

Let Not The Light
Of Freedom
Be Extinguished!



AMERICAN HOME



AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

American Home
over 100 years
of
serving
American-
Slovenians

USPS 024100

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, JUNE 12, 2003

Phone: (216) 431-0628

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Vol. 105, No. 24

ISSN Number 0164-68X

Memorial Day Bicycle Excursion to Slovenska Pristava

It was a beautiful spring day on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26 with just a chill in the air. It was perfect for a bike ride.

Father John Kumse and Friends, (30 strong), set off from St. Mary's Church in Collinwood for the 45-mile bike ride to Slovenska Pristava in Harpersfield, Ohio.

The youngest riders were Sam Kushner, 10, and Alex Clack, 8, who rode with their dads.

A picnic lunch awaited the riders thanks to the efforts of Anci Mihelich who cooked and coordinated help from fellow parishioners including the Sedmak family who grilled their awesome cevapcici.

Pictured at right, front row/sitting, left to right: Joe Novak, Andrej Mejak, Sam Kushner, Phil Hrvatin, Mike Dolinar, Jeanie Matuch, Greg Clak, Nick Potonak, Sue Hrvatin, Fr. John



Kumse, and Vlado (Fr. Kumse's dog).

Back row/standing (left to right): Alex Clack, Andrew

Pisorn, Greg Sedmak, Jenny Sedmak, Emily Hinman, Bob Hinman, David Kushner, Joe Futey, Paul Sedmak,

Mark Sedmak, Lidia Gadd, and Ursula Wein.

Bike riders not pictured: Brett Spehar, Betty Novak,

Marty Marsic, John Srsen, John Srsen, Jr., Tine Ribic, and Joe Cerer.

(Photo: PHIL HRVATIN)

Will Slovenian Identity Be Lost in European Union?

As Slovenia is integrating into the European Union, one of its people's main concerns is that their cultural identity and language are threatened. However, many believe that the fate of the Slovenian language and culture does not depend on the EU, but primarily on Slovenians. *Slovenia News* discussed these concerns with Marko Stabej, an associate professor at the Ljubljana Faculty of Arts, Department for Slovenian Studies.

Mr. Stabej, is the fear that Slovenian language will disappear with the country's entry into the EU true?

The fear is completely baseless. We should join the EU joyfully rather than with a fear of the 'small' Slovenian language vanishing in Europe. EU membership means a radical expansion of the language arena. This will no doubt demand a change in habits from us. We should also not forget that there is no European language policy. The EU knows official and stage languages, but at the same time guarantees a high level of protection for local languages.

I see Slovenia's EU membership as an opportunity to preserve Slovenian rather than a threat to its existence. For one thing, Slovenian will be an official language of the EU, and Slovenian officials will be able to use it in European institutions if they want. I am convinced that such a wide range of languages and cultures will make the European community livelier.

It actually all depends on the extent to which our politicians use Slovenian abroad, at international forums, where they can always use a translator.

How would you define the relationship between cultural identity and language?

Narrowing national culture or identity down to nothing but language is problematic. Language is not the core of identity; it is not its only defining element. I see culture as the entire way a nation lives, and by joining the EU we would like to experience the new opportunities brought about by the Union. We can only be proud of something when we are in contact with someone. Only when you are in touch with something foreign, do

you know what you are proud of.

It is nevertheless clear that we would not have what we have - for instance the state - if we were not proud of whom we are and what we have.

What can we do to get rid of the constant fear that our language might become extinct?

To fight the fear of losing our language, we should use it as much as possible in everyday communication. Our lawmakers will at first use English in Brussels, but in six months they will realize that their command of the language is not perfect, and so they will switch back to Slovenian, which is actually good. This will upgrade our profile. Only when you meet foreigners do you realize exactly what you wish to communicate. There are still many Slovenians who are not used to communicating with foreigners openly. Moreover, experts and the state should create a good language service, which means that quality language books should be provided. In this way we, will all feel comfortable with our language and use it with pleasure.

Nevertheless, I am convinced that the future status of our language and culture will depend primarily on us. Lectures at a number of international conferences in Slovenia are held in a foreign language, usually in English, although only a tiny number of participants are foreigners. But we are very quick to adapt, and speak English, which is, of course, bad for us.

(Continued on page 8)

New Subscriber Campaign Ends

The American Home newspaper campaign to enroll at least 20 new subscribers came to an end today with the addition of 24 new readers.

We once again heartily thank the anonymous donor who paid for 50% of each new subscription, (\$17.50 times 24 equals \$420!).

We welcome all new readers and hope they will enjoy reading about their Slovenian heritage and activities of Slovenian-Americans throughout the United States and Canada. We invite you to contribute your thoughts to this paper.

Ljubljana Gets Youth Hostel

Ljubljana has finally gotten its first real, year-round youth hostel. The hostel on Metelkova Street evocatively named Celica (The Cell), opened last Friday, June 6 in what used to be a prison inside a military compound. It is no dreary affair though - it is bright and stylish and promises to be more than just a place to stay.

Situated close to the central bus and train stations, and only a short walk from the center of Ljubljana, the former Austro-Hungarian prison, built in 1882, is considered to be a perfect location for a youth hostel. Moreover, the nearby Metelkova counter-culture center, home to several clubs, is bristling with activity, while bars and nightclubs in the city center are easily accessible on foot.

The price of bed and breakfast is expected to average about EUR 18, while the cheapest accommodation will be at EUR 10. There will be discounts for students, persons under 26 and organized groups.

Thanks to Phil Hrvatin of Wachovia Securities for this information.

AMERICAN HOME AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103-1692
Telephone: 216/431-0628 - Fax: 216/361-4088

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA (USPS 024100)

James V. Debevec - Publisher, English Editor
Dr. Rudolph M. Susel - Slovenian Editor

Ameriška Domovina Permanent Scroll of Distinguished Persons:
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United States and Canada:
U.S.A.: \$35 per year; Canada: \$40 in U.S. currency

Slovenia: \$165 per year (air)

AMERICAN HOME (ISSN 0164-680X) is published weekly for \$35 per year by American Home Pub. Co., 6117 St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44103-1692. Periodicals postage paid at Cleveland, Ohio. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to AMERICAN HOME, 6117 St. Clair Cleveland, OH 44103-1692.

No. 24 June 12, 2003

REFLECTIONS BY RUDY

The Lucky Bucky

by RUDY FLIS

Last week on TV I saw the sad story of a fawn rescued from the wilderness by a local family. After about a week, the family turned the fawn over to people in the parks system who raise young animals to adapt to wild life. The fawn died in about a day. The milk it was fed was not sufficient to sustain life. How sad.

Fifty years ago, in May of 1953, I had a fawn for a pet while stationed in Germany. From the beginning of May to the middle of August she was all mine. And here is what I remember of her eating habits.

I got a Pepsi bottle and put a nipple on after filling it with milk. "Bucky" the fawn wouldn't suck on it. She had to eat or die. A sergeant took Bucky and the bottle and when he finished, Bucky would almost knock the Pepsi bottle out of my hand as she suck at the nipple. Boy, did she drink the milk. That was her main diet.

She enjoyed consuming other things. They say goats eat anything and if that is true, Bucky had to be part goat. When we got back to our barracks, she ate all the pretty flowers in front of our barracks and I was in trouble with the company commanders.

She would eat cigarettes, drink beer and get sick - if I didn't watch her, when she ate that stuff, she would get

the runs and my mop and pail were in constant use.

If I gave her a banana, her stomach was like she had swallowed a bowling ball and she would get sick. Grass and all that green stuff that grows with the grass was best for Bucky.

In our pup tents at night, Bucky slept between my buddy and I. Her feet were folded under her with her head erect. All was quiet when suddenly Bucky would give like a burp, but it was the grass she had eaten earlier and now was regurgitating, chewing and then swallowing again. That was like a built-in snack bar, we call cud.

One night we were allowed to build a fire. In the morning when we got up, Bucky went to the burned out fire and started to eat the charred wood. I picked her up to stop her from eating it. A sergeant told me it was good for her. I put Bucky back down and she ate the charcoal and didn't get sick.

Bucky was lucky. She was turned over to a yagermister (caretaker of the forest) and when I saw her at Thanksgiving, she was grown and beautiful, but would not let me pet her. I knew she would be safe and that I would never forget the summer of '53' and my little wide-eyed friend, Bucky who made me forget that I was homesick for an entire summer.

Jim's Journal

By Jim Debevec



A meeting of the American Home Read Warriors is now in session.

I am reading sportswriter Bob Dolgan's new book, "Heroes, Scamps and Good Guys," about 101 colorful characters from Cleveland sports history. The short stories are taken from various columns that Bob wrote for the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* during his tenure there. Am about a third into the book and can honestly say that anyone who is a Cleveland sports fan, or even a casual one, will find this book very fulfilling. I am reading only a few articles at a time in order to savor the bouquet of captivating insights. Most stories are just 2 or 3 pages long, to keep your interest at an optimum.

Bob has a knack for interviewing the players and coaxing them to reveal their greatest moments while playing for Cleveland. Bob does background work filling the readers with important information to make the stories exciting and clear. Dolgan is no commonplace writer. His love for sports and the people who make their living by playing the game, is evident because his words make their greatest achievements vividly come to life. The people he talks about or interviews become so down to earth; we can relate to their joy in recalled highlights, or feel consternation when the fates went against them.

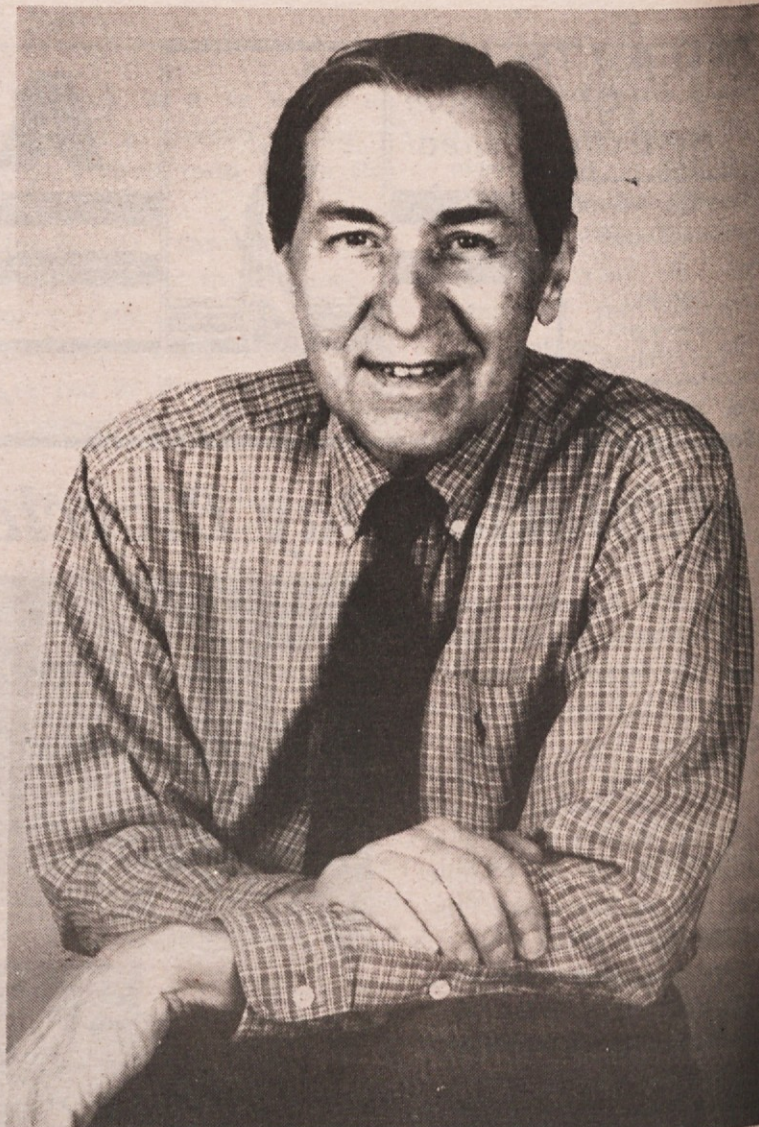
Dolgan pens stories about heroes sports fans everywhere know about such as Satchel Page, Bob Lemon, Lou Boudreau, Larry Doby, John Berardino (Dr. Steve Hardy for 35 years on TV soap *General Hospital*). And who doesn't know about Otto Graham, Lou Groza, Marion Motley, Jim Brown, and Mac Speedie (who was actually very speedy).

They are all in Bob's book, and many, many more. A favorite story is about Kevin Rhomberg, the most superstitious player in all of baseball. It is really funny.

Dolgan is a local sports fan, born and raised in the St. Clair Slovenian neighborhood. His columns in the *Plain Dealer* have always been interesting, but especially insightful. He knows what he is talking about.

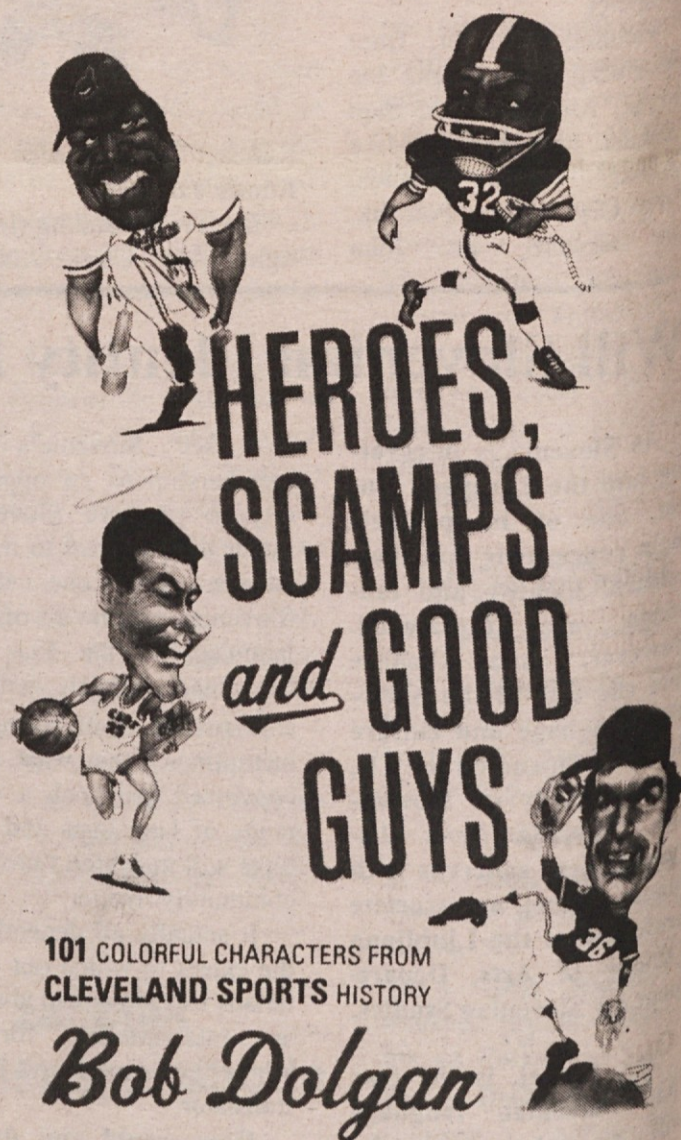
In 1999 he was honored for his writing skill by being inducted into the Cleveland Journalism Hall of Fame.

