EVENTS - EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES LJUBLJANA SLOVENIA

September 24, 2008

Colorado National Guard and Slovenian Military Conduct Joint Exercises,

As part of the continuing close relationship between the American and the Slovenian military, elements of the Colorado National Guard participated in joint exercises with the Slovenian military. Representatives from the Embassy and the Office of Defense Cooperation observed the exercise, which are aimed to improve the readiness and capabilities of the Slovenian military. Members of the Colorado National Guard praised the professionalism and the expertise of their Slovenian colleagues.

Deputy Chief of Mission Bradley Freden and Colonel Dale Addington riding comfortably in a Slovenian armored vehicle

http://slovenia.usembassy.gov/exercises.html

Yesterday I was asked to speak at the Slovenian Women’s Union 2008 Ohio Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. As I approached the microphone the question was asked, “Who is taking over the American Home Newspaper?” The correct answer to the question is no one. The Ameriška Domovina, which has faithfully served our community for 110 years, has been retired. That doesn’t mean the Slovenian community will be without print media. Recently Ed Sedmak has published several editions of Glas Naroda. The paper is billed as a Slovenian weekly newspaper. For additional information regarding this publication contact Edward Sedmak at esedmak@vajkard.com. Plans for another Cleveland based Slovenian newspaper are now in the works. The first edition is schedule for a mid November 2008 release.

SWUA

Slovenian Women’s Union Ohio Convention 2008 Sunday- October 5, 2008 Hosted by Branch # 50
Presented by Vice President Rosemary Toth. Mass at St. Vitus Church 9:00am Blessing, Breakfast Buffet Vice President Rosemary Toth opening remarks, introduction of members in attendance, Marge Church report on scholarships, auction, 50/50 Raffle, Guest speakers Joey Tomsick from the Geauga County Department of Aging, Phil Hrvatin Senior Edition www.clevelandslovenian.com

Photo link http://picasaweb.google.com/philip.hrvatin/SWUAOhio
Slovenians in Canada

"Emma Pogacar" epogacar@rogers.com
October 4, 2008

Draga Ema

A bi lahko poslala clanek od Dela in mojega radi skode v Sloveniji julija meseca Tvojim poznanim preko interneta? Do sedaj je zbiralna akcija zelo skromna! Se vidi da ce casopisi ali porocila na televiziji ne poročajo, nobeden tudi med Slovenci ne vrjame da je lahko res. Reklama je bila na Slovenski radijski oddaji, ampak to je vse.

"Not sure if you are aware of the tornado which hit Slovenia on Sunday July 13th and Monday July 14th. We started a campaign to raise funds for those affected and hope to distribute them through the Slovenian Catholic charity Karitas. The Slovenian Radio programme carried an announcement about this campaign, but it seems that not enough Slovenians in Canada are aware of what happened.

If you are interested in reading about the tornado, I attach a couple of reports on the event. 
http://www.delo.si/clanek/64233
http://www.canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/4104

Lep pozdrav,

Slovenians in Pueblo

St. Mary Genealogy Center and Gornick Library and Museum are located at 211 East Mesa Avenue, Pueblo, Co 81006. The Library and Museum are available for public tours or private visiting and the Genealogy Center offers assistance in searching for information for legal records and creating family trees. Both are open to the public during office hours or by appointment.

History of our beginning: In January of 1993 the Gornick Slavic Heritage Library, started by brothers John and Alan Gornick, located at the University of Southern Colorado was going to close. Rose Gornick, wife of deceased John Gornick, asked St Mary's Pastor Father Alan Schwab to take the library and include it somewhere within the parish. It was accepted on a hand-shake and moved into the former St. Mary School building. Father Alan appointed Bernice Krasovec as curator and historian and the collection was merged with St. Mary's museum and artifacts.

Since then it has grown into a Genealogy Center with a collection of all the sacramental records of the Diocese of Pueblo as well as other pertinent heritage records. The Center was blessed and officially opened by Bishop Arthur Tafoya and is serving families seeking family tree records that include birth, death, immigration and naturalization through Internet service
and microfilm information. Research is done by a staff of four directed by Robert Blazich. Office hours are Wednesdays from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment 719-564-1539, 719542-6323 or E-mail st.maryssgen@comcast.net

The Gornick Library and Museum contain over 800 books written basically in the Slovenian Language with a collection of some English children books, Atlas and pictorial books. The museum contains artifacts of costume and early hand made articles and tools; money; beehive covers; postal collections; old records and sheet music; framed documents and pictures; as well as a complete collection of several Slovenian magazines, etc. Appointments for a tour of the library may be made by calling 719-542-6323, 719-564-6779 or by E-mail st.maryssgen@comcast.net.

