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AMERICAN HOME

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER



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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, JANUARY 24, 2008

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\$1.00

Baraga Bypassed Again

I am grateful for the VIS-
news, yet reading the last
issue (12.18.07) on "Decrees
of the Congregation for the
Causes of Saints," I have
been deeply saddened by the
fact that the Servant of God,
Bishop Frederic Baraga
(1797-1868), missionary to
the Indians of Great Lakes
(Michigan, Wisconsin, Min-
nesota and parts of Canada)
and founder of the Diocese
of Marquette, Michigan, has
again been bypassed.

Described as the towering
figure of the American
Catholic Church and as "One
of the greatest missionaries
in North America in modern
times" (Vatican's *Enciclope-
dia Cattolica*, 1949, page
795), he served God and the

Catholic Church with heroic
virtue and dedication. Thou-
sands of Americans as well
as his Slovenian compatriots
find it difficult to understand
why, year after year and dec-
ade after decade, Baraga, a
towering figure of saintly
dedication, fails to be recog-
nized. We hope and pray that
this will change soon.

--Dr. Edward Gobetz,
Professor Emeritus, KSU;
Parishioner of St. Mary of
the Assumption Church,
Cleveland, Ohio USA

Thanks to Elizabeth
Delene, Archivist of the
Bishop Baraga Association,
for this information.

Concert & Poetry Reading

Musical performances by
Slovenian choir Korotan and
Johnny Sršen and friends
will help mark Slovenia's
Presidency of the European
Union. Cleveland-based
Honorary Consuls of Euro-
pean countries will partici-
pate in the program. Euro-
pean Union member coun-
tries and other European
countries represented will
include Germany, Italy,
Hungary, Lithuania, Sweden,

The Netherlands, Denmark,
Switzerland, Serbia, and
others.

The program will be con-
ducted by Slovenian Consul
General Dr. Zvone Žigon on
Saturday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. in
the Slovenian National
Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave-
nue, Cleveland.

Free admission. Cash bar
will follow the perform-
ances.

Bishop Visits St. Mary; Maskarada

On Saturday, Feb. 2nd
Bishop Richard Lennon will
be celebrating the 5 p.m.
Mass to commemorate the
50th anniversary of the
blessing of the church.

Following the Mass will be
the traditional Maskarada
celebration in the parish hall.

Dinner will be served
promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 per person.
Musical entertainment will
be provided by Veseli Godci.
Costumes are encouraged.

For reservations, contact
St. Mary's rectory at (216)
761-7740. Reservations will
be accepted until Tuesday,
Jan. 29.

--Irena Mazi

If you worry, don't pray – if you pray, don't worry.

--St. Mary's Alumni news



Miha Cerer, Niko Marsic, Fraser Hamilton, and Elizabeth Clack watch intently on Sunday, Jan. 13 as St. Mary (Holmes Ave.) pastor, Rev. John Kumse, burns the mortgage of the parish hall in the peč in the Lausche Atrium Room.

(Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

St. Mary's Slovenian Parish Burns Hall Mortgage

In December of 2002, St. Mary's began a
Capital Improvement Campaign for the
construction of a parish facility to meet the
social, cultural and educational needs of our
parish. Through the hard work, sacrifice and
support of many parishioners and friends of the
parish, we were able to break ground on Oct.
12, 2003 with Bishop Roger Gries and have
the solemn opening and blessing of the hall by
Bishop Anthony Pilla on Sept. 5, 2004.

To complete payment for the new facility,
the parish had to procure a loan with Charter
One Bank in the amount of \$879,000 with an
interest rate of 4.7%. Again, through the
sacrifice and generosity of so many people
who pledged financial support and even made
extra donations, we were able to make our last
mortgage payment in November, 2007.

The cost of the building project, which
included property acquisition, demolition of
buildings, architect and construction fees,
actual construction costs, furnishings (tables,
chairs, kitchen equipment, etc.), parking lot
paving and landscaping, was \$2.6 million.

When we look back at what we were able
to accomplish, we truly have much to celebrate
and much for which we are truly grateful,
especially to our God for his blessings on the
project, the prayers of our Blessed Virgin
Mary, patroness of our parish, and the
generosity and support of our many
benefactors. What more can we say but God
bless you one and all for a job well done.

--Father John Kumse, Pastor
St. Mary's Church Bulletin, Jan. 13, 2008



Thankful parishioners watch Fr. Kumse burn the bank mortgage.

(Photo by PHIL HRVATIN)

Being "over the hill," is much better than being under it.

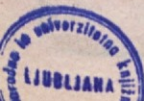
--Phil Hrvatin

He who dies with the most toys is nonetheless dead.

--Phil Hrvatin

My formula for living is
quite simple. I get up in
the morning and I go to
bed at night. In between I
occupy myself as best I
can. --Cary Grant

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Dr. Rudolph M. Susel – Slovenian Editor

Ameriška Domovina Permanent Scroll of Distinguished Persons:
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Louis B. Baznik, Michael and Irma Telich,
Frank J. Lausche, Paul Kosir

NAROČNINA:

Združene države Amerike: \$35 letno
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No. 2

January 24, 2008

Oysters "R" My Cup of Tea

by RUDY FLIS

As I look at my 2008 calendar, all 12 months on a single page, I notice most of the months have the letter "R" in them, with the exception of May, June, July and August.

Does that remind you of anything? Oysters, it reminds me of oysters. You are safer eating oysters during the months that are blessed with the letter "R." I say blessed with the letter "R" because I so enjoy eating oysters, breaded, stewed, or the "Blue Plate," raw.

I remember my mom breeding oysters for my dad. When my dad ate, he never, never let my hungry eyes remain famished as he ate. I was a real moocher, and learned to love many foods on my dad's tasty list. Of course his cook, my mom, was the best. Ask Tony and Betty Grdina. Mom cooked for their wedding reception.

Breaded oysters are yet a special treat, as is oyster stew. I don't know where my dad got his yen for oysters, but I inherited it and enjoy them to this day. My dad also enjoyed klobase and I do also. We lived on Crossburn Ave., off West 130th Street and had two cows, pigs and chickens, dog, cat and us kids. We had a calf each year and a smoke house in our back yard. My mom and dad smoked klobase, and hung it in our attic with newspapers under it to catch the drippings.

I don't know the time needed to get the klobase cured and ready to slice and eat as you sip a glass of wine. It was a treasured time for these hard-working immigrants, always close friends, all the way to the grave. Klobase, much like oysters, was eaten in the months with the letter "R" in them.

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Four things do not come back – the spoken word, the spent arrow, the past life, and the neglected opportunity. –Arabian proverb

Newspaper Schedule

Until further notice, the American Home (Ameriška Domovina) newspaper will continue to be printed only twice a month.

Deadline for all copy is a week before publishing date.

In February, the American Home newspaper will be published on Feb. 7 and 21

In March, the American Home will be published on March 6 and 20.

St. Mary's H.N. Reverse Tickets On Sale

St. Mary's (Collinwood) Holy Name Society Annual Reverse Raffle tickets are now available. Main board is \$50; Extra Dinner \$25.

The fun-filled dinner takes place Saturday, Jan. 26 in St. Mary's Hall. Only 200 tickets sold.

For tickets call (216) 481-0993 or (216) 481-0800.

KSKJ Lodge 25 Honors 50-Year Members

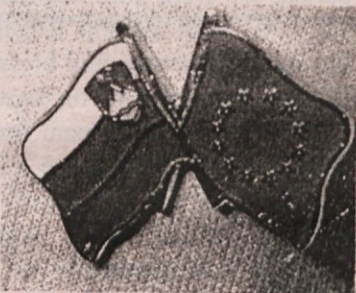
KSKJ St. Vitus Lodge No. 25 Annual dinner honoring 50-year members will be held on Sunday, Feb. 3.

Any members interested in attending please call secretary John Turek at (216) 531-0230. Deadline is Jan. 28th.

St. Mary Seniors Mass, Meeting

Attention members of St. Mary's Seniors (Holmes Ave.): The daughter of Jennie Schultz has requested a Memorial Mass in St. Mary's Church on Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 12:30 p.m. Everyone is invited and urged to attend.

Following the Mass, the St. Mary's Seniors will have their meeting.



Slovenian flag, left, and EU flag on a pin

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Yuko Proposes Highway Named After Brentar

COLUMBUS – State Representative Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Heights) on Jan. 17 gave sponsor testimony on a bill that would rename a stretch of Interstate 90, located within the City of Euclid, as "Patrolman George Brentar Memorial Highway."

Patrolman Brentar was a 22-year veteran of the police force before dying tragically in the line of duty. On Oct. 10, 2007, Patrolman Brentar's cruiser hydroplaned on rain-soaked roads as he chased a speeding vehicle. The cruiser struck a utility pole, a crash that killed him.

Brentar, who was an avid outdoorsman, set up the "Get Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs" program, which in-

troduced kids to outdoor adventures and navigated them away from drug and gang activity.

"George Brentar was a beloved and respected protector of our community," Rep. Yuko said. "Not only did he protect the citizens of the neighborhoods he served, but he also started this wonderful program to keep our kids away from danger."

"Patrolman Brentar did everything he could to serve the city of Euclid. The least we can do is honor his memory."

House Bill 399 carries bipartisan co-sponsors. It is pending in the House Infrastructure, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs Committee.

Slovenian Experts on Voting and Citizenship to Answer Questions

The Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland announces that on Saturday, Jan. 26 and Sunday, Jan. 27, a group of experts on Slovenian citizenship and Slovenian voters' rights from Slovenia will be in Cleveland. Ms. Suzana Martinez from the Office for Slovenes Abroad, Mrs. Mersija Genorio, expert on voters' rights, and Mr. Ales Jerman, expert on Slovenian citizenship will, together with Consul General Dr. Zvone Žigon, conduct information sessions for those interested in obtaining Slovenian citizenship or participating in Slovenian elections will take place on Saturday, Jan. 26 at 11 a.m. in St. Martin de Porres High School, and on Sunday, Jan. 27 at 11 a.m. in St. Mary's

parish hall, following the 10 a.m. Slovenian Mass.

A brief presentation will be followed by a question and answer session. There will also be an opportunity for individual questions on a one-on-one basis regarding procedures for obtaining Slovenian citizenship or registering to vote in Slovenia.

The representatives from Slovenia will also be available in Lemont, near Chicago on Friday, Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m., at the Slovenian Cultural Center, LIPA, and in Washington, DC and New York on Jan. 28 and 29 respectively.

For more information, please contact the Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland at (216) 589-9220.

(440) 602-5120

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This and that from Emilee



by EMILEE JENKO

Belated December birthday to Fr. Frank Godic. All his friends, family and parishioners wish him love and blessings.

Thanks to Joe Petric for his very unusual Christmas card. I loved it.

Home for the Christmas holiday was Marie Azman's daughter, Gina with her children Bryon and Taylor from Green Bay, Wis. All your friends and family were glad to see you. Welcome home.

I was the recipient of a huge gift basket. The raffle was held at the Slovene Home for the Aged. My gift basket was brimming with candles, pot holders, etc. I want to thank whoever arranged the basket. It is so beautiful and useful. Thanks very much.

Fr. Joe Boznar's homily on Dec. 30th about family and family values, trials and tribulations was most inspiring. I hope the congregation was listening. It gave parents food for thought.

The concert of Sacred Songs at St. Vitus was short and very sweet. Met Wayne and Francine Snyder at the Mass. Their daughter Suzanne Riddle was in Cleveland from the west coast with husband and their youngsters. It was great to see them. The Snyders' other daughter Chrissy with husband Tony Mihelich were in the concert with their children, Elizabeth and Michael. The entire choir of singers were so exceptional with John Srsen at the helm.

St. Vitus was so beautifully decorated for the Christmas holiday season. Accolades to whomever did the magic. It was so impressive.

Belated birthday wishes to Josie Kapla (Dec. 15). Long time good friend. Hope you had a great day. Luv ya.

I was so lucky to be invited to the CWVETS Christmas party held at Croatian Party Center. It was a blast. The dinner was perfect. Bill Lipold is a terrific M.C. Many gifts were raffled off. The singing contest was fun. We did our darndest and we won. Each of us received a bottle of wine. Our group consisted of Edmund Turk, Jean Lipold, Ray Yartz, Sue and Peter Osenar, and yours truly. We were called the "Silver Bells." Edmund Turk

said if anything, we were loud. My dinner companions were Jerry and Jackie Haloran, Rich Zele and his guest Betty, Danny Reiger and guest ME (Emilee). Thanks Danny for the invite.

Bob Mills had carpal tunnel surgery. Speedy recovery.

Eddie Kenik is now convalescing at home. Wish him well and send good wishes. Rose Mary Toth had a fall but is doing o.k. A bit black and blue... only kidding.

Belated birthday wishes in Dec. to Danielle Avsec. Also to another lovely lady, Fran Spelic, birthday in Dec., and to our own Edmund Turk. Happy Birthday.

Listen to Ray Zalokar's polka music every Saturday on radio WELW. He had two very talented youngsters, Sophie and Zack. You should hear Sophie belt out "Santa Baby" very professional and polished. Zack narrated "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Also very polished. Keep it up. We need our youth to take over, Ray. You must be very proud of them. They are going "up" with all that talent.

Fr. John Kumse's homily at the Slovene Home for the Aged on Dec. 15th was food for thought. Join us at Mass on Saturdays at the SHA. Belated birthday, Dec. 15 to Andrean Streck from husband Bill bro.-in-law John and all your friends on St. Clair Avenue.

Belated birthday wishes to Dorothy Ljubi in December.

A great big thank you to two lovely ladies, Angie Shine and Mary Persin for keeping (my car and me) on the roadways. Thanx. Speedy recovery from a fall to Tony Baznik, Bob Mills, and Bernie Sajovec. Hope they are on the mend and hope to see them up and around real soon.

More belated birthdays: Fran Spelic, Jos. Zgonc, Živijo. Rikk, my son, and fiancée Dawn Marie, spent the Christmas holiday with Dawn's mom and dad in Florida. They are back at work. Bah, humbug.

My sincere thanks to everyone for all the lovely Christmas cards.

Did you hear the Christmas record by the Joey Tom-sick group. Faith Anne, Joey's daughter had a cameo verse on the record. Very cute. Our youngsters are really making their mark in the music world. Good for them.

An intimate group gathered for a Christmas party at Shelli's on St. Clair with entertainment by Rose and Don Slogar. We imbibed a little "vino" and topped it off with a song or two, and finished it off with delicious

cake baked by Angelo. A fun time was had by all.

Danny Reiger is off to Cape Coral, Florida to visit with Gene Drobnic, Lois Ann and family. He sends hellos to the Cleveland-St. Clair gang from all the Florida gang.

A friendly, intimate 99th January birthday gathering for Pauline Burya was given by sister Betty Kazen held at the Croatian Center on Lake Shore Blvd. Good food, good friends, and a very stimulating conversation. Pauline was in fine spirits and enjoyed all her guests. God willing much happiness and good health ahead.

