

**The Plain Dealer
GLOBAL VILLAGE**

**Two new publications cater to Northeast Ohio's
Slovenian-Americans / Robert Smith's Global Village**

Thursday, November 06, 2008

Robert Smith

Plain Dealer Columnist



ROBERT L. SMITH

Saddened by the loss of its longtime newspaper, Northeast Ohio's Slovenian-American community suddenly has some bright news. Two new publications will compete for the allegiance of the largest Slovenian population outside of Europe.

The community lost its trusty compass in August when Ameriška Domovina, or American Home, closed its St. Clair Avenue shop, ending an astonishing 110-year press run.

Quickly into the void came Glas Naroda, the People's Voice, published by local Slovenian-Americans.

Next week, another local team plans to launch the monthly Slovenian American Times, targeting the 50,000 Slovenian-Americans of North east Ohio. English Editor Breda Lončar said she and her volunteer staff hope to win an audience with quality journalism and local ethnic news.

"We hope to keep the community connected," said Lončar, a Slovenian immigrant and the curriculum director of Willoughby-Eastlake schools.



"All of us have remained faithful to the Slovenian cause."

The first edition will be mailed free Nov. 15 to 20,000 people, she said.

To get on the mailing list, go to www.slovenianamericantimes.com.

Source:

http://www.cleveland.com/news/plaindealer/robert_smith/index.ssf?/base/opinion/1225964051205400.xml&coll=2

New website - slotraveler.com

The new website <http://www.slotraveler.com> bills itself as THE NUMBER ONE TRAVELER SITE FOR SLOVENIA.



This interactive site features Cultural Heritage, Natural Heritage, Culture, Favors of Slovenia, Spa & Wellness, Entertainment & Sport and Accommodation sections. Currently slotraveler.com is available in Slovenian and English.

**SLOVENIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION
SLOVENSKO AMERIŠKI KULTURNI SVET**

2008 LECTURE SERIES

SLOVENIAN GENEALOGY

Rose Marie Jisa

7:00 PM – Tuesday, November 11, 2008

Slovenian Society Home (Lower Hall), 20713 Recher Avenue, Euclid, Ohio

The Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation invites all to attend the fifth talk in our 2008 Lecture Series. The Foundation is extremely pleased that **Rose Marie Jisa** will present a discussion about Slovenian Genealogy and the activities of the Slovenian Genealogy Society International, Inc. The program, which is free and open to the public, will take place on Tuesday, November 11th at 7:00 PM in the Lower Hall of the Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Avenue in Euclid. A coffee and strudel social will follow the lecture.

In her presentation, Rose Marie Jisa will discuss the purpose and activities of the Slovenian Genealogy Society International, Inc. (SGSI) including their on-going effort to record oral histories from Slovenian Americans. She will also report on the SGSI's recent trip to Slovenia this past September. The SGSI brings together individuals of Slovenian heritage, or interest, in order to share genealogical information and experiences. The organization provides a forum to facilitate the discovery and exchange of this information and works to create a convenient repository of information and the means to make it available to all members.

**SAVE THE DATE
Friday, December 5, 2008
7:00 PM**

***Feast of St. Nicholas
Evening with
Bishop A. Edward Pevec***

**Annual Mass and Reception
The Center for Pastoral Leadership
(Borromeo Seminary)
28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe**

Rose Marie Jisa is the founding president of both the Ohio Chapter of the SGSI and the South Florida State Chapter. She was employed as a secondary school educator and administrator for the Parma City Schools and was an adjunct professor at Cleveland State University. She received her BS in Education from Youngstown State University, a Master in Education from Kent State University and Doctoral work at the University of Akron School of Administration. In addition to her interest in genealogy, Ms. Jisa enjoys dancing, playing the buttonbox and the clarinet, golf, swimming and reading.



Construction is underway on the SMA's first floor spaces, with plans for further future expansion. The SMA recently purchased Past Perfect Software (museum and archival specific software) as well as computers, scanners, cameras and copiers to assist in the implementation of professional archiving procedures of all items that are donated. The SMA is also currently accepting applications for a Museum Administrator through November 26 2008.

