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60¢

Slovenia: Out of the Way Europe

For travelers wary of venturing too far from the comforts of Europe, but who still crave a little more than the classic tour, consider Slovenia, the jewel of the Alps.

Slovenia, a destination few may be familiar with, but which delivers a wonderful travel experience at prices well below its better-known neighbors. Surrounded by Austria, Hungary, and Italy, it declared its independence from Yugoslavia on June 25, 1991.

Known for its scenery, one British naturalist declared Lake Bled to be "The most beautiful place in all of Europe." Not bad for a country half the size of Switzerland.

Slovenia is green and unspoiled; nearly half is still woodland. It has a wide variety of scenic attractions:

the dramatic Slovenian Alps, a beautiful seacoast along the Adriatic, the incredible Postojna Caverns, the Lipizzaner horse farm, casinos, and castles.

With 1,500 years of culture, the nation is rich with historic churches, picturesque villages, music, and theater, not to mention wonderful food.

Surprisingly ignored by most large tour operators, Slovenia is hungry for tourists, and for that reason, prices are much lower than those found in Austria, Switzerland, and Italy. The capital, Ljubljana, is the air gateway, but visitors may also drive across from Austria or Italy. No visa is required.

For further information about a visit to Slovenia, contact the travel agents who advertise in this newspaper.



Baraga Day in Sarasota, Florida

A good number of Slovene Americans were in Sarasota, Florida on Saturday, January 25, to attend the Baraga Day celebration in St. Martha Catholic Church in that city. About 100 persons were in attendance at the Mass said by Mons. Spalghetti and assisted by Fr. Alojzij Hribsek. Everyone gathered in the church hall for lunch after the Mass. Mons. Spalghetti informed those present of the most recent news concerning the beatification of Bishop Baraga.

Johnny Vadnal: 60 Years of Outstanding Polka Music

Even to aficionados, most polka bands sound similar. If you tune in to the middle of a song on the radio, you will have a hard time distinguishing one band from the other.

This is not true of the Johnny Vadnal Orchestra. It has always had a unique sound, different from everybody else in the polka world, mostly because of Vadnal's way of playing the dominant instrument — the accordion.

Vadnal's accordion has a contemporary, modern sound, way ahead of its time. It is rooted in the Slovenian style, but it also has a wide appeal to other ethnic audiences.

This sound did not come about through any conscious planning. It just happened, filtering through the psyche and personality of Vadnal. He is at a loss to explain how the sound developed.

"All I can say is I played from the heart," he said. The difference lies in the fact that Vadnal has his own tempo and meter, and in the way he emphasizes certain notes. "When I play, I always pick out a couple on the dance floor and watch them," he said. "I use them as a guide for my tempo. If they're struggling to keep in time, I slow down."

Vadnal had one of the first polka show bands. At a time when other polka ac-

cordionists would get on a stage and play sitting down, with a frown on their faces, Vadnal's side men would smile, bounce around and sing. There was always singing, usually led by Johnny's older brother, Tony, the master yodeler. The scholarly looking Johnny is usually the only man in the ensemble who does not sing.

This versatility enabled Vadnal to become the first polka band leader in the country to have his own television show in a major market. From 1949 to 1961, the Vadnals performed every Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m. on WEWS Channel 5 in their hometown of Cleveland. The immensely popular program gave Vadnal the momentum to stay in the music business for more than half a century.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, Vadnal and the band played six nights a week. The band has received numerous honors and awards. In 1949, Paul Nakel, a Cleveland polka disc jockey, conducted a vote to decide the *polka king of Cleveland*. Eighteen bands drew votes. **Vadnal won**.

In 1953, the Vadnals won the championship in the Midwest Battle of the Bands held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In 1982 the Penn-Ohio Polka Pals (POPPS)

gave Johnny a testimonial before 400 invited guests. In 1983, Cleveland Mayor George Voinovich gave him the key to the city.

Along with the bands headed by Frank Yankovic and Johnny Pecon, the Vadnals are one of the top three polka groups in the history of Cleveland, the polka capital.

The band was first formed by Anna Vadnal, Johnny's mother. It was a family affair, called the Vadnal Quartet. Older brothers, Tony and Frankie played the bass and banjo, respectively. Sister Valeria was on piano. Johnny was the accordionist. (His early dream was to play the saxophone, but his mother insisted on the accordion.)

Tony was the leader of that band, which was broken up by Valeria's marriage and World War II.

When Tony and Frankie went into the service, Johnny started another band under his name. Johnny did not go into the service because of a childhood injury, in which he lost the sight in one eye when hit by an arrow.

After the war, the band kept the Johnny Vadnal name. When the polka boom burst into full flower, Vadnal recorded for RCA Victor. His biggest hit was "Yes, Dear" Waltz, which sold

President Clinton's Congratulatory Letter to Ambassador Dr. Ernest Petric

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 12, 1997

Warm greetings to the members of the Slovene National Benefit Society as you gather in Imperial, Pennsylvania, to honor His Excellency Dr. Ernest Petric.

Commitment to democratic values has been the hallmark of Dr. Petric's distinguished tenure as Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia. As the first Ambassador to the United States of the independent Republic of Slovenia, his dedication to strengthening democracy in his nation and to advancing its integration with the democratic family of nations sets a shining example for other countries to follow. I commend Ambassador Petric for his work to ensure continued economic and social reform in Slovenia, and I stand with him in his efforts to foster international cooperation and understanding.

Best wishes for a memorable event.

Bill Clinton

St. Mary's Parish Organizations Host Dinner

The organizations affiliated with St. Mary's parish in Collinwood will host a special dinner on Sunday, May 4, with the proceeds benefitting the parish. The dinner will be held at the nearby Slovenian Home on Holmes Avenue and will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Tickets for the dinner are \$15 and can be obtained from members of the various parish organizations or by calling Felix Gaser at 381-2602. Note that the tickets must be purchased in advance and will not be available at the door on

A brief program will follow the dinner and the afternoon will conclude with a dance and social, with the music by the Veseli Godci orchestra.

In reading the American Home newspaper I see that it contains invitations to attend all sorts of dinners and other events. It is impossible to go to every one of them. Yet I do encourage you to come to our May 4 dinner. Among other things, it surely will be one of the last in our community in a hall, as the picnic season is coming up fast and nearly all the events will be outdoors.

A Parishioner

May 4
Narodna Ljubljana
Newspaper

2 Croatians try to claim Al Milnar, Slovenians balk; say 'No Way'

Editor:

In regard to the brochure, "Croatia and the USA - 1996 & Beyond" there are changes which should be made before the next printing in the interest of correctness of facts:

For instance, on page 33, it states, "The Cleveland Indians (baseball team) had an outstanding pitcher in Al Milnar..."

Al is not Croatian and accordingly should not be listed after the prominent Croatian athletes. Al is a Slovenian who was born

with the name of Al Mlinar which was changed often by the press to Al Milnar.

I telephoned Al today (14 April) and he confirmed he is Slovenian. Al lived closer to the Croatian school of St. Paul's near E. 40th Street in Cleveland, so he attended St. Paul's instead of going to the Slovenian St. Vitus School near E. 61st and St. Clair Ave.

Al is 83, in good health and lives at 19520 Shawnee Ave., Euclid, OH 44119 near where I lived until I left for the service in the U.S. Navy.

He played for Minneapolis (or Milwaukee) from 1936 to 1937 and then for the Cleveland Indians until 1946 and then for St. Louis. He said his two years of Army service shortened his baseball career.

On page 11 - too many spelling errors.

Page 31 - For courtesy, suggest - "World renown scientist and inventor Serbian Nikola Tesla born and reared in Croatia, emigrated to New York City."

--Ernest Ryavec
Santa Monica, CA

Bluebirds making comeback in PA

by Paul W. Heimel

Those bluebirds that are being seen with increasing regularity in and around Galetton (Porter County) Pennsylvania may owe their very existence to John A. Olson.

Olson, often called the "Bird Man of the Pine Creek Valley," has built more than 200 bluebird houses, including dozens he has presented as gifts to family members and friends.

He's especially pleased with his trail of 120 bluebird box houses strategically placed around his hometown of Galetton. "These houses can't be placed just anywhere," Olson points out. "A series must be positioned in such a way that some of the bluebird's natural competitors, such as the house sparrow, aren't encouraged."

Equally important is the maintenance of the houses, Olson explains. Nests should be removed as soon as the

young have left, to increase the chances of a second or even a third brood being raised in the same house.

He inspects, cleans, and repairs the bluebird boxes in late winter to prepare for birds that are returning from their southern migration.

Olson is one of many Americans helping to increase the number of colorful, playful bluebirds, a species that in northern Pennsylvania was rarely seen as late as the mid-1980s due to land use changes and pesticides.

"It all began in 1958, when Reader's Digest published blueprints for building bluebird houses," Olson says. "The first one I built was never inhabited and I finally figured out why - I was using treated pine wood. Since then, I've used untreated pine cedar and I know of more than 1,100 bluebirds that have been fledged from my boxes."

Several sources can provide particulars on building and positioning bluebird houses. The North American Bluebird Society (P.O. Box 6295, Silver Spring MD 20906) is a national clearinghouse for information on bluebirds and related issues.

From "Pennsylvania" magazine.

Diana Fir sings in Marriage of Figaro

Diana Fir, Slovenian singer from San Francisco, had a leading role in the opera "The Marriage of Figaro" which played at Hellman Hall from April 3 to the 6th.

Diana sang the principal role of Susanna in the Mozart musical drama under the auspices of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Opera Theatre.

Spirit Well

Enclosed is a check for \$80.00 for the renewal of my subscription. The additional amount is for the "draga Domovina," for keeping my Slovenian spirit well and alive.

--Frank Krasovec

Rydal, PA

Thank you very much for your very generous donation.

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS
by John Mercina



GROWING OLDER AND KNOWING IT PART II.

- You know all the answers but nobody asks you anything.
- You look forward to a dull evening.
- You walk with your head held high due to your bifocals.
- You turn off the light to be economical and not romantic.
- Your knees buckle but your belt won't.
- Dialing long distance wears you out.
- You sit in the rocking chair but can't get it going.
- You regret all those temptations that you resisted.
- You burn the midnight oil after 9 p.m.
- Your back goes out more often than you do.
- You stop looking forward to your next birthday.

Maple Dijon Glazed Chicken

Serving Size: 4

* ½ cup Dijon mustard

* 2 ½ teaspoons white wine

* ¼ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

* pinch black pepper

* 1 teaspoon shallot - finely diced

* 2 ½ teaspoons Maple syrup - pure

* 4 chicken breast halves without skin - boned

Prepare coals for grilling, or preheat the broiler. Combine first 6 ingredients in a small bowl and blend well.

Grill or broil the chicken until done, brushing from time to time with glaze.

NOTE: recipe from Canyon Ranch, Lenox, MA

Huckleberry Pie

* 3 cups fresh or frozen huckleberries

* 1 cup sugar

* ½ teaspoon almond extract

* 1 pastry for double crust pie

* 1 cup grated apple*

* 2 tablespoons flour

* dash of salt

* This does not alter the flavor, but stretches the berries.

Measure ingredients into a two quart mixing bowl and mix well. Pour into unbaked pie shell. Cover with top crust and bake at 375 degrees for about one hour or until nicely browned.

Makes one 9" pie.



tina & brenda's

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Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

The annual meeting of members of the SLOVENE HOME FOR THE AGED will be held on Friday, May 16th, 1997 at the SLOVENIAN WORKMEN'S HOME 15335 Waterloo Road, Cleveland, Ohio Registration: 7:00 p.m. - Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Members are cordially invited to attend this important meeting. Members, as defined in the Bylaws, are those individuals and organizations who have contributed a minimum of \$25 during the preceding year. For the 5/16/97 meeting, this is the period from 4/1/96 through 3/31/97.



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Tucson, Arizona – Another Perfect Vacation

By Patricia Coil
Euclid Travel

Tucson, Arizona may be just the right vacation destination for you, if you are seeking a pace that is very relaxed, laid back, and spiritual. This is how Mary Jo McVay describes her vacation experiences in the Tucson area where she travels with a friend, who has been visiting the area for more than 25 years.

McVay, who has been a client of Euclid Travel for the last five years, prefers to stay in a bed and breakfast west of Tucson in the desert. The Casa Tierra (Earth House) Adobe Bed and Breakfast is operated by a former college dean of students and his wife, Lyle Hymer-Thompson, who builds passive solar adobe homes and his wife, Karen, who is a native Arizonian, always wanted to own a B&B. They designed and built it out of homemade adobe brick.

The B&B is built hacienda-style around a central courtyard, filled with native plants, adult cactus, and Mr. EZ (short for Emilio Zapata) a desert turtle. A hot tub is positioned outside the main house so that guests can enjoy the sunset over the desert and a glass of wine. Two beautiful black cats, Negrita and Jetta, are available for visitation to the three guest rooms, which occupy the other side of the courtyard.

The guest rooms each contain a full bath, small eating area, and private patio with a couple of chairs so guests can watch the sunset in private and listen to the sound of the coyotes in the distance. The kitchen area comes equipped with a small refrigerator, microwave, sink, and dishes so that

guests can do a little cooking or bring food in to heat up for dinner.

Karen is a wonderful innkeeper, says Mary Jo. "She makes really good regional breakfasts with a Southwestern flavor and provides great cactus jams." A typical breakfast would be blue corn pancakes or omelets with onions, green peppers, hot peppers, and cheese. A breakfast always includes fresh fruit, juice, coffee, and some kind of fresh baked goods. Mary Jo's favorite breakfast is baked apples with oatmeal.

The B&B is closed during the summer months when the temperature can range from 100 to 115 during the day and drop to only 80 at night. Karen and Lyle spend part of the summer in the mountains of Mexico where they are building a house.

Mary Jo and her companion prefer to eat in the many area restaurants that feature Southwestern food. She says the best place to go is La Fuente, which has really good food and service. It features a local Mexican band on the weekends and occasionally has performances by flamenco dancers. The locals eat at a place called the Crossroads. Another favorite is Los Nopales, which has only a few tables.

For people interested in large portions for small amounts of money, Mary Jo recommends Fred's Steakhouse and Arena. The establishment has corrals and stables, where small horse shows are put on. The restaurant part is barn-like with a large open room and tall ceilings. The excellent food is prepared in a pit with be-

els that adjust to the height of the grilling surface.

When they are in the mood for a snack they stop for a Choco-Taco's, tacos shaped like waffle cones filled with vanilla ice cream with drizzles of chocolate throughout and smothered with chocolate sauce. Another favorite of Mary Jo's is California Smoothies which offers an outstanding fruit drink made from fresh strawberries, crushed ice, vitamins, and bee pollen. "The best mocha coffee I ever had" came from CoffeeEtc., a 24 hour restaurant. "It has the best selection of coffee and teas that I have ever seen."

Mary Jo and her companion particularly like the Tucson area because there is the city with all the possible cultural experiences, the desert that is only 15 minutes away, and Mexico is only an hour away. There is plenty of variety and interesting places to visit like Tombstone, Bisbee, Tubac, or Saguaro National Park. For more details on these areas, see the next installment of this column.

Euclid Travel can make all your arrangements to visit the Tucson area. Just call 261-1050 to begin planning your perfect vacation.

