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AMERICAN

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

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## Slovenia prepares for upcoming elections

by Dr. Rudolph M. Susel  
LJUBLJANA, Slov., Oct. 20 — Rain and cold temperatures which began last Friday and continuing this week have not cooled the political temperatures in Slovenia.

Elections are scheduled for December 6 and 20 and every one of the parties is trying to attract the support of the voters.

Given the nature of our own American Presidential Campaign, it is hard to be too critical of some of the words being employed by the parties here. While each tries to promote itself and its ideas, the primary emphasis seems to be on criticizing the opposition and its leaders.

While newspapers and individual parties release the results of "polls," it is hard to accept them as very accurate. There does seem to be a consensus that the Liberal Democrats, led by Prime Minister Janez Drnovsek, and the Christian Democrats, whose president is the former Prime Minister, Lojze Peterle, will emerge as the two largest parties. There is also talk of a coalition government, but this likely depends on just what the composition of the new parliament will be. It is not impossible to imagine a Liberal Democrat-Christian Democrat coalition, with several smaller parties joining in, if a parliamentary majority is still needed.

This election for President of Slovenia seems headed for a run-off on December 20. There are so many candidates, no one may get the required 50% on December 6. If any candidate should win on the first round it surely would be Milan Kucan, the current president and former leader of the Communist Party, who still retains a good deal of personal popularity. He would at least be one of the two run-off candidates on December 20. The other might well be Ivan Bizjak, the 36-year-old can-

didate of the Christian Democrats. Under Slovenia's constitution, however, the President is more of a figurehead than in the United States. Real power is concentrated in the parliament and in the government that controls a majority in parliament.

Last Saturday, the Christian Democrats held a large rally on what is still called "Revolution Square" in central Ljubljana, a large open area across the street from the Parliament Building. Rain doubtless kept the crowd from being larger than it was. The principal speakers were Peterle, Bizjak, and Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock, who is a leader of the Austrian equivalent of the Christian Democrats.

Among persons in the rally were Ljubljana's Mayor Jože Strgar, who asked to send his greetings to those Slovene Americans he met during his visit to Cleveland. He introduced several members of Ljubljana's City Council and described his visit to American Home. Also present was Peter Millonig, who said he is now working in Ljubljana.

By chance, finally, I renewed acquaintances with Andrej Vovko, who just the previous day received his doctorate (Ph.D) in history. Andrej researches the history of Slovene emigrants and also comments on foreign affairs for the newspaper "Slovenec." He invited me to visit the Institute for Emigration Research, which is affiliated with the Academy of Arts and Sciences.

On Monday, I spent a few hours discussing the topic of emigration research (and possibilities for new projects) with Andrej and his colleagues. One of the major projects they hope to pursue is a study of the role played by Slovenian parishes in the emigrant communities around the world, including, of course, in the United States. The constant problem they

face is financing such efforts.

Last Monday I also visited the Slovenska Izselska Matica and renewed acquaintances with its president Dr. Jurak, secretary Janez Rogelj, and editor Jože Prešeren, as well as with staff members. By chance I met another old friend, Dr. Irena Mislej, who described a business conference under way this week in Bled, involving quite a few representatives of American and Slovene business firms.

Finally, on Monday I stopped in at the offices of the Slovene Conference of the World Slovenian Congress. I wanted to renew acquaintances with Andrej Rot, a former editor of "Slovenec," but he was not in. I was able to have a long and frank discussion about the Congress and its problems with Iva Svetina, who agreed a great deal of work has to be done to make that organization viable and appealing to not only emigrants, but their descendants as well.

Curiosity led me to sample Slovenia's first American-style fast-food restaurant, the new Dairy Queen across the street from the Slon Hotel. If you are in a real hurry, fine; otherwise, try elsewhere.

Conditions here are not much changed from a year ago. Prices are high by U.S. standards — not to mention Germany and Austria. Yet there does not seem to be as much pessimism as there is anger at the inability of the politicians to work together to pass im-

(Continued on page 3)



On May 21 in Cleveland, Ohio, Peter Osenar offers congratulations to President George Bush on the United States recognition of the Republic of Slovenia. Osenar is a member of the Slovenian American Council and co-chairman of the Slovenians for Bush presidential campaign. Osenar is retired as an officer from Society National Bank where he was instrumental in helping many Slovenians find employment with the bank. He is also a staunch supporter of the American Home newspaper and a champion for democracy in Slovenia.

## Slovenian American Council Update

At a general meeting on October 16 in Cleveland, of the Slovenian American Council (Slovenski Ameriški Svet) in the parish hall of St. Mary's (Collinwood) attendees were given an update of the Council's activities.

An investigative reporter from Ljubljana, Slovenia was also present and gave an overview, along with Professor Lipovec, about the upcoming elections in Slovenia, scheduled for December 6 and a second round on December 20. The elections are mandated in

the new Slovenian Constitution to be held prior to year-end, 1992.

Dr. Mate Roesmann, president of SAC, was the moderator.

Both Professor Lipovec and the investigative reporter, indicated that although there are over 20 political parties currently existing in Slovenia, approximately seven such parties are considered as legitimate and with a genuine opportunity to receive the main portion of votes in December.

(Continued on page 5)

## 5th awards show of Polka Hall

The American Slovenian Polka Foundation, sponsors of the National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame, announces the Fifth Annual Induction/Awards Show and Ceremony will take place on Saturday, November 28 (Thanksgiving weekend) at the Euclid Shore Cultural Centre, 291 E. 222nd St. and Lake Shore Blvd., beginning at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door.

The CPA firm of Arthur Andersen & Company is currently tabulating the votes of over 700 regular members of the Foundation.

The specially designed crystal polka music award trophy will be presented to winners in the following annual award categories:

Cultural, Support/Promotion, Button Box, Musician, Sideman, Best New/Young Band, Band of the Year, and

Recording of the Year.

Two individuals will also be selected out of a field of six as recipients of the coveted Lifetime Achievement Award and inducted into the Hall of Fame.

In addition, nine specially selected individuals and organizations, selected by the Board of Trustees, will be entered on the Trustees Honor Roll and given commemorative plaques.

The spectacular Hollywood-style show will be attended by Greater Clevelanders and polka followers from many other states who will be in town for Tony Petkovsek's Thanksgiving Weekend. The Cleveland Slovenian Radio Club sponsors the traditional Thanksgiving Day Polka Party at the Marriott Society Center Hotel, 127 Public Square, Thursday, November 26, at 4 p.m.

This year a Polka Mass will

also be celebrated following the Awards Show at Euclid Cultural Centre. The 6 p.m. service will be celebrated by Fr. George Balasko of East Liverpool, Ohio and accompanied by Milwaukee's "Barbara and the Karousels."

For the first time, a "Meet the Winners" reception and dance takes place at the Slovenian Workmen's Home, 15335 Waterloo Road. The Joe Fedorchak Orchestra of Youngstown, voted "Band of the Year" in 1991, will be featured from 7:30 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. Meals and beverages will also be available. Admission tickets to benefit the Polka Hall of Fame are \$5.

For information and tickets contact Polka Hall of Fame, Room 152, at 291 E. 222 St., Euclid, OH 44123. Phone 261-3263 (FAME).

—Alice Kuhar  
Secretary



St. Clair Slovenian pensioners enjoy a "Picnic in the Park" on Wednesday, Sept. 2 at Euclid Beach Park.

# Extraordinary

by Frank P. Cerar

Since this is the third review of the Fantje na Vasi concert, it must have been something extraordinary this year. It was.

Not only were they celebrating their 15th year entertaining us, but they also let us, the audience, share some of the beauty of Slovenia that they enjoyed this year on their first tour as a group to the birthplace of their parents. On the right side of the stage was a huge screen, which was used for projecting slides of their trip, corresponding with the songs in their program.

The first number was "Slovenec sem" and the screen lit with such scenes as Lake Bled, the rolling green hills of Dolenjska, the capital city of Ljubljana, etc. The second was "Triglav," and we saw magnificent scenes of these majestic mountains overlooking the new democratic republic.

On the occasion of the last Lojze Slak concert in Cleveland, the choral group was approached by the Izseljenska Matica's representative Tadeja Skerl for arranging a tour of 'Fantje' to Slovenia. Their director, John Sršen, told her then, in no uncertain terms, that until "our parents are welcome to their birthplace, we will in no shape or form make it appear that we recognize the (then) Communist regime by traveling abroad."

Well, since the country

transformed itself to democracy (some still doubt it), and the then Prime Minister Lojze Peterle on his visit to Cleveland made it a point to "welcome everyone including the political refugees," 'Fantje' decided that this is the year when they will go see their parents' birthplace. A priest in Slovenia arranged the concert schedule and it seemed appropriate to have Domžale the first place to show their love of Slovenian word and song, since it is the place of their director's parents' home.

On the screen we saw the group next to the sign announcing their concert, and in the midst of them is a proud 'ata' Sršen. I asked John if anyone from the Izseljenska Matica approached them and he said, "No, as a matter of fact, their absence was noticeable."

But they had a good time anyway and as their announcer John Tominc told the audience, "We didn't feel like ordinary tourists, but as real 'domači' (their own home visitors).

There were three numbers in the program dedicated to the fallen 'domobranci' and they were, "Oj Doberdob," "Na Dan," and "Oce, mati, bratje in sestre", the song on the lips of the deceased martyrs. ("Father, mother, brothers, sisters"). This song was sung by the whole audience with the encouragement of the direc-

tor.

Following were three upbeat numbers which were accompanied by the orchestra "Alpski Sekstet," with "Znova naj lipa cveti" leading. That put the crowd into a unbelievably happy mood, with hands clapping to the beat.

The background of the stage featured an 'acoustic show' (I believe it's called) which has been used in the past two years and has served well without the necessity of microphones. But this year microphones were added, not that they were needed for the group, but the solos were a lot clearer and audible, such as "Mojcej, le vzemi m'ne," for which Tom Sršen received an enormous applause.

For the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America, the boys gave us, besides "This Is My Country," their rendition of "Battle Hymn of the Republic." I must say that they gave a good competition to the famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir — even with only eighteen voices.

Of the original 16, 15 of them were joined in recent years by three more, all but one, born in the U.S.A. After the last number, John Sršen, the director, was given a bottle of "cheer" by the members.

### Friday paper

Our Slovenian editor, Dr. Rudolph M. Susel is in Slovenia and will be returning in the middle of next. Therefore, the next Ameriška Domovina will be printed on **Friday, Oct. 30** instead of next Thursday.

