

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR CZECH HERITAGE



Vol.3 No.4 Czech Heritage and Czech Fine Arts Foundation
Dec.1978 P.O.Box 761 Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

JAN. 15

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Business Meetings of Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations will be

January 15, 1979, Monday
Community Room, Peoples Bank
Third Ave., SW, at 7:30 P.M.

Reports of year's events by the officers of both Foundations; then election of officers and board of directors for each group. Social Hour ..Anyone willing to donate some goodies for refreshments, drop a note to PO Box 761, CR 52406 and tell us what and how many; or phone Social Committee chairperson, Jitka Schaffer,

Bring yourself and a possible guest who will become a member ! ! ! ! !

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PRE-NEW YEAR EVE PARTY

The Sokols extend an invitation to all members of Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations to join them for the evening of December 30th, a Saturday, at Sokol Hall, 415 - 3rd Street S.E. ; 8:00 P.M. to 12:00

Czech folk music by Joe Pazour and Associates .
About 10:30 there will be a pot luck lunch. Meat and coffee will be furnished. Those attending please bring a covered dish and table service.

The cost is only \$2.00 per person. This cost covers music, party hats, noisemakers and reserves table space for you. You MUST have ticket or your confirmed reservation no later than Dec.27th. Call Bob Kubik, 396-4042.. or Joe Pazour, 363-1778. This offers all an opportunity to socialize and have a good time. . .

Dec. 30

4:20

8 PM

ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP

Members of Czech Heritage Foundation are eligible to -

1. vote at annual meetings
2. become officers or members of the Board of Directors
3. send your suggestions of names of members to be placed before the Nominating Committee
4. take part in projects & activities of Czech Fine Arts Fdn.
5. order tickets for special events such as the Bělčik concert if you do not have a ticket
6. enjoy picnics
7. attend receptions which the Foundations arrange for distinguished guests and visitors
8. VOLUNTEER to be active on some committee work, help at the Museum and Library
9. attend monthly meetings of the Board of Directors-share your ideas and suggestions
10. AND you have the pleasure and also the satisfaction of knowing you are supporting our work to preserve Czech culture and our heritage.

* * * * *

TEST MAILING for NEW MEMBERS

We sent out 200 letters with the recipients' names selected at random from the telephone book. Our returns to date resulted in 60 new members or a 30% return as well as donations totaling \$119.00. This brings our membership to 589 members.

The Chamber of Commerce has estimated that there are 35,000 residents of Czech ancestry in Cedar Rapids with 3,700 of these born in Czechoslovakia. So you see, we have barely scratched the surface. (contd)

As far as membership is concerned we should have a roster of thousands if each present member talked it up and obtained one or more new members. We could dramatically increase our membership to over 1,000. WHY don't we all try it? Our organization will be only as large or good as YOU can make it? C.E.K.

* * * * *

SPEAKERS BUREAU

Soon it will be time to send in the report of the number of talks, an estimate of audience numbers, kinds of talks you presented during the present year. Add if you used slides. What kinds of groups did you meet? Add any other comments. Please send this information to V.P. Frank Novotny so he can prepare the yearly report for the annual meeting in January. Send to [redacted]

(Frank Novotny) . .

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ABOUT DUES 1979

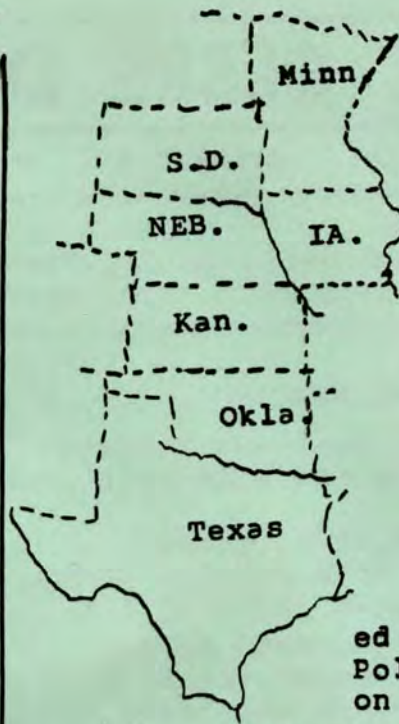
If you have not sent in your dues for the coming year, you will find a golden-rod colored form with this letter. Dues are from January 1 to December 31. So act NOW.