A friendly and loving get-together at Kristy's Restaurant in Euclid for Mary Persin. Occasion was the 90th birthday given by daughter and hostess Marilyn Eckert. It was a surprise. And she was really surprised, tears by all were shed. The luncheon was delicious and a fun time was had by all. Saw some friends I hadn't seen in years.

Albina Pozelnik is now a resident of the SHA. Friends, drop in and visit with her.

Get well wishes to Julie Sadar who is now a resident of Gateway Nursing Facility. Speedy recovery.

Drop Johnny Vadnal a card. He is a patient at Heartland facility in Mentor.

Great seeing Angie Zabjek at her post at the SWH on Waterloo fish fries. Looking good, Angie. Stay that way.

I attended a luncheon at Redeemer on the Avenue (East 159 and St. Clair Ave.) Lodge 8 of AMLA was celebrating their 95th anniversary. A happy crowd and other lodges helped them to celebrate.

The party center was still beautifully decorated for Christmas. The buffet was delicious and the open bar satisfied everyone's palate, speeches were informative. Tony Lavrishia narrated a history dating back to 1912. Al Amigoni also talked a bit about AMLA. And Celeste Frollo, President of Lodge 8 welcomed everyone. Belated birthday greetings to Bill Zabkar from all the family. Have a great day and a happy and very healthy year to come. *Čestitke*.

February birthday greetings to Diane Phillips, Ed Karnak, Rose Cimperman, Agnes Koporc, Marie Urban, Lois Ann Drobnic, Fr. Bill Jerse, Alenka Banco, and last but not least, Emilee Jenko (me). Hoope de doo. Another year older.

Jokes read on Ch. 22 cable.

What did the hamburger name his daughter?

Patty.



Mary Persin was really surprised at her 90th birthday party held at Kristy's Restaurant on E. 200th Street in Euclid, Ohio. (Photos by Emilee)



Rose and Don Slogar entertaining at the Christmas Party at Shelli's Restaurant.

When does a cart come before the horse?

In the dictionary.

Why did the boy tiptoe past the medicine cabinet?

He didn't want to wake the sleeping pills.

Till we meet again, I will

leave you with this thought: God can't always be everywhere, and so he invented mothers.

Luv ya.

--Emilee
XO XO

Certificate Holders Annual Meeting

SLOVENIAN NATIONAL HOME

6417 St. Clair Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Eddie Kenik Room (annex) Rear Entrance

Sunday, February 3, 2008 at 2 p.m.

We invite all Certificate Holders and lodge representatives to attend.

The Board of Directors

Annual Meeting

Collinwood Slovenian Home

15810 Holmes Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44110

Sunday, Feb. 3, 2008 - 1:00 p.m.

We urge all certificate holders and lodge representatives to attend

On The Road to Auburn, Indiana

by PAUL PERME
(Continued from last issue)

Sunrays peaking in the room revealed the day is here, or at least on its way. By clock time it was about 6:30 a.m. Dad was still sleeping so I got dressed quietly and went down to the breakfast room in the hotel. This is a definite travel tip – find a reasonable hotel that provides a breakfast. I grabbed my book and shot down for some coffee and breakfast.

A hot waffle, fruit, a hard boiled egg, cranberry juice and Danish and I was satisfied. I took to some reading as the accompanying tables got crowded. About five or so minutes into my book I heard an older gentleman basically greeting the world with his manner of speech. He was wearing a white outfit and was quite fit and trim. Sensing a conversation I could never escape no matter how long the clock ticked. I kept my head down and eyes in the book.

This was a good move on my part. In a mere 15 minutes I knew he was married 37 years to Mary. She has been gone for 20 years. She died peacefully but suddenly when he was making tea in the morning. He was 85 years old and just came off congestive heart failure earlier this year. He has been retired for two years and was the oldest person to ever hold his post. Sounded like some type of delegate or committee position for a workforce. He is a Democrat and dislikes Bush and Cheney, especially Cheney. His son is a tugboat captain and was at the next table.

I heard this by just listening. Needing some quiet and less boasting, I grabbed a cup of coffee for Dad and headed back upstairs. The old gent was going on about Vietnam in a conversation with some victim who did look up. Then another clever remark about MacArthur in China and the elevator closed. Dad was up and getting ready to head down. I warned him about the 85-year-old blabbermouth as a heads up.

While I was in the room I relaxed, read some more and relayed some thoughts into a hand held voice-recorder. I was grinning since Dad must have encountered the non-stop talker by now. I suspect people ate a bit faster to get out of there sooner. Watching the Morning Buzz news show and getting ready with camera and maps was my current mission.

Dad arrived back 30 minutes later and said the old gent was still at it. We

packed up and left to meet Dan in the lobby. When we got down there the old guy was gone. Dan thought the gent was kind of rude and one-sided. It was a one-sided conversation with any victim he could trap. And it is rude when really examined. However for the old gent it was a “blind” rudeness since he is unlikely to listen as much as he talks. Oh well, farewell old fellow and many more years to you. Pass the ear-plugs, please.

Auburn

The adventure to navigate to the museum began around 9:30 a.m. Dan drove and we had directions from the hotel. When will we learn? Needless to say we were close the whole time, but finding it was the trick. We found our way around the staging festival and asked a man walking his dog. He got us closer.

Since this is a small town, the main drags were smaller than we are accustomed to in Cleveland. The museum is at an intersection of two main streets but still could have been passed by unknowingly. The building was nondescript and matched the decorum of the city. This added to the appeal and spoke volumes of the city's character. This was an honest hard-working humble way of life. Houses were neat, clean, well kept and large. Not opulent or showy. A very nice place to live and flourish.

The ACD museum was at the administrative offices of the ACD organization. We parked at the rear of the museum – since we were so happy to find it we didn't bother looking for closer parking. A short two minute walk put us in the front doors. We were greeted by a nice woman behind a desk and paid our admission. She directed us to a movie room that told of the history of ACD, its key people and the reputation it had, and left upon the automotive community. It was about a 20-minute loop movie.

Entering the showroom we were greeted by 1925 – 37 autos like the Auburn convertible.

The straight lines, crisp colors, accented fenders and engine trim were a staple of these beautiful automobiles. Nothing was left to chance and each line a conscious choice. The attention to detail was apparent as well as the appeal to the eyes.

The current use of supercharging, dual overhead cams and four valves per cylinder was born back in the 1920s and 1930s. Smart is smart, no matter what the era. The same goes for style.

As far as people go, the only sustaining memory is that of character. Ethics, kindness, generosity, sacrifice and courage define the good memories we have of those we love past and present. Funny it takes a classic automobile museum and road trip to bring that to words. In any event I'm thankful the words did come to life for me.

Keep in mind the museum is full of fantastically beautiful automobiles. However, since I had the digital camera, I am in the driver's seat for what you get to see.

The main floor front showroom contained the real trademark automobiles for which ACD is known. The rear first floor showroom had autos other than Auburns, Cords, or Duesenbergs. So there were no real discoveries there other than perhaps providing a timeline to the current.

The third floor of the ACD museum had more Duesenbergs, Cords and Auburns. In addition they had other autos of the era and benchmark models that marked time or more correctly, marked change. For example the 1963 Studebaker Avanti was an automobile ahead of its time. Roughly the size of the 1965 Mustang, the Avanti was a performance car with a new look and style. But as time changes, it seemed to precede the muscle car era by a year or two and sadly fell victim to the stopped production of Studebaker motors. The Avanti was picked up by another maker, but only lasted a year or so and was even modified to no avail. Time can be brutal if you don't see change coming.

One of the automobiles that truly retained uniqueness and style was the Auburn Boat-tail speedster. The back of the auto is shaped like a boat's bow. It is a two door convertible auto.

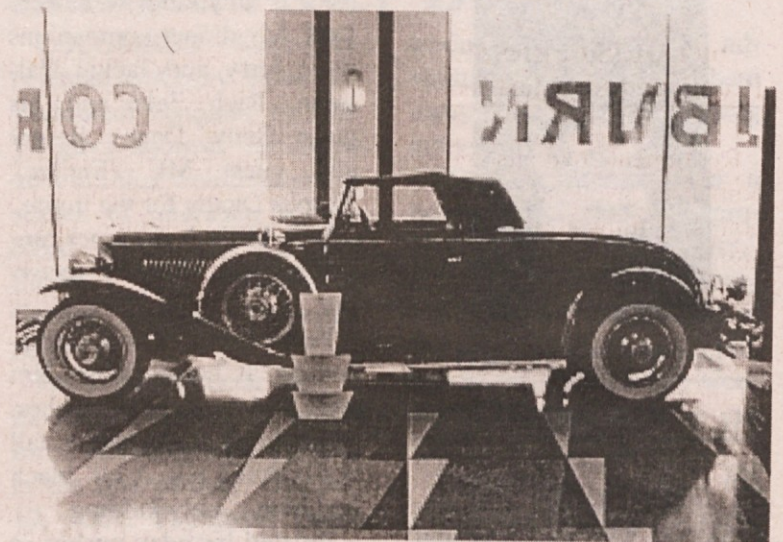
(To Be Continued)

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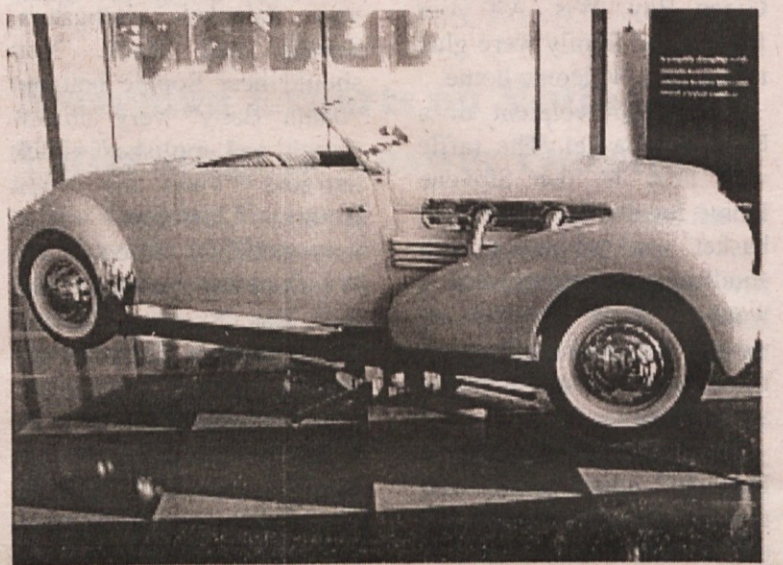
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Paintings for Sale

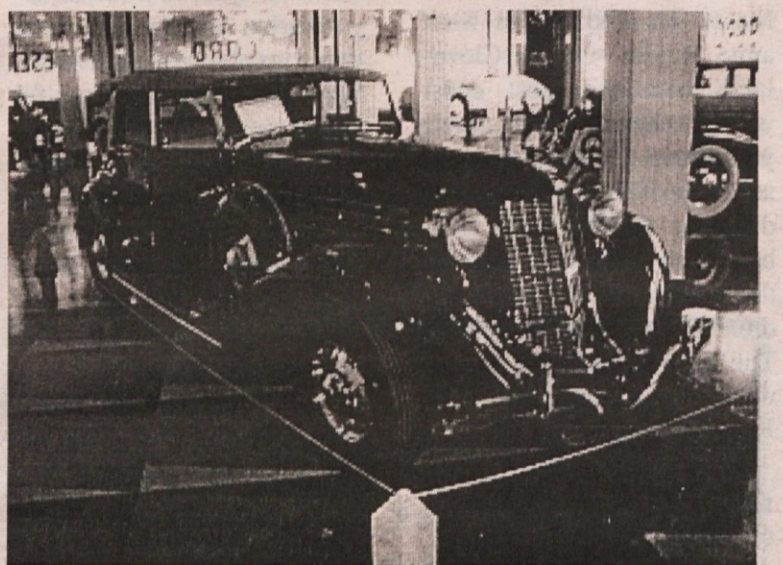
Landscape, “Medno” by Rihard Jakopič; “Dekle Pred Zrcalom” by Matej Sternen; Copy of a Goya painting “Dve Ženski in Moški” by Zoran Mušič, Provenance. Inq. Robert Louis Sheehan, 99 Brackett Street, Apt. 432, Quincy, MA 02169.



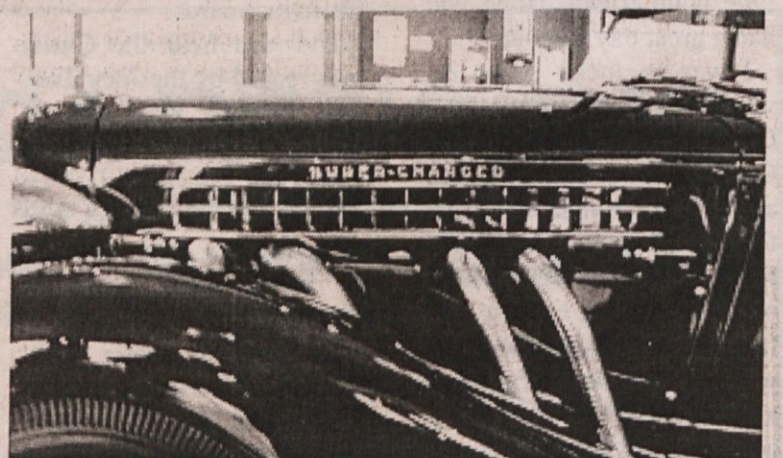
Next time you say or hear the phrase, “That’s a Duesy,” it may very well be this auto they mean. Because of their very high end innovation, looks and quality, these automobiles – Duesenbergs in general – inspired that expression. Even in the roaring 1920s these autos had to be rare. But what an auto to own if one had the money. Bragging rights for sure. Pictured is the 1931 Duesenberg.



The straight lines, crisp colors, accented fenders and engine trim were a staple of these beautiful automobiles. Nothing was left to chance and each line a conscious choice. The attention to detail was apparent as well as the appeal to the eyes. The Auburn convertible.



This auto is a 1935 Auburn 851 Super-Charged Phaeton. Once again the fender flares, elongated front grill, chrome and deep green color with tan soft top makes this a vehicle to want.



The current use of supercharging, dual overhead cams and four valves per cylinder was born back in the 1920s and 1930s. Smart is smart no matter what the era. The same goes for style.

The Chronicle of Louis R. Erste

by LOUIS C. ERSTE
(Continued from last issue)

Retirement had its good points as well as its bad points. Sitting around doing nothing wasn't in Louie's psyche so he kept busy with home projects and helping others in the neighborhood as much as he could and as long as he could. Actually, he never seemed to grow old because he was always ready and eager to do anything within reason. Fortunately, by the end of 1958, Lou and Betty repaid their loan and Louie and Rose were able to reduce their home mortgage accordingly. But they still had a mortgage, so living on Social Security benefits and a small pension from Hill Acme made things financially tight for them.