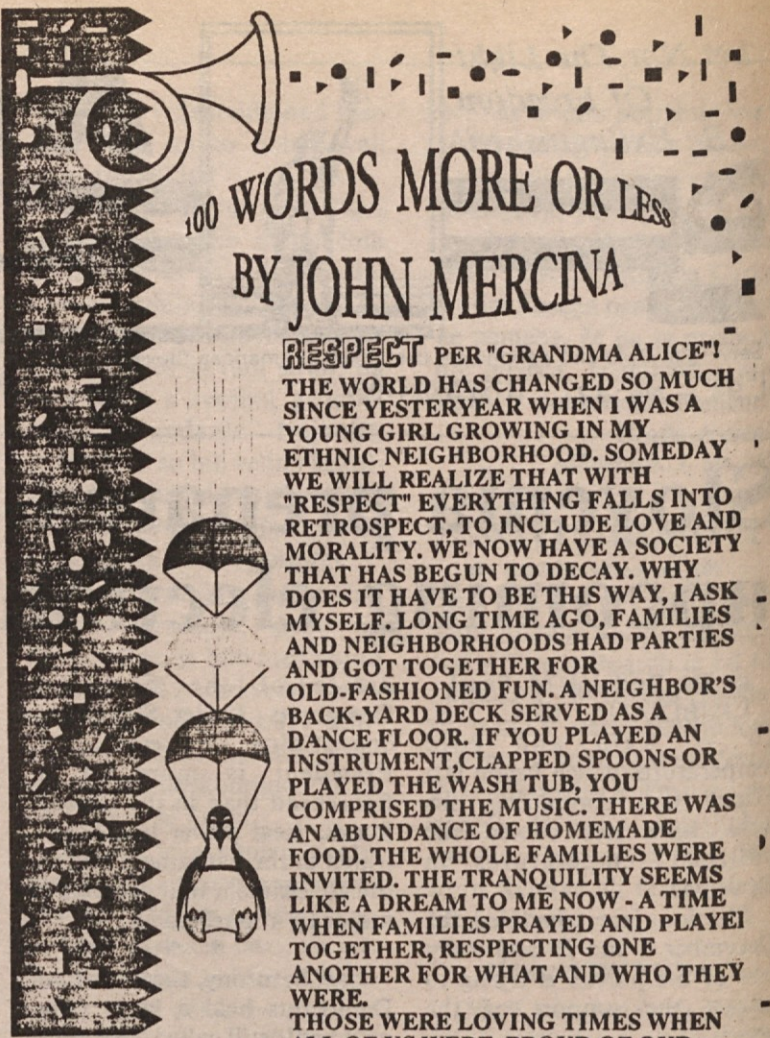
### Korotan practice

Korotan Singing Society begins its practice on Saturday, Nov. 14 at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave., at 7 p.m. Please come! New members are welcome!

**For Sale—St. Vitus area**  
Cute bungalow. 3 bdrms, bath, liv. rm, kitchen, etc. Middle 50s. Call 391-4505 after 8 p.m.

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1 bdrm. apt, with appliances & air conditioning. No pets. Near Slovene Home for the Aged. Call 261-0430.

(42-45)



**RESPECT** PER "GRANDMA ALICE"! THE WORLD HAS CHANGED SO MUCH SINCE YESTERYEAR WHEN I WAS A YOUNG GIRL GROWING IN MY ETHNIC NEIGHBORHOOD. SOMEDAY WE WILL REALIZE THAT WITH "RESPECT" EVERYTHING FALLS INTO RETROSPECT, TO INCLUDE LOVE AND MORALITY. WE NOW HAVE A SOCIETY THAT HAS BEGUN TO DECAY. WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE THIS WAY, I ASK MYSELF. LONG TIME AGO, FAMILIES AND NEIGHBORHOODS HAD PARTIES AND GOT TOGETHER FOR OLD-FASHIONED FUN. A NEIGHBOR'S BACK-YARD DECK SERVED AS A DANCE FLOOR. IF YOU PLAYED AN INSTRUMENT, CLAPPED SPOONS OR PLAYED THE WASH TUB, YOU COMPRISED THE MUSIC. THERE WAS AN ABUNDANCE OF HOMEMADE FOOD. THE WHOLE FAMILIES WERE INVITED. THE TRANQUILITY SEEMS LIKE A DREAM TO ME NOW - A TIME WHEN FAMILIES PRAYED AND PLAYED TOGETHER, RESPECTING ONE ANOTHER FOR WHAT AND WHO THEY WERE. THOSE WERE LOVING TIMES WHEN ALL OF US WERE PROUD OF OUR HERITAGE AND TRADITIONS, WHEN WE KNEW WHAT THE WORD "RESPECT" MEANT.

## Zarja Fall Concert

Members of the Slovenian Singing Society Zarja are joyfully anticipating your presence at our 76th Annual Fall Concert on Saturday, Oct. 24 at the Slovenian Society Home in Euclid, Ohio.


Come, help us celebrate the positives on this day. Dinners will be served from 5 to 6 p.m. in the lower hall. You won't have to cook that day, Julie Zalar will do it for you. You won't even have to do the

dishes. That's a great positive, is it not?

Donation for dinner, program and dance is \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased from any Zarja member or by calling Barbara Elersich at 382-2258, Vicky Kozel 531-5542, or Sophie Elersich at 531-8402.

The concert begins at 7 p.m. under the direction of Douglas Elersich. Accompanists are Ed Polsak and Jim Kozel.

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# Slovenia prepares for elections

(Continued from page 1)

portant legislation and to help resolve major economic problems.

I have the impression that the so-called "People's Tribune" Ivan Kramberger, if he had not been assassinated last June, would be an even more successful Slovenian version of America's Ross Perot. People here seem sick and tired of the endless squabbling and seem ready to give a protest vote to someone different. At this moment, however, there no longer is such a person.

There is much discussion here about the warfare in Bosnia, but Slovenia is entirely outside that. The biggest issue at the moment is the 70,000 to 100,000 refugees here. They are housed in various locations and are not visible as such, for example, here in Ljubljana. Also getting a lot of attention at the moment are Slovenian-Croatian relations, which are not good. A recent visit by Croatia's President Franjo Tudjman did not prove as positive as many had hoped. On Monday and Tuesday there has been extensive reporting on a power struggle in Serbia between the hard-line Milosevic faction and the forces led by "Yugoslav" Prime Minister Panič, who claims to be much more moderate. Some commentators go so far as to predict civil war in Serbia, but this does not seem likely.

Also attracting a lot of attention this week is the return visit to Trieste of the U.S. air-

craft carrier Saratoga and several other warships. Again, there is a lot of not always sensible speculation about what this might mean.

*NOTE: This was faxed on Tuesday from Ljubljana and any misspellings are not from the writer, but the sometimes illegible transmission.—JVD*

## Mass of thanksgiving

On Sunday, November 8, at 2 p.m. the Greater Cleveland Slovenian Community and friends of the Slovenian Community will gather with Bishop A. Edward Pevec to offer a Mass of Thanksgiving at Saint John Cathedral (East 9th and Superior Avenue) in downtown Cleveland for the independent Slovenian Nation and for continued peace in that country.

So many individuals and organizations worked hard and diligently to see our own United States officially recognize the independence and sovereignty of Slovenia. It is only fitting that we, as a community, offer thanks and praise to Almighty God for bringing these efforts to a successful conclusion.

Plans for the Mass of Thanksgiving are being arranged by the Slovenian parishes of Saint Vitus and Saint Mary, Collinwood. The combined choirs of these two parishes, as well as members of Korotan and Fantje na Vasi will provide music for the celebration.

Those having Slovenian na-

tional costumes (narodna noša) are encouraged to wear them to the Mass. Clergy of the Greater Cleveland Slovenian parishes are invited to concelebrate the liturgy.

The Slovenian-American Community stood united in supporting the dignity and freedom of Slovenia. It is only fitting that we stand together once again in a spirit of unity and gratitude to thank God for the success of our endeavors.

— S. K.

## Washington greetings

We received the following post card from Washington, D.C.: "Greetings! Slovenian Cultural Center committee is here visiting the nation's capital and its wonderful Slovenian community.

Corinne Leskovar  
(and other names)"

## Jadran prepares for super concert

Now that the picnic season is over, it's time to support all cultural and social events at the Slovenian Homes.

One such event will be the Jadran Singing Society presenting their Fall Dinner, Dance, Program, "Na Sončni Strani Alp." This will take place on Saturday, November 14 at the Slovenian Workmen's Home, 15335 Waterloo Road. Dinners will be served from 5 until 6:30 p.m.; program will be from 7 to 8 p.m., and dancing from 8:30 until 12:30 p.m.

Our menu, prepared by Steffie Smolic and her crew, will be breaded pork cutlets, roast chicken, soup, salad, home fries, vegetable, dessert and coffee. Donation is \$15 which includes program and dancing.

Tickets can be purchased from any Jadran member or by calling Betty Rotar at 481-3187, Angie Zabjek at 531-3979 or yours truly Dolores Dobida at 951-1694. Tickets will also be available at the Polka Hall of Fame.

Commemorating the Independence of Slovenia, we will present songs from different regions of Slovenia, such as "Triglav Moj Dom," "Bohinjski," "Vipavska," "Sončna Dolenska" and some brand-new selections.

Our director is Reginald Resnik and piano accompanist

is Alice Cech.

For your listening and dancing pleasure, we are happy to announce we have engaged the Benzy Rathbone Combo from Washington, Pa. Those of you who have heard and danced to his music at the SNPJ Farm and the Enon Valley Campsite, know that you are in for a rare treat.

Thanking you in advance for your support. The date to remember is November 14, for a fun-filled evening. Please make your reservations early.

Dolores Dobida  
Recording Secretary



This Slovenija design is available on heavy quality sweatshirts and heavy quality T-shirts. All garments available in white and ash grey with a 4 color imprint of Royal Blue, Red, Gold and Black. Sizes range from SM to XXL.

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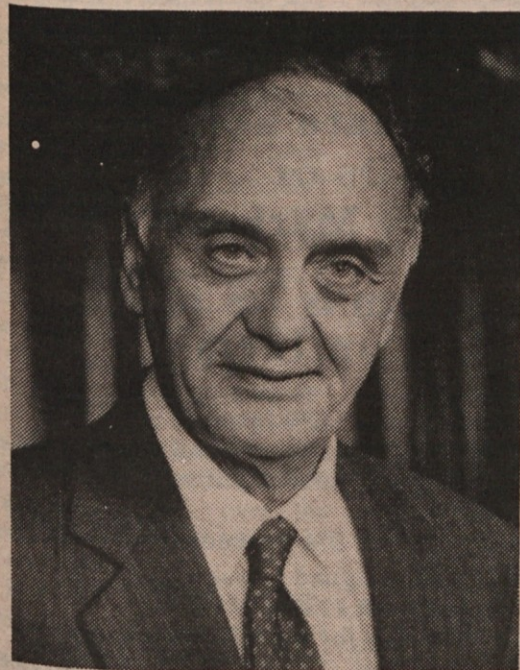
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### RE-ELECT

## JUDGE JOSEPH J. NAHRA

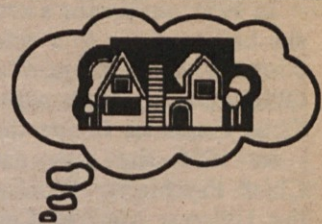
- Judge Nahra** — Served as a Common Pleas Court Judge for 8 years.
- Judge Nahra** — Served as a Probate Court Judge for 3 years.
- Judge Nahra** — Is presently a Judge of the Court of Appeals.
- Judge Nahra** — Practiced Law for 16 years.
- Judge Nahra** — Former Cleveland Director, St. Jude Children's Hospital Drive.
- Judge Nahra** — Graduated from:  
East High School  
Case Western Reserve University (B.A.)  
Harvard Law School (Juris Doctor).
- Judge Nahra** — Received 12 awards for Outstanding Judicial Service from the Ohio Supreme Court.

