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AMERICAN HOME

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, APRIL 8, 2004

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SNPJ Celebrates 100th Year With Banquet in Pittsburgh

Last Saturday, April 3, the Slovene National Benefit Society celebrated its 100th anniversary with a banquet at the Hilton Pittsburgh. In attendance were some 750 members and invited guests, including former president of Slovenia Milan Kucan, former U.S. Congressman Dennis Eckart, and Slovenia's Ambassador to the United States Davorin Kracun, who will be completing his regular four year term in May and returning to Slovenia.

SNPJ President Joseph C. Evanish offered a toast to the 40,000-plus member organization he leads on its 100th anniversary. In terms of both membership and financial strength, the SNPJ is the largest Slovenian American organization.

After dinner, SNPJ National Secretary Karen Pintar and National Treasurer Robert J. Lawrence made a number of introductions and read some proclamations received by the organization for this occasion. Pintar and Lawrence then alternated in emceeding the program.

The national anthem was sung by Toni Trontel Solarz, Miss SNPJ for 1984. The Slovenian anthem was sung by the Lesna Octet from Slovenia, which also sang several Slovenian songs.

President Evanish returned to the dais and welcomed everyone present. His remarks were followed by a superb visual presentation summarizing SNPJ's 100 years of service to its members and the broader community. To make following the program easier in the huge hall, two large video-screens were used; this was an excellent touch.

Two local Pennsylvania legislators offered their greetings and were followed by remarks from Sergij Pelhan, who is the new president of the Slovene Emigrant's Society (Slovenska izseljenska matica).

Next came a video message from Ohio Senator George V. Voinovich, during which he spoke warmly of his own SNPJ membership and commended the role the organization played in helping the lives of so many of its members. He

also made a point of expressing his thanks to Milan Kucan for Kucan's role in assisting the process of Slovenia democratizing and then gaining its independence.

In many respects, Voinovich reiterated the thrust of the remarks he had made in Cleveland on March 29, at the celebration marking the accession of Slovenia and six other countries to NATO.

After congratulatory remarks from Michael Stivoric, Vice President of the National Fraternal Congress, of which SNPJ as well as AMLA, KSKJ and several other Slovenian American fraternal organizations are members, Matjaž Zanoškar, Mayor of Slovenj Gradec, spoke and presented President Evanish with a gift. The Lesna Octet, which is from Slovenj Gradec, returned to perform several additional Slovenian songs.

Next was another video message, this time from Sen. Tom Harkin, Democrat of Iowa, who spoke of his late Slovenian immigrant mother and, as had Voinovich, thanked Milan Kucan for his years of leadership. Harkin also, as Sen. Voinovich earlier, expressed his regrets at not being able to be present in person.

Next to speak was former Congressman from Northeast Ohio Dennis E. Eckart, who had at one time served as a first vice president of the SNPJ. He spoke about the excellent work of the SNPJ and also of the kinds of difficulties the Slovenian immigrants had encountered in coming to a foreign land and how successfully they overcome them, in part via the help of organizations like the SNPJ.

The principal guest speaker for the evening was the former president of Slovenia Milan Kucan. He spoke in Slovenian, as did several of the others, using the services of able translators. Kucan spoke of his previous visits to the United States and the SNPJ as well as having received tour groups of SNPJ members in Slovenia. Kucan was present, for example, at the opening of the new SNPJ headquarters building in Imperial, Pa. in 1994, when the organization moved from



St. Mary's (Collinwood) Cleveland pastor, Rev. John Kumse, center, blesses the butare (spring flowers) inside the church on a cold, rainy Palm Sunday, April 4.

(Photo by PHILIP HRVATIN)



St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian School students display their hand-made butare.

(Photo by PHILIP HRVATIN)

Burr Ridge, Illinois, and at the opening of the renovated and expanded main building at the SNPJ Recreation Center.

Slovenia's Ambassador to the United State Davorin Kracun, Jadranka Sturm Kocjan, head of the Office for Slovenes Abroad and Franc Puksic, who leads a committee in the Slovenian parliament dealing with the same issue, also spoke briefly.

(Continued on page 2)



**Happy Easter to
All Readers of
Ameriška Domovina!**

*A special wish at Easter to
All Readers of
Ameriška Domovina!*

*May Our Risen Lord bless
Your days with peace and hope and love,
and bring happiness to your heart.*

*You will be remembered in a special Holy
Mass on Easter Sunday by the
Salesian Priests and Brothers.*

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April 8, 2004

REFLECTIONS BY RUDY

Surviving Shopping

by RUDY FLIS

There was a sale this past week at Kaufmann's Department Store and guess what? My wife, Therese, had a gift certificate and a discount coupon - an irresistible urge to shop, shop, shop.

Usually, shopping time is separation time in our marriage. But because Holy Week is upon us, the need for me to make an extra sacrifice or two for our savior Jesus is urgent and I offered to drive her to the store. She said, "You don't have to." But again, thinking of my salvation, and knowing I haven't sacrificed much this Lent, I insisted.

As we pulled into the parking lot my wife asked, "Are you going to wait in the car while I shop?" The naps in the car as Therese shops are quality naps that end only when she is pounding on the car window. For me naps are easy, anywhere, any time. Thinking penance for my many sins I said, "No, I'll go with you." A BIG MISTAKE!

Her gait from our car to the store was of Olympian speed, beyond, far beyond, my leisurely walking. Once in the store, the place where she knows where everything

is, and I mean everything, we walked all over the place as Therese checked the merchandise.

As we walked, my legs tired, fatigue took over my listless body and I found myself asking Jesus for a chair.

I spotted one. What a merciful God. As I sank into it, I relaxed, I yawned and experienced a contentment that reached my soul. It was perfect for a nap, so I could not let my eyelids close. I was in a daze when Therese walked up and said, "Let's go." All that she carried was her purse and a disappointed look. Her enthusiasm gone, her gait normal, we walked out of the store side by side. I had survived shopping, but I had a very disappointed wife and I had to correct that.

Hot coffee and a hot meal eased the terrible memory of shopping without buying, a woman's nightmare. I brought home a content wife, made a few points with our Lord and I am ready for another great Easter Sunday.

May God's blessing be with all of us on this most holy day and all the year through, and please Lord, bring peace to our troubled world.

SNPJ Marks 100...

(Continued from page 1)

In between the various speakers, a very large number of introductions of guests were made, including those present from the leaderships of other Slovenian fraternal organizations. Present from the Cleveland-based AMLA were its President, Albert Amigoni and Vice President - Finance, Theresa Aveni, as well as AMLA Directors Vida Zak and this writer.

The number of speakers and as well the various introductions meant the program was an extended one, yet it proved not only very well organized, but interesting as well. It certainly was an appropriate way to mark the first century of the SNPJ and surely those who were able to attend were pleased with the evening.

President Evanish made his concluding remarks, after which there was dancing to the midnight hour. Playing were the Joe Grkman Orchestra and Tony Klepec & Friends.

As was to be expected, the large majority of those present were SNPJ members from the Pennsylvania area, but there was good representation from Greater Cleveland, where SNPJ also has a large membership, and from other states, such as Illinois and Wisconsin. Present from Cleveland were, among many others noticed by this writer, radio personality Tony Petkovsek, new Cleveland Consul General from the Republic of Slovenia Marcel Koproj, Betty Rotar (an SNPJ board member), and Charles Ipavec.

Rudolph M. Susel



St. Mary's pastor, Rev. John Kumse, blesses Easter food
(Photo by JO ANN KAIFESH)

Blessing of Easter Food

An Eastern European tradition, including Slovenian, that has become quite popular in most parishes in the United States is the blessing of Easter food on Holy Saturday.

In the traditional food basket for Easter are certain foods. Easter bread or potica is symbolic of Jesus, the true bread of life. It is usually a round loaf symbolic of the crown of thorns. Sausage is a sign of God's favor and generosity. Horseradish is symbolic of the nails that pierced the hands and feet of Jesus during His bitter passion.

Eggs are a sign of resurrection and new life. Salt, necessary for flavor, is a reminder of our Christian duty

to help one another. Wine is blessed as a reminder of the moderation that Christians should have in all things. Ham and other meat is a sign of the great joy and abundance of Easter and God's mercy to us. Butter, often shaped into a figure of a lamb or small cross, reminds us of the goodness of God that we should find in all things.

If you have not yet made the blessing of Easter food a part of your family's holiday celebration, why not begin this year? St. Mary's (Collinwood) and St. Vitus pastors bless Easter food on Holy Saturday afternoon, April 10, both at 1 and 3 p.m.

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

--St. Mary's Alumni news

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS by John Mercina

EASTER SUNDAY 1848!

You read the title correctly! On Easter Sunday, 1848, in the village of Spodnji Cerov v Berdih (Brda - Gorica region?), a sermon was given by a Franciscan priest by the name of Mansvet Šmajder. A ten page sermon contains the following lines in the Slovenian language that were true in 1848 as well as 156 years later, on Easter Sunday, 2004: "The act of rising of Jesus from the grave of death to a physical life also has to be our spiritual rising from the grave of sin to a life of Divine grace... Only those that confessed their sins with inner sorrow and received the Easter communion can say: I have risen with Jesus from the grave of sin to a life of Divine grace ...but it is not enough to rise from the grave of sin...but also to stay in the life of Divine grace and not repeat the old sins." (Translated from *Šhodni Ogovori*, by Mansvet Šmajder, Ljubljana, 1854)

Addendum: In 1848, and well into the years that yours truly remembers, people in Slovenian churches knelt on their bare knees during the services, on stone or concrete floors. During visits to shrines, a procession on bare knees, on these floors, was often the norm. In a local suburban church bulletin this past Palm Sunday, an article describing the newly-padded church kneelers, noted the following: "...a number of parishioners commented favorably that the time at Mass spent on their knees was much more pleasant and productive." Have we been wrong all along - again?

HAPPY EASTER TO AMERICAN HOME READERS!



In the Netherlands, the Easter Bunny hides colored, hard-boiled eggs, both indoors and outdoors.

Life in the Refugee Camps

1948

By Anton Zakelj, translated and edited by John Zakelj

Saturday, July 17, 1948

I received our first letter from Vinko Kržišnik in Canada. He says the journey across the ocean was awful. Now he has a job in a factory in Victoriaville, Quebec. He makes only \$23 a week. He pays \$19 for food and rent, and so has only \$5 left for everything else. Included with the letter was a pair of socks which I need.

I paid the camp administration a percentage of my lacemakers' earnings. We're not selling much, so there are now only 4 lacemakers still working.

Jozica Zorc went to the hospital because it appeared she was about to have a baby, but it turned out she wasn't quite ready.

Sunday, July 18, 1948

I wrote back to Vinko in Canada, and to his mother in Slovenia. In the afternoon, Cilka and I walked in the woods and found 2 pounds of mushrooms. Even in the woods, we could clearly hear the usual announcements coming from the camp loudspeakers.

Monday, July 19, 1948

I received a recommendation from the government work office for a job in construction. This afternoon, I got the job.

I paid Ristič 90 shillings to settle the affair regarding Kocmur's photos.

Tuesday, July 20, 1948

I slept poorly and got up at 5:30 for my new job. I

walked into town, took the bus to Leoben and walked 30 minutes to a village named Göss. I began working at 7:30. First they had me digging at street level, then I was shoveling dirt up out of a 9 foot deep ditch (for a sewer pipe). I would throw it

up to a platform and another worker would throw it the rest of the way up to street level. Hard work. Sunny and hot. I was so tired I couldn't eat or drink.

At 1:30 I walked the 30 minutes back to Leoben, then took a train to Trofaiach. I returned to the camp at 3:15, exhausted, thirsty and dirty. Since the shower wasn't open, I washed in my room as best I could, ate a little and lay down, worried whether I would be able to get up the next morning.

Wednesday, July 21, 1948

Again I slept poorly, but I got up at 5:30, feeling OK, and went to work. Today they had me working at street level, which was much easier than being 9 feet down a ditch. I finished the day feeling healthy and had a good dinner of dumplings

with chocolate, pea soup and "mehlspeis."

Thursday, July 22, 1948

Despite the heat, work went well.

I received a letter with \$10 from Mire in Canada.

Friday, July 23, 1948

Work was hard today, shoveling dirt again. In the afternoon we had rain and thunder. I was hot and shirtless, and the cool rain felt so wonderful on my bare back.

Our new roommate sometimes sings in his sleep and sometimes screams from the pains in his legs.

Pavel Kokelj finally received the permission he wanted to emigrate to Canada. He will leave on Monday, and expects to get work on a farm.

Saturday, July 24, 1948

This morning I walked to the nearby village of Gai to buy a discount card for the railroad. Along the way, I picked mushrooms and strawberries.

Monday, July 26, 1948

Today we celebrated Rev. Klemencic's 40th anniversary of priesthood. People collected money for a gift. We attended a solemn ceremony in the chapel, and then had singing next to his barracks.

Tuesday, July 27, 1948

I am being paid according to how much I dig. I don't dig as much dirt as the other workers, and I'm completely exhausted. Sometimes my pick-ax hits a rock and it feels like 440 volts goes through my body. But I can't give up.

This afternoon, I said good-bye to Pavle Kokelj, who left on a train for Italy, where he will board a ship for Canada.

(To Be Continued)

Labor Day Weekend 2005
Bishop Baraga gathering in Cleveland, Ohio.



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(Photo Courtesy of Philip Hrvatin)

Grocer Joke

In a small town, a robber known as Arthur by the local police, broke into a grocery store. When the two employees refused to give him any money, he strangled both of them. He was disappointed when the cash register turned out to have only a dollar in it. Nevertheless he escaped and the next day's headline read, "Artie chokes two for a dollar in local grocery store."

--Bob Debevec

Church Joke

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked. "The front row, please."

"You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The pastor is really boring." - "Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman asked.

"No," he said.

"I'm the pastor's mother."

"Do you know who I am?" he asked.

"No," she said.

"Good," he said.

--Phil Hrvatin

I am Slovenian - eat your heart out

It's nice to be important; but more important to be nice. --Sally Furlich



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4 Mlakar Walks Down Memory Lane

by RAY MLAKAR

What do you know? Ray can see again.

The operation was successful, although I still have to put in three different kinds of eye drops four times a day. Goes without saying that one has to develop a steady hand to put eye drops in and by the 15th of April, I should have it down pat. Have to wear a plastic cover over the eye at night and needless to say when I wear that, my dreams are not too clear.

Come April 5 I will be able to shower and take a bath and in the meantime Happy Harry will just have to put up with the smell, but with a dab of cologne here and there, I become bearable.

My cooking has improved since I can now see what I am doing. When I say the lights went on again, I mean they went on, a difference of day and night literally. To those who are having trouble seeing, waste no time in getting the eyes examined to determine if you have cataracts and get them removed as soon as possible, and throw a new light into your life. The operation itself is nothing to fear; believe me you will not feel a thing.

Well, Lent is just about over and Easter is right around the corner and here is hoping the Easter Bunny will be good to all of you. I am sure all the Slovenian women are busy making potica, a real nut delicacy, but at this time of year, who is counting calories?

Well, rather than go into a big joke, have a few one liners for you that should tickle your fancy. Are you ready?

The wife said to her husband, "Allow me to explain. God made me beautiful so you would be attracted to me. God also made me stupid so I would be attracted to you."

The difference between the Pope and your boss. The Pope expects you to kiss his ring only.

My mind works like lightning. One brilliant flash, and then the thought is gone.

