
vodil Peter Gormek. Or-
kester Brajda je goste
odlično zabaval, kakor so
pričali veseli plesalci v
dejanju in pohvali.

STZ se zahvali tudi
Cerkvenem in Krekovem
Credit Unionu, Edwardu

Klemenčiču in Zephyr
Data Ltd. (Peter Gormek)
za finančno pomoč, s ka-
tero so krili stroške miz
in večerje za otroke in
mladino.

Krajši nagovor je imel
inž. Frank Gormek, sta-
rosta društva, ki je raz-
ložil aktivnosti STZ, se
prisrčno zahvalil vsem za
obisk in nato povabil g.
Plazarja, da je vodil mo-
litev pred večerjo.

Inž. Jože Škulj je po-
daril pokale za športno-
lovske aktivnosti v prete-
klem letu, njemu pa je
dal pokal Oskar Koren,
to za uspeh na Slovenija
Trust farmi.

Banketa so se udeležili
tudi ustanovni člani STZ
in sicer: Jože Škulj, Loj-
ze Škulj, Frank in Peter
Gormek, Nada Mušič,
Majda Resnik, Oskar Ko-
ren in Peter Golobič.

Po vsaki meri je bil
banket uspešen, kajti so
se prijatelji spet srečali
in skupno veselili.

Nada Mušič

Prijatelj's Pharmacy
St. Clair & E. 68 St. 361-4212
IZDAJAMO TUDI ZDRAVILA
ZA RAČUN POMOČI
DRŽAVE OHIO - AID FOR
THE AGED PRESCRIPTIONS

ZELENA ŠTAJERSKA

(NADALJEVANJE S STR. 13)

vasi Mota pri Ljutomeru izhaja goriški
nadškof in prvi slovenski kardinal Jakob
Missia (1838-1902), iz vasi Bučevci nad
Ljutomerom pa biblicist, strokovnjak za
Prekmurje in dvakratni rektor ljubljanske
univerze dr. Matija Slavič (1877-1958).

V Sakošaku pri Ptujju se je rodil Slo-
venec Janez Puh, v svetu bolj znan kot Jo-
hann Puch (1862-1914), eden vodilnih ev-
ropskih industrialcev, ki se je uveljavil kot
proizvajalec izjemno uspešnih koles in mo-
torjev znamke Puch, a tudi avtomobilov in
zgodnjega avstrijskega letala. V
Ključarovcih pri Ormožu je bil doma
duhovnik in priljubljeni pisatelj, dramatik in
pesnik Ksaver Meško (1874-1964), med-
tem ko dr. Anton Trstenjak (1906-1996),
teolog, filozof in vodilni slovenski psiholog
in znanstveni pisec, izhaja iz vasi Rodmošci
pri Gornji Radgoni. Opozorimo še na
duhovnika in vodilnega slovenskega poli-
tika, zlasti še med obema svetovnima vo-
jnoma, dr. Antona Korošca (1872-1940),
rojenega v Biserjanah pri Sv. Juriju ob
Ščavnici, od koder je bil doma tudi Edvard
Kocbek (1904-1981), dober slovenski
pesnik in naiven in slab ideolog in politik.

Pri drugem Sv. Juriju, v Šentjurju
pri Celju, pa so bili doma plodni slovenski
skladatelji Benjamin Ipavec (1828-1908),
njegov brat Gustav Ipavec (1831-1921) in
Gustavov sin Josip Ipavec (1873-1921). Iz
Šentjurja izhaja tudi mednarodno znani
strokovnjak v elektroniki in izredno
zaslužni častni generalni konzul Republike
Slovenije v Sydneyu, Avstraliji, Alfred
Brežnik.

Štajerska je poljedelsko najbolj
plodna slovenska pokrajina. Podobno kot
Koroško je Avstrija tudi Štajersko skušala
ponemčiti – z naseljevanjem nemško
govorečih Avstrijcev, z nemškim šolstvom
in političnimi in gospodarskimi pritiski,
zlasti še na mesta Maribor, Celje in Ptuj. Po
nemški zasedbi Spodnje Štajerske je aprila
leta 1941 v Mariboru takrat še
"nepremagljivi" nacistični diktator Hitler
ukazal: "Ponemčite mi spet to deželo!" V
šolah, cerkvah in javnosti je bila slovenščina
strogo prepovedana; v Rajhenburgu (zdaj
Brestanica), na gradu Borl in v Strnišču pri
Ptujju so bila zbira koncentracijska
taborišča. V Mariboru in Starem piskru v
Celju so nacisti množično streljali, v
Frankolovem pa obešali slovenske talce.

