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# AMERICAN HOME

## AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

### SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER



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# Slovenia is Miniature Europe in a Nutshell

by MICHAEL DOUGAN  
*San Francisco Chronicle*

LJUBLJANA, Slovenia — It is possible — here in the most peaceable of Yugoslavia's former republics — to explore a miniature model of Europe in four days on a single tank of gas.

Just an hour away from the capital city, Ljubljana, travelers can hike the vertiginous Julian Alps or wiggle their toes in a Mediterranean wave. Ski slopes, vineyards, grand cathedrals, sexy marinas, walled medieval hamlets, heroic statuary, bustling alfresco markets — Slovenia is tightly packed with the iconic accouterments of the continent. All this in a nation barely bigger than Vermont.

It gets better: Almost everyone speaks English, prices are low and there is no tipping. Where has Slovenia been all our lives?

Until 12 years ago, a country called Slovenia did not exist and never had. Now it barks at the gates of the European Union; membership could come by 2004.

Riding into Ljubljana from the airport, I was disheartened by the pallid, socialist-style apartment towers that lined the highway for seemingly endless miles. Arriving visitors will note that, from a visual standpoint, Slovenia puts its worst foot forward.

Yet the city center, where I checked into the Hotel Turist, looked beguilingly Baroque. Each Old Ljubljana sight worth seeing was within easy walking distance: the castle, the university, Roman ruins, vintage churches, monuments, museums, street markets, a glorious park and some good clubs and restaurants.

Ljubljana (pronounced Loo-blee-ahna) is made for strolling, with surprises at each turn. The monolith honoring Napoleon was unexpected. So was the antique, racist poster for Uncle Remus Syrup ("It sho am good") hanging in Patrick's Irish Pub. The horrid Parliament building illustrated why communism and architecture don't mix. Numerous public monuments to Slovenian artists and intellectuals hinted at a rich cultural life.

Even my wallet contained a Slovenian gallery of greatness: paper currency honoring an author, painter, poet, musician, mathematician and architect.

France Preseren (1800-1849), the poet on my 1,000-tolar bills, is a towering hero here. Specifically, he towers over Presernov Square near my hotel; teens and tourists loiter on the steps around his statue, which peers longingly toward an apartment window where his real-life mistress lived.

I ambled along the Left Bank of the Ljubljanica River, a placid waterway curving through the historic section. Tour boats ply its course on soft summer evenings. To my left lay the medieval Shoemaker Bridge, where cobblers once worked and slept on its arch. The chic shops on my right were a minor mystery, because wages are low here and few Slovenes can afford the elegant wares in the windows.

In time I reached Ljubljana University, established in a century-old country mansion. From its broad balcony, supported by four handsome pillars, Slovenia's proclamation of independence was read to an ecstatic crowd on June 25, 1991.

Passing the big yellow American Embassy (where police put the kibosh on my attempt to take a photograph) and the National Gallery, I ended up at Tivoli Park. Cited Slovenes flock to this outsize oasis of greenery, tramping extensive woodland trails or resting on shaded benches while their dogs romp wild across vast carpets of grass.

I heard the signature Slovenian soundtrack: amazingly melodic birdsong. Lost in the warblers' spell, I happened upon the National Museum of Contemporary History, with an exhibition called "Slovenians in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century."

The 20<sup>th</sup> century was no picnic in these parts. Beginning with an unnervingly realistic re-creation of a World War I combat trench, displays take visitors through the Second World War, a civil war and revolution, nearly half a century of Communist rule, the birth of a country and yet another



war: Yugoslavia tried by force to prevent Slovenia from becoming its first breakaway republic. Their "toy war," as a friend here calls it, lasted only 10 days.

On my second morning I circled the Preseren monument and popped into the adjacent Franciscan Church of the Annunciation, built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The only sound in the shadowy, sepulchral interior came from an elderly woman praying fervently to the corpse of a long-dead saint in a peekaboo glass coffin. Most Slovenians are nominal Catholics, few are so pious.

The devout old lady crossed herself and departed; I followed her across the Triple Bridge to the river's Right Bank and into a bustling, open-air market where she joined a crowd of other peasant women, their dark eyes peering out of lived-in faces framed by wool scarves. They peddled vegetables, flowers, and grains to a stream of urbanites with well-dressed children and mannerly mutts.

Perched on Castle Hill, the only significant elevation around, Ljubljanski Grad looms over the marketplace. This sprawling castle is the beating heart of Ljubljana: Weddings, receptions, exhibitions, theater and music presentations take place here every day.

Old and new meld seamlessly at the castle's Virtual

Museum, a digitally rendered 3-D movie — with narration in the language of your choice — tracing the history of Ljubljana from its origins as a Roman settlement called Emona.

In the castle's stylish restaurant, I gobbled down a flan and filo pie (flavored by vanilla, cinnamon and lemon) called *gibanica*. The top of the tower, up a set of sturdy modern stairs, provides an eye-popping, 360-degree view of the city. Even here: the symphony of birds.

The next day I rented a car at 10 a.m. By noon I was standing on an island, craning my neck, gazing up at the Julian Alps.

Bled is the name of the island, the lake that surrounds it and the castle that overlooks the lake, completing a picture-book tableau. Yugoslavian rulers, monarchs and Marxists alike, summered for centuries on the shores of Lake Bled. France Preseren wrote an epic poem about the place.

An American family had already boarded the gondola that would float me out to Bled Island for a 30-minute visit.

"It's a beautiful lake," I said.

"A lake is a body of water surrounded entirely by land," replied 7-year-old Alex Waller, whose father, Andy,

works at the U.S. Embassy in Zagreb, Croatia.

"He has a test tomorrow," explained Alex's mom, Anni. Soon we reached the only island in Slovenia.

In the ninth century, Slav occupants built a pretty little church on the site of an older pagan temple there. The bell rope dangles in front of a gilded altar. It's believed that ringing the Bled bell with bring good luck.

After a visit to the castle, located on a cliff 330 feet above the lake, I strolled along the shoreline just after sunset. Black and silver waves mingled in psychedelic slivers. People sat on park benches, speaking softly like in church.

Hankering for a glimpse of the ocean, I spent just one night in Bled and then pointed my Citroen Saxo southwest on one of Slovenia's excellent highways. After little more than an hour, I stopped in Postojna — an unremarkable town with a very remarkable cave.

(Continued on page 6)

## Holiday Schedule

There will be no American Home newspaper printed the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas.

# AMERICAN HOME AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

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October 24, 2002

## Cider House Blues

by RUDY FLIS

It's cider time! My taste buds dance with the thought of my first sip. My first sip was to be last Thursday. It didn't happen.

I pulled into Apple Seed Orchard parking lot and stared at the sign, "closed." It's apple season. How can they be closed? I got out of my car to see if I could speak with someone.

I walked toward the back of the building. By a small dock was a truck. I yelled, "Anybody home?" A gentleman came to the dock. I asked him, "What happened?" He told me the place had been auctioned off in the summer. He was there taking the cider press apart for his farm museum in Richfield, Ohio. His name was Jim Fry. This week, The Cleveland Plain Dealer printed a story about him and his museum.

I remember the first time I came to Apple Seed Orchard here in Ashland County. It

was during the early 1970's. Therese and I loaded all the kids into our station wagon with food and hot chocolate. We drove to the farm and pulled our car into the orchard between rows of apple trees and filled paper bags with apples. Picking and eating apples at the same time was a first for our kids. We did it for several years. On the way home, we would stop at a rest stop on I-71, start a fire for our hamburgers and hot dogs, which we washed down with hot chocolate and freshly picked delicious apples.

I don't bring the kids there anymore, but I did bring the kids apple cider from the orchard. Each of us will miss Apple Seed Orchard cider.

I will find a new apple cider source. It will take a while to forget the old source, but it could be forgotten in a few gallons of some delicious cider. Wish me luck.

## No Rights Without Obligations

Editor,

On Nov. 5 Americans aged 18 years or older will again have the opportunity to exercise one of the most fundamental rights we have in the USA. That is, the right to vote. Without the obligation to vote, the means to exercise this right is meaningless. Throughout the past centuries this has been one of the most cherished rights for Americans, so much that thousands upon thousands have fought, and died, to uphold this right.

Readers of the American Home have for decades seriously understood this right as many of its readers were personally denied this basic right. We are indeed fortunate to live in the most free society in the world.

In Ohio there are a number of key state, county, municipal, and judicial races. There are two members in the American Slovenian community in northeast Ohio who are running for an elected office that will impact the lives of thousands of individuals. It is interesting to note that both individuals have original roots from the St. Clair Avenue neighborhood.

Edward (Ed) Jerse, Euclid, Ohio, is again running for the state representative office in what is District 7. This consists primarily of Euclid, Richmond Heights, Lyndhurst, South Euclid, and Mayfield Heights, a large geographic area of eastern suburbs in Cuyahoga County.

Ed Jerse was graduated

from them St. Joseph High School. He attended and was graduated from Georgetown University with a bachelor of arts degree in history. He was then admitted and graduated from Harvard Law School with a Juris Doctor (JD) degree.

Ed Jerse served as Euclid councilman from 1989-1993. He has now served as the state representative for District 14 for a number of years. Mr. Jerse is also an adjunct faculty member, Case Western Reserve University School of Law. He currently serves on a number of important legislative committees including Criminal Justice, Civil and Criminal Law, and Finance & Appropriations where he is the ranking minority member.

His open approach to constituents, practical approach to settle diverse issues and good grasp of complicated issues such as the future of funding for schools in the state of Ohio, more than make Mr. Jerse a good representative for this district and the state of Ohio. For local historians, the family originally settled on Bayliss Avenue in Cleveland.

In Lake County the position of Judge, Probate Division, is open for the first time in a long time due to retirement of current Judge Skok. Running for this position is Theodore (Ted) Klammer. Mr. Klammer is a 50-year-member of KSKJ and belongs to Christ the King Lodge #226.

Mr. Klammer was born to

Slovenian emigree parents, Rudy and Antonia Klammer. His family's history reads like so many other immigrants and their children who came to America for a better opportunity and life. The family had to leave Slovenia due to the imposition of the Communist Party there.

