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Lou Trebar 80 Year Old / Pecon Band 25

by TONY PETKOVSEK

Lou Trebar has authored one of the Cleveland-Style Polka's most impressive careers. A true dean of Cleveland-Style music, Lou's credits include over 65 quality years of professional performance beginning at age 13; over 40 as a composer, arranger, and adapter of Cleveland style music; leading his own orchestra from 1936-1950; 25 years as the co-leader, featured accordionist, and business manager of the Johnny Pecon-Lou Trebar Orchestra, co-owning the Metropole Café, Cleveland's first significant polka establishment; six years with the Mis-Tre orchestra led by Joey Mis-kulin; leading polka tours; teaching music; and currently playing with Jeff and John Pecon, Jr.

During his partnership with the late Johnny Pecon, Lou created a unique style of accordion accompaniment that defies description. By-passing typical "fills," Lou wove an exhilarating combination of leading musician counterpoint-driving rhythm and trailing musical "afterthoughts" that added rich dimension and delightful excitement to Cleveland-style music. Pecon-Trebar promoted many original polkas and waltzes which became standards in polka music.

More than any Cleveland-style musician, Lou Trebar took the initiative and played a leading role in developing the waltz companion to Cleveland-style polkas. Lou adapted and arranged Cleveland-style waltzes drawing from the portfolios of Strauss, famous American composers such as Victor Herbert and Vincent Youmans, and Dr. William J. "Doc" Lausche, thus earning the title "Waltz King" during the late 1930s.

As the business manager and promoter of the Pecon-Trebar Orchestra, Lou's talents were never more evident than in conceiving the famous "Janez and Lojze" duo. After persuading Johnny to record some "button box" tunes on Capitol, the skit became



Johnny Pecon (left) and Lou Trebar in their "Janez and Lojze" outfits.

standard fare in the orchestra's TV and personal appearances. This gem of creative genius rekindled an interest in button boxes that grew through the 50s and 60s and has virtually exploded since.

Lou Trebar commemorates his 80th birthday on May 1, 2000. He has been a lifelong resident of Cleveland, the last 47 years on Neff Rd., and prior to that at East 55th and St. Clair where he was born in 1920. In addition, he worked at Cleveland City Hall for 32 years as clerk and Chief Clerk in the payroll department and also for a time as a

district street foreman.

His counterpart, Johnny Pecon, worked about 20 years at Cleveland City Hall until his untimely death in 1975. He worked in the Parks Department and as Chief Custodian. Pecon was born on the Lausche family property at East 62nd and St. Clair in 1915.

The original Pecon-Trebar Orchestra had an association for approximately 25 years and the present day Jeff Pecon Band has also been performing for some 25 years featuring Johnny Pecon Jr., Ralph Delligatti, Paul Yanchar and, of course, Lou Trebar.

Florence Unetich Chosen for Collinwood Hall of Fame

Florence Unetich has been selected to enter the Collinwood High School Hall of Fame for the year 2000.

Florence will be inducted under the "Music" category.

The ceremony will be held at the Collinwood High School Auditorium at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 3rd.

Florence is very active in the Slovenian community, singing with Jadran, and serving as President of the Progressive Slovene Women of America, and is an officer with the Polka Hall of Fame.

Congratulations to Florence, a very deserving and caring person.

'The Well Will Tell' in Zarja Concert

The Zarja Slovenian Singing Society will present its annual spring dinner and concert at the Slovenian Society Home on Recher Avenue in Euclid, Ohio on Saturday, April 29th.

We promise you a delightful evening beginning with a Slovenian-style dinner that will be served from 5 to 6:30 p.m. (doors open at 4:45 p.m.), followed by a program of songs, duets and entertainment. The Jeff Pecon Orchestra will finish off the night with dance music.

A light-hearted musical skit entitled, "The Well Will Tell," surrounds the young people of a village. You will meet "Marička," who has a problem because she is desperately in love with "Francel," but her mother wants her to marry an old

rich man named "Janez." Come find out how the "Well Will Tell" Marička her fate.

Admission for the evening is \$18 for adults, \$9 for children 12 years and under. Tickets can be purchased from any Zarja member or the Polka Hall of Fame in the Euclid Cultural Center. You can also order tickets by phoning Vicky Kozel at (216) 531-5542 or Barbara Elersich at (440) 257-2540.

We thank our many friends and you the audience for your continued support. You help us to maintain our Slovenian heritage and customs and we promise to provide you with a memorable evening. We'll keep singing as long as you'll keep coming.

--Marion Bocian
Publicity

St. Christine's Marks 75th Anniversary

This year marks the 75th Anniversary of St. Christine Church in Euclid, Ohio. As part of its year-long celebration it welcomes Bishop A. Edward Pevec who is celebrating his 75th birthday (April 16) and his 50th Anniversary of Ordination (April 29) with a Liturgy of thanksgiving on Sunday, April 30 at 11 a.m.

The liturgy and open reception immediately following in the gymnasium is in honor and recognition of the many years of dedicated service Bishop Pevec has given to the church, the Diocese of Cleveland, the Eastern Region, and to all of us.

During his 50 years as a priest and bishop, Bishop Pevec has been parish priest and pastor, professor and rector, Auxiliary Bishop and Vicar. He has baptized, taught, consoled, counseled and confirmed. He has presided at countless liturgies and celebrations of every imaginable kind. He is often seen at wakes and funerals. His smile, laughter and



Bishop Edward Pevec

jokes enliven any occasion at which he attends. His leadership and advice often make the difference in seeking solutions to complex problems. His spirituality and prayers are an inspiration and an example to all.

It is for these reasons that St. Christine celebrates Bishop Pevec's 75th birthday and 50th anniversary. "Ad Multos Annos!" May he be with all of us "for many more years."

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

Jim's Journal

By Jim Debevec



What is my position on the Elian Gonzalez case? The answer is I am on the American side.

Elian's mother died in her effort to bring her six-year-old son to America. The Cuban-Americans who also escaped their homeland realize what a great land of opportunity we have here and made a commitment to raise the boy as Christian American.

Our government leaders decided the child should be returned to the Communists. (Does this sound familiar?)

Many Slovenians came to this country, also fleeing dictatorship. They became a successful part of our great American mosaic.



Shouldn't we honor the boy's heroic deceased mother's wish and give Elian the wonderful opportunity to succeed in America, the greatest country in the world?

Comments to Jim's Journal, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103 fax (216) 431-0628; e-mail to ah@buckeyeweb.com



Sava Makes Sense

by Rudy Flis

Sava: Do you recognize the name? Until recently, St. Sava, the Serbian Orthodox Cathedral, and St. Sava Eastern Orthodox Church were my only recognition of the name.

Two weeks ago on a Wednesday evening I was present at the Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation meeting, "Discover Slovenia Roundtable," a discussion led by Tone Gogala, Consul of the Republic of Slovenia.

One of the members of the business delegation visiting Slovenia last year Charles F. Ipavec mentioned the Sava-Goodyear Tire Co., a joint business venture of Goodyear and Sava, both involved in the tire and rubber industry. The company has the latest technology, impressive facilities and is a good marriage of companies.

My interest was total when I heard the word "Sava Goodyear Tire Co." They not only manufacture tires, they also manufacture Sava printing blankets, or Lithographic blankets, distributed in the states by "The Morway Corp., my employer, a blanket converter, able to supply the Sava blanket to all customers - a Slovenian product.

Do you remember the old conventional tires? They were replaced by a more modern, more durable radial tire. The radial tire was revolutionary and so is the Sava blanket revolutionary to the printing industry.

Printing presses put ink on rollers which puts it on the blanket to the paper and readers to sleep. If you desire more information, please call 1-800-321-1618, the Morway Corp. Ask for Rudy, that's me.

Cleveland's Slovenian community is blessed with energetic people in their many organizations, sharing their heritage with fellow Slovenians. The Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation is such an example. The next meeting, in May, will be interesting. I asked one of the ladies involved with the preparation of these meetings about next month's topic. I did not write her answer on paper, but made a mental note, "Monica (Rudy's daughter, a nurse) and I should attend.

Today I asked my wife Therese for a meatloaf dinner. I now sit emerged in meatloaf aroma, and my brain is kaput.

Hope we'll meet at the meeting in May. Traffic on E. 200 St. is "one way" north. - Road repair.

Marion Kosem Promoted

Recent appointment news at Hilty Moore & Associates announces **Marion Kosem** will do technology road mapping services, including product life cycle analysis, product family mapping, strategic product development and strategic competencies analysis.

Kosem previously held executive positions in product design, engineering and product development at Allen-Bradley Co.



Happy Birthday Mary Sustarsic

Happy Birthday to **Mary Sustarsic** of Cleveland, Ohio who celebrated her 87th birthday on April 13, 2000. Best wishes from family and friends.

Mary has lived in the St. Clair area for 60 years!

100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

By John Mercina

"Top Ten Accident Excuses"

1. My truck was legally parked as it backed into another vehicle.
2. I hit a stationary truck that was coming from another direction.
3. Coming home, I drove into the wrong yard and collided with a tree I don't have.
4. The telephone pole was approaching fast. I attempted to swerve out of its path when it hit me.
5. In an attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a telephone pole.
6. The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.
7. An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my truck and vanished.
8. I had been driving my truck for 40 years when I fell asleep and had an accident.
9. The pedestrian had no idea which direction to go - so I ran over him.
10. I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law, and headed over the embankment.

A weak spirit does more harm than a weak body.

—Baltasar Gracian

You know you are getting old when all your favorite music is in the bargain bin.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

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

Will be held on Friday, May 19, 2000 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 5/19/00 meeting, this is the period from 4/1/99 through 3/31/00.

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Orion Consulting Official Lauds Slovenia

Mr. Tone Gogala
Consul of the Republic of
Slovenia
1111 Chester Ave., Suite
520
Cleveland, OH 44114-3516

Dear Tone,

I am writing to thank you for including me in the recent business mission to Slovenia that you organized for November 7-14, 1999. I felt that the mission was a very successful venture for me personally, our company and the others in our group. The organization of the trip was well thought out and the scheduling of our time was efficient and productive. I thought that the schedule had just the right combination of business meetings and sessions providing economic and cultural information.

I was particularly impressed by the interest and enthusiasm of the many government and business officials with whom we met. They seem to be very committed to the new economy and free enterprise system being introduced into Slovenia.

Among some of the highlights of the mission for me were the following activities. Our meetings the second day with officials from the Ministry of Trade and Investment promotion were very informative. In my opinion, successful outside investment into Slovenia will be driven by opportunities for joint ventures with stable ongoing businesses in Slovenia. U.S. companies will have to identify Slovenian companies seeking outside investment and capital so they will not have to start a business venture from scratch. With the 350 companies seeking investment from outside interests, it will be beneficial if the government representatives can play the role of a match-maker or, at least, a facilitator of an entrepreneurial collaboration.

As you know, our firm specializes in health care consulting. It appears to me that opportunities for a company like ours will materialize down the road when changes are introduced to Slovenia's health care system.

Our meeting with officials at Sava-Goodyear was helpful in understanding how an American company can enter the Slovenian and Eastern European market. The Sava-Goodyear joint venture serves as an excellent model through which to market Slovenia to other U.S. companies. It seemed to

me also that the Port of Koper offers opportunities to major U.S. ports. Based on our meetings with officials at the port, I am hopeful that we can initiate some kind of sister port arrangement between Koper and Cleveland.

Our dinner meeting with the President of the National Assembly, Dr. Janez Podobnik, was memorable for me. Dr. Podobnik's persuasive approach and his inquisitive nature bode well for the future of business relations between Slovenia and potential outside investors. In my opinion, the challenge for Slovenia is to differentiate itself from the other former Yugoslav regions and to communicate effectively its business advantages. Colleagues with whom I have spoken still do not have a clear understanding of Slovenia's strategic location and of its now stable political and social environment. I sensed in our meetings that the government and business leaders see the importance of focusing on a few key industries and putting resources into these industry sectors.

As for the premise under which you organized the mission, I believe that you are right on target. I think you need to continue to find ways in which U.S. business and cultural representatives can experience Slovenia personally. We need to see it and feel it ourselves to really understand the opportunities. I came away from the trip very impressed by what I saw and experienced. The economy was more advanced than I expected. The commitment of the leadership and the enthusiasm of the people with whom we met were very impressive. One feels an energy level and a hope that evokes confidence for the future. Investment and new business ventures are built on confidence in an economy. The groundwork is being laid now for that mutual confidence.

I am already looking forward to future opportunities to return to Slovenia. Since I have returned home I have had a number of calls with inquiries about my impressions of the trip. I have been able to speak very positively about what I saw. Although I do not look for overnight success for U.S. companies in Slovenia, if a company is willing to invest time and resources I believe that there are excellent opportunities waiting to be had.

In conclusion, I want to thank you again for your invitation to join the mis-

sion. Your hard work and thoughtful planning made the trip the success that it was. As you continue your plans to promote economic development in Slovenia, you can count on me as a colleague who can share my impressions about the country's economic future. Best wishes for continue success.

Sincerely yours,
--William R. Plato
Principal/Chief
Administrative Officer
Orion Consulting
Cleveland, Ohio

United Altar Societies Meet

The members of altar and rosary societies from St. Mary of the Assumption in Collinwood, St. Christine, St. Lawrence, and St. Vitus parishes will have their annual gathering at St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) on Sunday, April 30 at 1:30 p.m. The afternoon will begin with praying and benediction.

The annual meeting will follow in St. Mary's auditorium.

The officers are invited and encouraged to attend this very important annual gathering. We hope to see as many members as possible to share ideas for the coming year and to come together and visit with old friends.

Note: We will begin promptly at 1:30 p.m. Please be on time.

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At a time when interest in Cleveland Style Polkas was flagging, John Gayer came on the scene, founding Delta International Records in 1961 and playing an important role in reviving the business. Signing scores of top artists, including Johnny Pecon and the Vadnals, John emphasized quality as he shaped Delta into the polka label of the 1960's and '70's. Releasing 42 albums, 50 singles, and five custom LPs, Delta provided the Cleveland-Style market with a first class product, distribution, marketing support, and John's personal involvement, while his Delgay International Music Publishers, a BMI affiliate, afforded Delta artists copyright protection and a continuing stream of royalties. An International Polka Association elector and United States Polka Association delegate, John carried the torch for Cleveland Style music nationally.

The Best of Pecon & Trebar New CD Release in May

In early May, Delta International Multi-Media Recordings of Akron, Ohio, formerly Delta International Records of Cleveland, Ohio will release a new CD entitled "The Very Best of Pecon & Trebar." The 32 delightful polkas and waltzes presented in this nostalgic 73.5 minute classic were specially selected from master recordings made during the orchestras Delta International and Dana Record years.

The timely production of this compact disc was suggested by Tony Petkovsek, popular WELW polka radio show host. The CD will officially be released on May 3, at a Polka Hall of Fame fund

raiser which will recognize Lou Trebar's 80th birthday and commemorate the 25th anniversary of Johnny Pecon's untimely death. The fund-raiser will be held at the Slovenian National Home on E. 65th and St. Clair Ave., in Cleveland.

John Gayer, Delta International's President, comments that the superb sound quality of this CD is obtained by utilizing the latest in today's digital technology. This recording is sure to become a classic item and no polka and waltz record collection will be complete without a copy of CD (DI-9043-CDS) "The Very Best of Pecon and Trebar."

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Patricia Coil makes big splash in New Zealand

Tubing Through the Caves **New Zealand Adventure**

By Patricia Coil
Euclid Travel

"Underground fun, mystery and adventure - glow worms, and cave tubing... soft adventure at its best," was how the web site described the trip that my daughter, Kathy, convinced me to take after reading a guide book on New Zealand. She thought a prepackaged group tour of the caves with a short boat trip was too tame compared to going on a three hour Black Water "Rafting" trip and jumping over waterfalls.

