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Stukelj Lives Olympian Life in Careful Balance

By Kirk Johnson

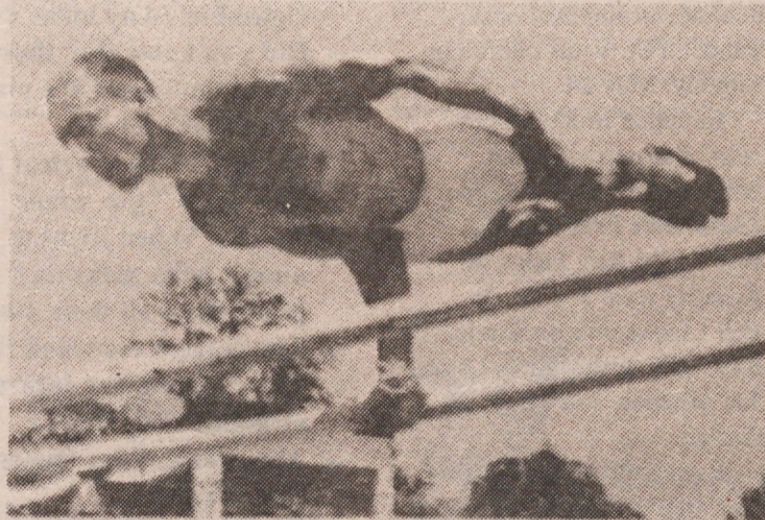
The New York Times

(April 18) -- In the 1924 Paris Olympics, Leon Stukelj, then a 26-year-old lawyer and gymnast from Yugoslavia (Slovenia), was photographed on his way to winning one of his two gold medals that year: raised up on his hands above the mat, every muscle etched, his legs extended in front of him at a precise elevated angel; he gazed intently into the distance.

In the lobby of the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Manhattan this week, 74 years later, it all looked much the same. Mr. Stukelj, now 99,

vanced age, but almost because of it.

His explanation for this is a life force he calls synchronization. The unusual physical and mental discipline of gymnastics, he said, combined with a career in law, formed a fabric and a way of life that Mr. Stukelj said has shaped him, sharpened him and kept him young. In his late 90's he has become an ambassador for a message that can seem, in an often graceless age of mega-deals, commercial endorsements and petulant prima donna athletes, as dated and faded as the Olympic photographs that Mr. Stukelj



NO WASTED MOTION Leon Stukelj won three Olympic gold medals in gymnastics for Yugoslavia. Now 99, he visited New York this week.



John Sotomayor/The New York Times

"Be involved, be on the move, and do not give up until the end of your life." — Leon Stukelj

positioned his hands on the arms of his chair, adjusted them slightly to find his grip as though preparing for a routine on the parallel bars, and rose from his seat. Extending his legs at 90 degrees, he held them there, then flexed in and out, suspended once more.

"Now that I'm getting a little old, I have to be a little careful," he said, returning to earth. "But the feeling is still in my heart today — if I see some movement, I would just like to do it if I see a handstand, I would just like to go and do it."

Mr. Stukelj (pronounced SHTUkel) is the world's oldest surviving Olympic gold medal winner, according to the International Olympic Committee. He knew Jesse Owens. He watched Johnny Weismuller swim to victory in 1928 in Amsterdam and he still vividly remembers being near the reviewing stand in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin as Hitler celebrated the sporting triumphs of the Third Reich, surrounded by the black and red trappings of the Nazis.

But Mr. Stukelj has done far more than simply survive. Along with millions of other people who are living with barely diminished vigor into years once reserved for front-porch rockers and lap shawls, he has found a way to thrive not despite his ad-

whips from his wallet; that sport can make you better as a human being.

Mr. Stukelj, who lives in Slovenia, came to New York this week — his first trip to the city — for no greater or lesser purpose than to visit a gymnastic school in Westchester County called Dynamic Gymnastics, which had invited him to come. The advice he said he planned to give the students is the same he always took for himself: "Be involved, be on the move, and do not give up until the end of your life," he said in Slovenian. "Gymnastics is the healthiest kind of sport in my mind because it is the most different physically and psychologically," he said. "It is the synchronization of my life that I have been doing since 1908, and that is what is keeping me."

At 5 feet 3 inches and 108 pounds — very nearly his competition weight in the 1920s and 1930s — Mr. Stukelj is an old-world gentleman who bows stiffly from the waist and leaps to his feet at the approach of a lady whose hand he might kiss. He was born in the days of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, competed as an athlete for the nation of Yugoslavia that was created after World War I, and has lived long enough to see himself lionized as a national icon after Slovenia — a

tiny nation of two million — gained its independence in 1991. He was pictured on his new nation's first postage stamp and on the five-tolar coin, which is worth about 30 cents.

The Slovenia State Secretary for Tourism, Tomaz Zajc said, as a friend and as a kind of adopted son. Mr. Zajc (pronounced ZICE) clucks to Mr. Stukelj not to overexert himself when he performs demonstrations like the levitation's from his chair. Mr. Stukelj adds with a joke that he has done plenty to boost Mr. Zajc's career in return.

"Through managing me, he became the state secretary for tourism," Mr. Stukelj said.

Mr. Stukelj, who earned a total of six Olympic medals, including three gold, two bronze and a silver, is not especially nostalgic about his early years. He says that today's professional athletes can attain feats beyond those of his era, when many athletes had to earn a living outside their sport. And he looks back on some moments of his career not as an idyllic time, but one of outright horror — especially 1936, when Germany expropriated the Olympics as an

elaborately staged exercise in propaganda.

"Their red flag had the color of blood," he said.

Mr. Stukelj said such experiences, both in athletics and life in general, have pushed him toward a place where the center, what he describes as the point of perfect moderation, is valued above all else.

"I look at everything, left

and right, and then try to see the middle point and what is correct," he said. "Only compromise can bring you forward."

How and why Mr. Stukelj came to New York also reveals much about him: Emil Gaspari simply called him on the telephone and invited him. That story goes like this: Gaspari, who was born in Slovenia and grew up worshipping Mr. Stukelj, now lives in northern Westchester, and is married to Ann Gaspari, who is assistant director of the Tom Thumb Preschool in Mohican Lake, which is owned by Nancy Brophy, who also owns the gymnastic school.

Mr. Gaspari, who acted as an interpreter between Mr. Stukelj and a non-Slovenian-speaking reporter, got Mr. Stukelj's telephone number in Slovenia last year, described the school, and Mr. Stukelj, after consulting with Mr. Zajc, said yes. A subsequent request to be

honored at the National Collegiate Athletic Association gymnastics championship this weekend at Pennsylvania State University was turned down because Mr. Zajc thought it would be too exerting. Mr. Stukelj and Mr. Zajc are to return home today after three days of sightseeing and V.I.P. stops.

Mr. Stukelj said he has work to return to. He is suing the Government (of Slovenia). His house in Maribor, which was given to him and his wife, Lidija, by her father as a wedding present 65 years ago, was nationalized during the Communist era in Yugoslavia, and Mr. Stukelj is trying to get it back, he said, so that he can pass it on to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is representing himself in court, of course.

"I'm getting older and older and it takes too long," he said of the lawsuit. "This is a scandal."

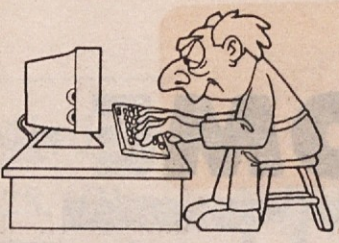
100th Anniversary Paper

This year the American Home newspaper (Ameriška Domovina) is observing its 100th anniversary since its founding in 1898. It is now the oldest Slovenian newspaper in the world!

We will be issuing a 16-page special edition with spot color. It will be printed on heavier paper and be dated the week of July 4th. This paper will feature the history of American Home with some interesting photos.

Readers, who wish, may send in advertisements for the 100th anniversary edition. Name and address is \$10. Two column by 4" ads are \$100. A half-page is \$500, and a full page is \$1,000. Proceeds will be put towards the \$16,000 projected cost of printing press repairs.

To become a permanent part of our historic paper, send your advertisement and/or comments to American Home, 100th Anniversary, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103.



John Mercina once posed the question, "What does 'Sniff the Breeze' mean?"

Since nobody has been able to discover the answer, or bothered to inquire into the matter, and by this time even the questioner has forgotten the solution, I have decided to intercede.

I looked into the Internet under nautical terms and found 500 of them but nowhere is "Sniff the Breeze" listed. Therefore I did the next best logical thing and asked the world's most famous consulting detective "Slovenian Homes" about a clarification.

Slovenian was standing outside Nosan's Bakery located in the Slovenian National Home Building at 6413 St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland. Dr. Janez Stout, his companion, (and consultant to Dr. Anthony Spech), was also starring at the red sign located therein. It read, "For Sale."

"This is a sad day for the world," said Slovenian Homes, "that one of the city's most happy, happy places will no longer be able to function due to the death of master baker, Joe Nosan."

Stout concurred with the illustrious detective.

As the distinguished duo walked down St. Clair Avenue heading north, they turned down East 62nd Street. There were some neat houses there with pretty flowers and shrubs in the front yards. They passed Grdina Playground where youngsters were engaged in the American sport of softball. They made a left turn on E. 61st and noticed the beautiful lawns and flowers. The residents were busy pruning, trimming, and planting a large variety of vegetables, especially lettuce, carrots, and Slovenian pole beans.

"They're anxiously awaiting the end of May when tomato plants can be inserted in the ground outdoors," Homes remarked.

"Jolly good," agreed Stout. "By the by, have you given any thought to the puzzle concerning the sniffing of the air, or whatever," said Stout.

"Indeed I have," answered Slovenian Homes. "I first ran across it in Herman Melville's story, Moby Dick, where Captain Ahab says, 'Let me sniff thee up, sea breeze!,' but I have been

unable to comprehend its exact connotation."

Just as they looked up, Joe Hovevar, the KSKJ Second National Vice President, and St. Vitus financial adviser, drove past on his way to the Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine to make sure they were ready for the annual Marija Pomagaj Devotions on Saturday, May 23.

Some further commotion caught their attention as a group of St. Vitus Catholic War Veterans came marching by under the leadership of Sgt. Tony Baznik. They were preparing for the annual Memorial Day observance in St. Vitus church on Sunday, May 24.

Included in the procession of expert riflemen, commentators, and color-guard were Frank Ljubi, Bob Mills, Ray Jasko, Al Koporc, John J. Kirk, Jr., Bill Lipold, Joe Baskovic, Rev. Bill Jerse, James Logar, Joe Mismas, and Tony Grdina.

Even with all these military men milling about, none seemed able to answer the question "What does sniff the breeze, mean?"

After pondering the situation for a while, the dauntless duo hopped into Karl Klesin's passing white limousine and headed to their favorite location to investigate the inquiry. Where else would Homes go but to Holmes County, Ohio, the home of the amiable and hard-working Amish farmers.

Driving along various country roads they first stopped at a drive-in restaurant for some take-out lunch. They drove up to the speaker and immediately a sound came out, "Squ#@%&?"

Stout said, "How do you do my good fellow! We' like two Whoppers with no mayonnaise, and a salad with low-fat Italian dressing."

The speaker replied, "Squ####!"

"What do you suppose they want?" said Stout.

"They want to know if you'd like two double cheeseburgers, french fries, and a coke for \$2.29."

"If I wanted that, I'd order that," Stout said. He repeated his order into the speaker which also is a microphone. The message came back, "Squ####!"

"What did they say this time?"

"Opportunity knocks only once, but temptation bangs on the door for the rest of your life."

Undaunted, Stout repeated his order once again. The response came back immediately, "Squ####!"

"They want to know if you're on a diet, said Slovenian Home.

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS by John Mercina

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P.O. Box 99251
Cleveland, Oh 44199

- => COCA COLA was originally green in color.
- => It is possible to lead a cow upstairs but not downstairs.
- => Men can read smaller print than women. (When they want to...)
- => Cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$ 6,400
- => The world's youngest parents were 8 and 9 and lived in China in 1910.
- => The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom Sawyer
- => The only 15 letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter: Uncopyrightable. (Any ideas as to the Slovenian word?)
- => Did you know that there are coffee flavored PEZ?
- => When opossums are playing "possum", they are not playing. They actually pass out from sheer terror.
- => "I am." is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.
- => The term "the whole 9 yards" came from W.W. II fighter pilots in the South Pacific. When arming their airplanes on the ground, the .50 caliber machine gun ammo belts measured exactly 27 feet, before being loaded into the fuselage. If the pilots fired all their ammo at a target, it got "the whole 9 yards."
- => The longest recorded flight of a chicken is thirteen seconds.
- => The Eisenhower interstate system requires that one mile in every five must be straight. OK, WHY?
- => The cruise liner, Queen Elizabeth II, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.
- => The highest point in Pennsylvania is lower than the lowest point in Colorado.
- => The first toilet ever seen on television was on "Leave It To Beaver".
- => Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older.

ABOVE IS AN EXAMPLE OF USELESS KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU CAN USE TO TRAP SOMEONE WHO CLAIMS "TO KNOW IT ALL"

Frustrated, Homes reminded Staut of the famous saying of Albert Einstein "In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity. So, the two moseyed on over to the Amish Door Restaurant for some genuine Amish southern Ohio fried chicken and scrumptious freshly-baked bread covered with apple-honey spread which lie in abundant supply at the salad bar. Served on the plate were scads of fluffy homemade mashed potatoes and green beans. Sitting nearby was Stanley Frank and some of the St. Clair Pensioners.

Later, as they walked along the narrow highway, they came upon a large Army tent inside which there was an auction in progress. After bidding on a few quality hand-crafted items, they walked outside and noticed John Mercina himself selecting a large homemade blueberry pie he was purchasing for a friend.

Homes and Stout were enjoying the fresh country air scented with newly-mowed grass. As they stood at the horse-park to admire the animals, Homes suddenly exclaimed. "I have it!"

"Kaj je odgovor?" (What is the answer) said his Slovenian friend, Stout.

"I just sniffed the breeze and the solution hit me square in the face."

"Do you know the answer?"

"Can Sarah Brightman hit a high note? Is Richie Vadnal well known in Slovenia? Can Duke Marsic play the clarinet? Does Father Kumse like to climb mountains?"

"Don't hold us in suspense," Staut responded. What is it?"

"Whenever you're walking around in the countryside with farm animals in residence, the strength of the wind does not come from its velocity, but rather from the pungent aroma it carries, especially when you 'Sniff the Breeze'."

Comments: Jim's Journal, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103. Fax: (216) 361-4088, e-mail jim@buckeyeweb.com

Correction

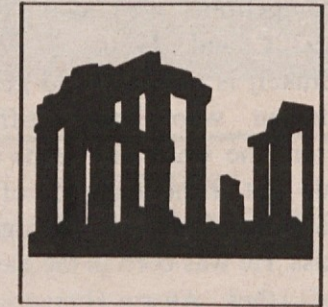
Just finished reading Rudy Flis' complementary article about the Saturday evening Slovenian radio on WCPN. I would like to point out a glaring error in the article.