Bishop Pevec helps open Shrine

The Trinitarian Sisters at the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes announce the official beginning of the 1997 pilgrimage season and outdoor services from May through October, 1997.

Masses on Sunday, May 4 are scheduled for 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.

The Most Rev. Bishop Edward Pevec, Ph.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland, will preside at the 3 p.m. service, which will consist of the Solemn Blessing of the newly constructed outdoor 15-Decade Granite Rosary, the procession with the U.S. Pilgrim Virgin Statue, homily, consecration to the Blessed Mother and Benediction.

The statue will be touring the churches in the Cleveland diocese during May and June. The shrine is the first on the list. The statue was blessed by Pope Paul VI, and given personally to the U.S.A. by the Bishop of Fatima and entrusted to the Blue Army.

On this day and every Sunday, the St. Ann Dining Room will be open for breakfast and dinner from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Concert, Dinner, Dance in Western, Pennsylvania

3

AMERIKA DOMOVINA, APRIL 24, 1997

Treat Mom, Grandmother, or that Special Lady by attending this Mother's Day celebration concert and dance being presented by "Songs & Melodies of Beautiful Slovenia radio program hosted by Violeta Ruparcich, heard every Saturday from 4-5 p.m. over the Station of the Nations - WEDO 810 AM - McKeesport/Pittsburgh. This weekly program commemorates its 12th anniversary of broadcasting by sponsoring this cultural endeavor.

The lovely SNPJ Lodge 106 Ballroom in Imperial, PA, located just 15 miles west of Pittsburgh will be the site of the concert and Dance on Sunday afternoon, May 11 beginning at 3:30 p.m. vivid impressions are sure to be made with this congenial and talented group of musicians whose vast repertoire will include something for everyone's taste.

By Slovenian custom, music alone does not a celebration make. Therefore full-course dinners are being served before the concert, beginning at 1 p.m., for those who so choose with a choice of roast beef or stuffed pork chop entries. Add to that some satisfying refreshments from the cash bar and compliment with excellent music, and we have a "veselica."

Phone order can be made by calling Ann Haynos at 782-0938; Fred Stubert at 367-8217 and Violeta at 343-4641. A donation of \$11 per person will secure your ticket for the concert and dance which will find the Tony Verderber orchestra also providing you with the polkas, waltzes and other favorite rhythms to dance the evening away.

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4 (Continued from page 1) 50,000 copies in its first week. Other big Vadnal records were Two-Timing You, The Slap Happy Polka, The Prairie Polka, The Mountain Climber, No Beer on Sunday, Blame It on the Waltz, Clap Hands Polka and his theme song The Wayside Polka.

In 1983, in honor of his wife, Johnny wrote "My Alice Waltz," which was named polka song of the year.

During the height of the polka craze, Vadnal performed at all the establishments which polka lovers hold dear to their hearts in memory, such as the Superior Ballroom, Twilight Gardens, and the Aragon Ballroom. He played every Wednesday night at the Bowl Ballroom on the South Side, with as many as 1,500 dancers on the floor. It is hard to believe in these days of gray-haired polka dancers, but most of them were aged 17 to 25. The Bowl appearances were broadcast by the Mutual Radio Network. Nationally-known entertainer Louis Prima appeared at the Bowl, but could not attract as large a crowd as Vadnal.

When Vadnal recorded *The Baseball Polka* in 1950, he introduced it before a crowd of 64,000 at the Cleveland Stadium before an Indians game, then gave autographed copies to the athletes.

In the early 1970s Johnny went into semi-retirement in Florida and his younger brother Richie, another accordionist, led the band for about a decade. When Johnny came back to Cleveland, he and Richie played together in the group. Richie is recovering from a stroke while Johnny continues to play.

Now 74, Johnny feels the accordion and the polka have bright futures. "Rock people are starting to play the accordion," he said. "I think it can come back as big as ever." Vadnal does not have to come back. He has never been away.

✓ On August 1, 1987 Johnny Vadnal was inducted into the International Polka Music Hall of Fame in Chicago, IL.

✓ On November 26, 1988, Johnny Vadnal was inducted into the National "Cleveland Style" Polka Hall of Fame, in Euclid, Ohio.

✓ On May 6, 1994, Johnny Vadnal competed with the 10 top Polka Bands in Cleveland and again won the title of Cleveland's Polka King.

✓ November 1994 - For original songs written and

recorded 10 years ago or more and still among the Top Ten, Johnny's "My Alice Waltz" and "Slap Happy Polka" were voted into the Cleveland Polka Hall of Fame.

✓ November 1995 - Johnny won the Annual Achievement Award for Individual Musician of the

Year at National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame Awards Show.

✓ November 1996 - he was inducted into the National Broadcasters Hall of Fame at the Quaker Square Hilton Hotel.

✓ December "New Years Eve" 1996 - Last job played was at Sterle's Country House before retirement.



Retirement Salute for Vadnal Polka Family

By TONY PETKOVSEK

The National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame sponsors a retirement salute to the all-time "Cleveland Polka King," Johnny Vadnal and the Vadnal family, at its Spring fund-raiser on Wednesday, May 7th. The event takes place at Slovenian Workmen's Hall, considered the "home" where the Vadnals first endeavored in their music some 60 years ago at 15335 Waterloo Road, just off I-90 (E. 152-156 Sts. Exit).

This special event kicks off with a "live" WELW-1330 polka radio broadcast direct from the hall from 3 until 6 p.m. conducted by Tony Petkovsek and Denny Bucar, plus a number of special guests and music presentations. Coincidentally, entertainment will also start at 3 p.m. with Walter Ostanek, Canada's Polka King and past Grammy honoree, and will continue in both the upper and lower halls until 11 p.m. There will be a special stage jam session event at 9 p.m.

Donation-admission is \$5 available at the door only, which will go to the Polka Hall of Fame Foundation. Refreshment concessions

will be operated by the Slovenian Home's Board including reasonably priced meals in the lower hall plus sandwiches and drinks in both hall areas.

The following 16 bands are all donating their services including Youngstown's Joe Fedorchak, Michigan's Gaylord Klancknik, Fred Kuhar, Eddie Rodick, Penn-OHIO's Bill Bevec, The Casuals, Tony Fortuna, Ron Likovic & Friends, Magic Buttons, Cleveland Lake Erie Button Box, Joe Novak and Friends, Band of the Year Del Sinchak, W. Penna's Joe Grkman, Euclid Chromatic Club, Walter Ostanek, and the music coordinator Fred Ziwich & his I.S.M.

Many more musicians are expected.

Members of the Vadnal music family are: Johnny, Richie and Tony (who suffered a stroke about a year ago). They are expected to be on hand along with the musicians who performed with the Vadnals over the years. Johnny Vadnal officially retired on December 31, 1996.

A tremendous outpouring of polka fans from near and far is expected throughout the day on May 7.

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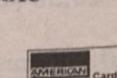
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American Slovene Congress Council Meeting March 22

The American Slovene Congress Council held its scheduled meeting on Saturday, March 22 starting at 10:45 a.m. at the School of International Affairs at Columbia University in the City of New York. It was attended by the officers of the American Slovene Congress (ASC), by nine Council members, by representatives of the ASC membership from the District of Columbia, and from seven states (New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and New York), by Prof. Tomaz Salamun, Cultural Attaché at the General Consulate of the Republic of Slovenia in New York, Mr. Milko Dolinsek of the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia in Washington, Prof. Boris Pleskovic of the World Bank, and Dr. Branka Lapajne of Toronto.

The program of the Council Meeting had two parts: the organizational and an informal part. In the organizational part of the program the officers of the American Slovene Congress presented their abridged reports: Dr. Silvester Lango, Chairman of the ASC, Dr. Hilary I. Rolič, the Treasurer, Prof. Rado Lencek the Academic Advisor of the ASC, and Mr. Paul Baranich, ASC Vice-Chairman and the English Editor of the *Zapiski*, the Chronicle of the ASC, the quarterly news letter for the members of ASC, and Dr. Joseph Bernik, President of the World Slovene Congress, in Ljubljana who, not able to come to the meeting, described the activities of the Congress in a written report which was read at the meeting, and is summarized as follows:

The World Slovene Congress (WSC) was established six years ago. This year the third General Assembly will be held in June in Maribor. The American Slovene Congress (ASC) is expected to select five delegates to participate in the

elections of the new officers at that meeting.

- A noticeable improvement in WSC organization and activities has taken place. The WSC office in Ljubljana is functioning and it is regularly manned on a part-time basis by a secretary and by the Corporate Secretary, ing. Feliks Tavcar.

- The WSC publication "Glasilo" is published regularly. The fourth issue was distributed in February. The cost of each issue is \$1.00. Unfortunately, the various conferences are not supporting the WSC financially, thus the functioning of the Congress depends on some government support which is shrinking each passing year. The exception to the rule is the ASC, which supports the WSC with an annual donation. The WSC also receives contributions from individual members.

- Electronic mail is planned to improve communication among the WSC office, the conferences, the officers and members. The realization of this project depends on the availability of financial support.

- Participation to the activities of the WSC is spotty. E.g. the Conference for Slovenia is active whereas the Conference for Primorska is inactive and does not participate at the meetings, nor is following the guidelines established in 1994 at the time of the General Assembly in Vienna.

- Among the projects undertaken by the WSC are:

Definition of the status of Slovenes without Slovene Citizenship

Representation in the Slovene government of the non-citizens Slovenes living outside Slovenia.

Reconciliation as a powerful uniting force and as a basis for a society built on strict legal conduct.

Utilization of the talent and skills of Slovenes outside Slovenia on a multi-source principle rather than

trying to organize it through a semi-governmental entity, as was the norm in the past.

Mr. Milko Dolinsek was the first of the four guest speakers to address the audience. He presented the position of the Republic of Slovenia regarding the enlargement of NATO in Central-Eastern Europe. Slovenia feels that it should be included in the first group of nations invited to join NATO. Free elections and a democratic government, transformation of the economic structure into a market oriented system, good human rights record, easy integration of the armed forces into those of the Western alliance, civilian control over the armed forces, a history of belonging to political entities of Central Europe before WWI, a geographical location offering a land bridge South of the Alps between Italy and Hungary, and finally personal income comparable to that of some of the other NATO members are all characteristics that make Slovenia a credible candidate to be included in the first round of admissions to NATO.

Prof. Boris Pleskovic discussed the latest statistics prepared by the World Bank analyzing the economics of the countries of the Central-Eastern Europe. This data shows that presently, Slovenia is not on top of the list for a whole series of important economic parameters such as rate of growth, economic liberalization; private sector output as percentage of the GDP; level of employment; foreign investments, etc. The main reason for this deterioration can be traced to a diminished commitment of the former government and parliament to proceed expeditiously on the road of privatization and restitution of properties, and on the austere imposition of market economy rules.

Poland, and the Czech

Republic, for example, imposed strict controls at the beginning, and this shock therapy, although painful, now results in a more rapid improvement in the economy as indicated by the various economic parameters used by the World Bank. Slovenia is still among the best performers, but is slowly losing the leadership position it had a few years ago. More detailed information on the subject can be found in the World Development Report 1996 "From Plan to Market" Published for the World Bank, Oxford University Press.

Mr. Milan Kravanja discussed some aspects of the procedures proposed by the U.S. Census Bureau for conducting the Census in the year 2,000. The topic of importance for the Slovene communities in the USA is the proposal to delete form the "Long Form" (the Long Form contains 33 questions and is supplied to every sixth household) queries regarding the ethnic background of the population. In that case, the Short Form would include only questions regarding race, i.e. White, Black, Asian and Hispanic. The "Long Form" used in the 1980 Census indicated that there were 126,000 Americans of Slovene heritage. It would be

interesting to know how this number changed and what would be the response in the year 2,000.

Many ethnic groups are joining in a request to the U.S. Congress to retain the question regarding ethnicity. Requests for retaining the ethnicity question should be mailed to the various Congressmen before April 1, 1997 when the Census Bureau submits a preliminary outline of the procedures to Congress, or at the latest before the procedures are finalized on April 1, 1998.

Dr. Branka Lapajne presented an interesting outline of how to search for family genealogical information in Slovenia. She described many interesting cases of how such search should be conducted and of the difficulties that may be encountered in this effort. People interested in this subject should read her book "Researching Your Slovenian Ancestors" available from Branka Lapajne, 1996. BML Publishing Co., Inc., 108 Hollywood Ave., Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3K3, Canada.

A period of friendly and intensive discussions followed the presentation of the many reports summarized above. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

--I.H.R.

Discover Croatia 1997

Tour Information Night April 29

Kollander World Travel, in cooperation with the Croatian National Tourist Office, will sponsor *Discover Croatia 1997* — a Croatian tour information night, on Tuesday, April 29 at 6:30 p.m., at the Croatian Lodge, Eastlake, Ohio.

Croatia's current state of tourism will be discussed, as well as the many Croatian travel opportunities available today, including escorted tours, cruises, and independent vacations. A special announcement about discount airfare on regular established airlines will also be presented.

Whether you arrive by land or sea, Croatia has much to offer travelers. It is a land of rare natural beauty: a magnificent Adriatic sea coast, more than 1,000 islands, majestic mountains, undiscovered castles, old towns, ancient history, and a long cultural heritage.

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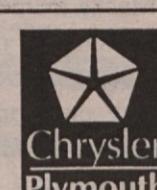


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6 Letter from Nikolai Tolstoy

Stanley Vrhovec, secretary of DSPB Tabor, received the following handwritten letter from Georgina Tolstoy, wife of Nikolai:

March 21, 1997.

Dear Mr. Vrhovec,

We have just received the cheque for \$1,200 and we are extremely grateful for this donation. It came as a very welcome surprise, most particularly as we did not expect any further funds. We are very touched indeed that people still support us in this generous way, and are very grateful to you for organizing and collecting the funds. Please thank everyone who has contributed, warmly from us.

Your kind words about my husband's work are very heartening, and he asked me to convey his appreciation to you all for your continued and loyal support.

As you can see, we are still in our own home! Though Nikolai has come to the end of the legal road in this country, and the trustee in Bankruptcy is entitled to take action against him, since last July he has done nothing, except to write a feeble letter, more-or-less begging us to make a settlement, and for an amount substantially more than the amount they were initially seeking. Of course, Nikolai

refuses to pay anything, and has written and told them so, and they are too frightened to do anything! The reason is that public opinion is on our side in this country, and there would be a public outcry if they done us out. This time last year there was a full-page and prominent article in our largest-selling Sunday newspaper, which pointed out the injustices of the original handovers, and of what has happened to us ever since the trial - that Nikolai has been denied appeal, etc, etc. The article more-or-less said that Nikolai was right, and had been given very rough justice.

Though there was no follow-up publicity to this article, never-the-less it enlightened the public so much, that now it would be impossible for the courts to take heavy action against us.

So we continue to live here quite peacefully and undisturbed. We never know what is going to happen, but we hope and pray this situation will continue and Nikolai will one day write the full story.

With very sincere thanks again for your continued support, which helps us so much.

With best wishes from myself and all the family
--Georgina Tolstoy

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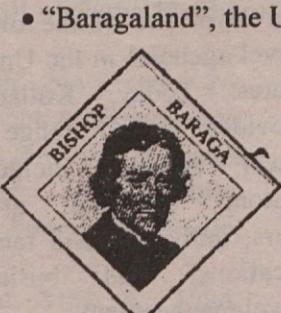
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DID YOU KNOW

Slovénia...

