

THE GUILDED PAGE

The Museum Guild of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



WINTER 2004

Dear Museum Guild Members:

On behalf of the Guild Executive Board, please accept my best wishes to you and your loved ones for the New Year 2004. Let's hope it is a joyful, productive and successful one!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as President this term, especially with such a talented group of Guild officers. It will certainly be a challenge to fill the shoes of Gary and Beula Dvorak! I can vouch that this Executive Board will do our best to continue in the legacy of the previous officers, and keep this organization as successful and vibrant as it is today.

The year ahead of us will keep us all busy carrying out our principal function: *Supporting the mission of the Museum*. Our traditional fundraisers are planned, and perhaps new ones will be discussed. But before going far into the future, let me congratulate everyone on doing such a wonderful job at our 4th Annual Cookie Walk last December! What a delight to watch Irma Kelly and all others who came to lend a hand in every aspect of this important fundraiser. The cookies were fancier and better than ever!

Even though the actual sale was slightly lower than in 2002, several donations including a very generous one from John Kuba, helped bring Cookie Walk proceeds close to our goal —velka vdaka (big thanks)!

At our first meeting in January, I asked members to sign up to volunteer in the Guild committees. Vacant committee chair positions are listed in the following pages, but we also need to fill in member positions. I hope you will give every consideration to volunteer — the sign-up sheets will be again available at the meeting on February 7th. You can also call me or other Guild officers whether you'd like to help. The list of the new Guild Officers and their phone numbers are on one of the next pages.

I look forward to our year ahead.
S pozdravom,
Andrea (Kováčová) Siebenmann, President

Note: To those of you who may not know me, my roots are in Slovakia, where I was born in the city of Nitra, and where I spent 28 years of my life before coming to the United States 10 years ago.

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THANK YOU

The Guild Membership extends a big Thank You for a job well done to the 2003 Board: Beula Dvorak, President, and to Board Members Andrea Seibenmann, Virginia Wilts, Shirley Alexander, Alicia Jackson, Leo Modracek and Gary Dvorak.

The Guild of
**The National Czech & Slovak
Museum & Library**
2003 Annual Report
*Presented at the National Czech & Slovak
Museum & Library Annual Meeting*
January 20, 2004

The past year was again rich in Guild activities and support. We held monthly meetings with educational programs throughout the year. Among the presenters were various outside speakers, Guild members, and the Museum staffers who provided information for the Guild volunteers on two temporary exhibits installed in 2003.

Our traditional fundraisers - The Taste of Czech and Slovak in May, and the 4th Annual Cookie Walk in December - were repeated in 2003. Both events were highly successful and received a generous support by all Guild members. The fundraisers brought in enough funds to allow the Guild keep contributing to the Museum's Endowment Fund, to support its temporary exhibit and a purchase of the sound system. The Guild will continue with these fundraisers in the year 2004, mainly to be able to provide the funds it committed to deliver in 2004 and 2005. Proceeds from the sale of the Guild cookbook remain to be another important stream of the Guild's income. However, a diminishing supply of the cookbook has induced the planning of a new cookbook. The collection of recipes and the actual print are pending, and depend upon the financial assistance from other local groups.

A primary clause in the Guild's mission statement mandates support of the Museum's activities and programs. The Guild demonstrates this every year through the volunteer work of its members. In 2003, countless volunteer hours facilitated the

function of the main and temporary exhibits, such as the opening of the Czech Glass exhibit in February and the Liberation exhibit in October. Other events that the Guild supported were the History Conference in March, several musical concerts, the 2nd Dance Festival in July, the Fall Dinner, the Christmas Open House at the Museum store and many more. Most importantly, last year's "Ask Me" campaign of the Museum was a great success also thanks to the efforts of several Guild members who, out of 116 total, sold 74 new Museum memberships.

