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# AMERICAN HOME

## AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

### SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, AUGUST 16, 2001

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This picture is taken during their hike up to Velika Planina. This was a two-day hike. They spent the night in a little herding village then returned down the mountain the next day. Sara is on the left, Betsy Fon on the right.

## Summer School in Ljubljana

by BETSY FON

The idea of summer school always made me sick to my stomach. But not this summer. My sister Sara and I just returned from 4 weeks in Slovenia taking a language course at the University of Ljubljana. It was the opportunity of a lifetime.

We learned about the program from a friend of ours who lives in Ljubljana. We went straight to the travel agent and booked our flights. The school was amazing. Every day we went to class from 9 a.m. to 12:30 learning basic Slovene. In the afternoons we had the option of taking an elective course which focused on conversation skills and/or creative writing.

Sara and I didn't take the afternoon course so we were free every day until about 6. During that time we headed for the center of Ljubljana to shop, go to museums, visit the castle, and enjoy some fine Slovenian dining. We even enjoyed eating

horse-burgers at the famous HOT HORSE restaurant. It sounds unappetizing, but it was actually pretty good.

Anyway, in the late afternoons the school offered extra curricular activities for the students to participate in. One night we listened to traditional folk music by a live band from Australia.

We learned how to cook *struklji*, an infamous Slovene food.

Other nights we went to art museums, on tours of the architecture in Ljubljana, and even watched a Slovene film. Each night was something new and exciting for Sara and I to experience.

On the weekends we were even busier. Each Saturday we were offered the opportunity to go on "excursions." These were like big all day field trips that took us out of Ljubljana and into the rest of Slovenia. We visited a Roman burial site, the Rogaska Glass Factory, a venison farm, and a chocolate factory.

Another weekend we went rafting down the Soca

River, to the second largest mercury mine in the world, and mountain climbing. I did things that I never would have done here in Indiana. If you have never been to Indiana, it is pretty flat so mountain climbing is out of the question. We have a creek that runs through our neighborhood, but I don't think that it is ideal for rafting. Plus all the museums and sights to see were so numerous, we were there a month and still didn't get to see everything!

Sundays were our free days to do whatever we wanted. On these days Sara and I went to the seaside to visit Piran, Trieste, which is actually in Italy, but is still a Slovenian speaking town. It is also on the coast.

We also got to visit our family in Mozirje for the second time which was very nice. This time we could actually speak to them a little bit which was exciting for us both. We also visited family from my grandfather's side that we had lost touch with

(Continued on page 6)

## Cimperman Won't Run for Mayor of Cleveland

Cleveland City Councilman Joe Cimperman ended months of speculation by announcing he will not enter the crowded race for mayor.

Cimperman, whose \$150,000 war chest would have made him a strong contender, said he decided instead to seek a second four-year term as councilman for the downtown Ward 13.

"I feel there is still so much for me to do here in this ward, the largest geographic ward in the city," he said at an afternoon news conference outside his St. Clair Ave. ward office.

Two dozen supporters, wearing blue and yellow 'Cimperman' T-shirts,

cheered his decision. One fan, Avis V. Sanchez, said she doesn't want to lose the support that Cimperman lends to her Hijos De Borinquen Spanish-American Center.

Also pleased by Cimperman's decision are the people already in the race for mayor and those still considering bids.

Cimperman said he will eventually throw his support to the candidate whose positions mirror his own. Those positions, he said, include studying the closing of Burke Lakefront Airport for housing and park development, and giving police officers and firefighters better wages.

## Pope Accept Bishop Pevec's Resignation

Pope John Paul II appointed two auxiliary bishops for the Diocese of Cleveland, while also accepting the resignation of Auxiliary Bishop A. Edward Pevec.

The new auxiliary bishops are Father Martin J. Amos, pastor of St. Dominic Church, Shaker Heights, appointed Titular Bishop of Meta, and Right Reverend Roger W. Gries, OSB, Abbot of St. Andrew Abbey, Cleveland, who was named Titular Bishop of Presidio.

Bishop Pevec, 75, has been Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland since 1982.

Archbishop Gabriel

Montalvo, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, made the announcements.

Bishop Pevec was born on April 16, 1925 in the St. Vitus neighborhood of Cleveland. He studied at John Carroll University, Western Reserve University, and St. Mary's Seminary, and was ordained a priest on April 29, 1950. He was appointed Titular Bishop of Mercia and Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland on April 18, 1982. He was ordained on July 2, 1982.

However, at the present time Bishop A. Edward Pevec is still active and maintaining a full schedule.

## Petkovsek Airs 3-Hour Special Polka Show

Cleveland radio personality Tony Petkovsek will present a special 3-hour "40<sup>th</sup> Radio Anniversary Program" on Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from noon until 3 p.m. on WELW 1330 AM locally, and worldwide on the Internet at WELW.com.

This commemorative broadcast with the top 40

polka radio hits will be available in a limited edition double CD recording.

A sold-out celebration takes place at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue on Saturday evening following a 5 p.m. Polka Mass at St. Vitus.

## 2 H.O.L.L.A.N.D. is Forever

by RUDY FLIS

It began at 9:30 a.m., at 3545 W. 54 Street, Cleveland, Ohio. God blessed our union at Mass in St. Boniface Church. The year was 1955. The date was August 20<sup>th</sup>.

It was a perfect time in my life. I was marrying the girl of my dreams, and my mom and all my sisters and brothers were at Mass looking on. Could it get any better? The answer is yes.

As our marriage gained years, our family gained children, and I gained knowledge. Knowledge of what a special partner God had blessed me with. You have learned from my past thoughts what my wife, Therese, means to me and our children.

A few days away is another anniversary. Yes, the anniversaries are better each year, for we are still together also speaking to each other.

As I enjoy the blessings of a wonderful marriage, my spirit is forever happy. Yet one part of my wedding Mass sometimes haunts me as I recall our special day.

My mom is gone, as are my sisters Aggie, Fran and Mary. My brothers Mickey and Matt have also died. I do miss each of them. Each was a part of my life.

If only my mom could have seen just one of our children from this blessed union. I guess I could go on

and on and just feel sorry for myself.

Our reception was at J.D.N. Hall and there was one special picture taken. The picture was of Therese and I with my mom between us, and we are surrounded by all my brothers and sisters. I had it all, and for three months more, until my mom died.

But really, today I have it all, the past, the present and the future. As my mom watched Therese and I marry, so I have watched my children marry. And just maybe I will watch my grandchildren marry.

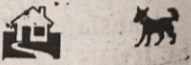
On August 20<sup>th</sup>, as we celebrate our anniversary by eating a good meal, and my tummy is pleased to all heck with the good food, I will remember that Therese wrote me every day I was in the Army. On the back of her envelopes was the word "H.O.L.L.A.N.D." Holland is a country, but our H.O.L.L.A.N.D. was an abbreviation for "How Our Love Lasts And Never Dies."

Therese was very young, very pretty and she liked me when she printed that on the backside of the envelope she sent to me.

Now I tell Therese what a handsome woman she is and how happy I am that she still loves me.

Thank you Lord for H.O.L.L.A.N.D.

## † Mlakar's Walk Down Memory Lane



By RAY MŁAKAR

Well, for one thing, the warmer weather is here and for a while I guess we all thought that it would never get here. With the warm weather comes one of Ray's jokes.

It seems that a city slicker's car broke down in the country. While he was under the hood of the car trying to fix the problem, he heard a low voice say, "It's the fuel pump." The fellow looked around and only saw an old horse in a nearby pasture. As he put his head under the hood, he again heard the voice, "I said it's the fuel pump." He turned to the horse and asked, "Was that you?"

"Yes," the horse answered, "I told you to check the fuel pump." Stunned, the man ran to the nearby farm house and asked the farmer if that was his horse. When the farmer answered yes, the

city slicker said, "That horse could be worth a fortune." When the fellow related how the horse told him to check the fuel pump, the farmer said, "Don't pay any attention to him. He doesn't know the first thing about fixing cars."

Well, the school days are over, sorry to say, and now just a pleasant memory. To get off my general track of writing, it boils my butt to think what has become of the schools today. It seems that not a day goes by that we do not pick up the paper and read of some shooting, killing going on in some school. Just recently it stated they were looking for teachers to come from India to teach schools here. "That will be the day." It seems time and time again all one hears is, "This is a different world today." You bet it is and "we" let it become a different world today.

When we senior citizens went to school, there was no such thing as "metal detectors" at the entrance to the schools. There were no hidden cameras monitoring the activity in the hallways. There were no police stationed in and around the school.

There were no teacher's aides. The teacher or the nun was the one and only who held the class together. From

the very start, they let it be known that no misbehavior would be tolerated, period.

If a teacher or the nun in high school whacked a kid for a misbehavior or talking back, she or he did not fear that she would hear from the parents saying, "You hit my kid." In a lot of cases, if we went home and told our parents that the teacher whacked us, the parents would whack us again. To begin with, when we went to school, our parents dressed us for the part. Blue jeans, overalls, swear shirts with dirty sayings on it, would not even be thought of to wear to school. Each kid looked like they were dressed for college and now even college kids are dressed like they are going to the playground.

(To Be Continued)

### Fr. Gallagher Celebrates 40<sup>th</sup>

Rev. Gallagher will celebrate his 40<sup>th</sup> Jubilee at a Mass in St. Philip Neri Church, 82<sup>nd</sup> and St. Clair Ave., Cleveland at 9 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>.

A reception will follow.

For more information call the church - Sister Wilma at (216) 431-2583.

The American Home, the newspaper the elite seek to read.



In Australia, Labor Day is called Eight Hour Day and commemorates the successful struggle for a shorter working day.

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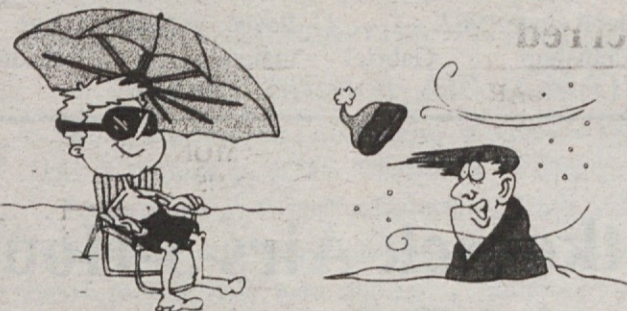
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### 100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

#### SUMMER FUN

Find the eleven (11) words associated with summer fun in the below printed word-finder. Send the results to the editor of American Home. First ten correct entries will be sent a "fun prize" to remember the Summer of 2001. Good Luck!

R	D	K	P	B	K	K	T	E	Q	D	C	B	R	E	T	A	W
B	E	B	O	A	T	X	P	K	E	Z	K	R	J	L	F	N	D
S	V	M	Q	D	A	Y	C	W	P	S	H	B	O	A	Z	N	G
Z	V	K	M	F	M	X	V	R	W	S	F	C	C	K	Q	B	E
O	K	T	V	U	S	H	P	Z	B	F	Y	R	P	E	H	Z	Z
L	X	M	S	R	S	I	S	A	Z	J	W	F	A	L	K	L	L
M	J	O	K	C	C	L	S	J	T	R	Z	I	N	J	P	M	K
I	C	K	P	N	A	E	F	B	B	G	R	U	T	K	Y	R	V
A	E	R	I	D	B	A	C	K	L	A	J	E	M	F	D	I	B
J	V	C	O	A	L	S	V	A	J	R	D	R	I	Q	M	P	H
I	D	L	L	O	Y	J	A	A	M	A	D	D	L	S	C	D	P
Z	E	L	R	X	K	U	E	V	T	P	J	S	B	X	U	A	J
D	Y	W	G	G	W	M	R	N	D	S	I	H	U	U	U	A	C
V	D	R	K	T	M	I	J	W	S	D	I	N	U	Q	M	U	R
N	S	J	Z	L	T	C	G	H	N	H	S	R	G	D	Y	K	X
K	A	R	D	R	I	T	E	N	K	A	K	U	P	J	H	I	A
T	R	A	V	E	L	P	L	T	M	T	X	O	V	Z	W	J	R
I	S	E	C	K	F	Q	F	L	C	I	H	X	H	C	A	E	B

# Escape from Communism

by ANTON ZAKELJ,  
translated and edited  
by JOHN ZAKELJ (2001)

We are deeply grateful to the American Home for publishing the story of our first years in America. Some of our readers have asked, "Why did you leave Slovenia? How did you come to America? How did you go from being a business manager in Slovenia to a manual laborer in America?"

In 1995, American Home published "The Liberation of Ziri," which presented my diary from January to October, 1943. It describes life in my hometown of Ziri, Slovenia under German occupation and my experience as a German hostage when the Germans left Ziri on October 23, 1943. We now pick up where that article ended:

**Sunday, Oct. 24, 1943**

Yesterday, the German army left Ziri, but they took me and seven other men from our village with them - as hostages. They made sure that all the villagers understood that, if a single shot was fired at the retreating Germans, they would immediately shoot me and the other hostages. When the Germans took me at gunpoint early yesterday, my fiancée Cilka, cried. She thought she would never see me again.

The Germans kept their machine guns pointed at me and the other hostages all day as they prepared for departure. They mobilized all transport vehicles from the entire Poljansko Valley, drove to our shoemakers' workshops and filled the vehicles with about 30,000 pairs of shoes and a large quantity of good quality leather. (Shoemaking is our village's main industry.)

At 6:30 p.m., we were marched into a bus which then left as part of a German convoy. As we passed our family home, I heard my father praying the rosary for me.

Not far from town, the convoy drove past a ravine that could be a good location for a partisan (communist) ambush. The sweat started steaming down my face. But there was no ambush and the convoy continued on. As we got further away from Ziri, I worried that the partisans in that area had not heard the German warning and might not know that we were hostages in the convoy. But again, not a shot was fired. Around 10 p.m., the Germans finally let us go. We found a family that let us sleep in their barn overnight. The next morning (today),

we found someone who gave us a ride back to Ziri. We arrived just as people were leaving the church.

We were warmly welcomed today, but attention soon shifted to our new reality. Ziri is now under the control of the local communist partisans. There really is no government in Yugoslavia, so our town is now its own republic. Will Ziri become the workers' paradise promised by the communists?

A few months ago, Milan Zakelj, the local partisan polit-komisar, talked with me for hours about how wonderful everything would be when they take over. "When we win, we will plant pine trees all over Zirovski hill... When we win, we will plant potatoes on the field by the Sora, and they will be the best potatoes in the world... When we win, we'll move all the peasants into factories, that is, in their vicinity... In the beginning, they will be mad at us, but when they realize that they can earn in eight hours in the factory more than in 16 on the farm, they'll be grateful."

I didn't believe him. I knew what communism was - a Utopia which had already claimed millions of lives in Russia. In our own area, the communists have killed innocent people.

(To Be Continued)

## Maple-Newburgh Meetings

The August picnic meeting is at Stanton Park, off Libby Road at noon on Wednesday, Aug. 22. Attendance prize is \$50.

The September meeting will be at the Slovenian National Home, 3563 E. 80<sup>th</sup> Street, off Union Avenue at noon on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Slovenians "R" Us!



This is our home village of Ziri, Slovenia, located in a beautiful valley surrounded by the spruce-covered foothills of the Julian Alps, midway between the Italian border and Ljubljana. In 1943, Ziri was home to about 3,500 people. This picture is from a postcard which was sent to America in 1953.

## Who is a Nazi Collaborator?

The following letter was sent to His Excellency Davorin Kracun, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia, in Washington, D.C.:  
Excellency:

During the interview which the U.S. Ambassador Designate, Johnny Young, gave to Slovenian journalists and TV on August 8, Delo's current correspondent in New York, Ervin Hladnik Milharic insinuated that American citizens who claim property restitution under the Denationalization Act of 1991 might be Nazi collaborators. This insinuation was then widely reported in the Slovenian press (Delo, Dnevnik, and Vecer of Aug. 9).

