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# Masaryk Statue Finds New Home

An 880 pound brass statue of Thomáš Masaryk that was hidden in cellars and buried in gardens to thwart Nazi confiscation and meltdown during World War II has found its final home—the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library.

"In the four years since I've been here, this certainly ranks as one of the most important additions to our collection," said Dan Baldwin, NCSML president/CEO.

The statue will be placed initially in *Homelands*, the museum's core exhibit. But it's designed to be an outdoor statue, so eventually it could end up in the museum garden, Baldwin said.

Until early March it was packed in a wooden crate in a garage in Del Rey Oaks, Calif. The statue's owners, Jiří and Anna Jilich, had pondered for nearly three decades where their

## **START YOUR ENGINES!**

## NCSML Rolls Into High Gear This Month

Ever wonder what museum and library staffers do during the hushed months of January and February? We've been swamped, actually, preparing for a packed schedule that kicks into high gear in March.

Czech and Slovak culture will be showcased this spring in an eclectic offering of programs and exhibits, culminating in the unveiling of *Czech Technology in Motion*, an intriguing collection of cars, motorcycles, train models, bicycles and other transportation related artifacts (details on page 4). A kick-off event will be held April 29 across the street from the museum, in the Round House. Watch your mail for an invitation and more details.

Closer at hand we have a round of St. Joseph's Day offerings that start March 14 (see calendar on pg. 5 for details). On May 20 and 21 the NCSML and Czech Village celebrate Houby Days, a two-day event this year.

Film buffs or anyone who wants to glimpse Czech and Slovak culture through the lens of master filmmaker Jiří Menzel, should mark their datebook for March 24, 25 and 26 for the first of what will become a twice yearly film festival at the NCSML (details on pg. 4).

And from April 8 - 23 the exquisite art of the Easter egg will get its own exhibit as the NCSML combines its collection of eggs with eggs from all over the country (details on pg. 5).



Masaryk statue should go. The destination decision was not made lightly—the statue is a Jilich family treasure that carries a history of defiance and determination.

When Germans marched into Czechoslovakia they ordered that the statue be destroyed because Masaryk represented everything they were fighting against. Plus, Nazis wanted the half-precious metals. But Jilich's fatherin-law bought the statue from its sculptor, buried it in his villa garden, and changed the location three times to keep it out of Nazi hands. If the Germans had found it, Jiří Jilich said, the penalty was death. The statue was lost to the family during the Communist era but a legal battle brought it back to the family-and to America. Jiří and Anna fled to the U.S. in 1968. The statue came with them.

If the story of the Masaryk statue sounds familiar, it's because it once almost came to Cedar Rapids. Ten years ago there was hope that the Czech Fine Arts Foundation would get the statue. But the plans never came to fruition until last year when the Jilich's decided to move back to the Czech Republic without the statue.

"This is a really significant donation to our collection that will be a source of pride for a lot of people. It has a certain historical and cultural intrigue. It has a great degree of importance to our audience. We're just thrilled," Baldwin said.

Cross-country transportation of the Masaryk statue has been donated by CRST International, Inc., with help from RFK Transportation, Inc.

Masaryk, a philosopher, statesman, political scientist and practicing liberal, was the founding president of Czechoslovakia, serving as its president from 1918-1935.

### National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

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## FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Heritage Hall Undergoes Transformation

The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library is about to write another exciting chapter in its rapidly growing history. On April 29 we inaugurate a new 1,800 square foot gallery with the exhibit *Czech Technology in Motion*. You can read more about this unique, fun and educational project elsewhere in *Most*. Allow me to briefly outline the institutional process that led to the decision to create the new gallery.

With the 1998 installation of *Home-lands*, our core exhibit, the NCSML in

effect completed the building project. This was the perfect time for the board of directors and staff to take a step back and assess the status of the organization. Because all efforts for so long had pointed to *Homelands*, we needed to chart the course of

programming, the endowment, exhibits, the library, membership and much more.

One of the major topics of discussion centered around how the museum could engage in an aggressive exhibit program, one that would allow us to delve more deeply into a variety of Czech and Slovak topics and attract return visitors, when the primary exhibit space could not undergo frequent change. Such a program would allow us to attract traveling shows and exhibit a higher percentage of our collection, which would demonstrate the depth of our holdings and please donors to the collection. A set of ten five-year objectives was established. Objective one cited the need to convert half of the museum's WFLA. Heritage Hall into exhibit space. Objective two called for commencement of an exhibit program. *Czech Technology in Motion* will be the first in a series which will include exhibits on glass, porcelain, literature, the Holocaust, the Czech and Slovak Legions of WWI, and the impact of Czechs and Slovaks on popular culture. We are already in discussions with a Czech

Slovo is just around the corner! The response to this groundbreaking publication has been terrific. When you receive your issue, share it with friends and encourage them to join! Or think about a gift membership. exhibit organizer, the Jewish Museum in Prague, a Slovak publishing company, and potential loaners from across the country for objects that will delight and educate our visitors.