Before any vacation, my daughter reads various guide books for ideas for more exciting outings than the cruise ship offers. Kathy and I are very adventuresome, while our husbands prefer the safety of used book stores (son-in-law) or casinos (husband). Our second cruise vacation together was on the Marco Polo which took us in February to New Zealand and Sydney, Australia.

After much discussion about the problem of getting to Waitomo and back (it is a three hour trip each way) we decided to take the trip and leave the men in Auckland. Through a series of e-mails to the Black Water Rafting Company we are able to find out there was a bus that arrived from Auckland at 1 p.m. on its way back to Auckland. Once we got settled in Auckland, we bought our tickets for the first bus and made reservations for the return trip on another tour bus (hoping it would actually remember to pick us up.)

We left early in the morning and took the first bus to Waitomo. The bus driver was kind enough to let

us off in front of the Black River Rafting Co. and Café, where we met the rest of the group (5 much younger couples) and the two guides, also young and fit.

We were asked to fill out information about any health problems before we set off on the trip. We both marked knees. (Kathy had fallen two weeks prior and hurt her knee and I have chronic knee problems because of racquetball, which I still play). That didn't bother the guides who were just worried about heart conditions.

Now the adventure began.

We were all given wet socks to put on first, then an overall type garment, and finally a zippered jacket. I should have known we were in trouble when they made us get undressed in a room with no separate dressing areas (I felt like I was back in gym class again and all the rest of the girls were thin). To add to our humiliation

Kathy was given a wet suit in a small and she is definitely an extra large. She didn't discover the mistake until she couldn't get the suit past her knees. My suit was so large that the crotch hung down almost to my knees. Of course the other women in the group got the correct size and looked stunning. Next we had to find white boots to fit over our socks. Another problem, we have big feet. Then had to find a crash helmet, adorned with a miners lamp, for our heads.

After everyone was properly attired, we got into a small van and drove to where the inner tubes were stored. We were told to find an inner tube that fit us so that when we were sitting in it our knees would touch our

chest. I tried to point out that it had been years since that had been possible, but I was ignored.

Now picture this, 12 grown people, stooped over trying to find an inner tube that would fit over their butts. The other women got compact tire tubes, Kathy and I got the truck tire tubes.

Next, we sat in a row on the ground in our inner tubes and hooked up, by placing our feet under the arm pit of the person in front of us. We had to practice leaning to the left or right in unison, maneuvers we were assured we would need to make when we reached the cave. Then we were back in the small van, 12 people and 12 inner tubes and off to the river that led to the cave.

We got out of the van and walked out onto a pier that was about 12 feet above the water. Our guide informed us that we had to practice jumping backward with our inner tubes around our bottoms and as we jumped we were to kick up our feet so that we landed flat on the water inside the tubes.

The other 10 people did as they were told and were in the water in moments. Then it was my turn. Now, I am a good swimmer and I am not afraid of the water, but I never have been able to dive in backward, jump in backward or do anything else backward. I was terrified. The guides and the 10 other people in the water were watching me stand on the edge of the pier and freeze. My daughter was waiting for her turn to risk her life. I had this little talk with myself - (it took 3 hours to get here, cost money, 3 hours to get back,

do you want to look like a wimp in front of all these strangers?)

Finally after several minutes I did jump backwards, did land flat inside my inner tube and it certainly did hurt. (I found out later that the only reason Kathy got in the water was she thought if I could do it at my age she should be able to, also.)

Now we were ready for the cave. First, we crawled through a narrow passage to get inside. It was so cold in the cave that you could see your breath, hence the wet suits.

Another thing they forgot to tell us was that since it was summer in NZ, the water level in the cave was very low in places and we would have to walk on uneven rocks, through calf-deep running water, through narrow places, carrying our inner tubes, with only the light on our helmets to guide us. I noticed that just about every time I had to walk through a difficult part of the cave, one of the husbands would offer to take my inner tube. At first I was going to be noble about this and carry my own tube, then I thought who was I kidding, I could use all the help I could get. They probably figured that since I was so old, that if they didn't carry my tube they would never get out of the cave.

When we got to the first obstacle that had to be jumped over backwards, one of the guides took Kathy and I ahead and let us slide into the water a different way. Obviously they knew there was no way we were ever going to jump backwards again.

There were enjoyable parts, too. A couple of times we all linked up in our inner tubes and floated together through the caves admiring the shine of the glow worms on the ceiling. It really looked like you see in an amusement park ride. Everyone was very friendly and it was a nice group.

Next big problem was jumping over the waterfall. Come to find out this is why we had practiced at the beginning of the trip. You had to jump backward over the waterfall so that you would avoid a ledge about 10 feet out that could break your legs if you hit it. Everyone is over the waterfall except Kathy, the guide and myself. The guide said that if we could jump out far enough we could go forward with our inner tubes around our waists.

Picture me standing on the edge of an 8-foot waterfall, cold water rushing around my legs, trying to keep my balance and look-

ing down where the guide is shining her light to show me where the ledge is. I froze in place again. Guide suggested that she could push me - I didn't like that idea at all - or go in with me - another negative idea. Eventually I was able to muster enough courage to jump and did not hit the ledge. I got back into tube and floated some more and was beginning to enjoy myself.

Then we got to the mouth of the cave where we were confronted with a sheer 10 foot wall, which we had to climb to get out. Of course 10 people scampered up the wall as if it were no problem. There were a few foot and hand holes along the way. I didn't realize that I was talking aloud, I thought I was saying to myself, "Don't look down, don't look down; you can do this, you can do this."

(Continued on page 5)

Things are beautiful if you love them.

Rent a Condo

Ludy Cook of Mentor, Ohio has been appointed Sales Manager of the CondoCentre, a division of Euclid Travel, which specializes in condominium, villas, and apartment rentals worldwide.

CondoCentre offers the personal touch, tailoring each condo vacation to meet client's specific requirements. "People are tired of having the entire family camped into one hotel room and going out for every meal and snack, when they can experience the comfort and convenience of vacationing in a condominium," says Cook.

Most condos have all the amenities of a fine hotel, plus four times the space. Many offer pools, saunas, gyms, and restaurants, as well as maid service. While rental costs may be comparable to a hotel stay, condos allow savings on meals plus give the client all the luxuries and spaciousness of a home, explains Cook.

For more information about Condo rentals, clients can log on to www.condocentre.com which lists properties by geographical location and includes details about the amenities in each.

CondoCentre a division of Euclid Travel is located at 22078 Lakeshore Blvd., Euclid, Ohio. For more information call 216-261-1050.

Vincent - My First Barber

by Joe Glinsek

We had two barbers nearby; one was Mr. Rakar, who was also the organist and choir director at our church. His small shop was a sideline with unpredictable hours.

Vincent was a full-time barber with a large shop and living quarters above. It may have been a grocery store at one time, because it was four times the space needed for a one-man barber shop. My family had selected Vincent as our barber, more is the pity.

As a young boy, a haircut by Vincent was near the top of my list of unpleasant duties, right up there with getting my teeth drilled. I don't know how his business survived, because he took more time watering the ferns in his windows than he did cutting hair. His thirst was also very demanding, being quenched well and often from the supply in the back room. To be fair, his shop had one good virtue - there is NO waiting.

Vincent was an old friend of the family: a very fidgety fussy man with nervous tics and the worst case of halito-

sis this side of Chicago. Add the sour smell of homemade wine and you have an idea of the malodorous miasma fanning my face - it was a recipe for a full hour of misery. Yes, I said an hour! Requiring full eye contact, he talked incessantly and directly at my face with a blast of his fetid breath spices with an occasional spray of sour spittle. Since most haircutting is done from the side or behind, his "up close and personal" habit required a pause in the clipping and cutting, thus adding to the lost time.

Ironically, he was delighted with me. I could carry on a conversation in Slovenian, and he never ceased praising my good behavior. My discomfort was barely concealed, but luckily he was not very perceptive, otherwise, I might not be telling this tale - razors can be dangerous.

Conversation was one of his major talents and favorite pleasures. My haircut, already slowed by his constant chatter and visits to the back room, was also interrupted by any passers-by. He would get their attention by waiving his comb and scissors,

and at least exchange smiles and gestured greetings through the window. Often he went to the door and traded details about family health which invariably led to a conversational dessert of neighborhood gossip.

These non-barbering habits added many minutes to these dreaded sessions, and for this he charged fifty cents. Considering that my piano teacher traveled to our house by streetcar and gave me a lesson of an hour or more for a dollar, Vincent's price seemed outrageous. My dad turned a deaf ear to my objections and complaints. After all, I was just a kid in grade school. It wasn't until I started high school that I was allowed to choose my own barber.

I found it necessary to join a support group for the "tonorially traumatized." Six decades later I still look upon trips to the barber shop as a necessary evil.

Glinsek "grew up Slovenian" in Collinwood and now lives in Sarasota, FL. This article is excerpted from a book he hopes to have published.

New Zealand...

(Continued from page 4)

I got almost to the top and the guide took my left foot and helped me place it shoulder high in a hole and then gave me a root to pull myself the rest of the way up the cliff. My arms and legs ached for a week after that adventure.

When we were safely out of the cave, I looked at my watch and discovered that it was 4:15 and the return bus came at 4:45. We had the choice of walking the three miles back to the van or floating down the river in our inner tubes. We decided that the river would be the fastest way, but unfortunately the river was also low and many times we had to get out of our inner tubes and walk into deeper water. Of course we were the last ones back to where the van was parked. The others in our group were attempting to throw their inner tubes over poles set in the ground. Kathy and I were so exhausted we just walked up and put our tubes over the poles. Then back in the van and back to the starting point. It was now 4:30. It was really difficult get-

ting out of those wet suits; they were cold and seemed to be stuck to our bodies. We only had time for a quick shower before we dressed and were given our promised bowl of hot soup and bagel. After doing all that hurrying the bus was an hour late and we were convinced before it arrived that we had been forgotten. The three hour drive back to Auckland was anti-climatic after our adventure in the glow worm cave, but as you will read in future articles, there were more adventures ahead for us in New Zealand, even though we didn't get to

bungee jump or go paragliding.

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Slovenian Optometrist Opens Business in Chester Township

Dr. Marni Strancar has opened an optometric practice and optical store (Chester Optical) at 12597 Chillicothe Road (Rt. 306) in the Chester Square plaza across from the Chesterland post office.

Dr. Strancar received a B.A. degree in elementary and special education from John Carroll University and a Doctor of Optometry degree from Ohio State University College of Optometry.

Upon graduation Dr. Strancar moved to Birmingham, AL to pursue an additional three years of training in contact lenses as a contact lens resident and fellow at the School of Optometry at the University of Alabama.

The office provides thorough vision exams that routinely screen for glaucoma, cataracts, and other eye diseases. Both evening and Saturday appointments are available. Appointments can be scheduled by calling (440) 729-7099.

The optical store carries a large selection of fashion and designer eyeglass frames to fit any budget as well as a variety of sunglasses, reading glasses, eyeglass cases and chains. All major brands of daily wear, extended wear, and disposable contact lenses (including bifocal disposable contacts and disposable contacts that correct for astigmatism) are available.

Oriental Beef Amantha

This was one of Mom's recipes when we were growing up. It's easy and makes a lot.

Ingredients:

- 2 lb. ground beef
- 3 C cooked rice
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 C chopped celery
- ½ C water chestnuts, sliced
- 1 t soy sauce
- 1 can of cream of celery soup*
- 2 cans of cream of chicken soup
- 1 16 oz. can bean sprouts
- 1 can Chinese dry noodles
- ½ C water

Directions:

Brown meat with celery and onions, mix in balance of ingredients. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes and top with additional dry Chinese noodles.

*Mom used to always use cream of mushroom soup and think we wouldn't notice.

--Kim Ann Kaifesh

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Ljubljana through the centuries

(Continued from last week)

In his marches of conquest at the beginning of the 19th century, Napoleon Bonaparte also left a strong imprint on Ljubljana. The famous general and his escort even spent a night in Ljubljana, while his soldiers stayed for quite a while longer, since the city came under French rule from 1809-1813 when the Illyrian Provinces were founded. At that time even the world famous Dubrovnik fell under Ljubljana's administration. The city acquired new liberties, especially relating to the language, and a somewhat different appearance. The city received avenues lined with chestnut trees, public promenades and the famous Tivoli Park.

Glad to be free of the Austrian-Hungarian yoke, the Slovenians were extremely grateful to Napoleon and his more democratic methods. Ljubljana is thus probably one of the few European cities to have erected a monument to the "occupying" French. With the fall of Napoleon, however, the exuberance ended.

The Austrian authorities to a large degree stamped out the democratic acquisitions and, of course, exacted their revenge on individuals. And so the Congress of the Holy Alliance was summoned in 1812. In political terms, this signified a step backward, but it also brought a number of things to the city. Hradecky, the Slovenian mayor at the time,

contributed a great deal to increasing the city's beauty.

New buildings and squares awaited the four European rulers and their escorts who spent several months in Ljubljana. Forging policies at the congress were the Austrian Emperor Franc with Karolina, Russian Czar Alexander, Sicilian-Neapolitan King Ferdinand, Prince Metterich who organized the whole affair and a multitude of courtiers and aids.

Some 120 riding and carriage horses were sent from Vienna for transport and recreation. Several buildings and place names still recall the congress today. These include Gostilna pri Ruškem Carju (or Russian Czar Inn) where 166 years ago Czar Alexander took lunch, arriving in the middle of winter in an open carriage and cheered by the townsfolk.

In the 19th century, Ljubljana developed a great deal in commercial terms; most of its trade was conducted with Trieste to which three coaches traveled daily. It is interesting to note that the first inter-city highway of modern times was built between these same two cities - Ljubljana and Trieste.

Traffic on the Ljubljanica river was especially lively through the centuries. There was a dock with many ships and boats anchored in front of Zlata ladja na Bregu (or the Golden Ship on the Riverbank). Boats of up to 20 meters in length would stop here especially on Mondays,

Wednesdays and Fridays. Privileged boatmen, who had piles of money, were fond of merry-making. They would already be drinking in the morning and eating fried chicken.

The people of Ljubljana have always been fond of good food and drink, drinking so many barrels of wine each year that the lords were quite astonished. This is not unusual, though. Astrologers profess that Ljubljana residents are born under the sign of the gastronome Jupiter.

In 1840 Archduke Ivan began running a 28-meter long steamship along the Ljubljanica which later ended up on Lake Vrbsko. The life of the city was intertwined with the river which at the time, before regulation, was broader and shallower. Social life evolved both on and beside it. The townsfolk would even dance to music aboard boats and organize picnics and festivities along the river banks. Even the Ljubljana Philharmonic had a traditional summer concert performed on boats. Apart from festive jubilees, processions of boats and ships were also organized on the river; these would be accompanied by firework displays and the firing of canons. Boating began to experience a decline when, in the middle of the 19th century, a railway was built from Vienna through Ljubljana to Trieste.

(To Be Continued)

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Cecilia Dolgan is Elected

President of Polka Foundation

Singer Cecilia Dolgan is the new president of the National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame Foundation. She was elected unanimously by the board of trustees, January 10, 2000 to complete the year remaining in the term of Fred Kuhar, who resigned.

Cecilia has served as a trustee for two years. She was inducted into the Polka Hall of Fame for lifetime achievement in 1990.

Two new trustees were elected by the members, Kay Sefcik, representing button accordion groups, and Jeff Pecon, at large. Both trustees will serve until April 2003.

