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A Bigger Europe? Not So Fast...

The European Union is throwing a big party to formally invite 10 new members to join its club. But what happens if they don't want to join?

That is the question raised by a rash of dispiriting public-opinion polls in the candidate countries. They show support for joining the EU averaging only 52% of respondents in the 10 countries — eight former Soviet satellites, plus Malta and Cyprus. Support is below 45% in the Czech Republic, and barely 30% in Estonia. And even where support is stronger, as in Hungary, the polls are inconclusive: While 67% of Hungarians approve of EU membership, more than 90% admit they know next to nothing about its policies and institutions.

It used to be a foregone conclusion that the formerly communist East would jump at the chance to hook up with the West. But "some citizens are a little bit concerned, particularly about the fact that 10 years after we won our sovereignty, it seems that we'll lose it again," says Alojz Peterle, a former prime minister of Slovenia.

Each of the 10 candidate countries must officially accept membership, and all plan referendums this year. The votes will come at a sensitive time for the EU, as it tries to write a constitution for itself and increase its power to set pan-European

policy on issues from taxation to foreign policy. Rejection by even one candidate would be embarrassing for Western Europe, which has put a lot of political capital into bringing eight former communist countries into Europe's economic fold and creating a trading bloc with more consumers than there are in the U.S.

Sensing an opportunity, anti-EU political movements have sprung up in nearly every candidate country. In Estonia, for instance, opposition groups are gearing up for a media blitz and sending mass e-mail messages. "The European Union is very like a disguised Soviet Union — a form of federal bureaucratic socialism," says Uno Silberg, chairman of the "No to the EU" campaign in Estonia. In Latvia, where polls show 49% of voters favor joining the EU and 35% oppose it, the government says it won't feel comfortable until at least 60% back membership.

Disillusionment has grown as terms of membership become clear. Subsidy payments to farmers in the new membership countries will probably initially be only 40% what farmers in current member countries get. And new-member citizens won't be able to work in some current-member countries for the first seven years, a restriction intended to prevent low-wage Easterners from stealing jobs



Maria and Joseph Spisich of Wickliffe, Ohio recently celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary in Cancun, Mexico along with their daughters, sons-in-law, and grandchildren. Smiling with their grandparents in front of the Mexican Christmas tree (made of coconuts) are (front row): Anthony Lustri, Lyndsay Amyot, and Kristina Lustri. Back row: Andrea Kaifesh, Jessica Kaifesh, and Alyssa Amyot.

Maria and Joe were married on January 16, 1960 at Maria Pomagaj Catholic Church on Manning Avenue in Toronto, Canada.

from higher-wage Westerners.

That turns voters off. "It's a sort of discrimination," says Valerie Roubalova, a 30-year-old architect in Prague.

Adding to the friction is some EU officials' take-it-or-leave-it attitude. At a recent meeting, Christian Danielsson, deputy head of the European Commission's enlargement department, said it wouldn't be a big deal if a candidate rebuffed membership. It'll just involve a lot of deleting from the treaty," he said.

But it also would mark an embarrassing defeat for EU bureaucrats who have worked for years on this bid to enlarge the union. Of all the candidates — Poland, Hungary, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Malta and Cyprus — a snub by Poland, by far the richest and largest of the candidates, would be the biggest blow.

Qualms about what it might mean to be in a bloc with such affluent members are reflected in the plot of a popular Polish soap opera "Zlotopolscy." It centers on a farmer's wife who runs off with a rich German who purchased land in their village.

In the latest poll from the CBOS public-opinion polling agency in Warsaw, 61% of respondents favored joining the EU. But CBOs researcher Michal Wenzel notes that Polish voters are notorious for doing the opposite of what they tell pollsters.

The mayor of Warsaw, Lech Kaczynski, thinks Poland should negotiate better terms. And the Peasants party recently threatened to

pull out of the ruling coalition unless Brussels offers Polish farmers more money.

Hungary, meanwhile had planned to hold its referendum on March 15, but switched it to April so voters will be less likely to be thinking about Hungary's history as part of a different empire: March 15 is the national holiday commemorating an unsuccessful 1848 revolution to overthrow Hapsburg rule.

--Wall Street Journal

Slovenia aims at Feb. Referendum

Slovenia looks set to become the first of ten EU applicant countries to decide on EU membership by referendum after the Copenhagen Summit in December invited them to become members.

The idea of holding two referenda on the same day, one on EU and one on NATO on Feb. 9 was launched by the Slovenian government in a meeting of the leadership of the parliament and relevant parliamentary bodies in the so-called "Euroatlantic Council" on Monday.

One important reason for

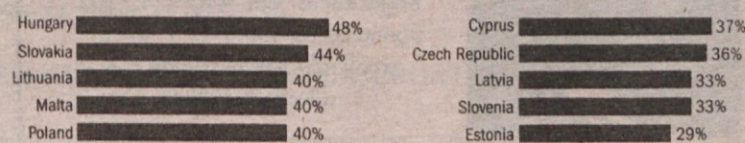
holding an early referendum could be to avoid the strengthening of the No-to-NATO side in the event of war against Iraq. Slovenia was invited to become a member of NATO at the Prague Summit in November, 2002.

The latest opinion polls from December 2002 showed a solid majority of 60 percent in favor of EU membership, with 20 percent against. On the NATO issue 50 percent indicated to be favorable of membership, while 30 percent were opposed.



Benefits of Membership?

Percentage of people in EU candidate countries who think that they will personally benefit from expansion



Note: Polls conducted between Sept. 2 and Oct. 16

Source: European Commission's Eurobarometer

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No. 3 January 16, 2003

REFLECTIONS BY RUDY

The Christmas Concert

by RUDY FLIS

Stan Kuhar does a nice job of describing the St. Vitus Christmas Concert in Jan. 2 edition of *American Home*. I was there with my wife, Therese, and daughter Carolyn, enjoying what Stan has described so well.

My daughter was in St. Vitus Church for the first time, so after the Christmas concert we toured the beautiful church. The grotto, the manger with the baby Jesus and the holy family, all must see points of interest that weekend.

After our tour, we headed for the other side of the church to get to the downstairs hall for refreshments and a little socializing. But something caught my eye. It was a picture of the Virgin and Child, wearing a full gold crown. A lady was standing in front of the picture praying. As she started walking away, I asked her "Who is this?" Her answer? "Marija Pomagaj."

I had finally met the famous lady responsible for the beautiful music I first

heard at my sister Mary's funeral Mass and now can hear each time I select number 17 on the Christmas CD – "Sveta noč," by the St. Vitus Christmas Choir, "Marija, pomagaj nam sleherni čas."

My Slovenian heritage was rewarding that afternoon, as I was in God's house enjoying music and people. To me, St. Vitus Church is simply divine, the music is its soul, and the parishioners its heart. I love it.

In church, my family catered to their souls. Then we headed to the basement hall to cater to our stomachs. I met people working and people socializing.

A lady asked me, "Is this your daughter, Monica?" My answer: "No. This is my daughter Carolyn. The only Slovenian characteristic about her is she is our family potica baker."

I went home from this friendly gathering, knowing I would be here same time next year. It was nice seeing you there this year. Can we do it again next year? My wish, my prayer is, "Yes."

Keep the U.S. Out of U.N.

Editor,

Osama bin Laden, the mastermind of the 9-11 Black Tuesday attacks, is still alive, but the Bush administration won't focus on him and the al-Qaeda agents who carried out those attacks. Bush himself said so. Maybe you missed it. In late 2001, he said about Bin Laden, "I truly am not that concerned about him."

He'd rather use the "War on Terrorism" to bolster the United Nations and promote its objectives. Perhaps you missed that, too. "I have asked Congress to authorize the use of America's military... to enforce U.N. Security Council demands." He would rather hand over our military to a world government headed by the same U.N. than have it locate the terrorists who killed 3,200 Americans and destroyed billions of dollars worth of American property on American soil.

Even Congress has fallen into this brainwashing, which, I'm guessing, you missed as well. The resolution on the use of force against Iraq reads in part: "(2) enforce all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions regarding Iraq." This is neither a declaration of war on Iraq nor a letter of marque or reprisal against bin Laden or the al-Qaeda, as the Constitution requires. It's a statement of submission and subservience to the U.N.

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

"BLACK AND WHITE" (For older folks only)

(Sent in by a reader – author unknown)

You could hardly see for all the snow, spread the rabbit ears as far as they go. Pull up a chair to the TV set, "Good night, David; Good night, Chet". Dependin' on the channel you tuned, you got Rob and Laura – or Ward and June. It felt so good, felt so right. Life looked better in black and white.

I Love Lucy, The Real McCoys, Dennis the Menace, the Cleaver boys, Rawhide. Gunsmoke, Wagon Train, Superman, Jimmy & Lois Lane. Father Knows Best, Patty Duke, Rin Tin Tin and Lassie too, Donna Reed on Thursday night – Life looked better in black and white.

I wanna go back to black and white. Everything always turned out right. Simple people, simple lives, good guys always won the fights. Now nothing is the way it seems, in living color on the TV screen. Too many murders, too much fight, I wanna go back to the black and white.

In God they trusted, in bed they slept, a promise made was a promise kept. They never cussed or broke their vows, they'd never make the network now. But if I could, I'd rather be in a TV town in '53.

It felt so good, felt so right, life looked better in Black and white.

I'd trade all the channels on the cable or satellite if I could just turn back the clock tonight to when everybody knew wrong from right.

Life was better in BLACK AND WHITE !

and property. Unless we force Congress to pass Ron Paul's H.R. 1146 to get the U.S. out of the U.N. and the U.N. out of the U.S., this administration will continue to surrender American sovereignty to the U.N. until a free, independent, sovereign America is no more.

--Joseph M. Ogrinc
Bratenahl, OH

Dr. Zenon A. Klos

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Life in the Refugee Camps

by ANTON ZAKELJ
translated and edited
by JOHN ZAKELJ

Saturday, June 22, 1946
All morning I met with various people in the city to make arrangements for the refugee craft show. We thought we would get a hall in a hotel, but now it looks like they can't get it cleaned and ready in time. We need a different space.

Miss Russon is helping us. She is a Canadian employed by UNRRA, very enthusiastic and always very busy. Of all the UNRRA staff, she's the hardest worker. She really cares about the refugees and helps in any way she can. Whenever she goes to Trieste in her jeep, she brings back thread and other raw materials, which we can then use to make things to sell. But she can't stand the Croats, who are too long-winded. When the Croats begin to ramble on in our meetings, she cuts them off and asks them to sit down. If we need something from her, we get the best results by just using a single word: "Food!" or "Thread!"

Marjan Kocmar, the photographer, and his brother Alojz arrived for a visit today. They are staying in our room.

Dr. Jagodic, the pope's special delegate for refugees, arrived to conduct a confirmation ceremony in the camp tomorrow.

My brother Joze arrived on a visit from Feldkirchen.

He has decided to delay his return home to Slovenia.

Sunday, June 23, 1946
We celebrated Confirmation in the camp chapel this morning. There were 60 Slovenians and 40 Croats who were confirmed, mostly teenagers, but also some adults. Afterwards, there was a special dinner for the confirmees. Cilka was the sponsor for Primožic's daughter.

Felix returned to our room today, after being gone for almost 2 weeks. He had been arrested in Scheifling for traveling more than 10 kilometers from the camp without permission. After 10 days in jail, they allowed him to return here. He looks pale, is unshaven and appears to be hallucinating. I can't stand him. - I have too many other things to worry about.

Wednesday, June 26, 1946
I met three times with UNRRA staff and the UNRRA director to ask for materials for the craft show, but without success.

At 11 a.m., I went with Miss Russon to a camp meeting of representatives from other camps. UNRRA says we have to share whatever raw materials we can get with the other camps. But the Slovenians in our camp are really the only ones who have developed a capacity to make some quality products. The Croats in Murdorf are making a few brushes out of tamarack branches and the Ukrainians aren't making anything.

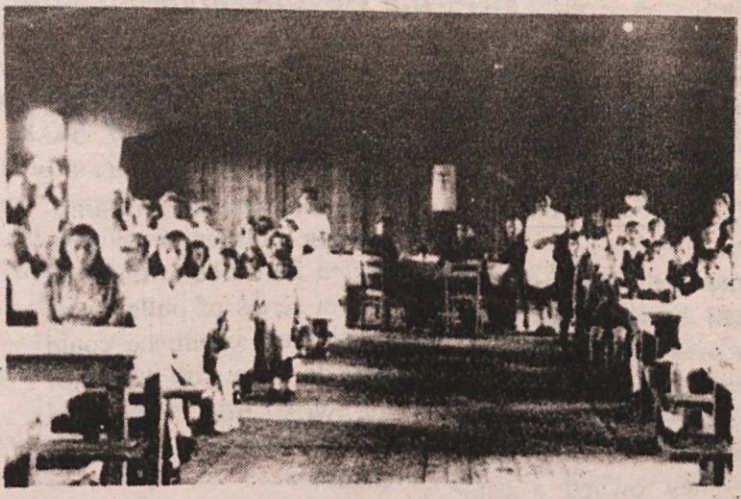
In the evening, we had a meeting in our camp. Babnik agreed to help with the craft show.

Felix is hallucinating and talking about how he will die tomorrow.

Thursday, June 27, 1946
I spent all day walking to various places in the city, asking for paint and wood for the upcoming craft show, but couldn't get anything.

Our UNRRA director, Mr. Gilbert, suddenly announced that he will be leaving after 4 months with us. When he arrived, he was very strict and very supportive, especially with the Slovenians. But we impressed him with our first craft show and he changed his mind. We will be sorry to see him leave.

(To Be Continued)



Children and teen-agers celebrated their first communion and confirmation in the dining hall of the refugee camp near Judenburg, Austria on June 22, 1946. Photo by Marjan Kocmur.

Life is the art of drawing sufficient conclusions from insufficient premises.
-Samuel Butler

More of Phil's Philosophies

Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day; teach that person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks.

Have you noticed since everyone has a camcorder these days no one talks about seeing UFOs like they used to.

You read about all these terrorists - most of them came here legally, but they

hung around on those expired visas, some for as long as 10-15 years. Now, compare that to Blockbuster; you are two days late with a video and those people are all over you. Let's put Blockbuster in charge of immigration.

What is the capitol of Japan?
"J"

Submitted by Phil Hrvatin

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Grandpa's Clever Cousin

by JOE GLINSEK

Among the few relatives we had living nearby, Mr. Legan was the cousin of my maternal grandfather. He and his wife lived in Euclid, just northeast of the Collinwood area. They owned a triple corner lot, the equivalent of a tiny farm in the city. Their house and garage occupied a third of the plot and the rest was devoted to a small vegetable garden and a sizable orchard.

When I was a kid, the town was still called "Euclid Village" and was mostly vineyards. His property was considered "out in the country." You needed a car to get there, so we rarely visited them. Not until after WWII did Euclid blossom into a city and start expanding into the booming residential suburb of Cleveland that it became.

I first met grandpa's cousin in 1941 after my uncle Mike bought his first car and we drove out to his country-like place. He was retired, and his short crippled leg required a special shoe with a six-inch sole. He managed quite well with a cane, and kept busy with a variety of skills. He made useful kitchen implements in his garage and earned a modest living selling them.

One of these was the 'ribezhen,' a slicing device used in most Slovenian homes, and others as well. They ranged from a large 10-inch width to slice cabbage for homemade sauerkraut, to a smaller, narrow slicer for cucumbers, onions and the like. Many of these clever devices that were being used in Collinwood homes, had been made in his garage. Everyone called him "Legan," - I never heard his given name.

Also skilled at grafting, he could do wonders with a sharp knife and a fruit tree, as was evident by his orchard. If you wanted an odd variety of apple or pear or any of the tricky things done with the normal growing habits of fruit trees, this man had the skills to work these miracles. The fruit trees crowding the orchard were living proof of his talented green thumb.

To keep his crop free of annoying birds, he designed and installed an elaborate device made from odds and ends. He rarely went anywhere outside of his home or yard, so among his other hobbies, he was also a full-time watchman. The trees were hung with bells and various cans or utensils made

into noisy rattles. The bird-chasing devices were connected from tree to tree, and with a series of pulleys and small brass chain, he could activate them with a flick of the wrist from his house, garage workshop, or lawn chair.

He enjoyed explaining its operation and took great pleasure in demonstrating its effect by chasing a flock of sparrows from a cherry tree while you watched. His neighbors were far enough removed from the orchard to be out of earshot of the frequent clanging. Our clever cousin was constantly vigilant, and only slept when the birds did.

