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AMERISKA DOMOVINA

AMERISKA DOMOVINA

SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, JUNE 21, 2007

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70¢

Congratulations on Slovenian Independence Day

The Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia
in Washington, D.C.

The Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia
in New York, and

The Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia
in Cleveland

Congratulate all Slovenians on June 25, 2007

Statehood Day of the Republic of Slovenia!



Under Secretary of the U.S. Air Force, Ron Šega, left, shakes hands with Slovenian Prime Minister, Janez Janša

Under Sec. of Air Force Dr. Šega Visits Slovenia

LJUBLJANA, June 1 -- Under Secretary of the U.S. Air Force, Dr. Ronald Šega, met Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Janša, Minister of Defense Karl Erjavec, Chief of Defense Lt. Gen. Albin Gutman, and exchanged views on the cooperation between Slovenia and the USA on defense and on some other issues in bilateral and international relations.

The Prime Minister

stressed the US contribution to the development of the Slovenian Armed Forces (SAF), while Dr. Šega, a former astronaut, who is of Slovenian origin on his father's side, commended Slovenia for the active and responsible role it plays with a relatively high contribution to the NATO operations, where SAF troops are held in high regard.



LAST YEAR Slovenia celebrated its 15th year of Independence on June 25th with various activities around the globe. Pictured here in Cleveland City Hall are, left to right, U.S. Senator from Ohio George V. Voinovich, Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson, Slovenian Prime Minister Janez Janša, Cleveland Councilman Mike Polensek, and Slovenian Foreign Minister Dr. Dimitrij Rupel.

(Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

Picnic Celebrates Slovenian Liberty

The Belokranjski Club has extended an open invitation to everyone to celebrate the 16th Anniversary of the Statehood of the Republic of Slovenia, at the club's picnic on Sunday, June 24, at Slovenska Pristava.

Several Slovenian groups are working together to plan an enjoyable program for the day, including Consul General of Slovenia Dr. Zvone Žigon, the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame, Slovenska Pristava, the new Slovenian youth group (so new it does not have a name yet), and the Belokranjski Club.

The location in Harpersfield is very inviting – Pristava has a large outdoor dance pavilion surrounded by plenty of picnic tables. Picnic-goers will have an

opportunity to see the beautiful Lausche Lodge building, which recently was dedicated at a grand opening.

Plans are still underway to hold a Catholic Mass at noon.

From 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., dinners will be available for \$12.00 with a choice of pig roast, chicken, or lamb. Join the procession at 3 p.m., with accordions and colorful costumed dancers from the chapel to the outdoor bandstand. Accordion players are welcome.

A short program at 3:30 p.m., will begin with the National Anthem and *Zdravljica*, guest speaker will be the honorable Judge Ronald Suster, of Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, and greetings by Dr. Zvone Žigon.

Displays of Slovenian crafts, artwork, and events will be on exhibit as well as an assortment of Slovenian souvenirs for sale, such as tee shirts and songbooks.

From 4 p.m., to 7 p.m., Stan Mejac and his orchestra will entertain for dancing and listening pleasure.

The price is right as there is no entrance fee for this picnic, and there is plenty of free parking.

Attend the picnic and receive a sticker with the new slogan of Slovenia. "I Feel sLOVEnia."

To make dinner reservations, call Joan Benedejcic at 440-834-9708 or Alenka Winslett at 440-449-9410.

--Cecilia Dolgan



Father Victor Cimperman, left, and Bishop A. Edward Pevec.
(Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

Fr. Cimperman Celebrates 90th

On Sunday, June 24 Father Victor Cimperman will mark his 90th birthday with an All-Parish Mass of Thanksgiving at 10 a.m. in St. Vitus Church. Bishop A. Edward

Pevec will be the main celebrant.

All parishioners and friends are invited to attend. After Mass a reception will be held in the parish auditorium.



It's Cool To Be
SLOVENIAN

Directions to Slovenska Pristava

Take I-90 east to the Geneva Exit (Route 534). Turn right at the exit. You will be going South on Rte. 534. Go for approximately 2 miles until you reach South River Road. Make a right at South River Road and go approximately 1 mile until you reach Brandt Road. Turn right at Brandt Road.

Slovenska Pristava is about 1/2 mile down the road on the right.

Keep a definite goal of achievement constantly in view. Realize that work well and worthily done makes life truly worth living. --Bob Mills

AMERICAN HOME AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

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No. 17

June 21, 2007



Running the Cleveland Marathon

Barbara Vidmar Beyer, Christy and Frank Vidmar gather after the Cleveland Marathon on May 20, 2007.

Barbara completed the 26.2 mile race (her first marathon) while Christy and Frank ran the 10K. It was also Christy's first road race ever, and Frank's first in many years. All were pleased with the results.

It was a joyful family experience for all: Barb's hus-

band and children were there to cheer, and Barb and Frank's sister, Viki Wade, joined them, while Frank and Nezka Vidmar followed their adult kids' race progress from home on the computer.

These proud Slovenian runners thank all of the spectators for their support along the course and afterward at the Slovenian-themed post-race party in the Galleria.

Preservation Study Group Report

by RICH TERSELIC

The news that a Cleveland group had announced plans for a cultural center to be located behind the St. Clair Avenue Slovenian Home recently captured headlines in Slovenian-American publications. At about the same time, an event of similar potential significance to Slovenian-American heritage preservation, occurred, but received less attention.

The latter event was the release by Ambassador Zbogar of the final report of the Slovenian-American Memorabilia Preservation Project. The embassy covered the release in its newsletter.

The report summarizes and analyzes the 10 responses to a questionnaire mailed in late 2006 to approximately two dozen addresses. The respondents, preserving materials related to Slovenian-American history and culture. The questionnaire was developed by a group, interested in the preservation issue, composed of Mr. James Cesnik, Mr. George Plautz, Mr. Richard Terselic, and Dr. John Vidmar. As a courtesy, reflecting its support of the initiative, but not of any particular conclusions or actions, the Embassy of Slovenia duplicated and mailed the questionnaire to 24 individuals and groups in America.

While the Cleveland project and the preservation group effort might appear to be competitive, this is not the case, since the Cleveland effort deals with a particular preservation initiative, while the preservation group seeks to deal with the full spectrum of preservation tasks and issues, regardless of organization or geographic location.

The first objective of the preservation project group was to develop an initial summary description of the various efforts in America and Slovenia to preserve materials related to the history and culture of Slovenian-Americans. The second objective was to achieve a greater degree of collaboration and cooperation among the various individual ongoing efforts.

While it has been well known that individuals and organizations have been involved in the preservation task, the threat exists, that absent a greater degree of collaboration and cooperation, some may fail to be able to continue functioning. As a consequence, important materials may be discarded if it does not become better known that there are places desirous of preserving them. The American Home published articles over the past year describing cases where valuable materials were discarded or threatened with being discarded.

The preservation questionnaire posed 10 questions that sought to characterize the: materials with which the respondents were involved; size and location of collections; principle contacts; assessments of the importance of preserving materials; suggestions as to where materials would best be retained (that is, America or Slovenia); possible arguments against seeking to preserve; suggestions regarding forming a combined preservation effort and willingness to participate, and finally; additional thoughts and suggestions.

The respondents expressed a substantial measure of importance to preservation efforts, as well as a substantial willingness to participate in collaboration seeking to achieve a higher level of national participation by like-minded individuals and groups.

The Embassy assisted the information gathering efforts by surveying groups in Slovenia involved in preservation of Slovenian-American cultural/historical materials. Sadly, several individuals and groups to which the questionnaire was sent chose not to respond. Some have been involved in important efforts at preservation for many years. Their participation could have provided additional valuable information.

The primary author of the summary report, Richard Terselic, believes the next step should be to hold a meeting of respondents.

For further information call him at rat@tidalwave.net or call 301-874-2446.

Old Quiz, New Quiz

by James V. Debevec II

OLD QUIZ: What state in America has the highest population per square mile?

The answer is New Jersey. The correct answer was submitted by Rudy Sterk Manager of St. Vitus Village, Stan Zakelj of Broadview Heights, OH, Matt Skrajner of Willoughby, OH, and Rikk Jenko of Broadview Hts., OH. Congratulations!

NEW QUIZ: What property on a Monopoly board is the most landed-upon space?

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

Pilot vs. Priest Joke

A priest dies and is waiting in line at the Pearly Gates. Ahead of him is a guy dressed in sunglasses, a loud shirt, leather jacket and jeans. Saint Peter addresses this cool guy. "Who are you, so that I may know whether or not to admit you to the Kingdom of Heaven?" He replies, "I'm Peter Pilot, retired American Airlines pilot from Dallas." Saint Peter consults his list, gives him a silken robe and golden staff and lets him into heaven.

Next, it's the priest's turn. He stands erect and booms out, "I'm Father Joe, pastor of St. Mary's in Pasadena for the last 43 years." Saint Peter consults his list. He says, "Take this cotton robe and wooden staff and enter the kingdom of heaven."

"Just a minute," says the good father. "That man was a pilot and he gets a silken robe and golden staff, and I get only cotton and wood. How can that be?"

Saint Peter says, "Up here we go by results. - When you preached - people slept. When the pilot flew, people prayed."

--Phil Hrvatin

Newspaper Schedule

The next American Home newspaper will continue to be printed three times each month.

In June the paper next Ameriška Domovina will be published on June 28.

In July, the American Home will also be printed on the last three Thursdays of the month, July 12, 19, 26.

In August, the American Home will be printed on the last three Thursdays of the month, Aug. 9, 16, 23

In September, the American Home will be printed on the first three Thursdays of the month, Sept. 6, 13, and 20.

The remainder of the year the American Home will continue to be printed on the FIRST THREE THURSDAYS of the month (Oct., Nov., Dec.)

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This and that from Emilee



by EMILEE JENKO

you at the Pot Luck Luncheon. Speedy recovery as you were and are, missed.

Glad to hear on the Sunday polka program that Fran Churney is back in the saddle after a stint in the hospital. Stay well, Fran.

A few hellos to shut-ins: Ed and Fran Karnak, Marie Orazem, Polka Millie, Bea Tanko, George Knaus, Albina Cendol who resides at Gateway.

We have started our bingo sessions in June at the Slovene Home for the Aged at 6:45 p.m. and each Wednesday during the months of June, July, and August. Please come and join us. We have a blast.

Belated May birthdays: Ivanka Stupica, Joey Ambrosic and Norb Novak who resides in Oklahoma.

My friend Emma Yama broker her kneecap and is in Rehab at Sunrise Assisted Living Facility. I spoke to her and she is doing fine. She is the wife of Mirk Yama who played Bass in Johnny Pecon's Orchestra. Speedy recovery.

As a guest of Agnes Koporc of the Mission of St. Francis Xavier, Branch 150, I had a great lunch catered by Linda Plecnik and her capable assistant Stefani Zamlan. Met all my friends to my surprise because I was unaware of this group. Tony Baznik said grace and Father Vic Cimperman did the closing prayer. This gathering was wonderful. We celebrated Mary Vellicig's birthday with a cake which we all enjoyed. Mary is a resident of St. Vitus Village. A good time was had by all. Again, many thanks.

Get well wishes to George Knaus, Frank Mullec, and Ed Arhar.

June 24th is an important date for John and Janet Telich. They will have their 60th wedding anniversary. Many, many happy days ahead and congratulations. Živijo.

Happy wedding anniversary to Lloyd and Emma DeLach. Emma sings in the choir each Saturday at the Slovene Home for the Aged. Health and happiness ahead.

A welcome home get-together to Gwen Slapnik Washington was celebrated at Cebars Bar on East 185th Street. A friendly gathering of family and friends came to wish Gwen a speedy recovery from her gunshot wound from a bank robber. We wish her good health.

Hello's to Dorothy Kirk, who is a resident of Harbor-side Nursing Home in Parma.

Hello to Fran and Millie Virant. Haven't bumped into

you for quite a while. Likewise, Bill Azman, Jr.

I attended the funeral Mass Friday, May 25 for Matt Nousak at St. Vitus Church on Lausche Avenue, with Bishop A. Edward Pevec as the main celebrant with the help of Father Boznar, Fr. Vic Cimperman, Fr. Frank Godic, and Fr. John Kumse. The Nousak family is an extended one. The girls gave a short story of their father's life. Many tears were shed with the narration by the speaker and the congregation. The repast was held at the Slovenian Society Hall on Recher Avenue in Euclid, Ohio with the caterer Sophie Mazi at the helm and her excellent crew. Oceans of food and oceans of pastry by Teresa Marie Vegh. At the cemetery a glass of whiskey was sipped by those in attendance per Matt's request. Rest in peace, Matt. You will be missed by all.

Is Aggie Flanders still living in Penna.? Don't hear a word about her. Anybody got any answers. Let me know.

Belated May birthdays. John Streck and Cheryl Godic, both active members of the monthly raffle on St. Clair Slovenian Home.

Won't you join us. We have a blast each month. Ron Godic does his magic and he is the best. Al Battistelli is the music maker and he is the best and we the raffle players and the singers... we do our best. Our sing-a-long is so much fun singing the oldies but goodies. Please join us.

Thanks to Josepha Strauss for the dessert treat (the little

policas) as all enjoyed the tasty pastry at my table. Very good, and thank you.

Till we get together, let me leave you with this thought: "The milk of human kindness has no expiration date."

Happy Birthday, June 1st Rikk. Many more. Luv you. XOXO.

--Luv ya,
Always,
Emilee

Voinovich bill to protect homeowners

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator George V. Voinovich (R-OH) along with Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) on May 15 introduced the Mortgage Relief Act — legislation to change current law that forces individuals to pay income tax when they have part of their mortgage loan forgiven or are forced to foreclose because of inability to pay their mortgage.

"Removing this tax penalty encourages homeowners and lenders to work together voluntarily so that payments are manageable and foreclosure can be avoided," Sen. Voinovich said. "This tax actually penalizes those who are trying to work it out in a responsible manner."

Declining home prices and rising foreclosure rates have

forced more and more families — often minorities, the elderly and immigrants — to sell their homes for less than they paid for them, and sometimes for less than the outstanding debt. The Internal Revenue Service currently taxes any loan forgiveness as "income." The Mortgage Relief Act will relieve families of a tax burden when their lender forgives part of the mortgage on a principal residence.