Joey Tomsick and Tony Petkovsek were re-elected to at-large positions. Trustees Alice Kuhar and Fred Ziwich were re-elected, in the support and musician categories.

Sincere thanks to long-time trustee for button box groups, Rose Intihar for her many years of service. Deep appreciation to Fred Kuhar who resigned in January 2000, for his capable and untiring administration of the Foundation as president since its inception.

--"Quarterly"

National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame magazine

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Death Notices

MICHAEL SRSEN

Michael Srsen, 84, a 50-year resident of Cleveland, passed away on Thursday, April 20, 2000 at the Wickliffe Country Place Nursing Home. Mr. Srsen was born on Oct. 6, 1915 in Depla vas, Slovenia. He came to the United States in 1949.

Mr. Srsen belonged to St. Vitus Holy Name, KSKJ Lodge #172, and D.S.P.B.

Mr. Srsen was a self employed Shoe Repairman from 1950 to 1987 His store was located at E. 72nd and St. Clair Ave., in Cleveland.

Mr. Srsen was an avid gardener and friendly conversationalist.

He is survived by his wife Catherine (nee Rihtar; children Tony (Rose), Catherine Zakel (Mario), Michael S. (Marilyn), Pauline Miller (Bill), John (Toni), Fran Hren (Clem), and Tom (Paula); 21 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Ten brothers and sisters and one grandchild as well as both parents, are deceased.

Calling hours were Monday, April 24 from 2-9 p.m. at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home (formerly Grdina), 17010 Lake Shore Blvd., Cleveland.

Mass of the Resurrection was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2000 at 11:30 a.m. in St. Vitus Church, Cleveland, Rev. Joseph P. Božnar, pastor, officiating. Burial in All Souls Cemetery, Chardon, Ohio.

Contributions to St. Vitus Church Development Corp.

HELEN L. KLAUGA

Helen L. Klauga (nee Gouldner), 77, a 45 year resident of Euclid, Ohio, passed away on Friday, April 21, 2000.

She was born on March 1, 1923 in Cleveland.

She had been employed at Baily Meter Co. in Wickliffe, Ohio or 10 years as a Calibrator and Engraver.

Survivors include her husband Peter Sr.; children Jewell Klauga, Susan (Gus deceased) Pena, Peter Jr.,

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Darlene (Charles) Winebrenner, and Carl; grandchildren Denise Krulc, Steven Ault, Lisa Marie Cuccia, Bob Mancuso Jr., Gary, Dawn, and Darla Berardinelli; great-grandmother of five; sister Evelyn Kosanovich and Frances Lewis.

Sister Penny Lynch and brother Kenneth Gouldner, and her parents are deceased.

Friends were received at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home, 28890 Chardon Rd., Willoughby Hills on Monday, April 24 from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m.

Mass of the Resurrection on Tuesday, April 25, 2000 at 11 a.m. in St. Robert Catholic Church, Euclid, Ohio with Fr. Dennis McNeil officiating. Burial in All Souls Cemetery, Chardon, Ohio.

Contributions to Hospice of the Western Reserve, 300 E. 185 St., Cleveland, OH 44119.

THERESA A. FERFOLIA

Theresa A. Ferfolia, 93, matriarch of the Ferfolia Funeral Home chain, died Monday, April 17, 2000 at Mt. Alverna Home in Parma, Ohio.

She and her husband, Louis L., opened their first funeral home on E. 81st Street in Cleveland, in 1927. In 1939, they moved the operation to Union Avenue. Since 1970, their funeral home has been on Lee Road in Maple Heights. The family added a branch in Sagamore Hills Township six years ago.

Mrs. Ferfolia volunteered at the former St. Alexis Hospital as head buyer for the gift shop. She was a past president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Woodland Hills Businessmen's Association and the St. Monica Golden Agers. She was a member of the Ladies Guild of St. Monica Catholic Church in Garfield Heights and the Martineers, a seniors group in Maple Heights.

Mrs. Ferfolia belonged to several Slovenian organizations including Slovenian Women's Union Branch 42, AMLA and the cooking club at the Slovenian Home on E. 80th Street.

Mrs. Ferfolia, whose maiden name was Godec, was born in Cleveland. She lived in Independence since the 1960s.

Her husband died in 1997. They had been married for 70 years.

Survivors include a son, Donald L. of Maple Heights; four grandchildren; and a great-great grandson. She had four sisters: Anne Fischer, Albina Percun, Josephine Winter, Emma McGinty; brothers Bernard Godec and the late Ralph Godec. She was also aunt, great-aunt, and great-great aunt.

Friends were received at the Ferfolia Funeral Home, 356 W. Aurora Rd., Sagamore Hills. Funeral Thursday, April 27 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Monica Church, Garfield Hts.

Memorials in her name to VNA of Cleveland Hospice, 2500 E. 22 St., Cleveland, OH 44115 or the Mount Alverna Home, 6765 State Rd., Parma, OH 44134.



In Memory

Thanks to **Daniella Schultz** of Euclid, Ohio who donated \$20.00 in memory of parents **John and Mary Lokar**.

Donation

Thanks to **Jennie Brumbaugh** of Broadview Hts., Ohio who donated \$20.00 to the Ameriška Domovina.

In Loving Memory



William H. Plymesser

14th 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

Coming Events:

Saturday, April 29

Zarja Singing Society presents its Spring Dinner & concert "The Well Will Tell." Dinner served from 5 to 6:30 p.m.; concert begins at 7. Music by Jeff Pecon following concert. Admission \$18 adults; children \$9. For tickets call (216) 531-5542 or (440) 257-2540 or at Polka Hall of Fame.

Sunday, April 30

Bishop A. Edward Pevec celebrates Mass at 11 a.m. in St. Christine Church in Euclid, Ohio, marking the parishes 75th anniversary.

Wednesday, May 3

Polka Hall of Fame Spring Fundraiser saluting Lou Trebar's 80th birthday, and the Pecon Orchestra's 25th Anniversary, Slovenian National Home, 6417 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland from 3 to 9 p.m. Tickets \$5 at door.

Friday, May 5

Pork, Sauerkraut, & Dumpling Dinner at Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80 St. from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Cost \$8.

Sunday, May 7

Polka Bash, Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80 St. 1 to 7 p.m. Cost \$5 or \$4 with can of food.

Sunday, May 14

Newburgh Slovenian Home, 3563 E. 80 St. Mother's Day Breakfast-Brunch serving from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Tuesday, May 23

Annual May Devotions in honor of Our Lady of Brezje at 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine on Chardon Rd., Euclid, Ohio sponsored by Ohio Federation of KSKJ Lodges. Main celebrant: Bishop A. Edward Pevec

Saturday, June 24

St. Clair Rifle Club Steak Dinner-Dance featuring Veseli Godci, with special presentation by Kres Slovenian Dancers, 7 p.m. at St. Clair club grounds, Ravenna Rd., Concord, Ohio. Tickets please call American Interior Design 216-831-0303.

Sunday, June 25

Ohio Federation of KSKJ lodges family picnic at Slovenska Pristava. Noon Mass

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In Loving Memory

of the 10th Anniversary of
our Mother,
Grandmother, and
Sister



ANNA M. ZAK

Passed away April 30, 1990

*Your memory to us is a keepsake,
With which we will never part
Though God has you in His keeping,
We always have you in our heart.*

Sadly missed by
Daughter: Betty
Sons: Norbert J. and
Michael J.
and other relatives

Cleveland, Ohio, April 27, 2000

In Loving Memory

of the 25th Anniversary



John J. Urbancich

Died April 29, 1975

25 years have
since that sad day
When the one we loved was
called away.
God took him home -
it was His will
But in our hearts -
he lives, still.

Sadly missed by:
Wife, Dorothy,
Daughter, Madeline Debevec
Son, John M.,
and families

Researching Family Roots

A popular hobby today is researching your family roots. Need help? Come to the Slovenian Heritage Center at the SNPJ Recreation Center on May 7 from 1 to 4 p.m. Mr. Al Peterlin, President of the Slovenian Genealogy Society, will discuss resource material available to help you.

He will also talk about his trip to Slovenia to research his family roots. Roger Evanish, Chairman of the Slovenian Heritage Center, will talk about resources available in our Heritage Center.

The seminar is free. Bring a friend. For directions call the SNPJ Recreation Center toll free (1-877-767-5732).

SNPJ Slovenian Heritage Center is located at 270 Martin Road, Enon Valley, PA.

Join in the Fun

Spring is the time for new life, for cleaning up and starting fresh. Many of you have probably already started on your gardens at home. The board of the Slovenian Cultural Garden would like to invite you to join us on Wednesday, May 3 as we work together to clean up the garden.

We will be weeding, sweeping, and picking up trash. The clean-up starts at 6:30 p.m. Come and bring your gardening tools and a friend.

We appreciate any help you can offer.

A photo worth 10,000 words

A motorist was mailed a picture of his car speeding through an automated radar. A \$40 speeding ticket was included.

He sent the police department a picture of the \$40. The police responded with another mailed photo of handcuffs.

--Bill Edwards
Phoenix

Knock, knock

Who's there?
Pencil.
Pencil, who.
Pencil fall down if you don't wear suspenders.

DID YOU KNOW
Slovenia... Joseph Zelle

Pope John Paul II has named Pater Stanislav Hočevár as archbishop of Beograd with right of succession. Pater is well-known Salesian among the Slovenians. He is the general secretary for the conference of Slovenian friars. Until recently he was the general secretary of the Slovenian Province of Salesians. The new archbishop will assist Zagreb Archbishop Dr. Franc Perko. Our congratulations to Archbishop Hočevár!

Catholic bookstore in Gorica introduced a book by Igor Škampérlé last Friday, April 14. Škampérlé is a professor at the Ljubljana University. His book is entitled *Magična rénésansa* (Magical Renaissance). The book is the first to deal with the renaissance culture as a whole in Slovenian.

Missionary Danilo Lisjak, who first labored in Zair and then in Rwanda visited the schools in Gorica. Reverend Lisjak is a Salesian who originally hailed from Saksid near Dombérek. He began his missionary work in 1986.

Champion of the Social Democratic Party, Janéz Janša, hoped that present governor of the Bank of Slovenia, Francé Arhar, would enter politics. Janša was speaking on Slovenia TV. Arhar has been very prominent in European financial circles. He recently visited Slovenians in Canada. Cleveland Ed Arhar and his wife, Ann, have been trying to contact Francé to see if there is a relationship more than just a name.

Did you know that ZSKSS, *Združénje slovénskih katoliških skavtinj in skátov*, the Union of Slovenian Catholic Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts numbered 3,500 members? That they just celebrated the 10th anniversary of the group's existence? Congratulations, Slovenian Scouts!

The fiftieth anniversary of the Classical Gymnasium in Trst was observed recently. Congratulations!

World famous Slovenian bee expert, Anton Janša, was born 1734 in Jésénice. He went to Vienna to study bee culture in 1766. He learned all about bees. Their life and customs were relatively unknown

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Thanks to Maria Holjevac of Parma, Ohio who donated \$20.00 to the American Home newspaper.

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Polka Hall of Fame Benefit Wednesday, May 3

(Tentative Schedule)

UPSTAIRS:

- 2:00 - Pecon Strolling
- 3:00 - Walter Ostanek Recording Band
- 3:35 - Joe Fedorchak Orchestra
- 4:10 - Pub Haus 4 with Al Battistelli
- 4:45 - Eddie Vallus Band 11 and Friends
- 5:20 - Frank Moravcik Orchestra
- 5:55 - Fred Ziwich and his International Sound Machine
- 6:30 - Joey Tomsick Orchestra
- 7:05 - Fred Kuhar Orchestra
- 7:30 - Tribute program & Pecon till 9 p.m.

DOWNSTAIRS:

- 3:30 - Cleveland Lake Erie Button Box Club
- 4:05 - Button Box Connection
- 4:40 - Somich/Tomsick Orchestra
- 5:15 - Joe Novak and Friends
- 5:50 - A Force of Habat
- 6:25 - Mahoning Valley Button Box Club
- 7:00 - Ron Likovic/Kathy Hlad and Friends

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— Vesti iz Slovenije —

Dr. Andrej Bajuk tudi v drugo ni dobil zadostne podpore – Izredna seja parlamenta se nadaljuje jutri

Včerajšnje poročilo STA: "Državni zbor je na tajnem glasovanju tudi v drugem poskusu zavrnil predlog pomladnih strank (SLS+SKD, SDS) za izvolitev Andreja Bajuka na položaj predsednika vlade.

Kot je sporočil predsednik DZ Janez Podobnik, je na tajnem glasovanju v drugem poskusu "za" predlaganega mandatarja glasovalo 43 poslancev, "proti" pa 10. Skupno je bilo razdeljenih 58 glasovnic, oddanih jih je bilo 55, med njimi dve neveljavni. Za izvolitev bi kandidat potreboval večino glasov vseh poslancev – torej najmanj 46 od skupno 90 poslank in poslancev. V prvem krogu pred tednom dni (20. aprila) je za izvolitev Andreja Bajuka glasovalo 44, proti pa 33 poslancev.

Vnovično kandidaturo je dan po prvi zavrnitvi, v petek, 21. aprila, vložilo 29 poslancev, od tega 16 poslancev SDS in 13 poslancev SLS+SKD.

Po veljavni ureditvi bo moral DZ v naslednjih 48 letih odločiti, ali bo po neuspešnem drugem krogu izvedel še tretji poskus za izvolitev novega predsednika vlade, ki bi po izglasovanju nezaupnice v začetku tega meseca (8. aprila) nasledil Janeza Drnovška." Naslednje poročilo STA, tudi včeraj, je dodal, da je parlament prekinil zasedanje do jutri, petka, dop. ob 10. uri. Nato:

"V skladu z 111. členom ustave mora državni zbor po drugi (tj. včerajšnji) zavrnitvi kandidata za novega predsednika vlade v 48 urah odločiti, ali bo opravil še en poskus za izvolitev mandatarja, v katerem bo za potrditev potrebna le navadna večina in ne kot v prvih dveh neuspešnih poskusih večina vseh poslank in poslancev (najmanj 48)." To torej naj bi bilo jutri.

Zakon o večinskem volilnem sistemu znova brez dvotretjinske podpore parlamenta

STA poroča o torkovem glasovanju o osnutku zakona, ki bi uzakonil dvokrožni volilni sistem, takole: "Državni zbor s 45 glasovi proti 20 v prvi obravnavi ni podprl predloga zakona o volitvah poslank in poslancev po dvokrožnem volilnem sistemu; navzočih je bilo 79 poslancev. Za podporo predlogu sklepa, da je zakon primerna podlaga za drugo obravnavo, bi namreč moralo v skladu z zahtevano dvotretjinsko večino glasovati najmanj 60 poslank in poslancev. Postopek sprejemanja zakona o večinskem volilnem sistemu je tako končan."

Iz tega sledi, da naj bi bile prihajajoče parlamentarne volitve, naj bodo te predčasne (proti koncu junija ali v juliju) ali pa redne (do konca novembra) izvedene po sedanjem, proporcionalnem sistemu. Ni pa povsem izključena možnost, vsaj teoretična, da bi parlament le uzakonil novi zakon.