Mostly Joy in the 1960s

As mentioned earlier, Louie and Rose were active in the SDZ (today referred to as AMLA) most of their lives. Somewhere near the end of the 1950s Louie was elected president of Lodge No. 9. 1960 was the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the SDZ and Lodge No. 9 participated in the celebration with Louie having his three-year-old grandsons Louis J. Erste and Thomas Gaye say the pledge of allegiance, dressed in soldier and sailor uniforms and holding American flags. Patriotism was high on Louie's list and pride of his family was equally as high.

Louie had little formal education and spoke English with a broken accent. As he grew older he was sorry he hadn't taken the initiative to improve his English, but now he faced a different problem. Being active in Slovenian lodges all his life he often represented one lodge or another at the funeral of one of its members. At the end of the graveside ceremony he led the group in saying an "Our Father" for the deceased. That had been acceptable in the early part of the century but as time went on the 'group' was mostly composed of friends and relatives from the second generation of immigrants, some of whom didn't speak Slovenian but all of whom spoke English. So one day Louie presented a challenge

to Lou: write the Our Father in English, using the Slovenian language pronunciations so he could read it. This took a couple of weeks and a lot of review until they had a version that Louie could read which sounded like English with a Slovenian accent. Most unusual, but Louie used it at gravesites from then on.

In 1961 son Lou and his wife, Betty, bought a piece of land in Brecksville, Ohio, a semi-rural suburb directly south of Cleveland. The land was covered with trees and brush and everyone pitched in to clear an area at the back for picnic activities. Louie and Betty's father, Alex Ross, went much further than that. The two of them would go out to "the lot" several days a week and clear more and more of the land. By the time a house was built on it in 1971 most of the scrub was cleared on a five acre piece of land, all done by hand.

Vi Dies

Vi was expecting their sixth child when she began having pains in her side. Ted was born the morning of May 27, 1963 at Marymount Hospital and by afternoon Vi had severe abdominal distress. Upon testing they found she was hemorrhaging from her liver which had ruptured. A surgeon was called in to try and repair the liver but as he would sew it up, it began to fall apart somewhere else. Whatever this syndrome was called it was a rare disease affecting 1 in 300,000 women at childbirth. The cause was (and probably still is) unknown, but it is usually associated with precrampsia. Vi died in surgery in the early morning the day after Ted was born while Laddie and Lou sat in Marymount Hospital's waiting room. She was 38 years, 8 months old. Breaking the news to Louie and Rose was difficult especially since they had already lost one daughter, Rosie, almost 30 years before.

After Vi passed away, Laddie went through a very difficult stage of uncertainty. The responsibility of raising six children was thrust upon him and he wanted to keep them together, but couldn't do it alone. Rose took care of Teddy for about four months

until Laddie decided to remarry and move the family away, basically breaking contact with the Erste family.

Once Laddie and the six children moved, 3817 Schiller lay empty so Betty's father, Alex Ross and her sister, Mary Ann, who was unmarried, moved into the empty house so the "family compound" continued to survive.

Fran and John Always Tried to Help

May 21, 1965 brought an unusual event. Prior to that Louie and Rose decided they would do well to sell their two houses and move to something smaller without a mortgage so they put them up for sale. Lou and Betty already had five children and their house was getting too small for their growing family, so they discussed the issue with Fran and John and proposed a switch of houses to Louie and Rose, providing them with 3813 Schiller Avenue mortgage free. Fran and John were willing to contribute money toward this switch but in the end it became unnecessary, although Fran did assist in the actual moving process.

In 1967 when daughter

Frances and her husband, John, sold their business and retired, they contemplated moving to Boca Raton, Florida. Before leaving the area, in 1969, they gave Louie and Rose an expensive paid trip to Slovenia, the homeland that Louie had left in 1906. John mused that when they told Louie and Rose about this gift John informed them that first class seats on the airplane were very expensive

so they purchased coach seats for them; and Louie said he would be willing to stand if that helped any.

Also, Fran and John set up a trust for Louie and Rose, giving them an additional \$50 a month income until they died. In that time, \$50 was a substantial amount of money. Fran and John were good to their parents in their old age.

(To Be Continued)

Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

--Mark Twain

If only the good die young, then what does that say about senior citizens? --Phil Hrvatin

Anton J. Ogrinc, D.D.S.



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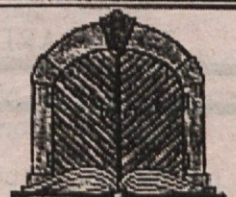
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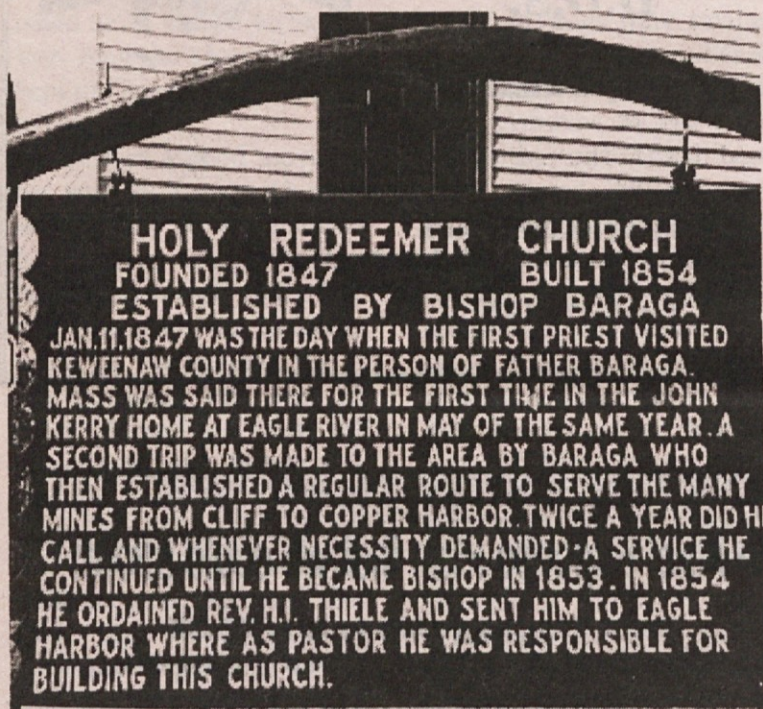
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On the way to Eagle Harbor, Upper Peninsula of Michigan, these Baraga Days 2006 pilgrims, dressed in Slovenian national costume, stopped to have their picture taken in front of Lake Superior. They are, left to right, Josef and Marie Lah, Lenka Chauby, and Joe Rus. At the Baraga celebration, Native Americans looked at the *narodna noša* (Slovenian national costume) some of the Slovenians wore, and asked what tribe they belonged to.



Sign honoring Baraga in Eagle River church.

May you live to be a hundred years, with one extra year to repent. —Irish saying

Membership Certificate Holders Annual Meeting

Slovenian Society Home
20713 Recher Avenue
Euclid, OH 44119

Sunday, February 10, 2008
2 p.m.

We invite all certificate holders and
Lodge & Club representatives to attend.

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Old Quiz, New Quiz

by James V. Debevec II

OLD QUIZ: In what movie did a tearful Judy Garland sing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas?"

ANSWER: "Meet Me in St. Louis." Correct responses were submitted by these knowledgeable readers: **Marie Dular**, Cleveland; **Daniella Schultz**, Euclid; **Don Avsec**; **Marie Engstrom**, Highland Hts; **Anthony Gorsek**, Cleveland; and **Fr. Bill Jerse**, Euclid, Ohio. Congratulations.

NEW QUIZ: What post-WWII car was designed so people couldn't tell whether it was coming or going?

- A. -- Studebaker
- B -- Nash Rambler
- C -- Tucker
- D -- Corrigan
- E -- Hudson
- F -- Auburn

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

More for Pork, Less for Bridges

After the horrific collapse of a highway bridge in Minneapolis in August, politicians nationwide called on the federal government to repair America's infrastructure.

But the politicians who control the purse strings have spoken. Though \$1.5 billion for bridge repairs was added to the transportation/housing bill approved by the Senate, an amendment to stop funding "pork" until all of the at-risk bridges have been fixed was rejected 82 to 14. Instead, \$2.5 billion will go toward pet projects like these:

- Volcano monitoring in Alaska, \$3 million.
- A hiking and biking trail in West Virginia, \$1 million
- A prototype streetcar in Oregon, \$750,000
- A minor league ballpark in Montana, \$500,000
- Renovation of a peace garden in North Dakota, \$450,000.

--Parade Magazine

Corny Joke

"Mr. Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully," the divorce court judge said. "And I've decided to give your wife \$775 a week."

"That's very fair, your honor," the husband said. "And every once in a while I'll try to throw in a few bucks myself."

Coming Events

Saturday, Jan. 26

Slovenska Pristava Dinner-Dance at Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave.

Saturday, Jan. 26

St. Mary (Coll.) Holy Name Society reverse raffle and dinner in parish center. Tickets \$50 for main board; \$25 for extra dinner. For further information or tickets call (216) 481-0993 or (216) 481-0800.

Saturday, Jan. 26

Experts on obtaining Slovenian citizenship and voters rights will answer questions at 11 a.m. in St. Martin de Porres High School (St. Vitus auditorium) at 11 a.m.

Sunday, Jan. 27

Experts on obtaining Slovenian citizenship and voters rights will answer questions at 11 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Hall (Collinwood) following the 10 a.m. Slovenian Mass.

Wed., Jan. 30

Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., Monthly Social in main hall. Doors open 6 p.m. Music and refreshments.

Saturday, Feb. 2

Cleveland Bishop Lennon celebrates 5 p.m. Mass in St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Church. — After Mass, Maskarada celebration in parish hall. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Dinner tickets: \$20. Music by Veseli Godci. Dinner reservations by Jan. 29 by calling the rectory at (216) 761-7740.

Sunday, Feb. 3

Annual Meeting of Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., 2 p.m. in Kenik Room. Shareholders.

Sunday, Feb. 3

St. Vitus Lodge No. 25 KSKJ annual dinner honoring 50-year members. Members wishing to attend call secretary John Turek at (216) 531-0230. Deadline is Jan. 28.

Feb. 5

Kolina dinner sponsored by Slovenian Cultural Garden Association in St. Mary's (Coll.) parish hall from 5 – 8 p.m. Take-outs also available. Rice, blood and fresh sausage dinners cost \$12. Please reserve meals by calling rectory office at (216) 761-7740.

Friday, Feb. 8

Lenten Fish Fries at Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., and every Friday in Lent.

Friday, Feb. 8

Lenten Fish Fries at Slovenian Workmen's Home 15335 Waterloo Rd., and all Fridays in Lent. Serving 11:30 a.m. until 8 p.m. Dine in or take outs available.

Saturday, Feb. 9

Concert and poetry reading celebrating Slovenia's presi-

dency of the EU, featuring Korotan, Johnny Sršen and friends, 7 p.m. in Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland. Free admission, cash bar.

Sat., Feb. 16 thru 24

Slovenian Ski Trip to Chamonix, France. \$1,895. Call John Kamin for details 718-424-2711.

Sunday, Feb. 24

St. Vitus Slovenian School annual benefit dinner 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in auditorium.

Wednesday, Feb. 27

Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., Monthly Social in main hall. Doors open 6 p.m. Music and refreshments.

Saturday, March 8

Federation of Slovenian Homes honoree banquet at Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave.

Sunday, March 16

St. Vitus Catholic War Vets Post 1655 Corporate Communion.

Tuesday, March 25

St. Vitus Catholic War Vets Post 1655 Reverse Raffle in Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave.

Wednesday, March 26

Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., Monthly Social in main hall. Doors open 6 p.m. Music and refreshments.

Saturday, March 29

Primorski Klub Dinner-Dance at Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave.

March 30 thru April 5

Slovenian Ski Trip 2008 to Sun Valley, Idaho. \$1299. For information call John Kamin (718) 424-2771.

Friday, April 18

Night at the Races for Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., in joint effort with St. Vitus Slovenian School.

Saturday, April 19

Korotan Concert, Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland.

Saturday, April 26

Zarja Concert, Slovenian Society Home, Euclid, Ohio. "Slamnati vdovec" (The Grass Widower). Dinner 5 p.m., Program: 7 p.m. Dancing to Jeff Pecon Orchestra at 8 p.m.

Wednesday, April 30

Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., Monthly Social in main hall. Doors open 6 p.m. Music and refreshments.

Sunday, May 18

St. Vitus Slovenian School graduation, during 10:30 a.m. Mass in church.

Sunday, May 25

St. Vitus Catholic War Vets Post 1655 Memorial Mass, 9 a.m. in St. Vitus Church.

Sunday, July 27

St. Vitus Slovenian School annual summer picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Death Notices

FRANC KOVACIC

Franc Kovacic, age 88 of Euclid, Ohio.

Born in Skofja Loka, Slovenia, he lived in the St. Clair neighborhood before moving to Euclid.

Beloved brother of Marija, Stane of Slovenia and the late Pavla Stanek. Dear uncle to many nieces and nephews, all of Slovenia.

He was a member of Korotan, Slovenska Pristava Pensioners, St. Clair Pensioners, AMLA, and was the Director of the St. Clair Slovenian Home Library.

Funeral Mass was held Thursday, Jan. 10, 2008 at St. Vitus Church. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

Family received friends at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home, 28890 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills, Ohio.

BARBARA J. MISHECK

Barbara J. Misheck, age 46 of Willoughby Hills, Ohio.

Beloved daughter of Helen (nee Rakovan) and the late Glenn Misheck; loving sister of Kathy (Bill) McVeigh of KY, Judy Misheck and Carol (James) Petro; cherished aunt of Brooke and Kellie McVeigh and Kaitlyn and Brittany Petro and dear friend of Charles Schultz.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 11 a.m., Monday, Jan. 7 at St. Noel Church, Willoughby Hills. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

Family received friends at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home, 28890 Chardon Rd. (between Bishop Rd. and Rt. 91) Willoughby Hills on Sunday, Jan. 6 from 2-6.

CHARLES NOSAN

Charles "Chuck" Nosan, age 93, beloved son of John and Mary (both deceased); dear brother of Anton Arko, Mary Mezgec, John, Vincent, Louis, Frances Smith and Josephine Jacobs (all deceased); uncle of Bill Arko, Connie Torgersen, Richard Nosan and Janet Lyn Jacobs; great uncle of many.

A lifelong avid golfer and member of the Slovene American Men's Golf League.

His wonderful attitude, sense of humor, love of life, and generous spirit touched all who knew him.

Friends were received at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St., Sunday 1-4 p.m., where services were held Monday at 10:30 a.m. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

STEFANIJA ROZMAN

Stefanija Rozman (nee Laterner, age 97.

Beloved wife of the late Frank Rozman and the late William Kaps; dearest mother of Maria Heckaman (of Shaker Hts.), Jože and Ivan Kaps, and the late Ivan Kaps, and the late Anica Hribernik (all of Slovenia); loving grandmother of Susan, Gregory and Audrey Heckaman, Igor Kaps, M.D., Boris and Marjan Hribernik, Marina Cvahte and Neli Pezdirc; great-grandmother of 10; cherished sister of seven deceased brothers and sisters (all of Slovenia).