Since similar representations were made on Dec. 17, 1999 by the then Slovenian ambassador Dimitrij Rupel to Christopher Hill, Senior

Director for European Affairs, National Security Council, and probably on other occasions, we have reason to believe that these slanders are inspired by the Slovenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MZZ).

Would you please provide us with a list showing which U.S. citizens claiming property restitution in Slovenia were, in the opinion of your government, Nazi collaborators.

Unless I hear from you, it will be my understanding that there are no Nazi collaborators among the U.S. citizens whose property was expropriated by the former Slovenian communist regime.

Very truly yours,  
Vladislav Bevc, Ph.D.  
American Owners of  
Property in Slovenia

## Pristava Campers Dinner

Slovenska Pristava Campers invite everyone to attend their annual dinner on Saturday, Sept. 15. Children's games begin at 4 p.m., followed by dinner at 6 p.m.

Dinner choices include steak (\$15) or chicken (\$12). Live and recorded entertainment.

Tickets from members or by calling Terry Vogel at 216-529-0579.

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## Slovenian Money Exchange

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# Slovenia: Unheralded Gem on the Adriatic

by FRANK BRUNI  
New York Times

Standing in the turret of a hilltop castle, leaning with a sigh of bliss against a stone parapet, I took in the old part of the city: curving cobblestone alleys and avenues; a dark river that traced a slender crease between centuries-old buildings; handsome plazas with statues and fountains; a patchwork of red-tiled roofs. I could have been in Italy, or maybe even France.

Looking into the distance, toward the horizon, I saw verdant hills rise into the continent's most majestic mountains: the stony, vertiginous Alps. I could have been in Austria, or maybe even Switzerland.

But there was something wrong with this picture; something different, something missing. Only two other tourists stood beside me, there were precious few below me, and I was not feeling nervous about the money I was spending, because everything was relatively cheap: the restaurants, the hotels, the taxis, the trinkets. These were the welcome, telltale signs that I was in another, less traveled country, an arguably more hospitable place.

I had come to Slovenia; yes, Slovenia. If you do not really know where it is or what it is or why someone might linger there, you may be comforted somewhat (although not, I would bet, all that much) to learn that president Bush, until recently, was in the same boat. During the presidential campaign, he rather famously confused Slovenia with Slovakia, an altogether different place. And yet Slovenia ended up being the fifth and last country Bush visited on his first overseas trip as

president in June. I arrived with him; and then, my curiosity piqued, stayed after he left.

What I discovered over the next six days was nearly the full bounty of Europe packed into a succinct swath of mountains, lakes and Adriatic coastline, topped off by the gorgeous and entirely cosmopolitan capital of Ljubljana, where that river and those plazas mingle. It was the best of Europe without the worst of Europe; the hassle, the crush, the sinking feeling of watching something grand and authentic turned into a gaudy, unruly, costly theme park.

Even in June, locals handily outnumbered visitors, and I walked the streets and drove the roads with the giddy, beaming sensation that I had stumbled onto a secret. I was not at all sure that I wanted to tell.

Slovenia was once a republic in the federation of Yugoslavia, and it occupied the northwest corner of that former country, sharing a border with Austria to the north and Italy to the west. When Yugoslavia shattered more than a decade ago, it was other shards that drew notice, and not for happy reasons. Americans read plenty about Kosovo, Bosnia, Serbia and Macedonia, and what they learned hardly recommended travel to those places. But wealthier Slovenia, now an independent country, went its less turbulent way; its profile humble, its gentle rhythms undisturbed, its attractions largely unheralded beyond neighboring countries.

What an oversight. There is little you might seek in Europe that Slovenia, which has only about two million people and covers an area roughly comparable in size to Wales or Ireland, could

not provide, and that it could not provide a more pleasant, peaceful fashion.

You want castles? Slovenia has hundreds of them, including Predjama Castle, near Postojna, less than an hour's drive from Ljubljana. Predjama is as dramatically situated as any castle you have ever seen; a white 16<sup>th</sup>-century fortress literally clinging to the side of a perfectly vertical cliff high in the mountains.

Some friends and I found our way there along pristine roads so well marked, and so barren of traffic, that it would have taken a concerted effort to get lost. And we arrived to find most of the merely two dozen or so parking spaces empty and not a tour bus in sight. We sat alone at a picnic table that afforded the perfect viewpoint in silence broken only by wind and birdsong.

You want hills tumbling to a royal blue sea? Slovenia can do that, too, even though the stretch of the Adriatic that belongs to it is only about 30 miles long. There are no truly wide, respectable beaches here, but there are old, labyrinthine cities like Piran, which has Venetian Gothic architecture and nestles close against the water. Because you are at the apex of the Adriatic, on the narrow curve where Italy becomes Slovenia and Slovenia then becomes Croatia, you can see across a carpet of blue distant hills and, on a clear day like the one when I was there, one can see even more distant mountains, sometimes dusted with snow.

You want open-air cafes? Ljubljana has scores of them. The local residents fill them in the morning to drink cappuccino, in the evening to drink respectable (and cheap) Slovenian wine and

tasty (and cheap) Slovenian beer, and at various points in between to eat their beloved *gelato* (ice cream). You cannot walk more than 25 yards through the center of Ljubljana without running into yet another gelato stand, and late into the night the lines are a dozen people long.

You want shopping? Ljubljana again obliges, not with the high style of Paris or Rome, but with its own delights, like mid-range Italian shoes at low-range prices. There are no statistics to back this up, but I would wager that Ljubljana has more shoe stores per capita than any other city, and I admit that my friend Anne and I sampled a good many of them. A fun and funky pair of men's shoes runs between \$40 and \$75; easily half the price that a similar pair would cost in the United States; and women's shoes run from \$20 to \$60. Yes, I snapped up one or two; O.K., four pairs, allowing me to interact fully with local shop-keepers and take an accurate measure of the courtesy of Slovenians.

They are as friendly and helpful as any people I have met. One of the benefits of traveling through a country that would like to have more tourists than it does is the warmth of your reception, and I was constantly startled and moved by the politeness I encountered.

One night Anne, another friend and I were running late and called a restaurant on Lake Bled to see if it would keep its kitchen,

which usually closed at 10 p.m., open just a bit longer than that. By the time we arrived, at 10:10 p.m., we were the only people there. No matter: they made and served us our meals at a leisurely pace, and when they overheard us say that the lighting was awfully bright, the chandeliers were instantly turned off.

We dined in the softer light of the small fixtures along the walls and drank until after 1 a.m. When Anne and I asked the reception clerk at the hotel housing the restaurant if he could call a taxi to take us to our own hotel, which was about two miles away, we learned that it was too late. He promptly and eagerly went to fetch his own car, gave us a ride and accepted a tip only after we threatened to bludgeon him with recently purchased Italian footwear if he did not.

In Ljubljana I left the indoor light in my rented Volkswagen Passant on and awoke one morning to find the battery dead. An Avis representative came to my rescue in less than a half hour and graciously said nothing about my culpability in the unfortunate turn of events until the moment we were parting company. Even then, he seemed pained.

"Not to blame you," he said in halting English. "Not to say anything bad. The lights; you must turn them off."

The friendliness of Slovenians, many of whom speak at least a modicum of

(Continued on page 5)

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# Unheralded Gem on the Adriatic

(Continued from page 4)

English, and the lack of tourists are only two of the reasons it is so pleasant to navigate Slovenia. It is one of the cleanest, most orderly, most efficient countries I have visited, the result, perhaps, of its Bavarian lineage. Slovenia was, for much of its history, ruled by the Hapsburg dynasty. The highways are immaculate, and they even have their own version of E-ZPass to speed Slovenes through the tolls.

The grasses beside the roadways and the landscaping outside buildings are impeccably maintained; I never heard and saw more lawn mowers and week wackers in my life.

Well organized, nicely stocked grocery stores are fairly easy to find, and nobody troubles himself too much with demanding that a visitor have Slovenian money at the ready. Taxi drivers were happy to accept American dollars and to figure out a reasonable exchange rate on the spot. Automated teller machines with reliable links to American banks are everywhere.

Although there are pleasant destinations throughout Slovenia, including a wine region in the northeast, I confined myself to the western band of the country, which is the most mountainous and prettiest, using Ljubljana as a base. From here, neither the highest Alpine peaks nor any of the towns on the coast, Piran with its labyrinth-like alleys, has the most Old World charm; is more than a two-hour drive. Staying in Ljubljana and taking day trips was a perfect way to keep from constantly packing and unpacking. You could easily do this for a week or longer without getting bored, but a stay of two weeks might buck up against the bounds of things to do.

Only one of my jaunts proved disappointing, and that was a trip to the celebrated caves in Postojna, where tourists are corralled into a nearly two-hour adventure by train and on foot. Flitting past one ice-like formation of limestone after

another, I realized that while a creepy, craggy cave is almost always a good thing, you can indeed get too much of it.

You are also not going to be wowed by the food you eat in Slovenia. Some of the local dishes: Karst ham, fried cheese with tartar sauce, more trout than you can shake a fishing pole at; are not about to appear on Manhattan menus, but you can, thanks to the country's proximity to Italy, almost always find decent pizza and passable pasta.

I had a delicious spaghetti carbonara in a restaurant in Ljubljana named Prima Donna, which also captured the local tendency to get a bit carried away with the names of dishes. The theme there was divas, broadly interpreted. Appetizers included the Bette Davis and Brigitte Bardot salads and the Golda Meir vegetable soup, while entrees included the Maria Callas fusilli, the Gertrude Stein spaghetti, the Evita Peron risotto and the Frida Kahlo duck breasts. I kept looking for the Sharon Stone tenderloin.

But do not let that tendency cast Ljubljana as provincial. A lively arts scene includes a local opera company, an orchestra and a music festival that runs all summer long and fills the streets with all manner of song. Walking to dinner one night, I passed a stage where Miriam Makeba was giving a free performance to no more than 100 people in a city park not unlike Washington Square in Greenwich Village. Walking back to my hotel two nights later, I had to push my way through thousands of Slovenes gathered to hear a local pop band in the same place.

I did a lot of walking, and in Ljubljana, as in most European capitals, that was the most fun of all. Although not all of this relatively compact metropolis of about 330,000 people holds interest, the old part of the city, which lies at the center, does, and its most picturesque streets lie along the Ljubljanica River, which is latticed with stone bridges and hemmed by weeping

willows.

The buildings here include Renaissance, Secessionist and Art Nouveau masterpieces. If the interiors of the churches are not as grand and ornate as those elsewhere in Europe, the exteriors are sublime, and the palette of the old city: mustard yellow, pale green and terra-cotta red, is exceedingly easy on the eyes.

Right near the nucleus of all this beauty is a raucous open-air market in Vodnikov Trg (or square) And Stari Trg, which is more of a street than a square, offers the pleasure of stepping back centuries in time only to discover up-to-the-minute shopping, including L'Occitane and Fossil stores, and sleek, minimalist bars that might have been designed by Ian Schrager. If you walk from Stari Trg up Gornji Trg and hang a left just before the Church of St. Florian, you will find a narrow, steep pathway up to Ljubljana Castle that offers a superb view of the city.

The bad news is that you cannot fly direct to Ljubljana from any American city; you have to connect. But once you land, any inconveniences will be forgotten, because there are no more in store. Imagine a modern airport so compact and user-friendly that the rental car counter is just a few steps from the gate and your car is brought to the curb. And imagine a setting for the airport so picturesque that you find yourself tempted to sit for a few minutes at the sidewalk café out front, because there is so little bustle and it provides a sumptuous view of the foothills of the Alps. Slovenia is that charmed. Because it remains, for now, unspoiled, it guarantees that you will be delighted.

Frank Bruni is a White House correspondent for The Times.

## St. Jude Parish Festival

On Sunday, Sept. 2 St. Jude Parish, 590 Poplar Street, Elyria, Ohio will be having their annual Festival and Chicken BBQ dinner on the parish grounds from 12 noon until 9 p.m. There are activities for all ages and plenty of food.

The pastor is the Rev. Frank P. Kosem.

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# Visiting Slovenia

The prettiest regions of Slovenia have distinct seasons, so visitors should time their trips according to their tastes. In winter there is plenty of snow and a number of good ski runs in the Alps. Spring and fall are pleasant, while July and August are Slovenia's most crowded months (though the crush of tourists is never like that encountered in Florence or Barcelona).

United States citizens need a valid passport but not a visa. The Lonely Planet series of travel books publishes a particularly good guide to Slovenia. For further information contact one of the travel agencies who advertise in this newspaper.

## Getting There

There are no direct commercial flights from the United States to Slovenia. Travelers are most likely to be routed through London, Munich or Frankfurt, Zurich, Paris or Vienna. The second leg of the flight, from another European capital to Ljubljana, is most likely to be on Adria Airways.

Ljubljana is only about 180 miles from Vienna and 115 miles from Venice.

## Getting Around

By far the fastest and most efficient way to get around Slovenia is by car. Major American car rental agencies including Hertz, Avis and National have counters both at the airport outside Ljubljana and in the city, and reservations can be made through the companies American offices.

## Where to Stay

So much of what a visitor would want to do or see in Slovenia is accessible, in just a drive of an hour or two from Ljubljana, that it makes sense to stay there. Perhaps at one of these hotels:

**Grand Hotel Union**  
There are about 230 rooms in this gorgeous Art Nouveau building built in 1905. And the location, amid a cluster of similar architectural masterpieces in the older part of the city, is unbeatable. Rates: about \$135 a night, prices can fluctuate, dropping in winter.

**Hotel Slon Best Western**  
This 171 room hotel also has a terrific location, on a busy, modern block along the periphery of the old city and near dozens of stores. It is several grades above the typical American Best Western, with very comfortable, modern rooms, and as a bonus, a row of parking spaces that are often available free.

Rates: \$103 to \$118 a night in summer; including breakfast.

**Lev Inter-Continental**  
With 173 rooms, this is probably the most contemporary and upscale of Ljubljana's hotels, but it is situated a few blocks farther from the old city, in a more nondescript patch of the city's business center.

Rooms are about \$175 in summer, less with special summer rates and in other seasons.

Thanks to Stan Osenar and John Vidmar for faxing this information.

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# Four Decades of Dedication

TONY PETKOVSEK

Four decades daily has certainly established a milestone or institution in the community. Forty years of *daily* nationality radio programming with the unprecedented support of business, fraternal, cultural and civic areas brings us to almost 40 years of annual polka dance parties on Thanksgiving weekend, possible with the cooperation and the volunteer assistance of our Radio Club, for 30 some years headed by John Pestotnik until he retired several years ago.

There is still a good and strong handful of devotees who were with us when we began in the early 60's, people like Albina Mrsnik, Aggie Flanders, Bertha Dovgan and Al and Ronnie Pestotnik. The proceeds from these November functions have always supported the radio program directly since we always have guaranteed the stations we were on, financial remuneration, for the average 12 hours a week we've brokered shows. We were never hired to do a polka/Slovenian show and always had to seek our own sponsors in addition to the proceeds from functions we sponsored.

A certain sense of accomplishment can be noted in the fact that our daily radio shows on WELW AM

WELW.com / 247 polka-heaven.com are now officially the longest running daily polka programs anywhere! It's been 40 years on the air with the WXEN, WZAK, WBOE, NBN, WCPN, WELW airwaves and in the last few years on the Internet, too. 30 out of the 40 years have been done on location on E. 185 Street - 20 at Tony's Polka Village and the last 10 at Kollander World Travel.

It's been an experience of unquestioned loyalty by our colleagues and the listening public. Perhaps the most important feature has been the Community News segments serving as kind of a pulse for the community for activity updates including the sad death notices. The news from Slovenia is translated for us by former Voice of America correspondent Paul Borstnik and reported in Slovenian twice-weekly by Duke Marsic. Alice Kuhar continues with her long-running recipe and tradition features and Patty Sluga, a monthly in-depth interview with the "Women behind the scenes."