**X JOSEPH J. NAHRA**



Judge Nahra Re-Election Committee, Lee C. Weingart, Treasurer,  
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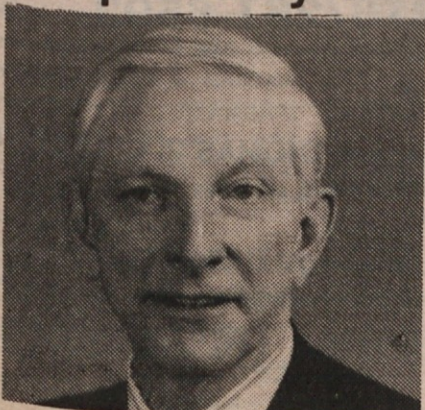
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## Maxine Steinitz, helped others

Maxine Steinitz was born Nov. 13, 1905 in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and came to America with her mother when she was 14 years old. She spoke Slovenian, German and some Croatian and Serbian, but no English.

In her teens she entered primary school to learn English. She had planned to go into library work, but her failing eyesight made reading book titles impossible. She tried nursing until it became evident she could not read the thermometer. She then wanted to attend law school, but could not afford it. She graduated from Western Reserve in Cleveland, majoring in social work.

Maxine worked for a while for the International Institute of the Y.M.C.A. While there she was instrumental in organizing the Yugoslav Slovene Club. Maxine felt there was a need for the Slovenians to be represented, and with her inspiration and guidance, and along with her aunt, Nettie Grdina Kalish, and their relatives and friends, the Yugoslav Slovene Club was formed in 1928. Later in the 1940s the name was changed to the American Slovene Club.

Her work was halted briefly while she went to New York City to undergo one of the first cornea transplant operations. Later she went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin as a psychiatric social worker at the County Guidance Clinic. From there she moved to Pittsburgh to attend the university's graduate school of social work. After completing her Master's, she began working for the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Center.

In 1951, on doctor's orders, she had to move to a warmer climate. She chose Tulsa, Oklahoma, to work with the Child Guidance Center there.

In 1956 she was named Chief Psychiatric Worker at the Hillcrest Medical Center, which later became the Tulsa Psychiatric Foundation, which she also helped to establish. While working there she decided to venture into her own private practice, and soon she developed a thriving private counseling service.

Maxine's greatest thrill, her gift to the world, was her sure and tender ability to help others help themselves. One newspaper article said of Maxine "With a seeing heart she helped others." Her lifelong passion for education was fed by volunteer readers and talking books.

Maxine died peacefully, July 7 of a bad heart she had endured these last few years.

She was the cousin of Carmen McBrayer of Richmond Heights, Ohio.

### VERONICA GERICH

Veronica Gerich (nee Koloric), wife of Joseph (dec.); mother of Joseph Jr. (dec.) (wife Andria), Stanley, Mathew and Stephen; grandmother of six; sister of Ignaca Koloric, Mary Petek of Slovenia, Regina Halas and

Theresa Sarjas of Canada.

Friends called at the Grdina-Faulhaber Funeral Home, 17010 Lake Shore Blvd., where services will be held today (Thursday, Oct. 22) at 9 a.m. and from St. Mary's Church, 15519 Holmes Avenue at 9:30 a.m. Interment in All Souls Cemetery.

Veronica was born in Trnje, Slovenia. She came to Cleveland in 1952 with her family.

She was a long time president of St. Mary's Altar Society. She was a member of Slovenian Women's Union Branch 10 and St. Vitus Lodge 25 of the KSKJ.

### KATHRYN PREBIL

Kathryn Prebil (nee Marinch), 67, died in Meridia Euclid Hospital on Thursday, October 15th after a long illness.

Kathryn was born in Nemaconlin, PA and raised in Rices Landing before coming to Cleveland in 1942. She was a long time resident of the Collinwood area. She was employed at Leece Neville for 17 years as an assembler.

Kaye, as she was known to her friends, was a member of Euclid Pensioners and Croatian Fraternal Union No. 859.

She was the wife of Victor "Pinky" and the mother of Sandra and Candace.

She was preceded in death by her brothers Anthony, Al and William.

Visitation was at Zele Funeral Home. Funeral services were held at St. Mary Church, Rev. Peter M. Mihalic, Dean of St. Mary Seminary, officiated. Burial was in All Souls Cemetery.

### V BLAG SPOMIN

OB 7. OBLETNICI SMRTI  
NAŠE DRAGE MAME  
IN STARE MAME



### MARIJA RUS

Umrla je 25. oktobra 1985.

Srčno ljubljena nam mama, šla prezgodaj si od nas, dobra, skrbna si nam bila, vdano molimo za Vas.

Žalujejo:

Francka, Marija, Ivanka, Tončka — hčere z družinami; France, Ivan, Stanley, Joseph, Tony — sinovje z družinami

ter ostalo sorodstvo.  
Willoughby Hills, O., 22. okt. 1992.

### ROSE JAKLIC

Rose Jaklic (nee Meglic), 81, wife of John (dec.); mother of Stan Meglic; sister to Maria Balazic, Antonia Rozman and Anton Meglic; grandmother of Mark Meglic and Diane Colgan.

Rose was the owner of Triangle Cleaners and an active member of St. Clair Business Association. She was also a member of St. Vitus Altar Society, Stajerski Club, Slovenska Pristava, and AMLA.

Friends were received at the Zak Funeral Home, 6016 St. Clair. Chapel services were Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 9 a.m. followed by Mass in St. Vitus Church. Burial was in All Souls Cemetery.

### WILLIAM A. GROSEL

William A. Grosel worked for the U.S. Defense Department as an electrical engineer. He helped design space projects and supervised the construction of weapons at an area war plant.

Mr. Grosel, 69, died of a heart attack Sunday, Oct. 11 at his home in Lyndhurst.

He was born in Cleveland and graduated from Collinwood High School. He served in the Navy from 1943 to 1946, then earned a degree in electrical engineering at old Fenn College.

In recent years, Mr. Grosel was assigned to Gould Inc. supervising other engineers.

Mr. Grosel had been a Little League coach.

Mr. Grosel is survived by his wife, the former Helen Ryan; sons, Dr. William C. (Neil) of Marietta and Dr. John M. of Shaker Heights; daughters, Mary Ellen Warren of Portland, Ore., and Patricia of Columbus; three grandchildren; three brothers; and a sister.

Services were at St. Paschal Baylon Catholic Church, Highland Heights, Ohio.

### HENRY J. KERSMAN

Henry (Hank) J. Kersman, 78, of Euclid, died Saturday at Meridia Euclid Hospital.

He worked 38 years as a blacksmith for Steel Improvement Co. in Cleveland before retiring in 1977.

In his spare time he built grandfather clocks for his relatives and friends. Using wood and leather, he not only made storage cases for accordions, violins and drums, but also musical instruments.

Following his retirement, he began making button box accordions, which he taught himself to play. He was a charter member and past president of the Euclid

**The Slovene Business Directory 1992**  
In an attempt to promote business within our Slovene community, we have assembled the "SLOVENE BUSINESS DIRECTORY 1992."  
The directory includes over 41 pages of listings on local, national and international Slovene businesses, plus advertising. For your copy, please send \$5.00 to Kathy Tepesh, 110 E. 84 St., New York, NY 10028.

Squeezeboxers, a button accordion club that entertains at numerous area nursing homes.

Mr. Kersman promoted his Slovenian heritage.

Henry was the husband of Josephine (Hlad), his first wife of 35 years who died in 1971 and Emilie (nee Samich) his second wife of nearly 20 years. He was the father of Edward

and Henry (both of Concord Twsp.), Anthony Drobnik (Chicago) and Joanne Burgess (Richmond Hts.). He was the grandfather of nine; great-grandfather of two.

Visitation was at Zele Funeral Home. Funeral services were Tuesday, Oct. 20 in St. Mary Church (Collinwood). Burial was in All Souls Cemetery.

*Re-Elect*

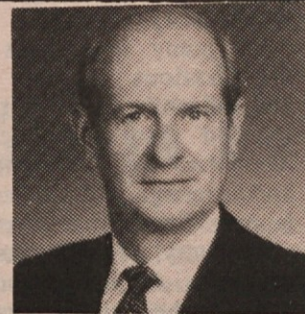
**"MILLIE"**



# TEUSCHER

## COMMISSIONER

Paid for by: Re-Elect Millie Teuscher Committee,  
W.E. Moyer, 12 Meadow Lawn Dr., No. 5, Mentor, Ohio 44060



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— Polish American Congress —

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Cuyahoga County Bar Association

CAMEO Executive Committee

PERSONAL: Married 32 Years to Joan

(Mother's Maiden Name PLANISEK)

Three Children

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Slovenian Community."

# Slovenian American Council Update

(Continued from page 1)

The strongest perceived party is the Christian Democrats. It is currently estimated that the Christian Democrats should achieve between 20-30% of the votes in the first round. Aligned with the Christian Democrats are the Slovenian People's Party (or Farmers Alliance, commonly referred to as SLS), National Democrats, and the Liberals party. It is interesting to note that the National Democrats are effectively a splinter group from the "Slovenian Democratic Party due to disagreement and philosophy of the current foreign minister, Dimitrij Rupel.

In opposition to these four political parties are the "New Democratic party," (or rather the ex-Slovenian Communist Party), the Slovenian Democratic Party, and the Greens. In addition is the Liberal Democratic Party. Or commonly referred to as the "reformed Young Communist Party."

The significance of these elections, in contrast to the first free democratic elections held in April, 1990 after an absence of free and democratic elections in Slovenia for 45 years, cannot be overstated.

The elections in April 1990 allowed for the opportunity to initiate change in the social and governmental system in Slovenia. In reality, the past two years have but only mildly opened the door to a true democratic and free enterprise system as understood in the Western world. The majority of governmental positions still remain under the control of ex-Communists, including the mass media, businesses, and foreign and judicial positions.

These elections in December 1992 will also convert the current governmental system from a three chamber parliamentary system to a two-chamber system, more like our own Congress with a House and a Senate. The Executive Office will, however, remain with the Prime Minister with an office of Presidency more a ceremonial position akin to the position of vice-president in the United States.

The Council also gave an update of a major meeting with similar persons from Chicago, New York, Toronto and Washington, D.C. over the weekend of October 10 and 11 in Cleveland.

The SAC is working in conjunction with representatives in Argentina, Australia, and Canada in regards to the December 1992 elections and other related matters. Points of concern include dual citizenship, establishment of a commission for an accurate and objective recording of historical events in Slovenia prior to and after World War II, reparations in a concrete and realistic manner, and assistance for the laity and Catholic Church in Slovenia and vice versa, and other topics of interest.

As can be understood from

this article, the majority of political parties call themselves "democrats" but as indicated by the investigative reporter from Slovenia, few have lived up to the meaning of a democrat over the past two-to-three years.

Due to other responsibilities, the treasurer of the SAC was not able to remain for the entire meeting. The Council has, however, provided the following support:

1) Provided approximately \$81,000 across the United States for the first elections in April 1990.

2) Coordinated with the Catholic parishes across the United States \$48,300 for the flood victims in late 1990 and early 1991.

3) Raised over \$156,000 for the relief/sovereignty fund with all proceeds forwarded to Prime Minister Peterle and given to Slovenska Karitas (Slovenian Charity), a Catholic Relief agency working in conjunction with the three dioceses in Slovenia. Karitas had been outlawed by the Slovenian government until 1989-90.