Contributions suggested to the Slovene Home for the Aged, 18621 Neff Rd., Cleveland, OH 44119, where Stefanija received exceptional care, and the family extends to them eternal thanks.

Mass of Christian burial was on Tuesday, Jan. 15 at St. Mary Catholic Church (Holmes Ave.) at 10:30 a.m. Interment private in St. Theodosius Cemetery.

Family received friends to celebrate the life of Stefanija at The DeJohn-Flynn-Mylott Funeral Home.

JOHN M. BENEDICT

John M. Benedict, age 79, of Euclid.

Beloved husband of Donne Alma (nee Eppick); loving father of Shelley, Jay E. and Glen M. Benedict; cherished grandfather of eight and great-grandfather of two; dear brother of Cora Roy, and the late Edward and Angelo.

Funeral Mass 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15 at St. Paul Church (Euclid). Interment Calvary Cemetery.

Family received friends at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home, 28890 Chardon Rd. Willoughby Hills, Monday, Jan. 14 from 4-8 p.m.

In Memory

Thanks to **Jacquelyn Delost** of Wickliffe, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$40.00 donation in memory of the **Deceased Delost Family Members, Margaret, Joseph, Mary, Tony and Frank.**

In Memory

Thanks to **Helen Kozlevchar** of Willowick, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$35.00 donation in memory of her husband, **John Kozlevchar.**

In Memory

Thanks to **Vera Gregorich** of Lemont, IL who submitted a \$100 donation in memory of her husband, **Louis F. Gregorich.**

In Memory

Thanks to **Daniel J. Hrvatin** of Willoughby Hills, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$250.00 donation in memory of his parents, **Jože and Danica Hrvatin** who were both very active in the preservation and promotion of Slovenian culture and instilled in him a deep appreciation for his heritage. Dan writes, "Thanks to the American Home for your continuing efforts in that same regard."

In Memory

Thanks to **Dick Mervar** of Windermere, Florida who sent in a \$50.00 donation to the American Home in memory of his wife, **Dolores (Debevec) Mervar.** Dick writes, "I enjoy reading about Slovenia and the Cleveland area. I bring the paper to the nursing home for my mother to read."

In Memory

Thanks to **Anton and Marija Kozelj** of Gates Mills, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$35.00 donation in memory of **Smolic and Kozelj families.**

In Memory

Thanks to **Mrs. Marija Hocevar** of Willowick, OH who renewed her subscription, paid for a memorial, and added a \$20.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Matija.**

In Memoriam 25th Anniversary



Mary Ann Jerse - O'Connor, M.D.

June 23, 1954 -
January 31, 1983

Always in Our Hearts

Sadly missed by:
Mother - Mary E.
Father Bill - Joe and Nella
Ed and Shannon
Juliana and Lia
Teddy - Mairin and
Elizabeth and Billy

In Memory

Thanks to **Ted Horn** of Monterey, CA who renewed his subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of his parents, **Peter and Louise Horn.**

Everyone can master grief except those who have it.

Donations

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

Minka Cugelj, Cleveland, OH -- \$10.00

Anonymous, CA -- \$100.00

Frances M. Virant, Cleveland -- \$15.00

J. M. Jamnik-Gornik, Concord, OH -- \$15.00

Marjanca and Tone Vegel, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Cencic, Euclid, OH -- \$5.00

Zalka Likozar, Highland Hts., OH -- \$10.00

Frank and Grace Sechnick, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Barbara A. Rihtar, Willoughby, OH -- \$15.00

Dari Strmseck, Oak Creek, WI -- \$10.00

Maria Ferkul, Biwabik, MN -- \$5.00

Stan and Jamie Zalar, Sagamore Hills, OH -- \$15.00

Frances Petrich, Eastlake, OH -- \$5.00

Dr. Max and Ann Marie H. Gorenek, Aiken, SC -- \$5.00

Julia Samsa, Bemidji, MN -- \$5.00

Metod Zerdin, Chicago, IL -- \$5.00

Cecilia Urbas, Richmond Hts., OH -- \$15.00

Lojzka Rutar, Euclid, OH -- \$5.00

Albina Pozelnik at SHA

Albina Pozelnik has been transferred from Euclid Hospital to the Slovene Home for the Aged. No phone calls. Visits are allowed.

Donation

Thanks to **Poldi Novak** of Oceanside, CA who renewed her subscription and added a \$10.00 donation. She writes, "The newspaper keeps me alive, hearing news from my beloved fatherland, Slovenija."

In Loving Memory of the 17th Anniversary



Frank J. Godic

January 28, 1991

*God watched you as you suffered,
He knew you had your share;
He gently closed your weary eyes,
And took you in His care.*

*Your memory is our keepsake,
With that we'll never part;
God has you in His keeping,
We have you in our heart.*

Sadly missed by

Rev. Frank Godic and Roger - sons
Bonnie Simmons (deceased) and Clare Miller, daughters, and families

In Loving Memory



Frank Tominc, Jr.

Died Feb. 2, 2006

Two years have passed since God took you into his care.

You are loved and missed every minute of each day. Your kind heart, warm smile and loving nature touched everyone who knew you.

Although it is so difficult to live without you, I thank God for the years I was blessed to have you in my life.

In our hearts you hold a special place, that no one can ever fill.

Your loving family:
Marinka, wife
Robert, Barbara Henson, Michael and John, children

Zele Funeral Home

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Ketch-up time for HAPpy Pens. ☺

Holmes Avenue Pensioners (HAP) Christmas party Dinner Dec. 12 was well attended; a lovely affair. President John Kovelan opened the festivities with a moving welcoming speech, paying tribute to deceased John Kozlevchar, remembering all other departed members, then leading us in prayer.

Some of our members missed the party due to illness; sorry about that. The rest of us had a great time, relishing the good dinner prepared by Joe Tavcar, the up-and-coming young chef. Grapevine has it he learned his craft at the "master's feet," none other than Julie Zalar. He will be our cook next Christmas, too.

Al Batistelli had even the non-dancers feet tapping with his fine musical performance. Got him booked for next Christmas as well. We know a good thing when we see it, don'cha know...

Many thanks to Matt Z., and his helpers, for decorating the hall so nicely. Ruth and Frank Korelec kept the "juices" flowing, and Myra Jerkic and helpers led the 50/50 raffle. Thank you, everyone.

HAP Jan. 9 meeting began after we heard therapists Heather Proper and Alyson Dondorfer expound on ways to cope with arthritis. A clear, educational presentation. They cracked us up when they innocently asked

if anyone present suffers with arthritis... As if....

They presented us with illustrated leaflets to help us do proper exercises. Forget the "no pain" - no gain" mantra. That does not apply to arthritic joints; stop exertion when it hurts. Thank you, ladies.

After Pledge of Allegiance, our departed members and friends were remembered with a silent prayer: †Millie Budnar (2008), †Antonia "Toni" Frydryck, †Rose Intihar, †Mary Krause, sister of Josie Klein; and †John Kristoff. We lost 32 members in 2007. God grant them eternal peace. Our sympathies to the grieving families. Millie and Rose, two avid button-boxers, are likely playing with the rest of the heavenly band.

Glad to see Sunshine Lady Ann Eichler doing well, and back to cheering our ailing members. She sent get-well cards to Emilie Kerze, Frances Klemencic, Grace Mihavec, Tony Ruttar, Julie Sadar, and Hank Skarbez. Ann also reported John Plutt had a successful triple-bypass operation recently, and is now recuperating at home. He and his wife Alba now reside with son John in the Chicago area. Speedy recovery to one and all.

Hearty WELCOME to new members Pat and Ron Budzilek, Bernie Cirkel, J. Sallie Kerman, Richard and Angie Krane, Ivanka Matic,

Dorothy Sulen, and Darlene Zele. Glad you joined our "good group."

Fran Kajfez reported 177 members in attendance, 144 now on Honorary roster, and NO ONE on the waiting list. First time since 1962. John Skerl was our guest, courtesy of John Penca. Hope you enjoyed the day. Matt K. collected \$3.89 in badge fines, and Rich Cesen threw in 11 cents to make it an even \$4. LOL.

We sang to members celebrating birthdays in December and January, 13 each month.

Surprisingly, no one attending had an anniversary those two months. Winter is the best time to cuddle up.

Thanks to Myra Jerkic, and helpers Marie Dular and Ed Petric, for another fine 50/50 raffle. Many happy winners every time (except yours truly). If it wasn't for bad luck, I wouldn't have any. Many thanks also to Ruth and Ed Morel, and their helpers, for the tasty lunches every meeting; as well as to Ruth and Frank Korelec for catering to our thirsty bunch. you are much appreciated.

Do not miss the Feb. 13 meeting. Special birthdays: 80, 85, 90, 95, etc., and anniversaries, 25 years, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, etc., will be proclaimed. We will showcase our "famous" Mock Wedding, to the amusement of all. Hope "Gladys" shows up; maybe she's playing hard to get.

Holmes Ave. Club Room will also have the Wing-Ding dinner that afternoon. \$4.50 for six wings, any style from plain to HOT, with French fries and Slovenian cole slaw; what a deal.

Hope everybody had a lovely, blessed Christmas time; and wish all of you a happy, healthy New Year 2008.

Happy Valentine's Day, too.

--Arthur Eyetis

SWU Scholarships Available

The SWUA Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Foundation, formerly SWUA (Slovenian Women's Union of America) Scholarship Program, is pleased to have awarded 250 scholarships to young Slovenian students since its inception in 1949.

During 2008, SWUA Scholarships of \$1,000 and \$2,000 will again be available to college freshmen through seniors who have held membership in the Slovenian Women's Union since March 1, 2005.

Continuing Education Awards will be awarded to those adults who have been

out of school and plan to take classes at a college or a technical school in order to update their current skills, or enter a new profession.

Application forms are available at the website <http://www.swua.org> "scholarship." ALL materials required MUST be postmarked before March 1, 2008.

Gifts of any amount are tax deductible, most welcome, and can be sent to:

Mary Turvey, Director
Slovenian Women's Union
Scholarship Foundation
4 Lawrence Drive
Marquette, MI 49855

mturvey@aol.com

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Kolina at St. Mary's

Kolina, sponsored by the Slovenian Cultural Garden Association, will be held in the St. Mary (Holmes Ave.) parish hall on Tuesday, Feb. 5th. Rice, blood and fresh sausage dinners will be available in the hall from 5 - 8 p.m. and also for takeouts.

Cost for the dinner is \$12. Please reserve dinners by calling the rectory office at (216) 761-7740.

Confidence is that feeling by which the mind embarks on great and honorable courses with a sure hope and trust in itself. --Bob Mills

Spinach Rice Salad

1 c. Uncle Ben's converted rice
1 T. Soy sauce
2 c. Fresh spinach, cut into strips
1 c. Green onions, sliced
½ c. Italian salad dressing
½ tsp. Sugar
½ c. Celery, sliced
1/3 c. Crisp bacon, crumbled

Cook rice according to package directions. Transfer rice to a bowl and cool slightly. Combine dressing, soy sauce and sugar and stir into warm rice. Cover and chill. Before serving, fold in spinach, green onions, celery and bacon.

--Connie Kogovsek

Recipes from the Flock -

✂ Gorjanc-Kogovsek Family cookbook

Hillbilly Farmer Joke

An old hillbilly farmer had a wife who nagged him unmercifully. From morning until night, and sometimes later, she was always complaining about something. The only time he got any relief was when he was out plowing with his old mule. He did a lot of plowing.

One day, when he was plowing, his wife brought him lunch in the field. He drove the old mule into the shade, sat down on a stump, and began to eat his lunch. Immediately, his wife began haranguing him. Complain, nag, nag; it went on and on.

All of a sudden, the old mule lashed out with both hind feet; caught her smack in the back of the head. Killed her on the spot.

At the funeral, several

days later, the minister noticed something rather odd. When a woman mourner approached the old farmer, he would listen for a minute, then nod his head in agreement; but when a man mourner approached him, he would listen for a minute, then shake his head in disappointment. This was so consistent, the minister decided to ask the farmer about it.

The hillbilly farmer said, "Well, the women would come up and say something about how nice my wife looked, or how pretty her dress was, so I'd nod my head in agreement.

"And what about the men?" asked the minister.

"They all wanted to know if the mule was for sale."

--Frankie Mlakar

Wherever you are, it is your friends who make your world. --Tony Petkovsek

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Eddie Rodick Band Takes Top Polka Honors

by JOE VALENCIC

EUCLID, OH – The Eddie Rodick Band of Cleveland enjoyed a twin win for Polka Band of the Year and Polka Album of the Year at the 20th annual awards ceremony presented by the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame and Museum on Saturday, Nov. 24, 2007. Band member Kim Rodick was also named Best Vocalist, as voted by the membership of the Polka Hall of Fame. The all-star anniversary presentation was held at Euclid Auditorium in Euclid, Ohio before an audience of 800. The gala program was the high point of the annual Thanksgiving polka music weekend hosted by Cleveland radio personality Tony Petkovsek.

Instrumentalist Dick Flaisman of Cleveland and the late Detroit bandleader Gaylord Klancnik were inducted into the Polka Hall of Fame for lifetime achievement in polka music. Voters also designated two all-time hit songs, "Barking Dog Polka," a polka standard adapted from a Slovenian folk melody, and "Roses of Love," a waltz from Slovenia which became popular in North America in the 1960s and is still enjoyed today. Pittsburgh accordionist Sam Pugliano and Cleveland vocalist Cecilia Dolgan performed their definitive versions of each song, assisted by a quartet from the Zarja Singing Society, and singer Christine Hibbs.

The awards show reunited Polka Hall of Fame honorees from the past 20 years, including Canada's Polka King, Walter Ostanek, and Joey Miskulin, accordionist for the cowboy combo, Riders in the Sky. The stage orchestra was made up of several Hall-of-Famers, under the direction of bandleader Fred Ziwich, a trustee of the sponsoring organization, the American Slovenian Polka Foundation. The ceremony was recorded for a cable broadcast. A reception and polka dance at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Cleveland followed the program.

"The polka legends came out in force for our 20th anniversary spectacular," said Cecilia Dolgan, president of the National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame. "The music was incredible to hear. It was like having Frank Sinatra, Benny Goodman, and Elvis performing on the same stage."

"This was the best show yet," said Jack Videtich, a polka bandleader from Hesperia, Michigan. "I come here every year, but this was something special. There

was so much great polka music." Buses from Michigan, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Canada, brought polka fans to the event. Visitors attended from Australia and Europe, such as Jelse Vos, who hosts a Cleveland-style polka radio show in the Netherlands.

Orchestra leader Jeff Pecon was chosen Musician of the Year. Other winners were Ron Likovic for Button Accordionist; Ken Zalar and the Captain's Crew for Button Accordion Ensemble; Pittsburgh radio deejays Pam and Jerry Zagar for Support and Promotion; and Joe Valencic for Culture and Heritage. Three side musicians received awards: Chris Byndas, Hank Guzel, and John Ross. Kim Rodick was the featured singer on the Rodick Band's winning album, "Polka Sweethearts."

