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Slovenian Mission at St. Mary

St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian language Lenten mission will begin on Sunday morning, March 23rd at the 10 a.m. Mass. Auxiliary Bishop Msgr. Alojz Uran from Ljubljana, Slovenia, will conduct the mission.

Bishop Uran will celebrate Mass every morning at 7:45 a.m. with a talk from Monday, March 24 thru Thursday, March 27.

In the evenings from Monday to Wednesday, there will be a service and talk at 7 p.m.

Bishop Uran was born January 22, 1945, in Sp. Gameljne, Smarto pod

Smarno goro. He served as Cathedral vicar, pastor Ljubljana - Sentvid, and was appointed Auxiliary Bishop in 1992. He studied in both Slovenia and Rome, and presently serves as liaison for Slovenians living outside of Slovenia.

St. Mary's pastor, Rev. John Kumse, encourages all parishioners and friends who understands the Slovenian language to take advantage of this great spiritual opportunity in preparation for Easter, and enjoy the wisdom, wit, and spirituality of this very warm and personable bishop.



The Turk boys welcome their baby brother Peter Jernej born on 3-3-3, weighting 7 lbs., 7 ounces. In the picture are Andrej, age 6, Matej, age 4, David, age 2, and newborn Peter. The proud parents are Dr. and Mrs. David Turk, and grandparents are Ivan and Ivanka Turk of Richmond Heights, and Ivan and Fani Blatnik of Slovenia.



Meet the Honorary Slovenian Consul in Florida

Newly appointed Honorary Consul of the Republic of Slovenia, Maria L. Bacinich (left), is showing Jo Gosline the Consulate Room in her home in Palm Beach, Florida.

Maria L. Bacinich was officially appointed the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Slovenia on December 19, 2001. Born in New York City, she attended High School in Wellesley, Mass., where she won the coveted New England Fine Arts Award for the best artist among New England secondary schools. She went on to receive an Associate of Arts and Science degree at Finch College, and then a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Hunter College in Manhattan. Her formal art education was completed in London at the Byam Shaw School of Art.

She and her husband, Edward, have lived in Palm Beach for 25 years. Her youngest son, Todd, lives at

home; while her older son, Mark, has moved to Ljubljana.

Consul Bacinich is Vice Chairman of Hospice of Palm Beach County, serving on the board for almost 20 years. She is President of Alpha Omega Research Foundation, a not for profit scientific research foundation. Being a member of the Junior League of the Palm Beaches, she became Vice President of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County (1985-95).

She continues to paint and teach in her community. Her watercolors and oils have graced the covers of numerous publications such as the *Official Guide to Palm Beach*, *Guide to the Northern Palm Beaches*, and *Sea Views*.

Rupel Says Joining NATO Historic Opportunity

by DR. DIMITRIJ RUPEL
Foreign Minister, Slovenia

Slovenia is a young country. We have built it on the principles of democracy. Our foreign policy is based on protecting and promoting democratic values. Slovenia has a population of only two million, and because of its small size it certainly cannot decisively influence international politics. Yet this should not push us away from efforts to spread democracy, be it in our direct vicinity in Southeastern Europe, or in more remote countries. But for Slovenia to be successful in these efforts, it must take part in different international organizations.

To enhance the country's role in the international community, it is of extreme importance that Slovenia next year becomes a member in two very important organizations - the European Union and NATO. Both bring together countries that respect the same values: human rights, basic freedoms, the rule of law and democracy.

The EU is evolving into a union of nation states, in which the states get to keep, or even strengthen, their economic achievements, their cultural identities and political power. Slovenian

representatives in the Convention on the Future of Europe are supporting those EU trends that enhance national identity and balance of institutions. Slovenian citizens believe that once in the EU, they will be able to act as equal participants in European institutions and influence their work.

Slovenia will apply European standards, while on the other hand it will establish itself in Europe. In the EU, Slovenia will be able to focus on those fields of work and creation it excels in. Once in the EU, we will try especially hard to preserve Europe's cultural and linguistic diversity. In turn, the EU will help Slovenia reach new cultural levels and offer new forms of cooperation in culture. The membership will be especially useful for Slovenian education and science.

As a member of NATO, Slovenia will take an equal part in great world discussions on the 21st century's main security, ethical and political challenges, as well as in the development of new relations within the organizations; ever-more an institution of collective security. The mentality and operations of NATO are, in line with the North Atlantic Treaty, inseparable from the system of the United Nations.

In the past, NATO has been recognized for its successful intervention for peace and stability in South-eastern Europe. The stabilization of the region has undoubtedly greatly improved Slovenia's security, and the country is greatly benefiting from today's regional economic stability.

After Slovenia joins NATO, its security will increase because of the solidarity and mutual aid among members of the Alliance, as prescribed by Article 5 of the North-Atlantic Treaty. This is especially important today, in a time of asymmetric threats and the dangers of proliferation of lethal weapons, such as nuclear, chemical or biological.

Slovenians are Europeans and proud of it, so it makes perfect sense to join the project of uniting Europe. We want a strong European Union that will act in the world as a global player. At the same time, we want a strong NATO that will be capable of meeting contemporary security challenges. Slovenia got an historic opportunity to enhance its international position when it finished accession negotiations with the EU and was invited to NATO last year.

Thanks to Phil Hrvatin for this article.

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March 20, 2003

REFLECTIONS BY RUDY

Oh, What a Relief It Was

by RUDY FLIS

What a relief this weekend was. I thought God had a broken thermostat, but this sunny warm weather proved me wrong.

I actually stopped what I was doing this weekend, if only for a moment, and I thanked God for my blessings. Do you ever do that? Maybe I'm weird, or maybe the sun got to me. What do you think?

Hunkered down in our cold weather the past few months, my body, soul and mind seemed to become taut. But today all was loose, as my spirits floated between me and the sun. My world is perfect. All that was and all that will be - perfect.

You say how can this be? Simple. It's called the American experience, a gift from God through my mom and dad. They made the adventurous journey across the Atlantic Ocean, and now I

live the good life in these United States.

My wife, children, home, job, and my Catholic faith have me believing I'm the luckiest. But at what cost? Just two years in my Uncle's Army. I was again blessed, because all I fought was loneliness brought on by being away from loved ones.

I was 16 when my dad died. Love for his adopted country flowed to his sons. For all the years past, this love grows and grows, and grows.

Stop! Look! Listen! Doesn't seem to be a great moment in our country's diary, does it?

Mass, Communion, rosaries, sacrifices will help our men and women who serve our country and help our leaders in their awesome decision making during difficult times.

God, what a country to live in!

Can Starfish Swim?

No, and part of the reason is that they aren't fish at all.

Starfish are *echinoderms*, a breed of armed, stiff-bodied marine animals that also includes sea urchins and sand dollars. Starfish don't swim; they crawl around on hundreds of elastic tube feet located under their arms. Each of these feet has a suction cup on the end that allows the starfish to move,

hold still and even open clamshells.

The most common species of starfish has five radiating arms. However, some have up to 40 arms. And if one of these arms is broken or eaten off, the starfish grows a new one; in some instances, the severed arm can grow into an entirely new starfish.

Mlakar Travels Down Memory Lane

by RAY MLAKAR

Well, I am back and after having seen the doctor today, he says the flu bug is gone and wish I could say the same for the cold weather, but it is starting to brighten up for today it was 48 degrees. Hey, that is a heat wave compared to what it has been over the past few weeks.

Time for a joke before I forget it. A well known talk show celebrity came to a hometown in rural Kansas to broadcast his show from a local theater. To "warm up" the audience, he asked people what they did. "I'm a painter," said one distinguished-looking gentleman. "What do you paint?" the celebrity asked. "Men and women," the man replied. "You mean you're an artist?" the host corrected. "No," the man said, "I'm a painter." The celebrity was puzzled. "Where do you paint these men and women?" he asked. "Well, the man said, "I paint "Men" over the men's rest room door and "women" over the women's rest room door."

Okay, one more for the road. Preacher: "Mrs. Jones, will you please wake up your husband?" Mrs. Jones: "Wake him up yourself, you put him to sleep."

Time to get back to Fort Dix. I soon learned that in the service there are only two things that make you a "hit." It was either money which I did not have for making a hundred some odd dollars a month and sending home a \$50 allotment by no means was that making me a runner up for "Bill Gates," but then I had the next best thing. I had a Chevy Impala.

And with the Impala things picked up everything and anything. Fortunately there were not too many low ranked enlisted men who had cars for that privilege only ranked with the high ranking sergeants and not too many of those guys would give you a ride to the corner.

It seems that the guys who worked with me at the warehouse issuing clothing, piled into the car long before I got my bed made, area cleaned, for I did not want the "Den Mother" to think I was slacking off on my house keeping duties. Who am I kidding, for we know that if I did not meet "their standards" I would be spending a lot of off duty time cleaning up. We felt like J. D. Rockefeller riding to work. On days that it snowed, it was time for us to learn how to walk to work for when the weather was bad, I did not get many volunteers to help me wash the car.

During the first part of the month, the gang of us would always head off post on the weekends, but then as money ran out, we stayed close to home. I have to admit that rarely did I have to buy gas for it seems the guys would always go through their pockets to come up with enough loose change to buy gas. But buying gas in the 1950s and purchasing it on the post through the Post Exchange, gas was well under 40 cents a gallon. Those were the days, for if they could come up with a pocket full of loose change, the gas tank was loaded. Once in a while we made it to Mount Holly to get those famous Submarine sandwiches and I

must say it took every bit of two hands to hold it.

May was around the corner and the guys talked about making further trips and so one weekend we managed to talk the First Sergeant into giving us a two day pass covering both Saturday and Sunday, and before we knew it, we were off to Atlantic City.

Some of the guys wanted to wear civilian clothing but I said No, let's go in Class A uniform for we may get discounts or even get some free beer. They soon learned I was right for being in uniform, a lot of places let us in free or for a discount.

What can I say about Atlantic City, like a big glorified county fair, for there were folks with their carts up and down the Boardwalk selling you anything and everything. It was a weekend we all long remembered.

We made it back in time and needless to say our uniforms looked like we had been put thru the wringer. We no sooner got back to the routine of our schedules than the guys asked, "Mlakar, where are we gonna go next weekend?" Well, guess what, luck was with me for I read in the local papers that my girl from Paris was coming to Philadelphia to see "Ray," but unfortunately I am running off the page so you will have to wait until next week. I told the guys, "Wait until you see what I left in Paris."

Well, time to call it a night and in the meantime May the Good Lord Bless and Watch over all of you and above all, "Keep America in peace."

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

FORTY EIGHT HOURS & COUNTING !

What can one say
at a time like this?
What can we think
as the hours are passing?

Is there still hope
for a peaceful solution?
Will there be a tomorrow
with a new dawn and a new day?

Only God knows
what tomorrow will bring
and to him yours truly
is turning with a prayer.

A prayer for the soldiers, the airmen,
the sailors, the marines.
May God watch over them
and bring them safely home
to their families.

A prayer for our country,
our HOMELAND and
our people.

Printing Change

The April 3 edition of Ameriška Domovina (American Home) newspaper will be printed one day later on Friday, April 4. Normal Thursday printing will resume the following week.

Soccer Night Update

The Slovenski Sportni Klub's Slovenian Soccer Night has been amended to a single co-ed game to be held from 6-7 p.m. on Sunday, March 23.

The game will take place at lost Nation Sports Park in Willoughby. Soccer players of all levels are welcome. Please contact the club if you are interested in playing. (216) 881-2105, kocanija@yahoo.com

Life in the Refugee Camps

by ANTON ZAKELJ
translated and edited
by JOHN ZAKELJ

Saturday, Sept. 14, 1946

This evening we went to a gymnastics exhibition in the city banquet hall. The exhibition included performances by Slovenian refugees from a number of camps, including Fric Natlačen, Ivo Krmavner, Janez Varšek, Mrva, and I think also Jeraj from Spittal. They performed on the horizontal bar, parallel bar, the pommel horse and floor mats. The Austrians were so impressed by the world-class quality of the performance that they immediately hired Fric Natlačen to be a gymnastics teacher for the Social Democratic Gymnastics Union.

For the first time, I had one of the seats which were reserved for special guests and camp leadership. I sat next to Levičar and Rev. Klemenčič. Unfortunately, 20 of the reserved seats remained vacant, while other people were turned away at the door for lack of seats.

Sunday, Sept. 15, 1946

Marjan Kocmur is staying overnight in our room (he arrived yesterday to take pictures of the gymnastics exhibition.) Whenever he comes for an event, he also takes lots of pictures of people in the camp. He makes a

living by selling his pictures of camp life to the refugees. When he takes someone's picture, he gives them a slip of paper with the time and date and asks them if they want to order any copies. Very few people in the camp have a camera and nobody has the ability to develop photos, so people appreciate the opportunity to get pictures of themselves at a reasonable price.

Kocmur has epilepsy - he had a seizure today.

My brother Joze is also here visiting. He has decided to return home, against everyone's advice. I have not tried to influence him because I'm worried he will blame me if things go wrong.

Our cook, Mr. Zupan (not related to Jerry Zupan), is returning to Slovenia and has offered me his room, so Cilka and I could have some privacy after we get married.

Monday, Sept. 16, 1946

Marjan Kocmur had another epileptic seizure, but decided he felt well enough to return to Spittal.

At the UNRRA director's request I translated the minutes I had taken of our refugee camp board meeting into English.

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 1946

My brother Joze returned to Feldkirchen, Austria where he has an apartment and a job. His wife Francka

wants him to come home to Slovenia. He knows that he will be in constant danger if he returns, but he can no longer resist his wife's request.

I received a letter from my mother which says that Felix (who left our camp a month ago) has been spreading wild lies about me. My sister Julka defended me at a public meeting.

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 1946

Varšek, Kermavner and others returned to the refugee camp at Lienz.

At a meeting of the camp board, assignments were made for three private rooms which have become available. Zupan's room was assigned to our friends Karl and Mici Erznosnik. There were no rooms left for me and Cilka. Maybe in a month.

Dr. Est usually refuses to speak with me, but when we meet with the director and the director offers cigarettes, Dr. Est always asks me to take two for him.

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 1946

The camp board decided who will be the new (paid) cook for the children's kitchen. I protested because there was no announcement about the job and there was no opportunity for others to apply.

(To Be Continued)

Baraga's Corner

Indian Lake is the site of Bishop Baraga's first mission in Upper Michigan. He canoed across Lake Michigan in 1832. He dedicated his first chapel built among the Indian people to God, in the name of Mary, Mother of God, fulfilling a promise made years earlier.

(From Jubilee 2000 pamphlet.)

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Marjan Kocmur was a professional photographer in Ljubljana before he became a refugee. He documented all aspects of refugee camp life in thousands of photos. After many years in refugee camps, he emigrated to Argentina. This picture is from a book by Janez Arnez regarding Slovenian publications in Austrian refugee camps.