His major shop skills were casting aluminum and matching wood and steel, and he practiced these crafts in his large garage. His son ran a tool and die shop in the city and he was very successful during the war. Pieces of damaged heavy-duty band saw blades were scrapped by-products of his plant, and became raw material for his dad's workshop. Aluminum chips and turnings were also available whenever needed. These, along with scraps of hardwood brought from a friend's woodworking shop, provided our handyman with a free supply of materials.

The hardwood scraps furnished the structural parts of the 'ribezhen.' The construction of the wooden parts was fairly simple, requiring only a saw and a drill. The scrap pieces of saw blades were a heavy gauge of high-carbon steel which he formed into blades and 'slitters' for his slicing tools. It was also an excellent steel for the kitchen knives which he made in three sizes. Unlike the stainless steel blades that became popular later, these knives would take and hold a keen cutting edge. They would rust if not properly cared for, but with continuous kitchen use, the high-carbon steel blades could be kept sharp and free of rust indefinitely.

His use of aluminum scraps was the most ingenious. A safe open area by his garage door was set aside for a little foundry. An electric blower made the coals hot enough to melt the scraps of aluminum. It was poured into homemade molds that cast the handles for his knives. The blade and tang were set deep into the cast handle which was well formed and polished. Through long and heavy use and even abuse, the blade remained secure, a tribute to

his craftsmanship. He could boast of many satisfied customers, and he was way ahead of his time by making his kitchen tools entirely from recycled scrap. We bought one of his *ribezhen*s and two of his knives after I was married. The heavy carving knife came to Florida with us, and after almost half-a-century of normal daily use, it survives intact and is now used in the yard as a sod cutter.

Seven days a week this was Legan's life, work, hobby and recreation, and he loved every minute of it. But he always kept an eye peeled for those pesky birds and within arm's length of the chain. Lunch and supper were eaten at the kitchen table where the windows looked out on the orchard and a chain was within reach. Maybe the birds pilfered a cherry when he went to the bathroom, but it wouldn't surprise me if he had that situation covered as well.

In 1947 when I bought my '34 Ford, Grandpa got to see his cousin more often. I enjoyed checking out his workshop and new projects. He was delighted to have visitors but he couldn't drive, and his son worked a heavy schedule. I only recall two occasions when he visited our home, both were during the winter - he wouldn't leave his post during the fruit season.

Besides being an interesting relative, Legan always made a youngster feel his equal. He was not someone you'd be likely to forget.

Pro-Life Rosary

The Roman Catholic 21st Annual Pro-Life Rosary Procession in Reparation for the national sin of abortion will take place in Cleveland on Saturday, January 18, starting at 1 p.m. at Cardinal Mindszenty Plaza, East 12th Street and Lakeside Avenue. It will proceed to Public Square. Everyone is welcome to attend.

College Finance Seminar

by STANE KUCHAR

St. Vitus Parish will sponsor a college planning session on January 28, at 7 p.m. in the parish auditorium, 6111 Lausche Avenue, Cleveland.

The featured speakers will be Mrs. Grace Calguire, department head, college counseling, St. Ignatius High School and a staff member from the financial aid department, John Carroll University.

Recent news stories again stress the importance of a four-year college degree as well as being prepared to handle the workload at a college.

The state of Ohio has on average, as of the last national census completed in 2000, only 21% of its adults with a minimum four-year college degree. The importance of a four-year degree and impact on income is highlighted with a simple comparison of percent of adult individuals with a four-year degree and the median household income on four

cities in northeast Ohio: Cleveland, Euclid, Willoughby Hills, and Solon.

Cleveland has 11.4% of its adults with a college degree and a median household income of \$25,928 while the numbers for Euclid are 19.6% and \$35,151. This is in contrast with 32.2% of adults in Willoughby Hills having a four-year college degree and median household income of \$47,493 while the city of Solon has 50.4% of adults with a four-year college degree and median household income of \$78,903. This simple comparison again notes the importance of higher education and impact on household income.

There is no admission charge for the session on Tuesday, January 28 at St. Vitus. Light refreshments and pastry will be provided. Session should last approximately 90 minutes. For additional information on the session contact the parish rectory at (216) 361-1444.

Baked Potato Soup

Ingredients:

½ C chopped onion
½ C chopped celery

1 T butter
4 C half-n-half

1½ t salt
1½ t pepper
2T butter

3 T flour
2 large potatoes, baked, peeled and cubed
1 C shredded Cheddar
½ C crumbled cooked bacon
½ C green onions or chives, chopped
½ C sour cream

Directions:

Sauté onion and celery in 1 T butter until tender. Combine the onion mixture, half-n-half, salt and pepper in a saucepan, mix well. Heat to boiling, stirring occasionally. Heat 2 T butter in another pan and add flour (to make roux). Cook for 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Whisk into the half-n-half mixture. Cook until thickened, stirring constantly. Add the potatoes and mix well. Cook until the potatoes are heated through, stirring frequently. Ladle into soup bowls and garnish with bacon, onions/chives and sour cream.

--Kim Ann Kaifesh

✂ Our Family and Friends Cookbook

Appreciation, whether of nature, or books, or art, or men, depends very much on temperament. - What is beauty or genius or greatness to me, is far from being so to another.

--Bill Edwards



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An Eulogy For My Father, Karl Klezin

Karl Klezin died Monday, Dec. 30, 2002 and was buried from St. Aloysius church in Ridgewood, NY on Saturday, January 4, 2003. His son Joe gave the following eulogy:

As I reflect on the life of my Father, I find comfort knowing that he had touched so many hearts, perhaps in a special way. The number of people who had offered their condolences over the past several days gives credence to the wonderful life he lived.

Karl Klezin was born on October 6, 1913 in Laško, Slovenia, son of Blaz and Ana Klesin. During his childhood and into adolescence, he endured many of the hardships surrounding both World Wars. It was also the time in which he attended trade school and mastered the artist profession, he would later bring with him to America. At age 16 he had already repaired and repainted murals at St. Martin's church in Lasko, which can still be seen today. He always said it was during these years that he obtained his profound skill in color matching.

In June of 1949, through the help of his father, he emigrated to New York, settling in the city amongst other Slovenians and joining the parish of St. Cyril.

In 1950 he purchased an old schoolhouse in Worcester upstate New York, which he converted into a summer home. That summer home became the foundation of many of my own and my siblings' childhood memories.

In 1953 he met my mother, Helena Cerar during a retreat at Marija Pomagaj shine in Lemont, Illinois. They married on May 4th, 1957 in Cleveland, Ohio. He was 43 and my mother 18 years his junior.

After returning to New York and settling in Ridgewood, they bore six children: Karl Jr. in 1958, Maria Anna in 1961, Helen in 1964, Joseph in 1966, Dorothy in 1968, and at age of 54, when most people are preparing for retirement, he fathered his youngest child, Mark in 1968. With such an extended family and late start, we always felt that he had definitely made up for lost time.

Of the thing my father cherished, I would say that to him three were most important: Catholic faith, work ethics, and his family and friends.

As a devoted Catholic, my father always believed that when you open your heart to help others, you will be blessed in the eyes of God

and repaid tenfold, when it mattered most. It was his unconditional giving of himself to help others that I am so proud of. Whether it comprised of painting many churches *pro bono*, or praying for, visiting, and transporting the sick parishioners of St. Cyril, St. Aloysius, St. Matthias and Our Lady of Miraculous Medal, it was his nature to do so.

To account for so many years of giving would require a lengthier eulogy, but to exemplify this trait, I want to share with you what a dear friend of my father told me during the wake this past Thursday, and the one that really moved me. My father sponsored many Slovenian people in their quest for citizenship, when they emigrated to New York subsequent to his arrival, arranging room and board as well as employment.

There are memories of the numerous drives to the dock to pick up old friends he had made during his lengthy stay in an Austria refugee camp prior to his arrival to America. This dear friend spoke about the first time he met my father. He was about 15 and hungry. When my father received a rations package, he opened the package and shared with not only him, but everyone as well. Given the situation and circumstances, where rations were scarce, yet it was something my father did routinely. Thank you, Mr. Rebol, for sharing these memories with my family and me.

His devotion to God and the teaching of Catholic Church included a daily rosary, attendance at Sunday Mass, which later in life he expanded to daily attendance. My father always felt responsible for his children's upbringing. When he learned that any of us had missed a Sunday Mass for whatever reason, he would attend a second Mass just to make things right. My brother Mark would joke that when his time came at the pearly gate and not be allowed in for missing a number of Sunday Masses, he would counter with "Wait a minute... there has to be a mistake. My father went for me on all those days in question..."

But seriously, as holy a man as my father was, it was clear that he was still afraid of death. To this day I do not fully comprehend why, but he did say he felt that he did not do enough during his lifetime here on earth to earn his ascend into heaven. Knowing my father for 36 years, I answer with a statement I repeated quite often: "Ata, if you don't make it to

heaven, then none of us stands a chance." After which he responded with a hearty smile, even at his most difficult time.

My father's work ethics... Never in my life have I met a man so determined to provide for his family. His work ethic was so ingrained I would find it difficult to fill one-third of his shoes. It was his pride in his work which kept him going all these years. Although he knew he had talent with which he could have attained financial comfort, he was content with below premium compensation, knowing it would generate repeat customers, thus allowing him to continue with what he loved the most.

His fairness, honesty and quality of workmanship made him one of the most sought-after painters in Ridgewood. He worked right up through this past summer, wood graining many doors in the neighborhood. I recall requests getting so numerous, my mother, in fear for his health, would reject them without my father's knowledge.

His work in St. Cyril, Holy Cross, Miraculous Medal and the lower church of St. Mathias also pays tribute to his hard work. Recognizing my father's unique style, I find solace in knowing that as I attended Mass, visit friends and relatives, or drive the streets of Ridgewood, Glendale, and Middle Village, I will always find remembrance for years to come.

His family and friends... My most vivid memories involving family and friends revolved around weekends both here and upstate New York.

Sunday was the Lord's day as dad would put it - work was forbidden, but it allowed for great family time and socializing with my parent's friends and their children. Following Sunday Mass, they generally consisted of a house full of guests or summer picnics at various parks, many times with Schmitsch family - and who could forget the annual Babnik-Grom picnics in Dutches Country, where dad loved to entertain, playing his button-box accordion. Six children were a handful, yet dad knew how important quality time with the family was, and made every effort to ensure our happiness. During the summer in upstate New York, who could forget the games of kickball, visit to the ice cream parlor, where he enjoyed the best hot fudge sundaes, the many carnival and county fairs... not to mention the hay rides or annual 4th of

July trip to Cooperstown, where we fed reindeers and anxiously awaited the fireworks display.

And lastly, some of the fondest memories come from the visualization both big and small, which I'll cherish for the rest of my life...

His morning "off to work" kiss goodbye that he gave my mother...

His Sunday naps on the couch...

His surprise beautiful rendition of Silent Night at my sister Dorothy's wedding...

The way his forehead wrinkled when he got mad...

His smiles when playing - and spoiling - his grandchildren...

The family car breakdowns en route to Worcester...

The Rustico red wine spritzer he loved during dinner...

The 1994 trip to Slovenia with dad and mom...

The glow on his face, after seeing for the first time the grandson, who would carry his name...

In closing, I would like to recite an illustration I recently came across... taken from the book 'September' by Rosamunde Pilcher:

Death is nothing at all. It

does not count. I have only slipped away into the next room. Nothing has happened. Everything remains exactly as it was. I am I, and you are you, and the old life that we lived so fondly together is untouched, unchanged. Whatever we were to each other, that we are still. Call me by the old familiar name. Speak of me in the easy way which you always used. Put no difference in your tone. Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be ever the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken without effort, without ghost of a shadow upon it. Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was. What is death but a negligible accident? Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight? I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner. All is well.

Dear Ata: May the love of God shine upon you always. May He cradle you in His arms. I love you and will miss you all the days of my life.

Your son,
--Joe Klezin

Study finds cholesterol drugs fight heart attacks in aged, too

CHICAGO - Cholesterol-lowering drugs, already a mainstay of heart care for the middle-aged, also prevent heart attacks in elderly people, a large study concludes.

The drugs, called statins, are widely prescribed to people with even modestly elevated cholesterol levels, and the new results are likely to enlarge their use.

Many previous studies looked at people in their 50s and 60s. The new research was intended to see if the drugs improve the quality of life of people in their 70s and beyond, even though their life expectancy is relatively short.

The results show that statins reduced their risk of heart attack and stroke by 15 percent during three years of treatment. However, the study, known by the acronym PROSPER, found no effect on Alzheimer's disease, as many hoped the drug would.

"We believe that PROSPER is good news for senior citizens," said Dr. James Shepherd of the University of Glasgow.

"The results remind us

that treatment that currently applies to middle-aged individuals is equally applied to the elderly."

The study involved 5,804 people between the ages of 70 and 82 in Britain, Ireland, and the Netherlands. All were considered at increased risk because of coronary artery disease resulting from other conditions, including diabetes, high blood pressure or smoking.

Among the findings:

- The drug reduced LDL, the so-called bad cholesterol, by 34 percent.

- Deaths from coronary disease fell 24 percent in those getting the statin.

- Strokes were not affected by the treatment. However, longer treatment might still show a benefit.

The study also found that people on statins had a 24 percent increase in new cancer diagnosis.

However, the researchers dismissed this as a fluke, saying no other study found a link between statins and cancer, and there is no reason to think the medicines could trigger the disease so quickly.

We must never undervalue any person. - The workman loves not to have his work despised in his presence. Now God is present everywhere, and every person is his work.
--De Sales

Ask the Travel Expert

by PATRICIA COIL
Euclid Travel

Every week, it seems I receive postcards, letters, or brochures offering me some kind of special deal on travel. It is hard for the ordinary person to determine if these are indeed bargains. The smartest thing I have found is to take the offer to a travel agency, like Euclid Travel and have them check it out.

It is rare that Euclid Travel cannot offer similar travel at a comparable or lower price. In almost all cases these mail offers are too good to be true, because these offers generally require extra fees, the window of travel is usually extremely limited, and in some cases they actually use deceptive language to make you think you will receive something that you won't.

Since working for Euclid Travel, I have become much more knowledgeable about the wording in brochures, etc., and decided I will pass this information on to my readers:

Airline Terms

Nonstop flights: The plane goes directly to your destination without stopping.

Direct flight: The plane is going to stop up to 5 times, but you do not have to change planes.

Connecting flight: This flight involves changing planes on the way to your destination.

Charter flight: Generally cheaper than commercial flights to the same location. Direct charter flights are available from Cleveland to Las Vegas, Bahamas, Cancun, Punta Cana, and Puerto Vallarta. Downside is there is no guarantee that the plane will leave on time, no pre-assigned seats, and you need to get to the airport at least 2 hours in advance. If something happens to your chartered plane, generally you have to wait for another plane to show up no matter how long that is.

Always have your travel agent book with a reputable carrier, because the company could go out of business and leave you stranded.

Travel insurance is a wise investment particularly, if you have to pay for your charter in advance.

Insurance

Cancellation insurance: This covers the cost of your tour or cruise, but only if you cancel for medical reasons.

Travel insurance: In general, this includes cancellation insurance and covers you during your trip for lost luggage, travel delay, emergency medical problems, accidental death, and medical transportation.

Room location

Ocean view: Guarantees that you will see the ocean, but don't be surprised if the only way to do that is to stick your head out the window and look between buildings.

Ocean front: The ocean is actually right outside the window or balcony of your room.

Run of the house: Your room will be the best available upon check in, but not the best

in the house.

Reservations

Guaranteed: Your reservation has been guaranteed by the use of your credit card. If you do not cancel within the property's guidelines or show up, you will be charged for this reservation.

Confirmed: This means that the property is saving space for you, but you must arrive in a timely fashion or the room may be given to someone else.

Tours

Escorted: There will be a person with you on the entire trip, who is responsible for your comfort, etc. Usually meals are included in escorted tours.

Hosted: A contact person will meet the bus at each stop. Meals are generally not included.

View: Viewing means that you will have a chance to see it, but not stop. Picture your nose pressed against the bus window as you drive through an area. That is viewing.

Visit: This term in a brochure means that you actually stop and spend some time at the destination.

Meal plans

British plan: Full country breakfast.

European plan: Think empty plate, because no meals are included.

American plan: Includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Modified American plan: Includes just breakfast and dinner; no lunch.