As the Thanksgiving season approaches, the Board of Directors of the SMA would like to express its sincere thanks to the Slovenian community of Cleveland for its interest and dedication to this extremely important project. Many thanks also to the many Slovenians from all over the United States who have reached out to us with financial support or archival donations. We remind all that now is the time to be a part of this exciting venture, to celebrate and preserve our Slovenian heritage in a permanent location within the Slovenian Community of Cleveland.

To make a donation to the Slovenian Museum and Archives – either with archival materials or financial contributions, please call 216-361-5600 or toll free 877-361-4SMA, or e-mail: staff@smacleveland.org. Founding memberships are still available, as are opportunities to dedicate/name a space within the museum. Please call or send an email for more information.

The Slovenian Museum and Archives is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to collect, preserve and share Slovenian ethnic identity by providing an educational, cultural and literary resource for families, students, archivists and researchers worldwide.

SMA is located at 6415 St. Clair Avenue. Please visit us on Saturday, November 29 from 12 pm to 5 pm, when the National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony will take place at Slovenian National Home, and see our special Slovenian Christmas exhibit including "Sv. Miklavž" and other Slovenian traditions. The exhibit can also be viewed on Sunday, December 7 from 3 pm to 6 pm, following the St. Vitus School "Miklavževanje" play, and the KSKJ Christmas party; and on Sunday, December 14 from 10 am to 2 pm, during the AMLA Christmas party at the Slovenian National Home.

Board of Directors
Slovenian Museum & Archives
www.smacleveland.org

Cleveland, Ohio - Slovenski muzej in arhiv (SMA), ki domuje v prostorih Slovenskega narodnega doma na ulici St. Clair v Clevelandu, deluje!

Prostori v pritličju se prenavljajo, poskrbljeno je že za ustrezno računalniške programe in oprevo, nujno potrebno za profesionalno delo s podarjenim ali posojenim arhivskim gradivom.

SMA do 26. novembra letos sprejema vloge za uslužbenca - upravitelja muzeja.

Ob bližajočem se zahvalnem dnevu se odbor SMA iskreno zahvaljuje slovenski skupnosti v Clevelandu za izkazano zanimanje in podporo temu izjemno pomembnemu projektu. Hvala tudi številnim rojakom iz vseh koncev ZDA, ki so muzeju pomagali z denarno podporo ali darovanjem arhivskega in muzejskega gradiva. Spodbudili bi radi tudi tiste, ki se za kaj takega še niso odločili, saj je zdaj pravi trenutek za izoblikovanje prvega tovrstnega muzeja na stalni lokaciji v srcu slovenske skupnosti v Clevelandu.

Če bi radi darovali denar za stroške delovanja SMA, podarili predmete, primerne za muzej, ali pač arhivsko gradivo, s katerim nimate kaj početi, lahko to storite tako, da pokličete na telefonsko številko 216-361-5600 ali na brezplačno številko 1-877-361-4SMA, muzej pa lahko kontaktirate tudi preko emaila: staff@smacleveland.org.

Še vedno lahko postanete tudi "ustanovni član", ob velikih donacijah pa se lahko dogovorite tudi za poimenovanje dela muzeja po vas ali vam dragi osebi. Pokličite ali pišite za več informacij.

SMA je neprofitna, "501(c)(3)" organizacija, katere namen je zbirati, hraniti in razstavljeni slovensko kulturno dediščino ter biti živ dokaz zgodovinskega, kulturnega in literarnega ustvarjanja, o čemer se bodo lahko v muzeju in arhivu prepričali in raziskovali študentje, družine, arhivisti in raziskovalci iz Slovenije in sveta.