S krajev blizu Brežic, štajerskega Po-
savja in Kozjanskega so prisilno preselje-
vali Slovence, pogosto v bombardiranju

najbolj izpostavljena industrijska središča,
mlade fante, počenši s sedemnajstletnimi
(med njimi pisca tega članka) in može pa
odvažali na prisilno delo ali nasilno mobi-
lizirali v nemško vojsko, v slučaju pobega
pa se kruto maščevali nad njihovimi druž-
nami in sorodniki. Podobno kot druge slov-
enske pokrajine je med drugo svetovno vo-
jno in v prvih letih po njej tudi Štajerska
zelo trpela. Le v zelo zakotnih krajih so
včasih zatirani rojaki hrepeneče slovensko
zapeli. Najbolj pretresljivo pa je bilo, ko so
nekateri mučeni talci, npr. v celjskem
Starem piskru, tik pred ustrelitvijo glasno
zapeli slovensko pesem, ljudje na ulici pa
skrivali solze, da se niso krvniki še nad njim
maščevali.

Pod izjemnim nemškim nasiljem
komunisti na Štajerskem niso mogli izvesti
revolucije. Tako na Štajerskem ni bilo
revolucije in tudi ne vaških straž in domo-
brancev. To je dokaz več, da vaške straže in
domobranstvo niso nastale iz naklonjenosti
do zasovraženih okupatorjev, ampak iz nu-
jnosti obrambe pred sistematičnem
komunističnem terorjem, ki je takoj po vojni
pokazal svoj grozni obraz tudi na Teharjah
pri Celju in drugod po Štajerski in Sloveniji.
Štajerski rojaki pa so med vojno žal tru-
moma umirali nele kot talci, ampak tudi v
internacijskih taboriščih in kot prisilno mo-
bilizirani vojaki in ujetniki na ruski, afriški
in drugih frontah.

Po končani drugi svetovni vojni so se
kljub komunističnemu nasilju in enoumju in
drugorazrednosti preživelih medvojnih trpi-
nov vendarle povsod spet oglasile sloven-
ske pesmi. Zaplesali so spet štajeriš, polko
in valčke, pojavili so se spet ptujski kurenti.
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Štajerci so spet množično romali k Mariji
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goric, je postal prvi nadškof in metropolit
mariborske nadškofije. Štajerci, skupaj z
drugimi Slovenci, vse bolj pogosto romajo
tudi na grob svojega rojaka in vsesloven-
skega narodnega buditelja, blaženega An-
tona Martina Slomška, čigar truplo zdaj
počiva v mariborski stolnici.

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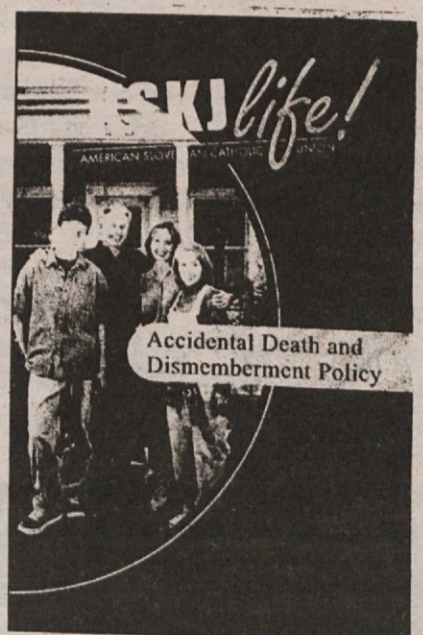
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Slovenija bo imela novo varuhinjo človekovih pravic: Zdenko Čebašek Travnik

Ljubljana (*Moja Slovenija*, Osrednja revija za Slovence zunaj meja domovine), jan. 2007 – Psihiatrinja Zdenka Čebašek Travnik bo 22. februarja letos nasledila dosedanjega varuha človekovih pravic Matjaža Hanžka. Konec lastnega decembra so jo poslanci Državnega zbora (DZ) s 64 glasovi za in nobenim proti izvolili na mesto varuhinje v šestletnem mandatu.

Čebašek Travnikovo, ki jo je 21. novembra lani Državnemu zboru predlagal predsednik republike Janez Drnovšek, parlamentarna mandatno-volilna komisija pa je njeno kandidaturu ocenila kot ustrezno in predlagala DZ, naj jo izvoli, so podprli poslanci iz vrst vseh sedmih parlamentarnih poslanskih skupin.

Kot je Drnovšek zapisal v dopisu, ki ga je poslal DZ, je Čebašek Travnikova pri svojem dosedanjem delu pokazala izreden občutek za človeka. Kljub svoji ozki strokovni specializaciji (področje zdravljenja različnih oblik odvisnosti), pa je veliko pozornost namenila tudi socialnemu in družbenemu okolju, v katerem so se znašli posamezniki, potrebni njene pomoči.