The radio show is hosted by, and always has been hosted by my good friend Tony Ovsenik, not myself (Duke Marsic) as was erroneously stated in the article three times.

I read the latest news from Slovenia twice weekly (Wednesdays and Saturdays) on Tony Petkovsek's radio show on WELW / WDLW 1330/1380 AM.

--Duke Marsic

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The Dead Speak to the Living

By Stane Kuhar

As of this writing the northeast Ohio American Slovenian communities will have approximately five months to prepare and plan for one of the most anticipated events in 1998. That is the annual Baraga Days which have been held every year since 1948.

The Baraga Weekend Activities have been held in Ohio only twice previously, in 1976 and 1979.

Irenaeus Frederik Baraga was born over 200 years ago on June 29, 1797, traditionally observed in the Catholic Church as the Feast Day of SS. Peter and Paul. I.F. Baraga did not use his first name and went by the name of Frederik for the remainder of his life.

Frederik Baraga was born into an aristocratic and landed Slovenian family as the third of five children to John (Nepomuc) and Katerina (nee Jencic) Baraga. By the time Frederik Baraga was 15 years-old, both his parents were deceased.

Frederik Baraga renounced his life of wealth by answering the calling to become a priest in the Catholic Church. He was ordained in the diocese of Ljubljana (Slovenia) on September 21, 1823. He as an acknowledged linguist and legal scholar, having graduated with a law degree from the University of Vienna. Father Baraga spent nearly seven years as a parish priest in his native Slovenia homeland before finally receiving word that he is accepted as a missionary priest in the Upper Great Lakes region of the United States.

Father Baraga set foot in New York City on December 31, 1830. From this date until he passed away on January 19, 1868 Frederik Baraga spent 37 years in the United States as a priest to primarily the Indians in North America, especially the Ottawa and Chippewa tribes and the incoming flood of European immigrants in that region.

Despite his death nearly 130 years ago, Bishop Baraga speaks to us today in the late 1990s in the same manner he lived and taught in the 1800s: lead a life of prayer - care for one another - help educate one another - respect one another as you respect yourself.

Baraga's time in the United States is also a story of the then emerging and developing American

Catholic Church whose history was lived and written by the pioneers such as Baraga, and other Slovenian missionary and immigrant priests, religious and laity.

Baraga had the tremendous responsibility and task of truly developing love for God and neighbor in the Upper Great Lakes region that was beginning to experience explosive, and at times corrupt, economic development that often showed the negative side of mankind where money and material goods often had a higher value than human life.

Baraga used his linguist and legal training to secure property rightfully owned by various Indian tribes whose land and natural resources were literally being robbed by the "new" settlers. In addition to this work, Baraga helped establish schools, chapels, churches, and other spiritual and social services.

The 5'4"-to-5'5" tall missionary traveled more than 80,000 square miles on foot (often on snowshoes), canoe, or horseback.

From such a small nation (Republic of Slovenia has approximately 2 million people with another 500,000 scattered first, second, third, fourth, and succeeding generations around the world), Baraga alongside many other like-minded and dedicated persons, provided the initial building blocks for the American Catholic Church in America. He died a pauper in a small wooden framed house after a period of failing health.

The Cleveland Catholic Diocese will host the Bishop Baraga weekend activities during the Labor Day weekend of September 5 and 6.

Ohio Slovenian-Americans have an opportunity to be hospitable and generous hosts to many visitors who will be coming from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, New York, Michigan, Toronto, Hamilton, Canada, and about 100 persons from Slovenia.

The Baraga Days provide the opportunity, and everyone is invited to participate in the events to see and hear about the advancement of the Cause for Sainthood of our Slovenian Bishop Frederik Baraga.

As Bishop Baraga said, *Est Necessarium* (One thing is necessary), -- Love of God and Neighbor.

The events include a Concelebrated Slovenian Mass on **Saturday, Sept. 5** at 6:30 p.m. in St. Vitus Church, 6019 Glass Ave., Cleveland. A social will

follow in the St. Vitus Parish auditorium.

On **Sunday, Sept. 6**, there will be a 2:00 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 1029 Superior Ave. and E. 9th St., downtown Cleveland.

Following the Mass, a banquet and annual Bishop Baraga Meeting will be held in the Slovenian National Home, 6407 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland.

Ticket prices for the banquet will be announced next week as well as where to purchase them. The out-of-town guests have already requested 300 of the 500 available dinner tickets.

SHA Birthdays

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

Date, Name, Age, Birth-place

4-01 - Frances Peterlin, 89, Cleveland

4-03 - Emma Kracker, 100, Cleveland

4-04 - Augustina Cicigoi, 100, Udine Italy

4-04 - Mary Drobnick, 92, Slovenia

4-04 - Sophia Posch, 92, Cleveland

4-06 - Mary Marria, 101, Cleveland

Anna Tekavec, 85, Slovenia

Verna Kalich, 88, Hungary

4-09 - Frank Glinsek, 92, Slovenia

4-17 - Antoinette Oczak, 90, Poland

4-17 - Anna Vidmar, 101, Slovenia

4-20 - Louise Waterwash, 71, Cleveland

4-23 - Katherine Chuck, 101, Slovenia

4-27 - Helen Kovacic, 89, Croatia

4-30 - Fanny Kaltenbach, 89, Euclid, Ohio

Al Koporc, Jr.

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Good News, Bad News

I have good news and bad news.

Good new first. Someone does read my articles. Bad news, my article in the April 16 issue of American Home named Duke Marsic as announcer of the fine Slovenian Radio Show Saturday evenings on WCPN - 90.3 FM at 9:05 p.m. *Mea culpa, mea culpa, mea maxima culpa* and sincere apologies to Tony Ovsenik, excellent announcer of the Slovenian program that I enjoy so much.

I am sure you would like to know where I came up with Duke Marsic as the announcer. When I figure it out, I'll let you know. Keep up the good work Tony Ovsenik. I'll be listening this Saturday evening at 9:05 p.m. to enjoy your music and comments about Slovenia. Readers of Ameriška Domovina also share my enthusiasm and appreciation.

I was busy this entire weekend and did not prepare an article for the Ameriška Domovina. But, one of Ameriška Domovina readers was kind enough to call me and let me know of my mistake.

This is a letter of apology. And I seek forgiveness from both Duke Marsic and Tony Ovsenik. "I am sorry!"

--Rudy Flis



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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEETING

The annual meeting of members of the **SLOVENE HOME FOR THE AGED** will be held on Friday, May 15th, 1998 at the **SLOVENIAN WORKMEN'S HOME** 15335 Waterloo Road, Cleveland, Ohio

Registration: 7:00 p.m. - Meeting 7:30 p.m.

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 5/15/98 meeting, this is the period from 4/1/97 through 3/31/98

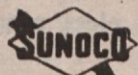
(Apr 2, 23, May 7)

Perkins Restaurant

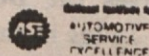
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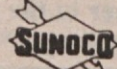
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Mireille Rijavec Sings in Edmonton Concert

Mireille Rijavec, mezzo-soprano sang in concert at the La Librairie Le Carrefour hall, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on Saturday evening, March 7th at 8 p.m. Mireille performed pieces by de Falls, Massenet, Saint-Saens, and Bizet, among others.

Born in Edmonton, Mireille Rijavec began her musical studies in piano. Voice studies came later, after she started a career in the public service in Ottawa.

Once she began to seriously study voice, her career also began to blossom. In 1994, Mireille became a member of the opera Lyra Ottawa's Associate Artists program where she understudied the role of "Maldalena" in the company's September 1994 production of *Rigoletto*.

In September 1995, she also understudied the role of "Marcellina" in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*. Mireille's main-stage debut came as "Kate Pinkerton" in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*,

also with Opera Lyra Ottawa.

Mireille is presently completing a Master's of Music degree at the University of British Columbia and studying with Canadian lyric coloratura, Nancy Hermiton. In December, the UBC Opera Ensemble toured the opera *Hansel and Gretel* in conjunction with the Kamloops Symphony and the Okanagan Symphony Orchestra in Kelowna.

This last summer, the Opera Ensemble toured Mozart's *Magic Flute* in Germany and the Czech Republic where Mireille sang the role of "Third Lady."

In Vancouver, Mireille is an ensemble member of Opera Breve, a company which specializes in chamber operas. On March 14, Mireille performed with Opera Breve in a show entirely sponsored by the Vancouver Sun.

Mireille is the daughter of Florian and Yvonne Rijavec of Edmonton. Helena Rijavec of Rijavci (close to Trhovo) Nova Goricia is her proud grandmother.

Rediscovery: SLOVENIA OFF THE MAIN ROADS

To all generations of Slovenian-Americans we extend an invitation to a journey of rediscovery: "Slovenia off the Main Roads".

This sixteen day, fully-escorted motorcoach tour visits a bold "new land" with a revitalized spirit. We have planned an original and extended itinerary giving you the opportunity to experience anew your Slovenian heritage whether this be your first or one of many visits to Slovenia. On this journey touching all eight provinces, you will experience new sights in areas not visited on any previous tours.

Discover and rediscover! In addition to some of the most popular destinations, travel the byways - not the highways - to sights worth slowing down for as you visit the country of your ancestors. Explore the Pannonian plains of Prekmurje; hear on the spot the legends of Koroska and Notranjska; wander in the low lands of Stajerska, Dolenjska, and Bela Krajina and relax in their spa resorts. All the while enjoy tasty food prepared in gostilnas and country restaurants where wines remain good dinner companions.

In Gorenjska meet the sprawling Kamnik, Karavanke, and Julian Alps. Later, enjoy the relaxing quality of life in the fragrant Mediterrean climate of the Adriatic coast and bask in its sun and sea. Relax on a dinner cruise along the Slovenian coastline, and enjoy the flavor of a wine and champagne sampling event hosted by knowledgeable leaders.

Some of the activities along with some of the sights that you will experience are the welcome party, museums, castles, monasteries, a sea cruise, Mt. Triglav in Vrata Valley, Skocjan Caves, ethnic music and dance, Venice, shopping, current events, and much more.

Join your tour director in talks and discussions about your Slovenian heritage from the prehistoric inhabitants of present-day Slovenia, the early Slavs and the Veneti, to your ancestors of today. Learn about the Duchy of Carantania, the Franks, the Hapsburgs rule, the Turkish invasions, peasant uprisings, Napoleon, the revolution of 1848, the two World Wars, and on to the present time.

Together with family and friends, return to your ethnic homeland and rediscover your heritage while journeying to breathtaking areas not included on any previous tour to Slovenia. Delight in the many high

points of your trip as you ride in the comfort of a modern luxury motorcoach. Enjoy comfortable accommodations with sumptuous meals and old-world hospitality as part of a tour conducted and narrated in English by an experienced and knowledgeable tour director.

To find out more about this fun, exciting, and informative heritage journey call:

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Ask for Mike.

Departures are on July 7 and 21, and August 4 and 18. Groups, clubs, and organizations with at least fifteen people may choose their own departure date.



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GARY BUKOVNIK

RECENT WORK

May 7-30, 1998

Reception for the Artist:
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Gallery Hours
9:00-5:00 Monday-Friday
9:00-3:00 Saturday

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Leon Stukelj celebrates 100th birthday

While visiting New York City, Slovenian gold medal gymnast Leon Stukelj celebrated his 100th birthday.

During a visit to the Empire State Building, the elevator stopped on the 100th floor and his hosts opened Champaign to honor the special occasion.

Stukelj, the world's oldest living Olympic gold-medalist, also visited the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and Slovenians living in New York.

He gave a few pointers: Don't smoke, or eat or drink to excess.

JEROME A.

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TO CONGRESS

11th Congressional District



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KATHLEEN O'MALLEY

For Judge Domestic Relations Court

- ✓ Currently Magistrate in the Domestic Relations Court
- ✓ Seventeen years with Department of Children and Family Services
- ✓ Eight Years Attorney in Private Practice
- ✓ masters Degree in Sociology

UNIQUE AND QUALIFIED CANDIDATE

Seventeen years as a social worker with the Department of Children and Family Services dealing with families in crises and with experience as a Magistrate in the Domestic Relations Court gives the Democratic Party the opportunity to elect a unique and qualified candidate Judge in the Domestic Relations Court.

ABILITY TO WIN FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Kathleen O'Malley is the candidate who can defeat Republican John Gallagher in the general election.

Paid for by Friends of Kathleen O'Malley, 26720 Normandy Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140, Robert Gesing, Treas (216) 241-7255

Kollander Travel - 75 Years in Business

AMERISKA DOMOVINA, APRIL 23, 1998

It isn't often in this day and age that you see a business managed by the same family for over 75 years. Now in 1998, Kollander World Travel has the distinction of being the oldest family-owned travel business in the Greater Cleveland area and one of the oldest in North America.

Kollander World Travel first opened its doors in May of 1923 with August Kollander, Sr. in the Slovenian community at E. 65th and St. Clair Avenue. At that time, the majority of the business was booking transatlantic steamship passage, and sending money and packages to relatives in Europe. It was a simple two-man office until 1957 when August Kollander II joined the team, and would eventually expand the office operation to close to 30 travel professionals at its present two-story main headquarters, located at 971 E. 185th Street (just off I-90) in Cleveland, Ohio.

Kollander majored with a degree in economics and had worked in the travel industry in Europe prior to joining the firm in the United States. Because of his business orientation and exposure to the unlimited possibilities

Europe had to offer, August Kollander saw huge potential in group travel for the large ethnic community of Cleveland. He chartered airplanes to make overseas travel convenient and affordable for his clients. He met with huge success in creating special heritage tours, and tailor-made escorted tours that visited countries particularly of Central Europe.

His wife, Maia, joined the team in 1958 and together they created a solid foundation to allow Kollander World Travel to grow. They had the foresight to package tours that met the individual needs of various affinity groups. The Kollanders gained the reputation for being knowledgeable, honest, hard-working and able to provide their clients with the kind of vacation travel that their clients demanded.

In 1967, they asked Cleveland radio personality Tony Petkovsek to join the partnership as Executive Vice President. Popular in the Slovenian community, Petkovsek had been actively involved with the promotion of polka music, and together they originated the "Polka Tour" idea, establishing Kollander World Travel as the "Polka Tour Headquarters." He has broadcast his

daily show, on location, in his own studio from the Kollander Travel complex.

After finishing college, their daughter Anne Marie joined the firm in 1984 and became directly involved in creating the Kollander corporate travel department as well as helping the company make the transition into the age of high technology. A few years later, her husband, Michael Benz, added his remarkable talents to further improving and widening the general operations of the company.

Today Kollander World Travel offers a broad array of all the aspects of travel. The office has a cruise department, group department, business / corporate travel department as well as the individual vacation travel department. "This perfect mix of services allows us to remain competitive regardless of the changes in the world, economy and travel industry itself," says Michael Benz who is now President of the company and is proud to say that Kollander has a special association with the Woodside Travel Trust, a well-known consortium of 130 travel agencies operating in 4000 locations.