Art Guild Plans Excursions

The Slovenian National Art Guild spent their February meeting planning three bus tours for Art Guild members and their friends to special art exhibits in the area. The cost would be subsidized by the Guild with members paying a very small fee (\$5-\$10), and even part of that fee may be returned in some manner. (Non-members would pay the actual cost.)

The three exhibits are the Van Gogh exhibit in Toledo, the Rodin exhibit in Akron, and the Medici-Michelangelo exhibit in Detroit. We are trying to combine each of these museum visits with another attraction in the area making a memorable day.

Tentatively we have scheduled the tour to Akron and the Rodin exhibit on Thursday, May 8., and the Detroit Medici-Michelangelo-Greentown Casino on May 28. The tour to Toledo and the Van Gogh exhibit was scheduled for April 3 but logistics will prevent us from doing it so soon. Hopefully another date can be chosen.

John has been waiting for quotes from the bus company as to the cost of each of these tours. We will have all the details and costs at our meeting. But we have a problem. The bus holds 55 people and it may be difficult to get that many participants. Does anyone have any idea of where we can rent a minibus or a similar vehicle

holding 15-20 people that may be more appropriate for the size of our group? Call me or bring your ideas to the meeting.

If you cannot attend this meeting, but are interested in attending any of these tours, please call me at 440-943-3623.

China

The Great Lakes Science Center (E. 9th St.) in Cleveland has an exhibit March 15 - September 1 titled "China: 7,000 Years of Discovery" which is a showcase of Chinese science, technology and art.

On display will be more than 400 exhibits and artifacts on loan from the China Science and Technology Museum in Beijing. We could set a date and time and plan on carpooling and meeting there to see the exhibit and the OMNIMAX film "China: The Panda Adventure." Group rates will be available and the Art Guild will greatly subsidize the cost.

There will also be 14 skilled artisans from China who will demonstrate and teach centuries-old crafts such as water color painting, double sided embroidery, brocade, calligraphy, and kite-making.

In the past, science and art were never two different areas. If someone made a pot, it was decorated, unlike today when many pots are simply plain clay.

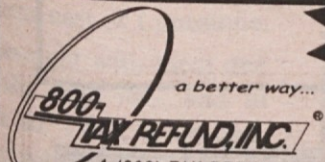
--Patricia Habat

Reputation is an idle and most false imposition; oft got without merit, and lost without deserving.

--William Shakespeare, *Othello*

"Give unto Caesar that which is Caesar's!"

(and ONLY that which is Caesar's)



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Bill Meyer - Photographer, Friend

by JOE GLINSEK

Before and after I retired, Bill and I took several photo outings to the Cleveland zoo and some of the local Metroparks, his favorite nature haunts. Lunches and visits to the Art Museum and some photo exhibitions, gave us time to know each other and talk about common interests. I spoke to Ruth about an exhibit of his work and she thought Bill would be pleased, so I broached the subject. At first he demurred, but I convinced him otherwise. We had several discussions and he agreed to select 70 of his prints for an exhibition to be held somewhere, sometime.

My friend Joyce Little kindly offered the use of her bookstore, "Second Hand Prose" in Mentor. The exhibit would run for a month, with a special gallery opening on a future Sunday. This gave us time to make posters and distribute pamphlets to photo stores and the Cleveland newspapers also ran ads in the arts activities section. Bill Meyer was widely known through his long association with Dodd's and the Cleveland Photographic Society. At the time of the exhibit on Sunday, Jan. 27, 1980, Bill had been a member of the C.P.S. for 34 years, their oldest active member. For the last 20 years, he had also been a member of the Western Reserve Pictorialists. Having his first public one-man photo exhibit at the age of 80, the show generated much publicity, and the opening was well attended by many of his old friends and customers.

My greatest thrill was watching Bill and Ruth's joy at seeing old friends who had come to honor his work. He sold a few pictures, but that was incidental. At age 80, there was still something new in life and it gave Bill a terrific lift. I have an album of photos taken at the show by a Dr. Roland Hummer, since deceased. He was a local Mentor dentist and photo buff, and very impressed by Bill and his work. He sent the album to the Meyers, and after Bill died in 1986, Ruth insisted that I

have it. She and I exchanged cards until she died in December, 1998. I was very pleased to have this memento of Bill, and was looking through the picture album as I wrote this - it brought back many nice memories.

Bill and I discussed everything from politics, religion and philosophy, to current events, television, books and music. Our interest in photography caused us to know each other, but it also introduced me to his many other facets. He was very patriotic and voted regularly, but from our conversations, he must have found it difficult to cast his ballot. He embodied and espoused the best attributes of Democrats and Republicans, but I would define him as non-political. Any 'politician,' by definition, would be a disappointment to Bill Meyer.

He had no prejudice about race, color or creed, and though he called himself an agnostic, he was a devout and just man. We discussed my theory that while organized religion gave one a chance to reserve a seat on 'the bus to heaven,' there would always be empty seats for people like him, without tickets. Bill did not suffer fools gladly, nor those lazy and unwilling to work. He fed birds and squirrels, and could name any wildflower on sight. He enjoyed classical music, good theater, and consulted a dictionary or encyclopedia daily.

Bill Meyer never stopped learning and never complained about his maladies. In his later years, he regretted the fact that "his world became much smaller." My education was expanded by knowing him, and my soul the richer for his friendship. Best of all, neither of us noticed the 30-year disparity in our ages.

In January 1987, the late Bill Meyer was honored by the Cleveland Photographic Society which made a presentation in his name to the Cleveland Metroparks. A framed print of Bill's 'Breakfast in the Park' and an engraved plaque were presented to Terry Reese, then Director of Operations for the Metroparks. The print

and plaque will be permanently hung in the Rocky River Nature Center's Auditorium. A check for \$125 was also presented for a living memorial of two dogwood trees in the Hauser Wildflower Garden. The director felt that the print captures the spirit of the Metroparks, and Bill's long-time love for the park was obvious in this informal, silhouetted self-portrait of Bill and Ruth cooking breakfast in the park.

Accordion music is street legal

CHAGRIN FALLS, OH - After two run-ins with police for playing his accordion on the village's streets, Jacob Kouwe has been cleared to polka.

The Village Council ruled last Monday night that street performances by a 16-year-old Chardon High School sophomore do not disturb the peace.

Kouwe began playing polkas and hymns in December in the quiet downtown of the suburban Cleveland village. On February 8, a Starbucks coffee shop employee complained to police that Kouwe was "soliciting."

Kouwe said that he does not ask for money, but some people drop cash in his accordion case. He moved away from Starbucks.

Then a resident complained that Kouwe's music was "tacky."

Police looked into the possibility that Kouwe was disturbing the peace. Chagrin Falls has a 1935 ordinance that prohibits the loud playing of a musical instrument or "other sound-making device."

Law Director Joseph Diemert said the ordinance does not pertain to street performers, but to major events.

"I admit street performances are not the polished, perfected, album-quality fare served up by formal concert venues," Kouwe told council members. "However, my street performances are from the heart."

Thanks to Philip Hrvatin for this article.

Aspirations

You can know me for what I am or appear to be;
but to love me you must know me for what I aspire to be.
For my desires are the light that's guiding me.
They're the wings that lift the hopes inside me.

Love is a state of mine that begins when you think life can't be any better, and ends when you think life can't be any worse.

Give us the man of integrity, on whom we know we can thoroughly depend, who will stand firm when others fail; the friend, faithful and true; the adviser, honest and fearless; the adversary, just and chivalrous; such a one is a fragment of the Rock of Ages.
-John Mercina

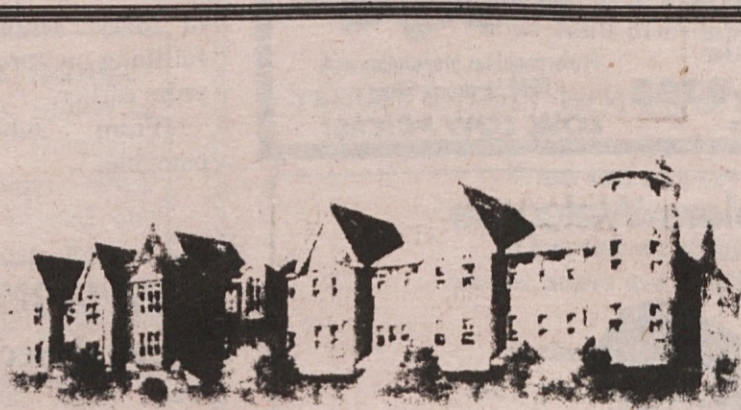
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Slovenians in Northern Michigan

by FRANK R. BARTOL and EMMA KNAUS

(Continued from last week)

On December 31, 1906, on New Year's Eve, they arrived by train in Coalwood, a lumbering camp community east of Munising. It was a cold and snowy day, with four feet of snow on the ground and they stepped off the train into the drifts - four married couples, two infants barely six weeks old, six older children and a number of young single men.

They were met by lumbermen who had come there earlier, most of them of Finnish descent, so there was a considerable communication problem at the outset. But the Finnish folks had food and lodging for the group, and after accepting this hospitality for a very short while, the newcomers were soon settled in different parts of Alger County. Separation was sad for these four families, but they all had some relatives outside the immediate family with them and within the year they were joined by more young men, again mostly relatives and the loneliness was alleviated somewhat.

The Jacob Lustrick family, which included four children - John, the oldest at 12, Ludwig, Frank and Anne, who was barely six months old - remained in Coalwood (now called Hanley). In April of 1907 a daughter, Mary, was born to the Lustrick family at a camp in Roscoe.

The John Knaus family located in Alger, a logging settlement east of Limestone. They brought with them one son, John, age two, and in August of 1907, a second, Ludwig was born to them.

The Charles Laurich family, which included six-week-old Charles Jr., went to Mathias, south of Winters in Mathias Township.

The Frank Debelak family, with two children, Frank Jr., and Mayme, who was just six weeks old, went for a short time to Rumely but soon returned to Coalwood, where a second daughter, Emma was born in 1908.

These families, together with the single men, worked primarily in the cordwood camps, which furnished material for several chemical plants in the area. Camp conditions for the Slovenians were essentially the same as those for all people engaged in woodwork in the U.P. at that time, and the primitive way of life represented no great change from conditions back home. In fact, the camps were an improvement over the lean-to shelter and make-shift huts the men had been accustomed to in Croatia, Hungary and Rumania when they went on their wood cutting expeditions.

But a condition they were not prepared for was the hordes of mosquitoes, black flies, no-seeums and other insects that were apparently even more plentiful in Upper Michigan woods than they are now. The part of Slovenia they were from was hilly and at a fairly high altitude, with few breeding places for these insect pests. Thus they

had experienced no such onslaught in the old country.

Old timers reminiscing about those days tell of the desperate, mostly futile attempts to protect themselves with concoctions of various kinds, most containing some kind of animal fat as a base. Commercial repellents were not generally available at that time. In and around the camps the situation was not much better. Children grew tired of brushing insects away and after awhile accepted them as inevitable. Everyone was glad when the insect season was over, even though it meant winter was just around the corner.

In the woods, men and horses were the main source of power. The young men would pair off into teams, one on each end of a cross-cut saw, some working with each other so well that they remained partners for years. The cordwood they cut was piled in the woods for the scaler to measure before making out the payroll, which, when weather conditions were unfavorable, was quite meager. After living expenses were taken care of, there was often very little to spend for frivolous things or to save for some big purchase. **(To Be Continued)**



JOHN KNAUS FAMILY, ABOUT 1908. JOHN JR. AND BABY LUDWIG

Truths I have learned

- Once over the hill, you pick up speed.
- I love cooking with wine. Once in a while I even put some in the food.
- If it weren't for stress, I'd have no energy at all.
- Everyone has a photographic memory. Some just don't have film.
- I know God won't give me more than I can handle. I just wish He didn't trust me to much.
- Dogs have owners. Cats have staff.
- If the shoe fits... buy it in every color.
- If you're too open-minded, your brains will fall out.
- Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
- If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.
- Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks.
- Some days are a total waste of makeup.
- A balanced diet is a piece of potica in each hand.
- Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.
- Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.
- Junk is something you've kept for years and throw away three weeks before you need it.
- Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.
- By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.
- Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.

--Bogo Avsec
Toronto

The trouble with reducing is that your diet calls for less food while your appetite calls for more. --Bob Mills

Every married man discovers that the wife who gives in, has not given up.

Stress Management

Just in case you've had a rough day, here is a stress management technique recommended in all the latest psychological texts. The funny thing is that it really works.

1. - Picture yourself near a stream.
2. - Birds are softly chirping in the cool mountain air.
3. - No one but you knows your secret place.
4. - You are in total seclusion from the hectic place called "the world."

Thanks to Lewis Stafford for this stress buster.

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St. Mary's Lenten Fish Fries
Every Friday during Lent, beginning March 7, from 4 to 7 p.m., a fish fry will be held in St. Mary's school auditorium, 15519 Holmes Ave., sponsored by the Parish Council.
Cost of fresh ocean perch, home-fries, salad, dessert and coffee is \$7.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children. Shrimp/fish combo dinner or all shrimp dinners are \$7.50. Macaroni and cheese dinners are \$3.50. All are welcome.

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Green Beans w/Kohlrabi, Sweet Rolls,
Beverage - Coffee, Tea, Apple Strudel
MUSIC BY JOE NOVAK & FRIENDS
Doors Open 5 p.m., buffet 6 p.m., dancing 7 - 9
Call for Reservations: Corrine 440-449-2555

Krofe Sale
St. Vitus Altar Society
will hold a krofe and noodles
sale on Saturday, April 5.

Super Button Box Bash Set

Oh, to be 21 again. It is possible - in button box years - at Super Button Box Bash 21. Super XXI will take place Sunday, April 6 from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., in both halls, at Slovenian Society Home, Euclid, Ohio. Fifteen different bands will play in an 8-hour music festival spotlighting the button accordion.

It is also a harbinger of spring to see the happy faces of the Slovenian Junior Chorus. The youngsters will sing at 3 p.m., in the upper hall, with a guest appearance by the Button Box Player of the Year, Jake Zagger.

At 7 p.m., by popular demand, a Button Box Contest will take place, with cash prizes. Entry blanks are available by writing to: Button Box Contest, c/o P.O. Box 28, Willoughby, OH 44094-0028, deadline for entries is March 31.

The Button Box Group of the Year, Lipa Park, from St. Catharines, Ontario, will be in its usual spot, 4 p.m., in the lower hall. Also, scheduled are several outstanding button accordion groups from out of town, including SNPJ Northern Home from Michigan, Strabane (PA) SNPJ International, and Western PA SNPJ Button Box Club (Sygan).

Delicious refreshments and liquid libation will be available throughout the day. Admission is the same as last year, \$7 at the door, \$6 in advance. Musicians with instruments are admitted free. Come early and stay late, for the same rate. Tickets are available at the Polka Hall of Fame, 605 East 222 St., Euclid. For more information call Agnes at 216-531-7168 or 440-944-7303.