The family settled in the St. Clair Avenue neighborhood (around East 63<sup>rd</sup> Street) where Ted attended St. Vitus school. The family moved to Willowick, Ohio where Ted then attended St. Mary Magdalene School. He was graduated from St. Joseph High School. Upon completion of his studies, Ted attended and was graduated from Bowling Green University with a Bachelor of Science degree. He was admitted and graduated from Cleveland State University Cleveland Marshall College of Law with a Juris Doctor degree (JD) in 1970.

Mr. Klammer has since been a practicing private attorney in Mentor, Ohio. In addition, Mr. Klammer has been vice president Lake County Bar Association, Assistant Lake County Prosecutor, Eastlake Law Director, acting judge Painesville Municipal Court and special counsel for Willoughby Hills and Lake County.

--Stane Kuhar, Wickliffe, Ohio

Look upon the errors of others in sorrow, not in anger. --Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

### 100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT!

(Received via e-mail from a friend. Author unknown)

- ☐ "No man or woman is worth your tears, and the one who is, won't make you cry.
- ☐ Just because someone doesn't love you the way you want them to, doesn't mean they don't love you with all they have.
- ☐ A true friend is someone who reaches for your hand and touches your heart.
- ☐ The worst way to miss someone is to be sitting right beside them knowing you can't have them.
- ☐ Never frown, even when you are sad, because you never know who is falling in love with your smile.
- ☐ To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world.
- ☐ Don't waste your time on a man/woman who isn't willing to waste their time on you.
- ☐ Maybe God wants us to meet a few wrong people before meeting the right one, so that when we finally meet the person, we will know how to be grateful.
- ☐ Don't cry because it is over; smile because it happened.
- ☐ There are always going to be people that hurt you so what you have to do is keep on trusting and just be more careful about who you trust next time around.
- ☐ Make yourself a better person and know who you are before you try and know someone else and expect them to know you.
- ☐ Don't try so hard; the best things come when you least expect them to."

REMEMBER: WHATEVER HAPPENS, HAPPENS FOR A REASON!



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# Life in the Refugee Camps

by ANTON ZAKELJ  
translated and edited  
by JOHN ZAKELJ

(Continued from last week)

**Monday, April 1, 1946**

UNRRA is moving all the new refugees who arrived in our camp two weeks ago to a different camp at Trofaiach. The people do not want to move.

**Tuesday, April 2, 1946**

Today's dinner had less bread, but more canned meat and potatoes. Instead of sugar, they gave us each two pieces of chocolate.

I wrote my first letter home.

Our driving instructor asked us lots of questions today. He tried both German and English, but none of us knew the answers.

Yesterday, Pavel Podobnik and Janko Demšar (two men in our group) decided to return home, but today they changed their minds and decided to wait a while longer.

**Saturday, April 6, 1946**

The authorities are requiring all refugees to report for work on nearby farms. I accompanied one of our men to the "Arbeitsamt" (work office) to get an exemption. A friendly clerk recommended that I go to the regional government and get approval for our people to work in trades and crafts (making lace, etc.). But I have to find merchants who are willing to buy what we produce and treat us like their workers.

This afternoon we watched a soccer game. UNRRA staff played the British pilots, winning by 4:2.

**Tuesday, April 9, 1946**

Today we welcomed a new arrival to our camp - Jozе Urbanc. Early in the war Jozе was a partisan, but then he became a Domobranec. When he was a Partisan, they called him "Gašper." In a battle between the Partisan and the Domobranci, the Domobranci captured him and convinced him to join their side. At first, the Domobranci didn't trust him, so they sent him into battle with the Partisans with only three cartridges for his rifle. But he soon proved to be an excellent fighter for the Domobranci.

After the war, Jozе fled to Vetrinje with the rest of us, but the authorities sent him back to Yugoslavia with the other Domobranci. He escaped and twisted his ankle during the escape. With that twisted ankle, he fled on foot across the mountains. When he arrived in Austria, the authorities captured him and put him in prison for 6 months because he didn't have the proper authorization to enter Austria. (The rules became much stricter after

we entered Austria.) Now the Austrians finally released him and allowed him to join us here. (But he only stayed with us for a few months until he got work near Celovec. Soon after he left, we received a letter for him from Fr. Erpič in Australia, inviting him to settle there. As I recall, we didn't have a forwarding address for him, and he may never have received that letter.)

**Wednesday, April 10, 1946**

Two of our roommates, the brothers Pavel and Jakob Podobnik, returned to Slovenia today. (Jakob is the one who made us a wall clock from an unexploded time bomb.) When he left Slovenia last year, Pavle promised his wife Marička that he would return within two years. He's keeping his word, and even going back a year earlier than promised. Pavle is feeling brave and ready to face whatever problems they will encounter. But his brother Jakob is very worried that the communist authorities will make life difficult for them.

Felix, one of our other roommates, became sick today and fell down. We had to carry him to the hospital.

**Thursday, April 11, 1946**

We didn't receive our usual ration of bread yesterday and today. Instead, they gave us each some dried biscuits.

I was at driver's training from 6 - 10 p.m. It was all lectures, some of which I didn't understand.

**Saturday, April 13, 1946**

Today our driver's training moved out of the classroom and outside, next to an automobile which is owned by the camp. We didn't actually drive, but I sat in the driver's seat for my first time.

**Sunday, April 14, 1946**

I drove a car for the first time - it was only a short distance with the instructor, and it didn't go well.

**Monday, April 15, 1946**

This morning, Rev. Hafner began a class in religion for men. I joined with 30 other men and boys.

(To Be Continued)



## Spooky Fudge Treats

3 cups (18 oz.) semi-sweet chocolate chips

1 (14 oz.) can creamy chocolate or Original Sweetened Condensed milk (NOT evaporated milk)

1 tbsp. vanilla extract

TOPPINGS: flaked coconut, sprinkles and assorted candies

1. - In heavy saucepan, over low heat, melt chips with creamy chocolate or original sweetened condensed milk

2. - Chill for 2 hours or until firm.

3. - Roll into balls or shapes and decorate. Chill 1 hour or until firm. Store tightly covered.

TIPS: Licorice makes great whiskers and legs. Red hots and diagonally cut taffy squares make great eyes and ears.



## Scary Tarts

1 (14 oz.) can sweetened condensed milk (NOT evaporated)

1 cup cold water

1 (4-serving size) package instant white chocolate flavor pudding mix.

2 cups frozen non-dairy whipped topping, thawed

2 (4 oz.) packages single-serve graham cracker pie crusts

Assorted candies or Halloween candy cutouts.

1. - In large bowl, blend sweetened condensed milk and water with mixer or wire whisk. Beat in pudding mix until well blended.

2. - Chill at least 10 minutes. Fold in whipped topping. Spoon into pie crusts; chill and decorate. Refrigerate leftovers.

TIPS: Place a wax paper ghost on tart, drop sprinkles around it and lift away paper. Weave a web with licorice.

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# St. Vitus Alumni honors three

St. Vitus Alumni will honor three former students and induct them into their hall of fame at a banquet on Sunday, Oct. 27.

The honorees are:

**Dr. Charles Joseph Centa**, (Class of 1931 - posthumously).

Dr. Centa was born to Karl and Frances (Turk) Centa, the second of five children. Two sisters, Frances and Olga, two brothers (twins) Ernest and Emil.

His parents emigrated to the United States in 1913 and became lifelong members of Saint Vitus Parish. All five children attended and graduated from St. Vitus school.

Charles served as an altar boy during grade school and throughout high school (Cathedral Latin) and college years at John Carroll University.

He attained his medical degree from St. Louis University in 1943 whereupon he was commissioned to serve in the European and North African Theaters of War in the U.S. Army in the Psychiatric Department.

Working long hours to alleviate the problems of mentally distressed and battle fatigued servicemen, he soon became Chief Psychiatric Officer in his division. It was in that capacity that he interviewed and psychoanalyzed a number of the Nazi criminals at the Neuremberg trials.

Upon his return to Cleveland, he worked at the Veterans' Hospital and thus, established his own successful private practice.

He was the Psychiatrist for the Diocese of Cleveland and the Cleveland Police Department. He established the Department of Psychiatry at St. Vincent Charity Hospital serving as its Chief. He was then named Vice President of the Hospital Staff as well as President of the Cleveland Psychiatric Neurological Association.

**F. Raymond Gobec**, (Class of 1942.)

Frank, Raymond Gobec, better known to all as Ray, was born on January 21, 1928 in Cleveland. The son of Anton and Helen (Sraj) Gobec, he was the youngest of four children.

Anthony, the eldest, died in 1933. His sisters, Ann Gornick, and Helen Melgun are both members of the Alumni.

Ray graduated from St. Vitus in 1942. He attended Wilson Jr. High and graduated from East Technical High School. He then enlisted in the Regular Army and was discharged as a Veteran of World War II on December 19, 1947.

He married Eleanor (Dopirak) on August 13, 1949. They celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in August of 1999. Two years later, on May 30, 2001, Eleanor was called to her eternal rest.

During the 1960's, Ray and Eleanor adopted three children, sons Matthew R, Philip A. (deceased in 1981), and a daughter, Lisa Marie.

While working at C.E.I. Ray attended classes in Ferrus Metalurgy to enhance his performance both as Blacksmith and Certified Welder.

Active with his Union, he served as a Trustee, Recording Secretary, Negotiating Team Member and Shop's Chief Job Steward for 28 years, holding that position until his retirement on May 30, 1987. He served the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company for over 38 years.

He joined the St. Vitus Alumni in 1989 becoming Assistant Treasurer in 1992. Following the death of long-time Treasurer the beloved Joseph Brodnik, Ray was elected to the office of Treasurer and has served in that capacity for the past nine years.

Residing in Chardon, Ohio for the past 35 years, he is an active members of St. Mary's parish. He has given of himself on a volunteer basis and is always ready to help when called upon in any capacity. He is also known in the Chardon Circles as the Happy Musician and will play or sing at the drop of a hat, for any function.