"Clearly it is unfair to tax people on income that doesn't exist," Voinovich said. "This is particularly true at a time when they have experienced a substantial economic loss on the most significant asset they own and have no way to pay the tax. This tax is unfair and must end immediately."

The Joey Tomsick Orchestra: 2007 Schedule

JUNE 2007

- FRI, Jun. 1: WESTPARK SLOV. CLUB. 7:30p – 11:15p. 4583 W. 130th St. Cleveland. (216) 433-1941.
- SAT, Jun. 2: STERLES COUNTRY HOUSE. 8:00p – 12:00a. 1401 E. 55th St. Cleveland. (216) 881-4181.
- SUN, June 10: ROLANDO'S DINNER CLUB. 2:00p – 6:00p. 2433 Whipple Ave. Canton. (330) 477-5934.
- ✓ SAT, June 23: OUR LADY of MT. CARMEL. 7:00p – 11:00p Festival. 1730 Mt. Carmel Dr. Wickliffe (440) 585-0700.
- FRI, June 29: WESTPARK SLOV. CLUB. 7:30p – 11:15p. 4583 W. 130th St. Cleveland. (216) 433-1941.
- SAT, June 30: CHARDON SENIOR CENTER. 1st Annual SAUSAGE & CHEESE FESTI 1:00p – 8:00p. For ALL AGES! 12555 Ravenwood Dr., Chardon. \$6. Variety of Dance Bands (440) 279-2130.

JULY 2007

- THU, July 5: CONCORD TWP GAZEBO. 7:00p – 9:00p. 7229 Ravenna Rd. Concord Twp. (440) 639-4650.
- SAT, July 7: PRIVATE.
- SUN, July 8: SNPJ FARM. 3:30p – 7:30p. 10946 Heath Road. Kirtland (216) 732-9231.
- SAT, July 28: STERLES COUNTRY HOUSE. 8:00p – 12:00a. 1401 E. 55th St. Cleveland. (216) 881-4181.
- SUN, July 29: ST. ROBERTS FESTIVAL. 5:00p – 9:00p. 23802 Lakeshore Blvd. Euclid. (216) 731-2606.

AUGUST 2007

- THU, Aug. 2: PRIVATE.
- SAT, Aug. 4: PATRICIAN PARTY CENTER. 4:30p – 8:30p. 33150 Lakeland Blvd. Eastlake (440) 953-0510.
- SAT, Aug. 18: ST. CLAIR RIFLE & HUNTING CLUB STEAKROAST. 6:00p – 10:00p. Concord. (216) 261-6353.
- SUN, Aug. 19: GARFIELD HTS. CONCERT in PARK. 7:00p – 9:00p. (216) 475-7272.
- FRI, Aug. 24: REVERSE RAFFLE. St. Clair Slov. Home. 6:00p – 12:00a. 6409 St. Clair Ave. (216) 732-8288.
- SUN, Aug. 26: PRIVATE.
- TUE, Aug. 28: MAPLE HTS. CONCERT. 6:30p – 8:30p. Dunham Park, 15005 Shriver Rd. (216) 587-5451

SEPTEMBER 2007

- SUN, Sept. 2: SNPJ FARM. 3:30p – 7:30p. 10946 Heath Road. Kirtland (440) 943-1191.
- SAT, Sept. 8: PRIVATE.
- SUN, Sept. 9: PERCHFEST FAIRPORT HARBOR. 12:00p – 2:00p. Lakefront Park, Fairport Harbor (800) 368-5253.
- SAT, Sept. 15: SAUSAGE FESTIVAL. Polka Hall of Fame! 12:00p – 10:00p. SNPJ FARM Kirtland (216) 261-FAME.
- SAT, Sept. 22: DAYTON OKTOBERFEST. 4:30p – 8:30p. St. Peter's Parish, Huber Hts. (937) 239-1056.
- SUN, Sept. 23: GRAPE FESTIVAL SNPJ FARM. 3:30p – 7:30p. 10946 Heath Road. Kirtland (440) 943-1191.
- FRI./SAT Sept. 28 & 29: SUGARCREEK SWISS FEST. 2 Day Polka Fest! Variety of Bands (330) 852-4112.

OCTOBER 2007

- SAT, Oct. 6: ST. MARY CHARDON OKTOBERFEST. 5:30p – 11:00p. 401 North St (North of Chardon Square) (440) 285-7051. (Dance, Drink & Be Merry ... And wish Joey a happy birthday!)
- SAT, Oct. 13: REVERSE RAFFLE. St. Clair Slov Home. 6:00p – 12:00a. 6409 St. Clair Ave. (440) 526-3344.
- SUN, Oct. 14: MUSICIAN of YEAR – Paul Yanchar. Collinwood Slov. Home 15810 Holmes Ave.

POLKA BUS TRIP: Sunday, October 21 to DESHLER BAVARIAN HAUS. (216) 531-2745 \$45 per person

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Bookings, Recordings, Information: (440) 639-1963 joeynow@yahoo.com

www.joeytomsick.com

4 Latest News About Triglav Park

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, JUNE 21, 2007

It certainly didn't take long to wake Triglav Park up after the long winter. Just within the month of May we have already shared our hospitality with many visitors.

We started the month off in the best way possible with a visit from the Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia, Dr. Zvone Žigon, along with his wife, Irena, and her father. The Dom was filled with Slovenians waiting in line to talk personally with Dr. Žigon. After a light supper, Dr. Žigon presented the Triglav Society with a beautiful book on Slovenia and, of course, a good bottle of Slovenian wine.

We, in turn, showed our appreciation by presenting Dr. Žigon with a one of a kind whirligig hand crafted by Ivan Bambič. A power point presentation on Slovenia was then shown which held everyone's attention, young and old alike. The evening wasn't complete until our favorite folk songs were sung.

Mother's Day was celebrated at Triglav Park on Sunday, May 20th. Although few in number, we still gathered to remember all mothers, the mothers who have already died, those that are still with us, and those mothers-to-be.

We began by honoring Our Lady of Brezje with the Litanije being led by Frank Menchak. Dari Strmsek then gave all present a special treat by recalling some of her youthful days in Slovenia. At the age of 95, it is remarkable how strong and clear her voice is. It's as though she is on stage once again, and performing as she did in Ljubljana. Unlike myself, there is no need for any notes for she knows just what she is going to say. She gives us the motivation and courage to carry on at Triglav Park.

As a remembrance of the day, each mother was presented with a beautiful handmade bookmark, with one side having the poem "Moja Mamica" on it and the other side the Slovenian red carnations and a heart-shaped cookie. These were made with love by our member Beta Modic who now lives in the state of Washington.

Memorial Day brought friends near and far to beautiful Triglav park for the start of the season. Our president, Craig Frohna, welcomed all, reminding us of the importance of this day and wished everyone a beautiful afternoon.

Our guest celebrant was Fr. Gregor Gorsič, Pastor at St. Andrew's Parish in Romeoville, IL. The readings were read by Kati Kaye



and Frank Menchak. Our petitions this year were read by Miss Michelle Mejač, and our altar boy was first timer Jimmy Kaye.

After Mass Franjo Mejač welcomed all to our annual remembrance day for all the deceased members of our society, the men and women who died to keep our country safe and especially the 12,000 domobranci who were executed. The program began with Mark Frohna playing Taps on his trumpet, as all stood in silence during this solemn moment.

As much as we would like things to remain the way they were, it is impossible. We are finding that fewer and fewer people understand Slovenian and so we felt that it was important at this time to convey to others why this day is so important. With that in mind, Helen Frohna summarized in her own words the events that took place back in May of 1945.

Under the direction of Mr. Jože Rus, we heard for the first time the very moving, *Tisočeriš Slovencev Križev Pot*. We all know the Stations of the Cross, but these that were read on Memorial Day were connecting the domobranci with the cross that they had to endure. The readers were Fr. Gorsič, Fanika Gorsič, Helenca Frohna, Ani Sagadin, Kati Kaye, Lojze Gregorich and Franjo Mejač. The program concluded as all joined in singing "Moja Domovina."

We couldn't have asked for a nicer day. The park was filled with the delicious smells of barbecue chickens and sausages, the bar and picnic areas were filled with sounds of old friends seeing each other again, and you could hear the clicking of the bolinca balls. There was however, one thing missing. As people received their dinners and then turned the corner for their coffee, the very familiar sight of Mici Coffelt standing there smiling, asking, "Do you want coffee, sugar, milk?" was no longer there. Mici passed away on Nov. 25th just three weeks after she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. She touched the hearts of so many, and she certainly will be missed by all.

May and June are the months for graduation and we at Triglav have a surprising number of graduates this

year. Ten young adults have completed their high school years and are now choosing their careers. As happy as we are for them, we also realize that not only are we, the parents, getting much older, but that many of these young people will be going away to college making many of us at Triglav "empty nesters." We wish them all much success and happiness but we also ask them not to forget about us.

Congratulations first go out to Michael Mejač who graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in Environmental Science.

Graduating from high school are Danielle Dvnik, Nick Limoni who graduated salutatorian, Ben Logan, Kristina Mejač, Michelle Mejač, Brian Sagadin, Daniel Smolic, Stephanie Sulik, Kelly Vesel and Stephen Yaklich.

Congratulations are also extended to our 8th grade graduates, Monica Coffelt, Aleah Dvnik and Joe Sagadin.

I'm sure that all the graduates made their parents and grandparents very proud of them and that all the hard work paid off. Once again, congratulations to all. *Čestitamo.*

Our next picnic will be on Sunday, June 24 and we look forward to welcoming familiar as well as new faces to our small part of Slovenia. As usual, please visit our website at www.triglavpark.com for all the latest news.

Lep pozdrav.

--Helenca Coffelt-Frohna

Slovenia Voting

Once again, we are urging Slovenian citizens who are eligible to vote, and wish to do so, to update their contact information in the Voters Registry of the Republic of Slovenia.

If you are a Slovenian citizen but never received any voting materials in the past and wish to vote in future elections in Slovenia, or if you did participate in elections, but have since changed your address, contact one of the following.

The Consulate General in Cleveland
Tel: (216) 589-9220
email: kcl@gov.si

The Consulate General in New York
Tel: (212) 370-3006
email: kny@gov.si

The Consular Department of the Embassy in Washington, DC
Tel: (202) 667-5363

(440) 602-5120

Fax (440) 602-5124

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"Shop and Pray" St. Patrick's Church and an afternoon of shopping at the Ikea store in Pittsburgh, PA with Fr. McNeil of St. Robert's Church, August 7.

Amish Country. See "In the Beginning" & "Psalms of David," in Lancaster, PA. August 15 to 17, 2007.

Eucharistic Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Mother Angelica in Hansville, AL & Irondale, AL. Oct. 1 to 5, 2007.

Feast of All Saints, a day at St. Anthony's Chapel in Pittsburgh with over 3,000 relics of the Saints. Nov. 1.

"Journey to Bethlehem" Christmas way of the Lights at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, ILL. Nov. 27 to 29, 2007.

Paris Special - Nov. 8 - 14, 2007 -- \$999.

St. Vitus Church

6019 Lausche Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Phone: (216) 361-1444



June 24—Observance of 90th Birthday of Father (Sun.) Victor Cimperman. One parish Mass, 10 a. m. followed by social in parish auditorium.

July 15—Annual Parish Summer Picnic. On (Sun.) Slovenska Pristava, Harpersfield, Ohio. Theme: 75th Anniversary of completion and dedication of current St. Vitus Church.

July 22—Annual St. Vitus Slovenian School Summer (Sun.) Picnic on Slovenska Pristava.

Sept 9—Annual Altar and Rosary Society benefit (Sun.) dinner in parish auditorium.

Oct 5-7—Trip to Washington D.C. Visit various sites including new WWII Memorial.

Oct 10—Opening Concert for 2007-2008 season (Wed.) of CityMusic Cleveland, 32 piece chamber orchestra in St. Vitus Church. Social to follow in parish auditorium.

Oct 21—Parish Volunteer and Benefactor Appreciation (Sun.) Day. Mass followed by brunch.

Oct 28—St. Vitus Alumni Honoree Day. Mass followed (Sun.) by dinner and induction ceremony.



Dr. Metod M. Milač, left, speaks about Rab, Auschwitz, Vetrinj, *Three Remembrances* to about 150 people at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17 at the Slovenian Society Home, Euclid, Ohio in a talk sponsored by The Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation. Dr. Milač recounted his personal struggle for survival as a prisoner and forced laborer during World War II in Slovenia. Dr. Milač is Associate Director, Emeritus, of Syracuse University Library.
(Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

All Invited to St. Vitus Parish Picnic

St. Vitus Parish will have its annual summer parish picnic on Sunday, July 15 at Slovenska Pristava, a recreational facility located in Harpersfield, Ohio, approximately 45 miles east of Cleveland.

The event will begin with a Mass at 12 noon followed by an expertly prepared dinner consisting of pork/chicken with side dishes. Cost is \$12.00 adult, and \$6 for a child 12 years or younger.

Cleveland's own Jerry Suhar will provide cool tropical sounds during dinner followed by the enjoyable Alpine echoing sounds of the

Stan Mejac Orchestra from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Side foods of French fries, hamburgers, klobase (Slovenian sausage), etc., will be provided AFTER the dinner, as well as an assortment of cool refreshments. There is no admission or parking charge that day.

Other activities include open swimming (nominal fee for non-members of Pristava), Chinese raffles, children's games, side display of artwork, and balinca playing.

The theme of this year's summer picnic is celebrating the 75th anniversary completion and dedication of current St. Vitus Church (dedicated Nov., 1932) with its

unique Byzantine Lombard architectural design including the stunning religious artwork in the interior of the church. A display is being prepared for all attendees.

The net proceeds from this year's event will be used to pay-down the outstanding bank loan for the church and parish house roofs and maintenance project. Of the original \$300,000 bank loan, an outstanding balance of \$120,000 remains. The entire project cost \$1.78 million.

Father Joseph Boznar is the sixth pastor of St. Vitus church. The parish has approximately 800 registered households with an estimated 1,500 parishioners.

One Day Bus Trip to Enon Valley

On Saturday, July 14 a bus will depart from the West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland at 10:45 a.m., to Slovene Fest XVII SNPJ AT Enon Valley, Pa., and return at 10:45 p.m.