Continental breakfast: Coffee, juice and roll.

Seasons

High season: Varies from one part of the world to another, but is always considered the best time of the year because of weather or other factors. It is always the most expensive season.

Low season: The least expensive season because of weather or other factors.

Shoulder season: Shoulder seasons refers to a period 2 to 6 weeks just before and after

the high season, when the rates are reasonable and the weather can be delightful. Often a good choice for the budget traveler.

If you find reading the fine print is too much of a chore, or you really want to be sure what you are paying for, then you should always consult a reputable travel agency like Euclid Travel. Travel agencies are trained to read the small print and provide the best service for their clients. After all they want you to continue doing business with them. Businesses like Euclid Travel, which has been in the same location for 45 years, depend on satisfied clients.

If you have a question related to travel, write this newspaper or call Euclid Travel, 22078 Lakeshore Blvd., Euclid, OH 44123, (216) 261-1050 or e-mail us at travel@euclidtravel.com and the answer will appear in this column.

Coming Events

Saturday, Jan. 25

Pristavska noč at Slovenian National Home on St. Clair, Cleveland.

Jan. 31, Feb. 1, 2

Slovenian ski weekend and Giant Slalom Race; dinner and awards at Windham Mts., NY. Info: Ivan Kamin (718) 424-2711.

Sunday, Feb. 2

St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Slovenian School dinner, school hall, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 2

Collinwood Slovenian Home Annual Shareholders meeting at 2 p.m.

Feb. 15 - 22

Slovenian group organizing one week ski vacation to Lake Tahoe. Info: Ivan Kamin (718) 424-2711.

Sunday, Feb. 23

St. Vitus Slovenian Language School hosts Annual Benefit Dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parish auditorium.

Saturday, March 15

Slovenian Man and Woman of the Year Banquet at SNH, St. Clair. Tickets \$22.

Sunday, March 23

St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.)

Slovenian School breakfast 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Sunday, April 6

Super Button Box Bash XXI at Slovenian Society Home, both halls featuring 15 button accordion bands.

Sunday, April 13

St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Palm Sunday 9:45 a.m. blessing of butare and procession. 10 a.m. Mass.

Sunday, April 13

Annual benefit dinner for seniors at St. Vitus Auditorium sponsored by Holy Name Society and KSKJ Lodge No. 25.

Sunday, June 8

St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian School picnic at Slovenska Pristava, 12:30 Mass followed by dinner.

Sunday, July 13

Ohio Federation of KSKJ Lodges Picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, Sept. 21

St. Vitus Altar Society annual dinner.

Sunday, Nov. 9

Slovenian Junior Chorus Fall Concert, Slovenian Society Home, Euclid, OH.

Slovenians R Us

It is good to be a part of life. Just as a sun-dial counts only the sunny hours, so does life know only that it is living.

--H.G. Wells

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The failures of life come from resting in good intentions, which are in vain unless carried out in wise action.

--Bob Mills

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Right to Life Bus

St. Mary's Collinwood Holy Name Society Right to Life bus is leaving St. Mary's church on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 9 p.m. for the march in Washington, D.C. If interested in going, call Tony Miklich at (440) 428-6951.

For Rent

5 room apt.
Groveswood area
(216) 531-5667

Death Notices

ANN TERCEK

Ann J. Tercek, long-time volunteer, passed away on Saturday, January 11, 2003 in her home in Euclid, Ohio.

Born in Cliff Mine, Pennsylvania, Ann Tercek came to Cleveland in 1935, living in Cleveland and Euclid.

Mrs. Tercek was very active in many organizations in the Slovenian Community. She was President of the Slovenian Women's Union, Branch No. 50 for 32 years and the Cleveland branches for 10 years. Under her leadership the membership rose from 240 members to 500 in a short time, when it became the second largest branch in the United States.

Ann volunteered at the Slovene Home for the Aged on Neff Road for over 25 years and was a member of the Euclid Pensioners Club, the Holmes Avenue Pensioners, and the St. Clair Pensioners.

She was Recording Secretary for Club Ljubljana in Euclid for over 10 years and the Home Makers Club of Euclid.

Mrs. Tercek sang in the St. Mary's (Collinwood) choir for 20 years and was a member of their ladies Altar Society and their Senior Citizens club.

Other memberships included the Polka Hall of Fame, the Fraternal Societies KSKJ St. Joseph Lodge No. 169, and SNPJ Struggler's #614.

Besides giving much of her time to these organizations, Mrs. Tercek still made time for visiting acquaintances who were sick and lonely, often bringing them home-made pastries and words of encouragement.

She is survived by her two daughters, Nancy Mramor and Joan Podmore; six grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and two brothers. Husband Frank Hocevar and Charles Tercek and daughter Carol Piccirello are deceased.

Mass of Christian Burial was on Wednesday, January 15 at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 15519

Holmes Avenue in Cleveland.

Arrangements are by The Dan Cosic Funeral Home, 28890 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills, Ohio. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

FRANK A. MOCNIK

Frank A. Mocnik, age 79, of Orlando, Florida, passed away on Thursday, January 9, 2003.

Mr. Mocnik was the beloved husband of Millie; dear father of Frances Milmhurst (Donald), and Marian Adams (Todd); grandfather of Colby Adams. He was the son of the late Mary Mocnik Marinko and Frank Mocnik; brother of Marian Croak (Phillip) of Madison, Wisconsin, Donald Mocnik (Patricia) of South Euclid, Ohio, and John Marinko (Kathy) of Mentor, Ohio.

Services were held in Orlando, Florida on January 13, 2003. A memorial service will be held in Cleveland at a later date. Memorials may be made to Alzheimer Research.

Extraordinary donation

Thanks to the Estate of **Mary J. Pangonis**, -- **John D. Pangonis**, personal representative, for the wonderful gift of \$500.00! Mary was a dedicated employee of the American Home for many years and we all miss her!

Newburgh - Maple Pensioners

The January, February, and March meetings of the Newburgh Maple Hts. Pensioners Club will be at the Slovenian National Home, 3563 East 80th off Union Avenue. All begin at noon.

The January meeting is on the 22nd. The February meeting is on the 26th. The March meeting is on the 26th. The attendance prize for January is \$5.00.

Great Donation

Thanks to **Holmes Avenue Pensioners** of Cleveland, Ohio for their generous donation of \$70.00.

Things are beautiful if you love them.

--Jean Anouilh

For Rent

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Euclid Pensioners Face Crisis

The Euclid Pensioners desperately need your help as they are facing the biggest crisis in their long history. The election of officers for 2003 was to have been conducted at the November meeting, but no candidates volunteered to run for any of the open positions: president, vice-president, secretary, recording secretary, and treasurer. Obviously a club cannot exist without officers providing leadership.

The present officers all declined to run for reelection. Contrary to some rumors, the refusal of the present officers to run was NOT a group decision. Both the president and recording secretary had declined to run a year ago, but generously stayed on because no one else was willing to take their places. I cannot speak for the other officers, but I have declined to run again for the position of recording secretary because I am working part time and find it very difficult to get to some meetings and consequently have missed many. A recording secretary should be present at every meeting taking minutes and not have to depend on someone else to do the job. The other officers have equally valid reasons for not running again.

If we cannot find anyone

to lead the Euclid Pensioners, there is a strong possibility that the organization will have to disband and cease to exist. There is another rumor that says that if we disband, the "huge" treasury will be divided among current members. Considering that we have about 400 members and that there will be legal fees and other expenses, each member would get somewhere between \$5 and \$10 each. What a windfall!

The Euclid Pensioners have long held a prominent place in the Slovenian community and it would be a horrible shame if the club was forced to disband. We really need you to come forward and volunteer your talents. If you are not currently a member but would like to join and run for office, we certainly will accommodate you. Our next meeting, where many important decisions affecting our future will be made, will be held at the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue, Euclid on Wednesday, Feb. 5, starting at 1 p.m.

We are hopeful that some generous, wonderful people will come forward to save our organization. Maybe you are one of these people.

--**Patricia Habat**,
present Recording Secretary

A wrong reason is worse than no reason at all.

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Remembering Frank Mocnik

Editor,

Frank Mocnik was a very good friend of mine. We were altar boys together at Saint Vitus parish. We both attended Cathedral Latin High School. When he joined the Marianists, I frequently saw him when in this area, at the Dayton Hamvention, etc. When I was at CBS in New York, on my days off, I would visit him in Newburg, NY, on the Hudson River.

John Bondy, a fellow engineer at WABC (later WCBS) became chief engineer of WNGY, Newburgh, along the Hudson River and I would visit John sometimes on my days off. Naturally, I looked up Br. Frank, who was a working brother up there at the time.

Later Frank kept inviting me to come to Puerto Rico, where he had been assigned,

especially since I was very interested in the space antenna at Arecebo and was working on my doctorate (which I never achieved).

After he left the Brotherhood (which surprised me), he married and moved to Orlando. We kept up the relationship especially via Ham radio both with the Marianist network on Sunday afternoons and later from Florida.

I shall miss the Old Man, KP4AOD, as I did since he could not operate Ham radio anymore and ended in a nursing home. His widow, Millie, has always been very nice to me as well as their now married daughters, Frances and Marian.

May Frank rest in peace in the bosom of our Lord.

W8FAZ
--Joseph Zelle

French Toast Breakfast

Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, 21281 Chardon Rd., Euclid, Ohio, will have a French Toast Breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 2 in the St. Ann Dining room beginning after the 8 a.m. Mass. Tickets are \$4.50. You are invited.

In Memory

Thanks to **Nevia Avzlahar** of Wickliffe, OH who submitted a \$20.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Drago Avzlahar**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Anthony Kaplan** of Cleveland, Ohio who sent in a \$15.00 donation in memory of his wife, **Jane Kaplan**.

Donation

Thanks to **Julia Zalar** of Richmond Hts., Ohio who sent in a \$25.00 donation.

Large Donation

Many thanks to club **Drustvo Lozka Dolina** who sent in a great \$100 Christmas donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mary Okicki** of Cleveland Ohio who sent in a \$10.00 donation in memory of her husband **Tony's** birthday.

Donation

Thanks to **Mr. and Mrs. Frank Picman** of Euclid, Ohio who sent in a \$20.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to **Slovenska Pristava** for their \$60.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Karl P. Gorisek** of Willoughby Hills, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$25.00 donation in memory of his parents.

In Memory

Thanks to **Edward Modic** of Cleveland, who renewed his subscription and added a \$25.00 donation in memory of **Mary Modic**.

Donation

Thanks to **John and Lisa Hutar** of Foster City, CA for their \$20.00 Christmas donation.

Donation

Thanks to Anonymous of Euclid, Ohio for the \$25.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to **Pensioners Club of Slovenska Pristava** for the great \$100.00 Christmas donation.

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Mlakar's Walk Down Memory Lane

by RAY MLAKAR

Well, Ray is back but first let's start off with a couple of jokes. Whenever I see a church, "I stop in for a visit so that when at last they carry me in, God won't say, "Who is this?"

All right since we are writing about the hereafter, one more joke about heaven. One last complaint - not mine. A little old lady died and went to heaven. Three years later her husband died. When he arrived in heaven, his wife couldn't wait to show him around, pointing out what a beautiful place it is. "Yes, it certainly is," said the husband, "and if it hadn't been for that blasted fiber diet of yours, I could have been enjoying this years ago."

Well, for this one article I am not going back to Fort Dix; we will go back there next week, but felt I owed my readers a "confession." My last article last week was my first submission of the weekly article by way of the computer and since it went thru, I am trying this article the same way. Some time back before Josephine took ill, she suggested I get a computer, primarily to submit articles to the American Home newspaper and so we contacted one of her friends about getting one for us since he was more familiar with what to look for in a computer than me.

Unfortunately, Josie took sick and the friend did call me and said he had the computer and could bring it out and set it up. I said, "NO," the last thing I was thinking about was a computer, hold off until my wife gets better and is back home. Each evening when I visited Josie, she would ask, "Did you get the computer yet?" I said yes and no; the friend does have it but I told him not to bring it out until you were well and home again, but she felt I should still go ahead and get it anyway. Well, I held off and got it only about a month ago. With a few fast lessons from "Bob", the friend who got us the computer and some pointers from a nephew, Danny Stevens, and with a prized book my brother-in-law Stanley Zupan gave me, I had been hitting the keys ever since.

What can I say. All I need is a pager on my belt and a cell phone in my back pocket and I will be completely High Tech. But have no fear for the last two things I need is a pager and a cell phone for God only knows I don't get any calls on the regular home phone.

I'll never forget about a year ago when I was thinking of getting a computer, I asked one of the tellers at the bank how long it took her to learn the computer for whenever you went into the bank with a pass book transaction, she would hit those keys like

Chopin's Second Symphony. She smiled at me and said, "You gotta be kidding, I learned computer in the kitty-garden." Holy smoke, I would go join a kitty garden now but I would be the biggest dummy in the class. I got one word for Sister Bernadette from Annunciation School, going back well over some 65 years ago, "Sister, if I would have had this computer back then, I would have never had to repeat the First Grade." By the way, Sister, just in case you are reading this editorial to check it for errors, don't waste your time for I got a "gizmo" hooked up to this computer that spots all the spelling errors and corrects them for me, so you see Sister, I am through standing in the corner.

Well, I promised Jim the editor who has been quite patient with me that I would "TRY" to get my columns shorter. What can I say; get me behind a keyboard and I don't know when to shut up, but I am going to try. In the meantime may the good Lord Bless and watch over all of you. If you are in the neighborhood, will see you at Fort Dix next week, providing that Sister Bernadette doesn't call me home first, for I am sure she found some corner she wants to put me in.

The spirit of a person's life is ever shedding some power, just as a flower is steadily bestowing fragrance upon the air.
--Elizabeth D.

Success consists of getting up just one more time than you fall. --Oliver Goldsmith

Test Your Intelligence

The following test consists of 4 questions and tells whether you are qualified to be a "professional."

1. - How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator?

The correct answer is: "Open the refrigerator, put in the giraffe and close the door."

This question tests whether you tend to do simple things in an overly complicated way.

2. - How do you put an elephant into a refrigerator?

Wrong answer: You open the refrigerator, put in the elephant and close the refrigerator."

Correct answer: "Open the refrigerator, take out the giraffe, put in the elephant and close the door."

This tests your ability to think through the repercussions of your actions.

3. - The Lion King is hosting an animal conference. All the animals attend, except one. Which animal

does not attend?

Correct answer: "The elephant." The elephant is in the refrigerator.

This tests your memory. OK, even if you did not answer the first three questions correctly, you still have one more chance to show your abilities.

4. - There is a river you must cross. But it is inhabited by crocodiles. How do you manage it?

Correct answer: "You swim across."

All the crocodiles are attending the animal meeting.

This tests whether you learn quickly from your mistakes.

According to Andersen Consulting Worldwide, around 90% of the professionals they tested got all answers wrong. But many preschoolers got several correct answers.

We thank Philip Hrvatin for this confounding quiz.

Pristavska Noč

The Slovenska Pristava Board of Trustees is having their traditional annual banquet, Pristavska Noč, on Saturday, January 25 at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue at 6:30 p.m.

For your dancing pleasure music will be provided by the talented Veseli Godci.

Tickets available by calling Maryann Vogel at 216 383-9307. All members and friends are invited.

In Memory

Thanks to Elsie Zalar of Willowick, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$10.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Bernard**.

Donation

Thanks to Ted Horn of Monterey, CA who renewed his subscription and added a \$20.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to James Logar of Richmond Heights, Ohio who sent in a \$15.00 donation in memory of his son, **Jim**.

Donation

Thanks to Mirko Longar of Euclid, Ohio who sent in a \$20.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to Ann Cendol of Cleveland who submitted a \$12.00 donation in memory of her husband, **John**.

Twelfth SlovenSKI Weekend and Giant Slalom Championship

EVENTS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

ARRIVALS DURING THE WEEK:

Check-in, registration and information at the front desk of the **Windham Arms Hotel**, Main Street (Route 23), Windham, NY. For mid-week lift tickets see Group Sales at Windham Mtn., on the first floor of the Main Lodge.

FRIDAY, January 31

9:00 a.m. Ski with friends, Slovenian ski instructors and ski patrollers
to 4:00 p.m.
12:30 p.m. Lunch at the Wheelhouse Lodge
1:30 p.m. Nastar clinic and free practice runs
7:00 to Arrival and registration in the front lobby of the **Windham Arms Hotel**. **Wine & Cheese Party**, pick up hotel keys, lift tickets, race numbers and dinner vouchers. After 8:00 p.m. we'll be gathering in the restaurant/bar area in the Windham Arms Hotel.