In specific numbers, 71 Guild members volunteered a total of 6,302 hours during 2003. Translated into an in-kind value of the work provided, we saved the Museum over \$32,000. As part of their volunteer work, Guild members presented at Learn at Lunch programs, manned the Museum store and the exhibits, taught Czech language to other Guild members as well as the Museum staff, led classes on traditional crafts, baked cookies and kolache, cooked and served meals, and weeded the garden - just to mention a few of their contributions. Despite every effort of Patty Hikiji to account for each hour donated, still many hours go unrecorded. But we are working to improve this situation.

The Guild membership held steady throughout 2003, averaging around 105 members. In the past year, we lost three due to death. The absence of Sylvia Rohlena, Betty Petrzalek and Mary Ann Pochobradsky will be profoundly felt. However, at the same time we welcomed 12 new members, bringing the membership count to 108 as of December 31, 2003. We hope our numbers will continue to grow in the coming year as well.

It goes without saying that the dedication and compassion of the Guild as a whole results in the overall success of the Museum keeping the Czech and Slovak heritage in the U.S. alive and well. We will do our best to help the Museum maintain this reputation in the future.

— Andrea Siebenmann
2004 Guild President

2004 MUSEUM GUILD OFFICERS

President	Andrea Siebenmann
Vice President	Shirley Alexander
Treasurer	Virginia Wilts
Rec. Secretary	Carolyn Holubar
Corres. Secretary	Betty Truesdell
Museum Guild Rep.	Leo Modracek
Ex-Officio	Beula Dvorak

2004 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Education	Bob Stone
Fund Raising	VACANT
Cookbook (Special Comm)	Beula Dvorak
Garden	Vicky Cekelis
History & Property	Marge Stone
Membership	Milly Ortner
Program	Zula Oujiri
Publications	Marilyn Tucker
Public Relations	VACANT
Social	Irma Kelly
Volunteer Coordinator	Patty Hikiji



The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library Calendar of Events

Note: All events are at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, unless otherwise noted. Times are subject to change. Open Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Closed Mondays until May 1. The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, 30 16th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Call (319) 362-8500 for information

FEBRUARY 2004

Feb. 2 - Mar. 22, 2004: Czech Language Class. Learn the basics of this beautiful language with Charles Opatrny. Class size limited to 15 students. (classes open to only volunteers, members and staff). Mondays from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Heritage Hall. Class fee is \$50.00. To enroll, call Jan Stoffer Tursi at (319) 362-8500.

Feb. 29, 2004: Life Long Learning. "The Czech and Slovak Legions in Siberia" by Dr. Joan Mohr. Mohr's specialties include the Czechoslovak Legions in Siberia and U.S. immigration history with an emphasis on Czechs and Slovaks. 2:00 p.m. Heritage Hall. Free. Sponsored by Humanities Iowa, a state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Vicky Cekelis

Colton O. Sanchez

Bonnie Stepanek

Address change effective February 18, 2004:
Betty Truesdell

MARCH 2004

Mar. 20, 2004: St. Joseph's Day and the 3rd Annual National Koláče Bake-Off. Join us for this fun annual event! Every year the koláče bakers bring us wonderful samples of these tasty Czech and Slovak treats. Koláč bakers are invited to submit their entries in the following categories: Open Koláč, Closed Koláč, or Specialty Koláč (including the large traditional Czech koláč and koláč with non-traditional fillings). Participants are encouraged to use their own special family recipe. Prizes will be awarded to first place winners in each category as selected by a panel of distinguished judges. A People's Choice Prize will also be awarded. Prizes will be awarded at 3:00 p.m.

Time: 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m. Heritage Hall. Tickets are \$1.00 for five samples or \$0.25 for one sample. Please enter by March 17, 2004. For more information or to register, please call (319) 362-8500 or consult the web site at WWW.NCSML.ORG.

April 2004

April 17: MUZIKA opens. Guild Members training for MUZIKA exhibit will be at the April 3 meeting.