Joey Tomsick's smiling personality is as pleasant on the air as it is on the bandstand. Probably the day with the most attention span is Monday from 4 until 5 when listeners call in their "polka opinions."

Musically, we've tried to blend the old with the new

American polka music and the beautiful selections from Slovenia and leaving a little time daily for music "from our different music department" and yes we feature music from CD's, cassettes, LP's and 45's, reel tape and the latest mini disc technology, plus even live music occasionally from one of the two live mikes in our own studio.

2001 is indeed a 20 (WELW) - 40 (on the air) - 60 (on earth) year for us and grand celebrations are scheduled in August and November. The August 18 event takes us back to our St. Clair - St. Vitus neighborhood roots plus the Slovenian National Home where Thanksgiving parties took place until 1981. It was in '82 we moved to the larger one-day facilities of St. Joseph High auditorium at E. 185 and Lakeshore, and then the "new for the nineties" we took the giant leap downtown to the former Stouffer's hotel for two years and the last 10 years at the excellent Marriott at Key Center. It now is part of a popular classy weekend festival that also involves the Polka Hall of Fame on the Saturday of Thanksgiving.

I'm very fortunate to have the loyal friendships, sponsors, and the following. - It is indeed like family.

--Tony Petkovsek



Tony Petkovsek



This is the girls with their teacher after they received their certificates for attending the Slovenian Language program. Left to right, Betsy, Polona Libersar, and Sara Fon.

## Coming Events

**Saturday, Aug. 18**

Tony Petkovsek's 20-40-60 Party at Slovenian National Home, Cleveland.

**Saturday, Aug. 18**

St. Clair Rifle Club, 6599 Ravenna Road, Concord, Ohio Steak Dinner. Serving from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Music by Veseli Godci. For tickets please call Richard Beck 440-942-4025.

**Sunday, Aug. 19**

St. Mary's (Collinwood) parish picnic at Slovenska Pristava. Roast beef/chicken dinner served after 12:15 a.m. Mass. Dinner tickets for adults are \$10, children \$5. Food and refreshments throughout the day, children's games, music by Veseli Godci.

**Saturday, Aug. 25**

Kres Dancers at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair, Cleveland.

**Sept. 1 - 2**

St. Vitus Parish Homecoming Days on parish grounds, 6019 Glass Ave.,

Cleveland. Dinners, games and music.

**Sunday, Sept. 2**

St. Jude Parish, 590 Popular Street, Elyria, Ohio will be holding their annual Festival and Chicken BBQ dinner on the parish grounds from 12 noon until 9 p.m. There are activities for all ages and plenty of food. Rev. Frank P. Kosem is pastor. Everyone welcome!

**Saturday, Sept. 15**

Slovenska Pristava Campers annual dinner. Children's games begin at 4 p.m., followed by dinner at 6. Choices include steak (\$15) or chicken (\$12). Live and recorded entertainment. Tickets from members or call Terry Vogel at 216-529-0579.

**Sunday, Sept. 16**

Wine festival (Veseli Godci) at Slovenska Pristava.

**Sunday, Sept. 16**

Collinwood Slovenian Home Music Fest from 2

p.m. on, featuring Jeff and John Pecon.

**Saturday, Sept. 22**

Bishop Baraga celebration at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Lansing, Mich. Slide presentation at 5:30; Czech and Slovenian dancers at 6; Slovenian Mass at 7; reception with Slovenian food & music at 8.

**Sunday, Sept. 23**

Bishop Baraga celebration at St. Mary's Cathedral, Lansing, Mich. English Mass at 4 p.m. Banquet at 6 p.m. in Holiday Inn South Convention Center. Banquet tickets \$20. Contact Dick & Judy Bellant, 1740 Bluegrass, Lansing, MI 48906 or call 1-517-482-2996.

**Wednesday, Sept. 26**

SNH, St. Clair Annual Social.

**Wednesday, Oct. 3**

Slovenian Pensioners of Euclid Annual Reverse Raffle at the Slovenian Society Home on Recher Avenue in Euclid.

### Summer School...

(Continued from page 1)

over the years. Lots of pictures were taken and lots of food was eaten during those visits.

Outside of the school, Ljubljana is a great town. It was very safe and everyone is very friendly and helpful. On days when our activities would be done early, we would go out to the pubs and eateries and even had time to do some traveling. One day we hopped a bus to Bled to visit the castle and island there. The bus system over in Slovenia is very convenient and easy to use.

We took lots of pictures and I still can't believe that I was there for a month. It went by very fast but it was the best time of my life. Going with my sister gave us

a lot of time to spend together and being with her when we went to visit family made it very special for us as well as our family back here in Indiana.

We met many new people from all over the world and made friends that we will keep for a very long time. People from Austria and Italy, Germany and Argentina, Hungary and even Japan. So many different people all in one place learning Slovene. Who would have thought that such a small country could draw such a big crowd.

Like I said before, it was the chance of a lifetime to go and study in Slovenia and if I had the chance, I would do it again in a heartbeat. It felt just like home.

*Slovenija je moja dežela.*  
Betsy and Sara Fon  
Brownsburg, IN

## Death Notices

### ANGELA LUZAR

Friends and relatives are invited to join the family of Angela Luzar on Friday, August 17 at 9 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, 15519 Holmes Ave., prior to the Mass at 10 a.m.

Angela was 22 years old. She was tragically lost on Sunday, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> as she was beginning her life after graduating from Piedmont College in Georgia.

Angie will be forever cherished by her parents, Anne (Urankar) and Ernie Luzar. She is also survived by her brother, Ernie Luzar, and fiancé Dustin Welborn; dearest grandparents: Frank and Antonia Urankar and Ernie and Gladys Luzar; her aunts and uncles; Kathy and Dave Majni, Joe and Sue Urankar, Jim and Toni Robinetto, and Frank and Debbie Urankar. She will be forever remembered by her cousins: Alex, Greg, Brian, Jimmy, Katie, and Kristy.

Burial will be in All Souls Cemetery.

Please omit flowers; donations to St. Mary Church Endowment Fund in her memory would be appreciated by her family.

### ELEANOR KARPINSKI

Eleanor Karpinski (nee Gasiewski), 86, passed away at the home of her daughter Tina Girod in Painesville, OH, on Saturday, Aug. 11, 2001.

Eleanor was born in Cleveland and lived in the St. Clair area for most of her life. From 1951-1970 she was the owner/operator of Karpinski's Tavern at E. 79<sup>th</sup> St.; from 1978 - 1982 she worked at Nosan's Bakery; from 1982-1990 she was the salad lady at the Country Grill (Red Barn) at E. 40<sup>th</sup>; from 1992-1996 she was the Label Lady at the Abt Family Business: Abtco in Newbury, OH.

Her final job, which she performed until her death, was affixing labels, stamps and filling envelopes for her daughter Tina, for the Cuyahoga County Funeral Directors Association monthly newsletter.

Eleanor was a third gen-

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Eleanor was the cherished mother of Tina (Antoinette) (husband, Sutton J.) Girod, Theresa Karpinski and Mary (husband Raymond) Abt; loving Kla of Jonathan and Jessica Abt; grandmother of Tango; sister of Julia (husband Raymond) Cwiklinski and Albin (deceased) (wife Dorothy) Gasiewski; aunt of 6 nephews; great aunt of 6 nieces and nephews.

Friends may call at Zele Funeral Home Friday, Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> from 2 - 9 p.m., where services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. Rev. Joseph Bacevice officiating.

Burial in Riverside Cemetery, Painesville, OH.

### In Memory

Thanks to **Vida Schoeneman** of Lakeland, FL who renewed her subscription plus added a \$20.00 donation in memory of her brother, **Frank Mihevc**. Vida says she loves to read the paper in both languages, especially the articles about beautiful Slovenia.

### In Memory

Thanks to **Mrs. Bogomir Glavan** of Millersport, OH who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a \$20.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Bogomir Glavan**.

### In Memory

Thanks to **Caroline Stefancic** of Willoughby, OH who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a \$10.00 donation in memory of the **Anthony Stefancic family**.

### Donation

Thanks to **Stanley Kodrin** of Willoughby Hills, OH who renewed his subscription plus enclosed an additional \$20.00 donation.

### Donation

Thanks to **M. L. Zupanic** of Broadview Hts., OH who renewed the American Home subscription plus enclosed a \$20.00 donation.

### Donation

Thanks to **Anonymous** of Euclid, Ohio for the donation of \$20.00

It's Cool To Be Slovenian

## This is news from the Euclid Pensioners

If you missed the Euclid Pensioners Picnic on Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, without a doubt you missed the best picnic of the summer. The friendly crowd was huge, and the food, prepared by Josie Cerer, was the best ever. No one will ever forget that delicious apple strudel.

Time passes, fall is almost here and with it comes our only fund-raiser, our annual Poor Man's Raffle which will be held on our usual meeting date, Wednesday, October 3, starting at 1 p.m. Tickets are only \$10 and entitle you to a light lunch, beverage, beer, and a chance to win the grand prize of \$500 and other prizes. Sideboards will be available for those who are looking for more chances to win. For tickets call Vida Strukel at 440-943-0512.

Hopefully some of you have been inspired to try out the Internet. There are so many great items there that you could spend all day just reading them and forwarding them on to your friends. The following is a message that was forwarded to me.

### God Grant Me The Senility...

God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway; the good fortune to run into the ones I

do, and the eyesight to tell the difference. Now that I am older, here is what I have discovered:

1.) I started out with nothing and I still have most of it.

2.) My wild oats have turned into prunes and All Bran.

3.) I finally got my head together; now my body is falling apart.

4.) Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.

5.) All reports are in - life is now officially unfair.

6.) If all is not lost, where is it?

7.) It is easier to get older than to get wiser.

8.) Some days you're the dog, and some days You're the hydrant.

9.) I wish the buck stopped here. I sure could use a few.

10.) Kids in the back seat cause accidents.

11.) Can't remember... read #4 again.

12.) It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.

13.) The only time the world beats a path to your door is when you're in the bathroom.

14.) If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would have put them on my knees.

15.) When I'm finally holding all the cards, why does everyone decide to play chess?

16.) It's hard to meet expenses; they're everywhere.

17.) The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.

18.) These days, I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter. I go somewhere to get something and then wonder what I'm here after.

Interesting, isn't it? Why not get email for yourself and get some items like this every day from your friends? You can't help but start your day with a smile.

There is sadness in life, too, as we say farewell to our members who have passed on to their final reward: Frances Kos, Edward Zarnick, Mary Jane Mramor, Molly Skrajner, and Joe Vislocky. May they rest in peace.

A Russian Orthodox priest officiated at the final rites for Joe Vislocky. What a lovely ceremony which, as the priest says, sings the soul to heaven! The homily was wonderful, uplifting, encouraging us to change our lives for the better.

Don't forget our Poor Man's Raffle. Make sure you get a ticket and not miss out on all the fun, food, and prizes. See you Oct. 3.

### Donation & Birth

Thanks to KSKJ regional sales manager **Kevin Ostrowski** who renewed his subscription plus added a \$10.00 donation. He says his wife gave birth on July 11 to their second daughter, **Clare Eve**. Congratulations to everyone!

### Donation

Thanks to Super Senior **Stanley Erzen**, a 15-year expressman, who renewed his subscription plus enclosed an extra \$10.00 as a donation to buy some rags to clean the presses. (94-year-old Stan enclosed a photo of himself indeed cleaning up the printing presses).

### Donation

Thanks to **Miro and Ludmilla Odar** of Richmond Hts., OH who renewed their subscription plus enclosed an additional \$20.00 donation.

### Donation

Thanks to **Mary Vesel** of Strongsville, OH who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a \$40.00 donation!

### Donation

Thanks to **Frances Hogevan** of Cleveland, OH who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a \$5.00 donation.



Stan Erzen at work in the print shop, from 1922 - 1927 at the J. B. Savage Printing., largest commercial printing shop in Cleveland, at that time.

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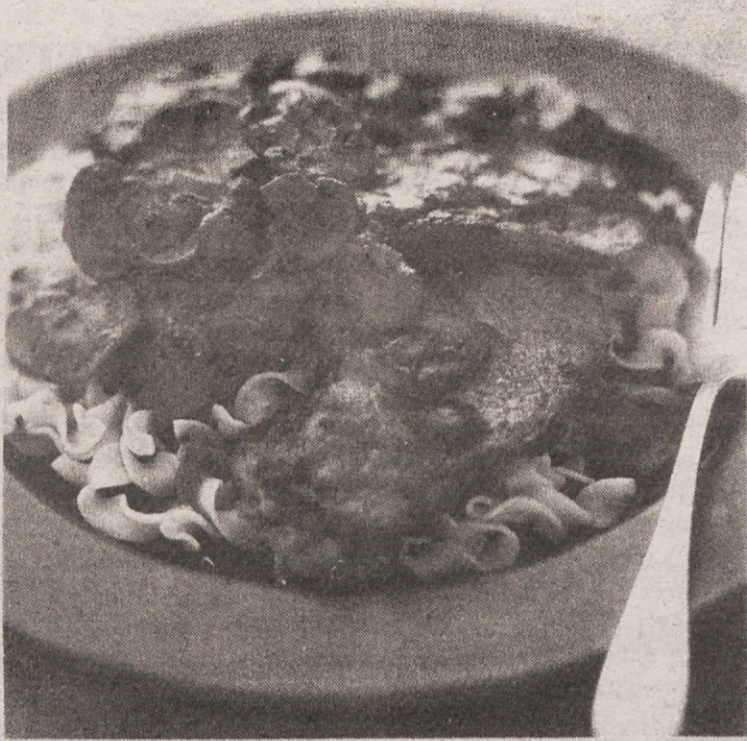
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When you want both lightness and flavor, no meat beats pork tenderloin. What's more, it's fast and easy to cook. You can have this hearty low-fat dish on the table in 20 minutes flat.

- 3 cups dry medium-wide egg noodles
- 1 pound pork tenderloin
- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 1 cup pre-sliced mushrooms
- ½ teaspoon bottled minced garlic
- 1 cup beef broth
- 2 tablespoons sun-dried tomato sprinkles
- 1 tablespoon dijon mustard
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper

Cook noodles according to package directions, omitting salt and oil. Drain.

While noodles boil, trim fat from pork; cut crosswise into 8 pieces. Place each piece between 2 sheets of heavy-duty plastic wrap; flatten to ¼-inch thickness using a meat mallet or rolling pin.

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add pork; sauté 2 to 3 minutes on each side. Remove from pan; keep warm. Add mushrooms and garlic; sauté 1 minute. Add broth and remaining ingredients; bring to a boil. Cook 2 minutes, stirring frequently. Return pork to skillet, reduce heat, and simmer 2 minutes. Serve over noodles. Serves 4.

*Your Just Desserts*

**Strawberries And Honey Make A Great Pair**

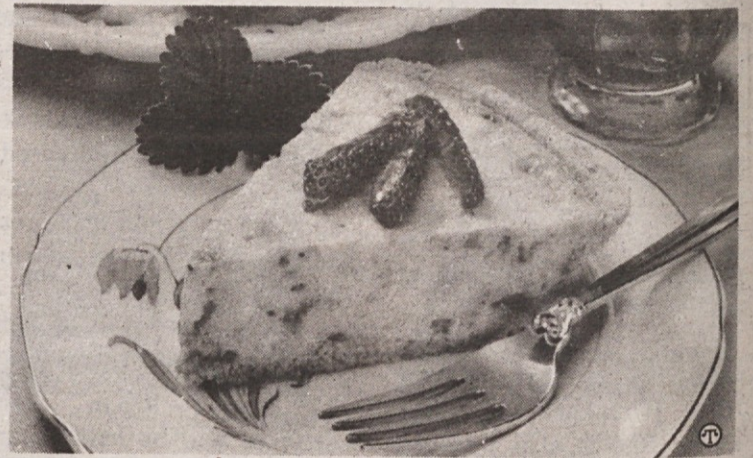
(NAPS)—Eaten out of hand as a snack, or sweetened with honey as a dessert, strawberries can brighten meals and add a healthy dose of nutrition. Besides being delicious, strawberries are a good source of vitamin C, fiber and antioxidants.