Joseph Zelle

During the Easter procession in Breštovica, Mirko Bogomir Špacapan collapsed and died. He was an organist and choral conductor. He was born January 16, 1922. He was very well known and much beloved in the Gorica area. May he too rest in peace!

Writer Lev Detela reports in *Novi Glas* the publication of new book in Austria. It is titled *Steirische Slowenem* (Styrian Slovenians). It is the ninth volume of handbook of Austrian national groups. It has been put out by the Center for Austrian Nationality in Vienna and the Graz Cultural Society.

The Cultural Home in Nova Gorica was the scene of Shakespeare's play, *Richard, the Third*. It was presented by the combined efforts of Primorski Dramatic Theater and the Slovenian Permanent Theater. Mile Korun directed the play.

Last February 2 Baritone Mark Fink and Pianist Nataša Valant appeared in a concert at Slovenian Philharmonic Hall. The occasion was the 200th anniversary of the birth of Franz Schubert. The concert was broadcast over the European Radio Network.

Festival benefits

St. Cyril Church

Spring is here. Slovenian Day and Slovenian Festival will be held on Saturday, May 3 for the benefit of the already started renovation of the Church of St. Cyril and the Slovenian Home in New York City.

Slovenian Festival will be held at Our Lady of Hope Auditorium, Middle Village, Queens, beginning at 7 p.m. with singing by the choral group Učiteljski Pevski Zbor Emil Adamič, which consists of 45 members, and the Trio Crna Mačka from Slovenia.

What a perfect time to meet old friends and made new ones and taste Slovenian home made food.

Due to renovation of Church of St. Cyril, the Sunday, May 4 Mass will be held at St. Stanislaus Church, 101 East 7th Street, East Village, New York at 11 a.m. The mixed chorus will sing at this Mass.

Coming Events:

Saturday, April 26

Zarja 81st Spring Frolic Concert, Slovenian Society Home, Recher Ave., Euclid, Ohio. Good Slovenian-style dinner from 5 - 6:30 p.m.; program: 7 p.m. Dancing follows, music by Jeff Pecon. Tickets \$17 each. Call 531-8402 or 531-5542.

Sunday, April 27

St. Clair Pensioners Club Chicken & Roast Pork Dinner. Serving at 1 p.m. Social to follow. For tickets call 486-0818 or 391-9761. Ticket purchases must be made by April 23rd.

Sunday, April 27

Dubravka Tomsic performs at Mechanics Hall in Worcester, MA.

Friday, May 2

Emil Adamič Chorus from Slovenia, 7:00 p.m., at Slovenian National Home, 6417 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland. Tickets call 481-2985.

Friday, May 2

Dance at West Park Slovene Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland, 7:30 p.m. Music by Dan Peters.

Saturday, May 3

Slovenska Pesem Chorus annual concert, 7:30 p.m. at Slovenian Cultural Center, 14252 Main St., Lemont, Illinois. Helen Rozman directs. Adult donation \$8.00; children under 12 admitted free. Social follows. Food and beverages available.

Saturday, May 3

Annual Slovenian Festival, at Our Lady of Hope Auditorium, Middle Village, Queens, NY, 7 p.m. Slove-

nian singing group Učiteljski Pevski Zbor Emil Adamič and Trio Crna Mačka from Slovenia. Benefit for renovation of St. Cyril Church and Slovenian Home.

Saturday, May 3

Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, spring dance honoring Louis Koenig, Man of the Year. Dinner 6:30, music 7:30. Donation \$13. For tickets call Mary Podlogar at 851-5761.

Sunday, May 4

All organizations of St. Mary's parish (Collinwood) sponsoring benefit dinner at 1 p.m. at Slovenian Home on Holmes Ave. Short program after dinner followed by dancing to the "Veseli godci" orchestra. Donation \$15. For tickets call 381-2602.

Sunday, May 4

Slovenian Day Devotions St. Joseph's Church, 17080 Arrow Blvd., Fontana, Calif., at 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 4

Dance at West Park Slovene Home ballroom, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland beginning at 4 p.m. Music by Frank Moravcik.

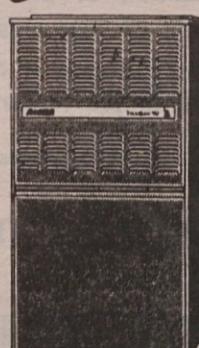
Friday, May 9

St. Mary's Slovenian School Mother's Day program in school hall, 7 p.m.

Friday, May 9

Dance at West Park Slovene Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland beginning at 7:30 p.m. Music by Bob Kravos.

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DEATH NOTICES

FRANK SEBENIK

Frank Sebenik, 91, passed away in the Slovene Home for the Aged on Friday, April 18, 1997. Frank was born in Cleveland and lived in Euclid for 40 years.

Mr. Sebenik operated a grocery store in the early 1950s and worked as a machinist and on assembly at General Electric Lamp Division.

He was a member of KSKJ St. Vitus Lodge No. 25; Euclid Pensioners, USS Society and Klub Ljubljana.

He was the husband of Vera (nee Laurich); the father of Roger (Betty) of Colorado, Allan (deceased) wife Mary; grandfather of three; brother of Pauline Seifert, Ella Zupancic and the following deceased: Therese Gusch, Josephine Knaus and Edward; brother-in-law of Stan (Jennie) Laurich.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 22, at Holy Cross Church. Burial was in All Souls Cemetery. The family suggests donations to the Slovene Home for the Aged. Arrangements by Zele Funeral Home.

JOHN J. ZAGORC

John J. Zagorc, 79, passed away at his residence on Sunday, April 20, 1997. John was born in West Virginia.

Mr. Zagorc was a U.S. Army Veteran of WWII, serving in the Pacific Theater where he was highly decorated and received a Purple Heart.

John was retired from I.B.E.C. where he was employed as a grinder and polisher.

He was the husband of Sophie (nee Francel); the father of Raymond, John and Donald; grandfather of Matthew; and brother of Mary Petrovic, Albina Jakse and Jennie Kramer (deceased).

Services are being held Thursday, April 24 at St. Jerome church. Burial in All Souls Cemetery. Zele Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Exciting things happening with Slovenian culture

The past few weeks have been filled with several wonderful Slovenian cultural events. Our local choruses, Jadran and Circle 2 have already shared their musical talents; Zarja will take the stage this weekend and the new St. Mary's Community Band made its spectacular debut last Sunday. We were also amazed by the virtuoso performance of Slovenian pianist, Dubravka Tomšič at her Severance Hall recital.

To top off this incredible "Spring Cultural Season," the Cleveland Slovenian Community will have the opportunity to hear one of Slovenia's best choirs - the *Music Educators Mixed Chorus "Emil Adamic"*. This 45 member group, comprised entirely of music educators, will present a concert at the St. Clair Slovenian National Home on Friday, May 2.

As music educators, the

members of the chorus represent some of the finest singers from throughout Slovenia. They have performed throughout Europe and have successfully represented Slovenia at international song and music festivals. Their performance will include traditional Slovenian folk arrangements as well as sacred and secular compositions.

The Slovenian American Heritage Foundation cordially invites, and strongly encourages, all to attend what promises to be an exceptional performance of Slovenian choral music. The concert will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 2nd at the St. Clair Slovenian National Home. Tickets are available at the Polka Hall of Fame and will be available at the door the evening of the program. Tickets can also be reserved by calling 481-2985.

In Loving Memory

Of the 7th Anniversary of our Mother, Grandmother, and Sister



ANNA M. ZAK

Passed away April 30, 1990

Your memory to us is a keepsake,
With which we will never part
Though God has you in His keeping,
We always have you in our heart.

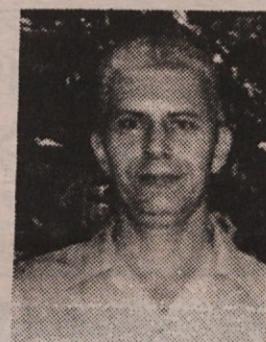
Sadly missed by
Daughter: Betty
Sons: Norbert J. and Michael J.
and other relatives

Cleveland, O., April 24, 1997.

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In Loving Memory



William H. Plymesser

11th Anniversary
April 28, 1986

We'll meet again someday, I know
Beyond the distant blue
But until then, my dearest one,
I'll always think of you... and So I live with thoughts of you...

And all you meant to me... and

Always I can feel you near... If just in memory

Sadly missed by
Wife, Sylvia
Brother, John

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Slovenian Sisters Celebrate Golden Anniversaries

Lady of Peace schools.

SISTER MARY ZAGORC, (formerly Sister Mary of the Cross) is the daughter of the late Martin and Frances Zagorc.

Her years of ministry have included teaching assignments at St. Mary (Collinwood), St. Joseph (Collinwood), St. Philomena, St. Francis de Sales, St. Therese, Urban Community, and Christ the King schools.

She has also served as a pastoral minister, working with senior citizens at St. Charles Parish. Sister Mary is currently engaged in ministry at the mother-house, assisting with the care of the hospitalized and infirm sisters.

22nd

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF OUR LOVING HUSBAND, FATHER, GRANDFATHER, AND FATHER-IN-LAW



John J. Urbancich

Died April 29, 1975

22 years have passed since that sad day.

The one we loved was called away.

God took him home - it was His will -

But in our hearts he liveth still.

Sadly missed by:

Wife, Dorothy,
Daughter Madeline Debevec,
Son John M.
Son-in-law James V. Debevec,
Daughter-in-law Candy Urbancich
Grandsons James V. Debevec II,
Mathew John Urbancich,
Granddaughter Carey Jane Urbancich

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8 American Slovenian Club of South Florida

It was in April 1974 that founders established the American Slovenian Club of South Florida. Today, Mary and Cyril Grilc, Sophie Phillips and Frances Vranicar are the remaining active members. Frances appropriately delivered a prepared history of the club's past activities.

Members sadly bid farewell to Mary and Cyril Grilc. They are "breaking up condokeeping" and moving into two rooms with three meals a day to add life to their years, while still active.

They have been office holders and a strong asset to the club. A beautifully decorated cake inscribed "Good Luck" marked the occasion. Their absence will leave a large unfillable void. Cyril designed and constructed our storage container and manufactured the kitchen warming rack.

He leaves these "reminders." I'll be in Barberton, OH in July staying with my sister, Jo Grimsic. We two and Eleanore and Adolf Muren of Norton, OH will visit the Grills at St. Augustine's in Cleveland. Mary and Cyril leave behind

a part of themselves that they have generously shared with those who love them. "Hospitable" is their middle name.

April birthday celebrants were Tillie Hocevar and Martin Gabriel.

Jo and Frank Gregg made a most welcome appearance. Jo will compete in Senior running competition in Arizona in May. She has the moral support of the entire membership. Go Jo Go.

In response to the editor's inquiry, we South Floridians do partake of the Sawgrass Mills Mall experience, wearing comfortable shoes to walk the beautifully finished wooden floors. The trip is not just an excursion, it's a real shopping adventure. In the Waterford outlet, I have seen crystal bearing stickers reading, "Made in Slovenia." It's great; it's big and a fun place to introduce to out-of-town guests. Come see for yourself, after you attend a club meeting.

Next meeting is May 4. No meeting in June, July and August.

--Paula Beavers,
Treasurer

News From the Euclid Pensioners Club

Hi! This is my first column as the new reporter/recording secretary of the Euclid Pensioners Club. This is a very difficult position because I have to follow the humorous, friendly columns of our last reporter, now our financial secretary, Marion Bocian. Being a retired physics and math teacher, I have always been a "just the facts" person, logically and clearly stating information. Now I should try to be the comedian? Thanks, cousin Marion!

Our February and March meetings were brightened up by members wearing items which expressed the holiday of the month, Valentine's Day in February, and St. Patrick's Day in March. Prizes were given for the best expressions of these themes, and guess what? Al Volk won the man's prize both times! He certainly was "creative" in the placement of his decorations. I could tell you more but this is a family newspaper. If you are still curious, come to our

next meeting the first Wednesday of the month. It's worth it.

Our annual picnic will be held on July 16th at SNPJ Farm. Joe Stavanja will prepare a pork chop dinner and Joe Samsa and the Chromatic Club will entertain. I know that I am younger than most members of the pensioners, but I can never remember a MAN (until Joe Stavanja) being the head cook at any Slovenian affair. I wonder if some of our deceased lady cooks are rolling over in their graves? But, isn't it great to see younger people active in the Slovenian community? Back to the picnic; tickets for the afternoon are \$10 and can be obtained by calling Marion Bocian at 585-2845 or Frank Kosten at 946-3878. Join us for a good time.

We have organized a telephone tree to notify members when one of our members has died. It is heartwarming that so many members are willing to give of their time to honor a

deceased member whether they were personally acquainted or not. God bless all!!

It is with sadness that I report the loss of the following members: Mimi DelRe, Ann Zitnik, Rudolph Krall, Pauline Anzells, Frances Somrak, Joseph Plemel, Louise Kozan, Ann Simon, Mary Zifko, Anthony Mozina, Alyce Royce, Anton Tishur, Olga Ozanich, and Laverne Zalac and her husband, John Zalac.

We have many membership places to fill now that so many of our members have passed on to their reward. Why not join us? Come as a guest to one of our meetings and experience the friendliness and warmth of our members. Then, become a member yourself for only \$6 a year.

I hope to see everyone at our meeting at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 7th at the Slovenian Society Home on Recher Avenue. Guests are always welcome.

--Patricia A. Habat
Reporter



In general, the U.S. Navy names aircraft carriers after public officials, battleships after states, destroyers after sailors and attack subs after cities.

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VESTI IZ SLOVENIJE

Slovenski predstavniki iščejo podporo pri državah-članicah NATA — Spodbudne besede, končna odločitev še nejasna

V zadnjih tednih potujejo predstavniki Slovenije — v prvi vrsti gre za premiera Janeza Drnovška, zunanjega ministra Zorana Thalerja in obrambnega ministra Tita Turnška — v razne države-članice zveze NATO, to z namenom, da dobivajo izraze podpore za vključitev Slovenije v prvi krog širitve te zveze. Odločitev o tem, katere države bo NATO vabil k pogajanju o vključitvi, bo izrečena julija letos.

Slovenski predstavniki na svojih obiskih res poslušajo pozitivne besede, da Slovenijo podpira ta in ona članica NATA, vendar so mnenja komentatorjev bolj skeptična. Ta teden se je mudil na obisku v Washingtonu državni sekretar v zunanjem ministru in bivši veleposlanik v skandinavskih državah (ter bivši konzul nekdanje SFRJ v Clevelandu) Ivo Vajgl. Baje je v pogovorih z visokimi ameriškimi vladnimi predstavniki tudi Vajgl slišal sicer pozitivno mnenje o Sloveniji in njenem morebitnem članstvu, slišal pa tudi, da se ZDA (tj. predsednik Clinton) še niso dokončno odločile.