--Cecilia Dolgan,
Director

Poached Salmon with Horseradish Sauce

- 4 cups water
- 1 lemon, sliced
- 1 carrot, sliced
- 1 stalk celery, sliced
- 1 tsp. peppercorns
- 4 (4 oz.) salmon steaks
- Horseradish sauce (recipe follows)

Combine first 5 ingredients in a large skillet; bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Add salmon steaks; cover, reduce heat, and simmer 10 minutes. Remove skillet from heat; let stand 8 minutes. Remove salmon steaks to serving plate. Serve with horseradish sauce.

Horseradish sauce:

- ¼ cup reduced-calorie mayonnaise
- ¼ cup nonfat yogurt
- 2 tsp. prepared horseradish
- 1 ½ tsp. lemon juice
- 1 ½ tsp. chopped chives

Combine all ingredients, cover and chill. Makes ½ cup.

--Brother Richard

✕ Gilmour Well Seasoned recipe book

Lilija presents

The Wicked Widow

On Sunday, April 6, Drama Club LILIJIA presents a comedy, "The Wicked Widow" at Slovenian Home on Holmes Avenue beginning at 3:30 in the afternoon. Everyone welcome!

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Button Accordion Contestant (check only one category)

- ___ Youth (age 15 and under)
- ___ Young Adult (ages 16 to 29)
- ___ Adult (ages 30 to 59)
- ___ Senior (ages 60 and older)
- ___ Chromatic (all ages)

Name: _____ Age: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____ Years Played: _____
City/State/Zip: _____

Please mail entry to: Button Box Contest
P.O. Box 28
Willoughby, OH 44094-0028

For more information call: 440-944-7303
Sponsored by SNPJ Circle 2

46th Annual Banquet of STZ Club

TORONTO, Ont. - Even the bone-chilling temperatures did not keep the enthusiasts of this well established Slovenian organization from attending its Annual STZ Banquet. The adventurers, outdoorsmen, students, the young and the young-at-heart guests filled the hall of Our Lady Help of Christians on Manning Avenue.

They came to reminisce over the past year's activities, to be entertained by good old country music by "Veseli Pomurci" and to sample the traditional goodies like schnitzel, potica, krofi, etc., etc., prepared by the distinguished chef - Mrs. Minka Hacc. Minka, who has cooked for nearly all of STZ banquets to date, has an even nobler career past however, for all you cooking aficionados, Minka was the chef in the Windishgratz Castle in Slovenia. No wonder she is a real pro - second to none.

The members who originally participated in this 50-something club have certainly instilled the spirit of its original vision and enthusiasm to the younger generation. I was quite impressed by the young members and volunteers - boys and girls who worked very hard during the evening, but also stayed very late to help with the unpleasant clean-up task.

Another highlight of the evening was the trophy presentation by Engineer Joze Skulj. Trophies were presented to first and second

place champions in canoeing, athletics, shooting and hunting. STZ club can offer something for everyone if interested - young and old.

As one observes the joyful gathering, however, it becomes very obvious that the real spirit and the driving force behind the success of STZ is its originator - Engineer Frank Gormek. Frank greets each guest as if they came into his home and delights in making his rounds from table to table to make everyone feel more welcome - almost as if all were one family. He faithfully proclaims and lives by his favorite motto - "mens sana in corpore sano" (healthy spirit in a healthy body) and invites everyone to do likewise.

As proof that this motto really works, Frank proudly greeted one of STZ oldest participants - Mr. Janez Gornik, who has just turned 100 and was attending this occasion with his wife of 80 years and his son, whom he used to bring for gymnastics to the Pape Ave. hall.

Sincere gratitude goes to all organizers of the event and especially to the "keepers of the vision" for providing us with another memorable evening. We wish STZ many more years of happy adventures.

--Nada Music
Observer

Thanks

Many thanks to Eugene and Hilda Lipic of North Hollywood, CA for 1 year airmail gift subscriptions (\$165) to Padre Rafko Ropret, SSS (Rev. Ralph Roberts, of Trieste, Italy).

Also thank you to anonymous of Willoughby Hills for payment of two months gift subscription (\$27.50) to Rev. Roberts.

Father Roberts will receive 14 months of the Ameriška Domovina and should receive the newspaper within one week of publication because of the airmail service.

We have just discovered that for persons living in Slovenia who receive this paper through ordinary mail, it takes up to 5 months for them to receive the paper. Due to the fact that five months delivery time is too long and by that time the news is outdated, we will not be accepting any new ordinary mail subscriptions to Slovenia. Air Mail only.

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Death Notices

MILAN BESEDNJAK

Milan Besednjak, 71, of Huntsburg, OH, passed away on March 4, 2003.

Mr. Besednjak was born on February 18, 1932.

He was the husband of Mirella (nee Ozbot), father of Vince (Susan), Frank, Milan Jr. (Victoria) and Milenka (Jim) Soltis; grandfather of 16; and great-grandfather of five; brother of Mario and Vera Steffan in Australia.

Private family services were held Friday at the Russell Golden Rule Funeral Home in Middlefield, OH.



MIKE PODBOY

Mike Podboy, a Euclid tavern-owner and Santa Claus look-alike who promoted polka bands and Slovenian cuisine, died at the Hospice of the Western Reserve on Friday, March 14, 2003, a day before he was honored as the Slovenian Workmen's Home Man of the Year.

Podboy, 75, poured beer and cooked Slovenian tripe stew for blue-collar workers and politicians who frequented Podboy's Lounge on weekday afternoons and evenings.

Then he would go to his second job as a third-shift crane operator for Operating Engineers Local 18 at various steel mills and construction sites, while members of his family took care of the bar patrons.

His weekends belonged to the tavern, where he befriended the polka musicians, who entertained his clientele.

Podboy, who never played a musical instrument, was named to the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall

of Fame's Trustees Honor Roll in 1993 and honored as the organization's promoter of the year in 1999.

He was a co-founder and had been a trustee of the American Slovenian Polka Foundation.

The Cleveland native and Collinwood High School graduate learned the bar-keeping trade at his parents' taverns. He ran Podboy's Tip Toe Inn with his brothers before opening his lounge in Euclid in 1959.

He was known for his annual clambakes and St. Patrick's Day feasts of corned beef and cabbage, when his bar was called "O'Podboy's."

Podboy, a member of the Navy League, also hosted summer cookouts for sailors whose ships were docked at the Port of Cleveland. He served Slovenian sausage along with hamburgers and hot dogs and played tape-recorded polka music.

During the Christmas holidays, the jolly-white-bearded Podboy played Santa Claus at St. Jerome Catholic School, Rose-Mary Center and the Slovene Home. He also heralded the beginning of the Christmas tree sales season at Gale's Garden Center in Willoughby Hills.

Survivors include his daughters, Linda Leskovec and Susan Coan, both of Willoughby, Char McAuley and Lori Stanicki, both of Chardon, and Sandy Tami of Euclid; sons, Michael J. Jr. of Concord Township, and James of Euclid; 15 grandchildren; and three step-grandchildren.

Podboy also is survived by his companion of 22 years, Fran Schmidt; and her four children; 15 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services were at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 19 at St. Christine Catholic Church, 840 East 222nd St., Euclid.

ZeLe Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Alana Baranick
The Plain Dealer



Love never dies as long as there is someone who remembers.

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In Memory

Thanks to Mrs. Rose Hubert of Euclid, Ohio who renewed her subscription and enclosed an additional \$10.00 as a donation in memory of Hubert Silva, John and Mary Picman, and Robert Sterling.

Donation

Thanks to Dan and Majda (Kogovsek) Valerian of Lakewood, OH who renewed their subscription plus added a \$25.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Augustin Jokic of Willoughby Hills, OH who renewed their subscription plus added a \$25.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to Mary Bradish of Tyrone, Georgia who renewed her subscription plus added a \$15.00 donation in memory of her husband, Edward Bradish.

Donation

Thanks to AMLA Lodge #12 Carol Czeck, Secretary-Treasurer, for the donation of \$20.00.

In Memory

Thanks to John and Mary Obat of Cleveland who donated \$20.00 in memory of their deceased parents.



In Loving Memory

Of the 20th Anniversary
Our Mother, Grandmother
and Great-Grandmother



Antoinette
(Nettie)
Kalish
nee Grdina

Born June 6, 1890
Died March 25, 1983

Sadly missed by:
daughter Carmen and
son-in-law Lloyd McBrayer
Grandchildren:
Connie Rae Schreiber
Annette Tinter
Robert McBrayer
Janel McBrayer
Kimberle Gold
and 8 great-grandsons
Kevin, David, Michael,
Scott Tinter
David, Bryan Schreiber
Ryan & Keith McBrayer

Donation

Thanks to St. Mary's Alumni (Collinwood) for their generous donation of \$50.00.

Donation

Thanks to Edward Verbovnik of Willoughby Hills, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$20.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Victor Kmetich of Highland Heights, OH who renewed their subscription plus added a \$25.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to Prof. Edward and Mrs. Milena Gobetz of Willoughby Hills, OH for their \$20.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to Frank Lovsin of Euclid, OH for his \$20.00 donation.

Newburgh-Maple Pensioners

Your March, April, and May meetings will be at the Slovenian National Home, 3563 East 80th, off Union Avenue. They are all at noon.

The March meeting is on the 26th. The April meeting is on the 23rd. The May meeting is on the 28th. The attendance prize for March is \$5.00.

The yearly Mass for the deceased and living members of the Newburgh-Maple Hts. Pensioners Club will be on Sunday, March 30th at 10 a.m. in St. Lawrence Church.

Following Mass we will have breakfast at the Slovenian National Home on East 80th. The cost is \$7.00. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Donations

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

Tony Mestek, Ontario, -- \$5.00

Rev. John Kumse, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

Isabella Dejak, Eastlake, OH -- \$10.00

Val Burnside, Indianapolis, IN -- \$15.00

Mary Sawyer, Brecksville, OH -- \$15.00

Mary Stragisher, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Joseph Novak, Whitefish Bay, WI -- \$15.00

Mary Sterle, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Stanley Segal, Joliet, IL -- \$5.00

Frank Sustar, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Josephine Kastigar, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Mrs. Julia Smole, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Mary E. Jerse, Euclid, OH -- \$10.00

Aloysz Brumen, Madison, OH -- \$15.00

Jack Lavriha, Lorain, OH -- \$15.00

August J. Selak, Girard, OH -- \$5.00

Franc Kokelj, Toronto, Ont. -- \$5.00

Thanks

Thanks to Ms. Jan Beljan of Palm Beach Gardens, FL for the nice note and renewal of subscription plus a generous \$65.00 donation!

Slovenian Coverage

Thanks for the good coverage of the news about Slovenia.

--Maria and Frank Vegel
Seven Hills, OH

A thing of beauty is a joy forever;

Its loveliness increases; it will never

Pass into nothingness.

--John Keats

Rudolph Frank Zelle



Thursday Afternoon, April 29, 1926

† Friday Evening, March 18, 1994.

Rudy, I miss you....

--joe

Slovenian Pensioners Club of Euclid

"Ole Man Winter" blasted the Cleveland area once again on Wednesday, March 5th with cold winds and blowing snow. Nevertheless, 113 hardy members attended our monthly meeting at Recher Slovenian Home. It was a good turnout and a nice welcome to the 2003 officers who were sworn in by John Sechnick:

President: Esther Podboy
 Vice President: Jackie Ulle
 Secretary: Lori Sierputowski
 Financial Secretary: Jeanette Yert

Treasurer: Frank Kosten
 Federation of Pensioners representative Harry Brule reported that despite bad weather, 29 persons attended the last meeting hosted by our own Recher Slovenian Home. At that time, the Federation presented \$300 to each Pensioners Club, proceeds from the annual picnic. This summer, the Federation picnic will take place on August 18th with dinner prepared by Julie Zalar and music featuring Frank Moravcik. Tickets for this event are \$13.00.

It may not seem like spring is on its way, but ladies, please look through your closets for a pretty spring bonnet, or create a new one. In the case of men, wear a straw hat, or a special

hat of your own design and be part of our "Easter Parade" at the April 2nd meeting. The cooks are planning to serve delicious sloppy joes; there will be a bake sale, and with a little music to boot, it should be a really fun time.

The thought of summer brings such happy thoughts, and we can all look forward to the annual picnic which has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 2nd with dinner catered by Josie Cerer and music provided by Al Battistelli. Tickets are \$13.00 and will be available soon, so remember to keep this date open on your calendar.

Historian Marion Bocian related that the first week of March marked the 42nd anniversary of the founding of Slovenian Pensioners Club of Euclid, Ohio, which began with 45 members, and in the 1980's, numbered over 1,000 members. At some point in the near future, it was suggested to recognize the oldest participating members.

Just a reminder that annual dues are now payable, so please bring your membership up to date. Financial Secretary Jeanette Yert would appreciate being notified of any address or telephone number changes.

The Ladies Auxiliary of Recher Slovenian Home will serve a pork chop dinner the first Monday of April. Make plans to attend this event, as the "domace" cooking will certainly delight your taste buds.

Sunshine Chairwoman Doris Pokopac resides in Chesterland (1-440-286-9627), but also has a Cleveland telephone line. To reduce long distance charges, she will gladly call back persons with messages regarding ailing members. Please keep her informed.

Members on the sick list during the months of January and February were: Louie Hosta, Pauline Burja, Jennie Laurich, Jennie Fitzthum, Hilda Mestek and Mary Sterling. Our warmest wishes to all for a speedy return to good health.

Sadly, we must report the loss of Samuel Papesch, Ann Tercek, Frances (Debeljak) Ball, and Frank Simoncic in the month of January. Sincerest sympathies are extended to their families.

President Esther Podboy has some interesting program ideas for the future, and we are all looking forward to some happy times at the monthly meetings coming up this year. Don't miss the opportunity.

--Lori Sierputowski

Coming Events

Friday, March 21
 Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80th, Cleveland, Fish Fry - Walleye or Shrimp or Pierogi or Mac & Cheese \$8, serving 5 - 7 p.m.

Friday, March 28
 Slovenian National Home Co., 3563 E. 80th, Cleveland, Fish Fry - Walleye or Shrimp or Pierogi or Mac & Cheese \$8, serving 5 - 7 p.m. Music 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. by Wayne and Joe.

Sunday, March 23
 St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Slovenian School breakfast 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Sunday, April 6
 Super Button Box Bash XXI at Slovenian Society Home, both halls featuring 15 button accordion bands.

Sunday, April 6
 Drama Club LILJA presents a comedy "The Wicked Widow" at Slovenian Home on Holmes Ave., beginning at 3:30 in the afternoon. Everybody welcome!

Saturday, April 12
 Jadran Singing Society dinner (5 p.m.), concert and dance featuring Fred Ziwich Orchestra at SWH, 15335 Waterloo Road, Cleveland.

For tickets \$20, call (216) 481-3187 or (440) 951-1694.

Sunday, April 13
 St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Palm Sunday 9:45 a.m. blessing of butare and procession. 10 a.m. Mass.