"We have the good fortune of an excellent reputation and solid foundation of three quarters of a century of travel business behind us. Our clients know they will be dealing with experienced agents who can attend to their travel needs regardless of what part of the world their travel takes them. That is crucial in today's market. A lot of our business is repeat and referral," says Joey Tomsick, a nine-year partner in the organization and Vice President.

"Our biggest asset is our friendly staff. Most of them have been with us or many years and have traveled far and wide, giving our clients the benefit of their professional expertise and first-hand knowledge of the product," said Anne Marie Kollander-Benz, Chief Financial Officer. Modern technology and communications affords the office maximum efficiency to include an Internet e-mail address which is KWTravel@aol.com

In over 75 years of its existence, Kollander World Travel has handled destinations and groups that are as varied in the number of participants as they are in the choice of vacation spots. In addition to planning exotic tours to the Far East, India, China, Australia and South



Kollander World Travel Partners (left to right), Joey Tomsick, Tony Petkovsek, Maia Kollander, August Kollander, Anne Marie Kollander-Benz, and Michael Benz.

Africa for select groups, the agency has also organized many trips of heritage and pilgrimage themes to Europe, as well as groups numbering into the hundreds on Caribbean cruises, Hawaii, Mexico and Las Vegas.

Well-known local personalities and a number of well-established fraternal and civic organizations from throughout the Midwest have also called upon Kollander World Travel for complete travel arrangements.

To mark the 75th milestone year, Kollander World

Travel is hosting a celebration on Sunday, May 3rd from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at "The Manor" Party Center at 24111 Tungsten Road in Euclid, Ohio. There will be a lavish hors d'oeuvres buffet, open bar with assorted beverages, great entertainment, as well as a complete travel bazaar featuring many of the largest airlines, cruise lines and tour operators. The

highlight of the event will be the drawing for premium travel prizes, such as airline tickets, tour packages and much more.

Don't miss out on this great event. Advance tickets are \$15 from Kollander World Travel, 971 East 185th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44119. Please call (216) 692-1000 or toll free at 1-800-800-5981.

30 Years of Polka Tours Boost Kollander Travel

The polka music tours originated at Kollander World Travel, based in Cleveland, Ohio and involving tour host representatives from throughout North America, began in 1967 and have taken polka music fans around the world in a spirit of much merriment and good fellowship.

Over the years, thousands have traveled to every destination, with the consistently most popular being Alpine Europe and the Caribbean seas. Some of the most exotic have been to Australia, the Holy land, and South America.

In 1969, polka-radio hall of famer, and now Kollander's Executive Vice President, Tony Petkovsek, launched the first in a series of annual Hawaiian tours that invariably included California or Las Vegas. And speaking of Vegas, each mid-September, including 1998, Kollander is in charge of arrangements for the huge downtown Las Vegas gathering at the Plaza Hotel, promoted by Joe Cerveny of Czech Records, featuring Slovenian, German, and Bohemian style bands.

A most interesting highlight in the history was in the Holy Land, where button accordionist Frank Novak played at Christ's birth-sight

in Bethlehem.

The polka tours, besides being international, include such hot annual destinations as the new American music capital of Branson, Missouri. This June, accordionist Joey Tomsick, who heads up Kollander's marketing division, is featured as entertainer/tour host at the great polka festival at the Lawrence Welk Resort.

And mid-Summer 1998, an all-star roster of polka greats will be traveling to the "waltz" city of Vienna, Austria, and to the territory where polka music was originated and popularized in the Czech Republic and beautiful Slovenia. This peak season package will include many well-known European artists and ensembles, too.

From the steamship days of the 1920s when Kollander began, the polka music travel tradition continues by jet-age air, sleek cruise lines, modern motorcoaches, and even the Amtrak train on occasion. And every November on the Thanksgiving weekend, polka fans gather to the heart of downtown Cleveland for America's longest running polka festival, arranged by our "polka tour originators and headquarters," Kollander World Travel 1 (800) 800-5981.

NOTICE

Of Distribution of Assets of The Slovenian National Home of MAPLE HEIGHTS, Inc.

TO: All Shareholders or Creditors of the Slovenian National Home of Maple Heights, Inc.

RE: Distribution of proceeds to sale of the assets and real estate of the Slovenian National Home of Maple Heights, Inc.

On or about 10/29/96 the Shareholders voted to dissolve the Slovenian National Home of Maple Heights, Inc., sell the assets and distribute the net proceeds of sale to the Shareholders. On or about 2/3/97 the Corporations real estate at 5050 Stanley Ave., Maple Heights, Ohio was sold. On 11/14/97 a Complaint requesting supervision of the Court of Common Pleas of Cuyahoga County over the dissolution of the Corporation was filed as Case No: 343726. By Order of said Court, all persons claiming to be shareholders in the corporation and all creditors or persons having claims against the corporation must file a written proof of claim in order to receive a distribution of the proceeds of the assets. Said proof of claim must be received on or before June 15, 1998. ANYONE WHO FAILS TO FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM BEFORE 6/15/98 WILL NOT RECEIVE A DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE. Forms for submitting a proof of claim can be obtained by contacting the attorney for the Board of Trustees: Scott R. Stefl, Esq., 7844 Lakeshore Blvd., Mentor-on-the-Lake, OH 44060 at (216) 771-2607.

6 Maribor Oktet Concert in Cleveland in May

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, APRIL 23, 1998

The Mariborski oktet from Maribor, Slovenia will perform at the Slovenian Workmen's Home, 15335 Waterloo Rd., Cleveland at 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, May 7th.

The tradition of male a-cappella singing has long been at the heart of Slovenian musical culture. Nearly every village in Slovenia possesses at least one men's choir or oktet. Among the greatest of these is the Mariborski oktet - the Oktet from Maribor.

Tickets are \$10.00 and can be obtained by calling 481-2985. Tickets can also be purchased at the Polka Hall of Fame in the Euclid Shore Cultural Center or at the door the evening of the concert.

The Mariborski oktet, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, is visiting Cleveland on their way to a week-long folk music

festival in Murphysburg, Tennessee. Although the group calls itself an oktet, there are actually nine members under the artistic direction of composer Professor Mitja Reichenberg.

Since its founding in 1973, the group has presented over one thousand performances throughout Slovenia and Europe, as well as in North and South America. Its vast repertoire of Slovenian folk, classical and religious music, combined with its dedicated professionalism, have made the Mariborski oktet one of the leading vocal ensembles in Europe. They have received numerous awards in Slovenia and have been recognized at international music festivals in Europe and Latin America. The singers have recorded several albums and CDs including their most recent recording of religious music entitled "Gloria."

Coming Events

Saturday, April 25

Zarja Spring Frolic Dinner Concert at Slovenian Society home, Euclid. Doors open 4:45 p.m. Dinner 5 to 6:30; concert at 7 p.m. followed by dancing to Jeff Pecon Orchestra until midnight. Tickets \$18. Call 531-5542 or 1-440-257-2540.

Sunday, April 26

Dance at West Park Slovene Home, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland from 4 to 8 p.m., featuring Bob Kravos.

Sunday, April 26

Spring Brunch at Slovenian National Home, 6409 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland. Doors open 11:30 a.m. Featured entertainment The Kres Dancers. Members \$12.00; non-members \$14. Call 361-5335 or 391-9761.

Sunday, May 3

Slovenian May Devotion, Fontana, CA at 1:30 p.m. in St. Joseph's church, 17080 Arrow Blvd.

Happy Birthday Mom!

Born April 18, 1906



Mary Saurich Dearest Mother,

Our love will be with you
On this your 92nd birthday.

Your loving
sons: John, Joe,
daughters:
Mary Jane Jusek
Ursula Zebkar
and Families

Zarja frolics in Woodlands

The Zarja Slovenian Singing Society will present its Spring Frolic Concert on Saturday, April 25th at the Slovenian Society Home on Recher Avenue, in Euclid, Ohio.

We extend a most sincere invitation to all our friends and family to join us on this day for a good Slovenian-style dinner, a happy program of songs and entertainment, followed by dancing to the music of the Jeff Pecon Orchestra.

Doors will open at 4:45 p.m., with dinner being served from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m.

This year Zarja has chosen a comical romp in the woods entitled, "Picnic v Gozdu," written by H. Riva in 1943. Since many audiences, as well as some of our singers, are not fluent in the Slovenian language, the entire dialog has been translated into English. We have included both Slovenian and English lyrics for selected songs which enhance the plot of the concert.

You will meet "Sodček," who sings like a bird, but can't stop drinking pure spring water even during a picnic; and "Kalin," who finds a way to get lost in the woods leaving his wife "Mica" frantic, until she catches him in some mischief.

Tickets for dinner and the entertainment may be obtained from Zarja members or ordered by phone from Barbara Elersich at 1-440-257-2540, or send your check to Barbara at 5936 Dorwood Dr., Mentor, OH 44060, to assure you of certain seating; or call Vicky Kozel at 531-5542.

Price of a ticket for adults is \$18; children under 12, \$9; and dance only \$5. The Spring Frolic is always entertaining and fun, so order your tickets as soon as you are able.

Why not mark April 25th on your social calendar and join us for a truly enjoyable evening.

--Marion Bocian,
Publicity Committee

Krofe Sale

St. Vitus Altar Society will have their monthly krofe sale on Saturday, April 25 from 8 a.m. on - in the St. Vitus Social Room. Home made noodles will also be available.

Extra Subscriptions

Miss Mary Zakelj, M.D., of Belleville, MI, donated \$60.00 to the Ameriška Domovina for two deserving subscribers who can't afford a subscription.

New Address

The popular Antoinette McGrath has recently moved to Silver Pointe Retirement Apartment #106 at 19200 Roseland Avenue, Euclid, OH 44117. Her phone number is 216-481-3012.

Roseland Avenue is off East 193rd St. and Euclid Avenue.

Her friends are encouraged to call or visit.

Like Science Center Review

Enjoyed Jim's review of the Science Center overnight stay by the AMLA recently.

They were a bit apprehensive as the "first" fraternal group, but it worked out beautifully. - Some families even had three generations, including mine.

--Doris Sadar

Willoughby Hills, Ohio

Fun

The wise and knowledgeable Helena Percic of Richmond Heights renewed her Ameriška Domovina subscription and remarked, "Jim's Journal is fun to read."

Euclid Apartment for Rent

3 bedrooms, 1½ baths, apartment for rent. No pets, please. For inquiries call Kathy 440-944-1969.

(16-19)

Don't Get Trapped

By The Name Game!!!

I'm the Only

Attorney



Dominic C. Delsander

For County Recorder

Best Qualified - Experienced - Honest

Elect: Delsander May 5, 1998 (DEMOCRAT)

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Dominic C. Delsander, Dominic A. LeGaibo, Treasurer, 3809 Northwood, University Hts., OH 44118

23rd Anniversary in United States
~1975-1998~

spring&summer 98

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Imported and Domestic Beer and Wine
Soft Drinks - Milk - Ice - Snacks
Imported Slovenian Wines
Radenska Mineral Water -

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Open Mon. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday (No wine sold) 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Owner - David Heuer

DEATH NOTICES

LILLIAN A. PETEKEL

Lillian A. Pertekel (Svete); wife of Albert J.; mother of Sandra (H. Jefferson) Turner of Gates Mills; grandmother of Patrice Turner; sister of Florence Vratovic, and Evelyn Svete; daughter of John and Frances (Kmet) Svete (both deceased).

Friends received at Zele Funeral Home, 452 E. 152 St. Monday. Services Tuesday, April 7 at St. Paschal Baylon church at 11:30 a.m. Interment All Souls Cemetery.

Donations to Parmadale Family Services, 6753 State Rd., Parma, OH 44134 in her memory would be appreciated by the family.

LILLIAN JOSEPHINE KUDRNA

Lillian Josephine Kudrna (nee Bukovec), 82, died April 14, 1998 at the Slovene Home for the Aged in Cleveland.

Lillian was born in Euclid to Joseph and Katherine (both deceased). She was a homemaker and member of Holy Cross Church.

Wife of Frank J. (dec.); children: Carl, Janice Zgodinski, and Paul; grandmother of eight; sister of Charles and Albert.

Family suggests contributions to the Slovene Home for the Aged, 18621 Neff Rd., Cleveland 44119.

Arrangements by the Grdina-Faulhaber Funeral Home, 17010 Lake Shore Blvd., Cleveland.

LAVERNE A. KOSNIK

Laverne A. Kosnik (nee Youshock), 64, was the wife of Frank; mother of Sandra Corso, Kenneth Rettberg, and Kristina Kosnik; sister of Debra Kuhar, William Horvat (dec.); grandmother of Michael Sutkaytis, Kenneth Rettberg, Kenneth Rettberg, Charlotte Corso and Nicole Corso.

Family received friends Sunday, April 19 at the Zak Funeral Home, 6016 St. Clair Ave. Funeral Monday with 10 a.m. Mass in St. Vitus church.

CARST-NAGY Memorials

15425 Waterloo Rd.
481-2237

"Serving the Slovenian Community."

ZeLe Funeral Home

MEMORIAL CHAPEL

LOCATED AT

452 E. 152 Street

Phone 481-3118

Family owned and operated since 1908

ALMA KOTAR

Alma Kotar (nee Lovko), 70, died April 8, 1998 at the Cleveland Clinic.

Alma was born in Cleveland on Oct. 4, 1927 to Frank and Sophie (both dec.). She grew up in Cleveland and lived in Euclid since 1970.

She was a cook for Richmond Heights Hospital. She also worked at the Slovene Home for the Aged and Canterbury Country Club.

Wife of Frank (dec.); children: Alma Cholewa, James and Ronald. Grandchildren: Linda and Kelly; sister of Mary Piks, and the following deceased: Josie, John, Joe, Frank and Lou; aunt and great-aunt.

Interment Calvary Cemetery. Arrangements by the Grdina-Faulhaber Funeral Home, 17010 Lake Shore Blvd., Cleveland.

MARY SADAR

Mary Sadar (nee Kromar), 101, passed away at the Slovene Home for the Aged on Monday, April 6.

Mary was born in Chermoma, Slovenia; she came to the US in 1913. She was a long-time resident of Bonna Avenue in Cleveland.

Mary was a member of the Croatian Pensioners and AMLA St. Anne's Lodge No. 4.

Mary was the widow of Joseph; the mother of Joseph (deceased), Frank (wife Julia) and Albert (deceased) (wife Jeri); grandmother of Jeri, Joseph, James, Ted, Alan, Kenneth and Gary; great-grandmother of five.

Visitation was at Zele Funeral Home. Funeral services were private. Burial was in All Souls Cemetery. Donations to Slovene Home for the Aged in her memory would be appreciated by the family.

ALOISIA TURJANSKI

Aloisia Turjanski, mother of Antonija Taylor (husband: Don); grandmother of four; great-grandmother of 4.