Muzej, ki domuje kot zapisano v Slovenskem narodnem domu (SND) na St. Clair Ave., lahko obiščete v soboto, 29. novembra med 12. in 5. uro, ko bo - ob podelitvi nagrad izvajalcem polke - na ogled razstava o Svetem Miklavžu in drugih slovenskih običajih, povezanih z božičem. Razstava bo na ogled tudi v nedeljo, 7. decembra, po miklavževanju pri Sv. Vidu in božični prireditvi KSKJ, med 3. in 6. uro, ter v nedeljo, 14. decembra, med 10. in 2. uro, ko bo v SNH božična prireditev AMLA.

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Great white shark - still found in the Adriatic Sea

Ivo Scepanovic for Southeast European Times in Split November 4, 2008

Considered extinct about 40 years ago, the great white shark is back in the Adriatic waters, dangerous as ever, having attacked a diver from Slovenia.

One man's frightening encounter with the great white shark in the Adriatic, just ten metres off the shore of the remote island of Vis, central Dalmatia, has made headlines in Croatia and confirmed suspicions of the predator's presence in the Adriatic. Older locals remember a shark attack in the central Adriatic that claimed the life of a German tourist. Divers had felt safe after 40 years of shark inactivity.

A 43-year-old Slovenian diver, Damjan Pesek, went spear fishing with a friend in Mala Smokova, near the island of Vis. Witnesses say the shark that attacked him was 5m long.

"It felt like something suddenly hit my body. You actually do not feel the bite," said Pesek at the hospital in Split that treated the serious injuries to his left leg.

"I used a spear to fight back," said Pesek. Friends pulled him into a boat and rushed him to the nearest doctor. Paramedics in turn transported him to Split for decompression and emergency treatment.

"There is almost no way that a diver can defend himself if a shark wants to kill him," Croatia's top shark expert, Dr. Alen Soldo, says. At first, the researchers were not sure of the species that attacked Pesek.

"Other kinds of sharks may have been attracted to the diver as he was carrying [bloody] fish around his belt," Soldo thought at first. However, doctors found two teeth typical of the great white shark in the diver's leg.

The expert thinks that the arrival of the great white shark in the Adriatic could be directly connected to the tuna population.

"The shark was probably following the schools of tuna and got attracted by the fish around the diver's belt. As schools of tuna are not frequent in the Adriatic anymore, the great white shark rarely travels to these waters," explained Soldo.

Despite the nearly tragic circumstances, Soldo said he was glad to hear the great white shark found its way back to the Adriatic, as experts had assumed it extinct in those waters for the past four decades. He added that humans are still the intruders when they venture into the underwater world. Experts think the great white shark will move on quickly from the Adriatic, given its migratory nature.



"The shark was probably following the schools of tuna and got attracted by the fish around the diver's belt. As schools of tuna are not frequent in the Adriatic anymore, the great white shark rarely travels to these waters." [Getty Images]

Source: http://www.setimes.com/cocoon/setimes/xhtml/en_GB/features/setimes/features/2008/11/04/feature-02

After finding the November 2008 issue of Singletrack mountain bike magazine online, I fired off an email to the editor Chipps Chippendale.

Hello Chipps,

I would like to attached a screen capture of <http://www.singletrackworld.com/article.php?sid=3113> on my website www.clevelandslovenian.com

My readers would be interested in any information your riding journalist would be willing to provide.

Regards,

Phil - P.S. I commute to work on my bike about twice a week.

From: Chipps Chippendale
[mailto:chipps@singletrackworld.com]

Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2008 8:48 AM

To: Hrvatin, Phil

Subject: Re: Singletrack issue 45

Hi there Phil,

Thanks for asking. Yes, you're welcome to use a screen grab of our cover with a link to our website. The article is very complimentary about Slovenia for mountain biking.

Cheers
Chipps

Singletrack is the UK's third biggest mountain bike magazine and this is their second feature on Slovenia, after last year's article based in Tolmin. This time round the journalists returned to tour the country in a motorhome, cherry-picking the riding spots from Maribor to Kuros and stopping back in to Tolmin too. Once again they returned, gushing about the quality of the riding and the warm welcome they received.