Sunday, April 13
 Annual benefit dinner for Seniors Program at St. Vitus Auditorium sponsored by Holy Name Society, KSKJ Lodge No. 25, and Altar Society.

Tuesday, April 22
 St. Vitus Catholic War Veterans Dinner (Reverse raffle). Tickets \$40.00. \$2,500 total cash prizes. Contact Rich Mott at (216) 531-4556.

Saturday, April 26
 Zarja Singing Society Spring Concert, Slovenian Society Home, Euclid. Dinner before concert; Jeff Pecon Orchestra provides music for dancing after concert.

Sunday, May 4
 Holmes Ave. Pensioners Club annual dinner dance, Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave. Dinner 2 p.m., dancing to Ray Polantz 3 to 7 p.m. All Welcome!

SNH Serves Tasty Friday Fish Fries

The Club of Associations of the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue announces they will be serving Fish Fries during Lenten including Good Friday, April 18th.

The Fish Fries will be served in the club room (rear building), lower level, 6409 St. Clair Avenue. Luncheon will be served from

12 noon to 2 p.m., and dinners will start at 5 p.m. and continue until 8 p.m.

Menu choices will include fish, shrimp, pierogi, soup, home fries, french fries, coleslaw, and dessert. The lighter lunch menu is \$5 and the evening menu cost begins at \$8 which includes soup, dessert and coffee.

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– Vesti iz Slovenije –

Na pragu referendumov a tudi pred pričetkom vojne z Irakom je v Sloveniji občutno večja podpora za NATO in EU

Podpora včlanitvi Slovenije v NATO in Evropsko unijo se je občutno dvignila, poročila včerajšnje *Delo*. Od zadnjega merjenja v prejšnjem tednu do ponedeljkovega (ko je agencija Dela Stik znova izvedla prvo od treh načrtovanih telefonskih raziskav v tem tednu) se je delež zagovornikov vključitve v NATO dvignil za 4,6 odstotka, in sicer na 58,6 odstotka. Delež anketiranih, ki podpirajo članstvo Slovenije v EU, pa kar za 5,6 odstotka, na 85,2 odstotka.

Večja podpora včlanitvi v obe organizaciji je posledica opazne spremembe pri odgovoru na vprašanje, ali se bodo anketirani obeh referendumov udeležili. Medem ko je bilo 13. marca 62 odstotkov anketiranih zavržno odločenih, da se bodo referendumu udeležili, tokratno merjenje razpoloženja javnosti kaže, da se bo referendumu zagotovo udeležilo 72,5 odstotka anketiranih. Prejšnji teden je bilo 15,1 odstotka vprašanih zavržno odločenih, da jih na referendumu ne bo, tokrat pa njihov delež le 9,2 odstoten. Delež še neodločenih pa se je zmanjšal skoraj za povovico s šest na 3,5%.

Najnovejša anketa je pa bila izvedena pred govorom predsednika ZDA Georgea Busha v ponedeljek zvečer, da ima Sadam Husein s sinovi le še dva dni, da zapustijo Irak oziroma se bo pričel vojaški napad, in seveda (ko se tudi to piše) pred pričetkom samega napada, do katerega bo sedaj skoraj gotovo prišlo do nedelje, torej do izvedbe referendumu o NATU.

Slovenska vladna delegacija se udeležila pogreba ubitega srbskega premiera

Preteklo soboto je bil pogreb od še neokritih atentatorjev ubitega srbskega premiera Zorana Đinđića. Slovensko delegacijo je vodil predsednik vlade Anton Rop, v njej

sta bila še zunanji minister Dimitrij Rupel in minister za informacijsko družbo Pavel Gantar.

“To je žalosten dan ne le za Srbijo in Črno goro, temveč za vso Evropo,” je v palači federacije v Beogradu na sprejemu za delegacije izjavil Rop. “Slovenija ponuja vsestransko pomoč Srbiji in Črni gori na poti v EU, ki je pot v boljše življenje, kakršno je izbral premier Zoran Đinđić.”

Slovenska delegacija se je sestala s predsednikom državne skupnosti Srbije in Črne gore (ime Jugoslavija pač ni več v rabi tudi v teh dveh državah) Svetozarjem Marovićem in srbskimi funkcionarji.

Radio za zamejske Slovence na Koroškem

Generalna direktorica ORF Monika Lindner je v pogovoru s predsednikom Zveze slovenskih organizacij Marjanom Sturmom in predstavnikom avtohtonih avstrijskih narodnih skupnosti v svetu občinstva ORF Reginaldom Vospernikom potrdila napoved, da bo državna rtv ustanovila lasten slovenski radijski kanal, prej pa mora zvezna vlada zagotoviti ustrezne zakonske okvire.

Nižje obresti zoper inflacijo

Po oceni, da se inflacija v Sloveniji vzdržno znižuje, je svet Banke Slovenije znižal obrestno mero za začasni odkup evrov s 4,5 odstotka na 4 odstotke, hkrati pa znižal tudi obrestne mere za svoje finančne instrumente. Pomembno je gibanje cen proizvajalcev, medletna rast teh cen se je s 6 odstotkov konec lanskega četrtertletja zmanjšala na 3 odstotke konec letošnjega februarja. Ukrepi naj bi že do poletja pokazali učinke pri nizji inflaciji.

Verjetno zaradi prenehanja negotovosti v zvezi z iraško krizo se je vrednost US dolarja znatno okrepil zadnje dni. 14. marca je bil srednji devizni tečaj Banke Slovenije \$1US 209,68 SIT, 18. marca pa 219,54.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Slovenski postni misijon—

Začel se bo to nedeljo pri sv. maši ob desetih v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete, to za slovensko govoreče. Misijon bo vodil ljubljanski pomožni škof Alojz Uran. Škof Uran bo maševal in govoril pri maši vsako jutro ob 7.45 od ponedeljka do četrtega. Zvečer bo od ponedeljka srede ob 7h govor in pobožnost. Vabljeni je slovensko govoreča javnost.

Zajtrk to nedeljo—

Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti vabi to nedeljo na zajtrk, ki bo v šolski dvorani. Serviranje bo od 8.30 zj. do 12.30 pop. Cena je samo \$6 za odrasle in \$3 za otroke.

Klub upokojencev SP—

Klub upokojencev Slovenske pristave ima redni mesečni sestanek v sredo, 26. marca, ob pol dveh (1.30) v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Ave. Članstvo vabljeni, da se sestanka po možnosti udeležijo.

Novi grobovi

Michael J. Podboy

Dne 14. marca zvečer, dan pred tem, ko bi ga bila počastila za moža leta SDD na Waterloo Rd. Federacija slovenskih narodnih domov, je umrl 75 let stari Michael J. Podboy, oče Linde Leskovec, Michaela, Jamesa, Susan Coan, Char McAuley, Sandy Tami in Lori Stanicki, 15-krat stari oče, dragi prijatelj Fran, bivši mož Sophie Podboy, brat Alvina in Richarda (oba že pok.), zelo aktiven pri polka zadevah kot lastnik tekem let več gostiln, rad je v božičnem času za otroke igral vlogo sv. Miklavža, med drugim nekaj let na božičnici za mlado članstvo AM-LA, pri kateri je pripadal društvu št. 27 Blejsko Jezero, ustanovni član in odbornik American Slovenian Polka Foundation. Pogreb je bil 19. marca v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Kristine s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Dr. Carl G. Opaskar st.

Umril je 90 let stari dr. Carl G. Opaskar st., mož Marguerite, roj. Hartory, oče Carla ml., Marguerite, Nancy Benander, Mary Ann Trost, Carol Dossa in Janet Bortner, 18-krat stari oče, 5-krat prastari oče, brat že

(DALJE na str. 15)

Bralcem—

Ker bosta to nedeljo v Sloveniji dva pomembna referenduma, o včlanitvi v NATO in EU, je v današnji AD precej gradiva o tem. Ker bo do nedelje, kot ob tem pisanju kaže, že pričel vojaški napad na Irak, je tudi o tem objavljenih nekaj poročil.

Pečene ribe v postu—

Pri fari Marije Vnebovzete so vsak petek v postu od 4. do 7. zv. v šolski dvorani ribje večerje. Tudi v SND na St. Clairju ponujajo malice od 11.30 do 1.30 pop. v prizidku zadaj, večerje pa od 5. do 7.30.

Dobrotniki se javili—

Pisarna sporoča, da sta se oglasila Eugene in Hilda Lipič iz North Hollywood, Kalif., in ponudila \$165 za kritje celoletnega letalskega pošiljanja AD Rev. Rafku Ropretu v Trst. Druga dobrotnica je obljubila kritje teh stroškov za dva meseca, in tako ima Rev. Ropret zagotovljen naslednjih 14 mesecev dobivanja AD. Dobrotnikom iskrena hvala!

KOLENDAR

MAREC

23. – Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti ima zajtrk v šolski dvorani med 9. dop. in 12. opoldne.

APRIL

6. – Dramsko društvo Liliya uprizori veseloigro “Vražja vdova” v Slov. domu na Holmes Ave. Pričetek ob 3.30 pop.

26. – Pevski zbor Zarja ima koncert z večerjo in plesom v SDD na Recher Ave. Igral bo Jeff Peconov orkester.

MAJ

25. – Pevski zbor Korotan ima koncert v SND na St. Clair Ave.

25. – Društvo SPB sponzorira spominsko sv. mašo ob 12. uri opoldne, pri Lurški Materi božji na Char-don Rd.

JUNIJ

8. – Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti ima piknik na Slovenski pristavi. Ob 12.30 sv. maša, sledi kosilo.

14. – 15. – Tabor DSPB ima spominsko proslavo na Slovenski pristavi, ob spominu 58. obletnice slovenskega “holokavsta” za domobrance ob koncu 2. svetovne vojne.



DOMA V EVROPI, VARNI V NATU – Za tako geslo so se po besedah slovenskega premiera Antona Ropa (na fotografiji v sredini), na levi zunanji minister Dimitrij Rupel, na desni evropski minister Janez Potočnik) odločili, ker sta obe odločitvi med seboj povezani in oblikujeta celoto. V zadnjih tednih je bila vladna kampanja za to, da bi volivci to nedeljo glasovali ZA na obeh referendumih, intenzivna. (Gl. str. 10, 11)

LILIJA VABI

CLEVELAND, O. – Prenekatero prireditev smo imeli priliko obiskati zadnje čase, tako, da smo na igre že kar pozabili. Pa vendar so bile igre včasih košček vaškega življenja. Z veseljem smo se odzvali vabilu igralne skupine in z navdušenjem sledili njih nastopu na odru. LILIJA nam že vrsto let skuša od časa do časa pričarati nekaj teh lepih spominov. Tako so Lilijini igralci zopet na delu, ko nam v režiji Srečka Gaserja pripravljajo veseloigro "Vražja vdova", katera bo podana v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Avenue v nedeljo, 6. aprila, s pričetkom ob 3.30 popoldne. Režiser in igralci, katere smo že večkrat videli na odru, nam zagotavljajo veselo popoldne in zvrhan kos sme-ha ter dobre volje.

Mnogokrat nekam s skrbjo gledamo v bodočnost in se sprašujemo, koliko časa se bo še ohranila slovenska beseda v Ameriki. Prijatelj! Tudi od mene in tebe je odvisno! Morda nimava sposobnosti, da bi stopila na oder, toda lahko podpreva tiste, ki se za to trudijo. Zato je vsa slovenska javnost vabljen v nedeljo, 6. aprila, na igro "Vražja vdova".

France Ancel

Mnenja tik pred izbruhom vojne z Irakom ...

Obžalovanje in upanje

(Ur. AD: Sledi poročilo, ki ga je v sredo objavil list Delo (po Delo faxu). Ko ga boste brali bo morda že začel napad na Irak; o reagiranju v Sloveniji bodo poročila v naslednji številki. Spodaj izražene misli so iz torkovih izjav treh vodilnih slovenskih državljanov; ti so Janez Drnovšek, predsednik Slovenije, Anton Rop, predsednik vlade, in Borut Pahor, predsednik parlamenta. Zanimivo bo prihodnji teden videti tudi, če oz. kako bo vojna v Iraku vplivala na odločitev slovenskih volivcev na referendumu o NATU, ki bo ravno to nedeljo. Tudi o tem izidu bodo v naslednji AD razna poročila in komentarji.)



Ljubljana – "Predsednik vlade obžaluje, da na zasedanju varnostnega sveta ZN v ponedeljek ni prišlo do premostitve razlik in poenotenja stališč med člani-cami te organizacije niti do odločitve o možnih nadaljnjih korakih za mirno rešitev iraške krize," so med drugim zapisali v uradu predsednika vlade.

Predsednik vlade Anton Rop je izrazil tudi zaskrbljenost zaradi vse večje verjetnosti uporabe sile v Iraku in zaradi možnih posledic na delovanje in vlogo varnostnega sveta v mednarodnih odnosih, še zlasti pri reševanju kriznih situacij po svetu. "Predsednik vlade še vedno upa, da vse možnosti za mirno razrešitev iraške krize še niso izčrpane."

Kot so še zapisali v sporočilu za javnost, sta se tako premier kot vlada ves čas zavzemala za mirno rešitev iraške krize pod okriljem VS, kar so zapisali tudi v posebni izjavi, sprejeti 13. februarja, in s pristopom k skupni izjavi Evropske unije, sprejeti 17. februarja.

Vlada ni prejela novih prošelj za prevoze oziroma prelete čez slovensko ozemlje v povezavi z iraško krizo. V skladu z novim položajem, ki je nastal ob zadnjih dogodkih, bo vlada, predvidoma prihodnji teden, znova proučila prejšnje prošnje.

(DALJE na str. 11)

Smučali smo "Heavenly" v Kaliforniji-Nevadi

CLEVELAND, O. – Letošnji tedenski izlet na visoke gore nas je popeljal v Lake Tahoe področje, ki leži na meji Kalifornije in Nevade. V soboto, 15. februarja, smo prileteli iz raznih krajev ZDA na letališče Reno, Nevada, od tam smo potovali z avtobusom proti Lake Tahoe. Sicer takoj po pristanku na letališču so nekateri med nami poizkusili srečno na tkim. "slot machines" in tako vpeljali tempo tedenske zabave poleg smučanja.

Pot proti smučišču "Heavenly" nas je vodila skozi prestolnico Nevade, Carson City, ki je bilo ustanovljeno tekom tkim. "gold rush" dobe in še daje vtis o tistih časih.

Jezero Tahoe je obdano z gorami, visokimi do 12 tisoč čevljev nadmorske višine. Na teh gorah je šest večjih smučišč, od njih smo obiskali Heavenly, Kirkwood in še Squaw Valley.

Forest Swites Resort, ob vznožju smučišča Heavenly, nam je nudil prenočišče in dostop do drugih smučišč kakor tudi kratek sprehod do igralnic. Smučišče Heavenly leži na meji Kalifornije in Nevade na višini 4 tisoč čevljev nad Jezerom Tahoe in obsega več kot 4800 akrov.