For updated program information, please check out our web page at www.ncsml.org or contact **Jan Stoffer Tursi at (319) 362-8500** or

Editors note: This is a brief listing of scheduled events that will be of special interest to Guild members. For a complete listing please refer to the January KALENDAR of events (it's a bright yellow) that all Museum members received in the mail.

Mandatory Training Session

From: Jan Stoffer Tursi

A mandatory training session for all NCSML volunteers and docents is scheduled for Saturday, March 13, 2004 from 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. This training will include NCSML Security and Emergency Procedures.

The NCSML staff thanks the Museum Guild for endorsing this training session, and we look forward to seeing you all at the session.



MEETING MINUTES THE MUSEUM GUILD OF NATIONAL CZECH & SLOVAK MUSEUM & LIBRARY

Held at NCSML on Nov. 1, 2003
at 9:30 A.M.

President Beula Dvorak called the meeting to order. Andrea Siebenmann led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jan Stoffer Tursi presented information on the new exhibit. "Liberation" and gave handouts to gallery volunteers. She reviewed each section and took us on a guided tour of the exhibit gallery. She also spoke of reopening of Immigrant House.

Refreshments were served by Barbara Aguirre, JoAnne Neff and Patty Marolf, along with a beautiful international doll collection display, enjoyed by everyone.

Betty Clark who assisted with the doll display was a visitor.

New members welcomed were Bonnie Stepanek, Vicky Cekelis plus Dorothy and Ellsworth Voelkers.

CZECH WORD OF DAY

Given by Milly Ortner was Nova Výstava, meaning "New Exhibit"

Secretary's Report: August, September and October minutes were printed in Guilded Page.

Corresponding Secretary: Alicia Jackson reported a note from Helen Christophersen with a donation for the Cookie Walk, and a "Thank You" for the Dance Festival Brunch from Dick & Sue Miller, dance participants. A "Thinking of You" card was sent to Irma Modracek and a Sympathy card to Vera Hanson.

Treasurer's Report:

Virginia Wilts reported a balance of \$4,339.09 as of 10/31/03. \$111.45 was paid to Marilyn Tucker for newsletter expenses. Gary Dvorak moved and Vera Conway seconded the motion to accept report and pay bill.

Museum Representative: No report. Beula thanked the group for sending she and her husband to the Annual Fall Dinner.

Museum Volunteer Coordinator: No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fundraising: Irma Kelly passed sign up sheets for Cookie Walk Workers & cookies.

She asked each person for inclusion of cookie recipes and name. No board meeting will be held on December 13. But a breakfast will be served by the board at 8:30 to workers followed by preparation for Cookie Walk to be held from 10:00 to noon.

Membership: Milly Ortner reminded dues are due:

Program: Zula Oujiri announced January 3 meeting will be a "Member Treasures" Hostesses will be Barbara Aguirre and JoAnne Neff.

Publications: Again, Marilyn Tucker was thanked for excellent production of Autumn "Guilded Page".

OLD BUSINESS

Beula gave the cook book report from the Board, suggesting international involvement with a Library Congress ID number and a tie in with the museum theme in 2005. She explained a sheet copy of ideas for special family history features, also asking for volunteers for the Core Committee. Irma Kelly moved we proceed with the project in 2004. Lillian Kopecky seconded and motion was carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Betty Truesdell reported from a nominating committee that included Vera Conway and Marj Nejdil on the following officers for year 2004:

President: **Andrea Siebenmann**
Vice President: **Shirley Alexander**
Recording Secretary: **Carolyn Holubar**

Corresponding Secretary: **Betty Truesdell**

Treasurer: **Virginia Wilts**
Nominations from the floor were asked for. Leo Modracek moved acceptance of slate and casting a unanimous vote. Milly Ortner second and vote carried.

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING

Betty Krall won a cookbook printed by Brennan Printing and Rose Kofron a Marj Nejdil designed flower pot with artificial flowers.

CONCLUSION:

Gary Dvorak moved adjournment. Motion carried with next Guild activity to be the Cookie Walk on December 13, 2003 from ten AM until noon.