THIS IS THE ONLY REMINDER YOU WILL RECEIVE. TUCK IT IN AN ENVELOPE ALONG WITH YOUR CHECK AND MAIL NOW.

If you add a donation, please say if it is for Heritage Fdn, or for Fine Arts for Museum-Library funds.

In the event you mailed your dues just before the newsletter arrived we appreciate your continued membership. You might pass the dues form to some interested person . OR- use it for a paid-up membership as a CHRISTMAN GIFT for a friend, or a relative, neighbor or others. . . .

Charles Vyskocil has received several honors and recognition as he completes FIFTY YEARS with the Western Fraternal Life Association. He has been President for 12 years. We add our CONGRATULATIONS for a job well done. We appreciate his years serving on our Board of Directors.



CZECH FESTIVALS ELSEWHERE

Polka Days in DURANT, IOWA, are exactly that: in no way could it be compared to our Czech Days in Czech Village.

Along Durant's Main Street, five flatbed trailers were parked at intervals. These were the bandstands from which Czech bands played for an hour or two. Polka dancers whirled on the black top.

Food was sold by organizations. The aroma of bratwurst and kraut was everywhere. Beer could be bought "every few feet".

Nowhere were there demonstrations of Czech culture or crafts. In fact I never saw a kolach!

The events lasted two days, starting at 1:00 P.M. and ending at 12:00. Usually the event is the week-end after Labor Day. Durant is some 20 miles west of Davenport.

* * * * * C.E.Krejci

The town of GIBBON, MINNESOTA, has a population of 700-800 and attracts some 75,000 people during their 4 day Polka Fest. Motels in the area are completely reserved one year in advance. We had a reservation at Redwood Falls, 35 miles west of Gibbon. Made reservation one year in advance.

Gibbon has 14 acres of parking around the buildings where the Fest is held. Even so, parking was at a premium-what with hundreds of mobile homes, campers and tents taking up most of the acres. Many had arrived on Monday to establish a parking spot! Admission is \$3.00 per person.

Six different areas had bands playing at the same time : 4 inside buildings, one on a special floor

on the street and one in a huge tent in which food and drinks were served as well as sale of records, tapes, gifts and crafts. Meals of good quality, beer and soft drinks were reasonable in price.

A company from New Prague had a large display of concertinas. Accordians sold from \$1100 to \$ 5000, all of them custom built and beautifully decorated. Sheet music and records were also for sale.

All of the bands were top-notch and well received. People came from as far away as Seattle, Washington; and license plates on many vehicles were from many states. We visited with people who travel from one fest to another the country over. Distance did not seem to be a deterrant!

People brought their own drinks - we had not observed this at other fests. Trouble was that as these people moved from one area to another they left empty bottles, cans, glasses, sacks and boxes and a mess on tables or booths they had occupied. There were containers for litter but the mess destroyed the neat - clean appearance that we experienced at other fests. Tables and booths are on a reservation basis making it difficult to find a place to sit.

We don't plan to attend this fest again but had heard so much about it at Omaha and Lincoln that we wanted to investigate it! We still think that the Omaha setup is the best and most convenient of all fests we have attended. Martha Krejci

THANKS TO THE KREJCIS FOR THIS CHANCE FOR ALL OF US TO ATTEND TWO FESTS IN OTHER PLACES.

* * * * *

The Editor of the Newsletter drove to YUKON, OKLAHOMA, for Czech Days there, held early in October. There was a parade lasting some 50 minutes floats, high school bands, marching groups, scouts, campfire, Shriner groups from Oklahoma City, riding clubs on horseback, old cars and wagons, and many other sights.

One street was blocked off for booths. Not much in line of foods was available. Plenty of kolaches were on hand. Polka bands played in an open area with a tent and chairs for the audience.

After 5 P.M. the streets were clear Except for a dance that evening, there was nothing more. The dance and dinner(\$10.00) were some 2½ miles out in the country.

* * * * *

By contrast CEDAR RAPIDS CZECH DAYS in the VILLAGE has contests as the bake-off, dunk the merchant, bale toss, carp fishing, games, a parade, polka music and dancing, events in the bandstand, strolling accordian players, demonstrations of hand-work, making noddles, egg coloring, sand painting, open shops, flea market and much more.