In addition to the \$156,000 raised, an anonymous donation of \$100,000 plus over \$40,000 through the New York based LIGA were also raised through the coordinated efforts of the Council. Therefore, almost \$300,000 was raised by the Council and related parties regarding the relief/sovereignty drive.

Unlike a small and passive minority of people who actively worked NOT to provide any resources during the April, 1990 elections, the Council will actively work to raise funds to allow for the completion of a true democracy to come of age in Slovenia. The Council and related entities believe a moral and active obligation exists to have true freedom with responsibility, thrive in Slovenia. To this end we ask those persons and organizations interested in this important event in Slovenia to bring about a legitimate democratic government to make as generous a donation as possible to the "SLOVENIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL" and make payment by check or money order only to the following address:  
Slovenian American Council  
c/o Secretary  
24300 Yosemite Dr.  
Euclid, OH 44117

All donors will receive a personal thank you note and confirmation of donation.

The Council will not, unlike other entities, support any and all persons and/or organizations from Slovenia despite claiming to be "democratically minded" individuals or institutions. We note that the former National Socialists (i.e., Nazi Party) and Communists also claimed to be interested in democracy and freedom, but in reality, were not.

The Council also hopes to have available the tape(s) and film footage by November or December of the recent trip by SAC and other persons to Slovenia this past summer. This filmage will be of interest to many in Northern Ohio.

Again, the Council wishes to thank all those individuals

who have supported its endeavors over the past three years and future projects. Your active participation is our greatest hope to see true democracy and return to normalcy in Slovenia after a long absence of freedom and the soul of Slovenia for over 45 years.

We also remind all that the Mass Service and Day of Thanks has been established for November 8 at 2 p.m. in the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in downtown Cleveland. This service is being coordinated and sponsored by the Slovenian Catholic parishes in the diocese of Cleveland. Hopefully, other Slovenian parishes will also be able to have such a service in the USA and also in Canada.

Stane J. Kuhar,  
treasurer, SAC

## Events...

**Saturday, Oct. 24**

Zarja Fall Concert beginning with sit-down dinner served 5 - 6:30 p.m., concert at 7 p.m., followed by dancing to Ray Polantz Orch. Tickets \$15 call 382-2258, 531-5542, or 531-8402.

**Sunday, Oct. 25**

St. Vitus Alumni Fifth Annual Honoree Day with noon Mass followed by family-style dinner in auditorium at 1:30. Reservations \$15 to Mr. F. Raymond Gobec, 10762 Wilson Mills Rd., Chardon, OH 44024. Call 431-3590 or 383-0701.



**Sunday, Nov. 1**

Spaghetti Dinner, lower hall, Collinwood Slovenian Home, 1 to 4 p.m. Fund-raiser for benefit of hall.

**Sunday, Nov. 8**

Slovenian Mass of thanksgiving to celebrate Slovenia's independence at St. John Cathedral, downtown Cleveland at 2 p.m. Bishop A. Edward Pevec is the main celebrant.

**Nov. 14**

Jadran Singing Society presents "Na sončni strani alp" at Slovenian Workmen's Home, 15335 Waterloo Rd. Dinner 5 to 6:30 p.m., program 7 to 8, dancing 8:30 to 12:30 a.m. Donation \$15.

**Sunday, Nov. 15**

St. Vitus Centennial Novemberfest.

**Sunday, Nov. 15**

Sunday afternoon dance at West Park Slovenian Club, 4583 West 130th St., Cleveland. Music by Al Markic.

**Wednesday, Nov. 25**

Pre-Thanksgiving Jam Session, Club of Association, Slovenian National Home, Annex, 6417 St. Clair Ave., 7 p.m. until ???

**Thursday, November 26**

Tony's Thanksgiving Polka Party at Marriott Society Center, 127 Public Square, downtown Cleveland. For further details call 1-800-800-5981.

**Friday, Nov. 27**

The Collinwood Slovenian Home Tenth Anniversary Thanksgiving Dinner-Dance, 6 p.m. till... Music by Johnny Vadnal. Donation \$13.00.

**Saturday, Nov. 28**

AMLA 82nd Anniversary Dinner Dance at Slovenian National Home, 65th and St. Clair. Sumrada Bros. Orchestra

**Saturday, Nov. 28**

National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame Fifth Annual Induction/Awards Show and Ceremony at Euclid Shore Cultural Centre, 291 E. 222 St., and Lake Shore Blvd. beginning at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at door.

**Saturday, Nov. 28**

"Meet the Winners" reception and dance at Slovenian Workmen's Home, 15335 Waterloo Rd. Joe Fedorchak Orchestra from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Tickets \$5 benefit Polka Hall of Fame.

**Sunday, Dec. 13**

AMLA Children's Christmas Party, Slovenian National Home, 65th and St. Clair Avenue.

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Paid for by: Committee to Elect Thomas C. Daley Cuyahoga County Sheriff; Geraldine Bozich, Treasurer

## Golub Funeral Home

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Thanksgiving  
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POLKA and  
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## TONY PETKOVSEK'S CLEVELAND POLKA EVENT

"Holiday Celebration at Society Tower of Polka Power"

### Thanksgiving Day Polka Party

Thursday, November 26, 1992 — 4:00 p.m. till 2:00 a.m.  
New Marriott Society Center Hotel, 127 Public Square

(Cooperation of Cleveland Slovenian Radio Club)

#### BALLROOM ENTERTAINMENT

|                                             |                                         |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 4:00 p.m. Cleveland Lake Erie Button Box    | 9:30 p.m. Special Guests:               |
| 5:00 p.m. Fred Kuhar Orchestra / Jeff Pecon | Yankovic - Vadnal - Ostanek - Possedi   |
| 6:30 p.m. Wisconsin's Barbara & Karousels   | 10:00 p.m. Hank Haller Ens./Fred Ziwich |
| 8:00 p.m. Don Wofjilla Band/C. Hibbs vocal  | 11:30 p.m. Al Markic - Jake Zaggar Band |

— Jam Session commences after Joe Grkman's Button Box act at 1:00 a.m. —

Donation / Admission \$10. Advance

(Includes Self Parking Underground at Mall on St. Clair — No Valet  
Take Elevator to Lobby — Validate Parking Ticket at Dance)

Advance tickets only available at Kollander Travel, 971 E. 185  
or Polka Hall of Fame, 291 E. 222 St. Phone (216) 481-8669

Al Koporc, Jr.

Piano Technician  
(216) 481-1104

## Holmes Ave. Pensioners Club news

The Holmes Ave. Pensioners have been busy especially in July when our picnic was held at St. Joseph's farm and never fear the weather didn't keep them and their guests away for the afternoon of food, fun and entertainment — even if it rained.

At the September meeting the Nominating Committee was appointed as this is the year for election of officers. The trip that the Pensioners were taking to Toledo, Ohio to see the Geritol Follies Sept. 23 was finalized. Our secretary-treasurer, Louise Fujda, was hospitalized for heart catherization, so Mary Lavrich substituted for her.

During the October meeting the tickets went on sale for the Christmas Dinner and Party.

To our sick members, we wish to see you at our meetings in the near future. And to the ones who are unable to participate, we are thinking of you.

We also remember the ones who have gone as many members always pay their respects in a group at the wake. We extend our sympathy to their families and relatives.

On a personal note: Time is of the essence in thinking when we retire we would have a lot of time to do all the things, but one finds oneself spreading oneself thin. Too many things are going on.

Carl and I ventured to Colorado Springs, Colo. in September to attend his 89th Troop Carrier Air Force Reu-

nion. If one has not ever had a chance to visit the U.S. Air Force Academy, it is a beautiful sight among the mountains. The other trip was to NORAD - for a briefing of recent satellite rescue. We were the only civilians to listen to the briefing and afterwards met both astronauts, Lt. Col. Thomas Dakers who did the space walk to rescue the satellite and Lt. Col. David Chilton who did the Photo Biographics. Something like this happens once in a lifetime to us.

Remember, plan to attend our next meeting November 11 as we will have the election of officers. Also, you can purchase your ticket for the Christmas Dinner-Party which takes place on December 9.

On the bus to see the Geritol Follies were Mary Lavrich and Virginia Marovich celebrating their birthdays Sept. 23. We wish them many more.

Jennie Schultz

### Joseph L. FORTUNA

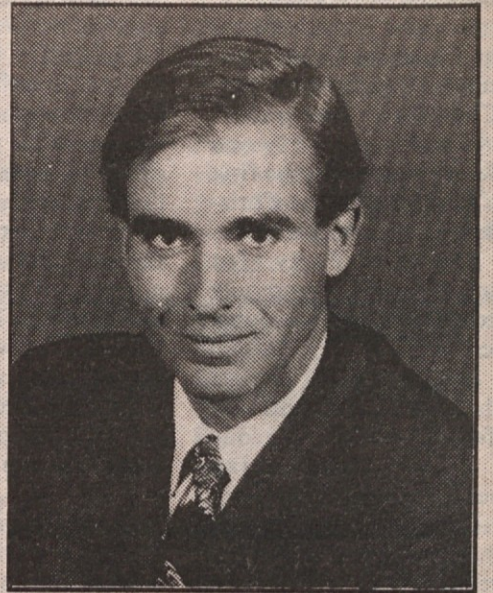
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podnevi in ponoči

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with the  
Education,  
Experience and  
Ability to bring  
Respect to the  
Court of  
Common Pleas*



ELECT

**JOHN M.  
MANOS**

for Judge, Court of Common Pleas

Paid for by the Committee to Elect John M. Manos,  
Nick LaConti, Treasurer 2015 Natona Rd., Euclid, OH 44117

## Slovenians for BUSH

**"I share with you a traditional understanding of family, freedom, love of country, and hard work. Values taught by our parents; values we embrace, and values we pass on to our children. These principles guide us in our obligations to family, church and community."**

**"Our values have triumphed around the world. As a member of Ohio's Slovenian community, you are well aware of the changes that have taken place in Europe. Four years ago in Cleveland, we pledged to bring down the Berlin Wall, and end the Cold War. Freedom and democracy is in the process of being restored to Eastern Europe. We must continue this work."**

**"I join you wholeheartedly in welcoming these new democracies into the community of free nations. May God bless you, and may God bless the United States of America."**

**PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH**

**"I am honored to say that I can join with my friend Governor George Voinovich in supporting the re-election of President George Bush."**

**"We have all been raised in the traditions of hard work and volunteer efforts in our own communities. The values that we**

**have preserved in our families go hand in hand with the issues that President Bush not only embraces, but lives. I trust President Bush to continue to support those values that provides Ohio's Slovenian community a voice in America."**

**Mr. Tony Petkovsek  
Co-Chairman**

**Ohio Slovenians for Bush-Quayle**

**"President George Bush is a proven statesman and champion of democracy and freedom around the world. We are grateful to President Bush for ending the Cold War and stopping Soviet military aggression. Now that Soviet communism has disintegrated, we still have to be alert. As the President said, there are still many wolves in the forest. For Slovenian-Americans, it is important to support a President who understands what it will take to assist Slovenia in the difficult transition towards democracy."**

**In addition, we can't afford to exchange the President's international business leadership for someone who has none. His lifelong commitment to open and free markets not only enriches Slovenian-American businessmen, but also our brothers and sisters in Slovenia."**

**Mr. Peter Osenar  
Co-Chairman**

**Ohio Slovenians for Bush-Quayle**

## Circle 2 Family Concert

The Slovenian Junior Chorus of Youth Circle 2 SNPJ will present a "Fall Family Concert" on Sunday, November 8 at 3:30 p.m. in the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue, Euclid.