Friends were received at the Golub Funeral Home, 4703 Superior Ave., Wednesday, April 22.

Funeral Thursday, April 23 at 9:30 a.m. in St. Vitus Church, 6019 Glass Ave. Interment Lakeview Cemetery.



STANLEY SOMMERS

Stanley Sommers, 83, of El Verano, California passed away on Sunday, March 15, 1998.

Mr. Sommers was born in Cleveland, and returned frequently especially to attend Tony Petkovsek's Thanksgiving Polka Parties.

He was a staunch Slovenian, which stems back to his father Frank Somrak, who was president of the Slovenian National home on St. Clair when the new building was opened in 1924. The family Americanized their name from Somrak to Sommers.

Mr. Sommers was active in the San Francisco Slovenian community. For the past three years, he was in poor health following a stroke in 1995.

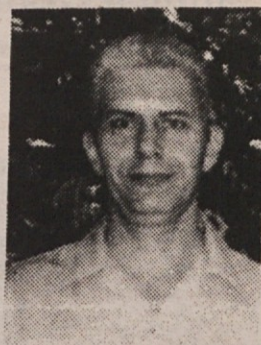
Mr. Sommers was born on March 14, 1915. He was a member of SNPJ Lodge 304 and a life member of the Polka Hall of Fame.

He is survived by his wife, Josefa.

In Memory

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Glicker of Euclid, Ohio donated \$20.00 to the Ameriška Domovina in memory of **Albert Glicker**.

In Loving Memory



William H. Plymesser

12th Anniversary
April 28, 1986

*We'll meet again someday, I know
Beyond the distant blue
But until then, my dearest one,
I'll always think of you... and
So I live with thoughts of you...*

*And all you meant to me...
and
Always I can feel you near...
If just in memory*

Sadly missed by
Wife, Sylvia
Brother, John

In Memory

Laverne Hughes of Michigan City, Indiana donated \$20.00 to the American Home newspaper in memory of her brother, **Al Glicker**.

In Memory

Agnes Modic of Cape Coral, Florida renewed her subscription plus enclosed an extra \$20.00 in memory of her husband, the well-known and well-liked **Tino Modic** who owned a popular tavern on St. Clair Ave., in Cleveland.

In Memory

Dorothy Zupcsan of Madison, Ohio renewed her American Home subscription plus enclosed an extra \$10.00 in memory of her well-liked parents **Marjana and Anton Debevec**, and her wonderful sister **Julia Grabelsek**.

Donation

Thanks to **Felix and Helena Gaser** of Richmond Heights, Ohio who donated \$20.00 to the Ameriška Domovina newspaper.

In Memory

Josephine Merc of Euclid, Ohio renewed her American Home subscription plus enclosed an extra \$10.00 in memory of **John and Josephine Varšek**.

Donation

Thanks to the **Slovenian Ski Committee 1998** of New York who donated \$100.00 to the Ameriška Domovina.

In Memory

Enclosed is a check for 1 year subscription to Ameriška Domovina. Also enclosed is a check for \$20.00 in memory of my husband, **Frank Doles**.

P.S. - You all are doing a terrific job with the paper.

--Anne Doles
Euclid, Ohio



23rd

ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DEATH OF OUR LOVING
HUSBAND, FATHER,
GRANDFATHER, AND
FATHER-IN-LAW



John J. Urbancich

Died April 29, 1975

23 years have passed since that sad day. The one we loved was called away.

God took him home - it was His will -

But in our hearts he liveth still.

Sadly missed by:

Sadly missed by:

Wife, Dorothy,
Daughter, Madeline Debevec
Son, John M., and family

In Loving Memory

and with

Lasting Appreciation and
Gratitude



Josephine Kovac

Born 1898, died April 15, 1995

Joze Kovac

Born 1899, died May 20, 1956

Martin Bac and Family

*May God give them peace and
may Eternal Light shine upon them.*

An Investment In Community

brought
to you by the



Highlighting a few of our sponsorships

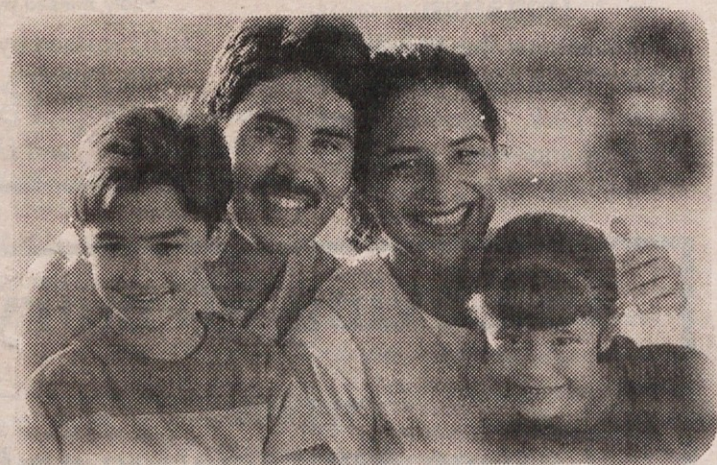


▼ Youngstown-Warren LPGA Classic

has made a positive impact on the Northeast Ohio community, donating over \$ 1 million to Northeast Ohio children's and educational charities since 1993. In 1997 the Ohio Lottery sponsored a youth camp in which local and national golf pros instructed area children in the intricacies and rules of golf.

Great Lakes Science Center ▼

Our sponsorship includes an educational program which assists students in preparing for their science proficiency exam which is required by the state of Ohio. Students from the 5th and 6th grade visit the Science Center and are provided with a specially designed curriculum for their study.



▼ The Puerto Rican Cultural Ethnic Festival & Parade

has been in existence for the past 29 years and is considered by far, the most important annual Hispanic event in Northeast Ohio. The Festival & Parade draw both local and out-of-town visitors in excess of 30,000 per year.

United Negro College Fund ▼

The Lou Rawls "Parade of Stars" Telethon and Salutation raises funds for 41 historical black colleges and universities. This year's efforts benefited 54,500 students and the Ohio Lottery is proud to be a major sponsor.



brought
to you by the



George V. Voinovich
Governor of Ohio

William G. Howell
Director, Ohio Lottery



VESTI IZ SLOVENIJE

Slovenija se pripravlja na pogajanja z Evropsko zvezo – Začetek bo v Bruslju v ponedeljek – Dolgotrajen proces

Včerajšnje Delo poroča, da se je ožja slovenska pogajalska skupina z več drugimi strokovnjaki udeležila dvodnevne seminarja, ki ga je evropska komisija pripravila za lažji potek prihodnjih pogajanj. V zvezi se tem so udeleženci poslušali predstavnike različnih institucij EU. Posebej zanimiva naj bi bila predavanja o tem, kako so potekala pogajanja EU z zadnjimi tremi končno sprejetimi članicami Unije in sicer z Avstrijo, Finsko in Švedsko.

Prvi pravi posvet o prilagajanju slovenske zakonodaje normam oz. zahtevam EU se bo pričel 27. aprila v Bruslju. Naprej bodo pregledali znanstveno in tehnološko območje, zahtevnejša, med njimi so kmetijstvo in uresničevanje enotnega trga, pa bodo pustili za konec.

Preteklo nedeljo predhodni referendum o predlaganih novih občinah

Preteklo nedeljo so volivci v 37 krajih glasovali na predhodnem referendumu o ustanovitvi novih občin. Od vseh jih je bilo izglasovanih 29, osem pa jih je bilo zavrnjenih. Zadevo je zapletlo že ustavno

sodišče, ki je odločilo, da bo moral državni zbor razpisati še 20 referendumov o različnih predlaganih občinah in to najkasneje do 20. maja.

Sestanek koordinacije parlamentarnih strank namenil pozornost odnosom med Slovenijo in Hrvaško

Pretekli torek je bil pod vodstvom podpredsednika vlada Marjana Podobnika sestanek koordinacije parlamentarnih strank. Podobnik je dejal, da mora Slovenija izoblikovati nacionalno soglasno stališče do pogajanj o odprtih vprašanjih med Slovenijo in Hrvaško. Če bi bile slovenske stranke enotne glede teh stališč, bi to zelo pomagalo slovenskim pogajalcem. Sporna v odnosih med državama so predvsem vprašanja s premoženjskoppravnega področja, status jedrske elektrarne, deviznih vlog varčevalcev Ljubljanske banke v Zagrebu ter nekatera mejna vprašanja.

Tone Svetina in Janez Vipotnik umrla

Na Bledu je 14. aprila po dolgi bolezni umrl 72 let stari pisatelj Tone Svetina, avtor številnih romanov, med njimi Ukana, o partizanstvu. V torek je umrl 80 let stari Janez Vipotnik, ki je v prejšnjem režimu imel zelo visoke funkcije.



Posledice potresa odstranjujejo

Fotografija zgoraj je bila posneta v vasi Drežniške Ravne, enem najbolj prizadetih v velikonočnem potresu. V zadnjem tednu so komisije ugotavljale gmotno škodo, organi civilne zaštite so spravili pod začasno streho vse prebivalce, ki niso mogli več živeti v svojih hišah oziroma stanovanjih. Po poročilu v Delu pretekli četrtek, naj bi jih bilo več kot 700. Popotresni sunki še razburjajo prizadete ljudi, a je jakost teh sunkov vedno manjša. Včeraj zjutraj so zabeležili sunek z jakostjo 2,8 stopnje po Richtertu.

Med drugim, bodo banke ponujale posojila z znatno nižjo obrestno mero. Škoda na številnih cerkvah in verskih objektov je pa precejšnja, v Zgornjih Ravnah pa je odpadli omet v cerkvi razkril starinske freske, za katere doslej ni vedel nihče.



Iz Clevelanda in okolice

“Micki je treba moža”–

Dramatsko društvo Liliya vabi to nedeljo popoldne ob 3.30 v Slovenski dom na Holmes Ave. na predstavo veseloigre “Micki je treba moža”.

Sestanek Oltarnih društev–

Letni sestanek Zveze Oltarnih društev je to nedeljo popoldne pri Sv. Kristini na E. 222 St. v Euclidu. Ob 1.30 pop. bodo v cerkvi molitve, sv. rožni venec, liturgije in blagoslov z Najsvejšim, zatem pa sestanek v dvorani. Članice vseh Zvezinih oltarnih društev so lepo vabljeni, da se sestanka udeležijo.

Krofi–

Oltarno društvo pri Sv. Vidu ima to soboto zj. od 8h dalje v društveni sobi avditorija prodajo krofov in domačih rezancev.

Prav tako to soboto (od 9. zj. dalje) bo krofe prodajalo Oltarno društvo župnije Marije Vnebovzete, v šolski dvorani.

Prebitki teh prodaj vsako društvo namenja v pomoč svoji župniji.

Novi grobovi

Gabriel S. Drobnič

Umrli je 74 let stari Gabriel S. Drobnič, brat Franka in Elsie (oba že pok.), bratranec Ann Cendol, stric Marka in Bruce-a Zaborowski, delničar SND na St. Clairju. Pogreb bo v oskrbi Zak. zavoda na 6016 St. Clair Ave. v petek dop. ob 9.30, v cerkev sv. Vida ob 10., od tam pa na Kalvarije pokopališče. Ure kopljenja bodo danes pop. od 2. do 4. in zv. od 7. do 9. Družina priporoča darove v pokojnikov spomin župniji sv. Vida.

Alojzija (Slavica) Turjanski

Umrli je 83 let stara Alojzija (Slavica) Turjanski, rojena v Mali Nedelji pri Bučkovcih v Prekmurju dne 7. aprila 1915, v Ameriko prišla 1956. leta in živela na E. 59. ulici, mati Antoinje Taylor, 4-krat stara mati in 4-krat prastara mati, veliko let tajnica Štajerskega in Prekmurskega kluba. Pogreb bo danes dop. v oskrbi pogrebnega zavoda Golob na 4703 Superior Ave. v cerkev sv. Vida dop. ob 9.30 in od tam na Lakeview pokopališče.

Mary L. Sever

Umrli je Mary L. Sever, rojena Slak, vdova po Fran-

(dalje na str. 14)

Za Materinski dan–

Otroci Slovenske šole pri Sv. Vidu bodo nastopili s programom pesmi in recitacij v čast njihovim materam to soboto zv. ob 6.30 v šolski dvorani. Javnost vabljenana, da se programa udeleži.

Mariborski oktet gostuje–

V četrtek, 7. maja, bo s celovečernim koncertom v SDD na 15335 Waterloo Rd. nastopil Mariborski oktet, ki letos praznuje svojo 25-letnico in je znan kot eden najboljših tovrstnih zborov v Sloveniji. Zbor je bil povabljen na folklorni festival v državi Tennessee in bo tja odpotoval po koncertu v našem mestu. Vstopnice so po \$10 in jih dobite, če pokličete 481-2985, imajo jih v Polka Hall of Fame v Shore Cultural Center, ali jih dobite pred vhodom v dvorano na večer koncerta. Gostovanje v našem mestu sponzorira Slovenian American Heritage Foundation.

Pavle Borštnik predaval–

Sinoči je imel predavanje o Sloveniji Pavle Borštnik, ki večkrat objavlja v našem listu, in sicer v SDD na Recherjevi ulici v Euclidu. Prišlo je nekaj več kot 30 poslušalcev, ki so po predavanju postavili številna vprašanja. Predavatelj je s svojimi gledanji očitno zanimal navzoče. Vse premalo je takih srečanj med nami, pa tudi udeležba bi lahko bila boljša.

Koncert Jadrana–

Preteklo soboto zvečer je pevski zbor Jadran podal koncert v SDD na Waterloo Rd. Zbor je bil pod vodstvom Florence Unetich in je podal vrsto slovenskih in ameriških pesmi. Petje je bilo lepo, poslušalci so pevske točke nagradili z močnim aplavzom.

Spominski darovi–

Ga. Paula Pustotnik, Geneva, O., je darovala \$20 v podporo AD, v spomin na Viktorja Kmetiča in Jožeta Likozarja. Ga. Verona Balazek, Cleveland, je poklonila \$6 v spomin na moža Matijeta. G. Joseph in ga. Josephine Baskovic, Willoughby Hills, O., sta darovala \$25, v spomin njegovih staršev Josepha in Rose Baskovic ter njenih staršev Johna in Frances Roznik. Marija Mlakar Scarborough, Ont., Kanada, je pa poklonila \$15 v spomin staršev Jožeta in Marije Kastelic. Najlepša hvala vsem za podporo!

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No. 16 Thursday, April 23, 1998

Olimpijec Leon Štukelj zopet v ZDA

V središču pozornosti

Obisk najstarejšega olimpijca na svetu, Slovenca Leona Štuklja v New Yorku — pripravil ga je slovenski poslovnež Emil Gaspari z ženo Ann — je bil celo za ameriške razmere dogodek brez primere.