Price is \$38.00 includes transportation and admission.

For reservations call Rudy Pivik (216) 433-1941 or Bob Smith (216) 281-9497.

The Happy Timers will perform from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the gostilna.

I used to be indecisive; now I'm not sure. -Phil Hrvatin

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Sizzlin' Delights Set For Slovenska Pristava

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 30th. That is the date of the Annual Slovenska Pristava Camper's Steak Roast. It is also the beginning of the 4th of July week.

This dinner has become an annual "sell-out" and a very special night for all involved. Come and enjoy a steak prepared on the outside barbecue pit, or a chicken dinner with all the homemade treats the campers are known for. The campers and their families provide all the volunteer labor for this picnic. It is a great opportunity to come and discuss the improvements being made in the camping area, or just to visit friends.

Music for your dancing enjoyment will be provided.

The newly dedicated Lausche Lodge will be available for your inspection. Mish "Boom-boom" Radisek's new gravel will also be available for your review.


The majority of the proceeds from this event are contributed directly to Slovenska Pristava.

The bar will open at 2 p.m., and serving will be from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Reservations are necessary. Tickets are \$15.00/steak (\$20.00 at the door), and \$12.00/chicken (\$15.00 at the door).

For dinner tickets please call Marge Znidarsic (440) 256-9237.

--Janez Lenarcic
Social Director

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6 Revolution: War Thru Eyes of a Boy

by FELIX MAVEC

(Continued)

In 1944 a friend of ours encouraged us to move to the town of Velike Lasce, closer to the Domobranci camp. We stayed in the house for one year and paid no rent. I did not attend school at all during this year. This house was very close to the guard post. Some nights they would start shooting and wake everyone up. At this time, it was my job to bring home one liter of milk from the farmer. This was four kilometers round trip by road. In the winter we had a lot of snow. When the snow was hard, I could walk right on top of it across the fields and this made my job easier.

In 1944, the whole family went to Ribnica without me. They went to the site where the Partisans had murdered my father. My mother recognized her husband's body right away. He had his hands tied behind his back. The bodies had been exhumed and he looked like before except he had no eyes and the skin on his face was gone. He had been in the ground for one year. Mom told the men who had exhumed the body that he had some money sewn in his pocket. They opened the pocket and the money was still there. They gave her the money and she put it in her purse. I remember the terrible smell of the money and purse when she came home.

There were only three graves on this site where my father was killed, even though there had been over 127 men killed there. The Partisans had planted trees to disguise the graves, but the trees did not take. We wanted to give these men a proper burial. Wooden caskets were laid on wagons and pulled by horses in a long procession. The Partisan sympathizers in Ribnica were making jokes as we drove by. "Do you have rocks in the casket?" They would ask. The Partisan people were filled with so much hate. We buried my father in the Velike Lasce cemetery.

In the early spring of 1945, a single fighter plane came over our town. For once, it did not bomb the town. There was a big red star on its side, a Russian plane. He was strafing a locomotive in the rail yard. The poor locomotive was full of holes and there was steam coming from its belly. After the plane was gone, I went to the rail yard looking for empty bullet casings. I found some and they were huge compared to rifle bullets. They were six inches or more in length, and one inch in diameter.

Some days the sky was full of airplanes. Sometimes there would be groups of five to 10 planes and the whole sky would shake. There was constant noise from overhead. The planes were all black and some had twin tail bodies. We later found out that these were American planes. They were bombing oil fields in Romania. This was to cut off Germany's supply of oil. These planes would drop what

looked like Christmas tinsel to disrupt the German radar. Smaller planes would drop messages against the communists and I was always on the lookout for these.

My friend and I would go around the Domobranci military barracks looking for bullets. If we found any soldiers in the barracks, we would ask them for bread. If no one was there, we would look for bullets. One time, Albert found a burned out rifle and wanted to fire it. He said he was going to put a bullet in it and pull the trigger, so we all followed him down to the creek. He pointed the rifle in the mud and fired. The whole rifle exploded, sending shrapnel everywhere. There were about 10 of us boys standing around, but somehow, nobody got hurt.

Another time, my friend was playing with a hand grenade he had found near the barracks. He pulled the safety-pin and did not know what to do. He threw it over the barn and there was a loud boom, but no harm was done. Some soldiers were making fun of these Italian hand grenades. If it hit someone on the back pack, it would not even hurt them, they said. After the war in 1945, it was a grenade, probably German, which killed my cousin Dominic. He was only 7-years-old.

One afternoon in early May, 1945, a column of wagons, horses, and people

came through our town. They said they would not wait around for the Partisans to find and kill them. The three of us kids decided we could not stay home. Mama was against leaving, but we convinced her we could not stay. She was reluctant, but she agreed. We loaded the wagon and joined the other refugees. Our family cow was used to pull the wagon. We did not know where to go. We went toward Ljubljana, the capitol of Slovenia. We were lost here also until we met a man who knew the country. As we went through the country, the people called us names, "Murderers, you have blood on your hands," they would say, and call for us to be shot. The city people believed the communist propaganda that we were the enemy.

We went on towards Austria. I was very tired after a while. I could not ride in the wagon because the extra weight would have slowed us down. I fell asleep walking and they found me a block behind them. We traveled throughout Kranj to the Ljubel tunnel. Mama made something to eat. We left the wagon before we got to the town of Trzic, but we took the cow with us.

Along the road were wounded soldiers. They were hollering and crying. They were bloody and nobody paid attention to them. The road was jammed. From the top of the hill, Partisans were shooting down on us with heavy mortar. We could hear Partisans dropping the shell into the barrel. We took cover in stores and houses. When a shell exploded, we moved forward about 50 feet, and then we'd wait for the next one. The Domobranci soldiers took care of the snipers, and there were no more shells after that. We could move, but much more slowly.

(To Be Continued)

Coming Events

Thursday, June 21

Polka Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Euclid, OH, 6 p.m. Spaghetti dinners before the Mass.

Friday, June 22

Dance at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., admission \$8, featuring Joey Tomsick.

Saturday, June 23

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Festival 7 - 11 p.m., Wickliffe, OH, featuring The Joey Tomsick Orchestra, featuring Phil Hrvatin tootin' his horn.

Sunday, June 24

Belokranjski Klub and celebration of Slovenia's Independence picnic at Slovenska Pristava. Guest speaker Judge Ron Suster.

Friday, June 29

Dance at West Park Slovenian Home, 4583 W. 130 St., admission \$8, featuring Joey Tomsick and his sidekick Phil Hrvatin on tenor sax.

Saturday, June 30

Slovenska Pristava Campers Annual Steak Roast. Reservations only. Steak \$15 - chicken \$12 (\$20 & \$15 without reservations.) Bar opens 2 p.m. Dinner served 5 to 7. Music. Tickets call Marge Znidarsic (440) 256-9237.

Sunday, July 1

Slovenski piknik at SNPJ Farm, 11000 Heath Rd., south of Chardon Road (Route 6), 3 miles east of Route 306, in Kirtland, with the Veseli Godci Orchestra. Dancing 3:30 to 7:30. Dinners 2 to 4.

Sunday, July 8

Mission picnic (MZA) at Slovenska Pristava.

Wednesday, July 11

Holmes Avenue Pensioners Annual Picnic at Eagles, 37299 Euclid Ave., Willoughby, 1.2 miles east of #91. Free admission, noon - 6 p.m. Music by Fred Ziwich. Roast beef, klobase, pastries and refreshments available.

Thursday, July 12

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

Sunday, July 15

St. Vitus Parish Picnic at Slovenska Pristava. 12 noon Mass followed by dinner, games, and music.

July 16 - 22

Camp Pristava

Saturday, July 21

Slovenian School students in Melvindale, MI sing and dance at annual Slovenian Day festivities. "Stari Prijatelji" provides the dance music.

Sunday, July 22

St. Vitus Slovenian School picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Saturday, July 28

Pristava Picnic - Ansambel Najlepsi Cvet from Slovenia.

Sunday, Aug. 5

Pristava Pensioners Picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, Aug. 12

Primorski Club picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, Aug. 19

St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Summer Picnic at Slovenska Pristava, 12 noon Mass followed by dinner and many activities and dancing.

Saturday, Aug. 25

Folklorna Skupina Kres annual performance, this year, along with a picnic at Slovenska Pristava in Harpersfield, OH.

Wednesday, Aug. 29

Fed. of American Slovenian Senior Citizens picnic at SNPJ Farm on Heath Rd. Dinner served 1 p.m. by Julia Zalar. Music by Ken Zalar's Captain's Crew from 2:30 - 5:30. Dinner & dancing \$13.00. More info call (216) 481-0163 or (440) 943-3784.

Sunday, Sept. 9

Annual St. Vitus Altar and Rosary Society benefit dinner in parish auditorium.

Friday, Sept. 14

St. Clair Slovenian National Home Annual Social. Tickets \$60 each includes appetizer, dinner, cocktails. Additional dinners \$20. Doors open 6:15 p.m. For tickets call (216) 361-5115.

Saturday, Sept. 15

4th Annual Slovenian Sausage Festival hosted by the Polka Hall of Fame. Vote for your favorite. Dancing 1 to 9 p.m. SNPJ Farm, 11000 Heath Road, south of Chardon Road (Route 6), 3 miles east of Route 306 in Kirtland.

Sunday, Sept. 16

Vinska trgatve (wine festival) at Slovenska Pristava.

Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 29, 30

Bishop Baraga 150th Anniversary Weekend in Sault St. Marie, Michigan.

Oct. 5-7

St. Vitus trip to Washington, D.C. Visit various sites including new WWII Memorial.

Saturday, Oct. 6

Fantje na Vasi concert at Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland.

Wednesday, Oct. 10

Opening Concert of City-Music Cleveland, 32 piece chamber orchestra in St. Vitus Church (evening). Social to follow in auditorium.

Sunday, Oct. 14

Val Pawlowski's 6th annual Bar Keepers Ball at Croatian Lodge 91 & Lakeshore, Eastlake.

Sunday, Oct. 14

Koline - Pristava Pensioners at Slovenska Pristava.

Saturday, Oct. 20

Stajerski Club Dinner Dance at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Ave., Cleveland.




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Death Notices

VICTORIA SUSTERSIC

Victoria Sustersic, age 87; daughter of Joseph and Josephine Sustersic (both deceased); sister of the following deceased: Josephine Turner, Frances Mohoric, Rose Infalui, Joe, John, Frank and Victor; dear aunt of many.

Friends were received at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St., on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Services were held at 10 a.m. in St. Mary Church (Holmes Ave.) Interment in St. Paul Cemetery (Chardon Rd.).

Donations to a charity of your choice in her memory would be appreciated by the family.

ANNA VIDERGAR

Anna Vidergar (nee Mar- kic), age 93. Beloved wife of the late Ivan "Johan"; loving mother of Mili Lekan (Joze), Nada Vidergar and Lad Vidergar; grandmother of Sonia Glagola (Allan), Helena Lekan-Brooks (Edward Brooks), Eric Vidergar and Lauren Vidergar (deceased); great-grandmother of Stephen, Rachel, Peter and Christina (deceased); sister of seven brothers (all deceased); two sisters (both deceased) and Slavi Marolt (Slovenia). Also survived by the Markic family in Slovenia, and many dear friends.

Anna was a member of St. Vitus Altar Society; KSKJ Lodge No. 172 and No. One Slovenska Pristava.

Anna was a homemaker and also worked at Frank Sterle's Slovenian Country House for many years.

Friends called Tuesday, June 19 at the Monreal Funeral Home, 35400 Curtis Blvd., Eastlake.

Funeral Mass 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 20 at St. Felicitas Church in Euclid, officiated by Fr. Joseph Boznar of St. Vitus. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

MARIJA GOSTIC

Marija Gostic, age 93, beloved sister of the following deceased: Albina Gostic, Ivan Gostic, Martin Gostich, and Ciril Gostic; aunt and great-aunt of many.

Friends were received at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152nd St., Friday, June 15 from 9 - 9:30 a.m., followed by a 10 a.m. Mass in St. Mary Church, 15519 Holmes Avenue, Cleveland. Interment in Calvary Cemetery.

STANLEY CENTA

Stanley Centa, age 89. Beloved husband of Julia (nee Buchar) (deceased); loving father of Juliean and Rick (wife, Noel); grandfather of Kristin, Tiffany and Thomas; brother of Joseph and Edward (both deceased).

Mr. Centa was a Veteran of the U.S. Army during WWII, serving in the Pacific Theater and is a recipient of four bronze stars.

He also served in the Civilian Conservation Corps before WWII.

Friends were received at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St., on Monday from 2 - 4 and 7-9 p.m., where services were held Tuesday at 10 a.m. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

JOSEPH A. CINKOLE

Joseph A. Cinkole, age 94. Beloved husband of Frances (nee Krasovec) (deceased); dear father of Joseph F. (Sharon); grandfather of Frank, Carla and Brandi; great grandfather of four; brother of Irene Beck, and the following deceased: Frank and Louise.

Friends received at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St. Tuesday, May 29 from 4-8 p.m., where chapel services were held Wednesday at 11 a.m. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

Donations to Hospice of the Western Reserve, 1920 Villa View Rd., Cleveland, OH 44119 in his memory would be deeply appreciated by the family.

KATHRYN TURK

Kathryn Turk (nee Neugebauer), age 68.

Beloved wife of the late Louis. Loving mother of Daniel (Susan), Christine (deceased) (Donald) Farris, and Theresa (Joseph) Celestina. Dear grandmother of Nicholas, Christopher, and Alexandra. Sister of Mildred (Terry) Lewis.

Funeral Mass was on Monday, May 21 at St. Mary Church (Holmes Ave.) at 10 a.m. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

The family received friends at the Jakubs & Son, a Golden Rule Funeral Home, 936 E. 185 St., Sunday, May 20 from 2-4 p.m. and 7 - 9 p.m.

In Memory

Thanks to Milena Dovic of Euclid, OH who added an \$8.00 donation in memory of her husband, Milan Dovic.

In Memory

Thanks to Anna Morrison of South Russell, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of Milan M. Dovic. She writes, Thank you for a wonderful, informative newspaper.