Nagrajeni mladi Slovenki na ameriškem veleposlaništvu v Ljubljani

Ameriško veleposlaništvo v Ljubljani in McDonalds Slovenija bosta 3. maja v prostorih veleposlaništva pripravila sprejem za dobitnici nagrad svetovnega programa Vizionarji novega tisočletja, ki sta ga v sodelovanju z Unescom pripravili korporacija McDonald's in družba Walt Disney. V Sloveniji sta nagradi za izredne zasluge v lokalni skupnosti prejeli 12-letna Jožica Zupančič iz Pišec (za pomoč beguncem s Kosova) in 14-letna Aleksandra Radovič z Rakeka (za pomoč ljudem v stiski, predvsem starejšim ter gibalno oviranim. Za nagrado se bosta deklici skupaj z 2000 vrstniki iz več kot 90 držav sveta med 8. in 10. majem letos udeležili mladinskega srečanja v Walt Disney World Resortu na Floridi.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Sestanek Oltarnih društev-

Ta bo to nedeljo in sicer pri župniji Marije Vnebovzete na Holmes Ave. Ob 1.30 pop. bodo v cerkvi molitve z blagoslovom, sledil bo sestanek v dvorani. Vabljeni so članice oltarnih društev iz župnij sv. Vida, Marije Vnebovzete, sv. Lovrenca in sv. Kristine.

75. obletnica župnije—

To nedeljo praznuje župnija sv. Kristina v Euclidu svojo 75. obletnico. To slavlje bodo združili tudi s praznovanjem 75. rojstnega dneva škofa A. Edwarda Pevca (rojen 16. 4. 1925) in njegove 50. obletnice mašniškega posvečenja (29. 4. 1949). Pričetek bo v cerkvi dop. ob 11., sledil bo sprejem v farni šolski gimnaziji. Javnost vabljen.

Koncert zbora "Zarja"—

Ta bo to soboto v SDD na Recherjevi ulici in bo združen z večerjo pred in plesom po koncertu. Za več informacij se lahko obrnete na Vicky Kozel na 216-531-5542. Zbor ima več kot 80-letno zgodovino, iz njega je izšel zbor Glasbena Matica, to pred 60 leti.

Novi grobovi

Mihael Sršen

Dne 20. aprila je v Wickliffe Country Place negovališču umrl 84 let stari Mihael Sršen, rojen 6. oktobra 1915 v Depali vasi, v ZDA prišel l. 1949, 50 let živč v Clevelandu, mož Katarine, roj. Rihtar, oče Tonyja, Catherine Zakel, Michaela, Pauline Miller, Johna, Fran Hren, Thomasa in že pok. č.s. Mary Vida, 21-krat stari oče in 1-krat prastari oče, sestra in deset bratov je že pok., zaposlen od l. 1950-1987 kot čevljar na E. 72 St. in St. Clair Ave., član DNIJ pri Sv. Vidu, D.S.P.B. in KSKJ št. 172. Pogreb je bil 24. aprila v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda na Lake Shore Blvd. s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Vida in pokopom na pokopališču Vernih duš. Družina priporoča darove v pokojnikov spomin St. Vitus Church Development Corp.

(dalje na str. 15)

Občni zbor LILJE—

Dramsko društvo Lilija ima svoj vsakoletni občni zbor v ponedeljek, 1. maja, ob pol osmih zvečer v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Ave. Vsi člani so naprošeni, da se tega občnega zbora udeleže.

Upokojencem SP—

Aprilski mesečni sestanek kluba so morali preložiti na četrtek, 4. maja, to zaradi polivanja ceste na Pristavo s katranom. Vsem, ki ste se prijavili za izlet v Amish deželo, sporočajo, da naj boste na parkališču Slovenskega doma na Holmes Ave. v torek, 2. maja, ob 7.30 zj. Vrnitev bo zvečer ob 6.30. Za četrtek, 4. maja, je še vedno na programu čiščenje Slov. pristave.

Priznanje—

V sredo, 3. maja, bo v višji šoli Collinwood program, med katerim bo postala članica šolskega "Hall of Fame" nekdanja tamkajšnja učiteljica in izredno aktivna društvena delavka Florence Unetich. Sedaj "uradno" upokojena gđ. Unetich je mdr. dolgoletna predsednica Progresivnih Slovenk Amerike, več kot 50 let članica in solistka pri zboru Jadran, odbornica pri Polka Hall of Fame ter, zadnji čas, delno zaposlena na konzulatu Republike Slovenije v Clevelandu. Kot poklicna učiteljica angleščine in angleške oz. ameriške literature, je gđ. Unetich služila tekom let v raznih clevelandskih šolah, med njimi collinwoodski. Ob le najnovjšem priznanju ji čestitamo!

Za tiskovni sklad—

V zadnjem času so svojo podporo našemu listu dokazali: G. Jože in ga. Marija Košir, Kirtland, O., \$20; ga. Vincent Globokar, Euclid, O., \$25; g. Valentin Ribič, Richmond Hts., O., \$20; g.ga. Louis Drenik, prav tako Richmond Hts., \$20; ga. Doris Sadar, Willoughby Hills, O., \$20; g. Josef Lah, Cleveland, \$40; ga. Ivana Tominec, N. Miami Fla., \$25; g. John in g. Joe Hocevar, Cleveland, \$20; ga. Marija in g. Rudy Pivik, Middleburg Hts., O., \$20. Hvala vsem!



Dne 15. aprila je končno prišlo do združitve Slovenske ljudske stranke in Slovenskih krščanskih demokratov. Po celodnevem združitvenem kongresu, na katerem so bile tudi burne razprave o določenih vprašanjih, je prevladovalo veselje pri 500 delegatih (250 iz vrst nekdanje SLS in 250 iz nekdanje SKD. Fotografija zgoraj kaže z leve Ivan Oman, kandidat pomladnih strank za mandatarja nove vlade dr. Andrej Bajuk, Marjan Podobnik, Franc Zagožen, ki je postal predsednik združene stranke z nenavadnim imenom SLS+SKD Slovenska ljudska stranka, in Lojze Peterle.

(Nedelo, 16. IV. 2000)

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No. 16

Thursday, April 27, 2000

Dr. Jože Bernik, predsednik SSK

Ob koncu tretjega mandata

Smo ob koncu tretjega mandata v zgodovini Svetovnega slovenskega kongresa (SSK). Končno oceno našega skupnega dela bo moral dati naslednji Zbor, ki bo sklican za dneve od 28. do 30. junija v Tinjah na Koroškem. Vendar je prav, da vsaj bežno ocenimo naše delovanje v teh zadnjih treh letih. Osamosvojitve in ustanovitve neodvisne slovenske države je bila med glavnimi cilji našega civilnega društva. Ko se je ta skupni cilj našega naroda začel uresničevati, se je dejavnost SSK, v funkciji civilnega društva, osredotočila na podporo slovenski državi v mednarodni javnosti, na razvoj demokracije v naši družbi, na združevanje Slovencev doma in po svetu na osnovi skupnih narodnih vrednot, na iskanju premostitev naših globokih razhajanj in tistega kar nas združuje.

Vendar pa pri razumevanju vsebine in pri uresničevanju teh ciljev nastajajo težave in prihaja tudi do razhajanj. Na eni strani je razmišljanje nekaterih, naj bi bil SSK odmaknjen od konkretnih političnih dejanj v slovenski družbi, drugi pa menijo, da se ne oglašamo redno in dovolj kritično do kršitev državnih oblasti raznoterih osnovnih demokratičnih in pravnih norm. Vsi pa se, mislim, strinjamo, da bi nas morale združevati skupne slovenske vrednote.

Toda katere so te vrednote. V letih od 1941 pa vse do vzpostavitve slovenske državne suverenosti je bila porušena celotna zgradba slovenskega političnega, kulturnega in gospodarskega življenja, ki so jo Slovenci dograjevali skozi stoletja svojega obstoja. Na teh ruševinah je zrasla čisto nova družbena ureditev, povsem tuja vzorom zapadne demokracije in civilizacije. Naplavine te nedemokratične dobe so med nami na žalost ostale.

Čeprav smo globoko predani utrjevanju ugleda slovenske države v svetu, tega ne moremo uspešno delati, ne da bi opozarjali tudi na stvari, ki upočasnjujejo razvoj demokracije, pluralizma, transparentnosti in pravnosti v naši državi, torej na stvari, ki zmanjšujejo njen ugled v svetu. Kot eno od civilnih društev, ki se zavzema za zblizanje vseh Slovencev, smo dolžni opozarjati slovenske oblasti na njihovo ustavno obvezo do Slovencev po svetu. Ob deveti obletnici obstoja slovenske države ugotavljamo, da se naše oblasti sploh niso zganile, da bi pripravile zakon, ki bi uredil obveznosti države do teh Slovencev. Ali res čakamo, da se bo uresničila cinična pripomba bivše ministrice, češ da bo problem Slovencev po svetu rešila biologija, to je, da bodo

(dalje na str. 12)

Slovenci, uspešni gospodarstveniki in poslovneži na tujem...

Uspeli so. Na različnih koncih sveta, na različnih področjih, z različnimi željami in ambicijami. Vsak s povsem svojo, zanimivo zgodbo. Vsi pa so naše gore list. Radi se vračajo in navezujejo vezi s slovenskim gospodarstvom.

Ur. AD: Od časa do časa izhaja priložnostna revija Aerodrom Ljubljana. V številki 13 (1/00) je sledeči članek, ki opisuje tri slovenske gospodarstvenike, ki živijo v tujini. Eden teh, ki je predstavljen tu, je dr. Hilarij Rolih iz New Yorka, naš stari in dobro znane. Drugi je Marjan Loboda iz Argentine, ki bo predstavljen drugič. Prispevka je pripravila Vanesa Čanji.

Načrtuje morske lepote in vlagal bi v Slovenijo

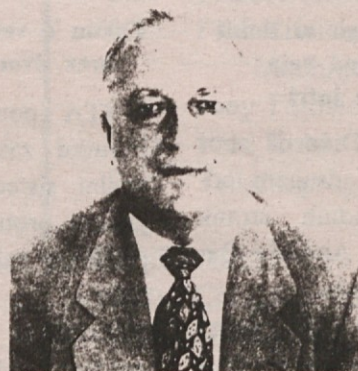
“Na Ameriko sem pomislil, ko sem se zavedal, da za inženirja, posebej pomorskega, v Trstu ni perspektiv. Zlasti, če si Slovenec,” pravi dr. Hilarij Rolih, navtični inženir, projektant in podjetnik, doma iz New Yorka, sicer pa tržaški Slovenec.

Sestri, ki sta že bili ameriški državljanki, sta njemu in njegovi ženi Zorki, tudi tržaški Slovenki, poslali vabilo. Svak mu je v nekem podjetju našel delo inženirja prve kategorije in tako so bili izpolnjeni vsi pogoji, da sta se z ženo, takrat še brez otrok, leta 1957 vkrcala na ladjo za Ameriko.

“Že 16 dni po prihodu sem začel delati. Moja angleščina je bila slaba, ker sem se v šoli učil nemščino. Ko mi je nov jezik laže stekel, sem se vpisal na univerzo, na politehnični inštitut. Čez dan sem delal, zvečer pa obiskoval univerzo in študiral. Leta 1959 sem končal magistrski študij, leta 1972 pa prejel tudi MBA diplomu.”

Pot se je strmo vzpenjala

Kmalu po prihodu v New York se je Hilarij Rolih razgledoval za novo službo. Priporočili so mu firmo George G. Sharp, Inc. Takrat so ravno raziskovali, zakaj je ladja Andrea Doria potonila. Ko so zvedeli, da je iz Trsta in da zna italijansko, so ga želeli pritegniti v raziskovalno skupino. A žal je za raziskavo prišel prepozno, zato so ga



zaposlili kot pomorskega inženirja.

“Opravljal sem kalkulacije za ladijske stroje, črpalke, vijake itd., skratka, teoretične izračune. Takrat smo delali projekte za evropske naročnike – kakih 150 ladij. Prav tedaj so namreč namesto dizel motorjev začeli uporabljati turbine na paro. Te so bile bolj ekonomične in cenejše,” razlaga Rolih.

Njegova pot v podjetju se je strmo vzpenjala. Najprej je postal šef sekcije pomorskih inženirjev, kmalu za tem so ga imenovali za direktorja oddelka inženirstva, potem pa za podpredsednika celotnega inženirstva. Leta 1983 je dobil funkcijo tehničnega direktorja, nazadnje pa najvišjo funkcijo v tej družbi, in sicer je postal direktor upravnega sveta.

“Projektiral sem največjo ladjo na svetu”

Nekaj nenavadnih ladij, s katerimi je družba Sharp ne le dobro zaslužila, ampak tudi zaslovela, je projektiral Hilarij Rolih sam.

“Napravili smo posebne ladje – hladilnice za prevoz mesa iz Avstralije v ZDA. Bile so največje na svetu, z največjim hladilnim hramom. Vanje so naložili kar 40 tisoč ton mesa, temperatura pa je bila minus 20 stopinj Celzija. Te načrte sem delal jaz osebno, kar pomeni, da sem nosil vso odgovornost. To pomeni, da se ladja ni smela zlomiti – petrolejskim ladjam se je to rado zgodilo, če so jih slabo naložili – ni se smela nagniti ali potoniti. In seveda – hitrost je morala biti prava, saj se je drugače tovor pokvaril.

Izdela sem tudi načrt ladje za prevoz banan. Zanimive so tudi naše ladje

za prevoz vozil “roll on, roll off”. Prvo takšno ladjo za vojaške potrebe smo naredili v začetku 60. let. Te ladje so na primer vozile od New Yorka to Porto Rica. Danes, 40 let kasneje, je to seveda normalno. Takrat pa je to bila velika novost,” pravi Hilarij Rolih.

Družba Sharp se rada pohvali, da je naredila projekt tudi za “ferry boat”, največjo ladjo na svetu, ki sprejme kar 6 tisoč ljudi. Vozi med Manhattnom in Staten Islandom, kar pomeni 18 minut vožnje. Ladja ima več palub, napolni se v 8 minutah, ker ima veliko dohodov na dveh višinah.

“Eden novejših projektov, ki smo jih delali, so bile ladje za čiščenje morja ob ekoloških katastrofah. Te ladje so v nenehni pripravljenosti ob ameriški obali za takojšnjo intervencijo, če bi prišlo do kakšne nesreče, na primer do izliva nafte,” razlaga Rolih.

Pomemben delničar in lastnik

Hilarij Rolih ni le na najvišjem položaju družbe G.G. Sharp, ki zaposluje približno 900 ljudi ter ima svoje urade v več ameriških mestih in državah, ima tudi 30 odstotkov delnic podjetja. Ima pa še zasebno družbo, ki jo je ustanovil sam. Družba IN-LERC, Inc. (Investment, Leases, Rentals) se največ ukvarja z investicijami v poslovne stavbe, ki jih daje v najem. Imajo vozni park tovornjakov ter stroje za fotokopiranje in kopiranje risb. Tak stroj stane nekaj manj kot 40 tisoč dolarjev.

Tudi sinova sta podejtnika

Družina Rolih že dvajset let živi v hiši v Laurel Hollow-ju, okoli 50 km od New Yorka, na severni obali Long Islanda. To je prav blizu Sagamore Hilla, rezidence bivšega predsednika Theodore-a Roosevelta (predsednik ZDA v letih 1901-1909).

Z ženo Zorko imata dva odrasla sinova. Prvi sin, ki nosi ime po očetu, ima MBA diplomu. S prijateljem imata svojo firmo in že 5 zaposlenih. Tudi mama Zorka jim pomaga kot administratorka. Ukvarjajo se s preverjanjem in iskanjem

(dalje na str. 11)

Gre le za denar?

Dragica Bošnjak

Potem ko je Mihaela Logar, državna sekretarka na Uradu RS za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu, pred koncem prejšnjega meseca zadržala financiranje Slovenske izseljenske matice "do razjasnitve situacije", je dr. Anton Bebler, predsednik SIM, v pisnem odgovoru ugotovil, da "urad tudi letos grobo krši zakon o proračunu in pogodbo, sklenjeno med obema naslovnikoma, in da gre znova za nerazumne odločitve urada, ki so odnose zaostrele do skrajnosti.