Za enodnevni izlet na smučišče Kirkwood, ležeč na južnem zaledju Tahoeja, nam je avtobusni prevoz nudil Janez Demšar, lastnik podjetja Demo Tours. Janez se je ob koncu svojih tekmovalne kariere ustalil na Lake Tahoe področje ter ustanovil in uspešno vodi omenjeno prevozno podjetje.

Da res najdeš Slovenca na vsakem koticu sveta nam je dodatno dokazal Andrej Podvršič, generalni konzul RSlovenije v New Yorku, ko je opazil Branka na avtobusni vožnji od smučišča do hotela. Branko, doma na Koroškem, je za enoletno dobo zaposlen kot smučarski inštruktor na smučišču Heavenly.

Enodnevni izlet na smučišče Squaw Valley, kraj že osmih olimpijskih zimskih iger, je bil potom ladje Tahoe Queen, ki nudi gostom zajtrk v prvo smer, na poti nazaj pa večerjo ter plesno zabavo. To vsaj tistim, ki



Na vrhu smučišča Heavenly, zadaj od smučarjev gorovje Rocky Mountains, pod njimi jezero Tahoe. Z leve: Jože Košir, Stane Rus, Franček Toplak, Silvo Lango, Dominika Lango, Metod Ilc.



Udeleženci smučarskega izleta. Posnetek napravljen na smučišču Heavenly v državi Nevada.



Na vrhu smučišča Heavenly: Metod Ilc, Andrej Podvršič, Jože Košir, Ivan Kamin, Franček Toplak.

so še pri sebi po celodnevem smučanju. Naj omenim, da smo vsi plesali, saj križanje na jezeru traja približno dve uri. Dodam naj, da je to jezero globoko 1600 čevljev, nikoli ne zamrzne in baje v svojih globinah skriva tkim. Lake Tahoe Monster Tessie.

Tudi tokrat smo se pomerili na veleslalomski prog. Kar 26 nas je tekmovalo v dveh starostnih skupinah. Najhitrejši med nami je bil jezuit Marko Zupanc, ker je dober smučar, verjetno pa tudi zato, ker ima božjo pomoč!

Med prijatelji preteklega stoletja se nam je pridružil Jože Sodja z ženo in bratom Petrom. Pokramljali smo cela dva večera o lepih časih, ki smo jih preživeli v okolici župnije sv. Vida v Clevelandu. Jože se iz oseb-

(DALJE na str. 11)

Najboljši v vseh kategorijah

Mlajši:

1. – Marko Zupanc
2. – Andrej Podvršič
3. – Matt Rus
4. – Stanley Rus

Mlajše:

1. – Viktorija Kamin
2. – Dana Schurek
3. – Kristen Schurek
4. – Katja Podvršič

Starejši:

1. – Mike Schurek
2. – Ivan Kamin
3. – Metod Ilc
4. – Lee Costello

Starejše:

1. – Mateja Podvršič
2. – Dominika Lango
3. – Joanne Krazit
4. – Barbara Kamin

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V NATO ali ne, to je zdaj vprašanje

Slovenski mediji posvečajo zadnje tedne ogromno prostora debati o odločitvi da ali ne glede vstopa Slovenije v severnoatlantsko zavezništvo. O tem, ali bodo volilci na referendumu to nedeljo glasovali za včlanitev v Evropsko unijo ni dvoma: bodo. O NATU pa najnovejša anketa javnega mnenja kažejo na pozitiven izid, a se številka naglo spreminjajo in če bo glasovanje za včlanitev v NATO, bo po vsej verjetnosti pičila zmaga. Tudi v slučaju zavrnitve povabila, bo, kot sedaj kaže, tovrstna "zmaga" tudi pičila. To torej utegne biti primer, ko vsak glas res lahko nekaj pomeni. Kar sledi, je izbor raznih mnenj za in proti NATO, ki jih je preteklo nedeljo objavil časopis *Nedeljo*.

Urednik AD

Pomoč iz tujine ...

George Robertson, generalni sekretar NATA, ob obisku v Sloveniji: "Moje sporočilo Slovincem je, da je vključitev boljša kakor osamitev ... Bolje je sedeti za mizo, za katero se sprejemajo odločitve o prihodnji varnosti, kakor le opazovanje tega skozi okno ... Slovenski volivci se morajo zavedati, da se stvarna priložnost za včlanitev v NATO ne bo kmalu znova ponudila."

Johnny Young, veleposlanik ZDA v Sloveniji, o pravi demokraciji: "NATO je preveč demokratičen in prav v tem so razlogi za razlike, ki se pojavljajo. Če bi bil bolj avtokratičen, bi bila zadeva urejena ... Če bomo problem z Irakom rešili mirno, bomo vsi zelo srečni. Če pa bomo morali v vojno,

lahko to storimo z mandatom ZN ali brez njega. Ne morem pa odgovoriti, ali bo tudi Slovenija del te koalicije. O tem boste odločali vi. Želimo si seveda, da bi bili zraven."

Javier Solana, nekdanji generalni sekretar NATA: "Oba, EU in NATO, sta veliko prispevala k stabilnosti v Evropi, zato vam toplo priporočam, da na referendumih o vstopu v EU in NATO glasujete ZA ... Kmalu bomo sedeli za isto mizo in se ukvarjali s skupnimi problemi."

Aleksander Kwaśniewski, poljski predsednik. "Nikakor se ne bi želel vmešavati v slovenske zunanje zadeve, vendar bi bilo zelo slabo, če Slovenija ne bi bila v NATU. To bi bila izguba za Slovenijo, predvsem pa občutek varnosti za Srednjo Evropo in Evropo nasploh."

Romano Prodi, predsednik komisije EU: "Članstvo neke države v EU in NATU ni v neskladju. V EU imamo nekaj članic, ki so nevtralne, večina med njimi pa je tudi v zavezništvu. Sicer ne vemo, kakšen bo NATO čez 10 ali 15 let. Goto vo bodo potrebne spremembe, ki jih bo zahteval politični položaj, vendar pa je v tem primeru

bolje biti notri kakor zunaj, saj se vaš glas tako sliši in je močnejši."

Pro & contra ...

Dr. Tine Hribar o notranjih bojih. "Podpiram, zadnje čase podpiram. Težko sem se odločil. Čustveno sem še vedno proti ... Zelo težko pa sem vstop sprejel tudi kot filozof. Namreč: edini argument za vstop v NATO je zdrava pamet, s katero pa smo filozofi že od nekdanj navzkriž ... Ampak navsezadnje sem se odločil za zdravo pamet ... NATO je sicer zlo, a nujno zlo. To ni dobrina kot taka, to ni nekaj samo po sebi dobrega. Ampak sem za, da ne bi bilo še slabše."

Dr. Ljubica Jelusič s Fakultete za družbene vede o medijski propagandi: "Za ta referendum ne bomo mogli oklicati niti pravega predvolilnega molka. Odločali bomo o stvari, ki določa javna čustva brez velikega notranjega političnega nadzora ... O čustvenem in ne razumskem političnem odločanju sklepam na podlagi medijske politične kampanje zadnjih mesecev. Vstopu v NATO najbolj nasprotujejo mladi in intelektualci. Najbolj neopredeljeni so niže izobraženi in predvsem ženske. Mladi, niže izobraženi in ženske so tudi najbolj dovzetni za stereotipno propagando."

Poslanec **Aurelio Juri** (eden bolj zvestih članov ZLSD, neposredne naslednice Komunistične partije, op. ur. AD) o izredni priložnosti: "Se lahko pošalim? Če bi na referendumu rekli ne, bi končno postali prepoznavni. Nihče več nas ne bi mešal s Slovaško. Pa zastave nam tudi ne bi bilo treba menjati."

Jože Mencinger, rektor ljubljanske univerze, o alternativni: "Zakaj pa naj bi jo ponujal? Tega ne razumem. Kaj pa želijo vedeti? Kaj pa je alternativa? Najraje povedo tisti, ki nekam grejo, zakaj grejo! Jaz ne potrebujem ponujanja alternativ, saj mi povsem zadošča zdajšnje stanje."

Obžalovanje in upanje

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 10)

Predsednik republike **Janez Drnovšek** je v pogovoru za *Radio Slovenija* menil, da bi Slovenija ob vojaškem posredovanju v Iraku brez odobritve varnostnega sveta ZN izrazila obžalovanje. Po Drnovšku je stališče Slovenije tako, da ne bo sodelovala v vojaškem posredovanju v Iraku, bo pa sodelovala pri povojni obnovi Iraka in pri človekoljubnih dejavnostih, skratka pri tistih dejavnostih, pri katerih bo verjetno sodelovala tudi tista Evropa, ki noče sodelovati v vojaški akciji.

Na vprašanje, ali so bile po njegovem mnenju izčrpane vse diplomatske možnosti za mirno rešitev iraške krize, pa je Drnovšek menil, da so prehitro zaključili in da bi bilo treba preveriti še druge predloge, ki so bili v varnostnem svetu ZN.

Tudi predsednik državnega zbora **Borut Pahor** je izrazil obžalovanje nad odločitvijo ameriškega predsednika o ultimatu iraškemu predsedniku oziroma o prenehanju iskanja mirne poti za razorožitev iraškega režima. Spričo uspešnega dela inšpektorjev je bilo še dovolj prostora, da bi se lahko mirna pot uspešno končala, je še menil Pahor in dodal, da v zadnjih tednih ni opazil tako velike neposredne nevarnosti, ki bi opravičevala odstop od iskanja poti za mirno rešitev spora. "Dokler obstoji le en sam odstotek možnosti za takšno rešitev, se je treba stoddostno potruditi, da temu damo priložnost," je še dejal Pahor.

C. R., Delo fax, 19. marca 2003

Milan Gorjanc, upokojeni vojaški častnik o slovenski pomembnosti: "Vojaško gledano ne pomenimo nič. Pomenimo kvečjemu Italijanom."

Uroš Krek, državni sekretar na ministrstvu za obrambo, o ogrožanju: "Pred desetimi oziroma petnajstimi leti je to bila Sovjetska zveza ... Npr. čez dvajset let bodo svetovni mir lahko ogrožale večje svetovne ekonomske spremembe. Dejstvo pa je, da neposredne vojaške ogroženosti Slovenija danes ne vidi. In verjetno tudi čez deset let ne bomo tovrstno ogroženi."

Obrambni minister **Anton Grizold** o besedah podsekretarja: "No, ne vem, kako ste ga vi spraševali, vendar sem prepričan, da naš državni podsekretar zelo natančno in strokovno pozna te zadeve."

Razumevanje nerazumljenih ...

Dimitrij Rupel, zunanji minister, o vilniški izjavi (*Izjava, ki izraža pod-*

poro ameriškem stališču v zvezi z iraško krizo, so podpisale vse kandidatke za članstvo v NATO, op. ur. AD): "Mi smo se priključili tej izjavi z nekaterimi rezervami. Dva dni smo se po telefonu pogovarjali z različnimi zunanjimi ministri in poskušali še izboljšati jezik, kakršen je bil v začetku. Zdaj smo deloma zadovoljni, tu pa tam nas kakšna beseda še moti.

Vendarle je treba vedeti, da je vilniška skupina, ki si jo je izmislila Slovenija skupaj z Litvo, in če gre za deset podpisnic, je zelo težko, da bi vsaka podpisnica dosegla vse, kar želi ... Zadnji odstavek te izjave, govori o pričakovanju, da bo varnostni svet Združenih narodov naredil vse potrebne in ustrezne korake v odgovor na grožnjo, ki jo predstavlja Irak mednarodni varnosti in miru."

Janez Drnovšek, predsednik države, po pristopu k vilniški izjavi: "Ko

(dalje na str. 12)

SMUČALI SMO

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

nega zanimanja ukvarja z glasbo in vodi tedenski radijski program mednarodne glasbe v San Franciscu.

Zopet nam je bilo vreme naklonjeno, saj nas je narava nagradila s čevljem svežega snega ravno ob prihodu. Nihče se ni ponesrečil, če upoštevamo sicer, da je krvav nos pričakovan dogodek.

Drugo leto bo ta tedenski izlet potekal v kanadskih gorah na zahodu, v Lake Louise in Banff, in upamo, da se nam bodo Kanadčani številno pridružili.

Ivanu Kaminu, organizatorju teh smučarskih izhodov, smo zopet iz srca hvaležni. Njegova organiziranje je bilo zopet sploh najboljši, vemo pa tudi, da je izpeljava celotnega potovanja sitna zadeva. Najlepša hvala, Ivan in tudi tvoji ženi!

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Ob 10. obletnici Slovenske škofovske konference

Nadškof Franc Rode čaka na novo poglavje

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 7. marca) – Predsednik republike Janez Drnovšek je na Brdu pripravil sprejem ob deseti obletnici ustanovitve Slovenske škofovske konference. Sveti sedež je potrdil ustanovitev samostojne slovenske škofovske konference 19. februarja 1993, ko je bil takratni predsednik republike Milan Kučan na prvem uradnem obisku pri papežu Janezu Pavlu II. Možnost za formalno priznanje samostojne slovenske škofovske konference se je ponudila šele po mednarodnem priznanju samostojne države.

Ob potrditvi samostojne škofovske konference je ta štela šest članov: Alojzij Šuštar, Franc Kramberger, Metod Pirih, Jožef Smej, Jožef Kvas, Alojz Uran. Danes je v njej devet škofov. Nadškof Šuštar je v pokoju, Franc Rode pa je bil imenovan za novega ljubljanskega nadškofa in metropolita na pepelnico 5. marca 1997. Trije novi člani so še Anton Stres, Jurij Bizjak in Andrej Glavan.

Korenine prizadevanj za slovensko škofovsko konferenco segajo že v ustanovitev slovenske pokrajinske škofovske konference junija 1983, takrat še v okviru jugoslovanske konference.

Poleg drugih pobud za samostojnost (denimo peticija *Revije 2000*) je tudi nadškof Alojzij Šuštar zagovarjal samostojen položaj škofovske konference pri cerkvenih ustanovah in tudi javno. Denimo: "Slovenski škofje sicer sodelujemo v jugoslovanski škofovski konferenci in želimo prispevati k enotnosti Cerkve v Jugoslaviji, a vendar želimo, da bi zaradi svojih narodnih posebnosti, zaradi svojega jezika, kulture in politične oblike misli imeli tudi mednarodno priznано slovensko škofovsko konferenco." (1990)

Sveti sedež je lahko potrdil samostojnost slovenske škofovske konference šele po mednarodnem priznanju Slovenije. S posebno noto je Sveti sedež med prvimi (za

Nemčijo, Litvo, Ukrajino, Latvijo, Islandijo in Estonijo) priznal državno samostojnost in neodvisnost Slovenije (in Hrvaške) 13. januarja 1992. Posebno noto je takrat poslal tudi beograjski vladi.

