

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR CZECH HERITAGE



Vol. 5. No. 3. Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations
Sept. 1980 P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406.

President Frank W. Novotny appreciates the participation of the many members of the Heritage Foundation who helped at the Annual Picnic in August and on three days of the Festival on 16th Avenue S.W. in early September. Our organization operates so well because of your willingness to take part in projects. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL. FWN

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: as of Sept. 1, 1980 Our membership had a total of 843 people. Our newsletter goes to many members in 28 states: Alaska, Calif., Colo., Fla., Ill., Ind., Ia., Kan., Ken., Md., Mich., Minn., Mo., Neb., Nev., N.J., N.M., N.Y., Ohio, Okla., Ore., Penn., Tenn., Tex., Va., Wash., Wis., & Canada.

* Mark your 1981 Calendar on *
* January 19th, for the ANNUAL *
* MEETING of the Czech Heritage *
* and Fine Arts Foundations. *
* Details of time and place in *
* the next newsletter. . . . *

A GIFT MEMBERSHIP is \$3.00 per person and will bring many happy memories of the past and information about the present to readers of the newsletter. GIFT MEMBERSHIPS make happy holiday gifts and last the entire coming year. Send in \$3.00 for each individual and we will send out the gift certificate in your name, a newsletter, membership card to the person you honor with a membership! No delay - prompt attention to gifts. Send to PO Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia 52406. New memberships sent in NOW will be good for all of 1981

If you drive a car, perhaps you could bring other members or a guest to the Annual Meeting in January. Some folks do have a problem re: transportation in evening hours.

AN ENCORE TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Our Newsletter of June 1980 had a letter from Dr. John Wakefield about his experiences in Czechy during WW II. Soon after, Charles Vyskocil received a copy of the 2nd Division US Army newsletter, "The INDIAN HEAD" from Colonel Matt Konop, one of our members in Two Rivers, Wisconsin. The "shoulder patch" of the 2nd. Div. was an Indian head. In part, here is Col. Konop's "AN ENCORE TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA" which appeared in response to the Wakefield letter in an earlier issue of The INDIAN HEAD.

" . . . I say, Amen" to all you said. ..I went to Czechoslovakia ALONE last fall (1979) to..live with those nice people in CHODSKO area, which was liberated by the 2nd. I was told that I was the only one who ever came back...from our Division, Villages like KLENCI, MRAKOV, POSTRECOV, DOMAZLICE, HORSOVSKY TYNN, etc. before we took over Pilzen. People there remember the Division; even youngsters told me what their fathers and others told them about the 2nd. I saw shoulder patches of the Indianhead, also pictures with English comments signed by men and officers, still cherished by the people they liberated. . . those people still treat us with respect and love and still asking, "When are you coming back?" many times I was asked, "Why didn't you take Prague?" Why didn't you take Berlin?" I told them why!..and you know, too, Doc."

...was asked to autograph a book.. one of the pictures in it is of me on the shoulders of the people in Domazlice, May 4, 1945..that book is now forbidden for sale there...

(continued on page 6)

The pocket-size ČESKO-AMERICKÝ ZPĚVNIK has a collection of many familiar Czech folksongs, patriotic and national hymns and translations of some American songs. Here are a few samples: Yankee Doodle, America, Columbia the Gem of the Ocean, The Star Spangled Banner, and others.

Yankee Doodle, jen se drž
Yankee Doodle švihák
hudby a broku se drž
na holky's zabiják.

O Kolumbje, perlo oceánu
tys hrdin a svobodnych vlast

Tobě o vlasti má, krásná a svobodná
My county 'tis of thee, sweet land
of liberty -

O pověz co zřím ano svitá ráno
Oh! say can you see, by the dawn's
early light

Shall we gather about the old upright
piano and have a sing-a-long? ! ?

CZECH LANGUAGE CLASS - for Travelers Intermediate level. The class is taught by Charles Opatrny, 7 to 9 p.m. at Kennedy high school on Monday evenings. The class is small but meets the needs of individuals even those who consider themselves to be beginners. Classes start on September 22, continue for ten weeks. It is not too late to enroll now. Join the group as soon as you can. Senior citizens pay no fee! If you wish more information, phone Kveta Smith,



SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED
to 11 STUDENTS



In July, SBOR DAMSKE MATICE SKOLSKA, (Czech Women's Educational Society) awarded six scholarships of \$200 each to : Carol Polasek, U of Ia., Nancy Hogan, U of Ia., Linda Vyskocil, Kirkwood, whose award was from the Mrs. Pavla Hromadka Memorial Scholarship Fund. Renewals were to June Dvorak, U of Ia., Tim and Tom Drahozal, St. Gregory's College (Okla)

Senior students of Czech ancestry in the five high schools in C.R. are eligible for funds. Students should apply at school counsellor.