I highly recommend



Bob Dolgan author of *Heroes, Scamps, and Good Guys*
\$22.95 / hardcover / 256 pages

Photo © Jonathan Wayne. Provided by Gray & Company, Publishers: 1-800-915-3609



101 COLORFUL CHARACTERS FROM
CLEVELAND SPORTS HISTORY

Bob Dolgan

Heroes, Scamps, and Good Guys by Bob Dolgan
\$24.95 / hardcover / 256 pages / 92 black-and-white photographs
Gray & Company, Publishers / 1-800-915-3609

"Heroes, Scamps and Good Guys," to all readers. The book (\$25.95) can be purchased at Borders, Barnes & Noble, or at amazon.com. The distinguished journalist will be available for autographs on Saturday, June 14 at Borders Books & Music in Strongsville from 1-2 p.m., on Friday, July 18 at Friends of the Cleveland Public Library, 325 Superior Ave from noon to 1 p.m., July 24

at Borders Books & Music in Mentor, 9565 Mentor Ave., from 2-3 p.m., and on Friday, Aug. 8 in Westlake at Borders, Promenade of Westlake from 2-3 p.m.

Previously, Dolgan wrote "The Polka King" the life of Frankie Yankovic.

Dolgan lives with his wife, Cecilia, in Willoughby Hills, OH. They have two children, Ann and Bob.

Life in the Refugee Camps

by ANTON ZAKELJ
translated and edited
by JOHN ZAKELJ

Tuesday, Jan. 14, 1947

I went to the pastry shop with Cilka and Mici this afternoon. We each got two cups of tea and some potica.

Tuesday, Jan. 14, 1947

We received a package today which our friend Silva had sent before Christmas. It contained 10 pounds of flour, for which we are very grateful.

Our barracks has two groups of men who work as lumberjacks each day. Janko Demšar, Karel Erznosnik and a few others work in Bretstein. The Kokelj brothers, Mire and a few others work in Lind at Scheifling's.

Because she may be pregnant, Cilka received permission to receive a little extra food in the children's dining room. The quality and amount of food we receive changes frequently, but it's usually poor quality and not enough. Right now, it's better than it used to be. Each person receives about half a loaf of bread per day. In the morning we get coffee (very weak without sugar or milk). For lunch, we get a soup which contains peas, potatoes and some meat. For dinner we get sauerkraut, stew and other things. The Austrians, especially the communists, think we are fed too well and that we should be forced to leave. We hear there was an international conference in Vienna, at which the Russians argued that food should no longer be provided to refugees.

[Editor's note] To help you understand the situation, the following are excerpts

from Mark Wyman's book, "DPs, Europe's Displaced Persons, 1945-1951."

In 1946 and 1947... Austrian authorities began to seek support from any occupation power, or from all, to oust the DPs... The Austrian Parliament protested vigorously in May 1946 when the Allied Council for Austria assessed the country's taxpayers 56 million Shillings to aid the DPs.

Many UNRRA leaders, occupation authorities, and, increasingly, Austrian politicians pushed for reducing or eliminating any activities that encouraged DPs to remain where they are.

In 1947, the UNRRA's chief for DP Operations bluntly urged all refugees to go home. The UNRRA could not aid forcible repatriations, he admitted, "but to remain behind is to face the most dark and doubtful of futures... Seize this opportunity - now," he exhorted. "Your relatives, your friends, your country wait for you."

Behind their fears of repatriation, in the inner recesses of each DPs memory, were experiences under communism. Outsiders lacked such experiences.

It is undisputed that the fate of many returning DPs was death. Western Allies learned little of this for years.

Thursday, Jan. 16, 1947

I don't know what's wrong with Franc Demšar. He's usually a very hard worker, but now he stays in bed all day, doesn't eat, and doesn't talk. Last month, he did some work in Sršen's shoemaking shop, but even that was irregular. (I didn't

write anything about this in my diary, but I recall that Miha Sršen somehow managed to set up a shoemaking and shoe repair shop in the refugee camp. He was very resourceful and hard working. The shop did so well that he was soon able to set up a bigger and better equipped shop outside the camp.)

Friday, Jan. 17, 1947

In honor of my father's nameday, we went to Mass, and we cooked dumplings for dinner.

Saturday, Jan. 18, 1947

I finally received a payment from UNRRA for the lace we had delivered to the UNRRA crafts store in Judenburg. But it was only 423 Shillings. They're selling very little. People are saying the prices are too high.

Sunday, Jan. 19, 1947

Cilka was crying this evening, but she wouldn't tell me why. For the first time, I realized how hard it will be if we don't understand each other. I don't know why she is not happy. She probably wishes I could get a better paying job. I've asked for work in many places, but without success. I help our women sell their lace, but that doesn't pay much. I wonder if she thinks I should be more like her brother-in-law Mire, who travels a lot, buying and selling on the black market. He doesn't really have anything to show for his work, either.

Slovenian speaking woman would like position as companion/helper to an elderly person. Good cook and housekeeper.

Tel.: (216) 291-4829



Slovenian Band at SNPJ Farm

Springtime arrives Sunday, July 6 at SNPJ Farm, when the Zreska Pomlad Orchestra from Slovenia makes its American debut at SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, OH.

The popular young band, whose name means "Springtime in Zrece," their resort hometown in the region of Styria (Stajersko), will perform their award-winning songs, as well as other Slovenian and American polka and waltz favorites.

Founded by brother Joze and Domen Hren, the quintet is considered one of the best new bands in Slovenia. The ensemble draws crowds of dancers at festivals and concerts across Slovenia with its Alpine oom-pah sound. Joze's button box accordion

and Domen's rhythm guitar and vocals are joined by clarinet, bass and zither on stage and on the band's two CD recordings. Band members have relatives in the greater Cleveland area.

The Zreska Pomlad Orchestra will play music for dancing from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Gates open at noon. Dinners are served from 1 to 3, with sandwiches and refreshments available all day. Admission is \$5; children 18 and under are free.

SNPJ Farm is located on Heath road in Kirtland, Ohio, off Chardon Road (Route 6), about three miles east of Route 306.

--Joe Valencic
President

Cleveland SNPJ Federation

Summer Polka Mass at the Shrine!

Unique Tongue Concert will lead the Mass!
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Wednesday, June 25th, 2003 at 6 pm!

Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine

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McCarter Bus Line will pickup:

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Cost of the roundtrip will be \$20 dollars, if more Than 30 sign up there will be a rebate.

After the Mass there will be a cash food stop On the return trip arriving back in the area by 12 midnight!

Join with us on this yearly excursion

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A PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN MARY

(Never known to fail)

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate virgin, assist me in my necessity. O star of the sea, help me, show me herein, you are my mother, O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of heaven & earth, I humbly beseech thee from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity. (Make request). There are none that can withstand your power, O show me herein, you are my mother. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (Say 3 times) Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (Say 3 times). Thank you for your mercy to me and mine. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days, then you must publish & it will be granted to you. Grateful thanks.

A.M.

Slovenians R Us

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Corpus Christi Procession

St. Mary's (Collinwood) Annual Corpus Christi Procession will be held after the 10 a.m. Mass at the church on Sunday, June 22. Everyone invited.

VACATION...

There will be no American Home (Ameriška Domovina) printed the week of July 4th due to our annual vacation.

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Polka Tours to Slovenia This Year

by TONY PETKOVSEK

A group of 50 folks are getting set to depart for the second gostilna (tavern) tour of Slovenia on June 21. The group is hosted by Bob and Gerri Hopkins of the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair, and Kathy Zamejc Vogt of St. Catharine's, Canada.

The itinerary features a stop in Vienna, Austria; the Plitvice Lakes, Opatija and Krk Island, Croatia; plus a well rounded excursion to Slovenia to include Maribor, Novo Mesto, Portoroz (Coast), Ljubljana and Lake Bled. The tavern tour will feature special meals and entertainment, and wine tasting at select vineyards.

In September I will host a "Highlights of Slovenia" tour with representatives of the Fairport Harbor Slovenian Home from the area where I now reside plus special attractions for one and all who do join this group from the general community.

Speaking of "highlights," there will be a meeting with Slovenia's outstanding folk musician, Slavko Avsenik, who is commemorating his 50th year in music as probably the most celebrated musician of all time. A special visit will be made to his Gallery (Hall of Fame) and restaurant in Begunje for a reception and party. The one-week-only tour, September 3 through 10, affords an opportunity to extend your time and beyond, and

visit with relatives or do your own thing.

Kollander World Travel, which is marking its 80th year in the travel business for the past three generations, is in charge of all details and booking, with some openings still available. call (216) 692-1000 or toll free (800) 800-5981.

Polkas in Lake County

Two unique polka spots, and in the case of Sneakee Pete's - a first class night club at 35700 Lakeland Boulevard in Eastlake, along with the Cabin Restaurant in Willowick, offer polkas on Sundays. Del Sinchak, June 15; Eddie Rodick, June 22; and the Casuals, June 29 appear from 4 until 8 p.m. at Sneakees which will take a break in July and August, but resume in September. The Cabin has kind of bi-weekly schedule with Detroit's Gaylord Klancnik and Ron Sluga on June 29 from 6 until 10 p.m.

In Fairport Harbor, the polka jams continue every other Friday (June 13 and 27). Special guests like Stan Blout (California) and Nancy Seibert (Florida) have been known to appear. By the way, don't miss Fairport's barbecue steak and chops every last Saturday evening of each month.

The Sunday picnic venues of Pristava in Harpersfield and SNPJ Farm in Kirtland are back in full swing for the season, too, not to mention the many community festivals scheduled during summer including the big 25th

anniversary E. 185th Street five-day event, July 30 until Aug. 3.

A different destination venue for polkas is at Northfield Park racetrack set with a Polka Party on Friday, June 13 and featuring The Casuals. Advance tickets at the Polka Hall of Fame are only \$5.

Polka Record Premieres

Thursday, June 19 is the new Penn-Ohio production for Pat Gray to be presented at Croatian Lodge in Eastlake. This event will also feature Del Sinchak's Orchestra and some other "new" acts which I'll emcee.

The Grammy nominee LynnMarie from Nashville, "America's Main Squeeze," does the polka that rocks as she appears on Friday, June 20 at the Beachland Ballroom, 15711 Waterloo Road, for a \$10 fee.

And finally, one of the fresh sounds for Cleveland-style is "Festive Fred presents a Polka Cilka-bration" as in Fred Ziwich's International Sound Machine and vocalist Cecilia Dolgan with guest vocalists Tony Mihelich, Christine Hibbs, and Joey Tomsick. A unique number is the Wind Song by five outstanding polka hall of famers on mainly saxophone with some clarinet - Duke Marsic, Norm Kobal, Frank Spetich, Dick Tady and Paul Yanchar.

I hear tell a live premiere will take place the first part of July.



Beautiful Countryside in Slovenia

Bishop Baraga's Corner

Fr. Baraga wrote to the Leopoldine Society in Europe, "May God grant that the priestly superiors of this Austrian Empire be moved by the urgent needs of the American dioceses, to make real efforts through frequent instructions and encouragement of their parish children to sustain and support this society in the glorification of the name of God and the salvation of countless thousands of our brothers."

--Baraga Bulletin

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

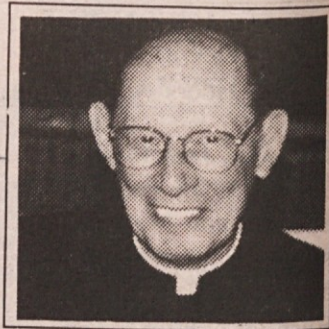
Bishop Baraga is Topic of Heritage Lecture

Bishop A. Edward Pevec will discuss the life and ministry of Bishop Frederic Baraga on Wednesday, June 25 at 7 p.m. in the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid, Ohio.

The Slovenian American Heritage Foundation invites all to attend the fifth talk in their 2003 lecture series. The event is free and open to the public. A reception celebrating Slovenian Independence Day will follow the lecture.

Frederick Baraga left his home in Slovenia in 1830 for the Catholic missions of the Upper Great Lakes. Father Baraga's intention was to minister to the native peoples of the region. In the process he founded five missions along the south shore of Lake Superior and, in 1853, was elevated to Bishop, becoming the first Bishop in Upper Michigan. Baraga learned to speak the native languages fluently and developed their written language. His Chippewa grammar and dictionary are still used today.

Bishop A. Edward Pevec is a founding member, Past Vice President, and Hall of Fame Honoree of the Slovenian American Heritage



Bishop Pevec

Foundation. He was ordained a priest in 1950 and from 1953 to 1975 was a teacher, principal and rector at Borromeo seminary high school.

From 1975 to 1979, Father Pevec interrupted his academic tenure to serve as pastor of St. Vitus, the parish community where he and so many Slovenian-Americans were nurtured.

Father Pevec was the rector of Borromeo college seminary from 1979 to 1982. His pastoral reach was extended in 1982 when he was named Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland, the first Slovenian-American to achieve that high distinction.

A scholar of significant accomplishment, the bishop holds, among other academic degrees, a doctorate in education from Case Western Reserve University and an MA from John Carroll University.

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Highlights of Slovenia Tour

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Visiting: Ljubljana, Postojna, Predjama, Lipica, Nova Gorica, Soca Valley, Vrsic Mt. Pass, Bled, Bohinj

Enjoy Folk Musician Avsenik's Gallery and Gostilna Party as **Slavko Avsenik** commemorates his 50th year

in music this year.

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Mlakar Marches Painfully Down Memory Lane

by RAY MLAKAR

Well, I am back and just so my readers will not think that I ran out of jokes, time to give you one now. Israeli Prime Minister Yitkah Shamir and President Bush scheduled a meeting. Shamir arrived late and President Bush let him know in no uncertain terms that he did not like to be kept waiting. Shamir replied, "I'm sorry, Mr. President; I was meeting with someone more important than you." Who is more important than the President of the United States?, Bush asked. Shamir replied: "I was meeting with Moses." "You know Moses?" Bush exclaimed. "Get him on the phone. I want to talk with him." Shamir picked up the phone, dialed, listened and then hung up. "He doesn't want to talk to you," he told Bush. "He said the last time he talked to a bush, it cost him 40 years in the wilderness."

Well, if you recall in last week's column I stated I got stuck with the dentist, much against my wishes, but when a dentist has an Oak Leaf Cluster on his shoulder, you don't argue with him for he could probably see to it that I stayed in the military yet another year.

It was Saturday and time for me to forget about the men in white coats or tunics and so I decided to go out in the countryside with the help of the "Yellow Pages" and surprise my mom and bring her a real dog, a puppy, but this one was to be a thoroughbred. I really knew didley squat about dogs, for back home, we just had the run of the mill mutts, the

Heinz 57 variety.

All I knew is that when one spoke about a thoroughbred dog, the so-called mother and father were of the same breed. I thought a nice small "lap dog" would be nice" and so I found this place in the country that had breeds of Pekinese, a real small dog. There was a little old lady running the place, an old farm house with cages all about, with these dogs penned in the cages.

