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SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

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Strel to Swim Yangtze

BEIJING – Martin Strel, a marathon swimmer from Slovenia, has announced he will try to become the first person to swim 4,600 kilometers of Yangtze River, China's longest river which has a total length of 6,300 kilometers.

Beginning June 1, Strel will spend two months swimming from the Batang stretch, in southwest Sichuan Province, to Shanghai, where the river meets the sea, he said last Thursday at the Slovenian Embassy to China in Beijing.

Strel, who holds several records for the longest swims in the world's biggest rivers, successfully swam the whole lengths of the Danube in Europe in 2000 and the Mississippi in the United States in 2002.

He hopes his marathon swimming will promote friendship and cooperation between Slovenia and China, and contribute to clean river protection.

Thanks to Phil Hrvatin for this information.

Slovenia, Croatia Establish Joint Border Patrol Police

BELGRADE, Feb. 20 – Slovenia and neighboring Croatia agreed Friday in Ljubljana, Slovenia's capital, to establish a joint police patrol along their common border.

Slovenia's Interior Minister Rado Bohinc, after meeting his Croatian counterpart, Marijan Mlinaric, said the two countries will begin the joint patrol at the end of Spring.

The decision came as an apparent bid to check illegal immigrants and fight against other kinds of smuggling activities.

Slovenia is to join the European Union (EU) in May, and Croatia also hopes to become the bloc's member as soon as possible. But they are both located on the so-called Balkan Road, which is infamous of human, drug, and weapons smuggling from Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Asia to Western countries.

The two countries must deal with those troubles on their path to joining the EU.

This news came courtesy of Phil Hrvatin.

Enjoy Food: Lose Weight

It's a fact: The more pleasure you receive from your food, the less of it you'll eat. Here's how to train yourself to eat for pleasure, so you'll get maximum pleasure and satisfaction from your food. Practice this sense-awakening exercise with a piece of dark, rich chocolate (Belgian chocolate is best for this experiment).

Engage all five of your senses to savor every bite completely. Just follow these steps:

1. – **SEE** and appreciate the beautiful, dark color before you put it in your mouth.

2. – **FEEL** the weight and

smooth texture as you hold it in your hand.

3. – **SMELL** and slowly inhale its rich aroma.

4. – **HEAR** the crunch as you take the smallest bite that you can.

5. – **TASTE** a larger bite and extract as much taste as possible.

6. – **NOTICE** how satisfied you feel – and how little of the chocolate it took to get you there.

7. – **REPEAT** as often as necessary until you master the technique. Stop when the chocolate ceases to satisfy your taste buds. Use this method at mealtime and you'll never overeat again.



Slovenians at the Grammy Awards

At the recent Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, the polka category had three Slovenians on its roster of nominees, Bob Kravos and Walt Ostanek in a joint project "Just For You." Pictured here on each end with California visitors Silvia and Rudy Menart of North Hollywood along with DJ Tony Petkovsek in the center. Lynn Marie Hrovat Rink was the other Slovenian, not pictured, nominated for her "Box Hounds" release. The other nominees were all for their Polish style

albums including the 14-time winner – Jimmy Sturr for "Let's Polka 'Round."

Frank Yankovic was the original winner in 1986 and Walt Ostanek is a three-time winner. Thirty-seven-year-old Kravos is a first time nominee and is a great nephew of Yankovic.

Grammy awards represent all forms of music and are the most prestigious of music awards held this year on Feb. 8.

(Photo by BILL LOPINSKI)

Jerse, Fuerst in Primary Election

Two Slovenian-Americans are candidates in the upcoming primary vote on March 2 in Ohio: Ed Jerse and Nancy Fuerst.

Ed Jerse, an attorney and State Representative, is running in the Democratic primary for Congress. Ed Jerse attended St. Mary's (Collinwood), St. Joseph H.S., Georgetown, and Harvard Law School. Ed resides in Euclid with his wife, Shannon, and their four children.

Jerse has been a life-long advocate for pro-life issues. Such vocal advocates, however, do not get very far in the Democratic Party if the pro-life issues include not just the life of the mother, but also the life of the unborn child as in the issue of abortion. It is time to send a loud and clear message to the leaders of the Democrat Party that advocates for both the mother and the unborn child should be encouraged and promoted as candidates.

Those of you who are registered Republicans can also vote for Ed Jerse

by switching parties for this primary election only. When you arrive at the voting station, tell the poll worker that you want to vote as a Democrat. You can then switch back to the Republican Party in the following election.

Nancy Fuerst (her mother is Mary Sever of Collinwood) is a Judge in the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas. She is running for a seat on the Ohio Supreme Court. As a mother and grandmother she is attuned to the issues affecting families. She, too, is listed on the Democrat ballot and not on the Republican ballot.

And then there is the adopted son of the Slovenian community - **Tim McCormack**. He is presently Cuyahoga County Commissioner, and running for re-election. Vote for Tim McCormack who knows our Slovenian community and has been its advocate throughout his political career.

--Tony Lavrish
Cleveland, OH

A girl says to her boyfriend: "One kiss and I'll be yours forever." The guy says, "Thanks for the warning." –Emma Pogacar

Don't think of retiring from the world until the world will be sorry that you retire. I hate a fellow whom pride or cowardice or laziness drives into a corner, and who does nothing when he is there but sit and growl. Let him come out as I do, and bark.
– Samuel Johnson

I have learned this strange thing about travel: one may return to place and, quite unexpectedly, meet oneself still lingering there from the last time.
–Helen Bevington

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No. 8

February 26, 2004

REFLECTIONS BY RUDY

Marie, Milan Mark Milestone

by RUDY FLIS

At the five o'clock Mass on Valentine's Day, at St. Mary's Church, Holmes Ave., Milan and Marie Dular celebrated their 55th Wedding Anniversary.

They were married on Feb. 13, 1949, in a refugee camp in Europe on a sunny, but cold Sunday. They had an apple strudel reception which they shared with family and friends.

Refugees are a tough lot, able to endure all that is a part of being one with not a place to call home, and not anywhere to go.

As Milan and Marie stood in front of pastor, Father John Kumse, for their blessing, the beautiful Ave Marie was sung. My mind drifted back in time 55 years past, and an ocean away, to the humble beginning, the day they married in their little refugee chapel.

At Mass end, family, friends and well wishers embraced and congratulated the celebrants.

Happy Anniversary, Milan and Marie Dular. Well done.

You never gave up hope, you always kept your faith, and you are still in love. You are blessed.



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Books of Slovenia Presents Four New Photo Books

VENICA, CA - Books of Slovenia announces the arrival of four new books showing the natural beauty of Slovenia. The first - "Slovenija" - captures the whole country in photography, while the other three present views of several Slovenian regions. All of the books are published by Zaklad Publishing House.

Slovenija: This is a beautiful presentation of Slovenia in full color photography. The photography is by Bogdan Kladnik and the text by Daniel Rojsek. It has 78 color photos in 72 pages. Hardback. ISBN 961-900062-8-3. -- \$42.

Gorenjska: This book presents the Gorenjska region of Slovenia, which lies in the northwestern quadrant of the country and encompasses most of its Alpine areas. Photography is by

Bogdan Kladnik and the text is by Dr. Janez Marolt. It has 78 color photos in 86 pages. Hardback. ISBN 961-6266-06-3. -- \$42.00.

Soca: This book of gorgeous pictures follows the Soca River from its source high in the Julian Alps through the towns of Bovec, Kobarid, Tolmin and Nova Gorica. The photography is by Bogdan Kladnik and the text is by Daniel Rojsek. It has 62 color photographs in 82 pages. ISBN 961-6266-10-1. -- \$42.

Bled: "Bled" has dramatic views of charming Lake Bled and the surrounding region. Photography is by Bogdan Kladnik, with a text by Irena Cerar. 88 color photos in 64 pages. Hardback. ISBN 961-6266-11-X. \$42.

Orders can be placed by credit card on-line at

www.Booksot Slovenia.com or by sending a check (or purchase order) payable to Books of Slovenia to 453 Rialto Avenue, Venice, CA 90291. Prices include shipping and handling (for Canada add \$8). For information call (310) 392-4843 or email BooksofSlovenia@comcast.net.

Happy Birthday Joe Zelle

Joseph Zelle of 24124 Glenbrook Dr., Euclid, OH 44117, well known for his writings, work in radio, etc., celebrated his 92nd birthday on Tuesday, Feb. 25. Best wishes for a Happy Birthday from your relatives and many friends.

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Life in the Refugee Camps

1948

by Anton Zakelj, translated and edited by John Zakelj

Tuesday, April 27, 1948

Karl invited me to come work with the logging crew in the woods. I would like to go, but I get motion sickness riding across the mountain roads.

Wednesday, April 28, 1948

I worked in the camp all day, pounding fence posts. The work is tiring, but listening to the other workers gossiping is worse.

I received postcards from Janko, Cene, and Vinko, which they sent when the IRO train stopped in Salzburg.

Thursday, April 29, 1948

I pounded fence posts again. My arms hurt. Everyone says I should take more breaks, but I can't just stand around.

Our lunch included soup with meat, and plenty of macaroni with cheese. Very good.

McKeon, (a camp administrator) announced that every nationality will have to do camp work two days a week: the Slovenians get Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8 - 11 a.m. and 2 - 5 p.m., including all women age 16 - 55, except for women with children under age 3.

Each evening Cilka and I go visit Karl Erznoznik, his wife Mici and baby daughter Jolanda, and the Jesenko family with their 11 children. (This was a different Jesenko family from the one on Cleveland's West Side. Because of the large number of children, this family had many problems getting any country to accept them for emigration. Eventually the

family had to be split up, with some of them staying in Austria and some going to other countries, including Australia.)

Saturday, May 1, 1948

This evening we attended the first day of May devotions to Mary. The camp chapel was beautifully decorated with 100 lights.

Sunday, May 2, 1948

Today was Easter for the Greek Catholics. They celebrated the "Alleluia" in the camp chapel from 5 - 7 a.m.

I went for a walk with Cilka, but I was bored most of the day.

Monday, May 3, 1948

Levičar and I worked all day in the camp, including McKeon's garden. McKeon gave us a nice lunch: bread with butter and marmalade, tea with milk, and cigarettes. McKeon was just a farm hand in Scotland, but here he is the "boss." He lives with a Hungarian woman, and they have a child.

Fellow refugee Ivan Oven had to leave the camp by 5 p.m. today because of his sharp words against the British last month. He led our protest against the forced move from Judenburg to Trofaiach. (I don't know where he went.)

Tone Babnik has also been told he has to leave the camp, but he hasn't left yet because he can't find any place else to live.

Tuesday, May 4, 1948

This morning, I felt a sharp pain in my back and I couldn't make it go away. I must have injured something when I was working yesterday.

The man who was distributing mail in the camp lost his job. I hear it was because he was removing too many stamps from the letters. If I felt better, I would try to get that job. It's not a paid job, but you can get a decent income from the tips people give you.

Wednesday, May 5, 1948

My back is a little better. Cilka is sewing shoe leather for Copi.

Thursday, May 6, 1948

Today was the holy day of the Ascension of our Lord. I went to Mass at 8 a.m., and then read the "Morning News" most of the day. The "Morning News" is in English and I don't understand it all, but it's good practice for me.

I received a letter from the men who left our camp for Canada. They wrote from Diepholz in Germany. They arrived there after being on the train for 35 hours. They had to wait in Diepholz for a week and were told they would be going to Bremen or Hamburg on May 4 to board the ship for Canada.

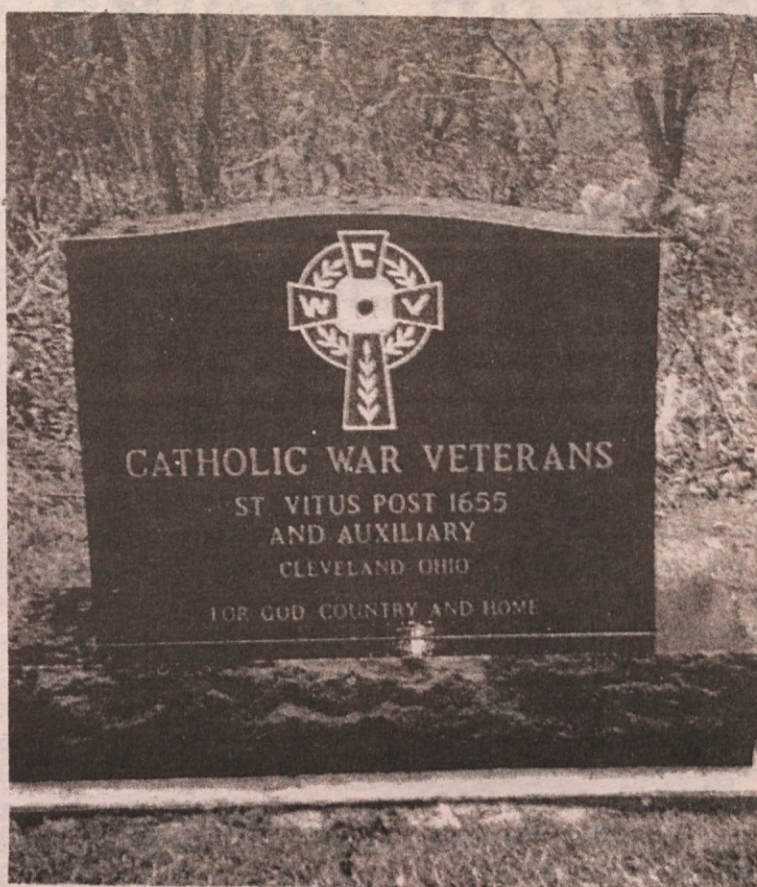
Friday, May 7, 1948

My back still hurts, but I did camp work with Levičar again. The others have received extra food rations as heavy laborers and 100 shillings each, but I haven't received anything. I think McKeon hates me because I refused to give him some lace for his "wife."

(To Be Continued)

I wouldn't trust my husband with a young woman for 5 minutes, and he's been dead for 25 years.