Z zapletom, ki ni prvi – že pred časom so na SIM zagrozili, da bodo tožili Logarjevo prav zaradi težav s financiranjem –, so se pred dnevi ukvarjali člani izvršnega odbora matice. Ker niso bili sklepčni, je ostalo le pri polemični razpravi, ki je navrgla še druge težave, povezane s statusom SIM, strokovnih služb in uredništva.

Na videz so stvari, vsaj tiste, ki se tičejo finančnih pogodbениh razmerij, preproste in jasne. Po pogodbi, ki ima (le) deset členov, bi moral omenjeni urad nakazovati SIM mesečno po 3.113.250 tolarjev, kar bi na leto pomenilo čez 37 milijonov tolarjev

(sicer za 23% manj kakor lani). To je denar za plače sedmim ljudem v strokovni službi oziroma uredništvu in za materialne stroške.

Kot trdijo na SIM, letos iz tega naslova niso dobili "niti dinarja"; torej "s plačami zamujajo že za tri mesece in če nesporazum ne bo kmalu rešen, utegnejo ostati brez elektrike, telefona in vsega, kar je potrebno za vsakdanje delo.

Več kot razumljivo je, da skoraj nikoli ni mogoče uskladiti upravičencev do proračunskega denarja in možnosti, ki so nazadnje "izborjene" za posamezna področja. Vendar je pomenljivo, da so že nekaj časa izrazito zaostreni prav odnosi med omenjenim uradom in SIM.

Za podoben ukrep, zadrževanje mesečnih obrokov, se je državna sekretarka Logarjeva odločila že lani. Utemeljitev: finančne nepravilnosti. Sledila so dolgotrajna prepričevanja, med drugim tudi na parlamentarnem odboru za zamejce in Slovence po svetu. V svojem ugovoru na SIM zagotavljajo, da tudi proračunska inšpekcija v matičnem poslovanju ni ugotovila nobenih nepravilnosti.

Ob tokratnem finančnem kaznovanju SIM se Logarjeva sklicuje na "neprimerne izjave" dr. Beblerja, ki jih je izrekel na srečanju s Slovenci v Nemčiji in v dnevnem časopisu, kjer se je, kot pravi, zavzemal za "transparentnost, javnost, depolitizacijo in učinkovit parlamentarni nadzor nad porabo denarja za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu".

Mihaela Logar svojo odločitev "utemeljuje" s členom številka 5 in 7.

Če zanemarimo pomislek, zakaj tak, običajno stvarni dokument, kot je pogodba o denarju za plače in materialne stroške, sploh vsebuje opredelitve, ki jih v vseh podrobnostih določajo statut in drugi dokumenti (v tem primeru SIM), pri najboljši volji ni mogoče ugotoviti, "kje je v resnici poglavitni vzrok" ...

Peti člen namreč govori o tem, "da se SIM zavezuje, da bo pri izvajanju programa vzpostavila enakovreden odnos do članov slovenske skupnosti po svetu in dosledno navajala, da se program izvaja z denarjem Republike Slovenije. Vzdržati se mora vsake akcije,

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Dr. Hilarij Rolih

(nadaljevanje s str. 11)

njem informacij za svoje kliente. Z ženo Ann imata punčko in fantka. Drugi sin Peter je arhitekt in dela skupaj z očetom Rolihom v zasebni družbi.

Odlična ocena slovenskemu gospodarstvu

Rolihovi se pogosto družijo z ameriški Slovenci, ki jih je v New Yorku približno 1.500. Cerkev je bila vedno središče, okrog katerega so se zbirali. Po maši pa imajo že več kot 20 let t.i. prosvetno uro, ki traja kaki dve uri. Vsako prvo in tretjo nedeljo imajo otroci slovensko šolo.

"Ustanovili smo tudi Ameriško-slovensko poslovno skupnost (American - Slovene Business Community), v kateri sem eden od treh ustanoviteljev in direktorjev. Danes nas je 8 direktorjev za vso Ameriko. Ta gospodarsko-trgovska družba naj bi spodbujala zanimanje za investicije v Sloveniji in za trgovske posle slovenskih podjetij z ameriški," pravi Rolih.

Kako pa kot uspešen gospodarstvenik gleda na današnjo Slovenijo?

"Zelo pozitivno. Slovenci v domovini so preživeli prehod iz planskega gospodarstva v tržno v času, ko so izgubili vse južne trge. Povrhu vsega je bil to v Evropi in v svetu čas recesije! Neverjetno, kako so utegnili preživeti tak preobrat. Mislim, da so na dobri poti. Kljub težavam so doslej napravili res izjemno veliko," pohvali Hilarij Rolih.

Sam že nekaj let razmišlja, kako bi se dalo v Sloveniji ustanoviti finančno družbo, ki bi povezovala male investicije za nakup nepremičnin ali eventuelno za druge, večje investicije.

"Prepričan sem, da je precej ljudi, ki bi rajši investirali doma, kot pa da imajo denar v kaki tuji banki."

Sicer v Slovenijo prihaja povprečno dvakrat letno. "Ljubljansko letališče me navdaja s prav posebnim občutkom. Ker je majhno, potnik hitro opravi s carino in dobi svojo prtljago. Drevesa in veličasten pogled na gore pa me vedno spravijo v veselo razpoloženje."



– O POMLADI –

Jurij Paljk

O letnem času, ki smo ga letos že zares nestrpno čakali, saj smo bili že vsi po malem siti dolge zime, ki se letos kar ni hotela ločiti od nas. O pomladi, ki jo danes doživljamo drugače kot nekoč, a se je vseeno še zavedamo na prvinski način, saj naše telo v pomladanskih časih čuti na sebi blagodejni vpliv pomladanskega prebujanja v življenje.

Zelo malo ljudi je med nami, ki se na pomlad vso zimo pripravljajo. To so bili in so še danes kmetje, ki v zimskem času pripravljajo vinograde in sadovnjake, njive in vrtove za pomlad, ko začnejo dnevi postajati daljši, ko začne sonce topleje greti in prvo cvetje oznanja, da prihaja čas pomladi. Morda bi bilo zanimivo povprašati današnjega človeka, ali še ve, kdaj se krompir sadi, in tudi to, ali se krompir seje ali sadi ali pa se lahko reče oboje.

Življenje pod neonskimi lučmi nas je oddaljilo od narave, asfalt nam je vzel dihanje z naravo, dobro založene trgovine skrb za jutrišnje kosilo. Odmaknili smo se od narave, ki nam sicer še veliko pomeni ali

pa bi nam morala veliko pomeniti; prvotnega, pravega prvinega odnosa do nje pa nimamo več, saj se je neposredna vez med nami in naravo pretrgala.

Velika večina od nas ni več neposredno odvisna od narave, kot s(m)o bili nekoč poljedelci, kmetje. Zato tudi današnje večno tannanje nad vremenom, ki bi moralo biti vedno tako, kakršnega si želimo: pozimi bi za smučarje moralo takoj zasnežiti, poleti bi moralo na morju počitnic željne ljudi vedno sijati sonce.

Po taki logiki bi morali biti vsi konci tedna sončni, dnevi lepi, ne preveč hladni in niti preveč topli: taki, da bi lahko šli v miru v naravo počivat.

In ravno v tem odnosu današnjega človeka do narave je nekaj narobe: namreč to, da na naravo gleda samo kot na kraj, v katerem preživlja proste dneve, počiva in hodi na počitnice.

Kmetu je še ostala prvinska vez z naravo, tista življenjska popkovina, ki ga dela odvisnega od zemlje, vremena in pridelka, ki mu ga zemlja daje. Zato bo kmet z zaskrbljenostjo zrl v nebo, ko predolgo časa ne bo deževalo, zato bo kmet zaskrbljen čakal na pomlad, ko se le-ta noče in noče prikazati. Tega soskladja sami nimamo več ne z naravo in ne sami s seboj, a bi vendarle morali vedeti, da smo le del narave in nič več.

Zato je kmetu jasno, da ne bo vozil z avtom na nepokošen travnik in tam odlagal plastičnih smeti, kot mu je tudi jasno, da je prav, ko v mesecu aprilu dežuje.

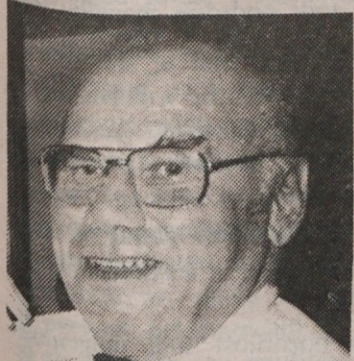
Prav tako bo z naravo usklajen človek vesel zelenja in cvetenja češenj kot tudi sveže zorane njive in kasneje dišečih, sveže pokosenih travnikov, ki pa jih je pri nas žal vedno manj: v zameno rastejo pleveli in divje trave, ki vztrajno in iz leta v leto bolj brišejo spomin na delo naših prednikov.

Ko sedaj ugotavljamo, da prihaja pomlad, skušajmo na letni čas gledati tudi z očmi tistega, ki od zemlje še živi in mu polje ne pomeni samo prostor za zabavo in sprehod. Če je res, da danes vemo za pomlad dostikrat samo zato, ker vidimo okrog sebe vse več deklet, ki nosijo

(dalje na str. 12)

V BLAG SPOMIN

OB 7. OBLETNICI SMRTI
NAŠEGA DOBREGA
MOŽA, OČETA IN
STAREGA OČETA



MATIJA HUTAR

ki ga je Gospod poklical
30. aprila 1993.

V miru božjem zdaj počivaj,
dragi, nepozabni nam,
v nebesih rajsko srečo uživaj,
do svidenja na vekomaj.

Žalujoči ostali:

Angela, žena
Mimi, hčer; Mark zet
John, sin; Lisa snaha
Brian, Jonathan in Eric,
vnuki
Annie in Claire, vnukinji
Jože, brat; Marija Simonič,
sestra; oba v Sloveniji
nečaki in nečakinje ter ostalo
sorodstvo v Ameriki in
Sloveniji.

V BLAG SPOMIN

8. OBLETNICE SMRTI
NAŠE MAME, STARE
MAME, PRASTARE
MAME IN TAŠČE



MARY STRANCAR

1902 — 1992

Umrla 28. aprila 1992

Osem let je že minilo,
odkar Te več med nami n.
toda ljubeč spomin na Tebe,
draga...

ostal bo nam do konca
naših dni.

Lahko naj Te zemlja krije,
spavaj mirno in sladko,
luč nebeška naj Ti sije,
mir in pokoj naj Ti bo.
Žalujoči:

Mary Zipperman, hčerka
Donald Zipperman, zet
Robert in Paul Zipperman,
vnuka
Maureen Meilus, Lori Pope,
Donna Flynt, vnukinje
pravnuki in pravnukinje

Slovensko olimpijsko odštevanje do Sydneyja**Rekorderka in "ambasadorka"**

Polnih 30 let je obveljal olimpijski rekord, ki so ga leta 1960 postavili slovenski atleti in atletinje. Tedaj, v Rimu, jih je kar deset nastopilo v znamenju petih krogov – več kot kadar koli prej in tudi vse do zadnjega olimpijskega atletskega tekmovanja v Atlanti 1996, ko je bilo udeležencev iz Slovenije, zdaj že samostojne države, prav tako deset.

Rim je pomenil vrhunec slovenske atletike v jugoslovanskih okvirih, ta pa je svojo volilno vlogo obdržala tudi še štiri leta pozneje v Tokiu. V večnem mestu je jugoslovansko atletsko zastopstvo štel 22 nastopajočih, na Japonskem pa je bilo razmerje še ugodnejše za Slovenijo – pet od devetih.

K tako ugodni rimski bilanci je prispevala tudi tedaj 27-letna šprinterka Olga Šikovec. Ob štirih atletih Kladivarja (najuspešnejši je bil z 9. mestom deseterobojec Jože Brodnik, sedanji predsednik AZS), je bila edina Celjanka v reprezentanci, pri atletskih olimpijcih iz Ljubljane pa je bilo razmerje 3:2 za dekleta.

"Olimpijski nastop je bil zame vrhunec dolge kariere. Izpolnitev sanj, četudi nisem dosegla vidnejše uvrstitve. Sem pa vendar na 200 m izenačila svoj državni rekord in bila tako deležna pohvale svojega nepozabnega trenerja Fedorja Gradišnika, najzaslužnejšega za tako imeniten razmah atletike v Celju in Sloveniji," se spominja legenda našega šprinta.

Le za denar?

(nadaljevanje s str. 11)

ki bi lahko povzročila neugodne posledice za slovensko skupnost na področju izvajanja programa ali ki bi škodovala ugledu Republike Slovenije" itd.

Sedmi člen daje "zeleno luč", da lahko "v primeru kršitve te pogodbe prekine financiranje do razjasnitve situacije".

"Situacijo" naj bi poskušali vpleteni v kratkem "razjasniti" v pogovoru s predsednikom državnega zbora. Toda če bo tudi tokrat vse ostalo zgolj pri tem, bo to znova le premostitev drobnega, za SIM pa življenjsko pomembnega problema. Ob tem bo mogoče še naprej zgolj ugotavljati, da država v resnici ne ve, kako naj se na različnih ravneh smotrno ogradni in opredeli sodelovanje s Slovenci po svetu...

Delo, 17. aprila 2000

Ta naslov ji vsekakor gre, saj je v letih 1954-1966 nič manj ko 30-krat nastopila v državni reprezentanci, bila sedemkrat prvakinja Balkana (upoštevaje štafete celo desetkrat), 15-krat prvakinja Jugoslavije in devetkrat Slovenije, da o številnih rekordih niti ne govorimo.

Dvakrat je nastopila na evropskem prvenstvu (1958 in 1962), na prvem, takrat še poskusnem, a pozneje priznanem evropskem dvoranskem prvenstvu v Dortmundu 1966 pa si je (v ekipi je bila tudi Celjanka Marijana Lubej) pritekla srebro v štafeti 4 x 200 m.

"Rima ne bom nikdar pozabila. Kakšno doživetje je bilo teči na olimpijskem stadionu, od blizu videti vse te zvezdnike in zvezdnice svetovne atletike. Še posebno se mi je vtisnila v spomin prva dama iger, črna gazela – ameriška šprinterka Wilma Rudolph.

O pomladi

(nadaljevanje s str. 11)

mini krila in majice s kratkimi rokavi, je tudi res, da je april že pregovorno deževen mesec.

Čemernih obrazov med nami bo manj, če bomo pomislili na od dolge in suhe zime izsušeno zemljo, ki je prepotrebna vode, dežja, ki pomirjujoče vpliva tudi na od vsakodnevnega hitrega ritma današnjega življenja utrujene in vsega naveličane ljudi.

Ko se bomo tako ozirali okrog, bomo tudi z veseljem videli polja, na katerih še rastejo tiste rastline, od katerih so nekoč naši predniki še živeli, pa naj gre za krompir, pšenico ali druge rastline, za katere je potrebno trdo delati, da jeseni obrodijo svoj sad. Oko se bo kar samo ustavilo na sveže obdelanih njivah in na urejenih vinogradih, zelenih tratah in brstečih pred kratkim obdelanih sadovnjakih. Pomlad je namreč čas dela na polju in v vinogradu tudi takrat, ko nas ni zraven.

NOVI GLAS
Trst/Gorica, 13. aprila 2000

Žal z njo – ne na 100 m in ne na 200 m – nisem tekla v isti skupini. Na krajši progi bi bili celo dve priložnosti, saj sem se uvrstila v četrtfinale.