**University Honors Vatican Prefect**

Dear Mr. Hrvatin,

Our daughter sent us this article which was printed in the Catholic University Tower issue about Cardinal Rode who was in Washington two weeks ago. We thought you might want to read it. Thank you for sending us all the Cleveland news, unfortunately we cannot attend many functions which are taking place there but are interested knowing what is happening in Cleveland. Our best to you, Cyril and Maria Mejac

October 5, 2008 by John P. Schmidt

Cardinal Franc Rode, C.M., Prefect of the Vatican Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, received an honorary doctorate degree in Law from the University on September 24.

The award was presented to Rode by University President Rev. David M. O’Connell at O’Connell’s residence in Nugent Hall.

Rode and O’Connell both are members of the Congregation of the Missions, who are also known as Vincentians. Presently, Rode is the highest ranking member of his order in the Church today.

Former University Chancellor and Archbishop of Washington Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, current Chancellor and Archbishop of Washington Archbishop Donald Wuerl and Archbishop Pietro Sambi, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States were in attendance.

Sambi, also attended an event at the University on September 26, where he delivered the keynote speech at the 15th anniversary celebration of Inside the Vatican Magazine.

Inside the Vatican, which first came out in 1993, is published ten times a year and covers issues pertaining to the Church and news that comes out of the Vatican. The anniversary also marked Inside the Vatican’s first conference. The event was held in the Pryzbyla Center. Sambi’s speech, was open to the public.
INVITATION TO THE SLO 4 YOU MEETING

As president of SLO - USA Business Community I would like to invite you to the first meeting of SLO 4 YOU Foundation.

SUBJECT:
- Progress & Development of SLO - USA Business Community
- Introduction to the SLO 4 YOU Foundation

WHEN:
Wednesday, October 8th, 2008, at 6.00pm.

WHERE:
Consulate General of Slovenia in New York
600 Third Avenue, 21st Floor,
New York, NY 10016

CONFIRMATION:
This event is an open invitation event.
Please confirm your and your guest’s attendance by email or phone:
INFO@SLO4YOU.COM
212 695 9592

Hope to see you, LUCIA KLANSEK
WWW.SLO4YOU.COM • 212 695 9592 • INFO@SLO4YOU.COM
Rev Jože Časl on his 70th anniversary of his ordination in March 2007

The Slovenian Parish of Saint-Vladimir–Mission Slovene, in Montreal, is served by the members of the Congregation of the Mission of St. Vincent de Paul - C.M. (the Vincentian Fathers or Lazarists) of the province of Slovenia. They also serve in two Slovenian Parishes in Toronto.

On May 28, 1957, Rev. Jože Časl, C.M. was appointed associate pastor at the Parish of Saint-Louis-de-France with the special mission of ministering to the spiritual needs of the Slovenians in Montreal and surrounding areas.

From the end of May 1957 until August 1963, the Slovenian Community (Association Slovène Catholique, Montreal) held Mass at Saint-Louis-de-France Parish and, occasionally, in the chapel of College Mont Saint-Louis.

On August 22, 1963, the Association Slovène Catholique, Montreal, purchased the Slovak church at the corner of St. Denis and Marie-Anne. This church became the first Slovenian Parish in the Archdiocese of Montreal. It began operating as a parish on January 1, 1964.

On February 12, 1982, a commercial building at 3470 Boul. St. Joseph E. in Montreal-Rosemont area was purchased and soon after the church on St. Denis and Marie-Anne was sold.

The new premises were renovated and the new church was ready for the blessing by September of 1983. The celebration of the blessing of the new church was presided over by Most Rev. Franc Kramberger, Bishop of Maribor, Slovenia, on Sunday, September 11, 1983.

Just in time for the Silver Jubilee year of the parish, the church got stained-glass windows, designed by artist Janez Kovačič and hand-crafted by Ciril Stojko, both of Slovenia.

Currently, around 360 families are registered as members of the parish.