--Kathleen Bechan



Memorial honoring members of St. Vitus Post 1655 Catholic War Veterans and the Auxiliary, and all Catholics in the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio. Dedication will take place in the Spring of 2004. (Photo by LOU STROMSKI)

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4 MLAKAR Walks Down Memory Lane

by RAY MLAKAR

Guess what? Ray is back and finally wired up for full "stereo." Yep, I am tuned in on all channels with the new hearing aid and to tell the truth, now I hear things I don't want to hear. I am in the midst of trying to convince my dog "Harry" to bark softer, but getting no place. So now generally I do not put the hearing aid in until after the paper boy comes and after the mailman comes, for then there is no one for Happy Harry to bark at.

Also, with my new hearing aid I discovered that I do not need a new TV. The one I have still has sound and I don't have to worry about reading lips or laughing when there is a funny line on a TV situation comedy because everybody else is laughing. I can actually hear the jokes and punch lines.

While on the subject, I got a surprise call today from one of the American Home readers and a fellow Slovenian by the name of Bill Adler and he went on to say that he had been reading my column and we found out that we both attended John Marshall High School and knew some of the same guys from the old neighborhood, namely John and Ralph Cimperman as well as Pat Harrington. He said he understood my situation with the hearing problem for he, too, went thru the hearing aid bit and is about to have surgery at University Hospital in which case they will be able to help his situation and he will regain most of his hearing. That is great news and certainly wish him the best of luck for he sounds like one great guy, but then he is Slovenian and that in itself speaks for itself. He was telling me how he now attends St. Vitus and really appreciates hearing Mass there, but then, too, St. Vitus is a close knit parish with some fine devoted parishioners.

Before I go on, I appreciated the new writer Josette in writing about the Testimonial she gave for her Dad, Joe Snyder, also a writer at times in the American Home. I met Joe at church and without a doubt he is a very friendly guy and without a doubt I am sure he knows each and everyone of the folks at church including all the altar boys. It seems every Sunday after Mass a few of the old time Slovenians get together and chat while we are nibbling on the goodies.

Speaking of church, back on Feb. 1 they celebrated the

feast of St. Blaze and after Mass the parishioners came up and knelt at the Communion railing and Fr. Bumgarner went to each individual with the candles at their throat giving them the blessing.

Before Mass started I had dropped off my plates of goodies at the children's table and a tray for the adults and I noticed they had a table set up for the "Special Church Bake Sale," and I spotted two huge platters of home made Slovenian angel wings. Yippee, Ray was going to buy those right after Mass for they would be my first of those since Mom died back in 1977. Unfortunately, I was one of the last ones to get my throat blessed and by the time I got to the church hall, the pastry was all gone. In fact, I could not even find the folks who bought them. Later on, I found out that Mrs. Kotnik from Euclid made those and they were the first to be sold. I already have my plans in mind for the next bake sale and before Mass when I see those platters of "angel wings" I am going to put a "sold" sign on it with an I.O.U. notation underneath and further stating that anyone who grabs this platter of angel wings will *not* receive absolution from me.

Fortunately that same Sunday Gus Rus, a fellow Slovenian from Elyria, had brought me his own home made Slovenian smoked sausage and he said, "Ray, these are different, made special for you. You stated you always cook your sausage and made a sandwich of it and put your sauerkraut on the sandwich. These here I made special for you and I already put the sauerkraut in with the pork." I lost no time after I got home from church and cooked a couple right away. What can I say? I thought I died and went to heaven. Gus, you are a man after my own heart.

Then the following weekend Ursula Wein from Euclid brought me two Slovenian salamis from Radells. Guess God is rewarding me, for now I have new ears with built in stereo, smoked sausage with sauerkraut in the casings and real Slovenian salami. All that and a glass of wine and a TV I can really hear. Pray tell what does George Bush have that I do not have?

Before I forget, thanks to Ray Novak of Strongsville, OH a new contributor to the American Home. If you folks recall, last week he wrote about the benefits of bananas and you can be rest

assured that after I read that article I drove up to Marc's and bought myself a slew of bananas. From what he wrote I will really be in the swing of things. I noticed that the monkeys at the zoo, bananas are their primary diet and they swing from tree to tree. Well if you folks read in the paper that there is some old nut in Parma Heights swinging from tree to tree, you know it is me.

However, I really don't expect to swing from tree to tree, but am in hopes that it will give me the vigor to walk the dog instead of the dog walking me. From reading Novak's article on the benefits of eating bananas, it is good for Depression, Anemia, Blood Pressure, Brain Power, Constipation, Heartburn, Nerves, Overweight, Ulcers, Stress, Strokes, Warts, and even "Morning Sickness and PMS" but in my late 70s, I don't have to worry about that any more. Holy smoke, all along I have been dishing out hundreds of dollars for medication and I could have saved all that money by buying 39 cents worth of bananas. If everything he says holds true, before long I will be swinging on a star, carrying moonbeams home in a jar, just to be where you are.

Here I am way down on the page and have not given you one joke, but let's face it, I gave you a basket full last week. But so you won't be completely disappointed I'll give you one for the road. This one is good, it is an imported joke because I received it from Cincinnati from one of my e-mail writers. Now that I think of it, I am sure a lot of us guys went to the Lord with a similar request.

A man was walking along a California beach lost deep in prayer. All of a sudden he said out loud, "God grant me one wish." Suddenly the sky clouded over his head. In a booming voice God said, "Because you have tried to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish."

The man said, "Build me a bridge to Heaven so I can drive over any time I want."

God answered, "Your request is very materialistic. The logistics of such an undertaking would be enormous. Think of what raw materials it would take for the supports to ever reach the bottom of the Pacific. Think how much concrete, how much steel. No, think of another wish I can do, but I can't justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little time to think of another

wish. One you think will honor and glorify me."

The man thought about it for a long time. Finally, he said, "God, I love my wife very much. I wish I could understand women. I want to know how they feel inside and what they are thinking when they give me the silent treatment. I want to know why they are crying, what they really want when they say 'nothing' and to know how to make them truly happy."

After a few minutes, God said, "You want that bridge

with two lanes or four?"

With that, it is time for me to sign off for I do want to possibly leave room for Ray Novak to give me some more health hints. Who knows, maybe I could push myself down further on St. Peter's "Call List." With that in mind, May the good Lord bless and watch over all of you and keep you safe, and after you have said your night prayers, slip into the ice box and grab a banana, for who knows, you may want to do some swinging tonight.

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The Life of Rev. Victor Cimperman

by ANN (CIMPERMAN)
STRAZAR



Father Victor Cimperman

On November 16, 2003, Father Vic celebrated 60 years in the Holy Priesthood at a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Vitus Church.

Father Joseph Boznar, pastor of St. Vitus Parish, and Father Paul Krajnik, pastor of St. Cyril and Methodius Church in Lorain, Ohio, concelebrated the Mass. Bishop A. Edward Pevec presented a beautiful homily honoring Father Vic. Also participating in the Mass were many of Father Vic's nieces and nephews and their children. Among them was Sister Maria Cimperman, of the Ursuline order, and Joseph Cimperman, Cleveland Councilman, who spoke at the Mass.

Family and friends of Father came from near and far to pay tribute to him. One could feel the presence, even though in spirit only, of the many family members and parishioners, who have gone to their eternal rest. How often Father had been in their presence from the cradle to the grave, during the past 60 years.

The congregation expressed their joy on this special occasion, by the many outstanding ovations given to him. Participating in the procession before the Mass were children dressed in Slovenian costumes, who presented Father with a beautiful bouquet of red carnations, a symbol of our Slovenian motherland. The choir, under the direction of John Srsen and accompanying organist, filled the church with hymns of praise. The hymn "Češčena si Maria," moved many to tears.

The heavens above must have opened as relatives, friends, his two brothers, father and mother looked down on the celebration of their brother and son. How heartwarming was the sight, as Father Vic exited the church dressed in golden vestments, carrying a contrasting bouquet of red carnations.

A reception followed in the school auditorium. Standing below the center of

the stage was a beautiful ice sculpture of upraised praying hands, which stood four feet tall. A lovely buffet was served, with the musical accompaniment throughout the reception by Mr. and Mrs. Slogar.

Father Vic stood and greeted many guests and reminisced about the days gone by. Many friends joined together in conversation, as we celebrated Father's 60 years of service to the Lord. To one and all, many thanks for having made this day one long to be remembered.

From your family, Father Vic, our sincere Congratulations and Best Wishes! May God grant you many more years in His service. Our thanks also to our mother and father, of whom it may be said: "God gave you your wings, but it was they who taught you how to fly."

St. Mary's Seniors Meet

St. Mary's Seniors (Collinwood) will meet in the school hall on Tuesday, March 2 at 1:30 p.m. Doors open at 1 p.m.

Speaker will be Carolynn Mostyn from Mature Living.

The program is titled, "Fun and Humor in Mature Living."

Roses are red, violets are blue. I'm schizophrenic, and so am I.

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Pioneer Members Populate St. Lawrence Organizations

by JOSEPH T. SNYDER



Joseph T. Snyder

As mentioned in prior articles, there are many people, organizations, and points of interest surrounding St. Lawrence parish dating back to the early part of the 20th century. The families left behind these titans of leadership were born out by their extraordinary efforts before, during, and after World War II. In this installment we will cover more individuals who were part of the Newburgh neighborhood. In singling out only a few, there is not any intention of neglecting the many who contributed much more than what has been put forth. Names that leapt out from the pages of the Vestnik (1927-1935) to me were first from the lodges.

In 1922 Jernej Strojnik, Louis Grden, and Frank Muhl were officers in Društvo Mir SDZ, John Vidmar, Anton Kordan, and Jacob Jancar headed up St. Lawrence KSKJ. Društvo Sv. Aloisija was led by Anton Globokar, Jos. Trcek, and Anton Gliha.

By 1932 there were special listings of numerous lodges including: Dominic Blatnik, Frank Blatnik, Matt Zupancic, Mary Mucel, Theresa Lekan, Fran Krecic, Frank Koketec. The Catholic Order of Foresters were under the leadership of Anthony Suhadolnik, John Kaplan, and Anton Ferfolia.

Other prominent members in parish organizations included Agnes Zagar, Alojzija Vrcek, Tomaz Mrvar, Jacob Resnik, Mike Vrcek, Joseph Hocevar, John Vicic, Alice

Blatnik, Theresa Kenik, Frances Lekan, Josephine Godec, Mary Vrcek, Louis Gliha, Frank Shuster, Joseph Lekan, Louis Simoncic, Ignac Godec, Mary Papez, Korolina Cergol, Mary Kuznik, Jennie Blatnik, Josephine Stepic, Anton Pelko, Jacob Volcansek, Joseph Smrdel, Mary Mauer, Joseph Kenik, Ivan Zorman, Frank L. Snyder, Sylvester Paulin, Rudolf Kenik, Apolonia Kic, Frances Blatnik, Anna Grdzanic, Alojzica Zidanic, Helena Tomazic, Josephine Dolinar, Karolina Mauser, Andrew Rezin, Anton Zagar, Joseph Plute, plus the many who participated as members. These names are no longer household names, but many old timers recall so many who took part in activities and organizations gluing together the community around St. Lawrence and the Slovenian National Home on E. 80th.

Many individuals listed lived in outlying areas east of E. 93rd, in Garfield Hts., Maple Hts. Up Union Ave., Issler Court, Randall, and some West Siders.

Slovenians "R" Us



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Rode Visits Pope

Ljubljana Archbishop and Slovenian Metropolitan Franc Rode was received for a private audience by Pope John Paul II on Tuesday morning, Feb. 24. On the occasion Rode thanked the pope for recently appointing him the prefect of one of the congregations of the Curia Romana.

Trade With India

An air service agreement between Slovenia and India was signed by Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel and Indian External Affairs Minister Yashwant Sinha, after the pair held wide-ranging talks on issues of bilateral and international interest. Once Slovenia has joined the EU, opportunities for economic cooperation with India will increase.

Soldiers Leave for Afghanistan

Feb. 25 - A six-member advance party of the Slovenian Armed Forces left for Afghanistan on Wednesday. The six soldiers are expected to be followed by the main body of 12 soldiers in the first week of March.

Blocks Mosque Referendum

Ljubljana Mayor Danica Simsic has decided to block a referendum on the construction of a mosque on the outskirts of Ljubljana. Simsic announced on Tuesday her plan not to publish the referendum decree that was adopted by the city council last Thursday because she considers it unconstitutional.

Washington Treaty

Ratified

LJUBLJANA, Feb. 24 - The year 2004 is historic for Slovenia and represents "The culmination of several years of efforts and the beginning of a new role of Slovenia in the international community." This is what Prime Minister Anton Rop said in his address to the MPs on Tuesday before they ratified the North Atlantic Treaty in a 68-3 vote, opening the door for Slovenia to join NATO.

Slovenian Mother Tongue for 88% of Population

Slovenian is the mother tongue for the vast majority of the population in the country, according to data compiled by the Statistical Office. The relative share of the population speaking Slovenian as their mother tongue has been declining ever since 1953, but the drop was by far lowest in the 2002 census, which revealed that 87.8 percent of the population considers the official Slovenian language their mother tongue.

Renowned Writer Dies

Slovenian writer and poet Igor Torkar died on Thurs-

day, Jan. 1. Born in 1913, Torkar wrote prose, plays and poetry, and was known for his numerous satirical works and humorous sketches. One of Torkar's most famous works, however, is a documentary novel "Umiranje na obroke" (Dying in Installments) published in 1984, in which he discussed the injustices committed during the so-called Dachau political trials after the Second World War.

AIDA Threat

This year, Aids caused more than 3 million deaths worldwide. In Slovenia, there are 137 people registered as HIV positive.

According to estimates from the Institute for Health Protection, the real level of infection is at least twice as high since HIV testing is low. By group, homosexuals are the most threatened by the virus, while the highest number of infected live in Ljubljana and in the coastal region.

Renault Buys Full Control of Subsidiary

Renault, SA, France's second-biggest car maker, bought the one-third of its Slovenian subsidiary Revoz that it didn't already own to gain full control of one of the three European factories building the company's Clio subcompact.

Revoz is the biggest industrial employer and biggest exporter in Slovenia, a former part of Yugoslavia that will join the European Union in May.

The Novo Mesto, Slovenia plant is the European car industry's sixth most productive factory.

Road Safety

The year 2003 was the safest year for traffic since 1963, as 242 people died on Slovenian roads.

Behind Europe in Internet

Slovenia is two years behind European countries in the use of the Internet.