SATURDAY, February 1

7:30- Gathering and final preparation for ski race at Windham Mtn., third floor in the **Legends Lounge**
9:00 a.m.:
10:00 a.m.: Race registration at starting gate for those who did not register in advance. Fee \$15 (cash only).
10:15 a.m.: Non-skiers who want to cheer on the racers, meet at **Group Sales** on the first floor of the Main lodge for transportation (wear your warm boots) warming hut is available.
10:30 a.m.: Twelfth Slovenian Giant Slalom, **Lower Wheelchair Trail**, lifts: A,B,C,F.
12:30 p.m.: Lunch at **The Wheelhouse Lodge**
1:00 p.m.: Group photo on sundeck by the Slovenian Flag
5:15 p.m.: Mass at St. Theresa's church (Main Street) a short walk from the Hotel, co-celebrated by Fr. Griffith and Fr. Dimic.
6:30 p.m.: Social gathering of skiers and non-skiers in the Ski Windham Main Lodge, third floor (parking lot side) Mountain Grill.

7:30 p.m.: Dinner, Race Results, Awards, Prizes and Raffle

9:30 p.m.: Social evening of singing, dancing and friendly conversation.

SUNDAY, February 2

9:30 & 11:30 a.m.: Mass schedule at St Theresa's
8:00 a.m. Hit the slopes and enjoy the day among Slovenian friends
to 4:00 p.m.:
12:30 p.m.: Lunch at the Wheelhouse Lodge

TRANSPORTATION

Please see the enclosed Windham Mtn. brochure for easy directions by car.

LODGING

The Windham Arms Hotel is newly remodeled, beautifully equipped and conveniently located. The Hotel has cozy rooms with beautiful views, a recreation center, theater, shops and a restaurant. The ski slopes are three minutes away by free shuttle bus. **All lodging is available on a first come first served basis. 1-800-729-SKIW**
27 rooms available for reservation only until January 3rd

WINDHAM ARMS HOTEL RATES:

	Friday & Saturday night	Sunday to Thursday
Double Occupancy:	\$110 per night	\$65 per night
Triple Occupancy:	\$130 per night	\$85 per night
Quadruple Occupancy:	\$140 per night	\$95 per night

+ 8% Sales Tax

Juniors Under 12 FREE with each paying adult

Call the Windham Arms Hotel toll free at **1-800-729-SKIW** (SlovenSKI Group) between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. for reservations, ask for Gary and mention the SlovenSKI Group.
Please call local telephone **518-734-3000**. Call now!

FOOD:

The Windham Arms Hotel has a coffee shop, family restaurant and bar lounge.



see cover for rest of photo

Windham Mtn.

January 31st, February 1st & 2nd 2003

Why Windham?

It's your shortest drive to big mountain skiing, only 2 1/2 hours from New York City with 39 trails, snowboard park, tubing park, night skiing, plus tree skiing trails and 7 lifts, including a high speed quad. Almost the entire mountain is covered with a snow making system and Windham Mtn. happily welcomes Slovenians. Dinko Bertonec was the ski school director for eleven years. Several Slovenian ski patrollers ski there every weekend.

Last year, Frank Toplak and Metod Ilic from Cleveland, qualified for the NASTAR Nationals where they earned Bronze Medals and helped Windham to an 8th place finish nationally.

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– Vesti iz Slovenije –

Bivši predsednik Demosa Jože Pučnik umrl – V parlamentu žalne seje ni bilo

V noči s sobote na nedeljo je na svojem domu umrl Jože Pučnik, ki je imel ogromne zasluge pri demokratizaciji in nato osamosvajanju Slovenije. (Gl. dopisa na str. 10 in 11). Ob smrti je bil star 70 let. Po posvetovanju s predstavniki poslanskih skupin, zastopanih v Državnem zboru, se je njegov predsednik Borut Pahor odločil, da žalne seje ne bo. Kot vzrok je citiral, da so si bila mnenja strank nasprotujoča, za žalno sejo pa da bi morale vse stranke soglašati. Proti žalni seji je tako bila vladajoča LDS, njen predstavnik Tone Anderlič je pojasnil, da bi to bilo izjema. Proti je bila tudi Zmago Jelinčičeva SLS.

Pahor je dejal, da je že izrekel sožalje Pučnikovi družini in da so zastavo pred poslopjem parlamenta obesili na pol droga. V časopisju so objavili osmrtnico, v predverju velike dvorane DZ pa se je bilo mogoče vpisati v žalno knjigo, kar je sam Pahor, kot predsednik DZ, prvi storil. Bivšega kolega se bodo poslanci DZ spomnili na začetku januarske seje.

Najbolj odločni, da bi do žalne seje prišlo, so bili, razumljivi, socialdemokrati. Za tako sejo se je opredelila tudi NSi.

Vsakoletni sprejem za tuje diplomate, ki so akreditirani v Sloveniji

“Sedanje razprave o referendumih za vstop v NATO in Evropsko unijo odpirajo vprašanje, kakšne so vrednote Slovenije in kako Slovenijo kot državo umestiti v global-

ni svet,” je na tradicionalnem sprejemu za tuje diplomate, akreditirane v Sloveniji, prvič v vlogi predsednika države poudaril Janez Drnovšek. Sogostitelj skupaj z Drnovškom je bil njegov naslednik kot predsednik vlade, Tone Rop. “Povabilo v NATO in konec pogajanj z Unijo sta simbolna mejnika, ki predstavljata konec daljšega obdobja, v katerem si je Slovenija prizadevala zagotoviti vstop v evroatlantske institucije,” je dejal Drnovšek. Dodal je: “Če smo se še pred leti poskušali čim bolj distancirati od dogajanja v soseščini, se zdaj vračamo v regijo kot izvoznik stabilnosti.”

Tone Rop je diplomatskemu zboru zagotovil, da je vlada glede referendumov odločena storiti vse, da bo volilno telo dobro obveščeno o pomenu odločitve. “Veliki priložnosti, ki sta se nam odprli v Pragi in v Kobenhavnu, prinašata tudi veliko odgovornost. Naše referendumske odločitve bodo vplivale na številne generacije za nami. Zato verjamem, da bomo znali pravilno pretehtati teže odločitve, s katerimi se soočamo.”

V imenu diplomatskega zbora se je gostiteljema zahvalil njegov doajen, apostolski nuncij v Sloveniji Giuseppe Leanza. V nagovoru je dejal, da čas, v katerem živimo, zaznamuje nemiri na raznih koncih sveta. Zato mora biti prizadevanje za mir skupna naloga vseh, ne glede na politične in verske razlike. Pri tem je navedel besede papeža Janeza Pavla II., da je mir “trajna zaveza” človeka. Po zahvali nuncija Leanze sta Drnovšek in zunanji minister Rupel sprejem zapustila, ostal je pa Rop.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

“Pristavska noč”

Odbor Slovenske pristave prireja tradicionalno večerjo “Pristavska noč” in sicer v soboto, 25. januarja, po pol sedmih zvečer, v Slovenskem narodnem domu na St. Clairju. Za nakaznice, pokličite Maryann Vogel na tel. št. 216-383-9307. Za ples bo igral ansambel Veseli godci. Vsi člani in prijatelji SP vabljeni na ta vedno lepi večer.

Letna seja

To nedeljo, 19. januarja, ima SDD na Waterloo Rd. svojo letno sejo. Vabljeni so vsi lastniki certifikatov ter zastopniki društev, ki certifikate lastujejo.

Seminar

V torek, 28. januarja, bo v šolskem avditoriju pri Sv. Vidu seminar, namenjen študentom in njih staršem. Beseda bo tekla o raznih možnostih financiranja visokošolskega izobraževanja. Več v angleškem delu.

Novi grobovi

Ivan J. Rozance

Dne 13. januarja je v Gateway Health centru v Euclidu umrl 87 let stari Ivan J. Rozance, rojen v Clevelandu, dobrih 40 let pa živeč na Richmond Hts., brat Edwarda in Victorja, vdovec po bivši ženi Julie, stric, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški vojski, zaposlen kot strojnik pri TRW Tapco vse do svoje upokojitve l. 1982, član AMLA št. 45. Pogreb bo jutri, v petek, v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda na Chardon Rd. s sv. mašo dop. ob 10h v cerkvi Immaculate Conception v Willoughby, od tam na pokopališče Verduš. Ure kropljenja bodo danes zvečer od 6. do 9.

Frank A. Mocnik

Dne 9. januarja je v Orlandu, Fl., umrl 79 let stari Frank A. Mocnik, pred leti živeč v Clevelandu, mož Millie, roj. Marinko, oče Frances Wilmhurst in Marian Adams, 1-krat stari oče, sin Mary Mocnik Marinko in Franka Mocnika (oba že pok.), brat Marian Croak, Donalda Mocnik in Johna Marinko. Pogreb je bil 13. januarja v Orlandu, v Clevelandu bo spominska sv. maša (datum še ni določen). Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojnikov spomin Alzheimer's Association.

(dalje na str. 16)

Prodaja krofov in peciva

Oltarno društvo fare Marije Vnebovzete vabi na prodajo krofov in peciva v soboto, 25. januarja, dopoldne v šolski dvorani. Prebitek bo namenjen k nakupu keliha za novomašnika. Več v dopisu na str. 10.

Kosilo Slovenske šole

Slovenska šola pri fari Marije Vnebovzete bo imela kosilo v nedeljo, 2. februarja, s serviranjem od 11. dop. do 1. pop. Servirali bodo govejo pečenko in svinjske zarebrnice. Cena kosilu je \$11 za odrasle in \$5 za otroke. Nakaznice lahko dobite pri starših učencev in v župnišču.

Zahvala

Urednik se zahvaljuje g. Antonu Žaklju, ki je pripravil daljši članek o njegovem služenju vojaškega roka v predvojni Jugoslaviji. Zadnji del članka je objavljen danes, na str. 15.

SND na St. Clairju

Slovenski narodni dom na St. Clair Ave. bo imel letno sejo v nedeljo, 2. februarja, s pričetkom ob 2. uri pop. Seja se bo vršila v Kenikovi sobi v prezidku. Odbor SND vabi lastnike certifikatov in zastopnike društev, ki certifikate lastujejo, da se te seje udeležijo.

Lepa podpora

Klub upokojencev na Holmes Ave. je daroval \$70 v podporo našemu listu. Iskrena hvala!

Kriza v klubu

Klub bistveno slovenskih upokojencev v Euclidu je preko zapisnikarice Pat Habat nanaznil, da se nahaja v krizi, ne zaradi hiranja članstva, marveč zato, ker sploh ne najdejo članov, ki so pripravljeni zasedati odborniška mesta. To je sicer precej pogost pojav zadnja leta, se pa težko sliši za klub, ki je pred leti baje bil prisiljen omejiti število članov na 1000! Še je veliko ljudi, ki so pripravljeni prihajati na prireditve, bolj in bolj malo pa takih, ki želijo sprejeti odgovornost za vodenje klubov in drugih ustanov v naši skupnosti. Res žalostno, a menda tudi znak časa. Gl. str. 7 v angleškem delu za podrobnosti.

Tudi na Holmes Ave.

Slovenski dom na Holmes Ave. ima letno sejo v nedeljo, 2. feb., ob 2h pop. Lastniki certifikatov so lepo vabljeni.



ŽIVE JASLICE V POSTOJNSKI JAMI – Tudi ob lanskem božičnem času so bile v Postojnski jami žive jaslice. Letni obisk doslej je bil okrog 5000 ljudi, bile so na ogled lani od 22. decembra do 1. januarja. V raznih “sobah” jame so bile tudi druge razstave, med njimi ena, v kateri so osnovnošolci in gimnazijci pokazali, kako so njih predniki na Slovenskem tradicionalno obhajali božični praznik na svojih domovih. V naravnih “dvorani” v jami so pa mladinski pevski zbori prepevali božične in religiozne pesmi.

France Kregar praznuje 80. rojstni dan

WARREN, Mi. – France (Frank) Kregar iz Girarda, Ohio, bo praznoval 80. rojstni dan to soboto, 18. januarja. France se je rodil v Vižmarjah pri Ljubljani. Bil je eden izmed sedmih otrok v družini Jakoba in Marije (r. Goljar) Kregar.

France Kregar – "očka", kakor ga kličemo hčerke ter vnuki in vnukinje – je začel hoditi v prvi razred osnovne šole leta 1929. Študije je nadaljeval v trgovski šoli. Z dobrim uspehom je naredil izpit in diplomiral.

Zaposlil se je pri veletrgovini Hans Hintermann & Sohn, to v Kranju. Tu je bil do januarja 1943. Francetovi osebni načrti so bili izbrisani, ko je moral služiti v vojski. Že leta 1944 je prišel v avstrijsko taborišče. Marca 1948 pa se je vžgala ljubezen, ko je spoznal Ljudmilo Kozino. Poročila sta se 2. avgusta 1949, pri Gospe Sveti. Skupaj sta nato odšla v novo domovino – Ameriko.

V ZDA se je France zaposlil v isti poklic kot ga je imel njegov oče in tako služil kruh kot, po angleško "cabinetmaker", to do svoje upokojitve l. 1988, pri McRoyal Industries v Youngstownu, Ohio.

France in Milka imata štiri hčerke, te so: Maria, Anka, Marta in Dori, ter pet vnukinj in sedem vnukov.

Očka, dragi mož in priljubljeni oče! Mi vsi ti želimo vsega dobrega za tvoj rojstni dan! Naj te ljubi Bog obdari še z mnogo, mnogo leti v krogu naše družine!



"Kol'kor kapljic, toliko let, Bog ti daj na svet živeti ..."

Vedno ti iz srca želimo: žena Milka, Gustel in Maria Selak, Michael in Anka Krakora, Vinko in Marta Rozman, Thomas in Dori Fooy ter vsi vnuki, vnukinje, prijatelji in znanci in ostali sorodniki v Ameriki in Sloveniji.

Dori Fooy

K tem čestitkam se z veseljem pridružuje tudi urednik AD!

Izpod zvona sv. Marije Vnebovzete

CLEVELAND, O. – Naše božično praznovanje je bilo zelo lepo. Na Sv. večer, okrog desete ure, je pričelo pomalem snežiti. Ko smo se peljali k polnočnici, je bilo že vse belo. Prav za ta večer nam je Nebeški Oče nalsul svežega snega, da je bil bel Božič.

V cerkvi so gorele le sveče in lučice na drevesčkih, ko smo vstopili. Pevci so prepevali božične pesmi, vmes si slišal tudi violino in trobento, kar sta igrala naša dva mlada muzikanta.

Bila je polnoč, mini-

stranti, za njimi otroci kot angelci z lučkami, zadnja z Jezuškom v rokah ter diakon in g. župnik, so prihajali iz zakristije. G. župnik je položil Jezuška v jasli in blagoslovil jaslice, to vse med petjem pesmi Sveta noč.

Ko je župnik zapel Slava Bogu na višavah, so se pričele prižigati luči v cerkvi. Vse je zablestelo, zažarelo: pomislil si, kako mora biti lepo v nebesih, kar je že tukaj njegov predokus. V notranjosti je bilo toliko veselja, da je kar naprej hitela misel: Hvala Ti, Jezus, da si se ponižal in prišel med nas, hvala Ti, Marija, da si rekla da! Z iskreno željo si voščil vsem, ki si jih srečal: Vse najlepše in najboljše v teh praznikih.

V petek smo imeli koncert božičnih pesmi v naši cerkvi, kar so pripravili svetovidski pevci. Zelo lepo so predstavili božične pesmi v obeh jezikih. Hvala vam za ves trud, ki ste ga položili v to predvajanje.

In nastopilo je Novo leto 2003. Tudi ta dan smo si iskreno želeli, da bi nastopil mir med narodi, da bi prenehalo to vzdušje napetosti in nevarnosti. Bog nas usliši, da srečno prehodimo to leto 2003.

Letni sestanek Oltarnega društva v naši župniji, ki je bil na prvo nedeljo v tem mesecu, je bil lepo obiskan. Na njem se je bralo poročilo o delu v preteklem letu, in volilo odbor, ki naj vodi to organizacijo. Predlagan je bil stari odbor, kar je bilo sprejeto, tako da ni nobenih zamjenjav. Nato je bilo ob čaju, prigrizku in pecivu še malo klepeta med članicami, kar nas povezuje. Hvala vsem za lepo popoldne.