I explained to the lady that I was getting discharged in a little over a week and wanted to get one of the dogs to take home to my mom and if I could buy it and she hold it there until I get out and would stop by with my sister and pick it up.

She said, "Well, I guess so. Which one would you like?" It doesn't matter; they all look the same to me. So I picked one out and said, "How much?" She says two seventy-five. Fine I said. "Do you want me to pay for the dog now or when I pick it up?" "It is up to you," she said "I didn't think you had that kind of money with you." I said sure, even though I am a soldier, I work for Uncle Sam and he does pay me on a monthly basis. I said, "Let me get this straight, the dog is two seventy-five, right?" "Right," she said. "Two hundred and seventy-five dollars."

"You gotta be kidding, I just want to buy one dog; not the whole kennel."

She said, "I don't think you know anything about thoroughbred dogs. This one you picked, his father came from France and his mother from England." I could care less where the parents of the

dogs came from. She went on to say, "You will never find a breed of this type of dog under \$200." She inquired, "How much are you planning on spending for a dog?" I said, at the most about \$40 to \$45 dollars." She said, "Well I'll tell you what; go up the road to the next crossroads, make a right, and about four miles down the road there is a kennel that sells Cocker Spaniels and those you can probably pick up for that kind of money."

"Fine," I said and so off I drove and found the place that was rather run down and I am sure that the dogs would want to find a new home; anything was better than where they were. An old gent came out and said, "Well, soldier; what can I do for you?" "I want a puppy, a black cocker spaniel." "Got just the dog right here." He was a cute little runt and was giving me kisses from head to toe to win me over I guess or maybe he liked my car.

I said, "Okay; I'll take him, but you gotta hold on to him for another week or so until I get discharged and will pick him up with my sister when we drive back to Cleveland, Ohio. "Fine," he said and by that time I will have his breeding kennel papers ready for you." "Fine, I said, "will see you in 7 to 10 days and be sure to take good care of my new puppy because \$45 to me is a lot of money."

I drove back to Fort Dix as proud as a peacock; I was the owner of a real thoroughbred cocker spaniel. The guys said, "When will we see him?" I am afraid you guys won't get to see him for



Ray Mlakar

I am picking him up on my way home for I am sure that when my sister gets here, the hotel will not let her keep a dog up in a room and God only knows the First Sergeant won't let me keep a dog in the barracks. I would certainly like to bring him back on post and take him to the "Big Guy in the White Tunic" with the white leaf cluster and let my little dog have his share of high grade military meat.

Gosh, I could hardly wait until D-Day to pick up the puppy. I already decided on a name. I'll call him "Jersey" since he was coming from the State of New Jersey. I would like to have called him Colonel but was afraid he might turn out like the dude in the white tunic coat that thought he was Jesus Christ.

The guys in the barracks kept saying, "Ray, where are we going to go the rest of the weekend? Let's go out and celebrate." I am afraid not; I just blew my money on a cocker spaniel. Never mind; the treat is on us and it being one of the few remaining weekends at Fort Dix, we did go into town and celebrate my upcoming dis-

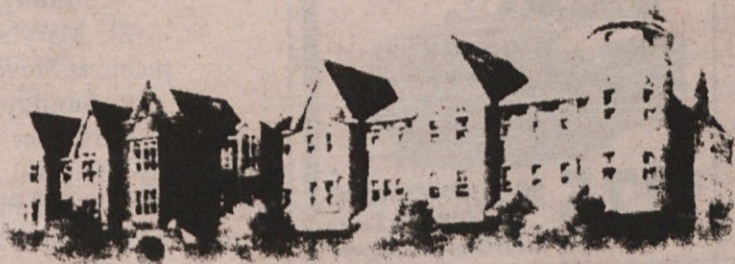
charge, that is if I did not run into any more bad guys wearing white tunics that thought they were God almighty.

Monday came and my last appointment with the officer that thought he was God and pulled my last extraction. After he was done, he said, "Now son, don't you feel better with all the bad teeth out and the others filled?"

"Not really; I find it most difficult to chew." "Have no fear; you will get used to it."

Well, I thought the worst was behind me for tomorrow I was scheduled to go to see a regular doctor for a complete exam. Lord, don't leave me now; be by my side until I get out of here and I promise you, you will see me in the front pew every Sunday from here on out. I was listening for a voice but God was not answering so I don't know if that is a good sign or not, but somehow I felt God would not put two bad dudes in white tunics on the same post, for after all I gave them another year and did not even ask for a \$10 bonus.

About now I bet Jim Debevec is saying, "Come on Ray, finish the story; are you in or out?" What can I say, but get ready for an up hill climb to Calvary and so until next week, check about to see if there is a Simon to help me carry that cross. Perhaps carrying that last cross taught me one great lesson; never lie, never deceive anybody. Well, time to sign off until next week. In the meantime may the Good Lord Bless and watch over all of you and keep you in his loving care and good health.

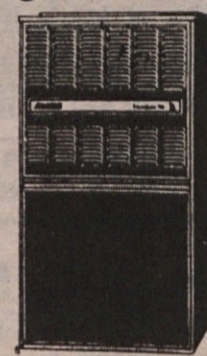


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Devoted newcomer to the Button Box scene is Gerald T. Godic, Vice President of SCR Research in Euclid, Ohio, and seasoned player with 'Zeke and Charlie' group. Tony Spental entertained employees of SRC during birthday celebrations for President Barry A. Sabol and employees Barbara Franke, Becky Douglas, Beverly Barnes, and Ruth McCauley. Good time was had by all.

Genealogists Meet

The Ohio Chapter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society International, Inc. will hold its summer meetings in July as follows:

The WEST SIDE group will meet at the Parma Regional Library, 7335 Ridge Road, Parma on **Monday, July 7** at 7 p.m.

The EAST SIDE group will meet on **Tuesday, July 8** at 7 p.m. at the Euclid Public Library, 631 East 222nd Street, Euclid, Ohio.

The topic for discussion will be "What Does 'Third Cousin Twice Removed' Really Mean?" It will focus on the degree of relationship that exists among persons who have common ancestors. The actual word for this subject is "consanguinity" or blood relationships. Determining how cousins are related is especially interesting, and in some cases, quite complex.

Please plan to attend either of the two meetings. You will meet fellow genealogists who share a common interest in researching Slovenian roots, have fun, and at the same time, learn new ways of looking at genealogy research.

For more information call Rose Marie Jisa at (440) 230-2251.

Coming Events

Saturday, June 14

SPD Tabor, gathering and picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, June 15

SPD Tabor, celebration and dinner at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, June 22

Belokranjski Club picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, June 22

Slovenian Cultural Society (Triglav) in Milwaukee, WI First Picnic at Triglav Park in Wind Lake, WI.

Wednesday, June 25

Waterloo Pensioners Club Annual Picnic at SNPJ Farm, Heath Rd., Chardon. For dinner tickets call (216) 732-9231.

Saturday, June 28

Slovenska Pristava picnic (Ansambel Ekert from Slovenia). Concert at 6 p.m., music for dancing follows.

Sunday, June 29

Catholic Mission Aid picnic (MZA) at Slovenska Pristava.

Wednesday, July 2

Euclid Pensioners Club annual picnic, SNPJ Farm, heath Road. Dinner 1 - 3 p.m., music by Al Battistelli. Tickets \$13.00.

Sunday, July 6

Zreska Pomlad Orchestra from Slovenia makes American debut at SNPJ Farm in Kirtland OH (Heath Rd., off Rt. 6). Gates open at noon, dinner served 1 to 3, orchestra plays for dancing from 3:30 to 7:30.

Wednesday, July 9

Holmes Ave. Pensioners Club Annual Picnic at VFW Post 4358 on White Rd. between Bishop & Rockefeller Rds., noon to 6 p.m.

All welcome. Free admission. Music by Fred Ziwich 2:30 - 4:30. Info call 440 943-3784.

July 11 - 13

Slovenefest at SNPJ Campsite in Enon Valley, PA.

Saturday, July 12

Ansambel Ekeret from Slovenian at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair. Tickets \$10.00. Call (216) 361-5115.

Sunday, July 13

Ohio Federation of KSKJ Lodges Picnic at Slovenska Pristava featuring the Joey Tomsick Orchestra with Phil Hrvatin on sax.

Saturday, July 19

Folklore Group Kres Picnic at Slovenska Pristava. Ansambel Zreška Pomlad for entertainment.

Sunday, July 20

St. Vitus parish picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Monday, July 21

Camp Pristava all week.

Sunday, July 27

St. Vitus Slovenian School picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, July 27

Slovenian Cultural Society (Triglav) in Milwaukee, WI Mission Picnic at Triglav Park in Wind Lake, Wis.

Sunday, Aug. 3

Picnic by retirees of Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, Aug. 10

Primorski Club picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Wednesday, Aug. 13

Fed. of American Slovenian Senior Citizens Annual Picnic at SNPJ Farm on Heath Rd., Kirtland, OH. Dinner 1 p.m. Dancing to

Frank Moravcik 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. For tickets see club members or call 216 481-0163 or 440-943-3784 before Aug. 5.

Sunday, Aug. 17

St. Mary's (Coll.) parish picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, Aug. 17

Slovenian Cultural Society (Triglav) in Milwaukee, WI Second Picnic at Triglav Park in Wind Lake, Wis.

Sat., Sun., Sept. 13, 14

Annual Bishop Baraga Days in Indianapolis.



Fr. Victor Cimperman Mary Cimperman

Father Victor Cimperman and his sister Mary are both celebrating their birthdays this month. Both are life-long residents of St. Vitus parish and are now enjoying their retirement at St. Vitus Village. We should say Father Vic is only semi-retired since he continues to help out at St. Vitus Church with his priestly duties. We wish them the best. Happy Birthday!

Being Slovenian is hot.

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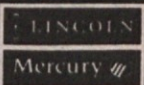
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Newburgh Dinner

The Slovenian National Home, 3563 E. 80th (Newburgh) will hold a Pork Cutlet Dinner on Friday, June 13 serving from 5 - 7 p.m.

Music will be by Joe Novak and Friends from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Donation is \$9.00.

Reservations are a must. Call (216) 341-6136 or (440) 243-4062.

Death Notices

JACK MERRICK

Jack Merrick, 87, was born on Nov. 16, 1915 in Cleveland, the son of Jacob Marinko and Angela (Grosel).

During World War II, Mr. Merrick was a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving in the European Theater of Operations. His unit had entered Germany before VE-Day.

He graduated from Fenn College, and worked as an accountant for Republic Steel until his retirement in 1984. Jack was a member of the Free and Accepted Masons (Lyndhurst Lodge) and the Smuggler's Lodge of the Slovene National Benefit Society.

Mr. Merrick is survived by his wife of 61 years, Rose Mary (Semick); and a sister, Mrs. Virginia (William) Pinkava, and a number of nieces and nephews. A son, Dale Merrick, and a brother, Fred Marinko, are deceased.

The viewing was at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home in Willoughby Hills on Wednesday, June 11. Services were at 7 p.m., the Rev. Boyer Wild presiding.

The family suggests donations to the Hospice of the Western Reserve or the Slovene Home for the Aged.

MARY VUKCEVIC

Mary Vukcevic (Hodanovac), 87, passed away on Wednesday, May 14, 2003 at Wickliffe Country Place.

Mary was born on Aug. 9, 1915 in East Chicago, IN. She was a 17 year resident of Willoughby. She formerly lived in Cleveland and Euclid.

Mary belonged to Euclid Garden Club, Slovenian Women's Union, and Croatian Fraternal Union. She was an avid card player and loved to travel.

Mary operated the hair salon at Euclid General Hospital from 1960 to 1982.

Mary is survived by daughter Darlene Vukcevic of Willoughby and many nieces and nephews.

Deceased family are her husband Peter G.; siblings Helen Vukcevic, Peter, Thomas, and Harry Hodanovac.

Friends were received at the funeral home on Sunday, May 18 from 4 - 6 p.m. Funeral was at 6 p.m. at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home, 28890 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills, Ohio.

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Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bokar of Plainwell, MI who renewed their subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of parents Peter and Anna Kozan.

In Memory

Thanks to Josephine Baron of Euclid, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$20.00 donation in memory of her sister, Mary Kushlan.

In Memory

Thanks to Catherine Hopkins of Parma Heights, OH who submitted a subscription and added \$17.50 donation in memory of parents Louis and Catherine Pibernik.

Donation

Thanks to Jennie Tuma of Wickliffe, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$20.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to Joe Peresutti of Cleveland who renewed his subscription and added a \$10.00 donation in memory of his wife, Marge Peresutti.

In Memory

Thanks to Molly Hribar of Warren, MI who renewed her subscription and enclosed a \$20.00 donation in memory of her husband, Frank J. Hribar, and sister Mary Zupanchick.

Donation

Thanks to Louis and Sylvia Loncar of Concord, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$20.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to Rudolph Sterk of Kirtland, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$20.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to Edward Blatnik of Pompano Beach, FL who renewed his subscription and added a \$10.00 donation in memory of his wife, Nancy Blatnik.

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St. Mary's Summer Mass Schedule

St. Mary's (Collinwood) parish announces that because so few people attend the 12 noon Mass during the summer months, there will be no 12 noon Mass during the months of July and August.

Mass schedule for the weekend will be as follows: 5 p.m. - Saturday evening 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. (Slovenian) on Sunday.

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

FATHER'S DAY 2003!

Webster's Dictionary proudly notes that Father's Day is "the third Sunday in June appointed for the honoring of fathers." Webster also notes that an image of a father is that of "someone to whom one looks for guidance and protection." Well said, but do we really honor our fathers and look up to them for guidance and protection or is it just another excuse for stores to have a sale? How beautiful it is to see a father and a son and hopefully a grandfather getting along and doing things together. It is nice to see a well managed family business with three generations of males working in the same office, a proud grandpa introducing a grandson to the company's customers and teaching them the fine points of being successful in business. "Like father like son", a phrase used by generations comes to mind as we gather in family reunions on Father's Day. Daughters, too, look to their father for guidance and protection. Many of us do not realize how much we act like our fathers. Many of us also do not fully realize how much our father has done for us - until it is too late. This Father's Day, look beyond the material things that you will give to your dad. Hug him and kiss him and tell him that you love him.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL THE SLOVENIAN FATHERS!

Donation

Thanks to Mrs. Mary Sivic of Frostburg, MD who renewed her subscription and added a \$10.00 donation. She writes, "Thank you for a wonderful paper."

Donation

Thank you to Mary Zimperman of Cleveland who sent in a \$30.00 donation with the note, "It is very meaningful to me to be able to remember my parents with their picture and a beautiful memorial in the Slovenian language every year in the American Home."

In Memory

Thanks to Pauline Hunter of Mentor, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$30.00 donation in memory of her husband, Frank Hunter and cousin Alice Zema.

In Memory

Thanks to Gary Gorsha of Seattle, WA who renewed his subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of grandparents Frank and Josefa (Rus) Gorsha (Gorše), and Anton and Josefa (Močnik) Rogish (Roglič).

Mom's Macaroni Salad

My Mom makes the best macaroni salad, and I'm pretty sure it isn't because this is what I'm used to. The trick is Miracle Whip. This makes a large bowl - great for a party or for leftovers.