Začudenje Američanov je bilo nepopisno že ob pristanku Swissairovega letala na letališču J.F. Kennedy, kjer je osebje z vozički in prvo medicinsko pomočjo pričakovalo Leona Štuklja, ki bo 12. novembra letos v rojstnem Novem mestu praznoval stoti rojstni dan. Slovenski stoletnik pa je v splošno začudenje razpoložen in poskočen stopil na ameriško celino, z nepogrešljivo belo čepico in s torbico, v kateri je prinesel fotografska pričevanja svojih športnih dosežkov in dolgega življenja.

Tridnevni obisk Leona Štuklja, ki ga je spremljal njegov stalni sopotnik na svetovnih poteh, državni sekretar za turizem Tomaž Zajc, je bil natrpan z veličastnimi dogodki, sprejemi, obiski, podelitvami priznanj in druženji z vrhunskimi imeni svetovne politike in Slovenci, ki se v Ameriki trudijo za sijaj in dobro ime naše države.

Newyorški župan mu je namenil pozdravno pismo, ki so ga prebrali na slovesnem kosilu v najbolj ekskluzivnem športnem klubu na svetu New York Athletic Club, v katerem so konec prejšnjega stoletja Američani odločno podprli francoskega zanesenjaka Pierra Cubertaina, da se organizirajo prve olimpijske igre moderne dobe. Prišlo je tudi sporočilo iz Washingtona s pozdravi iz kabineta predsednika Clintona in opravičilo slovenskega veleposlanika dr. Dimitrija Rupla, da ga ne bo v New Yorku, ker ga je zgrabilo v križu. Zato pa je poslal pooblaščenega ministra veleposlanstva Igorja Kersteina. Slovenski konzulat v New Yorku sta zastopala konzul Vojo Šuc in kulturni ataše, pesnik Tomaž Šalamun.

Štukljev gostitelj Emil Gaspari, ki je junija 1961 prišel na nekajdesni obisk k prijateljem v New York in ostal štirideset let, je odličen poslovnež, ki na ameriškem trgu proda največ pohištva slovenske lesne industrije. In ko je Emil videl Leona Štuklja v Atlanti, ko mu je na otvoritveni slovesnosti ploskal ves svet, si je naložil sveto dolžnost, da velikega slovenskega športnika v letu njegove stoletnice prvi počasti prav v New Yorku. Znameniti Slovenec je obljubil, da pride, Emil in njegova žena Ann (s sinovoma Andrejem, vojaškim diplomatom, in Tonijem, diplomom na ekonomiji bo prejel čez nekaj dni) pa sta do potankosti pripravila obisk, ki je prerasel meje zasebnosti in postal tudi prvovrstni dogodek za newyorške medije.

Generalni sekretar Združenih narodov Kofi Anan, ki je le dan pred njegovim obiskom v slavni palači ob East Riverju praznoval šestdeseti rojstni dan, je bil tako navdušen nad vitalnostjo stoletnika, da si je dal temeljito razložiti recept za dolgo življenje. Štukljev že tradicionalni spremljeva-

Prvo vabilo ... na koncert Korotana!

CLEVELAND, O. — Vabimo vas, dragi prijatelji, da se tudi vi pridružite nam Korotancem v tej pomladni sproščenosti pri koncertu Korotana, in to v soboto, 16. maja, v avditoriju pri Sv. Vidu. Naši gostje bodo pevci mladinskega pevskega zbora pri Mariji Vnebovzeti, vodil jih bo Janez Nemec.

Spored našega koncerta je polna različnosti. Pomlad, pomlad! Vse žvrgoli in zeleni. V vrtu, dekle stoji in hrepeni po njemu, ki ga od nikoder ni. Pomlad je tu, a mladosti ni, le spomini še ostanejo...

V Mežiški dolini pogledamo na lepo uro. Z godcem pod lipo se zavrtimo in že smo v Beli Krajini, v lepem vrtu, polnem vseh mogočih rožic. Pod nebom gre oblak, ponesemo ljubici pozdrave dragega.

In z venčkom narodnih in z Avseniki zaključimo našo odisejo pomladne sproščenosti...!

Še enkrat: Prisrčno vabljeni!

cike

Upokojenci Slovenske pristave poročajo...

CLEVELAND, O. — Že dolgo ni bilo nič slišati o našem klubu. Kar precej članov se pozimi poda na sončno Florido; no, zdaj so pa zopet doma in bo treba zavhati rokave in počistiti Pristavo, kajti je zima, čeprav ni bila huda, naredila kar precej škode.

V sredo, 29. aprila, bomo imeli sestanek na SP pop. ob 1.30. Vse člane in članice, ki so pripravljene in zmožne kaj narediti, lepo prosimo, da pridejo že zgodaj dopoldne na SP in jo pomagajo očistiti odpadlih vej in listja.

V novem letu smo izgubili že tri člane: Nežko Bojc, Marijo Sekne in Viktorja Kmetiča. Od vseh smo se lepo poslovili v pogrebem domu z molitvijo rožnega venca, pri pogrebni sv. maši, in jih spremili na pokopališče. Viktor Kmetič je bil več let blagajnik našega kluba in vedno pripravljen pomagati, kjerkoli je mogel. Vsem preostalim sorodnikom naše iskreno sožalje.

v ponedeljek, 11. maja, bomo šli na enodnevni izlet. Avtobus je rezerviran. Imamo dve izbiri in se bomo na našem sestanku odločili, kam bomo šli. Z vlakom po južnem delu "Amish Country" ali pa v Auroro Factory Outlet in ogled Cathedrala blizu Akrona.

Ker imamo samo še dva tedna do izleta, se lahko že po telefonu prijavite na št. 1-216-531-8982.

Avtobus imamo tudi že rezerviran za izlet v Toronto, ko bo tam Slovenski

dan.

O vsem tem se bomo podrobno pogovorili na našem sestanku, zato pridite v čimvečjem številu. Na svidenje v sredo, 29. aprila, na Slovenski pristavi. Odbor

Angela Gospodarič preminula

Po telefonu in po pošti smo bili obveščeni, da je v San Franciscu, Kalif., na Velikonočno nedeljo zjutraj, 12. aprila, po dolgi bolezni preminula Angela Gospodarič, ki je o dejavnostih na-



Angela Gospodarič
(v mlajših letih)

ših rojakov v severni Kaliforniji večkrat poročala, to posebej v zvezi z župnijo Rojstva Gospodovega.

Pogreb je bil 15. aprila v San Franciscu. O njej je pisala gđ. Sonja Ferjan:

"Na Velikonočno nedeljo v zgodnjih jutranjih urah je umrla gđ. Angela Gospodarič. Sporočil je telefonično

g. Jaka Okorn, ki je od januarja t.l. Angeli pomagal, ko je bila potrebna bolniške pomoči. Pokojna je bila po poklicu učiteljica, mnogi se je boste spomnili še iz "laggerja".

Pred leti si je mnogo prizadevala, da so v San Franciscu vrnili slovensko bogoslužje v slovensko cerkev. Mnoga leta je zvesto in nesebično podpirala misijonarje, več bogoslovcev v semeniščih, Šentviško klasično gimnazijo, salezijansko gimnazijo v Želimljah, in vedno je našla še kakšen dar za semenišča; sam Bog ve, kam vse je še pošiljala. Delala je samo dobro.

Hvala Ti, draga Angela, razdajala si se in živela živo vero dajanja. Sedaj si pri nebeškem Očetu, da te nagradi bogato za Tvoje bogato življenje vere, upanja in ljubezni. Spočij se v Bogu!"

Slovenski kulturni Center v Lemontu v soboto, 2. maja

CHICAGO, Ill. — V soboto zvečer, 2. maja, bomo imeli zopet pester večer v lemontskem Slovenskem kulturnem domu. Po maši ob šestih v cerkvi, bomo odprli ob 7.30 najnovejšo razstavo umetnostnih slik umetnice Marije DeJean in tudi njeneža moža, akademskega slikarja Jean Pierre Bonnefille-a. Slike so v olju in akrilu naslovljene "Potovanja".

Ob osmih pa nastopi sedaj že zelo znani mešani pevski zbor Krka s 44 člani in iz Novega mesta. Gostovali so po slovenskih naselbinah v Kanadi in ZD, sedaj se ustavijo še pri nas v čikaški okolici, predno odletijo nazaj domov v Slovenijo.

Ljubitelje umetnosti in slovenske pesmi vljudo vabimo ob blizu in tudi one še malo bolj oddaljene iz Chicaga na razstavo slik in odličen koncert. Poslušali boste narodne in prirejene pesmi iz slovenskih krajev od Koroške, Prekmurja in Dolenjske tja do Istre. Navsezadnje spet in okrepčajmo naše prijateljske stike. Pre-skrbljeno bo za prigrizek in pijačo. Vsi boste lahko z veseljem ogledali nove slike in poslušali z navdušenjem našo slovensko pesem!

A.R.

Anton M. LAVRISHA

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lec, državni sekretar za turizem Tomaž Zajc, je iznajdljiv možakar. Zato je že v Swissairovem letalu iz Zuricha proti New Yorku povprašal šefa letalske posadke, ali je med potniki po naključju kakšen Ganec. Mislil si je namreč, da bi bilo ob Štukljevem obisku v Združenih narodih generalnemu sekretarju Kofiju Ananu za šestdeseti rojstni dan lepo čestitati v njegovem jeziku. Na letalu je bil Ganec, izobražen in prijazen možakar, ki je povedal, da je Kofi katolik in da je njegov materin jezik akan, knjižna ganščina. "Onimojan fo (najlepše želje) za vaš rojstni dan, kot tudi za vaše dolgo življenje in zakaj ne sto let," se je glasila čestitka v ganščini, ki sta jo Štukelj in Zajc skupaj s slovenskim veleposlanikom v OZN dr. Danilom Turkom povedala Kofiju Ananu in ta je bil neizmerno počaščen zaradi tolikšne pozornosti.

(dalje na str. 11)

Pogovor s koprskim škofom Metodom Pirihom

Cerkev je božja in človeška, sveta in grešna

— II. del —

Kako komentirate pogajanja ljubljanske nadškofije z državo glede vračila gozdov? Ali podoba Cerkve kot veleposestnice ustreza današnjemu času?

Vračanje gozdov neposredno res zadeva ljubljansko nadškofijo, posredno pa se ob tem vprašanje izraža odnos vlade (države) do Cerkve na Slovenskem, katere del je tudi naša škofija. Kakor ljubljanska nadškofija doživlja izjemno negativen odnos javnosti in nekaterih političnih subjektov glede vračanja gozdov, tako vsa Cerkev na Slovenskem doživlja različne oblike nasprotovanj, nerazumevanj, nove krivice in nestrpnosti.

Kot dokaz naj omenim, da so v noči od nedelje (29. marca) na ponedeljek neznanci pomazali steno romanske ladje koprške stolnice z dvaintridesetimi drevesi. V pogajanjih z vlado, ki ne zadevajo samo vračanja gozdov, ampak vsa odprta in nerešena vprašanja med Cerkvijo in državo, ni nobenega napredka, ker ni politične volje, četudi so zakoni na strani pravičnosti.

Ker se v javnih občilih toliko govori o denacionalizaciji, ima marsikdo res vtis, da si Cerkev želi bogastva in da bo zato postala veleposestnica. Cerkvene posesti ne gre razumeti zgolj kot premoženje, ampak glede na to, v katere namene se daje dohodek iz premoženja. Če je v preteklosti iz tega naslova nastalo toliko kulturnih, humanih in duhovnih dobrin, potem cerkvenega premoženja ne smemo imeti za nekaj tujega narodu.

Cerkev se mora tudi glede premoženja ravnati po evangeliju in po krščanskem socialnem nauku. Sicer pa je delovanje Cerkve bolj kot na omejevanje na gospodarske zadeve usmerjeno drugam: na oznanjevanje evangelija, na bogoslužje, na vzgojo otrok, mladine in odraslih.

Kaj bi denimo z gozdovi storili vi, če bi bila njihova lastnica koprška škofija?

Cerkveno premoženje je postavljeno v službo človeka, zato naša škofija, če bi imela svoje gozdove, ne bi ravnala bistveno drugače od ljubljanske nadškofije.

Je Cerkev na Slovenskem v krizi? Kje se ta najizrazitejša kaže?

Ko Cerkev na Slovenskem postavljamo v okvir evropskih držav in jo motrimo v luči zgodovinskih gibanj, tudi glede na to, kaj se je v Cerkvii že dogajalo, lahko rečemo, da slovenska Cerkev ne doživlja posebnih znamenj krize, tudi zato ne, ker je božja — Kristusova ustanova.

Znotraj Cerkve je trdna edinost med papežem in škofi, med škofi in duhovniki, med duhovniki in

božjim ljudstvom.

Kot pa so v krizi nekatere človeške vrednote, tako so tudi nekatere verske. Naše oznanjevanje včasih ne nagovori sodobnega človeka, nekateri ljudje premalo pričujejo s svojim življenjem, da so kristjani, drugi sprejemajo le nekatere verske resnice, ki jih Cerkev oznanja. Med ljudmi je premalo upanja in veselja do življenja. Skrbi nas, ker tudi mnogi mladi ne vidijo pravega smisla svojega bivanja.

Krize pa so tudi znamenje globljega iskanja novih usmeritev in odločitve. V zgodovini je Cerkev prav iz svoje bogate duhovnosti velikokrat našla rešitev v različnih krizah. Pravijo, da so po eksploziji atomske bombe v Nagasakiju bili prav katoličani tisti, ki so v trenutkih groze in obupa dali upanje vsem prebivalcem tega mesta. Bil bi zelo vesel, če bi tudi katoličani v Sloveniji uspeli dajati upanje, pogum in veselje do življenja vsem ljudem.

Kakšna je vaša osebna pot pri iskanju odgovorov na izzive časa? Jih iščete za človeka nasploh ali zgolj za vernike?

Pri iskanju odgovorov na izzive časa se po Jezusovem zgledu najprej v molitvi posvetujem in pogovarjam z Bogom. Potem imamo na voljo različne svete, kot so duhovniški, pastoralni, gospodarski in še druge komisije, s katerimi se pogovarjam in posvetujem. Na koncu sprejemam odločitve in tudi odgovornosti zanje.

Že v začetku sem omenil, da je moje poslanstvo namenjeno predvsem vernikom. Želim pa služiti tudi drugim prebivalcem naše škofije, saj Cerkev ne sme biti brez posluha za življenjske potrebe in stiske ljudi.

Kje recimo je po vašem mnenju meja, ko naj Cerkev ne bi več posegla v posameznikovo zasebnost? (dalje na str. 12)

Izpod zvona Sv. Marije Vnebovzete

CLEVELAND, O. — Bog nam je naklonil lepi nedelji, tako je bila Cvetna kot tudi Velikonočna. Nista bili preveč hladni, pač pa sončni.

Cvetna nedelja je bila res cvetna. V dvorani stare cerkve je bilo zbirališče, kjer je bil tudi blagoslov zelenja in butar. Iz dvorane se je vila procesija v cerkev, ki se je svetila po temeljitem čiščenju. Bilo je veliko narodnih noš in to tako otrok kot mladine in starejših. Hvala vsem za udeležbo. Otroci Slovenske šole so lepo brali Pasijon, za kar tudi lepa hvala!