The fund raising for this initiative has gone well. Part of the plan is to

develop an exhibit fund so that subsequent projects can be explored without immediate need for sponsorships. This has proven attractive to our donors who know that a gift to this project will allow for recognition opportunities for all the exhibits funded by the fund. It also means that gifts can be pledged, then funded anytime over the next two or three years, yet donor recognition starts with *Czech Technology*. If you are interested in helping with this important project, please refer to the pledge form on page seven, or call Beth Chacey or me at (319) 362-8500.

> Dan Baldwin, President/CEO dbaldwin@ncsml.org

# Successful Exhibit Fundraising Continues

Renovating Heritage Hall into gallery space and creating a major new exhibit, *Czech Technology in Motion*, has required a fund-raising drive that has been extremely successful so far. In the course of this campaign we have heard from our generous funders that there is great respect for our mission, what we've accomplished and what we've now set out to do.

The National Czech & Slovak Museum has received \$129,848 so far in the Czech Technology in Motion/gallery renovation/exhibit fund drive. The money we raise will finance Heritage Hall renovation, Czech Tech, and pay for the museum's exhibits through 2002. Sponsors so far include Aegon USA Inc., RFK Transportation Inc., The Greater Cedar Rapids Foundation, CRST International Donor-Advised, The Gazette, the Weaver Witwer Trust Fund, the Historical Society of Iowa's Historic Site Preservation Grant and the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust.

There is more good news to report in terms of membership numbers. At the end of 1999 we showed a nearly 20 percent increase in memberships over 1998. We had 896 corporate and individual members, an increase of 139 members. Of those, 72 individual memberships were picked up from two membership ads that were published in the Western Fraternal Life Association magazine promoting the museum's new magazine, *Slovo*. You may recall that the museum will begin offering *Slovo* this spring, and that it's a benefit of membership. We expect membership numbers to soar once people know that a first-rate magazine is one of the advantages of being a museum member.

> Beth Chacey, Director of Development and Communications bchacey@ncsml.org



## **IN BRIEF**

## Festival of Nations Motorcoach Trip to St. Paul, Minnesota

You are invited to join us for three fun days of exciting adventure as we head to the Festival of Nations on May 5.

Day 1 will take us to Decorah, Iowa, for a visit to the Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum, followed by a delicious lunch. Late afternoon finds us arriving at our hotel in St. Paul, Minnesota. That evening we're off to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater for dinner and the entertaining show, *Oklahoma*.

On Day 2 we'll spend a full day at the Festival of Nations. This popular celebration features 48 authentic cafes, 65 cultural exhibits, 75 folk dance ensembles, 40 folk art demonstrations and over 50 international bazaar booths. This festival is wonderful!

We'll devote Day 3 to the new Science Museum of Minnesota, the Omnimax Theater and a special lunch in St. Paul before starting our trip home.

For more information, please call Shirley Rosencrans at the museum (319) 362-8500. Reservations need to be made by April 1.



Český Krumlov, Czech Republic. Photo by Joan Liffring-Zug Bourret

### National Advisory Board Adds Sís, Forman and Votruba

The NCSML National Advisory Board has added three new members, Miloš Forman, Martin Votruba and Peter Sís. Sís, an illustrator, filmmaker, painter and author, wrote and illustrated *The Three Golden Keys* to capture the Prague of his childhood for his daughter, Madeleine, who is growing up in America. Sís (pictured right with NCSML President/CEO Dan Baldwin) visited the NCSML in January while in town for the opening of an exhibit of his work at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art.

Film director Miloš Forman, a native of Prague, is the Academy Award winning director of One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest and Amadeus. Other great Forman films include Hair, Valmont, The People vs. Larry Flint and most recently, Man on the Moon. Rounding out the National Advisory Board list is Martin Votruba, director of the Slovak Studies program at the University of Pittsburgh.



Author and illustrator Peter Sís (pictured at right) with NCSML President/CEO Dan Baldwin, visited the museum in January. He is one of three additions to the NCSML National Advisory Board.

## **MUSEUM STORE NEWS**

The Easter Season is upon us and the museum store has a nice selection of decorated eggs and egg stands. If you are interested in the art of decorating your own eggs, you will find books with step-by-step instructions, egg dyes, one hole egg blowers, egg decorating kits, kistky, beeswax, and findings.

Also, *Remembering Homelands*, a limited-edition print by P. Buckley Moss, sells for \$95 and is available in the museum store. Matted and framed prints are also available. This print makes a wonderful birthday, anniversary or Christmas present.