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. elbow macaroni, cooked, drained and cooled
- 2 onions, chopped fine
- 1 green pepper, chopped fine
- 1 bunch of celery, chopped fine
- 8 hard-boiled eggs, chopped
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 1 32-oz. jar of Miracle Whip

Directions:

In a large Tupperware bowl, combine all the ingredients and mix with Miracle Whip. Cover and refrigerate until chilled. The macaroni soaks the dressing up, so you may have to add more Miracle Whip before serving.

--Kim Ann Kaifesh

Our Family and Friends Recipes

Wise men ne'er sit and wail their loss, but cheerily seek how to redress their harms.

--William Shakespeare



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Will Slovenian Identity Be Lost in EU?

(Continued from page 1)

What do you think will happen with Slovenian upon EU accession?

Nothing dramatic. Gradually, Slovenians will become more aware of themselves. We will open up; we will have fresh opportunities and we will have to learn to use them. This process should also be facilitated by the EU's official language policy, which is based on diversity and encourages language learning. In this way the EU, which also provides a number of financial and other incentives, would like to upgrade communication between European citizens. The only problem is how to get the funds. Slovenians, and all those who speak Slovenian, will only be proud if they are able to communicate in their language well and with ease.

Are foreigners interested in learning Slovenian?

The EU accession has already had an impact. Foreigners have been increasingly interested in learning Slovenian, their interest has risen considerably over the past few years, from 200 to 300 students at the end of the 1980s, to 2000-3000 a year in 2003. These figures are from Slovenian language courses organized by the Ljubljana Faculty of Arts. We are also taking part in European projects, which are strongly supported by the EU.

What I would like to point out is that more should be done for our own technical language. Here experts from various field should be helped to revive Slovenian, as we should bear in mind that Slovenians will be proud of their language only if they can communicate freely with it. It is my firm belief that it is much easier to communicate in one's mother tongue than in a foreign language.

Slovenians are ever more in touch with foreign languages on an everyday

basis. Is there a danger that Slovenians could be gradually phased out?

I don't think so. As I said before, those who communicate a lot in a foreign language are well aware that they can say more in their own language, and can say it with more ease. If we wanted Slovenian to remain totally unchanged, we would have to change our habits, meaning that we would have to become fully isolated, leaving contacts with foreigners to translators. Which is of course is total nonsense.

You are a member of a language policy-working group on the parliamentary Culture, Education and Sports committee. Has this working group achieved any goals?

It is rather hard to work in the group because of the

very diverse views on the issues we are dealing with. The time-consuming process of expressing opinions on the bill on the use of Slovenian as the official language has made our work rather difficult. Several regulations were adopted in the past, but it has been a while since an amendment was formed.

Thanks to Phil Hrvatin for this article by Vesna Zarkovic.

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Pasta Dinners at Shrine

There will be two more Pasta Dinners at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Euclid, Ohio - on Thursdays June 19 and July 17.

Italian Day at the Shrine will be on Sunday, June 29. There will be an extra Mass at 11 a.m. celebrated by the Provincial of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers, The Very Rev. Norman Pelletier, SSS. Prayers, music, choral group, good food, and festivities throughout the day.

The St. Ann Dining Room is open every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for breakfast and dinner.

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Fri, 6/13	Westpark Slov. Home	4583 W. 130th St.	7:30p - 11:30p	216/433-1941
Sat, 6/14	Sterles Country House	1401 E. 55th St. Cleveland	8:00p - 12:00a	216/881-4181
Wed, 6/18	Marriott Mapleridge	35300 Kaiser Ct (Off Rt. 91)	6:30p - 8:30p	440/269-8600
Sun, 6/22	The Cabin Restaurant	28810 Lakeshore Blvd	6:00p - 10:00p	440/943-5195
Fri, 6/27	26th Ironworld Polkafest	Chisolm, Minnesota	All day	800/372-6437
Sat, 6/28	26th Ironworld Polkafest	Chisolm, Minnesota	All day	800/372-6437
Sun, 6/29	26th Ironworld Polkafest	Chisolm, Minnesota	All day	800/372-6437

JULY 2003

Sat, 7/5	Private			
Sat, 7/12	Enon Valley, PA	SNPJ Slovenefest Penns.	12:30p - 4:30p	800/843-7675
Sun, 7/13	KSKJ Family Day	Pristava - Harpersfield, OH	3:00p - 7:00p	
Tues, 7/15	Concord, OH SummerFest	Town Hall, 7229 Ravenna Rd.	7:00p - 9:00p	440/639-4650
Sun, 7/20	SNPJ Farm, Lodge 576	Heath Rd, Kirtland, OH	3:30p - 7:30p	
Sat, 7/26	Private			
Sun, 7/27	St. Robert SummerFest	Lakeshore Blvd, Euclid OH	5:00p - 9:00p	216/731-2606
Thurs, 7/31	E. 185th St. Festival	Schenely Ave, Cleveland, OH	7:00p - 11:00p	216/481-8669

AUGUST 2003

Tues, 8/5	THE LION KING	Playhouse Square	6:30p	216/481-1963
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THEATRE BUS TRIP Tuesday, August 5 The LION KING

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Sat, 8/9	Sterles Country House	1401 E. 55th St. Cleveland	8:00p - 12:00a	216/881-4181
Sat, 8/16	Willo Sports Hall of Fame	Patrician Party Ctr/Eastlake	6:30p - 10:30p	440/953-0510
Fri, 8/22	Reverse Raffle	St. Clair Slov. Home E. 65th	8:00p - 12:00a	216/881-7832
Sat, 8/23	Slavic Village Festival	Slavic Village, Cleveland Oh	1:00p - 4:30p	216/429-1182
Tues, 8/26	Maple Hts. Music in Park	Dunham Park, Turney Road	6:30p - 8:30p	216/587-9602

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– Vesti iz Slovenije –

Predsednik Državnega zbora Borut Pahor na obisku v Washingtonu

Predsednik slovenskega Državnega zbora Borut Pahor je v ponedeljek prišel na obisk v ameriški kongres. "Našim sogovornikom zagotavljamo, da sta naše zavezništvo in prijateljstvo kljub razlikam v nekaterih pogledih stvar nacionalnega konsenza in ne samo ene ali druge strankarske politike," je rekel po srečanju s senatorjem Johnom McCainom in kongresnikom Henryjem Hydrom. Pahorja spremljata predsednik odbora za obrambo Rudolf Petan in predsednik zunanjepolitičnega odbora Jelko Kacin.

Pahor, ki se je na začetku obiska srečal z direktorjem sveta za nacionalno varnost za Evropo Danom Freedom, je dejal, da je v pogovorih z Američani veliko skupnih stališč, da pa Slovenci ne bežijo pred razlikami. "Skupaj ugotavljamo, da so med prijateljskimi državami razlike v pogledih na nekatera aktualna vprašanja popolnoma legitimna in da to ni ovira za normalni razvoj odnosov."

Sogovornikom je pojasnjeval, da razlike niso antagonizem in da vse slovenske politične stranke soglašajo, da je treba prijateljske odnose z ZDA poglobljati.

"Nekaj razlik je v pogledih na Mednarodno kazensko sodišče. Teh razlik ne skrivamo," je rekel. ZDA zahtevajo podpis dvostranskega sporazuma, ki bi ameriškim vojakom zagotovil imuniteto pred mednarodnim sodiščem. "Želimo si, da bi, če je le mogoče, dosegli kompromis. Slovenija je med us-

tanoviteljicami sodišča, osebno pa ga imam za enega največjih dosežkov. To je instrument, ki končno ureja odnose na občutljivem področju spoštovanja človekovih pravic.

Washingtonska administracija ima drugačno stališče od Slovenije. Državni zbor formalno sicer še ni sprejel odločitve o pobudi za dvostransko urejanje tega vprašanja, vendar smo danes v pogovorih povedali, da smo glede te pobude zadržani. Radi bi videli, da statut zaživi in da sodišče začne delati. Morebitni kompromis pa ne bi smel ogroziti avtoritete sodišča."

Pahorjev obisk pomeni nadaljevanje odnosov med parlamentoma. To je prvi obisk predsednika državnega zbora po letu 1999, ko je v Washington prišel Janez Podobnik. Slovenski parlamentarci so imeli na programu srečanja z vrsto članov predstavniškega doma in senata, med katerimi je bil vodja republikanske senatne večine Bill Frist.

Slovenija dobiva veliko več policistov

Slovenska policija je dobila kar 390 novih policistk in policistov, kar je najštevilnejša generacija doslej, izšolan na policijski akademiji na Tacnu. Novinke in novinci bodo čuvali mejo s Hrvaško (670 kilometrov), ki bo zunanja meja Evropske unije, ko bo 1. maja 2004. Slovenija članica EU. Do konca leta 2004 naj bi bilo na tej meji 1387 novo zaposlenih policistov in 500 premeščenih carinikov. Skoraj hkrati je izšel razpis za 200 novih kandidatov za policistk/te, ki jih usposablja po 18 mesecev.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Spominska proslava—

To soboto in nedeljo bo na Slovenski pristavi spominska proslava, to v spomin na padle domobrance. Sponzorira jo Tabor DSPB. V soboto bodo molitve pri kapelici in prižiganje kresa, v nedeljo bo sv. maša ob 12. uri, daroval jo bo č.g. Franci Kosem. Slavnostni govornik po maši bo Pavle Borštnik. Podrobnosti najdete v člankih na str. 10 in 14.

Izvoljeni v farni svet—

Pred kratkim so bile v župniji sv. Vida volitve za člane farnega sveta, za dobo treh let. Izvoljeni so bili Joe Futey, Boris Mušič in Andrea Plassard. Farni svet pa po končanih mandatih zapuščata Nevia Avžlahar in Milan Rihtar. (Iz bulletina sv. Vida)

Belokranjski klub vabi—

Belokranjski klub prireja svoj vsakoletni piknik v nedeljo, 22. junija, na Slovenski pristavi. Kosilo s pečenko na ražnju se prične ob 1. uri popoldne. Dar za kosilo \$12, za ples in zabavo bodo igrali Veseli Godci. Vsi vljudno vabljeni.

Novi grobovi

Jack Merrick

Umril je 87 let stari Jack Merrick, rojen 16. novembra 1915 v Clevelanda, starša sta bila Jacob in Angela (r. Grošel) Marinko, mož Rose Mary, roj. Semich, oče že pok. Dalea, brat Virginije Pinkava in že pok. Freda Marinko, zaposlen v knjigovodstvu pri Republic Steel do svoje upokojitve 1. 1984, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriških letalskih silah v Evropi, član SNPJ. Pogreb je bil 11. junija v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda na Willoughby Hillsu, kjer so bili tudi pogrebni obredi. Družina priporoča darove v pokojnikov spomin Hospice of the Western Reserve ali Slovene Home for the Aged Foundation, 18621 Neff Rd., Cleveland, OH 44119.

Ernest Kotnik

Umril je 81 let stari Ernest Kotnik, brat Roberta, Helen Casella in J. Thomasa, stric. Pogreb je bil 3. junija v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Jeroma in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

(dalje na str. 16)

Vabilo—

V nedeljo, 22. junija, bo v Clevelandu na obisku parlamentarna delegacija Republike Slovenije v sestavi Franc Pukšič, predsednik komisije za Slovence po svetu in člani Bogmir Vnučec, Jože Avšič, Breda Mulec in predstavnica Urada za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu Suzana Martinez. Generalni konzul RSlovenije v Clevelandu Anton Gogala vabi predstavnike slovenskih društev in organizacij ter vse ostale, da se udeležijo srečanja z delegacijo, ki bo na Slovenski pristavi omenjeni dan ob 6.30 zvečer. Po razgovoru bodo navzoči nazdravili slovenski državni praznik, ki je 25. junija.

O življenju škofu Barage—

V sredo, 25. junija, zvečer ob 7 uri, bo upokojeni clevelandski pomožni škof A. Edward Pevec govoril o življenju in delu misijonarja škofa Friderika Barage. To bo v sklopu predavanj, ki jih sponzorira Slovenian American Heritage Foundation v spodnji dvorani SDD na Recherjevi ulici v Euclidu. Po predavanju in diskusiji bo sprejem v počastitev slovenskega dneva neodvisnosti. Javnost vabljena, vstopnine ni.

Pristavki dan—

Odbor Slovenske pristave prireja Pristavski dan v soboto, 28. junija, na SP. Za ples in zabavo bo igral ansambel Ekart iz Štajerske, Slovenija. Veselica se bo začela po 4. uri pop. z okusno večerjo. Postreženi boste z dunajskim zrezkom s prilogami in pecivom. Večerja bo deljena med 4.30 do 6. zv. Nakaznice za večerjo dobite samo v predprodaji – pokličite Bredo Ribič na 440-943-0621. Ob 6. uri bo imel ansambel Ekart krajši koncert svojih pesi, potem bo pa igral za ples. Vsi člani in prijatelji SP lepo vabljeni.

Novi odbor—

Odbor Belokranjskega kluba sestavljajo: predsednica, Terezija Smuk; podpredsednica, Marjanca Hočevar; tajnica, Amalija Maslač; zapisnika, Tony Smuk; blagajničarka, Alenka Winslett; gospodar, David Hočevar; odgovorna za kuhinjo, Milena Dovič. Nadzorni odbor: predsednik, Mark Blanchard ter člana Ana Marija Morrison in Frank Smuk.

Bralcem—

3. julija AD ne bo izšla.



Barbara Brezigar pri predsedniku Janezu Drnovšku s pobudo Nekaj je treba storiti – Predstavniki državljanske pobude *Nekaj je treba storiti* so skupaj s prvopodpisano Barbaro Brezigar 28. maja izročili predsedniku države Janezu Drnovšku omenjeno pobudo in seznam podpisnikov. Pobudo, ki so jo prvič predstavili že sredi februarja, je najprej podpisalo 89 somišljenikov, zdaj pa že 14.268 državljanov. Drnovška so prosili, da po svojih močeh prispeva k temu, da slovenski prostor ne bi bil več monopolen na vseh področjih družbenega življenja in da bi v Sloveniji dejansko zares zaživelela demokracija. Predsednik Drnovšek je dejal, da podpira civilne pobude, ki vodijo k nadaljnji krepitvi demokratičnega dialoga v družbi in še večji preglednosti delovanja institucij, in izrazil pričakovanje, da bodo pristojne državne institucije preučile pobudo *Nekaj je treba storiti* in poskušale poiskati konkretne rešitve in izboljšave. Janez Janšev mnenje o Brezigarjevi je izraženo v intervjuju z njim, objavljen v današnji AD.

Počastimo spomin žrtev terorja!

CLEVELAND, O. - 11. september 2001 je zgodovinski dan. Je dan, ko se je Severna Amerika zavedla, česa je zmožna človeška zloba. Zloba, zmožna preslepiti mlade ljudi, da z obljubo Alahovih nebes žrtvujejo sami sebe in s seboj potegnejo v strašno smrt tudi 3000 ljudi, ki jih niso niti poznali in ki jim niso bili prav nič napoti.

11. septembra 2001. Dve letali polni potnikov sta tedaj treščili v dve stolpnici World Trade Centra v New Yorku. Tretje letalo se je zaletelo v Pentagon, US vojsko živčno središče v glavnem mestu Washington, D.C.