Nevertheless, Slovenian companies are quite well equipped with hardware and Internet access, as employees in 90 percent of all companies have Internet access.

More than 40 percent of all employees in Slovenia use a computer.

Sava Buying Another Spa

The Kranj-based chemical company Sava Kranj is buying a majority stake in another health resort in the northeast of the country, namely Zdravilisca Radenci.

Thanks to Phil Hrvatin for this news.

Work brings profit; talk brings poverty.

Holmes Avenue Pensioners

Nice weather for our February 11. meeting brought out lots of nice members: 188 "Recycled Teenagers" filled Holmes Ave. hall to the rafters.

Thankful we had no losses since last meeting, we remembered all our ailing friends with a silent prayer. Speedy recovery is wished to Matt Kajfez, Dee Miklich, John Obat, Emeric Pausic, Therese Petrich, and Albert Tomsic. Get well soon, ya hear!

A warm "Welcome!" to new members Pauline Barbish, Ed Bozich, Lillian Frederico, Beverly Hilton, Frank and Mary Jane Hiti, Marie Kebe, Frank and Emilie Kerez, Mary Mohar, Ruth Prelock, Lori Sierputowski, and Jay Swartz. Good to have you with us; you'll have fun! To the 55 patient people till on waiting list: don't give up hope...Our honorary roster is growing - it's up to 118.

Fran Kajfez reports the Windsor trip is all set. We depart from C.E. Orr arena on Babbitt Rd. Monday March 22, at 6:45 AM. **DO NOT FORGET** to bring picture ID, and birth certificate, or passport with you. Voter ID is no longer accepted; and papers are definitely checked! Can't go home without them...

Fran is also planning a "Mystery trip" sometime in May; and Nashville trip is also a "Go". More details next time.

A big THANK YOU to Frank Sadar and Bill Wujnovich for taking care of the 50-50 raffle in Myra Jerkic's absence. Great job, guys!

We sang "Happy Birthday" to several members; and "Happy Anniversary" to Ruth and Frank Korelec, their 24th.

Special birthday proclamations, along with a little cake, and Valentine candy, were presented to Anne Orlikowski, 95 yrs young; Chuck Krivec, 90 yrs young; Helen Suhy, 90 yrs young; Ed Harbie, 80 yrs young; Frank Koncilija, 80 yrs young; Rose Silva, 80 yrs young, and William Wujnovich, 80 yrs young. (John Kozlevchar learned we do not say "old"; had to pay a fine!) Many, many happy and healthy returns to all!

Special anniversary proclamations were given to Helen and Lou Somrak, 60 yrs;

HAPpy News ☺☺☺☺☺

Vickie and Jim Kozel, 55 yrs; Mary and John Penca, 55 yrs; Dorothy and Bob Edmiston, 50 yrs; Fran and Matt Kajfez, 50 yrs; Terry and Pete Knezevic, 50 yrs; Ruth and Ed Morel, 50 yrs; Theresa and Ed Petrich, 50 yrs; and Dorothy and Tony Spendal, 50 yrs.

Congratulations to the happy couples; they are a wonderful example!

A very special Thank You to Carl and Jenny Schultz who made the distinctive proclamations. Carl is a real computer wizard, and Jenny graciously shares her crafting skills. She gifted the honorees with lovely handmade Valentines. Thanks also to Holmes Ave. Hall board members, who donated a lovely large cake to sweeten the celebration. And what an array of goodies we had!!!! Many thanks to all the bakers. For myself, I'll have to turn an old proverb around, from "waste not, want not", to "want not, WAIST not"!

Everyone enjoyed the already traditional "Mock Wedding" at the close of the meeting. Matt Zabukovec took the role of Master of Ceremonies, in memory of dear departed Gus Petelinkar, and led the bridal procession around the hall. "Reverend" Stash Kocin blessed all with his "special" holy water. Helen and Lou Somrak, and Vickie and Jim Kozel were ready to "get married", the other couples were bridesmaids and ushers. "Bishop" John Kozlevchar had them repeat the wedding vows, and read about how they met and married. "Fr." Stash then blessed all again! We sang the unveiling songs, and "Let me call you Sweetheart", and there wasn't a teary eye in the crowd. Hey, we know how to have fun. But "Gladys" was missed! Hope she'll be back next year...

A little reminder: dues are DUE!!!! and must be paid by Mar.10. Remind your friends, too, so no one misses out.

Bingo is ON for March meeting!

Pa adjio!

H. W.

Coming Events

Friday, March 5

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland, OH Fish Fry, walleye or shrimp, pierogi or Mac & Cheese, \$9.00 person. Serving 5 to 7:30 p.m. Music 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. by J. Novak.

Friday, March 12

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland, OH Fish Fry - walleye or shrimp, pierogi or mac & cheese, \$9.00. Serving 5 - 7:30 p.m. Music 6:30 - 9:30 by W. Tomsic.

Friday, March 19

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland, OH Fish Fry - walleye or shrimp, pierogi or mac & cheese, \$9.00. Serving 5 - 7:30 p.m. Music 6:30 - 9:30 by F. Moravcik.

Saturday, March 20

Federation of Slovenian National Homes Man/Woman of Year Banquet, at Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave., Cleveland. Doors open 2 p.m. Dinner 4 p.m. Program at 6 p.m., followed by music.

March 27 - April 3
Slovenian Ski Trip 2004

to Lake Louise, Canada. \$950 from Cleveland (2 per room) (includes round trip airfare from La Guardia via Denver to Calgary, all ground transportation, 7 nights lodging at Ptarmigan Inn, 5 days lift pass). Call John F. Kamin (212) 691-5551.

Friday, March 26

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland, OH Fish Fry - walleye or shrimp, pierogi or mac & cheese, \$9.00. Serving 5 - 7:30 p.m. Music 6:30 - 9:30 by W. Tomsic.

Friday, April 2

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland, OH Fish Fry - walleye or shrimp, pierogi or mac & cheese, \$9.00. Serving 5 - 7:30 p.m. Music from 6:30 to 9:30.

Sunday, April 4

Annual benefit dinner in St. Vitus auditorium sponsored by Holy Name Society, Altar Society, and KSKJ Lodge 25.

Sunday, April 18

"Deseti Brat" Men's Octet in concert at Lemont Cultural Center.

Sunday, April 25

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland, OH honoring John M. Hrovat, Slovenian Home Man of Year. \$18 person 2 p.m. Music by Frank Moravcik 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 2

Holmes Ave. Pensioners Annual Dinner-Dance at Collinwood Slovenian Home. Dinner served 2 p.m. Dance to Ray Polantz 3 - 7 p.m. For tickets call (216) 531-2088 or (440) 943-3784 before April 25.

Sunday, May 9

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland, OH Annual Mother's Day Breakfast Brunch \$8.00. Children 10 years and under \$4. Serving 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Friday, May 21

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland, OH Pork, sauerkraut, potato dumpling dinner, \$9.00. Serving 5 to 7:30 p.m. Music by Frank Moravcik 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 12

Folklorna Skupina Kres Picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Death Notices

JOZEF KRIZMAN

Jozef Krizman, age 75, died Friday, Feb. 19, 2004 at the Hospice of the Western Reserve in Cleveland.

Mr. Krizman was born in Slovenia and lived in the Collinwood area before moving to Euclid 12 years ago. He was employed as a machinist for the Columbian Vise Co.

Mr. Krizman was a member of Slovenska Pristava, Tabor, and Korotan.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Anna (nee Pecnik); children Ann Marie (Mark) Lipnick, Joseph F. (Ann), John A. (Ilona), and Theresa (Mark) Petrigash; grandchildren Jennifer, David, Erica, Christian, Mark, Joseph, Miranda, Abigail, J. Erik, and great-grandson, Pedro.

Funeral Mass was held Monday, Feb. 23 at St. Mary's Church in Collinwood and burial in All Souls Cemetery in Chardon.

Friends were received at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home, 28890 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills, OH.

Donation

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Maria Stepec of Willoughby Hills, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$20.00 donation.

Donations

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

Mary Sterle, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Anna Vidergar, Euclid, OH -- \$5.00

August Selak, Girard, OH -- \$5.00

Anonymous, Lorain, OH -- \$15.00

Mary Stragisher, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Ivanka Pretnar, Cleveland, OH -- \$15.00

Frank Branisel, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Vera Ornik, Milwaukee, WI -- \$10.00

Louise Zabukovec, Cleveland, OH -- \$12.00

Mary E. Jerse, Cleveland, OH -- \$10.00

Edward Draksler, Gooselake Morris, IL

Frances Gazvoda, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

Marie Oravec, Bethlehem, PA -- \$5.00

Julia Smole, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

Josephine Kastigar, Cleveland, OH -- \$15.00

Cvetka Kocjancic, Richmond Hts., OH -- \$10.00

Stanley Ferkul, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

Vida Svajger, Richmond Hts., OH -- \$5.00

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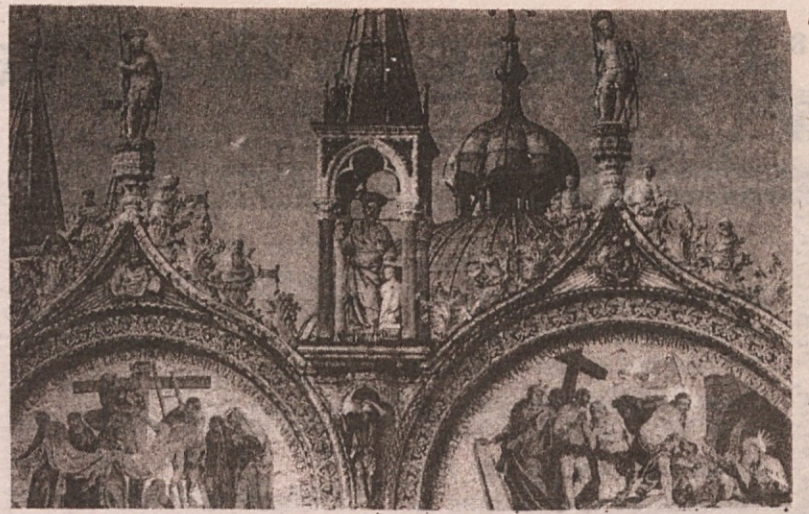
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Count no mortal fortunate until he has departed this life free from pain.

—Sophocles



Slovenian Photographer Lauded

Slovenian photographer Arne Hodalic's new book — "Voyage into the Illusory Mirror" — Receives praise; photos called 'Memorable and often moving.'

"Photographer Arne Hodalic... presents in his new book 12 years of his journalistic and artistic work in a lavishly produced monograph. The photographer has traveled extensively while shooting for European magazines, and he treats readers to color images that range from Venice, Italy to the 'remote mountains of South America.' Open the book at any page, and it becomes clear that Hodalic relies heavily on juxtaposition for impact. The portraits and intimate landscapes are paired in ways that are sometimes clever, and other times heavy-handed. First-

person diary excerpts translated from Slovene by Erica John Debeljak punctuate the photographs. Hodalic's work is always memorable and often moving, and it effectively calls into question traditional lines of perception between photojournalism and art..."

Review from the Nov. 15, 2003 edition of The Library Journal of "Voyage into the Illusory Mirror; Photography 1988-2000" by Arnie Hodalic.

Published in 2003 by Didakta Publishing House and distributed in North America by Books of Slovenia, 453 Rialto Avenue, Venice, CA (www.BooksOfSlovenia.com) 230 pages. Translated by Erica Johnson Debeljak. ISBN 961-6363-47-6. -- \$100.

No Photos via e-mail

Attention correspondents: Please send all photos by surface mail, NOT e-mail.

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On the 11th Anniversary of the death of



Anton J. (Tony) Petkovsek Sr.

Passed away on March 2, 1993

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In Loving Memory of the 9th Anniversary of the death of our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and sister



Frances Novak (nee Orazem)

Died Feb. 27, 1995.

In Life we loved you dearly,
In death we love you still.
In our hearts you hold a place
No one can ever fill.

Sadly missed by:

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In-laws: Lil, Jean and Tom

Sisters: Marie and Josie

and remaining relatives

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In Loving Memory of

ROSE POPRIK

Died Feb. 26, 1999

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Miss you very much.

Your dear friend,
Emma Marczis

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Its loveliness increases; it will never
Pass into nothingness.
John Keats

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Cruising on the Queen Mary 2 Stay Young With Chocolate

by PATRICIA COIL,
Euclid Travel

"Peaceful," was the word Donna Lucas, Euclid Travel owner, used when asked to describe her recent cruise on Cunard's Queen Mary 2.

"I have been on many cruises and always felt like there wasn't enough time to do everything. I was always rushing here and there, but not this time," said Lucas. "I felt like I had time to relax and enjoy the unique features of an ocean liner."

Mary Sheehy, manager of Cruise Giants, which is a division of Euclid Travel, agreed. She said it was quieter and a nice subdued cruise. Even though the QM2 is the largest ocean liner, the public areas were not crowded, said Sheehy.

Their stateroom had a balcony, which they enjoyed while eating their breakfast. The room had a couch and small sitting area. There was plenty of closet and drawer space, said Sheehy.

The beds, they said, were the most comfortable they had ever experienced on a cruise and the down comforters added a luxurious touch. All passengers are offered a menu of 9 different types of pillows.

All the cabins feature a digital interactive TV system, which allows the passengers to receive and send e-mails, make shore excursion reservations, pick out movies and music and even order wine for dinner.

In general, the Queen Mary 2's smallest cabin, 194 sq. ft. is much larger than other cruise ship's small cabins. Eighty percent of the cabins have an ocean view and most of these have balconies.

The ship is filled with beautiful art work, which gives it a very elegant look, Sheehy said. She was informed that 128 artists from 16 countries had created the 565 pieces of art on board and that 100 original pieces decorate the staterooms.

Lucas was impressed with the huge library with its glass-fronted bookcases, which is the largest one afloat. Connected to the library was a bookstore filled with the newest literature for people who would rather own a book.

Because the QM2 was built to accommodate passengers on transatlantic cruises, the ship has many unique features such as a planetarium. There is a 20,000 sq. feet Canyon Ranch SpaClub housed in a two-story health and fitness center. Seven classrooms and an auditorium are used for

educational programs. Actors from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London put on plays and workshops for the guests. There is a "college-at-sea" available on all transatlantic crossings. Bridge lessons are offered on all cruises. The QM2 includes the first Veuve Clicquot Champagne bar on a cruise ship. Lucas was surprised to learn that there is even a kennel on board, and that British nannies are part of the crew.