In Memory

Thanks to Anna and Mary Lunder of Cleveland, OH who donated \$40.00 to the Ameriška Domovina in memory of their father, Adolph Lunder.

Donation

Thanks to Frank and Helen Jeglic of Wadsworth, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$65.00 donation for the "Tiskovni Sklad."

Donation

Thanks to Frank Hren of Richmond Heights, OH who added a \$27.00 donation to the Ameriška Domovina.

Donation

Many thanks to Robert and Christine Sket of Parrish, FL who renewed their subscription and added a \$100.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Snyder of Sagamore Hills, OH who donated \$25.00 to the American Home.

Donation

Thanks to Joe Zuzak of R & D Sausage of Cleveland, OH who donated \$65.00 to the American Home.

In Loving Memory of



Josephine Grdina

who died on June 22, 1975
Your memory is our keepsake
With which we will never part
Though God has you in His keeping,
We will always have you in our heart.

Sadly missed by
Sons: Joseph and Anthony
Daughters-in-law
Mary and Betty
Grandchildren, and
Great-Grandchildren

Donation

Thanks to John Žakelj of St. Paul, MN who renewed his subscription and added a gift subscription, plus a \$30.00 donation. He writes, "I continue to enjoy reading the *Domovina*, including your regular columnists Rudy Flis and Ray Mlakar. I'm sorry to read that both Rudy and Ray have been having health problems, and I'm impressed that they still keep up with their columns. I especially admire Rudy's love for his Slovenian heritage and I always enjoy Ray's jokes and personal stories. I have also been fascinated by the individual memoirs from people like Felix Mavec and John Lokar. Lokar's memoirs mentions a number of people in Minnesota. Whenever I see something like that, I pass it on to people I've met here who may be descendants of the people who are mentioned. People always like to read about their own families. The *Domovina* provides treasures that you just don't find anywhere else.

"Keep up the good work, Jim and Madeline. I miss all you wonderful Clevelanders. We'll be doing a family trip to Cleveland this August, and I hope to see many of you at that time."

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AND UNCLE



Tony Okicki

22nd Anniversary

He passed away June 22, 1985
God took him home; it was His will.
But in our hearts we love him still.
His memory is as dear today as in the hour he passed away.
We often sit and think of him when we are alone,
For memory is the only friend that grief can call its own.

Wife - Mary
Many nieces and nephews

St. Vitus Hosts Trip to D.C.

Have you ever wanted to visit our nation's capital and the many monuments, but never did? Or perhaps you have been there, but not since the construction of such memorials as the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial or the new World War II Memorial?

Now is your chance.

St. Vitus Pastoral Council will be hosting a motorcoach tour to Washington, D.C. from Oct. 5 - 7. The trip will include a night illumination tour of the city, visits to several monuments, Arlington cemetery and one of the Smithsonian museums. Everyone is invited to come. Stay tuned for additional details to follow in upcoming issues of American Home.

--Louise Strauss

There is no place is a fanatic's head where reason can enter.
—Napoleon

One reason the dog has so many friends is because he wags his tail instead of his tongue.

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Remembering Maria and Frank Povsic

Life's Difficult Beginning Led to a Golden Retirement.

by JULIEANN and FRANK POVSIĆ

Maria Gregorcic and Frank Povsic: Two very different people who met and ended up journeying through life together. Their lives were filled with a history that was seldom written about, but that is too important to be forgotten.

Frank was born on Sept. 10, 1910 in a small village called Slancji Vrh in the Dolanska region of present day Slovenia. Here in the quiet countryside Frank grew to embrace the simple life, cherish his family and love the outdoors. When he was 24 (1934) he left to fulfill his military obligation by serving in the "King's Army." While he was serving, his father became ill and Frank was released from duty to help at home. By the time he arrived home, his father had already passed away.

When World War II started Slovenia was invaded several times. He was required to serve with the Italians, Germans, and then the Communist Partisans. Soon it became apparent that the Partisans were not only fighting the German occupation, but were killing many innocent civilians and clergy. When Frank saw what was going on, he felt compelled to leave the Partisans and join the anti-Communist group Domobranci (Home Guard).

Near the end of WWII the Partisans became so powerful and destructive Frank was forced to flee to Austria and leave his beloved family and country. After the end of the war, the British sent all the Domobranci back to Yugoslavia, claiming it was safe since the war was now over. Many went back in the provided trucks but Frank was leery and stayed in Austria. The Domobranci who went back were not given amnesty as promised but instead were executed by Tito's Partisans. Frank, afraid to go home, stayed in Austria for the next four years, working as a farm hand high in the Alps.

In 1949 he left Austria and traveled to America. He settled in Cleveland, Ohio with the help of his childhood friend Rev. Julius Slapsek, and took a job with the Cleveland Diocese working at Calvary Cemetery. In 1959 he was introduced to another prosecuted Slovenian, Maria Gregorcic Mavec...

Maria was born in Ljubljana on April 23, 1922, but later moved to Novo Mesto

when she was about five. She was the last child and only daughter in a family of five. From the beginning she was different. Her long hair was so black it supposedly shined blue. It was the topic of many conversations. Her mother would jokingly explain that "some gypsies had dropped this child and she had picked her up."

In 1945 she married the love of her life, Joze Mavec and they started a family. Her life was perfect until now, but things began to change rapidly. Her husband had become an officer in the Domobranci. He was killed along with most of his family and her favorite younger brother, for their beliefs. Just when things seemed like they couldn't get any worse, Maria fell running to a bomb shelter and lost her unborn baby.

Just when Slovenia needed religion the most, the Communist government took it away. Many stopped going to church for fear of punishment, but Maria continued being a member of the Society of Mary and was persecuted for her faith.

Maria spent many years running to avoid capture and execution. She told many stories of memorable times spent in Zagreb and also of the pain of being separated from her parents. Eventually, someone recognized her unique hair color in a train station and turned her in to the authorities that were searching for her. She was caught, tried on false charges, and convicted on untrue testimony. Due to the Tito-Soviet split in 1948, she was given a harsh prison sentence in lieu of execution. All this took place in the first 24 years of her life.

She served approximately five years in various hard prisons such as Begunje, Zuzemberk and Rajhemberk. Since Maria was talented and able to design very fashionable clothes without patterns, they gave her supplies and put her in charge of 24 girls to produce garments for people in power. Prison life was difficult: they were cold in the winter, the food was sometimes infested with bugs, and there was always the fear that someone else would fabricate accusations against you.

In spirit, Maria was strong, always honest and courageous. However, the conditions and the stress took a toll on her young body. The prison doctor was called for her, and he found she had a weakened heart. One time he wrote a letter for her to only have light duty, but just after he left, the guard ripped up the note and sent her to the

bottom of the hill to fetch a heavy cart to be brought up to the prison.

She was afraid she was going to die in prison, but she was more worried for her mother whom she knew was always praying for her at home. While she was in prison her parents were not allowed to visit. There was a chance meeting once when she was being transported somewhere, but when the guards realized what was going on, they used the butt of their guns to hit Maria to the ground, right in front of her mother. The memory of how her imprisonment affected her mother tortured Maria her entire life.

After she was released from prison she was forbidden to do work. She lived and cared for her parents while they were alive. After their death, the Communist Party tried to evict her from her house. In order to support herself, she secretly worked as a seamstress. She was eventually caught and given a large monetary penalty. Since she wouldn't work to pay the fine and she didn't want to return to prison, she managed to escape to Italy.

She lived two years in Italy, part of which she spent at a refugee camp in Brindisi, Italy, and part she worked for a wealthy family in Rome. While there, Maria learned quite a bit of Italian and always spoke fondly of this time in her life.

While a refugee, her plight came to the attention of the Slovene community in the United States. A prestigious member of the Cleveland community brought her story to Ohio Senator Frank J. Lausche who was instrumental in helping Maria be granted political asylum in the U.S. In 1957 she came to the U.S. with only a few dollars in her pocket and a small suitcase. She caught a train ride to Massillon, Ohio to begin her new life.

By the time she met Frank Povsic she was 37 and a stylish dignified woman strong in her own right. At 49 he was a quiet man not afraid of hard work and the outdoors. Despite his rural and her city upbringing, they shared the dismal stories of their past and a will and a wish for a brighter future. After a short courtship, they married in 1960. After six years, they had all but given up of starting a family but then found out she was pregnant. In 1966, he transferred to All Souls Cemetery and they moved to Chardon, Ohio.

When Maria started having serious health problems they decided to move to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida to be in



Frank and Maria Povsic wedding photo, June 29, 1959

a warmer climate. For the next 24 years they enjoyed raising their son and the pleasures of retirement. Since the political climate changed in Slovenia, the family was able to visit there in 1985, 1989, and again in 1995. In July, 1991, they also traveled to Washington, DC to demonstrate in front of the Capital in favor of Slovenian independence and its recognition as a separate nation.

After growing up listening to the stories of his parents and being surrounded in the Slovenian culture, "little" Frankie developed an interest in the area. He went on to graduate from Ohio State with a dual Masters in Political Science and International Studies concentrating in Eastern Europe. After completing his schoolwork in Ohio and coursework in Slovenia, he married and returned to Florida to be with his aging parents.

Their retirement was, in hindsight, quite golden. Maria's health was always a problem, but that didn't stop her. Frank enjoyed his house and caring for their large lot covered with many fruit trees. Every night they took the dog for a walk while their cat followed behind them. On the days the *Ameriška Domovina* arrived, they would sit together by the pool while Maria read the newspaper cover to cover to him.

Shortly after experiencing the joy of the birth of their first grandchild, Maria went

to the hospital again, this time with a stroke. Frank was so afraid he was going to lose her, he became sick, too. She recovered, but he never did. On June 17, 1999 he passed away. Maria was devastated, but ever the fighter, she continued on.

Maria sold her house and moved to Boca Raton, FL to be closer to her son, Frank, and his growing family. She stayed in touch with Slovenians around the world, and her phone bill reflected her love of communication. She also enjoyed many SNPJ meetings (Lodge #787) and Slovenska Palma events.

As she grew older she had more time to remember and to reflect on all that she had gone through. Her past kept coming back to haunt her. By this time, Slovenia had declared independence and the Communists were no longer in power. So, Maria decided to hire a lawyer and clear her name. After various appeals and a lengthy court battle, The Slovenian Supreme Court overturned her convictions, cleared her of all charges, and ordered reparations to be paid to her. She tried many times to write her biography but every time she would stop because the memories of her past were just too painful. At least she was able to rest knowing her name had been cleared.

Her health continued to decline. In her lifetime she has had a total of five pace-makers. Since moving to

(Continued on page 9)

Eulogy for Edward F. Kotar

by DENNIS C. POLLEY
D.O.
Son-in-law

I love Ed Kotar, and he lives in me.

Ed grew up with adversity, but he grew up right. He was a Navy man, and during WWII he served his country in the Pacific Theater. He also served by becoming a bedrock member of what news broadcaster and author Tom Brokaw has termed the "Greatest Generation."

He had a strong work ethic, and even stronger family ethic. He and Marie gave birth to and raised Diane, the daughter that I am proud to call my wife, and the savior of my life.

My father died in 1974. I remained fatherless until I married Diane and became a "Kotar." Ed and I bonded immediately, and our relationship became that of a loving father and son. The day I proposed to Diane, Ed, Marie, and I conspired to capture the surprise on video.

We enjoyed sharing and wearing each others clothes. We started a friendly rivalry as to who looked the best for any given event. I am wearing his shoes right now.

Ed loved to visit Diane and me at our home in Cincinnati. We dedicated a bedroom on the lower level as the "In-law-suite," and he relaxed for hours in the media room.

To me, both Ed and Marie are playmates. We traveled together to the Bahamas for their 50th wedding anniversary and to Paris for their 80th and 75th birthdays, respectively. We enjoyed our ski lodge in Steamboat Springs, our club in New York City, and multiple Caribbean cruises. They always stayed up later, and partied harder than their younger counterparts.

Ed was always the first to show at such social events as weddings, birthdays, and funerals. He was a dedicated student and parishioner of St. Vitus Catholic Church. As a member of the order of the Alhambra, Mahdi Caravan #142, he showed compassion for those less fortunate by his work on behalf of the mentally challenged.

He was a caretaker to mother Mary, and older sister Mary. He always enjoyed football Sundays with his fellow Catholic War Veterans. He lightheartedly heckled and kidded his friends in person and on the telephone.

Ed never had a gambling problem, but he loved raffles, any kind of raffle. Forward raffles, reverse raffles, up and down raffles. He always had a raffle ticket.

His Lake West Hospital stay gave birth to a group affectionately known to the nurses as "The Three Stooges." This trio consisted of Ed, his brother-in-law Louis (Red) Skedel, and his

roommate Joe Hartman. Together, they entertained and terrorized the nursing, dietary, and janitorial staff until they were all in stitches.

Throughout his Lake West Hospital stay he was placed on the "cardiac diet." Every day they would present him with a menu full of tantalizing food choices, including pot pie. Ed really wanted that pot pie, even though it was not allowed on his restricted diet. But Ed could not be discouraged. He ordered the pot pie every day, hoping that whoever was taking the order might slip up and send it anyway.

All of Ed's relationships were special, but there are some that require special mention: his wife of over 55 years, Marie, his loving daughter, Diane, Father Boznar, his lifelong friend Bishop Pevec, and in no particular order of preference, his brothers-in-law Louis (Red) Skedel, Ed (Jumbo) Turisc, and Steve (The Greek) Pipan.

They all love Ed Kotar and he lives in them.

Ed and Marie gave Diane and me a most memorable wedding. As a part of that ceremony, the pastor turned to face the congregation. He asked them to shepherd our marriage and watch over us. I turn today to this congregation and ask that you do the same for Marie. May the milk of your kindness pour out to fill the inescapable void left by Ed's passing.

For you all loved Ed Kotar, and he lives in all of us.



Frank and Maria Povsic at Lake Bled, Slovenia

Maria and Frank Povsic

(Continued from page 8)

Boca in 2000, she has had 25 trips to the ER. She was a strong woman until the end, but she just got tired of fighting. On bad days she would wonder why the Lord didn't take her. Her friends and family all responded that He just wasn't ready for her yet. Well, on November 8, 2006 He was ready...