Prvi trije dnevi Velikega tedna so hitro minuli in že je bil tu veliki četrtek, najprej zelo slovesen, potem pa smo častili Jezusa v Najsvetejšem Zakramentu. Veliki petek nas je ves dan spominjal Jezusovega trpljenja in smrti. Zvečer so peli Pasijon, kar je še povečalo bridkost tega dne, častili in poljubili smo Jezusa na križu ter ga prejeli v svetem obhajilu.

Velika sobota pa je bila že praznična. Dvakrat je bil blagoslov jedil, zvečer pa blagoslov ognja, velikonočne sveče, sprejem mladega dekleta v katoliško skupnost, nato sv. maša z odpovedjo služenja hudobnemu duhu.

In Velika nedelja! Pritrkanje v zvoniku je dajalo prazniku še večjo prazničnost. Veliko narodnih noš se je zopet zbralo v cerkvi, da je bila procesija še močnejša. Hvala vsem!

Zmagoslavje Velike nedelje se težko zapiše, ko je toliko odtenkov, ki pripomorejo, da je vse ena celota. Že zapeta Aleluja je drugačna kot drugokrat, pesmi so vse polne veselja, oltar v cvetju in zelenju, vse se blišči, vse nas dviga proti nebesom. Hvala vsem za ves trud pri lepoti Velike noči.

Naše Oltarno društvo bo imelo molitveno uro na prvi petek, kar bo 1. maja takoj po 7.45 sv. maši, potem pa ne bo nič sestanka. Pridite na prvi petek, da skupno počastimo Jezusa v Presv. Rešnjem Telesu. Vse pa ste tudi lepo povabljeni k nedeljski sv. maši, ki bo darovana za žive in pokojne članice.

To nedeljo, 26. aprila, ste pa tudi vabljene članice, da se udeležite sestanka Zveze oltarnih društev, ki bo pri Sv. Kristini v Euclidu. Ob pol drugi uri bodo molitve v cerkvi, nato pa bo sestanek.

Pred nami je mesec maj, ko se še posebej spomnimo naše nebeške Matere Marije. Počastimo jo, da se večkrat udeležimo sv. maše.

Lavriševa

V središču pozornosti

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

K Štuklju je prihitel s čestitkami tudi predsedujoči varnostnega sveta, japonski veleposlanik, ki uživa še posebne časti, ker se je njegova hči poročila s sinom japonskega cesarja. Je pa Kofi Anan povedal, da pozna del Slovenije, saj je ob zadnjem obisku Sarajeva ob vrnitvi letalo pristalo v Ljubljani, od koder se je zasebno z avtom odpeljal v Benetke. Neuradno pa smo izvedeli, da bo Anan Slovenijo obiskal v začetku letošnjega poletja.

Najbolj prisrčen dogodek pa se je zgodil v Shrub Oaku (Hrastovo grmičevje), kjer je Emil Gaspari doma in kjer prijateljuje z romunsko telovadko, olimpijsko zmagovalko v parterju Teodoro Ungureanu, ki vodi telovadno šolo Dynamic Gymnastic. Na njej se kar po tekočem traku rojevajo ameriški telovadni prvaki vseh starosti in ti so vsi po vrsti Leonu Štuklju predstavili svoje vaje. Vse mestece je namreč prišlo pozdravit Leona Štuklja, drobena petletna telovadka pa je na vrvi prinesla velikanski balon v obliki srca z izpisano čestitko "Happy birthday Leon Štukelj".

Aleksander Lucu

Delo, 19. aprila 1998 (Op. ur. AD — New York Times je v soboto na svoji prvi strani objavil daljši članek o Leonu Štuklju z dvema fotografijama. Dnevnik Plain Dealer je v Clevelandu povzel prvi del članka brez fotografij. Prvi del članka je poudaril, da je bil Leon Štukelj član takratnih jugoslovanskih reprezentanc. Ob koncu članka v NYT je pa bil poudarek na Slovenijo po osamosvojitvi, v zadnjem odstavku pa omenjena Štukljeva kritika slovenskih oblasti, ki zavlačujejo z vračanjem hiše, ki je bila Štukljevi družini po vojni zaplenjena.)

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JOHN ZAGORC

Rojen 1. 1917

ki ga je Bog poklical k sebi 20. aprila 1997.

O kako prežgodaj si vzel slovo!
Vse veselje je s Teboj odšlo.
Težka žalost se je v srcih nasešila,
od kar Te črna zemlja je pokrila.

Žalujoči:
Žena Sophie, roj. Francelj
Sinovi: Raymond, John Jr.
in Donald
Vnuk Matt
Snaha Sherrie
Brat Charlie
Ostali sorodniki v Ameriki
in Sloveniji.
Cleveland, O., 23. aprila 1998.

Intervju s škofom Metodom Pirihom

(nadaljevanje s str. 11)

Bog osebno nagovarja vsakega človeka po njegovi vesti. Dal mu je razum, da spozna, kaj je dobro in kaj je zlo, svobodno voljo, da se more odločati. V tem je človekovo dostojanstvo in hkrati odgovornost. Bog v polnosti upošteva red, ki ga je zapisal v človekovo naravo. Nihče, ne posameznik ne ustanova, ne more in ne sme poskušati nadomestiti človekovega najbolj osebnega odločanja, s katerim gradi lastno osebnost.

Cerkev, ki obstaja po Kristusovi in ne po svoji volji, je od Kristusa prejela naročilo, naj oznanja veselo oznanilo odrešenja, naj ljudi poučuje v moralnih resnicah, da bodo pravilno ravnali. Kakor je delal Kristus, tako ravna tudi Cerkev. Posredovanje verskega in moralnega nauka je pomoč človeku, da lažje spozna resnico, se je oklene in jo tudi živi. V tem pogledu Cerkev sprejema zaupano nalogo kot služenje človeku, njegovemu vsestranskemu razvoju, zemeljski in večni sreči.

Ob tem me zanima, kako denimo gledate na nedavno papežovo navodilo Nemški škofovski konferenci, naj v katoliških svetovnih centrih za nosečnice ne izstavljajo več potrdil za nekaznovano umetno prekinitev nosečnosti in nj posebna delovna skupina namesto tega išče poti za učinkovito svetovanje v konfliktnih položajih.

Nemške razmere, o katerih sprašujete, so druga-

čne od slovenskih. Cerkev upošteva kot pomemben dejavnik v vzgojnih, socialnih, kulturnih in družbenih dejavnostih. Tako je med drugim priznalo njeno svetovalno delo v korist ženskam nosečnicam, ki se nahajajo v kakršnikoli težavi. To delo je vključeno v državne socialne in svetovalne programe. Mnogim ženskam je uspešno pomagala, da se niso zatekle k splavu kot edini rešitvi v težavah.

Podpis državne ali cerkvene ustanove, da je nosečnica že bila pri njih na posvetovanju, da so storili, kar je bilo mogoče storiti, je bila za zdravstvene osebe zelena luč, da se je ženska kljub posvetovanju odločila za splav.

Sčasoma pa je med ljudmi prevladalo prepričanje, da cerkvene posvetovalnice soglašajo s splavom, ki je glede na stalni verski nauk o dostojanstvu in nedotakljivosti človeške osebe moralno nesprejemljiv. Papež se je v pismu nemškemu škofu zavzel za to, naj Cerkev in v njej delujoči katoliški svetovalci iščejo druge oblike svetovanja in pomoči, ki ne bodo dajale videza, da je splav moralno dovoljen. Njegovo odločitev razumem tako, da je hotel vse, verne in neverne, spodbuditi, naj iščejo nove in boljše rešitve, če se je dosedanja izkazala kot dvomna.

Pogosto se v javnosti pojavljajo očitki Cerkve, češ da je danes pogostejše napadana kot v prejšnjem režimu. Se vam zdijo te navedbe upravičene?

Očitki in napadi na Cerkev so v zadnjem času zelo pogosti. Sedanje stanje je v marsičem podobno povojnim montiranim procesom, v katerih so z ene strani sramotili vero in Cerkev in s tem vse verujoče, z druge strani pa so odvrčali po-

zornost od drugih resnih družbenih vprašanj.

Cerkev se zavzema za resnico, ker je resnica osvobajda človeka in družbo. Cerkev priznava, da niti hierarhija niti verniki niso brez greha in odgovornosti. Papež Janez Pavel II. v dokumentu "V zarji tretjega tisočletja" spodbuja, naj pred koncem drugega tisočletja krajevne Cerkve premislijo svojo zgodovino, priznajo krivice, ki so jih verujoči zagrešili, prosijo odpuščanja in velikodušno drugim odpustijo krivice, ki so jim bile storjene.

To sta že storila dva ljubljanska nadškofa in slovenska metropolita, dr. Jožef Pogačnik in dr. Alojzij Šuštar. Cerkev je v službi miru in sprave, ki ju oznanja in daje Kristus.

Ali prej omenjene napade občutite tudi sami?

Čeprav v raznih napadih osebno nisem omenjen, ne morem biti ravnodušen, ko se krivično napada katerega izmed škofov, ko se med duhovnike in vernike poskuša vnesti razdor ali nezaupanje. Sprašujem se, ali se ljudje, ki bolj ali manj zavestno širijo neresnice, klevete in razdor, zavedajo svoje odgovornosti pred narodom in zgodovino?

Kolikor je hierarhična struktura Cerkve zapletena, je po drugi strani tudi zelo jasno dorečena. Zato me zanima, kakšno je v tem oziru vaše sodelovanje z nadškofom?

Cerkev je res hierarhično urejena. V katoliški Cerkvi ima pomembno mesto škofija. Škofije cerkvene pokrajine so združene v metropolijo, ki jo vodi metropolit. Škofije države so običajno združeni v škofovski konferenci. V slovenskem primeru je ljubljanski nadškof dr. Franc Rode tako ljubljan-

ski metropolit kot predsednik Slovenske škofovske konference. Prav ti dve službi mu dajeta določeno prvenstvo med slovenskimi škofi ter po cerkvenem pravu določene dolžnosti in pravice.

Slovenski škofje so že od nekdaj, zlasti pa po drugi svetovni vojni, tesno sodelovali in enotno nastopali. Mnoge stvari, ki bi jih sicer lahko urejali sami, so urejevali skupaj. Za to so se seveda odločili sporazumno in svobodno. Namenoma so želeli nastopati enotno, ker so vedeli, da bi nasprotniki Cerkve njihovo najmanjšo neenotnost izkoristili, da bi škodovali Cerkvi. To enotnost smo škofje ohranili tudi danes, saj so oblike sodelovanja že utečene, slovenski prostor pa je dokaj enoten in se vsi

srečujemo s podobnimi problemi.

Z nadškofom Rodetom sodelujem podobno, kot sem sodeloval s prejšnjim nadškofom Šuštarjem. Že dolgo se osebno pozna. Spoštujem njegov ugled v svetu ter njegovo široko duhovno, kulturno in znanstveno razgledanost. Reči pa moram, da me hudo prizadenejo številni in nekulturni napadi nanj. Kot človek in sobrat v službi protestiram proti njim. V demokratični ureditvi nima nihče pravice žaliti ali teptati dostojanstva človeške osebe.

Vaše odločitve v javnosti odmevajo kot suverene, odločne in napredne. Imate pri tem znotraj Cerkve vedno polno podporo?

Kako moje odločitve (dalje na str. 14)

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KANADSKA DOMOVINA

SLOVENCİ V KANADI

Marija Ahačič-Pollak

V Ontariu Slovenci ostajajo Slovenci

To je bil zares sreča! Častni konzul Kanade v Sloveniji, Jože Obersnel, sicer zaposlen v upravi Zavarovalnice Triglav, mi je pomagal, da sem se v Ljubljani srečal z dvema kanadskimi Slovence. V (hotel) Austrotelu, ob kavi. Prišla sta oba, Ciril Soršak, sicer doma iz Slovenske Bistrice, ki je odšel v Kanado leta 1957, in njegova hči Sylvia. Čeprav je bila rojena v Kanadi, zna slovensko in celo poročila se je s Slovincem, tako da je skoraj Ljubljanka ...

Zdaj je namreč Sylvia Kobal. Moža si je izbrala med člani akademskega pevskega zbora Vinko Vodopivec, ko je gostoval v Torontu, gostitelj pa je bila tamkajšnja slovenska skupnost, ki se lahko pohvali z izjemno živahno in raznovrstno kulturno dejavnostjo. Zaradi druženja, zaradi slovenskega jezika, zaradi slovenstva.

A pojdemo po vrsti. Ciril Soršak je pripotoval v Slovenijo iz Rima. Kar nekaj kanadskih Slovencev iz Toronta ni hotelo zamuditi slovesnosti in časti, ki je bil pri papežu deležen nadškof Toronta dr. Alojzij Ambrožič.

"Veste, za Slovence v Kanadi je zelo pomembno, da je torontski nadškof postal kardinal. A treba je vedeti, da je nadškof in kardinal najprej za angleško govoreče Kanadčane. Slovenci imamo svoje cerkve in nadškof z nami sodeluje, je velik prijatelj Slovencev.

Tudi domačini, Kanadčani, pravijo, da smo Slovenci dobri, prijazni in kulturni sosedje. Kanada je multikulturna država, ki želi, da narodi in narodnostne skupnosti ohranijo svojo identiteto. V Kanadi živi okrog 40.000 Slovencev. Kadarkoli sodelujemo na tradicionalnih multikulturnih festivalih, nas odlično sprejmejo. Slovenski paviljon je zmeraj poln. Slovenija je za Kanado zanimiva država," pripoveduje Ciril Soršak, eden izmed režiserjev pri Slovenski igralski skupini Toronto, ki je zelo aktivna.

Režiserjev je več. Tone Kačnik, Zinka Brunšek, Nada Čemas in drugi. Tone Kačnik vodi tudi slovenski radijski program Glas kanadskih Slovencev na postaji CHIN.

"Slovenski radijski glas smo doslej poslušali le za lokalno območje, zdaj pa bo dosegel vse dele države," je pojasnjeval Ciril Soršak in pri tem ni pozabil omeniti, da na oder postavljajo samo

domača dela. Od Linhart do Levstika. Domače zgodbe. Domače besede. Hrepenenje. Slovensko gledališče pa vodi Vilko Čekuta.

S folkloro do poroke

Morda je za razumevanje slovenstva v Kanadi še najbolj zanimiva zgodba Sylvie, nežne, navidez krhke, še ne tridesetletne hčerke Soršakovih, ki imajo sicer še Ireno in Marka. Sylvia je ob opisanju kulturnega življenja Slovencev, ki je večinoma povezano s cerkvijo, preprosto dejala: "Živim polno življenje."