Trustees of the Polka Hall of Fame selected eight individuals for the organization's Honor Roll, in acknowledgement of their contributions to polka music: Pittsburgh bandleader and record producer Johnny Krizancic; Cleveland accordionist Frank Culkar; the late Slovenian-American community leader Jennie Zaman; Pennsylvania musician Bob Zgonc; and the late Joe and Millie Wojtila, who raised a family of seven Cleveland polka musicians.

Three founding trustees of the Polka Hall of Fame were also added to the Honor Roll: bandleader Joey Tom-

sick, polka historian Joe Valencic, and musician and radio host Denny Bucar.

The National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame was founded in 1987 by musicians and leaders of Slovenian and ethnic organizations. The museum traces the story of the city's home-grown sound from its roots in the old Slovenian neighborhoods to nationwide popularity with audio exhibits, historic photographs and original instruments, including an accordion belonging to Frank Yankovic, America's Polka King. The archive preserves 3,000 vintage recordings, some dating back to 1916. Each year, the organization's 1,500 members vote for top musicians and best album. In November, the Polka Hall of Fame's Awards Show ceremony celebrates this style of American dance music.

The Polka Hall of Fame and Museum is located at 605 E. 222 Street in Euclid, Ohio, in the historic former Euclid City Hall. Hours are Tuesday thru Friday, noon to 5, and on Saturdays, 10 to 3. Admission is free. Polka recordings are available in the museum store. As a non-profit organization, the Polka Hall of Fame and Museum relies on fundraising and memberships. For more information call (216) – FAME, toll-free (866) 66-POLKA, or check the website, www.clevelandstyle.com.



Left to right, Republic of Slovenia Consul Zvone Žigon, his wife, Irene Žigon, SNPJ vice president Dorothy Gorjup congratulate Polka Hall of Fame trustee Joe Valencic who was honored as a founder and for Slovenian cultural achievements in 2007. The event took place at Euclid High School on Saturday, Nov. 24.



Joey Miskulin, left, the Memphis, Tenn. Cow-Polka King, and Cecilia Dolgan, president of the Polka Hall of Fame, help Canada Polka King Walter Ostanek, find the right keys on his accordion (jokingly, of course).



Canada Polka King Walter Ostanek, left, Polka Varieties host Paul Wilcox, center, and Las Vegas polka entertainer Roman Possedi did their holiday shopping at the Polka Hall of Fame Gift shop (in background).

(Photos by JOE VALENCIC)



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St. Mary's Slovenian School (Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti) currently has 69 students in 6 groups; two grades per group, plus kindergarten and pre-K. The 2007-2008 staff includes teachers Kristina Sedmak, Maria Marsic, Ann Nemeč, Maria Sedmak, Bine Lampic and John Nemeč. Officers are: President: Susie Hamilton, Vice President: Maria Sedmak; Vice President: Mary Ann Krevh; Treasurer: Chris Dolinar, and Chris Vidmar; Recording Secretary: Cathy Clack;

Corresponding Secretary: Irene Druzina; Kitchen Manager: Marty Marsic; Event Concessions Manager: Frank Vidmar; and Representative to Slovenska Pristava Board: Rok Ribic.

On Nov. 2, 2007 - St. Mary's Auditorium stage with the Lake Bled backdrop made a perfect setting for this group photo. Can you guess what the kids were yelling when we took this picture? GOOSEBUMPS. - Do you see Father Kumse in the back row.

(Photo and text by PHIL HRVATIN)

Marija Sedmak	Adam Ribič	Stephanie Spetar
Matthew Knez	ADRIANA	Marija Rowane
Olivia Vidmar	RICHIE	Michelle Slatinska
Beth Ann Clack	Alexa Cesar	Claudia Krjncic
Billy Vidmar	NICOLE CINDRIC	Marina Dolinar
Rebecca Clack	Karolinca Cupar	Daniel Grabnar
Abigail Koerwitz	Fraser H	Claudia Winslett
Alex Cindric	Bridget Koerwitz	Savana Palomino
Samantha Winslett	Nada R.	Andrew Liptak
Joško Cerer	Juliana R.	Mateja
Sabrina Cerer	Justin Lampic	Anja Rowane
Rachel Krevh	Jillian	Micolas Ribic
Andreja Marsic	Rene Knez	Kati D.
Brianna Lant	Allison Cesar	Niko Marsic
Martin Spetar	Natalie	Alex Clack
Kana	MIA K.	Veronica Gek
	MIHA CERER	Mari Marsic
	ANDREW D.	Celeste Koerwitz
	Olivia Nemeč	Angela Gek
		Ashley Champa

Another Senior Joke

A Fort Lauderdale senior citizen drove his new Corvette out of the dealership. Taking off down the road, he roared it to 80 mph, enjoying the wind blowing through what little white hair he had left. "Amazing," he thought as he flew down I-75, pushing the pedal to the plastic.

Looking in his rear view mirror, he saw the highway patrol behind him, blue lights flashing and siren blaring. "I can get away from him - no problem" thought the elderly speedster as he floored it to 100 mph, then 110, then 120. Suddenly, he thought, "What am I doing?" and pulled over to the side and waited for the Trooper to catch up with him.

Pulling in behind him, the trooper walked up to the driver's side of the Corvette, looked at his watch and said, "Sir, my shift ends in 30 minutes. Today is Friday. If you can give me a good reason why you were speeding that I've never heard before, I'll let you go."

The man, looking very seriously at the trooper, said, "Years ago, my wife ran off with a Florida State Trooper. I thought you were bringing her back."

"Have a good day, sir," the Trooper said as he left.

--Michael Polutnik

Blagoslovljene božične praznike in srečno novo leto 2008!
Vam želijo otroci, starši in učitelji Slovenske šole pri sv. Mariji vnebovzeti.

Blessings to you at Christmas and Happy New Year 2008!
 from the students, parents and teachers from Slovenian School at St. Marys.

Maja Lampič	SAM MAJER	Marie Rukula	Nick Randlett
Gil Hamilton	Emma Vertosnik	Stephanie Rukula	Alex Rukula
Michael Liptak	Kristina Sedmak	James Nemeč	Louis Vertosnik
Lucy Vidmar	Bine Lampič	Matjaž Frank	Alex Vertosnik
Leah			

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– Vesti iz Slovenije –



Odstranitev mejnih zaprek je bil praznik – Na mejnih prehodih med Slovenijo in državama Avstrijo, Italijo in Madžarsko so 20./21. decembra praznovali odprtje meja. Na mejnem prehodu Karavanke sta 21. decembra uradno odstranila mejne zapreke zunanja ministra Slovenije Dimitrij Rupel in Avstrije Ursula Plassnik.

Izpod zvona Marije Vnebovzete

Nič se nisem oglasila pred lepimi božičnimi prazniki, ki so tako hitro minuli. Priprave so velike, dnevi pa hite v večnost. Malo pišeš, malo pospravljáš, malo kuhaš in dan mine, da strmiš, ko veš, da nisi vse dokončal kar si načrtoval. Prehitro je odšel mesec december in že smo v januarju, v Novem letu 2008, katerega želim vsem, da bi ostal v lepem spominu vsem, ki ga bodo preživeli.

Ko pogledam nazaj v začetek decembra, moram povedati, da je bilo na Miklavževem večeru zelo prijazno. Otroci slovenske šole so lepo izpeljali novo igrico, polna dvorana otrok in staršev se jim je zahvalila z burnim ploskanjem. Hvala vsem za vse učljivost, tako otrokom kot učiteljstvu in staršem.

Tudi sveti večer, ki se je začel z otroško sv. mašo, je bil lepo obiskan in doživet. Otroci slovenske šole in veroučne ure so podali žive jaslice. Zopet nekaj novega in lepo doživetega. Hvala vsem.

Lepo okrašena cerkev z belimi in rdečimi poinsetijami nas je bolj približala k jaslicam in navdušila za božični sprejem Novorojenega Deteta. Pevski zbor nas je tudi zbližal, da smo še v klopeh pomagali z našimi glasovi, kot pastirji na betlehemskih poljanah.

Vsako leto na novo doživljamo te svete dneve in si mislimo, kako bo lepo v ne-besih. Hvala vsem za duhovno lepoto kot tudi g. župniku.

Na praznik Nedolžnih otročičev je bil v naši cerkvi koncert izbranih božičnih pesmi, katere je prepeval svetovidski zbor v lepo zasedeni cerkvi. Po koncertu so se ustavili pevci in poslušalci v župnijski dvorani na klepet in dobro voljo.

Stopili smo v Novo leto in si voščili srečo, zdravje in blagoslov. Prva nedelja je bila zopet oddana za Oltarno društvo, tako deseta sv. maša kot popoldanska molitev. Po molitvi je bil sprejem nove članice, blagoslov in nato sestanek z božičnico. Na tem sestanku so bila poročila odbora in tudi občni zbor, ki pa ni prinesel nič novega, vse je ostalo po starem. Veselo smo sprejele novo članico, pozdravljena med nami!

V nedeljo, 13. januarja, je bilo zopet slovesno v naši župniji. Sv. maša ob enajstih je bila zelo lepo obiskana, nato je bilo kosilo v župnijski dvorani in tudi zažig bančnega "mortgage" papir za župnijsko dvorano, ki je bilo že izplačano. Nov korak za uspešno leto!

Na nedeljo, 20. januarja, je bilo kosilo v pomoč Slovenski šoli.

Jesenske parlamentarne volitve že močno skrbijo vladno koalicijo

Najpomembnejši dogodek v Sloveniji v letu 2008 bodo državnozbornske volitve jeseni, piše v tržaškem *Novem glasu* Marjan Drobež. Vlada je zaskrbljena in očitno tudi razočarana, ker njen ugled kljub gospodarskemu razvoju in drugim uspehom upada. Premier Janez Janša napoveduje, da si bo vlada v obdobju do volitev predvsem prizadevala za odpravo velikih socialnih razlik in drugih krivic, ki bremenijo čedalje več Slovencev. Novih projektov vlada ne bo sprejemala, ker naj bi bil njen namen predvsem zagotavljanje blaginje v okviru socialne države.

Odgovorni urednik ne-strankarske revije *Svobodna misel*, pisatelj Vladimir Kavčič, je zapisal, da se z inflacijo, za katero se vlada po njegovem ne čuti odgovorna, hitro povečuje revščino, vodje in nadzorniki gospodarskih družb pa lahko v enem letu zaslužijo celo tisoč delavskih plač.

Statistika sicer dokazuje, da je inflacijska stopnja v Sloveniji v zadnjem času kar na vrhu lestvice vseh držav-članic Evropske unije.

Na prvi petek in soboto v februarju bo zopet delanje krofov in prodaja peciva. V petek, 1. feb., bodo na razpolago po tretji uri v župnijski dvorani, v soboto pa že od sedme ure naprej. To je že v predpustu.

V soboto, 2. februarja, je tudi Svečnica in 50 let, kar je bila naša cerkev Marije Vnebovzete posvečena. Za to priliko bo med nami clevelandski škof Richard G. Lennon. Vsi župljani in prijatelji naše župnije smo prav lepo povabljeni, da se udeležimo sv. maše ob 5. uri popoldne za Svečnico. Pridite, pokažimo našemu škofu, da imamo radi našo slovensko cerkev, kjer častimo našega Odrešenika v tabernaklju—Jezusa in tudi našo Nebeško mater Marijo, ki krasi oltarno steno. Pridite!

Lavriševa

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

"Pristavska noč"—

Tradicionalen ples in zabava "Pristavska noč" bo to soboto, 26. jan., v SND na St. Clair Ave. Začetek ob 6h zv. in večerja ob 7. uri. Za ples in zabavo bo poskrbel ansambel Staneta Mejača. Za rezervacijo, pokličite Elizabeto Žalik na 440-537-1941. Lepo vabljeni!

Upokojenci Slov. pristave—

Klub upokojencev Slovenske pristave ima svoj mesečni sestanek v sredo, 30. januarja, pop. ob 1.30 v Slov. domu na Holmes Ave. Članstvo lepo vabljeno.

Prodaja krofov in peciva—

Oltarno društvo fare Marije Vnebovzete bo imelo prodajo krofov in peciva v petek pop. in soboto dop., 1. in 2. februarja. Poslužite se te prilike!

Maškarada—

Ta bo v soboto, 2. februarja, takoj po sv. maši ob 5. uri v župnijski dvorani pri Mariji Vnebovzeti. Vstopnice za večerjo/ples so \$20. Za rezervacije miz ali posamezno, kličite župnišče na 216-761-7740. Veseli godci bodo igrali za ples in zabavo. Clevelandski škof Lennon bo gost za večerjo.

Večerja s kolinami—

Ta bo na pustni torek, 5. februarja, v župnijski dvorani pri Mariji Vnebovzeti. Riževe ali krvavice in pečenice bodo servirali v dvorani od 5. do 8. zvečer. Večerjo lahko tudi vzamete domov. Cena je \$12. Naprošeni ste, da rezervirate večerjo, zato kličite župnišče na 216-761-7740.

Slovensko državljanstvo—

To soboto dop. ob 11. uri bo srečanje v prostorih srednje šole St. Martin de Porres za tiste, ki bi se zanimali za pridobitev slovenskega državljanstva. Ista možnost informiranja bo tudi to nedeljo v mali župnijski dvorani pri Mariji Vnebovzeti in sicer ob 11. uri, po deseti sv. maši. O tem smo obširneje poročali v prejšnji AD.

Koncert in branje poezije—

Generalni konzulat RSlovenije vabi na koncert in branje poezije ob slovenskem mesecu kulture v soboto, 9. februarja, ob 7. uri zv. v SND na St. Clair Ave. Sodelovala bosta pevski zbor Korotan in Johnny Sršen s prijatelji. Prost vstop. Več v dopisu na str. 12.

Sedaj v domu za ostarele—

Ga. Albina Pozelnik je bila premeščena od Euclidске bolnišnice v Slovenski dom za ostarele na Neff Rd. Obiski in telefonski klici niso dovoljeni.

Naši dobrotniki—

Folklorna skupina Kres nam je podarila \$50. Mimi Hocevar, Chardon, O., je darovala \$25. Ga. Margaret in g. Greg Kalina, Goddard, Kansas, sta darovala \$25, v spomin na Stanley in Molly Frank. Ga. Marija Hocevar, Willowick, O., je darovala \$20, v spomin moža Matije. Dr. Edi in ga. Milena Gobet, Willoughby Hills, O., sta poklonila \$30. G. Anton in ga. Maria Koželj, Gates Mills, O., sta darovala \$35, v spomin pok. Smoličevih in Koželjevih. Hvala vsem!

