

Odprta Knjiga / Open Book Project Gifting Ceremony

On Friday, May 14, 2010 the *Odprta Knjiga / Open Book Project Gifting Ceremony* took place at the Slovenian Museum and Archives in Cleveland www.smacleveland.org, in which a delegation of representatives from the Maribor Rotary Club-Park and the Maribor Public Library formally presented a donation of 12,000 Slovenian language books to honorary recipient United States Senator George Voinovich.

The program included a blessing by Bishop A. Edward Pevec, and presentations from Consul General of the Republic of Slovenia Jure Žmauc, Cleveland Public Library Director Felton Thomas, Maribor Rotary Club-Park Project Manager Igor Klančnik and President Borut Ambrožič, Cleveland City Councilman Michael Polensek, Slovenian Museum and Archives Vice President Linda Silakoski, and U.S. Senator George Voinovich.



The *Odprta Knjiga/Open Book Project* is an international humanitarian project initiated by the Maribor Rotary Club-Park, and carried out in Cleveland by the Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia. The aim of the project is to strengthen and maintain ties with Slovenians in the USA, helping them to preserve their ethnic, linguistic and cultural identity.

The Maribor Rotary Club's action of collecting books for Slovenians in the USA began in December and culminated with the recent delivery of 12,000 books to Cleveland, half of which are children's material. The response in Slovenia was overwhelming, from primary and secondary schools, to bookshops, editors and private persons.

The City of Cleveland and the Cleveland Public Library are in support of the project, with the goal of future cooperation with the Cleveland Public Library's Foreign Literature Department.

The books are currently housed at the Slovenian Museum and Archives pending completion of a dedicated library space. A portion of the books have been donated to the Slovenian Catholic Center in Lemont, IL.

The following is photolink of the event. All photos by Phil Hrvatin.

<http://picasaweb.google.com/philip.hrvatin/SlovenianMuseumArchivesOdprtaKnjigaOpenBookProjectGiftingCeremony>

IVAN CANKAR BUST TO BE RE-DEDICATED IN THE SLOVENIAN CULTURAL GARDEN JUNE 18th 2010.

Please join the Slovenian Cultural Garden Association, on Friday June 18th, 2010 for the dedication on a newly carved bust of Ivan Cankar, famous poet and writer. This event has become an exciting community celebration and an important milestone in the efforts of restoration and future development of the Cleveland Slovenian Cultural Garden.

Ivan Cankar (May 10, 1876 –December 11, 1918) was a Slovenian writer, playwright, essayist and poet. He was also a political activist. He is regarded as the greatest writer in the Slovene language and has sometimes been compared to Franz Kafka and James Joyce.

Local elected officials and dignitaries will be in attendance at the de-dedication. The unveiling event will also include representatives visiting Cleveland, from the Government of Slovenia. The dignitaries, hosted by Jurek Zmauc, Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia in Cleveland, include:

- 1) **Miro Petek**, member of The National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia and President of parliamentary Commission for Relations with Slovenes in Neighboring and Other Countries
- 2) **Gvido Kres**, member of The National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia and member of parliamentary Commission for Relations with Slovenes in Neighboring and Other Countries
- 3) **mag. Vasja Klavora**, vice president of The National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia and member of parliamentary Commission for Relations with Slovenes in Neighboring and Other Countries
- 4) **Katja Jerman**, Ph.D., secretary of Commission for Relations with Slovenes in Neighboring and Other Countries
- 4) **Breda Mulec**, Ph.D., secretary of Office for Slovenes abroad



The Cankar commemorative bust was originally installed in the Yugoslav Cultural Garden in 1944, created by Rudolph Mafko. The original bronze bust was mounted on a classical sandstone niche wall. The treasured sculpture had fallen victim to vandalism in 1990's. The replacement bust, created in similar style, but in granite, was carefully sculpted by Teodor (Ted) Stroie, a regional artist, know for his magnificent and detailed art and architectural work. Both the restored sandstone wall and the newly created Cankar Bust will be unveiled at this long awaited event.

Since the establishment of an independent Slovenian Government, the Cleveland Yugoslav Garden has become the Slovenian Cultural Garden. The Slovenian Cultural Garden Association works to restore, preserve and maintain the Slovenian Garden property. Croatia and Serbia have since created their own gardens in new locations in the Rockefeller Park.