Frank and Maria leave behind son Frank Mario, his

wife, Julieann, and their four children: Jozef Frank, Katiana Marie, Tomaz Gregor, and Stefan Kristof. Their family and friends will miss Maria and Frank.

Frank and Maria will be buried at All Souls Cemetery. A Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2007 in Chardon, Ohio. For details, please call Frank or Julie Povsic at (561) 451-4981.

Changes in Genealogy Society

January 2007 is a date of historic significance for both the Slovenian Genealogy Society International and for its Ohio Chapter. Al Peterlin, founder of SGSI, stepped down from his role as the SGSI President for over 20 years, naming Rose Marie Jisa (nee Macek), the 7-year president of the SGSI Ohio Chapter, to the position. Peterlin will continue to serve as Chair of the Board.

As a result of this change at the international level, the Ohio Chapter elected its first full contingency of officers. They are Ed Oshaben, President; John Jaros, Vice-President; Kathy Dillon, Secretary, and Loretta Pretsius, Treasurer.

Jisa began the Ohio Chapter in July, 2000 by announcing an organizational meeting in the Slovenian newspapers. Eighteen interested Slovenians attended. This initial group has grown to a current membership of over 65 in the Greater Cleveland area.

"Little did I know when I first became interested in tracing my family's Slovenian roots in the '80s that it would lead to this," Jisa said. Her family's Slovenian sur-

names include Macek and Dolinar from Crni Vrh and Zgonc from Velike Bloke.

She has traveled to Slovenia several times since 1994 and has made extensive use of records available at the Archbishopric Archives in Ljubljana, identifying her heritage to the middle 1700s. Jisa retired from the Parma City School District in 1992 serving as the Director of Secondary Curriculum.

Oshaben takes over the reins of the Ohio Chapter at its September 11 meeting. After 30 years with the Cleveland City School District, Oshaben retired as the chief photographer 10 years ago, and pursued his interest in his family's history.

He traveled to Slovenia in 1997 and 2005 and has done extensive research that, along with help from fellow genealogists, traced his Oshaben roots to the Cerknica area. He also participates in the National Geographic Society's Genographic Project, which uses DNA to trace a person's ancestors. Oshaben looks forward to sharing experiences with fellow SGSI members in their quest to trace their family history.

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Fond Remembrance of Frank Česen Sr.

by PATRICIA ČESEN WILKS



This June my family will be honoring and remembering fondly my grandfather Frank Česen Sr. who passed away in June, 1983 at age 93.

Mr. Česen emigrated from Slovenia in 1906. He was instrumental in preserving and fostering Slovenian culture in America during his lifetime. In 1972 Mr. Česen was chosen "Man of the Year" by the Federation of Slovenian National Homes.

The singing and dramatic club Bled (1927) was only one of the many cultural societies Mr. Česen was active in. The group performed operettas, plays and concerts, many under his direction. My grandfather appeared in "Charlie's Aunt," (1926), a popular play of the era.

Numerous prominent Slovenians were among his friends including Governor Lausche. Mr. Česen owned an important historical library consisting of works by Slovenian poets, novelists and travelers, many of whom he knew personally. Upon his death this library was given to the Embassy in Slovenia.

Throughout his life Mr. Česen wrote articles and speeches marking the movements of American Slovenes. One booklet was titled "The History of the Detroit Slovenes." This is a very detailed work. Mr. Česen lived in Detroit from 1928 to 1938 and was active in the cultural, fraternal and political movements in the Slovenian colony.

Another of Mr. Česen's many talents was that of inventor. I recall as a little girl standing in the freezing cold street as he demonstrated for several onlookers a device which freed tires from ice and snow drifts. This was, of course, well before chains and snow tires.

My grandfather encouraged me to think for myself and not follow others lead. His talks helped me choose art as a profession. When I was about 9 years old he suggested I submit drawings to the Slovenian magazine "The Voice of Youth." I did, and saw my work published for many years.

In Mr. Česen's own home hung paintings by Slovenians he had collected in the old country. He also displayed more modern paintings including some by his niece Mildred Drugovich Hoegler. Also displayed were works in metal of his design and fashioning. One was a box containing my

grandmother Anna's delicate pieces.

Mr. Česen, with a partner, initiated a business, General Body Corporation in Detroit, which produced trailers similar to the Airstream. Unfortunately, the company did not survive the Depression.

My grandfather, as did many Slovenians, cultivated a vegetable and fruit garden. He was proud of his plum and apple trees, but attributed his long life to the great

quantities of garlic which he grew and ate.

My grandfather is very much missed. We speak of him often. He was exactly what a true family patriarch should be. I was very lucky to have such a vibrant, curious, and humorous man as a role model.

Frank Česen Jr., my father, is very like my grandfather in many ways: wise, gentle and kind. Like father, like son as the saying goes.

Joke

If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?
Pilgrims.

Joke

What do you call a country where the people drive only pink cars?
A pink carnation.

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Dolgan Talks About Yankovic Book on TV

Bob Dolgan, author of "America's Polka King, the Real Story of Frankie Yankovic," will talk about his book on the Golden Opportunities television show on Sunday, June 24 on WKYC Channel 3, at 11:30 a.m.

Host Armond Budish and Dolgan will discuss Yankovic, the famous Cleveland accordionist who had million-selling records of "Just Because" and "The Blue Skirt Waltz."

Corny Joke

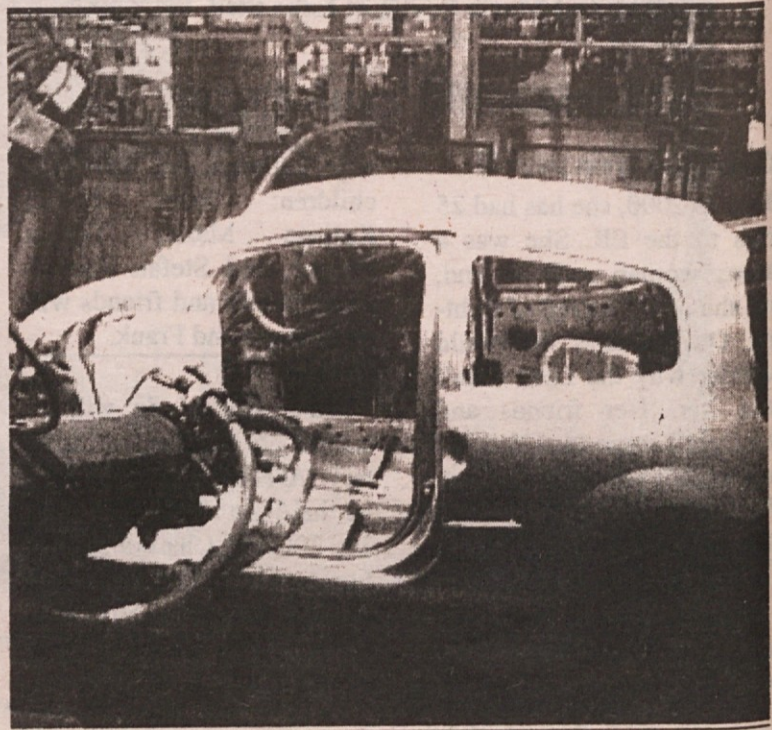
An old man goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a curse he has been living with for the last 40 years.

The Wizard says, "Maybe, but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you."

The old man says without hesitation, "I now pronounce you man and wife."

--Ken Tomsick

What do you call two young married spiders?
Newly webs.



Renault Twingo Rolls Off Slovenian Assembly

NOVO MESTO, SLOV. – The latest version of Renault's Twingo has just begun production in Slovenia. The funky little trendsetter revitalized the city-car market when it first came out in the early 1990s. The New Twingo made its debut in March at the Geneva auto show.

The plant where the little car is built in Slovenia has been around since the 1960s. Although Slovenia was then part of Yugoslavia, behind the Iron Curtain, the country enjoyed relative freedom, which allowed the company to set up an automobile factory in Novo Mesto. Origin-

nally it assembled British Austin cars before moving on to the Renault R4 in 1972. After the fall of the Soviet Union, the company, renamed Revoz, became part of the Renault empire.

Renault had already been producing its Clio in Novo Mesto, but now the plant will be the exclusive manufacturing location for the new Twingo, which shares key mechanical components with the Clio. Capacity was increased to 210,000 to accommodate the little car.

Thanks to Phil Hrvatin for this news.

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— Vesti iz Slovenije —

Umirjajo se polemike med Janezom Janšo, Janezom Drnovškom in Milanom Kučanom

V zadnjih tednih se postopno umirjajo polemike med predsednikom vlade Janezom Janšo, predsednikom države Janezom Drnovškom in bivšim predsednikom Milanom Kučanom. Nanašale so se predvsem na nekatera sporna vprašanja iz preteklosti, tudi na afero, odkrito v slovenski obveščevalno-varnostni agenciji Sovi.

Predsednik Drnovšek se je sestel s poslanskimi skupinami v parlamentu in se z njimi posvetoval o kandidatu za novega guvernerja Narodne banke. To je bil Drnovšek prej zavračal. Brez težav so se zdaj zedinili, da bo Drnovšek na omenjeno mesto predlagal dr. Marka Kranjca. O Kranjcu je Drnovšek zelo pohvalno v pismu parlamentu zapisal, "da je Kranjca vrhunski strokovnjak in izjemno dober poznavalec razmer na področju financ in bančništva. Ima dolgoletne izkušnje in osebne lastnosti, potrebne za uspešno vodenje centralne banke in njeno predstavljanje v Evropski centralni banki".

Navdušenje in hkrati pridržki o načrtih za igralniško velezabavišče na Goriškem

Že nekaj let se pripravlja projekt o zgraditvi igralniškega velezabavišča na Goriškem. Tvorci tega projekta so slovenska vlada, slovenska družba Hit in ameriška družba Harrah's Entertainment, ki so podpisale tristranski sporazum o tem velezabavišču. V treh ali štirih letih naj bi ga uresničile na možnih lokacijah v občinah Nova Gorica, Šempeter-Vrtojba in Ajdovščina. Javne ankete kažejo, da projekt podpira približno polovica Slovencev, polovica pa mu nasprotuje. Zelo nenaklonja je slovenska katoliška Cerkev, ki igralništvu predvsem zaradi slabih moralnih učinkov, ki jih povzročata

dejavnost, odločno nasprotuje. Proti je ajdovski župan Marjan Poljšak, ki opozarja na nevarnost "amerikanizacije Goriške in Slovenije", v Novi Gorici pa že govorijo o možnem referendumu o gradnji. Celotna investicija naj bi bila ocenjena za okoli 800 milijonov ameriških dolarjev, s številnimi objekti igralniškega in turističnega značaja.

Kmalu nastanek nove politične stranke na liberalni politični opciji

Trenutno civilno društvo Zares, v katerem so zbrani predvsem odpadniki iz Liberalno demokratske stranke (LDS), so bo kmalu preoblikovali v politično stranko, ki ji napovedujejo uspeh, tudi v soočanju s socialnimi demokrati Boruta Pahorja. V stranki naj bi imeli pomembno vlogo Gregor Golob, nekdanji generalni sekretar LDS, ki je še zmeraj eden najbolj znanih in pomembnih politikov v Sloveniji. Ideolog nove stranke pa naj bi postal znani filozof Slavoj Žižek, ki je takšno vlogo imel že v nekdanji LDS. Ko je LDS na zadnjih parlamentarnih volitvah doživela poraz, je zagrozil Žižek, da se bo izselil iz Slovenije, ki da mu "pomeni manj kot en dober film". Zdaj pa baje glede drugače in se namerava znova politično aktivirati.

Nova letalska povezava med Ljubljano in Dublinom za družbo Adria Airways

Adria Airways, nacionalna letalska družba Slovenije, je vzpostavila nove letalske proge oz. povezave s tujino. Od 9. maja dalje delujejo nove letalske povezave med Ljubljano in angleškima mestoma Birmingham in Manchester ter irskim glavnim mestom Dublinom. V Manchester je mogoče z letalom potovati vsako sredo in soboto, linija v Birmingham obratuje ob sredah. Ljubljana ima povezavo z Dublinom vsako soboto.



Slovensko ameriški astronaut Ronald Šega prvič obiskal Slovenijo – V začetku junija je v Slovenijo prvič v življenju prišel nekdanji ameriški astronaut in sedanjí podsekretar ameriških letalskih sil Ronald Šega. Prišel je na povabilo načelnika generalštaba Slovenske vojske generalpodpolkovnika Albina Gutmana (desno na fotografiji). Obširno poročilo o obisku in Šegi je na str. 13. Zanimivo je naključje, da je Šega potoval v vesolje na šuttleju Atlantis. S tem šuttlejom se bo danes na Zemljo vrnila druga slovensko ameriška astronautka Sunita Williams, to po malce več kot pol leta v vesolju. S tem poletom je Williamsova postavila nov rekord za najdaljši vesoljski polet od vseh dosedanjih astronautk in kozmonavtk.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Ob 16. obletnici Slovenije—

To nedeljo, 24. junija, bo na Slovenski pristavi praznovanje 16. obletnice neodvisne Slovenije. To bo v sklopu piknika Belokranjskega kluba, v pripravah na praznovanje pa sodelujejo še sama SP, Polka Hall of Fame in Gen. konzulat RS. Podrobnosti so v angleškem delu. Javnost vabljen.

Visoka obletnica—

To soboto, 23. junija, praznuje svoj 93. rojstni dan č.g. Victor Cimperman. To nedeljo bo v cerkvi sv. Vida skupna sv. maša ob 10. uri. Sledil bo sprejem v šolski dvorani. Sv. mašo bo daroval škof Edward Pevec. Zaslužnemu slovenskemu duhovniku ob tako visokem življenjskem jubileju iskreno čestitamo.

Romanje v Lemont—

Tudi letos bodo članice Oltarnih društev romale v Lemont in to 11. in 12. avgusta. Prijave (cena na osebo je \$125) sprejemata ga. Ivanka Matič, 1874 Braeburn Park Dr., Euclid, OH 44117, tel. 216-481-1518, in Ani Nemeč (216-541-7243), ki tudi lahko posredujeta vse informacije.