He is also the proud grandfather of twin grandsons, Justin and Jared.

**Stane Kuhar**, (Class of 1968.)

Stane Kuhar was born to Luka and Jozefa (Rebolj) Kuhar at 1249 E. 61<sup>st</sup> Street one of five sons. His brother Janez (born in a German labor prison camp, passed away after only two months due to health problems). A brother, Louis is currently employed in construction trade. Frank is employed at the U.S. Postal Service, and Bogomir is a Pharmacist in Powell, Ohio.

Stane graduated from Saint Vitus School in 1968. While attending Saint Joseph High School he was enrolled in the National Honor Society.

Mr. Kuhar then attended Cleveland State University for two years. Later, being admitted to Ohio State University, he graduated *cum laude* in 1976 with a BSC degree (bachelor of science in communications) with a minor in business.

Mr. Kuhar has been em-

ployed for the past 27 years in the financial services field: Cleveland Trust Co., AmeriTrust Co., and currently with KeyBank NA.

Mr. Kuhar has been a corporate banking analyst, supervisor, bank corporate business, service calling officer, retail banking officer, branch manager, and for the past three years, Assistant Vice President - Business Service Center, as a commercial credit underwriter. He is also certified in a Para-Financial Planning Program.

A lifelong parishioner of Saint Vitus Parish, Stane has served on the Parish School Tuition Committee, Co-Chairperson of the Fall Festivals, Summer Picnic Committee, Saint Vitus Slovenian School Parent Board, pastoral council, and finance advisory council.

Mr. Kuhar has served on a number of Ad Hoc (meaning For this purpose) committees for the parish as well as the community, including serving as secretary of the Bishop Baraga Committee in 1998 when the "Baraga Days" were held at St. Vitus parish in Cleveland.

He has published many articles, commentaries and translations for the past 25 years to a number of American Slovenian Publications namely, American Home, KSKJ Glasilo, Our Voice (AMLA), Zarja (Slovenian Women's Union), etc.

Mr. Kuhar's past lay ministry work at Saint Vitus includes being a Eucharistic Minister and lector. He currently serves the parish as a member of the finance advisory council and secretary of the St. Vitus Development Corp.

He is a member of KSKJ Lodge Christ the King #226 and St. Anne's Lodge No. 4 AMLA.

Stane is married to Marge (Kristanc) Kuhar and is the proud father of three sons, Mark (sophomore, Seattle Pacific University), Nicholas (senior) and Andrew (sophomore) both at St. Ignatius High School.

Congratulations to all three honorees. On Sunday, Oct. 20, Mass will be at 12 noon, dinner / awards program will follow in the school auditorium. Reservations 1-440-285-2359.

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# Zakelj Diary Brings Memories

Editor,

Of all the articles in your paper, the one which I find most interesting is "Life in the Refugee Camps." I was especially impressed with the picture of Anton Zakelj with the handmade saw. I have one in my garage right now exactly like that one. My father, a blacksmith, made this one.

I am particularly interested in his references to making "cipke" - since I do a little bobbin lace. My question to him: How did you fashion the bobbins? The bolster I can imagine, but what about the bobbins?

I wish I could talk to him about the lace. Here in Indianapolis I belong to a lace guild. This would make a most interesting story for our bulletin and explain to our members that Slovenian lace is not only interesting, but just as beautiful as those from other European countries. The idea that a man designed the pieces is unique, and under the circumstances of a refugee camp is most unusual. How ingenious.

*Na svidenje,*

--Mrs. Val Burnside  
Indianapolis, IN  
(317) 298-8675

# Junior Chorus Fall Concert

The Slovenian Junior Chorus of Youth Circle 2 SNPJ will present its Fall Concert with special guests Fantje na Vasi (The Boys in the Village) men's chorus, on Sunday, November 10 beginning at 3 p.m., at Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue in Euclid, Ohio.

The Fantje na Vasi choir is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of performing choral works in the field of Slovenian music.


Concert-goers will hear the youngest members of the Slovenian cultural scene, the 30 youngsters of the Slovenian Junior Chorus, and the

outstanding men's choral group in the Slovenian Home in Euclid, where the children's chorus has been based for 40 years.

The Slovenian Junior Chorus is under the direction of Cecilia Dolgan. John Srsen directs the Fantje na Vasi.

Food and refreshments will be available following the concert. Music by the Wayne Tomsic orchestra will begin at 5:30 p.m.

The donation is \$7.00 for adults, and children accompanied by an adult are free. Tickets are available at the new Polka Hall of Fame, 605 East 222<sup>nd</sup> Street, Euclid.



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# Recalling St. Lawrence Parish Life

(Continued)

by JOSEPH T. SNYDER

(Conclusion)

All good things must come to an end. It has been a labor of love taxing my brain to recall and digest the more salient features of the past, relative to my upbringing in the St. Lawrence neighborhood. My head has swelled over the numerous compliments that I have received for my humble recollections. I was especially elated when Bishop Pevec recognized and thanked me for my efforts at the St. Lawrence Centennial Celebration at the Slovenian National Home on Sept. 22, 2002.

These series of articles printed in the American Home have reflected the thoughts and remembrances in my peer group and our respected elders. When I recently paid my last respects to one lifetime parishioner Pete Gliha I was told that he spent his last few dying months in suffering while his main solace was the recollection of his youth in the St. Lawrence neighborhood. I don't know if he ever read any of my articles, but the many people whom I have spoken with, have similar fond memories of the years past.

In my concluding article I will just point to a few personalities that I revered. The person who helped, possibly saved my leg if not my life when I was eight-years-old was Dr. Anthony J. Perko, who went beyond conventional wisdom in operating on my gangrenous infection when the preliminary diagnosis was scarlet fever. His rapid attention and decisive action coupled with the use of a new medication called Penicillin were the treatments that enabled me to live a fruitful and athletic life. Dr. Perko was the famous Slovenian physician and surgeon who became legendary to Newburgh as well as to a

great portion of the Slovenian community in greater Cleveland.

Fr. Oman will always be revered as a kind and devoted priest, one who was strong in his faith and was instrumental in making St. Lawrence what it became. A few others on my list of great individuals in the parish and not necessarily in any particular order, were Mr. Frank Kuznik, who was a great contributor to St. Lawrence and even donated for the funds for the laying of the cornerstone at St. Lawrence Church; Johnny Turk, one-time president of the Holy Name Society, Joseph W. Kovach, our Councilman and respected leader in our community. Agnes Zagar and her son Bill were leaders who participated in many cultural activities.

Others that I admired were Ivan Zorman, Vicky Hocevar, Mr. Florian Cesar, Mr. Tony Pucell, Mr. Joseph Lekan, Mr. Globokar, Mr. Louis Supan, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Strazar, Mr. Vercek, Mr. John Kaplan, Mr. Resnik, Mr. Anton Kosak, Tony and Annie Kapela, Frank Mahnic, Mr. Bubnick, Frank Rajar, Eddie Ozimek, Ralphie Godic, Billy Turk,

his brother Fr. Damien (Doc), Gene Krakowiak, Louie Supan, Bill Hrovat, Eddie Skufca, Beanie Resnik, Rudy Novak; and the Vercek sisters.

Alice Arko, Anna Mae Mannion, Josephine Winter, coordinated lodge activities for the benefit of most parishioners. There were many business people who were generous to us including Mrs. Fortuna, Joe Fortuna, Mr. Ferfolia, the Sims Family, Mr. Strekal, Mr. Louis Perko, Mrs. Theresa Jeric, Mary Jeric, Eddie Zabak and his family, Leo Dardy and his son Tony, who provided printing to our neighborhood for over 60 years and is still going strong.

Many other individuals were and are instrumental in keeping the traditions of yore into this 21<sup>st</sup> century. As I reflect on the influence that the above great people contributed toward St. Lawrence community, awe is the only word to describe one's feelings. We are all grateful for their lives. If any further inspiration finds its way, a periodic chapter might be forthcoming. Chances are remote. May God continue to bless all of us always.

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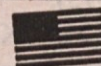


State Representative Ed Jerse with his wife, Shannon, and children, Teddy, Mairin and Elizabeth.

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# Europe in a Nutshell

(Continued from page 1)

Huge crowds jammed the entrance. We clambered two by two aboard a long miniature train and plunged more than a mile through winding caverns beneath an enormous karst (porous limestone) formation. The train disgorged us deep inside the cave. We were divided according to language - Italian and German took most of the crowd - for 45 minute guided walking tours. Although too touristy for some tastes, the Postojna Cave is incomprehensibly large and rich in otherworldly formations. Our visit ended in a natural underground "concert hall" that can hold 10,000 people.

"The duration of the echo is six seconds," said my guide. "Music here is not good, but it's mysterious."

As if to prove his point, some 25 of my fellow cave explorers - apparently a young choral group on tour - began singing sacred music in Italian. The notes ascended to the blotched dome 130 feet above us and returned in ethereal waves.

I reached the Mediterranean port town of Piran as the church bells chimed at 6 p.m. Occupied in various eras by Greeks, Romans, Celts and Franks, Piran was remodeled in Gothic style by 13th century Venetians. Piran still feels Italian; Trieste is half an hour down the road. Locals say "Ciao" and ride motor scooters.

The labyrinth of narrow cobblestone streets was lined by outdoor tables occupied by merry old men who drank wine and told jokes. As dusk descended, the only light in the lovely passages came from windows in archways above me. I grabbed some pizza and watched the sun plop into the Mediterranean.

Later, while preparing for bed, I was lured outside by lovely voices rising in song. Twelve teenage girls in jeans and dark jackets promenaded beneath my balcony: the Italians from the cave, looking like mall rats and singing like seraphim.

On my last morning in Slovenia, I stood on the pier as fishing boats pattered out of the harbor, then returned to Postojna to visit another celebrated tourist site. Predjama Grad. In a country famous for its castles, Predjama takes the cake.

The four-story castle, complete with drawbridge and dungeon, is set in the yawning mouth of a huge cave. Some rooms in this 16th century eyrie are actually inside the cavern, which extends into the earth for 4.5 miles.