51-letna doktorica medicine in specialistka za psihiatrijo je zaposlena na Psihiatrični kliniki v Ljubljani, kjer od leta 2004 dalje dela kot pomočnica strokovnega direktorja za izobraževalno dejavnost.

Od leta 1993 je tudi asistentka na Katedri za psihiatrijo Medicinske fakultete Univerze v Ljubljani.

Poklicno se udeležuje predvsem na področju zdravljenja različnih oblik odvisnosti ter dela z odvisnimi od alkohola. Od leta 1991 je svetovalka in supervizorka za delo z odvisnimi od alkohola, od leta 1994 pa koordinatorka dejavnosti za zmanjšanje škodljive rabe alkohola za Slovenijo pri European Alcohol Action



Plan Svetovne zdravstvene organizacije (World Health Organization), glavna mentorica za izvajanje specializacije iz psihiatrije in izvedenka Zavoda za pokojninsko in invalidsko zavarovanje.

Je tudi članica ekspertne skupine za transplantacijo jeter, delovne skupine za pripravo smernic za zdravljenje odvisnosti od alkohola v Sloveniji in tudi v okviru mednarodne skupine ter članica Sveta za alkoholno politiko pri Vladi RS, ki je v ustanavljanju.

Poleg tega je avtorica številnih člankov v domačih in tujih znanstvenih in strokovnih revijah.

Novoizvoljena varuhinja človekovih pravic je kot svojo prednostno nalogo izpostavila otrokove pravice, zlasti njihove kršitve zaradi nasilja. Svoje poslanstvo vidi tudi kot zaščitnica starostnikov, ki so vedno bolj ogrožena skupina prebivalstva na področju človekovih pravic.

V svoji prvi izjavi za javnost je izrazila prepričanje, da je s svojo predstavitevijo poslancem vlila dovolj upanja in zaupanja, da bodo lahko sodelovali v prihodnje, pri svojem delu pa računa tudi na podporo zaposlenih na Uradu varuha človekovih pravic.

Sedanjemu varuhu Matjažu Hanžku se šestletni mandat izteče 21. februarja. Za nov šestletni mandat se ni potegoval. Prvega varuha človekovih

Ob knjigi Lada Ambrožiča *Novljanovo stoletje*

Vprašljivi IX. korpus

Trst – V Gorici v Sloveniji so predstavili knjigo *Novljanovo stoletje*, ki jo je uredil Lado Ambrožič, sin generala Lada Ambrožiča-Novljana, nekdanjega generala IX. korpusa in poznanega pisca zgodovine NOB-ja, seveda s pogledom, ki ga ima na zgodovino partizan.

Knjigo so predstavili tudi v zamejstvu, na Gorškem.

Generalov sin je na več kot 500 strahih prenesel očetove 60-letne spomine. General je umrl pred dvema letoma, sta 96 let.

Ob tej predstavitvi so generala Lada Ambrožiča primerjali z dvema Slovencema, to sta general Rudolf Majster in mislec Edvard Kocbek. Velika evforija, ki jo je obkrat ustvarila izbrana publika, je to primerjavo potrdila.

Vse skupaj pa je treba jemati z veliko rezervo, še zlasti primerjavo z Edvardom Kocbekom, ki je kljub velikokrat zagonetnim odločitvam bil popolnoma nekaj drugega od omenjenega generala. Tudi primerjava generala Majstra z vodstvom NOB-jem je vprašljiva!

IX. korpus je bil ustanovljen 13. decembra 1943 in razformiran 16. maja 1945. Ta dva datuma sta za Primorje važna, saj ju marsikdo ne pozna, pa prav zato velikokrat napačno presoja in vrednoti dogodke zadnje vojne na Primorskem.

Zanimivo je, da tudi prisotni zgodovinar ob predstavitvi omenjene knjige, ki je imel poseg, se ni obregnil ob nekatera naravnost grozeča dejstva, ki jih je zagrešil IX. korpus. Samoumevno pa tudi je, da pri tem za vsa ta dejanja imajo krivdo tudi tisti, ki so mu poveljevali.

Še vedno je sporen umik domobrancev iz Tolminske, Grahovega ob Bači in Kobarida proti

pravic v Sloveniji Ivana Bizjaka je Državni zbor na ta položaj izvolil 29. decembra 1994. Pred šestimi leti je bil šele po tretjem krogu iskanja pravega kandidata izvoljen varuh človekovih pravic Hanžek.