Our merchants make a festive event and work hard to attract people and shoppers. Also HOUBY DAYS will be held again come spring 1979 !

SO! the Avenue has many sided offerings and "something for everybody" as the slogan goes . . .

IN REMEMBRANCE

To the families of the several members of Czech Heritage Foundation who have lost a loved one this year, we extend our deepest sympathy.

In the 12th century regular public mail service existed in PRAGUE. Men wore uniforms & were paid by the city.

CARL KANE, member of Czech Heritage, had a feature article in the Gazette in which he mentions "kolaches".."souise".."Kolaches at Farmer's Mkt".."Bohemian rye bread right out of the oven".."the Czech Museum" . . .

CHARLES VAVRA, Institute of Polar Studies, Ohio State University at Columbus, took a SOKOL flag with him on an Antarctic Expedition last yr. He was a geology assistant .

The following item appeared in a Cech newspaper :

150 let rychtářství v rodě.
 V rodině Aloise Bartunka, starosty obce Jeníkov u Hlinska, uchovaly se cenné památky na dávne předky tohoto rodu, který hospodář na usedlosti čp. 27 několik staletí. Nejcennější památkou jsou náboženské knihy. Jsou to modlitby z roku 1652, bible Česká s r. 1780, a Nový zákon z roku 1778. Zápisní kniha, pocházející z roku 17. století, obsahuje různé zápisy a rady. Všechny knihy jsou v původní kožené vazbě, a jsou celkem zachovalé. O stáří tohoto selského rodu svědčí, že patří k nejstarším rodům v okolí a kromě toho jeho stáří připomínají i tři lipy, vysázené předky ze stavením. Dvě jsou prý z nich asi 400 let. Není také bez zajímavosti, že v rodě Bartunkově se drží rychtářství již nejméně 150 let. I dnešní majitel statku je starostou obce.

150 YEARS MAYORSHIP IN FAMILY

In Alois Bartunek family, the mayor of Jenikow, Bohemia, are preserved priceless heirlooms and memorabilia which have been in the family for several centuries.

Most valuable items are religious books, prayer books, from year 1652, Nový Zakon, 1778, Česka (Czech) Bible, 1780; Record Book beginning in the 17th century, containing various legal entries, advices.

All books are in original leather bound and are wholly preserved. Of the age of this land-owner's family is proof that it belongs among the oldest families in the area. Attesting to this, also, are 3 linden trees, planted by the family forbears, behind the homestead. Two of these are about 400 years old.

Of note, also, is the fact that Mayorship has been held by the Bartunek at least 150 years. Even the present landlord is Mayor Bartunek of Jenikow.

Note: Hlinsko, Jenešov are in Chrudim county, writes Mrs. Rose Bartunek K. Polehna who sent in the item. Also, " We are not direct descendents of this family but originally we were. Our Dad was born in Jenikow and came from there."

Mrs. Fern Fackler found this item in the Guinness Book of World Records - " - - - Rarist speech sound is probably the sound of ř in Czech which occurs in very few languages, and is the last sound mastered by Czech children."

T.B. Hlubucek recalls early days at our Czech School. In the Museum we have the marble plaque from the school on which is engraved the date 1901 and the line saying that the

furnishings of the school were the gift of Vaclav F. Severa. Ted recalled this gift in his letter. He taught a class in 1920 and many years later, too. Sixty-four boys and girls were in that class. Jan Fiala and Otilie Tupec were teachers. Ted and Fiala played violins and this added singing lessons and the subject of Czech music history. Ted directed plays at the CSPS Hall. He speaks of Editor J.J. Hayek who acted as prompter at the Czech plays.

CZECH VILLAGE Friends and Customers,

You're First On Our Christmas List!



Beginning Nov. 24, our Merchants invite you to register at their Shops & Businesses for our "Czech Village Christmas Darovani (Giveaway). Winners will be notified on December 23rd.