Secret exits at the far end enabled Predjama's most famous occupant - highway robber Erasmus Luegger - to come and go at will, even as the Austrian army laid futile siege to the front of his impregnable stronghold. Eventually, a cannon shell landed on Erasmus as he sat in the castle loo.

Viewed from the parking lot, Predjama Castle emerged from subterranean darkness into the glorious morning light. Like Slovenia itself, I thought.

Thanks to **Dr. Tony Ravnik** of Oakland, CA for this informative article.

## Enjoyable TV Polka Show

Editor,

Calling your attention to an enjoyable polka program originating from WCTV in Wadsworth, Ohio 44281 (625 Broad St.).

Hosts are Gene Kovack and Joe Grabosek who present musical selections from polka greats and selections from Slak and Avsenik in picturesque European settings.

They can be seen on Cable Adelphia Channel 21. (Phone number 216-289-8373).

Mr. Kovack was kind

enough to send me a list of air times for this area which I have not seen listed anywhere else.

Monday - 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Tuesday - 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Wednesday - 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

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Saturday - 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Sunday - 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Happy listening.

Mary E. Jerse  
Euclid, Ohio

### Spaghetti Dinner

Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Avenue in Cleveland is sponsoring a Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, Nov. 10 from 4 to 7 p.m. Take-outs available.

Donation is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children.

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## Coming Events

Friday, Oct. 25

Dance at West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland, 7:30 to 11:30 featuring Bob Kravos.

Sunday, Oct. 27

St. Vitus Alumni Man/Woman of the Year Awards. Noon Mass, dinner and awards to follow.

Sunday, Oct. 27

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80 St., Cleveland, Annual Clam Bake or Steak Dinner, 2 to 4 p.m. Music by Tomsic-Somich Orchestra 4 to 7 p.m. Donation \$21 bake or steak. For reservations call Tony (440) 243-4062 or Anna Mae (216) 341-6136.

Friday, Nov. 1

Dance at West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland, 7:30 to 11:30 featuring Casuals.

Friday, Nov. 8

Dance at West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland, 7:30 to 11:30 featuring Frank Morvacik.

Saturday, Nov. 9

Belokranjski Club Martinovanje at Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave. Music by Stan Mejac Orchestra. For tickets call (216) 481-3308, (440) 729-3427 or (216) 289-0843.

Sunday, Nov. 10

Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, Spaghetti Dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Adults \$5, children \$3.

Sunday, Nov. 10

Slovenian Junior Chorus Fall Concert with special guests Fantje na Vasi, 3 p.m. at Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid.

Wayne Tomsic orchestra provides dance music at 5:30. Donation is \$7.

Friday, Nov. 15

Dance at West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland, 7:30 to 11:30 featuring Wayne Tomsic.

Saturday, November 16

Jadran Concert, SWH.

Sunday, Nov. 17

Slovenian American National Art Guild Artists and Crafts Show, Slovenian Society Home, Euclid, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission.

Friday, Nov. 22

Dance at West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland, 7:30 to 11:30 featuring Bob Kravos.

Wed., Nov. 27

Jam Session, Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland. Musicians welcome. Kenik room. Admission \$2.

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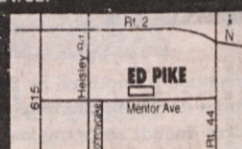
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## Death Notices

### JOSEPH L. CIMPERMAN

Joseph L. Cimperman, 87, passed away Wednesday morning, October 23, 2002 at St. Vitus Village in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. Cimperman was the husband of Majda (deceased); father of Sister Maria Cimperman, OSU, and Joseph M. Cimperman (Cleveland Ward 13 Councilman); brother of Mary Cimperman, Rev. Victor J., Anthony (Frances) and Ann Strazar (Anton).

Mr. Cimperman was a member of AMLA Lodge No. 9, St. Vitus Holy Name Society, and St. Clair Pensioners.

Visitation Friday, Oct. 25 3 - 6 and 7 - 9 p.m., at Zak Funeral Home, 6016 St. Clair Avenue. Mass of the Resurrection on Saturday, Oct. 26 at 10 a.m. in St. Vitus Church, 6019 Lausche Avenue, Cleveland. Burial in All Souls Cemetery.

### JOSEPHINE A. MLAKAR

Josephine A. Intihar Mlakar (nee Zupan), passed away on Sunday, Oct. 20, 2002.

Josephine was the wife of Raymond Mlakar (American Home writer), and the late George Intihar; sister of L. Thomas Zupan, Stanley Zupan, and the late Mary Stevens and Frank Zupan; aunt of numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Oct. 25 at 10 a.m. at St. John Bosco Church. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery.

Family will receive friends Thursday, Oct. 24 from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. at the Tomon & Sons Funeral Home, 7327 Pearl Rd. (S. of Bagley), Middleburg Hts.

### EDWARD A. TURK SR.

Edward A. Turk Sr., 86, a 57-year resident of Euclid, Ohio, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2002 in Euclid Hospital in Euclid, Ohio.

Mr. Turk was born in Cleveland, Ohio on September 10, 1916.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran of WWII. He was a member of AMLA Lodge No. 1, and the Recher Hall Pensioners.

Until recently, Mr. Turk was a regular balinca player at Recher Hall and the Slovenian Workmen's Home on Waterloo Road.

Mr. Turk was a former owner of Eddie Turk's Service Station for over 50

years at 6101 St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland. He retired in 1986, turning over the reigns of the business over to his son, Edward A. Turk.

He is survived by his wife of 59½ years, Sophie "Josie" (nee Zorich); daughters Arleen Turk and JoAnn (Dave) Moye; and son Edward A. Jr. (Katie); grandchildren Dianna, Edward M. (Danielle), Sandy (Brian) Danison, Jayme (Ryan) Otto, and David Moye; and great-grandchildren Morgan Lee and Mason Edward Danison. Deceased family are brothers Frank, John, William and Joseph; sisters Marie Bortnick, Agnes Bozic, and Jean Turk.

Mass of the Resurrection Wednesday, Oct. 23 at St. Robert Church in Euclid, Ohio. Interment All Souls Cemetery, Chardon, Ohio.

Friends were received on Tuesday, Oct. 22 at Brickman & Sons Funeral Home, 21900 Euclid Ave., Euclid.

### MARY GRILL STRAZISAR

Mary Grill Strazisar, 94, passed away in the Slovene Home for the Aged on Monday, October 14, 2002.

Mary was born on Dec. 23, 1907, the daughter of John and Mary Grill, in West Newton, PA. She was raised in Velika Vas, pri Moravcah, Slovenia.

Mary returned to the U.S.A. (Cleveland) as the bride of Valentine Grill in 1927.

She is survived by her son Alan J. Grill (State College, PA) and sister Johana Yerina (Slovenia). She was preceded in death by husbands Valentine Grill (1938) and Joseph Strazisar (1972). Children Dorothy, Valentine and Ludwig Grill; stepchildren Joseph and Raymond Strazisar, Alma Kravos, Lillian Tibyash; brothers Anton, Ludvik, John, Ciril, Frank; and sisters Angela Merela, Tinca Dezman, and Pepca Pozar.

Mary was a member of KSKJ Lodge No. 169, AMLA No. 8, SWU No. 14, St. Christine Church Altar Society, Ladies Guild, Chriseniors, and Euclid Pensioners.

She was a volunteer at the Slovene Home for the Aged for 25 years.

Friends called at the Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 Street Friday, Oct. 18 from 3-7 p.m., where services were held Saturday, Oct. 19

at 8:45 a.m., and at St. Christine Church at 9:30

a.m. Burial was in All Souls Cemetery.

Donations in her memory to St. Christine Church, 840 E. 222 St., Euclid, OH 44123 or the Slovene Home for the Aged, 18621 Neff Rd., Cleveland, OH 44119.

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### ALBERT L. MEGLICH

Albert L. Meglich, 78, passed away at his residence in Parma, Ohio on Tuesday, Oct. 22.

Albert was a long-time resident of Cleveland. He was a milkman all his life. Starting in the family business, Clover Dairy on E. 64<sup>th</sup> St. He also worked for Dairymen's and Hillside as route driver.

Mr. Meglich served in the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1946.

Mr. Meglich was a member of AMLA Lodge 12 and was a former AMLA Board Member. He was a member of SNPJ #53, St. Vitus Catholic War Veterans #1655, Knights of Columbus Council 3104 of Euclid. He was a member of Waterloo Workmen's Home, and a former Board Member. He was chosen as their Man of the Year in 1998. He volunteered at Waterloo Workmen's Home for many years.

Mr. Meglich was a former Cubmaster of Troop 134 of St. Jerome Parish. He was a retiree of Teamsters Local #507.

He was the husband of Martha (nee Semich); father of Joseph (Laurie), Michael (Janet), and Cheryl (Richard), Raimondo; grandfather of Christopher, David, Melissa, Andrew, Eric, Lyndsey, Gregory, Anthony and Jami; brother of Edward, Helen Prawdzik, James, and the following deceased: Herman and Robert.

Friends may call at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St. Thursday, Oct. 24 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. and Friday, Oct. 25 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m., where services will be held Saturday at 10:45 a.m. and at St. Vitus Church at 11:30 a.m. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

Donations in his memory to a charity of your choice.

### In Memory

Thanks to Stanislava Pecavar of San Francisco, CA who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a \$20.00 donation on the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the death of her husband, Peter Pecavar.

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## Breakfast to Benefit Slovenian Cultural Garden

St. Joseph Lodge No. 169 KSKJ and the Slovenian Cultural Garden Association are co-sponsoring a breakfast on Sunday, November 10, to benefit the Slovenian Cultural Garden of Cleveland.

The breakfast will be held at St. Mary's (Collinwood) School auditorium. Serving will be from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The menu will feature sausage, eggs, and palačinke.

The Slovenian Cultural Garden is in the midst of a major renovation. The proceeds of this fund-raiser will be used to help finance the construction of busts of several historically prominent Slovenians, which will be placed as permanent fixtures in the Garden.