The following priests, Vincentian Fathers, served in this parish:

1. Jože Časl from the beginning as spiritual guide and then as pastor until 1965;
2. Stanko Boljka: from 1965 until 1969;
3. Andrej Prebil: from 1969 until 1972;
4. Ivan Jan: from 1972 until 1976;
6. Franc Letonja: from 1983

http://www.brezmadezna.com/montreal/montreal.htm

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

The aftermath of World War II brought an influx of immigrants to Canada, especially from Europe. Among them were Slovenians arriving from refugee camps in Austria and Italy. They escaped from their country because of the terror of Communism. The first group of Slovenians came to the Toronto area in 1947.

Men went to work on farms, in forests, in mines or for the railroad and women did housework to “pay” for their transportation to Canada. This work lasted up to one year.
After paying their “dues,” they settled in Toronto because jobs were available. Toronto was growing at that time as the industrial centre of Canada.

On December 12, 1948, Rev. Jakob Kolarič, C.M., arrived in Toronto. He took over the spiritual care for the Slovenians in the city. Soon he was followed by Rev. Jože Časl, C.M. and then by Rev. Janez Kopac, C.M., who helped Rev. Kolarič in his pastoral work for the Slovenians, whose numbers were growing with every new ship coming from Europe to Canada.

At the beginning, they found their “home” at Mount Carmel Church in the city centre. Attending Sunday Mass continued into social gatherings. Having their own priest, the wish to have their own parish and own church, not being guests elsewhere, grew stronger and stronger with every gathering. Social events were organised to collect funds to make these wishes a reality.

On February 10, 1953, a lot was purchased on 609 Manning Avenue. On the same day, the Archbishop of Toronto, Cardinal McGuigan, created a new parish under the name Our Lady Help of Christians, Slovenian.

On May 12, 1953, the plans for the new church, drawn up by architect Peter Dimitroff, were submitted to the City of Toronto for approval. During the summer, the plans were approved. The new parish signed a contract with Franc Stojc, a Slovenian contractor, who started digging on December 7, 1953. The construction of the hall and the church proceeded quickly for there were many volunteers.

Bishop Gregorij Rožman, who shared the fate of his countrymen as a refugee and immigrant, visited the Slovenians in Toronto several times. His first visit was on July 30, 1949. As the construction of the new church neared completion, Bishop Rožman came again to lead a spiritual renewal, as preparation for the blessing of the first church for Slovenians in Canada.

Toronto Archbishop Cardinal McGuigan blessed the new church on December 19, 1954. The solemn celebration was a crown for the hard and dedicated work of the priests (Vincentian Fathers) and the Slovenian faithful in building the church.

Soon after the parish was established, the pattern for parish activities started to develop. The Vincentian fathers introduced spiritual renewals before Christmas and Easter, parish missions, retreats.... As the parish grew, new organizations were formed. First: Parish Council, The Catholic Women’s League, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Baraga’s Mission Circle, Legion of Mary, Scouts, Slovenian Saturday School (in 1953), Youth Club, Youth Choirs, Men’s Choir, Church Choir, and dance groups.

Pastors, Vincentian Fathers:

1. Rev. Jakob Kolarič: from the beginning of the parish until 1960;

Assistants, Vincentian Fathers:


Živio, Slovenci!
Come share an evening celebration of Beauty and Bounty with

Glasbena Matica
Slovenian Singing Society

Musical Director: Angela K. Perrine

Saturday, November 15, 2008
Slovenian National Home
6409 St. Clair Ave. Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Doors open at 4:00 PM
Concert starts promptly at 5:30 PM
Dancing with the Wayne Tomsic Orchestra afterwards.
Food and beverages available for purchase.

Tickets for the concert are $12.00. To purchase tickets, contact Lori at 440-449-5643, or, tickets can be purchased at the door the night of the concert.
NEWS RELEASE:

Glasbena Matica Fall Concert set for November 15, 2008

The cool, crisp, colorful days of Autumn which precede the Thanksgiving holiday serve to remind everyone of the Earth’s beauty and bounty.

The blessings of both “beauty” and “bounty” are top of mind as the Glasbena Matica Singing Society prepares for its annual concert. It will take place Saturday afternoon, November 15, 2008 at Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland.

Živio Slovenci!, the theme of this year’s concert, celebrates the beauty and bounty that fills our lives at this time of the year _ especially as evidenced in Slovenia and here in the United States.