Novi grobovi

Josephine Zakrajšek

Umrla je 96 let stara Josephine Zakrajšek, stanovalka St. Vitus Village, rojena Jerše, vdova po Johnu, mati Joan Klecan, Roberta Zak, Phillipa Zak in že pok. Marie Anne Schaffner, 14-krat stara mati, 14-krat prastara mati, sestra že pok. Jennie Champa. Pogreb je danes, 21. junija, v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda, s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Vida ob 10. dop., sledil bo pokop na Kalvarije pokopališču. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojničin spomin Poor Clare Sisters, c/o St. Paul Shrine, 4120 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.

Anna Vidergar

Umrla je 93 let stara Anna Vidergar, rojena Markič, vdova po Ivanu, mati Mili Lekan, Nade Vigergar in Lad-a, 4-krat stara mati, 4-krat prastara mati, dve sestri in 7 bratov je že pok., v Sloveniji zapuščata sestro Slavi Marolt, zaposlena je bila precej let pri Sterletovi restavraciji, članica Oltarnega društva pri fari sv. Vida in članica dr. št. 172 KSKJ.

(DALJE na str. 16)

Pristavskim upokojevcem—

V sredo, 27. junija, ima Klub upokojevcv Slovenske pristave mesečni sestanek in sicer na SP s pričetkom ob 1.30. Med drugim bodo govorili o praznovanju 20. obletnice kluba. Več na str. 12.

Piknik in sestanek MZA—

Vsakoletni piknik MZA bo v nedeljo, 8. julija, na Slovenski pristavi. Ob 12.30 bo sv. maša, maševal bo misijonar jezuit g. Alojz Podgrajšek, sledilo bo kosilo, ob petih pop. bo pri kapelici zmolitev litanij Mater božje. Naslednji dan, 9. julija, zvečer ob 7h, bo letni sestanek MZA v dvorani pri Mariji Vnebovzeti. Vsi sodelavci in prijatelji misijonov lepo vabljeni.

Večerja na Pristavi—

V soboto, 30. junija, pripravlja Zveza pristavskih letoviščarjev večerjo, ki bo servirana med 5. in 7. uro zvečer. Nakaznice samo v predprodaji. Za rezervacijo in vse informacije, pokličite Marg Znidarsic na 440-256-9237.

Danes vrnitev šuttleja—

Danes naj bi se na Zemljo vrnil ameriški šuttle Atlantis, na katerem bo prvič po več kot pol leta stopila na trdna tla astronautka Sunita Williams, ki ima slovenske družinske korenine tudi v Euclidu, Ohio. Med poletom je preživela dokaj težavne trenutke tako na šuttleju kakor na vesoljski postaji.

Podpora listu—

Dr. Jože Bernik, ki živi v Škofji Loki, je naročnino obnovil in dodal dar \$35 v podporo listu. AD dobiva po letalski pošti. Anna in Mary Lunder iz Clevelanda sta darovali \$40 v podporo listu, v spomin njunega očeta Adolpha. G. Frank in ga. Helen Jeglič iz Wadsworth, O., sta poklonila \$65 ob obnovi naročnine. G. John Žakelj iz St. Paul, Minn., je obnovil naročnino, plačal naročnino za dr. Mary Žakelj iz Perrysburga, O. ter dodal \$30 kot dar listu. G. Anton Vogel iz Euclida je daroval \$15. Ga. Matilda Simičič, Franklin, Wis., je poklonila \$22, v spomin moža Martina. Ga. Barbara A. Strumbly iz Willoughby, O., je darovala \$25. G. Louis in ga. Sylvia Lončar, Concord, O., sta darovali \$25. G. in ga. Joseph T. Snyder, Sagamore Hills, O. tudi \$25. Hvala!

Klub upokojencev Slovenske pristave praznuje letos 20-letnico obstoja

CLEVELAND, O. – Na našem mesečnem sestanku, ki bo v sredo, 27. junija, ob 1.30 popoldan na Slovenski pristavi, se bomo lepo pogovorili o proslavi 20. obletnice našega kluba. Datum je določen za sredo, 11. julija, ob 1. uri popoldan, v novi dvorani na SP. Pripravljeno bo dobro kosilo za vse člane kluba. Lepo bi bilo, da se te proslave udeleže vsi člani in članice. Naša tajnica mora pa vedeti, koliko kosil bo treba naročiti, zato lepo prosi, da se vsak član prijavi za kosilo ali na prihodnjem sestanku ali pa, da pokliče tajnico na tel. 440-944-0016. Ker je v našem klubu že čez 200 članov, pričakujemo, da se bo proslave udeležilo najmanj 180. Ker je v klubovi blagajni še lepa vsota, bo kosilo za vse brezplačno.

V programu se bomo spomnili vseh naših pokojnih članov in tudi naših bolnikov. Ker sta naš predsednik Ivan Jakomin in podpredsednik Vinko Vrhovnik resno bolna, oba lepo priporočamo v molitev.

Bog nam daj lep dan 11. julija, ko se bomo v prijetni družbi v tako lepi novi dvorani na Pristavi spominjali lepih sestankov, piknikov in izletov. Dr. Rudiju M. Sušel, uredniku Ameriške domovine, se iskreno zahvaljujemo, da nam je vseh dvajset let z veseljem in skrbno objavljaval vabila na naše sestanke in druge prireditve. Še enkrat na veselo svidenje na sestanku 27. junija in na proslavi 20-letnice 11. julija.

Frank Urankar

† Stanka Pečavar (1941-2007)



umaknila iz domovine in živela v Franciji.

Stanka je na skrivaj pobegnila v Trst, kjer jo je pričakal svak Franci in jo pripeljal v Pariz, kjer so skupaj živeli deset mesecev. Na povabilo sorodnikov so se odločili, da se preselijo v San Francisco.

V začetku leta 1964 je prišel na obisk k bratu Peter Pečavar iz Stranske vasi pri Semiču. Njuno mladostno poznanstvo iz domačih krajev je tu v Ameriki preraslo v ljubezen in 9. januarja 1965 sta se poročila v župniji Gospodovega rojstva v San Franciscu.

LJUBLJANA – V ponedeljek, 19. maja, je po kratki, a hudi bolezni v 66. letu starosti v San Franciscu umrla ena najbolj dejavnih žena v tamkajšnji slovenski župniji in skupnosti, Stanka Pečavar. Pokojna se je rodila 9. februarja 1941 v ugledni Štefanovi družini v Gornjem Suhorju očetu Jožetu in mami Katarini Nemanič. Bila je četrti od petih otrok. Otroci so bili ob zgledu staršev deležni trdne verske vzgoje in bili delavni.

Ko je bila Stanka stara 19 let, se je odločila, da gre za svojo sestro Katico in njenim možem Francijem Pečavarjem, ki sta se pred komunizmom



Veleposlaništvo Republike Slovenije v Washingtonu,
Generalni konzulat Republike Slovenije v New Yorku in
Generalni konzulat Republike Slovenije v Clevelandu

čestitajo vsem slovenskim rojakom ob 25. juniju
Dnevu državnosti Republike Slovenije!

Pristavskim upokojencem za 20-letnico

Kar bom povedal
ni samo zanje,
tudi vsi drugi
vzemite na znanje:

da upokojenci
niso pohojenci!

So starešine,
ne stare šine!

So korenjaki
in poštenjaki!

Nikdar neznosni
ti Slovenci ponosni!

Zgledno živijo
in zlatih se let veselijo.

So ljubeznivi
in ustrezljivi!

Zelo so marljivi
ti naši prvaki,

v ponos bi bili
skupnosti vsaki!

Se cedijo vam sline,
ko dišijo koline?

Le kdo jih pripravi
na Slovenski pristavi?

Pripravijo jih
ti strokovnjaki,

ti naši vrli možaki.

In ženske ljubeče imajo,
ki na vsako se delo
odlično spoznajo.

Če niso petične,
so v vsem pa odlične
in (na uho povem vam)
še vedno privlačne so,
"kunštne" in mične!

Ta skupost vesela
vrši dobra dela,
veliko daruje
in rada modruje.

Pozna vse novice,
dovtipe in vice.

Prيرهja izlete,
za strice in tete.

Se v delo zaplete:
Pristavo počisti,

prav nič ne pozabi,
še listje pograbi!

Njihova slava
je Slovenska pristava!

Članice, člani
ki v tem klubu so zbrani,
so zavedni Slovenci
in zvesti kristjani.

Ti, Bog naš preljubi,
jih hudega brani,
jih zdrave, vesele
še dolgo ohrani!

Prijatelji

Kmalu zatem se je dve-
ma sestrama pridružila
še tretja – Ivanka, in ta-
ko so tri Nemaničeva de-
kleta zaživela v San Fran-
ciscu, si tu ustvarila dru-
žine in postala trden ste-
ber vsega družabnega in
verskega življenja sloven-
ske skupnosti v mestu.

Peter in Stanka sta si
s pridnimi rokami ustva-
rila dobre pogoje za ure-
jeno življenje. Peter je
imel skupaj s Francijem
gradbeno podjetje, Stanka
pa ga je ob tem močno
podpirala.

Ko sta sinova Peter
(1965) in Johnny (1969)
zrasla, si je Stanka poi-
skala službo v uglednem
klubu v središču mesta
in tam delala kar 30 let.
Zelo so cenili njeno delo
in zanj je dobila številna
priznanja.

Stanka je bila iskreno
pobožna in globoko ver-
na. Njen dan ni minil
brez molitve, nedelja in
prazniki pa ne brez ma-

še. Redno je zahajala v
slovensko cerkev Gospo-
dovega rojstva, čeprav ni
živela blizu.

S Petrom sta si tudi
močno prizadevala, da je
bila cerkev, ki jo je nad-
škof Quinn leta 1995 za-
prl, po letu in pol spet
odprta za naše rojake.
Koliko rožnih vencev je
skupaj z drugimi zmolila
na pragu pred zaprto

cerkvijo! Pa tudi sicer je
bila vedno med prvimi v
cerkvi pri molitvi in pri
pevskih vajah.

Njeno drugo veselje je
bilo kuhanje. Rojaki ne
bodo pozabili, kako so
bili mnogokrat pogoščeni
na njenem domu. Številni
tudi vedo, kaj vse je pri-
pravila za skupne prire-
ditve v skupnosti ali za
sprejem gostov iz Slove-
nije. Te je rada povabila
in pogostila tudi v dru-
žinski počitniški hišici v
Sonomi. Vesela martino-
vanja, osrednje prireditve
v tamkajšnji skupnosti so
bili tudi njena zasluga.
Nikoli ji ni bilo žal truda,
časa in denarja za
vse.

Tretja ljubezen je bil
njen vrt. Pred njeno hišo
v Sonomi so vedno cve-
tele najlepše vrtnice!

Leta 2001 jo je hudo
prizadela smrt moža Pe-
tra. Ni se mogla utolažiti.

(DALJE na str. 13)

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Ronald Šega: Slovenski vesoljec iz ZDA

Ljubljana – Šega je Slovenijo prvič obiskal v petek in soboto, 1. in 2. junija, in sicer v uradni vlogi podsekretarja letalskih sil ZDA. Poleg te funkcije opravlja tudi delo izvršnega predstavnika Pentagona za vesolje. Slednje sploh ne preseneča, saj je Šega v Sloveniji znan predvsem kot prvi "slovenski" astronaut. Najprej pa nekaj besed o obisku.

Prvič v Sloveniji

Ronald Šega je z delegacijo pripotoval 1. junija na povabilo načelnika generalštaba Slovenske vojske, generalpodpolkovnika Albina Gutmana. Isti dan se je srečal s slovenskim obrambnim ministrom Karlom Erjavcem. Strinja se, da je sodelovanje med državama na obrambnem področju dobro.

Izpostavila sta predvsem področje izobraževanja in usposabljanja. Erjavec je visokemu gostu ob tej priložnosti predstavil potek reform v obrambi in sprejemanje zakona o službi v Slovenski vojski.

Sogovornika sta se dotaknila slovenskega sodelovanja v mednarodnih mirovnih misijah, ki ga je Šega v izjavi za medije izrecno pohvalil.

Sledil je obisk vojaškega letališča Cerklje ob Krki, naslednji dan pa je Šego sprejel premier Janez Janša. Premier je

poudaril ameriški prispevek pri razvoju slovenskih obrambnih sil. Šega pa je med drugim opozoril na visoko stopnjo zaupanja, ki ga uživajo slovenski vojaki v mednarodnih operacijah.

Ameriški gost je predstavil sodelovanje vojaške in civilne tehnologije v ZDA, ki prinaša izboljšave na obeh področjih, od okrepljene varnosti v informacijski družbi do širjenja okolju prijaznejših energetskih virov.

Bleščeča kariera

Dr. Ronald Michael Šega (doktorat iz elektrotehnike so mu podelili leta 1982) se je rodil leta 1952 v Clevelandu, zibelki ameriških Slovencev. Njegov oče je je v "obljubljeno deželo" pripotoval iz Loškega Potočka. Kariera ni zgradil čez noč, ampak je v nekaj desetletjih prehodil dolgo pot do zvezd.

Leta 1975 je diplomiral na Akademiji zračnih sil ZDA, dve leti kasneje pa je bil odlikovan kot najboljši na tečaju za pilotske inštruktorje. Pri tem je uspešno združeval strast po letenju in raziskovalno dejavnost. Med drugim je leta 1985 prejel odlikovanje oddelka za elektrotehniko na Univerzi v Coloradu.

Pilotsko urjenje je končal leta 1976 in naslednja tri leta služboval kot inštruktor v oporišču letalskih sil Williams v Arizoni.

Po letu 1979 se je bolj posvetil znanstvenoraziskovalni dejavnosti, najprej na oddelku za fiziko pri Akademiji letalskih sil, nato pa od leta 1982 na univerzi v Colorado Springsu, kjer je tudi doktoriral.

Leta 1990 so mu podelili profesuro. Sodeloval je tudi v raziskovalnih ustanovah pod okriljem letalskih sil. Pri tem ne smemo pozabiti vojaških časti, ki jih je dosegel. Šega je namreč



še vedno v rezervni sestavi letalskih sil s činom polkovnika. Ima več kot 4000 ur letenja.