— Respectfully submitted by
Shirley Alexander

MUSEUM GUILD
December 13, 2003
Cookie Walk

The board provided a brunch for the workers and the only "meeting" to report was the handing of the gavel from Beula to Andrea and a round of applause for Beula and the great job she did as president.

We sadly said Good-bye to Laurie Robinson and wished her the best in La Cross, WI.

The Guild members really out did themselves in the number of cookies brought. There were several pounds left and packaged to be sold in the museum store this week.

— Respectfully submitted by
Shirley Alexander





MEETING MINUTES THE MUSEUM GUILD OF NATIONAL CZECH & SLOVAK MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

Held at NCSML on January
3, 2004 at 9:30 AM.

President Andrea
Siebenmann called the
meeting to order and Shirley
Alexander led the Pledge of
Allegiance.

There were no new visitors.

No new members were
present.

CZECH WORD OF THE
DAY given by Milly Ortner
was: snídaně meaning
"breakfast"

Secretary's Report:
December was the Cookie
Walk.

Treasurer's Report: given by
Virginia Wilts: Checking
Acct. Balance as of 11-30-03
\$4878.67. Deposit of
\$1024.93, Disburse \$30.
Checking Acct. Balance as
of 12-31-03 \$5873.60. No
disbursements.

No report from the Museum
Representative.

Museum Volunteer
Coordinator: Patty Hikiji
gave a Volunteer Summary
Report for the year 2003.
Number of members
recording hours 71.
Number of hours recorded by
the Guild members 6302.
I have the report from Oct.,
Nov., and Dec. if anyone
cares to review it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Fundraising: Cookie Walk
took in \$757.55

Sold 19 boxes of cookies in
the Gift Shop for a total of
\$69.00.

Sold two aprons.
Sold two cookbooks
Total: \$926.55

Social Committee: Marilyn
and Bob Tucker and Betty
Truesdell will treat us in
February.

Membership:
Colton O. Sanchez joined the
Guild per his Grandparents
Mel and Carolyn Holubar.
So far he is our youngest
member at age 10.

Program Committee:
In February will have a
speaker from the "Granger
House" Museum in Marion,
Iowa.
The Museum garden was also
discussed: A report will be
given at the next meeting.

Publications: Marilyn
Tucker asked that she receive
news articles to be published
by the 10th of Jan. The
"Guilded Page" will be
mailed on Jan. 28th.
A list of classes will be listed
for the coming year.

Education: Bob Stone
There is a special event:
Coe College Forum. "The
Czech Republic: Legacies
and Opportunities in a New
Europe". Held on Jan. 8, 15,
22 and 29 at Hickok Hall,
from 9:15 the 11:30 AM.
Cost is \$30.00 and includes a
Continental Breakfast from
8:45 to 9:15 AM.

Bob also mentioned that a lot
of visitors to the Museum
frequently ask questions of
the volunteer guides.
At one time, Linn County
possibly was at the turn of the

century, 1/3 Cedar Rapids
residents claimed Czech
ethnic ties. This statement
was from a magazine.
Bob said that we must tell the
truth regarding this.
35.5 % are German
17.1 % are Irish
9.4 % are English
7.8 % Czech
1/10 of 1 % Slovak.

Old Business:
No report.

New Business:
A sheet was distributed for
Committee sign up.

The Auditing Committee will
include Bob Stone and two
other members.

17 people attended the
Christmas Cookie Workshop,
it was such fun. Plans will
possible be made to schedule
it again for next year.

Door Prize Drawing:
Marilyn Tucker won the door
prize – a cookbook from
Traer, Iowa.

Betty Truesdell showed a doll
she received at the age of 3,
from her grandmother whom
she never met.

JoAnne Neff showed a
necklace from her daughter,
of layered glass; designed
using only silver wire to hold
it.

Andrea Siebenmann showed
ID Cards from the Czech and
Slovak Socialist Republic,
"Socialist Union of Youth",
when she was a child.