V slovenski cerkvi delajo slovenske šole, kulturne skupine, zlasti živahni so pevci in folkloristi. Slovenska folklorna skupina Nagelj nastopa že od leta 1959 in je že večkrat gostovala v Sloveniji. Skupina ima noše vseh predelov Slovenije.

V Torontu obstajata tudi plesna skupina "Mladi glas" in "Planika".

"S folkloro sem veliko potovala in gostovala. Glasba je del mojega življenja. Petje. Flavta. Klavir. Ples. V Slovenijo sem pogosto prihajala tudi na obisk. Ko sem v *Rodni grudi* prebrala članek o MBA študiju na Brdu, sem se odločila. Pomagal mi je profesor Tone Dimnik, ki na Brdu predava. MBA je bil moj diplomski študij. Zdaj sem zaposlena pri AT Kearneyu. Polovico štipendije za moj študij je prispevala šola na Brdu. V Sloveniji sem štiri leta," pravi Sylvia in doda, da se v Kanadi veliko manj govori o preteklosti.

"S tem mladi nočemo biti obremenjeni. Živimo za prihodnost," in še pove, da so v Kanadi njeni najboljši prijatelji Slovenci.

Kanadski Slovenci so v provinci Ontario, eni izmed najpomembnejših zveznih provinc Kanade, kjer je največ Slovencev, dobro organizirani. Najboljši dokaz: slovenski dom za ostarele LIPA, ki ga je zgradil ugleden in uspešen slovenskih gradbenik Jože Kastelic, je

dobil javno priznanje kanadskih državnih organov, češ, oglejte si, kako je lahko zgledno urejen dom za ostarele ...

V katere organizacije se združujejo Slovenci v Kanadi?

Vseslovenski odbor, sedaj ga vodi Ivan Plut, povezuje Slovence v Ontariu v 28 društev in ustanov in sodeluje s Slovenci, ki so naseljeni po vsej prostrani kanadski državi.

Kanadski slovenski kongres je tisti organ kanadskih Slovencev, ki je že leta 1991 slovenski vladi predlagal, kako naj ureja stike s Slovenci na tujem. Izseljenci naj bi imeli v matični državi vse pravice, edino voliti ne bi smeli in tudi izvoljeni ne bi smeli biti.

Še eno akcijo so izvedli. Italijanski vladi so namreč poslali protest zaradi kratenja pravic Slovincem v Italiji.

Pomembna sta Kanadsko-slovenski svet in Katoliška ženska liga. Slovenska gospodarska zbornica pa daje možnost, da se združujejo podjetniki in gospodarstveniki, ki sodelujejo s Slovenijo.

Ali so kanadski Slovenci kot podjetniki uspešni? O, kar! Ciril Soršak sebe sicer ne našteje, čeprav ima sam družinsko graversko firmo in izdeluje kalupe za orodja. A do firme in poslovne samostojnosti ni bila kratka pot. Najprej je začel z golimi rokami in to je trajalo kar sedemnajst let. Potem je šele lahko odšel na svoje.

Omeni Jožeta Slobodnika, Jožeta Žoldoša, slovensko podjetje Space Flight, pa Jožeta Kastelica. Izdelke manjših slovenskih podjetij prodajajo povsod po Kanadi. S Slovenijo je zadnje čase vse več stikov, gospodarskih, političnih, kulturnih. V Ljubljani je bila nedavno kanadska parlamentarna delegacija.

"Tudi s Slovensko Matico dobro sodelujemo. Posebej pa sem vesel, ker bo v Sloveniji izšla knjiga o Slovenski folklori skupini Nagelj. Pripravlja jo Milica Štolfa Trebše iz Pokrajinskega muzeja v Kopru. Ta naša folklorna skupina je prepotovala Slovenijo po dolgem in počez. Izid knjige bo praznik za kanadske Slovence."

Opozori me še, da v zapisu o zelo prizadevnih kanadskih Slovencih ne smem

(dalje na str. 14)

V deželi, ki je zima

Moja dežela ni dežela – je zima, poje francosko-kanadski poet. Res je! Kanada slovi kot mrzla, prostrana dežela, o kateri se z ljubeznijo govori, da ima samo dva letna časa, to je zimo in julij. Pravijo, da je kanadsko glavno mesto Ottawa najbolj mrzla prestolnica na svetu. Vendar si je to hladno deželo izbralo za svojo drugo domovino veliko število Slovencev, ki so razkropljeni od Atlantika do Pacifika.

Slovenci so se v Kanado začeli naseljevati že okoli 1924. leta. Pred drugo svetovno vojno je živelo v Kanadi okoli 3500 Slovencev. Po drugi svetovni vojni se je število povečalo in z ekonomsko emigracijo doseglo številko, ki je znana danes.

Uradni kanadski popis prebivalstva se dogaja vsako peto leto. Etnični izvor je definiran kot narodna skupina po prednikih, kraj rojstva nima odločilne vloge. Državni statistični urad je pred kratkim posredoval Kanadsko slovenskemu kongresu naslednje podatke: od štetja 1991 se je število prebivalcev, ki so izjavili, da so slovenskega rodu, povečalo kar za 300 odstotkov.

Tako so uradno našteali 1991. leta 8050 Slovencev, leta 1996 pa 25.875. Večina Slovencev se je naselila v provinci Ontario, po državni statistiki kar 17.555. Sledijo Britanska Kolumbija s 3125 Slovencev, Alberta 2116, Quebec 1655, Manitoba 740, Saskatchewan 235, Nova Scotia 65, New Brunswick 55, Newfoundland 10, Prince Edward Island 10. Koliko pa jih živi v Yukonu in Northwest Territories, pa ni znano.

Največja slovenska skupnost živi v Torontu in njegovi okolici, mnoge pa je zvalila rodovitna zemlja niagarskega polotoka in so se naselili po kmetijah in tam tudi ostali.

Toronto je velemesto, na katerega so Kanadčani lahko ponosni. Čeprav ima več kot štiri milijone prebivalcev, se ponaša z varnostjo, ki je ne premorejo manjša ameriška mesta. Je tudi izredno čisto mesto in center kulturnega življenja.

Razteza se ob jezeru Ontariu in je lahko spoznavno po CN stolpu, ki je največji prosto stoječi stolp na svetu. Zanimivo je, da tudi ta ni bil zgrajen brez slovenske roke, saj je betonsko vlijanje nadzoroval naš rojak, strokovnjak iz Montreala.

Slovenci so se že od nekdaj radi družili med se-

boj, saj so jim slovenski jezik in slovenski običaji veliko pomenili. Pomagali so drug drugemu, se učili jezika in se združevali v različne organizacije. Le tako so si lahko tolažili dolgčas in domotožje, ki je med izseljenci tako pogosto prisotno.

Torontski Slovenci so se že leta 1949, ko se je ustanovila prva slovenska župnija, dobili svojo versko revijo *Božja Beseda*, ki še danes vzgaja in družijo slovenske vernike po vsej Kanadi.

Politična emigracija je kmalu po drugi svetovni vojni začela izdajati svoj časopis z dalekovidnim imenom *Slovenska država*, lovsko in ribiško društvo pa že dolga leta izdaja priljubljeni *Lovski vestnik*.

Prvo slovensko cerkev Marije Pomagaj so verniki zgradili s prostovoljnim delom in prispevki že leta 1954. Leta 1961 pa je bila zgrajena cerkev Brezmadežne s čudodelno svetinjo v Novem Torontu. To je največja slovenska župnija na severno-amerškem kontinentu. Cerkvena dvorana na Brown's Line je danes v zimskem času kulturno in družabno zbirališče za vse Slovence, verne in neverne, poleti pa se Slovenci zbirajo in zabavajo po raznih letoviščih, ki jih društva posedujejo.

Hamilton z okolico je drugo največje slovensko zbirališče. Mesto, ki bi ga lahko imenovali kanadske Jesenice, je od Toronta oddaljeno le kakih 60 km in približno toliko tudi od Niagarskih slapov.

Slovenci, ki so se naselili v okolici Hamiltona in na Niagarskem polotoku, so zgradili cerkev Sv. Gregorija Velikega. Njihova cerkvena dvorana je ravno tako center dogajanja, kulturnega in družabnega.

Z osamosvojitvijo Slovenije so Slovenci, ki so bili v tem času že dobro organizirani v različnih društvih, čutili potrebo po meddruštveni organizaciji, ki bi koordinirala njihove družabne in kulturne dejavnosti in ki bi

(dalje na str. 14)

NOVI GROBOVI

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

ku, mati Beatrice Miller, Raymonda, Franka, Mary Lou Warren in Roberta, 29-krat stara mati, 42-krat prastara mati, sestra Anne Perko, Amelie Strainer, Antoinette Ruth, Dorothy Slak, Matthewa, Evelyn MacDonald, Bernadette Sprague ter že pok. Frances, Elle Meuser in Matthewa. Pogreb je bil 22. aprila v oskrbi Fortunovega zavoda, pogrebni obredi so bili opravljeni pri Light of Hearts Villa v Bedfordu, pokopana je bila na Kalvarije pokopališču.

Harold A. Wasserman

Umrli je Harold A. Wasserman, mož Bernadette, roj. Pizmoht, oče Karen Struthman, Linde Juhasz, Reyne Dobrzeniecki in Denise Arko, 10-krat stari oče. Pogreb je bil 22. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi Chapel of the Divine Word v Kirtlandu in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojnikov spomin gradbenemu skladu omenjene župnije ali American Heart Association.

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Slovenci v Kanadi...

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

pozabiti na Nives Čorak, publicistko, in Marijo Ahačič-Pollak, znano slovensko kulturno delavko v Kanadi.

V Kanadi so "slovenska letovišča"

In družabno življenje?

"Nikoli ga ne zmanjka. Sobota je dan za slovensko šolo, kulturo in druženje. Nedelja za slovenski verouk. Zanimanje za slovensko šolo je, mene pa je materinščine prva učila mama. Slovenci v Kanadi se najraje zbiramo na družabnih večerih, banketih. Vse si pripravimo sami. Poleti odidemo na pristave, pravimo jim slovenska letovišča," razlaga Sylvia Kobal, in pove, da se na piknikih veselijo ob kulturnih programih, plešejo, organizirajo procesije, različna tekmovanja ansamblov. Prekrasna zelena ravnina ob jezeru Ontario pa jim takšno druženje polepša.

V okolici Toronta so Slovensko letovišče, Prekmursko letovišče, Simon Gregorčič - Primorsko letovišče, Lovska farma, Holiday Gardens, Planica in Slovenski panj.

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Beseda Toronto, mi je razložil Ciril Soršak, je indijanskega izvora in pomeni - mesto zbiranja. Morebiti družjenja? Kanadski Slovenci, če jih slišim iz pripovedovanja Cirila Soršaka in njegove hčere Sylvie, "znajo držati skupaj". Se znajo družiti in so trdno povezani, so močna slovenska skupnost.

Kaj, ko bi jih prepričali, da pridejo še večkrat v domovino in dajo nekaterim tukaj dober zgled

Jože Volfand

(Ur. AD: Ta članek je izšel v posebni reklamni brošuri za Aerodrom Ljubljana in je bila priloga v nedavni številki dnevnika Dela.)

Dežela, ki je zima

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

služila kot povezava z drugimi Slovenci v Kanadi in tudi z matično domovino.

Tako je bil leta 1990 ustanovljen "Vseslovenski kulturni odbor", ki to nalogo še danes uspešno opravlja. Pod njegovim okriljem je bil 1991 ustanovljen "Radio Glas kanadskih Slovencev", ki v celoti oddaja program v slovenščini, povezuje in informira rojake v polmeru 150 km.

Pred letom dni je pod okriljem Vseslovenskega kulturnega odbora začela izhajati tudi dvomesečna publikacija Glasilo, ki prodira v svet in je vir informacij za vse okuse in vsakogar.

Poleg slovenskih šol, ki delujejo v sklopu župnij, imajo Slovenci v Kanadi bogato folklorno, zborovsko in

športno tradicijo. Vsi, ki so živeli kadarkoli na tujem, se zavedajo, da je najtežje pritegniti v skupnost mladi rod. Otroci slovenskih staršev, ki so vključeni v take aktivnosti, so pomemben zklad, ki ga slovenstvo tako zelo potrebuje, kajti starejša slovensko govoreča emigracija izumira. Obstoje slovenske manjšine pa je odvisen prav od mladine, ki bo ohranjala slovenski jezik in slovenske običaje.

(Ur. AD: Ta članek je izšel v posebni reklamni brošuri za Aerodrom Ljubljana in je bila priloga v nedavni številki dnevnika Dela.)

Skof Metod Pirih

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

odmevajo v javnosti, ne morem le sam presojudi. Zanimivo je, da je neki drug avtor označil moje ravnanje kot milo. Vsak ima pravico, da ga gleda in ocenjuje po svoje. Hvaležen pa sem vsem, ki z naklonjenostjo gledajo na moje besede, napisane ali izgovorjene, in na moje delovanje. Zave-

dam se, da moram biti zvest Kristusu in njegove-mu evangeliju. Sveto pismo me uči, da je največja vrednota in krepost ljubezen (prim. 1 Kor 13,13). Zato poskušam resnico povedati z ljubeznijo in dobrohotnostjo.

Največkrat se posvetujem s svojimi sodelavci, z duhovniki in včasih tudi z laiki. Utopično je pričakovati, da bodo ljudje zunaj in znotraj Cerkve vedno dajali polno podporo mojim odločitvam.

Življenjska izkušnja je, da ne moremo pričakovati, da se bodo vsi strinjali z nami. Zato je za kristjana, toliko bolj za škofa, pomembno, da je zadnje merilo njegovih odločitev Kristus. Prepričan sem, da bodo moje odločitve, narejene po Kristusovem merilu, koristile tudi človeku.

(KONEC)

DELO, Sobotna priloga
4. aprila 1998

Vladimir M. Rus Attorney - Odvetnik

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FRANK PAJK

ki je dovršil svoje zemsko potovanje
in se preselil v večno bivališče
dne 25. aprila 1974

Kako smo srčno Te ljubili,
prezgodaj smo Te izgubili;
preljubi oče Ti,
naj Ti večna luč gori.
Lepa nam je misel na Te,
na prijazni Tvoj nasmeh,
na besede ljubenive,
ki imel si jih do vseh.

ob 38. obletnici smrti naše ljubljene mame
in stare mame



ANNA PAJK

ki nas je za vedno zapustila
in se preselila v večno bivališče
dne 10. januarja 1960

Sprejmi od nas, Gospod,
molitve in darila,
pokaži mil obraz,
pokojni daj hladila.
Gospod, daruj ji mir,
naj večna luč ji sveti;
ker si dobrote vir,
uživa raj naj sveti.

Žalujoči: Francis Paik, duhovnik, in Edward ter pokojna žena Diane

Vnuki: Edward, Gregory in Michael

Vnukinje: Anne Marie, Sue Ann in Sharon Walker

Mentor, Ohio, 23. aprila 1998.