Like strawberries, honey can play a part in a healthy diet. Honey provides a rich sweet flavor and is a natural source of vitamins, minerals and antioxidants in small amounts; and all at just 64 calories per tablespoon.

*Honey Strawberry Chiffon Pie* is a surprisingly light dessert that combines the fresh taste of fruit with the richness of honey. Honey's distinct flavor shines through and you may be surprised to learn that there are 300 different varieties of honey in the United States alone, each with its own distinct flavor. They range in color from pale, almost white sage to the extremely dark buckwheat—and the flavors are just as varied.

Single varietal honeys result from honey bees gathering nectar from the same type of flowers. Author and honey expert, Gene Opton, loves to search out local honeys at farmers' markets. She writes that "some of my favorites are the work of artisan producers—small suppliers who harvest only in specifically designated areas and focus on single-flower honeys." For this recipe, she recommends an orange blossom honey, but why not try experimenting with a few varietals to find your favorite.

For more recipes and informa-



tion on the many sources and types of honey visit the National Honey Board's Web site at [www.honey.com](http://www.honey.com).

If you're looking for some great drink recipes, order the National Honey Board's new honey beverage leaflet. Send a self-addressed, stamped, business-sized envelope to: National Honey Board-Dept. DL, 390 Lashley Street, Longmont, CO 80501.

**HONEY STRAWBERRY CHIFFON PIE**

- 2 cups coarsely chopped strawberries (12 oz.)
- ¾ cup honey, divided
- 1 envelope unflavored gelatin
- 1 cup light sour cream
- Prepared 9-inch crumb crust

In small bowl, combine strawberries and ¼ cup honey;

set aside. In small saucepan, sprinkle gelatin over cold water; let stand 1 minute. Stir over low heat until gelatin is dissolved; stir in remaining ½ cup honey. Transfer to large bowl; stir in sour cream. Cover and refrigerate 20 to 30 minutes or until mixture mounds on a spoon when tested. Using electric mixer, beat mixture at medium speed until light. Fold in strawberries; mix until well combined. Pour into prepared crust. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours. Makes 8 servings.

*Nutrition information per serving: calories 295; total fat 9 g; cholesterol 10 mg; sodium 203 mg; total carbohydrate 52 g; dietary fiber 1 g; protein 4 g*

*Tip: Fresh or whole unsweetened frozen strawberries may be used. Thaw frozen strawberries before combining with honey.*

**POTATO CHIP COOKIES**

- 1 c. butter
- 1 c. sugar
- 4 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 2 c. flour
- ½ tsp. soda
- ½ tsp. vanilla
- ¾ c. crushed potato chips
- ½ c. ground nuts

Cream shortening. Add sugars, egg and vanilla. Add flour, soda, potato chips and nuts. Mix well. Drop by teaspoonfuls on ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten with a fork dipped in flour. Bake 12 to 15 minutes in a 350° oven. Sprinkle with powdered sugar when cool.

--Emilee Jenko  
Euclid, Ohio

**St. Mary's Summer Picnic**

St. Mary's parish (Holmes Ave., Collinwood) will hold their summer picnic at Slovenska Pristava in Harpersfield, near Geneva, Ohio on Sunday, Aug. 19.

The day begins with 12:15 Mass. NOTE: There will be NO 12 noon Mass in the church.

A delicious roast beef/chicken dinner will be served after Mass. Tickets for the dinner are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and they can be purchased after Sunday Mass or during the week in the rectory office.

There will be food and refreshments throughout the day, children's games, music by Veseli Godci for listening and dancing.

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## — Vesti iz Slovenije —

### Več o novem ameriškem veleposlaniku v Sloveniji – Senatni odbor za zunanjo politiko potrdil njegovo imenovanje

Vse kaže, da bo Johnny Young res postal naslednji ameriški veleposlanik v Sloveniji, kajti je njegovo imenovanje potrdil senatni odbor za zunanjo politiko, ki mu sicer na-



čeljuje demokratični senator Joseph Biden iz države Delaware, ki je znan kot zelo naklonjen Sloveniji. Kakor pa kažejo članki v današnji AD, besede Younga v zvezi z denacionalizacijo in morebitnim slovenskim članstvom v NATU še odmevajo v Sloveniji tudi med tkim. italijanskimi "optanti" in politični krogi v Italiji, ki jim služijo.

Johnny Young (na fotografiji zgoraj) je poklicni diplomat afriško-ameriškega rodu, ki ima že 30-letni staž v State Departmentu. Kariero je začel v veleposlaništvih na Madagaskarju, v Gvineji, Keniji, Qatarju in na Barbadosu. Leta 1989 je bil imenovan za veleposlanika v Sierra Leone, leta 1993 v Togu, leta 1997 pa je postal veleposlanik v Bahrajnu. To slednjo službo zdaj dokončuje. Razvidno je, da je večji del svoje kariere opravljal na afriški celini, mesto v Sloveniji je njegovo prvo na evropski celini. V kolikor je bilo sporočeno prej, Slovenije še ni obiskal.

### Gozdovi v sodnih rokah

V svoji najnovejši številki z dne 12. avgusta poroča teden *Družina* takole: "O delu gozdov v Triglavskem narodnem parku (TNP), za katere je denacionalizacijski zahtevek vložila ljubljanska nadškofija, bo odločalo sodišče. Državna pravobranilka iz Kranja je namreč v začetku avgusta pri upravnem sodišču vložila tožbo proti ministrstvu za kmetijstvo, gozdarstvo in prehrano zara-

di julijske delne odločbe o vrnitvi 8.254 hektarov nepremičnin v TNP v last in posest ljubljanski nadškofiji.

Po mnenju pravobranilke so nepremičnine v TNP v času uveljavitve zakona o denacionalizaciji že imele status naravnega javnega dobrega, ki pozneje ni prehehal, zato jih denacionalizacijski upravičenki ni mogoče vračati v naravi. Omenjene nepremičnine naj bi bile kot naravne vrednote v lasti države izvzete iz pravnega prometa, zato zasebna lastnina na njih – tako pravobranilstvo – ni mogoča."

Poročilo v *Družini* navaja še: "Ob javni predstavitvi tožbe proti ministrstvu za kmetijstvo je generalni državni pravobranilec med drugim izrazil pričakovanje, da bo odločitev sodišča o poključkih gozdovih vzorčna za ravnanje pri vračanju več kot 70 naravnih in kulturnih spomenikov, ki so predmet denacionalizacijskih zahtevkov."

In še o reakciji ministra za kmetijstvo Francija Buta, "da tožba ne prinaša nobenih novih argumentov, ki jih ministrstvo ne bi že upoštevalo pri svoji odločitvi. Vprašanje, ali so gozdovi javno dobro ali ne, je po njegovih besedah predmet že presežene razprave, saj bi sicer morali pod vprašaj postaviti zasebno lastnino številnih kmetov, ki so že stoletja lastniki parcel v TNP."

**Pol milijona tujih turistov** – V prvem polletju letos je v Sloveniji letovalo 503.000 tujih (12 odstotkov več kot v enakem obdobju lani) in 388.000 domačih turistov (enako kot lani), prenočitev je bilo 2,93 milijona (4 odstotke več kot lani).

**Ameriški generali v Sloveniji** – V okviru šolanja za National Defense College v Washingtonu se je 16 generalov in admiralov seznanilo s slovenskim obrambnim sistemom in Slovenijo. Po šolanju naj bi prevzeli najvišje položaje v ameriških oboroženih silah.



Na srečanju slovenskih misijonarjev, ki je bil bilo v Stični v začetku tega meseca, je bila vključena tudi maša 5. avgusta na Brezjah (fotografija kaže vstopanje misijonarjev v bogoslužnem sprevedu v brezjansko baziliko). Mašo je daroval nadškof dr. Franc Rožde, ki je sporočil, da je papež Janez Pavel II. imenoval urednika Misijonskih obzorij in profesorja na Teološki fakulteti dr. Draga Ocvirka (znan mnogim ameriškim rojakom) za novega narodnega voditelja misijonov. Na srečanju misijonarjev v Stični je slovensko državo zastopal dr. Zvone Žigon iz Urada za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu, ki je prav tako znan mnogim ameriškim in posebej argentinskim rojakom. Dr. Žigon je doktoriral iz zgodovine in objavil knjigo o argentinskih Slovencih. Bil je član pevskega zbora Ave, ko je le-ta gostoval pred leti po Združenih državah. (Foto iz Družine, 12. avg.)

## Iz Clevelanda in okolice

### Vsakoletni farni piknik—

V nedeljo, 19. avgusta, ima župnija Marija Vnebovzeta svoj letni piknik na Slovenski pristavi. Sv. maša se bo pričela ob 12.15 pop. Takoj po maši bodo postregli z okusnim kosilom in sicer goverja pečenka in pečena kura. Dar za kosilo je \$10 za odrasle in \$5 za otroke. Ves popoldan bo na voljo dobra hrana, tekoča okrepcila, čevapčiči, igre za otroke in godba po taktu ansambla Veseli godci. Žrebanje glavnega dobitka bo ob 7. uri zvečer. Lepo ste vabljeni na ta tradicionalni piknik, ki je hkrati pomemben vir dohodka za župnijo.

### Škof Pevec gre v pokoj—

Papež Janez Pavel II. je sprejel prošnjo za upokojitve škofa Edwarda Pevca, ki služi kot pomočni clevelandski škof od leta 1982. Škof Pevec ima 76 let in vsi škofje prosijo za upokojitve, ko dopolnijo 75 let. Odvisno od papeža je, kdaj prošnjo odobri. Škof Pevec je še zelo aktiven.

## Novi grobovi

### Angela Luzar

V nedeljo, 12. avgusta, je svojo mlado življenje izgubila v avtomobilski nesreči 22 let stara Angela Luzar, ki je komaj pred dobrim tednom graduirala iz Piedmont College v državi Georgia. Za njo žalujejo starša Anne (rojena Urankar) in Ernie Luzar, brat Ernie, zaročenec Dustin Welborn (Ga.), stari starši Frank in Antonija Urankar ter Ernie in Gladys Luzar, tete in strici Kathy in Dave Majni, Joe in Sue Urankar, Jim in Toni Robinette ter Frank in Debbie Urankar, bratranci Alex, Greg, Brian in Jimmy ter sestrični Katie in Kristie. Prijatelji in sorodniki so naprošeni, da pridejo v cerkev Marije Vnebovzete jutri, v petek, dop. ob 9h, sv. maša bo darovana ob 10h, sledil bo pogreb na Vernih duš pokopališču. Darovi v pokojničin spomin St. Mary Church Endowment Fund bodo s hvaležnostjo sprejeti.

(dalje na str. 15)

### Folklorna skupina Kres—

V soboto, 25. avgusta, bo v SND na St. Clairju priredila folklorna skupina Kres celovečerni nastop s pričetkom ob 7.30 zvečer. Po sporedu zabava, igrala bo ansambel Veseli godci.

### Prodaja peciva—

Oltarno društvo fare Marije Vnebovzete ima to soboto dopoldne prodajo peciva.

### Oddaja ob 40. obletnici—

To soboto, 18. avgusta, bo imel radijski napovedovalec Tony Petkovsek 3-ure dolgo oddajo ob 40. obletnici teh oddaj. Oddaja bo na postaji WELW 1330 od opoldne do 3. pop. To soboto bo g. Petkovsek s posebnim slavljem v SND na St. Clairju obhajal svoj 60. rojstni dan, ob 5. pop. bo pa v cerkvi sv. Vida polka maša. Prireditve v SND je že dolgo razprodana. Ob njegovem rojstnem dnevu in 40-letnim stažem na radiju g. Petkovsku čestitamo.

### Sestanek—

Klub upokojencev v Nevburgu-Maple Hts. ima sestanek v sredo, 22. avgusta, ob 12. uri, v Stafford parku. Sestanek je združen s piknikom.

### V Plain Dealerju danes—

Današnji *Plain Dealer* obširno in zelo pohvalno poroča o vlogi ge. Brede Lončar pri odkrivanju nezakonitosti v zvezi z igrami bingo, ki so imele namen podpirati Eastlake North High School. Nepridipravi pri teh igrah so šolo baje oškodovali tudi do milijona dolarjev. Ko je postala predstojnica šole, je ga. Lončar opazila nepravilnosti, nato pa sodelovala s policijo pri odkrivanju storilcev. Sodni postopki še tečejo. Poročilo je v rubriki "Metro" današnjega PD.

### Spominski darovi—

Milena Pfeifer in Mirjam Kleva, Sedona, Arizona, sta darovali \$50 v podporo našemu listu, v spomin na starša Bogomira in Silve Pfeifer. Olga Kalar, Euclid, O., je darovala \$20, v spomin moža Ludvika. Anna Vidergar, Cleveland, je darovala \$10, v spomin moža Johna. Hvala vsem!

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### DRAGO OCVIRK

### KOMENTAR

## Sedeča Cerkev?

"Zdaj že vem, da bom pogrešal mlade in obrede," je zaupal misijonar, ki se po desetletjih na Madagaskarju vrača domov. Podobno misel je bilo zaslediti tudi na srečanjih misijonarjev in misijonark, ki se mudijo doma na počitnicah ali zdravljenju. Neki izseljenski duhovnik, ki se giblje med karizmatiki, pa mi je zaupal, da se mu je med mašo zadelo, da ima pred seboj sedečo Cerkev. "Kako boste kaj storili in dosegli, če se ne postavite na noge, če se ne postavite za evangelij, za človeka?"

Človek bi se lahko izgovarjal, da so počitnice in življenje na župniji pač zamre. Misijonarjem bi lahko odvrnil, da je pri njih krščanstvo nekaj novega, osvobajajočega in zato privlačno; gorečemu karizmatiku bi mogel malodušno potožiti, češ, saj se trudimo, pa ni pravih sadov. Še dobro, da je tako! Kakšen manj črnogled bi lahko – verjetno bolj upravičeno – opozoril na dejstvo, da je naša Cerkev vendarle dokaj živa in dejavna. Nenazadnje ni malo, če se kakšna četrtnina Slovencev in Slovenk z vso srčnostjo v veselju nedeljo za nedeljo zbira okrog Kristusovega oltarja, da bi skupaj hvalili in slavili neizmerno božjo ljubezen in v njej živeli svoj vsakdanjik. To je kar velika skupnost v vsakem kraju, ki ima svojo težo in nemalo (tudi neizkoriščenih!) moči, da kaj stori in z raznimi dejavnostmi pritegne še koga.

A zdi se mi, da je lahko za nas dragocena predvsem izkušnja misijonark in misijonarjev. Živimo namreč v okolju, kjer je druženje nekaj samo po sebi umevnega, visoko cenjenega in nadvse zaželenega. Ljudje spontano čutijo pripadnost skupnosti, njihovo življenje in delovanje se odvija v nenehnem druženju, sami preprosto ne znajo biti in samota je zanje ne-sreča, ne-življenje. Zato imajo otroke, veliko otrok. In kje naj se otroci in mladi zbirajo, če ne na misijonu! Tam se nenehno kaj dogaja, vrsta organizacij in dejavnosti, učenje, igra, molitev ... idealen kraj za druženje. Maša in drugi obredi so priložnost za srečanje med seboj in z Bogom, nič čudnega, če trajajo po več ur v petju, plesu. Tam so s telesom in zato tudi z dušo. Da, telo ni odveč, ni ga treba umiriti, nevtralizirati, nasprotno, pred Bogom se skupaj z drugimi telesi razživi v ritmu pesmi, bobnov ... Kako bi mogli misel, duša, duh odtavati kam drugam?