The QM2 has five swimming pools, including one with a retractable dome. The main deck features a full size paddle tennis court. There are 30 simulated golf courses. A promenade deck gives passengers the opportunity to get a workout by walking outside completely around the ship.

As expected, the meals, the presentation, and the service on the QM2 was excellent, said Lucas. In all the restaurants, guests dine on Wedgwood china and drink out of Waterford crystal. The QM2 contains 10 different dining establishments.

Her favorite dessert was a strawberry soufflé. Her waiter skillfully opened her soufflé and then added raspberry sauce before returning with a dish of ice cream to enhance the dessert.

Mary Sheehy particularly enjoyed the lobster served at dinner. Other people at the table remarked that it was the best lobster they had ever eaten. It was big enough that she was able to split it with Lucas, who then shared her delicious chateaubriand.

In the evening the entertainment choices are endless, said Lucas. Depending on your preference, you could go to the movie theater, card room, cigar bar, pub, cabaret, the largest ballroom at sea, art gallery, casino or a Broadway show.

Lucas and Sheehy both felt that the designers of the QM2 had successfully created a 21st century ship with a lot of amenities that travelers expect and still kept the atmosphere of an ocean liner. It definitely doesn't look like something from the past, they agreed.

Their experience on the QM2 was so positive that they immediately booked group space for a 10-day cruise to the Caribbean for November 26. Anyone interested in finding out more about the cruise, which has cabins starting at \$1,469, should call Euclid Travel, 216-261-1050 for more information.

What do people say when God sneezes?
--Henny Youngman

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Lenten Fish Fries at St. Mary's

St. Mary's parish (Collinwood) will be offering a fish fry every Friday of Lent from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The fish dinner is \$7.00 which includes fish, home fries, coleslaw or applesauce,

plus coffee and dessert. Shrimp dinners are \$7.50. Kids meals or macaroni and cheese dinners are \$3.50. Don't miss out on this great meal.

Chocolate Sauerkraut Cake

- ¼ cup sauerkraut drained and chopped
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- ½ cup butter
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp. pure vanilla
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 cup water
- ½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

1. - Sift all dry ingredients together. Cream sugar, butter and vanilla. Beat eggs in one at a time.
2. - Add dry ingredients to creamed mixture alternately with water.
3. - Add sauerkraut, mix thoroughly.
4. - Pour into greased pan or pans.
5. - Bake 30 to 40 minutes until cake tests done.
6. - Frost.

Guilty feelings about that second bite of chocolate during Christmas and New Year festivities could be a thing of the past following research sponsored by a chocolate maker.

Volunteers in France and Canada in January are embarking on a three-month study of whether a diet rich in cocoa beans - the base product of chocolate - replicates the same beneficial effects observed in tests on rats.

The animal experiments showed that a cocoa-bean rich diet helped to reduce stress, put off aging and protected cells from disease.

If the human research points in the same direction, it could be a massive boost for an industry increasingly challenged by concerns about obesity and potentially facing similar lawsuits to those who have engulfed the fast-food sector.

Cocoa beans contain poly-phenols, a chemical

compound present in all fruits but found in a particularly concentrated and active form in the base product of chocolate. The beneficial qualities of polyphenols in other fruits, notably the grapes in red wine and leaves that make green tea, are well documented. However, research into cocoa beans is much more recent, stemming from the fact that the industry is on the defensive.

Polyphenols are a form of anti-oxidants, compounds that protect cells from attack by the chemical "free agents" that damage blood vessels and contribute to cardiovascular disease.

Scientists warn, however that the anti-thrombotic effects or anti-oxidant aspects of the cocoa bean should be balanced against the fact that chocolate is no dietary substitute for fresh fruit and vegetables.

--Financial Times

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– Vesti iz Slovenije –

Državni zbor z ogromno večino ratificiral pogodbo za vstop Slovenije v NATO

Vstop Slovenije v NATO je potrdil že lanski referendum, državni zbor pa je opravil še zadnjo formalnost in ratificiral severnoatlantsko (washingtonsko) pogodbo, temeljni dokument, ki Slovenijo tudi dokončno uvršča v NATO. Ker ta dokument prenaša del državne suverenosti na mednarodno organizacijo, je bila za ratifikacijo potrebna dvotretjinska večina vseh poslancev. Po pričakovanju s tem ni bilo težav: od 73 poslancev v dvorani jih je zakon podprlo 68, trije so ga zavrnil, dva sta se vzdržala.

Dr. Franc Rode na obisku pri papežu Janezu Pavlu II.

V začetku tedna je bil na svojem prvem obisku v Vatikanu po imenovanju za prefekta kongregacije za redovnike in redovnice nadškof in gotovo bodoči kardinal dr. Franc Rode. Imel je med drugim tudi daljše srečanje s papežem. Daljše poročilo o dr. Rodetovem obisku je na str. 11. V letem je poudarjeno, da z novo odgovornostjo je dr. Rode kot Slovenec dosegel najvišje mesto v njeni hierarhiji v zgodovini Cerkve.

Ljubljanska županja zadržala sklep o razpisu referendumu o gradnji džamije

Županja Ljubljane Danica Simšič je sporočila, da sklep o razpisu naknadnega referendumu v zvezi z gradnjo džamije v mestu še ne bo dala v objavo v Uradnem listu. Na tiskovni konferenci je rekla: "Objavo sem zadržala, ker menim, da je referendumska zahteva (zahtevo je podpisalo skoraj 12 tisoč občanov, torej več kot dovolj za razpis referendumu, op. ur. AD) oziroma vsebina referendumu v nasprotju s slovenskim ustavnim redom. Po mojem mnenju bi tak referendum pomenil ustavno nedopusten poseg v ustavne pravice versko opredeljive manjšine, ljudi muslimanske veroizpovedi oziroma pripadnikov Islamske verske skupnosti v Sloveniji."

Povedala je še, da bo sklicala izredno sejo mestnega sveta, na katerem bo razprava o njeni odločitvi. Kako in kdaj, če sploh bo, referendum o zadevi, ni še jasno. Trenutno ne kaže, po zapletih, ki jih povzročata Simšičeva, da bo mogoče imeti referendum 4. aprila, ko naj bi bil referendum po vsej Sloveniji o tkim. "izbrisanih".

Janševa SDS vztrajno gor, Ropova LDS krepko navzdol

Janševa SDS vztrajno gor, Ropova LDS krepko navzdol

Politbarometer, ki ga je v dneh od 16. do 18. februarja izpeljal Center za raziskovanje javnega mnenja pri Fakulteti za družbene vede v Ljubljani, je kazal, da glede na meritve v januarju je podpora LDS z januarjskih 21 padla na 17 odstotkov, medtem ko je SDS z januarjske 15-odstotne podpore skočila na 16-odstotno. Od vseh anketiranih jih je pa bilo kar 46 odstotkov neopredeljenih (januarja 41%). Za LDS je proces padanja podpore že nekajmesečna, saj je v decembrskem merjenju imela 25, v januarjem 21 in sedaj februarjem 17. Pri strankah, ki izgubljajo, je tudi NSi, ki je decembra imela 5-odstotno, februarja pa le 3-odstotno podporo. Štiriletne parlamentarne volitve bodo letos verjetno v novembru.

Kanadčani bodo skrbeli za Slovence

Enoto 18 mož Slovenske vojske bodo v mednarodno mirovno operacijo Isaf v Afganistanu prepeljali Nemci, v Kabulu in okolici pa bodo za Slovence skrbeli Kanadčani (hrana, gorivo, skrb za vozila). V 6-mesečni akciji bodo vojaki patrolirali na okoli 3000 kvadratnih kilometrih.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

LILJA vabi članstvo—

Odbor Dramskega društva Lilija obvešča svoje članke, da bo redni članski sestanek v ponedeljek, 1. marca, ob pol osmih zvečer v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Ave. Vsi člani prav pristrčno vabljeni.

Ribje večerje—

Včeraj se je pričel post. Tako bodo vsak petek v postnem času imeli ribje večerje v šolski dvorani pri Mariji Vnebovzeti. Serviranje bo od 4. do 7.30 zvečer. Večerja bo \$7 in to ribe, pražen krompir, zeljnata solata ali jabolčni kompot, kava in sladica. Večerja z rakci, kakor tudi "combo" večerja, je \$7.50.

Ob petkih bodo ribje večerje – sicer jih imajo vsak petek v letu – pri Slovenskem delavskem domu na Waterloo Rd.

Pustni torek—

Pretekli torek so imeli v šolski dvorani Marije Vnebovzete večerjo za pustni torek in je bila dvorana kar precej zasedena. Slišati je, da so prodali več kot 230 večerij. Prebitek je namenjen za obnavljanje Slovenskega kulturnega vrta v Rockefellerjevem parku, ki traja že nekaj let. Večerjo je organiziral odbor za Slovenski kulturni vrt s pomočjo društva sv. Jožefa št. 169 KSKJ in program KSKJ "matching funds".

Novi grobovi

Jožef Križman

Dne 19. februarja je v Hospice of the Western Reserve umrl 75 let stari Jožef Križman iz Euclida, rojen v Sloveniji, mož Anne, roj. Pečnik, oče Ann Marie Lipnick, Josepha, Johna in Therese Petrigash, 9-krat stari oče, 1-krat prastari oče, zaposlen do upokojitve kot strojnik pri Columbian Vise Co., član Slovenske pristave, Tabora in Korotana. Pogreb je bil 23. februarja v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda na Chardon Rd. s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

John F. Vatovec

Umrl je 82 let stari John F. Vatovec iz Independencea, mož Evelyn, roj. Soltis, oče Cynthije Crowley in že pok. Stevena, 1-krat stari oče, brat Rose Vatovec, več

(dalje na str. 16)

Federacija slovenskih narodnih domov ima banket—

V soboto, 20. marca, ima Federacija slovenskih narodnih domov svoj letni banket v SND na St. Clairju, na katerem bo počastila tiste, ki so bili izbrani za moža oz. žensko leta. Kot moža leta za samo federacijo je bil izbran Anthony Mannion (SND na E. 80 St.), ženska leta je Celeste Frollo iz SDD na Waterloo Rd. Njen pok. mož Joe je bil izbran za to časa od same SDD, drugi domovi so izbrali: Rev. Jože Božnar (SND na St. Clairju), Carl Golarin (Fairport Harbor), John Hozjan (Collinwood, Holmes Ave.), John M. Hrovat (E. 80 St.), Marilyn Lazar (SDD na Recherjevi), Anthony Lukežic (Barberton), Agnes Tomazin (Lorain). Federacija bo tudi letos izdala posebno prilogo, ki jo boste prejeli z AD za 18. marec.

Spominski dar—

Ga. Olga Kalar, Euclid, O., je poklonila \$20 v pomoč našemu listu, v spomin na moža Ludvika. Iskrena hvala.

V tiskovni sklad—

G. Thomas in ga Marija Štepec, Willoughby Hills, O., sta poklonila \$20 v podporo listu. Neimenovani iz Chagrin Fallsa, O. je daroval \$100. G. Chris in ga. Joan Chermely, Wickliffe, Oh. sta darovala \$25. Hvala vsem!

KOLENDAR

MAREC

27. – 3. aprila – Slovenska skupnost v New Yorku organizira smučarski izlet v Banff, Lake Louise, B.C. Ivan Kamin: 718-424-2711.

MAJ

22. – Pevski zbor Korotan poda svoj vsakoletni koncert v SND na St. Clair Ave. Pričetek ob 7. uri zvečer. Po koncertu zabava in ples.

30. – Društvo SPB sponzorira spominsko sv. mašo pri Lurški Materi božji na Chardon Rd. opoldne, popoldne ob 3h bodo molitve na Vernih duš pokopališču.

JUNIJ

12. – Folklorna skupina Kres ima piknik na Slovenski pristani.

(dalje na str. 15)



S TRADICIONALNIM KURETOVANJEM SE JE ZAČEL PUSTNI ČAS V SLOVENIJI Na Ptujju se je že 14. februarja začelo kurentovanje, ena najpomembnejših tradicionalnih prireditev v Sloveniji in srednji Evropi, ki izhaja iz stoletne tradicije praznovanja pusta z obhodi kurentov ali korantov in drugih šem na Dravskem in Ptujškem polju. Kurentovanje, ki je tudi največja kulturno-etnografska prireditev v Sloveniji, vsako leto privabi več kot 100.000 obiskovalcev. Veselo pustno rajanje je bilo skoraj v vsakem slovenskem mestu in vasi, Pust pa se je začel včeraj, Velika noč je letos 11. aprila.

SKD Triglav – Milwaukee



Martinova nedelja v Triglavu, Milwaukee. Sedijo (od leve): Irena Kunovar, Darko Berginc, Joško Cimermančič, Marika Bambič, Ivan Bambič, Jože Kunovar, Stanko Jaklič. Zadaž stoje: Jože Smolič, Frank Mejač, Franjo Mejač, Craig Frohna, Mara Kolman, Jaka Modic, Annie Segedin, Minka Mejač, John Levičar, muzikant Polde, Janez Mejač in Marta. Na fotografiji Tončke Cimermančič, ker se je ob posnetku nahajala na drugem mestu.

GURNEE, Ill. – Pomlad ni več daleč -- društvo Triglav v Milwaukeeju je že odprlo novo sezono s svojim prvim sestankom. Zbrali smo se v velikem številu v dvorani pri sv. Janezu Evangelistu. Vsi veseli in nasmejani smo se pozdravljali, saj se zima kar vleče in vleče in se že dolgo nismo videli.

Doma so rekli, da sv. Valentin prinese ključke do korenin, tukaj pa ta pregovor ne drži. A je vendarle upanje. Sneg se taja, kapljice od ledenih sveč se bleščijo v soncu in na jezercu v Triglavskem parku ni več živžava. Letos so imeli otroci pravi raj na ledu. Drsalji so se, in sankali, in počistili so si igrišče za hokej, kjer ga igrajo po vseh uradnih pravilih. Ograjeno je tudi z dobro sneženo mejo, da jim puk ne uide daleč na jezero. Kakšno veselje za mladi rod!