A sem si jo, zlasti med treningi in ogrevanju, podrobno ogledala, tudi slikala sem jo. Kako prikupna in elegantna je bila. Zdela se mi je kot princesa. Pa seveda njeni dosežki: tri zlate kolajne! In na 100 m čas 11,0, resda z nekoliko premočnim vetrovom v hrbet. 11,0 pred 40 leti!"

Olga Šikovec, doma iz Radeč, je prišla v atletiko sicer šele pozno, stara 20 let, a ji je ostala zvesta vse življenje. Sprva je bila telovadka, odbojkarica, igralka namiznega tenisa, vedno ljubiteljica planin, potem pa so jo odkrili med nekim tekom po celjskih ulicah. Ob načrtni vadbi je hitro napredovala in bila že pred Melbournom 1956 kandidatka za olimpijske igre. Normo pa je zgrešila, tako kot leta 1964.

"Škoda, da nam ni nikdar uspelo odgovornih prepričati s štafeto. Tako je na primer ostala brez olimpijskega nastopa naša znamenita tekačica Milka Babović, kar jo je vedno peklo," pripoveduje naša sogovornica, ki še zdaj redno obiskuje atletske prireditve, na njih pa je – kot mednarodna sodnica – marsikdaj tudi aktivna.

Šikovčeva se je po Rimu dokončno preselila v Zagreb, kjer živi še sedaj. Šla je k možu – znanemu športnemu novinarju Vilku Luncerju, velikemu atletskemu zanesenjaku. Tudi njun sin Bojan se je poskusil v kraljici športov, le da so bile specialnosti različne. Soprog je bil srednjeproglaš, naslednik družinske tradicije pa se je opredelil za 400 m.

"Bržčas sem hitrost pridobila tista nešteta jutra, ko sem se iz Radeč vozila v Celje v šolo in nato v službo. Kar daleč sem imela do postaje, in kadar sem bila pozna, sem vlak dobesedno lovila," se spominja smeje.

"A je atletika zame postala tako rekoč življenjska opredelitev. Koliko lepega sem doživela, koliko prijateljev iz tega časa drži še zdaj. Moje klubske kolegice iz Kladivarja in pozneje zagrebške Mladosti, pa reprezentantke," našteva.

Med njimi ji je bila vedno še posebno pri srcu Ljubljankanka (nekaj časa

(dalje na str. 13)

Ob koncu tretjega mandata

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

tako ali tako izumrli. Skupaj z drugimi civilnimi društvi želimo sodelovati s pristojnimi slovenskimi organi pri skupnem reševanju vseh teh desetletja starih problemov.

Ocenjujem, da je v mandatu, ki se izteka, naše društvo opravilo kar pomembne naloge: imeli smo vsaj tri seje upravnega odbora na leto, obiskali smo naše zamejce v treh sosednjih državah in vzdrževali stike z njimi, tajništvo je poslovalo uspešno, oglašali smo se, čeprav morda ne dovolj pogosto, ob reševanju vprašanj splošnega ali specifičnega pomena v civilni družbi in državi in imeli redne tiskovne konference. Pripravili smo dve srečanju slovenskih zdravnikov iz vsega sveta in eno srečanje gospodarstvenikov. S Slovensko konferenco smo si pogodbeno delili tajništvo in tovrstne stroške in tako je bilo sodelovanje med nami pri omenjenih treh srečanjih in tudi na področju drugih dejavnosti lahko dokaj uspešno. Naše Glasilo je pod sedanjim urednikom smotrno in kakovostno urejano, pridobiva na ugledu in je razširjeno med Slovenci povsod po svetu.

Omeniti moram tudi nekaj manj zadovoljivih stvari, med drugim: občasno zamudno odzivanje nekaterih Konferenc, premalo predlogov od Konferenc za programe, ki naj bi jih financirala pristojna slovenska ministrstva; spričo vnaprej najavljene nesklepčnosti nismo mogli sklicati sej Sveta SSK, vendar so se nekateri člani mogli udeleževati sej Upravnega odbora. Novi odbor, ki bo izvoljen na našem zboru v Tinjah na Koroškem ob koncu junija, bo našel kar nekaj področij, na katerih bo treba storiti kaj več za napredek kongresne dejavnosti. Med temi so še posebej pomembna področja: zagotavljanje neproračunskih sredstev, pomladitev in rast članstva, večja aktivnost članov upravnega odbora, sveta in Konferenc, večja zagnanost pri pripravljanju še bolj zahtevnih in kakovostnih letnih programov, tesnejša povezava z drugimi slovenskimi civilnimi društvi, sodelovanje z društvi Slovencev po svetu in premik predloga zakonodajnega osnutka za Slovence po svetu. Še večjo pozornost bo treba posvetiti preživetvenim problemom naših manjšin.

28. marca sem z glavno tajnico, gđc. Jano Podobnik, obiskal Koroško, kjer smo skupaj z mag. Dolinarjem obiskali tamkajšnje vplivne Slovence: ravnatelja slovenske gimnazije, dr. Vospernika, novega predsednika Narodnega sveta koroških Slovencev, g. Bernarda Sadovnika, obiskali slovenskega generalnega konzula, g. Jeraja, in si za naš junjski Zbor ogledali prostore v Tinjah. V zvezi z našim pismom novemu deželnemu glavarju Koroške, g. Haiderju, o neizpolnjenih dolžnostih avstrijske države in koroške vlade do slovenske manjšine, smo po posredovanju mag. Dolinarja obiskala dr. Karla Anderwalda, ki kot direktor urada koroške deželne vlade pokriva tudi področje manjšin. Z njim smo imeli v zelo dobrem vzdušju dolg in zelo odkrit pogovor. V navzočnosti vladnega šefa protokola, mag. Vladimirja Smrtnika, smo predstavili Kongres, naše mednarodno delovanje in ocenili pomanjkanje napredka pri vseh točkah iz našega pisma, s katerim je bil seznanjen. Zagotovili smo, da bomo vestno spremljali izvršitev obljub in se temu primerno tudi oglašali koroški vladi in institucijam v svetu.

Prav sedaj smo namenili večjo pozornost tudi dolgemu in premišljenemu zavlačevanju sprejetja zaščitnega zakona za Slovence v Italiji. V stiku smo z vodilnimi Slovenci v Trstu in Gorici. Še vedno pa sodelujemo z drugimi civilnimi združenji pri reševanju mejnih problemov s hrvaško državo v Istri in v Piranskem zalivu. Ta področja bodo ostala ključna tudi za novi upravni odbor.

Ob tej priliki se zahvaljujem vsem kolegom in sodelavcem v upravnem odboru, v vseh aktivnih Konferencah in v našem tajništvu.

Glasilo

Svetovni slovenski kongres

**BRICKMAN & SONS
FUNERAL HOME**

21900 Euclid Ave.

481-5277

Between Chardon & E. 222nd St. — Euclid, Ohio

p. dr. Vendelin Špendov

Lemont, Ill.

LEMONTSKI ODMEVI

Kakor vsako leto, bo tudi letos šmarnična pobožnost v naši cerkvi Marije Pomagaj vsako majsko nedeljo ob 2.30 popoldne: majniško premišljevanje, pete litanije Matere božje in blagoslov z Najsvetejšim.

Mnogi ste poslali za svečke pred oltarjem Marije Pomagaj, ki jih verno prižigamo po želji in naročilu. Dar za svečke, tako velike kot male, je že vrsto let enak, čeprav je v mnogih cerkvah že zvišan.

24. maja je praznik Marije Pomagaj. Kako že leta, bo tudi letos na predvečer v torek, 23. maja, posebna pobožnost za vse Slovence doma in po svetu. V naši cerkvi bo ta pobožnost ob 7.30 zvečer. Po drugih slovenskih cerkvah in naselbinah bo oznanjeno.

Spomenica o tej pobožnosti, ki jo je potrdil škof Janez Jenko iz Kopra, se glasi: "Vsako leto na predvečer praznika Marije z Brezij, ki varuje slovenski narod in slovenska izročila v svetu, to je 23. maja zvečer, bomo v svojih domovih prižgali sveče in preživeli večer v mislih na krščanska izročila, ki so stoletja vodila naš narod v domovini in oblikujejo danes nas v svetu in po nas narode, med katerimi živimo."

Godovanja: 2. maja goduje p. Atanazij Lovrenčič. Njegov patron je sv. Atanazij, škof in cerkveni učitelj. Zaradi zvestobe papežu in Cerkvi so ga preganjali in izgnali iz škofije. Zavetje je našel pri papežu v Rimu, kjer je umrl leta

364.

20. maja goduje p. Bernardin Sušnik, urednik našega lista "Ave Maria". Njegov zavetnik je sv. Bernardin Sienski, frančiškan (1380-1444), goreč pridigar, predvsem o češčenju Jezusovega imena. Obenem pa je v pridigah spodbujal k zaupanju in češčenju Matere božje.

Meseca maja so umrli: p. Tadej Trpin, 7. maja 1989; p. Kornelij Petrič, 8. maja 1925; p. Rafael Stragisher, 11. maja 1998; p. Salezij Glavnik, 25. maja 1966; br. Timotej Daničič, 26. maja 1995; br. Viktorin Perc, 26. maja 1919. Naj jim Bog nakloni svojo večno Luč.

V molitev priporočamo naše bolnike, med njimi tudi bolne duhovnike (naročnike našega lista), ki so: Fr. David Stalzer, ki je bil dolga leta župnik pri "Mary Nativity" v Jolietu,

Ill.; dr. Jože Gole S.T.D., profesor bogoslovja v pokopju v Milwaukee, Wis.; Fr. Karel Pečovnik in Fr. Jože Vogrin, župnika v pokoju, ki živita v Parkers Prairie, Minn. Sicer pa mnogi poznate še drug duhovnike, naročnike našega lista, ki so bolni in potrebujejo naše molitve.

Ker je letos velika noč tako pozna, bodo tudi prazniki, ki so vezani nanjo, pozni. Tako bo Vnebohod Gospodov, ki je zapovedan praznik, šele v četrtek, prvega junija.

Mesec maj je navadno tudi mesec prvih obhajil. Prvoobhajancev se bomo spominjali v molitvah in pri sv. maši, da bi vedno ostali dobri in zvesti Bogu.

V naši cerkvi se veselimo četice ministrantov in ministrantk, ki vsako nedeljo pobožno sodelujejo. Vsako leto p. David, voditelj slovenske župnije v Lemontu, izbere in pripravi nekaj novih kandidatov. Za praznike se lepo zvrstijo za križem. Zanimivo je, da je sedaj že v večini cerkvah navada, da ministrirajo tudi dekleta. Ali je res tako malo fantov, ki bi bili pripravljeni ministrirati?

Šolske sestre sv. Frančiška Kristusa Kralja s sedežem v Lemontu so zopet izgubile eno od sester. 12. marca je Bog poklical k sebi sestro M. Gemo Zedar. Rojena je bila 17. junija 1907 v Forest City, Pa. Meseca avgusta leta 1921 je zaprosila za vstop v Kongregacijo Šolskih sester, začasne obljube je položila 16. avgusta 1924,

Rekorderka

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

tudi članica Kladivarja) Draga Stamejčič, naša prva uradna svetovna rekorderka (80 m ovire), s katero sta bili skupaj tudi v Rimu.

Sicer pa Olga Šikovec-Luncer še zdaj uspešno zastopa Slovenijo, imajo jo kar za "ambasadorko". Z možem je med najbolj zagnanimi obiskovalci Slovenskega doma v Zagrebu in prireditel v njem, pred nedavnim pa jo je Hrvaška še posebej počastila. Iz rok predsednika Hrvaškega olimpijskega odbora Antuna Vrdoljaka je dobila nagrado za življenjsko delo v športu, predsednik pa je podelitev pospremil z besedami: "Velika športnica, velika Slovenka, Slovenka v Zagrebu..."

Evgen Bergant

NEDELO, 2. aprila 2000

večne pa 17. avgusta 1928.

Njen glavni apostolat je bil med mladino v šoli. Poučevala je na različnih farnih šolah, ki so bile v oskrbi Šolskih sester. Poverili so ji prvi razred, ker se je znala vživeti v otroško dušo. Kljub temu, da jo je leta 1974 zadela kap, je poučevala še štiri leta, nakar je zaprosila za upokojitev. Oči so ji pešale, tudi z rakovim obolenjem ji ni bilo prizaneseno.

V samostanih, kjer je bila, je vedno skrbela za varnost, da bodo vsa vrata zaklenjena in okna zaprta. Pri svojih 92 letih je še vedno skrbela za čistočo v svoji sobi. Pa je pri tem padla in se po operaciji ni več opomogla. Umrla je v nedeljo, 12. marca 2000.

Njen nečak, duhovnik, je daroval pogrebno sv. mašo in jo s sestrami spemil na pokopališče Sv. Alfonza v Lemontu.

Iskreno sožalje sosestram, s. Gema naj pa počiva v božjem objemu.

Od naših naročnikov mnogokrat dobimo spremembo naslova, ko se zaradi starosti ali onemoglosti preselijo v manjše stanovanje, ali v "apartment house", saj je je med njimi lepo število, ki so že dosegli visoka leta. Vseh se spominjamo v molitvah in pri sv. maši.

"Slovenski kulturni center" v Lemontu, je poleg koncertov in drugih prireditel znan po umetniških razstavah, tako tukajšnjih umetnikov kot onih iz Slovenije. Razstave vodi, uvaja in razlaga ga. Erika Bajuk, ki je sama upoštevana umetnica in so nekatera njena umetniška dela stalno na razstavi v Centru. Gospa je svetovnoznana, saj je razstavljala svoje umetnine tako v ameriških mestih, kakor tudi izven ZDA. Naj omenimo tudi stalno razstavo pokrajinskih slik rajne Metode Fischinger.

V Clevelandu pri Sv. Vidu so že dalje časa načrtovali posebno zgradbo za starejše rojake, ki bi bila blizu cerkve, blizu slovenskih prodajaln, z nizko stanarino in raznimi drugimi ugodnostmi. Vsi načrti so izdelani in potrjeni tako od oblasti kot od škofa, zato bo mogoče pričeti z zidavo. Obenem s tem bo prišlo tudi poimenovanje ceste iz Glass Ave. v Senator Frank Lausche Ave.

Veseli nas daljnovidnost župnika in župnijskega sve-

(dalje na str. 14)

V ZAHVALO IN BLAG SPOMIN

Z žalostnim srcem naznanjamo vsem sorodnikom, prijateljem in znancem, da nas je 17. februarja 2000 za vedno zapustila naša ljuba mama, stara mama, sestra in teta



1916

2000

Marija Šef

Pokojna je bila rojena 24. maja 1916 pri Sv. Juriju v Slovenskih goricah. Ob koncu vojne leta 1945 se je tudi ona s svojo družino podala na trnjeno pot begunstva in preživela več let v begunskih taboriščih Lienz in Spittal. Leta 1956 je z družino prišla v Združene države Amerike in se naselila v Clevelandu.

Pokojna je bila vsa leta faranka cerkve sv. Vida. Zadnja leta, odkar je živela v Euclidu, je bila tudi članica tamkajšnje cerkve sv. Kristine. Bila je članica Oltarnega društva pri sv. Vidu, članica društva Presv. Srca Jezusovega št. 172 KSKJ in članica Slovenske pristave.