Državnemu zboru še vedno manjka en podpredsednik — Helena Hren Vencelj iz vrst SKD dvakrat ni mogla dobiti večine

Slovenska tiskovna agencija (STA) je poročala včeraj, da je državni zbor izvolil dva nova podpredsednika. Mesto tretjega podpredsednika je pa ostal prazen. Izvoljena sta bila Andrej Gerenčer iz vrst vladne LDS in Miroslav Luci, ki pripada Socialdemokratski stranki in je največja opozicijska stranka v parlamentu. Dvakrat so poslanci glasovali o tretjem podpredsedniškem mestu, a brez uspešnega izida. Za izvolitev je potrebnih najmanj 46 glasov, torej absolutna večina vseh 90 poslancev. Kandidata v obeh krogih sta bila pred glasovanjem sicer razrešena podpredsednica iz vrst SKD Helena Hren Vencelj in Ivan Kebrič iz vrst stranke upokojencev DeSUS. V prvem krogu je

Helena Hren Vencelj prejela 35 glasov, Kebrič 27, oddanih je bilo 84 glasov, kar 22 teh je bilo neveljavnih. Drugič je bilo oddanih 79 glasov, od teh se je Kebrič popravil na 37, Venceljeva pa jih je dobila 36. Parlamentarni poslovnik določa, da se po takem izidu kandidacijski postopek ponovi, predlagani so novi kandidati, nato zopet glasovanja.

Izredni kongres Slovenskih krščanskih demokratov naj bi bil do konca junija

Poročilo Slovenske tiskovne agencije z včerajšnjim datumom (23. aprila) navaja:

»Člani sveta Slovenskih krščanskih demokratov (SKD) so sinoči v Škofovih zavodih razpravljalni o izrednem kongresu in programu prenove stranke, med drugim tudi na podlagi sklepov s sestanka predsednikov regijskih odborov v Novem mestu.

Predsedniki regijskih odborov so v pondeljek soglašali, da naj bo izredni kongres stranke do konca junija letos ter da naj strateška usmeritev krščanske demokracije ostana enaka programu, sprejetemu na lanskem škofjeloškem kongresu.

Svet stranke naj bi sinoči sprejel dopolnitve programa, na tej podlagi pa tudi izhodišča za prihodnjo organiziranost in delovanje stranke.

[Nekaj ur pozneje je STA dodatno sporočila, da je svet stranke SKD sprejel sklep o predčasnem volilnem kongresu stranke, ki bo do konca junija.]

Predsedniki regijskih odborov so na sestanku v Novem mestu obsodili: »vsakršne anonimke in opozorili članstvo, naj jih ne obravnava«. Sklenili so tudi, da je treba prenehati z javnim izpostavljanjem stališč, ki stranki škodijo in niso bila sprejeta na organih stranke. »Vsi različni pogledi naj se izražajo znotraj pristojnih organov stranke,« so se odločili.

Krščanski demokrati so zaradi slabih volilnih izidov od pričakovanih napovedali prenovo stranke, ki je v zadnjem mesecu prešla v odkrite zahteve po odstopu sedanjega vodstva in izrednem volilnem kongresu.«

Iz Clevelandu in okolice

Sestanek ZOD—

To nedeljo, 27. aprila, bo pri cerkvi Sv. Lovrenca sestanek Zveze oltarnih društev. Ob 1.30 bodo v cerkvi imele sv. rožni venec, litanije in blagoslov z Najsvetijšim. Sledil v dvorani bo sestanek. Članice oltarnih društev so vabljene na sestanek, posebej odbornice. Poleg poročil bo razprava o tem, kako morejo društva župnijam najbolj pomagati.

Tarok turnir—

Ljubitelji taroka so vabljeni to soboto na tarok turnir, ki bo v prostorih Travelmax na 911 E. 185 St. Pričetek ob 7h zvečer.

Upokojenci Slov. pristave—

Klub upokojencev Slovenske pristave ima mesečni sestanek v sredo, 30. aprila, ob pol dveh pop. na SP. Kdor more, naj pride že zgodaj in pomaga očistiti pristavo. Dopis na str. 10.

Prodaja peciva—

Oltarno društvo fare Marije Vnebovzete bo imelo prodajo krofov in peciva to soboto zjutraj v šolski dvorani. Pridite in kupite!

Novi grobovi

Frank Sebenik

Umrl je 91 let stari Frank Sebenik, mož Vere, roj. Laurich, oče Rogerja in že pok. Allana, 3-krat stari oče, brat Pauline Seifert, Elle Zupancic ter že pok. Therese Gunsch, Josephine Knaus in Edwarda, svak Stan Lauricha. Pogreb je bil v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda na E. 152 St. 22. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi Sv. Križa in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. Družina priporoča darove v pokojnikov spomin Slovenskemu domu za ostarele, 18621 Neff Rd., Cleveland, OH 44119.

Louis J. Turk

Dne 18. aprila je umrl 84 let stari Louis J. Turk, mož Mary Knapp Brassell in že pok. Mary, roj. Debelak, oče Davida, 2-krat stari oče, brat Mitzi Trask, Gail Koski ter že pok. Franka, Josepha in Jennie Trommetter, 4-krat očim. Pogreb je bil 23. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Viljema in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Mary F. Zak

Dne 17. aprila je v Bradentonu, Fla., umrla 84 let stara Mary F. Zak, pred leti živeča v Clevelandu, zaposlena 34 let v računovodniškem oddelku Bailey's Dept. Store v tem mestu, sestra Jeanne F. Baraga, Josepha Zaka in Franka Zaka, teta. Pogreb je bil v Bradentonu, Florida.

(dalje na str. 16)

Koncert—

V petek, 2. maja, bo v SND na Clair Ave. nastopil Učiteljski mešani pevski zbor Emil Adamčič iz Slovenije. Koncert se bo pričel ob 7h zv. in se bodo vstopnice dobile pri vhodu, v predprodaji pa pri Polka Hall of Fame. Zborovih 45 pevcev in pevk so vsi učitelji glasbe v slovenskih šolah, nastop v Clevelandu organizira Slovensko ameriški kulturni svet. Gostovanje zobra po ZDA in Kanadi je pod pokroviteljstvom slovenske vlade.

Obvestilo—

Oltarno društvo fare Marije Vnebovzete sporoča, da bo imelo molitve in sestanek na prvi petek, 2. maja, po sv. maši ob 7.45 in ne na prvo nedeljo v mesecu kot običajno. Članice lepo vabljene.

Očarljiv nastop—

Preteklo soboto zvečer je Primorski klub praznoval svojo 20-letnico v SND na St. Clairju. S svojim krasnim petjem slovenskih pesmi je navzoče — več kot 400 — očarala dr. Dominika Lango iz New Yorka. Lepo bi bilo, če bi mogli kdaj v ameriški »Ljubljani« organizirati samostojen koncert, kot so to storili rojaki v Lemontu januarja letos!

Uspel prvi koncert—

Preteklo nedeljo zvečer je bil prvi koncert nove godbe na pihala pri Mariji Vnebovzeti. Dvorana je bila nabito polna, navzoči so nastopajoče nagradili z močnim aplavzom. Dopis na str. 10.

V Rožmanov sklad—

Mohorjevi v pomoč pri vzdrževanju študentov v njih domovih so darovali za nedavno umrlega Janeza Pičmana sledenči: \$25 g.ga. Frank Dejak; po \$20 g.ga. France Šega, g.ga. Karol Bojc, Janez in M. Prosen; po \$10 ga. Frances Kosem ter g.ga. John Petrič. Darovalcem se lepo zahvaljuje v svojem in v imenu Mohorjeve pov. J. Prosen.

V tiskovni sklad—

G. Romano Vitulich, Wickliffe, O., je daroval \$20 v podporo našemu listu. Iskrena hvala!

Kosilo—

Organizacije pri župniji Marije Vnebovzete vabijo na kosilo, ki bo v nedeljo, 4. maja, začenši ob 1h pop. v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Ave. Prebitek kosila je namenjen v dobrobit fari. Za vstopnice in več informacij, kličite F. Gasserja na 381-2602. Dopis na str. 10.

Koncert Korotana—

Pevski zbor Korotan ima svoj letni koncert v soboto, 17. maja, v avditoriju pri Sv. Vidu. Več prihodnjič.



Sredi preteklega tedna (16. aprila) so se pri predsedniku vlade Janezu Drnovšku zbrali predsedniki oz. predstavniki vseh slovenskih parlamentarnih strank. Na sestanku je sodeloval tudi zunanj minister Zoran Thaler. Beseda je tekla o dveh temah in sicer vključevanju Slovenije v Nato in v Evropsko unijo. Med drugim so se vse stranke pisno zavezale želji Slovenije, da postane članica zveze NATO že v prvem krogu širitve. Vlada bo pa predlagala, naj državni zbor ratificira evropskega sporazuma na majski seji. Slovenija je sporazum podpisala že junija lani.

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SLOVENSKI DAN
12. aprila 1997

SLOVENSKI VEČER

CHICAGO, Ill. - Lemont je spet doživel svoj vzpon; pravil je dvojni spored. Oba dela si na videz nasprotujeta: veseloigra in globoka umetnost. V resnici se dopolnjujeta in sta privabilo pestro množično rojakov; vsakdo je našel svoj košček zadoščanja, če ne oboje.

Napovedi so obetale zanimiv večer, ki res ni razočaral nikogar. Veselje se je porodilo med odrskim razpletom in se je nadaljevalo do poznih ur ob vztrajni spremljavi harmonikarskega »orkestra«, ki je dopadljivo vpletal slovenska besedila na različne melodijske variante. Pri mizi so se zavlekla še domaći pesmi, da se ne bi pozabile... Spomnimo se — vsaj bežno — posameznih stavin:

Seznanjanje

Torontčani, četudi utrujeni, so si ogledali naš hrib in njegove skrivnosti: Grotto, pokopališče ob žuborečem studencu, križev pot, »blejsko« jezerce s cerkvico, tajinstveni samostan, pikniški hrib in ponosno stavbo Slovenskega Doma. Tam so si dvignili preprosti oder in zavihali rokave ob svojih vlogah za veseloigro »Kje je meja« - Vogrinčovo domiselnino mojstrovino, kot nalač pri merno za naše razmere.

Razstava

Newyorčani so jih prehiteli s svojim programom. Dejansko je šlo za eno družino, ki je pravila slikarsko razstavo Mira Zupančiča s 50 slikami. Razlagal jo je sam mojster, z ganljivo prisotnostjo duha. Čeprav so nam bile prav malo razumljive, je on brez truda ponazoril značilnosti svojih objektov, bary, senc in prelivov.

Vsaka slika ima globok pomen. On ga najde, s plamenečimi pogledi in prepričljivim izrazom; nič ni posojenega; zgolj slučajnosti, ki jih zapazi njegovo oko ob dodajanju stavin. Barve so rahle, vendar dopovedljive, prehodi postopni tudi kadar gre za robne (konturne) poudarke. Sence so redkejše; umikajo se le pred objektivnim akcentom; to poživi preglednost pri sicer bolj rahljih razločkih (kričečih barv namreč *ni* na Zupančičevih izdelkih; niti tedaj, ko se druž živobarvno cvetje).

Domišelnost je potrebna, seveda, pri vsakem opazovalcu, da iztakne in odkrije čim več navzočih subjektov. Največ jih vsekakor izsledi umetnik sam — skladnih, ne vsiljenih. Hvala, izredna hvala, prijatelj! Le redko se nudi mojster s tako temeljito razlagajo svojih doživetij. Domišljija slikarja (po njegovem) ni zaujavljiva. Njene meje so v vesolju!

Naša umetnica ga. Erika Bajuk, ki bo prihodnji mesec razstavljalova dela v Chicago, je izrekla na Zupančičev račun zasluženo javno priznanje tik pred otvoritvijo odrske predstave. Naj mu diši prejeti šopek čimdalj - najraje do prihodnje razstave! Naš spodbudni pozdrav naj velja tudi njejovi mladoletni hčeri Metki, ki baje že razstavlja svoje tovrstne »pridelke«. Naša vabila — obema!

Veseloigra

Meje so včasih premične — Aškerčev »Mejnik« živo pričakuje to z balado. Josip Vogrinc jo je raje vzel za komiko in nas razpoložil s hudomušno, trmasto razprtijo, ki bi kmalu

(dalje na str. 12)

VSI LEPO VABLJENI!

CLEVELAND, O. — Kot je bilo že pred dvema tednoma objavljeno v kratkih novicah Ameriške domovine, priejajo organizacije fare Marije Vnebovzete kosilo v dobrobit fare. To kosilo bo v nedeljo, 4. maja, ob 1. popoldne v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Ave. Tudi to je bilo omenjeno, da bi dar \$15.00 na osebo in lahko te vstopnice dobite pri članih raznih farnih organizacijah, ali pa če kličete F. Gaserja na tel. številki 381-2602. Zakaj to podarjam. Zato, ker se vstopnice dobe samo v predprodaji in jih pri vratih na dan kosila NE bo mogoče kupiti.

Po kosilu bo kratek program in po programu bo sledil ples, za katerega bodo igrali »Veseli godci«. Po vsem tem lahko sklepate, da nam ne bo dolgčas.

Ko prebiram ta naš edini slovenski časopis, vidim, da kar naprej kdo vabi na razna kosila in večerje. Nemogoče je, da bi se mogel vseh udeležiti, a tega kosila, na katerega vas danes vabim, se pa le udeležite, če vam je le mogoče. Verjetno bo eden zadnjih, ki bo še v dvorani, kajti začenja se sezona piknikov in kosil na svežem zraku in v lepi naravi.

Na svidenje v nedeljo, 4. maja, v Slov. domu na Holmes Ave.

— Faran

Pristavski upokojenci sporočajo...

CLEVELAND, O. - Vse članice in člani Kluba upokojencev Slovenske pristave ste lepo vabljeni na mesečni sestanek, ki bo v sredo, 30. aprila, ob pol dveh popoldne na SP. Vse tiste, ki še lahko delate, prosimo, da pridež že zgodaj dopoldne, da Pristavo počistimo. Večino listja smo že v jeseni pograbili, a snežni vihar v novemburu je naredil veliko škode na drevju in je kar precej polomljenih dreves in vej na tleh. Za malico bo preskrbljeno.

Naš klub je bil ustanovljen 17. maja 1987. Torej bomo drugi mesec praznovali desetletnico našega kluba. Če se ozremo nazaj, smo lahko kar ponosni. Vsako jesen in pomlad počistimo Pristavo, skrbimo za Orlov vrh in Spominsko kapelico, za rože v parku pri dvorani. Enkrat na leto pripravimo piknik in ves dobiček darujemo Pristavi; dobiček od vsakoletnih kolin gre pa skoro ves za dobrodelne namene.

Klub ima 150 članov in članic. Letos so nas že širje zapustili: Pavla Adamič, Miro Celestina, Frank Cenkar in Janez Pičman. Od vseh umrlih članov in članic se vedno lepo poslovimo z molitvijo rožnega venca v pogrebnem zavodu, pri pogrebnih sv. mašah in na pokopališču.