Mi – ta stari – pa se držimo doma, manjka nam samo dobre krušne peči, s klopco naokrog in s kupom otrok na zapčku, ki se s fizički igrajo "špano" in "človek, ne jezi se"!

Še enkrat smo slišali izčrpno poročilo o vsem, kar se je godilo lansko poletje. Vsi pikniki so

bili uspešni v razvedrilo in užitek vsem obiskovalcem. Balinanje, plavanje in ribarjenje je bilo zelo živahno.

Poletje se je zaključilo z vinsko trgatvijo in pa z martinovanjem, ki je bilo tudi dobro obiskano. Miza je bila polna dobrot, muzikant je vlekel svoj meh, mi pa smo prepevali kot bi nas kdo najel!

Tudi Miklavž se je dobro odrezal. Deklice in fantje so pripravili dober prizorček, ki ga je vodila Helenca Frohna. Prikazali so mnoge naše stare običaje od adventa do Sv. treh kraljev. Kako smo hodili k zornicam, postavljali jaslice v "bohkov kot", kako je mama spekla poprtnjak – hlevce – ki je bil na mizi vse tri svete večere pokrit s protom. Kako smo pred prazniki hišo in vse okoli nje pokropili s kadilom in žegnano vodo. Pred Sv. tremi kralji pa se je nad vrati napisalo novo leto in G + M + B. Gašper Miha in Boltežar so bili doma zelo češčeni pomočniki ob smrtni uri. Tukaj rojeni marsikaterih teh navad več ne poznajo.

Potem je slovesno prišel sv. Miklavž z vsem svojim bleščečim sprem-

stvom. V teh modernih in ciničnih časih pa imajo že mali otroci svoje dvome in pomisleke in ena od malih punčk je svoje vrstnike z vso vročkrvnostjo svojih mladih let prepričevala, da je Miklavž "real" – saj se ga je dotaknila in tudi govorila je z njim. Ampak parkeljni so pa "fake".

Na naši prvi seji smo naredili načrte za prihodnje poletje, datume za piknike, in Frank Mejač, naš športni referent, je dobil nalogo, da organizira balinarski turnir.

Mi "ta stari", ki smo po večini že kar med 80 in 90, smo bili kar nemilo pretreseni, ko smo ugotovili, da tudi "ta mladi" vse prehitro lezejo za nami. Kar trem smo zapeli "Kol'kor kapljic, tol'ko let": predsedniku Leonu Sagadinu, Franciju Mejaču in Johnnyju Bambiču. Spomnili pa smo se tudi Jožeta Rusa iz Chicaga, ki je obhajal svojo 80-letnico, kar je res lep in važen jubilej. Jože nam Triglavanom že mnoga leta zvesto stoji ob strani, kadar rabimo pomoč pri naših prireditvah. Vsi mu želimo zdravja in vsega dobrega še za mnoga leta!

Vsem prijateljem Triglava želimo eno lepo pomlad in na svidenje v Parku. Za Triglav:

Mara Kolman

Slovenska pisarna ~ 6114 Lausche Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44103



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Zima se nas še kar dobro drži in to je za branje knjig prav primeren čas. Oglasite se v Slovenski pisarni, kjer boste prav gotovo našli kaj zanimivega. Sledi seznam knjig in CD plošč, ki so na zalogi:

Anton Vovk: *V spomin in opomin* – Osebni zapisi škofa Antona Vovka od leta 1945 do 1953.

Anton Nadrah: *Popolna posvetitev Bogu* – Ob 60-letnici mučeniške smrti patra Placida Grebenca.

Tamara Griesser-Pečar: *Stanislav Lenič* – Lastni življenjepis, ki ga je moral poznejši škof dr. Lenič napisati v zaporu na udbovski pritisk. Avtorica je ta njegov življenjepis opremila s številnimi opombami ter s tem knjigo postavila v širši zgodovinski kontekst.

Ludvik Ceglar: *Nadškof Vovk in njegov čas 1900 – 1963*.

Mara Cerar Hull: *Summer of Silence*

Mara Cerar Hull: *Poletje molka*

Mara Cerar Hull: *Pot molka*

Anton Sterle – Tine Pleško: *Osmošolec iz Vidal* (Lojze Grozde)

Dore Sluga: *The Orchard*

Metod Milač: *Resistance, Imprisonment & Forced Labor*

Pavle Rant: *To sem bil* – Prispevki k zgodovini slovenske politične emigracije

Dušan Lajovic: *Med svobodo in rdečo zvezdo*

Uroš Roesmann: *Testimony* – Proceedings of the historical symposium at Tinje / Teinach.

Janez Arnež: *SLS – Slovenska ljudska stranka – V spomin predstavnikov SLS pri zapadnih zaveznikih, 1941-1945*.

Jerry M. Linenger: *V vesolju* – Pet nevarnih mesecev na vesoljski postaji Mir. Ameriški astronaut/kozmonavt na zgodovinskem srečanju z rusko vesoljsko postajo Mir.

Ivan Štuhec: *Družbene presoje*

Ludvik Ceglar: *Janez Madon* – Knjiga je posvečena slovanskemu papežu Janezu Pavlu II. in slovenskim misijonarjem.

Veliki angleško-slovenski slovar (Grad, Škerlj, Vitorovič)

Veliki slovensko-angleški slovar (Anton Grad, Henry Leeming)

Moderni žepni Angleško-slovenski & slovensko-angleški slovar (Daša Komac)

Mohorjeva pratika (Celovec)

CD plošča: *Pevski zbor Škofijske klasične gimnazije*

CD plošča: *Kvartet Vita* – Teče mi vodica (pod vodstvom Vide Šalamon)

CD plošča in magnetofonski trak: *Veselja dom* (poje družina Sečnik)

Magnetofonski trak: *Nekoč* – poje vokalna skupina Liguster pod vodstvom Jožice Lavrenčič-Lah



Slovenska pisarna še vedno sprejema naročnine za: verski tednik *Družina*; mesečno revijo *Ognjišče*; *Novo Zavezo* in *Duhovno življenje*.

Odbor Slovenske pisarne

Tisti, ki se zanimajo za potovanje po Sloveniji in Koroški, ki bo od 3. do 16. junija letos pod sponzorstvom Slovenskega ameriškega sveta, naj se povežejo s potniško pisarno Hansa Travel Service, 2717 Lorain Ave., Cleveland, OH 44113
Tel. 216-631-6585 – za nadaljnje informacije.

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Nadškof Rode na obisku pri papežu Janezu Pavlu II.

Rim (Delo fax, 25. febr. 2004) – V Vatikan je prvič prišel uradno na obisk in na ogled novi prefekt kongregacije za redovnike dosedanji ljubljanski nadškof in metropolit Franc Rode. Sprejel ga je papež Janez Pavel II., rokoval se je z vsemi novimi sodelavci in se pogovoril s svojim predhodnikom. Pogledat je šel tudi stanovanje, kjer bo imel rezidenco. Palači, v kateri bo živel, po starem pravijo Sveti oficij, čeprav ima že dolgo novo ime, prav tako kot kongregacija, ki jo bo vodil Rode. Stanovanje bo treba še temeljito obnoviti, preden bo vseljivo, je ugotovil nadškof, nato pa z avtomobilom odhitel nazaj v Ljubljano.

Franc Rode, ki se bo že na belo nedeljo sredi aprila poslovil od ljubljanske nadškofije in odšel v Rim, od koder je pred sedmimi leti tudi prišel v Ljubljano, je novinarje počakal pod mogočno palačo, kjer bo poslej živel, le dober lučaj strani od palače, kjer bo delal in skrbel za milijon redovnic in redovnikov po vsem svetu.

Prišel je z dolgega pogovora s papežem Janezom Pavlom II., ki ga je pred dnevi nepričakovano imenoval za prefekta in mu namenil položaj prvega kurijskega kardinala slovenskega rodu v zgodovini Katoliške cerkve. Tako visoko v cerkvi ni bil še noben Slovenec.

Kurijskega kardinala bodo to pomlad dobili tudi Hrvati. Monsinjur Nikola Eterović bo iz Ukrajine, kjer je zdaj apostolski nuncij, prišel v Rim za tajnika sinode. Rode sodi, da po Rimu razširjene govorice, da papež "slovanizira" rimsko kurijo, niso čisto iz trte izvite. Papež je tudi včeraj (24. febr.) zvečer večkrat opozoril na Slovane, slovanstvo in njihov pomen za Katoliško cerkev, pravi Rode. Janezu Pavlu II. se je prihodnji prefekt in prihodnji kardinal zahvalil za osebno zaupanje, ki mu ga je namenil z imenovanjem.

Papež je Rodetu pojasnil, da je kongregacija, ki mu jo je zaupal, zelo pomembna za življenje Cerkve. Vsebinskega pogovarjanja pravzaprav ni bilo veliko, je na dvorišču za Svetim oficijem razmišljal doktor Rode. Sveti oče je povedal, kaj od mene pričakuje. Na področju redovništva je nekaj težav, predvsem kar zadeva duhovno življenje in pastoralno prakso.

Papež pričakuje, da bo novi prefekt vnesel osebno noto v delovanje kongregacije za redovnike, ki zadnja leta po volji sedanjega papeža nosi dolgi in zapleteni naslov kongregacija za ustanove posvečenega življenja in družbe apostolskega življenja.

Novi prefekt se bo najprej lotil razmer v zahodni Evropi in severni Ameriki. Prinesti moram dinamizem in jasnost v vrste redovnikov in redovnic, ker to od mene pričakuje sveti oče, je dejal nadškof Rode.

Na sedežu kongregacije se je Rode že v torek zjutraj srečal s predhodnikom španskim kardinalom Eduardom Martinezom Somalom. Sprejel ga je prijazno in prisrčno in se veselil njegovega prihoda v kongregacijo, ki jo zapušča zaradi upokojitve.

Rode se je rokoval z vsemi prihodnjimi sodelavci, ki jih je petintrideset, in jim namenil nekaj prijaznih besed. Ko bom sredi aprila prišel v Rim, je dejal nadškof, bom najprej samo poslušal in opazoval, nato se bom srečal s predstojniki redov, ki imajo povečini sedež v Rimu. Pogovoril se bom z njimi in si poskušal ustvariti jasno idejo o stanju redovništva v Cerkvi. Potem bodo začeli delati, je odločen.

Rode ni veliko govoril o tem, kdo bo njegov naslednik na položaju ljubljanskega nadškofa. Njegovo imenovanje za prefekta, je dejal, je bilo za vse, tudi zanj, tako veliko presenečenje, da prej ni nihče razmišljal o morebitnem novem nadškofu, zdaj pa je vse skupaj tudi samo ugibanje. Z apostolskim nuncijem v Sloveniji Santosom Abrilom sta se o tem že pogovarjala in se strinjala, da ne sme miniti preveč časa od njegovega odhoda v Rim do imenovanja novega nadškofa, ker to ne bi bilo dobro za nadškofijo in slovensko Cerkev. Sam bo vplival na imenovanje, je dejal odločno, na koncu pa hudomušno pripomnil, da ima novega škofa že v srcu, se pravi v mislih.

Tone Hočevar



Na fotografiji sta (levo) Jože Možina, scenarist in režiser (sicer novinar in zgodovinar) oddaje "Zamolčani – moč preživetja", in Jože Dežman (desno), strokovni sodelavec oddaje, sicer zgodovinar in filozof.

(Foto / Tamino Petelinšek / iz Družine, 15. febr. 2004)

Bolečino je treba razumeti

I. del

Ta članek je v Sobotni prilogi Dela z dne 7. februarja objavil novinar Jože Možina, avtor dokumentarca o oddaji o zamolčanih, ki je bil predvajan na RTV Slovenija 13. januarja in ga je bilo mogoče gledati tudi v sredo, 18. februarja, v šolski dvorani Marije Vnebovzete v Clevelandu. Tisti, ki so ga gledali, bodo največ razumeli od pričujočega članka.

Ta članek je sicer Možinov odgovor na članek Janeza Stanovnika, ki je izšel teden prej, 31. januarja. Čeprav po svoje tudi zelo zanimiv, članka nisem ponatisnil, zdi se mi pa, da v svojem odgovoru Možina kar dostojno predstavlja določene Stanovnikove tr-

ditve. Zato je njegov članek ponatisnjen v celoti. Dalje, v številki Družine z dne 15. februarja je tudi daljši intervju z Možino, od letnega ponatisnem fotografijo z Možino in njegovim strokovnim sodelavcem Jožetom Dežmanom. Tudi ta članek je vreden branja za tiste, ki se za to problematiko zanimajo.

Ur. A.D.



Ko sva s snemalcem v začetku novembra lani v vasi Okrog nad Tuhinjsko dolino prisostvovala odkopu posmrtnih ostan- kov staršev Marije Logar, očeta in nazadnje noseče matere, ki je v zvezanih rokah, sklenjenih na trebuhu, držala rožni venec, sem ob občutkih pretresenosti in nelagodja, ki smo jih delili prisotni, dejal, da počne gospa Marija v tistem trenutku najbolj normalno in civilizirano stvar, ki je stara kot civilizacija sama. Svoje starše pokopava in vrača v občestvo naroda, ki je, kot poudarja dr. Tine Hribar, sestavljeno iz živih in mrtvih. Zakaj šele po 58 letih in ne prej?

Nestrpnost

Del odgovora tiči v razmišljanju predsednika borčevske organizacije v Sobotni prilogi pred tednom dni. Govorica sovraštva, ki desetletja ni do-

puščala svojcem niti do grobov svojih ubitih staršev, kopni prepočasi in oddaja Zamolčani – moč preživetja, ki je sploh prvič na javni televiziji opozorila na stisko in krivice potomcev skoraj 5000 žrtev, ki so še danes zamolčana kategorija v vseh zakonih, je "enostranska in tendenciozna," zapiše Stanovnik.

Dne 14. februarja se je v Sobotni prilogi Dela oglašil poklicni zgodovinar Janko Prunk, ki je bil tudi zelo kritičen do razlaganja Janeza Stanovnika, dal je pa perspektivo o tem, kako utegnejo zgodovinarji v bodoče to problematiko najverjetneje obravnavati. Tudi ta prispevek bo ponatisnjen, ali v sledeči številki AD ali malce pozneje, odvisno od prostora.