V mesecu maju bo v naši župniji imel novo mašo diakon Rev. John Retar. Župnijske organizacije že načrtujejo za ta veliki praznik. Sklenile so, da bodo kupile novomašniku kelih, kar ni mala zadeva.

V ta namen bo imelo Oltarno društvo delanje krofov in prodajo peciva ta mesec in sicer v soboto, 25. januarja, v šolski dvorani, da bi lahko iz tega izkupička dodalo h kelihu, kar bo lep spomin na naše farane.

Stranka Nova Slovenija (NSi) o Jožetu Pučniku

Umril je dr. Jože Pučnik

Ljubljana – V noči iz sobote na nedeljo je v Nemčiji umrl častni predsednik SDS in eden najpomembnejših snovalcev samostojne slovenske države, dr. Jože Pučnik.

Jože Pučni, sociolog, publicist, doktor znanosti in politik se je rodil v kmečki družini spomladi 1932 na Črešnjevcu pri Slovenski Bistrici. Že kot študent ljubljanske univerze je sodeloval pri *Reviji 57* in bil zaradi sovražne propagande obsojen na devet let strogega zapora. Po petih letih je bil izpuščen, pa se je v *Perspektivah* znova kritično oglašil in bil odveden v samko še za dve leti. Po prihodu iz zapora ni dobil dela ne diplome, čeprav je študij končal. V Nemčiji je dobil politični azil, tam je znova diplomiral, doktoriral in postal docent za sociologijo na visoki znanstveni šoli v Lüneburgu.

Dr. Jože Pučnik je bil leta 1987 s prispevkom za slovenski nacionalni program soavtor 57 št. *Nove revije*. Dve leti pozneje, leta 1989, je od Franceta Tomšiča prevzel predsedovanje Socialdemokratski zvezi Slovenije in z drugimi opozicijskimi političnimi prvaki ustanovil demokratično opozicijo *Demos*, ki je s ciljema za demokracijo in samostojno Slovenijo zmagala na prvih demokratičnih volitvah. *Demos* je sestavil prvo vlado in uspešno izvedel projekt osamosvojitve.

Na prvih demokratičnih

Kot se bomo me potrudile in pripravile veliko lepega peciva, tudi vas, bralce Ameriške Domovine, prosimo, da pridete in pokupite!

Preteklo nedeljo je bil važen sestanek v šolski dvorani o postavitvi nove dvorane in telovadnice. Arhitekt nam je razložil, kje bo vse stalo, finančni odbor pa o zbiranju sredstev za ta podvig. Tudi ravnatelj šole je povedal o potrebi telovadnice. G. župnika čaka veliko delo v prid naše župnije. Bog mu daj zdravja, da bi s korajžo in blagoslovom tudi skončal to delo, mu vsi želimo!

Lavriševa

volitvah aprila 1990 je kandidiral za predsednika predsedstva in na volitvah dobil 31% glasov, *Demos*, kateremu je predsedoval, pa skupščinsko večino. Sestavil je vlado in uspešno izpeljal projekt osamosvojitve.

Njegov (tj. Pučnikov, op. ur. AD) je zrasedel iz njegovih trpkih osebnih izkušenj in sociološkopoličnih analiz. Zgodovina že danes beleži, da je bil prav dr. Jože Pučnik s svojo vztrajnostjo in jasno politično vizijo najmočnejši snovalec samostojne slovenske države.

Po razpadu *Demosa* je bil izvoljen za poslanca Državnega zbora, mesto predsednika socialdemokrat je leta 1993 prepustil Janezu Janši, po volitvah leta 1996 pa se je umaknil iz aktivne politike. Vanjo je posegel le še kot pisec številnih prispevkov v *Novi reviji* in s prenašanjem svojih bogatih političnih izkušenj.

Dr. Andrej Bajuk, predsednik NSi, je ob smrti dr. Jožeta Pučnika izrekel naslednje besede:

"Pretrsla nas je smrt dr. Jožeta Pučnika. Bil je in ostaja zgodovinska osebnost, je tisti, ki je dal odločilen pečat naši mladi državi. Brez njega Slovenija danes ne bi bila to, kar je, samostojna in neodvisna."

Ob smrti dr. Pučnika je besede v spomin izrekel tudi Lojze Peterle:

"Zame je bil dr. Jože Pučnik prvo ime slovenske pomladi in to za vso Slovenijo tudi ostane. V čast si štejem, da sva bila lahko najtesnejša sodelavca v časih, ko je bilo treba sprejemati najbolj ključne odločitve v zvezi s slovensko prihodnostjo, posebej še, ko je šlo za osamosvajanje.

Želel bi si politiko take jasnosti, take premočrtnosti in take odločnosti, predvsem pa takega poštenja kot je bil Jože Pučnik, ki mu nihče ne more odvzeti imena, s katerim je bistveno povezana demokratizacija Slovenije in tudi njena samostojnost."

NSi, Ljubljana
13. januar 2003

Misijonska Znamkarska Akcija (MZA)

Catholic Mission Aid (CMA)

je javna, nepridobitna, dobrodelna misijonska organizacija. Ustanovil jo je Fr. Charles A. Wolbang, CM.

Registrirana je v mestu Columbus, Ohio, ZDA.

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

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

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

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MZA – CMA

17826 Brian Ave., Cleveland, OH 44119

Glavni odbor MZA-CMA, Cleveland

Z AMERIŠKO DOMOVINO
STE VEDNO NA TEKOČEM

Umrl je Jože Pučnik

Ljubljana – V noči s sobote na nedeljo je na svojem domu za srčnim infarktom umrl Jože Pučnik. Rodil se je 9. marca 1932 v Črešnjevcu pri Slovenski Bistrici. Konec leta 1996, ko mu je potekel mandat poslanca, se je upokojil, vendar je ostal zelo aktiven v socialdemokratski stranki in pozorno spremljal domače dogajanje ter ga občasnno komentiral.

Pred tremi leti je za *Nedeljo* deham da v pokoj najraje prebira strokovno literaturo, dela na vrtu, se sprehaja po gozdu in uživa v samotni. V Ljubljano je živel v mansardnem stanovanju, poletja pa večinoma preživljal v počitniški hiši ob Zbiljskem jezeru.

V širši slovenski javnosti je Pučnik postal znova priljubljen konec osemdesetih let prejšnjega stoletja. V začetku 1989 je sodeloval pri ustanavljanju Socialdemokratske zveze (prvi predsednik France Tomšič), novembra 1989 pa se je za stalno preselil v Slovenijo iz Nemčije in prevzel vodenje omenjene zveze (februarja 1990 se je SDZS preimenovala v socialdemokratsko stranko).

Na prvih slovenskih demokratičnih volitvah aprila 1990 je bila stranka del predvolilne koalicije, njen predsednik Pučnik pa prvi (in zadnji) predsednik Demosa in hkrati njen kandidat (eden od štirih) za predsednika republiškega predsedstva. Uvrstil se je v drugi krog volitev, na katerih je zmagal Milan Kučan.

Po volilni zmagi Demosa je Pučnik prepustil vodenje vlade Lojzetu Peterletu in se posvetil koordiniranju koalicije. Po seji poslancev Demosa v Poljčah oktobra 1990 je prvi javno napovedal datum in vsebino osamsvojitvenega plebiscita. Dobro leto pozneje, decembra

1991 v Dolskem, je objavil razpust koalicije.

Aprila 1992 so socialdemokrati podprli konstruktivno nezaupnico, Peterleta je zamenjal Janez Drnovšek in Pučnik je za krajši čas postal podpredsednik vlade.

Na predčasnih volitvah decembra 1992 so socialdemokrati dobili štiri poslanska mesta. Pučnik, ki je bil izvoljen za poslanca, je prevzel vodenje parlamentarne komisije za raziskavo povojnih množičnih pobojev in političnih sodnih procesov.

V začetku 1993 je socialdemokratska stranka postala članica vladne koalicije pod premierstvom Janeza Drnovška, maja 1993 je Pučnik prepustil predsedniško funkcijo v stranki Janezu Janši, marca 1993, po razrešitvi obrambnega ministra Janše zaradi incidenta v Depali vasi, pa so socialdemokrati zapustili vlado.

Leta 1996 je Pučnik dejal, da bo ostal dejaven v stranki, vendar ne bo več kandidiral za nobeno od operativnih političnih funkcij, ker bi se rad spet posvetil publicistični dejavnosti. Socialdemokrati so 12. januarja sporočili, da za častnim predsednikom stranke "ostaja praznina, ki jo bo občutil ves slovenski narod".

Dejan Pušenjak

Delo fax, 13. jan. 2003

Op. ur. AD: Članek v celoti ignorira preganjanje s strani nekdanjega komunističnega režima, zaradi katere se je bil v povojnih letih Jože Pučnik izselil v tujino.

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Po prezrtih sledeh slovenske samostojnosti ...

Ideja, ki so jo pestovali mnogi, tudi na tujem

– ALENKA PUHAR –

(Delo, 27. dec. 2002)

Slovenska samostojnost se nam je decembra 1991 zdela samoumevna. Zanj se je, potem ko se je parlament dokaj previdno odločal za možnost glasovanja, je bilo razglašeno, da gre za uresničitev tisočletnih sanj. V trditvi je bilo več poezije kot čvrste proze. Toda v mnogih slovenskih glavah je vendarle dolgo živela misel, ki se je uresničila leta 1991. Le da se je drugim (še bolj mnogim) v glavnem zdela čisto nora, podobna stoji na glavi.

Misel na slovensko samostojnost ni sodila v kategorijo nenevarne norenosti, ki se jo odpravi s prizanesljivim nasmeškom. Menda je v vseh režimih, kar jih je bilo v 20. stoletju na Slovenskem, veljalo za neprimerno in tudi nevarno omenjati to možnost. Tako je bilo, pravijo, v prvi Jugoslaviji, ki se je silovito trudila, da bi zbrisala razlike med posameznimi plemeni/narodi, ter jih ujedinila. Tako je bilo pod okupacijo (ali okupacijami). Tako je bilo v socializmu.

Za ilustracijo naj služita dva primera. Šele leta 2002 je končno doživela integralno izjavo spomenica *Slovenski problem*, ki jo je konec leta 1941, med okupacijo, napisal dr. Lambert Ehrlich.

Gre za narodni program, ki se je zavzel za vspostavitev slovenske državne suverenosti oziroma za to, da bi Slovenci kot eno od opcij morali imeti tudi to: Biti sami svojci in v državo organizirani.

Ehrlich je bil, po zaslugi pristranskega in okrnjenega slikanja, znan kot mož sumljivih kvalit, ki je bolj ali manj upravičeno doživel svojo grdo usodo – padel je namreč kot žrtev vosovskega atentata spomladi 1942.

Do simpozija (lani v Rimu) se ni nihče resno lotil njegovih pogledov na usodo slovenskega naroda ali njegovih dejanj, usmerjenih v ta cilj.

Delna izjema je dr. Ciril Žebot, ki je bil v mnogih nazorih Ehrlichov učenec, kar je potrdil v številnih spisih in knjigah. Seveda pa je bil tudi v zapovedanem molku na istem kot Ehrlich.

Imena emigrantov se v Jugoslaviji niso smela po-

javljati. Ko se je to enkrat slučajno zgodilo, je sam glavni urednik napisal, da so to "napake, ki niso napake" in se ne bodo nikdar več ponovile, ker ne bomo dovolili, da bi se kdo zasanjal v upe, za katere ni ne danes ne jutri nobene osnove, za to smo porok tudi mi pri *Delu* ... Če se komu kaj dozdevalo, kaj premišluje kakšen Ciril Žebot, je to obdržal zase.

Verjetno bi na prste lahko prešteli ljudi, ki so vedeli, da je med slovenskimi emigranti, ki ohranjajo kondicijo političnega razmišljanja, več struj. Ene so bile docela jugoslovanske, čeravno so se do neke mere zavzemale za večjo samostojnost (oziroma avtonomnost) Slovenije, druge so ohranjale misel na samostojno Slovenijo, ki bi se, morda in po tehtnem premisleku ter demokratičnem postopku, lahko potem odločala za nove povezave. Ali pa tudi ne.

Sem in tja so bile te razprave povod za hude spore in razkole. To se je dogajalo že med samo vojno, dogajalo se je tudi takoj po njej, pa znova pet, šest let kasneje, okoli zbornika *Tabor*.

Vendar je po nekaj letih volja do artikuliranja in samoreflektiranja spet vzniknila in dala zanimive, upoštevanja vredne rezultate. Tako je zbornik *Svobodna Slovenija*, ki je izhajal v Argentini, a je zbiral sodelavce po tako rekoč vsem svetu – z izjemo nas "matičnih" – ustvaril vsega spoštovanja vreden prerez stanja Slovencev v političnem, kulturnem in gospodarskem oziru.

Slovenska samostojnost je bila dobro polovico stoletja tudi predmet pe-

riodičnega tiska. Jasno, vse te publikacije – z izjemo tistih let *Dela*, ko je bilo Samostojni časnik za samostojno Slovenijo – so izhajale v tujini, v hudo skromni obliki in so bile v Jugoslaviji prepovedane in preganjane. Danes so izjemna redkost, dostopna v enem ali dveh komaj živih izvodih.

Prva publikacija te vrste je verjetno iz pomladi 1946. Dne 6. aprila 1946, na "peto obletnico slovenskega zaslužjenja", je dr. Ciril Žebot v Rimu ustanovil "Akcijski odbor za zedinjeno in suvereno slovensko državo"; z obvestilom o tem ter s petimi točkami programa je povabil "vse Slovence v svobodnem svetu, da se duhovno povežejo v to vseslovensko gibanje", objavil pa v ciklostiranem listu *Slovenska država*.

Prva številka je izšla maja, druga oktobra, medtem ko je novembra izšel kar zbornik spomenic in poročil, ki so jih člani akcijskega odbora pošiljali mednarodnim političnim forumom.

V ZDA, kamor se je sčasoma izselilo veliko Slovencev, so pristaši suverene Slovenije začeli delovati decembra 1949. Najprej je bila na ciklostil razmnožena *Slovenska pravica*. Čez slabo leto pa je bil list preimenoval v *Slovensko državo*, da bi bile stvari jasne.

Po nekaj letih sporadičnega izhajanja se je list preselil v Toronto in ker očitno še vedno izhaja, bi ga lahko šteli za enega najbolj častitljivih. Leta 1991, ko se je ideja tako lepo ujela z dogodkom, oboje pa z imenom časopisa, je izdal prav ganljivo navdušeno poročilo o rojstvu nove države.

Nekaj navdušenja za slovensko suverenost je bilo tudi v Južni Ameriki. V Buenos Airesu je Jože Kessler s svojo sestro Emo Kessler ustanovil *Slovensko pot / Camino esloveno*, ko je umrl, pa so nadaljevali prijatelji – od 1953 do 1966 je trajala ta pot.

(dalje na str. 12)

DOMAČIJE VELIKIH SLOVENCEV ...

Blaženi Anton Martin Slomšek s Sloma

- MIROSLAV SLANA-MINOS -

Kakšne so danes domačije slovenskih velikih mož, ki so se zapisali v srce in razum domače in tuje zgodovine? Ali so še ohranjene? Kdo živi v njih? Potomci in sorodniki? Obiščemo najprej domačijo Antona Martina Slomška, ki ga je papež razglasil za blaženega. Leta 1852 je ustanovil bratovščino za ekumensko zблиževanje kristjanov. Leta 2002 je bila 140. obletnica njegove smrti in jubilej nariborske stolnice, v kateri je škofoval. V njej so imeli predstavniki slovenskih škofij ter Trsta, Gorice, Celovca in Vidma jeseni 2002 mašo in okroglo mizo Slomšku v pomini, 20. oktobra pa je bilo srečanje katolikov iz škofij Gradec, Eisenstadt, Sombotel in Maribor s slovesno našo pomožnega škofa dr. Jožefa Smeja, v duhu uvrščanja v evropske integracijske tokove in v krščansko kulturo.



Z avtoceste Maribor-jublana sem pri Dramljah zavil proti Ponikvi in se med čudovitim spletom Joglejskega gričevja povzpel na 338 m visoko Ponikvo. Po razširjeno gručasto naselje leži na zaraselem svetu, krasi pa ga cerkev Sv. Martina, ki je kot župnijska cerkev v pisih omenjena že leta 236.