With the emphasis on family values, Circle 2's concert will feature talented parents along with the 55 members of the children's chorus.

Another theme of the Fall Concert will be the singing of Slovenian folk songs and the version that evolved on polka

records.

The Circle 2 Button Box Ensemble is led and taught by Joe Novak. They will play several selections.

The program is under the direction of Cecilia Dolgan. Ed Sumrada will accompany the chorus.

Good music and good food will be available throughout the evening. The Sumrada Brothers Orchestra will play for the dance. A full menu of liquid refreshments, sandwiches, and homemade donuts will be available.

Please make plans to attend and support the children's chorus and their endeavor of

perpetuating Slovenian culture in these busy times. Tickets are five dollars for adults and children are admitted free. Tickets are sold at The Polka Hall of Fame, from members, and at the door.

### Anniversary Mass

There will be an anniversary Mass in St. Christine Church on Saturday, Oct. 31 at 8:30 a.m. for Mary Knific.

### Memorial Mass

A Memorial Mass for Anna Janchar who died Thursday, October 8th will be held in St. Vitus Church on Wednesday, October 28th at 8:30 a.m.

Anna was a 60-year resident of Norwood Road and a former employee of Richman Bros.



### Flu Shots

The St. Clair Health Center, located at 6407 St. Clair Ave., will be offering FLU SHOTS to anyone interested for \$12 payable at the time of visit. We are open from 8:30 until 4:30 Monday thru Friday. We look forward to meeting you.



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## ★ VOTE ★ DEMOCRAT

Nov. 3

## Let's Keep

## RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP

## in Lake County government.

RE-ELECT NOW MORE THAN EVER, WE NEED

# JOHN PLATZ

AS OUR LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONER



### PUBLIC SERVICE

- Lake County Commissioner, 5 terms
- Wickliffe Councilman, 3 terms

### PROFESSIONAL

- Professor of Political Science, Lakeland Community College, 25 years
- Teacher, Eastlake North High School, 11 years

### PERSONAL

- Education:
  - ✓ John Carroll University, B.S.S., M.A.
  - ✓ Cathedral Latin High School
  - ✓ Jennings Scholar
- Family: John and Connie (Quinn) have five children and reside in Wickliffe
- Member: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish; VFW; Blue Coats of Lake County
- Veteran, U.S. Army

# JOHN PLATZ

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Paid for by the Platz for Commissioner Committee, Ron Nicholson, Treasurer, 839 Elmwood Dr. Wickliffe, OH 44092

## St. Vitus Dads' Club set for fundraiser

The St. Vitus spirited Dads' Club will be holding their splendid annual reverse raffle at the St. Clair Slovenian Home on Friday, Oct. 30 (\$3,000 in gifts) just a marvelous full moon harvest event.

Mrs. Julie Zalar will be preparing that family style meal m'm! m'm! consisting of a delectable choice of goodies: cheese and sausage appetizers, salad, liver dumpling soup, breaded pork chops, roast beef, stuffed cabbage, potatoes, rice, mixed vegetables, and for dessert, chocolate cheesecake and nut-raisin potica, (can't be beat).

For tickets please contact Frank Hlad (449-3336) or Tim Slogar (449-3575).



CUYAHOGA COUNTY TREASURER

FRANCIS E.

## GAUL WORKS FOR YOU!

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PUBLIC OFFICIALS MUST WORK TOGETHER COOPERATIVELY TO RAISE PROFITS ... NOT TAXES!"

*Frank Gaul*  
CUYAHOGA COUNTY TREASURER

Paid for by the Gaul For Treasurer Committee, Rosemary Shannon, Treas., 820 Rose Blvd., Highland Hts., OH 44143

## Svekric retires from Police Dept.

by Lena Siewiorek

James Svekric was born on January 24, 1944 on East 58th Street which is in the heart of Ward 13's St. Clair Superior Neighborhood. He was truly a "hometown boy" who had made his community proud by serving his community professionally and with dedication for over 25 years.

Last month, Svekric retired after a long and distinguished career in the Cleveland Police Department's homicide unit where he was known for his creative and sophisticated skill in investigating and solving homicides in Cleveland.

Svekric attended St. Vitus elementary school and attended Cathedral Latin and East High School. In 1963, he was married to his devoted wife Elizabeth and his two daughters Denise and Debra and one grandchild Christopher.

He was appointed to the Police Department on April 1, 1967 where he served in various divisions but becoming a specialist in, and devoting most of his 25 years with the homicide unit. Police Chief Edward Kovacic, whose roots also are in Ward 13 said that "everyone will miss him,

### Concern for Bosnians

At the Rally for Bosnians in Los Angeles, recently the Rabbi quoted Pastor Martin Niemoller who wrote 50 years ago:

When Hitler attacked the Jews, I was not a Jew and was therefore not concerned. When he attacked the Catholics, I was not a Catholic and was therefore not concerned. When he attacked the unions and industrialists, I was not part of them and I remained unconcerned. Then Hitler attacked me and the Protestant Church. There was nobody left to be concerned.

Now is the time for all Americans to be concerned.

—Ernie Ryavec

not only because of his great personality, but also because he was a true professional always willing to help his colleagues and going beyond the call of duty.

Svekric's father, John Svekric, is also a lifelong Ward 13 resident. The senior Svekric also has spent a lifetime of service to his church, his community and to

his neighbors. He served for years as a Democratic precinct committeeman having helped numerous candidates for public office get elected. Policeman James Svekric indeed will be missed, but he has been a shining star in the St. Clair Superior community and throughout Cleveland. Svekric's mother Virginia is deceased.



A Name You Can Trust to Get  
Cuyahoga County Working Again!

**ELECT**

VIRGIL E.  
**BROWN JR.**

CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMISSIONER

**ENDORSED**

• Deutscher Stadtverband • Irish Political Action Committee • Polish American Congress  
• American Nationalities Movement • Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 8  
• Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Assn. • Int'l Brotherhood of Firemen & Oilers, Local 777  
• County Mayors and Managers Association

**PREPARED**

• Graduate, Case Institute of Technology, 1968 • Graduate Studies, Case Western Reserve Univ., 1968-1970 • Law Degree, *cum Laude*, Cleveland State Univ., 1974

**COMMITTED**

• To innovation, sound fiscal management and a cooperative working environment

**DEDICATED**

• Volunteer tutor • Volunteer attorney • Guest lecturer • Business consultant

**EXPERIENCED**

• Practicing attorney • Acting judge • Engineer • Businessman

**ALL VOTERS**

— Independents, Democrats, Republicans —  
can vote for Virgil Brown, Jr. on November 3rd.

Paid for by Friends of Virgil Brown, Jr., J. McCully, Treasurer, 3663 Lee Rd., Cleveland, OH 44120

### Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Newburgh-Maple Heights Pensioners Club will be held on Wednesday, October 28 at 1 p.m. in the Slovenian National Home in Maple Hts.

## RECIPES

### FRIED RICE

1-1/2 cups regular long-grain rice  
3 tablespoons salad oil  
1 small onion, chopped  
1 medium-sized red pepper, chopped  
1/4 pound cooked ham, diced  
8 large eggs  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2 green onions, sliced  
1. Prepare rice as label directs, except omit butter.  
2. In 12-inch skillet over medium heat, in hot salad oil, cook onion, red pepper and ham until tender.  
3. In medium bowl with fork, beat eggs and salt slightly. Increase heat to high. Stir eggs into onion mixture in skillet, with spoon, stirring quickly and constantly, until eggs are the size of peas and leave side of pan. Stir cooked rice into skillet with eggs. Spoon onto warm platter; sprinkle with green onions. Makes 4 main-dish servings.

### GOULASH

1-1/2 lbs. beef shank  
1 chopped onion  
2 T. lard  
2 chopped celery sticks (optional)  
1 t. paprika  
1 T. salt  
2 T. flour  
2-1/2 c. water  
Sauté onions and celery, add meat and cover. Cook on slow heat. Stir occasionally. When juice disappears and bottom of pan is brown, add flour. More or less flour depending on the thickness of gravy desired. Make sure flour is completely moistened and then add water and seasoning. Simmer slowly until meat is tender. Serves 4.

Faye Slapacs Starman  
Newbury, Ohio



## Thanks to Dr. Podobnikar

Special thanks to Ivan G. Podobnikar, M.D., M.Sc., F.A.P.A. who sent us a number of articles concerning the terrible situation in Bosnia.

Dr. Podobnikar is founder and director of the Ohio Pain and Stress Treatment Center, The Cancer Counseling and Research Center, The Preventive Medicine and Health In-

stitute, The National Institute of Widows and Widowers. His office is located in Columbus, Ohio.

He also sent copies of telegrams he sent to President George Bush urging the United States to recognize Slovenia. He included copies of their response.

Congratulations to Dr. Podobnikar who is taking an active interest in Slovenia and the surrounding countries.

**Elect  
ED GUDENAS**



Independent Democrat  
For

**U.S. Congress — 11th District**

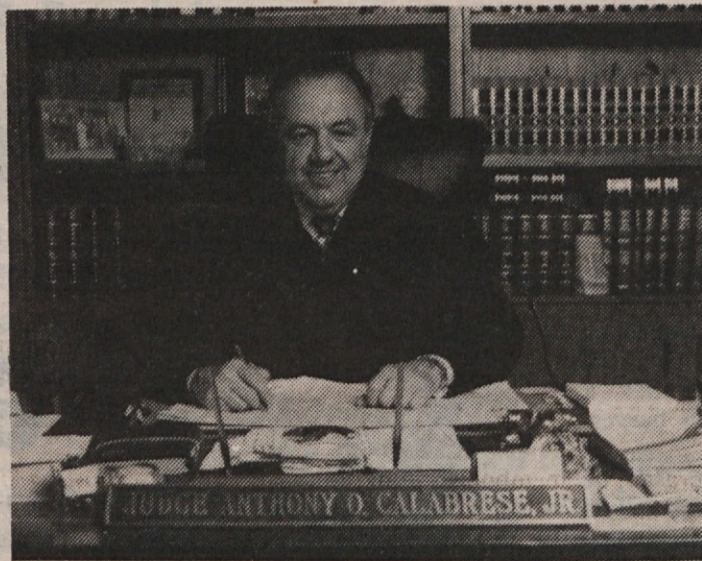
"A Bright Light"

Paid for by: Citizens For A Bright Light, David M. Lynch, Co-chairman.