Bogu smo lahko hvaležni, da smo dočakali starost, a od

Vili Jagodič — umrl

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Po kratki bolezni je 16. aprila umrl v Washingtonu 73 let star Vili Jagodič, višji uradnik najprej Kongresne knjižnice v Washingtonu in nato knjižnice Kmetijskega ministrstva ravnotam. Doma je bil iz vasi Podplat pri Mislinju blizu Rogaške Slatine. Vojna leta je preživel na Primorskem, begunska leta pa v Rimu. Po prihodu v Ameriko leta 1947. je vstopil v ameriško vojsko in tam ostal, dokler se ni zaposilil v Kongresni knjižnici. Kot vojak je dosegel čin podpolkovnika. Po aktivni službi je ostal v vojski kot rezervist. Vili Jagodič bo pokopan v sredo, 30. aprila, na vojaškem pokopališču v Arlingtonu.

Janeza Nemca 14 skladb in je po vsaki žel navdušene aplavze očitno prijetno presenečene javnosti. Spored je obsegal melodije iz raznih glasbenih stilov od poskočnih maršev slavnega ameriškega skladatelja Johna Phillipa Souse preko polk in valčkov ter skladb iz tkim. »pop« glasbe.

Na programu sta bili tudi dve skladbi slovenskega komponista Braneta Prešerna, obe je aranžiral znani komponist in aranžer Jože Privšek, ki je tudi preskrbel lepo število not za naš novi pihalni orkester.

Naš novi orkester ima trenutno 22 članov, vendar so vrata na stežaj odprta, ker bi radi dobili še večje število glasbenikov.

Najlepše se seveda zahvaljujemo vsem, ki ste prišli na naš prvi koncert in nam dali odlično spodbudo za nadaljnje delovanje. Lepa hvala župniku fare Marije Vnebovzete č.g. Janezu Kumšetu, ki je dal pobudo za ustanovitev orkesterja, ki daje brezplačno prostore za orkestrove vaje vsaki ponedeljek zvečer. Za več informacij o orkestru in morebitnem pristopu, lahko poklicete Janeza Nemca (541-7243) ali Gene Marcha (449-1783). D.M.

**Anton M.
LAVRISHA**
Attorney-at-Law
(Odvetnik)
18975 Villaview Road
at Neff
692-1172
Complete Legal Services

Zahvalno pismo ge. Georgine Tolstoy

Stane Vrhovec, tajnik ZDSPB Tabor, je prejel od gospe Georgine Tolstoy zahvalno pismo, ki je v celoti objavljeno v angleškem delu današnje AD. Sledi skrajšan prevod.

21. marca 1997

Dragi g. Vrhovec,

Pravkar smo prejeli ček za \$1200. Skrajno smo hvaležni za tadar, ki nas je prijetno presenetil, ker nismo pričakovali nadaljnjih podpirajo. Zelo smo Vam hvaležni in Vas prosimo, da sporočite našo toplo zahvalo vsem darovalcem.

Vaše ljubezne besede o delu mojega soproga so srčno ganljive. Naročil mi je, naj Vam dam na znanje, da on zelo ceni Vašo zvesto podporo.

Kakor vidite, smo še vedno v svojem lastnem domu. Nikolaj je prišel do konca pravne poti v tej deželi. Upravnik stečajnega imetja ima polnomočje, da izvedbe odredbo, toda od zadnjega julija nam je samo poslal nebogljeni pismo, v katerem nas prosi, naj poravnamo, in sicer večjo vsoto, kot so prvotno zahtevali. Seveda Nikolaj zanika plačati karkoli. Tako jim je pisal in povedal, pa se bojijo kaj napraviti, ker je javno mnenje na naši strani v tej deželi. Če bi nas dali ven, bi nastalo javno ogorčenje. Pred letom dni je tukajšnji nedeljski časopis najširše prodaje objavil na celi strani izvrsten članek, ki je poudaril krivice prvotnih predaj (beguncev, op. prevajalca) in kar se je nam zgodilo po razpravi — da so Nikolaju odklonili priziv itd., itd. Članek je več ali manj izrazil, da je imel Nikolaj prav, pa je prejel trdo pravico. Članek je toliko informiral javnost, da sedaj ne bi moglo sodišče z nami trdo postopati.

Tako nadaljujemo življenje tukaj precej miroljubno in nemoten. Nikoli ne vemo, kaj se bo zgodilo, vendar upamo in moli, da bi se sedanje stanje nadaljevalo in bo Nikolaj lepega dne opisal vso zgodbo.

Se enkrat prav iskrena hvala za Vašo ponovno podporo, ki nam tako zelo pomaga.

Z najboljšimi željami od mene in vse družine.
Georgina Tolstoy

Intervju: Marjan Podobnik, podpredsednik vlade

Zaščita nacionalnih interesov

• Slovenija je končno dobila novo vlado, ki jo je sestavila koalicija dveh najmočnejših strank, LDS in SLS, ter De-SUS. Marsikomu se zdi, da je to najbolj prav, marsikdo pa to koalicijo tudi odklanja. Kaj je na koncu pravzaprav spodbudilo vašo odločitev, da ste šli v koalicijo z LDS?

Prva stvar, ki je pomagala pri odločitvi, je bila ugotovitev, da nobeden od obeh blokov, ki sta se oblikovala, ni sposoben sam oblikovati vlade. Slovenska ljudska stranka se je pred volitvami javno zavezala, da bi sodelovala pri sestavi vlade skupaj z drugima dvema strankama »slovenske pomlad«, če bi bila možnost za to oz. če bodo imele te stranke v vladi večino.

Zato smo se tudi po volitvah zavzemali za tako rešitev, potem ko je prestopil poslanec Ciril Pucko, da so se te možnosti precej zmanjšale. Sam sem se kot predsednik SLS zavzemal za vlado »narodne enotnosti«, v kateri bi prav tako sodelovale vse tri pomladne stranke.

Potem ko je propadel tudi ta predlog, ker ni bilo prav velikega interesa, ne na desni ne na levi, sta ostali praktično samo dve alternativi: ali čakati, da mandatar še enkrat pade oziroma pade trikrat, kar bi pripeljalo pozneje do predčasnih volitev, vendar pa nihče ne bi mogel zatrdiriti, da bi bil na volitvah kaj drugačen rezultat, ali pa prevzeti odgovornost in narediti tvegano potezo



Marjan Podobnik

ter kot druga najmočnejša stranka oblikovati koalicijo. Odločili smo se za to rešitev.

• Vam je uspelo v koalicijско pogodbo vnesti tudi predvoljni program vaše stranke?

Osebno sem zadovoljen s koalicijsko pogodbo kljub temu, da je bila napisana v hudi časovni stiski in vse prej kot prijaznih političnih razmerah. Mislim, da izraža težo Slovenske ljudske stranke v sedanji koaliciji; navedene so vse ključne točke tako SLS kot LDS pa zdaj čaka najtežji del, da v dobrobit Slovenije in slovenstva izvajamo to koalicijsko pogodbo, ki je dogovor med dvema strankama, ki se zavedata razlik.

Zavedata pa se tudi tega, da sama koalicijsko pogodba ne more preseči teh razlik, ampak mora biti rezultat le zdrav kompromis, ki je v tem trenutku za Slovenijo verjetno še najboljša od možnih rešitev.

• Kakšen bo v prihodnje vaš odnos do preostalih dveh pomladnih strank?

Pričakujem, da bosta tudi v prihodnje ostali dve stranki, ki sta zdaj v opoziciji, v parlamentu podprli naša prizadevanja vsaj v tistih točkah, kjer se bo izvajal program SLS, ki je bil že prej usklajen z drugima dvema pomladnima strankama kot skupen program.

Nekoliko sem bil razočaran nad nekaterimi njihovimi potezami ob izvolitvi vlade, vendar pa pričakujem, da bomo ohranili vsaj sodelovanje v primerih, ko bo jasno, da gre za prej usklajene programske točke. Predvsem pa si bom prizadeval, da bi v sodelovanju z vsemi političnimi strankami nekako presegli radikalne delitve, ki smo jim bili priča. Kajti delitve med Slovenci doma, te pa se potem prenašajo tudi v svet, med naše izse-

ljence oz. zdomce, so lahko le ovira za to, da bi Slovenci izkoristili možnosti, ki jih že imamo.

• Ena prvih nalog, s katerimi se je spopadla vlada, je tudi denacionalizacija oziroma vracanje gozdov nekdanjim lastnikom, tujim veleposestnikom in Cerkvi. Danih je bilo kar nekaj pobud za referendum o tem vprašanju, SLS pa se je opredelila proti njim. Zakaj?

Referendum na žalost ničesar ne rešijo. Prav SLS je dala tisti predlog, ki je v tem trenutku najblžji ne le večinskim pričakovanjem Slovencev, ampak tudi spoštovanju zakonov in predvsem ustave. Jasno smo povedali, da smo proti temu, da bi tuji grofje in veleposestniki dobili nazaj slovenske gozdove, glede cerkvenih gozdov pa se zavzemamo za sporazumno rešitev med Cerkvijo in državo, po kateri bi se del gozdov vrnil v naravi, del v obliki primerne odškodnine, določenemu delu pa bi se morala Cerkev tudi odrekla v korist hribovskih kmetij.

Ne glede na to, kakšen bo izid teh referendumov, bo v končni fazi treba pripraviti zakon, ki bo urejal te zadeve in bo moral dobiti v parlamentu večino. Verjamem, da bomo z LDS lahko oblikovali skupen predlog tega zakona in ga predložili parlamentu.

• Slovenijo čaka v prihodnjih letih veliko dela pri prilaganju naše zakonodaje evropskim merilom, pri čimer že nekoliko zamujamo. SLS je doslej veljala za stranko, ki je izražala določeno skepsijo do približevanja Evropi. Z vašim vstopom v vlado je bil ponokod v tujini izražen tudi strah, da bo Slovenija upočasnila vstopanje v Evropo. Ali to drži?

Slovenska ljudska stranka je vedno veljala za »evrorealistično«. Zavedamo se, da je Evropska zveza za Slovenijo možnost pa tudi nevarnost, če se na vstop ne pripravimo dobro. Zato smo tudi v preteklosti opozarjali na nujnost pravočasnega prilaganja zaščitne zakonodaje, zavzemali smo se za zaščito vitalnih področij, ki bi zagotovila, da bomo ohranili slovensko identitetno tudi takrat, ko bomo polnopravni člani Evropske zveze.

Zato seveda ni nevarnosti, da bi se stvari upočasnile; poskrbeti je treba za prilagoditveno zakonodajo, obenem pa tudi zahtevamo, da se pospeši priprava zaščitne zakonodaje, ki bo ščitila tisti del naše populacije, ki bi jo vsaj v začetku naš vstop v Evropo najbolj prizadel.

• Če se vrneva k vašemu sodelovanju v vladi — kakšne so vaše zadolžitve kot podpredse-



Med ljubezenskimi izpovedmi, ki jih igralec George Dolenz v različnih jezikih izreče igralki Audrey Totter, se pojavi tudi

»Jaz te imam rad!«

»Jaz te imam rad!«

Svinčenka za Joey je edini ameriški film s slovenskim dialogom — V Kinoteki so ga predstavili 11. aprila

Ljubljana — Za film A Bullet for Joey, ki so ga Američani že davno pozabili, če so ga sploh kdaj videli, imamo Slovenci vsaj en, čeprav bizaren razlog, da ga po več kot 40 letih znova gledamo. Gre za holivudskega film noir, triler produkcije B iz leta 1955, ki govori o atomski skrivnosti, ugrabitev ameriškega fizika, komunističnih vohunih in kanadski mafiji v obdobju hladne vojne.

Carl Macklin alias **George Dolenz**, jedrski znanstvenik, namreč našteva Joyce Geary alias **Audrey Totter**, bleščeci platinasti blondinki, ki ga zapeljuje, ljubezenske izpovedi v različnih jezikih. Poleg I love you, Ich liebe dich, Je t'aime, Yo te quiero slišimo tudi **Jaz te imam rad!**

Režiral ga je Lewis Allen, in čeprav v njem nastopajo za tiste čase ugledni igralci, bi ga brez večje škode spregledali vsaj do ljubezenskega prizora v restavraciji, do ljubezenske izpovedi. In v tem trenutku, nekako po eni uri, gledalec, ki razume slovensko, osupne od presenečenja.

Valentina Plahuta

Delo, 13. aprila 1997

tudi za resor, v katerega spadamo tudi mi, to je resor za Slovence po svetu?

V smislu koordinacije bo brez dvoma tudi to eno izmed mojih področij. Znano je moje zavemanje za to, da bi Slovenci v svetu oblikovali neke vrste slovenski lobi, ki bi vključevali ljudi ne glede na politično ali svetovnonazorsko prepričanje, ki bi omogočil, da bi se Slovenci v vseh ključnih zadevah povezali in sodelovali med seboj.

Zavedamo se, da v tujini živi velik del slovenskega narodnega telesa in mnogi izmed njih so si v tujini pridobili velik ugled na različnih področjih. Slovenija jih pogosto ni znala pridobiti, da bi delovali tudi v korist matičnega narod-

(dalje na str. 12)

MATIJA HUTAR

ki ga je Gospod poklical
30. aprila 1993.

V miru božjem zdaj počivaj,
dragi, nepozabni nam,
v nebesih rajske srečo uživaj,
do svidanja na vekomaj.

Žalujoči ostali:
Angela, žena
Mimi, hčer; Mark zet
John, sin; Lisa snaha
Brian, Jonathan in Eric,
vnuki
Annie in Claire, vnučkinji
Jože, brat; Marija Simonič,
sestra; oba v Sloveniji
nečaki in nečakinje ter ostalo
sorodstvo v Ameriki in
Sloveniji.

Kaj se dogaja v Sloveniji?
Z Ameriško Domovino
boste vedno na tekočem!

Vladimir M. Rus
Attorney - Odvetnik

6411 St. Clair (Slovenian National Home)
391-4000

BRICKMAN & SONS
FUNERAL HOME

21900 Euclid Ave.

481-5277

Between Chardon & E. 222nd St. — Euclid, Ohio

SLOVENSKI DAN

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

bila spodjedla idilično ženitev sosednih src. Vogrinc je poskrbel za izhod, zvabivši v past premetnega mešetarja...

Takšnih iger nam manjka; sklenile bi veliko obročev krog naših razsejanih radovednežev in nas strnili ob srečanjih — v priznanje gledališkim umetnikom in igralcem. Oboje terja našo pozornost.

Osebje na odru je bilo zares posrečeno, do te mere, da nam ostanejo v spominu kot posebljeni za svoje vloge; in šepetalka (Natalija Čemas) skoraj ni imela opravka.

Priznajmo jim osebno, kar jim gre: Boljšega posebljenca za kmeta Križa, kot je bil Boštjan Bratovž, ne bi našli. Ljubljancan je sicer, vendar že dolgo zdoma. Enako sodimo o njegovi »ženi« Marjani (Bernarda Čemas), ki je tudi sicer prevzela levji delež pri uresnitve te šegavke. Ona si je naprila glavno skrb - za vse!

Polona, njena »hči«, se je morala za svoj hitri pogovor dobro pripraviti (Mojca D'Imperio). Na lep slovenski poudark smo naleteli tudi pri Kanadčanu Tonetu Komljancu. (Izgovarja se, da so za to predvsem zaslužni njegovi starši — kar prav radi slišimo in tudi sami ponavljamo).