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Novi grobovi

Alojzija Rutar

Umrla je 71 let stara Alojzija Rutar, rojena Kranjc, iz Euclida, vdova po Josephu, mati Dan-a, sestra Lillian Slavec, Marte Bizjak (Slov.), 8 bratov in sestra je že pok. Pogreb je bil 22. januarja v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda na Chardon Rd. s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Vida s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Franc Kovačič

Umril je 88 let stari Franc Kovačič iz Euclida, brat Marije, v Sloveniji pa Staneta ter že pok. Pavle Stanek, dolgoletni član pevskega zbora Korotan, dolgoletni tajnik-blagajnik Slovenske Čitalnice v SND na St. Clariju, dolgoletni tajnik društva Novi Dom št 7. AMLA. Pogreb je bil 10. januarja v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Vida in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Štefanija Rožman

Umrla je 97 let stara Štefanija Rožman, rojena Laterner, vdova po Franku Rožmanu in Williamu Kaps, mati Marie Heckaman, Jožeta in Ivana Kaps ter že pok. Anice Hribernik, 8-krat stara mati, 10-krat prastara mati, 7 bratov in sestra je že pok. Pogreb je bil 15. januarja s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete s pokopom na pokopališču sv. Teodozije. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojničin spomin Slovene Home for the Aged Foundation.

Prof. dr. Edi Gobec

Strategija lažne zastave

eden glavnih razlogov, zakaj v Sloveniji še vedno marsikaj je, kot je

WILLOUGHBY HILLS, O. – Ali ni "ljudska demokracija" privlačno ime? Kakšna pa naj končno bo, če ne ljudska? Že etimološka razlaga besede pomeni vlado ljudstva. Lincoln je demokracijo mojstrsko definiral kot vlado iz ljudstva, po ljudstvu in za ljudstvo!

A kaj nam pove Slovar znanstvenega komunizma (*A Dictionary of Scientific Communism*, Progress Publishers, Moskva, 1980)? Na strani 174 razloži ljudsko demokracijo kot "obliko diktature proletariata, ustanovljene v več evropskih in azijskih deželah kot rezultat ljudskih demokratičnih revolucij v 1940ih, ki so se razvile v socialistične revolucije". Skratka, ljudska demokracija je celo po takrat še uradnem marksističnem slovarju v resnici diktatura proletariata, to se pravi diktature manjšinske (!) "avantgarde" komunistične stranke, ki s pomočjo laži, terorja, kraje ("nacionalizacije"), podkupovanja, ustrahovanja in zavajanja prevzame kar najbolj absolutne oblasti.

Seveda tudi marksizem in po njem spočet komunizem, vključ vseh bahariji, ni bil nikdar znanstven, saj je bil od vsega začetka poln protislovij, neresnic, prevar in samoprevar, pa izjemno krutege nasilja, ki je dosledno preprečevalo vsako znanstveno razpravljanje in preverjanje. Skoraj nobena Marxova napoved se ni izpolnila in zanimivo je, da ta "največji ekonom v zgodovini človeštva" ni bil nikdar zmožen s pošteno gospodarsko dejavnostjo preživljati niti samega sebe in svoje družine. Seveda je kot zagrižen "rdeči Prus" zelo zaničeval Slované in se je prej ali slej spopadel tudi z vsemi sodelavci, z izjemo zvestega kapitalista (!)

Engelsa, ki ga je nujno rabil za preživetje.

V dolgem nizu prevar igra odločilno vlogo Marxova strategija lažne zastave. Že *Manifest komunistične partije*, prvič izdan v nemščini v Londonu februarja 1848, pove, da bo revolucija dvignila proletariata na položaj vladajočega razreda in vzpostavitev demokracije. Vendar vlada enega samega socialnega razreda nad vsemi drugimi nikdar ne more biti demokratična, ampak je spet popolno nasprotje demokracije, torej diktatura!

V revolucionarnem letu 1848, ko se je Marx lahko spet začasno vrnil na Prusko, je 1. junija pod njegovim uredništvom izšla prva številka časopisa *Neue Rheinische Zeitung*. Kot urednik je Marx prepovedal kakršno koli propagiranje komunističnega ali socialističnega programa in celo omembo teh besed, ker je vedel, da bi tako povsem odbil finančne mecene lista in čitatelje. Svoj časopis je ta dosledni načrtovalec diktature že v podnaslovu predstavljal kot "organ demokracije", kakih 300 premaskiranih ali preoblečenih komunistov pa se je vrnilo v demokratična društva in skušalo s svojo navidezno zavzetostjo za "demokracijo" dobiti v njih odločilni vpliv in premoč. Marx sam je postal predsednik svojega "Demokratičnega kluba", dva njegova pomočnika pa predsednika še dveh delavskih "demokratičnih" društev. Kot je zapisal Engels, če bi bili takrat odkrili en sam izvod *Komunističnega manifesta*, bi bilo časopisa in infiltracije konec. (Vidi Leopold Schwarzschild, *The Red Prussian*, 1947, strani 160, 180-216).

Od začetka komunistične agitacije do padca komunizma in še v postko-

munistični "tranziciji" smo tako priča Marxovi strategiji lažne zastave. Treba je vedno postati praporščak tiste zastave, ki v določenem času najbolj pritegne, pa povsem skriti svoje resnične namene. Tako strategiji diktature proletariata, ki je lažna zastava za diktaturo komunistične partije, nastopajo v imenu demokracije. Revolucija se skriva za zastavo enakosti, delavskih pravic ali po potrebi "osvobodilne fronte" in partijska diktatura pod zastavo ljudske demokracije. Največje trobilo sovjetskih partijskih laži se je skrilo pod ime *Pravda* (Resnica) in ljudje, ki neprestano lažejo in zavajajo, radi govorijo in pišejo o svoji resnici.

V času, ko postane jasno, da se partija ne more več obdržati na oblasti in so nujno potrebne temeljite reforme, se komunisti pojavijo na čelu reform, ki so jih s svojo diktaturo najbolj in najdalje preprečevali. Če ljudje mislijo, da je preveč strank, ki se med sabo prerekajo, poskusijo z novo zastavo "Združene liste", sopotnikom pa ponudijo še liberlano (namesto "ljudsko") demokracijo, s preizkušenim vodilnim komunistom na čelu.

Glavnega izvajalca strankine strategije in "politike", bivšega generalnega tajnika te stranke Gregorja Golobiča pa je strankin ideolog dr. Slavoj Žižek v reviji *The New Yorker*, 5. maja 2003, pod naslovom "The Marx Brother", na strani 43 takole predstavil: "On je moj najboljši prijatelj! Ljubim ga! (I love him!) ... On je bodoči slovenski Stalin." Točno tako, ZARES! Seveda so za komuniste, ali "Marxove brate", ljudje drugačnih ali celo nasprotnih prepričanj vsega zaničevanja vredni fašisti. O Plečnikovem tromostovju Žižek zaničljivo pove: "Te mostove je v 1930ih načrtoval fašistični arhitekt". To je bil seveda mednarodno priznani in spoštovani Jožef Plečnik, ki pod komunizmom "s človeškim obrazom" ni smel na Dunaj po zlato diplomu, ker so se tovariši bali, da ne bi

Generalni konzulat Republike Slovenije v Clevelandu pripravlja v februarju, slovenskem mesecu kulture,

KONCERT in branje poezije

v izvedbi pevskega zbora Korotan in častnih konzulov različnih držav iz Clevelanda.

Ker Slovenija v tem času predseduje Evropski uniji, bodo v kulturnem programu sodelovali tudi clevelandski častni konzuli držav članic Evropske unije in nekaterih drugih držav – Madžarske, Litve, Nemčije, Velike Britanije, Italije, Nizozemske, Danske, Švedske, Švice, Srbije in še kdo.

Nastopajočim se bo pridružil tudi Johnny Sršen s prijatelji.

Program bo tudi letos povezoval generalni konzul dr. Zvone Žigon.

Prireditev bo v soboto, 9. februarja, ob 7. uri zvečer v Slovenskem narodnem domu na St. Clair Ave.

PROST VSTOP, po koncertu možnost osvežitve v baru.

njihov nesomišljenik za-blestel v Evropi, prav kot se tudi danes bojijo uspeha demokratično izvoljene slovenske vlade ob predsedovanju Evropski zvezi, ko bi lahko naša skupna domovina Slovenija blestela kot zlepa še nikdar doslej.

Seveda pride po potrebi prav tudi marsikak drugi strankarski, nestrankski ali nadstrankarski prapor, ob zamolčanju ali zaobračanju dejstev, ki bi bila neugodna za komuniste in njih idejne dediče ali ugodna za nesomišljenike ali nasprotnike istih. Če je dovoljena vsaka laž in prevara in nam ni prav nič mar slovenski ugled v svetu, kaj je potem lažjega, kot dosedanji cenzorjem in privilegirancem kričati pred nepoučenim svetom "Primate tatu!" in obtoževati svojih grehov nesomišljenike, ki so v zadnjih časih vsaj nekoliko prodrli v močnejše medije in lahko – groza vseh groz – občasno celo oporekajo dosedanji cenzorjem, "vojščakom revolucije" in njihovim naraščajnikom ali zapeljancem! Lahko je gnusno, nikakor pa ni nemogoče, da tisti, ki so sodržavljaniom tako dolgo kratili najbolj osnovne človeške pravice, dvignejo tudi la-

žno zastavo borbe in borcev za človeške pravice!

Kdor ne razume Marxove strategije lažne zastave, bo tej ali oni komunistični zastavi zlahka nasedel in partiji ali "bivši" partiji, njih idejni dediči in prilagodljivi ali preplašeni oportunistični sodelavci ga bojo izkoristili za svojo oblast in politično preživetje ali ga vsaj potisnili v podrejenost, zatišje, otopelost, neaktivnost ali drugorazrednost. Nič čudnega, če se po desetletjih pojavljajo znaki družbene odtujitve ali alienacije, politične utrujenosti, nemoči ali malodušja.

Saj so vsi enaki, nam prišepetavajo iz več strani! (Ali je res rabelj enak kot pošten politični zapornik, odločen bореc za slovensko samostojnost enak kot bojzljivec ali nasprotnik slovenskih pravic?) Naj počnejo, kar hočejo, jaz se v to umazano politiko ne bom vtikal. Tudi volit ne grem! In prav ostane marsikaj po starem. (Post)komunisti, ki so še pred desetletji pod varstvom zloglasnega Ivana Mačka tako odločno zahtevali "ideološko čistost" v šolah in medijih, ostajajo mojstri diskvalifikacije in likvidacije nezaželenih posame-

(DALJE na str. 13)

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Slovenska palma na Floridi

Slovenci in simpatizerji slovenske kulture se na Floridi srečujejo povprečno štirikrat letno. Pogovarjali smo se s predsednikom tamkajšnjega društva Slovenska palma Silvestrom Subotnjčkim.

LUCIJA HORVAT

Demokracija (30. XII. 2007)

Kdaj je bila ustanovljeno društvo Slovenska palma?

Društvo Slovenska palma je bilo ustanovljeno avgusta 2004 na Floridi. Povezuje Slovence, ki živijo v ZDA, predvsem na Floridi. Glavni cilj društva je ohranjanje slovenske identitete s pomočjo kulture in slovenskega jezika. Prvo uradno srečanje društva je bilo 6. novembra 2004 v Fort Lauderdaleu na Floridi. Srečanja se je udeležilo več kot osemdeset Slovencev in prijateljev slovenske kulture iz Orlanda, Naplesa ter seveda West Palm Beacha in Miamijsa.

Koliko članov ima vaše društvo? So to Slovenci, ki so se priselili iz Slovenije ali pa so to že potomci izseljencev? Kako je z njihovo slovenščino?

V društvu nimamo članstva, vsak posamezni, popotnik ali prijatelj Američan, ki ga zanima naša kultura in jezik, je več kot dobrodošel na naših srečanjih. Naše društvo deluje bolj po e-po-



šti, saj imamo več kot 1500 naročnikov po širnem svetu in jih obveščamo enkrat ali dvakrat mesečno prek naših Palma novic v slovenskem in angleškem jeziku.

Na srečanjih nas obiščejo Slovenci z vseh koncev Amerike, tudi posamezniki iz Slovenije; teh je zadnja leta čedalje več na oddihu pri nas. Na Floridi so poleg nas še tri slovenska društva in pripadajo SNPJ. Večina članov je že druge ali tretje generacije in na žalost ne govorijo več slovensko. Z vsemi sodluje mo, oni nam poživijo večer z glasbo, mi pa jih učimo slovensko.

Naše društvo deluje že tretje leto in v njem smo posamezniki, ki smo prišli v Ameriko pred 10

ali 15 leti. Večina nas je študirala v ameriških univerzah in šolah ter smo samostojni podjetniki.

Kako deluje potujoča knjižnica, pevski zbor in ali že imate spletno stran za učenje slovenščine?

Veliko som se pogovarjali, da bi si poiskali svoje prostore, kjer bi se redno srečevali. Na žalost smo Slovenci razkropljeni po vsej Floridi in je zelo težko, da bi se tedensko ali mesečno srečevali, zato smo to misel opustili. Razdalje so namreč prevelike.

Iz istega razloga smo opustili tudi misel na pevski zbor. Naj omenim, da imamo kar nekaj članov, ki se poklicno ukvarjajo s petjem in z zborovsko glasbo.

Zelo pomembno je omeniti, da naše društvo deluje na prostovoljni podlagi. Vsi, ki smo v odboru, imamo svoje družinske in delovne obveznosti, društvu pa posvetimo čas, ki nam preostaja. Če ne bi dobivali finančne podpore Urada vlade RS za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu, bi že zdavnaj zaprli svoja vrata.

S poučevanjem slovenščine po internetu pa bomo po vsej verjetnosti za-

čeli z novim letom. Na policah imamo več kot 450 knjig v slovenščini in angleščini, ki so nam jih podarili posamezniki, Slovenci iz Amerike in Slovenije. Te dni, pred novim letom, bomo končali popis in predstavili svojo zbirko v novicah na naši spletni strani. Knjige bodo na voljo za izposojlo.

Kakšno je življenje v Ameriki za Slovence? S kakšnimi težavami oziroma prednostmi se soočajo pri ohranjanju slovenske identitete?

Amerika je odprta dežela, vse je odvisno od tega, kako dobro se znajdeš. Skoraj v vsaki zvezni državi obstaja kakšno slovensko društvo, kjer ohranjajo slovensko identiteto in običaje. Še posebej je treba omeniti, da je Slovenija veliko bolj poskrbela za Slovence po svetu, odkar je nova vlada, kar je največji napredek do sedaj.

Kakšni so vaši prihodnji projekti, ki jih morda načrtujete?

Prihodnje leto (tj. 2008) bomo imeli štiri srečanja: praznovali bomo državni praznik Prešernov dan, v maju nas bo kot vsako leto obiskala skupina študentov z Visoke šole za turizem iz Portoroža, ki pridejo na strokovno ekskurzijo. Skupaj z njimi bomo organizirali piknik.

Poleti bolj počivamo, ker nas je premalo, zelo smo namreč odvisni od Slovencev s severa, ki preživljajo zime na Floridi, doma pa so iz Chicaga in Clevelanda, New Yorka, celo iz Kanade. Takšnih je ogromno, večinoma pa so upokojenci in so naseljeni na zahodni strani Floride, 3 do 5 ur vožnje iz Miamijsa.