The only time the world beats a path to your door is if you're in the bathroom.

It used to be that only death and taxes were inevitable. Now it is shipping and handling.

A husband is someone who after taking out the trash, believes he has just cleaned the entire house.

My next house will have no kitchen... just vending machines and a large trash can.

A blonde said, "I was

worried that my mechanic might try to rip me off. I was relieved when he told me all I needed was turn signal fluid.

I'm so depressed. My doctor refused to write me a prescription for Viagra. He said it would be like putting a new flag pole on a condemned building.

My neighbor was bitten by a stray dog. I went to see how he was and found him writing frantically on a piece of paper. I told him Rabies could be cured and he didn't have to worry about writing a will. He said, "Will? What will? I'm making a list of people I want to bite."

Last but not least: Definition of a teenager: God's punishment for enjoying sex.

You had your laughs and now it is time for to get back to Memory Lane. Way back when I stated that dad died in November, 1961 and needless to say that from that time on I had a lot of time on my hands for now when I came home from work, there was no need to rush to get to the hospital and devoted a lot of time to working in the yard with the flowers and garden. I recall my aunt telling on numerous occasions, Why did we ever buy a home with such a large lot, 90' by 215'? She'd say how are you going to take care of it when you get older. Now more than ever I can honestly say she was right, for now I have a lot of work to do, but it still keeps me busy and out of trouble.

We made some dumb moves when we are young or we think that we will never get old. I recall that I went out and purchased 25 baby blue spruce Christmas trees and at that time they were no higher than 14 inches. Over the years I had to pay big money to have some of them taken completely out. And just recently I had five of them on the one side topped. They took well over 25 feet from the top to the tune of some \$300. They were beautiful when they were young. In fact, I had planted rose bushes between each Blue Spruce and over the years the roses had to be dug up and moved way in front of the Blue Spruce. If I would have trimmed them low each year to stay within six to eight feet, there would be no need for heavy trimming now. They have a saying in Slovenian that says, "Every school costs some money." And needless to say, over the years Ray had a very expensive education.

From August of 1957 I had worked for the Army

Reserves as a Civilian Technician. Goes without saying that I did not like it there from day one and tried to get back to the Navy Finance Center without any success, so I just had to make the best of it. Being that I was in the Real Army, I could not see how at that time the Reserves was so carefree, like a glorified country club. Rank meant nothing; they called each other by their first or last names. But I had made my bed and had to sleep on it.

Back in 1957 I was assigned to the first newly constructed Reserve Center of its kind in the heart of Garfield Park at 11410 Broadway Avenue. It was an ideal reserve center in view of the fact that we had some 10 vaults where each unit's weapons and gas masks were stored. They had made reserve centers since then, but none as complete and elaborate as the one in Garfield Park. It was called Schlegel USAR Center.

After November, 1961, I had to put in a lot of extra time at the center, primarily to pay them back for the many times they let me go to run to the hospital and perhaps the downfall of the job itself was made up for by the kindly fellow workers, for they understood my situation and covered my work load when I had to have time off.

When I started there I had Transportation Units that I worked with, one of which was a Transportation Duck Outfit. They had what we called four Ducks. They were vehicles that looked like a vessel but yet had wheels and could be driven on beaches, roads or grass areas. They were called upon on more than one occasion when there were heavy floods in the Garfield area to evacuate people to higher grounds. In the weeks ahead I will go into more detail regarding the Transportation Units, but am sure that about now Jim Debevec feels I went beyond the beaten path of Mlakar's Memory Lane and it is time to bring this writing to an end.

In closing, May the good Lord bless and watch over all of you and keep you in good health and may you all have a Blessed and Happy Easter.



Happy Easter!

Joze Plecnik and his Legacy Lecture in Society Euclid Hall

The Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation invites all to attend the second talk in their 2004 lecture series. The Foundation is pleased that Peter Bassin, an architect from Slovenia, will discuss the architectural legacy of Joze Plecnik in the city of Ljubljana.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will take place on Wednesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. in the lower hall of the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue in Euclid.

It is rare that a single person - professional in every essence of the word - is able to place an indelible imprint on the urban fabric of an entire city. This is definitely the case with the architect

Joze Plecnik and his hometown Ljubljana.

In his illustrated presentation, Mr. Bassin will discuss Plecnik's work for Ljubljana and how it transformed the city from a provincial town into the cultural and national capital of Slovenia. Plecnik's urban plans and architectural designs for Ljubljana remain an eternal source of stimulation for architects in Slovenia and around the world.

Peter Bassin is an architect, educator, author and urban designer from Ljubljana, Slovenia. He received his Master Degree in Architecture from the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University.

There is "love" and "venison" in Slovenian

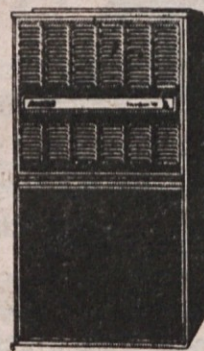


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News from Slovenia

Italians Protect Air Spaces

Italian military aircraft will defend Slovenia's airspace in NATO, the Defense Ministry has announced, putting an end to speculation over which country's planes will protect Slovenian skies.

Having no military jets of its own, Slovenia asked for NATO support in policing its airspace. Italy was the only country to offer the necessary aircraft for the job.

Cooperates With French Military

As Slovenia and France become partners and allies with Slovenia's accession to the EU and NATO, there will be further cooperation between the two countries. Slovenia and France have phased out mandatory military service. While France started phasing it out in 1996 and canceled it completely in 2002, Slovenia abolished the draft in September 2003. The cooperation between the armed forces of the two countries has so far focused on language training, communication systems, and the equipping of diving units.

Gymnastics in Ljubljana

The Slovenian capital will feature gymnastics between April 15 and 18 when Europe's best men's gymnasts will arrive in Ljubljana's Tivoli Hall to vie for the title of European Champion.

Slovenia's Aljaz Pegan and Mitja Petkovšek have an excellent record this season and their World Cup performances have made them

top contenders in the forthcoming competition.

A total of 311 gymnasts from over 30 countries will arrive in the absolute and junior categories.

Role in Kosovo Stability

Speaking to EU's foreign policy chief, Prime Minister Anton Rop stressed that Slovenia was ready to play a role bringing stability to Kosovo and the Southeastern European region as a whole.

Solar Electric Plant

The first solar electricity plant is set to begin functioning in Slovenia this autumn as part of a special pilot project that will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 28,500 kg annually.

According to the Pivka municipality and electricity distributor Elektro Primorska who have teamed up on this, it is a small step in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Slovenia.

The solar plant will cost 170,000 euros, stretch across 400 sq. meters and will be protected against the wind by a stone wall.

However, the plant should pay for itself in 20 years.

Ljubljana-Warsaw Air Route

The Slovenian air carrier Adria Airways and the Polish airline LOT signed a code share cooperation agreement on Friday, March 19 to launch a daily Ljubljana-Warsaw connection via Vienna beginning on May 1.

The agreement will enable lower ticket prices and better connections. If there is a good demand for seats this

year, next year a direct route may be offered.

EU Entry Problems

Slovenia has already received a notice of warning from the European Parliament for seriously lagging behind in its preparations for the EU membership in veterinary and in the mutual recognition of professional qualifications in health sector.

The European Commission explained that all 10 soon-to-be EU member states have been sent letters - up to 10 pages long - with a very detailed and sometimes very technical description of shortcomings.

If the acceding countries do not do away with the problems, this will be to their own detriment, as they will be unable to enjoy all the benefits of the membership.

Another delay causing headaches to the acceding states is the translation of the EU body of laws to their national languages.

In its final report on the preparedness of Slovenia for EU membership on May 1, the Commission gave the country the best mark among the acceding states and sounded only one warning.

Thanks to Philip Hrvatin of Wachovia Securities in Cleveland for this news.

The Easter Jelly Bean Prayer:

As you eat jelly beans this Easter, think of this prayer:

Red is for the blood he gave.

Green is the grass he made.

Yellow is for the sun so bright.

Orange is for the edge of night.

Black is for the sin we made.

White is for the grace He gave.

Purple is for the hour of sorrow.

Pink is for our new tomorrow.

A jar full of jelly beans is so colorful and sweet. It is a prayer; it is a promise; it is a loved one's treat. May God bless your prayer and thoughts with Easter joy.

--St. Mary's Church Bulletin



Time is the coin of your life. Only you can determine how it will be spent.

-Carl Sandburg



Voinovich welcomes Slovenian Prime Minister to NATO

WASHINGTON, March 30 - U.S. Senator George Voinovich (R-OH) met with Slovenian Prime Minister, Anton Rop, and congratulated him on Slovenia's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which was formally accepted on Monday, March 29, 2004 at the White House. Voinovich has been a strong and vocal supporter of the expansion of NATO to include Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia. He was a member of President Bush's official U.S. delegation at the NATO summit in Prague where membership was formally extended in November, 2002.

Senator Voinovich is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and pays special attention to Southeast Europe. The senator most recently traveled to Slovenia in May 2002, and led two trade missions there as governor of Ohio.

Kuhar Receives Fed Bank Letter

Stane Kuhar
St. Vitus Village
6114 Lausche Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44103

Dear Mr. Kuhar:

Thank you for providing members of the Community Affairs Staff of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland with a tour of St. Vitus Village. My colleagues and I appreciated the time you shared with us in this respect.

We also gained great insight from your overview of the history, development and collaboration that went into making St. Vitus Village a reality. Your commendable efforts in this respect have resulted in beautiful apartment *homes* for seniors - and not just a place for them to live.

--Maria J. Thompson
Senior Advisor
Community Affairs Office
Federal Reserve Bank
of Cleveland

Slovenian Fest in Milwaukee

The University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee Slovenian Arts Council (SAC) will be hosting their second annual Slovenian Fest on Saturday, April 17 from 12 noon to 9 p.m. at the UWM Union Ballroom, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd.

Featured will be "Deseti Brat" octet from Ljubljana, folklorna skupina "Lipa" dancers, and Denis Novato - world champion diatonic accordionist.

Art exhibit will be by John Vlaj.

Music is by the Uspeh Chorus; button-box "jam"

sessions, Barbara Sem and John Ash.

Cultural exhibits include strudel and sausage making; order potica, strudel and flancate at the mission booth, collection of Slovenian stamps, and preview the largest collection of Slovenian music outside of Ljubljana.

Slovenian food will be available.

A presentation of the SAC Award of Merit to Eddie Vidmar.

Tickets are \$10.00 (\$8 for Friends of SAC), \$5 for students with ID).

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Few Easter traditions are as cheerfully symbolic as the decorating of the egg.

While Christian families have been commemorating Easter with such colorful customs for centuries some of the traditions and legends associated with the observance of this religious holiday have pagan origins.

Egg decorating first gained popularity during a festival honoring mythological goddesses signifying spring and fertility. According to 8th century English scholar, St. Bede, Easter is believed to be named for the goddesses Eostre and Ostra whose celebration took place on the vernal equinox – the first day of spring, which this year was March 20th. (The origin of Easter as a religious holiday is rooted in the Jewish Passover which celebrates Israel's deliverance from the bondage of Egypt.)

Spring celebration was traditionally laden with

symbolic observance. Many of the customs have survived and have become incorporated into current culture. The famous Easter Bunny, for example, took his first commemorative hop in Germany and is mentioned as early as the 1500s. The hare and rabbit were known as the most fertile animals and a likely choice for a celebration honoring a time of new growth. (It is believed, by the way, that the first chocolate bunnies were made in Germany in the early 1800's). German settlers who came to Pennsylvania during the 1700's brought the bunny lore to America.

The egg, also a symbol of fertility and new life, was originally painted bright colors to represent the sunlight of spring. They made colorful gifts and were exchanged by lovers as we now exchange Valentines.

Traversing both time and tradition, the egg continues

to be a favorite Easter symbol and just happens to come with its own cultural diversity. In Greece, eggs are colored crimson to honor the blood of Christ while in some other countries they are actually decorated with pictures of Christ and the Virgin Mary.

The Ukrainians are noted for their intricately decorated eggs. Each portion of the egg is individually colored while the remaining part is covered with tape or beeswax. The results are so beautiful they often look like magnificently detailed mosaics.

From the very complicated designs of the Austrians, to the simple techniques of the Poles, decorating eggs has become a cheerful sign of Easter as well as spring.

Strawberry Jam Turnovers

1 8-ounce package refrigerated crescent dinner rolls

Confectioners sugar
1 large egg white, beaten
1/3 cup whipped cream cheese
1/4 cup strawberry preserves

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. On cookie sheet, separate dough into 4 rectangles; pinch diagonal seams closed; sprinkle with 1 tablespoon confectioners' sugar. Spoon 1/4 cream cheese and 1/4 preserves in center of each. Brush edges with egg white. Fold corners to center; press. Brush tops with egg white.

Bake 15 to 20 minutes until golden. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar. Makes 4 servings.

Watermelon is Good for You

Tomatoes get the headlines for their protective effect against prostate cancer, but this picnic classic actually does the job better. Ounce for ounce, watermelon contains 40 percent more of the active cancer-fighting compound lycopene than tomatoes, says David Kiefer, M.D., a fellow at The University of Arizona's Program in Integrative Medicine, headed by alternative medicine guru Andrew Weil, M.D.

Not only is lycopene crucial in overall prostate health, but other studies suggests it may block the plaque buildup in your arteries that can lead to heart attack. And it may help to offset some of the cellular damage caused by environmental pollutants, bad diet, even aging – which may lead to cancer, as well as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and arthritis.

Seven New Flags at NATO

BRUSSELS, April 2 – Flags of Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia were hoisted in turn as the national anthem of each country was played at the entrance square of the NATO headquarters today.

NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer and foreign ministers from all 26 NATO members, old and new, attended the ceremony.

After the ceremony, all 26 foreign ministers met for the first time for a ceremonial meeting of the North Atlantic Council, NATO's decision-making body. The foreign ministers of the seven new members voiced their comment and sentiment on the entry.

De Hoop Scheffer said he was very pleased that the seven nations have joined the "unique alliance" and their membership would inject more strength and solidarity to the alliance.

"The challenges of the new security environment – terrorism, proliferation and failed states – demand such strong solidarity," he said, citing the Madrid terrorist bombings on March 11.

"It is a struggle that requires of us to defend our security far away from home," he said.

The secretary general had said the alliance might be willing to play a role in Iraq if the UN Security Council authorized an international security force to serve there.

Friday's welcome ceremony is regarded as merely ceremonial because a formal accession ceremony had been held Monday in Washington after the seven countries deposited "instruments of accession" to the U.S. government.

Earlier on March 17 the NATO headquarters inaugurated a new building where the seven new members will have their offices.

BROCCOLI SALAD

1 bunch broccoli
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
1 small red onion, chopped
1/2 lb. bacon
1 cup mayonnaise
1/3 cup sugar
2 Tbls. wine vinegar

Cut the tops from broccoli into bite sized pieces and place in a large bowl. Cook bacon until crisp, remove, drain and crumble. Add cheddar, onion and bacon pieces to broccoli.

In a small bowl, combine mayonnaise, sugar and vinegar. Mix until smooth and pour over the broccoli mixture. Stir to combine.

Should be mixed a few hours before serving or the day before. Keep chilled in the refrigerator.

--Brother Richard

Gilmour Well Seasoned Cookbook



A friend in deed, -- is a friend indeed! --Joseph Zelle

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Death Notices

MARY NOVAK

Mary Novak (nee Fajfar), 96, passed away on Saturday, April 3, 2004 in Euclid Hospital.