Šribar (rekli smo »mešetar«) Zveriga naj bo tudi pohvaljen, ker je rojen na tujem in je z materinskim mlekom vred izsesal še ljubezen in spoštovanje za slovenščino. V osebi Cirila Pleška on ni prišel v zadrgo niti pri pesmi. V njej se je obregnil ob »Pravdo«, ki se lahko poljubno motovili v prid vsakemu goljufu (Vogrinčev sarkazem). Poudarimo, da je g. Pleško (rojen Kanadčan) s srcem razvil besedni zaklad.

Vsakega izmed teh umetnikov smo »obremenili« z dišečim šopkom. [Žal, primakniti se je moral p. David, z novico, da je umrl oče p. Gostečnika, in naj se pomolimo tudi za p. dr. Vendelinu Špendovo, ki je pravkar bil preživel hujši srčni napad.]

Zaključek

Prijetnost je po igri spremnila obliko; oglasili so se muzikantje, ki nam niso privoščili potrebnega zatišja. Sproščenost nam je dala besedo ob mizi, ki jo je uprava Slov. kulturnega centra v tem Domu darežljivo obložila s prigrizki in pijačami. Stekla je beseda, razživel je ples, razvile so se povezave za bodoče. Naslednjega jutra nas je del gostov razveselil še s priključitvijo cerkvenemu zboru (tako pri Sv. Štefanu kot v Lemontu). Posebej si je to štel v čast naš slavljenec zlate poroke g. Lojze Gregorič, ki ga najdemo med vsemi aktivisti. Vera in Lojze — na dolga srečna leta!

Slovenski Dom je imel svoj spored še naslednji dan, brez moje udeležbe, zato mu ne morem do podrobnosti — morda jih izsledite drugod.

Na ta način je Slovenski kulturni center spet doživel svojo

namensko kulminacijo. Kulturnikom se je nameč prileglo, ko je tokrat vstrel SKC med svoje funkcije tudi znamenito točko: javna priznanja umetnikom, kot je bila ocenitev umetnosti širokosrčnega Mira Zupančiča.

Ponovimo nujno z upravo SKC-ja vred, da Dom zaslubi in potrebuje denarno podporo, nenehno in zadostno. Naj ne kliče zaman na pomoč, ko nesebično deli svoje kapacitete le nam v prid in v ravnanje. Ne izrabljajmo dragocene dobre volje neutrudnih funkcionarjev.

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Prireditiv je (tudi tokrat) vodil podpredsednik Andrej Remec.

M.M.

Marjan Podobnik

(nadaljevanje s str. 11)

da. Tragične slovenske delitve v preteklosti so pripeljale do tega, da so Slovenci težko sodelovali med seboj celo v primernih, ko je šlo za pomembne odločitve glede naše prihodnosti.

Tudi na tem področju vidim svoje poslanstvo — poskušali bomo iskati nove možnosti in oblike sodelovanja. Slovenija kot majhna država nikoli ne bo imela nekega strateškega pomena v svetovni politiki, če pa bomo znali izkoristiti pravljeno naših ljudi za sodelovanje vsaj pri tistih aktivnostih, ki so povezane z razvojem Slovenije, bomo dosegli zelo veliko. Te možnosti pa so bile doslej zelo slabo izkorisčene.

Intervju: Predsednik SDS Janez Janša o velikih političnih projektih in pristanku v opoziciji

NIKOMUR NISEM ZA NIČ NEVOŠČLJIV

(II. del - konec)

• LDS? LDS inštuira medije?

Zagotovo ima vladna stranka večji vpliv na medije kot opozicija. In vladna stranka je pač ravnala v skladu s svojo strategijo. To ni nobena teorija zarote.

• Kdaj bo Janez Janša nehal verjeti v to, da imajo mediji kar tako nekaj proti Socialdemokratski stranki?

Ko bom to prebral v medijih. Ko bodo mediji imeli učinkotežen odnos do LDS in SDS, ko bo *Delo*, pustiva vaš časopis (*Dnevnik*), posvetilo našim stališčem enako prostora kot stališčem liberalne demokracije. Zdaj je razmerje 1:10.

• Ampak raziskava, ki je resna, ki je ni naročil noben medij, ampak jo je izvedla neodvisna institucija, je pokazala, da ste imeli socialdemokrati največjo pojavnost v medijih. V vseh kontekstih, seveda, tako pozitivnih kot negativnih. Toda strokovnjaki za politični marketing vam bodo zmeraj znali razložiti, da je tudi negativni kontekst lahko promocija za neko politično stranko.

Prvič, zelo ambiciozno je trditi, da je institucija, ki je opravila to raziskavo, neodvisna, saj so njeni vodilni ljudje

• Torej se zavzemate za ozivitev duha iz leta 1991...

Tako je. Prav takrat se je brez prejšnje organiziranosti dokazala velika pripadnost slovenstvu, še posebej ko je šlo za mednarodno priznanje naše države. Prav bi bilo, da nadljudjemo s tem delom.

Jože Prešeren
Rodna gruda (april 1997)

v volilnih štabih naših političnih nasprotnikov. To zame ni neodvisna institucija. Drugič, zelo važno je, ali se pojavlja v bodicah, recimo, *Slovenskih novic*, kjer negativno pišejo o ljudeh, ki vodijo SDS, ali pa se pojavlja v straneh, ki promovirajo LDS. Za oboje porabiš deset vrstic, vprašanje pa je, kaj tam piše.

Raj za politične šarlatane

• Obakrat, leta 1993, ko je nastala velika koalicija, in leta 1997, ko je nastala koalicija LDS in SLS, je pretežni del volilnega telesa podprt koalicjsko tvorbo, ki je nastala po volitvah...

Volilci niso volili za nobeno koalicijo in tudi niso nobene koalicije podprli. To je neučinkost, kar govorite.

• Ne, govorim o podpori javnosti koalicijam, ki so nastale.

Katere javnosti? Na volitvah se ta javnost ni izrazila. Na volitvah je vsaka stranka nastopila zase. Podpora javnosti ni grad, ki ga sestavljate iz legokock.

• Nedvomno. Ampak vse ankete javnega mnenja po nastanku obeh koalicij so pokazale, da je večji del javnosti podprt tako veliko koalicijo kot koalicijo liberalnih demokratov in ljudske stranke. S tem ko pravite, da volilci novembra 1996 niso volili za koalicije, ampak za posamezne stranke, se pa zelo strinjam. Samo, prav vaša stranka je dolgo trdila nasprotno in je SLS obtoževala, češ da je z izstopom iz pomladne koalicije izigrala volilce.

Edina koalicija, ki je bila napovedana, ni pa bila podpisana, se prav, da dejansko ni obstajala, je bila koalicija strank slovenske pomlad.

• Se strinjam. Skratka, obakrat se je pokazalo, da se ljudje zavzemajo za to, da se politične opcije dogovarjajo in sporazumevajo.

Prostor za to je parlament, ne izvršilna oblast. V parlamentu so zastopane vse stranke, v izvršilni oblasti pa tiste, ki so doobile največjo podporo na volitvah. V proporcionalnih volilnih sistemih je zelo težko reči, kaj ljudje podpirajo in česa ne. To je jasno samo v večinskem sistemu, ko se pomerijo dve ali tri koalicije.

To, kar imamo zdaj, je pravi raj za politične šarlatane: z volitvami se opravi deset odstotkov posla, vse ostalo pa se 'naštrika'. Kar pa zaveda sedanjo koalicijo: razpoloženja javnosti do nje z nekimi takimi površnimi anketami nikoli ne moreš izmeriti. Jasno je, da ves ta blok okoli liberalne demokracije vključno z Združeno listo podpira tako koalicijo.

Prijateljstva in politiko ne gredo skupaj

• Kako dolgo boste v opoziciji?

To je vprašanje, pri katerem je tvegan vsak odgovor z jasno časovno opredelitvijo.

• Sprašujem zato, ker je vedno več ljudi, ki so prepričani, da boste v opoziciji štiri leta, in to zato, ker menijo, da bosta LDS in SLS najbrž zdržali skupaj do konca mandata, če se jima le uspe sporazumeti o takih kočljivih zadevah, kot sta denacionalizacija in vračanje gozdov Cerkvi ter veleposestnikom.

Z dnem, ko sta Drnovšek in Podobnik podpisala koalicjsko pogodbo, milijon in pol slovenskih volilcev ni začelo razmišljati nič drugače, kot je razmišljalo dotedej. Politični

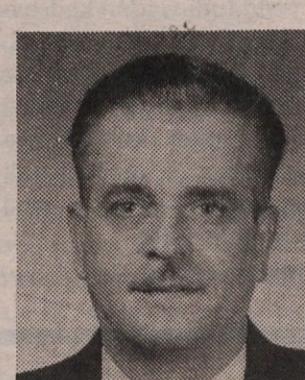
(dalje na str. 13)

V ljubeč spomin mojih dragih

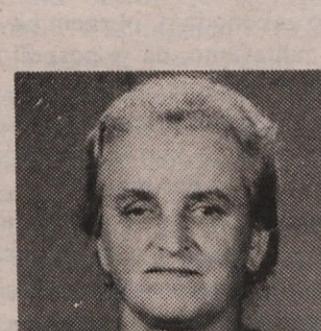
moja mama — moja sestra

in moji trije bratji

Družina Gostič



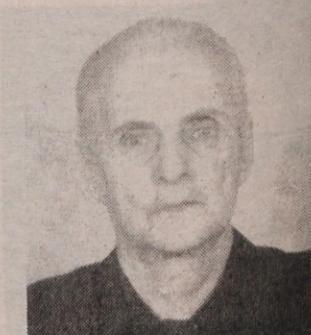
Ivan Gostič
umrl 1993



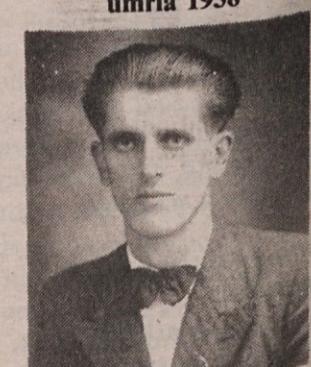
Albina Gostič
umrla 1992



Cyril Gostič M.D.
umrl 1978



Jožef Gostič
umrl 1958



Martin Gostič
umrl 1962

Cleveland, Ohio, 24. aprila 1997.

Bodite srečni v večnosti!

Žalujoča hči in sestra
Marija Gostič

NIKOMUR NISEM ZA NIČ NEVOŠČLJIV

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

prostor se torej zaradi te koalicije ni prav nič spremenil. Ta koalicija LDS omogoča, da konča lastninske in nekatere druge projekte. Perje, ki naj bi frčalo, najbolj frči pri tistih, ki so se v prejšnjem mandatu zavzemali za pošteno lastnjenje. Konkretno mislim na Romano Logar in še nekatere ljudi, ki so morali oditi iz državnih institucij, ostali pa so nekateri, ki so precej korumpirani. SLS bo najkasneje pred lokalnimi volitvami naslednje leto na podobni preizkušnji, kot je bila krščanska demokracija leta 1994. Takrat se bo marsikaj stehtalo.

Oprostite za neposredno opazko, ampak vseskozi imam občutek, da govorite, kakor pač govorite, zato, ker ste osebno prizadeti in užaljeni, da je nekemu drugemu politiku — Marjanu Podobniku — in neki drugi stranki — SLS — uspelo to, kar ni uspelo Janezu Janši in njegovi stranki, namreč vstopiti v vlado in postati njen minister.

Saj sem vam že prej reklo, da bi lahko bila tudi socialdemokracija v isti poziciji, kot je ljudska stranka, če bi sprejeli ponudbe liberalnih demokratov. Jaz nisem nikomur za nič nevoščljiv, jaz samo obžalujem, da se je vse to zgodilo. Vaša interpretacija je torej povsem zgrešena.

Se ne tako daleč nazaj sta bila z Marjanom Podobnikom ubran tandem in enako velja za vajini stranki. V parlamentu ste nastopili dokaj usklajeno in vzajemno ste podpirali drug drugega, po Podobnikovem vstopu v koalicijo pa nisem več zasledil, da bi se o njegovih dejanhjih afirmativno izrazili. Kaže, kot da se je v tistem trenutku prekinilo neko prijateljstvo, če tega že prej ni bilo, pa zagotovo neko sodelovanje.

vanje.

Muslim, da se vam to ni zdido prvič. Pred leti ste prijateljevali z Igorjem Bavčarjem, vendar ste se po osamosvojitvi tudi z njim razšli. Potem so bili tukaj Dimitrij Rupel, Janko Kacin, Spomenka Hribar, cel niz drugih demokratov. Pa Lojze Peterle. Ta vam je zelo zameril, ko ste v Demosu predlagali njegovo zamenjavo s položaja predsednika vlade.

In še prej prijateljevanje z Nikom Kavčičem, ki se je končalo tako, da ste mu v Okopih postavili svojevrsten spomenik. Kaj pomenijo te epizode: da ni prijateljev v politiki ali pa da v slovenski politiki ne moreš prijateljivati z Janezom Janšo?

Stvari ste posplošili. Z vsemi temi osebami, ki ste jih našeli, me je nekaj časa vezcano eno samo prijateljstvo, to je bilo prijateljstvo z Igorjem Bavčarjem. Kar pa se političnega sodelovanja tiče, je od začetka delovanja strank na Slovenskem prihajalo do profiliranja političnega prostora.

Člani skupine, ki so bili v začetku zbrani v Odboru za varstvo človekovih pravic, so odšli v različne stranke in tako so se njihove poti razšle. Če ne bi prišlo do demokratičnih sprememb, bi najbrž ta skupina še naprej tesno sodelovala vse dotelej, dokler ne bi bil vzpostavljen demokratični sistem.

To je bil neki običajen pojav, ki mu najdemu primerjavo v vseh postkomunističnih državah, saj se je povsod iz široke fronte za demokracijo oblikovalo več političnih strank in so ljudje začeli zastopati bolj profilirane, med sabo tudi izključujoče se politične opcije.

Vsi izpostavili mene, ampak če bi nekdanja prijateljevanja vezali na katerokoli drugo osebo, bi prišli do enakih ugotovitev, kot ste prišli v mojem primeru. Se pravi, tudi v takem primeru bi ugotovili, da so se določeni ljudje znašli na nasprotnih straneh.

Muslim, da ne bi. Recimo, neke vezi med nekdanjimi demokrati, Ruplom, Kacinom in Bavčarjem, so ostale. Včasih ste vsi vi »veliko tišali glave skupaj«, kot se temu reče, in najbrž bi težko rekli, da je šlo pri tem za čisto brezosebne, poslovne stike.

Glejte, Kacin nikoli ni bil v isti stranki kot jaz. Tudi kaka posebna prijatelja nisva bila nikoli, sva pa dobro sodelovala med vojno. Bil je sposoben za tisto stvar, ki jo je opravljala, zato še danes mislim, da je bil moj predlog, naj postane minister za informiranje, dober, ne glede na to, kaj se je kasneje zgodilo z njim.

Tudi Rupel je vsaj na začetku, ko je bil zunanjji minister, svoje naloge dobro opravljala. Enako velja za Bavčarja. Danšnja razmerja med nami teh dejstev nič ne spremenijo.

Res pa je, da osebno prijateljstvo s politiko ni povsem združljivo. To drži že od grškega polisa naprej.

Referendumu najbrž ne bo

• Ste brali Kavčičeve knjige Pot v osamosvojitev? Kaj si mislite o njej glede na to, da se marsikaj v njej neposredno ali posredno nanaša na vas?