Pot do zvezd

Šega je postal astronaut leta 1991 po dolgotrajni in natančni selekciji, ki se je končala leta 1990. 3. februarja 1994 je prvič poletel v vesolje v sklopu misije STS-60, ki je bila prva mešana misija kakega raketoplana (člani posadke so bili Američani in Rusi).

V dobrih osmih dneh je posadka raketoplana Discovery opravila vrsto raziskav in znanstvenih poskusov. Šega je med odpravo upravljal z robotsko roko, s katero so astronomi v orbito namestili posebno eksperimentalno platformo in z njo opravili vrsto znanstvenih raziskav.

Posadka se je 11. februarja pristala na Floridi, potem ko je 130-krat obkrožila Zemljo.

Od novembra istega leta do naslednje pomladi so Šegi zaupali vlogo Nasinega šefa operacij v ruskem Zvezdnem mestu oziroma Gagarinovem centru za urjenje kozmonavtov. V njem je naš rojak aktivno sodeloval pri pripravah na delovanje as-



Formalnost: Podsekretar ameriških letalskih sil in bivši astronaut Ronald Šega se je med obiskom v Sloveniji na povabilo načelnika generalštaba Slovenske vojske generalpodpolkovnika Albina Gutmana vpisal tudi v knjigo gostov generalštaba Slovenske vojske. To je bil tudi Šegov prvi obisk v Sloveniji, deželi, iz katere izvirajo njegovi predniki.

tronavtov na ruski vesoljski postaji Mir.

Tako ni čudno, da je bil leta 1996 spet na krovu raketoplana, in sicer Atlantisa, ki je šestčlansko posadko popeljal na misijo STS-76. Cilj misije, ki se je začela 22. marca, je bila prav ruska vesoljska postaja.

Šega je bil v njej poveljnik za tovar, poleg tega pa je bil odgovoren tudi za načrtovanje in operacije v času, ko je bila posadka v orbitu. To je bil precejšen logistični zalogaj, saj je vključeval denimo preskrbo stanovalcev Mira itd.

Po več kot devetih dneh so Šega in tovariši 31. marca pristali v Kaliforniji.

Ne le Šega

Le nekaj mesecev pozneje je Šega zapustil Naso ter postal dekan kolidža za inženirstvo in aplikativne znanosti na Univerzi v Coloradu. Njegove sposobnosti so prepoznali na obrambnem

ministrstvu in ga leta 2001 zaposlili kot pomočnika obrambnega ministra (takrat Donalda Rumsfelda, op. ur. AD) za jedrske, kemične in biološke programe.

Avgusta istega leta je bil imenovan na mesto direktorja obrambnih raziskav in inženirstva pri obrambnem ministru. Od leta 2005 Šega pokriva tudi omenjeno mesto v poveljstvu letalskih sil, hkrati pa delodajalcem razdaja svoje poznavanje vesoljskih problematik.

Ob dosežkih dr. Ronald Šega seveda ne moremo mimo astronautke Sunite Williams, rojene leta 1965 v Euclidu, Ohio, slovenski materi.

V zadnjih mesecih smo lahko spremljali njeno delo na Mednarodni vesoljski postaji, kjer je 16. aprila kot prva astronautka v orbiti pretekla celoten maratonski tek. ■

Mitja Volčanšek

Demokracija, 7.VI.2007

Ur. AD: Od objave tega članka 7. junija v Ljubljani, so z vesoljsko postajo nastale zelo resne težave, manjše tudi na raketoplanu, s katerim naj bi se Williamsova po malo več kot pol leta v orbiti ravno danes (ob tem poročanju) vrnila na Zemljo. Preteklo soboto je 41-letna Williamsova postavila nov rekord za najdaljši čas bivanja v vesolju od vseh ameriških astronautk in ruskih kozmonavtk. Dosedanji rekord je tudi imela ameriška astronautka in to Shannon Lucid, ki je potovala v vesolje leta 1996 in to za 188 dni. Za nekaj dni več je odšel ta rekord last Sunite

(DALJE na str. 14)

PEČAVAR

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

da ga ni več. Še bolj se je posvetila družini. Njeno veselje je bilo neizmerno, ko sta se sinova poročila in ko je lansko leto dobila vnuka in vnučkinjo.

V četrtek, 24. maja, so se sorodniki in prijatelji z mašo v cerkvi Gospodovega rojstva poslovili od Stanke. Na pogrebu je ob domačem župniku maševal tudi družinski prijatelj p. Peter Lah. Od nje so se s pesmijo poslovili pevci župnijskega zbora, kjer je tako rada prepevala.

V Sloveniji smo imeli istega dne pogrebno mašo v ljubljanski stolnici, zanj pa so maševali tudi v rojstni župniji.

Hvaležni za vse, kar je dobrega naredila za svoje in za slovensko skupnost, smo prepričani, da ji bo Bog dal uživati večno veselje pri sebi. F. P.

DRUŽINA, 10.VI.2007

Sprememba naslova

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

Nov naslov

Datum začetka: _____

Vaše ime: _____

Naslov: _____

Star (dosedanji) naslov



Novomeški škof msgr. Andrej Glavan je daroval mašo v Kočevskem rogu

Brez resnice ni sprave

Vsako leto je v začetku junija v Kočevskem rogu spominska slovesnost ob obletnici komunističnega poboja iz avstrijske Koroške vrnjenih slovenskih domobrancev

Ljubljana – Letošnja spominska slovesnost, ki je bila že osemnajstič, je bila v nedeljo, 3. junija, pri grobišču pod Krenom, kjer se je zbralo približno dva tisoč ljudi.

Najprej je mašo skupaj z dvanajstim duhovniki daroval novomeški škof msgr. Andrej Glavan. V pridigi je izrazil nenehno potrebo po odpuščanju:

“Bolečina izgube in krivice je ostala in ostaja, vendar ni več tako boleča, pekoča, kot je bila nekdanj ... Naše spominjanje postaja bolj umirjeno in spokojno. Vedno bolj se spreminja v molitev, ki zaobjema vse, žrtve in njihove krvnike, in jih priporoča božji odpuščajoči ljubezni.”

Zbrane je nagovoril tudi domači župnik Anton Gnidovec, ki je med drugim dejal, da je namen spominske slovesnosti in

maše, “da bi iskreno molili tudi za tiste, ki so ta silni zločin zakrivali. In končno, da bi iskreno molili za nas, ki smo v tem zemeljskem popotništvu, v tej čudoviti domovini in nas družijo ista kri, ista kultura in ista mati, domovina Slovenija.

Spomin na zločin

V programu po maši sta javnost nagovorila Marija Zgonc, nato pa Franc Kastelic, ki je v spominih na Kočevski rog razkril svojo bolečino zaradi zločina, ki ga je storila KPS:

“Kočevje, Rog! Kraj trpljenja, kamor so sredi poletja 1944 pregnali moje strice in tete in staro mamo, potem ko so jim že v začetku decembra 1942 doma na pragu v Ajdovcu ubili očeta. In kjer so prav tako sredi poletja 1944 štiri mesece po hostah vlačili mojo

mamo, da jim je kuhala, sušila seno in tolkla kamenje po kolovozih. Dovesedno so jo odtrgali od sedmih otrok, od katerih sta bili najmlajši, dvojčki, stari komaj pet mesecev. To sta bili moji sestri.”

Govorila je tudi poslanka NSi Mojca Kucler Dolinar. Zase je dejala, da spada v mlajšo generacijo in ji ni bilo treba doživljati vojnih in povojnih grozot. “Vendar čutim, da da razlike še vedno ostajajo. Po moje je resnica tista osnova, na kateri bomo lahko gradili spravo, ki je nujna za lepo prihodnost nas vseh.”

Kritičen do Kučana

Osrednji govornik na proslavi je bil predsednik Nove slovenske zaveze Anton Drobnič. Njegove besede so bile zelo kritične do nekdanjega predsednika države Milana Kučana.

“Kadar so pridobitve boljševiske revolucije v resni nevarnosti, se z avtoriteto nekdanjega predsednika republike oglasi zadnji vodja komunističnega totalitarnega sistema v Sloveniji.

Ronald Šega

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

Williamsove. Upajmo, da se bo njen polet uspešno končal.

Pa še naključje. Ko je Ronald Šega potoval v vesolje, je bil član posadke na šuttlju oz. raketoplanu Atlantis. Ravno s tem šuttlom se bo Williamsova vrnila na Zemljo.

SLOVENSKA PISARNA

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Slovenska pisarna sporoča, da ima zopet v zalogi knjige “Slovenija 1945” v angleščini. Na žalost se je cena podražila od \$42 na \$44. Kot se vsaka reč draži, posebno zadnje čase, ni prizaneslo tudi tej knjigi, in še poština je dražja. Knjigo imamo tudi v slovenskem prevodu. Ako si hočete izvod zagotoviti, pokličite me. Ni boljšega darila vašim otrokom in vnukom kot je ta knjiga, ki lepo opisuje križev pot slovenskih beguncev. Lahko jo naročite v Slovenski pisarni, ki je odprta vsako soboto od 10. dop. do 1. pop., ob nedeljah pa od 11.30 dop. do 1. pop. Lahko me kličete na moj dom na 216-381-2602, med uradnimi urami na tel. Slov. pisarne 216-361-0300.

Imamo knjigo dr. Metoda Milača v slovenščini in angleščini, tudi knjiga dr. Valentina Meršola in še druge. Poleg tega prejemamo naročnine za razne slovenske revije.

VAŽNO:

Letos poteka rok zahteve za popravilo pravic. Vsak begunec, ki je preživel svoja begunska leta po taboriščih v Avstriji in Italiji, ima pravico do zahteve za popravilo krivic za vsa begunska leta, dokler se ni izselil v državo stalne naselitve. Za to je treba potrdila o bivanju v taborišču ali pa priče, ki to lahko potrdijo. V pisarni vam lahko to obrazložimo.

Prav tako se to nanaša na vse žrtve povojnega protipravnega odvzema življenja. Treba je napisati, kdo je bil ubit, sorodstveno razmerje in seveda vse potrebne listine. Obrazec za to zahtevo lahko dobite v naši pisarni in tudi na konzularnem zastopništvu.

F. Gaser

Tudi po posegu vlade v Sovo je Milan Kučan začutil to nujo. Kot drugi njegovi somišljeniki je izrazil strah pred delovanjem vlade in njenemu predsedniku brez sramu ponudil lekcijo o demokraciji.

Še posebej je predsednika Janeza Janšo obsodil, da si hoče prilastiti vse vzvode oblasti, zlasti pa dobiti nadzor nad pravosodjem, ker je rekel, da ima vlada zanesljive dokaze za nezakonitosti v Sovi.”

Drobnič je bil kritičen tudi do sedanjega predsednika države Janeza Drnovška, češ da piše in

govori tako svobodno, da se niti sam več ne nadzira, koliko so njegove besede še sprejemljive in primerne za najvišjega predstavnika slovenske države.

“Ustanove države, ki ji predseduje, zmerja z obrekovalci. Na široko razlaga, v kakšni hudi revščini – po njegovi dvanajstletni vladavini – živijo Slovenci. Celotano sam naj bi bil revež in mu je stroške za tujega zdravnika plačala država. Jadicuje nad usodo delavcev, ki niso zaščiteni, on pa zaposlene kar po elektronski pošti meče na ce-

(DALJE na str. 15)



Na levi zgoraj je slavnostni govornik Anton Drobnič
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Koliko Slovencev živi po svetu?

Jancz Rogelj

(Moja Slovenija, maj 2007)

Ljubljana – Na to, na prvi pogled zelo enostavno vprašanje, nimamo enotnega odgovora. (Op. ur. AD: Pt-sec, Jancz Rogelj, je bil kar precej let tajnik Slovenske izseljenske matice in je to tudi možno najti v tekstu.) Že nekaj desetletij v Sloveniji govorimo o "četrtni" slovenskega naroda, ki živi na tujem. Če uporabimo podatek, da je trenutno v Republiki Sloveniji dva milijona Slovencev, lahko upravičeno sklepamo, da živi po svetu približno 500.000 Slovencev. Zaradi metodološko-statističnih razlogov ne bomo mogli nikoli navesti točne številke, koliko Slovencev živi izven Republike Slovenije. Povemo lahko le to, da je največje število Slovencev zapustilo svojo domovino, oze-mlje današnje Republike Slovenije, kot avstro-ogrskih državljanov.

Do prve svetovne vojne se je z območja današnje Slovenije, predvsem Dolenjske, Bele in Suhe krajine, Vipavske doline, izselilo preko 500.000 Slovencev, največ v ZDA. Njihovi potomci, že šesta generacija, so današnji slovenski izseljenci.

Okoli 30.000 Slovencev se je med prvo in drugo svetovno vojno izselilo v Južno Ameriko kot italijanskih državljanov z območja Istre, Primorske, Krasa. Kar nekaj priseljenskih držav je v svojih statističnih popisih te Slovence do leta 1990 štelo kot Jugoslovane.

Skratka, nacionalni popisi prebivalstva v priseljenskih deželah ne morejo predstavljati edinega

vira obstoja slovenskih izseljencev.

Tudi statistični podatki, s katerimi razpolagamo v Republiki Sloveniji, niso povsem zanesljiva podlaga za navedbo števila slovenskih izseljencev. Na dan 31. 12. 2006 je bilo po svetu razpršenih 72.984 slovenskih državljanov s stalnim bivališčem v tujini. (Op. ur. AD: Močne črke v tekstu tega dopisa so moje.) To so vsi slovenski državljani, živeči od Trsta, preko Stuttgarta do Buenos Airesa, med njimi so tudi vsi slovenski uslužbenci naših diplomatsko - konzularnih predstavništev in predstavniki slovenskih in drugih gospodarskih družb po svetu.

Zanimiva je ugotovitev, da jih od navedenega števila le 7.763 želi izpolniti svojo državljansko obvezo in se udeležiti volitev v Republiki Sloveniji. Sedaj se upravičeno sprašujemo, kje je velika večina 420.000 Slovencev, prej omenjene "četrtnine slovenskega naroda".

V to veliko skupino "Slovencev" so vključeni vsi tisti, ki iz takšnih ali drugačnih razlogov – največkrat iz eksistenčnih – niso prevzeli slovenskega državljanstva. To so potomci vseh, tudi že šeste generacije Slovencev, ki so se že davno zavestno zllili v novo sredino, v kateri bivajo, se zaposlili in sklepali zakonske zveze s pripadniki drugih narodov.