A couple of quotes from the Singletrack November 2008 issue.

Let the masses head out to the Alps. When it comes to mountain biking, Slovenia is Europe's best-kept secret. Brothers and sisters we have seen the light, we know that the country is a mountain bikers' paradise, and we've been chomping at the bit to get back there ever since. Lets be honest here, let's make this clear from the start, we 'heart' Slovenia

By the time we're finished the cities populace have begun their after work walk and run up and down the ski slope. It's good to be in a country with such a love of the outdoors and commitment to exercise. We don't feel at all guilty sitting and drinking Laško cooled from the campervan's fridge. Oh no.



A few interesting headlines found on the web



Slovenian Railways at the crossroads

07 Nov 2008 | Chris Jackson

SLOVENIA: Strategically placed at the intersection of two key international corridors, Slovenian Railways is well placed to act as a hub linking east and west, but it must face up to emerging competition in the lucrative freight market. Chris Jackson asked SZ Director-General Tomaz Schara about the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Full article at this link

http://www.railwaygazette.com/news_view/article/2008/11/8986/slovenian_railways_at_the_crossroads.html

Fitness challenge in Slovenia

Mayo Advertiser, November 07, 2008.

Fundraisers throughout Mayo are being asked to sign up to a week-long Slovenia Adventure Challenge in June 2009 for Ireland's only centre for blind children.

Those aged 18 years and upwards can take part in the walking/cycle challenge which will take participants through some of the most beautiful countryside in Europe.

The minimum fundraising target is €3,000 which covers all flights and transfers, insurance, service charges and taxes. Accommodation is on a half board basis in a hotel in the picturesque Alpine village of Kranjska Gora. Packed lunches will also be provided on full challenge days. For more information about the challenge call 087 297 5135 or email: sloveniachallenge@yahoo.com.

Source: <http://www.advertiser.ie/mayo/article/4264>

The Psychopathology of Schizophrenia

Borut Skodlar, Mojca Dernovsek and Marga Kocmur, University of Ljubljana

TIME Partners with
ON

Health & Science

Article at this link:

<http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1857325,00.html>



Current Events

September 25 - December 10

- *A River's Gifts:*

Archeological Excavation of the Ljubljanica River in

Photographs. Embassy of

Slovenia, Washington, DC,

October 9 - November 9

Kids Euro Festival 2008: A celebration of European Arts and Culture for Kids!

Washington, DC (various venues). See the article below or [check the official website](#).

November 7 - 20

At The Crossroads: Slovenian Cinema. AFI Silver, Silver Spring, MD.

November 8

Opening of *Carmen* at the Washington National Opera, with Sabina Cvilak as Micaëla

October 22 - November 30 -

"Honey Brown Eyes", play about two soldiers during the conflict in Bosnia. Written by *Stefanie Zadravec.* *Theater J,* Washington, DC.

November 19 - Screening of a documentary *"All Slovene, all Russian, all English, and all cosmopolitan - the portrait of Janko Lavrin (1887 - 1986)"*, with author Dragan as guest. Embassy of Slovenia, Washington, DC, Nov. 19, 2008, 7 p.m. Free, open for the public.

President Türk and Prime Minister Janša Congratulate the U.S. President Elect Obama

Ljubljana, November 5 - President Danilo Türk and Prime Minister Janez Janša congratulated the US president-elect Barack Obama immediately after the announcement of the results.

On behalf of Slovenia President Türk wished Obama a great deal of success in his work.

Common values, striving for understanding between nations and cultures, and advocacy of fundamental freedoms and human rights represent for Türk a firm foundation for further cooperation.



President of Slovenia Dr. Danilo Türk

Facing the challenges of the free world calls for mutual understanding, trust and partnership, said Türk, adding that he was looking forward to working with Obama in the efforts for even stronger ties between the countries and

constructive collaboration in dealing with global challenges.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia, Janez Janša, also congratulated Barack Obama on his election as the 44th president of the United States of America. On this occasion, the Slovenian Prime Minister highlighted the excellent relations between the two countries, which were further strengthened during the Slovenian EU Council Presidency and the EU-US Summit meeting held in Slovenia.