Conclusion:
Irma Kelly moved to adjourn
at 10:35 AM.
Next Guild Meeting will be
on Saturday, Feb. 7, 2004.

Respectfully submitted by
Carolyn Holubar

Museum Guild Program
November 1, 2003
"New Exhibit"

In preparation for the Museum's new exhibit "*Liberation! World War I and the Formation of Czechoslovakia*", Jan Stoffer Tursi, staff director of program and education, presented a wealth of information not only verbally but written material as well. After the presentation, we were able to view the excellent exhibit, which covers World War I and the formation of Czechoslovakia.

Jan chronicled events leading up to the war during and after, and how it affected Czechoslovakia. Each Guild member was given a 34 page packet of World War I history and events. She also included maps, Articles of War, and dictionary of terms.

I am sure Jan spent many long hours researching and compiling this information. We thank Jan and Curator Carmen Langel for their dedication.

— Betty Truesdell



Betty Neme-Truesdell and her childhood doll

Classes by Instructor JoAnne Neff

February 12-19-26	Birds and Nest Materials \$7.50
March 11-18-25	Easter Egg Materials \$6.00
May 6-13-20	Vase with Iris Materials \$10.00
June 10-17-24	Lamp (porcelain) Materials \$15.00
July 8-15-22	Christmas in July Materials \$7.50
October 7-14-21	Pitcher with wild roses and blue birds Materials \$10.00
November 6-11-18	Christmas project Materials TBA
December 2- 9	Ornaments Materials \$7.50

To enroll in classes contact Jan Stoffer Tursi at (319) 362-8500 or jan@NCSML.org. Class fee is \$25.00. Material fee is as noted above.

Museum Guild Program
January 3, 2004
"Member Treasures"

Two members shared their personal treasures with us; Betty Truesdell and Andrea Siebenmann.

Betty Truesdell shared her 30 inch cloth doll from her childhood. Betty's Dad, Jerry Neme, was an immigrant who arrived in the United States in 1905 from Velim, a small village in Bohemia.

When Betty was three years old he returned to his homeland to visit his family, especially his elderly mother. When he returned, he presented the beautiful doll to Betty from her grandmother, whom she was never to meet.

Even though the doll was Betty's playmate for many years, she doesn't recall giving her a name. Now, bedraggeled and missing an arm, the doll still remains as part of Betty's memorabilia. A picture of Betty as a child with her doll was also presented.

Andrea Siebenmann, our current Guild president, told us about her childhood in the former Czechoslovakia. She was born and raised in what is now an independent Slovakia (former Slovak Socialist Republic, a part of the former Czecho-Slovak Federal Republic), and calls Nitra her hometown. Andrea came to the United States ten years ago, January 10, 1994.

While in elementary school, she belonged to the Socialist Union of Youth and became first a member of the "Spark" level of the Union (early elementary school grades). Then she described the Pioneer Oath, which made her a "Pioneer" level member of the Union. At this point, she passed around photos, showing Andrea and her little classmates wearing blue shirts with a little red scarf tied around their necks, and grey pants/skirts, all lined up in front of a war memorial where the oath took place (it was in the city of Tatranska Lomnica in High Tatras).

Later, during her high school and college years, she was still a member of the Socialist Youth, plus had to sign up for a membership in the Union of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship. As proof, she showed us the stamp booklets, where each stamp represented each year of her membership (the latest one from 1988).

At the end, Andrea concluded her presentation by telling us about the Velvet Revolution of 1989, how it changed her outlook at her childhood, and the quest of all citizens of Czechoslovakia for the true identity of their country. She passed around several magazines with photo captions from November of 1989.