Obletnico društva bomo praznovali v novembru, decembra pa ji bo sledilo božično srečanje za naše najmlajše.

Prosila bi vas, da bi napisali nekaj o vašem zadnjem srečanju – koliko je bilo udeležencev in kakšen je bil program?

Naše zadnje srečanje je potekalo ob obisku slovenske vinske kraljice Maje Benčina na Floridi, ki je k nam prišla na naše povabilo. Spremljal jo je Damjan Končnik. Namen srečanja je bila predstavitev slovenske kulinarike ter širjenje slovenske kulture in jezika.

(DALJE na str. 15)

Strategija lažne zastave

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

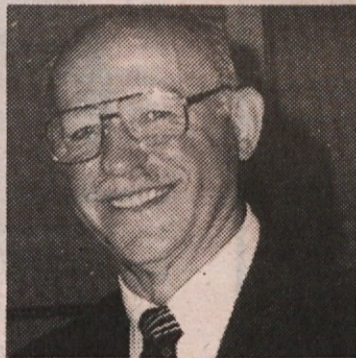
znikov, strank in družb, ki jih dosledno, naravnost ali zakulisno, skušajo osramotiti, ponižati in zrušiti, kadar koli resneje ogrožajo njihovo (nad)oblast. Se še spomnite spretno koordiniranih političnih in medijskih linčanj četvorice z Janšo na čelu v letu 1988, pa dr. Pučnika in Demosa, spet Janše, Peterleta, dr. Bajuka, dr. Rodeta (ki je bil "kazensko premeščen" v Vatikan in začuda potem povišan v kardinala!) in spet Janše in njegove sedanje vlade.

Čeprav na zunaj ni več komunistične partije in so partijske izkaznice iz previdnosti baje zamrznjene, ne smemo pozabiti, da preoblečeni komunisti in njih idejni dediči še vedno spretno in žal mnogokrat zelo uspešno uporabljajo strategijo lažne zastave. In jo bojo, vse dokler ne bomo v dovolj velikem številu spregledali in napravili konec prevaram.

(Ta dopis je pisec, sicer zaslužni profesor sociologije in socialne psihologije, KSU, ZDA, v decembru 2007 razposlal več uredništvom slovenskih listov v Sloveniji, zamejstvu in izseljenstvu.)

V BLAG SPOMIN

ob deveti obletnici smrti našega ljubega moža, očeta, starega očeta, brata, svaka in strica



MATIJA HOČEVAR

ki nas je prezgodaj zapustil 29. januarja 1999.

Dragi mož in ata, rahla zemlja naj Te krije, luč nebeška naj Ti sije.

Saj Jezus nas tako uči, da vid'no se nad zvezdami, kjer skupaj bomo srečni vekomaj!

Žalujoči:

Marija, žena
Nena in Marjanca, hčeri
Toni in David, sinova
Livia, snaha
Richard Trivisonno, zet

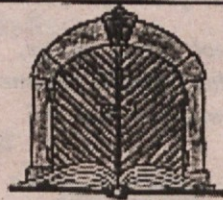
Tonč, Edi, Anton, Kristopher, Andreja in Richard, vnuki, brat, sestre in ostalo sorodstvo v Ameriki, Kanadi in Sloveniji.

...Rad bi prodal svojo
NEPREMIČNINO V
SLOVENIJI, ampak kako ?

Mi vam bomo pomagali, da prodate svojo nepremičnino

- Zemlja-parcela, hiša, stanovanje
- Apartma, kmetija, počitniška hiša

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Bivši veleposlanik Slovenije v Vatikanu dr. Karel Bonutti – Intervju

DRUGI DEL – KONEC

(Prvi del je bil objavljen 10. januarja)

VEČER, Maribor, 17. XI. 2007

Akademsko življenje v Fribourgu mi je ostalo v prijetnem spominu. Ob študiju sem se preživljal kot asistent na privatni gimnaziji, ki so jo vodili francoski marianisti za plemiče in otroke bogatih industrialcev iz Francije, Švice, Španije, Nemčije...

Skrbel sem za disciplino skupine mladih, med katerimi je bil tudi Juan Carlos de Bourbon, sedanji španski kralj. Ves čas je imel svojega inštruktorja, španskega filozofa, francoščino pa je znal bolje kot španščino.

Ko je Franco dosegel sporazum z bivšim španskim kraljem, da ne bo dal prestola očetu, ampak sinu Carlosu, se je moral ta takoj vrniti v Španijo in se vpisati v vojaško šolo pod strogim nadzorom generala Franca. S španskim kraljem sva se kasneje nekajkrat srečala, nazadnje v Rimu leta 2001.

Ste šli tudi v Ameriko prepričani, da je to le začasna rešitev?

Tudi. Najprej v New Yorku, kjer je obljubljen

zaposlitev zvođenela, zato je bilo življenje v New Yorku zlasti za ženo, ki je pričakovala prvega otroka, neznosno. Odločila sva se, da odideva v največjo slovensko naselbino v Ameriki, Cleveland.

Ponoči sem delal v tovarni, podnevi, če je ob družini šlo, ukradel nekaj ur spanja, zvečer pa študiral ekonomijo na Case Western University. Po končanem magistrskem študiju sem poučeval na kolidžu, po nekaj letih pa sem dobil z doktoratom na novoustanovljeni državni univerzi Cleveland State University mesto asistenta. Tako se je začela moja univerzitetna kariera asistenta, docenta do rednega profesorja ekonomije.

V tem času ste navezali izjemno dobre stike s Slovenijo.

Na začetku osemdesetih se je opazilo, da se razmere v Sloveniji spreminjajo in da so mladi Slovenci, intelektualci, zlasti oni, ki so se izobražili v tujini, po vrnitvi začeli pospeševati demokratizacijo. Menil sem, da bi jim bilo pametno kakorkoli pomagati.

Ko je prišel za jugoslovanskega konzula v Cleveland Ivo Vajgl, ki je imel posluh za stike s

Slovenci ne glede na njihovo barvo, sem z njegovo pomočjo vzpostavil tesne vezi z ljubljansko univerzo, saj je bilo akademsko povezovanje še najprimernejše.

Hkrati ko je postal župan Clevelanda George Voinovich, od matere vzgojen v slovenskem duhu, sem postal še njegov asistent, odgovoren tudi za sprejeme jugoslovanskih veljakov na uradnih obiskih v Ameriki.

Med drugim se spominjam prihoda nadškofa Šuštarja, ko smo na vrh mestne hiše ob ameriški zastavi namesto jugoslovanske obesili slovensko brez zvezde. To je povzročilo veliko razburjenja na konzulatu, ki je zaradi zastave interveniral pri State Departmentu.

Veste, v Clevelandu tudi staronaseljenci s pozitivnim odnosom do tedanje Jugoslavije niso hoteli imeti v narodnih domovih zastave z zvezdo.

To je povzročalo težave. France Popit ob nekem obisku pri nas sploh ni maral v narodni dom, ker na zastavi ni bilo zvezde.

V času generalnega konzula Vajgla so se stvari v Sloveniji že močno spremenile in z njim smo uresničili lepo število projektov, najpomembnejše pa je bilo to, da smo vsestransko razvili stike z ljubljansko in deloma tudi z mariborsko

univerzo. Ko je postala Slovenija

Pri vas na clevelandski univerzi se je šolal in predaval kar dobršen del slovenskih intelektualcev.

Med drugimi so predavali Dimitrij Rupel, Rado Bohinc, Marjan Senjur, Peter Vodopivec, Dušan Mramor ... Pri nas je doktoriral Vlado Dimovski, magistrirala Metka Tekavčič.

Najuspešnejši je bil program v marketingu in tržni ekonomiji, urejen za treniranje mladih poslovnih slovenskih podjetij na clevelandski univerzi, pobudo pa je dal dr. Rado Bohinc. Med udeleženci s kasnejšimi vodilnimi položaji v slovenskem gospodarstvu naj omenim Draška Veselinoviča, ustanovitelja slovenske borze, bančnega eksperta Andreja Hazabenta in druge.

Kako je na te stike gledala slovenska begunska skupnost?

Del te skupnosti ni odobral takih in podobnih stikov s Slovenijo. Za njih sem postal sopotnik enoumja. Ko pa sem bil leta 1998 imenovan za slovenskega veleposlanika v Vatikanu, je postala gonja proti mojemu imenovanju skoraj histerična.

Začeli so pisati obremenilna pisma, tako da sem bil prisiljen obvestiti predsednike večjih slovenskih organizacij in dobrotelnih zvez, ki so nato poslali svojo oceno mojega delovanja zunanjemu ministrstvu.

neodvisna, a je ZDA še niso uradno priznale, sem za obisk tedanjega predsednika vlade Lojzeta Peterleta in zunanjega ministra Rupla v Clevelandu organiziral častni sprejem s policijskim spremstvom, kot da bi že bili priznani od ameriške vlade.

Določena begunska skupina, ki pa ni marala sodelovati pri uradnem sprejemu, je organizirala svoj sprejem, tako da je nekaj sto uradnih predstavnikov vseh slovenskih organizacij čakalo uro in pol, preden se je javil zunanji minister, ki je s tem omilil neprijetno ozračje med povabljeni.

Kljub takšnemu odporu sem za ta del begunske skupnosti uredil na clevelandski univerzi njihov slovenski radijski program in nato še program na državnem radijskem omrežju.

Toda danes so ti konflikti najbrž izgubili ostrino?

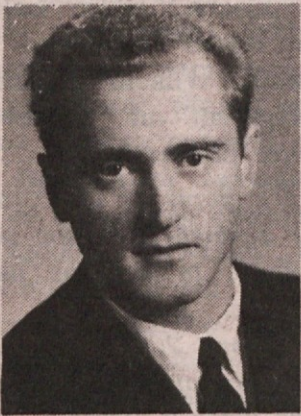
Malo so omiljeni, a ne moremo pričakovati, da bi ljudje, ki so tako zagrenjeni, ker so izgubili svojece v med- in povojnih pobojih, spremenili svoje mnenje.

O kardinalu Rodetu in Peterletovem porazu

Po čigavi zaslugi ste postali veleposlanik v Vatikanu?

(DALJE na str. 15)

V ljubeč in nepozaben spomin Ob 34. obletnici



IVAN CUGELJ

Umrl 21. januarja 1974

Na nebu noč zvezde prižge,
v vetru vrhovi smrek zašume,
v grobu temačnem naš Ati
leži,
v srcih pa naših zanj lučka
gori.

Vечно samo Tvoji žalujoči:
Žena Minka Cugelj
rojena Blatnik
Sin Ivan in žena Debbie
Hčerka Marija z družino
V Sloveniji bratje in sestre
ter ostalo sorodstvo.

Cleveland, Ohio, 24. januarja 2008.

V BLAG SPOMIN

Obletnice smrti naših dragih staršev in brata



JOHN KOŠIR

ki je umrl
6. januarja 1998

Mnogo let vas zemlja krije,
v temnem grobu mirno spite.
Nam pa žalost srca trga,
solze rosijo nam oči.
Dom je prazen in otožen,
odkar vas več med nami ni.

Žalujoči:

John, Frank, Angela in Vida z družinami
in ostali sorodniki v Ameriki in Sloveniji.



IVANA KOŠIR

ki je umrla
28. decembra 1993



MIRKO KOŠIR

ki je umrl
27. januarja 1971
v Žireh, Slovenija

V raju prosite zdaj Boga,
da raj nebeški nam da,
kjer bomo spet združeni,
veselje večno uživali.



MARY ŠEMEN

ki je umrla 24. jan. 1990.

Preteklo osemnajst let je že,
ko hladna zemlja krije Te.
Sedaj vse prazno je pri nas,
Tvoj se več ne sliši glas.

Oh, grenko je spoznanje to,
da Te med nami več ne bo;
čeprav v hladnem grobu spiš,
v srcih naših še živiš.

Žalujoči:

Janez, mož
Dori in Janez Tominc,
Maria in Barbara, hčerke
Janez sin; Maryann, snaha
Vinko, brat,
ter ostalo sorodstvo
v Clevelandu in Sloveniji

Dr. Karel Bonutti – Intervju

(NADALJEVANJE S STR. 14)

Predlagal me je takratni predsednik Slovenske ljudske stranke. Podporo sem prejel tudi od takratnega namestnika zunanjega ministra Iva Vajgla, veleposlanika Ernesta Petriča, Dimitrija Rupla in drugih znancev.

Kako pa je reagiral tedanji ljubljanski nadškof Rode?

Mislim, da nisem bil njegov kandidat, vendar ni imel večjih ugovorov.

Kakšni so bili vaši stiki z njim?

Formalni.

Kako gledate na Rodetovo kariero?

Kardinal Rode je karierni duhovnik, odličen poznavalec notranjosti vatikanske kurije, saj je tam deloval kar nekaj let kot pomočnika kardinala Pouparda. Ko ga je pokojni papež Janez Pavel II. imenoval za prefekta kongregacije redovnikov, je bilo jasno, da bo postal kardinal, saj so prefekti kongregacij vsi kardinali. Formalno, protokolarno okolje Vatikana prija kardinalu Rodetu; francoski škofi in kardinali občudujejo njegovo odlično francoščino.

Je Rodetovo stališče vplivalo na to, da škofa Rožmana niso prenesli v Slovenijo?

Kardinal Sodano je prepustil odločitev ljubljanski škofiji. Morda bi bilo tudi modro, da bi najprej prenesli posmrtno ostanke. Če bi to storili, ko je bilo še živih veliko ljudi, ki se spomnijo škofa Rožmana in tega, kar je naredil med vojno za pomoč ljudem v stiski, bi bilo to ogromen korak.

Ste bili v zadnjem času s Kučanom kaj v stiku?

Ne, zadnjič sva se srečala na sprejemu pri apostolskem nunciju predlani.

Je bilo po vašem to, kar se je v zadnjem času dogajalo s primerom Rožman, v funkciji volilnega boja?

Ne vem, ker mi ni znano ozadje objavljene diplomatske korespondence.

Kaj pa razveljavitev sodnega procesa proti Rožmanu in vrnitev v ponovno sojenje, ki je padla v volilni čas?

Mislim, da je bilo to naključje. Nekateri trdijo,

da imajo dokaze, da je bil Rožman kolaborant. Sam mislim, da bi, če bi bil kriv takšnega kolaborantstva, dobil veliko več zapora ali pa celo usmrtitev. Če so mu prisodili samo 17 let, je to znamenje, da niso imeli dovolj dokazov o njegovi krivdi.

Največja tragedija tistega časa je po mojem bila v tem, da so naši najvplivnejši politični voditelji, Korošec, Kulovec in drugi, umrli in ni bilo nobenega vplivnega jasnovidnega, karizmatičnega Slovenca, ki bi lahko vplival na slovensko politiko.

Edina vidna osebnost je ostal škof Rožman, ki pa je bil kot duhovnik dolžan skrbeti za duhovno rast Slovencev, ravno tako kot zdravnik, ki je dolžan poskrbeti za bolnega partizana ali domobranca. Res je bil velik nasprotnik komunistične ideologije, vendar so bila njegova vrata odprta tudi komunistom.