Zadnje - četrto - letalo pa se je z odhodom nekoliko zakasnilo. Letelo je še nad Clevelandom, ko so ga zasegli teroristi in ga obrnili - proti Washingtonu. Tako se je zgodilo, da so nekateri njegovi potniki po brežičnem telefonu že vedeli, kaj se je s prvima dvema letaloma zgodilo. Vedeli so, da hočejo teroristi z njihovim letalom povzročiti veliko škodo in v ta namen žrtvovati letalo, same sebe in potnike.

Iz telefonskega pogovora med potnikom v letalu in njegovo ženo na njenem domu vemo, da se je skupina potnikov v tem letalu odločila, da napade teroriste in jim prepreči njihov zlobni namen. Pri tem pa so se zavedali, da jih kljub temu neizogibno čaka smrt.

Napadli so in zmagali, saj letalo ni doseglo svojega cilja - najbolj verjetno White House (Bela hiša), sedež predsednika države. Letalo je prej treščilo na tla z vsemi svojimi žrtvami, potniki in teroristi.

Dogodek nas nagne k razmišljanju. Kdo v letalu je bil pravzaprav v resnici junak? Ali tisti, ki so, zapeljani z obljubljenimi Alahovimi nebesi, s silo zasegli letalo, da pomorijo sebe in potnike, samo zato da škodijo ugledu in moči Združenih držav, ali tisti Američani, ki so se temu namenu tudi s silo uprli v polni zavesti, da jih vseeno čaka smrt.

Odgovor je jasen: Samo uporniki proti terorju so bili resnični junaki.

Na osnovi tega spoznaja je sedaj v Ameriki veliko lažje razlagati namen in usodo domobrancev. Saj so se domobranci, prav tako kot se je pred njimi vaški stražarji v resnici samo uprli in upirali terorju tistih, ki so sami sebe proglašali za "osvoboditelje" pa je, velika večina, imela čisto drug namen.

Uprli so se zlobi tega terorja, ki je sam od sebe ne samo moril Slovence je pred temi umori še mučil svoje žrtve. Uprli so se "osvobodilnemu" terorju, ki vojaške škode nemškemu okupatorju ni prizadeval, saj nemški okupator svojih vojaških edinic na slovenskem matičnem ozemlju - razen ob izrednih, prehodnih prilikah sploh ni imel.

Uprli so se tistemu terorju, ki se je dobro zavedal okupatorjeve moči in hudobije njegove maščevalnosti in jo je izrabljal v svoje namene. Tako je ta teror z vso zavestjo in z geslom "Žrtve morajo biti" s svojimi kratkotrajnimi "zmagami" namenoma izzival okupatorja za maščevanje, izzival ga je na streljanje talcev, na zapiranje nedolžnih Slovencev v koncentracijska, smrtna taborišča.

Zato je preprečevanje partizanskih namenov na izzivanju okupatorja in s tem preprečevanje povodov za okupatorjevo hudobno maščevalnost nad Slovenci bilo morda največja narodna zasluga domobrancev.

Vse to so pa domobranci in z njimi njihov predstavnik general Leon

Rupnik opravljali v upanju in polni zavesti končne zmage Velikih zaveznikov. Dobro so tudi vedeli, da zahodi Veliki zavezniki podpirajo zlobne "osvoboditelje". Pa so se kljub temu uprli in upirali domačemu terorju do zadnjega, samo da rešujejo bitje in poštenje svoje ljubljene domovine.

V februarju 1945 je oddelek partizanske Bračičeve brigade pri Frankolovem na Štajerskem napadel nemško policijsko kolono. Pri tem je ubil enega nemškega policista. Kot odgovor nato so nacisti potem ob glavni cesti, ki vodi iz Celja v Maribor, obesili 100 - "sto" - Slovencev.

To se je zgodilo dva in pol meseca pred zmago nad fašizmom 8. maja 1945. Pred zmago od strani Velikih zaveznikov, ne od strani slovenskih partizanov. Lahko smo prepričani, da na Štajerskem do tega napada in do obešenih 100 Slovencev ne bi prišlo, če bi tam delovali domobranci. Že v tem primeru bi več, to je sto, Slovencev ostalo živih, toda tudi v tem primeru bi do zmage nad fašizmom prišlo prav 8. maja 1945.

Danes prav dobro vemo, da bi bila Slovenija osvobodena na dan 8. maja, tudi če NOB sploh ne bi bilo. Ne vemo pa, samo slutimo lahko, kaj bi v Sloveniji osvobajali Zavezniki 8. maja 1945, če domobrancev ne bi bilo. Zato lahko prav ocenimo vso zlobo partizanske "osvobodilne" zmage pri Frankolovem dva meseca in pol pred "osvoboditvijo".

Zato tudi lahko z vso grozo ugotovimo, kakšna ogromna škoda v življenjih in imetju bi bila prihranjena Slovincem, če t.i. "narodnoosvobodilnega boja" sploh ne bi bilo. Saj bi, kot smo rekli, osvoboditev vseeno prišla prav na isti dan. Toda če ne bi bilo domobrancev, koliko Slovencev bi med "osvobodilno" hudobijo - terorjem - slovenskega partizanstva in med maščevalno hudobijo nacizma še moglo obstati? Krematoriji Auschwitzta so tudi za vse Slovence, tako maloštevilne, grozotno opozorilo.

Zato pridimo na počastitev spomina žrtev terorja - na Pristavi priho-

ROZINA ŠVENT

Knjižna ocena

Metod M. Milač: Resistance, Imprisonment & Forced Labor: A Slovene Student in WWII

Knjiga ameriškega rojaka Metoda M. Milača (roj. 1924 na Prevaljah) Upor, zapor in prisilno delo lahko uvrstimo tako med spominsko literaturo kot med "zgodovinsko-pričevanjsko gradivo". Lahko bi celo zapisali, da gre za osebno in družinsko kroniko družine Milačevih, ki pa v marsičem vendarle presega to oznako.

Njegova zgodba je na prvi pogled podobna mnogim zgodbam Slovencev, ki so se ob koncu vojne odločili najprej za begunsko pot in nato za preselitev v prekomorske države, kjer so morali začeti vse na novo (od študija do zagotovitve novih razmer za bivanje). Tujina, ki jih je sprejela, jim je sicer dala vse možnosti za nov začetek, vendar jim ob tem ni ničesar podarila.

Knjiga bralca vseskozi drži v napetosti in pričakovanju, kaj se bo še zgodilo. Nehote se celo vprašamo, ali se je avtor rodil pod srečno ali nesrečno zvezdo. Na življenjski poti, ki jo opisuje (čas od rojstva do odhoda prek oceana l. 1950), se mu je namreč pripetilo skoraj vse, kar se človeku sploh more zgoditi.

Milačevi najsrečnejši dnevi so bili tisti, ki jih

dnjo nedeljo, 15. junija. Počastili bomo predvsem spomin naših junakov - poklanih domobrancev, žrtev slovenskega terorja. Naša prisotnost pa bo pričala tudi odpor proti vsakemu terorju. Sedaj tudi proti tistemu, ki se je razodel 11. septembra 2001 proti naši ponosni, a zanesljivi novi domobini.

Tabor DSPB - F.K.
(posredoval S.V.)

je kot otrok preživel v rojstnem kraju. Že z odhodom na škofijsko gimnazijo v Ljubljani se nekako začne njegova manj srečna zgodba.

Takoj ob začetku druge svetovne vojne se mora vsa družina umakniti v Ljubljano, da se tako izognejo zaporu ali preselitvi. Metod se kot velika večina sovrstnikov vključi v podtalno delovanje, ki ga organizira prijatelj Dušan Pleničar.

Njegova "medvojna usoda" se nekako zapečati 28. junija 1942, ko ga z bratom Cirilom, v času italijanskih racij aretirajo in obsodijo na zaporno kazen v Italiji. Toda na pot tja se mu "zgodí" znani partizanski napad na vlak pri Borovnici, ki ga neprostoovoljno pripelje v partizane.

Vključijo ga v Prvi pionirski vod v Polhograjskih Dolomitih. Med poletno italijansko ofenzivo ga znova ujamejo Italijani in odvedejo v koncentracijsko taborišče na Rabu.

Po kapitulaciji Italije se sicer vrne v Ljubljano, vendar sledi druga, nemška aretacija, ki ga septembra 1944 pripelje na prisilno delo v Auschwitz. Tam nemočno opazuje dogajanje okoli sebe in si želi le preživeti. Sledijo dramatični opisi konca vojne in njegovo vračanje prek porušene in požgane srednje Evrope v domovino.

Konec vojne, ki za veliko večino ljudi pomeni mir in nove življenjske načrte, avtorju prinese novo nesrečo. V strahu za življenje, ker se ni boril na zmagoviti strani, se s sestro in bratom odloči za umik na Koroško.

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(DALJE na str. 11)

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Nekaj novič iz Triglavskega parka v Milwaukeeju

GURNEE, Ill. – Prišla je pomlad. Ni topla, vendar je pomlad. Na Triglavskem parku je vse oživelelo. Travnica je zelena, rože cveto, drevje se je odelo s pomladansko svežino. Tudi balinanje je v polnem teku.

Park je ves počiščen in pripravljen za novo sezono. Presenečenje: tudi cesta je vsa prenovljena. Zahvala gre našim gospodarjem, predvsem Janezu in Craigu in pa tistim, ki so pomagali.

Na belo nedeljo je bilo na Parku kar precej življenja, saj smo obhajali "ta malo Veliko noč". Dan je bil lep in gorak, prav kot nalašč za balinanje.

18. maja, na nekakšni otvoritveni dan, smo praznovali materinski dan. Kot vedno so nastopili naši najmlajši, ki so bili včeraj še otroci, danes pa so punčke že cele gospodične. Lepo so pozdravili mamice s slovenskimi in angleškimi deklamacijami.

Kathy in Betty Kaye sta zapeli duet, Christine Mejač je zaigrala na klavir, Kathy Kaye pa na violino. Hvala vsem! Litarije je kot vedno odmolil Frank Menčak, vmes pa smo odgovarjali z majniškimi odpevi in zaključili s tisto lepo "Spet kliče nas venčani maj".

Sledil je dober prigrizek, ki so ga pripravile mlade mamice. Ker je ta dan obhajal svoj 85. rojstni dan Franjo Mejač in je imela rojstni dan tudi njegova žena Minka, smo obema zapeli "Kol'ko kapljic, tol'ko let", potem pa še enkrat Jožetu Smoližu, ki je nedavno praznoval svoj osemdeseti rojstni dan.

Spominski dan (Memorial Day) je bil letos res slovesen. Prišel je kar cel avtobus gostov iz Lemonta pod vodstvom p. Metoda. Tako smo za mašo imeli kar tri gospe. Z našim dragim vsakoletnim celebrantom g. Gregorjem Goršičem je somaševal p. Metod, ki je s seboj pripeljal lemontskega diakona g. Vidmarja. Bilo je res slovesno. In da ste slišali petje! Ne samo naš zbor ojačen z lemontskimi pevci – cela dvorana je pela z

navdušenjem.

V pridigi je p. Gregor omenil, da je današnji dan nekakšno romanje v spomin vseh tistih tisočev, ki so dali življenje za Boga, narod in domovino, in pa vseh tistih, ki so jih komunisti krvavo mučili in pobili.

Berila je bral kot ponavadi g. Menčak, prošnje pa Helenca Frohna. Molili smo za škofa Rodeta, za škofa Gregorija Rožmana, Leona Rupnika, za vse naše domobrance, da bi jih papež proglasil za blažene, in za vse prejete dobrote.

Med obhajilom smo zapeli "Praznika svetega", tisto le, ki smo jo doma peli pri procesiji sv. Rešnjega telesa. Kje so tisti časi – kako nam jih manjka!

Po maši smo imeli spominsko komemoracijo. Zbor je zapel "Gozdič je že zelen", nato pa je Franci Mejač v angleščini podal zgodovino, kot se je pri nas odigravala med in po vojni. Kathy in Betty Kaye in Christina Mejač so pod vodstvom g. Rusa zapele Slomškovo "V nebesih sem doma". Sledil je slavnostni govor g. Lojzeta Gregoriča.

Spet nam je priklical v spomin tiste strašne dneve, ko so naši domobranci čakali gotove smrti in prosili Boga, da bi jih rešil trpljenja. Oropni vsega, tudi obleke, grozna žeja, roke zvezane z žico, udarci s kopiti, razbite čeljusti ... Še zadnji kos obleke pred breznom, strel v tilnik in padec na gore razmesarjenih trupel. To so bili naši mučenci. Vsa slovenska zemlja je prepojena z njihovo krvjo. To so hude misli tudi za nas, ki nam je bilo prizanešeno.

Tudi predsednik domobranskega društva Tabor, Franjo Mejač, je spregovoril nekaj besed v spomin na tiste težke čase pred 58 leti. Za njim pa še Jože Rus, ki je z mislijo na to kalvarijo slovenskega ljudstva globoko prizadel vse navzoče.

Za konec smo zapeli "Oče, mati" in odšli na domobranski grob prižgati svečke in pomoliti za mir in pokoj vseh naših dra-



Na Triglavskem parku: Zgoraj, iz leve, g. Vidmar, g. Goršič, p. Metod; Spodaj, zopet iz leve, Kristina Mejač, Kathy Kaye, Betty Kaye



gih.

Sledilo je dobro kosilo, srečanje z znanci in seveda balinanje, saj so tudi Lemontčani navdušeni za ta šport. Ob treh popoldne so se gostje poslovili in nadaljevali svoje romanje še na Holly Hill. Dragi Čikažani, veseli smo bili vašega obiska.

Omeniti moram še, da je 28. aprila umrla po dolgi bolezni Zofi Rifelj. Tako je v naši mali kapelici nad jezerom že kar 43 ploščic z imeni preminulih članov Triglava. Imamo tudi več bolnikov, ki jim želimo vsega dobrega in skorajšnjega okrevanja.

Naš prvi piknik bo v nedeljo, 22. junija – z mašo ob enajstih, dobrim kosilom, srečolovom in glasbo za ples. Vsi ste lepo vabljeni, ne bo vam žal.

M. K.

Metod Milač

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

ne: starša ostaneta v domovini, brata Cirila – domobrancia – skupaj z več tisoč drugimi vrjnimi vojaki ubijejo v Kočevskem Rogu, sestra Marija se pozneje sicer odloči za ilegalno vrnitev domov, jo ob tem ujamejo in za nekaj časa zaprejo, Metod pa se najprej odloči za študij v Gradcu, od koder se leta 1950 preseli v ZDA.

Kljub zavestni odločitvi, da sprejme nov izziv, avtorjevo slovo od domovine ni bilo lahko. Preden je odpotoval, je s prijateljem Lojzetom Gregorinom prekrizal vso južno Koroško, da bi se mu podoba te zemlje za vedno vtisnila v spomin. Tudi plovba prek oceana mu je dala dovolj priložnosti za analizo desetih let, ki so tako hitro minila.