- Sykora Bakery
- Joens Brothers Interiors, Inc.
- Czech Closet
- Babi Sweet Shop
- Kosek's Dime & Dollar Store
- Ernie's Avenue Tavern
- Novak's Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc.
- 16th Avenue Meat Market
- Avenue Floral by Pierson's
- Coast To Coast Stores
- Czech Inn
- Arbuckle's Emporium
- Czech Cottage Gifts
- Konecny's Restaurant
- Saddle & Leather Shop, Inc.
- Olde Towne Inn
- Boddicker School of Music
- Paul's Barber Shop
- Polehna's Market
- United State Bank
- Bartunek's Maytag
- Cothran's Art Gallery
- Chem Mark Chemical Co.
- Czech Set Beauty Salon
- Kadlec Brothers
- Ernest Kosek Enterprises

The ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING was held Monday, December 4th at 1:00 P.M. at the Boddicker School of Music. All stockholders were invited and at this meeting the organization's 1979 officers and board of directors were elected.

MERCHANTS SCHEDULE CHRISTMAS PARTY for Czech Village Association members for Sunday, Dec. 17th, at 5:30 P.M. at the new Wenceslaus Square Resturant. The members, their families, and in some cases employes will be attending the event, which will honor outgoing and in-coming officers and directors.

CZECH SET BEAUTY SALON OPENS IN THE VILLAGE. . You've heard of the "Jet Set" . . Well, the "Czech Set " Beauty Salon under the ownership of Jean Hess opened in Czech Village in early November. The management is enthusiastically nuturing Czech costumes and will feature a variety of "specials" for the neighborhood shopping center patrons, according to Pat Martin, Village coordinator.

CZECH VILLAGE " PROJECT FUND-RAISING" BEGINS

Friends of the Czech Village Association have initiated a fund specifically for the Czech Village Project.

The first memorial gift, in the sum of \$100.00, is a tribute to the deceased Vincent and Frances Pecina and Jerry Srp. The donation was made by their children and friends and its organizers, Rose and Jerry Cincara, have designated it to be used in the Village's future "B" Street Park, an area that will be developed in the spring of 1979.

Czech Village Association will also accept monetary gifts to apply toward two large memorials - - a clock tower and a fountain, both of which will be erected in the future 16th Avenue mall area.

Inquiries about these gifts may be directed to Pat Martin, the Czech Village coordinator, at 366-7348.

* * * * *

- * '78 Winners
- * CONGRATULATIONS, Czech
- * BAKE-OFF WINNERS ! !
- * 13-19 yrs. Nancy Shonka, strudel
- * 20-59 yrs. BREADS
- * Martha Kubik, 1st, hoska
- * Ernest Trachta, 2nd, rohliky
- * Carletta Chadima Eichlve, 3rd,
- * babovka
- * Frank Gerego, Honorable Mention,
- * babovka.
- * DESSERTS
- * Darlene Trachta, 1st, kolaches
- * Mrs. Louis Binko, 2nd, strudel
- * Diana Gienapp, 3rd, strudel
- * Honorable mention to Mrs. Lloyd
- * Benesh, Darlene Bulicek for
- * kolaches; and Mrs. Charles Jeli-
- * nek for strudel.
- * (continued p. 6)



Season's Greetings to you all!

60 yrs. and over

Mrs. Frank Nezetril, 1st, kolaches
Mrs. Joe Bever, 2nd, zelniki and
kolaches

Pani Geregova, 3rd., strudel

CHILDREN'S PARADE ! HURRAH! winners
Brian Bartunek, Jimmy Martin, Lynn
Nejdl, Kathleen Hikiji, Lisa Bartunek,
Doug Nejdl, Chris Ann Hikiji, Frankie
Martin, Garland Dixon, and the Iowa
Sunshine Twirlers.

RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS : R. Crofs, Mrs.
Lester Rohlena, Edwin Novotny, and
Frank Brejcha. LUCKY BUTTON WINNERS
were too numerous to mention !

Have you noticed the litter contain-
ers on The Avenue? The artistic
designs and colors are the work of
Marge Nejdl. Later on you will see
more of her art work . THANKS, to
you Marge, for sharing our talents
and time with us to enjoy !

The STORKS keep coming! The first
one landed on Beddicker's School of
Music; the 2nd at Sykora Bakery,
and the third one atop Ernie Hlas's
Tavern.. That bird is said to bring
good luck !