Med prostranimi drevedmi jablan sem se po obro označeni zaviti popribljžal Slomu. Odtod me mi je odstrl pogled na lesevno (650 m), Konjiko goro s Stolpnikom (1012 m) in Boč (979 m). V dolini, kjer je bila že godaj speljana železniška roga Maribor-Celje, je

kot že v Slomškovih časih spokojno žuborel potok Slomščica.

Na zelenem obronku me je pozdravilo prostrano kmečko poslopje – rojstna hiša Antona Martina Slomška, narodnega buditelja, ekumenista, škofa, ki je leta 1859 predstavil lavantinsko škofijo iz ponemčenega Šent Andraža v Maribor, pesnika najlepših slovenskih pesmi, ki jih pojemo še danes in so ponarodele, npr. En hribček bom kupil, Slovenec Slovenca vabi. Le predi, dekle, predi, Glejte, že sonce zahaja, Lahko noč, Zlati časi, Svetlo sonce se je skrilo.

Obnovljena rojstna hiša

Slomškova rojstna hiša je danes lepo urejena. Na njenem pročelju zagledam pritrjeno krajevno tablo Uniše 11. V hiši je še ohranjena marmorna plošča s škofovsko kapo, palico in križem ter z napisom: "V tem domu so se rodili Anton Martin Slomšek, knez in škof lavantinski, 26. novembra 1800, umrli v Mariboru 24. septembra 1862."

Ploščo je na pobudo davnega ponikovskega župnika, pesnika, publicista in urednika Davorina Trstenjaka (1817-1890) napravil zidar Tomaž Novak.

Potrkam spodaj na dvoriščni strani. Zaključeno je. Na čelni strani zgoraj pridejo iz hiše skozi glavna vrata ljudje, sedejo v avtomobil in se odpeljejo. Vstopim skozi ta vrata. Presenetijo me urejenost, mir in čistost.

V Slomškovi rojstni hiši srečam edino prebivalko te hiše – Moniko bujnih temnih las. Gotovo ni sorodnica, pomislil, in najbrž ne stanuje sa-

ma v hiši, četudi se s svojo umirjenostjo neka-ko vrašča v to spominsko okolje.

Da, spominsko hišo samo varuje, prodaja spominke ter usmerja obiskovalce in skupine, ki so bile napovedane tudi na dan mojega obiska. Pove, da se piše Monika Javornik, doma je iz bližnje vasi, študira pa v Mariboru.

Ob Slomškovi zibelki in postelji pripoveduje o obnovi Slomškovine, o obiskovalcih. Razkaže lepo urejeno mansardno dvorano za srečanja in simpozije s sto sedeži, spodaj romarsko sobo, okrepitevalnico in spominke.

Monika pripoveduje: "Slomškova hiša je bila do osamosvojitve Slovenije zapuščena. Propadala je. V njej ni nihče stanoval. Za obnovo in ureditev so prispevali Ponikovljani, občina in škofija.

Slomškovi so imeli nekoč kmetijo z veliko zemlje. Zdaj so tu naokoli v glavnem samo jabolka kmetijske zadruge. Moja naloga je ta, da obiskovalcem povem kaj o Slomšku, jim zavrtim kaseto o njem ter jih popeljem v štiri sobe: v otroško, duhovniško, škofovsko in svetniško sobo. Tri sobe se razlikujejo od zadnje, ker je v nebesih drugače kot na tem svetu." V sobi otroštva, kjer je v kotu kmečka miza, v nasprotnem kotu pa stara krušna peč, pokaže rodbinsko drevo.

Slomškovo rodbinsko drevo

Ponikovski župnik Miha Herman: "Na rodbinskem drevesu je vpisanih že 200 imen. Iz bližnje vasi Brezje včasih čuva Slomškovino Slomškova sorodnica, srednješolka Urška Slomšek. Njen brat Franc Slomšek obiskuje 8. razred osnovne šole. Njena mati naj bi se poročena pisala drugače, a je po poroki zadržala dekliški priimek Slomšek."

Okoli leta 1680 je imela Ponikva – nekoč prajžupnja iz časov misijonarskih postaj, ki so pokristjanile naše pradede – pet posestnikov. V času turških in ogrskih vdorov in pomorov je ostalo ve-

(dalje na str. 14)

Le priseljenci povečujejo prebivalstvo Slovenije

Bruselj, Belgija (Delo fax, 11. jan. 2003) – Prebivalstvo Slovenije se je lani povečalo z 1,994 na 1,996 milijona, oziroma za 1,1 promila. Tako je videti iz prve demografske ocene za leto 2002, ki jo je objavil evropski statistični urad (Evrostat). Slovenija je med tremi pristopnicami, v katerih se je število prebivalcev povečalo – na Cipru za 9,3 promila, na Malti pa za 4,2 promila.

Statistiki drugod ugotavljajo demografski padec: največjega v Latviji (za 7,3 promila) in na Češkem (6,1 promila).

K povečanju slovenskega prebivalstva je prispevalo predvsem priseljevanje (1,5 na tisoč), saj število smrti (9,1 na tisoč) presega rojstva (8,7 na tisoč), zato je naravni prirastek padel (za 0,4 na tisoč prebivalcev).

Na območju desetih držav, ki se pripravljajo na sprejem v Unijol, živi 74,5 milijona ljudi. Povsem drugačen trend so luksemburški statistiki opazili na območju Unije, kjer se je populacija povečala za 3,6 promila. V skupnosti živi 378,5 milijona ljudi, število prebivalcev pa se je lani povečalo prav v vseh državah. Z najvišjim celotnim prirastkom se ponašajo na Irskem (12,2 promila) in v Luksemburgu (10,3 promila), najmanj pa se je povečalo prebivalstvo Nemčije (1,8 promila).

B. M.

Ideja, ki so jo pestovali mnogi, tudi na tujem

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 11)

Z njenim koncem se je začelo nadaljevanje, imenovano *Smer v slovensko državo / Rumbo hacia el estado sloveno*, iztekla se je leta 1984. Nekaj manj let je imel konkurenco tudi v *Siju slovenske svobode (Alba de la libertad eslovena)*.

Dr. Janez Arnež, ki je največji poznavalec po vsem svetu razseljenega slovenskega tiska, je našel tudi nemško *Slovensko svobodo*. "Prva številka je izšla v Münchnu 1. avgusta 1964, naslednja je bila dvojna, za september in oktober, tretja, spet dvojna in to za november in december, pa je bila tudi zadnja. Ta list je bil tiskan, po vsej verjetnosti ga je ustvarjal Branimir Pistivšek. Verjetno ga je v glavnem tudi sam financiral in ko tega ni več zmožal, je bilo lista konec.

Čez nekaj let pa je poskusil znova, tokrat s ciklostiranim listom, ki se je imenoval *Slovenski glas*. Kot mesta izhajanja so bila navedeni v mogočnem loku Celovec, Maribor, Celje, Ljubljana, Trst, Gorica, Zürich, čeravno je list izhajal ali v Münchnu ali Bernu, to ni čisto jasno. Mislim, da je bil *Slovenski glas* delo enega samega človeka, Branka Pistivška, ki pa je

uporabljal več psevdonimov. Za primer: Uvodnik iz poletja 1978 je podpisan z imenom dr. Marjan Drevenšek. Ta *Slovenski glas* je utihnil jun. 1986."

Zakaj in za kaj samostnost? Če vtis ne vara – in v odsotnosti poštenega pregleda se je treba pač zanesti na vtis – je šlo predvsem za strah pred tem, kaj se lahko zgodi, ko bo na jugu Jugoslavije prekipelo. In kaj lahko storijo zahodni in severni sosedi "v primeru kaosa v Jugoslaviji".



V ljubečnem nepozabnem spominu

Ob 29. obletnici



IVAN CUGELJ

Umrli 21. januarja 1974

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

čeno samo Tvoji žalujoči: lena Minka Cugelj rojena Blatnik in Ivan in žena Debbie čerka Marija z družino Sloveniji bratje in sestre ter ostalo sorodstvo.

Cleveland, Ohio, 16. januarja 2003.

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Slovenska zgodovina kot znanost in mit ...

Dejstvo je, da imamo različne prednike

Intervju vodil TOMAŽ ŠVAGELJ

Etnogenetski procesi in državne tvorbe zgodnjega srednjega veka v vzhodnih Alpah, nastanek in razvoj dežel, zgodovina plemstva in nekatere teme iz diplomatike so področja, s katerimi se ukvarja dr. Peter Štih. Naš sogovornik je od leta 1984 zaposlen na Filozofski fakulteti v Ljubljani, kjer je izredni profesor za srednjeveško zgodovino in pomožne zgodovinske vede.

Zgodovinski miti kajpada niso slovenska posebnost. Imajo jih vsi narodi: biti čim starejši, če že ne od nekdaj, pa vsaj iz starega veka ...

Točno tako. Vsi moderni narodi imajo zgodovinske mite, ker so se na teh mitih kot narodi, na določeni stopnji svojega zgodovinskega razvoja, ne nazadnje tudi konstituirali. Lastno zgodovinsko zavedanje oziroma predstava o lastni preteklosti je v bistvu površna, enostranska in prav zato tudi mitska. Tako nastaja "nacionalizacija zgodovine". To pomeni, da zgodovino razumemo izključno kot narodno tudi v obdobjih, ko narodov v današnjem pomenu besede sploh še ni bilo. To velja, če naj pometemo najprej pred svojim pragom, tudi za Slovence. Smo lep primer takšnega gledanja na preteklost, čeprav seveda nismo edini.

Zgodovinski mit je lahko, kot rečeno, tudi nekaj pozitivnega, saj se številčno majhen narod laže ohrani, če se obožuje z njim.

Ne nazadnje je bilo to eno od sredstev konstituiranja Slovencev kot naroda. Nekje na koncu 18. in začetku 19. stoletja, ko so se začele pojavljati predstave, kot je recimo ta, da je bila Karantanija prva država Slovencev. Približno takrat se je ustvarila podoba, ki je dejansko bila močan konstitutivni element zavedanja, da smo nekoč že bili politično ljudstvo – narod.

Z AMERIŠKO DOMOVINO
STE VEDNO NA TEKOČEM

Za Štefanom je prevzel Slomovino njegov sin, ded škofa Slomška. Umrli je pred letom 1798. Za njim je prevzel veleposestvo njegov sin Marko Slomšek. Ko je bilo Marku 34 let, se je 17. februarja 1800 poročil s sedemindvajsetletno Marijo Zorko iz Črešnjic (po nekaterih virih iz Šoštanja). In 26. novembra 1800 se jima je rodil sin, poznejši škof Anton Martin Slomšek. V krstni knjigi je zapisano, da je njegov patron sv. Anton Puščavnik.

Ob njegovem rojstvu so domačini videli nad hišo poseben sij, je zapisal dr. Franc Kovačič leta 1934 v knjigi Anton Martin Slomšek, služabnik božji in knezoškof lavantinski.

Za Antonom so se rodili: Marija leta 1802, Urša 1803, Martin 1806, Jožef 1807 (poznejši gospodar na Slomu namesto prvorojenega Antona), Lucija 1809, Valentin 1812 (ta "postržek" je delal bratu Antonu sive lasi, saj mu je brat plačeval šolanje na gimnaziji v Celju in pozneje v Gradcu, kjer naj bi študiral raznočelnštvo). Valentin je bil lahko miseln večni študent, ki je brata izsiljeval za denar. Anton mu je še 17. julija 1846, ko je bil že škof, dal 10 goldinarjev. Umrli je v tujini.

Za ohranitev, proti nemštvi itd.

Tudi to. In sploh, da smo se konstituirali kot narod. Ta končno ni nič drugega kot skupnost ljudi, ki jih povezuje skupna identiteta. Ki se pa kaže v imenu – jezik ni

nujen ...

... pri nas je sicer bil ...

... pri nas ja, ampak na splošno ga ne moremo šteti za nujni pogoj. Identiteta se razpoznavno zgradi okoli imena, s katerim se neka skupnost loči od sosedov in se konstituira kot posebna celota.

Obstoj skupnosti precej sloni prav na prepričanju o skupni preteklosti. In če te zgodovine ni, jo je pač treba ustvariti.

Vendar vsega tega ne delajo samo moderni narodi, temveč poznamo take primere tudi pri zgodnjem srednjeveških ljudstvih, ki so na primer svoje začetke povezovala s starodavnimi bogovi. Na takšnih predstavah zgradijo zgodovino, ki seveda ni niti objektivna niti realna. Nasprotno, lahko je povsem mitska, čisti konstrukt ...

... ali kombinacija ...

... mita in resničnih dogodkov, ja, mešanica, ki skuša pojasniti nekatere stvari in pokazati, da gre za skupnost, ki ima svojo preteklost in ki se je konstituirala v določenih zanj kritičnih preizkušnjah, kot so denimo vojne, v katerih je bila na kocki njihova bit.

Toda zgodovinar kot raziskovalec se z miti seveda ne more sprijazniti, temveč poskuša nanje opozarjati.

Lahko pa napiše zgodovino teh mitov. To bi bila izrazito zanimiva zgodovina?

Lahko. In to se zdaj pri nas že tudi dogaja: pod uredništvom Petra Vodopivca je v pripravi zbornik o zgodovinskih mitih v slovenski zgodovini, ki bo izšel predvidoma prihodnje leto.

V tem okviru bi rad preskočil na pojem naroda in na "Sveto rimsko cesarstvo nemške narodnosti". Zakaj nemške?

Prvotna zamisel tega cesarstva je bila univerzalna. Ideja je bila, ustvariti enotno krščansko cesarstvo, torej neko državno tvorbo, ki bo pod enim žezlom združevala vsa krščanska ljudstva.

Eden od najbolj znanih naslednikov Karla Velike-



Slika iz rokopisa *Avstrijska kronika 95 gospostev* (1479-1480), najstarejša znana upodobitev ustoličevanja koroških vojvod.

ga je bil okrog leta 1000 cesar Oton III. Njegov politični program je bil *renovatio imperii Romanorum*, torej obnova rimskega cesarstva. To je čisto jasna imperialna ideja. Vključevala je tako italijanski kot nemški prostor in seveda tudi Slované na vzhodu – od Baltika, prek Češke, Moravske pa vse do naših krajev. Izrazito večjezična in večetnična državna tvorba!

Ideja univerzalnega cesarstva je dokončno propadla šele ob koncu srednjega veka, ko se je država s tem imenom omejila na območje severno od Alp. In šele takrat se uveljavi pridevek nemške narodnosti. Šlo je za cesarstvo zgolj severno od Alp, vključno s češkim, moravskim in današnjem slovenskim prostorom.

Torej brez Italije.

In predvsem to je bilo mišljeno z izrazom nemške narodnosti.

Beseda narodnost je torej obstajala, čeprav narodov še ni bilo.

Je, imela pa je drugačen pomen. Tudi na srednjeveških univerzah so bile različne "nacije". Denimo na bolonjski "germanska nacija", v katero so sodili vsi študentje iz dežel severno od Alp, in tudi slovenski. Na dunajski univerzi pa so recimo slovenski študentje sodili v "avstrijsko nacio", ki je pokrivala prostor habsburških dežel in tudi Italijo, poznali pa so celo "rensko nacio".

Ta beseda ima torej v različnih obdobjih različne semantične pomene. Sam pojem pa je obstajal in se v povezavi s slovensko zgodovino omenja že v 7. stoletju: o znamenitem slovanskem

kralju Samu, v katerega plemensko-državno skupnost je bil zelo verjetno vključen tudi del slovenskega ozemlja, je v edinem latinskem primarnem viru rečeno, da je bil *natione Francos*, torej Frank po poreklu.

Izraz nacija ima danes seveda čisto drug pomen.

Angleški zgodovinarji mislijo, da je bila prva slovanska država Velika Moravska. Zanimivo je, da o Karantaniji ne vedo nič. In tudi v Britanskem muzeju, v oddelku za zgodnji srednji vek, na panoju piše natančno to. Mi pa menimo, da je bilo drugače.

Saj tudi je bilo. Zgodovinsko gledano je bila Karantanija dejansko prva stabilnejša slovanska državna tvorba sploh. To zanesljivo drži. Od kod pa pri Angležih to mnenje, bi težko sodil. Morda je k temu veliko prispeval emigrant Francis Dvornik, eden najbolj pomembnih raziskovalcev slovanske zgodovine v anglo-amerškem svetu 20. stoletja, ki je bil profesor na Harvardu, kamor je kot Francis Dvornik prišel iz Moravske.