**RETAIN**

**JUDGE ANTHONY O.  
CALABRESE JR.** ✓

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT**



Appointed by Governor Voinovich 2-27-91  
**ENDORSEMENTS:**

Sun Newspapers  
Cleveland Plain Dealer  
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Cleveland and Cuyahoga Bar Associations

Paid for Committee to Retain Judge Calabrese, Patricia Zolten, Treasurer, 2820 Jay Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44113





Po prvem letnem srečanju raziskovalcev slovenskega izseljenstva

## »Inventura« dosežkov in načrtov

Proučevanje preteklosti slovenskega izseljevanja je nedvomno eno od tistih v naši znanosti, ki je bilo do najnovejšega obdobja precej zanemarjeno. Krivico bi delali zavzetim raziskovalcem literarne in »običajne« zgodovine, geografije, etnologije in v manjši meri še kake znanosti, če bi trdili, da na tem področju ni bilo nič opravljenega. Ostaja pa dejstvo, da kljub mnogim delnim raziskavam to tako boleče vprašanje v preteklosti in tudi sedanjosti slovenskega naroda nikakor še ni doživelo svoje celovite sintetične znanstvene predstavitve.

V sredini šestdesetih let začete statistične, arhivske in bibliografske raziskave v okviru Centra za izseljenstvo na Slovenski akademiji znanosti in umetnosti so po obetajočem začetku zaspale, posebni Inštitut pri tej naši osrednji znanstveni ustanovi kar ni mogel živeti in nekoliko zlobno bi lahko trdili, da so se dolgo vrsto let s slovenskimi izseljenci »znanstveno« ukvarjali predvsem na Udbi.

Delovanje nekih zavzetih posameznikov ter postopno oživiljanje Inštituta za slovensko izseljenstvo pri SAZU in v drugi polovici osemdesetih let pri Znanstvenoraziskovalnem centru SAZU je nedvomno pomenilo kvaliteten premik pri znanstvenem raziskovanju slovenskega izseljenstva.

Vzporedno z demokratizacijo slovenske družbe v obdobju pred in zlasti po prvih povojnih demokratičnih volitvah je v matični domovini začelo naraščati zanimanje za izseljenška vprašanja in se krepi neposredni znanstveni in drugi stiki s slovenskimi izseljenci, predvsem s tistimi iz povojne politične emigracije, ki so bili za slovensko javnost v času prejšnjega režima v znatni meri »neosebe«. Današnje razmere na tem področju seveda še zdaleč niso idealne, tudi če se omejimo zgolj na znanstveno področje in se ne ukvarjamo z veliko bolj kočljivimi političnimi in podobnimi vprašanji, v primerjavi s prejšnjim obdobjem pa nedvomno pomenijo določen napredek.

Med proučevalci vprašanj slovenskega izseljenstva Inštitut za slovensko izseljenstvo posebno vlogo »prvega med enakimi« kot ustanova, ki zaposluje največjo skupino poklicnih raziskovalcev teh vprašanj, in to z vidikov različnih strok: zgodovine, literarne zgodovine, etnologije in sociologije. Zaradi sedanjih prostorskih in zlasti finančnih težav v Inštitut zaenkrat ni mogoče vključiti še raziskoval-

cev drugih strok (geografije, ekonomije, prava, umetnostne zgodovine, psihologije, demografije...), nedvomno podoben potrebnih za celovito osvetlitev izseljenskih vprašanj.

Raziskovalci Inštituta si pri svojem proučevanju vprašanj slovenskega izseljenstva vse od začetka njegove oživitve prizadevajo navezati trdne znanstvene stike z drugimi slovenskimi raziskovalci teh vprašanj v Sloveniji, v zamejstvu in zdomstvu kot tudi z vsemi drugimi strokovnjaki za ta vprašanja po svetu.

Poleg drugega so v ta namen začeli leta 1990 izdajati znanstveno revijo Dve domovini/Two Homelands s podnaslovom Razprave o izseljenstvu/Migration Studies, (številka 2-3 pa je pred izidom) ter svoj Bilten. Podoben namen je imelo tudi prvo letno znanstveno srečanje, ki ga je Inštitut 26. maja letos organiziral na Znanstvenoraziskovalnem centru SAZU v Ljubljani. Tema tega srečanja je bila Dosežki in načrti v raziskovanju slovenskega izseljenstva po znanstvenih disciplinah.

Te svojevrstne »inventure« dosežkov in odprtih vprašanj se je udeležilo prek petdeset raziskovalcev, kar nedvomno lepo priča o naraščajočem zanimanju za znanstveno proučevanje vprašanj slovenskega izseljenstva. Pregled dosedanjih dosežkov pri raziskovanju omenjenih vprašanj so najprej predstavili v okvirih posameznih strok: zgodovine (Marjan Drnovšek in dr. Matjaž Klemenčič), geografije (dr. Rado Genorio), literarne zgodovine (dr. Janja Žitnik), etnologije (mag. Breda Čebulj-Sajko), sociologije (Marina Lukšič-Hacin), umetnostne zgodovine (dr. Nace Šumi), sociolingvistike (mag. Nada Šabec) in demografije (dr. Janez Malačič).

Omenjenim vodilnim referatom je sledila diskusija, v kateri se je glasilo dvaindvajset udeležencev posvetovanja. Delno so dopolnili dopoldanske referate, nanizali pa so tudi vrsto pobud za nadaljnje znanstveno delovanje in večjo koordinacijo pri raziskovanju izseljenskih vprašanj. Najpomembnejši konkretni sad te diskusije je bila nedvomno pobuda o monografski raziskavi slovenske izseljenske književnosti, ki trenutno oblikovana v predlog projekta ducata vidnih znanstvenikov iz Slovenije in tujine in z nosilko projekta dr. Janjo Žitnik čaka na »dvižni ali spuščeni prst« ministrstva za znanost in tehnologijo.

Že omenjena »inventura« je (dalje na str. 10)

## Stanislav Rapotec, prenašalec tajnih sporočil v zgodovini in na platnu

V majhni vasi Sveče na avstrijskem Koroškem je že pred leti svoj drugi dom našel eden najmarkantnejših slikarjev in svetovljanov slovenskega rodu Stanislav Rapotec, človek, ki ga je zgodovina zaznamovala s svojimi trdimi udarci in umetnik, ki je s svojo globoko umetniško vizijo prodril v najpomembnejše svetovne galerije.

V podeželski koroški gostilni, kjer je prozaična razsvetljava iz vseh kotov pregnala pridih kakršnekoli skrivnosti, so se pred obiskovalci iz Ljubljane z mojstra Rapotca luščili spomini kot majhni, krušljivi svetovi. V dolgočasnem, vendar urejenem prostoru so se počasi odpirala okna v plasti zgodovine in pokrajine umetnosti in prikazovala vedno različnejšo figuro moža, brez katerega mogoče podoba sveta ne bi bila povsem takšna, kakršna je danes in brez katerega stene svetovnih galerij gotovo ne bi bile takšne, kot so danes.

Stanislav Rapotec, mož, ki so ga nekateri zaradi njegove dejavnosti med II. svetovno vojno imenovali »jugoslovanski James Bond«. Mož, ki je najlepša leta svojega življenja pretolkel v boju proti nemškemu nacizmu, italijanskemu fašizmu in proti komunizmu in je po izbruhu II. svetovne vojne vzpostavil stik z jugoslovansko vlado v eksilu in imel stike z banom Natlačenom, nadškofom Stepincem, z ljudmi, ki so se hoteli upreti tako fašizmu kot komunizmu.

Mož, ki je poznal velikega slikarja 20. stoletja Chagalla, osebni prijatelj medijskega mogotca Murdocha, ki nadzoruje dve tretjini časopisne naklade v velikih mestih Avstralije in tretjino angleške nacionalne distribucije in med drugim izdaja The Times, Sunday Times, Boston Herald in je lastnik Sky Channela.

Kdo je Stanislav Rapotec, ta meščan Sydneya, vaščan Sveče, državljan sveta, ki je doma prav toliko v Parizu kot New Yorku?

»Dve podmornici od treh, na katerih sem med II. svetovno vojno opravljal poslanstvo za obveščevalno službo, so nekaj dni potem, ko sem ju zapustil, v bojih potopili,« je z utrujenim nasmeškom človeka, ki ve, da je življenje podarjeno, da pa se je zanj treba boriti, čez dolgo gostilniško mizo proti večerni družbi zagodel Rapotec.

Njegovo življenje je ničkolikokrat viselo na nitki, tanjši od ščetine slikarskega čopiča, vendar močnejši od smrti. Ko se je tridesetletnik ob napadu Nemčije na Jugoslavijo znašel

v vrtincu zgodovine, se je vrednost življenja merila s svinčnimi krogli. Rapotca so zajeli Nemci, vendar je po treh dneh pobegnil in se pridružil tajnim organizacijam, ki so se pripravljale na boj proti okupatorju.

Kmalu so ga zadolžili, da vzpostavi stik z vlado v eksilu in to mu je tudi uspelo: avgusta 1941 se je po zapletih, v primerjavi s katerimi so zgodbe junakov iz vohunskih romanov naivne izmišljije, pretolkel do Kaira in jugoslovanski obveščevalni službi izročil šifre za vzpostavitev zvez z domovino in v Londonu poročalo o stanju v Jugoslaviji.

Iz Londona so Rapotcu kmalu naložili novo nalogo, naj vzpostavi stik z voditeljem Hrvatske kmečke stranke dr. Mačkom, z gibanjem Draže Mihajlovića in posebno z nadškofom dr. Alojzijem Stepincem, ki naj bi s pomočjo Vatikana poskrbel za dotok pomoči Rdečemu križu.

Z angleško podmornico je odplul do Dalmacije, vendar se misija ni posrečila; Rapotec se je vrnil v Aleksandrijo in šele čez nekaj mesecev je prišel do nadškofa Stepinca. Z njim se je večkrat sestel, nadškofa je cenil kot izjemnega človeka.

»Po vojni so komunisti nadškofa Stepinca krivično obsodili,« je izmikaajoč se zavesi cigaretnega dima, ki jo je proti njemu usmerjal sogovornik v koroški gostilni, rezko rekel Rapotec. »Za časa NDH in Pavelića je bila njegova drža sijajna. Ljudje so Stepincu rekli Solunac, ker je bil na solunski fronti. Bil je jugoslovanski usmerjen, zagrebški nadškof je postal s pomočjo Beograda. Meni je zelo zaupal. Pavelića ni prenašal in tega pred mano sploh ni skrival. Nikoli ni rekel »predsednik« ali »Pavelić«, vedno le »tisti tam«. Nadškof Stepinac je rešil ogromno življenj. Veliko partizanov, Judov in Srbov je rešil iz Jasenovca. Ne pozabite, da je bilo takrat v Zagrebu tudi 150 slovenskih duhovnikov. Poslanstvo nadškofa Stepinca je bilo, da je delal v dobro ljudi. Rekel mi je, da bi sicer lahko odšel v Rim in tam ostal, vendar je vedel, da lahko za uboge ljudi največ naredi v Zagrebu.«

Rapotec je med vojno sodeloval tudi z narodnim odborom v Ljubljani in njegovim predsednikom banom Natlačenom. Pomagal mu je vzpostaviti stik z londonsko vlado, hkrati pa je bil komunikacijska vez med njim in njegovim sinom, ki se je kot kapetan in duhovnik boril v svobodni francoski vojski.