New statues will honor Blessed Anton Martin Slomšek, France Prešeren, Jakob Petelin Gallus,

Primož Trubar, and Karel Mauser. Existing busts of Bishop Friderik Baraga, Simon Gregorčič, Ivan Cankar, and Ivan Zorman will be refurbished and will once again take their places in the Slovenian Garden.

As part of its Matching Funds program, the American Slovenian Catholic Union (KSKJ) will match up to \$1,000 of proceeds raised through this event by St. Joseph Lodge and the SCGA.

All Cleveland-area Slovenians and friends are warmly invited and encouraged to attend and partake of this delicious breakfast. Again, the date is Sunday, November 10, and the place is St. Mary's in Collinwood. Donation is \$6 for adults and only \$3 for children. Tickets will be available at the door.

John Nemeč

Kissing don't last: cookery do!  
--George Meredith

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# Glasbena Matica Presents Their Christmas Concert

Summer has come and gone with its picnics, cook-outs, hay rides, etc. Where has the summer gone? Yes, it is hard to believe but we are now in the Fall Season. With the Thanksgiving Holiday coming up we realize that Christmas is not too far behind. We certainly are fortunate to live in a region where we can enjoy the four seasons.

This is the time of the year when Glasbena Matica chorus is busy preparing for their Christmas Concert. With much enthusiasm and anticipation, the members are looking forward to putting on a Christmas Concert which will take place on Saturday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at the St. Clair Slovenian National

Home, 6417 St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland.

The program will consist of beautiful traditional Christmas songs both in Slovenian and English.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. The concert will start at 7 p.m. under the direction of Edward Ferrazzoli. Music will be provided by Fred Ziwich for your listening and dancing pleasure.

Ticket price for the concert is \$10.00. Food and refreshments will be available. Tickets can be purchased from any Glasbena Matica member or by calling Vlasta Radisek (216) 531-7326 or Lori Sierputowski (216) 261-5248.

We look forward to seeing you.

--Sylvia Plymesser



Thanks to Phil Hrvatin for this humorous cartoon



The average life span of a major league baseball is five to seven pitches.

Forgetfulness: a gift of God bestowed upon debtors in compensation for their destitution of conscience. --Ambrose Pierce

## Euclid Pensioners Christmas Meal

The Euclid Pensioners annual Christmas Dinner and Dance will take place on their usual meeting date, the first Wednesday of the month, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, starting at 1 p.m. This event will take place at the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue in Euclid in the upper hall.

A full course dinner will be prepared by James Catering, noted for serving delicious meals. After dinner there will be music and en-

tertainment by Al Batistelli, everyone's favorite. Guests will partake in two great experiences, a delicious dinner and wonderful entertainment, each of which alone is worth the price of admission, only \$14.

If you are looking for a memorable holiday afternoon, elegant with friends, join the Euclid Pensioners on Dec. 4. Call Treasurer Vida Strukel at 440-943-0512 for tickets.

### Enjoys Articles

Check enclosed to renew my subscription for another year. I enjoy the news and the articles. Thanks, *hvala lepa, pa stu krat boklona.*

--Vida Strukel  
Wickliffe, Ohio

### Pristava Meeting

The Board of Slovenska Pristava is inviting all members to attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 3 p.m. at the lodge in Harpersfield.

### More Coming Events

(Continued from page 6)

**Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29**

Thanksgiving Polka Party, and day after polka party at Marriott Hotel in Cleveland public square featuring 20 bands. Tickets, \$12, at Kollander World Travel or Polka Hall of Fame; \$15 at door.


**Sunday, Dec. 1**

Friends of the Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland Holiday Brunch. Doors open 11 a.m. Members \$10, non members \$14, children \$4.

**Feb. 15 - 22**

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

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Mariborski pomožni škof dr. Anton Stres govori o slovenskem nacionalnem interesu...

## Revež ni svoboden

Intervju vodil MATIJA GRAH

Kaj je nacionalni interes? Ali sploh obstaja?

Nacionalni interes obstaja toliko, kolikor obstaja zavest o njem. V klasični družbeni teoriji mu je še najbližji pojem skupnega dobrega ali skupne blaginje, ki je iz naše vsakdanje politične govornice povsem izginil. Žal, ker označuje samo bistvo nacionalne države.

Nacionalna država obstaja zaradi zaradi skupnega cilja, brez skupnih ciljev ni nacionalne države. Nacionalni interes je, da imajo posamezniki čim bolj ugodne objektivne okoliščine za to, da so lahko hote to, kar so, in da ohranjajo svojo nacionalno identiteto in kulturo.

Kako in kje se oblikuje nacionalni interes?

Oblikuje se med ljudmi, nastaja iz zavesti. Običajno obstajajo ljudje, ustanove v narodu, ki se mu posebej posvetijo. Takšno vlogo so v 18., 19. stoletju odigrali narodni buditelji. Slovenci so ozavestili, da so Slovenci, da niso Štajerci ali Kranjci, ampaj najprej Slovenci. To ni bilo samo po sebi umevno!

Danes lahko to vlogo prevzamejo predvsem ljudje, ki se neposredno ukvarjajo z nacionalno kulturo, torej civilna družba. Ker pa se družbeni cilji določajo in odločitve sprejemajo na ravni politike, je to tudi naloga političnih sil.

Kljub temu da je Evropa v minulemu stoletju zanetila dve svetovni vojni in da ni bila zgled spoštovanja narodnih

identitet, ne znotraj sebe ne – v času kolonizacije – drugod po svetu, se danes deklarira kot skupnost, ki naj bi spoštovala vse partikularnosti, vse nacionalne in kulturne posebnosti. Njena dejanska pripravljenost bo verjetno manjša od deklarirane.

Toda bolj kot to, ali naj se vključimo v evropske integracije ali ne, je za nas pomembno, da gojimo zdravo narodno zavest. Odločilno ne bo, ali se bomo integrirali – ker če bomo zaprti v svoje plotove, ne bomo nič bolj zavarovani pred tujimi vplivi in izgubo svoje identitete –, ampak koliko bo v nas samih volje, da obstanemo.

Čigava skrb so nacionalni interesi?

Biti morajo skrb nas vseh. Nosilci nacionalnih interesov so država, politične sile in različne ustanove civilne družbe, zlasti tiste, ki se neposredno ukvarjajo s kulturo, vzgojo in izobraževanjem. Vsi, ki se ukvarjajo s poljem oblikovanja vrednot, kajti narodna zavest je zavest o vrednosti lastne kulturne in nacionalne identitete.

Posebno vlogo imata pri tem vzgoja in izobraževanje v šoli. Učenje materinega jezika, literature in drugih oblik nacionalne kulture, posebno pa še pouk zgodovine krepita zgodovinski spomin in zavest pripadnosti lastnemu narodu. Zato so za manjšine lastne šole tako vitalnega pomena.

Z globalizacijskimi procesi usiha moč nacionalnih držav. Ali nacionalni interes s tem izgublja eno od opor, ki jih je prej imel?

Gotovo, da jo, vendar samo do neke mere. Toda to ni nov proces. Suverenost nacionalnih držav je omejena, odkar obstaja mednarodno pravo. Z nekaterimi v 20. stoletju nastalimi mednarodnimi povezavami in instrumenti sta suverenost države in s tem njena

podpora lastni nacionalni identiteti še oslabei, ni sta pa postali tako vprašljivi, kot postajata v sodobnih globalizacijskih procesih, ki jih narekuje kapital.

Nacionalna država je po prvi svetovni vojni, v nasprotju s klasičnimi teorijami liberalnega kapitalizma, ki so terjali popolno odsotnost države iz ekonomije, pričela posegati v gospodarstvo. Takrat je socialna država pričela reševati socialne napetosti, ki so nastajale v svobodnem tržnem gospodarstvu in bi brez njene intervencije pripeljale do velikih družbenih konfliktov.

Nekaj analognega zdaj potrebujemo na ravni sveta. Potrebujemo mednarodno politično avtoriteto, ki bo nepravilnosti in neenakosti, ki nastajajo na podlagi gole konkurence, izenačevala in kompenzirala z ukrepi v prid najšibkejšim. Potrebne so mednarodne institucije, ki bodo imele oblast in ne bodo odvisne zgolj od konsenza. Vprašanje je, kako do njih priti. Tu politika še ni povsem izgubila svoje besede.

Kako vplivajo procesi globalizacije na zavest o nacionalni pripadnosti?

Globalizacija pospešuje zavest o povezanosti s svetom – o horizontalni, prostorski, geografski povezanosti. Posameznik in narodi se vse bolj umeščajo med druge narode,

s katerimi živijo in so z njimi v stiku, in če ta horizontalna dimenzija prevlada, dobijo izključno veljavo vrednote, ki omogočajo in pospešujejo sožitje in povezave. Recimo strpnost, spoštovanje drugačnosti ipd.

S tem ni nič narobe, toda ljudje nismo od danes. Za ohranjanje celovite zavesti o tem, kaj smo, je nujno potrebna vertikalna, zgodovinska dimenzija. Ta je predvsem zgodovinski spomin, zavest o tem, kaj smo bili, kaj se je z nami godilo, tudi zavest o naših preteklih prijateljih in sovražnikih, tudi stare zamere in stara prijateljstva.

Pomembno je, da znamo vleči rdečo nit iz zgodovine, da se čutimo naslednike prejšnjih rodov in da v tem, kar so naši predniki ustvarili, vidimo vrednoto.

V laični Franciji je prejšnji šolski minister Lang prav zaradi prevlade horizontalne, prostorske dimenzije sprožil kampanjo za ponovno uvedbo pouka o religijah in njihovih kulturah v francoske šole kot enega izmed nujno potrebnih prispevkov k poznavanju lastnih kulturnih in duhovnih korenin, lastne duhovne in kulturne preteklosti.

Ponekod je imela globalizacija za posledico ponovno, včasih celo zelo agresivno poudarjanje lastne kulturne identitete. Pomislimo le na to, kar

se je zgodilo v Belgiji med Flamci in Valonci, na Baske, Irce, pri katerih znova vznika želja, da bi oživili svoj stari jezik. Sploh ni nujno, da bo zavest o kulturni raznolikosti evropskih ljudstev tako hitro in brez odporov povežena. Zgodovina neredko prinese prav presenetljive zasuke.