Mislite, da je Peterletu vse to pogrevanje primera Rožmana v volilnem boju kaj škodilo?

Mislim, da je na njegov padec precej vplivalo splošno volilno razpoloženje do vlade, obenem se mi zdi, da vidijo ljudje potrebo po novem človeku. Koliko je to mišljenje modro, bo pokazala prihodnost. Sam novoizvoljenega predsednika ne poznam dobro, je pa uglašen, visoko akademsko izobražen, ker je preživel veliko let v tujini, v diplomatskih krogih, je pridobil znanje, ki bi ga težko pridobil v Sloveniji.

Slovenija in kriza

Kako pa gledate na te nemirne dneve, ko vlada omca možnost odstopa?

Po mojem je vlada v težki krizi, zlasti ker smo tako blizu predsedovanju EU. Mislim, da si stranke ne želijo njenega padca, ker bi čez leto dni imeli boljše pogoje pri jesenskih volitvah.

Slovenija je v krizi, ki je ni nihče pričakoval, a jo bo prebrodila. Slovenci smo se uspeli ohraniti kot narod pri življenju ob močnem pritisku z vseh strani, smo trdoživ in iznajdljiv narod, ki bo

našel pravo rešitev tudi v tej krizi.

Ko se je ustanovljala prva vlada v neodvisni Sloveniji, smo imeli politike, ki so bili dovolj modri, da so se odločili za nadstrankarski prijem. France Bučar je to jasno izrazil. Če bi tedaj stranke poudarjale ideološko strankarstvo, bi nam bila neodvisnost morda nedosegljiva. Dobili smo jo, ker so bili vsi Slovenci složni, česar niso mogle spregledati tuje vlade, čeprav so bile naklonjene ohranitvi Jugoslavije.

Kako to, da se po odhodu iz Vatikana niste vrnili v Ameriko, kjer živijo vaši otroci?

V begunstvo sem šel zaradi komunizma, in ker sedaj živimo v demokratični neodvisni Sloveniji, sem se vrnil. Ni mi žal, le žena obžaluje, da je daleč od otrok, vnukov in pravnukov. A se pogosto obiskujemo in to še krepi njihovo slovenstvo, saj so vsi tudi slovenski državljani.

Najbrž pa tudi zdaj v Novi Gorici niste čisto navaden upokojenec?

Čutim se gost v kraju, kjer sem preživel svojo mladost, in skušam temu okolju še kaj koristiti. Obmejni položaj Gorice in Nove Gorice, kjer so v prvi svetovni vojni izgubili življenje stotisoči mladih iz raznih evropskih dežel, daje Goriški edinstveni pomen v Evropski uniji.

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IZDAJAMO TUDI ZDRAVILA
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Zato se mi zdi primereno, da EU posveti posebno pozornost deželi, ki je na stičišču slovanskega, romanskega in germanskega sveta, kjer se vzhod družijo z zahodom, s tem da evropski parlament ustanovi prvo evropsko univerzo z ekstraterritorialnim kampusom, ki bo vzgajal v evropskem duhu, s tem da se ne zavržejo nacionalne vrednote, ampak se da možnost razvoju skupnega življenja. Seveda je zdaj vse v rokah evropskega parlamenta. Panevropsko gibanje je navdušeno, italijanski predsednik Prodi tudi, zdaj so na potezi naši evroparlamentarci. ■

Slovenska palma

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

Vinska kraljica je predstavila izbor in vlogo vinske kraljice in slovensko kulinariko, Damjan Končnik pa je predstavil Slovenijo kot zanimivo turistično destinacijo.

Srečanje je potekalo pri naši prijateljici Jayne Vadnal, a je bilo komaj dovolj prostora za vse udeležence. Prišli so Slovenci z različnih koncev Amerike. Druženje se je začelo okoli 5. ure pop. Po pozdravu je Končnik predstavil Slovenijo in vse slovenske pokrajine. Predstavitve je bila kratka, jedrnatna in poučna.

Predstavili smo tudi potovalni program za Slovenijo za vse, ki jih to zanima. Še zlasti je ta program namenjen vsem v Ameriki živečim Slo-

vencem in našim ameriškim prijateljem, ki bi radi spoznali našo prelepo deželo. Končnik je predstavil tudi koledar z naslovom Lepote Slovenije, v katerem so njegove fotografije.

Ste nadaljevali s tematiko o vinu?

Seveda, s svojim nagovorom je Damjanu Končniku sledila vinska kraljica Slovenije za leto 2007 Maja Benčina. Najprej je predstavila izbor za vinsko kraljico, pomembne naloge, ki spremljajo ta laskavi naziv, ter svoje aktivnosti v tem letu. Ob koncu srečanja smo nazdravili s slovenskim vinom.

Gospa Lilijana Plevnik, ki je prišla v Miami na obisk k svojemu sinu, je poskrbela, da naša usta niso bila lačna, Jayne pa je pripravila pravo orehovo potico. Za razvedrilo so poskrbeli Oscar Knezaurek in Jack Berfield s harmoniko ter Jayne na bobnih.

Srečanje se je zavleklo v pozne večerne ure. Zelo vseli smo, da je na srečanje prišlo tudi precej mladih, ki živijo na Floridi kot študentje ali pa že poganjajo korenine, kar pomeni, da Slovenska palma lepo raste in se razvija. ■

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Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

1615. Iz Bocvane se je oglasila uršulinka,

misijonarka s. Zora Škerlj: "Draga gospa in vsi sodelavci! Pristrčno pozdravljeni. Božič je dobesedno na pragu vrat. Spet sem pozna s pošto, a v srcih bomo še posebno intimno združeni v Jezusovi ljubezni.

Prva vesela novica je, da imamo deževje in da je narava vsa zelena in bujna. Mnoga polja so zorana in nekatera že posejana. Hvala Bogu, letos bo naše božično praznovanje še bolj doživeto.

Moja ekipa treh mladih – Izberi življenje, se je lepo obnesla v mesecih mojega obiska doma—vodila kar nekaj programov z mladimi.

Kot načrtovano smo letos uvedli projekt napeljevanja vodnih cevi v sosesčine San družin. Oni skopljejo jarke in plačajo normalno vsoto za vpis, medtem ko mi financiramo projekt. Vse je šlo dobro in projekt je bil izvršen v 8 mesecih. Napeljava vode v njih naselje je ne samo velika olajšava napornega dela žena in otrok, ampak je tudi vzpodbuda za boljše higijeno in povečano zaužitje vode, kar je tako bistveno za zdravljenje raznih bolezni.

Naša dva Slovenca—prostovoljca Manja in Peter Žeželj, sta se kot načrtovano vrnila domov avgusta meseca. Izredno lepo sta se izkazala pri delu in občevanju z ljudmi. Manja, kot otroška psihologinja, je pomagala San otrokom v Bokopano programu, z učenjem, kar je za njih res težko, medtem ko je Peter (gradbeni inženir) pomagal pri računovodstvu in računalnikih v župnijskem zavodu za predšolske otroke, ki so osiromašeni ali pa zelo ranljivi. Pogrešamo jih, a to je življenje.

V tej deželi je HIV/Aids zelo razširjen in imajo večkrat razna združenja in predavanja, kako pomagati ljudem v teh boleznih. V zadnjem letu so bili trije seminarji, za katere bi bilo prav, da bi bili že pred 10 ali vsaj pred 5 leti na vrsti, toda "it's never too late"!

To je pripis k gornjemu: "Božič je mimo. V župniji smo imeli zares lepo pripravljeno in globoko doživetvo bogoslužje, ki se je končalo s sv. mašo, med katero so mladi upodobili v igri, petju, plesu stvarjenje in odrešenje – Božič. Čeprav je bila cerkev nabito polna, smo se nekam vsi premikali v plesnih gibih kot valovih. Hvala Bogu.

Kako je pri vas v mrzlih in kratkih dneh?

Bila sem doma na oddihu, a tudi v žalovanju, ker sta se dve sestri poslovili od nas v večnost, moji rodni sestri, v istem mesecu.

Sestra Fani pa je odšla tik pred Božičem tudi na počitnice domov. Pristrčne pozdrave v molitvi in ljubezni združena, s. Zora Škerlj."

Tudi misijonarka s. Marija Andreja Šubelj, ki deluje v Čileju, se je oglasila: "Draga! Danes je misijonski praznik. Vsi smo bili poklicani k spoznanju Boga. Bodimo hvaležni za božji dar in molimo za vse, ki se trudijo, da bi vsi prejeli dar vere po misijonarjih!

Bilo mi je nemogoče pisati pred Božičem, a v molitvi sem se spomnila vseh in prosila za božji blagoslov v letu 2008. Le kaj nam bo prineslo?

Pri nas so tudi klimatične spremembe: sončni žarki so skrajno nevarni. Je suša, huda vročina, ledeniki se topijo.

V Santiagu imam resen problem s prevozom. Za enkrat se ne vidi rešitve. Je nevarno, ker ljudje so naveličani. Mesto ima pet milijonov prebivalcev. Molite!

Lep misijonski pozdrav vam in vsem pri MZA! Bog vas živi! Naj Marija bdi nad vami, prosi

s. Marija Andreja!"

Naše misijonsko kosilo bo na prvo nedeljo v marcu. Računajte na obisk tega kosila, ki bo v pomoč vsem misijonarjem.

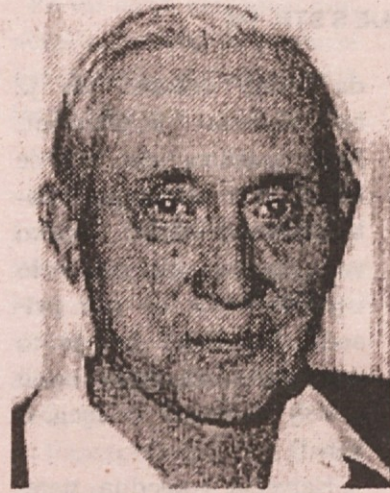
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Miro Odar

Po dolgi bolezni je 6. julija v Gospodu mirno zaspal. Pogreb je bil 10. julija iz cerkve sv. Vida na pokopališče Vernih Duš. Tam se je pridružil pokojnemu bratu Jožetu.

Pokojni je bil rojen 30. septembra 1926 v Ljubljani. Miro je po osnovni šoli v Šiški, začel svojo izobrazbo na klasični gimnaziji v Ljubljani. Leta 1945 je kot domobranec bežal v Vetrinje, Avstrija. Tam je ubežal iz zadnjega transporta za Slovenijo in si s tem rešil življenje. V taborišču je končal gimnazijo in maturiral. Nato je nadaljeval študij v Grazu. Leta 1949 je imigriral v Ameriko – Kalifornijo. Po enem letu je bil poklican v vojaško službo in služil na Okinawi. Po končni vojaščini se je naselil v Clevelandu. Tu se je hitro pridružil slovenskim organizacijam. Bil je član Korotana, Slovenskega odra, Lilije, Slovenskega športnega kluba in društva Najsvetejšega Imena. Več let je bil tudi Korotanov predsednik. Veliko je delal tudi pri Slovenski šoli. Njegova prva služba je bila tehnični risar. Ob večerih je nadaljeval svoj študij na Fenn College in leta 1963 dobil diplomu mehničnega inženirja.

Miro je imel mnogo talentov. Njegova zgodnja bolezen mu je preprečila, da te ni mogel uporabljati. Več kot 25 let je bil bolan in pred 12. leti tako opešal, da ni mogel več iz hiše. Zadnja 3 leta pa je bil popolnoma vezan na posteljo. Svojo dolgo bolezen je Miro prav potrpežljivo prenašal. Vesel je bil, da je bil vsa leta doma pri družini.

Skozi vsa leta Mirotove bolezni, mu je bilo v veliko tolažbo, da ga je častiti g. Jože Božnar redno obiskoval. Prinašal mu je sv. Evharistijo in ga navduševal. Njegovi obiski pa so bili tudi prijateljski, saj se jih je Miro vedno veselil. Hvala Vam tudi za molitev rožnega venca v pogrebem zavodu in za opravljeno pogrebno sv. mašo. Naj Vam Bog poplača vsa Vaša prizadevanja.

Iskreno se zahvalimo našemu prevzvišenemu škofu A. Edwardu Pevcu za obiske na domu in za Vaše molitve v pogrebem zavodu. Naj Vam Vsemogočni poplača Vaša dobra dela.

Prav lepa hvala g. župniku Johnu Kumšetu. Veseli smo bili, da ste prišli poslovit od našega dragega Mirota in za sodelovanje pri sv. maši. Bog Vas blagoslovi.

Tu se želimo iskreno zahvaliti našim sorodnikom, ki so nam v najtežjih časih toliko pomagali. Vsem pristrčna hvala.

Naj se tu zahvalimo našima dolgoletnima prijateljima – Nežki in Viktorju Tominec. Na vse načine sta nam pomagala. Oba sta bila vedno pripravljena pomagati kjerkoli je bilo treba. Nežka pa je prinašala domače pecivo skozi vsa leta Mirotove bolezni. Naj Vama Bog bogato poplača Vajino pozornost in prijateljstvo.

Iz srca smo hvaležni Fantom na vasi za ganljivo petje ob krsti našega pokojnega Mirota. Prav tako iskrena hvala pevcem, ki so tako občutno peli pri pogrebni sv. maši. Miro se vam je gotovo nasmehnil, ko ste zapeli: Gospod je moj pastir, nič mi ne manjka. To izredno lepo petje je vodil Janez Sršen, spremljal pa organist Franci Coffelt. Še enkrat pristrčna hvala vsem.

Iskrena hvala nosilcem krste in vsem, ki ste nas spremljali na Mirotovi zadnji poti. Najlepša hvala vsem, ki ste se prišli poslovit od našega dragega Mirota, darovali za sv. maše, za St. Vitus Building Fund, za Hospice of the Western Reserve in za druge dobrodelne namene. Prav lepa hvala vsem, ki ste darovali lepo cvetje. Bog vam povrni.

Miro je odšel k nebeškemu Očetu v višku počitniške sezone. Mnogi niso mogli pokropit našega dragega. Zato ni čudno, da smo po pošti prejeli tako ogromno število sožalnih kart z darovi v različne namene v Mirotov spomin. Vsem iskrena hvala.

Hvala Čosičevemu pogrebem zavodu za lepo nadzorstvo pogreba.

Bog plačaj vsem, ki so so nam stali ob strani, ko smo bili pomoči najbolj potrebni. Razposlali smo osebne zahvale, če smo koga izpustili, naj sprejme to zahvalo kot posebej njim namenjena.

Tiho si odšel.....

Le srce in duša ve kako boli

ko Tebe več med nami ni.

Naše misli so pri Tebi

danes – in vse dni.

Uživaj božji mir v večnosti!

Žalujoči:

žena: Milka

hčerka: Dori

sin: Andrej in žena Barb

vnuk: Bryan

vnukinji: Cathy in Amy

pravnučkinja: Emily