Svoje razmišljanje sklene z besedami: "Ta leta so spremenila vse in raz-

blinila vse naše mladostne sanje in pričakovanja. Cilji in sanje so izginili, toda še vedno smo imeli svoja življenja, zaklad, ki ga je za vedno izgubilo več tisoč drugih. Vojna je pustila strahotno statistiko: petdeset milijonov žrtev."

Čeprav ostaja avtor za vse življenje zaznamovan s smrtjo – z ubojem brata Cirila, njegova knjiga ne kliče po maščevanju. Napisana je v lepem literarnem slogu in vseskozi skrbno dokumentirana, kar zadovolji preprostega bralca, ki si želi "zgodbo", in zgodovinarja, ki bi se rad podrobneje poučil o med- in povojnem dogajanju v Sloveniji.

Milačeva knjiga ni po naključju izšla v zbirki "Studies in Modern European History"; namenjena je predvsem tujim bralcem in potomcem naših izseljencev v ZDA in Kanadi, ki slovenščine ne znajo več (ali ne dovolj).

Rodna gruda
Ljubljana, maj 2003

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PAVLE BORŠTNIK

Nova knjiga

Veleposlanik ZDA Young v Pomurju

Ljenko Urbančič: *Še nekaj iverja*

(MTM Press, Waverley, Australia, 2003. 242 strani)

Teško je verjeti, da je minilo že 60 let. V zgodnjem oktobru leta 1943, ko je bila vsa Ljubljana že pod težkim vtisom pokola na Grčaricah in Turjaku, se je po mestu razvedelo: domobranci bodo korakali! Tiste dni je bil namreč objavljen poziv generala Leona Rupnika na ustanovitev Slovenske domobranske legije, ki naj bi nadaljevala boj opuščenih Vaških straž in zaščitila slovensko podeželje pred napadi komunističnih partizanov.

Ljudje so bili skeptični. Kakršnakoli akcija proti partizanom je bila zdaj mogoča samo z nemškim privoljenjem. Nemci pa, četudi se je že začel njihov umik, so bili jeseni 1943 vse nekaj drugega, kot pomehkuženi, čeprav podivjani Italijani. Lahe smo prezirali, Nemcev smo se bali.

Pohod po Ljubljani pa se je vseeno vršil. Fantje so korakali za veliko slovensko zastavo, ki jo je nosil Vlado Menart, medicinarjev sin. Vse sem jih poznal kot pripadnike Ljotičevega "Zbora", strogo jugoslovansko orientirane nacionalistične organizacije.

Ob strani kolone je korakal visok mladenič, suh kot preklja. Zdravnano je hodil v dolgem plašču in nekako kljubovalno vračal vse prej kot prijazne poglede ljudi, ki so stali na pločnikih in opazovali pohod. In še bolj kljubovalno je bil njegov govor z balkona Ljubljanske kreditne banke pred pošto.

Ljenko Urbančič.

Njega sem pa dobro poznal. Bila sva "sošolca" na šoli Glasbene Matice, kjer nam je živčni profesor Šonc vtepal v glave glasbeno teorijo. Šoncu se je vselej nekam mudilo, Ljenko pa je vse tiste "repke" na notah zapisal z ravnilom: točno 90 stopinj ob piki, in samo "fance" je vpisoval s prostoro. To pa ga je zamujalo in vsi drugi smo ga morali čakati. Šonc z ne posebnim razumevanjem.

No, in zdaj je ta Ljenko – vodil domobranski pohod po Ljubljani! Prvi

domobranski pohod po Ljubljani. Če bi bil organiziran tudi "zadnji", smo lahko prepričani, da bi ga spet vodil – Ljenko Urbančič.

To je pravzaprav dolg uvod v skromno knjižico, s katero je Ljenko nekako "počistil predale" in iz nenavadnega, razburkanega življenja nabral "še nekaj iverja", tako, da naj bi bile zdaj vse "pospravljene" (pa seveda ne bo).

Večinoma je nabral te "iveri" po taboriščih v Forliju, Eboliju in Lingenju, kjer sva se srečavala, toda medtem ko so bili meni in večini mojih soborcev to predvsem dnevi zapravljenega življenja, jih je Ljenko krepko izrabil.

Sodeč po "iverih", ki jih podaja v tej zbirki kratkih zapiskov, ga slovenska tragedija ni prizadela do tolike mere, da bi izgubil čut opazovanja sveta okrog sebe in zaznavanja dogodkov, ki jih je doživljal. Po več kot 60 letih se spominja imena oficirja, ki ga je srečal med ponesrečeno prostovoljsko akcijo slovenskih fantov nekje v Bosni ob nemškem napadu leta 1941. Po skoraj 60 letih se spominja, da je nekoč, z nekom, v nekem begunskem taborišču jedel – mlečni riž.

V LJUBEČ SPOMIN

ob prvi obletnici smrti našega ljubega ateja

Konrada Peklarja



ki ga je Bog poklical k sebi 14. junija 2002.

*Kako zelo smo Te ljubili,
Solzne naše so oči,
te nikdar ne bomo pozabili,
prav do konca naših dni.*

Tvoji žalujoči:

Hčerke – Cvetka, Veronika in Barbi z družinami
Sin – Konrad z družino
Vnuki in vnukinje



Murska Sobota – Veleposlanik ZDA v Sloveniji Johnny Young je 28. maja, med bivanjem v Pomurju, ki ga je obiskal zadnjega med slovenskimi regijami, obiskal Radensko, Muro (na sliki) in Zdravilišče Naravni park Terme 3000 v Moravskih Toplicah. Novinarjem je povedal, da je dobil zelo dober vtis o organiziranosti in delu vseh treh podjetij in njihovi pripravljenosti za sodelovanje z ameriškimi podjetji.

Young je za gospodarsko sodelovanje med Slovenijo in ZDA v prisposobi dejal, da je Slovenija kot goreča sveča, ki je pokrita s sondo, zato se ne razplamti. Možnosti za gospodarsko sodelovanje med državama so namreč velike, le iz-

koristiti jih je treba dolgoročno. ZDA so po obsegu skupne blagovne menjave (lani kakih 600 milijonov dolarjev) na šestem mestu med slovenskimi zunanjetrgovinskimi partnerji. Od leta 1995 ima Slovenija z ZDA zunanjetrgovinski primanjkljaj, ki pa ga postopoma zmanjšuje.

Young s sodelavci se je v Moravskih Toplicah pogovarjal tudi s pomurskimi podjetniki, nato s predsednikom območnega združenja slovenskih častnikov Dušanom Grofom in obiskal romsko naselje v Vanča vasi. Naslednji dan je obiskal še Lendavo in Gornjo Radgono.

I. G.

Delo, 29. maja 2003

Sredi Avstralije si je ustvaril svoj košček slovenske zemlje. O vsem tem govori "iverje".

Ljenkove zgodbe so komaj kaj več kot misli, zapisane na rob, pa vendar pričajo o bogatem, raburljivem in vsekakor zanimivem življenju: ljubljanski študent, po vrhu še Sokol, eden "originalnih" domobrancev, jedek, bister žurnalist, politik (v tujem svetu!), kipar samouk, posebej posebne vrste, pa vselej – Ljenko Urbančič.

Ob koncu vključuje med zapiske tudi že objavljene medvojne pogovore z nekaterimi slovenskimi kulturniki: Ivan Pregelj, Vladimir Bartol, Janez Jalen, Narte Velikonja, Ivan Mrak, Vladimir Levstik, Jože Krivec, Zorko Simčič, Riko Debenjak, Ivan Matičič, Srečko Koporc, Ferdo Vesel in – Franc Saleški Finžgar, ki je pogovor odklonil, češ da je "ljubljanska škofija še pred vojno svarila pred "brezverskim Jutrom". (Ljenko je opravil te intervjuje kot dopisnik *Jutra*.) Vsi so na pogovoru zavzeli odklonilno stališče do Osvobodilne fronte.

Ko sva se z Ljenkom v daljnem letu 1949 poslovila v taborišču Lin-

NOVI KNJIGI ...

Dve domovini 17; Poezija Edvarda Kocbeka v angleščini

Dve domovini 17

Nova številka revije *Dve domovini* – *Two Homelands*, ki jo izdaja Inštitut za slovensko izseljenstvo ZRC SAZU in je tudi po obliki in obsegu knjižna izdaja, se v svojih poglobljenih razpravah in člankih posebej posveča ženskam v izseljenstvu.

Od vprašanja izseljevanja Slovenk z zgodovinskega vidika (Marjan Drnovšek), do Zgodb slovenskih žensk iz Amerike (Mirjam Milharčič - Hladnik) in razprave "Coming Out" manjšinskih žensk (Marija Jurič Pahor) ter drugih zanimivih obravnav, za literarno področje pa je še posebej zanimiva obsežna raz-

gen, na reki Emms, mi je podaril v spomin močno zdelan zvezek Cankarjevih zbranih spisov s posvetilom. Potem sva se razšla, on se je znašel v Avstraliji, jaz v Ameriki.

Ta drobna knjižica naju je spet zbližala.

Perry, Ohio

prava Irene Milenič Slovenskoameriške pisateljice in pesnice v tridesetih letih 20. stoletja med literarno in drubeno angaziranostjo.

Publikacija med drugim prinaša prispevke z okrogle mize Znana in neznana likovna ustvarjalnost slovenskih umetnikov v izseljenstvu, ki je bila oktobra 2002 v Ljubljani, sklene pa jo razmišljanje ob knjigi Aleksa Kalca *Poti in usode* in ena knjižna ocena.

Kocbekova poezija v angleščini

Pripravljala se je kakšnih trideset let, bila je že večkrat skoraj končana, blizu natisa ... Knjiga Kocbekove poezije v angleščini.

Za stoto obletnico rojstva pa bo Edvard Kocbek (ki se je rodil 27. septembra 1904 in umrl 3. novembra 1981) vendarle dobil svojo angleško, pravzaprav ameriško, še natančneje, dvojezično knjigo.

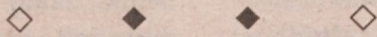
(dalje na str. 14)

Intervju - JANEZ JANŠA: Petnajst let po začetku afere JBTZ ...

Politično neuravnotežena demokracija

VIKTOR LUSKOVEC

Dne 31. maja je minilo petnajst let, odkar je nekdanja Služba državne varnosti aretirala Janeza Janšo, tedanje- ga publicista in podjetnika. V vojaškem zaporu sta se znašla še častnik JLA Ivan Borštner in urednik *Mladine* David Tasič, Franci Zavrl pa se je umaknil v psihiatrično kliniko. Slovenska pomlad se je začela. Janšo smo vprašali, kako vidi pot, ki jo je Slovenija napravila v zadnjih petnajstih letih.



V petnajstih letih, kolikor jih je minilo od vaše aretacije, so se v Sloveniji zgodile korenite spremembe, o kakršnih smo takrat lahko samo sanjali. Mislim na nastanek nove države in dvig življenjskega standarda. Ste zadovoljni?

Verjetno si kdo, ki je pred petnajstimi leti zbral pogum in protestiral proti kršenju človekovih pravic četverice na Kongresnem trgu ali pred vojaškim sodiščem na Roški, ni predstavljal, da bodo demokratične spremembe v Sloveniji nastopile tako hitro, da se bomo že čez tri leta osamosvojili in da bo naša država čez petnajst let postala polnopravna članica Evropske unije in NATA. S tem sem zadovoljen.

Ste si vi osebno tedaj predstavljali, da bomo izkusili takšne spremembe?

Stvarnost v vojaškem zaporu in jugoslovanski vojski je bila v popolnem nasprotju s pomladnim ozračjem v Sloveniji. V pisarni upravnika, denimo, je visela slika Lenina, pod katero je pisalo Živela proletarska revolucija.

Vendar smo že takrat vedeli, da sprememba bodo. Izšla je že 57. številka *Nove revije*, zahteve po političnem pluralizmu in demokratizaciji družbe so bila popolnoma jasne. Bal sem se le, da bo konflikt ostrejši in da bomo plačali visoko ceno.

Zasliševalec JLA mi je tedaj z vso arogantnostjo zabrusil, da lahko pobijejo vse Slovence, pa bo imela Jugoslavija samo osem odstotkov manj prebivalcev. Pripravljeni so bili na vse. Nihče pa ni bil takšen optimist, da bi pričakoval demokratizacijo Slovenije že čez dve leti.

Lahko z današnje časovne distance brez dvoma poveste, kdo je bil naročnik aretacije?

Trditev nekdanjega republiškega sekretarja za notranje zadeve Tomaža Ertla, češ da mu ni politika ničesar naročila in da ni vedela za to, je popolnoma nesresnična. Na tajnem sestanku vrha slovenske represije, ki so ga imeli nekaj mesecev pred aretacijami v Tacnu, sta skupaj z Milanom Kučanom opozarjala, da je treba nastajajočo opozicijo ustaviti in da je to treba storiti takoj. Takrat je bilo dano navodilo za aretacijo. Verjetno zato, da bi preprečili demokratične spremembe in ohranili totalitarno oblast.

Kako ocenjujete vladavino Milana Kučana? Kam ga bo uvrstila zgodovina?

Zgodovina ni absolutni razsodnik in nima končne besede. Na milijone ljudi je umrlo z imenom Stalina na ustih, ker so mislili, da delajo nekaj dobrega, v resnici pa so umirali za diktatorja. Neke dogodek ali pogled lahko popolnoma spremeni celotno zadevo.

O zgodovini ne bom govoril, ampak bom rekel* takole: tisti, ki so imeli od vladavine Milana Kučana koristi, ga bodo vedno kovali v zvezde. In teh je zelo veliko, saj je zelo dobro poskrbel za nekdanjo nomenklaturu. Praktično vsi so ostali na položajih ali pa so se upokojili z izjemnimi pokojninami.

Drugi, ki so bili v njegovem času oškodovani ali pa so zaman čakali na popravilo krivic, bodo njegovo vladavino označili za izgubljen čas ali podaljšanje neke gluhe dobe.

Slovenija je po gospodarskih kazalcih vendarle postala razmeroma uspešna država. Se strinjate z vladno politiko?

Gospodarska rast je bila od osamosvojitve naprej bistveno počasnejša glede na potenciala, ki smo jih imeli. Preveč denarja je bilo zapravljene- ga za preobsežno rast državne uprave, privilegije elite in druga razsipanja. Denar pod krinko socialnih transferjev odteka tudi najbogatejšemu sloju.

Po drugi strani pa je bistveno premajhno vlagano v človeški kapital. Slovenija se je v tem obdobju zadolžila za devet milijard dolarjev, to je za pol vsote, ki jo je bila pred razpadom dolžna nekdanja Jugoslavija. Davkoplačevalci in gospodarstvo bodo še leta plačevali dolgove, ki jih je najela vlada dr. Janeza Drnovška.

Menim, da zdajšnja vlada, ki jo vodi Anton Rop, ni sposobna strateškega razmisleka. Bojim se, da ni sposobna razpoznati priložnosti, ki se ponujajo Sloveniji z vstopom v EU, ker ne vloga v človeški kapital. To bi bilo namreč edino zagotovilo, da bomo Slovenci kot posamezniki dejansko enakovredni državljanom zdajšnjih držav članic EU.

Do vlade ste že celo desetletje kritični, ampak volilci vam na volitvah ne namenijo večinskega zaupanja. Kako to?