Festivities will begin at 2:00 PM , Friday June 18th, 2010. The Slovenian Cultural Garden is located at 840 East Boulevard Cleveland, Ohio 44108 Website www.cleslo.com/scga

For additional information contact: Ron Jaksic (216) 534-4024 RONJ999@hotmail.com

The Slovenian Cultural Garden Association is a 501(c)3 organization

Referendum on the Ratification of the Border Arbitration Agreement Between the Slovenian and Croatian Governments

The Slovenian National Assembly has called a legislative referendum on the ratification of the border arbitration agreement between the Slovenian and Croatian governments. The referendum will take place on Sunday, June 6, 2010.

In the United States voting will be organized at the following locations:

Slovene Home for the Aged
18621 Neff Road
Cleveland, OH 44119

Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia
2410 California St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Consulate General of the Republic of Slovenia
600 Third Avenue, 21st Floor
New York, NY 10016

Polls will be open on June 6, 2010 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Slovenian citizens with a registered permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia but who are temporarily living in the USA and who wish to cast their vote at one of the above listed locations or by mail are required to file a registration form.

Slovenian citizens with a registered permanent residence in the United States do not need to file a request to be able to vote in person in the US at one of the diplomatic-consular offices listed above. Slovene citizens with a registered permanent residence in the USA who wish to cast their vote by mail are required to file registration forms.

Registration forms are available on the website of the National Voting Commission at www.dvk.gov.si. All registration forms must be filed by **May 22, 2010**, and sent directly to the National Voting Commission at:

Državna volilna komisija
Slovenska cesta 54
SI 1000 Ljubljana

The registration forms may also be sent by fax to 011 386 1 43 31 269 or by email to rvk@gov.si (due to the signature requirement, only scanned documents may be emailed).

More information can be found at <http://www.dvk.gov.si> or on the Slovene language site of the Consulate General of Slovenia in New York at <http://newyork.konzulat.si>

NAKNADNI ZAKONODAJNI REFERENDUM O ZAKONU O RATIFIKACIJI ARBITRAŽNEGA SPORAZUMA MED VLADO REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE IN VLADO REPUBLIKE HRVAŠKE

Referendum bo potekal 6. junija 2010. Volišče Generalnega konzulata Republike Slovenije v Clevelandu bo na naslovu Slovene Home for the Aged, 18621 Neff Road, Cleveland, OH 44119, in bo odprto med 9.00 in 17.00 uro.

Slovenski državljani, ki imajo prijavljeno stalno prebivališče v tujini (izseljenci - nimajo prijavljenega stalnega prebivališča v Republiki Sloveniji) lahko glasujejo na naslednja načina:

na diplomatsko-konzularnem predstavništvu Republike Slovenije v ZDA, če so vpisani v posebni volilni imenik. Postopek glasovanja poteka na enak način kot na volišču v Sloveniji (identifikacija volivca z osebnim dokumentom, podpis volivca, glasovanje z glasovnico).

po pošti, pri čemer pa mora - za razliko od državnih volitev - pri referendumu volivec zahtevati tako glasovanje pri Državni volilni komisiji.

Zahtevek dostopen na spletni strani:

http://www.dvk.gov.si/AS2010/dokumenti/zahtevek_posta_izseljenci.pdf

Rok za prijavo za glasovanje po pošti je 22. maj 2010. Zapoznili zahtevki se kot prepozno vloženi zavržejo.

Izseljenec, ki bo na dan 6. junija 2010 v Republiki Sloveniji, se lahko odloči, da bo glasoval na posebnem volišču na sedežu okrajne volilne komisije (upravne enote) – tako imenovana volišča »OMNIA«. Za to volišče se mora prijaviti najpozneje **3. junija 2010** (DKP, kjer je vpisan v volilni imenik bo nemudoma obveščeno, da izseljenec glasuje v Sloveniji in v volilnem imeniku bo narejena oznaka, da je izbral ta način glasovanja). Volivec – izseljenec, ki se bo odločil za glasovanje na volišču »OMNIA« se dne 6.6.2010 zglasi na volišču »OMNIA«, v kraju, ki ga je izbral. Natančni naslovi volišč »OMNIA« bodo objavljeni na spletni strani <http://www.dvk.gov.si> kot tudi instruktivni obrazci za prijavo.