In July, KOMENSKY SOCIETY awarded five scholarships of \$300 each to Nancy Knight, Coe., Nancy Babor, UNI., Janelle Miller, U of Ia., Nancy Hogan, U of Ia., and Caroline Polasek, U of Ia. Senior students of Czech ancestry in the 15 high schools of Linn County are eligible to apply for these scholarships before the 1st of April. See school counsellor.



A LOGO - a TRADEMARK

The Czech Heritage Preservation Society, Tabor, S.D. has its own special LOGO. The outline shows a shield, left half 7 vertical red bars, right half a lion. Upper part has a blue bar at the left with 13 small stars; at the right a white horizontal white bar at the top and below a red bar.

While a LOGO should not be "too busy" with ideas, it should incorporate ideas of heritage, museum, library. Should a lion be a part of the design? Let's be thinking about the idea. If you have suggestions and comments, please send them to us.

E.F.K.

Those FROZEN SAINTS and SOPHIA When weather in May should warm up, the cold spell arrives. Good folks call this "ZMRZLI". Some say it is a legend. News media mention the event, gardeners worry. Who are these saints? Information was gathered from various issues of "KALENDARE".


PANGRAC (also Pangras), martyr in Rome during persecution under Emperor Diocletian. Died May 12, 304 A.D. Relics sent to England. Church in Canterbury named for him, 500 A.D.

SERVAC (also Servais, Servitus) was a bishop of Armenian origin. Was Bishop of Tongres, Belgium. d. May 13, 304 A.D.

BONIFACE of Tarsus, martyr, highly praised for his piety and direction of the See, Ferentim, Italy. His death was May 14. If readers or others can shed more information about these saints, let us hear from you.

SOPHIA brot the thaw with a kettle of hot water ! ? ! M.W.

POLKA DANCE has its **150th ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR.** In old Bohemia, Anna Slezak is said to have created a quick step to waltz music.

 Thus the POLKA came into being. The word POLKA comes from the word PŮLKA, meaning 1/2 step, thus a quick step. The dance took all Europe by storm, from peasant to nobility. It was in 1776, in Vienna, the first waltz appeared in one of the operas. Mozart, Chopin, Brahms, and Strauss composed waltz music.

C.E.K.

GLASS SCULPTURE. Some 100 years ago a glass factory started in Corning, New York. Today a new Corning MUSEUM OF GLASS was opened. There is a display of "3500 years of man's infatuation with a very fragile, useful, and elegant material." Of interest to our members is the large glass sculpture created by two Czechoslovakian artists, Stanislav Libenský and Jaroslava Brychtová. This work is in the main lobby of the new all glass building.

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE FAMOUS FOLKS?

A list of some 50 names was sent to us. Here is a partial list. What did each do to become famous?

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Thomas Garrigue Masaryk | |
| Karel Havlíček Borovský | |
| Dr. Myroslav Tyrš | |
| Bedřich Smetana | Edvard Benes |
| Milan Stefanek | Jan Neruda |
| Jindřich Fuegner | Mikulaš Ales |
| Frantisek Palacky | Jan Žižka |
| Alexander Dubček | Franz Kafka |
| Emmy Destinn | Rudolf Friml |
| Jan Amos Komensky | Klement Gottwald |
| Alois Jirasek | Antonin Dvořak |

C.R. NEWS dated 1884. One of the two Alderman in Ward 3, 1877-1878 was Frank Witousek. . . The original Adams School, 1867, cost \$5000. Later it burned. The replacement, 1877, cost \$11,500. . . Van Buren built in 1868, cost \$12,000; Monroe, 1873, cost \$17,000. . . Total enrolment of school age children: 3200, but the average daily attendance was 1500! Wonder what was going on! ? Salaries ranged from \$30 to \$50/month but at grammar and high school levels it was as much as \$60/month.

From the NEDĚLNÍ SVORNOST, 25, Listopad, 1934. Mrs. Clara Hoetzel of San Francisco sent us one of the pages. Here are a few "news" items from that year:

Czech letters written in the 14th and 15th centuries were translated to give examples of the "humanistic revival of classical knowledge and feelings... of the Renaissance period."