Naš zahodni svet je drugačen. Človek je v njem od malega naprej vedno bolj sam, izoliran. Navajanje na samoto, proč od svojih, se začenja z vrtcem in se potem samo stopnjuje. Vzgoja in šola usmerjata v poklic in poklicno us-

## S slovenščino nimam težav

### Tujci spoznavajo slovenski jezik in kulturo

V okviru Centra za slovenščino kot drugi/tuji jezik na Oddelku za slovenske jezike in književnosti ljubljanske Filozofske fakultete se je v zadnjem tednu julija zaključila 20. poletna šola slovenskega jezika, kjer se tujci in potomci slovenskih izseljencev učijo slovenščine. V Družini (29. julija) je Uroš Urbanija objavil članek, v katerem je govoril z nekaterimi udeleženci letošnje šole, posredujemo spodaj njegovi pomenki s tistimi, ki izhajajo iz ZDA. Ur. AD.

DIANA FIR,  
Kalifornija



"Moj oče je iz Bele krajine, mama pa iz Istre. Slovenščino se učim, ker želim ohraniti kulturo svojih prednikov. Znala sem jo sicer že kot otrok in je bila moj prvi jezik, le da sem mešala ogromno narečnih in hrvaških izrazov. Danes se je učim zato, da odpravim te napake.

Po poklicu sem operna pevka in učiteljica glasbe, zato bom slovenščino lahko uporabljala pri učenju slovenskih pesmi, pa seveda tudi pri dopisovanju s prijatelji iz Slovenije.

Poletna šola se mi zdi odlična priložnost za moje učenje, organizacija dejavnosti poleg pouka poteka odlično in upam, da bo naslednje leto prišlo še več

pešnost: to so najvišje vrednote, za to se velja potegovati. Medčloveški odnosi so nekaj postranskega: če ostane še kaj časa. In še to le potem, ko se nam iztekajo zadnji trenutki prostega časa bodisi zaradi dodatnih dejavnosti, konjička ipd. bodisi pred televizijo, računalnikom ... Za nas je magnet delo, opravek, mašina, v misijonih privlači človeka drug človek, skupnost, vse drugo je manj vredno. Če je tam morda zato nekaj več gmotne revščine (a to ni preverjenol!), pa je pri nas zanesljivo veliko duševnih bolezni, nasilja, bega v omamo in zaničevanja življenja zato, ker nam drugi in druženje ne pomenijo veliko.

V družbi individualistov se ljudje ne družimo spontano, priučili smo se biti sami, "neodvisni", "prosti". Toda prej ali slej sleherni začuti resničnost besed, ki jih Sveto pismo pripisuje Bogu: "Ni dobro za človeka, da je sam; naredil mu bom pomoč, ki mu bo primerna." Šele ob človeku in z njim postaja človek zares človek, njegovo največje bogastvo na tem svetu je samo drug človek! Ob njem najde sebe, svojo srečo in smisel svojega življenja, ker samo od človeka lahko prejema ljubezen in njemu jo lahko daje.

(dalje na str. 12)

študentov iz San Franciscu."

MARGARET KOROSEC  
Minnesota



"Po poklicu sem ekonomska svetovalka. Moj mož je Slovenec, zato sem se vpisala na Poletno šolo, da bi lahko razumela moža in sina, ki se pogovarjata v slovenščini. V družini sicer govorimo nemško, ker sem moža spoznala na študiju v Avstriji, jaz osebno s sinom pa govorim angleško. Tako praktično uporabljamo vse tri jezike.

Največja težava pri slovenščini se mi zdijo sklon-ske končnice, ki jih v angleščini nimamo. Lahke pa so predvsem nekatere besede, ki jih uporablja moj enoletni sin. Slovenija je zelo lepa dežela in upam, da se bomo v nekaj letih preselili sem."

TERRY in LORI  
JACKSON  
Združene države Amerike



"V Slovenijo sva se pred kratkim preselila iz Združenih držav Amerike in nameravamo tukaj z družino ostati kakšnih deset let.

Delujeva znotraj baptisti-

čne Cerkev, kjer pripravljava mladinske programe. Tako želimo mladim ponuditi učenje angleščine, pa branje Svetega pisma in podobne aktivnosti.

Slovenščina je precej težka, predvsem skloni, hkrati pa nama velike težave povzroča tudi dejstvo, da praktično nikjer ne moreva vaditi slovenščine. Vsi, s katerimi se želiva pogovarjati, naju takoj odgovorijo v angleščini in tako je možnosti za pogovor v slovenščini zelo malo."

## Častni konzulat v Los Angelesu bo ukinjen

CLEVELAND, O. - Preteko nedeljo je v *Nedeljo fax-u* bila objavljena vest, da je bil v slovenskem Uradnem listu objavljen vladni sklep o zaprtju častnega konzulata Slovenije v Los Angelesu in razrešitvi častnega konzula Marka Ryavca, ki je konzulat vodil od začetka in sam bil najbolj odgovoren, da je do tega konzulata sploh prišlo.

Zakaj je do zaprtja prišlo, ni v zelo kratkem poročilu sporočeno. Omenjeno je le, da je vlada pri tej odločitvi, ki bo začela veljati 1. novembra letos, poslušala predlog zunanega ministra Dimitrija Rupla. Naslov za skopo poročilo je pa bil: Konzul Ryavec se je zameril ministru Rupu.

V kolikor bodo v bodoče na voljo dodatni podatki oziroma pojasnila, bom seveda naknadno poročal ali tekste posređoval.

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## Čudoviti svet blagajane in Polhovega Gradca

Darinka Kladnik

Polhov Gradec predstavlja središče Zgornje Gradiške doline in Polhograjskega hribovja in je od Ljubljane oddaljen le 18 kilometrov. Sodi med najlepše kraje v Sloveniji, premore pa celo vrsto spomenikov, od starega gradu – Kalvarije do Neptunovega vodnjaka ter Metzingerjevih slik v cerkvi Marijinega rojstva.

Najimnitnejši je grajski kompleks, današnje podobo je dobil v 17. stoletju. V tem gradu je svojčas živel grof Ursini Blagay, ki je pripomogel h gospodarskemu razcvetu kraja. Od leta 1808 do 1858 je podpiral in pospeševal kulturo, kmetijstvo in obrt v Polhovem Gradcu. V polhograjski dolini je hotel vpeljati vzgojo sviloprejke in je dal zato poklicati strokovnjake iz Bolgarije in Romunije pa za izdelavo rožnega olja. Njegov vrt je slovel po najlepših vrtnicah.

Leta 1849 je bil izvoljen za prvega polhograjskega župana. Še bolj kot polhograjski župan pa je bil grof Blagay znan po roži, ki so jo poimenovali po njem Blagayev volčin, Daphne Blagayana, blagajana ali blagajevka. Raste na polhograjski Gori (824 m).

Novoodkrito rastlino si je prišel ogledat celo saksonski kralj Friderik Avgust II., v njegovo čast pa je dal grof Blagay postaviti ob vznožju Gore kamnit obelisk (spomenik kraljeve rože). Leta 1898 pa sta blagajana in planika postali prvi zaščiteni rastlini na Kranjskem.

Grad še stoji in je lepo prenovljen. V njem je krajevni muzej, ki opozarja tudi na grofa Ursini Blagaya. Po njem so poimenovali "Čudoviti svet Blagajane" in pripravili "Dobrote Blagajev dežele", prireditve, ki naj bi postala tradicionalna in naj bi vzpodbujala domačo obrt in domače dobrote. V aprilu letos so kmetje in obrtniki iz Pol-

hovega Gradca in okoliških krajev v gradu predstavili svojo ponudbo in ji dodali še nekaj kulture.

Mozartovi kulturni dnevi so ena od prireditev, ki se vrste skozi vse leto v polhograjski graščini, druga so ustvarjalne delavnice, tretja slikarska kolonija itd. Zavzeti organizatorji razmišljajo še o novih prireditvah, ki naj bi poživile grajski kompleks. Poleg gradu je namreč veliki vrt, pred gradom pa Neptunov vodnjak z vklesano letnico 1696 in štirimi nimfami na okrašenih stebrih. Dvorišče zaključuje stolp z uro in visok portal.

"Dobrote Blagajev dežele" so privabile veliko obiskovalcev, ki niso mogli prehoviti domačega sira, potic, pijače, medu, slaščic. Tudi gostinska ponudba je bila vabljiva, gospodinje s kmetij, ki se ukvarjajo s kmečkim turizmom, pa pripravljene na pogovor o tem, kako se kaj pripravi. Recepti so preizkušeni in prehajajo iz roda v rod.

Tisti, ki so prišli od blizu in daleč, so odšli navdušeni, pa ne domov, v okolici grajskega kompleksa je še marsikaj zanimivega in tudi bližnji kraji premorejo mnogo spomenikov.

Najbolj znana je "cesarska" cerkev sv. Petra v bližnjem Dvoru, ta velja za enega najlepših poznogot-skih spomenikov v Sloveniji. Za ljubitelje narave pa je vrh okoliških gora speljanjih več planinskih poti, ki jih je uredilo Planinsko društvo. Tudi ribiči pridejo na svoj račun, ribe love v Gradaščici.

RODNA GRUDA  
Ljubljana, junij 2001

Tudi preko e-maila—

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Grad v Polhovem Gradcu

IVA ŽIGON

DOMAČI ZVON

## Trnovski krog

Janez Pogačnik je že kot otrok preživljal počitnice v Trnovem in še sanjalo se mu ni, da bo toliko let kot duhovnik preživel prav tukaj, kjer je opravil življenjsko delo – izpeljal popolno prenovo župnišča in cerkve.

V župniškem pismu v *Oznanilih* je prijatelju Domnu, ki pomaga odvisnikom, zapisal, da je vedno bolj prepričan, da naključja ni.

Bogata literarna vsebina, umetniški in estetski videz *Oznanil* osupneta vsakogar. Prijateljevanje, druženje in sodelovanje s člani redakcije in kluba Nove Revije, plodni pogovori; Proza je iskanje Boga, dojemanje umetnosti, poezija je nekaj preruškega, videnje globin, dotikanje najglobljih človeških vprašanj...

Trnovska cerkev Janeza Krstnika v Ljubljani je novejša in zgodovinsko ne bi bila kaj posebnega, če je ne bi zaznamovali dogodki in ljudje, ki so ji vtisnili globok pečat, sam kraj pa povzdignili v slovenski simbol.

Tu je 18 let župnikoval pisatelj Fran Saleški Finžgar, ki je veliko sodeloval z arhitektom Jožetom Plečnikom; največji slovenski pesnik France Prešeren je v trnovski cerkvi srečal Pri-mičevo Julijo; s svojim delom jo je zaznamoval ekspresionist France Kralj; tu je preživljal kaplanska leta nadškof Jože Pogačnik.

S kipi, spominskimi ploščami, in reliefi znanih Trnovčanov na portalu in v preddverju pa se je cerkev spremenila v pravi kulturni center. Impresionisti Rihard Jakopič, Matej Sternen, Ivan Grohar, ki je začel s poslikavo cerkvene kupole, ter Matija Jama, slovenski

narodni ponos, so dobili pred cerkvijo zaslužno spominsko obeležje. Eliptičen poglobljen prostor ob mostu nasproti cerkve je bil kot nalašč za postavitev štirih kipov slovenskim slikarskim velikanom.

Avtor tega pomembnega dela je akademski kipar Drago Tršar, samo obeležje pa je pomembna pridobitev za slovensko prestolnico. Pred dvema letoma so se lotili tudi celovite prenove notranjosti cerkve, od temeljev do strehe, in jo dokončali v dveh mesecih in pol.

Župnik Janez Pogačnik je kot nekdanji absolvent gradbeništva prevzel nadzor nad izvedbo del, skupaj s prijateljem, arhitektom Jožetom Motohom, pa sta delo odlično opravila.

Andrej Jemec je izbral barve za cerkev, izrisal načrt tlaka, določil barvne kombinacije in vzorce ter spremljal polaganje hotaveljskega marmorja. Sedaj upodablja še veliko sliko sv. Krištofa.

Janez Bernik je prispeval Križev pot na steklu in štiri, 2 x 3 m velike slike Janeza Krstnika.

Drago Tršar je avtor čudovitega Kristusa v prezbitteriju in nekaj novo oblikovanih kljuk.

Manjka le še mozaik Marija z detetom, ki ga končuje Marko Rupnik, in cerkev bo po dolgih letih dobila svojo končno podobo.

Pri tem je treba dodati, da so vsi prijatelji trnovskega župnika svoje delo opravili brezplačno.

Pri prenovi cerkve se je pod opleskom na oboku kupole pokazala freska Janeza Krstnika v puščavi, delo slikarja Ivana Grohar-

ja, ki učinkuje kot spomin in opomin na slikarjevo nesrečno sodelovanje pri krašitvi trnovske cerkve.

Zadnjih deset let je na predvečer praznika Janeza Krstnika v Trnovem maša za domovino, s pritrkavanjem zvonov, kresom, srečanjem politikov, kulturnikov in rajanjem na prostem. Letos, ob deseti obletnici osamosvojitve, pa je bilo še posebej slovesno, saj je mašo vodil nadškof Perko, glasbeniki in zbor pa so izvedli Mašo Giacomina Puccinija.

Vsako leto 8. februarja je maša v spomin na Franceta Prešerna in druge slovenske umetnike, konec junija pa je tradicionalni literarni večer kluba Nove revije in zaključek klubske dejavnosti.

V župnišču je že 14 let odprta tudi Finžgarjeva galerija, v kateri so na ogled stalne razstave različnih ustvarjalcev in umetnikov. Predvsem študentom pa je namenjen Finžgarjev klub, kjer pripravljajo srečanja z vidnimi Slovenci z različnih področij družbenega življenja.

Župnik Janez Pogačnik je dejaven pri vsem tem in še pri veliko drugih aktivnostih. Deset let je bil vodja sveta za kulturo pri Škofovski konferenci, 13 let urednik *Oznanjevalca* (prijateljski osnutki) in sedem let glavni urednik pastoralne revije *Cerkev v sedanjem svetu*.

Rodna gruda  
JULIJ 2001



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## Slovenski pisci toplo sprejeti v Avstraliji

Jože Žohar

Slovensko avstralski pisatelj in publicist

Tomaž Šalamun, Evald Fliser, Andrej Blatnik, Maja Vidmar in Lela B. Njatin so pristali v Sydneyju v torek pred koncem minuleta meseca, vendar za kaj prida počitka po dolgem poletu praktično ni bilo priložnosti: še isto popoldne so se namreč že prvič srečali s slovenskimi rojaki v Avstraliji v Slovenskem verskem središču v predmestju Merrylands.

Srečanje v Merrylandu prvotno ni bilo načrtovano in torej ne v naprej pripravljeno, zato pa se je vse dogajalo neformalno, sproščeno, v prisrčnem prijateljskem vzdušju.

Goste sta sprejela patra Valerijan Jenko in Filip Rupnik. Po kratki predstavitvi in pogovorih je vsak od književnikov prebral nekaj odlomkov iz svojih del.

Tega, da je med avstralskimi Slovenci prav tako tudi nekaj uveljavljenih piscev, verjetno ni treba posebej poudarjati. Tokratnega srečanja z gosti iz Slovenije sta se v verskem središču udeležila pisca Ljerko Urbančič in Ivan Kobal. Prvi je predstavil svoje literarno ustvarjanje tako, da je prebral eno od svojih črtic, drugi je prebral nekaj svojih pesmi. Goste je pozdravil Alfred Brežnik, častni konzul republike Slovenije.