Mary was born on Nov. 21, 1906 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

She was a former resident of Cleveland and retired to Zephyr Hills, FL in 1968. She returned to Cleveland three years ago.

Mary enjoyed gardening, travel, and having a good time with family and friends. She was a member of St. Anne's Lodge No. 4 AMLA.

Mary is survived by daughter Dolores (Mrs. John) Anzlovar; three grandchildren: Robert Anzlovar, Ronald Anzlovar (wife Paula), Mary Jane (Mrs. Thomas) Grebenc; great-granddaughter: Annemarie Grebenc; Brother Frank Fajfar; four sisters: Olga Sebring, Lillian (Mrs. John) Pollak, Florence Hack, Dolores Breidenbach; and many nieces and nephews; and great nieces and nephews.

Friends were received at St. Mary's Church, 15519 Holmes Ave., from 10:30 a.m. to noon, where Mass of the Resurrection was held at 12 noon, Rev. John Kumse, pastor, officiating. Burial in Chapel Hill Gardens, Dade City, Florida.

Donations in her memory to St. Mary Church Building Fund, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110.

Arrangements by Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St., Cleveland.

ROSEMARY A.

(ZORMAN) SCHNEIDER
Rosemary A. (Zorman) Schneider, age 48, passed away recently. She was born on June 20, 1955 in Cleveland, OH.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 11:30 a.m. Monday, April 5 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 6850 Mayfield Rd., Gates Mills, OH.

Rosemary was an artistic painter. She recently won an award for her oil paintings at the Fairmount Fine Arts Exhibit.

Rosemary lived in Willoughby for three months, Mayfield Heights for 10 years, and Willoughby Hills.

She is survived by children: Christopher and Lindsay Schneider; siblings: Mary (Louis) Mohar, Estelle Zorman, Frank Zorman Jr., Justice (Mario) Ovsenik, Helen (Tom, deceased) Thomas, Millie (Marty) Schwartz, Joseph (Joann) Zorman; many nieces and nephews; former husband Tom Schneider and father-in-law John (Betty, deceased) Schneider.

Her parents, Alojzija (Jazbec) and Frank Zorman are deceased.

Friends were received at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home, 28890 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills, on Sunday, April 4.



In Loving Memory

of the 30th Anniversary of the death of



John (Jevce) Gornik

Died April 11, 1974

*We have loved him in life
Let us not forget him in death.*

Wife, Josephine
Daughter, Janet Short
Son-in-law James
Granddaughter, Jamie

In Loving Memory

Of the First Anniversary of the death of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister and sister-in-law



Valerie Baznik (Nee: Per)

Died April 14, 2003

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

Sadly missed by:
Anthony J. Baznik, husband,
Margaret Hetz, Barbara Stevenson, Elizabeth Smith, daughters, and family

Donation

Thanks to **Anonymous** of Willowick, OH for the \$40.00 donation!

Donation

Thanks to **Rudi and Mary Ann Hren** of Concord, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$25.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Sylvia Cserbak** of Cleveland, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$20.00 donation in memory of brother, **Frank Mistic**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Lillian Wilson** of Rocky River, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of dear friend, "**Jim**."

In Memory

Thanks to **Frances Nemanich** of Euclid, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of her wonderful husband, **Joseph Nemanich**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Helen Fonda** of Cleveland, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$40.00 donation in memory of her beloved and deceased **Fonda Family**.

Large Donation

Thanks to **Matt Sesek** of beautiful Sedona, AZ who renewed his subscription and added a wonderful \$65.00 donation. He writes, "Thank you for keeping the Slovenian traditions and culture alive for the young Slovenians."

In Loving Memory



Thomas J. Zabjek

6/28/15 -- 4/10/1999

You have left us five years ago,
But you will always be in our hearts.

We'll never forget your true love and gentleness.

Missed by:
Your Loving Wife, Angela, and sons Ronald (Nancy), Thomas (Alita), grandchildren and great-grandchildren

Large Donation

Thanks to dear friends, **Mr. and Mrs. Anonymous** of Chardon, OH who added a great \$100 donation to their subscription renewal.

Donation

Thanks to **Olga M. Horvath** of South Euclid, OH for the \$20.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to **Stanley Mramor** of Sheffield Village, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$30.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to **Branko and Sylvia Pisorn** of Kirtland, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$20.00 donation.

For Coffee Pot

Thanks to **West Park Slovenian Home** who renewed their subscription and added a \$15.00 donation for "Coffee pot and krofa."

Donations

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

Ann Cooke, Euclid, OH - \$10.00

Mr. and Mrs. Stane Mrva, Willoughby Hills, OH -- \$5.00

Ivan Buh, Bridgeview, IL -- \$5.00

Karl Gorisek, Willoughby Hills, OH -- \$5.00

Vinko Ivanc, Euclid, OH -- \$15.00

Maria Lajner, Midland, Ont., Canada -- \$17.00

Ivan Jakomin, Euclid, OH -- \$5.00

Marilyn Clement, Berea, OH -- \$5.00

Lillian Perez, Richmond Hts., OH -- \$15.00

Charles and Mary Loncar, Madison, OH -- \$15.00

Stefan Vesel, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

Doris Sadar, Mentor, OH -- \$15.00

Joseph Mihelich, Cleveland, OH -- \$15.00

Hannah Omejc, Valley, WA -- \$5.00

Frank J. and Eileen S. Ivancic, Willoughby Hills, OH -- \$15.00

Josephine Fatur, Cleveland, OH -- \$15.00

Romano Vitulich, Wickliffe, OH -- \$15.00

Marija Kovacic, Euclid, OH -- \$10.00

Mary Kucic, Willowbrook, IL -- \$5.00

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Big Fat Slovenian Wedding

Slovenian Singing Society Zarja presents their spring frolic titled, "My Big Fat Slovenian Wedding" on Saturday, April 24 at the Slovenian Society Home, Euclid, Ohio. Dinner from 5 to 6:30, program at 7 p.m., and dancing from 8 until ? by the Jeff Pecon Orchestra.



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Thumbs Down for Slow Slovenian Film

by GREG RUDL

CONCORD, OH – A Slovenian film set in Ljubljana played at the 2004 Cleveland International Film Festival at the Tower City Cinemas in March.

Na Planincah, is translated to *On the Sunny Side*, is about two Bostian brothers, Ado and Suni, who spend the summer at their aunt and uncle's apartment in Ljubljana. While Ado, the older of the two, takes a job as a pizza delivery man and falls in love with a local girl, Suni finds the new surroundings hard to deal with as he enters puberty. While Ado learns Slovenian to impress his girlfriend, his brother hooks up with a group of rebellious youth and together they break into swimming pools at night, swear at adults and throw water balloons from balconies. The movie climaxes when Ado gets the approval of his girlfriend's brother while Suni finds the move to Slovenia is permanent, and he has to accept it.

Though it has some funny scenes, this coming-of-age story lacked plot, action or suspense. Fifteen minutes into the showing, I heard someone behind me say, "I hope this gets going." Unfortunately, it never did.

The title is a take off on the country slogan of Slovenia – "On the Sunny Side of the Alps." Most American viewers probably missed that along with its backdrop – the ethnic unrest in Slovenia caused by immigrants, migrants and displaced people from the break-up of the former Yugoslavia. I don't claim to know all the social issues facing Slovenia, but I do know that many natives see these southern nationalities as second-class citizens.

The movie starts interestingly enough with kids swimming in what appears to be the Neretva River, just under the ruins of the famous Old Bridge of Mostar, built in 1566. It was the bridge so senselessly destroyed by Croat forces in 1993 symbolizing the racial disintegration of Bosnia's Muslims, Croats and Serbs. (The bridge has since been rebuilt – a documentary on that subject would have made a better film). The Bosnian children, appearing understandably hardened from years of civil war, are next seen holding a talent show that livens up when a girl starts doing a strip-tease. Ado breaks it up by telling Suni to get ready to go to Ljubljana.

If we look at where the movie starts and ends, one of the filmmaker's goals is evident. The Old Bridge of Mo-

star serves as a symbol of ethnic division. The last scene finds Suni being accepted at his new Slovenian school – an example of ethnic union. The filmmaker's social comment? Stop the prejudice against Bosnians and others like them. And, the scars of ethnic cleansing and revenge-killing can be overcome with the youth. The kids in a sense have to rebuild Mostar's Old Bridge.

Another symbolic effect used in the movie is the wall – many kids are sitting on them, climbing over them and walking along them. This classic symbol is used to represent the ethnic division between the more westernized Slovenians and their neighbors to the south.

Some will see this light-hearted, slow-moving movie as the trials and tribulations of Suni trying to fit in. True, but the social comment the filmmaker is trying to make can't be ignored. Was it made effectively? No. With a boring plot and no drama, the movie-goer is not drawn in. You don't feel any empathy for the two, even if they're up against ethnic prejudice. On top of that, much of the acting was amateurish. Scenes were longer than they needed to be. The drab photography lacked any vivid colors or contrast.

At the very least, and like any foreign film should, *On the Sunny Side* gives glimpses of Slovenian culture: the cafes along the pedestrian boulevards that serve pivo (beer) and cappuccino; the accordion band playing outside to spectators sitting on picnic tables with the Alps in the background; the need to take a vacation at the "morje" (the Adriatic sea); and the family sitting around eating uha (soup) together.

Another cultural insight –

alcohol, and how it serves to unite and quell argument. In one scene, Suni and his friends serve justice to a "cat sniper" (they shoot it in the rear with his own pellet gun and dump it in the river). When the cat sniper's grandfather finds out, he angrily confronts Suni's aunt, demanding financial compensation. A few drinks of homemade schnapps (probably Slivovitz) later, the grandfather and Suni's aunt are seen singing folk songs, while the sniper is trading soccer playing cards with Suni.

In another scene Ado's girlfriend's brother interrogates Ado about his relationship with his sister. He tries to degrade him because he's from Bosnia, but Ado holds his own. A few beers later everyone is seen singing and having a good time.

The city of Ljubljana is portrayed as lonely, unfriendly and dreary. Most panoramic shots of it are smog-filled and hazy – done for effect I'm sure. Its residents are seen in the same way – leery of Bosnians and stern with children.

One lingering question I had was why the movie was set in Slovenia. Sure there might be prejudice there, but the country should also be commended for taking in thousands of Bosnian refugees in the late 1990s. A more charged film would have had the brothers spend the summer in Croatia or Serbia, closer to the source of the war.

About the Director: Miha Hocevar was born in 1963 in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and studied cinema at the University of Ljubljana, graduating in 1989. His debut feature, "Jebiga" (2000) was a domestic box-office hit.

For more information on the film email: festivals@film-sklad.si

Coming Events...

Tuesday, April 13

Cleveland East and West groups of Ohio Chapter of Slovenian Genealogy Society International meet at Euclid Public Library, 631 E. 222 St., at 7 p.m.

Friday, April 16

Dance at the West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland from 7:30 - 11:30 p.m. Music by Wayne Tomsic.

Sunday, April 18

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

Friday, April 23

Dance at the West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland from 7:30 - 11:30 p.m. Music by Eric Noltkamper

Saturday, April 24

Zarja Spring Frolic concert titled "My Big Fat Slovenian Wedding," at Slovenian Society Home, Euclid. Dinner 5 to 6:30, program 7 p.m., dancing beginning at 8 p.m. by Jeff Pecon Orchestra.

Friday, April 30

Dance at the West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland from 7:30 - 11:30 p.m. Music by Fred Ziwich.

Sunday, May 2

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

Sunday, May 2

Ohio Boychoir benefit chicken or roast pork dinner in St. Vitus Auditorium, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Adults \$10, children \$5. Take outs available.

Saturday, May 8

Jadran Singing Society bids Fond Farewell with dinner-concert, dance at Slovenian Workmen's Home on Waterloo Rd., in Cleveland. Dinner served 5 until 6:30 p.m. Concert 7:00 p.m. Dancing following with music by Fred Ziwich. For tickets call (440) 951-1694.

Sunday, May 9

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80th St.,

Cleveland, OH Annual Mother's Day Breakfast Brunch \$8.00. Children 10 years and under \$4. Serving 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Sunday, May 16

Newburgh Slovenian National Home Salutes Eddie Kenik. Dinner 2 p.m. Music by Al Battistelli from 3 until ? Reservations call (216) 475-7946, (216) 341-6136 or (440) 467-4971. Donation \$18.00.

Friday, May 21

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

Saturday, May 22

Slovenian Choral group Korotan annual concert at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave., music by Veseli Godci.

Saturday, June 12

Folklorna Skupina Kres Picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, June 27

Ohio KSKJ Picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Sunday, July 25

St. Vitus Slovenian Language School hosts Annual Summer Picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Saturday, Sept. 11

Folklorna Skupina Kres 50th Anniversary Performance at Slovenian National Home.

Sunday, Sept. 12

St. Vitus Altar Society dinner in St. Vitus Auditorium.

Sept. 24-26

Bishop Baraga Days, L'Anse-Baraga area of Michigan.

Sunday, Oct. 17

St. Mary's School Alumni (Collinwood) Annual Banquet following 12 noon Mass.

Sunday, Oct. 24

Newburgh Slovenian Home, E. 80th St., Annual Clambake catered by Maple Hts. Catering. Serving 2 - 4 p.m. Music by Joe Novak 4 - 7 p.m.

Labor Day Weekend 2005
Bishop Baraga gathering in Cleveland, Ohio.

Savings is a habit; extravagance, an art.



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To All

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Over 100 Cities Represented in International Children's Games

CLEVELAND - The International Children's Games announced a milestone in registration - 122 cities representing 50 countries and 4 continents will compete in Cleveland, Ohio from July 30 - Aug. 2. The Games, a celebration of athletic competition and cultural exchange, are being held in the United States for the first time in its 36-year history.

This International Olympic Committee-endorsed event will bring together thousands of young adults (ages 12 - 15) for three days of athletic competitions in 10 sports. A projected two thirds of the athletes will come to Cleveland from overseas with the remaining third making the journey from domestic cities.

To recruit teams from a broad cross-section of cultures, volunteers in the culturally-rich Greater Cleveland Community have mobilized to spread the word about the Games and help

raise funds to bring teams from their homelands to the Cleveland event.

In addition, the Games are seeking individuals interested in volunteering during the Games. Volunteers must be 16 years of age by August 31 and need to be available for a minimum of four 6-hour shifts during the event. A wide variety of volunteer positions are available. Applications are available at www.childrens-games.org and are due by May 15.

The Games will include competitions in tennis, table tennis, gymnastics, swimming, water polo, track & field, soccer, baseball, volleyball, and basketball.

Athletes will compete at local universities and high schools and be housed at five of the region's universities: John Carroll University, Case Western Reserve University, Ursuline College, Notre Dame College and Cleveland State University.

Thoughts from Phil Hrvatin

Some people are like Slinkies... not really good for anything, but you still smile when you see one tumble down the stairs.

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

Never take life seriously. Nobody gets out alive anyway.

There are two kinds of pedestrians - the quick and the dead.

Health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.

Always get the last word in: apologize.

Give a person a fish and you feed him for a day; teach him to use the Internet and he won't bother you for months.

Why does a slight tax increase cost you two hundred dollars and a substantial tax cut saves you \$5.

In the 1960s people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.

Politics is supposed to be the second oldest profession. I have come to realize that it bears a very close resemblance to the first.