Some letters were from the ROSENBERG Family - a name familiar to many readers. Another letter asks that GEORGE of PODEBRAD release a priest who was taken at the capture of Prague. A letter to King Vaclav warned him of German intentions to harm him . . .

A concert on radio by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Viktor Kolar, was sponsored by Henry Ford.

Eight young Czechoslovak students would attend colleges in United States: U of Calif., Vassar, Cornell Univ., Mount Holyoke, ISC (Ames), Rollins (Fla.), Carleton (Minn.).

The five going over there will attend Charles University, Prague.



**EARLY CZECHS IN AMERICA
WHAT THEY READ AND SANG**



You will remember that the first newcomers from the Province of old Bohemia came to the Promised Land eager to become Americans and leave the Old Country in their past. And sometimes it is a wonder that the generations who followed even knew much about the villages from which their parents came. Yet, somehow, the language and culture did filter through the years to the present.

One example of this fierce desire to be a part of America appears in books published in the 1880's and later. Some of the works of Poe, Longfellow, Jules Verne, Lowell, Hawthorne and other authors were translated into Czech so the folks could get acquainted with American literature. (continued, page 2).
(upper left corner!)

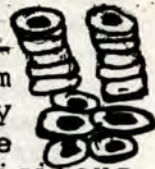


**NEWS! from the AVENUE
READ ALL ABOUT IT !**

The 7th Annual Czech Village Festival was a lively event of Czech music, contests, food and gaiety, browsing and shopping, reminiscing and reveling in things Czech. New this year were the Beer Garden at the Riverside Roundhouse, and the Polka Fest on Sunday which attracted a large enthusiastic crowd that enjoyed dancing as well as Czech food and drink !

At least 15,000 people attended the 3-day event. This year saw even more partners involved in hosting: St. Ludmila Church members ran the Beer Garden and baked thousands of those delicious kolaches; Hus Memorial Church members baked their special kolaches and other delicacies, and brought homemade, homesewn articles; the Sokols whose members also baked their goodies, displayed handmade items and sold them and demonstrated in public their quilting method.

Cedar Rapids JAYCEES, Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the Sheriff's and Fire Department personnel helped with the Raft Race; Traer's Czech Fest Marv Boldt who taught us to stage and win the kolach-eating contest; the City Fathers and Recreation Commission- all of whom helped us with the many, many logistic details that insure success with thousands of visitors present; and others who helped to judge events and appeared in the PARADE on Sunday.



We also Thank the many exhibitors of antiques and folk arts and crafts. Many demonstrated and instructed; the bands and dancers who are important to our celebrations; all of the news media for excellent coverage; the many businesses and organizations who promoted the Festival through advertising and other support means. Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations members, as always, were a great boost to the celebration.

Village News by Pat Martin,
Coordinator for Czech Village

The Czech Village Festival is fast becoming a city-wide event because of the network of interest and participation of the community.

OCT. 30 **NOV. 17th** **IOWA MAGAZINE**
↓ **COMING EVENTS ALERT**

OCTOBER 30th is the completion date for Czech Village sidewalk scape. Also coming-construction of public restrooms to the north of the Bandstand, planting of trees, two informational kiosks, a clock tower island and coordinatngly designed benches.

NOVEMBER 17 is Iowa Community Betterment Recognition Day in Des Moines. Czech Village has entered its new sidewalk scape in "neighborhood competition". Merchants from the Village will attend. Boddicker's Czech Combo and Folk Dancing Children will entertain at the noon banquet. Gov. Ray will attend the banquet.

DECEMBER issue of beautiful IOWA MAGAZINE will have a story about Czechoslovakians. Spotligning Cedar Rapids area will be pictures by Joan Liffing Zug as only she can photograph special views, sights, and scenes. You will want to get a copy.

BAKE-OFF WINNERS

The following received ribbons and cash awards for their entries on Sept. 6th at the Czech Festival : Mrs. Elsie Chadima, kolaches; Mrs. Pravomila, Geregova, fresh plum coffee cake; Mary Ellen Horak, rolls; Terezie Jakubcik, babovka, Bozi milosti; Martha Krejci, rolls, kolaches; Martha Kubik, Hoska; Angie Rohlena, hoska, kolaches.

The 7 judges were: Pat Fruehling, Marlys Heidt, Vicky Nicoll, Wayne Murdock, Zula Oujuri, Linda Sadler, Jane Zeaske. Did they have a time!

Registering the entries were Mary Ellen Besta, Libbie Fields, and Margaret Hahn. Keith Post was the Jolly Auctioneer. The items sold for a total of \$51.50 at the Bandstand auction in the afternoon (between showers!)