Po pričevanju predstavnikov slovenske Cerkve je 12. januarja 1992 zvečer papež Janez Pavel II. osebno interveniral pri vatikanskih službah, naj pripravijo vse potrebno za priznanje Slovenije.

Predsednik Janez Drnovšek je škofove povabil tudi na (brezmesno) kosilo, je po sporočilu za javnost na srečanju poudaril prispevek slovenske škofovske konference pri utrjevanju državnosti ter ohranjanju in spoštovanju vrednot v času hitrega demokratičnega razvoja slovenske družbe.

Nadškof Franc Rode, ki je vodil cerkveno delegacijo, pa je menil, da bo pričakovana skorajšnja ratifikacija sporazuma s Svetim sedežem odprla novo poglavje v odnosih med slovensko državo in Rimskokatoliško cerkvijo v Sloveniji.

Med odprtimi vprašanji je Rode poudaril izvajanje verouka v šolah, ki po

njegovem povzročča vrsto časovnih in prostorskih težav, saj ni ustrezno rešeno. Po Rodetu pri verouku ne gre le za verouko, temveč tudi za vrednostno in demokratično vzgojo, zato bi morali znati izboljšati sedanje pogoje za izvajanje verouka.

Glede tega je Drnovšek izrazil mnenje, da je znotraj ustavnega okvira možno doseči določeno izboljšanje praktičnih pogojev za izvajanje verouka, pravno korektne rešitve pa je treba iskati v strpnem dogovarjanju s šolskimi oblastmi.

Sogovorniki so se strinjali, da bi se Slovenija z vstopom v EU in NATO ponovno vključila v krog držav, kamor sodi po svoji demokratični, varnostni in vrednostni izbiri. Predsednik Drnovšek je še dejal, da zelo ceni in spoštuje prizadevanje papeža Janeza Pavla II. za dosego mirne rešitve iraške krize in njegov prispevek k ohranjanju svetovnega miru.

Dejan Pušenjak

Anton Rop, predsednik vlade, v *Večeru* o delitvi odgovornosti: "Večkrat odgovorjam na vprašanje o vilniški izjavi ... Vilniška izjava je samo, poudarjam, samo izjava zunanjih ministrov desetih kandidatov za vstop v NATO.

Prava izjava je izjava slovenske vlade, je izjava, ki jo je slovenska vlada sprejela ter je celovita in bistveno bolj celovito obravnava iraško krizo. Vilniška izjava je ena od epizod, ki se je zgodila, vendar ni zavezujoča. Je že daleč za dogodki, svet je že daleč naprej ... Tao, da je bolj za notranjepolitično preigravanje, spore, prepire in vsi jo izrabljajo."

Tone Peršak, predsednik Društva pisateljev Slovenije: "To, kako je Slovenija pristopila k tej izjavi, razkriva vso bedo slovenskega vključevanja v NATO. Očitno je namreč, da so to izjavo napisali v zunanjem ministertvu ZDA."

Publicist *Franco Juri* o amaterjih: "Še posebno pa moram poudariti ključni odstavek, in sicer poziv vilniške skupine Varnostnemu svetu (VS) k ustreznim akcijam v odgovor ponavljajočim se grožnjam Iraka miru in varnosti. V diplomatskem jeziku lahko to preberemo le kot odobritev VS vojaškega napada. Torej popolna podpora ameriškem stališču."

Pripravil T. S. N.
Nedelo fax, 16. marca 2003

NATO: DA ali NE

(nadaljevanje s str. 11)

je ameriški državni sekretar Powell nastopil v VS, smo se znašli v situaciji, ko smo se morali na hitro uskladiti o neki resoluciji, ki je nihče razen zunanjega ministra ni niti videl. Tak mehanizem mi ni všeč – če bi takrat, potem ko so že vsi privolili v besedilo izjave, rekli ne, bi bilo videti, kakor da ima edino Slovenija nekaj proti ZDA ... Ameriška zamera bi bila verjetno nesorazmerno velika in v tisti situaciji se verjetno naš zunanji minister ni mogel odločiti drugače, kakor se je."



V Nepozaben Spomin

ob peti obletnici, odkar nas je zapustil
naš predragi mož, ata in stari ata



Viktor Kmetič

In odšel k Vsemogočnemu 22. marca 1998

Ljubil si dom in nas vse.

Rad si pel in bil vesel.

V dragocenih spominih vedno si med nami;

in mi v mislih smo pri tebi.

Ljubljani mož, ata in stari ata

počivaj v Božjem miru.

Tvoji žalujoči:

Žena: Minka

Zet: Frank

Hčerka: Metka

Snahi: Ani, Michelle

Sinova: Vic, Tomaž

Vnuki: Franci, Viki,
Tomaž

Vnukinje: Viktorija,
Monika, Jennifer, Kati

V Sloveniji:

Nadia

Bratje: Ivan, Stanko, Ludvik z družinami

Sestre: Micka, Pepca, Lojzka, Slavka z družinami
ter ostalo sorodstvo.

Richmond Heights, Ohio

20. marca 2003

V SPOMIN

ob četrti obletnici,
odkar si odšel
v večno življenje
24. marca 1999.



MARKO SFILIGOJ

V duhu smo združeni.

Žalujoči:

Žena: Heda

Sinovi: Marko, Martin
in Anton

Snahe: Laura, Kathy
in Jeannie

Vnuk: Michael

Vnukinje: Heidi, Kayla,
Lia in Maria

Sestra: Meta, in ostalo
sorodstvo v Sloveniji.

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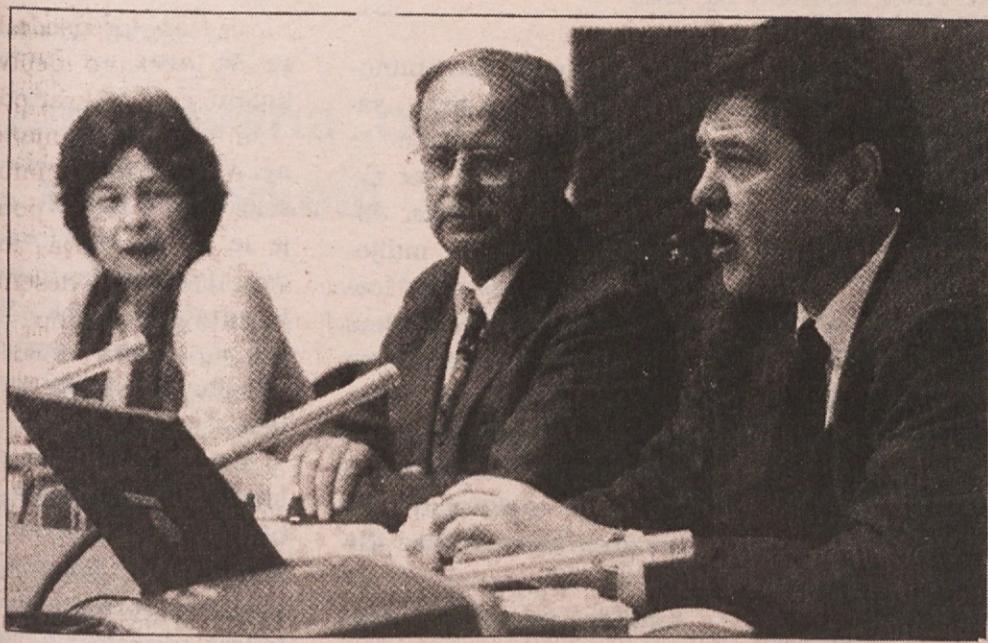
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ZAKON O VOJNIH GROBIŠČIH ŠE LETOS? – Predsednik, podpredsednica in član vladne komisije za reševanje vprašanj prikritih grobišč, Peter Kovačič Peršin (v sredini), Spomenka Hribar (levo) in Mitja Ferenc (desno).

Ponovno razpravljanje o prikritih grobiščih v Sloveniji ...

Država gosto prepletena z grobišči

Ljubljana – (Delo fax, 11. marca 2003) Predstavniki vladne komisije za reševanje vprašanj prikritih grobišč – Peter Kovačič Peršin (predsednik), Spomenka Hribar (podpredsednica) in Mitja Ferenc (član) – so 10. marca obširno predstavili dejavnosti komisije, njeno stališče do sprejetja zakona o vojnih grobiščih, investicije v letošnjem letu oziroma potek gradenj, ki jih komisija vodi, ter izsledke raziskave o evidentiranju grobišč, ki je bila opravljena v okviru ministrstva za kulturo.

Prav omenjeni projekt evidentiranja prikritih grobišč v Sloveniji, katerega avtorja sta Mitja Ferenc, sicer profesor na filozofski fakulteti, in Mateja Bavdaž z uprave za kulturno dediščino, ponuja vrsto zanimivih izsledkov, vendar je treba povedati, da je to šele začetek. Celovit pregled pa je, kot smo slišali, realno pričakovati najpozneje v štirih letih.

V Sloveniji je 4126 vojnih grobov in grobišč s 118.557 pokopanimi, vendar sem ne sodijo vsi tisti, ki niso mogli in smeli imeti svojega groba. Niso torej vključena tista grobišča, ki jih označujemo kot prikrita, je pojasnil Ferenc in zatem povedal, da sta avtorja v sodelovanju s poznavalci posameznih grobišč, kriminalisti in drugimi na terenu zajela podatke o vsakem grobišču in s satelitsko navigacijo določila 196 obdelanih lokacij grobišč.

Ferenc ocenjuje, da je tako evidentiranih polovica krajev, kjer naj bi bila prikrita grobišča, in dodaja, da so bila osnovna načela priprave projekta vzpostaviti in izdelati evidenco in register prikritih grobišč.

Sprva so pričakovali, da je v Sloveniji okrog 120 prikritih grobišč, kaže pa, tako Ferenc, da je država mnogo bolj prepletena z grobišči. Avtorja sta obdelala 196 lokacij, toda še najmanj 187 jih je ostalo neobdelanih.

Po doslej znanih podatkih je med 196 grobišči 45 grobišč civilistov, 56 grobišč vojakov, 68 grobišč, kjer so pokopani tako civilisti kot vojaki, nekaj pa takih, kjer so žrtve neznane. 196 obdelanih lokacij sodi v 54 občin, iz seznama še neobdelanih lokacij pa je razbrati, da bo več kot 70 občin imelo opravka z enim ali več prikritih grobišč.

Opravljeno delo bo omogočalo pregled različnih vrst grobišč in njihovo razprostranjenost po Sloveniji. Tako so grobišča razdelili v štiri skupine krajev, ki so jih izbrali za usmrtitve: kraške jame, rudniške jame in zaklonišča, protitankovske jarke in običajne jame, ki so jih za usmrtitev morali izkopati in so najmanj strokovno raziskana.

Od doslej evidentiranih grobišč je dobra četrtina

žrtev, ki so bile različnih narodnosti; v četrtini grobišč so žrtve slovenske in hrvaške narodnosti; v eni desetini pa Nemci in drugi. Ko bodo sklenjeni še sporazumi z drugimi državami (do zdaj sta sporazuma sklenjena z Nemčijo in Italijo), bo treba vedeti tudi, v katerih grobiščih so pokopani pripadniki posameznih narodnosti. Te države bodo potem, če bodo želele posmrtne ostanke prekopati, morale prevzeti tudi stroške za to.

Urejenost oziroma označenost lokacij je zelo različna. Urejeno ni skoraj nobeno grobišče. Od 196 evidentiranih je le 85 zaznamovanih. 111 krajev pa je neoznačenih.

Ferenc zaključuje, da je zdaj prva naloga države ureditev prostora za pokop ostankov in da državni zbor čim prej sprejme zakon o vojnih grobiščih.

Kot je povedal Peter Kovačič Peršin, je letos za investicije za ureditev prikritih grobišč predvidenih 113,8 milijona tolarjev; za dograditev spominskega parka Teharje, ki naj bi bil končan letos, 33,8 milijona tolarjev; za kapelo, ki naj bi bila zgrajena do konca letošnjega leta, in ureditev parka v Kočevskem Rogu 40 milijonov tolarjev; za postavitev spominskih obeležij ter postavitev osrednjega spomenika v Ljubljani prav tako 40 milijonov tolarjev.

Sicer pa je Kovačič Peršin dodal, da je komisija že navezala stik z

Koalicija o predlogu zakona o vojnih grobiščih

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 12. marca 2003) – Kakšen naj bi bil napis na spomenikih med- in povojnim žrtvam tudi po sestanku 11. marca predstavnikov vladajoče koalicije, ki ga je sklicala SLS, še ni jasno. Po njem je predsednik parlamentarnega odbora za zdravstvo, delo, družino, socialno politiko in invalide Stanislav Brenčič (SLS) dejal, da bo v nadaljnji postopek sprejemanja zakona o vojnih grobiščih posredovan predlog, ki ga je odbor kot amandma že sprejel lani v drugi obravnavi.

Na spomenikih naj bi bil tako napis: *umrli kot žrtve vone in povojnega nasilja*. Vendar vladajoča koalicija dopušča, da bo v nadaljnjih usklajevalnih postopkih lahko sprejet tudi drugačen predlog, torej tisti, ki ga je oblikovala vladna komisija za reševanje vprašanj prikritih grobišč. Ta pa se glasi: *žrtvam vojne in povojnih usmrtitev*.

Na sestanku, ki so se ga poleg Stanislava Brenčiča med drugim udeležili še Tone Anderlič (LDS), Miran Potrč (ZLSD), člana vladne komisije Peter Kovačič Peršin in Spomenka Hribar ter državni sekretar na ministrstvu za delo, družino in socialne zadeve Franc Žnidaršič, so sicer dosegli soglasje, da gre predlog zakona v nadaljnjo obravnavo, predvidoma na majsko sejo. Toda z zakonodajno-pravno službo morajo zdaj ugotoviti, kakšne možnosti jim dopušča lani sprejeti poslovnik državnega zbora. Oblikovanje predloga zakona je bilo namreč maja lani prekinjeno v drugi obravnavi, ko so poslanci že sprejeli nekaj vladnih dopolnil, zataknilo se je prav pri napisu na pomnikih. Novi poslovnik ne daje odgovora, kaj storiti v tem primeru: ali zakon vrniti na začetek druge obravnave, ali storiti kaj drugega.

Predsednik vladne komisije Peter Kovačič Peršin je po sestanku izrazil upanje, da bo zakon sprejet še pred parlamentarnimi počitnicami, saj njegova vsebina v osnovi ostaja nespremenjena in izhaja iz nediskriminatornega odnosa do vseh med- in povojnih žrtev. Komisija tudi meni, da je napis, ki ga sama predlaga, najmanj ideološko obremenjen in da daje možnost, da se nadaljnja obravnava spet ne sprevrže v konflikte in razdore, ampak v iskanje za vse sprejemljivih zakonskih določb, ki bi predstavljale pietetno rešitev za vse žrtve.

Majda Vukelić

ljubljskimi mestnimi oblastmi, da bi določili kraj za osrednji spomenik.