Ja, sem bral. To je knjiga, ki prinaša veliko dragocenih pričevanj iz zgodovine, še posebej v tistem delu, ko pojansnuje genezo velikega dela največjih slovenskih podjetij. To je zelo zanimiva zgodba, ki manjka v knjigi Edvarda Ravnikarja. To je tudi knjiga, ki je v drugem delu odgovor na moje Okope, čeprav je njen avtor na televiziji dejal, da jo je napisal prej, preden je prebral Okope.

Preden sem šel knjigo brat, sem imel slabši občutek, ko pa sem jo prebral, sem videl, da je avtor v veliki meri sledil nekemu zaporedju dogodkov, ki jih je po svoje interpretiral, ni pa toliko izkriviljal nekaterih nespornih dejstev, kot bi se človek bal. Po tej plati je torej to prijetno presenečenje, po drugi strani pa je komična zarači strašne vneme, s katero poskuša avtor nekatera stvari prikriti ali zamolčati. In seveda, kdor to knjigo prebere, mora biti še toliko bolj prepričan, da Niko Kavčič ni kdorsibodi.

• Zanimivo je, da ste socialdemokrati, ko je šlo za referendum o spremembah volilnega sistema, referendumsko obliko odločanja zelo potiskali v ospredje, zdaj, ko je na dnevnem redu referendum o gozdovih, pa se držite bolj ob strani. Zakaj?

Zato, ker neka druga stranka zbira podpise državljanov za razpis referendumu; mi še nismo proti referendumu kot obliki odločanja državljanov. To je jasno. Po drugi strani pa se nam zdi zelo vprašljivo zbi-

rati podpise za referendum o stvari, o kateri je že s pravno-močno odločbo odločilo ustavno sodišče. To je že vprašanje, kje so meje politične manipulacije.

• Vendar je ustavno sodišče dalo zakonodajalcu tudi možnost, da zakon o denacionalizaciji spremeni tako, da njegove odločbe ne bodo neskladne z ustavom. Ustavno sodišče, če prav razumem, se torej ni a priori postavilo proti kakršnemu omejevanju vračanja gozdov.

Ustavno sodišče pričakuje, da morebitne spremembe zakona ne bodo posegale v ustavno pravico do lastnine. Naše stališče je, da je treba vrnilti vse, kar je bilo nelegalno odvzeto oziroma odvzeto na podlagi revolucionarne zakonodaje. Nismo za to, da se imetje vrača tujcem, ki so prejeli odškodnine, in to se tudi ne počne, razen v dveh primerih, ko je prišlo do nespoštovanja zakonodaje.

Domnevno vračanje gozdov tujcem je torej pripeto k vprašanju cerkvenih gozdov zato, da bi se izenačilo Cerkev in tuge veleposestnike. Mi zahtevamo dogovor med državo in Cerkvio o dolgoročnem upravljanju gozdov. Cerkev ima pravico do vrnitve te lastnine. To, ali bo to pravico izkoristila tako, da bo dobila gozdove ali pa da bo z državo doseglja dogovor o financiranju dejavnosti, ki jih Cerkev opravlja tudi za družbo kot celoto, pa je stvar, zaradi katere je država ustanovila mešano krovno komisijo.

Pogovarjali smo se z vrhom Cerkve in tudi pri njih je velika pripravljenost za razumno rešitev. Zgodba o tem, koliko bo Cerkev pridobilna z vračilom gozdov, je smešna. Ta tema je prenapeta zaradi političnih razlogov. Muslim, da do referendumu ne bo prišlo, kajti večina v državnem zboru bo najbrž zahtevala ustavno presojo referendumskoga vprašanja, ustavno sodišče pa bo moralno samo ponoviti stališče, ki ga je že zavzelo v svoji prvi odločbi.

Ratifikacijo bomo podprli

• Kaj bo vaša stranka storila, ko se bo postavilo vprašanje ratifikacije asociacijskega sporazuma z EU? Namreč, če naj bi sporazum po ratifikaciji udejanili in sprostili trg nepremičnin, bo treba spremeniti ustavo.

Naša stranka bo za spremembo ustave, če bo pred implementacijo tega sporazuma oziroma ob spremembi ustave sprejeta ustrezna zaščitna zakonodaja. Tisti dan, ko bo začela veljati sprememba ustave, mora začeti veljati tudi zaščitna zakonodaja. Če pa bo tolmačenje takšno, da je treba ustavo spremeniti pred ratifikacijo sporazuma, bo treba pohititi s pripravo zaščitne zakonodaje. Žal pa iz vladnih uradov prihajajo zelo pesimistične vesti o tem, kako daleč so prišli s pripravo te zakonodaje.

• Ampak postopek za spremembo ustave traja nekaj časa. Ustave ni mogoče spremeniti pred ratifikacijo asociacijskega sporazuma, do nje pa naj bi prišlo še spomladi, saj Slovenija pričakuje, da bo ratifikacija sporazuma imela opljive politične učinke v Bruslju in Rimu.

Vem, toda to je rebus, ki ga bodo reševali najprej vladne stranke.

• Kaj boste storili vi? Boste podprli ratifikacijo asociacijskega sporazuma?

Saj mi nismo glasovali proti spanskemu kompromisu.

• Vendar tudi niste glasovali za, ampak ste se vzdržali. Zato sprašujem, kaj boste storili tokrat?

Mi nismo glasovali za, ker smo takrat pripravili medstrankarski sporazum, ki je bil s strankami usklajen skoraj do zadnje vejice, vendar pa LDS zgolj iz prestižnih razlogov ni hotela sklicati še enega sestanka, na katerem bi sporazum podpisali. Namreč, niso hoteli, da bi se govorilo, da je bil podpisani sporazum, ki ga je pripravila neka opozicijska stranka.

Drugače pa bomo ratifikacijo asociacijskega sporazuma podprli, čeprav to nikogar ne skrbi, ker je za izglasovanje zakona o ratifikaciji potrebna navadna večina.

Dileme najbrž ni več

• Se vam skorajšnje predsedniške volitve zdijo pomembni dogodek?

Funkcija predsednika republike pri nas ni tako pomembna, kot je v nekaterih drugih državah, saj je Slovenija parlamentarna demokracija. Poleg tega pa: kdorkoli bo predsednik države, ne bo imel niti (dalje na str. 14)

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Naj Ti bo, ljubi brat, lahka Lenartska zemlja!

Cleveland, Ohio, USA
24. aprila 1997



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Slovenci po svetu: Velika Britanija

Pol stoletja v Združenem kraljestvu

Lanskega decembra so nas v Londonu obiskali predstavniki (SAZU) inštituta za slovensko izseljenstvo: Dr. Irena Gantar Godina nam je predstavila delo inštituta in nekaj knjig slovenskih pisateljev-izseljencev; dr. Marjan Drnovšek je na kratko opisal slovenske izseljence po Evropi (vključno nas); Zvone Žigon pa nam je opisal njegove izkušnje med Slovenci v Argentini.

Predavanjem je sledila zanimiva razprava. Keith Miles, predsednik Britansko-slovenskega društva, nas je spomnil, da smo se Slovenci, čeprav številčno majhen narod, vedno izseljevali — kakor Britanci.

Namen srečanja in tudi časista dopuščala, da bi se poglobili in razpravljal posebej o »britanskih« Slovenkah in Slovencih.

Naša »zgodovina« se je tako rekoč začela šele 1946/47. Do takrat so bili Slovenci tukaj zelo, zelo redki. Kdor se je odločil za izseljenstvo ali sezonsko delo v Evropi, tega običajno ni iskal v Veliki Britaniji. Če pa se je odločil, da potuje preko morja, se je raje podal v oddaljeno Ameriko. Premnogi mladi ljudje, polni upanja in načrtov, da bodo v izbrani deželi našli kruh in se po letih trdega dela s prisluženimi prihranki zopet vrnili v domovino. Nekateri so uresničili svoje načrte. Mnogi tega cilja niso dosegli — postali so izseljenici, daleč proč od domovine in svojcev.

Na britanske otroke je prišel le kak posameznik, vseh skupaj manj kot sto ljudi. Eden izmed bolj znanih in uspešnih

je bil gotovo profesor Janko Lavrin, ki je imel od 1923. do 1953. leta katedro za slavistiko na univerzi, v Nottinghamu. Njegovo znanje slovanskih jezikov je bilo tudi zelo koristno na BBC, kjer je med vojno nadzoroval radijske oddaje za Evropo. V Britaniji je živel več kot petdeset let, umrl je 1987, šest mesecev preden bi dopolnil sto let.

V Britanijo so se s pričetkom druge svetovne vojne, kot begunci, prvi zatekli diplomati, politiki, vojaki in mornarji jugo-kraljevine. Nekateri od njih so tako po končani vojni postali »britanski« Slovenci, več se jih je izselilo v ZDA, Kanado, Argentino, nekaj pa vrnilo v domovino.

Tem izseljencem se je približno ena tretjina poročena s slovenskimi zakonci, ostali pa so si poiskali svojega partnerja iz angleške, škotske, irske, nemške ali druge narodnosti. V teh narodno mešanih zakonih so bili rojeni 303 otroci.

pisal knjižico *Slovenci na Angleškem*. V njej piše:

»Druga, po številu največja skupina, ki je prišla na Angleško, je nastala iz četnikov, primorskih domobranov in drugih Slovencev, ki so se znašli ob koncu vojne v severni Italiji, od koder so odšli v kraje na jugu in od tam v aprilu leta 1947 v Nemčijo, od koder se je večji del preselil koncem istega leta na Angleško...«

Knjižica je bogata kronika takratnega obdobja. Msgr. Kunstelj je vodil kartoteko, na osnovi katere je ugotovil, da je 1. julija 1957 bilo na »Angleškem« 617 Slovenk in Slovenev (vključno 74 otrok). V to število niso vključeni Slovenci iz Benečije, in morda 50 drugih Slovencev, s katerimi župnišče ni imelo stikov.

Od 332 poročenih je bila približno ena tretjina poročena s slovenskimi zakonci, ostali pa so si poiskali svojega partnerja iz angleške, škotske, irske, nemške ali druge narodnosti. V teh narodno mešanih zakonih so bili rojeni 303 otroci.

Koliko Slovencev danes živi v Britaniji?

V časopisu (*Slovenec*, 15. 7. 1995) je bilo zapisano, da nas je sedem tisoč. Zdi se mi, da je to število za več krat večje od dejanskega. Na Uradu za Slovence po svetu menijo, da nas je tu približno 1250, torej kar velike razlike.

Dejstvo je, da je vse doletela običajna usoda novega prilejanca: čimprej se prilagoditi novemu okolju. Ker večina ni obvladovala angleškega jezika, je bilo malo izbire pri delu, kar je oblastem dobro koristilo. Dežela ni iskala tuje izola-

nih ljudi, potrebovala je mlaude, zdrave in močne delavce za delo v rudnikih, tovarnah, delavnicah, na kmetijah in pomoci v gospodinjstvu.

One, ki so se odločili za ruddarsko delo, so poslali v tečajje. Oni, ki so se odločili za delo v tovarnah in kmetijah, pa so bili v večji meri odvisni od sebe in sodelavcev, da so se priučili delu in novemu jeziku.

S spoznanjem okolice in novih sosedov so začeli »normalno živeti«, kar je neverjetno hitro spremeno strukturo slovenske imigracije. Z zamenjavo dela, so si našli boljši zasluzek in se tako razkropili po Otoku. Nekaj se jih je kmalu gospodarsko osamosvojilo (obrt, trgovina, kmetija). Ker je vojna številnim preprečila, da bi doma dokončali s šolsko izobrazbo, so to s trdim delom in prizadovanjem dosegli na angleških univerzah.

Otroci so se hitro privadili novemu okolju in redni angleški šoli.

Za poučevanje slovenščine pa je vsem priskočila na pomoc gospa Jožica Rehberger. V Bedfordu (»središče slovdružin«) je 1962. leta začela s poučevanjem v »dopolnilni šoli« ob sobotah popoldne, kar je vsestransko koristilo in prispevalo k slovenski zavesti. Veliko teh otrok je danes zaposlenih na odgovornih položajih v britanski družbi in njihovi otroci govore tudi slovenško.

Hladna vojna je nasprotje Vzhod-Zahod stopnjevala in polnila begunska tažorišča. Da se razmere za te ljudi oblažijo, je bilo 1959. leto razglašeno za »Begunsko leto«. Pod

pokroviteljstvom »British Council for Aid to Refugees« je Britanija sprejela okrog 200 beguncev, vključno 50 Slovencev in Slovenk, ki so imeli politično zatočišče v Italiji.

Poleg omenjenih je bilo vedno več posameznikov povabljениh v Britanijo na obisk k svojcem, zaročencem, prijateljem (delo, au-pairs, poroke, študij, izpopolnjevanje, služba v jugo-podjetjih ipd.) in si na ta način pridobilo dovoljne naselitve.

Tako sta naraščala število in raznovrstnost »britanskih« Slovencev. Z naraščajočim številom se je posebno v Londonu in okolici nabralo tudi večje število otrok. Slovenske matere so že zelele, da se otroci nauče slovenskega jezika.

Na iniciativi ge. Brede Strojin-Wilkinson sta ge. Majda Melon in slava Miles začeli 1975. leta poučevati v »Slovenski dopolnilni šoli« v Londonu. Pouk je redno ob sobotah dopoldne in učencem je dana možnost, da opravijo zaključni izpit v slovenščini na Lingvističnem inštitutu v Londonu.

Leta 1991 nam je prineslo veliko veselja in upov. Vsak in vsi smo si prizadevali, da bo suverena in samostojna Slovenija postala pravna in demokratična država vseh Slovencev — ne glede kje živimo.

Po dolgih letih življenja na tujem so se rodile nove nade. Zopet smo začeli gledati skozi mlade oči, v upanju da nas doma vse čaka tako, kot je bilo pred desetletji.

To je brezmiseln upanje. Svet se je spremenil in mi z

(dalje na str. 15)

JANEZ JANŠA

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

desetih odstotkov te moči, kot jo ima sedanji predsednik. Gospod Kučan bo še naprej v vsakem primeru zelo vplivna politična osebnost, tudi če ne bo več predsednik države.

Te volitve pa so simbolnega pomena, saj se že dobro leto ustvarja vzdušje, kot da Slovenija nima niti dveh resnih kandidatov za to funkcijo. Že s tega vidika bi bilo zelo važno, da bi na predsedniških volitvah zmagal nekdo drug. Je pa po mojem mnenju tudi zelo vprašljivo, da ustavnih prepovedi navzlic sedanji predsednik kandidira že tretjič za to funkcijo.

• Bodiva natančna: kolikor vem, sedanji predsednik ni še nič povedal o tem, ali bo ali ne bo kandidiral še enkrat.

Iz njegovih zadnjih izjav je bilo mogoče razumeti, da skoraj bo kandidiral, čeprav smo lani lahko poslušali, da bo kandidiral samo, če bo demokracija ogrožena. Kot pravijo nekateri dobro obveščeni, pa je menda že oblikovan volilni štab za rezivolitev tega predsednika, tako da te dileme najbrž ni več.