Bana Natlačena so komunisti med vojno zvijačno ustrelili in tega se Rapotec spominja z bolečino: »Njegov sin je večkrat prišel v Kairo na dopust in kar pogosto sva se srečevala. Zdaj živi z družino v Avstraliji in le redkokoga sprejme k sebi. Jaz k njemu lahko prihajam, imam posebej privilegij. Bil sem namreč zadnji, ki sem imel stik med njim in očetom v Ljubljani. Ko sem se iz domovine s podmornico vračal proti Srednjemu Vzhodu, sem s seboj nosil sporočilo bana Natlačena. Zadnje sporočilo za sina, kajti bana Natlačena so kmalu po tistem ustrelili in kadarkoli se vidiva z njegovim sinom, mi omenja to zadnje očetovo sporočilo.«

Konec vojne je Rapotec dočkal med zavezniki v Jeruzalemu. Zaradi zmage komunističnih sil v Jugoslaviji se ni želel vrniti v domovino. Do leta 1948 je v posebni enoti, ki je bila neposredno pod angleško komando, nadzoroval Sueški prekop. Potem je slekel uniformo in se želel preseliti v Anglijo, vendar se je zaradi razmer v povojni Angliji odločil za Avstralijo. Konec leta 1948 je prispel v Melbourne, se kasneje preselil v Adelaido, leta 1955 pa ga je prevzel Sydney in Rapotec si je v njem izbral dom, v katerega se vedno znova vrača s svojih postankov po svetu.

Še preden je Rapotec med II. svetovno vojno prenašal tajna sporočila za obveščevalne službe, je v sebi nosil tajna sporočila imaginarnega sveta in jih s potezami svinčnika ali čopiča zapisoval na papir in platno. Že kot študent se je v Zagrebu, kjer je bil na umetniški akademiji profesor sloviti kipar Meštrović, gibal v umetniških krogih. Takrat se je v njegovo življenjsko biografijo pretihotal svet barv in linij in Rapotec je začel vedno pogosteje in vedno suvereneje svoj pogled na svet izpovedovati preko slikarstva.

Tudi brutalni medvojni čas v Rapotcu ni zadušil prebujajočega slikarskega genija. Skrivnostni svet Turčije in Srednjega Vzhoda mu je približal bizantinsko umetnost, ki je bila njegova prva velika umetniška inspiracija. V obdobju, ko je bil pod vplivom bizantinske umetnosti, je Rapotec naredil ogromno skic in risb, ki jih je, ko je menjal mesta, za sabo puščal v kovčkih.

»Moje stvari iz tega obdobja so raztresene po vsem svetu,« je z nostalgijo in samozavestno utrujenostjo človeka, ki se zaveda hkratne lahkote in teže bivanja rekel Rapotec

(dalje na str. 10)

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## »Inventura« dosežkov in načrtov

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

po drugem pokazala, da so bile nekatere stroke pri proučevanju vprašanih v preteklosti in danes bolj »pridne« kot druge. Trenutno so na izseljenskem področju najštevilnejši in najbolj delavni raziskovalci s področja zgodovine in literarne zgodovine, medtem ko se je znatno skrčilo število raziskovalcev izseljenskih vprašanih s področja etnologije. Ker je raziskovanje slovenskega izseljenstva po »naravi« predmeta svojega proučevanja lahko le večdisciplinarno, je bila pri tem posebno boleča jasno opažena odsotnost nekaterih strok, kot so ekonomija in pravo, kot tudi premajhna pozornost, ki jo izseljenskim vprašanem namenja znotraj demografije.

Vse bogate ugotovitve nosilnih referatov in pomembnejši prispevki iz diskusije bodo skupaj z bibliografijo knjig, razprav in člankov o slovenskem izseljenstvu objavljeni v znanstveni reviji Dve domovi-

ni/Two Homelands. Tako sadi »inventure« ne bodo izgubljeni, ampak bodo raziskovalcem omenjenega vprašanja doma in v tujini pomenili dragoceno izhodišče za vse nadaljnje proučevanje slovenskega izseljenstva.

Koordinacijsko »poslanstvo«, ki so ga poleg »inventure« posvetovanju namenili njegovi pobudniki, je le-to upravičilo naslednji dan, ko so se na posebnem sestanku zbrali predstavniki večine slovenskih znanstvenih ustanov, ki delujejo na področju izseljenstva.

Predstavniki Inštituta za slovensko izseljenstvo ZRC SAZU, Raziskovalnega inštituta Pedagoške fakultete v Mariboru, Inštituta za geografijo Univerze v Ljubljani ter Odseka za zgodovino Narodne in študijske knjižnice v Trstu so skupaj z zastopniki Inštituta za migracije i narodnosti iz Zagreba razpravljali o možnih skupnih projektov ter

## Pripravljeni pomagati

Dopis Andreja Vovka posredujemo v celoti, ker smo prepričani, da bodo domala vsi rojaki in rojakinje, živeči tako v ZDA kot Kanadi pripravljeni pomagati pri raziskovanju preteklosti in tudi današnje stvarnosti njih skupnosti, ki ga bodo izvajali v prihajajočih letih. V kolikor bomo mogli, bomo naše bralce sproti obveščali o teh projektih, tudi o obiskih raziskovalcev in njih načrtov. Jasno nam je vsem, da se slovensko-ameriška skupnost skrčuje, tako po obsegu dejavnosti kakor po svoji »slovenski« vsebini. To je sicer stalen, neizogiben proces, prizadene pa tudi povojne priseljence in njih potomce. Zato bi morala biti naša skrb, da gradivo, ki priča o aktivnostih naših skupnosti, ohranjamo. Takšno gradivo spada v arhive, naj bodo ti tu v ZDA, v Kanadi, ali pa v Sloveniji, ne v privatnih hišah ali pri ustanovah, ki niso trajnega značaja. Pozdravljamo porast zadnjih let zanimanja za proučevanje izseljenstva, ki se razvija v Sloveniji. Sadovi tega raziskovanja so prikazani med drugim tudi na letnih zborovanih Družbe za slovenske študije v ZDA. Tako bo tudi letos novembra v Phoenixu, Arizona. O tem zborovanju bomo še poročali.

Dr. Rudolph M. Susel

vključevanja ostalih inštitutov in posameznih raziskovalcev.

Sprejeli so tudi predlog predstavnikov zagrebškega inštituta o skupnem večdisciplinarnem projektu o hrvaških in slovenskih župnijah v državah hrvaškega in slovenskega izseljevanja. Tisti, ki zgodovino slovenskega izseljenstva vsaj približno pozna, nikakor ne bo mogel zanikati odločilnega pomena teh župnij za ohranitev slovenske narodne zavesti pri naših izseljencih, podobno je seveda tudi pri Hrvatih.

Usoda tega projekta, ki je po osamosvojitvi Slovenije in

hrvaške pač mednarodne, bo odvisna od stopnje naklonjenosti, ki jo bo dosegel pri pristojnih organih »z možnjički« obeh držav in od razumevanja še koga, predvsem slovenskih in hrvaških izseljencev.

Da je ideja letnega znanstvenega srečanja raziskovalcev slovenskega izseljenstva pri vseh zainteresiranih naletela na ugoden odmev, priča dejstvo, da sta gostitelja za naslednji dve leti že načelno določena. V letu 1993 naj bi bil to Odsek za zgodovino Narodne in študijske knjižnice v Trstu, naslednje leto pa Raziskovalni inštitut Pedagoške fakultete Univerze v Mariboru, in to v okviru mednarodnega znanstvenega simpozija o slovenskih bratskih in podpornih izseljenskih organizacijah.

Znanstveni sestanek je končno tudi potrdil, da se po dolgem obdobju zastoja proučevanja slovenskega izseljenstva v sedanjem obdobju njegovega vzpona krepijo napore za njegovo celovito večdisciplinarno znanstveno predstavitev. Za nekaj korakov nam je nedvomno približal dan, ko bo Slovincem v matični domovini in drugod ter vsej zainteresirani znanstveni in drugi javnosti po svetu slovensko izseljenstvo končno celovito predstavljeno v znanstveni monografiji. S tem bomo Slovenci doma, sicer z veliko zamudo, poravnali naš zgodovinski dolg do rojakov v tujini in tudi do nas samih. Takrat se pač nihče, tudi tisti najvišji in »najkompetentnejši«, za svoje spodrsrljaje pri vrednotenju preteklosti in sedanjosti slovenskega izseljenstva ne bo mogel izgovarjati z neznanjem.

»Slovenec«, 19. sept. 1992

## Stanislav Rapotec

(nadaljevanje s str. 5)

proti oknom, za katerimi je bila že globoka noč. »En kovček je v Sofiji, dva sta v Carigradu, nekaj jih je v Palestini in še kje. Ko sem s podmornico odpotoval iz Kaira, sem

tam pri slovenskih sestrah shranil dva kovčka. Po šestih mesecih, ko so tam že mislili, da me ni več med živimi, sem se vrnil in želel dobiti kovčke nazaj. Sestre so povedale, da je Nil poplaval in slike v kovčkih, shranjenih v kleti, so bile uničene. Za nekatere risbe in slike niti ne vem več, kje sem jih shranjeval. Dejansko so raztresene vsepovsod.«

V svojem avstralskem obdobju se je Rapotec v petdesetih letih začel počasi oddaljevati od vplivov bizantinske ikonografije in se približevati sydneyjskemu abstraktnemu ekspresionizmu. Njegova umetniška pot se je začela strojno vzpenjati in Rapotec je postal slikar svetovnega formata. Kasneje je daljša obdobja preživel v svetovnih umetniških središčih, v Londonu, Parizu, Rimu, New Yorku, njegove slike so našle prostor v znamenitih svetovnih galerijah, v vatikanski galeriji sodobne verske umetnosti, v Musee d'Art Moderne v Parizu, v londonski Tate Gallery, v Braziliji, na Japonskem, v številnih avstralskih predstavništvih po svetu, v Parizu, Moskvi, Washingtonu, Londonu in še marsikje. Med drugim tudi v Kostanjevici na Krki.

Ko se je pred podeželsko avstrijsko gostilno v trdo nočno temo počasi izgubljala postava tega velikega moža, Slovenca, Avstralca, državljana sveta, so v zraku še vedno lebdele jasne podobe iz njegovega življenjepisa.

Jani Virk  
»Slovenec«, 3. okt. 1992

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**Elect ANDREW C. PUTKA**



— JUDGE —

*Cuyahoga County  
Common Pleas Court*

**ANDREW C. PUTKA**

Con G. Bresnahan., Co-Chmn.  
2624 Idlewood Road, University Hts., Ohio 44118

*Congratulations to the  
United Americans for Slovenia!*  
In appreciation for all  
that's being done for **SLOVENIA!**

**IN MEMORY OF:**  
**Anthony and Frances Kramer  
and  
Lausche and Medved Families  
from  
Antonia M. Lausche  
Richmond Heights, Ohio**

**On Nov. 3 Re-elect  
Mary Rose  
Oakar**

Friend of the Elderly, Advocate  
for Women, Health Care Reformer  
and Champion for Cleveland



**OAKAR FIGHTS FOR RIGHTS OF OLDER AMERICANS**

*"One of the ten best Legislators." (Jack Anderson - Washington Post)*

Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar has always been a strong supporter of the issues to maintain and improve the quality of life for seniors. Her legislative agenda is a reflection of her commitment to protecting the rights of senior citizens.

\* Congresswoman Oakar continues her fight for humane, cost-effective alternatives to costly nursing home care--but when necessary, to provide every American who needs it affordable access to a quality nursing home. This coverage is included in Congresswoman Oakar's landmark legislation, H.R. 8, which would provide universal access to comprehensive health care benefits and long-term care coverage for all Americans.