How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?

Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

The annual meeting of members of the SLOVENE HOME FOR THE AGED

To be held on **SUNDAY** May 16, 2004

at the SLOVENIAN WORKMEN'S HOME

15335 Waterloo road, Cleveland, Ohio

Registration: 2:00 p.m. - Meeting 2:30 p.m.

** Please note: The meeting day has been changed from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon **

Members are cordially invited to attend this important meeting. Members, as defined in the Bylaws, are those individuals and organizations who have contributed a minimum of \$25 during the preceding year. For the 5/16/04 meeting, this is the period from 4/1/03 through 3/31/04.

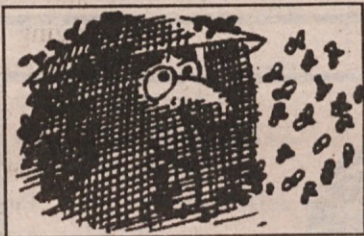
Maple Meeting

The next meeting of the Newburgh-Maple Heights Pensioners Club will be held on Wednesday, April 28th at the Slovenian National Home, 3563 East 80th St., off Union Avenue in Cleveland.

During the months following, meetings will be held on Wednesday, May 26th and Wednesday, June 23rd.

Meetings always begin at noon.

--Olga Dorchak



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Question: Are there any laws against having a radar detector in Canada?

Answer: Yes; the police can fine a driver up to \$1,000 if a detector is discovered in your car. It doesn't make any difference in the penalty whether or not you are actually using the radar detector.

Question: How can I prevent my luggage from being lost when I fly?

Answer: There is no perfect solution. Before you check your luggage, learn the three-letter city/airport code, which you can find by looking at your ticket or asking your travel agent. When you check in your luggage make sure that it is correctly tagged with your final destination. In addition, always attach two luggage tags to each bag being checked so that if one is torn off or lost there will still be one left. Since most checked baggage have two handles, you can put a sturdy tag on each one.

Question: What is an important thing to remember when you are traveling?

Answer: To prevent someone from stealing your things, always be particularly alert when you put your bags down for any reason.

Question: Often when I travel, I see small fragile things I would like to bring home, but I am afraid they will break if I pack them in my luggage. What can I do to solve this problem?

Answer: Personally I have had success using this method. I cut off the top of an empty water bottle, place the item inside, and use a sock or something as padding.

Question: How can you encourage children to drink lots of water when they are traveling?

Answer: If they are not fond of bottled water, simply add a powdered drink mix like lemonade to the water.

Question: What can I do if I have a dental emergency and I am unable to see a dentist right away?

Answer: I always travel with an emergency dental kit. This is an inexpensive item you can purchase in any drugstore. It usually contains a tube of rubbery material that hardens when exposed to air. You can use it to temporarily fix a loose cap or filling.

To have an answer to a question about travel appear in this column, write this newspaper, or contact Euclid Travel, 1-216—261-1050, or write to: 22078 Lake Shore Blvd., Euclid, OH 44123, or e-mail travel@euclidtravel.com

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Fax (440) 602-5124

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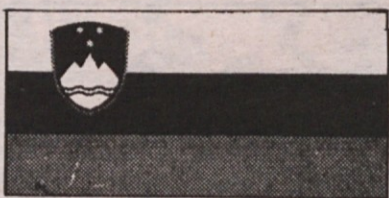
Vesele velikonočne praznike

vam želi --Terri Jarem

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The Republic of Slovenia



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General Consulate
New York, NY
(212) 370-3006

Marcel Koprol
General Consulate
Cleveland
(216) 589-9220

Happy Birthday
SHA Residents

Happy Birthday to the following residents of the Slovene Home for the Aged who were born in the month of April:

- 4-03 --Christina Mische, 97, born in Austria
- 4-03 -- Donna Renton, 69, born in Cleveland
- 4-07 -- Josephine Traina, 88, born in Cleveland
- 4-13 -- Mary Sustarsic, 91, born in Wendel, WV
- 4-17 -- Anastasia Boykus, 91, born in PA
- 4-27 -- Josephine Wess, 100, born in Cleveland
- 4-29 -- Frances Faska, 89, born in Pittsburgh
- 4-30 -- Grace Thobaben, 88, born in Cleveland

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Genealogists Meet

The Cleveland East and West Groups of the Ohio Chapter of the Slovenian Genealogy Society International (SGSI) will hold a combined meeting on Tuesday, April 13 at Euclid Public Library, 631 East 222nd Street, Euclid, OH at 7 p.m.

The topic will be "Getting Started," keying in on information that will help the beginning genealogist find information both here in the United States and in Slovenia, but more important, learn how to organize this information in a meaningful way. And if you have read interesting books/articles about Slovenia, please come prepared to share them with others.

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– Vesti iz Slovenije –

Izid nedeljskega referenduma o "izbrisanih"

Preteklo nedeljo je republiška volilna komisija odprla po Sloveniji 3391 volišč, na katerih bi lahko sodelovalo do 1,62 milijona državljanov z volilno pravico. Referenduma se je udeležilo znatno manj ljudi, od vseh upravičencev natanko 31,45 odstotka, torej manj kot tretjino oziroma nekaj več kot pol milijona. Tisti volivci pa, ki so se zanimali za referendum, so z ogromno večino glasovali proti tehničnemu zakonu o izbrisanih: proti jih je bilo kar 94,68 odstotka, za le 3,82 odstotka. Nekaj glasovnic je bilo neveljavnih.

Opozicijske stranke, ki so bile možno proti tehničnemu zakonu, so seveda pozdravili izid, leve in druge stranke, ki so bolj ali manj glasno pozivale k bojkotu referenduma, so menili, da je pač dve tretjini državljanov ali podprlo zakon ali vsaj ni bilo toliko proti, da bi se ti državljani odpravili na volišče.

Zadeva v zvezi z izbrisanimi z referendumom ni končana in se bo, kot kaže, še precej časa na dnevnem redu.

Interpelaciji proti ministroma nista uspeli

Pretekli teden je državni zbor razpravljal in nato glasoval o dveh interpelacijah, ki sta ju bili vložili opozicijske stranke. Razprave so bile hude, na koncu pa je zmaga la vladna koalicija, čeprav tokrat brez podpore SLS.

Prvo glasovanje je bilo o interpelaciji zoper ministra za zdravje Dušana Kebru. Opozicija je zbrala le 28 poslancev od potrebnih 46. SLS se je kot stranka glasovanja vzdržala, kar je pomenilo, v očeh vladajoče koalicije, da je kršila koalicijski sporazum. Eden SLS poslanec je glasoval proti Kebru. Nato je bila interpelacija zoper notranjega ministra Rada Bohinca. Vzrok tu je bil, da Bohinc izdaja odločbe nekaterim tkim. izbrisanim, to po odločitvi ustavnega sodišča. Izid glasovanja je bil 30 za interpelacijo in 46 proti.

Premier Anton Rop je smatral, da je SLS s svojim ravnanjem kršila koalicijsko pogodbo in da je ne smatra več za partnerico, pri SLS pa so se odločili, da bodo njih trije ministri v vladi odstopili. (Daljše poročanje na str. 18 in 19.) Tudi po odhodu (ali izgonu) SLS iz koalicije, ima Ropova vlada še vedno zanesljivo večino (stranke LDS, ZLSD in DeSUS).

Italijanska lovca že na slovenskem nebu

V torek sta slovenski zračni prostor že preleteli italijanski letali F 16. To je bil prvi prelet v okviru zavezniškega integriranega sistema zračne obrambe oziroma za varovanje slovenskega neba. Letali sta vzleteli iz italijanskega oporišča Cervio. Ker sta pa letali pri obračanju nazaj proti Italiji preleteli celo hrvaški Zagreb, je Hrvaška vložila diplomatski protest.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Večer Primorskega kluba—

Primorski klub vabi svoje člane in prijatelje na vsakoletni banket, ki bo v soboto, 17. aprila, v SND na St. Clairju. Večerja se bo pričela servirati ob 6.30, za ples in zabavo bo igral Grand Avenue Band, pride več rojakov tudi iz Kanade in Pittsburgha. Za rezervacije in več informacij, pokličite 216-692-1069.

Poslovljni koncert—

Pevski zbor Jadran, aktiven v clevelandski skupnosti več kot 80 let, se je odločil, da bo prenehal z delovanjem. Poslovljni koncert, združen z večerjo, bo v soboto, 8. maja, v SDD na Waterloo Rd. Večerja bo od 5. do 6.30 zv., v spodnji dvorani, koncertni nastop bo ob 7h, sledil bo ples. Za rezervacije in več informacij, pokličite na 216-481-3187 oz. 440-951-1694.

Novi grobovi

Mary Novak

Dne 3. aprila je v Euclid bolnišnici umrla 97 let stara Mary Novak iz Clevelanda, v letih 1968-2001 živela na Florida, rojena Fajfar v Ljubljani 21. novembra 1906, vdova po Johnu, mati Dolores Anzlovar, 3-krat stara mati, 1-krat prastara mati, sestra Franka, Olge Sebring, Lillian Pollak, Florence Hack, Dolores Breidenbach ter že pok. Molly, Victorije in Ann Beller, članica AMLA št. 4. Pogreb je bil 7. aprila v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete, sledil bo pokop na Chapel Hill Gardens, Dade City, Fla. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojničin spomin St. Mary Church Building Fund, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110.

Stanley H. Telban

Dne 2. aprila je umrl 83 let stari Stanley H. Telban, vdovec po Evelyn, roj. Lutes, oče Laure Reid, Mary, Stanleyja in že pok. Donne Dalton, 3-krat stari oče, 1-krat prastari oče, brat že pok. Vere Saver, Dave-a, Marie Kovacic in Josepha. Pogreb je bil 6. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Paskala Bajlonskega in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Elizabeth A. Marolt

Umrla je Elizabeth A.

(dalje na str. 20)

Veselo Veliko noč

vsem svojim naročnikom,
sodelavcem, podpornikom
in dobrotnikom
vošči

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

Sprejem—

V ponedeljek zvečer je generalni konzulat RSlovenije priredil sprejem v Slovenskem domu za ostarele ob priložnosti obiska ge. Jadranke Šturm Kocjan, ki je direktorica v Sloveniji Urada za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu. Sprejem je bil zelo dobro organiziran, ga. Šturm Kocjan in generalni konzul Marcel Koproš sta navzoče lepo pozdravila.

Ob 100. obletnici SNPJ—

Preteklo soboto zvečer se je v ogromni dvorani hotela Hilton v Pittsburghu zbralo 750 gostov na banketu, na katerem so praznovali 100. obletnico bratske organizacije SNPJ. Med častnimi gosti je bil bivši predsednik Slovenije Milan Kučan, navzoč je bil slovenski veleposlanik v ZDA Davorin Kračun ter bivši kongresnik iz Ohia Dennis Eckart. Daljši članek je v angleškem delu.

KOLENDAR

MAJ

2. – Kosilo v korist Ohio BoyChoir, v avditoriju pri sv. Vidu, od 11 dop. do 1. pop.

8. – Pevski zbor, Jadran ima svoj poslovljni koncert v SDD na Waterloo Rd. Zbor bo nato prenehal z delovanjem. Večerja od 5. do 6.30. zv., sledi ob 7h koncert, nato ples. Igral bo Fred Ziwich orkester.

16. – Slovenski dom za ostarele ima letno sejo v SDD na Waterloo Rd. Registracija se prične ob 2h pop. sama seja pa ob 2.30.

22. – Pevski zbor Krotan poda svoj vsakoletni koncert v SND na St. Clair Ave. Pričetek ob 7. uri zv. Po koncertu ples. Igra orkester Veseli godci.

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



Zgoraj: Slovesnost ob širitvi NATA s sedmimi novimi državami je bila 29. marca. Na levi na fotografiji je ameriški zunanji minister Colin Powell, prvi na njegovi desni je slovenski premier Anton Rop. Spodaj: Premier Anton Rop izroča Colinu Powellu dokumente, ki potrjujejo, da Slovenija sprejema obveznosti, povezane s članstvom v NATU.





Velikonočna misel...

Vstali Kristus, upanje Evrope

(Geslo srednjeevropskega shoda, ki bo 22. maja v Marijinem svetišču Maria Zell v Avstriji)

dr. Vinko Škafar, urednik *Naše družine*

Apostol Pavel v hvalospevu pravi ljubezni med najpomembnejšimi kristjanovimi krepostmi našteva vero, upanje in ljubezen in pri tem poudarja, da je največja med njimi ljubezen. Pred kratkim je Hans-Gert Pöttering, predsednik najmočnejše stranke v Evropskem parlamentu, v pogovoru za mariborski dnevnik *Večer* izjavil, da je Kristusov križ apolitično znamenje ljubezni in humanosti, kar po njegovem ne velja za ferdžo, muslimansko pokrivalo. Dodamo lahko, da je prav vstali Kristus tudi sporočilo upanja.

Organizatorji srednjeevropskega shoda, ki bo 22. maja v velikem avstrijskem Marijinem svetišču Maria Zell, so si izbrali za geslo: Kristus, upanje Evrope. Čutili so in hoteli posebej poudariti, da je prav upanje tisti Kristusov velikonočni dar, ki je današnjemu Evropejcu najbolj potreben. Na svetu je sicer zelo malo nevernih ljudi, tudi dobrih ljudi je veliko, prav upanje pa je pri mnogih v krizi. Mnogo je namreč vernikov različnih verstev, ki nas s svojo dejavno vero pozitivno presenečajo, prav tako pa tudi tistih, ki niso kristjani pa se iskreno trudijo, da bi bili dobri ljudje; morda celo s svojo ljubeznijo presegajo nekatere, ki trdijo, da so kristjani.

Pomislimo na člane različnih mednarodnih dobrodelnih organizacij, ki lajšajo stisko najrevnejših po vsem svetu. Ti ljudje udeležujejo ljubezen do bližnjega in zato tudi gojijo tiho upanje na boljšo prihodnost človeštva. Take humane in plemenite ljudi, ki niso kristjani, je že pred desetletji nemški teolog Karl Rahner imenoval anonimni kristjani, saj prav s svojo ljubeznijo podzavestno izpovedujejo vero v tisto, kar kristjani imenujemo upanje v končno zmago dobrega zaradi Kristusovega vstajenja.

V velikonočnem tridnevju, od velikega četrta do velike noči, bomo kristjani vero v končno zmago dobrega še posebej podoživljali z obhajanjem velikonočne skrivnosti odrešenja. Na veliki četrtek se bomo zbrali okrog župnijskih oltarjev in prisluhnili Kristusovemu naročilu ljubezni do bližnjega ter se zahvalili za dar evharistije in duhovništva. Na veliki petek bomo obnovili ljubezen do križa, znamenje ljubezni in humanosti, pri velikonočni vigiliji pa z obnovo krstnih obljub obnovili in izpovedali pripadnost Kristusu in z evharističnim bogoslužjem utrdili upanje v zmago življenja nad smrtjo.

Slovensko izročilo teh dni je tudi bogato krščanskih navad in šeg, ki nam pomagajo, da tudi družina v teh dneh močnejše zaživi z Bogom in bližnjimi. Znano je namreč, da je judovski narod prav z družinski-

VELIKONOČNO BRANJE ...