Ur. A.D.

To so kriteriji tistih, ki ki so imeli desetletja v popolni posesti interpretacijo zgodovine medvojnega časa v vseh medijih, šolstvu in politiki. Ob tem je treba vedeti, da so žrtve, praviloma ubite brez sojenja ali možnosti poštenega zagovora, nedolžne že po kriterijih prava, ki je veljalo takrat in danes!

Nestrpnost do žrtev, njihovih potomcev in prikaza zgodovinskega konteksta, v katerem se je

(daje na str. 12)

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(NADALJEVANJE S STR. 11)

nasilje dogajalo, poskuša gospod Stanovnik zamegliti s parolami o "poskusih rehabilitacije narodnega izdajstva" in podobnim.

V oddaji o tem sploh ni govora. Kaj imajo žrtve in njihovi svojci z narodnim izdajstvom?

Dokumentarcu, katerega avtor sem, predsednik ZZB očita "poglabljanje delitev in netenje sovraštva".

Naj torej taki, kot so Marija Logar in množica drugih svojcev, še počakajo s svojimi "akti sovraštva", ko poskušajo odkopati svoje starše ali jim vrniti dobro ime? Naj torej še počakajo z vprašanji na borčevsko organizacijo, zakaj so bili njihovi starši ubiti, saj številni še do danes ne poznajo niti formalnih obtožb? Je to netenje sovraštva?

Resnici na ljubo sem bil ob stikih s prizadetimi svojci žrtev pogosto presenečen nad njihovo umirjenostjo in spravljivo stjo. Življenjska izkušnja jih je naučila, da s sovraštvom ne bodo mogli preživeti, zato so ga prešli. Mnogi so si svoj osebni svet zgradili v ljubezni in odpuščanju.

Dokumentarec postavlja njihovo stisko ob bok ostalim žrtvam druge svetovne vojne, ki so že priznane. Nič več. Družba je razvita in zrela, kolikor zna poskrbeti za svoje najšibkeje člane. Mnogi svojci, ki jim država ne

prizna statusa žrtev vojne, sodijo mednje.

Številne zahvale teh šibkih in desetletja zaznamovanih na moj naslov govorijo, da jih okolica po oddaji lepo sprejema, da razume njihovo bolečino. Tisti, ki so v oddaji nastopili, so od prijateljev, znancev in sosedov deležni izrazov sožalja, ki so jih čakali desetletja. Družba je njihove stiske sprejela normalno z občutkom pietete, kot so to spontano pokazali tudi vaščani ob izkopu na Okrogu.

Enako je oddajo sprejela tudi javnost. Pravzaprav je bil dokumentarec deležen najvišjih ocen v vseh vplivnejših slovenskih medijih, gospod Stanovnik pa je bil ob tem razočaran, saj pravi: "Celo novinarska peresa, ki uživajo simpatije zmerne in napredne javnosti, so ga komentirala pozitivno..."

Breme neodgovornih vprašanj

K sreči gospod Stanovnik iz ideološkega etiketiranja oddaje brez argumentov hitro stopi v obravnavo konkretnih primerov in zgodovinskih virov, ki smo jih imeli v oddaji.

To se slabo obnese. Predvojnega komunista Janeza Titana, ki se je tik pred vojno odrekel revoluciji in za katerega smo dokazali, da je postal žrtev slovenske Ozne 17. aprila 1945, gospod Stanovnik gladko pripiše Rusom.

Za Maksa Šimeca, predvojnega aktivista rdečega sindikata in intendanta v Kamniški četi, ki je bil ubit zaradi zamer in ker ni dovolil dvojnih kotlov, Stanovnik pravi, da "ne moremo govoriti, da je bil žrtev protipartizanskega tabora". Seveda ne, saj ima sin pričanja dveh partizanov, ki potrjujeta, da so ga ubili partizani sami, in to brez zaslišanja. Po oddaji mu je eden od teh stisnil roko in pokazal, da je razkritje resnice olajšanje tudi zanj.

Pisatelj in Maistrov borec Franc Šolar, ki so ga vosovci likvidirali na Jelovici leta 1944, v članku ni omenjen. Za navedbo vzroka njegovega uboja sem že med snovanjem oddaje pisno vprašal lokalno ZB, pa ni bilo odgovora.

Zakaj je moral umreti mož, ki je na primer organiziral pomoč Dražgošam po požigu vasi januarja 1942? Kaj je zagrešil? Njegovi čakajo odgovor že 60 let.

Za nosečo mater gospe, ki ob koncu oddaje najde grob svojih staršev, Stanovnik pravi, da naj bi "po takratnem pričanju vaščanov obveščala svojega moža domobranca in s tem ogrožala varnost sovaščanov".

To ne ustreza virom. Marijin oče ni bil domobranec, ampak partizan, ki je zaradi bolezni dezertiral domov, noseča mati pa je, kot povedo vaščani še danes, oskrbovala partizane z živim in cigaretami.

Primeri očeta Ivana Podobnika, ki še danes ne ve niti za morebitne izmišljene razloge uboja svojega očeta, ter Viktorja Velikonje, ki so mu vosovci kot šestletnemu fantiču ustrelili mamo, ko jo je držal za roko, gospod Stanovnik preleti z ugotovitvijo, da gre za okrutnost, "ki je še danes ne moremo razumeti, še manj pa upravičiti".

Jasno, a hkrati hinavsko, saj tisti, ki so za okrutnost odgovorni, nikdar niso bili in še danes niso deležni niti opomina, kaj šele sodbe. Otro-

ci njihovih žrtev pa trpijo krivico še danes.

Zločin se ne izplača

Gospod Stanovnik izraža skrb za moža, domnevnega vosovskega likvidatorja, s katerim smo se pogovarjali in objavili zabrisane posnetke. Razen širše okolice, ki moža očitno pozna, sicer ga ne bi našli, je gospod Stanovnik v zadnji *Sobotni prilogi* s krajem njegovega bivanja seznanil še vesoljno Slovenijo!?

Mož, kot kaže posnetek, ni imel težav s spominom, pač pa ima težave s svojo vestjo. Pritrdil je vprašanjem o ubijanju, povedal je, da jih je vosovce "rihtal" komandir; ta jim je tudi ukazoval, kje in koga je treba likvidirati. Povedal je, da mu je hudo.

Po tem pogovoru je bilo meni in večini gledalcev jasno sporočilo, da se zločin ne izplača. Mož je zaznamovan neprimerno bolj kakor otroci žrtev. Ob skrbi za etiko takega pogovora se poraja vprašanje, kaj je Zveza borcev storila za ljudi, kot je ta gospod? Ne z medaljami in pokojninami, ampak osebno

na človeški ravni? Za veliko likvidatorjev pripovedujejo, da se jim je omračil um ali jih je uničil alkohol. Kakšne pomoči so bili deležni?

Zločin se ne izplača – nasproti vidno zaznamovanemu nekdanjemu vosovcu sedijo pomirjeni in spravljeni sinovi in hčere žrtev. Gospod Šimenc celo samo pravi: "Oni so bili pravzaprav žrtve, najprej oni."

Gospa Lombergar, v oddaji govorimo o njeni materi, ki piše iz partizanskega zapora, izjavi: "Vem, da je treba odpuščati, pa tudi čutim to, da sploh nisem jezna na nobenega."

Gospod Stanovnik trdi, da gre za "farizejsko" odpuščanje. Se zaveda, kakšno krivico jim s tem povzroča? V kratkem ga bodo svojci žrtev povabili v svojo sredo, brez medijev. Upam, da se bo odzval in se pogovoril z njimi.

V nadaljevanju svoje polemike poskuša gospod Stanovnik obračunati z nekaterimi navedbami in zgodovinskimi viri, a ne ovrže niti ene teze, ki je izpostavljena v oddaji.

(dalje na str. 16)

V Nepozaben Spomin

Ob deveti obletnici, odkar nas je zapustil moj ljubljani mož, naš skrbi ata, stari ata, brat in stric



Ludvik Kalar

ter odšel po večno plačilo 4. marca 1995

*Povsod Te iščejo oči,
a Tebe, Ludvik, od nikoder ni;
v miru božjem zdaj počivaš,
pri Bogu rajsko srečo uživaš.*

Tvoji žalujoči:

Kalarjevi, Klavžarjevi in Peklajevi.

Euclid, Oh. 26. febr. 2004

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Trinajsti slovenski smučarski weekend

CLEVELAND, O. – Prvi konec tedna v februarju nas vabilo newyorških rojakov usmeri proti smučišču Windham v državi New York, dve uri severno od velemesta. Pridružijo se nam Slovenci in njih prijatelji iz vseh delov vzhodnih ZD držav kot tudi iz Kanade. Tridnevni izlet nam je nudil dežni dan za začetek, vremensko povprečni dan v soboto ter sončni, vetrovno dan v nedeljo, 8. februarja. Tako je bila prava paleta zimskih vremenskih sprememb.

Kot je že tradicionalno za ta letni izlet, smo bili zopet povabljeni k Ivanu Kaminu na dom, kjer smo pokramljali o zadnjeletnih dogodkih in novicah, to pri dobri pijači in jedači, to po zaslugi Barbare Kamin. Vsi smo se strinjali, da se vrnemo še leto osorej.

Sobotni program izleta je bil zelo pester. Prvi na vrsti je bil zajtrk s šampijoni, nato priprava na veleslalom tekmo, ko smo se dvakrat spustili po progji "nastar". Po tekmah je sledila debata izgovorov, izmišljenih in resničnih, zakaj je kdo zapeljal po daljši progji kot je bilo treba, morda zgrešil vrata, ali je poskušal dokazati, da so organizatorji progo napačno napeljali. Za vse mogoče podane izgovore ni v tem dopisu prostora!

Po debati, smo postali lačni in smo šli na prigrizek v kočjo pol poti pod vrhom, kjer celodnevno plapola slovenska zastava.

Temu je sledilo slikanje, da bomo vedeli leto osorej, kdo je bil pozabil na ta pomemben letni dogodek. Polni energije smo se vrnili na smučišče, kjer smo izpopolnje-

Zlate medalje (Prvo mesto)

Viki Kamin
Clara Hartmannsgruber
Frank Toplak
John Kamin
Joe Škof
John Košir
Ivan Kamin
Maxi Hartmannsgruber
Johnny Hartmannsgruber

Srebrne medalje (Drugo mesto)

Alenka Delak
Metod Ilc
Miloš Lužar
Max Hartmannsgruber
Boštjan Leskovar

Bronaste medalje (Tretje mesto)

Maja Leskovar
Anton Kacinik
Janez Mavretič
Janez Sever
Andrej Branč

Deset najhitrejših

Ivan Kamin ml.
Boštjan Leskovar
Andrej Branč
John Košir
Miha Rossler
Marko Zupanc
John Kamin
Metod Ilc
Joe Škof
Miloš Lužar

Deskarji (Snowboarders)

Jan Škrlič
Maxi Hartmannsgruber
Mark Sedmak

Najhitrejši družini

Kamin
Hartmannsgruber

vali tehniko, ki nam bi nam omočila boljše plasiranje prihodnje leto.

Po peti uri je bila na sporedu sv. maša v lokalni cerkvi. Letos so nam maševali kar trije slovenski duhovniki; to so bili Milan Dimic, Ja-

nez Sever in Marko Zupanc.

Na večernem banketu smo poleg kolajn bili deležni tudi sreče, eni bolj, drugi manj, to pri žrebaju dobitkov, ki jih darujejo slovenska podjetja kot tudi domača iz raznih predelov ZDA. Dobra volja, smeh, obujanje spominov in šaljivih anekdot, to se je nadaljevalo še pozno v noč.

Tako je trinajsti izlet v Windham zopet lepo uspel in bil tudi brez nesreče. Organizatorju tega zimskega srečanja Ivanu Kaminu z ženo Barbaro, hčerki Vicky, svaku Petru in njegovi ženi Tini, smo iskreno hvaležni za njihov trud, potrpežljivost in gostoljubje. Najlepša vam hvala!

Metod Ilc

KOLENDAR

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

19., 20. – Tabor DSPB priredi spominsko proslavo na Slovenski pristavi za padle domobrance. Dne 19. junija molitve na SP, v nedeljo, 20. jun., sv. maša ob 12. uri opoldne pri Spominski kapelici.

JULIJ

11. – Misijonska Znamkarska Akcija ima piknik na Slovenski pristavi.

25. – Slovenska šola pri Sv. Vidu ima piknik na Slovenski pristavi.

AVGUST

29. – Društvo SPB sponzorira vsakoletno romanje k Žalostni Materi božji v Frank, O. Sv. maša ob dvanajstih, druge pobožnosti ob 2.30 pop.

SEPTEMBER

11. – Folklorna skupina Kres praznuje 50. obletnico s celovečernim programom v SND na St. Clair Ave.

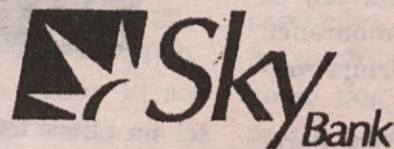
12. – Oltarno društvo fare sv. Vida ima kosilo v šolskem avditoriju.

Slovesnost na sedežu NATA v Bruslju 2. aprila

Bruselj (Delo fax, 20. febr.) – Na sedežu NATA v Bruslju se je zvedelo, da bo severnoatlantsko vojaško zaveznitvo seden novih članic v svojih vrstah najverjetneje uradno pozdravilo v petek, 2. aprila, če bodo seveda dotlej uspešno sklenjeni vsi postopki ratifikacije pristopnih protokolov oziroma washingtonske pogodbe. Na sedežu NATA bodo dvignili zastave novih članic; te slovesnosti se bodo verjetno udeležili zunanji ministri sedanjih in novih članic. Za 2. april je v Bruslju že napovedano zasedanje zunanjih ministrov zaveznitva, ki naj bi se ga prvič v polnopravni vlogi udeležili tudi ministri iz sedmerice novink.

Na zasedanju bo osrednja pozornost namenjena pripravam na prihodnji vrh zaveznitva, ki bo 28. in 29. junija v Istanbulu. Na vrhu, ki je tudi skrajni rok za širitev zaveznitva, bo beseda tekla o vlogi zaveznitva v Afganistanu, Iraku in na Balkanu. Pristopne protokole je 19 članic zaveznitva že ratificiralo, zdaj pa morajo formalni korak potrditve washingtonske pogodbe, kateri so dodani pristopni protokoli, opraviti še bodoče članice, ki jih je NATO povabil na vrhu v Pragi novembra 2002.