Pogreb pokojne je bil 21. februarja 2000 iz pogrebnege zavoda Dan Cosic v cerkev sv. Vida in nato na pokopališče Vernih duš v Chardonu, O. Najlepša hvala osebju pogrebnege zavoda za vzorno vodstvo pogreba. Iskrena hvala g. župniku Jožetu Božnarju za obiske na domu, za molitev v pogrebnem zavodu, za darovano pogrebno sv. mašo in molitve na pokopališču. Najlepše se zahvaljujemo pevcem in pevkam pri pogrebnih sv. maši, pevskega zboru Marije Vnebovzete in pevskega zboru Korotan, za ganljivo petje ob krsti pokojne. Hvala članom društva št. 172 KSKJ za molitve ob krsti, članicam Oltarnega društva pri sv. Vidu za molitev rožnega venca v cerkvi pred sv. mašo. Prav lepa hvala Radijski družini in g. Tonetu Ovseniku za naznanilo njene smrti in za ganljive žalostinke. Prav lepa hvala vsem, ki ste se prišli posloviti od pokojne mame, darovali cvetje, dali za sv. maše in v dobrodelne namene. Prav lepa hvala nosilcem krste, in vsem, ki ste nas spremljali na njeni zadnji poti.

Razposlali smo zahvalne kartice vsem, za katere smo imeli naslove. Če kdo take kartice ni prejel, naj nam oprost in naj s to javno zahvalo sprejme našo globoko hvaležnost.

Draga mama! Poslovala si se od nas tako, kot si želela: da bi umrla na svojem domu. Tudi mi gremo za Teboj in upamo na srečno svidenje pri Bogu. Dragi mama, stara mama, sestra in teta, počivaj v miru. Za vsa tvoja dobra dela naj ti bo Bog dober plačnik. Mi vsi te bomo ohranili v nepozabnem spominu!

Tvoji žalujoči: sin Lojze (Heather)

hčerki: Mimi (Janez) in Slavica (Ivan)

vnuki in vnukinje: Mimi, Janez, Irena, Polde, Brendan Devan, Meghan

sestra: Rozalija Klobasa, v Sloveniji

in drugo sorodstvo v Sloveniji in Avstriji.

dve sestri in štirje bratje so že pokojni.

Clevelandska zvez(d)a ali Slovenec kot zasebni detektiv

ANDREJ BLATNIK

Dragi slovenski bralec!

Dolgo si že želiš uzreti sebe v knjigi, in ne slovenski, kakor si je želel Levstik. Čas je, da bi se znašel tudi v kakšni tuji, če že ne ti, pa vsaj kak tvoj sonarodnjak. Hm, saj je mogoče, se je pravzaprav že začelo, a za zdaj rezultati niso preveč spodbudni...



Christopher Merrill je v svojem potopisu po Balkanu *Only the Nails Remain* celo največje slovenske gospe s Tomažem Šalamunom vred zalotil v trenutkih intelektualne nezbranoosti in hlastavemu bralcu se brcdo zazdeli čudno podobni popivalcem in hazarderjem. Peter Handke, čeprav ni sanjač, je ovekovečil Slovenca kot generičnega z spanca, ob Coelhovi Veroniki si brez omahovanja padel v depresijo.

Tega nam res ni treba, se pridrušaš, podobno se navsezadnje vidimo že v domačih literarnih ogledalih! Ali res ni možnosti, da bi Slovenec v tuji knjigi nastopal kot pravi mačo, ki se ne bi ustrašil ravnati sveta po svoji podobi?

Ta možnost, sodeč po piscu, na katerega želim opozoriti, obstaja, le da domuje v Clevelandu. V Chicagu rojeni Les Roberts se je iz Hollywooda, kjer se je preživljal kot scenarist in igralec, namreč preselil v Cleveland in se tam soočil s slovanskimi skupnostmi, tudi s slovensko.

LEMONTSKI ODMEVI

(nadaljevanje s str. 13)

ta, ki je združeno z velikim zaupanjem v božjo pomoč in varstvo; seveda je pa zraven še mnogo molitve. Naj Bog blagoslovlja!

V chikaški škofiji je bil že na mnogih mestih razstavljen Marijin kip, imenovan "Madonna of Millenium". Zaradi velikosti kipa iz kovine je le na prostem. Mnogi se ob njem zbirajo k molitvi rožnega venca. Prvi teden v maju ga bodo pripeljali v Lemont in postavili na prostor za samostanom Šolskih sester na Mt. Assisi.

Za vse, kar se dogaja po svetu, prosimo in pojemo: "Marija, pomagaj rodovom zemlje, / da v božji ljubezni in miru žive."

Roberts je poklicni pisatelj kriminalk, ki je med drugim predsedoval društvu *Private Eye Writers of America*, torej piscem, ki so si za svoj žanr izbrali zasebnodetektivski roman, in je leta 1986 postal dobitnik nagrade na tekmovanju za najboljši prvi roman v tem žanru. In njegov zasebni detektiv – zato pravzaprav berete o njem – je Slovenec.

Resda v Ameriki rojeni Slovenec, vendar zaznamovan s svojimi koreninami. Ta Slovenec, Milan Jacovich, je zelo postaven možakar, včasih je igral ameriški nogomet, opravil je z delom pri policiji in z družinskem življenjem; občasno obišče svojo ženo srbskega rodu in svoja otroka, povečini pa se skuša posvetiti preprečevanju industrijskega vohunstva, pa ga pri tem neprenehoma motijo različne trivialnejše naloge, praviloma razreševanje umorov, primerov, ob katerih je policija že obupala.

Les Roberts je napisal že enajst romanov z Milanom Jacovichem v glavni vlogi in pri proizvodnji skrbno sledi novostim na trgu motivov: tako v za zdaj zadnjem romanu, *The Best-Kept Secret* iz leta 1999,

zasebni detektiv pomaga študentu, ki ga univerzitetna feministična skupina obtoži posilstva, kar je zanesljivo korak v smeri literarnega izkoriščanja fenomena politične korektnosti in njenih stranpoti.

Od enajstih knjig sem si za branje izbral dve, *The Cleveland Connection* iz leta 1993 in *The Cleveland Local* iz 1997. Zlasti prva – *Clevelandska zveza* – je bila, gledano s stališče narodnostne navzočnosti v zgodbi, dobra izbira. Pripoveduje namreč o umoru v slovanski skupnosti. Žrtev in storilec sta sicer Srba, vendar je možnosti, da se ob branju počutite vsaj nekoliko doma ali blizu doma, kar nekaj: vrtijo se polke, Milan si želi gibance in obiska Ljubljane, Maribora in luke (!) Portorož, njegov najboljši prijatelj Marko Meglich ga opozarja, da ga bodo Srbi spravili domov v zaboju za led, če ugotovijo, da je Slovenec, navsezadnje ga je tudi žena zamenjala z bolj možatim rojakom Srbom.

Dodatno domačnost ustvarja razplet zločina: Milan dožene, da je petindemdesetletnega upokojenca ustrelil njegov vrstnik, ki na ulici prodaja solato, ker je ugotovil, da je bil navidezno blagohotni starček pred petdesetimi leti pa-

znik v koncentracijskem taborišču Banjica. Sprave ni niti v Clevelandu.

Včasih moramo ne memo biti prepričani, ali je Roberts pri sklicevanju na nacionalne lastnosti res kaj pošteno zamešal ali se le norčuje iz nevednih bralcev: tako se srbskemu lokalnemu reče *Janko's*, slovenskemu pa *Vuk's* (!).

Podobno grenak okus v ustih pušča prizor, ko Milan hoče pokazati, kako se Slovenci upirajo nemškemu vplivu: s sendviča s šunko z nožem postrga germanško majonezo in jo nadomestis, po njegovi trditvi, značilnim slovenskim premazom – gorčico. (Nemara tudi nismo ravno navdušeni nad opisom tipičnega slovenskega moškega iz romana *The Cleveland Local*, naraščajoča pleša in vrzel med sekalci!).

Težko bi bilo reči, da se v trditvi, kako Srbi in Slovenci govorimo isti jezik, skriva želja po politični diskvalifikaciji – v isti sapi nam pisec laska s trditvijo, da smo Slovenci pred kratkim že imeli samostojno državo in da smo konec leta 1990 ponovno glasovali zanj ... Bolj kredibilni so njegovi opisi življenja v Clevelandu in okolici, zato ni nič čudnega, da si je Roberts ustvaril zagrizene bralce zlasti v

krajevnem okviru, kakor je v njegovem žanru skorajda običajno – navsezadnje ima vrsta ameriških mest (Boston, Detroit, Los Angeles ...) svoje literarne junake, ki se pomikajo iz romana v roman, zaposlene kot zasebne detektive.

V opozorilo tistim, ki stokajo, kako Slovenec žanr takoj onemogoči, ker baje preveč razmišlja in pozabi na akcijo, je treba povedati, da so Robertsove knjige v okviru izbranega žanra povsem berljive in da se v njih zgodi dovolj. Izid vsaj enega, če ne dveh novih naslovov letno priča o profesionalnem (v dobrem in slabem pomenu besede) besednem ustvarjanju.

Vsekakor Roberts pozna svoj žanr; še več, kar pogosto se nanj celo sklicuje: ko tako Jacovich o nekom omeni, da se govori, kako je srbski *boter*, takoj dobi vprašanje: "Tiste vrste boter, ki skrbi za svoje krščence, ali tiste vrste, ki ti spravi konjsko glavo v posteljo?" Tudi nepoznavalci takoj spoznajo referenco na roman Maria Puza *Boter* in žanrski okvir je vzpostavljen.

Princip *whodoneit*, zaradi katerega bralec golta besedilo, pa je vseskozi uspešno podmazovan še z Milanovim *wisecrackingom*, duhovičenjem, ki se ga mestoma ne bi sramoval zapisati niti Raymond Chandler. Tuintam gre ironija tudi na lasten oziroma slovenski račun; ko tako Milanu nekdo reče *Poljak*, se ta zaobljubi, da mu bo za božično darilo poslal zemljevid Evrope. Na svetovni zemljevid žanrskega branja pa se je s temi enajstim romani uvrstil vsaj Slovenec, če že Slovenija (še) ne.

Književni listi
Delo, 23. marca 2000

V BLAG SPOMIN

ob 26. obletnici smrti našega ljubljene očeta,
starega očeta in tasta

ob 40. obletnici smrti naše ljubljene mame
in stare mame



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.*

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, 20. aprila 2000.



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.*

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**CENE NIZKE
PO VAŠI ŽELJI!**

Dr. PETER KLOPČIČ

Toronto, Ontario

Problemi svetovne trgovine

Tekst, ki sledi, je bil objavljen v slovenski reviji "Vir" 4. aprila t.l. Ur. AD

Faktorji, ki ustvarjajo te probleme, so sledeči: multinacionalke, globalizacija, sindikati, Svetovna trgovinska organizacija (WTO), nevladne organizacije (NGO), državne vlade itd. Da bomo lažje razumeli ta zapleten položaj se ustavimo najprej pri teh faktorjih.

Multinacionalke

Prvotni namen teh družb je bil, da preko svojih podružnic prodajajo svoje proizvode v drugih državah. Pod pritiskom lokalnih vlad pa so kmalu začele na teh lokalnih trgih tudi proizvajati, najbolj enostavne dele svojih proizvodov. Zgodaj so uvidele, da je čisto ceneje proizvajati na lokalnih trgih (npr. na Tajvanu ali drugje).

Začela se je tendenca iskanja tujih držav, ki imajo najcenejšo in najbolj ubogljivo (brez sindikatov) delovno silo, kjer je tudi obdavčenje najnižje in kjer so zakoni o zaščiti okolja mili ali neobstoječi.

ILO, mednarodna organizacija za delo, poroča, da je na svetu 850 večjih industrijskih con, ki se koncentrirajo na izvoz. V teh 850 conah je približno 27 milijonov delavcev, ki nimajo svojih sindikatov in niti najosnovnejše delavske zaščite. Na ramenih teh brezpravnih delavcev bogatijo multinacionalke. Edini njihov cilj je brezobzirna gonja za dobičkom in močjo.

Te družbe zelo malo zana, če v razvitih državah izgubi tisoče delavcev delo, če so delavci v nerazvitih državah izrabljeni in če dejansko narodni dohodek v razvitih državah pade. Konkreten primer: Deak je družba, ki je proizvajala najboljše čevlje v Kanadi. Leta 1999 je premestila vso proizvodnjo v Mehiko. Več sto delavcev v Kanadi je izgubilo delo.

Uvodnik v *Economist* z dne 29. januarja je posvečen multinacionalkam. Revija piše sledeče: "To so velike neodgovorne, monopolistične pošasti. Širijo se z veliko hitrostjo in predstavljajo najbolj viden uspeh globalizacije. Nevarne so celo razvite države, ker kupujejo lokalna podjetja

ali pa jih prisilijo, da bankrotirajo."

Na irskem multinacionalke zaposlujejo polovico vse delovne sile in generirajo dve tretjini narodnega dohodka. Človek se vpraša, koliko svobode odločanja ima še irska vlada?

Vendar pa imajo te družbe tudi nekaj pozitivnih karakteristik. Morala med predsedniki in direktorji je visoka. Clintona ne bi tolerirali več kot en dan. S tem da industrializirajo revne dežele, jim vsaj malo pomagajo.

Globalizacija

William Thorsell, urednik kanadskega konservativnega časopisa *The Globe and Mail* v eni izmed letošnjih števil piše: "Globalizacija proizvaja neizmerno bogastvo. V tem sistemu najbolj sposobni uspevajo, zato ker so "ubermensch". Krvoločnost najboljših zaslužni ostalo človeštvo. Toda istočasno uspešni niso zadovoljni, ker čutijo (ko so sami s seboj), da jim manjka človeško čutenje in sočutje. Svet globalizacije je preveč trd, neizprosno, preveč perfekten in zahteven za večino ljudi. Zgodovina človeštva se izraža v humanih merilih. Naše šibkosti in ne naše popolnosti morajo biti glavno človeško merilo."

Thorsellova odsodba globalizacije je tako popolna, da ne potrebuje nadaljnje razlage.

Sindikati

Sindikatom je jasno, kako brutalna in problematična je lahko globalizacija, zato so se tudi začeli boriti proti njej. Zahevajo, da se v mednarodne trgovske pogodbe vključi klavzula o minimalnih mezdah po celotnem svetu, da se določijo delovne ure, odpravi otroška delovna sila itd. To bi seveda močno pristiglo peruti multinacionalk.

Protest v Seattlu so v glavnem organizirali (preko interneta) sindikati in združili okoli sebe nevladne organizacije, borce za zdravo okolje, verske skupine itd. Sindikati skupno z nevladnimi organizacijami zahtevajo, da so njihovi predstavniki, da zagotovijo (sic. ur. AD) "fair" mednarodno trgovino. To bodo brez dvoma dosegli, če bo WTO še obstojala.

Jay Mazur, predsednik holandskega sindikata, pra-



Za ljubljanski mestni praznik odkrili spomenik impresionistom

Za ljubljanski mestni praznik, 14. april, so v parku pred trnovsko cerkvijo v Ljubljani odkrili spomenik slovenskim impresionistom. Avtor doprsnih kipov Riharda Jakopiča, Matije Jame, Ivana Groharja in Mateja Sternena je akademski kipoar Drago Tršar, podstavki in parkovna ureditev pa so delo arhitekta Jožeta Motoha. Oba sta sodelovala tudi pri nedavni prenovi cerkve. "Letos se v enem najbolj romantičnih predelov Ljubljane spominjamo obdobja, ko smo bili zares veliki. Umetniško gibanje, ki je Slovenijo zajelo v začetku stoletja, je spodbudilo presežke, ki so ta narod postavili ob bok največjim, kot je dejal Plečnik. Spomenik impresionistom se pridružuje stvaritvam, s katerimi smo v zadnjih letih v Ljubljani vzpostavili načrtno kultiviranje in lepšanje prostora," je poudarila slavnostna govornica ljubljanska županja Viktorija Potočnik. Slovenska prestolnica ima zadnjih šest let dva mestna praznika: 14. april in 9. maj. Z aprilskim praznikom se spominja prve omembe mesta v zgodovinskih virih, majski pa je dan miru. (Delo, 15. aprila 2000)

vi: "Bodoče generacije bodo imele težave razumeti, zakaj so današnji politiki debatirali, ne kako uvesti potrebne spremembe, ampak zakaj ima sploh smisel upoštevati te predloge in zahteve."