VELIKONOČNA DRUŽINA

NA VIDEZ MRTEV LES

V spodnjih prostorih novega bloka je bil prostor za lokale. Majhna pekarna, izdelovalec ključev, šiviljska delavnica za popraviljanje starih oblek in šivanje novih, restavracija s kavarno in čitalnico, trgovina, izposojevalnica glasbenih kaset in zgoščenk, papirnica in frizer so zasedli te lokale in izobešali svoje table z novo ponudbo na robu meseca. Dva ali trije lokali pa so ostali prazni in ljudje so se radovedno spraševali, kaj bo tam. Kaj pritegne podjetne ljudi v ta konec, kako premišljujejo in izračunajo, da bodo njihove usluge ljudem potrebne in bo posel uspešen?

Čez nekaj mesecev je še en lokalček dobil novo dejavnost: cvetličarno. Prva in edina cvetličarna daleč naokrog je bila pravzaprav na drugi strani mesta in kadar je že kdo naročil venec ali potreboval šopek za kakšno res posebno priložnost, se je odpeljal tja. Nova lastnica cvetličarne je bila mlada, drobcena gospa z veselimi očmi, ki je za steklom svojega lokalčka delala prave umetnine iz štorov, vej, blaga in suhih rož. Mednje je postavljala vaze z rezanim cvetjem in izložba je bila osupljivo lepa, moral si se ustaviti in z očmi pobožati vso to lepoto.

Mala cvetličarka pa je poskrbela za presenečenje: stopila je v župnišče in ponudila, če jo potrebujejo, da bi ona urejala cvetje v cerkvi. Župnik je

mi bogoslužnimi praznovanji ohranjal vero v diaspori in se prav zato ohranil. Dobro je ohranjati krščanske družinske navade, tam, kjer so morebiti pozabljene, pa obnoviti stare in ustvariti nove. Ustvarjalni družinski člani bodo sami, drugi pa s pomočjo verskega tiska in drugih medijev storili vse, da bo sveto tridnevje čas najmočnejše družinske povezave z Gospodom. Tako se bo praznovanje velikonočnega tridnevja v župnijskem občestvu in ob družinski mizi še globlje zakoreninilo v naše življenje.

V vseh ljudeh na svetu tiho tli hrepenenje po Kristusu, najsi se tega zavedajo ali ne, saj je On edino upanje dokončne prihodnosti, nič manj pa tudi upanje porajajoče se združene Evrope. Prihodnost pripada tistim, ki upajo v zmago dobrega, v zmago Kristusa vstalega, ki spremlja, ljubi in želi odrešiti vsakega človeka.

Veselim se, ker je Kristus premagal zlo, tudi smrt, je vstal in živi. (NAŠA DRUŽINA - april 2004)



bil seveda vesel, na sestanku župnijskega sveta je odprl to vprašanje in vsi so se strinjali, kako lepo bo, ko bo cerkev vedno okrašena tako, strokovno, kot to znajo šolane cvetličarke.

Tako je Jera izgubila

svojo dolgoletno nalogo. Že štirideset let je skrbela, da je bilo na oltarjih vedno sveže cvetje. Za božič je vso cerkev okrasila s smrekovimi vejicami in ptičjim limom, za svečnico je izpod zemlje skopala prvi teloh in zimzelen, za majske pobožnosti je pod bregom nabirala šmarnice, za slovesnost prvega obhajila je doma gojila binokostne nageljčke in lilije, vse poletje pa je prinašala astre in cinije in dalje. Le o veliki noči je potrebovala pomoč: vsako leto je navlekla vse lončnice od doma in naprosila tudi sosede, da so dale, kar so imele. Tako so stali okoli božjega groba lončki z raznovrstnimi rastlinami, da so ga skoraj zagrnile z vsem bohotnim zelenjem.

(DALJE na str. 15)

NA VIDEZ MRTEV LES

(nadaljevanje s str. 14)

Štirideset let! Tako rekoč vse življenje: kot mlada žena in mama, pa potem kot vdova in stara mama otrok, ki so živeli drugje. V tisti davni pomladi je položila svoj poročni šopek na Marijin oltar in odtlej je zvesto skrbela za lepoto božjega hrama. Življenje je teklo po hribih in dolinah, po dežju in soncu, po zmrzali in toploti, vedno pa je Jera prinašala v cerkev, na glavni oltar in na stranske oltarje, cvetje v zahvalo, v slavo in čast Bogu, ki nam vse daje.

Mala cvetličarka je po tistem sestanku župnijskega sveta vstopila v to Jerino skrb brez oporila. Le v soboto popoldne, ko je Jera privlekla šope cvetja v cerkev, je župnik rekel:

-Kako gre?

-Bo, bo ...

-Zdite se mi utrujeni!

-Bo že, z božjo pomočjo.

-Pa se le praveč ženete.

-O, saj gre.

-Bi potrebovali kakšno pomoč, kajne?

-Dokler bom mogla ...

-Zdaj je v fari nova cvetličarka, bi vam kaj pomagala ...

Tako se je začelo. Pomagala! Mala gospa je prišla, prijazno pokimala Jeri in si ogledovala cerkev, oltarje s svežimi šopki, steber pred svetim Jožefom in asparagus na njem, palme v kotu in pušpan pod oltarnimi stopnicami ...

"Gotovo je presenečena, kaj vse sem naredila in kako je lepo," se je zadovoljno muzala Jera. No, zadovoljnost ni trajala dolgo. Ko je Jera prišla v cerkev naslednjo soboto, je onemela. Le kdaj je bila gospa tu? Cerkev

je bila popolnoma spreminjena. Oltarji seveda ne in tudi klopi so še stale na svojih mestih, vse živo, kar je doslej krasilo božji hram, pa je izginilo. Nikjer asparagusa, nikjer palm, nikjer pušpana in na oltarju je stala ena sama nizka vaza, v njej pa med skrivneno vejo trije veliki cvetovi.

"Ho, trije! Ta pa ne bo zapravljala za cvetje! Se ji zdijo trije cvetovi kar dovolj za glavni oltar! In kje so vendar moje lončnice!"

Iz zakristije je zaropotalo in župnik je pomignil Jeri, naj pride k njemu. In tam, v kotu zakristije, so stale vse njene rože v lončkih.

-Takole je, Jera, zdaj lahko nesete svoje rože domov. Gospa Majda pravi, da palme niso doma v naših krajih in da asparagusa tudi ne potrebuje. Zvečer bom rekel ministrantom, naj vam jih pomagajo odnesti.

Odnesti! Kam pa naj da Jera v svoji mali hiški te velikanske palme, leop vas prosim! In kam vse tri asparaguse, bohotno razraščene! In kaj se to pravi, da palme niso iz teh krajev! In kaj bo zdaj krasilo kote ob oltarju, kaj bo stalo na stebru pred svetim Jožefom?

-Poslušajte, Jera, dolga leta ste lepo skrbeli za cvetje v naši cerkvi. Naj zdaj to počne še kdo drug, odpočijte si. Cvetličarka bo seveda tudi znala okrasiti cerkev, za to se ne bojte, ji je prigovarjal župnik.

Jera je debelo požrla, in ko je povedala svojo skrb, sta našla rešitev: velike palme bodo stale v preddverju župnišča, za dva asparagusa bo

prostor v župnijski pisarni ... Enega je Jera torej odnesla domov in ga postavila v spalnico. Zasedel je ves prostor, vendar ga je bila vesela, kot bi ji Mati božja od svoje mize podarila rožo. Če že ne more biti več tam, naj bo tu, pri njej.

Z grenkobo je odslej Jera opazovala okrasitev v cerkvi, z grenkobo, a tudi z radovednostjo. Vse je bilo drugače, popolnoma drugače. Mala gospa ni zapravljala veliko denarja, rož je bilo malo. Seveda, ona jih ne prideluje na svojem vrtu, kupuje jih, zato jih daje malo.

Cvet tu, cvet tam, na štorih, na suhih vejah, na žakljevini in na posušenem lubju so osamljeno čepeli vsak teden drugačni cvetovi, vsak tako sam, da si mu moral posvetiti vso pozornost. Ljudje so bili zadovoljni, govorili so, kako lepa je zdaj cerkev in kako umetno mala cvetličarka dela svoje umetnine.

No ja, Jera je kar molčala, kaj pa naj bi! Strinjala se pa ni, res ne. Kako naj bi se, ko je tako malo živih rož hvallilo Boga, prav res popolnoma drugače kot v časih, ko je še ona skrbelo za to! Pa kaj hočemo, če je vsem drugim prav, kako bi se prav ona pri-toževala ...

Potem je gospa Majda zbolela. Pravzaprav ni zbolela, pričakovala je otroka in zdravniki so ji ukazali popoln počitek. Tako kar naenkrat ni mogla več skrbeti za cvetje v cerkvi. Ohoho, kako je bila Jera srečna, ko jo je župnik vprašal, ali bi hotela vendarle spet nekaj časa ona prevzeti to skrb. Do takrat, ko bo gospa Majda spet pri močeh ...

Tako se je Jera vrnila. Prva misel, ko je stala sredi cerkve in si jo ogledovala, je bila, da bi prinesla nazaj palme in asparaguse. Pa si je premislila. Ne, ne bo spreminjala nove ureditve, o-skrbovala bo cerkev tako, kot si je zamislila gospa Majda.

Ogledala si je tiste novodobne ikebane in zdaj,

Thomas Robertson bo novi veleposlanik ZDA v Sloveniji - Naslednik Johnnya Younga

Prvo zaslišanje novega veleposlanika ZD v Sloveniji

Washington (Delo, 27. marca) - V četrtek (tj. 25. marca) je zunanje-politični odbor ameriškega senata zaslišal Thomasa Robertsona, ki ga je predsednik George Bush imenoval za novega veleposlanika Združenih držav Amerike v Sloveniji. Če bo Robertson potrjen, kar bi se moralo zgoditi brez zapletov, bo nasledil veleposlanika Johnnya Younga, ki se mu jeseni izteče mandat.

Robertson je karierni diplomat, specializiran za Vzhodno in Srednjo Evropo. Delal je na veleposlaništvih v Moskvi in Budimpešti, bil direktor oddelka za ruske zadeve v Svetu za nacionalno varnost, v zunanjem ministrstvu pa se je ukvarjal z razvojnimi problemi.

"Če me bo senat potrdil, bom v Slovenijo prišel v času /njene/ integracije," je dejal v predstavitvenem govoru. "Z vlado Slovenije bom sodeloval, da bi zagotovil izpolnitev obveznosti nove članice NATA, ki mora povečati obrambni proračun in dokončati reformo vojske, potrebno za usklajeno delovanje v NATU. Če bom izvoljen (dejansko: potrjen, op. ur. AD), bom z vlado Slovenije iskal način, da bi prispevala k prizadevanju, da v Irak in na Bližnji vzhod prepeljemo demokracijo in da bi še bolj sodelovala v globalni vojni proti terorizmu."

Ervin Hladnik Milharčič

ko so postale njena skrb, se ji kar naenkrat niso zdele več tako prazne. Pravzaprav je tudi to lepo, si je rekla in zamenjala cvetove ob lubju. Z novim veseljem in odprtega srca si je priznala, da je tudi bršljan na stebru pred svetim Jožefom zelo lep, pravzaprav neverjetno lep. Njej sami ni še nikoli uspelo vzgajati tako velikega, tako močnega, tako svežega.

Res tu spodaj nekaj suhih vejic kazi njegovo podobo, vendar ni to nič, če pomisli, kako je vendar razbohoten, koliko novih poganja in kako lepo se ovija okoli stare veje. Le kako mala gospa zleze sem gor, je premišljevala, ko je stala na vrhu lestve, pa je lonec z bršljanom še vedno dosegla samo od daleč. Vendar se je potrudila in ga res dobro zalila. "Dvakrat na teden ga bom zalivala, da se mi ja ne posuši," je sklenila.

Prišla je velika noč in iz cvetličarne so poslali same bele vrtnice, za

cvetličarkin način krašenja neverjetno veliko vrtnic. Jera je mnogo dni in noči premišljevala - ob tem prazniku je hotela prekositi samo sebe in tudi gospo Majdo, hotela je, naj bo cerkev okrašena kot še nikoli.

Razvrščala je v mislih cvetje na glavnem oltarju, cvetje pri božjem grobu, cvetje po cerkvi .. na veliko noč pride tudi gospa Majda v cerkev, je rekel župnik. Njena nosečnost se bliža koncu, vendar bo tudi potem še nekaj časa doma in cvetje bo še dolgo Jerina skrb. Bila je vesela tega, pa tudi Majdi je želela, da bi se vse dobro končalo in bi bil otrok zdrav ... Bo že ona ta čas skrbela za cvetje, Majda pa naj skrbi za dete; cerkev bo lahko krasila naslednjih štirideset let ...

Zdaj je v Jeri izginila vsa zagrenjenost, v teh mesecih so ji rože, ki jih je pošiljala Majda iz cvetličarne, povedale veliko skrivnosti o Majdinem

(dalje na str. 16)

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NA VIDEZ MRTEV LES

(nadaljevanje s str. 15)

srcu, pa tudi o življenju, ki ni nič vredno, če ne moremo sprejeti tudi drugih.

Po dolgem premisleku je pred božji grob vendarle postavila asparagus, samo enega, tistega od doma, svojega, vanj pa je dodala največjo vrtnico iz cvetličarne gospe Majde, eno samo. Bel cvet sredi zelenja, simbol nedolžne skrivnosti sredi življenja, kot otrok pod Majdinim srcem ali kot Jezusovo telo v grobu, ki bo že jutri novo življenje ...

Ko se je gospa Majda na veliko soboto oglasila v župnišču, preden je stopila v cerkev, je župnik rekel:

-Kar dobro gre Jeri, z veseljem dela, le tega ne razume, kako ste vi zalivali tisti veliki bršljan pred svetim Jožefom; ona sama dvakrat na teden zleze na lestev, pa ga komaj doseže.

-Tisti bršljan je umeten, svilene lističe sem prepletla na stare vitice pravega bršljana! Saj mi bo uničila substrat v loncu, če ga napaja z vodo!

Župnik je debelo pogledal, nikoli mu ne bi prišlo na misel, da ima v cerkvi umeten bršljan, še bolj debelo pa je gledala gospa Majda ob misli, da Jera ni opazila razlike.

Stopila je v cerkev in se seveda najprej ustavila pred božjim grobom. Župnik je molil svoje molitve, nič ga ni zmotilo. Majda, pa je videla asparagus, Jerin asparagus, in vrtnico v njem ... Cvetličarka je razumela govorico cvetja in kar na veliko soboto pred božjim grobom ji je srce veselo pelo: aleluja, hvala Bogu, aleluja.

Potem je mirno stopila k oltarju svetega Jožefa, samo pogledati je hotela, kaj je zdaj s to umetno maso, ki jo Jera tako skrbno zaliva dvakrat na teden. Če je lonec uničen, bo pač prinesla novega, Jerino zalivanje jo je ganilo in navdalo z ljubeznijo do starke, kateri je nehote vzela njeno najljubše opravilo.

In zdaj jo je čakal čudež življenja. Bršljanove vitice, okoli katerih je navila svilene lističe, so poganjale! Najprej je mislila, da vidi narobe, potem pa se je prepričala, da je res: vsa stebelca so poganjale prave, res prave, žive listke, da so se mešali med umetno izdelano svilo. Življenje! Strmela je nad tem čudežem in komaj čakala, da pride Jera; iskreno ji bo voščila veselo alelujo in ji z veseljem povedala, da je s skrbno roko in z ljubeznijo iz na videz mrtvega lesa priklicala novo rast! md



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Slovenski misijonar oropan...