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IN MEMORIAM FRANCE DEJAK

JULKA ŽAGAR: MOJI OSEBNI SPOMINI

Članek, ki sledi, je bil objavljen v 50. številki četrtletnika ZAVEZA, ki ga v Sloveniji izdaja Nova slovenzka zaveza (NSZ). Omenjena številka je izšla septembra lani. Članek je posredovan v celoti s fotografijo, ki je bila z njim tudi objavljena. Ur. AD



S Francetom Dejakom sva postala sorodnika leta 1951, ko se je moja sestra Metka poročila z njim. Spoznala sta se leta 1950 v Clevelandu na tečaju angleškega jezika.

Naša družina izhaja iz okolice Škofje Loke in po vojni se je tudi pri nas slišalo o tem, kaj se je dogajalo z domobranci, ki so jih iz Vetrinja vračali v domovino.

Ko se je Metka poročila s Francetom, smo o njem vedeli samo to, da je doma iz Ribnice. Njegova mama je bila takrat v zaporu, njegov brat Tone pa pri vojaki. Zgodbo o njem smo izvedeli šele takrat, ko je mama prišla iz zapora in nas obiskala.

Večkrat sem premišljevala, kakšen je človek, ki je v življenju toliko prestal. Morda zagrenjen, poln sovraštva do ljudi, ki so tolikim ljudem prizadejali trpljenje in krivico? Ali zna po vsem, kar je doživel, sploh še normalno komunicirati z ljudmi in se veseliti življenja?

V mislih sem imela moškega, ki se je kmalu po vojni peljal z vozom skozi središče našega mesta in se sredi belega dne ustrelil. Pripovedovali so, da je ta človek po vojni likvidiral naše ljudi.

Franceta sem prvič osebno srečala v Clevelandu leta 1973, ko je bil star 48 let. Bila sem prijeto presenečena. Tudi ko mi je pripovedoval svojo zgodbo, v njem ni bilo nobenega sovraštva in maščevanja. Bil je miren, vesel, srečen in zadovoljen v krogu svoje družine. Z Metko sta imela tri sinove in hčerko.

Pozneje sem družino Dejak v Clevelandu obiskala še trikrat, leta 1980, 1988 in 1998. S Francetom sem se srečala tudi v Avstriji, kamor je pri-

šel na obisk leta 1981 in 1985. Takrat je bilo zanj še prenevarno potovati v domovino. V Slovenijo je prišel prvič leta 1993 in nato še leta 1995 in 2000. Tedaj sta z Metko stanovala pri meni in sem bila ves čas z njima na vseh njunih poteh po Sloveniji.

Ob vseh teh srečanjih sem iz Francetovih ust velikokrat slišala, kaj vse je doživljal takrat po vojni. Vedno znova mi je tudi rekel, kako zelo si želi, da bi se kdaj tudi v Sloveniji lahko o tem glasno govorilo. Dejansko se o tem danes v Sloveniji že nekaj let glasno govori, toda ali ljudje znajo res slišati in razumeti ter se iz tega kaj naučiti za življenje?

Zanesljivo okolje

Le nekaj izredno zanesljivih ljudi je vedelo, da je Žnidarjev France pobegnil iz jame v Kočevskem Rogu in da se skriva. Po pobegu iz jame je najprej srečal kmeta, ki je s sinom sušil seno in mu je dal piti vode. Potem ga je peljal na vozu do vasi Ograda, kjer mu je gospodinja dala kozarec slikovke in mleka ter ponošene vojaške hlače.

Tedaj je prišlo sosedovo dekle, ga spoznalo in reklo: "Ti si ta in ta. Nikar se ne boj. Pojdi svojo pot, ne bomo te izdali." Domači pes tudi ni zalajal in ga je bil zelo vesel. Ko ga je mama našla doma v postelji, je

takoj tekla povedat sosedovim tetam, kjer je spala.

Johana Petek - Šoštarjeva je ob železnici našla listek, ki ga je France odvrigel, in je na njem pisalo: "Peljejo nas v Kočevje, smo lačni, oskrbite nas s hrano." Podpisani so bili: Jože Petek (brat Šoštarjeve Johane), Alojz Krajec iz Zapuž (sosednja vas) in France Dejak.

V LJUBEČ SPOMIN ob osmi obletnici smrti



JAKOB MEJAC

Umrl 25. februarja 1996

Pozabili Te ne bomo vse do konca naših dni; v srcih bomo Te nosili, dokler nam življenje tli.

Njegovi žalujoči:

Julija, roj. Erzar - žena
Stane, Edi - sinova
Zdenka Zakrajšek in
Bernarda Ovsenik - hčerki
Linda, Sonja - snahi
Ivan, Tone - zeta
France - brat v Sloveniji
in ostalo sorodstvo

Euclid, Ohio, 26. februarja 2004.

Krog zanesljivih ljudi ni bil velik in ga tudi nikdar niso izdali. Mnogi od teh so imeli ožje sorodnike že pokojne v jami. Ti ljudje so bili zanesljivi in morda niso bili zanimivi za politiko.

Četudi je pogosto prišlo do zapletov ali nevarnih situacij, se je vselej zanj srečno končalo. Po vasi so delali preiskave, in ko so nekoč prišli v njihovo hišo, je bil France skrit v senu, ki ga ni bilo prav veliko. Neki vojak je s puškinim bajonetom prebadal seno in imel je veliko srečo, da ga ni zadel.

Vsem tem ljudem in celi soseski je treba dati veliko priznanje. Večina ljudi je bila v letih 1950 / 1951, ko je bil France Dejak že v Ameriki, izdana in mnogi so bili zato, ker ga niso izdali, po več mesecev ali let zaprti. Mama Angela 22 mesecev, teta Marjeta 12 mesecev.

Pri nas doma smo dostikrat o tem premišljevali in moji starši so vedno rekli, da bi v Škofji Loki to ne bilo mogoče. Bog je hotel imeti priče, kot je večkrat rekel France.

Skrivanje pri Pužljevih teti

Danes je le malo živih ljudi, ki so po vojni doživljali triletno naporno in nevarno Francetovo skrivanje. V vasi Breže pri Ribnici živi še njegova teta Marjetka, rojena 1911, sestra Francetove mame Angele, ki se je tja primožila iz Dolenjih Lazov leta 1931. Rodila je 6 otrok. Leta 1944 se je mož smrtno ponesrečil med vasjo Laporje in Rašica, ko se je na kamionu peljal domov na obisk.

France se je včasih tudi skrival pri teti na kozolcu blizu domače hiše. Otroci so bili majhni in so se igrali okrog kozolca in pod njim, on jih je pa gledal. Tako rad bi jih kaj poučil, pa ni smel. Še tako so mami včasih rekli, da je nekdo na kozolcu. Morala je biti skrajno previdna zaradi majhnih otrok. Bala se je, da bi ga izdali, zato je šla z njimi na kozolec, da so se prepričali, da ni nikogar.

Ni ji bilo lahko, še posebno ne, ko so jo leta 1950 zaprli za 12 mesecev, ker je vedela, da se nečak skriva in ga ni prijavila. Otroci so bili

tedaj sami doma in skrbeli za živino in polje, kakor so vedeli in znali, in zraven še hodili v šolo.

Navezovanje stikov z drugim rešencem

Francetovi stari starši so živeli na kmetiji v isti vasi in pri njih se je začel skrivati že po nekaj tednih. Tam je bilo bolj varno. Stara mama je imela raka in je bila vsak dan slabša. Ribniški kaplan jo je hodil večkrat obhajati.

Francetova mama se je preselila k njej, da je lažje skrbela zanjo. Po nekaj mesecih je povedala kaplanu, da se France skriva na podstrešju in da je ušel iz Roga. Potem je obiskoval tudi njega in mu po nekaj tednih povedal, da ve še za enega skrivača.

Svetoval mu je, da bi bilo lažje, če se povežeta. Najprej sta si dopisovala. Oktobra leta 1945 pa sta se s skrivačem iz sosednje vasi srečala. Kmalu za tem sta odšla na dogovorjeno mesto, kamor naj bi ju prišel iskat nekdo iz Italije, da ju pelje čez mejo.

Francetov dve leti mlajši brat Lojz je tudi bežal maja 1945 s skupino iz domačega kraja, in ko jih je ujela noč nekje od Ljubljane naprej, so se spravili počivat na kozolec. Ko sta se s prijateljem zjutraj zbudila, je večina že odšla, zato sta šla k znancem v Ljubljano. Ti so jima svetovali, naj ostaneta pri njih.

Prve dni po osvoboditvi je bila razglašena splošna mobilizacija in Lojz se je šel javit. Najprej so ga zaslišali, potem pa pridržali. Tako je postal vojak in je služil nekje na Gorenjskem, nato v Kočevju in Litiji.

Oktobra pa je umrla stara mama in brat Lojz je prišel na pogreb, a ga zamudil. Ljudje so ravno odhajali s pokopališča. Ko mu je mama povedala, da se France skriva, se je odločil, da bo dezertiral. Po dopustu je šel na železniško postajo in na vlak, a že na naslednji postaji je izstopil in se napotil v skrivališče. Tako je svoj pobeg nekako prikril in postal skrivač skupaj z bratom in njegovim prijateljem.

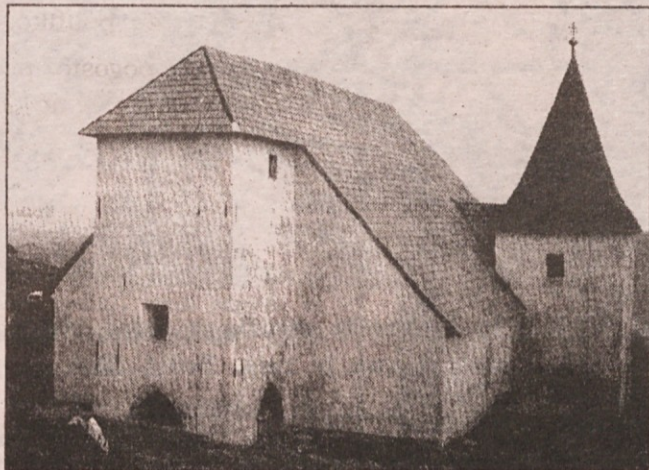
(DALJE na str. 15)

Podpirajmo našo skupnost!

Koroška in slovenska znamenitost ...

Gorska katedrala pred obnovo

V Slovenj Gradcu so ustanovili odbor za obnovo najvišje ležeče cerkve v Sloveniji na Uršlji gori



Slovenska gorska katedrala sv. Uršula

Slovenj Gradec – Cerkev sv. Uršule na Plešivcu ali Uršlji gori, kakor pravijo Korošci najbolj vhodni gori v karavanški verigi, je najvišje ležeče svetišče v Sloveniji. Dobrih 400 let stara cerkev na 1696 metrov visoki Uršlji gori, ki so jo zgradili kmetje izpod gore kot odgovor na takrat in v teh krajih zelo razširjen protestantizem, je bila dolgo zanemarjena, letos pa naj bi jo obnovili tako rešili pred zlovesnim propadanjem. V Slovenj Gradcu so namreč ustanovili odbor za obnovo cerkve na Uršlji gori, ki ga vodi prim. dr. Drago Plešivčnik, upokojeni direktor bolnišnice, v katerem je več kakor dvajset članov iz koroških občin, ki obkrožajo Uršljo goro.

Slovenjgradčani so to cerkev začeli obnavljati že pred več kakor petnajstimi leti, a je bila takrat obnova prekinjena. Sredi minulega leta se je na Uršljo goro povzpela strokovna ekipa Zavoda za varstvo kulturne dediščine skupaj z nekaterimi občudovalci tega spomenika in je pripravila seznam nujnih popravil.

Gorski katedrali, sezidani iz lomljenega kamna, bodo morali zamenjati streho, saj pušča zvonik in kritina nad glavno ladjo. Osušiti bo treba tudi temelje, obnoviti okna, izdelati nov strop in sanirati tla.

Cerkev je bila med drugo svetovno vojno in še dolga leta po njej osromašena in zapuščena, a nikoli prav zavržena, pravi Ivan Gačnik, tudi član odbora. Po prvih izračunih je odbor ugotovil, da bi samo obnova oziroma zamenjava strehe na cerkvi sv. Uršule stala 75 milijonov tolarjev, tj. okrog 395 tisoč \$US, op. ur. AD/ precej denarja bodo zahtevali še drugi posegi, ki naj bi preprečili propadanje tega edinstvenega sakralnega in kulturnega spomenika.

Cerkev sv. Uršule na Plešivcu ali Uršlji gori so domačini gradili v letih od 1570 do 1614, leta 1602 jo je prvič posvetil

ljubljski škof Tomaž Hren.

Sv. Uršula je na območju občine Črna, njen lastnik je župnija Razbor, oskrbujejo pa jo iz župnije v Starem trgu pri Slovenj Gradcu.

Odbor pripravlja večjo akcijo, s katero bodo zbirali denar za obnovo cerkve. Prednost bo seveda imela macesnova škodlasta streha, po mnenju varuhov kulturne dediščine so seveda nujni še drugi posegi. Vrednost gradbenih in restavratorskih del se bo zato zagotovo povzpela čez 150 milijonov tolarjev. /okrog 790 tisoč \$US, op. ur. AD/

Odbor na čelu s prim. dr. Dragom Plešivčnikom se je pri iskanju denarja

za obvarovanje tega sakralnega in kulturnega spomenika obrnil na vse Korošce in častilce Uršlje gore. Ta gora je na Koroškem zelo priljubljena točka številnih planincev, čez njo vodita evropska pešpot in planinska transverzala, na njej sta tudi kočja (PD Prevalje) in televizijski pretvornik.

Po legendi je sv. Uršula zavetnica deklet. "Ko je stopila na goro, se ji je noga ugreznila v skalo. Tod so dobri ljudje," je rekla, "še skale so mehke," in je tam tudi ostala, je legendo o njej zapisal Prevaljčan dr. Franc Sušnik. Zanimivost cerkve na Uršlji gori je tudi zvon z letnico 1584.