• Ali vidite kandidata, ki bi lahko premaga? kandidata Milana Kučana?

Vsek resen kandidat, ki bi ga podprle vse tri stranke slovenske pomlad, ima možnosti, da ga premaga. Mi si bomo prizadevali, da bi vse tri stranke skupaj našle takega kandidata. Mislim, da ima ta država zunaj vrhov pomladnih strank vsaj še pet, šest imen, ki bi ob skupni podpori teh strank lahko bili resni protikandidati sedanemu predsedniku.

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FRANK PAJK

ki je dovršil svoje zemsko potovanje
in se preselil v večno bivališče
dne 25. aprila 1974

*Kako smo srčno Te ljubili,
prezgodaj smo Te izgubili;
preljadi oče Ti,
naj Ti večna luč gori.
Lepa nam je misel na Te,
na prijazni Tvoj nasme,
na besede ljubenive,
ki imel si jih do vseh.*

Žaluoči: Francis Paik, duhovnik, in Edward Pike, sinova

Edward ml., Gregory in Michael, vnuki
Anne Marie, Sue Ann in Sharon, vnučkinje
Dianne A. Pike, snaha (pokojna)
MENTOR, OHIO, 24. aprila 1997.

ob 37. obletnici smrti naše ljubljene mame
in stare mame



ANNA PAJK

ki nas je za vedno zapustila
in se preselila v večno bivališče
dne 10. januarja 1960

*Sprejmi od nas, Gospod,
molitve in darila,
pokaži mil obraz,
pokojni daj hladila.
Gospod, daruj ji mir,
naj večna luč ji sveti;
ker si dobrote vir,
uživa raj naj sveti.*

Pol stoletja v Združenem kraljestvu

(nadaljevanje s str. 14)

njim. Preteklosti se ne da spremeniti, od nje se lahko le učimo. Začnimo s sedanjostjo in prihodnost bo boljša za vse nas.

Jaz sem 1941. leta imel osem let in na svoje oči videl, kako so prvi italijanski »bersaglieri« razrožili policaje na Viču v Ljubljani. Spominjam se blokad, preiskav, policijskih ur, internacij. Mojega sedem let starejšega brata so Italijani načnili na kamion, da ga z drugimi odpeljejo. Šele po intervenciji naše matere so ga pustili doma — najstarejšega brata in štiri strice so odpeljali v internacijo.

Spominjam se, kako smo se otroci igrali z muncijo, ki so jo Nemci pognali v zrak z dvoře viške meščanske šole. Na ljubljanskem Gradu in Golovcu so takrat grmeli topovi, streljali so na prihajajoče partizane. »Smrt fašizmu - svoboda narodu« sem dostikrat viden napisano po stenah hiš.

Zdi se mi, da sem šele 8. maja 1945, prvič slišal: »Partizani - naši osvoboditelji prihajajo«. Že leta in leta vem, da niso prisneli svobode, toda še vedno ne vem, kdaj bo prišla na dan resnice. To naj bo resnica vseh: belih, plavih in rdečih. Sprava je mogoča in potrebna. Resnica naj zmaga.

Slovenija se je uvrstila med demokratične države, še vedno pa ni bilo mogoče popraviti mnogih krivic, katere je povzročil komunistični režim. Vsi vemo, da starih grehov, krivic in zločinov ne moremo in ne smemo zatajiti ali spremeniti. Slovenec JE (pod simbolom črnega križa ali rdeče zvezde) moril Slovenca brata.

Nova država ne more biti odgovorna za stare zločine vojne in revolucije, vsekakor pa je dolžna, da gradi resnično demokracijo na pravičnih temeljih oblasti, za vse Slovence in Slovence, kjer koli živimo. Demokracijo in pravne institucije imamo. Koristimo jih - ne glede na ovire, ki jih nekateri še vedno nočejo odstraniti. (Martin Krpan je vedel, kaj mu je bilo storiti.) Zakaj mora ves narod nositi odgovornost za zločine posameznikov? Še je čas, da pride na dan vsa resnica.

Novembrske volitve so bile za »britanske« Slovence uspešno organizirane. Naše veleposlaništvo v Londonu se je zavzelo, da je večina imela priliko oddati svoj glas. Volilna komisija in odgovorni organi oblasti, pa nam morajo v prihodnosti odmeriti malo več časa, sicer bo demokracija ostala le na papirju. Upajmo in želimo, da bodo novoizvoljeni čimprej začeli uresničevati, kar so objubili. Obljub je bilo dovolj.

Janez Kovič
Velika Britanija
Rodna gruda (april 1997)

KOLENDAR

APRIL

26. — Pevski zbor Zarja ima koncert z večerjo in plesem v SDD na Recher Ave.
 27. — Klub upokojencev St. Clair Ave. ima večerjo v SND na St. Clair Ave.
- MAJ**
2. — MePZ »Emil Adamič« iz Ljubljane ima koncert v SND na St. Clair Ave.
 4. — Organizacije fare Marije



Fotografija je bila posneta na banketu za odhajajočega veleposlanika dr. Ernesta Petriča. Priredila ga je SNPJ in sicer v Imperialu, Pa., 20. marca. Na fotografiji so od leve dr. Petrič, Janez Podobnik, predsednik slovenskega parlamenta, ki je dr. Petriča spremljal na banket, ga Silvestra Petrič, na skrajni desni pa je bivši ameriški astronaut slovenskega roda dr. Ronald Šega. Zadaj od dr. Petriča je delno viden Joseph Evanish, predsednik SNPJ.

Foto: urednik AD

Vnebovzete prirede kosilo v dobrobit fare, v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Ave. pop. ob 1h. Sledita kratki program in ples, igrajo Veseli godci.

9. — Slovenska šola fare. Marije Vnebovzete priredi materinsko proslavo, v šolski dvorani, ob 7h zv.
 16. — Slovenski dom za ostarrele ima občni zbor. Pričetek ob 7.30 zv. v SDD na Waterloo Rd.
 17. — Pevski zbor Korotan poda svoj koncert v farmi dvorani sv. Vida, s sodelovanjem obeh slov. šol. Po koncertu ples, igra ansambel Staneta Mejača.

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25. — Društvo SPB Cleveland sponzorira spominsko sv. mašo ob 12. uri pri Lurški Mati božji na Chardon Rd. v Euclidu.

JUNIJ

1. — Odprtje Slovenske pristave za letošnjo sezono.
 1. — »Prijatelji SND St. Clair« imajo obed in program, v SND.
 8. — Piknik Slovenske šole fare Marije Vnebovzeti. Na Slovenski pristavi. Kosilo, ples, otroške igre.
 14. in 15. — Tabor DSPB ima spominsko proslavo pri Spominski kapelici na Slovenski pristavi. Dne 14.6 zv. molitev pri kapelici in prižiganje kresa. Dne 15.6 sv. maša ob 11. dop.
 22. — Ohijska Federacija društev KSKJ priredi piknik na Slovenski pristavi.

JULIJ

13. — Misijonska Znamkarska akcija priredi piknik na Slovenski pristavi. Ob 12. uri opoldan sv. maša.

20. — Vsakoletni piknik fare Sv. Vida, na Slovenski pristavi.

27. — Slovenska šola pri sv. Vidu prireja piknik na Slovenski pristavi. Isti dan tudi tarok turnir na SP.

AVGUST

3. — Klub upokojencev Slovenske pristave priredi piknik na SP.

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Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

1179. Zlatomašnik dr. Anton Karel Boromejski Kovačič,

rojen 11. januarja 1920 na Bizejskem, je obiskoval 6 let ljudsko šolo na Bizejskem in 8 let klasične gimnazije končal v Mariboru kot gojenec dijaškega semenišča.

Oče mu je umrl 22. marca 1931. Novembra 1941 je bila cela družina, mati Neža, teta Karlina Urek, brata Jožef in Ivan odpeljana v koncentracijsko taborišče v Nemčijo, v bližino Dresdene. Mati je tam umrila v zimskem prehladu v marcu 1942.

Istega meseca novembra 1941 je dobilo osem bogoslovcev mariborske škofije od sv. očeta papeža Pija XII. štipendijo za bogoslovskie študije v papeškem misijonskem zavodu Collegio Urbaniano de Propaganda Fide v Rimu. Na tej univerzi je vseh osem študiralo teologijo in doseglo mašniško posvečenje: 1946 dr. Janez Belej in dr. Franc Kores; 1947 dr. Anton Kovačič, dr. Franc Plemenitaš in dr. Miro Štalcer; 1948 dr. Franc Šegula; 1949 dr. Maksimiljan Jezerink in dr. Rafko Vodeb.

Anton Ladra in Štefan Falež sta študirala v zavodu Propaganda samo eno leto.

Gg. Belej, Kores, Plemenitaš, Šegula in Štalcer so že vsi pokojni.

V Rimu je dr. Kovačič študiral

na Papeški univerzi za širjenje vere (Pont. Univ. de Propaganda Fide), 1941-4, Univerzi Pro Deo, 1948-49, doktorat iz teologije je prejel 1949 na Papeški univerzi za širjenje vere.

Služboval je v taborišču Salerno v Italiji kot dušni pastir, 1949-51.

Po prihodu v škofijo Charlotte v North Carolina, ZDA, je od leta 1951 dalje služboval na različnih župnjah; bil župnik ali administrator v več farah; zgradil novo cerkev, dvojno in prenovil eno šolo.

Vodil je pet let gibanje Cursillo; bil dvakrat dekan, ško-

fijski svetnik in deset let pravil program in vodil formacijo stalnega diakonata. Leta 1989 ga je sv. oče imenoval za monsinjorja.

V pokoj je šel leta 1995. Škof William Curlin, D.D., mu je 12. aprila 1995 v zahvalnem pismu izrekel globoko zahvalo s temi besedami:

»Vi mi prinašate samo veselje in srečo s čudovitim zgledom Vašega duhovniškega življenja. Prosim razumite, da Vam ne morem dovoliti oditi v pokoj v naši škofiji. Naše potrebe in Vaše čudovito, preizkušeno pastirovanje mi to branii. Molim dnevno, da nam Bog pošlje več duhovnikov kot ste Vi. Istočasno Vam izražam srčno zahvalo za mnoga leta Vašega vodstva Stalnega diakonata skozi formacijo in njih delovanje. Računam na Vašo obljubo, da boste ostal v programu diakonata kot poseben svetovalec. Istočasno Vas imenujem za ravnatelja škofijskega Urada za širjenje vere.«

Zlatomašniško slovesnost

je praznoval 6. aprila ob 4.30 pop. v župniji Kraljica apostolov, kjer je bil zadnja leta pred upokojitvijo župnik v Belmont, N.C.

Škof Curlin je predsedoval, obdan od številnih škofijskih

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Zlatomašnik ima načrt ponoviti zlato mašo v Sloveniji 18. maja ob 11. uri na Svetih Gorah ob Sotli. Takrat bo kratko obiskal domovino.

Dragi Tone! Naj dodam k osebnim čestitkam še globoko zahvalo za Tvoje zvesto sodelovanje s Tvojim ameriškim prijateljem župnikom v MZA. Vajina pomoč v več tisočah je pomagala na Madagaskarju lazaristu Jožefu Adamiču in pravkar pomaga misijonarju Lojzetu Letonji na istem rumenem otoku. Kmalu bo nova farna cerkev tudi Tebi v veselje, ko bomo Boga lahko zahvalili, da je bilo precej lepih darov iz MZA v gradnjo vloženih. Tako v zidovje, kot v tabernakelj, ki smo si ga v tej novi cerkvi z večjimi darovi zagotovili. Da bo Jezusova ljubezen, ki jo skupaj širim že toliko let, vabila k Sebi domačine, hvaležne Bogu za dušne pastirje iz lepe naše slovenske domovine.

Zanimivo, da si praznoval zlato mašo skoraj istočasno, ko so v stolnici sv. Nikolaja v Ljubljani posvetili v novega nadškofa dr. Franca Rodeta. Naj Bog obema s prelepo večnostjo nagradi Vajine duhovniške napore. Mi vsi zato zvesto molimo.

Andreanum — mariborsko bogoslovno semenišče.

Ravnatelj semenišča dr. Marjan Turnšek 5. novembra 1996 takole piše o položaju v Andreanumu:

»Prav lep in prisrčen pozdrav v daljno Ameriko. Danes, ko sem od ekonoma prejel pričakovane podatke, sem se v resnici olajšan vsedel za računalnik, saj Vam končno lahko sporočim nekaj podrobnosti. Najprej naj Vam zaupam, da

imamo letos 11 novih bogoslovcev, tako da sedaj šteje naša škofija 52 bogoslovcev.

Prejšnji teden smo dokončali polovico podstrešja, ki je namenjena sobam in tako lahko vanje vselili bogoslovce ter tako pod isto streho zbrali vse bogoslovce. Prej so morali nekateri 'vedriti' v domu za starejše duhovnike.

To je pomenilo veliko veselje za našo hišo. Seveda pa je druga polovica podstrešja še v surovem stanju. V predračunu so posamezni deli še nedokončanega dela podstrešja takole udeleženi:

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Z veseljem bomo posamezne stvari, ki jih bodo dobrotniki izbrali, na primeren način označili. To bo tudi kasnejše rodo bogoslovcev še tesnejše povezano z dobrotniki.

Na škofiji in v Krekovi baniki so nam povedali, da sedaj tečejo stvari tekoče in brez zpletov. Tako lahko vsak nakaže preko svoje banke na Škofov devizni račun dar preko Krekove banke. (Bo še)

(Op.: Zgoraj navedene dolarske vsote odgovarjajo takratni dolarski vrednosti do slovenskega tolarja.)

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NOVI GROBOVI

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

Josephine C. Janezic

Umrla je 85 let stara Josephine C. Janezic, rojena Sraj, vdova po Franku, mati Judith Ciehanski in že pok. Jamesa in Dennis, 2-krat stara mati, sestra Mary Konzut, Toni Supan, Louisa, Ann Mauer, Christine Lozar ter že pok. Johna, Stanleya in Franka. Pogreb je bil 22. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi St. Martin of Tours na Turney Rd. s pokopom na Kalvarije pokopališču.

Jean F. Cergol

Dne 18. aprila je nenadno umrla 77 let stara Jean F. Cergol z Warrensville Hts., sestra Johna, Frances Gustaferra ter že pok. Franka, Mary in Rose, starša sta bila Helen (roj. Guštinger) in John Cergol, teta. Pogreb je bil privaten.

John J. Zagorc

Dne 20. aprila je na svojem domu umrl 79 let stari John J. Zagorc, rojen v West Virginiji, mož Sophie, roj. Francel, oče Raymonda, Johna in Donalda, stari oče Matthew, brat Mary Petrovič, Albine Jakse in Jennie Kramer (že pok.), veteran 2. svetovne vojne, bil visoko odlikovan in tudi ranjen, zaposlen do svoje upokojitve pri I.B.E.C. Pogreb bo danes v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Jeroma in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Jean Beljan

Umrla je Jean Beljan, rojena Knapp, vdova po zobozdravniku Matthewu, mati Daniela in Marcie Catalano, 2-krat stara mati, sestra Mary Modic ter že pok. Dorothy Sajovec, Molly Koren, polsestra Franka Knappa. Pogreb je bil 23. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi Sv. Križa na E. 200 St. in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

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