Iz Venezuele: pater Hugo v stiski

(Kar sledi, je bilo objavljeno v marčevski številka avstralskega mesečnika MISLI.)

Za čuda sem naenkrat postal zelo pismen. K temu mi silijo okoliščine. Letošnje leto sem začel bolj čudno, doživel sem namreč stvari, ki so se mi pripetile prvič v življenju. V pismu, ki sledi, sem napisal, kaj se mi je zgodilo.

Zelo bom hvaležen, če mi lahko priskočite na pomoč, sem res v stiski. Da prebrodim za prvi najtežji čas, bom pač prodal nekateri stvari: kolo, vodno pumpo in motor, pralni stroj..., vendar to je samo mašenje lukenj. Na kakršnokoli posojilo ne morem računati. (Ur. AD: Objavljam tako, kot je bilo objavljeno v Mislih, tudi brez polnega imena misijonarja in niti besedice o njegovem točnem naslovu v Venezueli.)

Države, kjer je mnogo revščine, imajo tudi zelo visoko stopnjo najrazličnejšega kriminala. V to vrsto dežel spada prav gotovo tudi Venezuela. Velika revščina ljudi, prekupčevanje droge, podkupljiva policija, še bolj podkupljiva sodišča, kazensko pravo zelo ohlapno, skratka nešteto ugodnosti za kriminalce.

Ta obrt se je v zadnjih letih razcvetela do nevzdržnih meja. Zato se že pojavljajo organizirane skupine samoobrambe. Se pravi, da veleposestniki, trgovci in podjetniki najemajo oborožene ljudi, ki po naročilu likvidirajo osumljene roparje, morilce, ugrabitelje, delikvente.

Seveda to lahko spremeni Venezuelo v drugo Kolumbijo, kjer te vrste oboroženih skupin doživljajo pravi razcvet. Te skupine so seveda nekontrolirane in se pogostokrat sprevržejo v prave kriminalne tolpe. To se pravi tako kot pravi pregovor: "Zdravilo je slabše od bolezni same!"

Tako se je meni pripetilo, da me je obiskalo 8. januarja 2004 ob 4. uri zjutraj pet oboroženih mož. Vsi so bili črnici, atletske postave, črno oblečeni in kratkih las.

Vstopili so v spalnico, potegnili rjuho z mene in s pištolo vprto v glavo, zapovedali, da jim sledim. Seveda nisem niti za trenutek pomislil na kakršnokoli obrambo. Peljali so me v sosednjo sobo, kjer so me na tleh zvezali in zalepili usta s širokim trakom in kar ga je ostalo, so mi ga velikodušno poklonili.

Še ne čisto prebujen sem si mislil, da gre za pomoto, da so možje člani tajne policije, da so prišli po naročilu neke ovadbe. Niso me vprašali prav ničesar, sicer mi ne bi takoj na začetku zamašili usta.

Eden je stal ob meni, drugi pa so premetavali po pisarni in spalnici. To delo ni bilo težko in dolgo. Ves denar sem imel v predalu pisalne mize. Na vso žalost, tam je bil ves moj denar (ne samo bolivarje - denarna enota v Venezueli), ampak tudi dolarji. Skratka, denar, ki sem ga prine-

sel s svojih zadnjih počitnic. Na banki nisem imel ničesar, zaradi slabe menjave dolarja po uradni ceni, na ulici "za voglom" je menjava trikrat večja.

Roparji niso bili iz bližnjih krajev, prišli so od drugod, najeti in z dogovorom domačega izdajalca. Vse je bilo dogovorjeno že pred krajo. Morda sem k temu pripomogel še sam, ker sem menjaval dolarje brez skrivanja po pravilu povpraševanja in cene. Gotovo je med mojimi kupci izdajalec, ki je vse organiziral in s poklicnimi roparji odlično izpeljal načrt.

Vse sem prijavil policiji. Prišli so, pogledali, popisali in odšli. Malo upanja imam, da jih izsledijo. Pričakujem pa, da bodo v teh dneh prišli prosit, da jim dam za bencin, če hočem, da bodo sledili tatovom.

Verjetno jim ne bom dal za bencin, končno je to izkoriščanje človeka v stiski, z druge strani so pa oni uradniki plačani za svoje delo, a na žalost ga ne izpolnijo.

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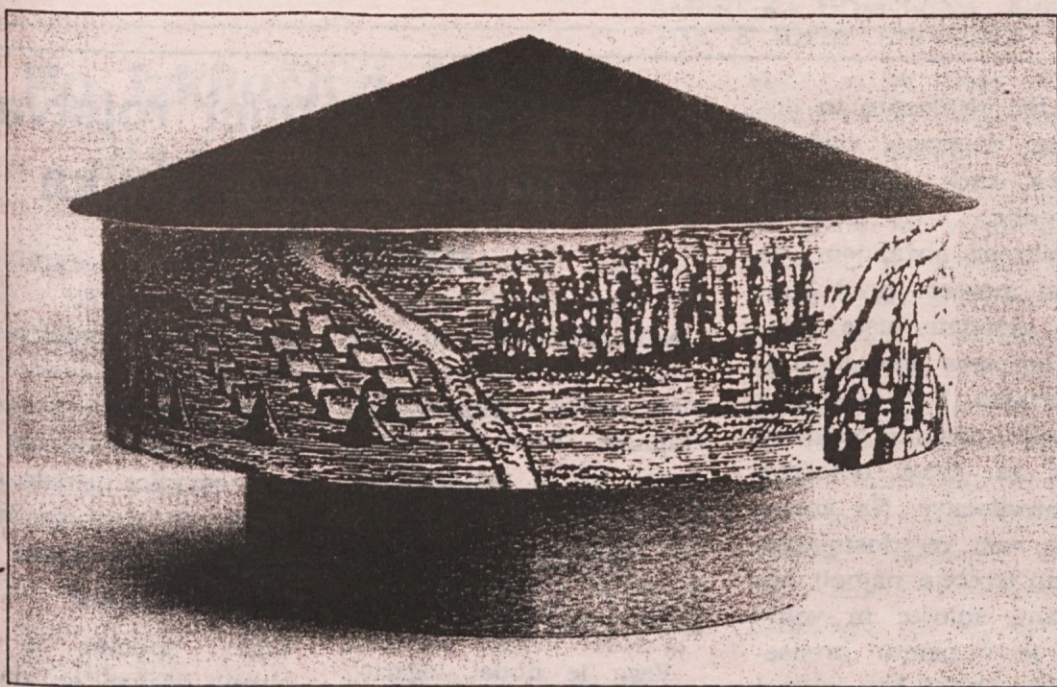
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“Prihodnja smer mojega življenja ...”

SANDI SITAR

II. del – konec

Leta 1787 se je tedaj 33-letni Vega poročil s 16-letno malo češko plemkinjo Jožefo Swoboda. V 13 letih zakona, ko je bil Vega sedem let odsoten na bojiščih, je rodila štiri otroke, dve hčeri, od katerih je mlajša umrla kmalu po porodu in materini smrti, ter dva sinova, ki očeta tudi nista dolgo preživela in je z njima izumrl Vegov rod.

Vegovi boji

Mirna obdobja Vegovega pedagoškega dela sta prekinili dve vojni: proti Turkom leta 1789 pri Beogradu, s podaljškom v zaščitnici na meji s Prusijo do leta 1792, in v bojih v prvi koalicijski vojni ob Renu, z revolucionarno Francijo v letih 1793-97.

V prvi je kot stotnik poveljeval najtežjim možnarjem, v drugi pa s činom majorja vodil artilerijo in posamezne samostojne akcije. Odlikoval se je z poveljniškimi in taktičnimi sposobnostmi ter vrhunsko uporabo izvirne vojne tehnike. Pogosto je dokazal izredno osebnostno junaštvo, že prav drznost.

Predlagali so ga za najvišje vojaško odlikovanje, za viteški red Marije Terezije. Vendar pa mu ga za napad na utrdbo Fort Louis na otoku sredi Rena leta 1793 niso podelili, morda zato, ker je trdno zidano trdnjavo prisilil k vdaji šele s streljanjem na civilno naselje poleg nje, kjer so

živele družine francoskih vojakov.

Prejel pa ga je tri leta pozneje, potem ko je ob frontni črti pri Mannheimu skonstruiral možnar z dvojnimi dometom v primerjavi s standardnimi orožji te vrste in ga je v naslednjih letih uspešno uporabljal tako v napadih kot pri obrambi.

Vegove vojne zasluge so do konca habsburškega cesarstva celo višje cenili kot njegovo matematično delo. Ob 20. obletnici vojaške službe, leta 1800, mu je cesar Franc II. podelil baronski naslov. V grb so mu vrisali gorečo granato, ki jo bo vsak hip razneslo.

Pred drugo svetovno vojno so enako vrednotili njegovo uspešnost na obeh področjih, vojnem in matematičnem. Šele od srede 20. stoletja opozarjajo predvsem na njegove znanstvene dosežke, s poudarkom, da so večinoma nastali v najtežjem vojnem času.

Na prehodu 20. v 21. stoletje, ko se je pokazalo, da celo vojne večjega obsega tudi v prihodnosti niso izključene, se vse bolj zaskrbljeno postavlja vprašanje absurdne dvojnosti človeškega delovanja, v primerih, kot je Vegov, dobesedno hkratnega rušenja in graditve.

Ob tej razdvojenosti se je v vojnah in od pretiranega dela izčrpani ter v osebnem življenju zaradi zavisti in sovraštva težko preskušeni Vega, ki sta mu poldrugi me-

sec pred podelitvijo baronskega naslova umrla žena in kmalu nato še najmlajši otrok, čutil skrajno ogroženega.

Ko je že slutil svoj prezgodnji konec, se je povezal z domovino in je leta 1799 poslal kranjskim deželnim stanovom svoje knjige in prepise vojaških spričeval, dan po podelitvi baronstva v letu 1800 jim je posvetil zadnji zvezek svojega učbenika, leta 1801 pa so ga stanovi soglasno in z navdušenimi vzkliki izvolili za člana.

To je bila Vegova simbolična vrnitev domov. Sedemnajstega septembra 1802 je izginil, devet dni pozneje so našli njegovo truplo v Donavi, o vzroku njegove smrti pa ostajajo teorije nesreče, samomora, uboja iz koristoljubja in političnega umora.

Dejstvo, da oblasti niso poskrbele za natančne sodnomedicinske preiskave ter njihovo dokumentacijo in da ni ugotovljiv njegov grob, kaže na umor. Posebno še, ker so poznana nasprotovanja njegovega najvišjega nadrejenega, grofa Colloreda, ki je bil Vegi naklonjen vse do vpisa v prostozidarstvo, kot predstojnik malteškega reda pa je tej organizaciji in njenim članom ostro nasprotoval.

Preprečeval je Vegovo odlikovanje in onemogočil posvetilo njegovega glavnega dela cesarju. Dogodki kažejo tudi na sistematične čistke v enoti, v kateri je Vega kot podpolkovnik in namestnik komandanta nazadnje

Smrt barona Jurija Vege

Ljubljana – V člankih, ki opisujejo slavnega slovenskega matematika, inženirja in topničarja Jurija Vege, ostaja zlasti skrivnostna in nepojasnjena njegova smrt. V *Enciklopediji Slovenije* piše: “Pravi vzrok njegove smrti (truplo najdeno v Donavi) ni znan.”

Vendar pa obstajajo vesti (pisne in ustne) o njegovi nesrečni smrti. Zelo verjetna je prav naslednja razlaga.

Vega je bil velik ljubitelj konj. Zvedel je, da ima neki mlinar v okolici Dunaja čudovitega konja. Zaželel si ga je in se zato odpravil k mlinarju; povedal mu je, da hoče kupiti konja – ne glede na ceno. Mlinar sprva o prodaji ni hotel nič slišati, ko pa mu je Vega pokazal mošnjo cekinov, se je omehčal in pristal na kupčijo. Ker pa se je mlinar polakomnil k cekinov, konja pa ni hotel oddati, je Vega v hlevu zahrbtno umoril in truplo vrgel v Donavo.

Jurija Vege so pogrešali od 17. septembra 1802, in šele 26. septembra tega leta so našli njegovo truplo zagozdeno med vejevjem na bregu Donave v Nussdorfu na Dunaju. Začele so krožiti različne govorice o smrti slavnega matematika in topničarja. Predvsem so govorili o samomoru. Pravi vzrok smrti pa je bil pojasnjen šele nekoliko pozneje, ko so v bližini kraja, kjer so našli Vegovo truplo, imeli vojaške vaje. Poveljnik vojakov je bil žejen, zato se je odpravil v bližnji mlin po vodo. Ko je pil, je na mlinarjevi mizi opazil Vegovo šestilo, kar mu je vzbudilo pozornost in seveda tudi sum, saj je bilo skrajno nenavadno, da je Vegov instrument kar tako zašel v mlinarjevo hišo. Ko so mlinarja zaslišali, je tudi priznal, da je on umoril barona Vege, in doletela ga je smrtna kazen.

Dr. Ana Benedejčič

Rubrika “Znanost”, Delo, 22.marca, 2004

služboval. (Glede vzroka Vegove smrti je povsem drugačna in se zdi celo verjetnejša razlaga dr. Ane Benedejčičeve, ki je tudi bila objavljena ob Sitarjevem domnevanju zgoraj. Op. Ur. AD)

Vegovi logaritmi

V Vegovem času je bilo v trgovini, tehniki, fiziki, geodeziji, astronomiji in na drugih področjih znanosti in tehnike ter pri plovbi in v vojski veliko natančnega računanja, ki ga je bilo treba opraviti v kratkem času. Uporabljali so razne računske pripomočke in mehanične stroje. V teh so se vrteli zobniki in s sistemom zobatih koles se je Vega veliko ukvarjal. Če tega znanja ni izkoristil za konstrukcijo računskih strojev, pa je razvil mehanizem, s katerim so običajne ure z nihali pridobile točno kronometrov.

Najbolj uporaben računski pripomoček so bili v Vegovem času logaritmi. Za njihovega izumitelja velja Škot John Napier (Neper), njegovo delo pa sta nadaljevala Anglež Briggs in Nizozemec Vlacq.

Vega dosledno navaja delo teh dveh mož kot svoje izhodišče. V pedagoški praksi je vpeljal

logaritme že s prvim učbenikom leta 1782, naslednje leto pa je priredil po starejših predlogah svoj prvi logaritmovnik.

Ker je bilo zanj veliko zanimanja in so ga kmalu razprodali, je v začetku 90 let 18. stoletja razmišljal o izdaji novega tovrstnega dela. Po načrtu, ki si ga je izdelal med zadrževanjem ob pruski meji, je predvidel pripravo treh logaritmovnikov: priročnika za manj zahtevno računanje in šole, tablic v dveh zvezkih za zahtevnejše računanje, poleg teh, sedemmestnih, pa še desetmestnega za najnatančnejše računanje v znanosti in drugih z matematiko močnejše podprtih panogah – tudi v artileriji.

Pri pripravi svojih logaritmovnikov si je Vega prizadeval za kar največjo natančnost. Kot vsi avtorji poznejših logaritmovnikov je izhajal iz primerjave prejšnjih, kadar pa je pri tem naletel na neskladja, je prešel k samostojnemu računanju.