PRIZNANJU SLOVENSKEMU MISIJONARJU

Pater Pedro Opeka, mož leta

TRST/GORICA, It. – Revija *Revue de l'Ocean Indien* je izbrala misijonarja p. Pedra Opeka, Slovenca iz Argentine, ki že dolgo deluje na Madagaskarju, za moža leta. Tako ga je predstavila: "Nobena osebnost se ni zavzela za boj proti revščini tako kot da duhovnik, ki o revščini pravi, da je "krivica, ki kliče do neba". Brez njegove pomoči bi namreč zelo veliko število ljudi preplavljalo naše ceste. V petih središčih je zbral 16.500 oseb, ki bi sicer živeli po cestah v najbolj ponižujočih razmerah. Vsem je poskrbel delo, bivališče, šolo in razne usluge... Mnogi najdejo tudi priložnost, da ob njem odkrijejo vero. Pater se lahko pohvali, da ima največjo cerkev glavnega mesta, in sicer v vaški telovadnici, kjer se vsako nedeljo zbira k maši od 5 do 6 tisoč ljudi."

Tako poroča italijanska revija *Missioni Vincenziane*. Poleg navedene pohvale objavlja revija še daljše poročilo o prizadevnosti p. Pedra Opeke, kako je učil domačine delati. Videli jih je, kako so v smeteh iskali in brskali za kak ostanek hrane. Pa si je mislil: "Te smeti bi lahko postale dobro gnojilo." Pomešal se je med ljudi in z njimi začel prebirati, kar je bilo uporabnega. Ta material je prodal in izkupilček razdelil: pol za plačilo, pol za gradnjo hišic. Tako se je zgodilo, da so domačini začeli delati in graditi najprej lesene kočice, nato pa hiše iz opeke.

Na ta način je s svojo delavnostjo in iznajdljivostjo zgradil kar pet naselij za skoraj 17.000 prebivalcev. Poleg hiš iz opek so gradili tudi šole in telovadnice. Njegove šole obiskuje sedaj skoraj pet tisoč učencev, ki si bodo s primernim pridobljenim znanjem lahko pomagali v življenju.

Revija o patru Opeki pove tudi to: "Rodil se je v Buenos Airesu leta 1948 v slovenski družini. Vstopil je v družbo lazaristov. Še kot novinec je 22 let star odšel na Madagaskar, kjer je zbolel. Po dveh letih je odšel v Pariz in tam študiral teologijo. S fanti se je družil za nogomet, skupaj sta brcala žogo s sinom poznejšega predsednika francoske republike Francois Mitteranda. Po štirih letih bogoslovja je pel novo mašo v Buenos Airesu ter nato znova odšel na Madagaskar.

Novi glas
2. aprila 1998

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POSLEDNJA CVETNICA...

CHICAGO, Ill - Cerkev Sv. Štefana gre h koncu. Ne bo več nudila prijetnega hlada, ganljivih postaj Križevega pota in službe božje. Utihi bo tudi vztrajni cerkveni zbor ter požrtvovalni mašniki. Klopji se že dolgo praznijo, zlasti prednje, in spovednice že počivajo; grešnejši so se že davno razšli, a domačini se omejujejo na majhne grehe, za katere cerkev ne "porajta" več... Pevci so že shajali tudi brez orgel in dirigentske palice, ko je intonirala in pričela pesem pogumna 87-letna Frančiška.

Kar nam bo izrecno manjkalo vsakokrat o Veliki noči, so dramske predstave Pasijona, Križevega pota, ki se je vsake pomladi ponavljal skozi četrto stoletja – v eni in isti zasedbi pod ravnanjem g. Jožeta Rus-a. On nas je razvadil, pred 25 leti z otroki, ki danes grmijo pred oltarjem. Vklisal je ta pastir božjo besedo za vsa leta v njihove duše, v neomadeževani slovenščini, čeprav so vsi mlajši rojeni na ameriških tleh.

Vaje skoraj niso rabili,

narekovala so jim srca in šepetala čutila, a zunanjo resnobo so stopnjevala temna, žalobna oblačila. Ponošno držo je vlivalo liturgično dostojanstvo

Potemtakem vemo, komu gre hvaležnost za to častljivo tradicijo; vendar deli dobrohotni vodja vse zasluge s svojo posadko. Naštetimo te sodelavce; naj jih pomni slovenska kronika Sv. Štefana:

Andrej Remec - z Magdo, Karlom in Gregom

Nandi Puc - s Francijem, Veroniko, Kristino, Markom in Heleno

Milena Goršič - s sestro Heleno

Karl Zorjan - z Andrejem

Janko Sever - s sestro Ano-Marijo,

ter posamezniki: Janko Žerdin, Suzi Rigler, Andrej Juvan, Toni Buh in Toni Gregorič.

Današnja predstavitev (5. aprila - cvetna nedelja) je imela cerkveni in domoljubni pomen: odrska poglabitev v dejanja in krivice na človekovi razdalji od Boga; a ponazoritev v slovenskem je-

ziku ni izražala samo vero, ampak tudi našo kulturo. Ker je besedilo na biblijski višini, je poučno s svojo jedrnatostjo in z dikcijo. Očiten je tudi zgodovinski pomen, saj se vsebina povsem ujema s splošnoveljavnimi dokumenti in je kot tak vključen v evropske tokove.

Nasledek

Vrzel bo občutna, ker nas je vsak odrski dogodek poživljal; vselej je namreč popestril prizore strnjenih literarnih vršin. Le-te nudijo neposrednejši dotik z našim sluhom, zlasti ko jih krepita ugledna zunanost in ustrezna resnoba.

Vdano hvaležnost torej zasluži celokupna skupina, za vse četrstoletje nazaj in še posebej za današnji sklepni nastop. A g. Rusu dolguje eno celotno pokolenje čikaških Slovencev vdano priznanje in občudovanje za nepretrgano vztrajnost. Naj ga ohrani med nami Gospodova volja, ker nas je združeval v hoji po Njegovih stopinjah.

Slavnostni prigrizek

V počastitev 25-letnih uspehov, okronanih s tem ovenčanim zaključkom, je omenjena skupina privrženec storila še en družabni korak: pogostila je udeležence opravljene maše s simbolično "pojedino", ki bo prav tako ostala vsakomur v spominu. Srca so obžalovala razhod; zato niso razstavljene slaščice prav teknile. Spogleovanje je bilo otožno, nobeno "na svidenje" se ni slišalo. Ostaja je uteha z upanjem, da ti shodi skozi vsa leta niso bili zaman. O tem ni dvoma... Toda za smotrno nadaljevanje ni več Gospodov prst pokazal na umirajoči Štefanov zvonik, marveč nekam drugam...

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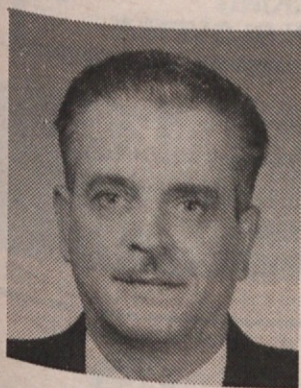
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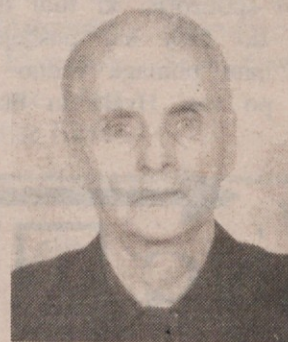
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Ferjan omenila, da si je pri padcu zlomila roko in da bom mesto nje podpisane pisala to rubriko. Gdč. Sonja je bila v petek na operaciji, da so ji vse koščice v dlani prav uravnali in upamo, da se bo vse prav pozdravilo. Prosim, vključite jo v vaših molitvah za zdravje bolnikom.

Prejela sem še nekaj pisem naših misijonarjev, katere vsebina je zelo zanimiva. Tokrat se iz Libanona oglašja salezijanka s. Milena Zadravec in piše:

"Spoštovana Marica Lavriša, Sonja Ferjan, Anica Tushar, Rudi Knez in vsi dobrotniki MZA!

Najprej prisrčen pozdrav in takoj za tem opravičilo za pozen odgovor. Vaše lepo darilo me je čakalo na mizi ob mojem prihodu nazaj v Libanon. Že pred božičem sem poromala proti Rimu, kjer sem se udeležila dveh kongresov in enega tečaja za amaterke skupin.

Ko sem že bila v Evropi, so mi naše predstojnice dale dovoljenje, da obiščem mojo drago domovino, brate in sestre in, seveda, kot je to moja navada, prvi obisk mami in ateku na pokopališče.

Božič, ki ga nisem morda že v več kot 20-ih letih slavila v krogu domačih, me je čudovito pretresel. Doma je vse drugače zdaj, kot je bilo nekoč, ko sem bila dijakinja v Ljubljani. Luči, smreke, jaslice, božički... in vrste ljudi, ki so čakali na spoved v mnogih cerkvah, vse to je globoko vplivalo na moje duševno doživetje "učlovečenja" v domovini. Vesela sem, da je tako, in Bog daj, da bi bilo vedno več svobode in verskega prepričanja ter navdušenja.

Po vrnitvi me je čakalo veliko dela, obiskov po dru-

žinah, priprave daril naših gojenk, otrok, in vrsto drugih organizacijskih del. Januar je tudi don Boskov praznik in naše 13-letne blaženke Laure Vieunne, zato smo bili vsi zavzeti s pripravo na te praznike.

Pred nami je tudi strah za novi izbruh vojne..., k sreči, da se malo jasni na obzorju političnih spletov. Molite za nas, ki bomo prvi na vrsti, če bo kaj hudega izbruhnilo.

G. Grilca in g. Wolbanga se spominjam v mojih molitvah za rajne vsak dan, medtem ko prosim pri vsakodnevni maši za vse dobrotnike. Bog naj vam obilo poplača vaš trud in ljubezen do nas. Prepričana sem, da vsi dobrotniki uživajo poseben blagoslov.

Sveti Duh naj vsem podeli moč in luč v tem letu, Njemu posvečenem. Naj naše življenje priča Njegovo prisotnost.

Postni čas, ki ga začenjamo, naj bi bil vsem skupaj čas pokore in sprave; molim za vse, da bomo z veseljem prišli po Golgoti, Kalvariji, na kraj Vstajenja.

Pozdrav vsem! Prisrčne čestitke za vse! Vesela in milosti polna Aleluja naj zadoni po vsem Clevelandu, posebno pa v vaših srcih, polnih novega življenja. Molite za mene... Zdravje mi včasih peša, morda od utrujenosti? Ali pa so klici za bližnji "odhod" tudi za mene.

V hiši imamo 45 sirot ali iz težkih razmer v družinah. Do sedaj so nam nekatere ustanove pomagale tudi s hrano; od zdaj naprej moramo pa same priskrbeti za vsakdanji kruh. Nekateri imajo sponzorje, ki tudi od časa do časa kaj pošljejo. Bog nam pomaga vedno - tudi po vas. Hvala in bla-

goslovljen postni čas, da bo potem Vstajenje bolj dožive-to. Vseh se spominjam in vse prisrčno pozdravljam.

S. Milena Zadravec"

V *Misijonskih Obzorjih* sem opazila, da se je s. Milena 20. marca srečala z očakom Abrahamom. Prav iskrene čestitke in še na mnoga leta!

Naj navedem še par dobrotnikov, ki so prispevali svoje darove koncem drugega in v začetku tretjega meseca: Helen Oven Hiserman \$200; Anton Žakelj (za s. Bogdano Kavčič) \$100; Marija Marolt (za lačne otroke) \$50; Niko Tomc (za s. Marijo Pavlišič) \$50; Vera Tomc-Devine (za s. Pavlišič) \$20 Marija Goršek (za lačne otroke) \$50.

Prav lepo vas vse pozdravljam in želim vsem zdravja, da bi se veselili življenja, ko zdaj prihaja res pomlad v deželo, vse cveti in zeleni v najlepši zeleni barvi.

Marica Lavriša

1004 Dillewood Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44119

K O L E D A R

APRIL

25. — *Slovenska šola pri Sv. Vidu* priredi materinsko proslavo v farni dvorani. Pričetek ob 6.30 zv.

25. *Pevski zbor Zarja* ima spomladanski koncert v SDD na Recher Ave.

MAJ

16. — *Pevski zbor Korotan* poda svoj vsakoletni koncert v SND na St. Clairju. Po koncertu zabava in ples. Igra ansambel Staneta Mejača.

24. — *Društvo SPB vabi* na spominsko šv. mašo pri Lurški Materi božje na Chardon Rd.

25. *SKD Triglav, Milwaukee* ima Spominski dan praznovanje na Parku.

JUNIJ

7. — *Otvoritev Slovenske pristave*. Igrajo Veseli godci.

14. — *Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti* priredi polletno veselico na Slovenski pristavi.

20. in 21. — *Tabor ZDSPB* priredi spominsko proslavo na Slovenski pristavi.

28. — *Federacija KSKJ* društvo v Ohio priredi letni piknik na Slovenski pristavi.

28. — *SKD Triglav, Milwaukee*, ima prvi piknik na Parku.

JULIJ

12. — *Misijonska Znamkarska Akcija* priredi piknik na Slovenski pristavi. Pričetek s sv. mašo ob 12. uri.

12. — *MZA odsek, Milwaukee* ima misijonski piknik na Triglavskem parku.

19. — *Poletnik piknik župnije Sv. Vida*, na Slovenski pristavi.

26. — *Slovenska šola pri Sv. Vidu* prireja piknik na Slovenski pristavi.

AVGUST

2. — *Upokojenci Slovenske pristave* priredijo piknik na SP.

23. — *SKD Triglav, Milwaukee* ima drugi piknik na Parku.

SEPTEMBER

5., 6 — *Baragovi dnevi v Clevelandu*.

13. — *Oltarno društvo fare Sv. Vida* priredi vsakoletno kosilo v dvorani Sv. Vida.

20. — *SKD Triglav, Milwaukee*, ima Vinsko trgatve na

Parku.

27. — *Društvo SPB organizira* romanje v Frank, O. Sv. maša opoldne (12. ura).

OKTOBER

4. — *Oltarno društvo fare Marije Vnebovzete* pripravi kosilo v šolski dvorani. Serviranje bo od 11. do 1. pop.

11. — *ADZ prireja Pečenje* školj na svojem letovišču v Leroy Twp.

11. — *Klub upokojencev Slovenske pristave* pripravi kosilo z domačimi kolinami, na SP.

24. — *Stajerski in Prekmurški klub* priredi martinovanje, v SND na St. Clairju. Igra Stane Mejač orkester.

24. — *Pevski zbor Zarja* ima jesenski koncert v SDD na Recher Ave.

NOVEMBER

1. — *Ameriška Dobrodelna Zveza* praznuje 88. obletnico ustanovitve v SND na St. Clair Ave.

7. — *Pevski zbor Glasbena Matica* priredi koncert v SND na St. Clair Ave.

14. — *Pevski zbor Jadran* ima koncert v SDD na Waterloo Rd.

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