Vendar pa se je tudi uradni del načrtovane turneje pričel že drugi dan bivanja na avstralski celini. V knjigarni Berkelouw, v italijanski četrti Leichardt, ga je organiziral Pisateljski center Novega južnega Walesa. Zbralo se je nekaj čez šestdeset ljudi, v naj-

večji meri Avstralcev, med njimi pa je bilo tudi nekaj naših rojakov.

Literarno srečanje je povezoval avstralski pisatelj in predsednik Pisateljskega centra Michael Wilding, akademik in univerzitetni profesor, ki je že prej poznal nekaj slovenskih strokovnih krogov in slovensko kulturo, saj je pred leti gostoval na ljubljanski univerzi. Gotovo je to bivanje v Sloveniji pripomoglo k zblizovanju avstralske in slovenske književnosti, k premoščanju značilne slovenske evropocentrične zagledanosti.

Slovenski pisci sicer niso popolni neznanci na peti celini. Kdo smo in od kod prihajamo, so jim vsaj do neke mere lahko predstavili naši rojaki, ki so se dolgo zbirali in dejavno sodelovali v okviru združenja SALUK – Slovensko-avstralsko literarno-umetniškega krožka, literarne revije *Svobodni razgovori* (žal je lani po dolgih letih prenehala izhajati) ali v okviru združenja multikulturnih piscev.

## Sedeča Cerkev?

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

Naša Cerkev se tega zaveda, saj je druženje: božji sklic, zbor, ljudstvo, nova zaveza. Tudi že takrat, ko se samo peščica ljudi zgage, dvigne in pride skupaj "sedeti" k maši. Naj se to zdi še tako malo, je že veliko! Ti verni namreč pričujejo, da niso samozadostni, da hrepenijo po druženju z Bogom in drugimi. Res pa je, da se moramo vsi katoličani še odločneje zavzeti za osamljenega človeka vseh starosti, stanov, spolov ... in ustvarjati priložnosti za druženje. Vse premalo je še gibanj in ustanov za različne vrste ljudi po župnijah; vse premalo se zavedamo, da smo vsi krščeni, ne le župniki in kaplani, poklicani v skupnost in izbrani, da jo ustvarjamo in utrjujemo s svojimi talenti in darovi. Božje kraljestvo se gradi za ceno osebne zavzetosti slehernega vernika pri tej ali oni organizaciji in dejavnosti Cerkve. Če pa ni nobene, ki bi ustrezala temu ali onemu, naj v tem prepozna vabilo Svetega Duha, da poskusi kaj novega in pritegne še druge. Ljubezen je ustvarjalna in domiselna!

DRUŽINA, Ljubljana, 12. avg. 2001

In ne nazadnje ne moremo mimo uspešnice Richarda Flanagana *The Sound of One Hand Clapping*, romana o usodi iz slovenskega okolja iztrganih in v novi domovini izgubljenih, po kateri je bil posnet tudi film in leta 1998 prikazan na berlinskem festivalu.

A če se vrnemo h Karantaniji – Evald Fliser je v svoji brezhibni angleščini odlično predstavil zgodovino slovenskega naroda od začetkov do današnje samostojne Slovenije, kulturo in pomen slovenščine za našo samoohranitev.

Zatem je, kot najmlajša pesnica v skupini, brala svoje pesmi Maja Vidmar, sledili so ji Lela B. Njatin z odlomkom iz romana o vojni, Andrej Blatnik, Evald Fliser in na koncu Tomaž Šalamun s pesmimi.

Kot je bilo že omenjeno, so vsi uspeli odlično vzpostaviti komunikacijo z občinstvom v izbrani angleščini. Poslušalci so jih dobro razumeli in z navdušenjem sprejeli.

Po končanem branju je Wilding povabil vse navzoče na kozarček ali dva in sproščen klepet s slovenskimi književniki. Kot je bilo mogoče opaziti, so na tem srečanju prodali nekaj Šalamunovih knjig; drugi avtorji očitno svojih niso prinesli s seboj.

Po osebnih srečanjih in zanimivih pogovorih s poslušalci je Alfred Brežnik za goste iz Slovenije priredil večerjo. Avstralsko vreme, ki je ta čas nekakšna mešanica med pozno zimo in zgodnjo pomladjo, ta čas, vsaj v začetku, gostom ni bilo posebno naklonjeno. Ves čas je deževalo in bilo zorno hladno.

V četrtek, 26. julija popoldne so se književniki vkrcali na avtobus, ki jih je po kakšnih osemnajstih urah popeljal globoko v notranjost celine, v Broken Hill. Po enodnevnem postanku v tem mestu so nadaljevali vožnjo v Adelaide, zatem pa v Melbourne in Canberro. Pred vrnitvijo v Slovenijo je bilo načrtovanih še nekaj srečanj v Sydneyju.

V vseh naštetih mestih so se slovenski literati uspešno predstavili tako avstralskemu občinstvu kot seveda avstralskim Slovincem, v kolikor so ti pač pokazali zanimanje za te vrste kulturnih prireditev.

Če lahko sklepamo po tem, s kakšnim odzivom so Avstralski obiskovali te prireditve, ki so jih tudi napovedovali med pomembnimi kulturnimi dogodki v dnevnem časopisu oziroma o njih poročali, je verjetno utemeljeno pričakovati, da ta srečanja niso bila zadnja.

(dalje na str. 14)

### V ZAHVALO IN LJUBEČ SPOMIN

16. 7. 1910



21. 5. 2001

Ivana Oražem

Po kratki bolezni je 21. maja, v prelepem Marijinem mesecu, umrla naša draga stara mama, Ivana Oražem. Rojena je bila na Blokah pri Novi Vasi na Notranjskem.

V Ameriko je prišla s hčerko Marijo Andolšek in njeno družino leta 1969. Hčerka Marija je bila lastnica Ville Rose Pizze na E. 185. cesti v Clevelandu.

Maša za pokojno Ivano je bila 26. maja 2001 v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete. Iskrena hvala č.g. župniku Janezu Kumšetu za obisk v bolnici, za podelitev svetih zakramentov, za molitev rožnega venca v pogrebnem zavodu, za daritev sv. maše in za poslovnilne besede na pokopališču.

Enako hvala tudi g. Francetu Šega, za večkratne obiske v bolnici, za molitve rožnega venca in za lep poslovnilni govor v pogrebnem zavodu.

Zelo smo hvaležni vsem, ki ste rajno prišli pokropit, nam izrazili sožalje, darovali za svete maše in za cvetje.

Naj naša zahvala doseže nosilce krste in vse, ki ste se udeležili sv. maše in spremljali pokojno Ivano na pokopališče All Souls v Chardon, Ohio.

Najlepša hvala pevcem in organistu.

Hvala Dan Cosic Funeral Home za lepo pripravljen in organiziran pogreb. Hvala tudi Ameriški Domovini za objavo osmrtnice.

Vsem, ki ste kakorkoli pripomogli, da je draga pokojna Ivana imela tako lep pogreb, naj vam Bog za vso vašo dobroto obilno poplača!

Draga stara mama, zdaj ste za vedno združeni skupaj z mamo v večnosti. Tam uživajte večni mir pri Bogu in Božji Materi.

Draga stara mama, hvala Vam za vso ljubezen, delo, skrb, in za vse Vaše dobrote. Naj Vam bo Bog dober plačnik.

Žalujoci:

zet - Pavle Andolšek

vnukinje - Mojca, Branka, Yolanda Andolšek

sin - France z družino, v Sloveniji

sin - Štefan, v Floridi

sestri - Angela in Ana, obe v Sloveniji

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# Kanadska Domovina

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## — NAŠE ŽIVLJENJE —

... v poletnih mesecih valovi, vzkipeva in se razliva po naših slovenskih domačinah širom ontarijske pokrajine. Praznujemo tradicionalne Telove procesije, Slovenski dan, obletnice vseh vrst in letos še desetletnico samostojne Slovenije.

V nedeljskih popoldnevih se ljudje zbirajo k veselici in plesu v prosti naravi. V osvežujočih bazenih in pod gozdnim drevjem se hladijo mladi in stari. V kuhinjah diši po domači hrani in v točilnicah zvonijo kozarci in steklenice hladnih pijač.

17. junija je stotine ljudi počastilo sv. Rešnje Telo s procesijo na Slovenskem letovišču, 21. junija, na god sv. Alojzija, je nadškof kardinal Ambrožič obhajal 25-letnico škofovskega posvečenja s slovensko mašo v katedrali sv. Mihaela v Torontu. Bodimo ponosni na sina slovenske matere, ki se je tako visoko povzpел v hierarhiji svetovne katoliške Cerkve.

24. junija so Primorci s prijatelji iz Clevelanda in Pittsburgha, ZDA, priredili Gregorčičev dan na svoji pristavi, ki je lepo uspel.

8. julija so na Slovenskem letovišču organizacije kanadske slovenske skupnosti (Slovensko kanadski svet, Kanadska konferenca Svetovnega slovenskega kongresa, Slovensko letovišče, Vseslovenski kulturni odbor) priredile 42. Slovenski dan ob praznovanju desetletnice države Slovenije.

Sv. mašo je daroval kardinal Ambrožič. Pred mašo smo mu skupno čestitali za njegovo 25-letnico škofovske službe. V pridigi je veliki množici govoril o verski zavesti današnjih kristjanov-katoličanov, ki so s svojim življenjem najvidnejše priče Kristusovega evangelija. Po maši smo skupno zmolili posebno molitev za slovenski narod.

Popoldanski program je obsegal pozdrave predsednikov KSS: Ema Pogačar, John Kuri, Frank Rihar, Florjan Markun. Dr. Božo Cerar se je spomnil dogod-

kov pred desetimi leti, kjer smo Slovenci prvokrat v zgodovini nastopili enotno za skupno dobro. Zbor Ignaca Križmana je prepeval domoljubne pesmi, katere mu se je ob koncu pridružil znani, v Argentini rojen solist Marko Fink s pesmijo En starček je živel.

Slavnostni govornik, koroški kulturni in politični delavec Bernard Sadovnik je v svojem govoru razkrival težave in probleme slovenske manjšine na Koroškem. Klavdija Kuri je v svojem referatu poudarjala vzgojo mladine v slovenskem duhu in narodni zavesti.

V kulturnem delu je Barbara Žunič na citre zagralla Venček narodnih, Gregorčičevo pesem Življenje ni praznik je lepo recitala Laurie Ulčar. S folklornim plesom v nošah slovenskih pokrajin je nastopila skupina Nagelj. Šentjurski oktet iz grosupeljske občine pri Ljubljani je zaključil slovesnost s prijetno uglašenim fantovskim petjem.

Med programom je dr. Peter Klopčič izročil kulturno nagrado Hranilnice in posojilnice Slovenija profesorju Janezu Grumu iz Milwaukeeja, ZDA, za njegovo delo, zgodovinsko politično raziskavanje slovenske scene. Ob koncu se je Stane Kranjc zahvalil vsem nastopajočim in vsem navzočim – pravijo, da nas je bilo okrog 1400, med nami čez dvesto mladih – za prelepo doživetje praznovanja desete obletnice samostojne slovenske države.

Program je vodila Marjan Ulčar. Za zabavo in ples na terasi pred Baragovim domom je igral Planinski kvintet.

Naslednji večer, 9. julija, je v dvorani Brezmadežne nastopil Šentjurski oktet, ki slavi letos desetletnico obstoja. Člani okteta so raznih poklicev, od kmeta, stavbenika, električarja do inženirja, in nastopajo kot mnoge druge skupine širom Slovenije in Evrope.

Ta skupina nam je spet prinesla pozdrave iz domo-

vine s sporočilom, da je v našem ljudstvu še mnogo pristnega, zdravega čuta za kulturo, ki ohranja naš narod že stoletja. Pesem blaži našo dušo, ko v melodiji pripoveduje o mladi ljubezni, zemlji in ljudeh, njihovih šegah in navadah, poje o lepotah in skrivnostih naše zemlje, navdušuje za domovino pa tudi moli in po fantovsko zavriska. Lepa udeležba, čez dvesto za poletni večer, je znamenje naše ljubezni do slovenske pesmi in kulture.

Prekmursko društvo Večerni zvon je 15. julija priredilo tombolo na svoji pristavi. Tam se vedno zbere vesela družčina. Ob kapelici Lurške Marije molijo in vsako leto okrog 15. avgusta pripravijo Proščenje. Letos so slavili 12. avgusta 45-letnico svoje pristave.

22. julija je Slovensko lovsko in ribiško društvo na pristavi pri Allistonu praznovalo 30-letnico športnega in družabnega udejstvovanja.

Mladinski športni dnevi na Slovenskem letovišču že 24 let družijo otroke in odraslo mladino v različnih igrah z žogo. Začetnik teh dejavnosti je bil Frank Krmelj, ki še danes rad prispeva svoj čas in talente. Stalni napovedovalec pa je Marjan Ulčar.

Letošnji dnevi – 21., 22., 28. in 29. julija – so bili posvečeni 14-letnemu Aleksandru Dimperio, ki je 8. maja nenadoma umrl.

Sedemnajst let se naši mladi športniki poskušajo s prijatelji iz Chicaga. Tako je Slovensko letovišče koncem julija polno mladostnega veselja in razigranosti.

Tradicionalni Poletni večer – letos 4. avgusta – privabi polno dvorano udeležencev za večerjo in ples na prostem. Spet smo imeli obiskovalce godbenike iz Slovenije. Akordi in pesmi skupine Ekart so v poznem večeru odmevali po bližnjem gozdu in ravnini ter oznanjali vest o veselih ljudeh.

Zanimivo je dejstvo, da ima nedeljska maša še vedno veljavo v naših skupnostih po svetu. Ob posebnih dogodkih in slavlju si naši ljudje vedno bolj žele božje-

(dalje na str. 15)

## Šentjurski oktet v Kanadi

Ta tekst o gostovanju v Kanadi Šentjurskega okteta je posredovala iz Torontoga. Ema Pogačar, vendar brez kakšnih spremnih besed. Sodelovanje okteta na Slovenskem dnevu omenja v sosednjem dopisu ga. Anica Resnik. Članek, ki sledi, so pripravili gostje sami. Ur. AD

V začetku tega leta je Šentjurski oktet praznoval 10. obletnico. Že konec lanskega leta smo izdali kaseto in zgoščenko, ter pripravili jubilejni koncert. Z nastopi smo prekrižarili vso Slovenijo.

Ves čas obstoja smo kvalitetno napredovali, zlasti v zadnjem času, zato smo želeli naše petje predstaviti tudi v tujini. Priložnost za gostovanje v Kanadi se je ponudila letos spomladi. Na našo ponudbo za nastop na 42. Slovenskem dnevu, ki ga že desetletja prireja Slovensko-kanadski svet, letos prvič kot Slovenska skupnost, smo od predsednice sveta, Eme Pogačar, v marcu dobili pozitiven odgovor.

Pripravljalni odbor nam je pripravil spored našega obiska. Naše gostovanje naj bi potekalo od 5. julija do 12. julija. Časa za pripravo in organizacijo gostovanja je bilo zelo malo. Z vso vnemo smo se pevsko pospešeno pripravljali. Imeli smo kar veliko dela z organizacijo potovanja in nabiranjem sredstev.

Četrtek, 5. julija, je prišel zelo hitro. Iz Brnika smo v večernih urah preko Londona poleteli v Toronto, kamor smo v petek, po 11-urni vožnji, prispeli v zgodnjih jutranjih urah po njihovem času. Gostitelji-rojaki so nas pričakali na letališču. Po zelo prijaznem sprejemu so nas odpeljali in nastanili po svojih domovih. Nastanjeni smo bili po dva in dva pri slovenskih družinah.