Opažate kake generacijske premike? Ali mlajše generacije drugače čutijo svojo nacionalno pripadnost?

Nimam občutka, da bi mlada generacija zelo veliko dala na svoje slovenstvo. Morda zato, ker je prepričana, da ni ogroženo. Ne znam pa oceniti, koliko odprtost v svet, svetovljanstvo, ki ljubezen do lastnega naroda pušča ob strani, če že ne podcenjuje, vzpodbuja tudi naš učni šolski program.

Slovenci smo brezskrbni, dokler nam voda ne teče v grlo. Ko stvari postanejo zelo resne, se hitro streznimo. To ni najboljša taktika, ker lahko rojeva ekstremizme, pretirano čustvene reakcije, ki včasih mejijo na nasilje. O nacionalnem interesu danes ne bi govorili, če se ne bi bali, da bomo kot Slovenci v velikih integracijah izgubili, če se ne bi bali za naš narodni obstoj.

Rimskokatoliška cerkev je vesoljna, internacionalna. Igrajo nacionalni interesi v njej kako vlogo?

Katoliška cerkev je res vesoljna, ampak njena vesoljnost je odvisna od tega, koliko se zna inkulturirati. Iz časa pokristjanjevanja narodov poznamo dve praksi. Prva je bila centralistična: s krščanstvom so morali ljudje sprejeti tudi latinsko kulturo, kulturo njim tujega okolja, ki je svoje lastno

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# LJUDSKA OBLAST NE ODPUŠČA

- I. del -

*Prevod ni težek: Collaborazionismo ed epurazione se prestavi v Kolaboracija in čistke. Tako je tudi stalo na čedni zloženki s programom simpozija, ki je bil prejšnji teden (v začetku oktobra, op. ur. AD) v Trstu in je želel osvetliti italijansko, slovensko in avstrijsko izkušnjo z vojno in njenim epilogom. Hitro se je izkazalo, da so izkušnje zelo raznolike in komaj primerljive, da celo iste besede pomenijo nekaj drugega. To otežuje primerjave. Kar smo storili drug drugemu, tudi ovira dialog. Nemogoč pa ni več.*



Na podlagi dosedanjih izkušenj bi se dalo pričakovati, da bodo razprave zaznamovale hude zame-re, povezane s pojmi fašizem, fojbe, iredenta, državljanska vojna, genocid in podobno. A ni bilo tako. Ozračje je bilo zadušljivo in vroče, ker velika dvorana v Narodnem domu (če po starem imenujem znamenito stavbo sredi Trsta, požgano leta 1920, nato obnovljeno in predano univerzi) ni bila kos veliki množici ljudi.

Ni pa bilo vnetljivo v prenesenem pomenu besede. Minilo je sorazmerno mirno, brez ekscesov, ki bi jih bilo mogoče z veliko verjetnostjo napovedati pred nekaj leti. Zapletena in strašljiva zgodovina je namreč v Trstu vse to še za spoznanje bolj. Kot je delitev na leve in desne tam posebno ostra. In kot so

pogledi na to, kaj se sme reči pred nasprotnikom, dodatno natančni.

Za ilustracijo samo bežen vpogled na dogajanje, ki je za slovensko avto-refleksijo velikega pomena. V Trstu je bil objavljen Pahorjev in Rebulov pogovor z Edvardom Kocbekom, kjer se je o povojnih "čistkah" prvič spregovorilo odkrito in samoobtožujoče. A v istem mestu so potem ljudje umikali podporo tej reviji ali pa bili v to prisiljeni, češ da je tako blatenje osvobodilnega boja škodljivo... No, četrto stoletja kasneje je to mnenje minilo ali se vsaj javno ne tolče po prsih.

Kaj je sploh kolaboracija? Zanesljivo bolj politična kot sodna kategorija, je intoniral Raoul Pupo. Razdeliti jo je mogoče na sodelovanje v vojaškem smislu, v ideolo-

škem smislu in pa v strateško prilagajanje realne oblasti.

Evropska pokrajina med vojno, ki jo je opisal Enzo Colotti, je glede vseh teh vidikov izredno pisan svet. Pri obravnavi kolaboracije je dolgo dominirala izkušnja Francije, ki pa je bila v marsičem poseben primer: Imela je veliko avtonomije in njeni prebivalci v okupatorjevih očeh niso bili *Untermenschen* Vzhodnim državam se je godilo dosti huje: nemška strategija je bila tam drugačna, vzhod je bil namreč prostranstvo, določeno za kolonizacijo, na dan pa so, ob okupaciji in razsulu, vsepovsod izbruhnile latentne zamere do sosedov, do Židov, do boljšeševikov.

Izkušnje treh na simpoziju sodelujočih dežel so raznolike še v bolj temeljnem smislu: Italija je bila zibelka fašizma, Avstrija je bila zibelka nacizma, seveda pa se obe imata tudi za žrtvi; vsaj v nekaterih ozirih in letih ti argumenti držijo, čeravno ne stoodstotno.

Iz slovenskega zornega kota pa se zdi nekoliko čudno, če se tako različne izkušnje lovi v isti pojmovni aparat.

Italija je bila do jeseni 1943 zaveznica nacistične Nemčije in pristaši Mussolinija so bili po tem morda v narodnem smislu kolaboranti, v ideološkem pa gotovo ne. In pri Avstrijcih je zadeva še bolj nenavadna, saj so bili povečini srečni ob nemškem bratskem objemu in jim je osvajanje Evrope dobro delo ter koristilo.

V Sloveniji pa, po besedah Borisa Mlakarja, za politične inovacije severnih in zahodnih sosedov ni bilo nobenih simpatij; če kaj, je bil samo strah. Vsekakor "italijanske pete kolone ni bilo, ni pa bilo niti kakšnega filofašističnega in na kolaboracijo pripravljenega gibanja, ki bi morda v fašističnem sistemu ali celo v italijanizaciji videlo kakršnokoli perspektivo za slovenski narod."

Razmere pa so postale napete zaradi rastočega nasprotovanja med "meščanskim taborom, ki je imel svojo ilegalno orga-

nizacijo in ki je načrtoval neko zmerno in proti koncu vojne stopnjujočo se odporniško dejavnost, ter partizanstvom, ki je pod razvidnim komunističnim vodstvom po napadu na Sovjetsko zvezo pričelo z oboroženim bojem proti okupacijskim silam."

S tem se je spremenil tudi okupacijski režim, med ljudmi pa je narasel strah pred revolucionarnimi ukrepi, ki so dišali po komunizmu. Do delne kolaboracije - vaše straže so imele italijansko podporo - je po Mlakarju torej prišlo "zaradi občutka ogroženosti ter dodatno zaradi ideološko-političnega nasprotovanja in strahu pred spremembo oblasti ter revolucionarnim režimom, ki jo je nakazovala naraščajoča moč partizanstva."

Pri domobrancah, to je po kapitulaciji Italije 1943, je "kolaboracionistični image bolj izražen kot pri vaških stražah. Subjektivna zavest njegovih pripadnikov še vedno sloni na prepričanju o nujnosti bojevanja proti brezbožnemu in predvsem zločinskemu komunizmu, a je tista izvorna samobrambna mentaliteta iz leta 1942 tu že izginjala.

Domobranstvo je bistveno bolj napadalno in bolje organizirano, predvsem pa je vsaj na zunaj bolj povezano z nacističnim ideološko-političnim aparatom. In to kljub temu, da je večina domobrancev še vedno pristašev nekdanje Slovenske ljudske stranke, da večino oficirjev povezuje tajna Slovenska legija, da oficirji še priznavajo avtoriteto Draže Mihajlovića in da mnogi posredno ali celo neposredno delujejo za britansko obveščevalno službo, konkretno za mrežo polkovnika Vladimirja Vauhnikarja."

Na začetku omenjeni trije vidiki kolaboracije bi torej, gledani iz slovenskega (in še katerega) zornega kota, zaslužili še poltretjega: upor proti

skritim načrtom upornikov. Nekaj tega je izkusila tudi Italija, vsaj v zadnjem obdobju vojne in vsaj na severu države, kot je opozoril Gianni Oliva; po njegovem mnenju se da zaznati tudi v Italiji oziroma italijanskem odporniškem gibanju proti Nemcem elemente državljanske ali razredne vojne. Zaradi tega je bilo sklepno poglavje bolj krvavo, navsezadnje pa je vidno tudi v še zmeraj prepoznavni delitvi na leve in desne ali rdeče in črne.

Kdaj in kaj je kolaboracija, pa je pri vsej kompleksnosti preprosta zadeva, če jo primerjamo z nejasnostjo okoli epuracije ali čistk. Dogajanje, ki naj ga higitenski izraz zajame, je še neprimerno bolj raznoliko. Avstrijci in Nemci s tem označujejo postopek denacifikacije, Italijani z *epurazione* merijo na odstranjevanje tistih, ki so kolaborirali ali simpatizirali z nacisti (v obdobju, ko so bili okupirani od nacistov, in ne tedaj, ko so bili njihovi zavezniki), zelo po redko na odstranjevanje fašistov.

Kar zadeva Slovence, so nad izrazom presenečeni, ker se za dogajanje ob koncu vojne doslej ni uporabljal. Za večino Slovencev so bile čistke občasne perterbacije v vrstah komunistične partije; ena struja je prevladala nad drugo, čez nekaj let se je zgodilo nekaj podobnega, le v posameznih elementih novega, in v glavnem je bilo vse skupaj nekakšna rotacija, čudnaški surogat pluralističnega političnega življenja.