AN EDITORIAL - - - -

Both the Czech Heritage and Fine
Arts Foundation will have their
Nominating Committees reporting the
names of candidates at the January
meeting ready for your vote and/or
for additional nominations to come
from the floor. To be elected for
a one year term are president, vice
president, secretary, treasurer, and
board of directors for each group.

Both Foundations are seeking those
of you who have ideas to further the
work underway and to plan long-range
projects. We need and want your
suggestions of names of people.

We need people with experience
in the operation of organizational
work and we need to have young folks
involved. Committee responsibilities
need to be spread among more members.
What can YOU contribute to important
and valuable committee work? Please
let us hear from YOU .

It cannot be emphasized too
strongly that nominees must
(1) give high priority to attending
to the details of tasks required of
the office or committee, (2) set
aside TIME to follow up as promptly
as possible whatever responsibilities
they assume, (3) be members of the
Foundation and attend the monthly
Board meetings, and have progress
reports at that time, (4) strive to
expand committee appointments to
include more members who will work
actively.

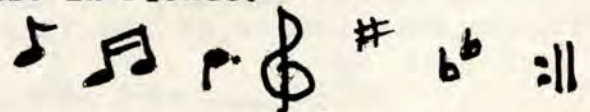
The Editor understand that many
officers and members are already
involved in business, family, social,
church and/or community activities.
However, IF one agrees to take on a
task in the Foundations, it may be
that something else will have to be
dropped, reduced or even neglected!
It is already TOO LATE for some
things.

We must operate on long-range
plans and set deadlines. We must
have better communication between
groups so we will know where we are
and where we are going.

There are among you reading this
editorial who are exactly the kinds
of workers and leaders with talent
and organization skills that the
Foundations can use ! Send your
suggestions to the Foundation to
which you have ideas to share..
mail to PO Box 761, C.R.Ia. 52406.
You need not sign the letter if you
wish. Write NOW while you are excited
and ideas are flashing thru your
mind. To delay can be fatal . . .

MMS

RICHARD WILLIAMS, music director of
Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra is
in Europe and recently conducted the
Czech Philharmonic Orchestra in the
capital, Prague. He is the first
American since Stowkowski (1973) to
conduct there. This month Williams
will be with the Orchestra de Mul-
house in France.



Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.



December 6, 1978

Dear Friends,

The Czech Museum and Library has been making great progress due to the interest and financial support of individuals and organizations in and around Cedar Rapids.

Did you know that we now have more than 16 different Czech costumes, kroj, four of which have been sponsored by the following organizations: Lodge # 14 CSA, ZCBJ Drill Team, Cedar Lodge # 7 ZCBJ, Karel IV lodge # 13, and Cedar Lodge # 262 CSA.

If you or your organization is interested in sponsoring a costume or some other contribution, please contact one of the following: Robert Schaffer 366-4937, or Elsie Jelinek 365-3401, or Marie Trachta 362-5026.

One of our goals is to acquire a collection of museum quality Czech glassware. Our most recent additions include: large cut crystal vase donated by the Western Fraternal Life Association, and an amethyst colored wine decanter made by the Moser glass factory in Czechoslovakia, given by Damsky Sbor Matice Skojske Lodge. Many individuals also donated costumes and museum items. A special THANK YOU to those donors.

Donations of museum items, books, pictures, sheet music, and money are most welcome. We need your help to survive and to make our Cedar Rapids Czech Museum one of the best. We have this opportunity now!

Robert Schaffer, President
Czech Fine Arts Foundation

HELP!

HELP HELP HELP

Would you be interested in helping to preserve Czech history and culture? Would you like to help conduct tours showing one of the largest collections of Czech costumes (kroj) in the Midwest? If so, please contact one of the following:

Robert Schaffer, _____; Elsie Jelinek, _____;
or Marie Trachta _____

HELP!

Or fill out the form below and mail to the Czech Fine Arts Foundation, PO Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia 52406.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ zip _____

I am interested in working

- Thursdays , 12:30 to 5:00 P.M.
- Saturdays, 9:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
- Saturdays, 12:30 to 4:00 P.M.
- Please call me for special tours

Above hours are current thought they may change in the future as the need arises