V angleščini je napisal vrsto temeljnih del o vlogi in pomenu Slovanov v evropski zgodovini in s tem bistveno vplival na njihove poglede na ta vprašanja.

Pa kaj komunicirate s kolegi mediavelisti na Zahodu, si izmenjujete informacije?

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(SE NADALJUJE)

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Blaženi Anton Martin Slomšek s Sloma

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 12)

liko neobdelane zemlje.

Graščaki in lastniki obsežnih zemljišč so neobdelano zemljo dodelili novim podložnikom, ki so jim rekli "novaki". Tako je nastalo rodbinsko ime Novak. Novakovi so obdelali svet okoli Sloma. Sčasoma so pokupili ves Slom in postali Slomšaki. Posestva je dokupil tudi Štefan Novak, po domače Slomšek, praded škofa Slomška.

Štefan je imel prek sto oralov rodovitne zemlje in ob potoku mlin. Njegovo premoženje so takrat ocenili na 1600 gol-dinarjev. Po letu 1700 je priimek Novak opustil in za rodbinsko ime je obveljalo ime Slomšek.

Štefan je leta 1737 pozidal Ožbaldovo cerkev, ponikovsko podružnico. Slom je imel tedaj samo dve hišni številki. Na Slomu 1, kjer je bila glavna hiša, je 1. februarja 1822 v štiriinšestdesetem letu starosti umrl Valentin Slomšek, brat očeta Antona Martina Slomška; na številki 2, v hiši za preužitkarje, pa je 4. februarja 1794 v osemdesetem letu starosti umrl Matej Slomšek.

Prvorojeni Tonček (kot ga imenuje Alojz Rebula v svojem filmskem sinopsisu iz l. 1990) je bil med osmimi otroki dedič ponosnega grunta na Slomu. Ampak Tončka so bolj zanimale knjige. Nekoč, ko je gonil očetu vola pri oranju, je skrivaj potegnil iz žepa knjižico in pogledal vanjo, oče pa je zagrmel izza pluga: "Kmet boš in nič drugega!"

Tonček je bil eden izmed petnajstih dečkov, ki jih je kaplan Jakob Prašnikar v starem protiturškem stolpu učil brati in pisati. To je bila nedeljska šola v času nepismenosti. Ob koncu leta je bila pod Slomškovim orehom slavnostna izkušnja znanja. Prvo nagrado

je osvojil Tonček. Morda je prav tu vzklika Slomškova zamisel, da je leta 1842 napisal knjigo Blaže in Nežica v nedeljski šoli, ki je še danes bisereček mladega rodu.

Gregor Zorko, rojen 1755, oče Slomškove matere Marije, je stare dni preživel pri vnuku, nadžupniku v Vuzenici, kjer je umrl 29. septembra 1844, kot je zapisal dr. Franc Kovačič. Potemtakem ni bilo naključje, da je Slomšek duhovnikoval v Vuzenici od leta 1829 do 1838.

Slomškov sorodnik Pankracij Slomšek se je z ženo Nežiko Brišnik pred letom 1770 priselil v Šoštanj. Rod se je nadaljeval tudi v drugih krajih Slovenije.

Nečak škofa Slomška je bil tudi Anton. Leta 1847, po šolah v Celju, ga je vzel škof Slomšek za konjarja pri Sv. Andražu, dokler ni štiri leta pozneje prevzel domačije na Slomu. Leta 1854 se je poročil z Marijo Golež. Umrl je leta 1892. Po njegovi smrti je žena Marija sama gospodarila do leta 1900, ko je umrla.

Njun sin, prav tako Anton, rojen 1877, je po materini smrti prevzel Slom in se leta 1902 oženil z Nežo Delakorda.

Bogsigavedi, kaj je škofovemu pranečaku Antonu padlo na glavo, da je prodal očetov dom na Slomu. Prišel bi bil v roke ponemčenemu društvu Südmark, ko ga ne bi bil leta 1905 kupil celjski odvetnik dr. Josip Karlovšek. Pozneje se je Slom znašel v rokah celjske posojilnice.

Narodoljubno in škofovsko delovanje

Od doma je ponesel v svet gospodarnost, rodoljubnost, vestnost, globoko vernost, smisel za prikupno pripoved, a tudi veselost in glasbeno nadarjenost. Njegov dom je bil odtlej povsod, kjer je

lahko vse to združeval in prenašal na ljudi. Leta 1814, ko je zapustil starše, se je vpisal v tretji razred normalke v Celju.

Že zgodaj je privrelo iz njega doživetje svojega doma v vedri pesmi Preljubo veselje, oj kje si doma. To pesem še danes prepevajo Slovenci doma in po svetu. Marsikateri zdomec jo bo še danes doživel v sebi. Zadržna kitica te pesmi je:

"Oj, blažena leta nedolžnih otrok!

Vi imate veselje brez težkih nadlog,

Oh, kako vas srčno nazaj si želim,

Al' ve ste minula, zastonj se solzim!"

Tudi grenke kaplje življenja je okusil, ker je bilo Celje, takrat Zilli, še vse v nemških napisih, ko je obiskoval gimnazijo in stanoval v enonadstropni hiši opatijske cerkve sv. Danijela, in ker mu je Jakob Prašnikar, kaplan na Ponikvi in pozneje provizor pri Sv. Vidu na Planini, prišel tja sporočit, da mu je 2. januarja umrla mati zaradi hudega poroda. Odtlej mu je bil Prašnikar kot drugi oče. Slomšek je na duhovnih vajah že kot škof priznal, da brez njega ne bi bil dosegel cilja.

Po končani gimnaziji je študiral filozofijo v Ljubljani, Senju in Celovcu, kjer se je potem odločil za študij bogoslovja. Potem ko se je oče leta 1818 drugič oženil in je žena prevzela vajat, mu oče ni več dajal denarne podpore, zato je mladi Slomšek za preživetje zasebno poučeval. Postal je tudi domači učitelj dveh sinov plemenite Uhlove rodbine.

Sošolci so se pozneje spominjali, da je zaradi nesreč in pomanjkanju postal resen in se je zatekal v samoto. Večkrat so ga našli v cerkvi, kjer je klečal na golih tleh in v globoki pobožnosti molil.

Na ljubljanskem liceju je bil njegov sošolec France Prešeren, s katerim sta se spoprijateljila. Leta 1821 je že študiral na celovski bogoslovni. Tam je študente, ki so govorili napol narečno napol nemško latovščino, poučeval slovenščino. Metelka v Ljubljani je za-

prosil, naj mu še iz tiskarskega stroja pošilja sveže pole slovenske slovnice.

Na slovenskem zboru bogoslovcev in v govorih, npr. l. 1822, je navduševal tovariše, naj kot duhovniki prižigajo lučko slovenskega jezika:

"Zakaj tajiš, nespametnež, da nisi Slovenec, ko vendar slovenstvo na svojem čelu nosiš, kaj se sramuješ svojega očeta in matere, ker sta Slovenca? Slovenci smo, Slovencem namenjeni učenci, se prav k našemu delu pripraviti, je naša največja dolžnost!"

Novo mašo je pel v Olimju, kjer je bil župnik Jakob Prašnikar. V dnevnik je zapisal: "V Olimju sem ob velikanski udeležbi ljudstva daroval Bogu prvo daritev svete maše, zatopljen v premissljevanje vzvišenosti svetega opravila."

Ko ga je leta 1846 solnograški kardinal in nadškof Friderik pozval, naj postane knezoškof lavantinski, mu je Slomšek med drugim odpisal:

"Nepričkovan visoki klic, s katerim me je Vaša Eminenca s pismom tako milostno počastila, da naj prevzamem pastirsko palico ovdovele lavantinske škofije iz Vaših rok, me navdaja s strahom, da me Vaša Eminenca ne pozna dovolj, da mi izroča tako visoko čast in nalaga tako težavno breme - navdaja me s skrbjo, da ne bom vreden tako važne svete službe. Če pa je volja božja, da postanem škof svoje matere lavantinske cerkve, je tudi moja volja..."

V letih 1846-47 je urejal tudi mladinski list Drobčinice. Spodbudil je ustanovitev Mohorjeve družbe in jo denarno podprl.

Veliko zanimivosti je še iz Slomškovega pastirskega delovanja na Bizelj-

skem, v Novi Cerkvi, Vuzenici, pa iz časa, ko je bil kanonik v Št. Andražu, izvoljen za škofa in je leta 1859 prenesel sedež lavantinske škofije iz ponemčenega Št. Andraža v Maribor.

V času nadžupnikovanja v Vuzenici, denimo, se je ob dravski pečini razbil z lesom naložen splav, da so trije splavarji utonili, dva pa sta v hudem mrazu nezavestna obležala na obrežju. Slomšek je oba ponesrečenca spravil v župnišče.

Pri njem sta si ob dobri negi čez dva meseca opomogla. Ozdravljena sta vprašala, koliko sta dolžna. Slomšek je smehljaje odgovoril: "Je že Bog vse poplačal. Le pojdiva pa molita zame in pazita, da vama Drava drugič ne skoplje groba."

In ko je vuzeniškemu kmetu Turineku vse pogorelo, mu je Slomšek podaril štiri goveda ter mu posodil močne vole za oranje.

O njegovih knjigah - Pesme po Koroškem ino Štajerskim znane (izdal skupaj z M. Ahaclom 1833. v Celovcu), Kerščansko devišstvo 1834, Življenja srečna pot 1837, Blaže in Nežica v nedeljski šoli 1842, Šola veselega lepega petja za pridno šolsko mladino 1853, Djanje svetnikov Božjih in razlaganje predstavnihih praznikov ali svetnikov 1853 itn. - bi lahko napisal veliko pohvalnih besed. A ob obisku njegove domačije naj dodam vsaj še to, da je bil kot škof skromen. Ogromno je storil za slovenstvo, ko je lavantinsko škofijo prenesel v Maribor in papež ga je leta 1998 razglasil za blaženega.

Ljudje se vračajo na Slom v Slomškovo rojstno hišo. Prihajajo stari, mladi, Slovenci in tujci. Njegova rojstna zibelka naj ostane z zlatimi črkami zapisana v slovenski zavesti in v srcih vseh ljudi, ki dobro čutijo in mislijo. Naj vedno živijo njegove besede:

"Slovenka me je rodila, naj me slovenstvo tudi za hvaležnega sina ima. Materino zemljo želim obdelovati, dokler se nekoč v materini zemlji ne spočijem ..."

(KONEC)

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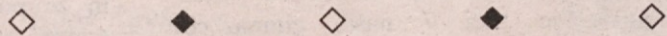
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Vojaška služba v stari Jugoslaviji

(nadaljevanje)

ANTON ŽAKELJ

- V. del (konec) -



Zjutraj me je dekla poklicala, kakor domenjeno. Spal sem vso noč. Dekla mi je skuhalo kavo in po zajtrku sem začel zadnji del do cilja. Pot me je vodila po ozki stezi skozi goščavo mlade bukovi- ne in privedla menda pri Vrhovinah do reke, ki teče skozi 17 Plitvičkih jezer. Reka nima več dalec do morja, vendar sem šel raje proti toku, pabom videl več.

Dobrih 70 let je potekalo od takrat, zato ni nič čudno, če sem pozabil na kraje ob reki. Bilo jih je malo. Sama jezera in med njimi slapovi kot pretoki iz jezera v jezero. Povsod sem se čudil drevju, ki ga je podrl vihar in je padlo v jezero, kjer ga je v kratkem času prekrilo apno, s katerim je bila voda vsepovsod prenesičena.

To je bil najbrž vzrok, da postrvi nisem videl nikjer, rake pa čutil povsod. Če sem se le približal vodi, je začofotalo, ko se je rak zmeril v blato. preden sem ga mogel videti. Za nekaterimi slapovi so se skrivale podzemne jame.

Okrog poldne sem prišel do zadnjega jezera, ki ne vem več, kako se imenuje. Ker so me civilni čevlji nekoliko tiščali, sem jih sezul in noge malo osvežil v vodi. Mislil sem, da bo to dobro za noge, pa so noge še malo zatekle, da sem jih težko obul nazaj.

Po kratkem počitku sem šel nazaj po isti poti do kraja, ki so mu rekli Labudovac in prav tako dva hotela. Lačen in utrujen sem sedel v parku k mizi in zaspal. Ko sem se zbudil, je stala poleg mene ženska srednjih let in me je vprašala, če čakam na avtobus.

Da, kdaj pride mimo? Povedala mi je uro. Ni bilo veliko časa, čez nekaj minut je prišel še moški, tudi srednjih let. Predstavila sta se kot Marija in Martin, oba iz

Maribora. Bila sta huda na Angleže, ki so kupili pred kratkim oba hotela in povišali cene, s tem pa odbila turiste. Sedaj je bil en hotel zaseden po kralju Aleksandru in obiski sploh prepovedani. Budalovac, ne Labudovac, sta rekla.

Postal sem žejen in vprašal, če imajo kaj za piti. "Malinovec z vodo," je rekla Marija in kmalu prinesla kozarec vode z malinovicem. Račun: 6 din. Dal sem ji 10 din, pa nisem dobil nič nazaj.

Ko sem izpraznil kozarec, je kmalu pripeljal avtobus in ustavil na znak. Vstopil sem kot edini potnik do Plitvic. Voznina 5 din, pa tudi nisem dobil nič nazaj. Kakor je šel bat, naj gre še štil, so rekli včasih pri nas.

Pozno popoldne sem ustavili v Plitvicah, pa ni bilo časa za ogled kraja in tudi ne za hrano, čeprav sem bil že lačen od jutra. Nazaj sem hodil čisto po drugi poti, skoro vso pot peš. Le enkrat me je povabil na voz voznik, ki se je vračal iz Korenice, kamor je peljal koruzo. Mislil, da je ustavil v Donjem ali Gornjem Vakufu, ker je sam zavil na desno.

Na križišču sem opazoval drugo kafano, večjo in lepšo kot ona v Bihaču. Vrata so bila odprta, da sem videl goste, sedeče na tleh s prekrižanimi nogami in pušili lulu (pipo) ter pili kafu. "Največji užitek v človeškem življenju," je zatrjeval moj tovariš Hasan Prozorac v Sisku.

Naprej sem šel čisto sam v popolni temi. K sreči je bila cesta dobra, široka in čisto ravna. Dvakrat ali trikrat sem doživel presenečenje, da ne rečem strahu, pa ni bilo nič hudega.

Prvič sem prišel v bližino žive meje (mislil, da je bila res), ko se je posvetilo. Prepričan sem bil, da je nekdo ukresal

staro puško; še enkrat, pa bo počilo. Toda, namesto poka sem zaslišal pasji lajež. Pes je moral biti znotraj ograje, sicer bi me bil napadel.

Drugič je v moji bližini zarožljalo. Bil je konj na paši, pa so mu vklenili prednji dve nogi skupaj, da se ne bi preveč oddaljil. Tretjič se mi je pa zdelo, da sem zaslišal človeški glas. Bilo je res več ljudi, ki so šli s polja domov. Kaj so delali v popolni temi, ne vem. Prijazno so me pozdravili in vprašali, če sem kaj žejen. "Seveda, pa kako! Imate kaj vode?" "Da, prinesi skodelico!"

Slišal sem, da je nekdo ulival vodo iz lesene posode v porcelanasto skodelico in nagnil sem jo na usta. Pa je bila prevročna, da bi je mogel piti. Zlil sem jo pod brado na prsa. Saj nobeden ne vidi! Po telesu me bo bolj pohladilo, kakor če bi jo pil.

Zahvalil sem se in šel dalje. Ceste nisem videl pred seboj, vendar sem vedel, da je ravna, ker mi nikoli ni bilo treba delati ovinkov. Bila je dolga, nazadnje sem pa le začutil pred seboj.

Prva hiša na križišču je bil hotel Ružica, ki sem ga že poznal. Bil je še odprt. Šel sem v klet in naročil čašico bosanske Ružice - rdečega vina dobrega okusa, z istim imenom kot hotel. Tam sem videl, da je blizu pol ene. Spil sem in šel proti kasarni, malo manj kot en kilometer daleč. Ko sem šel mimo pukovne bašte (polkovnega vrta) so slavčki prepevali v grmovju. Takrat sem prvič slišal slavčke.

Ko sem prišel v kasarno, je bila ura že čez eno. Ker ni bilo nobene postelje prazne, je dežurni zbudil vojaka in poslal v službo stražarja, "kod nužnika" (stranišče), mene pa povabil v posteljo. Če bi ne bil utrujen, da bi zaspal na tleh,

bi bil ponudbo odklonil, ker še nisem pozabil, koliko ur sem stražil v stranišču po kazni - brez krivde.