Toronto je več kot dvo-milijonsko mesto. Ulice so čiste in široke z veliko zelenja. Od enega konca mesta do drugega rabiš več ur vožnje po cestah, ki imajo 6 pasov v eno smer. V mestu je malo pešcev in veliko avtomobilov. Prebi-

valstvo je zelo raznoliko, vidiš belce, črnce, Indijance, Japonce, Kitajske, Korejce in mešance.

V petek (tj. 6. julij) nas je Andrej Pahulje, ki je že vodil različne zборе, z najetim kombijem pripeljal k slovenski fari pri Mariji Pomagaj, kjer smo peli pri slovenski maši, ki jo je daroval č.g. Tine Batič.

Ko se je zaslila naša pesem, so verniki obračali glave in gledali na kor. Po maši je sledilo prijetno srečanje z rojaki s sproščenim pogovorom in prepevanjem. Članice ženske lige pa so pripravile pogostitev.

V skupini smo imeli tudi harmonikarja in trobentača, ki sta še povečala domačnost.

Soboto, 7. julija, smo izkoristili za ogled nekaterih znamenitosti mesta, kot so: center mesta z mogočnimi stolpnici in uradi, parlament province Ontario, stadion z odmično streho in zanimivo zgradbo mestne hiše. Povzpeli smo se na čudoviti stolp CN Tower, eno najvišjih zgradb na svetu, od koder je veličasten razgled po mestu. Večerjali smo v restavraciji Linden (Lipa), last Slovenca gospoda Tomšiča, ki izhaja iz Dobropolja.

V nedeljo, 8. julija, smo se odpeljali na Slovensko letovišče, kjer je potekal 42. Slovenski dan. Na ta dan se zbere največ Slovencev na enem mestu. Letovišče obsega 20 ha zemlje, ki je last Slovencev. Tu imajo na jasah med grmičevjem in gozdovi urejene počitniške hišice. Travnate površine pa so skrbno košene zelenice. Na osrednjem delu letovišča stojita kapela in dvorana. V bližini je tudi bazen.

Dan se je začel z mašo, ki jo je daroval slovenski kardinal g. Alojzij Ambrožič. Po kosilu je Šentjurski oktet kardinalu ob 25. obletnici škofovstva tudi zapel.

Popoldne je sledil kulturni program z govori in glasbo, katerega vrh je bil za nas, naš nastop. Dolg aplavz je potrdil, da je petje Šentjurskega okteta po-

(dalje na str. 15)

Ervin Hladnik Milharčič

## Od višine se zvrtil

Slovenija, ZDA in NATO

New York (Delo fax, 10. avg. 2001) – Proces priključitve Slovenije NATU je mučen in poln neprijetnih presenečenj. Včasih je prav težko gledati slovenske diplomate in politike, ki v ameriške politične hiše prihajajo kakor neveste pred oltar. Je obleka dovolj brezmadežna bela? Da se niso čevlji med dolgo potjo pošvedrali. Ali pa je morda pričeska nekoliko zastarela in ne ustreza zadnjim navodilom iz *Cosmopolitana*? Je dekle res dovolj nedolžno?

Pogosto se zgodi, da so vsi pogoji s prejšnjega srečanja izpolnjeni. Ameriški gostitelji nevesti zagotavljajo, da še nikoli niso videli nič tako lepega niti v srednji Evropi, jugovzhodni Evropi, na Balkanu ali kamor pač že v tistem trenutku postavljajo Slovenijo. Vendar je doma pozabila postoriti nekaj stvari, ki so se v vmesnem času pokazale za nujne. Enkrat vojska ni pripravljena, drugič odnosi s sosesti niso urejeni po predpisih, tretjič je zakonodaja napisana nerodno. Slovenija se mora prilagajati ZDA in ne narobe.

Pri prvem krogu širitve obrambne zveze je bila Slovenija prepričana, da ima veliko prednost pred drugimi državami na prehodu. In po slovenskih merilih je bilo to nedvomno res. Ker članstvo v NATU pomeni nadrejeni položaj do držav, ki vanj niso vključene, je povzročilo nemalo nelagodja spoznanje, da so države, na katere je Slovenija gledala zviška, nenadoma na piedestalu, na katerem čepijo napačni spomeniki. Od gledanja v zrak boli vrat. Pokazalo se je, da članice organizacije ne presojujejo kandidatke samo po merilih, ki so jih same zastavile, ampak da se arbitrarno odločajo v procesu, ki upošteva njihova medsebojna razmerja, trenutno interpretacijo strateških potreb in poravnavanje zgodovinskih računov. Ni dovolj, da je nevesta lepa, biti mora tudi koristna. Njeno koristnost pa presojuje v trenutnih okoliščinah.

Skušnjava, da bi ZDA obtožili nepoštenega igranja, Slovenijo pa nespretnosti, je velika. Igrati v igri, v kateri ima močnejša stran možnost sproti prilagajati pravila razporeda svojih kart, je zapleten posel. Ena stran se igra, druga mora trdo delati. Vendar ZDA nimajo nič proti Sloveniji, Slovenija pa tudi ni neobičajno neumna pogajalka. Ne gre za kršitev pravil. To so pravila, po katerih se velesila pogaja z vsemi, ki so šibkejši od nje. Ko gre zares, niti Kitajci, niti Rusi, niti Maqedonci niso v dosti bolj udobnem položaju. Niti Nemci ali Francozi. Tako je svet pač urejen.

Palestinci, ki v tem procesu že desetletja poskušajo priti do države, imajo lepo prisposodbo za svoje naprežanje. "Plezamo na piramido," odgovorijo na vprašanje, kaj pravzaprav počnejo v neskončni vrsti dogovarjanja in izpolnjevanja pogojev, ki so ob vsaki zamenjavi vlade drugačni. "In kaj boste naredili, ko pridete na vrh?" vedno znova sledi logično vprašanje. "Potem se bomo pogajali," je ravnodušen odgovor.

Kitajska pogajanja za vstop v Svetovno trgovinsko organizacijo niso potekala po nič drugačni logiki, sedanje prekanje o spremembi sporazuma o prepovedi razvoja protibalističnih sistemov pa tudi ne. Zato je vsaj pol sveta besnega na Američane, ker skrbijo predvsem za svoje interese. Resnici na ljubo pa ZDA nikoli ne rečejo, da počnejo kaj drugega. Ne slovijo kot država, ki sistematično dela v svojo škodo.

Pogajanja o priključitvi NATU so zastavljena nepošteno. Ampak odnosi med državami v resničnem svetu ne temeljijo na poštenosti, ampak na razmerjih moči. Pogoji, ki jih mora Slovenija izpolniti, zahtevajo tektonske premike v delovanju družbe in organizaciji države. Poleg tega so spremenljivi in jim je v vsakem trenutku mogoče dodati kaj novega. Izpolnitev vseh pogojev prav tako ne pomeni, da bo v zvezi tudi sprejeta, ampak da zgolj izpolnjuje pogoje za resno obravnavo. Stran, ki pogoje postavlja, bo vsekakor imela dobiček. Ker je proces zelo dolg, sveta pa se spreminja, bo članstvo na koncu morda postalo irelevantno in bo pomenilo veliko manj kakor na začetku.

Občasno slovenski politiki potarnajo, da to pravzaprav ni pošteno. Še posebno, ker se spuščajo v zakon, ki bo težaven in poln konfliktov. Če bo šlo kaj narobe, bodo vedno topli nevesto. Pretirana nervoza ob vsaki boleči besedi o pripravljenosti Slovenije je razumljiva. Od uspešne sklenitve pogajanj niso odvisne samo kariere in mesto pogajalcev v

Besede novega ameriškega veleposlanika v Sloveniji prav prišle tudi optantom...

## Novo presenečenje optantov

Gorica, It. (Delo fax, 10. avg. 2001) – Opozorilo bodočega veleposlanika ZDA v Sloveniji Johnny Young, da je pogoj za slovensko vključitev v NATO vrnitev nepremičnin, ki jih je sedanjim državljanom ZDA odvzel slovenski komunistični režim, zelo odmeva v Furlaniji - Julijski krajini.

Sprašujejo se, od kod prihaja več kakor 400 ameriških državljanov, ki terjajo vrnitev v Sloveniji zapuščene premoženja. Toda v ZDA je zelo močna kolonija italijanskih emigrantov, ki so si tam iskali svoj življenjski prostor od začetka prejšnjega stoletja.

39-letni odvetnik Giovanni Di Pietro, potomec predvojnih ekonomskih emigrantov, ki sicer nimajo neposredne zveze s povojnimi priseljenci, je prepričan, da so mnogi, ki jih je imel v mislih Young, optanti z istrsko-dalmatinskega območja. Po njegovih besedah so namreč Youngove izjave posledica dolgega in naporenega italijanskega lobiranja pri ameriških oblasteh.

Lani je bila zasnovana

## Slovenski pisci v Avstraliji

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

Tudi na takih razdaljah se lahko razvije plodno sodelovanje med književniki obeh dežel, kar bi seveda med drugim pomenilo tudi objave del slovenskih avtorjev v tukajšnjih literarnih revijah ali pa morebiti celo objavo kakšne knjige katerega slovenskih avtorjev v angleščini.

Nenazadnje pa se ob takih priložnostih, kot je bilo to izjemno zanimivo in med Avstralci odmevno gostovanje slovenskih književnikov, zastavlja razmišljanje, v kakšnem položaju so, kakšne odnose doživljajo in v kakšni komunikaciji s Slovenijo slovenski pisci, ki jim Avstralija ni samo gostiteljica, ampak je že zdavnaj postala tudi domovina.

Književni listi, Delo, 8. avgusta 2001

zgodovini, ampak tudi gospodarstvo, varnost in spoštovanja ali škodoželjnega smeha sosed vredni položaj Slovenije v svetu.

Tudi na to je že od vsega začetka pripravljen odgovor. Slovenija si je v odnosih z ZDA za svoj najpomembnejši zunanjepolitični cilj postavila članstvo v NATU. V resnici ni imela nobene druge pametne alternative. Svet je pač krivičen.

istrsko-dalmatinska zveza Italijanov z natančno nalogo, izvajati pritisk na vlado in parlament, dokler ne bo odpravljena krivica v zvezi z razlastitvijo optantov.

Omenjeni odvetnik, ki vodi to lobiranje, je povedal, da so se člani zveze povezali s politiki obeh ameriških strank, posebno s tistimi italijanskega rodu, za katere so ugotovili, da bi bili lahko dojemljivi za interese sonarodnjakov.

## Izjava Društva izgnancev Slovenije

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 10. avg. 2001) – Društvo izgnancev Slovenije (DDS) je v sporočilu za javnost izrazilo začudenje nad izjavo bodočega ameriškega veleposlanika v Sloveniji Johnnyja Younga v zvezi z zahtevami po vračanju premoženja okrog 400 ameriškim državljanom, ki so leta 1945 zapustili Slovenijo.

Po mnenju društva Young ne ve, da bo najprej treba vrniti premoženje slovenskim izgnancem, prvim množičnim civilnim žrtvam nacizma. Young je verjetno enostransko obveščen in ni seznanjen s tem, "da Nemčija kot naslednica agresorske države Slovincem, ki jih je nasilno izgnala v izgnanska taborišča, ni povrnila škode za odvzeto premoženje v korist utrjevanja nemštva." STA

Med njimi so našli vplivnega senatorja iz New Jerseyja Roberta Toricello, strokovnjaka za zunanjo politiko in NATO; ta se je poglobil v problem in o njem poučil Johnnyja Younga. In ne le to, zdaj je zveza tudi v neposrednih stikih z Bushevo administracijo in po različnih kroških prireja konference o optantskih vprašanjih.

Sredi junija je pripravila demonstracijo pred italijanskim konzulatom v New Yorku – njeni predstavniki

so bili toplo sprejeti, zatem pa še pred hrvaškim in slovenskim predstavništvom. "Kot Italijan čutim obveznost in odgovornost za sodelovanje v prvih bojnih vrstah za odpravo krivice," je dejal Giovanni Di Pietro za *Piccolo*.

Tržaški dnevnik, ki posebno denacionalizacijskemu vprašanju izjemno pozornost, ugotavlja, da je bila Youngova izjava grenka pilula za slovensko diplomacijo. Ljubljana namreč ve, da da brez privolitve ZDA zanj ne bo prostora v NATU, in tudi, da namerava Busheva administracija razširiti zvezo predvsem na baltske države, medtem ko je Slovenija in Slovaška ne zanimata preveč.

List še poudarja, da si slovenska vlada zelo prizadeva zadostiti pogojem za sprejem ter da se je nemara zunanje ministrstvo zato tako blago odzvalo na novo zahtevo z navajanjem podatkov o že opravljenih denacionalizacijskih postopkih in zgolj ugotovilo, da ta vprašanja ne morejo pogojevati članstva v NATU.

Lojze Kante

## KOLENDAR

AVGUST

- 19. – SKD Triglav, Milwaukee priredi drugi piknik, na Triglavskem parku.
- 19. – Fara Marija Vnebovzeta ima svoj letnik piknik na Slovenski pristavi.
- 25. – Folklorna skupina Kres ima prireditev v SNH na St. Clair Ave.

SEPTEMBER

- 1. in 2. – Župnija sv. Vida priredi "Homecoming Days" pri fari na 6019 Glass Ave.
- 2. – Društvo SPB prireja vsakoletno romanje k Žalostni Materi božji v Frank, Ohio. Sv. maša ob 12. uri opoldne, druge pobožnosti, križev pot in liturgije ob 2h pop.

- 23. – SKD Triglav, Milwaukee priredi Vinsko trgatv, na Triglavskem parku.

OKTOBER

- 14. – Klub upokojencev Slovenske pristave ima "koline" na SP.

- 20. – Fantje na vasi imajo celovečerni koncert v SND na St. Clair Ave.

Z AMERIŠKO DOMOVINO STE VEDNO NA TEKOČEM

## – Šentjurski oktet –

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

slušalcem prijetno. Po končanem kulturnem programu smo se še nekaj časa družili in prepevali z našimi gostitelji. Seveda tudi frajtonarica ni manjkala. Nekateri med nami so prvič srečali svoje sorodnike.

Proti večeru smo obiskali še lovsko letovišče. V lovskem domu imajo, zlasti po zaslugi predsednika, trofeje iz celega sveta. Tudi lovsko letovišče je namenjeno druženju Slovencev.

Ta dan smo imeli možnost videti tuid malo drugačnega dela Kanade, ne samo mesto, saj sta letovišči od mesta oddaljena skoraj 100 km. Kanada je velika, v tem delu v glavnem ravninska država. Tam nekaj arov ne pomeni veliko, zato manjše parcele niso obdelane tako, kot v Sloveniji. Posestva so velika in v enem kosu. Posamezna posestva pridelujejo eno kulturo. Na tem delu Kanade smo videli velika polja soje, koruze in pšeni-

ce in celo dolino čebule in zelene. Okoli domov pa so vsepovsod lepo košene zelenice in veliko cvetja.

Ponedeljek, 9. julija, je bil za nas najpomembnejši dan, saj nas je čakal samostojni koncert. Zbrali smo se že precej pred pričetkom koncerta in preizkusili dvorano. Kmalu pa je šlo zares, saj so gostje dvorano napolnili že pred uro, določeno za koncert. Obisk je bil presenetljiv, saj je bil koncert na delovni dan in v času počitnic.

Po začetni napetosti je pesem lepo stekla, kar so začutili tudi poslušalci, saj so nas nagradili z dolgimi aplavzi. Po zadnji pesmi pa aplavza kar ni bilo konča, tako da so sledili dodatki. Pesem "Ribniška" je poslušalce spravila na noge.

Prav na koncu se nam je pridružil še svetovon znani baritonist g. Marcos Fink, ki je te dni tam preživljal dopust. Skupaj smo zapeli pesem "Jaz bi rad rudečih rož". Zopet je sledilo druženje in prepevanje

"po domače". Razšli smo se vsi zadovoljni in dobre volje.