Najbrž smo sami naredili kakšne napake, bistveni vzrok za takšen po-



ložaj pa vidim v tem, da v Sloveniji ni demokratičnega ravnotežja, volilci pa nimajo možnosti, da bi z enakimi vatli presojali politično ponudbo.

O tem nazorno govori primer banke SIB. SDS je na to oškodovanje opozarjala že od začetka lanskega leta in zahtevala, naj se razišče. Ne le, da nobena od pristojnih ustanov tega ni storila, kar bi sicer morala že po uradni dolžnosti, mediji o tem praktično niso poročali.

LDS - tokrat v navezi z Združeno listo - ima takšno moč, da se o stvareh, ki so za njih neugodne, vsaj pred volitvami ne piše, da jim ne bi škodovalo.

Če bi volilci vedeli, kaj se je dogajalo, ne bi volili ne Danice Simšič ne Vike Potočnik; katerih stranki sta odgovorni za trošenje denarja davkoplačevalcev. Ker jih mediji niso informirali, so oblast zaupali prav tistim, ki so jih prej opeharili.

Imate konkretne podatke oziroma dokaze za vpliv LDS nad mediji?

Medijska blokada poročanja o prodaji banke SIB pred lokalnimi volitvami je najboljši dokaz.

Spor z Društvom novinarjev Slovenije, ki ste ga v teh dneh preimenovali v Društvo vladnih lakajev, verjetno ne bo prispeval k bolj-

šemu poročanju?

Predsednik društva Grega Repovž je uro po izjavi predsednika vlade Antona Ropa v imenu društva napadel opozicijo z vsebinsko enako izjavo kot gospod Rop. Vodstvo društva z Repovžem na čelu se je poistovetilo z Ropovo vlado in LDS. To potrjujejo, kot slišim, podatki, da naj bi se Repovž vsaj enkrat na teden dobival z Marjano Kanduti, Ropovo svetovalko. Zato sem mu predlagal, naj se poimenujejo v Društvo vladnih lakajev.

Seveda pa nisem govoril o vseh novinarjih, saj večina verjetno ni včlanjena v društvo in tudi niso lakaji, kot je vodstvo društva.

Je Barbara Brezigar, v zadnjih treh letih pravosodna ministrica v Bajukovi vladi, ki je relativno uspešno nastopila na predsedniških volitvah in je tudi zdaj dejavna kot pobudnica, osvežila politični prostor?

Vsekakor. Vsak državljan, ki se odloči, da bo aktivno vstopil v javni prostor, in se tako izpostavi za skupno dobro, ni samo osvežitev, ampak obogatitev tega socialnega kapitala, brez katerega ni napredka.

Če bi se Brezigarjeva odločila za aktivno politiko, kako bi ji pomagali?

(dalje na str. 14)

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Kako Slovenijo vidi Slovenec iz Argentine ...

Marko Bajuk: V Argentini soseda na obisku spotoma še zlika

Pred štirinajstimi leti je zamenjal Mendozo, mesto v bližini Andov, za Ljubljano in prišel na avdicijo za bariton v ljubljanski Operi

Ljubljana – Marko Bajuk se je rodil leta 1952 v Argentini, v znani družini emigrantov – znani politik Andrej Bajuk je njegov stric – ki je tudi v tujini ohranjala žive slovenske običaje in jezik.

Leta 1948 je njegov ded, ravnatelj klasične gimnazije v Ljubljani, s svojimi najbližjimi zapustil Jugoslavijo, da ne bi tudi sam izgubil življenja v političnih čistkah po vojnega obdobja. Ustali so se v argentinskem mestu Mendoza, kjer se je Makov oče zaposlil kot gradbeni inženir. Podobno, kot je delo našlo še mnogo Slovencev.

"Slovenska skupnost v Argentini je tesno povezana. V Buenos Airesu je kar sedem slovenskih domov, eden pa v Mendozi. Vsako soboto in nedeljo smo se tam zbrali, skupaj prepevali, se družili."

Vprašanje, ali so mu Slovenijo predstavljali kot obljubljeni, a nedosegljivo deželo, niti ne pade. "Kot otrok sem v slovenskem domu obiskoval pouk slovenščine, verouk in pevski zbor, pozneje sem se zaposlil kot zborovodja različnih zborov ..."

JANEZ JANŠA

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

To bi pozdravili z velikim veseljem.

Bi ji prepustili vodilni položaj v stranki?

Tudi, če bi postavila tak pogoj. Z velikim veseljem. Barbara Brezigar je zelo verodostojna in sposobna osebnost, ki povezuje. Zato smo jo tudi podprli na predsedniških volitvah in veliko naredili za njeno promocijo. A njenega dokončnega odgovora na naše povabilo za njeno vključitev v aktivno politiko še nimamo.

NEDELO

1. junija 2003

Vsako leto je skupnost praznovala vsaj dve slovesnosti, najbolj pa so uživali v gledaliških igrah. Sodeloval je vsak po svojih močeh. Mame so šivale kostume, očetje barvali kulise, tako otroci kot odrasli pa so se najbolj veselili nastopov. Na odru je zaživel Finžgarjev Divji lovec in druge igre.

Kako je postal baritonist?

"V šoli nisem bil odličnjak," se nasmehne. "Kot otrok sem veliko pel in tudi žvižgal. Ded je predlagal, da bi se učil klavir." Tako se je poleg osnovne šole, ki je trajala šest let, učil igranja klavirja in končal študij solo petja na Universidad Nacional de Cuyo v Mendozi.

"Jesen v Mendozi je nekaj enkratnega. Listje topolov se obarva v ru-

V BLAG SPOMIN

2. obletnice smrti mojega nepozabnega moža in prijatelja



Martin Simčič

ki me je za vedno zapustil 14. junija 2001.

Dve leti sta minuli, odkar zapustil si me Ti. Rad hodil si po vrtu, ogledoval si rože – drevje. Nič več ni videti tvoje lepe postave. Oh, kako prazno brez tebe je moje življenje. Počivaj v miru.

Žalujoci:

žena Matilda svakinja Reska Pučko v Minnesoti sestru Reska in Milena Simčič v Sloveniji nečaki v Ameriki, Kanadi, Argentini in Sloveniji ter drugi sorodniki in prijatelji.

meno, vinogradi in sadovnjaki zažarijo." Kakor se sliši nenavadno, so mu v Ljubljani nekaj časa manjkali celo značilni rahli potresni sunki, ki pogosto zazibajo to argentinsko mesto. "Življenje v Argentini ne pogrešam, pogrešam pa sorodnike, ki tam živijo," je odkritosrčen.

V Slovenijo, pravzaprav tedaj še v Jugoslavijo, je pripotoval leta 1989 na pobudo tenorista Jureta Reje in opravil avdicijo za bariton v ljubljanski Operi. Zdaj že desetletje poučuje in vodi oddelek za solo petje na Srednji glasbeni in baletni šoli.

"Ko sem prišel v Slovenijo, sem se počutil kot doma. Ljubljanske ulice sem poznal z razglednic, ki so nam jih pošiljale tete v Argentino. Res pa je, da je bila tedaj Ljubljana na razglednicah lepša kot v resnici. Zdaj je drugače, saj so v zadnjih letih obnovili veliko hiš.

Presenetil me je tudi red, ki vlada na cesti. To, da ima pešec prednost pred avtomobilom, pa četudi sveti zelena luč, je v Argentini nepredstavljivo." Še zdaj ga moti, da se ljudje boje prepriha. Isti človek, ki na motorju uživa v sunkih vetra, bi v avtobusu okna najraje kar zabetoniral ...

Edvard Kocbek

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

V njej bo 70 pesmi v originalu in v prevodu, ki je delo Michaela Scammela in Vena Tauferja. Tudi uvod je napisal M. Scammel, medtem ko je spremno besedo prispeval Charles Simic.

Založnik je Princeton University Press.

Vzeto iz štirinajstodnevne knjižne priloge Dela 26. maja 2003, ur. AD

Kakšne razlike pa opaža v medsebojnih odnosih?

"V Sloveniji je več formalizma," pravi. Z besedami naslika prizor sosedu, ki pride na obisk. Si predstavljate, da vam med klepetom predlaga, da bo zlikala žehto perila, ki čaka na kavču? V Sloveniji nepredstavljivo, v Argentini povsem običajno znamenje toplih prijateljskih odnosov!

"V Sloveniji vljudnost narekuje krajše obiske kot v Argentini. A tedaj gostitelj vso pozornost posveti gostu, tako da se ta počuti res dobrodošlega in zaželenega."

Obredi druženja so v Argentini povsem drugačni. Gost je vedno dobrodošel, ob katerikoli uri, tudi ob desetih zvečer. Več je druženja, človeške topline. Ljudje so bolj iskreni. "Večina Slovencev je bolj zaprtega značaja od Argentinev in svoje težave radi obdržite zase," ugotavlja Marko Bajuk.

Kaj ga je v novem okolju še posebno presenetilo?

"Čeprav sem dobro govoril slovensko – mislili so, da sem Primorec – je občasno nastal tudi kakšen jezikovni nesporazun." Ko je še iskal posamezne ustanove po Ljubljani, je vprašal mimoidoče za pot.

"Kar naravnost po cesti," so mu odgovarjali. Ne v Sloveniji ne v Ljubljani ni veliko ravnih ulic. Vedno, ko se je znašel na križišču, je zato izbral najbolj ravno pot in spoznal zanimive predele mesta, le na cilj ni prišel, se zdaj nasmehne spominom.

Kot glasbeni pedagog je ponosen, da je bilo kar nekaj njegovih učencev sprejetih na priznane univerze in glasbene akademije v Baslu, na Du-

naju in drugje. Ker se pogovarjava v času, ko se dijaki pospešeno pripravljajo na maturo, je na mestu vprašanje, kakšne razlike opaža v metodah in sistemu poučevanja.

"V Argentini imajo učitelji bolj human odnos do učencev. Nikoli nisem doživel, da bi učitelj želel frustrirati učenca. Če bo nekdo v življenju glasbenik, zakaj mora v srednji šoli izvrstno obvladati matematiko? Pa še to. Argentina v času mojega šolanja ni poznala mature."

Tea Černe

Nedelo, 18. maja 2003

"Dušan, nas bodo vse pobili!"

EASTLAKE, O – To mi je rekel moj komandant tehničnega odreda, ko je ves objokan sedel na skali pred Ljubeljskim tunelom. Vprašal sem ga, kaj se je vendar zgodilo in mi je rekel "Dušan, nas bodo vse pobili!"

Te besede mi niso šle v račun, vendar se je to zgodilo koncem maja, ko so začeli Angleži voziti domobrnce nazaj v Jugoslavijo, kjer so jih predali partizanski vojski.

Moj prejšnji komandant, kapetan ing. Rudolf Škof, je odšel s prvim transportom nazaj. S tem transportom bi moral oditi tudi jaz kot štabni kurir. Vendar je 20 minut pred odhodom prišlo povelje, da gre ves štab z zadnjim transportom, kar je meni rešilo življenje.

(DALJE na str. 15)

V hvaležen spomin

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Hvaležna prijateljica

Ameriško-slovensko društvo na Floridi

Če bi trdili, da v Miami ali Fort Lauderdale obstaja slovensko društvo, bi bilo pravilno – ali pa tudi ne. Pravilno bi bilo zato, ker se društvo imenuje "American Slovene Club of South Florida", pa tudi nastalo je na osnovi odločitve slovenskih izseljencev in njihovih potomcev.

Toda če bi danes pogledali, kdo so njegovi člani, bi ugotovili, da v društvu razen enega ali dveh ni več Slovencev. Vendar pa to ne pomeni, da društvo s Slovenijo nima več povezave.

Tako kot se to dogaja povsod po Ameriki s stariimi izseljenci, so njihovi potomci Američani, večina iz druge generacije se sicer še spominja jezika svojih staršev, dobro pa ga govorijo le še trije ali štiri, kot je to primer društva na Floridi.

Poleg omenjenih članov iz druge generacije izseljencev v društvu ni najti mlajših. Verjetno se bodo vanj včlanili, ko bodo starejši, kot se to po navadi dogaja. To je namreč značilno za izseljence in njihove potomce, ki se z večjo vneto začnejo zanimati za svoje korenine, ko so že v letih. In takrat se k temu koreninam tudi vračajo.

Toda vse to je naravni proces. Prva generacija je že odšla, le malo njihovih potomcev pa zahaja v društvo. Zato pa so člani društva postali prijatelji in sorodniki sedanjih slovenskih članov.

Tako je društvo pravzaprav postalo slovensko, saj so v njem najštevilčnejši potomci Poljakov, nato verjetno Slovencev, Slovakov, pa tudi potomce Ukrajincev je najti. Verjetno bi lahko sklepali, da je društvo predvsem prostor, ki združuje potomce izseljencev na prijateljski osnovi.

Vendar pa je še kaj več. Člani vedo povedati, da so burni dogodki v Sloveniji in Jugoslaviji v devetdesetih letih minulega stoletja močno odmevali tudi v društvu. Iz novic, ki so jih zbirala na vse načine, predvsem pa iz slovenskega časopisa *Prosvete*, ki izhaja v Pennsylvaniji, so se seznanjali s podrobnostmi dogajanj v Sloveniji in tem delu Balkana.

Vendar pa bi bilo napočno meniti, da v društvu zahajajo samo potomci Slovencev in drugih izseljencev. Neredko bomo našli tudi prave Slovence. Tako smo srečali Augusta Gselmana, rojenega v Mariboru, pa Tonija Kristla s soprogo Danielo iz Maribora ter Brežičana Ivana Zupana s soprogo Mario.

Na Floridi namreč živi tudi precejšnje število Slovencev, izseljencev v zadnjih dvajsetih, tridesetih letih. Mnogi pa na Florido prihajajo le v zimskih mesecih, kot Zupanova, ki sicer živi v Kanadi in se tako izogneta ostrim kanadski zimi.

Seveda pa pri omenjanju društva ne moremo mimo Eda Blatnika, verjetno enega najstarejših predsednikov izseljenskih

društev v ZDA nasploh, saj ima 93 let. Blatnik je rojen v Clevelandu v Ohio leta 1910, njegov oče pa je eden tistih redkejših priseljencev, ki je prišel v ZDA že v 19. stoletju, in sicer dvakrat.

Prvič je prišel leta 1895 s svojimi starši, toda verjetno jim ni bilo preveč všeč, saj so se vrnili. Nato pa se je petindvajsetletni mladenič iz Ribnice odločil, da leta 1897 še sam odide v Ameriko, (*Ur. AD: Tu je gotovo kje kakšna pomota, saj bi bil prvič prišel v ZDA s starši, ko jih je imel že 23 let, dve leti pozneje pa kot 25-letni se sam vrnil*) kjer se je poročil, seveda s Slovenko iz Mirne na Dolenjskem.

V tem zakonu se je rodil Ed, ki je ostal zvest svojim koreninam, čeprav ima o svojih starših kaj malo podatkov. Vsekakor pa je o več kot stoletju pričakovati, da so se dokumenti že porazgubili, spomini pa zbledeli.

Ed Blatnik predseduje ameriško - slovenskemu društvu, ki je nastalo aprila 1974. Od petindvajsetih ustanoviteljev, sicer upokojencev, bi preostale zdaj lahko našli le še na prste ene roke.