Ivan Praprotnik
Delo, 27. jan. 2004

In Memoriam France Dejak

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 14)

France je bil izredno vesel brzostrelke, ki jo je Lojz prinesel s seboj, kar oklenil se je je, vendar pa je ni nikoli uporabil. Sklenili so, da bi jo uporabili zase, če bi jih zajeli, da jim ne bi prišli živi v roke.

Tveganje mladosti

Skrivanje v času po vojni res ni bilo preprosto. France je večkrat rekel, da so mu pomagali pokojni soborci, ki so bili že pri Bogu, da je Bog gotovo hotel imeti priče. Imel je prav posebno božje varstvo, saj kritičnih trenutkov ni manjkalo, a so se vedno srečno končali. Že najmanjša malomarnost bi bila lahko usodna.

Ko je bila stara mama že nepokretna, jo je on

negoval in večkrat je rekla, da jo najbolj zna urediti prav France. Bali so se, da bi to rekla tudi kakšnemu obiskovalcu sosedu.

V treh letih skrivanja so se tudi naveličali biti samo v kletih ali podstreha, zato so šli večkrat za nekaj dni daleč v gozdove, tam spali in si sami kuhali. Bali so se, da bi jih izdal dim. V zimskem času so velikokrat pletli, ličkali koruzo ali šivali. Tako so si sami sešili obleke za maskare, si jih nadeli in odšli na pustno soboto v sosednjo vas v gostilno ter plesali z dekleti vse večer. Pred polnočjo pa so izginili.

Podpirajmo našo skupnost!

Ko so se selili iz ene ga skrivališča v drugo, so večkrat srečali domačine in z njimi govorili srbohrvaško, da jih ne bi spoznali.

France mi je včasih rekel, da moraš biti za vse to mlad in neumen.

Poskusi pobega čez mejo

Prvi poskus, da bi jih nekdo prepeljal v Italijo oktobra po smrti stare matere, ni uspel. S človekom, ki naj bi jih vodil, so se baje zgrešili.

Drugi poskus so pripravili sami. Januarja 1946 so šli prek Bloške planote, Javornika, Cerknškega jezera in Slivnice proti Italiji. Ker je začelo močno snežiti, so se vrnili. Na tej poti so se soočili s številnimi nevarnostmi, vendar so vsem srečno ušli.

Zadnji, tretji poskus jim je srečno uspel. 22. maja leta 1948 so prišli s Koroškega ljudje, ki so jih bili pripravljene prepeljati čez mejo. Do Ljubljane so šli peš, naprej pa z vlakom do postaje Podkoren. Nato so boski prebredli Savo ter v največji tišini nadaljevali pot čez hribe v Avstrijo. Seveda pri tem ni manjkalo zapletov in nevarnih situacij, vendar so ob svitu srečno prestopili jugoslovansko-avstrijsko mejo in končno bili v tako zaželeni svobodi.

Nova tveganja

V času, ko se je skrivati in ko je bežal, si je France tiho obljubil, da bo tudi sam pomagal tistim, ki so v stiski in nevarnosti pred komunisti. Septembra leta 1948 se je pridružil dvema, ki sta vsak mesec na skrivaj potovala prek meje v Jugoslavijo. Hotel je tudi še enkrat v domovini obiskati svojo mamo in ljudi, ki so mu pomagali v času skrivanja.

Morda bi kdo obsojal tako vračanje v domovino. Vendar je sam vedno dodal, da se zaveda, da so s tem storili veliko dobrega, kajti njihova pota so bila poštena in brez maščevalnosti. Marsikoga so rešili zapora, preganjanja, morda celo smrti. Mnogi od teh niso zagrešili drugega kot to, da niso sprejemali komunistične ideologije in so tako postali "ljudski sovražnik". Takih se je takratna oblast hotela znebiti.

Mislím, da se je ilegalno vrnil sedemkrat. Prisel je peš čez hribe, v domovini se je vozil z vlakom, s kolesom ali celo z motorjem ali pa je pešočil. Mamo je v tem času obiskal samo štirikrat, ker ga je vedno svarila, kako je nevarno, da se spušča v taka tveganja. Rekel je, da je bil vedno zelo previden in je vsako stvar zelo premislil. In v zadnjih letih je še dodal, da moraš biti za take stvari mlad in pogumen.

Večkrat mi je rekel, da je bil takrat in tudi še ves čas pozneje prepričan, da je delal prav, čeprav so bile žrtve velike in veliko tveganje. Če je rešil samo eno življenje, je bilo vredno.

Ko poslušamo France tovo zgodbo, se nam zdi neverjetno, da je bilo vse to sploh mogoče. Verjetno je Bog res imel svoje načrte z njim.

Petnajst let SDS

Ljubljana – Socialdemokratska zveza Slovenije bila ustanovljena 16. februarja 1989, prvi predsednik je bil France Tomšič iz Litostroja, zamenjal ga je novembra 1989 sedaj že pokojni Jože Pučnik, maja 1993 je bil za predsednika SDS izvoljen Janez Janša, potrjen na čelo SDS še na kongresih 1995, 1999 in 2001. Lani se je preimenovala iz Socialdemokratske stranke Slovenije v Slovensko demokratsko stranko.

Danes ima stranka 21 tisoč članov, 190 občinskih odborov v 14 regijskih koordinacijah, 13 poslancev v Državnem zboru (vodja je France Cukjati), svet SDS vodi Milan Zver, še vedno je strankin predsednik Janez Janša.

Najnovejša povpraševanja javnega mnenja oziroma politične naklonjenosti kažejo, da se je v zadnjih mesecih priljubljenost SDS med volilci zelo dvignila in da se že celo približuje vodilnim Liberalnim demokratom.

Med drugim je stranka napredovala v javnosti zaradi odločnega stališča proti tkim. "izbrisanim", o katerih bo, kot še kaže, referendum 4. aprila.

Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

1513. Objavljam poročilo o kosilu MZA,

ki je bilo v nedeljo, 8. februarja, v šolskem avditoriju pri Sv. Vidu:

DOHODKI:

Hrana in pijača	\$ 3,382.00
Pecivo	252.50
Maček v žaklju	283.65
Ročna dela	171.00
Skupaj	\$ 4,089.15

IZDATKI:

Hrana - Ažman	\$ 521.00
Hrana	368.15
Dvorana	200.00
Skupaj	\$ 1,089.15

Dohodki	\$ 4,089.15
Izdatki	1,089.15
Ostalo	\$ 3,000.00

Darovi	\$ 6,970.00
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Celotno kosilo prineslo ... \$ 9,970.00

Dobrotniki, ki so darovali v času kosila so: S. Kolem (za bogosl. \$400, za ljub. semen. \$100, za Karmel-Sora \$100, za vse \$400) \$1,000; F. Kosem (za Rev. Opeka \$200, za vse \$100) \$300; I.P. Hauptman \$1000; R.V. Kolarič \$500; F.M. Hren \$400; M. Jeram \$400; N.N. \$300; F. Kristanc (za sv. maše) \$220; M. Celestina (za Karmel-Sora \$100, za Rev. Opeka \$50, za Rev. Tomažin \$50) \$200; F.H. Gaser \$200; I. Pretnar \$200; F.M. Hozzicato \$150; I. Košir in druž. \$150; V.M. Vrhovnik (v spomin +Frank Kastelic \$10, za vse \$100) \$110; V.A. Lamovec \$100; M. Bajc (za sestre) \$100; M.M. Odar \$100; M. Ovnič \$100; M. Cimperman \$100; V.R. Zadnikar \$100; R.A. Knez (za sestre) \$100.

Dalje: A.H. Gorše (za R.O.) \$60; N. Avžlohar \$60; Maks Stanonik \$50; R. Jarem \$50; F. Šega \$50; K. Jereb (za sestre) \$50; M. Koren (za sv. maše +J. Koren) \$50; H. Nemeč (za sestre) \$50; M. Ribič \$40; M. Škerl (za Rev. Opeka) \$40; M. Kette \$20; A. Dragar \$20; J. Pičman \$20; M. Cugel \$20; D.F. Androjna \$20; M. Brodnick \$20; A. Kurbus (v spomin +M. Goršek) \$20; N.N. \$10; I. Volčjak \$10; I. Matic \$10; N.N. \$10.

Vsem, ki ste razumeli naše vabilo, se udeležili kosila ali kakorkoli pomagali k lepemu uspehu, vsem: Bog povrni s svojim blagoslovom. V imenu vseh, ki bodo deležni iz tega sklada, naša iskrena hvala!

Po kosilu se je še nekaj dobrotnikov oglasilo s svojim darom, kar bo objavljeno ob drugi priliki.

S. Marija Pavlišič, ki deluje na Madagaskarju, je poslala prav lepo pismo in priložila fotografijo dveh malčkov:

"Spoštovana! Danes sem prejela sporočilo, da je vaš dar prispel v materno hišo v Parizu. Iskreno se vam zahvalim v mojem imenu in v imenu naših otrok. Kakšno veselje, ki z vašo pomočjo imajo možnost, da redno obiskujejo šolo in imajo opoldne topel obrok hrane, ki je za večino tudi edini obrok na dan. Za božične praznike smo razveselili okrog 420 otrok s preprostim kosilom, a vendar prazničnim, in darilom srečolova. Darilo je bilo približno enako, čeprav različno. Oh, kako se jim so svetile očke. Ena mala deklica je dobila novo oblekco (3 leta), globoko je dihala, božala oblekco in vpraševala, ali je to res za mene? Bom odnesla s seboj in bom smela priti v šolo v njej, je rekla. Otrok, ki živi v veliki revščini, da je nekaj lepega zanjo. Ali pa fantek, ki je dobil dva mala zavitka keksov, je boječe vprašal, če sem en zavitek pustiti pri nas za drugič, ker ima doma sestrico bolno. Rekel je, en zavitek bom danes dal sestri, enega pa bom shranil za drugič. Ko ga vprašam, če sam ne mara tega pojediti, se lepo nasmehne in reče, o zelo rad imam to, a jaz sem že jedel, sestra pa je bolna. Pa mu dam še en zavitek, a pravi, tudi to bom pustil za sestro... Kako velika ljubezen.

Pri nas je še vedno velika vročina. Jezus je žejen, ga ne zebe. Otroci darujejo Jezusu, da Marija in Jožef lahko kupijo pijačo za Dete v jaslicah.



ŽIVE JASLICE: Otroci iz otroškega vrtca, Adam in Eva, sta izgnana iz raja. Božič 2003

Lepo doživetje smo imeli v zaporu z zaporniki. 17 je mladoletnih, 15 žensk, vseh skupaj med 460-480 (eni odhajajo, drugi prihajajo). Zelo lepo so pripravili žive jaslice. Ena naših sester, socialna delavka, in ena mlajša študentka, hodita redno in skrbita za zapornike, posebej za bolne. Slovesnost je trajala dve uri in pol. Zaporniki - živijo v zelo težkih razmerah, da ne rečem nečloveških -, so se ob koncu lepo zahvalili, češ vaša ljubezen in pomoč nam moralno ogromno pomaga, saj nas sprejemate kot ljudi sebi enake, nas ne obsojate.

Skupno kosilo je bilo višek praznovanja. Nekaj zapornikov se pripravlja na sprejem zakramentov, krst, sv. obhajilo. Bivši zapornik, ki je bil pet let zaprt, nas pride večkrat obiskat, sam pravi: verjetno ne bi spoznal katoliške vere, vere v Kristusa, ko je v zaporu preko sester in duhovnika srečal tudi Jezusa...

Lahko bi vam še veliko povedala o doživetjih, ki nam prihajajo naproti in nam prinašajo veliko veselje.

Hvala vam za pomoč in razumevanje, naj vam Gospod vse bogato poplača z mirom in blagoslovom, hvaležna s. Marija Pavlišič, usmiljenka."

Veliko knjig bi bilo napisanih, če bi sestre imele več časa za tako delo, a ga nimajo, ker se trudijo, da pomagajo tistim, ki jih obkrožajo. Imajo pa veliko veselja, ko opazijo, da ni njihovo delo zastoj, da ga Bog blagoslavlja v velikih primerih. Tudi mi smo veseli, ko pride tako pismo, in se Nebeškemu Očetu iskreno zahvalimo za vse dobro! Upam, da tudi vi dobrotniki ste veseli, ko prebirate te vrstice in se veselite radosti teh malih otrok.

Prav lep misijonski pozdrav od vseh sodelujočih, in

Marice Lavriše

1004 Dillewood Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44119

Z AMERIŠKO DOMOVINO STE VEDNO NA TEKOČEM

Sprememba naslova

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

Nov naslov

Ime _____

Naslov _____

Mesto, Država, Zip _____

Star naslov

Star naslov _____

Mesto, država, zip _____

Bolečino je treba razumeti

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

Žal ne pojasni razlogov za pomor celih družin, na primer Mavsarjevih iz Mirne, pa ugledne protifašistične Brecljeve družine iz Vipavske doline. Zakaj ob vsem tem še uboji otrok pa celih romskih družin, tudi več kot 60 naenkrat?

Je bil kdo iz partizanskega vrha obsojen za to, med vojno, po vojni? Nič.

Francosko odporniško gibanje je na primer že leta 1946 sodno obračunalo z nasilnimi odkloni med vojno. Tu je razlika med evropsko in azijsko prakso odnosa do nasilja.

A čut za pravičnost, ki ga ne najdemo ob ubojih družin, je bil na moč izostren v primeru kraj in dezerterstva. Tako v oddaji iz ust predsednika ZZB izvemo, da so obsodili na smrt dva ljubljanska dijaka - partizana, ker sta okradla neko starko. Se je kaj podobnega zgodilo partizanskim "vosovcem", ki so odgovorni za poboje Romov ali za čiščenje trgovcev v partizanskih vrtah?

(konec priložnosti)

Novi grobovi

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

let član pevskega zbora Glasbena Matica. Pogreb je bil 21. februarja s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Mihaela na Brecksville Rd. s pokopom na Mapleside pokopališču.

Mildred Stavanja

Umrla je Mildred Stavanja (Stavange), vdova po Josephu, mati Joanne Buck in Josepha, 4-krat stara mati, sestra Caroline Hunoff in Georgea Bobick. Pogreb je bil 24. februarja v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Joseph L. FORTUNA

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