"In Slovenia, we attach great importance to the continuation of friendly and close cooperation in the future," wrote Prime Minister Janša.

"At this time, when we face the serious and complex challenges of the world economy and new forms of global threats, vision and courage are needed more than ever before. In this regard, the president of the United States of America has a special responsibility which goes beyond national frameworks and affects the entire world. We are convinced that we can meet contemporary challenges to the benefit of both the Transatlantic Alliance and the world as a whole by enhancing cooperation between the European Union and the United States of America," added Prime Minister Janša in his letter to the future American president.

Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel, Prime minister-designate Borut

Pahor, as well as several political parties welcomed on Wednesday the US presidential election victory of Barack Obama.

Rupel said that the first African-American being elected US president pointed to "a high level of maturity as well as democratic capacity of US voters".

"From this point of view this is a landmark event, which shows Americans have gone beyond prejudices, which were a negative mark on American society for a long time," Rupel wrote in a press release.

Rupel believes US voters have been confronted with the choice between the security of the country and the social security of individuals several times in recent year, and this time they decided for the latter.

Social Democrats leader Borut Pahor wrote in his letter of congratulations that Obama's win meant hope not only for the US but for the entire world. He expressed his wish for a continuation of successful cooperation between the two countries.

Slovenia Selects New Prime Minister

Ljubljana, November 7 - Slovenia's parliament has overwhelmingly selected Borut Pahor as the tiny Alpine country's new prime minister on November 7, 2008.

Pahor's Social Democrats won the most votes in the September 21 elections and later sealed a coalition deal with three other parties to secure the necessary majority in the 90-seat chamber.

The Friday vote was 59-24. The remaining deputies were absent. Pahor is pledging to work on further economic progress for Slovenia.

The 45-year-old leftist leader replaces Janez Janša, whose centre-right party now holds about a third of parliament seats.



*New Prime Minister of Slovenia
Mr. Borut Pahor*

President-Elect Obama No Foreigner to Slovenia

Washington, April 8 - We would like to remind our readers that Senator Barack Obama presided the hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations when it held a hearing of the candidate for the U.S. Ambassador to Slovenia Mr. Yousif B. Ghafari on April 4, 2008.



Senator Barack Obama at the hearing

Senator Barack Obama, the chairman of the Senate Subcommittee for Europe, addressed Mr. Ghafari as follows: *"Slovenia has been on the cutting edge of democratic change in Eastern Europe. Since its early success in gaining membership in NATO and the European Union, it has been a model for progress in the Balkans. Despite its small size, Slovenia currently leads the nations of the European Union while it occupies the EU's presidency. Its citizens are helping to set the agenda for an entire continent. Slovenians are focusing Europe's attention on the unfinished business of bringing peace and prosperity to the Balkans. The people and government of Slovenia will need the help of the United States and other partners as they consolidate their democratic gains, and seek to extend those gains throughout the region."*



Ambassador Yousif B. Ghafari

Mr. Ghafari, as an immigrant who has truly lived the American dream, you represent the strength found in our country's diversity. Similar strength should characterize life in the Balkans - in some parts of the region including Slovenia, it already does. I hope your story and your service will resonate with people throughout the former Yugoslavia."

Detective Oscar and Crying Crocodiles at The Kennedy Center

Washington, November 6 – Millennium Stage in The Kennedy Center hosted Slovenian children story-tellers and performers, Lila Prap and Andrej Rozman Roza, as part of more than one month long Euro Kids Festival, taking place in various locations around Washington area.



Lila Prap at The Kennedy Center, presenting her story Why, a book of wonderfully detailed pictures

Prap and Roza entertained a crowd of children, and their parents, who came to learn the story of how Oscar became a detective, and learned why crocodiles cry and why zebras wear stripes. The performances were interactive and highly engaging.