### **New Merchandise**

The museum store has just received photographic note cards (see photo at left) of several sites in Prague, Czech Republic, captured by Iowa City photographer and Penfield Press publisher, Joan Liffring-Zug Bourret. Joan's work is in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and many private collections. These original prints are archival, fade-proof and should last 65-75 years. The selection includes the Charles Bridge, Český Krumlov, the Astronomical Clock, Prague skyline and a field of red poppies. The prints are 7 by 5.5 inches and sell for \$12.

The store will be offering some exciting new merchandise for the exhibit *Czech Technology in Motion*, which opens April 29. Look for coffee cups, T-shirts and toys that feature the *Czech Technology in Motion* logo. If you have been looking for some Slovak books and language tapes, the museum store has a nice selection:

- Slovak For You: Textbook for Beginners - \$30.
- Slovak For You Language Tapes No. 1 and No. 2 each \$15.
- Slovakia The Heart of Europe \$30.
- Osem Storočí Slovenskej Heraldiky (published in Slovak) - \$34.95.
- The Slovak Americans \$19.95.
- Treasures of Slovakia \$18.
- Slovakia in Pictures, Visual Geography Series - \$19.95.
- Children's books by Slovak author, Alvena Sečkar: Trapped in the Old Mine, Zuska of Burning Hills and Misko - \$15 each.
- Slovak/English, English/Slovak Dictionary \$11.95.

## **COLLECTIONS UPDATE**

# Museum to Host Film Series

Czechs and Slovaks have made an indelible impact on the world of film. Miloš Forman for example, has earned Academy Awards for One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest and Amadeus. In late February he picked up the Best Director Golden Bear in Berlin for Man on the Moon. Philip Kaufman has given us The Unbearable Lightness of Being. And Jan Sverak's Kolya became an international hit.

The National Czech & Slovak Musuem & Library will showcase the works of Czech & Slovak filmmakers beginning March 24-26 with the kickoff of what will become a twice yearly film series. The films featured in the series will be available for check out from the museum library.

The NCSML's inaugural cinema fest features three films directed by Czech filmmaker Jiří Menzel, *Closely Watched Trains, Larks on a String* and *My Sweet Little Village*. Guest lecturers from the University of Iowa, Professor Paula Michaels and Professor Denise Powers, will provide an introduction to the series and the Sunday Lifelong Learning lecture. To get you in the right mood, theater-style popcorn and canned sodas will be available.

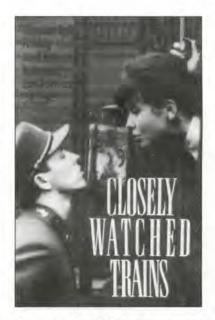
Born in Prague, Menzel was trained in film at FAMU, the Prague film academy, from 1958 to 1962. While his fellow Czech New Wave filmmakers fled to the west, Menzel stayed in communist Czechoslovakia. His films are noted for their subtle humor, warmth and reality. Menzel has made 15 feature films and won several prizes.

*Closely Watched Trains* (winner of a Best Foreign Film Oscar in 1967) is an ironic, funny film about a young man on his first job in a small town railroad station, trying to get sexually initiated (in hilarious scenes), who unwittingly becomes a tragic hero.

Larks on a String is a buoyant and lyrical romantic comedy that was banned in Czechoslovakia until the meltdown of the Iron Curtain in Europe. While serving time for desertion, and taking steps toward reeducation, a ragtag group of workers unite as a young couple in the camp decides to marry. We soon find that even the prison guards can't resist the unlikely romance, as the wedding and on-site honeymoon unfold in a series of hilarious plot twists.

My Sweet Little Village (nominated for a Best Foreign Film Academy Award in 1986), features the overbearing Pavek, who threatens to replace his sidekick, the simple-minded Otik, but he never does.

> Dave Muhlena, Librarian dmuhlena@ncsml.org



### Exploring Czech & Slovak Cinema March 24–26

**Closely Watched Trains** 

March 24 at 7:30 p.m. • March 25 at 2 p.m. Best Foreign Film Oscar in 1967

Larks on a String March 25 at 7:30 p.m.

### My Sweet Little Village

March 26 at 2 p.m. Nominated for Best Foreign Film Oscar in 1986

\$5 non members and \$3 members per film. Weekend passes for all three films: \$10 non members and \$6 members. Gallery open from 6-7:30 on March 25.

## How is a New Exhibit Created? Via the Internet

The March completion of a new exhibition gallery is an exciting and significant event for the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library. Precise temperature and humidity control, track lighting, and increased security measures will ensure that the new gallery meets required standards for all future exhibition/artifact loans. This will be especially important over the next few years as the ambitious exhibitions we are planning will require loans from museums across the U.S., Czech Republic, and Slovakia as well as objects from the NCSML's collection.