\* Congresswoman Oakar is a senior member of the House Select Committee on Aging, Chair of the Task Force on Social Security and Women, and is a very active member of the Subcommittee on Health and Long-term Care as well as the Subcommittee on Retirement Income and Employment.

\* Congresswoman Oakar has held a number of congressional field hearings in the Greater Cleveland area related to concerns of older Americans.

\* Congresswoman Oakar teamed with Chairman Claude Pepper to eliminate mandatory retirement through the enactment of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act. She reintroduced legislation this year to address aspects of the Social Security system that discriminate against women.

Paid for by the Mary Rose Oakar for Congress Committee, Patrick O'Donnell, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 458, Edgewater Branch, Cleveland, Ohio 44107-0458

**RE-ELECT**

**JUDGE DAVID T. MATIA**

to the Court of Appeals

*He has tried every type of case that there is.  
He has a solid reputation and great experience.*



When it comes to voting for Judge,  
here's something you should know about

**Judge David T. Matia**

- Presently, Judge Matia is the Chief Justice of the Eighth Appellate District, the **LARGEST** and **BUSIEST** Court of Appeals in the state of Ohio
- Judge Matia has one of the lowest pending appellate case dockets in Ohio
- Endorsed by all 28 endorsing organizations to date in Cuyahoga County, some of which are the Democratic Party, the Cleveland and the Cuyahoga Bar Association, all police fraternal organizations, including the F.O.P., the C.P.P.A., the American Nationalities Movement (which includes the Slovenian Delegation), every local labor organization and many others.

Take the time to learn about the dozens of judicial candidates on the ballot this year including Judge Matia. Study their judicial, professional and legal accomplishments. Certainly check their endorsements or lack thereof.

Paid for by the Matia for Judge Committee, Thomas A. Dugan, Chairman,  
10590 Partridge Trail, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

**RE-ELECT 13th DISTRICT**

**An experienced Legislator Whose Record Shows that SHE WORKS FOR YOU!**

**X BARBARA C. PRINGLE**

**FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE**



- ENDORSEMENTS:**
- American Nationalities Movement
  - ASCME Ohio
  - Federation of German-American Societies of Greater Cleveland
  - Greater Cleveland Nurses Association
  - Hispanic Democratic Caucus
  - Ohio AFL-CIO

Paid for by Friends of Barbara Pringle, Rose Lorenso, Chmn, 13905 Oakview, Garfield Hts, O.

# Volitve v decembru odločilne za razvoj in napredek demokracije v Sloveniji

**Slovenski ameriški svet poziva rojake, naj po svojih najboljših močeh podprejo moralno in materialno slovenske krščanske demokrate in z njimi povezane stranke pri volitvah v decembru. Izid teh volitev bo odločil, kako hitro se bo Slovenija iz sedanje formalne demokracije v prihodnjih letih razvila v resnično, dejansko demokracijo.**

Zastopniki Slovenskega ameriškega sveta in Slovenskega kanadskega sveta so 10. in 11. oktobra razpravljali na svojem sestanku v Clevelandu o svojem delu, posebej o svojih naporih pri podpiranju razvoja in napredka demokracije v Sloveniji, o uspehu teh naporov v preteklosti in o delu slovenskih izseljencev in zdomcev v ZDA, v Kanadi, Južni Ameriki, Avstraliji in Evropi v bodoče. Svoje posvetovanje so zaključili z izdelavo programa za skupno delo vseh Slovencev v izseljeništvu in zdomstvu v korist njihove domovine Slovenije.

Pretekli petek je imel Slovenski ameriški svet splošni sestanek v šolski dvorani pri Mariji Vnebovzeti, na katerem sta g. Vinko Lipovec in ga. Vida Petrovcic, poročevalka Slovenske televizije v Ljubljani, razpravljala o splošnem in posebej o političnem položaju v Sloveniji. Sestanek

je vodil predsednik SAS dr. Mate Resman. Razprava je bila zelo živahna, posebno veliko vprašanj je bilo o dosegu slovenskega državljanstva, o vračanju zaplenjene imovine in seveda o volitvah.

Po sporočilu notranjega ministrstva Slovenije, naj bi bili vsi Slovenci, rojeni v Sloveniji, ki se svojemu državljanstvu niso sami odpovedali ali pa jim je bilo to odvzeto, slovenski državljani, četudi niso vpisani v sezname državljanov. Če želijo dobiti potrdilo o svojem državljanstvu, morajo to z navedbo svojih osebnih podatkov sporočiti občini svojega rojstnega kraja ali svojega zadnjega bivališča v Sloveniji.

Vračanje zasežene imovine je zelo počasno, krivda za to naj bi bila pri občinskih komisijah za izvajanje določil zakona o denacionalizaciji. Tem komisijam, pa tudi sami vladi se pri izvajanju tega

zakona vsekakor nikamor ne mudi.

Precej razpravljanja je bilo o možnosti udeležbe izseljencev na volitvah v letošnjem decembru. Na razpolago so bili obrazci za prijavo volivni komisiji v Ljubljani. (Navodila o tem so bila ponovno objavljena tudi v Ameriški Domovini!) ZDA dopuščajo volitev v Sloveniji vsem, ki imajo poleg ameriškega tudi slovensko državljanstvo. Vsi, ki se za politični razvoj v Sloveniji zanimajo, ki želijo podpreti napredek tamkajšnje demokracije, naj se te možnosti poslužijo.

Demokratski Slovenci v ZDA in drugod v izseljenstvu smo aprila 1990 podprli demokratske sile v Sloveniji, da so pri volitvah v skupščino prevladale in napravile konec komunistični diktaturi. Žal je bila zmaga demokratskih sil tedaj nepopolna, predsedstvo republike je ostalo v rokah komunistov, njihovi somišljeniki so dobili večino tudi v enem od treh zborov skupščine in s tem možnost sabotiranja dela nove demokratske vlade pod predsedstvom g. Lojzeta Peterleta.

Položaj se je poslabšal, ko je dr. Dimitrij Rupel s svojimi pristaši v Slovenski demokratski zvezi zapustil DEMOS. Vlada DEMOSA je s tem izgubila večino v skupščini in s tem možnost nemotenega vodenja države.

Stranke DEMOSA so pred volitvami aprila 1990 izjavile,

da ne bodo v slučaju zmage pri volitvah nastopale proti pristašem bivšega režima, da ne bodo uganjale nobenega "revanšizma". Tako so ostali pri veliki večini vseh pomembnih položajev v gospodarstvu, prosveti, zdravstvu, na sodiščih in tudi v sami javni upravi pristaši bivše komunistične oblasti. Z novo vlado je bil zamenjan le vrh, ki pa ni imel dovolj moči, da bi izsilil izvrševanje svojih odločitev.

Slovenija je na videz imela novo demokratsko vlado, vzvodi oblasti in moči na vseh področjih pa so dejansko ostali v rokah pristašev bivšega režima. Tem je po razbitju DEMOSA uspelo končno po dveh neuspešnih poskusih odstraniti tudi demokratsko vlado krščanskega demokrata g. Lojzeta Peterleta in jo zamenjati z vlado bivšega predsednika SFRJ dr. Janeza Drnovška.

Slovenska država ima tako za predsednika predsedstva bivšega vodjo Zveze komunistov Slovenije g. Milana Kučana, za predsednika vlade pa bivšega predsednika komunistične SFRJ dr. Drnovška. Slovenija s takim vodstvom na čelu v demokratski Evropi ne more uživati ugleda in tudi ne dobiti kake podpore.

V decembru bodo v Sloveniji volitve v nov parlament in za novega predsednika republike. Od izida teh volitev v marsičem zavisi bodočnost naše domovine. Kot smo spomnili 1990 podprli demokratske sile, tako je potrebno in nujno, da to storimo tudi sedaj. Z našo podporo je bil tedaj storjen prvi korak,

komunisti so bili vsaj uradno potisnjeni z oblasti. Sedaj je nujen naslednji korak — podprimo po svojih močeh demokratske stranke s krščanskimi demokrati na čelu, da bodo te dobile pri volitvah trdno večino v parlamentu, da bo Slovenija dobila tudi za predsednika države pripadnika demokratskih strank.

Časa ni veliko! Slovenski ameriški svet smatra za svojo dolžnost, da rojake opozori na te težje položaja v Sloveniji ter jih prosi, da podprejo napore tistih, ki se borijo za resnično svobodo in demokracijo v naši rojstni domovini.

Slovenski ameriški svet odklanja od vsega začetka vsako sodelovanje z Izseljeniško matico, ker je ta bila orodje komunističnega režima. Prav tako je zavračal vsa srečanja s predstavniki tega režima, od Vide Tomšič do Popita, z veseljem in vsem gostoljubjem pa je sprejemal predstavnike in člane nove demokratske vlade Slovenije. To namerava delati tudi v bodoče.

V kolikor je v nedavni preteklosti napravil v tem pogledu izjeme, je to storil iz preprostega razloga: Kdor je po izkazanem gostoljubju pokazal, da tega ni bil vreden, ga drugič ne vabimo. Tega stališča Slovenski ameriški svet ne vsiljuje nikomur, tudi "Amerikancem slovenskega porekla" ne!

Slovenci v ZDA, povezani v Slovenskem ameriškem svetu, se čutimo živ del slovenskega naroda in temu odgovarjajoče tudi ravnamo!

SAS

**"I AM VOTING FOR ERIC FINGERHUT FOR CONGRESS."**

-- Congressman Dennis Eckart



"The Bush years have seen a missed opportunity to support fully the independence of Slovenia. The United States must stand up for Slovenia's security, support Slovenia's transition to a free market economy, and send an ambassador to Ljubljana. I am determined to see that these crucial foreign policy goals are carried out as soon as possible." -- Senator Eric Fingerhut

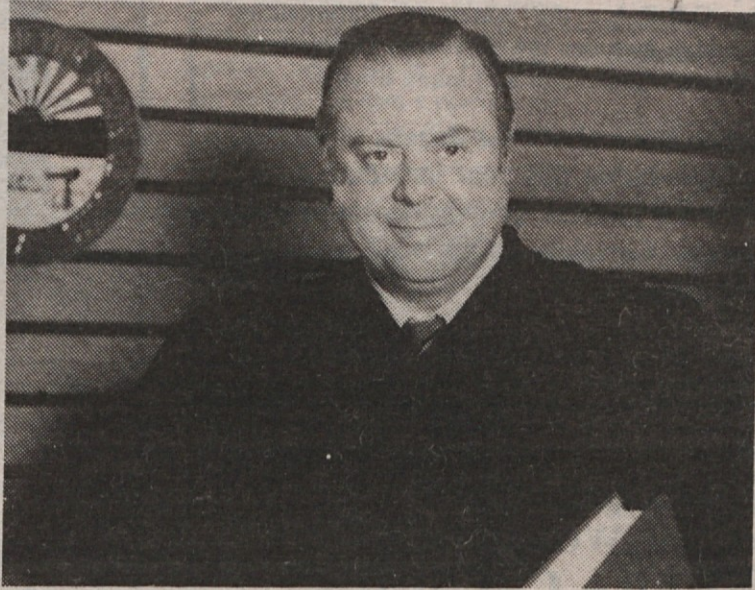
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**RE-ELECT  
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