Prap and Roza are authors of children literature, whose work has been translated into many world languages. Prap's children books are available in the US in online book stores, and Roza's have been already introduced in Embassy's Newsletter (06-29-2007) as a part of a Slovenian – English children stories collection, Spominčice. The collection is also available online.

At The Crossroads: Slovenian Cinema

Washington, November 7 – 20 – As part of the *EU Film Showcase* festival, currently on view in Silver Spring, MD, Slovenian film industry is receiving a special attention.



A scene from Vesna, b\$w, 1953.

With a program of 8 Slovenian movies, from past and present times, Washington movie-goers will get a chance to really experience the Slovenian cultural character, country's expression of it's identity, and last but not least, it's take on the global narratives, as it is reflected through the Slovenian cinema.

Slovenia's turbulent history did not prevent this small nation to sustain it's national cinema, and the overview of Slovenian films on view at the AFI this month will be a reminder of just that.



Sweet dreams, 2001.

Theater and Cultural Center AFI Silver in Silver Spring offers detailed description of the movies' plots, schedule, and offers online ticket purchasing.

Visit [the web site](#) for more information.

Screening of a Documentary on Life of Janko Lavrin

November 19, 2008 – Embassy of Slovenia will host a screening of a documentary on life of Janko Lavrin on November 19, 2008 at 7 pm.

The documentary "**All Slovene, all Russian, all English, and all cosmopolitan - the portrait of Janko Lavrin (1887 – 1986)**" tells the life story of a Slovene intellectual, who spent most of his time abroad, first in Russia and then in Great Britain; but never forgot that he was a Slovene, born in Krupa, Bela krajina.

In 1915, as a young journalist he reported from the Balkan about World War I.

Although Lavrin continued his journalistic career in England, he soon found his life's calling as a literary historian, essayist and translator of Slavic literature. From 1923 until his retirement in 1953, Lavrin was professor of modern Russian literature at the University of Nottingham.

He was actively involved in organizing Slavic studies at other universities in Great Britain, e.g., in Glasgow and London.

For Slovenians, he was especially important as the ambassador of the Slovene literature.



Janko Lavrin

This documentary was produced by the screen writer and director Ana Nuša Dragan, who will be present at the screening. The event is free and open for the public.

Sabina Cvilak in Washington National Opera

Washington, November 8, 2008 - Slovenian soprano Sabina Cvilak will be for the second year in a row part of a performance, marking the opening of the fall season at the Washington National Opera.

Starting this weekend, Cvilak will perform as Micaëla in Georges

Bizet's Carmen. Next to such great name as Denyce Graves, who is known around the world for her portrayal of Carmen, Sabina Cvilak's performance is highly anticipated by opera lovers.



Sabina Cvilak

Cvilak's last year performances as a second cast for Mimi in *La Bohème* were remarkable. The reviews were extremely in favor of a young and promising Slovenian soprano, describing her efforts with "*Second Cast Gives First-Rate Account Of La Bohème*" (Washington Post, Sept. 21, 07).

The schedule for Carmen is available on the web site of the [Washington National Opera](#).

If you wish to read more on Sabina Cvilak, we suggest you visit the archives of the

September 2007 Embassy's Newsletter [on our web site](#).

International Club of DC Visits Slovenian Embassy

Washington, November 6 - In line with the motto of the International Club of DC, 'Discover Your City. Discover Your World', a group of Washington professionals paid a visit to the Embassy of Slovenia yesterday evening, for an introduction to the country's history and culture.



The event, organized by the Club for its members and accommodated by the Embassy, was hosted by the Embassy's Charge De Affair, Ms. Miriam Možgan, who introduced the Slovenian country and its people, and gave a brief talk on the current exhibit at the Embassy, *A River's Gifts: Archeological Excavation of the Ljubljanica River in Photographs*.

The weekly e-Newsletter is produced by the Embassy of Slovenia in Washington. The archive of the e-Newsletter is available [online](#). To subscribe or unsubscribe to the e-Newsletter please send an e-mail to: vwa@gov.si.