Slovenski državljani, ki imajo stalno prebivališče v Sloveniji, a začasno živijo v tujini (zdomci) lahko glasujejo:

na izbranem diplomatsko-konzularnem predstavništvu Republike Slovenije v ZDA, če o tem pravočasno obvestijo Državno volilno komisijo na zahtevanem obrazcu. Postopek glasovanja poteka na enak način kot na volišču v Sloveniji (identifikacija volivca z osebnim dokumentom,

podpis volivca, glasovanje z glasovnico). Volivci, ki bodo glasovali na Generalnem konzulatu bodo vpisani v posebni seznam glasovalcev.

po pošti, če o tem pravočasno obvestijo Državno volilno komisijo na zahtevanem obrazcu.

Zahtevek dostopen na spletni strani:

http://www.dvk.gov.si/AS2010/dokumenti/zahtevek_posta_dkp.pdf

Rok za prijavo za glasovanje po pošti ali na Generalnem konzulatu je 22. maj 2010.

Zapozneli zahtevki se kot prepozno vloženi zavržejo.

Volivci, ki glasujejo po pošti iz tujine, lahko volilno gradivo, ki ga prejmejo na naslov v tujini, vrnejo bodisi na naslov diplomatsko-konzularnega predstavništva Republike Slovenije v ZDA, na katerem je volišče (gradivo mora prispeti do odprtja volišča 6.6.2010) ali na naslov pristojne okrajne volilne komisije (naslov bo izpisan na povratni ovojnici, ki jo vsebuje volilno gradivo). Volilno gradivo, ki se vrača v Slovenijo, mora volivec oddati na pošto v tujini najpozneje 5. junija 2010, upoštevalo pa se bo, če bo prispelo k pristojni okrajni volilni komisiji v Slovenijo do 14. junija 2010 do 12.00 ure.

Vse zahteve pošljite na naslov: Državna volilna komisija, Slovenska cesta 54, 1000 Ljubljana, ali po faksu na številko 011-386-1-433-1269, ali po elektronski pošti (skenirano zaradi podpisa): rvk@gov.si

Podrobne informacije in zahtevke najdete na spletni strani Državne volilne komisije www.dvk.gov.si.

Volišče bo odprto tudi na:

Slovene Home for the Aged
18621 Neff Road
Cleveland, OH 44119

Veleposlaništvo Republike Slovenije
2410 California St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Generalni konzulat Republike Slovenije v New Yorku
600 Third Avenue, 21st Floor, NY,
NY 10016



The Walk for Hunger is the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland's www.hungernetwork.org signature event that takes place each May to raise funds and awareness to fight hunger in Greater Cleveland. The fund raising pledge walk attracted over 2,200 walkers from various religious organizations, corporate teams and schools, The KSKJ St Joseph Lodge 169 team www.kskjlife.org stopped for a photo at Cleveland's East 4th entertainment district. Pictured from left to right is Sue Hrvatin, Brian Mezger, lodge president Phil Hrvatin, Becca Clack, Frank Smuk, Cathy Clack, Slovenian Consul General Jure Žmauc, Beth Clack, Janja Žmauc, Tony Smuk with friend Spela (visiting from Slovenia) and Marty Marsic.





AMLA Has Two Very Successful Fraternal Events

FAMILY FUNDAY

AMLA Family Funday was held on Saturday, April 24th at Wickliffe Lanes. Well over 90 AMLA members and friends enjoyed two games of bowling followed by refreshments. Children who participated received T-shirts with the AMLA 100th Anniversary logo. A raffle was held on each lane with the winners receiving a monetary prize provided by the Home Office.