V ta namen in za zahtevne korekture je organiziral skupinsko delo, za najzahtevnejši desetmestni logaritmovnik *The-saurus logarithmorum completus* tudi z dvema,

(DALJE na str. 18)

Odstop ministrov SLS iz koalicijske vlade

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 6. aprila) – Minister za kmetijstvo Franc But, minister za pravosodje Ivan Bizjak in minister za promet Jakob Presečnik bodo v naslednjih dneh premieru Antonu Ropu izročili odstopne izjave, je po ponedeljkovi seji izvršilnega odbora SLS povedal predsednik stranke Janez Podobnik. Dodal je, da so se ministri tako odločili sami in da so takšni odločitvi brez nasprotovanj pritrtili tudi člani izvršilnega odbora.

Ko je prišlo pismo predsednika vlade Antona Ropa, je izvršilni odbor SLS zadihal kot eden, je na vprašanje o stopnji enotnosti sprejete odločitve odgovoril Podobnik. SLS tako nekaj mesecev pred volitvami prestopa v opozicijske vrste.

Predsednik SLS Janez Podobnik je v ponedeljek dopoldne pisal predsedniku vlado Antonu Ropu in ga prosil za pisni odgovor na vprašanje, ali koalicijska pogodba, podpisana 15. novembra 2000, in dogovor o nadaljnjem sodelovanju v vladi, ki so ga ob Ropovem imenovanju podpisali

predsedniki LDS, ZLSD, DeSUS in SLS, še veljata.

Podobnikova prošnja se je nanašala na petkovo (tj. 2. aprila) tiskovno konferenco, na kateri je premier sporočil, da na zadnji sestanek predsednikov koalicijskih strank ni bil povabljen predsednik SLS, in izrazil stališče, da je SLS z glasovanjem proti ministroma za zdravje in notranje zadeve odstopila od koalicijske pogodbe, zato so obveznosti ostalih koalicijskih partneric do SLS prenehale.

Hkrati je Rop izrazil prepričanje, da bodo trije ministri SLS še naprej v skladu z ustavo in zakoni opravljali svoje funkcije. Pri tem je še napovedal, da se bo z vsakim od njih pogovoril o nadaljnjem sodelovanju. Zdaj mu tega dela, tako kaže, ne bo treba opraviti, v LDS pa, kot smo izvedeli, že iščejo kandidate za tri ministre.

V ponedeljek popoldne je iz Ropovega kabineta prišel odgovor. Rop je ponovil, da je še pred glasovanjem o interpelaciji opozoril na morebitne posledice odločitve organov SLS, pa ti opozorila niso upoštevali.

"V skladu s svojo takratno opredelitvijo ugotavljam, da ste s podporo interpelaciji zoper ministra Rada Bohinca kršili koalicijski sporazum in s tem od njega odstopili. Vašega ravnanja glede na vsa dejstva ni mogoče razumeti drugače, zato štejem, da je koalicijski sporazum s Slovensko ljudsko stranko prenehal veljati," je zapisal Rop in k temu dodal, da ima kot predsednik vlade in predsednik največje koalicijske stranke, ki je dobila mandat za sestavo koalicije in vlade, odgovornost, da zagotovi kredibilnost koali-

cije ter učinkovito in dosledno delovanje vlade v dobro vseh državljanov Slovenije.

"Iskreno obžalujem, da nekaj mesecev pred koncem mandata niste zmogli bremena skupne odgovornosti. Vsi, ki smo v politiki, nosimo odgovornost za svoje odločitve in neodločitve. Na koncu se o naši verodostojnosti vedno izrečejo najbolj poklicani: volivke in volivci," je v pismu predsedniku SLS še zapisal premier.

Janez Podobnik je nato izrazil obžalovanje, da je LDS z razbitjem koalicijske pogodbe destabilizirala vlado, kar je označil za neodgovorno dejanje.

"Mislimo, da smo storili prav, sicer bi nam kdo res lahko očital, da sedimo na dveh stolih," je odločitev SLS komentiral podpredsednik stranke Bojan Šrot.

Podobnik pa pravi, da je SLS s tem pokazala svojo doslednost. "Prepričan sem, da bodo volivci nagradili našo načelnost."

Na vprašanje, kako se bo v mesecih pred volitvami pozicionirala SLS oziroma ali se bo tesneje naslonila na Koalicijo Slovenijo, je Podobnik odgovoril, da je SLS močna stranka zmerne politične sredine, da bodo ta prostor širili, se zavzemali za način sodelovanja, ki bo bolj povezovalen in predvsem poskušali prepričati čimveč neopredeljenih volivcev.

O razmerah v koalicijah je bilo govora tudi na tiskovni konferenci LDS. Tako je predsednik sveta LDS Gregor Golobič glede sodelovanja ministrov SLS v vladi med drugim dejal, da ministri niso predstavniki strank, ampak ministri vlade, ki so odgovorni premieru in državnemu zboru, kjer so bili izvoljeni.

Lahko sicer odstopijo, kadar želijo, lahko pa so zamenjani, kadar ne opravljajo dobro svojega

(dalje na str. 19)

Ob 250. obletnici rojstva velikega znanstvenika

Jurija Vega

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 17)

med seboj neodvisnima ekipama. Tako ni preveč tvegalo, ko je razpisal cekin nagrade za vsako prvo ugotovljeno napako, ki so jo v naslednjih izdajah odpravili.

Vega je dodal logaritmom še razne koristne in zanimive dodatke, na primer serijo praštevil ali račun števila pi najprej na 127 decimalk, kar je bil že absolutni rekord, in nato še na 140 mest.

Vega je uresničil svoj življenjski načrt v letih, ko se je boril ob Renu. Njegovi logaritmi so v ponatisih, prevodih in priredbah, z njegovim imenom ali brez njega, izhajali 180 let (1783-1962), vse do pojava osebnih elektronskih računalnikov. V zadnjih letih svojega življenja je napisal nekaj zanimivih in duhovitih razprav, deloma ob sprejemu v znanstvene akademije.

Postal je član teh akademij v Göttingenu, Erfurtu, Pragi in Berlinu, sodeloval pa je tudi z akademijo znanosti v Petrogradu in s podobnimi ustanovami v Londonu in Budimpešti.

Ob izteku življenja se je prvi zunaj Francije, kjer so med najhujšim revolucionarnim vrenjem izdelali novi dekadni sistem z metrom in kilogramom, zavzemal za njegovo vpeljavo v habsburškem cesarstvu. To pa

je bil lahko dodaten vzrok za njegov umor, saj so iz špekulacij z različnimi merami, ki se jih brez ostanka ni dalo preračunavati v druge, marsikje kovali dobičke.

Spomin

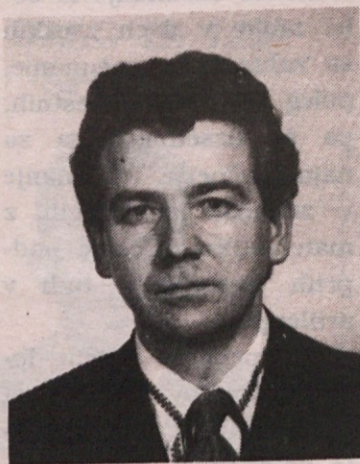
Vegov spomin je po burnih odzivih ob njegovi smrti za nekaj časa zamrl. Prvi poziv narodu, naj mu postavi spomenik, je iz leta 1838. Nato je spomin nanj (biografije, spomeniki) postopoma oživiljal, še posebno ob okroglih obletnicah njegovega rojstva in smrti.

Ob sedanji 250. obletnici rojstva je tako izšla knjižica s pobudo in programom, kako postaviti Vegi v Dolskem pod Zagorico spomenik, ne le v počastitev dogodka pred četrto tisočletja, ampak programsko in funkcionalno moderno zasnovano središče za pospeševanje kakovostnega razvoja.

Osrednji objekt v tem sklopu naj bi bila stavba z reliefi o življenju in delu velikega matematika ter s prostorom za predavanja, posvetovanja in prireditve. Takšno središče bi bilo povsem v skladu z Vegovim pogledom naprej: prihodnja smer mojega – in našega – življenja.

Rubrika "Znanost"
Delo, 22. marca 2004

V nepozaben spomin ob drugi žalostni obletnici



JANEZ POVIRK

12. aprila 2002

Ni treba groba več se bati,
ne bo na veke grudil nas.
Gospod bo zopet v luči zlati
častiljivo obudil nas.

Žalujoci:

žena Ivanka
sinova Tomaž in Robert
hčerki Silva in Monika
zet John
vnuk Nathan
vnukinja Nadia
bratje in sestre v Sloveniji
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Star naslov

Star naslov _____

Mesto, država, zip _____

Po izključitvi SLS iz vladne koalicije

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 7. aprila) – Dan po izključitvi ljudske stranke iz vladajoče koalicije oziroma po napovedanih odstopih treh ministrov SLS so se v prostorih vlade sestali predstavniki treh koalicijskih strank (LDS, ZLSD, DeSUS) in se pod vodstvom premiera Antona Ropa dogovorili, kako naj v prihodnje ravna koalicija. Precej pozornosti so namenili tudi pričakovanim zamenjavam v treh resorjih.

Predsednik vlade je po sestanku povedal, da odstopnih izjav ministra za kmetijstvo Franca Buta, za promet Jakoba Presečnika in za pravosodje Ivana Bizjaka še ni dobil, da pa se je z nekaterimi že pogovarjal in jim med drugim dejal, naj odstopne izjave, če to že nameravajo narediti, podajo čim prej, da bodo lahko čim prej imenovani novi ministri. Na vprašanje, ali je kateri od tistih, s katerimi se je že pogovarjal, dal soglasje h kandidaturi, pa je premier na kratko odgovoril: "Morda pa tudi."

V vrhu LDS, ZLSD in DeSUS so se dogovorili, da kandidatov za nove ministre ne bodo iskali po strankarskem ključu, temveč si bodo prizadevali za nestransko strokovno usposobljene ljudi, ki bodo lahko takoj poprijeli za delo. Ker

ne bodo delili resorjev po strankah, po Ropovih besedah tudi ne bo potreben kakšen nov dodatek podpisa h koalicijski pogodbi.

Ko bo Rop imel poimensko izoblikovane kandidate za omenjena tri ministrska mesta, se bo koalicija znova sestala, se pogovorila in ugotovila, ali jih je pripravljena soglasno podpreti. Rop v torek ni bil videti zaskrbljen. Izrazil je prepričanje, da je koalicija trdna in enotna in da polno deluje naprej tako v vladi kot v državnem zboru.

O odločitvi, da bodo ministri SLS odstopili, pa je Rop dejal, da to sicer obžaluje, da pa hkrati takšno odločitev spoštuje. "Odločitev SLS ima ustrezne posledice, vendar ni nič tragičnega in ne destabilizira dela vlade."

Tudi v ljudski stranki odmeva prestop v opozicijske vrste, še zlasti pa odločitev o odstopu ministrov, za katero ni povsem jasno, kako je do nje prišlo. Medtem ko predsednik SLS Janez Podobnik trdi, da izvršilni odbor o tem ni glasoval in sprejel sklepa, pač pa se je zgolj soglasno strinjal z odločitvijo mini-

strov, je po drugi strani slišati ravno nasprotno – da je izvršilni odbor sprejel sklep o odstopu, ne glede na voljo ministrov, ti pa seveda niso nasprotovali sklepm organa stranke. Pričakovati je, da bodo natančnejša pojasnila v sredo, ko bodo menda ministri na tiskovni konferenci podali odstopne izjave. (Ob zaključitvi redakcije podatki o tem še niso bili na razpolago, op. ur. AD.)

Tako naj bi SLS javno demonstrirala odziv na odločitev predsednika vlade, da SLS ni več v koaliciji.

Dogajanje v koaliciji je v torek komentiral prvak SDS Janez Janša. Ugotovil je, da ima vladna koalicija tudi brez SLS parlamentarno večino, toda problemi so drugače. Janša ocenjuje, da bo Rop težko našel sposobne oziroma záres dobre kandidate za prevzem ministrskih mest nekaj mesecev pred iztekom mandata.

Drugi problem je po Janševih besedah dejstvo, da bo zastalo delo v tistih resorjih, kjer bodo zamenjali ministre, to pa seveda ni dobro. "LDS je zgubila živce. Naredili so napako," o izgonu SLS iz koalicije meni Janša.

Na vprašanje, ali bodo SLS povabili v Koalicijo Slovenija, je Janez Janša odgovoril, da se o tem še niso pogovarjali in da bo to odvisno predvsem od SLS. Dodal je, da bodo v vsakem primeru še nekaj časa počakali in spremljali delo te stranke in da bo zelo pomembno, kako bo SLS ravnala pri obravnavi in odločanju o predlogih ustavnih sprememb. Sprememb ustave ni mogoče sprejemati brez glasov ljudske stranke in te točke bodo po Janševih zagotovilih za SLS pravi izpit iz verodostojnosti.

Sicer pa po Janševem mnenju zadnje dogajanje kaže, da koalicija razpada, predsednik vlade pa se že nekaj časa ubada s kadrovske težavami. Tudi zato je Janša ponovil tezo, da bi bilo najbolje tudi državnoborske volitve izpeljati hkrati z evropskimi, (te bodo 13. junija, op. ur. AD) obenem je zavrnil trditve tistih, ki pravijo, da to ni mogoče.

"Ni res, da volitev v

Prvi večer slovenske izseljenske besede in prireditev

Piknik: Vračamo se h koreninam

Povzeto iz avstralskih MISLI, marec 2004 – Podjetje fit media iz Celja v sodelovanju z Mestno občino Celje, občinama Slovenske Konjice in Zreče, Slovensko izseljensko matico, Uradom RS za Slovence v zamejstvu in v svetu ter Svetovnim slovenskim kongresom prireja I. večer slovenske izseljenske besede v Sloveniji, piknik za izseljence z naslovom "Nazaj h koreninam" in poslovno srečanje s poslovneži – izseljenci na temo možnost za gospodarsko sodelovanje in vlaganja v Savinjsko regijo. Z večerom slovenske izseljenske besede v Celju, Slovenskih Konjicah in Zrečah želimo spodbuditi literarno ustvarjalnost v slovenskem jeziku med Slovenci v zamejstvu in po svetu, krepiti kulturno identiteto med rojaki in le-te še bolj povezati z matično domovino.

Fit media, ki je v Mestni občini Celje pobudnik in organizator podelitve Veronikine nagrade za najboljšo slovensko pesniško zbirko v preteklem letu, zato vabi k sodelovanju ustvarjalce slovenske besede, pesnike, prozaiste, dramatik in pisce drugih žanrov. Pogoj za sodelovanje so objave v knjigah ali medijih oziroma sodelovanje na slovenskih kulturnih prireditvah v zamejstvu ali po svetu. Ustvarjalci se lahko prijavijo sami ali v sodelovanju s kulturnimi društvi, prispevke pa morajo poslati najkasneje do konca aprila 2004 po elektronski pošti info@fitmedia.si ali na naslov fit media d.o.o. Celje, Bežigradska cesta 9, 3000 Celje, Slovenija.

Udeleženci I. večera slovenske izseljenske besede bodo nastopili v Celju, Žički kartuziji v Slovenskih Konjicah in na Vodovnikovi domačiji, osrednji literarni večer pa bo v Žički kartuziji v ponedeljek, 21. avgusta 2004. Organizator bo izbranim avtorjem zagotovil štiri nočitve v hotelu, žepnino v vrednosti 200 evrov (tj. kakih \$160US), turistični izlet po Savinjski regiji, ogled podelitve Veronikine nagrade (torek, 22. avgusta 2004), srečanje z novinarji, sprejem pri celjskem, konjiškem in zreškem županu in piknik pod kozolcem v dvorcu Trebnik z naslovom Vračamo se h koreninam. Piknik bomo zastavili kot etnološko prireditev s prikazi starodavnih običajev, kulinarike, zeliščarstva, predstavlja pa darilo organizatorjev vsem izseljencem, ki nas bodo obiskali.