To, kar se je dogajalo po vojni, je imelo popolnoma drugačne oznake: bilo je revolucija ali pridobitve (socialistične) revolucije ali pa se je izražalo v dolgih sklopih besed s hudim emocionalnim nabojem. Kolikor se ni molčalo. In o najhujšem je bil seveda zapovedan molk. Ko se je pravica do besede o

(dalje na str. 15)

## V LJUBEČ SPOMIN

Ob osmi obletnici smrti našega ljubljenega atata, starega ata in prastarega ata



**JANEZ VARŠEK**  
katerega je Bog poklical k sebi  
28. oktobra 1994

Ob trinajsti obletnici smrti naše ljubljene mame, stare mame in prastare mame



**JOŽICA VARŠEK**  
katerega je Bog poklical k sebi  
26. januarja 1989

*Gomilo Vajino krasimo  
in molimo za dušni mir,  
da enkrat srečni se združimo  
tam kjer je večne sreče vir.*

Zalujoči:

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# KANADSKA DOMOVINA

## “Joseph Kastelic Wing” v starostnem domu Lipa

TORONTO, Ont. – Dne 24. septembra je bila v čast svojemu najbolj zaslužnemu mecenu Jožetu Kastelicu v slovenskem starostnem domu Lipa v Torontu odkrita spominška plošča s posvetitvijo oddelka temu zaslužnemu Slovencu.

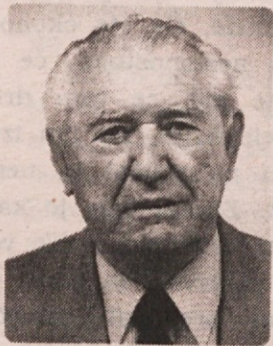
To pa ni Jožetovo prvo priznanje. Predsednik Republike Slovenije ga je odlikoval s častnim znakom svobode RS, kanadski guverner pa ga je ob 125. obletnici konfederacije odlikoval s konfederacijsko medaljo.

Jože Kastelic je vsestranski dobrotnik slovenske skupnosti, cenjen in povsod spoštovan. Ob slavnostni posvetitvi oddelka, je predsednik Doma Lipa Darko Medved povedal, da je bil Jože od vsega začetka ključna oseba pri gradnji in izgradnji tega zavetišča.

Jože je zelo skromen in se nerad hvali, vendar njegovi sodelavci, ki so mu pomagali pri gradnji tega slovenskega uspeha in spomenika njegovega prostovoljnega dela, pravijo, da bi brez njegovega deleža in velikih vsot denarja, ki jih je daroval, doma ne bilo.

Na slavnostni otvoritvi plošče, ki jo je odkrila

dr. Kocmurjeva, piše:  
Joseph Kastelic Wing  
Named in Recognition  
of the Outstanding  
Contribution made by  
Mr. Joseph Kastelic  
to Dom Lipa  
Presented September  
2002



Jože Kastelic

Kako priljubljen je Jože Kastelic v slovenski skupnosti, priča velika skupina Slovencev, ki so prisostvovali tej slavnostni otvoritvi, vokalna skupina Plamen pa mu je zapela nekaj slovenskih narodnih.

Prisotna je bila tudi županja Mississauga, ki je ob tej priliki spregovorila o pomembnosti Jožetovega dela, ne samo v slovenski, temveč tudi v kanadski skupnosti.

Jožetu Kastelicu naše iskrene čestitke!

Marija Ahačič Pollak

ško vero. Komemoracija in molitev križevega pota je naš spomin slovenskih žrtev za krščanske ideale vere in domovine. Spoved, sv. maša, lavretanske litanije, mogočno skupno petje v romarski cerkvi pa je izraz in potrdilo našega krščanskega življenja. Pred sv. mašo pri spominskem križu je dr. Štuhec z ganljivim nagovorom počastil spomin nedolžnih žrtev komunizma na slovenskih tleh.

Nedelja in ponedeljek, 13. in 14. oktobra – zahvalni dnevi. V nedeljski pridigi je župnik Tine Batič govoril o velikem času, ki ga živimo, o stiskah in vojnah, o strahu in groze lanskega 11. septembra. Ob vsem tem pa smo se zahvalili Bogu za velike osebnosti našega časa, za Mater Terezijo in papeža miru Janeza Pavla II.

V tem modernem času je mnogo revščin, duhovne in telesne. V teh dneh smo se spomnili revežev doma in po svetu z molitvijo in dobrimi deli, kar nam je dano. Razne dobrodne ustanove nas kličejo. Pri Mariji Pomagaj že več let zbiramo hrano in denarno pomoč za ustanovo Canadian Feed the Children. Dr. Peter Simone z njo ohranja pri življenju revne in lačne afriške otroke.

Zahvalna nedelja na Slovenskem letovišču. K sv. maši, opoldanskemu kosilu in popoldanski vinski trgatvi je prišlo 400 obiskovalcev. G. in ga. Petrovič sta odlično predstavljala župana in županjo. S svojim orkestrom je Planinski kvintet ogreval hladno nedeljsko popoldne.

V četrtek, 3. oktobra, je Vseslovenski odbor pripravil v dvorani Brezmadežne srečanje z novo slovensko diplomatsko predstavnico v Ottawi s torontskimi Slovenci. Po pozdravih zastopnikov društev se je ga. Veronika Štabej v prijaznem govoru predstavila navzočim. Želi spoznati čimveč Slovencev, njihova društva in prizadevanja. Zbor Plamen z voditeljico Marijo Ahačič Pollak je pri-

(dalje na str. 14)

## Slovenija – ZDA ter Mednarodno kazensko sodišče

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 21. okt. 2002) – Od avgustovskega poziva ZDA drugim državam, tudi Sloveniji, naj z njimi podpisujejo dvostranske sporazume o neizročanju državljanov ZDA Mednarodnemu kazenskemu sodišču (ICC) v Haagu, je steklo že precej vode. Vendar pa ni ta problem danes nič manjši, kot je bil poleti, saj Evropska unija (EU) načeloma nasprotuje tovrstnim kupčijam.

Slovenski diplomaciji in pravosodnemu ministru vse do danes ni uspelo pripraviti dokončnega stališča do ameriškega poziva, ampak čakata na kompromis med EU in ZDA. Odločnejši sta bili vsaj dve nevladni organizaciji, ki smo ju prosili za stališče o zadevi. Amnesty international (AI) za Slovenijo in Atlantski svet (AS) za Slovenijo, za neodločnega pa se je pokazal Slovenski odbor za NATO (SON).

Slovenija je glede predloga sporazuma ZDA o neizročanju njihovih državljanov ICC v precepu, saj želi stopiti v zvezo NATO, katere nesporni voditelji so Američani, na kar kaže tudi zadnja izjava MZZ o tej temi:

“V informaciji o aktualnih dosedanjih dogajanjih glede preloženih bilateralnih sporazumov o nepredajanju državljanov ZDA Mednarodnemu kazenskemu sodišču, katero je pripravilo Ministrstvo za zunanje zadeve, je predlagano, da Ministrstvo za pravosodje in Ministrstvo za zunanje zadeve preučita, v sodelovanju tudi z drugimi pristojnimi resorji, v kolikšni meri obstoječi sporazumi PFP, SOFA in Konvencija o izro-

čitvi z ZDA naslavlajo oziroma že pokrivajo interese ameriške strani.

V tem gradivu je tudi predlagano, da Ministrstvo za pravosodje in Ministrstvo za zunanje zadeve opravita konzultacije na ravni pravnih ekspertov s pristojnimi organi ZDA kot tudi s pristojnimi institucijami EK ter nekaterimi državami članicami EU in pristojnimi državami,” je 15. oktobra zapisala vodja službe za odnose z javnostjo pri MZZ Nataša Prah.

Pri tem naj samo spomnimo, da je bila Slovenija leta 1998 med podpisnicami rimskega statuta, ki je temelj za ustanovitev ICC, in ga je lani decembra tudi ratificirala. Rimski statut je do danes podpisalo 139 držav, ratificiralo pa 88, med katerimi seveda ni ZDA.

Pri tej zadevi sodeluje z MZZ tudi ministrstvo za pravosodje. Vodja ministrovega kabineta Rok Janez Šteblaj je povedal, da končne odločitve o ameriškem predlogu še ni, da pa stališče pripravljajo, med drugim v neformalnih pogovorih s strokovnjaki iz tujine.

Med organizacijami, ki so nam poslale odgovore, se je najbolj jasno opredelila AI. Njen predstavnik Dean Zagorac je povedal, da po njihovem mnenju dvostranski sporazumi, ki jih hočejo skleniti ZDA z državami pogodbenicami rimskega statuta, posegajo v integriteto statuta in so zato v nasprotju z mednarodnopravnimi obveznostmi teh držav.

Po mnenju AI 98. člen statuta, na katerega se sklicujejo ZDA, ni namenjen zagotavljanju imunitete državljanom nekaterih držav pred ICC, saj je to v nasprotju z njegovimi cilji in nameni. “Zato mislimo, da ne Slovenija ne katerakoli druga država ne bi smela skleniti takega sporazuma,” je izjavil Dean Zagorac.

Podobno je sodil predsednik AS Anton Bebler. Podpis bilateralnega sporazuma z ZDA da ni primeren, saj je v nasprotju s statutom ICC, ki ga je ratificiral državni zbor.

(dalje na str. 14)

## NAŠE ŽIVLJENJE...

TORONTO, Ont. – Minulo je vroče poletje, suho poletje; kmalu se bomo znašli v navadnem času kratkih dni in dolgih večerov. Krizanteme so se razcvetele in drevje je paretela Stvarnikovih barv. Na nebesnem svodu je pripeto sonce, pod njim plavajo v daljave oblaki in zemlja in vse življenje na njej potuje okrog te božje luči, po Njegovih poteh iz večnosti v večnost.

Pa pogledjmo nazaj v zadnje poletne dni. Ob velikem šmarnu 18. avgusta je društvo Večerni zvon na svoji pristavi priredilo vsakoletno prošenje. Nedeljsko mašo je daroval dr. Ivan Štuhec, ravnatelj škofijske gimnazije v Mariboru in orga-

nizator Slomškove ustanove za pomoč katoliškim gimnazijam v Sloveniji. S svojim ljudskim nastopom in modro besedo je našel prijazen odziv v naši skupnosti v obliki znatne denarne podpore za škofijsko gimnazijo v Mariboru.