Spomenka Hribar je izrazila upanje, da bodo poslanci vendarle zmogli dovolj moralne zrelosti, da bo zakon o vojnih grobiščih sprejet še letos. "Slovenija je dolžna mrtve pietetno pokopati."

Če bo zakon zavržen, se bo vse znova začelo. In dlje ko se bo rešitev tega vprašanja odlašala, bolj se bo poglobljala spor znotraj slovenskega naroda. Hribarjeva je še dodala, da bo vladna komisija tudi v prihodnje vztrajala, da mora biti zakon nediskriminatoren do vseh žrtev.

Tako kot je bilo doslej, bo tudi v prihodnje verjetno najbolj sporen napis na grobiščih žrtev zunajsodnih likvidacij. Komisija predlaga, da bi se napis glasil *Žrtvam vojne*

in povojnih usmrtitev. Če se poslanci s tem ne bodo strinjali, se bo komisija kot vladno posvetovalno telo obrnila na vlado in predlagala, da takšno odločitev sprejme vlada sama.

Čeprav je bil zakon o vojnih grobiščih že v drugi parlamentarni obravnavi, kaže, da še lep čas ne bo sprejet, kar onemogoča ali vsaj močno omejuje vsakršno delo pri ureditvi prikritih grobišč, smo slišali na tiskovni konferenci 10. marca.

Mateja Babič



Dr. MARKO KOS

Se Slovenci sploh zavedamo posledic staranja prebivalstva?

Kaj se dogaja v Sloveniji s prebivalstvom, bi si lahko najbolj jasno predočili s pogledom na zemljevid, na katerem bi črtali naselja, ki bi ustrezala številu vsako leto izginulih prebivalcev zaradi razlike med umrlimi ni novorojenimi. Videli bi čedalje več belih lis.

K sreči se v Slovenijo priseli skoraj trikrat več prebivalcev, kakor izgine Slovencev. Leta 2002 je umrlo 798 ljudi več, kakor se jih je rodilo. Rojstev je bilo 17.347 ali skoraj pol manj kakor leta 1981 (30.000).

Vendar so rojstva pogostejša pri priseljencih po letu 1980, rojstva avtohtonih Slovencev pa so vse redkejša. Zato je pravih Slovencev v državi vse manj. Leta 1953 jih je bilo še 96,5 odstotka, leta 1991 pa le še 87,6 odstotka. V Sloveniji je bilo leta 1991 (številka za lanski popis še ni) 238.968 prebivalcev tuje narodnosti.

Vse naše strategije, kulturna, tehnološka, izobraževalna..., temeljijo na ljudeh, teh pa je vse manj. Zato trdimo, da so otroci zlati kapital, za katerega ni nobena žrtev premajhna, sicer kmalu



V BLAG SPOMIN

30. OBLETNICE SMRTI
NAŠEGA DRAGEGA OČETA
IN TASTA

Joseph Strancar

ki je v Gospodu zaspal
26. marca 1973

Trideset let je že minilo,
odkar Te več med nami ni,
toda ljubeč spomin na Te, dragi,
ostal bo nam do konca naših dni.

Lahka naj Te zemlja krije,
spavaj mirno in sladko,
luč nebeška naj Ti sije,
mir in pokoj naj Ti bo.

Hčerka Maryz družino
ter ostalo sorodstvo.

Cleveland, Collinwood, Ohio
20. marca 2003.

ne bomo mogli govoriti o slovenski identiteti ali o kulturnem prostoru, kajti ta prostor se prazni.

Kakšne bodo posledice? Če primerjamo projekcije prebivalstva, narejene l. 1994, in stanje l. 2002, vidimo, da so bile preveč optimistične, saj se stanje slabša hitreje, v skupini nad 65 let je bilo predvidenih 272.191 ljudi, jih je pa več (288.539), pri mladih do 14 let je projekcija predvidevala 325.509 mladostnikov, danes pa jih je samo 306.993, kar je za 5,7 odstotka manj. In to samo v šestih letih! Prebivalstvo se torej hitreje stara in se počasneje pomlajuje, kakor je kazala prognoza rodnosti.

Realnejša postaja slabša, katastrofalna varianta. V skupini otrok do 6 let je razlika še večja: projekcija jih je predvidevala 143.268, dejansko pa jih je bilo leta 2001 samo 129.136 blizu 10 odstotkov manj. Vendar pri tem ne vemo, koliko teh otrok je Slovencev, koliko pa se jih je rodilo priseljenim državljanom Slovenije, tistim torej iz skupine z večjo rodnostjo. Proces zniževanja rodnosti dodatno pospešujejo še vse številnejši prebivalci, stari nad 60 let.

Zaradi takšnih procesov nam vsaki dve leti "izgine" kraj z 2400 prebivalci. To je tako, kakor če bi izginili Horjul (2639 prebivalcev), Dobrna (2096) Sodražica (2143) ali Gornji grad (2612). Če bo šlo tako naprej, bo leta 2050 na zemljevidu samo še nekaj največjih mest, vse drugo bodo bele lise brez prebivalcev in brez naselij.

K sreči prihajajo priseljenci, po 3000 do 5000 na leto – "neto" (razlika med priseljenimi in odseljenimi), ki vzdržujejo število prebivalstva konstantno, vendar bo Slovencev leta 2050 manj kakor 70 odstotkov.

Če se bo rodnost poslabšala, bodo Slovenci v manjšini. Priseljencev je vsako leto za kakšen kraj več, recimo ta takega, kakršen je Divača

(3831 prebivalcev) ali Dolenske toplice (3319).

Prenaseljenosti ni mogoče pričakovati, z 98 prebivalci na kvadratni kilometer smo med najmanj naseljenimi državami Evrope, štirikrat manj od Nizozemske ali dvainpolkrat manj od Nemčije. "Kapaciteta" Slovenije je osem milijonov prebivalcev, šele takrat bi bila naseljena vsa razpoložljiva površina.

Strokovnjaki Združenih narodov so izračunali, koliko priseljencev srednje starosti bi se moral vsako naseliti v državah EU, da se povprečna starost kljub hitremu staranju prebivalstva ne bi povečala. Za Slovenijo je ta številka 82.000, to pa pomeni, da bi imela leta 2050 7,3 milijona prebivalcev.

Vendar bi bilo avtohtonih Slovencev v tem primeru samo 23 odstotkov, torej manj kakor četrtina, v resnici pa samo desetina, če se bo njihovo število še zmanjševalo.

**BRALCI
AMERIŠKE DOMOVINE
Priporočajte naš list!**



V blag spomin

OB 54. OBLETNICI, ODKAR
JE V GOSPODU PREMINUL
NAŠ LJUBLJENI OČE IN
STARI OČE

Louis Cimperman

Izdihnil je svojo plemenito
dušo dne 22. marca 1949.

H grobu Vašem, dragi oče,
v duhu danes spet hitimo;
ni drugače nam mogoče,
blag na Vas imamo spomin.

Žalujoci:

hčerka: Rose

snaha: Mary

vnuki in vnukinja

Cleveland, Ohio, 20. marca 2003.

Ljubljana

O slovenski samobitnosti se nam bo tedaj samo še sanjalo, razen če ne bo slovenščina kot avtohtoni jezik postala občevalni jezik vseh milijonov priseljencev (po teoriji jezikoslovca Colina Renfrewa), a to ni ravno realen scenarij. Pri dolgoročnih prognozah je namreč treba biti previden, čeprav je prebivalstvo lažje predvideti kakor klimo.

Kljub temu pa drži, da se Slovenija stara, in to nevarno potihno. Z demografskimi spremembami je tako kakor z otrokom: družina ga vidi rasti, vendar spremembe zaznava počasi, šele tujci ugotovijo, "kako velik je že". Zato pri demografiji prevečkrat spregledamo ta proces, a bo kljub vsemu radikalno spremenil našo državo.

Staranje je v Sloveniji še vedno tabu tema. Mnogi narodi mladost nacije cenijo kot jamstvo za inovacijsko dinamiko (ZDA, Kitajska z visoko rodnostjo), pri nas pa te dinamike že davno nimamo več.

Demografije še ni načela nobena politična stranka. Pri problemih priseljavanja, zdravstva, pokojnin in javnih proračunov se ne omenja. Vsi so se zavzemali za zgodnejše upokojevanje, morali pa bi se za podaljšanje delovnega življenja, za rešitve, ki niso skregane s perspektivo. Dolej še nobena stranka, inštitut ali pisec tudi ni zasnoval slike jutrišnje družbe.

Napozneje v 20 letih bodo odšli v pokoj sedanjí letniki *baby booma*. Kakšni bodo življenjski občutki, pripravljenost na tveganje in podjetniški duh, če bo več kot tretjina prebivalcev starejša od 60 let?

In glede na 1.6-odstotno letno rast bo že leta 2025 ena tretjina prebivalstva starejša od 60 let, leta 2050 pa bo takih kar polovica. A mi smo še vedno brez prave predstave o takšnem jutri, čeprav brez nje ni smiselna nikakršna razprava o idealni pokojninski enačbi.

Kdor hoče videti vse to, mu ni treba daleč: pojdite na Primorsko, ogledajte si Hruševico, Volčji grad, Gorjansko, Kosovelje – že danes je polovica hiš praznih. Podrle

se še niso, se bodo pa kmalu.

V predmestju Ljubljane, v Kosezah je celo naselje hiš, v katerih stanuje le še po en človek ali dva. Pred tridesetimi leti je mrgolelo otrok. V vseh ta proces pospešuje odhajanje mladih za delom.

Mesta in vasi se resda starajo počasi, toda problemi bodo izbruhnili nenadoma. Spremenjena struktura prebivalstva bo takrat zaposlovala vse tržne, urbanistične, šolske in zdravstvene strokovnjake. Več trgovin bo za proteze kakor za igrače. Kakor na Floridi bodo faze semaforjev daljše, srednji pasovi cest širši.

Vladi nianjka urad za oblikovanje prihodnosti, kajti čisto vsakdanji projekti se vlečejo pri nas desetletja. V letih od 1993 do 2001 je drastično padlo število prebivalcev zlasti gospodarsko "umirajočih" mest zaradi zapiranja tovarn in spremenjene starostne strukture prebivalstva: na Jesenicah za 31 odstotka, v Idriji za 30,4 odstotka.

Posledice se kažejo tudi v velikih mestih, a pravih števil nimamo. Teh prognoz županstva ne delajo. Sicer bi podpirala projekte za večanje prebivalstva, olajšave za materinstvo, brezplačne vrtnice, cenejša stanovanja za mlade družine ...

Namesto tega pa nastajajo revirji starcev, kjer ob mejah zaradi starosti nastajajo tudi meje zaradi dohodkov bogatih in revnih. V Ljubljani vemo, katere soseske to bogate in katere revne. Bogate postajajo vse bolj stare, ker so otroci bolj mobilni, v revnejših se drenja več generacij v istem stanovanju.

Nihče še ni izračunal, za koliko odstotkov bo

(DALJE na str. 15)

**Joseph L.
FORTUNA**

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CENE NIZKE
PO VAŠI ŽELJI!

Slovensko morje ...

Zavarovana območja v Tržaškem zalivu

Podvodna zavarovana območja so danes uveljavljen način za ohranjanje morske biodiverzitete, torej biološke raznolikosti. Čeprav je od ustanovitve prvega zavarovanega območja, ki so ga razglasili na floridskem otočju Dry Tortugas leta 1935, minilo že skoraj sedemdeset let, se je ustanavljanje zavarovanih območij razmahnilo šele v zadnjih treh desetletjih.

V slovenskem obalnem morju imamo danes tri zavarovana območja, in sicer Naravni rezervat Strunjan, Naravni spomenik Debeli rtič in Naravni spomenik Rt Madona pri Piranu. Vsa so bila za zavarovano območje razglašena v letih 1990 in 1991.

Glavni argumenti za razglasitev teh območij so bili predvsem izjemna favna in flora, pestrost habitatnih tipov in zanimive geomorfološke in geološke posebnosti.

Naravni rezervat in naravni spomenik Debeli rtič krasijo izjemno slikovite flišne brezine, ki se zajedajo v obrežno morje. Na območju Debelega rtiča je še posebej značilno sosledje terasastih plošč, ki si sledijo v zelo plitvem morju in jih na gosto prerašča bogata alga flora.

Naravni spomenik Rt Madona pa je najbolj priljubljena točka za potapljače v slovenskem morju, saj stena iz peščenjako-

vih balvanov, ki se strmo spušča do muljevitega dna, nudi obilo niš za številne vrste bentoških nevretenčarjev in pestre množice obrežnih rib.

Pravzaprav je za zavarovanje predlagano še četrto območje, za katerega je značilen podvodni travnik morske trave pozejdonke ob obalni cesti med Koprom in Izolo, ki pa na razglasenje še čaka.

Poleg slovenskih je v Tržaškem zalivu še naravni rezervat Miramare pri Trstu, ki je bil ustanovljen leta 1973, danes pa je pod okriljem Svetovne zveze za naravo (WWF)

Miramarski park je zgleden primer, kako naj bi upravljali taka zavarovana območja. Največjo pozornost posvečajo izobraževanju, saj se zavedajo, da je učinkovitost varovanja v glavnem povezana z ozveščanjem javnosti.

Številni obiski šolarjev iz osnovnih in srednjih šol, organizirani tečaji in obiski za potapljače, urejen razstaveni in izobraževalni prostor v preurejenem dvorcu in ne nazadnje redno spremljanje in preučevanje morskih bitij v tem parku ter dosledno uveljavljen varstveni režim so dejstva, zaradi katerih uživa miramarski park velik ugled v sredozemskem merilu.



JANEZ DROBNIČ VODI POSLANCE NSi, ANTON KOKALJ NOVI GLAVNI TAJNIK – Predsednik Nove Slovenije Andrej Bajuk (drugi z leve) ni več hkrati tudi vodja poslanske skupine te stranke, pač pa je s soglasno podporo članov poslanske skupine njeno vodenje prevzel Janez Drobnič (prvi z leve). Janeza Mlinarja (prvi z desne), ki je bil glavni tajnik NSi zadnje leto dni, pa bo na tem položaju po sklepu izvršilnega odbora NSi nasledil Anton Kokalj (drugi z desne), ki je že bil glavni tajnik, preden je to postal Mlinar. Kadrovske zamenjave je Bajuk pojasnil z besedami, da intenzivne priprave na izzive, ki čakajo NSi na političnem področju, kot so priprave na parlamentarne volitve leta 2004 in volitve v evropski parlament, zahtevajo sprejetje nekaterih novih odločitev tako glede organizacije dela v poslanski skupini kot tudi na sedežu glavnega tajništva stranke. "Zato sem se odpovedal funkciji vodje poslanske skupine, svoje delo pa želim v prihodnje intenzivneje posvetiti funkciji predsednika stranke in predsednika komisije za nadzor proračuna in drugih javnih financ."