An ENCORE TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA (p.1)

Col.Konop tells that he was in the house where he and his driver slept May 3-4 before the rest of the 2nd Division arrived; the people had learned via grapevine that the American Army was only 10 km. away (about 6 plus miles). The Nazi mayor, police and others were placed in the prison in Pizen.

The Colonel also tells of a book in English on the history of the Czechs published in 1894. The volume tells of the religious turmoil in the 14-17 centuries. In the Preface, the author writes, " There are no people who fought harder, spilled more blood, gave more lives, suffered so much in their HUNDREDS OF YEARS of fighting for human rights, personal freedom, self-government, and recognition as a nation than the Czechs.


Col.Konop's comment is "When one considers that the writer said this in 1894..and did not know about WW I, about the German-Austrian domination, about Hitler, nor the Communists who having been not known when the book was written, also came the Act of 1949 and again in 1968, one can see in the eyes of Czechs today their feeling of having been abandoned, handed over to the wolves, forgotten, etc. I had to fight hard to keep from crying when I was there for two days last fall and hear them tell me their sad stories...."

" na shledanou" ..(means UNTIL WE FIND EACH OTHER)....
Matt

Col.Konop is active on the lecture circuit, meeting with local clubs and students. He is Historian of Wisconsin Czechs, Inc., The group was formed in 1979 and has a membership of over 500.

The Editor invites information on names of people to interview for stories for the newsletter, for articles that are suitable for the newsletter and of interest to our members. Let us consider your materials for future issues mms

The BARTERED BRIDE, OPERA will be presented on the stage of the Paramount Theater on Friday, Jan. 23 and Saturday, Jan. 24, 1981. Curtain at 8 p.m. Admissions at \$6, \$8, \$10, \$15. Tickets will be available after October 15th. Mail orders sent to C.R.Symphony Office 202 Dows Bldg., 210 - 2nd St. SE., Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52401. Office hours 9 to 5, Monday-Friday. The phone is 366-8203. Make up a party group now and you will be sure of reservations. B.L.T.

DONATIONS to Heritage Fdn. since July 1, 1980 have been made by the following:  Joseph & Esther Cervený, George Chadima, Elmer L. Benesh, Mr. & Mrs. Verle Krancik, Paul & Nancy Jerabek, Chuck & Ginny Jungman, John & Mary Kazimour, Mrs. Elmer Kloubec, Daniel K. Kopecky, Edna Lenicek, Victoria Polehna, Edward & Inez Popelka, Jack Skalicky, Elsie Sova, Mr. & Mrs. Godfrey Splichal, E. Stanek, Donald & Debra Stepanek, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. J. Stepanek, Leo J. Stodola, Ruth Stolba, Ione G. Stroleny, Mary M. Tichy, Edwin O. Tlustý, June E. Topinka, James S. Trcka, Rev. Louis J. Trzil, Sadie M. Vlách, Charles H. Vorel, and Frank J. Vrbický. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL. Some of these contributions will be used to make more materials that promote the Heritage Fdn. We are considering other items to add to the popular ABC Color Book, the History of Czechs in Cedar Rapids, and the postcards. Did you know that we have had four printings of the ABC books? Each edition has been for 2000 copies. C.H.V.

The expense of printing 900 copies of each page is considerable. Since we did not have material for page 7, it is blank so that the address and one item appear on the last page. So read on to the back page! Thanks.

DUES for those who have not yet sent in \$3.00 per person for 1981 can be paid anytime now. The 1980 dues expire Dec. 31, 1980

The names of August Heřmann and Bedřich Filipi have long been cited as among the earliest Czech settlers in Colonial America in the early 1600's. The story is that Filipi changed his name to Frederick Philips. He was also known as the "Merchant Prince of New Amsterdam" (now New York) .

This Editor wrote to the Sleepy Hollow Restorations in Tarrytown, New York, since they had quite a story of the Philipse manor nearby. The large square 2-story stone house is a "historic " site. Nearby are the graves of the families.

The reply: " Our Researchers in Holland have uncovered no Bohemian ancestry. Frederick Philipzen was born in Bolsweart about 1625. We conclude that Robert Bolton, author of that history, created a romantic Bohemian ancestry for the Philipse Family to go with the grandeur of 18th century manor life as he viewed it.

Alas, legends die hard! We do know that at the time of the Thirty Years War, 1618-1648, some 150,000 families fled from old Bohemia and settled in other western nations in Europe, France, Holland, England, Germany and others.

CZECH HERITAGE FDN.

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