Na pristavah Lovskega društva v Allistonu, primorskega društva Simon Gregorčič, na Holiday Gardens, se je torontska slovenska srenja zbirala na zadnjih poletnih piknikih.

V nedeljo, 8. septembra, smo romali v Midland k slovenskemu križu in v cerkev kanadskih mučencev, francoskih jezuitov, ki so pred tristo leti umrli za katoli-

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## Dr. Anton Stres: Revež ni svoboden...

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 11)

prakticiranje krščanstva razumelo kot univerzalni obrazec.

Druga je bila "mehka" praksa irskih menihov, ki so pokristjanili tudi Slovence. Njen pobudnik je bil papež Gregor Veliki, njeno vodilo pa ni bilo podiranje prejšnjega, ampak ohranjanje in čim večje inkulturiranje v konkretno okolje. Na ta način je bila pokristjanjena Anglija, s to metodo so bili irski menihi v našem delu Evrope tako uspešni.

Pametni ljudje v Cerkvi se vse bolj zavedajo, da sta evangelizacija, pokristjanjevanje, pa tudi ohranjanje vere možna samo s čim večjim upoštevanjem kulture ljudstev. Sedanje cerkveno vodstvo je zaradi papeževe lastne

## NAŠE ŽIVLJENJE

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 13)

speval kulturni del večera. V domačem razpoloženju večera nam je ga. Veronika bila vsem pripravljena na osebne pogovore.

Od 11. do 16. oktobra so člani zbora iz škofijske gimnazije v Ljubljani obiskovali zanimivosti Toronta in ontarijske pokrajine, peli in plesali na Slovenskem letovišču, peli pri sv. maši kardinala Ambrožiča v katedrali sv. Mihaela, pri Mariji in Pomagaj in Brezmadežni.

Z evropskimi mladinskimi zbori so bili letos odlikovani z najvišjo nagrado. V sredo, 16. oktobra, smo jih poslušali na dobrodelnem koncertu v dvorani katoliške šole Fr. John Redmond blizu cerkve Brezmadežne. Zbor 21 pevcev in 20 pevk je s koncertom slovenskih ljudskih, umetnih in duhovnih skladb z izbiro latinskih, nemških in angleških pesmi podaril torontskim poslušalcem prelep kulturni večer.

Skladatelj in dirigent Damijan Močnik je vodja vseh glasbenih dejavnosti v Zavodu sv. Stanislava. S svojim delom ustvarja v pevcih čut za glasovno intonacijo, poslušnost in vse glasbene vrline.

Anica Resnik

izkušnje temu še posebno naklonjeno.

Je Sveti sedež, neko tako kot Bruselj v Evropski uniji, prizorišče lobiranja nacionalnih cerkva? Ali v Vatikanu pogosto prevladajo interesi velikih evropskih narodov?

V času, ko so rimsko kurijo sestavljali v glavnem Italijani, Slovenci morda nismo bili deležni tolikšne podpore Vatikana pri svojih nacionalnih potrebah, kot smo jo pričakovali. Recimo, v obdobju fašizma.

Toda stvari se spreminjajo. Vatikanska kurija postaja vedno bolj internacionalna. Mesta v vatikanskih "ministrstvih" vse bolj zasedajo ljudje iz različnih delov sveta. Ali bo prihodnji papež Italijan ali ne, danes sploh ni več vprašanje. Možno je oboje.

Hkrati je v normativnih dokumentih Cerkve, tudi v izjavah samega papeža, zelo jasno izražena potreba po ohranjanju nacionalnih identitet v združenju Evropi.

Ali slovenski škofje kdaj debatirate o slovenskih nacionalnih interesih?

Odkar sem škof, debata o slovenskem narodnem interesu ni bila točka dnevnega reda. (Smeh) Je pa ozadje, ki se pogosto vleče skozi naše razprave.

Je kako ravnanje slovenske rimskokatoliške Cerkve bilo takšno, da bi o njem lahko rekli, da so ga bolj kot pastoralni motivirali nacionalni interesi?

Takega ravnanja ni. Zavedamo ga ni. Ker se zavedamo, da nismo edini nosilci nacionalnega interesa, da to ni naša primarna naloga, primeri krščanskih cerkva, ki so to počele, pa kažejo, v kaj vse se tako ravnanje lahko izrodi. To je strmina, po kateri bi lahko hitro zdrknili zelo globoko, ko se vera spremeni v nacionalno ideologijo.

Pastoralni in nacionalni interesi se ne izključujejo. Izhajajoč iz sklepov sinode je ena primarnih nalog slovenske Cerkve skrb za družine. Demografski problem je hkrati glavni slovenski nacionalni problem.

Slovenci se od svojih sosedov nismo nikoli razlikovali po veri. Zato vere nismo nikoli vključevali med tiste značilnosti, po katerih se razlikujemo, po katerih smo to, kar smo. Razlikovali smo se po kulturi, jeziku in drugih stvareh, po veri pa ne.

Zato slovensko krščanstvo ni nacionalistično in nikoli ni rabilo za identifikacijo Slovencev kot Slovencev v primerjavi z nekaterimi našimi bližnjimi sosedi, ki so versko identifikacijo potrebovali - z vsemi posledicami, ki jih je takšno identificiranje imelo. V tem primeru je slovensko krščanstvo na boljšem oziroma je manj izpostavljeno zlorabam.

Je lastništvo bank in podjetij, kapitala po-

## Slovenija - ZDA

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 13)

"Tudi iz praktičnih razlogov ni potrebe, da bi Slovenija podpisala tak sporazum, saj je povsem neverjetno, da bi državljani ZDA, zlasti ameriški vojaki, na njenem ozemlju storili dejanja vojnega hudodelstva ali genocida," je dejal Anton Bebler. (Ur. AD: Bebler je eden devetih kandidatov za predsednika Slovenija na volitvah, ki bodo 10. novembra. Nekaj časa je bil med drugim tudi predsednik Slovenske izseljenske matice.)

Stališče, ki je precej drugačno od zgornjih dveh in zelo podobno stališču MZZ, pa zastopa SON, med ustanovitelji katerega sta Dimitrij Rupel in Janez Janša. Predsednik SON Miha Pogačnik je zapisal, da se zavedajo odgovornosti Slovenije kot pogodbenice statuta ICC, pa tudi zaskrbljenosti ZDA, da bi proti njihovim državljanom, ki nosijo levji delež v operacijah ohranjanja miru po vsem svetu, sprožili politično motivirane preiskave in pregone.

Zato se zavzemajo za kompromis med vrednotami, ki jih zastopa ICC, in ameriškim interesi, slovenski pravni strokovnjaki pa bi se morali po Pogačnikovih besedah "intenzivno konzultirati" s kolegi iz EU in ZDA".

Gorazd Utenkar

membno? Ali pa je popolnoma vseeno, v čigavi lasti, slovenski ali tuji, je banka ali podjetje, samo da sta konkurenčna, poslujeta z dobičkom in zagotavljata delo ljudem?

Da se zaplankamo in jemo travo, gotovo ne more biti nacionalni interesi. Po drugi strani pa tudi vemo, da revež ni svoboden. Prav tako ne berač ali tlačan. Slovensko lastništvo najbolj vitalnih panog gospodarstva je nujno potrebno. Privatna lastnina ni brez razloga del človekovih pravic.

Zakaj? Ker je podlaga svobode. Če ste ekonomsko nesamostojni, če nimate nič, če vam drugi režejo kruh, ste jim izročeni na milost in nemilost. Zaradi tega je katališki družbeni nauk vedno zahteval, da mora delavec prejemati pravično plačo.

Kaj vsebuje pojem pravične plače? Da lahko dostojno živi in preživlja svojo družino in tudi da lahko kaj prihrani, tako počasi sestavlja svoje premoženje oziroma kapital in postaja ekonomsko neodvisen, samostojen. Kajti to je podlaga njegove svobode. To še vedno velja.

Slovenska cerkev je pred približno desetimi leti z velikim zanosom ustanovljala svojo banko. Mobilizirala je široki krog cerkvenih institucij, klerikov in laikov, da so ustanovili Krekovo banko ali vanjo vložili svoje prihranke. Zatem jo je letos nepričakovano prodala avstrijski Reiffeisenbank. Zakaj?

Cerkev se ni nikoli enačila s Krekovo banko. Res je, da so ljudje kupovali delnice in vlagali prihranke, ker so si rekli, to je cerkvena ban-

ka, njej lahko zaupamo, in tako je obveljala za cerkveno banko. Vendar je bila - kot vsaka druga banka - last delničarjev. Cerkvene pravne osebe, škofije, župnije in druge so v njej imele le okoli 13 odstoten delež.

Kljub temu je bila Krekova banka velika moralna obveza in breme slovenske Cerkve. Če bi propadla, bi ljudje rekli, Cerkvi smo zaupali, zdaj nas je pa še ona okoli prinesla.

Krekovi banki kljub naporom ni uspelo pridobiti več kot triodstotnega deleža na slovenskem bančnem trgu. Po vseh strokovnih analizah tako majhen delež ne zadošča za razvoj. Banka ne bi mogla zagotavljati tako ugodnih storitev kot druge, večje banke, ki prihajajo v Slovenijo, in to bi jo postavljalo v vedno težji položaj.

Ena od možnosti je bila, da se Krekova banka združi s kako sorodno banko, s katero bi skupaj dosegli najmanj 10-odstotni tržni delež, ki je po zagotovljenih strokovnjakov minimalni tržni delež, ki omogoča konkurenčno poslovanje.

Pokazalo se je, da nekatere druge banke za to niso bile zainteresirane, tiste, ki so bile, pa so bile slabše od Krekove. S slabimi pa se ne kaže združevati, ker samo izgubite.

Druga možnost je bila, da lastniki banko prodajo. Zavedali so se očitka, češ, Cerkev je prodala svojo banko. A tretja možnost je bila, da banka ostane samostojna in bi vedno težje shajala. Kvečjemu bi životarila.

Vodstvo banke je lastnike prepričalo, da s prodajo banke lahko odlašajo še kakšno leto, vendar jih je hkrati opozorilo

(dalje na str. 15)

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