Matea Jakin

Gorici, ko so jih partizani napadli 30. aprila 1945 pri Dolgi njeni.

Pobite domobrance so partizani zmetali v Sočo, preostale pa, ki so se razbežali, so zajeli pri Mrzleku, natančno pri koritu, kjer je tekoča voda. Nekaj jih je tedaj zbežalo, ostale pa so pozaprl v Solkanu in nekatere, ne vse, zaslišali.

Partizanske simpatizerje so izpustili, druge pa pobili in zmetali v eno od brezen – verjetno je to brezno Zagomila pri Grgarju. Glavnina pobitih domobrancev so bili mladi fantje s Tolminskega, ki so se ob koncu vojne znašli v teh vrstah, in marsikdo sploh ni vedel, kaj se dogaja...

Načelnik NZ za severno Primorsko je bil tedaj Anton Hvala. On je zasliševal domobranskega poveljnika s postojanke Grahovo ob Bači, Avguščina Žnidaršiča, ki je bil doma iz Morskega pri Kanalu. O tem zasliševanju, ki je bilo v Gorici 5. maja 1945, ne obstaja noben zapis.

Gospod Anton Hvala je bil dolga leta po vojni v Gorici v Sloveniji inšpektor za delo.

Ob predstavitvi Novljanove knjige so vsi skupaj pozabili, da se je pokrajinska komisija VOS za Primorsko avgusta 1944 preimenovala v Odsek OZNE za območje IX. korpusa in delovala v Gorenji Trebuši, s sedežem na kmetiji Na gradu, ki je v zgornjem delu Trebuške doline.

OZNA je imela glavne zapore na drugem koncu, to je na Bogatinovšu, glavna zasliševanja pa so se opravljala na kmetiji v Rižah.

Žrtve, takšne ali drugačne, so od kmetije Na gradu vozili uro hoda v Podgrivško grapo in jih tam postrelili. Po oceni domačinov naj bi tu bilo pokopanih na stotine žrtev!

Tudi Melišče nad Babjim poljem bi nam lahko kaj povedalo, če bi spregovorilo o grobovih na danes že porasli jasi ... Grobovi v smrekovem gozdu med Lazi in Govci "slovijo po štirih šuštarjih". Ti štirje partizani so čez dan opravljali svoj čevljarski poklic, zvečer

pa, da ni pokalo, so se lotili skrivnostnega posla in s čevljarskim kladi-vom pobijali ... še dobro se spominjam, ko mi je v mestecu vrtnic, enega od teh šuštarjev pred leti pokazal stric, ki je bil v tistem času terenec, in mi prišepnil: "Ta je krvavi šuštar!"

Šele danes razumem, kaj mi je hotel povedati!

Tudi Makčeva grapa ni bila partizanom neznana. Tukaj naj bi ležalo vsaj enaindvajset mož in fantov, ki so bili zajeti na Črnem vrhu nad Idrijo!

Nekoliko naprej je Podgrivška grapa, ki sem jo že omenil. Prav tako ne morem mimo Makčevega boršta, ki je severno od Bogatinovša, kjer so zopet grobovi, ki pa so nekoliko poznejši...

Tam pod zaraslo in propadlo kmetijo na Bogatinovšu, kakih dvesto metrov od hiše na mali, danes zaraščeni jasi pod strmino, je tudi verjetno grob duhovnika Antona Piska iz Kanala ob Soči. V dokumentu OZNE beremo, da je bil ustreljen 3. novembra 1944.

Ena od domnev je tudi ta, da so tu nekje pokopane žrtve cerkljanske tragedije. Ta domneva vedno bolj prevladuje med novjšimi raziskovalci tega dogodka.

Kadarkoli grem v Solkanu po ulici IX. korpusa, me pri srcu stisne, ko se spomnim na vse te dogodke. Prav tako se mi zdi naravnost nezaslišano, da se ta nesrečna dejanja, ki jih je zagrešilo vodstvo IX. korpusa, nikoli ne omenjajo, kaj šele da bi jih kdo obžalovali ali vsaj priznal! Res je, da vojna je bila vojna, vendar na strani IX. korpusa so bile nekatere stvari naravnost pošastne.

Primorci naj bi ne pozabili na Gorenjo Trebušo. Ne samo na okrog osemdeset prebivalcev, kolikor jih še vztraja tam, pač pa tudi na vse one, in teh je kar nekaj sto, ki raztreseni nemo pričajo o grozotah zadnje vojne, in tudi IX. korpusa ob gornjem toku reke Trebušnice in so nam živim v žalosten opomin.

Ambrož Kodelja
Novi glas, 30. XI. 2006

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