Samo v ZDA jih je po zadnjem ameriškem popisu 178.000. To, da nimajo slovenskega državljanstva, jih ne moti, da se ne bi počutili kot del slovenskega naroda. Tudi nas ni motilo, ko so si

pred desetimi leti prizadevali, da bi Bela hiša priznala novo slovensko državo.

To so potomci tistih Slovencev, ki so pred 60 leti zbirali pomoč za Narodno osvobodilno gibanje v Sloveniji, organizirali humanitarne oziroma dobrodelne akcije za izgradnjo in opremo slovenskih zdravstvenih in drugih objektov. Ni slučaj, da je tudi danes SNPJ (Slovenska narodna podpora) iz ZDA največji neslovenski donator za novo Pediatrično kliniko v Ljubljani.

To so pravniki članov "republikanskega združenja", ki so se v začetku 20. stoletja zavzemali za skupno sobivanje Slovencev z ostalimi južnimi Slovani v novi državni tvorbi Jugoslaviji.

Potrebno je navesti, da velika večina teh ne obvlada slovenščine, čeprav to ne pomeni, da se je ne želijo naučiti. Njihov interes glede položaja Republike Slovenije je, da Slovenci živijo v urejeni, na evropskih demokratičnih temeljih zgrajeni parlamentarni demokraciji.

To so potomci tistih Primorcev, ki so pred 100 leti v Buenos Airesu izdali ponatis Gregorčičevih poezij in od katerih skorajda nihče več ne zna slovenščine. Mnogi njihovi očetje in dedi so umrli, ne da bi jim uspelo stopiti na tla slovenske države. Umrli so z neizživetim idealom narodne države, ki jo je v tistem obdobju poseblyala Jugoslavija.

To so potomci zasavskih rudarjev, ki so mo-

rali zapustiti Zasavje in se spustiti v globoke rudniške jame na Nizozemskem, v Belgiji in Franciji. Teh rudnikov že zdavnaj ni več, nekateri so se odločili in odšli za delom v Južno Afriko, večina pa se jih je razpršila po Evropi.

Čeprav v Sloveniji nimajo več sorodnikov, največkrat tudi grobov na vaških pokopališčih ni več.

Toda na svetovnih tekmovalnih navijajo za slovenske reprezentance in svojim sosedom s ponosom kažejo fotografije slovenskih krajev.

Tu je še 20.000 Slovencev, ki so zaradi tragičnih posledic druge svetovne vojne morali zapustiti svoje domove ter dolga desetletja živeti izolirano, ob tem pa so zavestno gojili slovensko zavest. Zatočišče so dobili v Argentini, kjer jih je večina tudi ostala.

Po slovenski osamosvojitvi se je nekaj deset družin tudi za stalno vrnilo oziroma preselilo v Slovenijo.

Z žalostjo v srcu, toda z upanjem, da odhajajo začasno – kateri izseljenec pa ni imel take želje – je v šestdesetih letih prejšnjega stoletja Slovenijo zapustilo tudi 40.000 tako imenovanih zdomcev. V srcih vseh diha upanje in želja, da se bodo za stalno vrnili v rodni kraj. Mnogo se jih je že, veliko pa jih bo raje ostalo pri svojih vnukih, kot pa da bi se za stalno sami priselili v hišo v domačem kraju, ki so jo pridno gradili

(DALJE na str. 16)

Brez resnice ni sprave

(nadaljevanje s str. 14)

sto. Vse po pravilu: kar je dovoljeno meni, ni dovoljeno tebi."

Po Drobničevem mnenju se niti Kučan niti Drnovšek nista resno zavzela ne za medvojne žrtve partizanskega nasilja, ki je pripeljalo do samobrambnega slovenskega odpora in državljanskega spopada, ne za žrtve povojnih pobojev in kaznovanje vojnih zločincev.

"Zato so medvojni zločini še vedno zamolčani, povojni pa neraziskani in človeška trupla še vedno ležijo po jamah in grapah. Šestdeset let po vojni, ko so se po svetu že spravili vsi največji sovražniki, slovenska predsednika nista razen praznih besed storila še ničesar učinkovitega za slovensko pomiritev."

Slovesnosti v Kočevskem rogu so se med drugim udeležili nekateri predstavniki oblasti. Tako sta predsednik državnega zbora France Cukjati in finančni minister Andrej Bajuk položila venca na največje odprto grobišče na Slovenskem.

Slovesnost je spremljal tudi bogat kulturni program, ki so ga oblikovali duhovniški oktet Oremus, solistka Renata Klančič in trobentar Gorazd Buh.

Gašper Blažič

Demokracija, 7. VI. 2007

V BLAG IN LJUBEČ SPOMIN



MARA HREN

ki nas je za vedno zapustila
24. junija 2005

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Klemen
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Sorodstvo: tukaj, v Kanadi
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REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA – DRŽAVNI ZBOR
Komisija za odnose s Slovenci v zamejstvu in po svetu

VABILO

na

VIII. tradicionalno vseslovensko srečanje v Državnem zboru – 5. julija 2007

Spoštovani,

Komisija Državnega zbora Republike Slovenije za odnose s Slovenci v zamejstvu in po svetu organizira VII. tradicionalno vseslovensko srečanje Slovencev zunaj meja Republike Slovenije, ki bo v četrtek, 5. julija 2007 v veliki dvorani Državnega zbora Republike Slovenije, in bo trajalo od 10. do predvidoma 19. ure.

Republika Slovenije si prizadeva za čim večjo vključitev Slovencev z zamejstva in sveta v delovanje slovenskih državnih institucij:

◇ Pobudo za ureditev predstavništva Slovencev z zamejstva in sveta v slovenskem parlamentu je oktobra 2005 dala Komisija za odnose s Slovenci v zamejstvu in po svetu.

Vseslovensko srečanje je priložnost, da slovenski rojaki ovrednotijo pobudo in predstavijo svoja pričakovanja v zvezi z njihovo večjo politično udeležbo v predstavniskem telesu...

◇ Sveta za Slovence v zamejstvu in za Slovence po svetu kot stalni posvetovalni telesi Vlade Republike Slovenije, ki ju sestavljajo predstavniki državnih organov, institucij, političnih organizacij in organizacij civilne družbe z Republike Slovenije ter z zamejstva in sveta, imata po področni zakonodaji pomembno vlogo pri izdelavi strateških in razvojnih dokumentov ter s tem pri vključevanju rojakov v delovanje slovenske države.

Ustanovitvena seja Sveta za Slovence v zamejstvu je bila januarja 2007, za Slovence po svetu pa bo predvidoma junija 2007.

Vseslovensko srečanje bo priložnost, da člani svetov pa tudi drugi predstavijo svoja pričakovanja in predloge v zvezi z njihovo vključitvijo v delo izvršne veje oblasti...

◇ Zakon o odnosih Republike Slovenije s Slovenci zunaj njenih meja predvideva vrsto ukrepov, s katerimi naj bi se rojaki počutili kot del slovenske države.

Vseslovensko srečanje je priložnost za pobude, predloge in vprašanja, da se zagotovi njegovo čimboljše izvajanje.

Poleg plenarnega zasedanja bo delo razdeljeno v dve temeljni delavnici: za Slovence v zamejstvu in Slovence po svetu. Delo v zvezi z zamejsko problematiko z naslovom "Slovenci v zamejstvu – del slovenske države" bo potekalo v dvorani Državnega sveta, delo v zvezi s problematiko Slovencev po svetu z naslovom "Slovenci po svetu – del slovenske države" pa v veliki dvorani Državnega zbora.

Tako kot vsako leto bo poskrbljeno tudi za kulturni program, v katerem sodelujejo Slovenci z zamejstva in sveta.

Vljudno vas vabimo, da se vseslovenskega srečanja udeležite.

Lepo Vas pozdravljamo,

Mag. Janez Kramberger
Predsednik Komisije

Ur. AD: Kot predstavnika ameriške skupnosti v ZDA sta bila izvoljena Milan Ribič iz Clevelanda in Ivan Kamin iz New Yorka. Ko bodo pozneje poročila o delovanju omenjenega telesa, jih bomo seveda posredovali.

AMERIŠKO DOMOVINO STE VEDNO NA TEKOČEM

Koliko Slovencev po svetu?

(nadaljevanje s str. 15)

vsa ta dolga leta "gastarbajterstva".

Pošteno in pravilno je, da smo v zadnjih 15 letih prej omenjenim "političnim" izseljencem in zdomcem namenjali največjo pozornost.

Toda pri tem "uravnoteženju" našega odnosa je treba biti previden, da ne bomo zanemarili vezi, ki nas še povezujejo s Slovenci in njihovimi potomci iz prvih generacij. Teh je največ, toda iz razumljivih razlogov že zdavnaj ne govorijo več slovensko.

Če smo se že privadili temu, da naši izseljenci govorijo angleško ali špansko, smo se malo manj navadili na francoščino ali nemščino, ki nas že navdajata z nekim nezaupanjem, da so naši izseljenci že pozabili slovensko. Da o tem, da se kar najezimo, če Slovenec iz Banja Luke ali Zenice govori srbsko, niti ne govorim.

Očitno še nismo pripravljene razumsko sprejemati drugačnosti pri naših izseljencih, ki je včasih povezana ne le z drugim jezikom, ampak celo z barvo kože. Ravno zato potrebujemo strategijo slovenske države; potrebujemo zagotovila in glavne smeri aktivnosti slovenske države tudi do teh kategorij Slovencev.

Mater in domovino imamo samo eno. Ne glede na čas, vzroke, organiziranost v izseljenstvu naj bi slovenska država skrbelo za prav vse Slovence brez predhodnih pogojev. Ker se želje, možnosti in vizije sodelovanja teh "starejših" izseljencev razlikujejo od slovenskih državljanov, ki živijo v tujini, je še kako pomembno, da to realnost slovenstva dodobra upoštevamo.

Sedaj, po razrezu "četrtnine slovenskega telesa", lahko vidimo, da ni mogoče govoriti o več kot 100.000 slovenskih državljanov, živčih po vsem svetu, ki so oziroma bodo deležni dobrot slovenskega državljanstva.

Preostali del slovenskega naroda (okoli 400.000) pa bi lahko bil deležen

Slovenci po svetu dobili novo spletno stran

Trst – Na Zavodu za šolstvo so pred kratkim predstavili spletno stran za Slovence po svetu, Stičišče, ki je namenjena predstavitvi organiziranih slovenskih skupnosti po svetu in šol v tujini, kjer se poučuje slovenski jezik. Poleg tega naj bi stran pripomogla k lažji povezavi Slovencev po svetu pri poučevanju slovensščine, na strani pa so zbrani tudi podatki o možnostih učenja slovensščine v Sloveniji in gradiva za učenje slovensščine in usposabljanje učiteljev slovensščine v tujini.

Na spletni strani so predstavljeni kraji po svetu, kjer delujejo slovenske skupnosti, ki organizirano skrbijo za ohranjanje slovenskega jezika in slovenske kulture tako med otroki in mladostniki kot med odraslimi. Poleg tega je na spletni strani mogoče dobiti podatke o krajih v tujini, kjer poteka dopolnilni pouk slovensščine, oziroma kje so sobotne šole, predstavljeni so tudi podatki o drugih dejavnostih v slovensščini v tujini, kot so pevske vaje, verouk, zgodovinske in geografske ure o Sloveniji.

Ker je nova spletna stran v prvi vrsti sicer namenjena učiteljem, ki poučujejo slovenski jezik v oddelkih dopolnilnega pouka v 15 evropskih državah, ter učiteljem, ki v ZDA, Kanadi, Argentini in Avstraliji poučujejo slovensščino v "sobotnih šolah", lahko na spletni strani dobimo tudi primere učnih načrtov in dobrih praks učiteljev slovensščine, naslove učbenikov in drugih gradiv ter informacije o usposabljanju učiteljev slovensščine iz drugih držav v Sloveniji.

Poleg tega naj bi bila vsebina spletne strani

<http://www.zrss.si/slovenscina>

dobrodošla tudi slovenskim staršem po svetu, ki iščejo možnosti za vključevanje svojih otrok v različne dejavnosti v Sloveniji, in učiteljem v Sloveniji, ki v slovenskih šolah delajo z učenci priseljencev. Tako bodo predstavljene informacije o prihajajoči Poletni šoli za otroke in mladostnike v Sloveniji povezave s šolami in drugimi ustanovami v Sloveniji in učenjem na daljavo.

Višja svetovalka in odgovorna urednica Stičišča Dragica Motik se je ob predstavitvi dotaknila predvsem prihajajoče Poletne šole za otroke, pri čemer je poudarila, da želi zavod otrokom ponuditi več kot le jezik, se pravi tudi videnje in doživljanje Slovenije stik z ljudmi v okolju ter možnost druženja z vrstniki. Tako otrok po besedah Motikove ne bo pridobil le kognitivnih znanj, ampak tudi čut in občutek za državo.

STA Novi glas, 10.V.2007

te skrbi. Ali so in če je bodo in v kolikšni meri, pa je odvisno od tega, kako bomo Slovenci v Republiki Sloveniji poskrbeli za naše vezi z njimi. ■

Novi grobovi

(nadaljevanje s str. 11)

Pogreb je bil 20. junija s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Felicite, kjer je mašo opravil č.g. Jože Božnar, s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Edward S. Kausek

Umrl je Edward S. Kausek, vdovec po Normi, roj. Lesler, oče Sandre Cappotto, Edwarda in Barbare McPhee, 9-krat stari oče, brat Josepha in že pok. Therese Kausek, veteran služenja v ameriški mornarici. Pogreb je bil 14. junija s pokopom na pokopališču Whitehaven.

V BLAG SPOMIN

16. OBLETNICE SMRTI

MILKO PUST
Umrl 25. junija 1991.

*V miru božjem Ti počivaj,
dragi, nepozabni nam;
v nebesih večno srečo uživaj
do svidanja na vekomaj!*

Zaljujoči:

žena Dragica
sin Marjan z družino
hčerki Slavica in Vida
z družinama
v Ljubljani; sestra Vida
z družino
ostali sorodniki v Ameriki
in Sloveniji.