M. B. (Delo, 5. marca 2003)

Na pobudo strokovnjakov iz Miramara je pred nekaj leti tudi prišlo do zanimive zamisli, da bi skupaj s slovenskimi partnerji ustanovili prvi čezmejni podvodni park v Jadranskem morju, podvodni park Debeli rtič (Slovenija) – Tanki rtič (Italija).

Pobuda je naletela na pozitiven odziv tako na italijanski strani (občina Milje) kot tudi na slovenski strani (Mestna občina Koper). Glede na dejstvo, da je bil del akvatorija ob Debelem rtiču že zdaj zavarovano območje, je pobuda za nastanek čezmejnega parka toliko bolj upravičena.

Zaenkrat potekajo obojestranske raziskave na obeh straneh meje, temu pa bodo sledile konkretne dejavnosti z ustanovitvijo čezmejnega parka.

Zavarovana območja v slovenskem morju so pomemben prispevek k varovanju raznolikosti morskega življenja v slovenskem delu Tržaškega zaliva. Še vedno se sicer dogaja, da prihaja na teh območjih do posegov in drugih kršenj varstvenega režima, vseeno pa je pestrost življenja v njih znatno večja kot v predelih, ki niso zavarovani. S tem pa je njihovu osnovnemu cilju – ohranjanju morske biodiverzitete – zadoščeno.

Lovrenc Lipej
Martina O. Bonaca
Rodna gruda, Ljubljana
februar 2003

Ali se Slovenci zavedamo?...

(nadaljevanje s str. 14)

zaradi staranja prebivalstva manjši gospodarski dosežek. Za Nemčijo s podobnim problemom predvidevajo 0,4 odstotka do 1 odstotek. Tudi trg dela bo moral biti prožnejši in šolska politika drugačna, sicer bodo predavalnice univerz in gimnazij leta 2015 napol prazna.

Prerazdelitveni boji med mladimi in starimi, bogatimi in revnimi bodo trši. Pri starih, ki so živeli v socializmu, so dohodki tako enotni, kakor še nikoli prej. Vsi žive od pokojnine. V prihodnosti bodo pokojnine nižje in izravnane z dodatno pokojnino. Premoženje bo imelo večjo vlogo (najemnine od poslopij, dividende delnic), perspektiva samskih in parov brez otrok bo drugačna, drugače bo treba organizirati življenje starostnikov, da bodo odstopili veliko stanovanje in se preselili, vendar ne v domove, ampak v soseske, kjer bodo ohranili visoko stopnjo zasebnosti in samostojnosti. In tako napravili prostor družinam z veliko otroki.

Slovenija je pred blokadami, ki se jih še sploh ne zaveda. Ogrožena je materialno in eksistenčno, nacionalno in duhovno. In politiki bi se se navsezadnje morali

zavedeti, da jo brez upoštevjanja vseh demografskih sprememb in projekcij lahko pripeljejo v nepopravljiv položaj. Navsezadnje jo lahko v desetletju ali dveh – kot malo državo, v kateri spremembe ne potrebujejo veliko časa – utopijo v tujem morju.

Rubrika "Gostujoče pero"
DELO, 25. febr. 2003

NOVI GROBOVI

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

pok. Franka, Stanisle Gregor in dr. Vincenta. Pogreb je bil 18. marca s sv. mašo v cerkvi St. Louisa na Cleveland Hts. s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Ernest Zrim

Umril je 81 let stari Ernest Zrim, mož Marie, roj. Legeza, oče Ann Marie Avenik (Toronto), Marion, Carolyn Slocombe in že pok. Milana, 9-krat stari oče, 7-krat prastari oče, brat Kristine Bokan, Ane Preininger in že pok. Franca (vsi v Sloveniji). Pogreb je bil 15. marca v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marjie Vnebovzete in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojnikov spomin župniji Marije Vnebovzete, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110.

Josephine M. Potochnik

Umrila je Josephine M. Potochnik, rojena Pierce, vdova po Josephu, mati Jameasa in Joan Gides, 3-krat stara mati, sestra Williama, Sylvije Hribar in že pok. Williama. Pogreb je bil 15. marca s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Sprememba naslova

Ko se selite, trajno ali začasno, ste lepo naprošeni, da naši pisarni posredujete pravočasno tako Vaš nov naslov kakor sedanji. To omogoča, da boste brez prekinitve dobivali naš list, prihranili boste pa pisarni strošek 60 centov, ki jih računa pošta za vsak povrnjen oziroma ne dostavljen izvod lista. Uporabljajte ta obrazec za posredovanje potrebnih informacij.

Nov naslov

Ime _____

Naslov _____

Mesto, Država, Zip _____

Star naslov

Star naslov _____

Mesto, država, zip _____

Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

Spomlad je tu. Po koledarju bo jutri, petek,

21. januarja, prvi pomladanski dan. Toda dnevi so še kar hladni. Prve spomladanske cvetlice že kukajo iz zemeljske površine; žvrgolenje ptic se čuje in nas razveseljuje.

Še štiri tedni duhovne in postne priprave za velikonočni praznik so pred nami. To so dnevi poglobljene molitve, pokore in premišljevanja. Bog je pripravljen vstopiti v našo notranjost, samo če mi to hočemo. Pozna nas in ve, kako krhki in slabotni smo takrat, ko zaupamo sami vase. V postnem času Bogu, naj On piše on nepopisan list našega življenja. Dragi bratje in sestre, sedaj je čas milosti in pred nami so dnevi zveličanja.

"Iščite božje kraljestvo in vse drugo vam bo navrženo" – postni čas je čas milosti, ko se moremo odpovedati kakšni stvari in to darujemo za potrebne, za misijonarje ter po njih za tiste, kateri morda imajo samo skodelice riža, edini obrok na dan. "Karkoli boste storili tem lačnim, boste meni storili." Bodimo velikodušni v tem postnem času.

Od srca do srca iz misijonskega sveta

Sr. Marija Pavličič se oglašja iz nove postojanke, Tolagnaro, Madagaskar. Takole pravi: "Naše vrste se manjšajo. Gospod pa kliče kogar hoče. On bodi zahvaljen! Iz naše hiše, iz Pariza, sem prejela sporočilo, da je moj dar tja prispel in da ga lahko dvignem kadar je potrebno. Oglasila se bom takoj dobrotnikom, ko prejmem sporočilo. Za sedaj srčna zahvala.

Toganjero je naša postojanka (Ur. AD: Ime postojanke je v tekstu različno podano in nimam pojma, katera verzija je prava), kamor so prišle naše prve sestre usmiljenke leta 1897, tj. pred več kot 100 leti. Naš delokrog tukaj je zelo širok: Imamo otroški venec, osnovno šolo z 1215 otroci, srednje tehnično šolo za dekleta, delavnice za ročna dela, socialno delo pri zapornikih, šolo za odrase, šolo za nepismeno mladino, apostolat na deželi, skrb za tuberkulozne bolnike in podhranjene otroke, delo v dispanzerju, obiske po domovih, katehezo tj. poučevanje verouka. Skratka, naš apostolat je širšega pomena in sega v mnoga področja. Vseh sester nas je štirinajst. Od tega so tri pri 80-ih letih. Smo tri narodnosti: Francozinje, Malgašinje in Slovenke.

Delokrog je lep, zanimiv in v duhu sv. Vincencija Pavelskega. Žal, zaradi slabih cest je vse zelo drago. Npr. zelenjava: 1 kg zelenjave, ki sicer stane pri normalnih prilikah 2000 do 2500, moramo plačati 10.000 do 15.000. Ko sem šla prvič na trg, nisem skoraj nič kupila, kar zaprepasčena sem bila od teh skoraj nemogočih cen. Tudi s temi cenami se moram sprijazniti, saj drugače ne gre. Naj nam Gospod priskoči na pomoč po dobrotnikih.

Na našem dvorišču je tak živ-zav, da je kar veselje. Najrazličnejši obrazi in najrazličnejše starosti. Srečna sem, da smem tu delati med temi ubogimi in potrebnimi ter lačnimi. Ko delim tem otrokom kosilo, se jim od veselja svetijo oči, to ko dobijo krožnik riža s prikuho in koščkom mesa. Marsikdo me vpraša zvedavo: "Ali je res to vse za mene? Doma se nikdar do sitega ne najem." Ubogi otroci, Smilijo se me.

Ko končujem to pismo se vsem prav iskreno zahvaljujem za pomoč, ki mi jo nudite mnoga leta. Bog povrne vsem dobrotnikom in vam vsem pri MZA. Iskren in hvaležen pozdrav in vas prav iskreno v imenu teh ubogih prosim za pomoč in vas hvaležno pozdravljam, sr. Marija."

Sr. Bogdana Kavčič se oglašja iz Nembe, Ruande. "Vaše pismo z darom MZA sem prejela sredi januarja. Žal, nisem se takoj oglasila. Ali ta trenutek sem z vami vsemi in z vsem srcem, ki vriska od hvaležnosti in se zahvaljujem vam in vsem dobrotnikom, ki so prispevali k daru.

Kako lepa in globoka je misel misijonarja Vladimirja Koša iz Tokia "da je delo z misijone božični dar človeštvu". Si morete predstavljati, dragi dobrotniki, da ima ta "dar človeštvu" resnične obraze ubogih, ki jih srečujemo vsak dan. Pa naj bodo to od trpljenja izkažena, telesa bolnih ali žrtve bolne; invalidi ali tisti, ki jih razjeda virus aids in z njimi trpijo vsi člani družine, predvsem pa otroci; lačni, ker ni zemlje ali pa je bolezen vse prebrala. Otroci, kateri ne morejo v šolo, nimajo upanja za lepšo bodočnost. Sedaj si lahko predstavljate litanije vseh teh trpečih, ki jih je Bog postavil na našo pot, da smo se srečali in smo jim neko upanje in tako njihov življenje dobiva nek smisel. To pa zato ker smo vsi skupaj "dar vsem tem obrazom". Molim in upam, da odkrijejo, kako neizmerno jih Bog ljubi, takšne kakršni so.

Trenutno imamo 80 vdov in sirot, ki jih spremljamo z vzgojo in tudi delom. Občina in župnija sta nam dali zemljo in to skupaj obdelujemo. Iščejo, kako bi zemlja najbolj obrodila za lačna usta teh starih in otrok, kateri so nam dani v oskrbo in pomoč.

Prva skupina, ki je začela s takšnim poizkusnim delom obdelovati zemljo, ne prihaja več beračit. To kar pridelajo uporabijo za hrano v toliki meri, da še prodajajo in si morejo kupiti najpotrebnejše: sol, milo idr.

Tako se uporabijo vaši darovi za dviganje njihovega standarda in dostojanstva teh ubogih ljubi. Ne nam mogoče zidanje stavb; tako le preprosto spremljamo te ljudi, da bi se usposobili za najpotrebnejše in se tako postavili na svoje noge. Svoj blagoslov pa naj da nam vsem nebeški Oče, tako sem prepričan, da smo skupaj v tej molitvi.

Še enkrat prisrčna zahvala za vse vaše darove in vsakemu dobrotniku posebej Bog lačaj. Tako smo skupaj "dar človeštvu" vsak dan v letu. V molitvi smo in ostajamo povezani, tako mislim na vas in vas toplo pozdravljam.

Sr. Bogdana Kavčič"

Misijonar Francis Rebol se je oglasil iz Tajvana. Njegovo pismo je angleščini in priloženo v originalu:

"Dear..... Greetings from Taiwan. This year I will be celebrating my 50th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood and missions. This June I will go to New York for a big celebration. I will then retire in the U.S.A. My new address will be: Fr. Francis Rebol, M.M.; Maryknoll Residence; 23000 Cristo Rey Drive; Los Altos, CA 94024-7499; tel. 650-967-3822.

Thank you for all the help you have given me through these years. I will keep you in all my Masses and prayers. May God bless you all. Fr. Francis Rebol, M.M."

Dar za lačne in potrebne \$100 od g. Stane Oven. Takole piše: "Postni čas je in prilagam nekaj za lačne in potrebne, ki jih najbolj poznaš. Poslala sem nekaj za božič mojemu bogoslovcu v Kenijo. Vse je v redu prejel in je zelo hvaležen. Za Veliko noč se ga spomnim zopet z malim darom." Hvala Ti, draga Stana. Tvoje srce je čuteče in radodarno. Poleg svojih osmih otrok in mnogo vnukov se spomniš vsak mesec tudi ubogih. Naj ti dobri Bog, ki vidi v Tvoje radodarno srce, obilno poplača.

Misijonar Vladimir Kos se iskreno zahvaljuje darovalcu Jožetu iz Jolietu za bogati dar, ki ga je poslal osebno za lačne, ki jih ima ta misijonar na skrbi. "Vsak dan se ga spominjam v molitvi in pri sv. daritvi."

V tem postnem času se spominjamo v molitvi posebno onih, ki prosijo, da za nje molimo. Vključujemo pa tudi vse trpeče, bolne in umirajoče. Po namenu sv. očeta pa prosimo za ljubi mir v svetu. Vsem pa hvaležen misijonski pozdrav.

Sonja Ferjan

79 Lunness Rd.

Toronto, Ont. M8W 4M7

Canada

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Predor Ljubelj zopet odprt za promet

Ljubljana – V ponedeljek zjutraj ob 6. uri so spet odprli predor Ljubelj, ki je bil zaradi obnove zaprt od 13. januarja. Istega dne je bila vzpostavljena popolna nočna zavora med 7. zv. in 6. zjutraj, ta zavora bo pa trajala do 23. maja.

Tako bo glavna cesta, ki povezuje Slovenijo z Avstrijo, spet prevozna. Promet skozi predor pa bo potekal izmenično enosmerno. Promet skozi predor bo do 23. maja podnevi potekal izmenično enosmerno, od 23. maja do julija pa bo izmeničen enosmerni promet urejen s semaforji.

Z opravo popolne zapore predora Ljubelj, ki je trajala dobra dva meseca, se zaključuje prvi del prve faze rekonstrukcije predora. Prva faza, ki poteka izključno na avstrijski strani in naj bi se končala do poletja, zajema obsežna gradbena dela.

Predor je bil nazadnje obnovljen le na slovenski strani (leta 1996), dobra polovica (56 odstotkov) predora, kolikor ga je na avstrijski strani, pa je ostala neobnovljena.

V prvem delu rekonstrukcijskih del bodo v predoru namestili notranjo oblogo (armiranobetonski obod), uredili niši za umik v predoru in nov sistem za gašenje (požarni bazen).

Vgradili bodo odvodni in delilni sistem ter posodobili elektromehansko opremo. Investitor del je deželna vlada Koroške, soinvestitor pa ministrstvo za promet oziroma Direkcija Republike Slovenije za ceste.

Jeseni naj bi dela v predoru Ljubelj nadaljevali, so sporočili iz službe za odnose z javnostmi Direkcije Republike Slovenije za ceste. Takrat bodo delali v celotnem predoru, stekla bo še druga faza rekonstrukcije.

Marjana Hanc

Delo fax, 15. marca 2003