Hvala Bogu! En načrt - videti Plitvice - sem srečno končal, drugega - iti na Plešivico sem pa odložil za moje drugo življenje. Čeprav me vsa transportacija ni stala več kot 10 din in hrana le malo več, sem se vnil suh. Če upoštevam moje mesečne vojaške plače, sem delal za ta izlet več kot tri mesece.

Med mojim izletom so prišli moji papirji iz Siska in naslednji dan sem se vrnil domov.



Tako je prišel dan odhoda. Odpeljal sem se že pozno popoldne in ustavil v Zagrebu zvečer. Neka ženska me je opazila in vprašala, če potrebujem prenočišče. "Da, kje ga imate?" "Čisto blizu." "Koliko zahtevate?" "1.5 din." "Kje je kaka domača košta? Lačen sem in bi rad večerjal." "Dobro, dobila je bova mimogrede." "Dobro, pojdiva."

Res sva kmalu našla lokal, ki mu pravijo "domača košta" in večerjo: velik kos kruha, le malo manjši kos špeha in kozarec mleka. Vse za 2,5 din.

Zdelo se mi je, da hodi divja že dolgo, pa je na večkratno vprašanje: Kako daleč je še? vselej odgovorila: "Prav kmalu bova tam."

Nazadnje sva le vstopila v neko hišo. Odložil sem odvišno obleko blizu okna, pa mi ji jo je takoj prestavila bolj proč. Je rekla, da blizu okna lahko kdo ukrade. Noč sem srečno prespal in tudi ostalo vožnjo srečno presedel - do doma.

(Konec drugega nadaljevanja)

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KOLENDAR

JANUAR

25. - Slovenska pristava priredi tradicionalno Pristavsko noč, v SND na St. Clairju. Igrajo Veseli godci.

31. - 1., 2. februar - Smučarski vikend v Windhamu, NY. Informacije: Ivan Kamin 718-424-2711.

FEBRUAR

2. - Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti ima kosilo v šolski dvorani s serviranjem od 11. dop. do 1. pop.

2. - Slovenski narodni dom na St. Clair Ave. ima občni zbor s pričetkom ob 2. uri pop.

9. - Misijonska Znamkarska Akcija ima kosilo v šolskem avditoriju pri Sv. Vidu. Serviranje od 11. do 1. pop.

15. - 20. - Smučarski izlet v Lake Tahoe. Informacije: Ivan Kamin 718-424-2711.

23. - Slovenska šola pri Sv. Vidu postreže s kosilom v farnem avditoriju s serviranjem od 11. dop. do 1. pop.

MAREC

15. - Federacija slovenskih narodnih domov priredi "mož in ženska leta" banket v SND na St. Clairju.

23. - Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti ima zajtrk v šolski dvorani med 9. dop. in 12. opoldne.

MAJ

3. - Primorski klub ima večerjo in plesom v SND na St. Clair Ave.

17. - Pevski zbor Korotan ima koncert v SND na St. Clair Ave.

JUNIJ

8. - Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti ima piknik na Slovenski pristavi. Ob 12.30 sv. maša, sledi kosilo.

14. - 15. - Tabor DSPB ima spominsko proslavo na Slovenski pristavi, ob spomenu 58. obletnice slovenskega "holokavsta" za domobrance ob koncu 2. svetovne vojne.

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1460. "Čas" – Kako ljudje dojemamo čas?

Različno – odvisno od vsakega posameznika. Morda odvisno celo od razpoloženja. Pravim kristjanom je čas dragoceni božji dar, v katerem si z božjo milostjo po Kristusovem odrešenju pripravljamo večno bivanje v Bogu. Zato naš pogled bodi usmerjen v prihodnost. Naše krščansko upanje za prihodnost je v temeljni resnici, da svet in zgodovinski razvoj človeštva vodi Bog, čeprav včasih po nam nerazumljivih potih. Odločilen je čas milosti, čas uresničevanja odrešenja. Kristus uresničuje v svetu zemeljskih sprememb odrešenje v odrešenjskem občestvu Cerkve in tudi v vsakem izmed nas. Kako osrečujoča misel za misijonarje in misijonske sodelavce v zaledju!

Od srca do srca iz misijonskega sveta

Oglasila se je laična misijonarka **Tatjana Žejn**, sicer medicinska sestra, iz Mission Catholique Saubre, Slonokoščena obala, Afrika: "Lep pozdrav Vam in vsem sodelavcem MZA. Do prejetja vašega pisma za vašo organizacijo še nisem slišala, ob branju le tega pa sem čutila tako zelo veliko vašo povezanost z misijoni in misijonarji, kot da bi bili sami v misijonih, saj ste naše zelo močno zaledje.

Tudi presenečena sem bila ob prejetju vašega pisma, saj je minilo šele dobro leto od mojega prihoda na Slonokoščeno obalo. Ne vem koliko kaj veste o meni. Zato naj povem na kratko, da se še vedno živim v življenje tukaj. Delam v ambulanti in udeležujem se v župniji, to leto predvsem s poučevanjem verouka.

Najlepša hvala za Vaš dar namenjen meni. Tu na Slonokoščeni obali delam skupaj z bratoma Bajec, Sandijem Skapinor in Jankom Kosmačem. Tu je tudi sr. Anica Starman. Vaš dar bo koristno porabljen v misijonski žetvi kjerkoli na tem prostornem polju. Lep pozdrav vsem, blagoslovljene praznike in vse dobro v letu 2003. Bog daj, da bi vedno čutili takšno misijonsko zavest. Tatjana Žejn."

Misijonar p. **Lojze Podgrajšek** piše iz Zambije: "Dragi MZA sodelujoči. Hvala za pismo in ček. Ge. Gregorinovi se bom takoj oglasil. Tukaj nič posebnega. V bogoslovju končujemo šolsko leto. Veliko bo ocenjevanja, popravljanja in izpitov. Za božjo čast se vse spleča! Lepo pozdravljeni. Hvaležni Lojze Podgrajšek."

Pismo – letno poročilo za 2002 – misijonarja **Pedra Opeka** iz Antanariva, Madagaskar:

"Dragi prijatelji! Spet se bliža konec leta. Pred nami so božični prazniki, ki bodo, upam, za vse nas bogato doživljajo. Zato vam želim, dragi prijatelji, res blagoslovljene praznike! Bog daj, da bi nam bilo tudi letošnje obhajanje Božiča luč v naši vsakdanji sivini ter moč za veselo službo drugim. Prav tako vam želim obilo sreče v Novem letu.

Sedaj torej delamo obračune in pregledujemo, kako smo preživeli letošnje leto; kako in v koliki meri smo uresničili načrte, ki smo si jih naložili v začetku leta.

O političnih in socialnih nemirih v prvi polovici leta na Madagaskarju, ste bili precej seznanjeni. Ko sem bil sam maja in junija v Evropi, posebej v Sloveniji in na Koroškem, sem vam skušal približati razmere, v katerih smo delali. Posledice hude politične krize so močno čutili prav vsi ljudje. Posebej so bili prizadeti tisti, ki že sicer živijo v težkih življenjskih razmerah. Zaradi pomanjkanja najbolj vsakdanjih potrebščin in zaradi draginje, so bili mnogi na robu preživetja. Veliko ljudi, posebej otrok, je umrlo zaradi pomanjkanja zdravil. Tudi v centrih Akamasoe je delo zastalo, saj ni bilo mogoče dobiti niti najbolj potrebnega materiala, ali prodati kar so naši ljudje pridelali, npr. v kamnolomu ali v drugih centrih.

Kljub težkim razmeram se nismo prepustili malodušju. Ko je bilo najbolj "vroče", je bilo treba zastaviti besedo, da bi se umirili duhovi in da bi zmagala pravica. V Franciji, Švici, Monaku in v Sloveniji sem skušal posredovati pri odgovornih, da bi se tako slišal glas nemočnih in da bi prišla resnica na dan, ter da bi bila spoštovana demokracija in da bi zmagala pravica. Zelo sem hvaležen vsem odgovornim v Sloveniji: predsedniku države, predsedniku vlade, predsedniku parlamenta in ministru za zunanje zadeve, da so me sprejeli in potem tudi posredovali pri odgovornih po svetu. Verjamem, da je tudi to pripomoglo, da se je kriza končala po mirni poti.

Sedaj je življenje na Madagaskarju spet v glavnem mirno. Predsednik Marc Ravalomanana in nova vlada, ki so prišli na oblast po demokratični poti, imajo sedaj polne roke dela. Odpraviti morajo posledice težke politične in socialne krize. Pri ljudeh morajo spodbuditi nov elan, da bi se tako obnova dežele resnično začela. Delo, ki jih čaka, je težko in obenem delikatno. Če jim bo uspelo odpraviti korupcijo, tudi v višjih "krogih", potem je upanje, da se bo kaj premaknilo na bolje.

Kljub hudi krizi, v kateri smo morali živeti in delati, nam je uspelo dokončati 80 novih hiš (Koroška vas), ki

smo jih začeli graditi že koncem lanskega leta. Število otrok je v šoli vsako leto večje. To nas priganja, da gradimo nove šolske prostore. Podobno je glede zdravstva: številne skupnosti potrebujejo nove dispanzerje, da bodo imeli ljudje tako lažji dostop do zdravstvenih uslug. Nova oblast nam je priskočila na pomoč s tem, da nam je (z avgustom 2002) dala na razpolago tri zdravnike. Seveda pa želimo, da bi ti državni funkcionarji imeli dovolj poslušna za potrebe ljudi in da bi bili zares s srcem pri delu.

V šolah, ki so pod oskrbo združenja Akamasoa (7 tisoč otrok in mladih) je bil letos lep uspeh: v osnovni šoli skoraj stodonten, v srednji šoli pa okrog 65%. Vse to nam nalaga nove obveznosti, ker je treba misliti na bodočnosti teh mladih. Letos je tudi 7 naših gimnazijcev napravilo maturo in bodo v novem šolskem letu začeli s študijem na univerzi. Tem bi radi posvetili posebno pozornost, saj so prav mladi upanje za deželo in za Cerkev.

V tem letu je šlo skozi naš sprejemni center 8035 ljudi. Pomagali smo jim materialno in denarno, da bi tako lažje nadaljevali življenje v domačem kraju. Nekaj družin pa smo sprejeli "za stalno", ker niso imele nobene druge možnosti za preživetje. In tudi sicer smo pomagali še drugim, ki so prišli trkat na naša vrata. Sedaj sprejemamo več bolnih, ki drugje ne najdejo potrebne oskrbe.

Zaradi večjega števila učencev smo povečali število učiteljev in profesorjev. Vseh učiteljev skupaj je sedaj 170. Na srečo so se našli dobrotniki (v Monaku), ki nam pomagajo, da lahko učitelji Akamasoe prejemajo redno mesečno plačo.

Ko imamo na skrbi probleme vsakdanjega življenja, ne smemo pozabiti na drugo plat življenja ljudi, ki je prav tako pomembna za vsakega človeka. Saj "ne živimo samo od kruha", ampak potrebujemo tudi duhovne hrane, srčne kulture. Zato si močno prizadevamo, da bi otrokom in mladim omogočili ob šolski izobrazbi tudi duhovno vzgojo. S tem pomagamo mladim pri njihovi človeški in duhovni rasti, da bi se tako razvili v zrele in odgovorne osebnosti. Molitvene skupine so upanje za naše krščanske skupnosti.

In sedaj mi, prosim, dovolite, da vam predstavim naše načrte za prihodnje leto (tj. 2003):

- 100-tim družinam (od 600, ki še živijo v lesenih barakah), bi radi omogočili dostojne domove;
- v načrtu imamo več novih šol na podeželju;
- povečali bi radi bolnice v Manantenasoa in bolje uredili sprejemni center;
- nujno bo treba izboljšati infrastrukturo po vaseh (kanalizacija, ceste);
- v vaseh Akamasoe bi radi napeljali mestni vodovod, da bi tako ljudje imeli zdravo, pitno vodo.

To so naše želje. Gotovo jih je še več. Zgoraj omenjeni načrti pa res želimo, da bi se uresničili. Že v naprej se vam, dragi prijatelji, zahvaljujem za zvestobo in za vsak dober dar, ki ga boste namenili za potrebe Akamasoe in za vse tiste, ki niso imeli "sreče" kot otroci v Evropi, da bi lahko odraščali pred "bogato pogrjneno mizo". Vse kar naredimo za človeka v stiski, je zaklad, ki obogati tudi nas same. In tega zaklada nam ne more nihče vzeti.

Vsem misijonskim prijateljem po Sloveniji in po svetu, prav lepa hvala. Najlepša zahvala vsem sodelavcem v Misijonski pisarni. Posebej se zahvaljujem Jožetu Kopeinigu in mnogim dobrim ljudem na Koroškem, ki ste nam pomagali graditi "Koroško vas". Prav najlepša hvala g. Mirku Bogataju, ki je s svojimi sodelavci posnel film, ki je bil nagrajen na Slovaškem. Prav tako najlepša hvala slovenski Mivi, g. Štanetu Kerinu in dobrotnikom, ki so nam omogočili nakup novega avta. Avto nam bo v veliko pomoč pri našem delu. S prav lepimi pozdravi, Pedro Opeka."

Gospodar življenja je odpoklical **Karla Klezina**. Pokojni je bil zelo zvest pri vseh misijonskih prireditvah pri fari sv. Cirila v New Yorku, to preko 40 let. Za vsakoletno misijonsko prireditev in srečolov je daroval umetniške slike. Kjer koli je bila potrebna pomoč, ni nikdar odrekel. Za vsa njegova dobra dela naj ga Gospod bogato nagradi. Spočij se v Gospodu! Družini naše iskreno sožalje. Priporočamo ga v molitev, če še kaj potrebuje.

Mir z vami vsemi, Kako lepa, plemenita ideja – zaželeto nekemu mir. Mir v srcu, mir v duši, življenjski mir. Sveti Duh nas povezuje v eno veliko družino, katere smo bratje in sestre, ki drug drugemu želimo mir in vse dobro. Gospodov mir z vami.

Sonja Ferjan

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Novi grobovi

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

Ann J. Tercek

Dne 11. januarja je na svojem domu v Euclidu umrla Ann J. Tercek, rojena v Cliff Mine-u, Pa., v Clevelandu prišla l. 1935, vdova po Franku Hocevarju in Charlesu Terceku, mati Nancy Mramor, Joan Podmore in že pok. Carol Picciello, 6-krat stara mati, 10-krat prastara mati, zapuščala tudi dva brata, zelo aktivna v mnogih slovenskih in drugih organizacijah, bila predsednica podr. št. 50 SZZ 32 let in clevelandske federacije SZZ podružnic 10 let, zapišnikarica Klub Ljubljana več kot 10 let, članica upokojenskih klubov v Euclidu, na Holmes Ave. in St. Clairju, članica Oltarnega društva pri Mariji Vnebovzeti in pela v cerkvenem zboru več kot 25 let, več kot 25 let služila kot prostovoljka pri Slovenskem domu za ostarele, članica KSKJ št. 169, SNPJ št. 614 in Polka Hall of Fame. Pogreb je bil 15. januarja v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojničin spomin Hospice of the Western Reserve, 300 E. 185 St., Cleveland, OH 44119.

Frances Staiduhar

Umrta je 87 let stara Frances Staiduhar, vdova po Georgeu st., mati Frances Perko in Georgea ml., 5-krat stara mati, 4-krat prastara mati, sestra Sofie Hansen in že pok. Viole Saviano. Privatni pogreb je bil v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojničin spomin Polka Hall of Fame, 605 E. 222 St., Euclid, OH 44123.

Fred Zupancic

Dne 10. januarja je umrl 59 let stari Fred Zupancic, sin že pok. Fred-a in Edith, roj. Hrobat, nečak Therese Clements. Pogreb je bil 13. januarja s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Viljema in pokopom na Kalvarije pokopališču.

Joseph J. Zupancic st.

Umrta je Joseph J. Zupancic st., mož Eve, roj. Sudick, oče Josepha ml., Garyja, Christine Narum in Williama, 7-krat stari oče, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški vojski. Pogreb je bil 10. januarja s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Venceslava in pokopom na Ohio Western Reserve National pokopališču.

Podpirajte naše oglaševalce – Tudi ti pomagajo našemu listu, da lahko še izhaja redno, ko jih je toliko že ugasnilo!