Angela Perrine, returning for her second year as Glasbena’s musical director, along with veteran accompanist Michael Cercek, will lead the group as they sing selections which capture the essence of both “beauty” and “bounty.” Songs include Lipa, America the Beautiful, Glejte Že Sonce Zahaja, Živio Slovenci, Edelweiss, Vive L’Amour, Homeward Bound, Napitnice, and from the musical Candide, Leonard Bernstein’s stirring Make Our garden Grow.

Doors will open at 4 PM and the concert will begin promptly at 5:30 PM. Sandwiches and beverages will be available for purchase throughout the day. Wayne Tomsic and his orchestra will offer music for dancing immediately after the concert.

And this year, Glasbena is happy to announce that there will be a drawing for door prizes, including free turkeys!

Tickets are $12 while children age 12 and under who are accompanied by an adult, will be admitted free. To purchase tickets, call Lori Sierputowski at (440) 449-5643. They may also be purchased at the Polka Hall of Fame, 605 East 22nd Street, Euclid, or at the Slovenian National Home when doors open at 4:00 PM, Saturday, November 15, 2008.

Come join Glasbena Matica and celebrate Fall and the approach of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Media Contact: Steve Royer, President, Glasbena Matica at (440) 639-9203.
Calling all Slovenian bowlers! American Slovenian bowlers, along with all members of KSKJ Life–American Slovenian Catholic Union, the Slovene National Benefit Society (SNPJ), and the American Mutual Life Association (AMLA) are invited to participate in SloBowl United, a first-ever bowling tournament open to members of these Slovenian fraternals and all Americans of Slovenian descent.

The event will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 15, 2008 at Freeway Lanes of Wickliffe in the Cleveland, Ohio area. U.S. residents of Slovenian heritage and all members of SNPJ, KSKJ Life, and AMLA who will be 16 years of age or older on November 15, 2008 are eligible to participate. Out-of-town bowlers are more than welcome; hotel rooms are being held in reserve for the occasion.

The entry fee of $25 will allow participants to bowl a three-game series and be eligible for both scratch and handicap prizes; at least 60% of entry fees will be returned in prizes in the following divisions: Youth (ages 16-18); Adult Men (ages 19 and up); and Adult Women (ages 19 and up). Handicapping will be gender based. Approximately one in three entries in each division will receive prize awards. For the adult divisions, prizes will be awarded in cash.

Because both scratch (actual score) and handicap prizes will be awarded, bowlers of various skill levels will have an excellent chance of success.

Entry forms can be downloaded from www.clevelandslovenian.com. This web site will also carry updated information on the tournament and related events as it becomes available.

Freeway Lanes of Wickliffe is located at 28801 Euclid Ave., Wickliffe, OH 44092.

Who is eligible*:

1. Current members of AMLA, KSKJ Life, or SNPJ who are at least 16 years of age on November 15, 2008. Tournament participants must have been members of their respective Slovenian fraternal as of September 1, 2008.

2. United States citizens and legal residents who are of Slovenian descent to the extent that one parent or grandparent is or had been a Slovenian citizen or Yugoslav citizen living in Slovenia.

*The SloBowl United Organizing Committee reserves the right to interpret all tournament rules and eligibility requirements.

TOURNAMENT SOCIAL

Immediately following the bowling tournament until 6:00 p.m., participants and friends are invited to a tournament social at the new location of the Istra Club on Euclid Ave. in Wickliffe, down the street from Freeway Lanes. We will have live music by Stan Mejac and plenty of food and beverages as we continue this celebration of the united Slovenian community. Awards will be presented to the tournament winners at that time.

Later in the evening, you may want to drop in for dinner or dancing at Sterle’s Slovenian Country House, 1401 E. 55th St. in Cleveland, where the Joey Tomsick Orchestra www.joeytomsick.com will be entertaining from 8 p.m. until midnight.

BONUS QUALIFICATION!
The top scratch and handicap finishers in each division will also qualify for a Slovenia–America bowling tournament planned to take place in Ljubljana and Postojna, Slovenia in June 2009. While it will not be possible to confirm available funding for this trip until early 2009, any grant money received by the SloBowl United committee will be used to defray travel expenses to Slovenia for the SloBowl qualifiers.

Thus, up to 20 top finishers in November’s SloBowl event could get a chance to travel to Slovenia for a fraction of the actual cost and take part in a unique tournament that will pit bowlers from the United States against those from Slovenia. American-style bowling has been gaining in popularity in Slovenia in recent years. This trip would include approximately a week-long tour of beautiful Slovenia.