JOIN HANDS DAY

On May 1st, the American Mutual Life Association partnered with the Slovene Home for the Aged on a Join Hands Day project. Join Hands Day was started in 2000 by the National Fraternal Congress of America to promote volunteerism and to foster cooperation between youth and adults to make life better in their communities. Over 40 AMLA members joined together to spruce up the courtyard at the Home for the Aged. AMLA members planted flowers, spread mulch and also planted two beautiful Dogwood trees donated by AMLA. A marker was placed by each tree to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of AMLA. Albert Amigoni, President of AMLA asked AMLA members, Josephine Mistic and Olga Maizel, who both reside at the Slovene Home for the Aged, to join with two of the youngest members present, Robert Kane, and Brooke Jacoby, in placing the markers. Jeff Sass, administrator of the Slovene Home for the Aged, was on hand to help out and expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Home and its residents.



www.americanmutual.org



Trip to Slovenia finds long lost relatives

by Frank Bucar

A recent trip to Slovenia proved very rewarding as my wife Sharon, brother Vid, Tony and Lois Kochevar, Randy and Rose Hella were able to find relatives they didn't even know existed. I have been to Slovenia approximately 29 times and every trip provides a new experience. On this trip we invited our friends from high school and our old neighborhood of Gary-New Duluth Minnesota, Tony Kochevar and his wife, Lois (Prijatelj), and Randy and Rose Hella, who are also members of our "Singing Slovenes".

www.singingslovenes.com This was a fact finding adventure to take in the ethnic culture of music and traditions and locating relatives. We found the relatives of Lois Kochevar (Prijatelj) in the Dolenjska area of Sodražica and Zamostec near Ribnica and we found Tony Kochevar's relatives in the Novo Mesto area and Cerklje and Zgornji Brnik. We located the relatives of Rose Hella in the village of Zgornja Slivnica near Grosjuplje and in the Kranjska Gora area.

Hospitality abounded everywhere we went. There was not a lack of music as we spent our first night at the "Alpski Večer" on Lake Bled where there were numerous bands performing. Because of final college exams, another member of the "Singing Slovenes", John "Lojzek" Starc, met us a few days later and he brought along his button box and provided entertainment where-ever we went.



Taking in the scenery on the pletna boat in Lake Bled are: Randy and Rose Hella, and Sharon Bucar.



In front of the statue at Brezje are: Frank and Sharon Bucar, Lois Kochevar, and Rose and Randy Hella

We joined up with my relatives in the Cerklje area near Brnik and spent the evening at "Pod Jenkovo Lipo" www.podjenkovolipo.si a local pizza establishment at the foot of the ski area of Krvavec. Joining us was Jani Pavec, leader of the very popular Slovenian group, "Atomik Harmonik". Jani's dad, Ivan, and my brother Vid, grew up together in the village of Poženik. Atomik Harmonik www.atomikharmonik.com will be performing 7 concerts in Toronto, Canada, and at Slovenska Pristava www.slovenskapristava.org near Cleveland on Friday, July 16th. A trip to Slovenia is not complete until you have visited the "Shrine of Brezje" and Lake Bled and that we did. This trip also had special meaning for myself and my brother Vid

as the month of May marked the 65th Anniversary of the fleeing of thousands of Slovenians through the Ljubelj Pass which I will cover at a later date.

Slovenia's Osminka Orchestra Celebrates the Fourth of July at SNPJ Farm

CLEVELAND – Celebrate Independence Day Slovenian-style at SNPJ Farm with the Osminka Orchestra from Slovenia on Sunday, the Fourth of July. The popular young band arrives from Ilirska Bistrica to perform their award-winning songs, as well as other Slovenian and American polka and waltz favorites.

The Osminka ensemble is considered one of the best new bands in Slovenia. The name means “eighth-note” in Slovenian. The band draws crowds of dancers at festivals and concerts with its Alpine oom-pah sound. David Dovgan’s button box accordion and Nevio Prosen’s rhythm guitar are joined by clarinet (Gregor Budal), bass (Grega Logar), drums (Miha Ziccardi), and singer Anija Janezic. The performers hail from Bac, Knezak and Ilirska Bistrica and have relatives in the greater Cleveland and Pittsburgh areas.



The Osminka Orchestra plays music for dancing from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Gates open at noon. Dinners are served from 2:00 to 4:00, with sandwiches and refreshments available all day. Admission is \$6; children 18 and under are free. For details, call Sophie at 440-951-6906. SNPJ Farm is located on Heath Road in Kirtland, Ohio, off Chardon Road (Route 6), three miles east of Route 306.