Društvo je v najboljših časih doseglo 135 članov, nato pa se je kot posledica umiranja starejših začel osip. Društvo pa se tudi obnavlja, kajti nove člane pridobiva, ko se tudi drugi odločijo za preselitev na Florido. Zato je društvo na Floridi znano mnogim slovenskim izseljencem in njihovim potomcem v ZDA, kajti mnogi so svoja zadnja leta preživeli prav na Floridi in v tem društvu.

Člani se zbirajo vsako prvo nedeljo v mesecu, razen poletnih mesecev, junija, julija in avgusta. Na sestankih ne gre brez "frajtonar'ce", občasno pa tudi slovenskih narodnih oblačil in zastavic. Za slovenske viže skrbita Dan Novak in Ed Squirlock, drugi pa že niso več med živimi.

Med člani pa je še kar nekaj tistih, ki jih je potrebno omeniti. Jo Gregg je pobrala že nič koliko medalj na olimpijskih igrah za starejše, ki se jih redno udeležuje, treba pa je poudariti, da ima že prek 90 let. Izvedeli smo tudi, da je 12. januarja 1997 z Atlanti-

som poletel v vesolje tudi potomec Slovencev, Jerry Leininger. Mary Grilc pa je leta 1956 preživela potopitev ladje Andrea Doria.

Tako je tudi na Floridi najti sledi slovenskih izseljencev, čeprav Florida ni tradicionalni kraj, kjer bi se ti množično naseljevali. Toda notranje ameriške migracije, ki so bile prisotne nič manj kot zunanje, so pripeljale Slovence in njihove potomce tudi semkraj na jug – v "sunny state" ali sončno državo.

Marko Sjekloča
Rodna gruda, Ljubljana
maj 2003

Hrušev ožig zakuril kresove

Resje, Srednja Dobrova – V največjem gorenjskem sadovnjaku Resje so doslej pregledali približno dobro polovico od okoli 80.000 dreves. Delavcem sadovnjaka, ki morajo opraviti tudi redno zaščito, kot je škropljenje, so preteklo soboto pomagali odstranjevati in zažagati drevesa gasilci iz Mošenj. Odstranili so približno 800 dreves, prav tako v soboto pa so pregledniki označili 40 novih.

Po besedah vodje nasade Tatjane Zupan se okužba, kjer se pojavi, hitro širi, zato so delali tudi v nedeljo, da bodo čim prej odstranili najmočnejša žarišča.

V radovljiški občini sta se Posavcu, Otočam in Brežjam kot okuženi občini pridružila Dobro Polje in Srednja Dobrova, kjer je Francija Šolarja doletela katastrofa. Na 3,5 hektarja intenzivnih sadovnjakov je približno 17.000 dreves. Pretekli

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DUŠAN MARŠIČ

(nadaljevanje s str. 14)

Nam je namreč pred zadnjim transportom prišel povedat major Bitenc: "Fantje, transporti gredo zares v Jugoslavijo. Pojdite ven iz taborišča, kam in kako vam ne morem svetovati – samo odstranite se od tu!" Zvečer nas je pet odšlo iz Vetrinja proti Beljaku.

Še danes si ne morem razlagati, kako mi je to bil rekel kapetan Škof že pred Ljubeljskim tunelom, ko smo bili vsi še oboroženi.

Dragi Slovenci in Slovenke, lepo ste vabljeni, da se udeležite vsakoletnega spomina z molitvijo za vse pomorjene domobrance to soboto in nedeljo na Slovenski pristani. Podrobnosti so opisane drugje.

Pridite v čim večjem številu in kdor ima narodno nošo, jo naj obleče, saj naše noše poživijo vsako prireditelje. Na svidenje to soboto in nedeljo na Slovenski pristani! **Dušan Maršič**
DSPB Tabor

petek je bilo za uničenje označenih (okuženo drevo in sosedni drevesi) okoli 400 dreves, v soboto več kot tisoč, pregled pa še ni končan. Franci Šolar, ki so ga obiskali tudi predstavniki kmetijskega ministrstva, je povedal, da so deset let ves zaslužek vlagali v sadovnjak. Zanje je glavni vir preživetja, bojijo pa se, da bo del treba popolnoma izkrciti.

Škofja Loka – Bakterijo Erwini amylovoru, povzročiteljico okužbe s hruševim ožigom ali ognjevko, so preteklo soboto odkrili še v novih žariščih v Poljanski in Selški dolini. Iz Zminca so jo čebele in veter prenesli na zahod, v Poljansko dolino, ki so jo inšpektorji redno pregledovali ves prejšnji teden.

Iz Dolenje vasi v Selški dolini se je razširila tudi v bližnja Selca. Hrušev ožig je tako vsak dan bliže Gorenji vasi in

(dalje na str. 16)

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sklada, smo poslali našemu misijonarju Franciju Pavliču, ki deluje v Boliviji, \$500 za njegovo mladino. Vedeli smo, da je bilo v njegovem misijonu hudo neurje, ki je povzročilo veliko škodo, in je bila pomoč zelo potrebna. Kar hitro je odgovoril, že v aprilu.

Piše: "Drage članice in člani MZA! Ne vem, če si lahko predstavljate, kako sem bil vesel vašega čeka. Z vašo pomočjo bo lahko dobilo topel obrok hrane (mleko, vitaminiziran kakav, avena in kruh) okrog sto otrok en mesec. Otroci so stari od 4 do 14 let in najbolj trpijo zaradi pomanjkanja hrane. Poplave so uničile celoletni pridelek edine prehrane, ki je krompir. Vsakodnevni topli obrok hrane in kruh se je že začel deliti 1. aprila v centru misijona Italaque. Na žalost s tem pismom še ne bodo prišle fotografije do vas, dragi prijatelji in dobrotniki misijonar; prav gotovo pa lahko računate na fotografije v naslednjem pismu.

Katehisti prizadetih skupnosti krščenih so mi poslali seznam prizadetih družin. šel sem v La Paz (to je prestolnica Bolivije) in na pošti me je čakal ček, ki sem ga takoj vnovčil in nakupil najosnovnejšo hrano. V centru misijona sem našel osebo, ki mi bo vsak dan pripravila sto stručk kruha - \$117US za en mesec dni, 2 kintala mleka - okrog 100 kg v prahu - \$156US, 2 kintala vitaminiziranega kakava -- \$95US, avene - \$US in apija za \$60US. Sestre usmiljenke iz El Alta so mi poslale 100 kg soje. Mirne vesti lahko zapišem, da bomo zdržali ves mesec april z jedilnico za žrtve poplav. Predsednica ministrant mi pomaga pri kuhanju in pri delitvi hrane skupaj z enim prostovoljcem iz La Paza.

Po čisti Božji Previdnosti sem imel tudi dostop do nacionalnega TV kanala. Imel sem pet minut časa, da sem predstavil tukajšnje razmere. Bog daj, da bi bila uslišana moja prošnja, da bi se našli dobrotniki, ki bi nas podprli s semenskim krompirjem, z lesom za ostrešje, s krtino. Tukaj imamo velike težave pri lesu (za ostrešje, za kurjavo). Kjer živimo, ni lesa. Les za gradnjo kupujemo okrog 600 km daleč od kraja bivanja. Naša pokrajina je gola. Ljudje kurijo z iztrebki lam in ovc. No ja, vsakdo stori, kar se pač storiti da.

Deževje se že nekoliko umirja, naša cestna povezava z La Pazom je pa v obupnem stanju: namesto štirih ur vožnje, potrebujem vsaj devet ur v eno smer, ampak pride se pa le do cilja. Ko se bo deževje umirilo, bom moral začeti popravljati misijonsko hišo. Podtalni potok, ki se je pojavil pred kakšnim mesecem dni, neusmiljeno poplavlja misijonsko hišo in pa zakristijo cerkve v centru misijona. Dne 30. marca sem se kar dvakrat zbudil ponoči v kakšnih 15 cm vode v hiši. Ker se je to zgodilo že v dveh mesecih, ne vem, kolikokrat sem že pravi strokovnjak za odmetavanje vode. Naš problem je, da so hiše narejene iz posušene prsti. In ko se zidaki iz prsti navlažijo, se hiše sesedejo. Tudi hiša v centru misijona ni nobena izjema, narejena je iz zidakov iz prsti. Treba bo začeti misliti na kaj boljšega, trdnjšega.

Upam, da vas niso kaj preveč prestrašili oboroženi nemiri pri nas. Bilo je precej mrtvih v La Pazu, gorele so stolpnice, razbojniške tolpe so ropale banke. Hvala Bogu, sedaj je vse mirno. Naši ljudje so že navajeni na takšne oborožene spopade med vojsko in policijo, na rope. Sicer pa bomo imeli lazaristi veliko problemov zaradi neredov. V mestu El Alto so banditi popolnoma uničili stavbo, ki je bila sedež župana mesta z vso dokumentacijo vred. Pogoreli so nam vsi dokumenti o hišici, ki jo imamo v El Altu, in pa, kar bo še najbolj zapleteno, dokumenti o lastništvu majhnega kosa zemlje v El Altu za malo večjo centralno hišo lazaristov v Boliviji. Dokumenti, potrdila o plačilih, ki smo jih zbrali v štirih letih, so se v eni uri spremenili v dim. Pa smo zopet na začetku zapletene uradniške poti.

V Velikem tednu bomo imeli z misijonom v najbolj zaspanih skupnostih, kjer kraljujejo sekte, ki povzročajo razdore in prepire v že tako uničenih

družinah. Zadnje enotedensko pijančevanje je imela "lepe" posledice: dva štirinajstletnika je z nožem zaboljela šestnajstletni fant. Oba ranjenca sem zdravstveno oskrboval in sta sedaj že v dobrem stanju. Zlomljeni nosovi, eno uničeno oko in pa en srčni infarkt zaradi ropa. Indijanka, ki je stara okrog 80 let, je bila sama v hišici, ko so jo ponoči domačini napadli in hoteli oropati. Uboga starica že tako nima ničesar. Ministrantje so me opozorili, kaj se je zgodilo z ženičko. Takoj sem jo odpeljal do najbližnjega rešilca (pet ur pešačenja) in sem jo tudi spremljal do bolnice v El Alto. Se razume, da tukaj nima nihče nobenega zavarovanja in da bodo vsi stroški zdravljenja šli iz mojega žepa. Tukaj je pač tako. Sedaj sem zopet v El Altu in sem vesel, kajti uboga ženica bo preživela.

Še enkrat se vam zahvaljujem za vašo dobroto, katere so že deležni otroci in s katero bomo zdržali en mesec dni. Ženičko Emanuelo, ki so jo oropali, pa vam priporočam v vaših molitvah.

Vaš dolžnik Franci Pavlič, C.M.

Veselo veliko noč: pomagali ste tistim, ki so pozabljeni v stiskah, pomagali ste nositi Križanemu križ, trpljenje, osamljenost."

Zopet se je nekaj dobrotnikov oglasilo s svojim darom: M Cendol (v spomin pok. moža Jožeta) \$100; I. Pretnar \$300; N.N. \$50; M.S. Grdadolnik (za s. M. Sreš) \$50; Rev. T. Zrnec \$35; J. Prosen (po \$150 za Rev. J. Krmelj, za Rev. J. Mesec, za Rev. D. Lisjak, za otroke \$30, za pošto \$20) \$500; V.N. Tominec (v spomin +M. Marolt) \$20; A. Kristanc \$190; A.M. Lavriša \$125; N.N. (za dva bogoslovca in za vse) \$1200; V. Devine (za s. M. Pavličič) \$100; J. Cozza (za s. Pavličič) \$100; N.N. (za salezijance) \$200; G. Horn (za Rev. J. Horn \$200, za vse \$100) \$300; J. Mraz (za Rev. P. Opeka \$100, za Rev. L. Tomažin \$100) \$200; N.N. \$2116.

Iskrena vam hvala, dobrotniki, za vaš dar, ki ste ga namenili za misijone, posebno še dobrotniki iz Euclida. Bog vam vsem povrni s svojim blagoslovom. V misijonih se stalno spominjajo dobrotnikov pri molitvah in sv. mašah, pa tudi mi v zaledju prosimo nebeškega Očeta za Njegov blagoslov, da naj pride na vse vas!

Letošnji misijonski piknik bo dva tedna preje kot druga leta. Piknik bo na praznik sv. Petra in Pavla, 29. junija, ko v Sloveniji posvečujejo novomašnike. Tudi naš podpiranec Dejan bo prejel mašniško posvečenje in to v Mariboru. Na pikniku se bomo pri sv. maši spomnili na našega novomašnika in prosili nebeškega Očeta, naj mu da potrebne milosti, da bo zvesto vodil duše proti večnosti.

Prav lep misijonski pozdrav od vseh sodelujočih!

Marica Lavriša
1004 Dillewood Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44119

Hrušev ožig

(nadaljevanje s str. 15)

Žirem, od koder bi njegovo nadaljnje širjenje utegnili uničiti nasade jablan in hrušk na Severnem Primorskem.

Med novimi, skupno že 50 žarišči v 31 krajih, sta tudi Reteče in Podreča. Fitosanitarnim, gozdarskim in kmetijskim inšpektorjem bakterije na škofjeloškem območju tako ni uspelo zadržati na desnem bregu potoka Žabnica.

O okužbi poročajo tudi iz Spodnjih Bitenj. Po pričakovanju so dežurne ekipe ožgane in ukrivljene liste sadnih dreves opazile tudi v Cerkljah na Gorenjskem. Tako je zdaj okuženo skoraj celotno območje med Radovljico in Kamnikom.

Delo fax, 8. junija 2003

Novi grobovi

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

Alice O. Baber

Umrla je 95 let stara Alice O. Baber iz Wickliffa, rojena Zehel, vdova po Franku, hčerka Franka in Mary (r. Malavasic) Zehel (oba pok.), sestra Alberta, Edwarda, Franka, Victorja, Emme Zehel in Mary Resek (vsi že pok.). Pogreb je bil 11. junija s sv. mašo v cerkvi Our Lady of Mt. Carmel v Wickliffu, s pokopom na pokopališču Kalvarijske v Lorainu, O.

Frank J. Lekan

Umrl je 86 let stari Frank J. Lekan iz Independence, O., mož Luelle, roj. Stoddard, oče Steve-a, Tom-a, Edwarda in Tonyja, 4-krat stari oče, brat Johna in Rosie Koman (oba že pok.), zaposlen 46 let pri Ryerson & Son Steel Co. Pogreb je bil 9. junija s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Mihaela na Brecksville Rd. s pokopom na pokopališču Mapleshade.

Walter M. Vicic

Umrl je 74 let stari Walter M. Vicic, mož Lorette, roj. Tomco, oče Laure in Michaela, brat Dorothy Stark, Florence Mirel in že pok. Anamae Bizily, 14-krat stric, veteran korejske vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški vojski. Pogreb je bil 9. junija v oskrbi Ferfolijevega zavoda na Sagamore Hills s sv. mašo v cerkvi St. Barnabas in pokopom na pokopališču Northfield-Macedonia.

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 povrnen 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 _____

BRALCI
AMERIŠKE DOMOVINE
Priporočajte naš list!