Po mnenju nekaterih komentarjev se multinacionalke borijo za svetovno državo, toda samo na tistih področjih, ki jim pomagajo do večjega dobička in vpliva ter moči. Sindikati v ZDA in drugod, pa so mnenja, da bodo morali biti vsi zakoni po celem svetu enaki, tudi na področju zaposlitve, sociale in varovanja narave, če bo nekoč prišlo do "svetovne države".

Svetovna trgovinska organizacija (WTO)

Ustanovljena je bila leta 1995 in sicer z namenom, da bi nadaljevala in razširila delo GATT. WTO opravlja zadovoljivo funkcijo liberalizacije svetovne trgovine. Problemi so nastali, ko so ji naložili še mnogo drugih nalog. Prvi veliki problem je, kako zmajšati podporo kmetom. Temu nasprotujeta predvsem Evropska zveza in Japonska. ZDA hočejo vključiti v delokrog WTO delavsko zakonodajo in skrb za naravo. Manj razviti narodi so proti temu, prav tako celo bogata Zahodna Evropa. Ko se je razširil delokrog WTO, se je ta začela vmešavati v politiko posame-

znih držav. S tem so se začeli protesti, kritike in nezadovoljstvo.

Ti protesti so organizirano prišli na dan v Seattlu. Demonstranti so protestirali proti zlorabi globalizacije. WTO dolžijo, da je pes čuvaj multinacionalk in da deluje tajno brez pravega demokratičnega nadzora. Jerry Mander, direktor Mednarodnega foruma o globalizaciji v Kaliforniji, je dejal: "Dejstvo, da neizvoljeno uradništvo v WTO prezira naše zakone, je nedemokratično. Moramo jih ustaviti in blokirati predno začno kontrolirati naše poljedelstvo, bio-raziskave in še mnoga druga področja."

WTO je danes ena najmočnejših svetovnih organizacij. Ima pravico in dolžnost, da razsoja v trgovinskih sporih in da nalaga kazni državam, ki teh razsodb ne ubogajo. Sodišče sestavljajo po trije advokati, specializirani v zunanji trgovini. Odločitve so sprejete za zaprtimi vrati, postopek pa ostaja tajen.

Clinton in ameriška delegacija (poleg mnogih drugih) zahtevajo, da ti sodni procesi postanejo javni za zastopnike zainteresiranih držav. WTO se bo morala precej spremeniti, če bo hotela ostati pri življenju.

Meseca marca t.l. bo poseben ameriški urad objavil poročilo oz. spričevalo o članstvu ZDA v WTO. Po objavi tega poročila

ima kongres pravico, da glasuje o izstopu ZDA iz WTO. Upajmo, da se to ne bo zgodilo, saj lahko WTO po temeljitih reformah vendarle postane pošten razsodnik v bodočih trgovinskih sporih.

NOVI GROBOVI

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

Elizabeth Blatnik

Umrla je Elizabeth Blatnik, vdova po Franku, mati Thomasa in Franka, 4-krat stara mati, svakinja Mary Gorišek, Victorja Blatnika in Josephine Tibbets. Pobrebni obredi bodo jutri, v petek, opoldne v kapeli pokopališča Sunset Memorial Park v N. Olmstedu.

Richard J. Hribar

Dne 19. aprila je za levkemijo umrl 68 let stari Richard J. Hribar, rojen v Euclidu, mož Isabel, oče Lydije in Susan Zust, 4-krat stari oče, brat Rose Fairbanks in že pok. Dorothy, zaposlen 34 let pri TRW. Pogrebni obredi so bili 24. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi sv. Bazilija Velikega. Truplo je bilo upepeljeno.

Anna F. Znidarsic

Umrla je Anna F. Znidarsic, rojena Banich, vdova po Edwardu, mati Marianne Deatsch in Edwarda, 3-krat stara mati, sestra Rudolpha, Harolda (že pok.) in Therese Mikus (vsi v Ill.). Pogreb je bil 22. aprila.

Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

1327. "Velikonočno pesem Aleluja,

ki smo jo zapeli na sam praznik, naj bi nas spremljala skozi vse jubilejno leto. "Odprite vrata Kristusu!" V jubilejnem letu 2000 ta vzklik ponovno glasno odmeva! Nas, ki se imenujemo kristjani, to kristalno jasno vabilo spodbuja, da pogumno obnovimo pripadnost Gospodu.

Za tiste, ki so Kristusa zapustili, ali se od Njega oddaljili, in za tiste, ki ga še vedno iščejo, je to predlog in vabilo za skupno pot k Cilju.

Pomagaj nam, o Gospod! Pomagaj nam, da to vabilo Cerkev sprejmemo, da to jubilejno leto za vsakega izmed nas postane čas milosti, čas iskrene pripravljenosti za spreobrnjenje, čas polnega občestva z Njim, ki nam edini more podeliti polnost življenja, nas povezati med seboj in naše delo narediti rodovitno. Na stezaj odprimo vrata Kristusu!" (Oznanilo 2000)

• • •

Pismo, ki sledi, je poslalo MZA vodstvo ljubljanskega semenišča:

Ljubljana, 11. aprila 2000

Spoštovani dobrotniki! MZA sodelavci!

Pred veličastnimi skrivnostmi, ki jih obhajamo v celoti Velike noči, se spominjamo tudi vseh prijateljev in znancev, sorodnikov in tudi dobrotnikov vsaj z voščili in dobri mi željami.

Že dolga leta spremljate našo ustanovo s posebno pozornostjo in željo, da bi dobro vzgajala in oblikovala slovenske duhovnike za današnji čas. Pa tudi jemljete od svojega in namenjate nam, da nam lajšate materialno skrb za vzdrževanje bogoslovcev sredi Ljubljane.

Število novih poklicev niha in ravno še nekako zadoštuje za redno pastoralno delo v Sloveniji. So pa duhovniki kar zelo obremenjeni z delom, ker se počasi odpirajo možnosti za vedno širše področje dela, ki pred nekaj leti še ni bilo možno. Zaradi dolgoletne propagande proti Cerkvi in veri nasploh, pa tudi zaradi zelo v materialnost obrnjenega načina življenja v povojnem času, je veliko verskega in splošno življenjskega neznanja. Tudi to večja tisto začetno delo, ki je potrebno v pripravi na sprejem vere, in ga spremlja splošno človeška vzgoja in vzgoja za zdravo skupnost.

Bogoslovce, ki so seveda tudi otroci tega časa, navajamo k temu, da se svojim dobrotnikom zahvalijo, zanje molijo in tudi drugače vzdržujejo z njimi prijateljsko povezanost.

Danes pa se Vam želimo v imenu vodstva zahvaliti za Vašo pozorno in praktično ljubezen, za Vaše darove in molitve, za Vaše čutenje z našimi skrbmi, za blagoslov našemu narodu, ki naj bi pritekal tudi po delu mladih duhovnikov, ki prihajajo iz našega semenišča.

Vsem in vsakemu posebej želimo, da bi se vsak dan veselili zdravja in občutka obdarjenosti, opore kroga prijateljev, in zaupanja, ki ga končno in najbolj trdno utemeljujejo prav velikonočni dnevi s svojo potjo skozi vsakršne težave in trpljenje v veselje in slavo Božje večnosti.

Vesele in zelo blagoslovljene praznike Velike noči Gospodovega vstajenja želimo Vam in vsem Vašim domačim ter prijateljem.

Anton Slabe, ravnatelj

Stanko Dolšak, podravnatelj
in ekonom

dr. Jurij Bizjak, spiritual

dr. Anton Štrukelj, prefekt

• • •

Misijonska Znamkarska Akcija – Catholic

Mission Aid je registrirana v Columbusu, Ohio, ZDA. Je javna, nepridobitna misijonska dobrodelna organizacija, ki jo je ustanovil g. Charles A. Wolbang, C.M. Zbira darove za pomoč slovenskim misijonarjem, ki delujejo po svetu. Prosim, da nam bodo prijatelji misijonov darovali še vnaprej finančno pomoč, ter se spominjali misijonskih potreb v svojih oporokah.

Za vsak dar Vam bomo hvaležni, kakor tudi misijonarji in ubogi, ki bodo vaših darov deležni. Za vse prejete darove izdamo potrdila za "Income Tax."

Glavni odbor MZA-CMA, Cleveland

Misijonarka sr. Vesna Hiti se je oglasila iz Antwerpna v Belgiji, kjer je na štirimesečnem študiju tropske medicine. "Že dolgo se pripravljam, da Vam bi pisala. Toda v Ruandi se dnevi tako hitro vrtijo, da komaj dojemam.. Če hočemo boljše služiti ubogim, čutim, da je izpopolnjevanje nujno. To je še pomembnejše, ker nimamo zdravni-ka. Pa tudi osvežitve potrebujem.

Iskreno se zahvaljujem MZA, ter vsem dobrotnikom, ki so dodali k daru: Stani Oven, Angeli in Jožefu Hribar ter Amaliji Dejak – vsem Bog plačaj!

Dar je tokrat vložen v gradnjo Centra za podhranjene otroke in druga preventivna dela. Stiska s prostori nas je prisilila k gradnji. Večkrat moramo imeti kar bo dva bolnika na eni postelji ali pa na podu. Za cepljenje otrok imamo čakalnico kar pod milim nebom. Bolnikov imam vedno veliko. Podhranjenost pri otrocih je velika. Zemlja je revna in da malo pridelka.

V molitvi ostanimo povezani, kajti tako Bog blagoslovlja vsestranske napore vaše in nas misijonarjev.

Prosim, spremenite moj naslov: Sr. Vesna Hiti, Mukungu, B.P.2104 Kigali, Rwanda.

Še enkrat srčna Vam hvala za vse, vašim MZA sodelavcem, ter dobrotnikom, ter blagoslovljene velikonočne praznike. Naj Vas Vstali Zveličar blagoslovi na poseben način. Hvaležna, sr. Vesna."

• • •

Oglasilo se je več misijonarjev za velikonočne praznike z zelo zanimivimi pismi o delu, in tudi z zahvalami MZA sodelavcem in dobrotnikom, katere bom tedensko objavljala. Tudi nekaj bogoslovcev iz domovine ter iz Ugande se je oglasilo z zahvalami za pomoč in čestitke za velikonočne praznike z dobrimi željami.

Sledečim dobrotnikom iskrena zahvala za poslane darove: Antonija Gregorin \$100; Mari Petelin \$5; Ted in Vida Horn \$285. Vsem Bog plačaj! Potrdila za IT bomo poslali.

Spomnimo se v teh dneh v molitvi posebno vseh pokojnih sodelavcev MZA in dobrotnikov misijonov. Prav tako priporočam vse bolne dobrotnike, starejše, ki so radi boleznimi privežani na dom. Posebno dobro mammo Kosmovo, Ralpa Coffelta, in seveda vseh onih, ki trpijo in ne vemo za nje. Naj jim bo Vstali Kristus v tolažbo. Mi pa jim želimo hitro okrevanje. Vsem topel misijonski pozdrav!

Sonja Ferjan

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Dr. PETER VENCELJ

NA PREPIHU

Domoljubje

Pravo domoljubje pomeni ljubezen do svojega doma, domovine, države, do domače dežele, kulture in naroda, ki pa ne izključuje prijateljstva in spoštovanja do drugih narodov, kultur in dežel na svetu. To je navadno eden od pogojev za zdrav razvoj posameznika, saj človek brez ljubezni do svojega doma, staršev, naroda in domovine praviloma nima pravih korenin, okrnjena pa je lahko tudi njegova čustvena in moralna podoba.

Za kristjane je ljubezen do bližnjega in s tem ljubezen do vseh ljudi še višji dosežek, vendar si ne moremo predstavljati uresničevanja takšne ljubezni brez pravega domoljubja. Zato tisti ljudje, ki zavračajo domoljubje in domoljubno vzgojo kot nekaj zastarelega in se zavzemajo za svetovljanstvo, internacionalizem

in multikulturo, ne vedo, da človek, ki ni sposoben imeti rad svojih najbližjih in domovine, težko razvije pravi odnos do članov drugih narodov in kultur.

Razvijanje žlahtnih odnosov do sveta se začne pri starših, v družini, v domačem kraju v svojem narodu in domovini.

Beseda nacionalizem, ki ima danes negativen pomen, izhaja iz primitivne in nezaželene oblike domoljubne vzgoje, ki postavlja svoj narod in domovino nad vse, druge narode in kulture pa podcenjuje in zaničuje.

Takšne zgrešene oblike navezanosti na narod in domovino (rasizem, šovinizem, nacionalistični imperalizem), so bile eden od vzrokov najhujših družbenih katastrof zadnjega stoletja. Zavzemanje za pravice svojega naroda, za njegovo

enakopravnost, za obrambo domovine v nevarnosti za zdrav in normalen narodni razvoj in razcvet ni le dopustno, je tudi potrebno in zaželeno.

Ljubezen do svojega naroda in domovine, ki goji prijateljstvo in ljubezen do drugih narodov, dežel in kultur, je hkrati osnova za premagovanje grobe sebičnosti in ena pod poti za potrebno osebno rast. Premalo je le skrb za svoje osebne koristi ali koristi svoje družine, vse drugo pa nas ne briga.

Ko govorimo o narodni identiteti, o slovenski kulturi in jeziku, ni mišljeno le tisto, kar je nastalo v Sloveniji, temveč tudi vse, kar smo dobili in sprejeli od drugod in je postalo del našega miselnega in doživljajskega sveta, in občutimo kot domače in svoje. Viri naše humanistične in evropske kulture, mišljenja, filozofije, znanosti, umetnosti, etike, prava in še mnogih drugih stvari so v stari Grčiji in Rimu ter v drugih evropskih deželah in kulturah.

Kršćanstvo prihaja k nam iz Azije, na katero tako radi gledamo zviška in podcenjujoče. Jasno je torej, da ima naša narodna kultura v sebi veliko prvin, ki so skupne evropskim narodom, pa tudi prvine, ki so skupne neevropskim narodom.

Prav tako je očitno, da lahko postanejo del naše domače kulture tudi stvari, ki so nastale v drugih krajih in časih in jih do sedaj nismo sprejeli za svoje, če smo jih zmožni tako doživeti, razumeti ali sprejeti, da postanejo del našega razumevanja, mišljenja in doživljanja.

Takšna široka domača kultura je lahko odprta vsem dragocenim stvarim na svetu. Zapiranje za lastne ograje ni le nevarno za življenjsko rast naroda in ljudje, je tudi v nasprotju s krščanskim pojmovanjem ljubezni do bližnjega, ko smo vsi ljudje božji otroci, smo si bratje in sestre, vsi narodi pa božje ljudstvo. Vsaka narodna kultura pa mora skrbeti, da sprejme za svoje le tisto, kar lahko postane naraven in zdrav del njenega lastnega bitja in se ujema z njenim duhovnim izročilom. Ne sprejema in izloči pa tisto, kar ji je tujek in česar ne more uskladiti s svojo najglobljo naravo.

DRUŽINA

26. marca 2000