Izbranim avtorjem, udeležencem I. večera slovenske izseljenske besede, bomo podarili tudi posebna priznanja.

Več informacij: info@fitmedia.si Bojana Jančič, na e-mail: bojana.jancic@fitmedia.si, spletna stran www.fitmedia.si.

Jože Volfand

V BLAG SPOMIN

7. obletnice smrti našega nepozabljenega očeta in starega očeta



JOSEPH KLOBASA

ki nas je za vedno zapustil 14. aprila 1997

Minilo je že let sedem, odkar si nas zapustil Ti. Smrt Ti vzela je življenje, končala Tvoje je trpljenje.

Tvoji žalujoči:

Ivanka Brumen - hčerka
Lojze Brumen - zet
Marjan - vnuk
ter drugi sorodniki
v Sloveniji.

ODSTOP

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 18)

dela po mnenju predsednika vlade in parlamentarne večine, pojasnjuje Golobič. Po njegovih besedah ni formalne povezave med delovanjem ministrov, članov SLS, in stranko, ki se ni sposobna držati koalicijske pogodbe.

Bogdan Biščak, izvršni direktor LDS, pa je dodal, da bo moral premier v primeru odstopa ministrov ljudske stranke pač najti nove ministre.

Podobnik je v ponedeljek zagotovil, da bo trojica ministrov SLS seveda opravljala tekoče posle do imenovanja novih ministrov.

Mateja Babič

državni zbor in evropski parlament formalno ni moč združiti. To je mogoče, in sicer tako, da vlada odstopi, obenem pa opravlja tekoče posle, in da predsednik države ne predlaga novega mandatarja oziroma da nihče od tistih, ki imajo večino v parlamentu, ne sprejme te funkcije. V tem primeru se skladno z ustavo razpišejo volitve."

Na to izjavo pa se je ostro odzval predsednik vlade. Dejal je, da Janša vsak dan izreče več nesnic. Glede združitve volitev pa je povedal, da

to dejansko ni mogoče in da gre za čisto zavajanje javnosti in sprenevedanje. "Vsak pravni strokovnjak vam lahko izračuna termine in datum, pa boste videli, da terminsko ni mogoče izvesti volitve 13. junija. Ne gre za nič drugega kot samo za politično retoriko Janeza Janše.

Mateja Babič



SEZNANJAJTE NAŠE BRALCE O
AKTIVNOSTIH VAŠIH DRUŠTEV!

Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

1519. Zelo lepo pismo sem prejela, prav

za Veliki teden, od s. Emanuele iz Karmel-Sora: "Spoštovana! Že smo sredi postnega časa in kar kmalu bo Veliki teden, ko bomo skupno spremljali Jezusa v trpljenju in vstajenju. Želim Vam globoko doživeto skrivnost Velike noči in veselje v veri, da je Jezus vstal in živi med nami. Aleluja! V molitvi ste vsak dan z nami in veliko mislim na vse. Pri nas smo zdrave, ker smo imeli tudi zdravo zimo, ki je očistil zrak.

Sedaj se zvesto po vseh naših predpisih pripravljamo na praznik naše vere – na Gospodovo vstajenje. Te dni smo končale duhovne vaje, Bogu hvala za nje. Mnogokrat sem bila v duhu v Ameriki, pri vas vseh in se z Bogom pogovarjala o vas in za vas vse. Božji mir, moč in blagoslov bodi vedno z vami vsemi in še posebno z vso Vašo družino.

Te dni se naš gospod nadškof Franc Rode poslavlja od nadškofije. Ljudem je zelo hudo in se počutijo, kakor ovce brez pastirja. Sedaj šele vsi vemo, kaj in kdo je bil g. nadškof Rode. Vse vodi Bog in v njegovi roki je naš čas, ki pa nam je mnogokrat nerazumljiv. G. nadškof ostane za nas redovnice in redovnike predstojnik in zato smo mi Slovenci nanj ponosni. Z veseljem pa pričakujemo tudi novega nadškofa, katerega nam bo podarila božja Previdnost. Vse mine, Bog ostane in temu moramo vsi ostali zvesti.

Tako, sedaj se moram posloviti tudi jaz, kar dolgo sem z Vami kramljala, zvonec me kliče v kapelo in tam bom nadaljevala. Hvala Vam za Vašo dobroto, kateri se priporočam in to v imenu matere predstojnice in vseh sester, ki Vam želijo: Veselo Veliko noč!

Prejmite lep, v Njem vesel pozdrav Aleluja!, hvaležna s. Emauela Frančiška."

Tudi Celestinova je prejela pismo od s. Emanuele, ki je precej slično mojemu, le da je dodano: "Prosim Vas, povejte vsem našim dragim dobrotnikom, da jim želimo vesele velikonočne praznike in da so v molitvi z nami in da jih lepo pozdravljamo. Veste, nimam njihovih naslovov. Vsi gredo skupaj s Kristusom po poti vstajenja, On jim bo povrnil dobroto do nas. Recite jim hvala, prosim. Za vašo dobroto more biti dobrota samo Bog!"

Tudi iz Karmel-Mirne peči je prispelo pismo, zelo bogato z duhovno hrano. Priloženo je še življenje pokojne redovnice, ki je odšla v večnost 15. marca, in s. Agneza Saje piše: "Spoštovani! Sv. maša je nekrava daritev božjega Sina na križu. To je najbolj zgoščena molitev in največja žrtev. Jezus daruje svoje življenje Očetu, ga moli in časti, odpušča in prosi odpuščanja. Nikoli je ne moremo dovolj ceniti! Ne duhovne vaje, nobeno dobro delo, čeprav je vse to dobro in hvalevredno, se ne more primerjati z njo. Kdor bo zvesto in rad hodil k sv. maši in izkoristil to morje milosti, se mu bodo na smrtno uro odprla vrata Božjega usmiljenja in bo zaslišal blažljive besede: "Še danes boš z menoj v raj!" To pa je največja čast Aleluja! Pozdravljamo s zagotovilom molitve, zlasti v nočnih adoracijah na veliki teden in na Veliko noč! s. Agneza Saje."

"Vse življenje sem služila Bogu in skupnosti.

Pokojna sestra Cirila Lurške Božje Matere, Jožefa Okorn, se je rodila 10. maja 1916 v Prekorjah v župniji Vojnik pri Celju, očetu Antonu in materi Barbari, roj. Videmšek, ena od dvanajstih otrok. Po smrti svoje prve žene, ki mu je zapustila štiri otroke, se je oče ponovno poročil in mati Barbara jim je bila najboljša mati poleg svojih osmih otrok. Vsi so ji vračali ljubezen tudi, ko so bili že odrasli. Oče Anton je bil sposoben, skrben in trden gospodar z velikim posestvom.

V tej globoko verni družini, ki je dala Cerkvi tri redovnice, se je Pepca naučila tiste ljubezni, ki jo je odlikovala vse življenje. Štirinajstletna je nekje staknila knjižico o sv. Mali Tereziji, jo skrbno skrila na podstrešju in jo skrivaj hodila gledat in prosit, da bi v njen red stopila. Svojo tajno željo je zaupala svoji starejši sestri, ki je že bila redovnica in doživela mrzel poziv: "Karmeličank ni v Sloveniji, v Francijo pa ne moreš, ker ne znaš francosko!"

Toda Pepca je imela vztrajnost svojega očeta, ki ga zlepa ni kaj vrglo iz tira. Prijavila se je za kuharski tečaj pri Šolskih sestrah v Repnjah in tam spet hodila gledat sv. Malo Terezijo v kapelo. Med duhovnimi vajami je zvedela za Karmeličanke na Selu. Bila je sprejeta, 14. maja je mama pospremila 18-letno Pepco v Karmel. Leta 1936 je položila svoje prve obljube. Z vzem svojim mladostnim žarom se je izročila Gospodu. Z dovoljenjem svojega spovednika g. dr. Cirila Potočnika se je ponudila Bogu kot žrtev za duhovnike.

Vojna vihra tudi Karmelu na Selu ni prizanesla. 1948 je bil samostan razpuščen. S. Cirila je želela še naprej oskrbovati karmelsko cerkev, a so jo domači prosili, naj pri-

de streč svoji težko bolni sestri v Celje, materi dveh nedoraslih otrok. Po nasvetu spovednika: "ljubezen zahteva, da greste", je odšla.

Po sestri smrti je po vztrajnih prošnjah z dovoljenjem odšla v avstrijski Karmel v Linz l. 1953, kjer je že bilo nekaj starejših sester selskega Karmela. Priorica je bila vesela pomoč mlade sestre, ki je nesebično zagrabila za vsako delo. Polnih 16 let je pekla hostije, oskrbovala vrt in čistila velik samostan.

Leta 1967 so se vrnila prve Karmeličanke iz Avstrije v Mengeš. Pridružila se jim je tudi s. Cirila, čeprav so ji v Linzu odsvetovali. Kratko je odgovorila: "Sem se že odločila!" Pomagala je pri zunanji gradnji ter znosila ves pesek na nadstropje za nove celice, kmalu pa tudi pri notranji rasti skupnosti kor urejala z mirom in dobroto. V njen zadnji priorat je padla tudi gradnja samostana v Sori, ki ga je končala s pomočjo škofijskega ekonomista. Celotna ta gradnja je uspela z njenim velikim zaupanjem v Boga in na priprošnje Marijinega brezmadežnega srca.

Leta 1992 se je 16. maja odprla možnost novega Karmela v Mirni peči. Pokojna Angela Makše je podarila v ta namen hišo in zemljišče tik ob stari cesti v Novo mesto. Prva se je javila s. Cirila rekoč: "Še to žrtev hočem doprinesti pred smrtjo!" Na pomisleke drugih je odločno ponovila: "sem se že odločila".

Takoj po naselitvi je posekala grmovje za butarice, tudi kose se ni ustrašila in čez 14 dni že spet pekla hostije v zasilnem prostoru. S svojo marljivostjo si je pridobila naklonjenost vseh ljudi, ki so prišli z njo v stik.

Gospod pa ni pozabil njene izročitve v žrtev. 22. aprila 1994 jo je pri pomivanju posode po zajtrku zadela kap. To je bil velik udarec za skupnost treh sester, prav tako za s. Cirilo, ki ni poznala brezdolja. Jokala je in zdihovala: "O, ko bi mogla hoditi..." A kmalu se je odločno zbrala: "O, ne, moj poklic je trpljenje!" Od tedaj je pogumno sprejela božjo voljo in vsa leta pogumno nosila svoj križ - na vozičku skoraj 10 let.

Z molitvijo na vozičku je živo spremljala dogajanje v Cerkvi in domovini, pa tudi gradnjo novega samostana, ki je sedaj hitro napredovala. Kako je bilo Bogu všeč njeno nesebično trpljenje in prošnja dokazuje tudi to, da ni bilo pri gradnji nobene nesreče.

Lani pred božičem se je njeno zdravje poslabšalo, a je še pristvovala polničnici in vsak dan sv. maši, do srede, 10. marca, ko je popolnoma obležala.

Na vprašanje, če bi gospod prišel po njo, je odgovorila: "Z vsem srcem Ga sprejemem. Jezus, veš, nisem vredna, ampak potrebna tvoje ljubezni in usmiljenja," je mirno dostavila. "V življenju sem veliko trpela." S poudarkom je dostavila: "Vse življenje sem služila Bogu in skupnosti." Na vprašanje, kaj jo sedaj najbolj tolaži, je odgovorila: "To, da sem vedno rada hodila k sv. maši." In potem: "Vse sestre bom priporočila Mariji." Čez čas: "Z Marijo se bom o vsem pogovorila, za take kandidatije, ki se bodo žrtvovala za rešenje sveta, ki ne bodo iskale lahkega življenja, za take, ki bodo odvzele starejšim sestram breme." To so bile njene zadnje besede v presledkih.

Dne 15. marca so se pokazali znaki, da Gospod ni več daleč. Hišni duhovnik ji je zvečer ob navzočnosti vseh sester podelil sv. maziljenje, sv. popotnico in popolni odpustek. Naslednji dan je zastalo srce te močne žene molitve in vere, ki se je popolnoma žrtvovala za duhovnike. Dne 18. marca je vodil pogreb msgr. škof Andrej Glavan z 8 duhovniki. Po sv. maši so jo duhovniki in sestre spremlili iz kapele na samostansko pokopališče v klavzuri. Drago sestro priporočamo v molitev. Naj počiva v miru!

19. marca je bila slovesnost prvih zaobljub novinke s. Mirjam, kar je prisostvoval nadškof dr. Franc Rode. Tako so imele v enem tednu dve nevesti: prva s svojimi 88 leti je končala skrito in bogato življenje, druga s 30 leti šele začenja svoje redovno življenje."

Koliko skritih, podobnih duš je že odšlo v večnost. Ni so zapisane v koledarju svetnikov, a so pri Bogu in prosijo za nas, da ne omahnemo na poti proti nebesom. Ko bomo tja dospeli, bomo našli vse te skromne, a bogate in se z njimi veselili ter hvalili Boga. Naj nam pomagajo po Jezusovi dobroti.

Vse vam bralcem ter vrstic želim v imenu vseh sodelujočih prav lepo praznovanje Jezusovega vstajenja. Veselimo se in veselo pojmo Alelujo!

Marica Lavriša
1004 Dillewood Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44119

Novi grobovi

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

Marolt, hčerka Johna in Anne (oba že pok.), nečakinja Mary Marolt. Pogreb je bil 3. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Marije Magdalene s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Rosemary A. Schneider

Umrla je 48 let stara Rosemary A. Schneider, rojena Zorman 20. junija 1955 v Clevelandu, mati Christopherja in Lindsay, sestra Mary Mohar, Estelle, Franka ml., Justine Ovsenik, Helen, Thomas, Millie Schwartz in Josepha, bivša žena Tom-a, hčerka Alojzije in Franka Zorman (oba že pok.), slikarka po poklicu. Pogreb je bil 5. aprila v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda na Chardon Rd. s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Frančiška Asiškega v Gates Millsu s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Rudolph Zupancic

Umrl je 61 let stari Rudolph Zupancic, oče Christine in Marka, sin Rudolpha (pok.) in Mildren, roj. Sterle, brat Johanne Pope, veteran vietnamske vojne. Potreb je bil 5. aprila v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojnikov spomin St. Mary Church Building Fund, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110.

Andrew P. Zupanc

Umrl je 85 let stari Andrew P. Zupanc iz Clevelanda, stric Pat LaFever, roj. Anslovar, brat Fred-a, Anne in Josephine Anslovar (vsi že pok.). Pogreb je bil 6. marca. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojnikov spomin Slovene Home for the Aged Foundation, 18621 Neff Rd., Cleveland, OH 44119.

Rudy F. Simcic

Dne 3. aprila je umrl Rudy F. Simcic, vdovec po Marie, brat Louisa, Gizelle Balmert ter že pok. Fred-a, Franka in Zore Beinhart, stric in prastric. Pogreb je bil 7. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Alberta Velikega s pokopom na Sv. Križu pokopališču.

Joseph L. FORTUNA

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