Although the SloBowl United committee can make no guarantees regarding financing of a trip to Slovenia, we will issue updated announcements and tournament dates as information becomes available.

**HOW TO ENTER**

Entry forms and tournament rules may be downloaded from [www.ClevelandSlovenian.com](http://www.ClevelandSlovenian.com) and are also being distributed among the SNPJ, KSKJ Life, and AMLA membership. Deadline for entries is Friday, October 31, 2008. Space is limited, and in case of a high response rate, entries received first will receive priority. The projected limit of entries is 150.

**LODGING**

A block of rooms is being held at discounted rates* for SloBowl United participants staying Friday and/or Saturday night at the Comfort Inn–Wickliffe, just a few blocks from Freeway Lanes:

**Comfort Inn**
28611 Euclid Ave.
Wickliffe, OH 44092
Tel.: (440) 944-4030  Fax: (440) 944-6681  www.comfortinn.com

Room rates:
- King-size bed: $65.99 plus tax per night
- 2 double beds: $75.00 plus tax per night (currently unavailable, but may become available)

*Discount rates are guaranteed if our group members reserve at least 10 rooms. Standard rates are $79.99 for a single King and $89.99 for two Doubles. A limited number of smoking rooms are available.

When reserving rooms, call the hotel directly and mention “SloBowl,” as several other bowling groups have reservations there that weekend. These rooms are being held for us until November 7, so call before then. Please note that November 7 is also the last day to cancel rooms without being billed for them.

For additional information, contact a member of the SloBowl United Organizing Committee:

- Dr. Zvone Žigon: Slovenian Consul General, Cleveland
- Kevin Richards: snpj@snpj.com  SNPJ
- Frank Zalar: (440) 943-3844; fszalar@aol.com  Tournament Secretary  KSKJ Life
- John Nemec: (216) 541-7243; jtnemec@sbcglobal.net
- Phil Hrvatin: philip.hrvatin@gmail.com  KSKJ Life
Bishop Baraga Days in Joliet and Lemont

Joliet & Lemont, IL, September 27-28 - Bishop Baraga Days, the annual weekend celebration took place in Joliet and Lemont, Illinois. The celebration was sponsored by the Bishop Baraga Association of the Marquette Diocese in Michigan.

The Slovenian Bishops Conference was represented by Prof. Drago Ocvirk. More than 500 people attended both events.

The celebration honored the Slovenian missionary, Bishop Frederic Baraga, for his pioneering work in the early 1800s in bringing Christianity to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Baraga is a candidate for beatification, a primary step toward canonization into sainthood.

The Wall Street Journal praises Slovenia as a Tourist Destination

The Wall Street Journal published an article on the Eastern European tourism, focusing on Ljubljana and Slovenia.

"With its medieval Old Town of clean cobblestone streets and outdoor markets, a 16th-century castle perched on a hill and an array of first-rate restaurants, Ljubljana ranks as one of Europe's most attractive capitals. Plus, mountain lakes and the Adriatic coast are just an hour or two away. I had no idea what I'd find when I went there. But taking everything into account -- scenery, food, prices and the friendliness of the people -- I think Slovenia could qualify as Europe's single best country for tourism," wrote the author of the article Stan Stesser.

To read the whole article please visit The Wall Street Journal's website.
picked Friday for the Oscars by the Slovenian Union of Film Workers.

The Academy has invited 96 countries to submit films for foreign-language Oscar consideration. Deadline for submission is Oct. 1, the nominations will be announced Jan. 22, and the 81st awards ceremony takes place on Feb. 22.

For more info on the film please visit www.petelinjizajtrk.com.

Students from Ljubljana and DC Visited Our Embassy

Washington, September 27, October 2 - During the past week the Embassy of Slovenia hosted two groups of students of international relations - one from Ljubljana, Slovenia, and one from Washington, DC.

On Friday, a group of students from the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Ljubljana visited our Embassy and met with Ms. Miriam T. Možgan, Chargé d'affaires ad interim. being students of international relations, they were mostly interested in how the diplomacy looks in practice and what is a typical day in the life of a diplomat like.

On Thursday, a group of students in the Peace and Conflict Resolution program at the American University visited our Embassy. Miriam T. Možgan explained them the history of Slovenia, focusing on the political and economic success of Slovenia since the proclamation of independence.