Joe Valencic
President
Cleveland Federation of SNPJ Lodges

Slovenski Ansambel Osminka v Nedeljo, 4. Julija na SNPJ Farmi

CLEVELAND – V nedeljo, 4. julija, vas vabi Slovenski ansambel Osminka iz Ilirske Bistrice na ples na SNPJ Farmi v Kirtlandu. Uživate mlade slovenske muzikante in pevce v naravi in izkoristite ameriški Dan svobode za izjemno zabavo ob dobri domači jedachi. Vstopnina za odrasle je samo \$6. Ansambel bo igral za ples od 3:30 popoldne do 7:30 zvečer. Kosilo se servira med 2:00 in 4:00. Topli sendviči so na razpolago celi dan. Za dodatne informacije, kličite Zofko, 440-951-6906.



Glasbena zasedba ansambla je klasični narodno-zabavni kvintet, ki se mu pri ostalih glasbenih zvrsteh pridruži še bobnar. Skupina mladih ljudi, polnih iskanja, notranjega nemira in hrepenenj, se je v obdobju, ko je vsak zase le slutil, kam ga bo usmeril tok življenja, odločila ustanoviti narodno-zabavni ansambel kot obliko svojega kulturnega izražanja.

Združila jih je ljubezen do slovenske ljudske pesmi in to je bil magnet, ki je ohranil to skupino navkljub mnogim drugim izviro, ki so postavljali na preizkušnjo njegovo delovanje. Svojo moč in vztrajnost so črpali iz veličastne, opojne harmonije ki jo pričara dobro zaigrana in zapela pesem.

Ansambel Osminka ima poleg narodno-zabavne tudi obsežen program popularne domače in tuje zabavne glasbe. Igrajo na veselicah, porokah in na raznih zaključenih zabavah. Kamorkoli pridejo, jih radi ponovno pokličejo. Clani ansambla so Notranjci doma iz okolice Bača, Knežaka in Ilirske Bistrice: Nevio Prosen, kitara; David Dovgan, harmonike; Grega Logar, bariton in bas kitara; Toni Novak, trobenta; Gregor Budal, klarinet; Miha Ziccardi, bobni; in pevka Anija Janežič. Ansambel Osminka je zagotovilo za dobro voljo ob dobri glasbi! Pridite in zaplešite z Ansamblom Osminka na SNPJ Farmi v nedeljo, 4. julija. SNPJ Farm je na Heath Road v Kirtlandu, tri milje vzhodno od Route 306 po Chardon Road (Route 6). Obrnite iz Chardon Road na jug na Heath Road in boste kmalu našli SNPJ Farm in Ansambel Osminka.

Joe Valenčič, Predsednik
Clevelandska Federacija Društva Slovenske Narodne Podporne Jednote

Save the Date! Sample Slovenian Heritage Weekend



Friday-Sunday, November 5-7, 2010

Mohican Outdoor Center – Blairstown, NJ

Organized by the SWUA Branch 93-NYC, our website:

www.swuanyc.org

This is our third year! This is a weekend where you can do as little or as much as you want in regards to the planned activities. The MOC is an AMC (Appalachian Mountain Club) facility that is 90 minutes west of New York City and 90 minutes north of Philadelphia.

Fri.-Sun., Nov. 5-7. Sample Slovenian Heritage Weekend Getaway. International folk dance workshop, fun with proverbs, strudel demonstration, a Slovenian film (sub-titled in English) and more. Easier "Mount Triglav at Mohican" hike (a true Slovene has summited Slovenia's highest mountain)! Fee \$134/AMC members, \$147/non-members includes activities, 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, Friday happy hour and Sat. Slovenian wine tasting/dinner. Hosts: Ria (Polajner) Whitmire and Lynn Zalokar. For questions call Lynn at (201) 947-6336, lzalokar@yahoo.com and to register call Mohican Outdoor Center, (908) 362-5670. Book early/space is limited. Register by Friday, October 29th.

For additional information click here for the flyer:

http://www.swuanyc.org/other/Slovenian_Heritage_flyer_2010.pdf

Slovenian Fraternal Newspapers



American Mutual Life Association AMLA

<http://americanmutual.org/Documents/May%202010%20Our%20Voice.pdf>

American Slovenian Catholic Union KSKJ

http://www.kskjlife.com/attachments/130_juneforweb2010b.pdf

Slovene National Benefit Society SNPJ

<http://www.snpj.org/Publications/Prosveta%20Archive%20PDFs/2010/060210pr.pdf>