Organizatorji koncerta in gostitelji so nam povedali, da jim je tako kvalitetno zapeta narodna in umetna pesem do sedaj manjkala, saj so do sedaj gostujoče skupine prepevale moderne in tuje pesmi, ki pa niso tako pritegnile.

Naslednji dan, 10. julija, smo se dobili v slovenskem domu za ostarele v Domu Lipa. Stanovalce smo razveselili s petjem narodnih pesmi, za kar so nas nagradili s kosilom. Nato smo se, preko vinorodnega območja, kjer smo poizkusili tudi kanadska vina, odpeljali do slapov reke Niagare. Biser Kanade nas je osupnil s svojo veličino, močjo in lepoto.

Sreda, 11. julija, je bil dan za obiske sorodnikov in nakupe spominkov. Zvečer pa smo se zbrali na domu Staneta Vovka, ki je bil tudi glavni krivec, da smo sploh prišli v Kanado. Ga. Marija Vovk nas je presenetila z zelo okusno "zadnjo večerjo". Mi smo se jima zahvalili s pesmijo, ki sta jo poslušala s solzami v očeh.

Naslednji dan smo se počasi odpravljali in se odpeljali na letališče. Ob slovesu smo si bili enotni, da je bilo gostovanje Šentjurskega okteta zadetek v polno in da se, če bo le mogoče, še kdaj vidimo. Naši rojaki so zelo gostoljubni, lepo skrbijo za duhovno in življenje, znajo se veseliti in zabavati, lepo pa skrbijo tudi za ostarele. Pridobili smo izkušnjo gostovati v tujini in spoznali, da je za take nastope potrebno več časa za organizacijo, saj le tako gostovanje poteka v zadovoljstvo poslušalcev in nastopajočih.

Na koncu bi se zahvalil vsem, ki so kakorkoli prispevali k gostovanju Šentjurskega okteta v Kanadi. Pristrčna hvala Slovensko-

kanadskemu svetu, gospe Emi Pogačar, g. Andreju Pahulje, gđ. Tanji Kranjc in družinam Mókorel, Resnik, Šparovec in Vovk. Iskrena hvala pa tudi mnogim v Sloveniji.

Janez Gerl  
Za Šentjurski oktet

## NAŠE ŽIVLJENJE

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

ga blagoslova. Naši pridni in verni Prekmurci tako vsako leto praznujejo Proščenje, Primorci pa Gregorčičev dan.

Pesnik Prešeren nas opominja: "Dolgost življenja našega je kratka...". Skrivnost življenja in smrti spremlja našo vsakdanost in ko se razodene, nas pretrese, spomni in tolaži, da je za verno dušo novo življenje onkraj groba. V zgodnji mladosti, kmalu po prejemu sv. birme, se je ta skrivnost razodela Aleksandru, sinu Mojce Končanove in Maria Dimperio, ki je 8. maja na šolskem izletu v Bracebridgeu, Ontario, njegova duša nenadoma odhitela na božje poljane...

"Now, I am the soft star that shines at night. O, do not stand at my grave and cry. I am not there. I did not die."

24. julija smo se posloviili od 91-letnega Stankota Berkopca, ki mu je pred tremi leti ob prvem povojnem obisku domače belokranjske zemlje opešalo zdravje.

27. julija je prestopil prag nebeške domačije 86-letni Ivan Levstek iz župnije sv. Gregorja na Dolnjemskem. Tiho in skromno je bilo njegovo življenje. V Torontu zapušča ženo Štefko, ki hrani njegov rokopis o prvih časih razseljene osebe (DP) v Kanadi, o trdem delu in življenju na kanadski kmetiji. Humorističen opis tega življenja bi bilo zanimivo branje.

7. avgusta je po težki bolezni izteklo mlado življenje Mateja Širclja. Pri Mariji Pomagaj smo z njegovo mamo Anico večkrat molili zanj.

V tem času je končal zemsko poslanstvo Leon Kossar, torontski novinar, ki je z ženo Zeno ustanovil in vodil Metro International Caravan od l. 1969 naprej, ko je s Paviljonom Ljubljana postavil slovensko ime na torontski zemljevid. Naj mu Stvarnik povrne z ljubeznijo, ki jo je s svojim življenjem izkazoval številnim naseljencem v Kanadi.

## NOVI GROBOVI

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

### Eleanor Karpinski

Dne 11. avgusta je na domu svoje hčerke Tine Girod v Painesville Twp. umrla 86 let stara Eleanor Karpinski, rojena Gasiewski v Clevelandu, mati Antoinette (žena) (mož Sutton), Therese Karpinski in Mary Abt, stara mati, sestra Julije Cwiklinski in že pok. Albina, od l. 1951 do 1970 lastovala in vodila Karpinski's Tavern na E. 79 St., v letih 1978-1982 je bila zaposlena pri Nosanovi parkarni, v letih 1982-1990 ga pri The Country Club na E. 40 St. Pogreb bo v soboto, 18. avgusta, v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda, kjer bodo pogrebni obredi ob 11. dop. s pokopom na pokopališču Riverside v Painesvillu. Ure kropljenja bodo jutri, v petek od 2. do 9. zvečer.

### Helen T. Marinic

Dne 10. avgusta je umrla Helen T. Marinic, rojena Jansa, vdova po Edwardu, mati Thomasa, Mary Ann Herrmann, Donne Marinic in že pok. Edwarda, 10-krat stara mati, 3-krat prastara mati, sestra Dorothy Dever. Pogreb bo to soboto, 18. avg., dop. ob 10.30 v cerkvi St. Mary of the Assumption v Mentorju.

### Martin J. Yankovich

Umrli je 75 let stari Martin J. Yankovich, brat Anne Fiala ter že pok. Mary Loss, Helen Harvey in Josepha, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški vojski v Evropi. Pogreb je bil 14. avgusta v oskrbi Zak zavoda na St. Clair Ave., kjer so bili pogrebni obredi, sledil je pokop na pokopališču Sv. Križa.

### Misijonska Znamkarska Akcija (MZA) Catholic Mission Aid (CMA)

je javna, nepridobitna, dobrodelna misijonska organizacija. Ustanovil jo je Fr. Charles A. Wolbang, CM. Registrirana je v mestu Columbus, Ohio, ZDA.

Za pomoč slovenskim misijonarjem zbira finančno pomoč za njih delo med ubogimi v misijonskih deželah ter za vzdrževanje bogoslovcev za domači misijon.

Hvaležni bomo za vsak dar, ki ga boste darovali v ta namen.

Spomnite se misijonarjev in ubogih v svojih oporokah. Za vse prejete darove izdamo potrdilo za "Income tax".

Uradni naslov:

MZA - CMA

17826 Brian Ave., Cleveland, OH 44119

Glavni odbor MZA-CMA, Cleveland

### Sprememba naslova

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

#### Nov naslov

Ime \_\_\_\_\_

Nasloc \_\_\_\_\_

Mesto, Država, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

#### Star naslov

Star naslov \_\_\_\_\_

Mesto, država, zip \_\_\_\_\_

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## Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

### 1390. Spomladi je misijonar Jože Šömen,

ki deluje v državi Zaire, Afrika, prosil za pomoč mizarski šoli pri nabavi stroja. Oglasilo se je več dobrotnikov in Ani Tushar je poslala nabrano vsoto, za kar se g. Šöme zahvaljuje v naslednjem pismu:

"Spoštovana! Bogu hvala in Vam osebno, pa prav tako vsem dobrotnikom. Včeraj sem prejel Vaše pismo, napisano na velikonočni ponedeljek, kjer mi sporočate, da ste poslali tri čeke v skupni vrednosti \$3300, za potrebe naše šole. Z isto pošto sem prejel sporočilo od g. Devetiz iz Belgije, da je čeke prejel in jih dal na banko. Menda je bilo naslovljeno na moje ime, kar lahko malo otežkoči izplačilo, toda upam, da bo urejeno.

Vsekakor hvala za pomoč, za skrbi in za molitve, saj sem prepričan, da jih veliko darujete. Te slednje so bistveno pomembne, saj "... če Gospod ne zida hiše, se zaman trudijo zidarji..." opominja Božja Beseda.

Kot vidite, smo s prejemanjem pošte zelo v zaostanku. Tukaj namreč pošta sploh ne dela. Vso pošto dobivam preko Belgije, torej, kar je poslano na našo prokuro in potem kdo, ki potuje, vse to prinese. Seveda pa je prva stopnja, da pride do Kinshase, potem pa je treba čakati drugo priložnost za pot od Kinshase do Mbandaka, za kar je potrebno spet letalskega potnika (saj ceste med Kinshaso in Mbandako ni - problem je velikih močvirjih), potem še teh dobrih 100 km do naše postaje, kjer pa terensko vozilo sosednjega misijona (ali včasih našega, ki potuje na dva tedna ali še bolj poredko). Tu smo res v gozdu in čas je na razpolago.

Da, čas je na razpolago, toda meni zelo napolnjen z obveznostmi. Misijon, ki šteje okrog 27.000 ljudi in ima 26 vasi, se razteza v dolžino okrog 45 km in v širino kakih 30 km. Od tega je 7 vasi ob jezeru in rekah, kamor lahko pridem peš ali s čolnom. Druge vasi obiskujem večinoma z motorjem, ki je sicer dotrajan, toda slovenska MIVA mi je že odobrila novi motor. Običajno obisk vasi traja en dan in tam prespim, če je pa tam kaka gradnja ali drugo opravilo, ostanem tudi več časa.

Posebna skrb v pastoralnem in socialnem pogledu so nam Pigmejci. Teh je skoraj 40% prebivalstva. V zadnjih treh letih smo organizirali več tečajev za "prebuditev" Pigmejcev, za njihovo vzgojo, skrb za poljedelstvo itd. Neki zunanji znak napredka je menda v tem, da imamo v štirih vaseh cerkvene pevske zборе iz vrst Pigmejcev, lani pa smo poslali na enoletni pastoralni tečaj za katehiste dva Pigmejca, ki sta se na tečaju zelo dobro obnesla. Tako se to silno revno pa tudi zapostavljeno ljudstvo le začenja zavedati svojega človeškega dostojanstva, božjega otroštva in se vključuje v Božje življenje.

Ob vseh teh skrbeh še skrb in veselje mizarske šole. Skrb, saj veste, kaj pomeni držati celo šolo, ko država za to ne migne s prstom. Učenci so iz revnih družin, nekateri zapustijo šolo zgolj zaradi revščine. Učenci prihajajo tudi iz vasi, oddaljenih do 150 km ali več, in starši jim le redkokdaj kaj pošljejo, misijon pa tudi ne zmore prevzeti vse njihove oskrbe. Nekaj že pomagamo, toda potrebe so prevelike. Tisti pa, ki zmorejo breme, tudi pridno napredujejo. Izdelki so priča njihove tehniške vzgoje. Oprema, za katero ste Vi zdaj prispevali, bo zelo izboljšala njihovo šolanje. Ob pogodu na resnost in hvaležnost mnogih učencev, je vsa ta skrb spremenjena v veselje. Iskreni Bog plačaj vsem dobrotnikom! Pristrčno Vas pozdravljam:

Jože Šömen."

Priložen je še listič, kjer piše: "Vsem dobrotnikom, ki ste vedno pozorni na delo v misijonih, ki redno pomagata in ste se še posebej odzvali na klic za pomoč naši šoli: iskreni Bog plačaj! V Mooto 7-6-2001, Jože Šömen.

Gospa, prosim, če lahko posredujete to zahvalo dobrotnikom, ker mi je nemogoče se zahvaliti osebno vsem, ki ste jih omenili v pismu."

Priloženi sta tudi dve fotografiji, ki ju vidite na tej strani.

V vsakega misijonarja je Bog položil veliko ljubezni, saj drugače ne bi mogel zdržati v takih težkih razmerah, kot je opisano v gornjem pismu. Zares drži: da je veliko poklicanih, a malo izvoljenih. Vključimo tudi tega misijonarja v naših molitvah, da bo zdržal na tej postojanki in pripeljal tudi te ovčice k Jezusu.



Zgoraj: Misijon Mooto, Kongo, 1999. Cerkev, zgrajena s pomočjo učencev. Spodaj: Hišica v vasi Nkumba, kjer g. Šömen tudi prespi. Vas je tudi del misijona Mooto, posnetek je bil napravljen februarja 2000, na desni je seveda misijonar Jože Šömen sam.



Z Madagaskarja se je oglasil misijonar Tone Kerin in piše: "Najlepša in iskrena zahvala za dar, ki ste mi ga poslali v Pariz. Bog Vam povrne za trud in skrb, ki jo imate za nas v misijonih. Prav tako in najlepša zahvala ge. Pretnar za dar.

Verjetno ste brali v *Misijonskih Obzorjih* o moji gradnji novih cerkva. Trenutno gradim kar dve cerkvi in, če Bog da, bosta gotovi to leto. Vaša pomoč gre vsa v to gradnjo. Z gotovostjo Vam lahko povem, da je za Madagaskar edina rešitev in upanje pravo in močno krščansko občestvo, šele na to lahko mislimo o drugačni pomoči. Vera namreč človeka notranje spremeni in mu da odprtost za vse dobro in plemenitejše. Želim Vam veliko uspeha in sreče ter božjega blagoslova pri Vašem delu.

Lep pozdrav vsem in iskrena HVALA, Bog povrne,  
Tone Kerin."

Ta misijonar ima veliko razgledanost o življenju Malgašev. Hodil je obiskovati jetnike in se marsikaj naučil, kako delati z ljudmi na teh obiskih. Pred dvema letoma je bil tudi v našem mestu na kratkem obisku. Tudi za tega misijonarja ne pozabimo moliti, da bo vzdržal pri svojem delu, ko gradi poslopje cerkve, gradi tudi na duhovnem polju.

Lep misijonski pozdrav tudi od vseh sodelujočih!

Marica Lavriša  
1004 Dillewood Rd.  
Cleveland, OH 44119

## Vnebovzeta

Na stolčku sedi sredi raja pa verne dušice napaja.

Taka je bila nekdanja kateheza o Božji Materi. Priznajmo, da ljubka in mila. Vsa mariologija in teološka učenost ne premore skromne modrosti, kakršno je iz navne predstave iztisnila verna pamet. Kakšen prestol! Navaden stolček, mogoče pručica. Nobenih soban, le tedensko okolje, kjer skoraj gotovo šumlja potok in tudi senčnega zelenja ne manjka. Nič dvorjanov, same potrpežljive žejne duše. Marija Vnebovzeta jih vztrajna in nikoli utrujena krepča z nebeško studenčnico.

Vnebovzeta, ne vnebohodna. Zemeljskega kroga ni prešla, ampak je bila dvignjena nadenj. Odnos Sin-Mati se je vzajemno izrazil v vzgonski breztežnosti. Oba se dvigata, toda vsak v svoji biti. Sin iz lastne moči, Mati kot dvignjena, vzeta navzgor. Sociolog bo povedal, da po patriarhalnem načelu. Marija je namreč ženska in pritiče ji podrejena vloga. Vse Sveto pismo da jo izkazuje.

Nikoli izpeta pesem: kdo je prvi, kdo drugi, kdo več in kdo manj?

Pod obokom neba je vse napeto na tetivo tekmovalnosti. Nad lokom neba, kjer duše ne potrebujejo ne hladilnika ne tekstila, je bolj preprosto. Za večnostne usluge zadošča le vstopnica, tako imenovani sanktokard. Eurocard in podobne vzorce minljive vrednosti pa tam božji biljeter gladko zavrne.

Dogma o vnebovzetju? Nad lebdenjem nihče več ne zavija z očmi. Izpričano je. Vnebovzetje je res nekaj več kot pridvignjenost. A počakajmo. Nemara pa znanost kdaj dobiti vero?

DRUŽINA

Ljubljana, 12. avg. 2001

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