TOP TEN GUILD VOLUNTEERS

OCTOBER 2003

Number of Guild members recording hours in October — **53**

Number of Guild Hours recorded — 622.75

Lenora Watson	42.00
Ann Kloubec	40.75
Dolores Usher	40.00
Marilyn Tucker	35.50
Shirley Alexander	35.25
Alicia Jackson	26.00
Charles Opatrny	24.00
Carolyn Holubar	22.00
Ed Hemphill	20.50
Joan Hemphill	20.50
Lydia Elias	19.75

NOVEMBER 2003

Number of Guild members recording hours in November — **50**

Number of Guild Hours recorded — 593.50

Ann Kloubec	53.75
Dolores Usher	27.50
Marj NejdI	23.00
Shirley Alexander	21.00
Lillian Kopecky	21.00
Willie Fields	20.50
Carolyn Holubar	20.50
Charles Opatrny	20.00
Ed Hemphill	19.00
Zula Oujiri	17.50
Irma Rozek	17.50
Lenora Watson	17.00
Alicia Jackson	13.50

DECEMBER 2003

Number of Guild members recording hours in December — **47**

Number of Guild Hours recorded — 613.50

Ann Kloubec	70.50
Dolores Usher	44.00
Marj NejdI	30.50
Andrea Siebenmann	28.75
Shirley Alexander	28.50
Charles Opatrny	26.00
Beula Dvorak	24.50
Carolyn Holubar	21.00
Willie Fields	19.00
Inez Popelka	18.00

Top Ten List for 2002

Dolores Usher	346.00
Bob Stone	273.75
Alicia Jackson	243.25
Irma Modracek	227.50
Lillian Kopecky	212.00
Marj NejdI	205.50
Inez Popelka	205.00
Laverne Fisher	193.00
Leo Modracek	164.75
Shirley Alexander	161.00

Number of Guild members recording hours in **2002 — 68**

Number of hours recorded by Guild members in **2002 — 6145**

Top Ten List for 2003

Dolores Usher	420.75
Shirley Alexander	283.25
Ann Kloubec	270.50
Charles Opatrny	213.50
Lydia Elias	203.25
Alicia Jackson	195.25
Ed Hemphill	187.50
Marj NejdI	186.50
Carolyn Holubar	185.00
Marilyn Tucker	171.75

Number of Guild members recording hours in **2003 — 71**

Number of hours recorded by Guild members in **2003 — 6302**

~ NOTES ~ FROM PATTY

Those participating in the October 4th "Garden Party" to clean up the NCSML Gardens and get the areas ready for Spring were:

- Shirley Alexander
- Vicky Cekelis
- Lydia Elias
- Vera Hanson
- Bonnie Holubar
- Carolyn Holubar
- Irma Kelly
- Gail Naughton
- Colton Sanchez
- Kay Holubar Sanchez

A big Thank You to all!

— Patricia A. Hikiji

THE GUILDED PAGE

Marilyn Shima Tucker
Editor



MEETING NOTICE

Saturday

February 7, 2004

UPCOMING GUILD MEETINGS

Saturday, February 7, 2004

9:30 a.m. at the

National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

"GRANGER HOUSE"

Presented by Sue Harold-Sprague

Hosts: Betty Truesdell and Marilyn and Bob Tucker

~~~~~  
**Saturday, March 6, 2004**

9:30 a.m. at the

National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

**"WICKIUP HILL - Linn County Conservation"**

Presented by Gail Burel

Hosts: Mel and Carolyn Holubar and Emil Koval

~~~~~  
Saturday, April 3, 2004

9:30 a.m. at the

National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

New NCSML Exhibit -

"Muzika! A Celebration of Czech and Slovak Music"

Presented by Jan Stoffer Tursi

Hosts: TBA
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From the Board and Membership of  
The Museum Guild . . .

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY**

to

Guild Member Vera Hanson

on the loss of her husband this past summer  
and to

Guild Member Marlene Schrimper  
on the loss of her husband Vernon Schrimper

\*\*\*\*\*

We are so sorry to lose and will dearly miss  
three wonderful Guild Members - our good friends:

**BETTY PETRZALEK**

**MARY ANN POCHOBRADSKY**

**INEZ POPELKA**

We extend our deepest sympathy  
to their families and friends