We've been preparing *Czech Technol*ogy in Motion, the first exhibition in this space, for nearly a year. While the Heritage Hall renovation is in progress, we will be making final plans for the cars, motorcycles, and bicycles that will be rolling into the museum in early April. The timing of the arrival of vehicles and the installation of each exhibit element is especially critical. Interior walls and exhibit cases are usually put into place prior to mounting the artifacts. For Czech Technology in Motion all three cars (arriving from Pennsylvania, Illinois, and South Dakota) will arrive in early April for placement prior to the rest of the installation. Then, as soon as the first set of interior walls and associated graphics are in place, the 10.5-foot Cechie motorcycle must be parked on its platform. The rest of the motorcycles will arrive for placement in their appropriate locations only after all the platforms, interior walls, and surrounding graphics are installed.

*Czech Technology in Motion* has presented several other challenges. Tracking down vehicles, information, models, and graphics has been far more difficult for this exhibition than any other that I've prepared. For the first time, the Internet has played an invaluable role as a finding aide and source of information. For example, through contacts made on the Internet, we tracked down a national Jawa organization. The president of this motorcycle group allowed us to send a letter requesting motorcycle loan offers, literature, ads and graphics, etc. to all their members in the U.S. The response was tremendous! We received more loan offers, information, and suggestions than we could possibly accept.

This exhibit is an opportunity to celebrate achievements. How many remember (or ever knew) the significant contributions Czechs made to the motorcycle and automobile industries? How many Americans have heard of Czech airplanes? And finally, how well would other industries have persevered after two world wars and 40 years under communism?

> Carmen Langel, Curator clangel@ncsml.org

## KALENDÁŘ MARCH – JUNE 2000

### ONGOING

Permanent exhibit: Homelands: The Story of the Czech & Slovak People. This exhibit tells the story of the Czech and Slovak people from the days of Slavic tribes wandering into Central Europe, through the Velvet Divorce in 1993. Homelands features art, a 1935 Czech-made motorcycle, folk costumes and military artifacts. Open Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m to 4 p.m., Sunday 1-4 p.m.

### MARCH

March 14-19: Celebrating the Saints, culminating in the March 19 St. Joseph's Day celebration. On March 14-19, museum visitors who are wearing Czech red or who are named Joseph, Josephine or some variation thereof, will receive \$1 off admission. Offer extended to anyone wearing a St. Patrick's Day button and anyone wearing green.

March 25: St. Joseph's Day parade in Czech Village. 1 p.m. \$1 off admission for anyone named Joseph, Josephine or some variation thereof. Call (319) 362-8500 for information.

March 24-26: Exploring Czech & Slovak

**Cinema.** This film series will feature the films of Jiří Menzel, who is considered one of the world's great filmmakers and whose movies are becoming increasingly popular with American audiences. Films include *Closely Watched Trains* (showing March 24 at 7:30 p.m. and March 25 at 2 p.m., which won the Best Foreign Film Oscar in 1967; *My Sweet Little Village* (showing 2 p.m. March 26), which was nominated for the award in 1986; and *Larks on a String* (showing at 7:30 p.m. March 25). Special evening gallery hours March 25 from 6-7:30 p.m. Film Festival tickets: \$5 non members and \$3 members per film; or weekend passes \$10 non members and \$6 members.

### APRIL

April 8-23: Exhibition of Czech, Moravian and Slovak Easter eggs. Free with regular admission.

April 10: Káva a Knihy (Coffee and Books) Reading Discussion Series, 7-9 p.m. Free. Call (319) 362-8500 for information and book titles.

April 15: Batik egg decorating classes. Instructor, Marj Nejdl, master folk artist. 9 a.m. to noon or 1 to 4 p.m. Ages 12 and up (children must be accompanied by an adult). \$25. Class limited to 15. Pre-registration required.

April 16: **Coe College Choir**, performing Czech, Slovak and Hungarian folk songs. 4 p.m. Roman Hruska Grand Hall. Free.

April 19: Learn at Lunch. Oodles of Noodles. Ed Nejdl will show you how to make egg noodles. Noon. Heritage Hall. Free.

April 22: Easter Customs & Traditions. Story and craft activity for children (and adults), focusing on the Easter holiday. 9:30–11:30 a.m. ages 6-8, 1-3 p.m. ages 9-12. Registration \$5. Preregistration required.

April 29: Opening event for *Czech Technology in Motion.* 6 p.m. Ticket prices and details to be mailed this spring. April 29-Oct. 1: *Czech Technology in Motion*. This summer exhibit includes Czech cars and a 1929 Čechia, a four-seater motorcycle that is only one of three or four still in existence.

April 30: Sunday Lifelong Learning Series. 2 p.m. Free. Heritage Hall.

### MAY

May 5-7: Three-day motorcoach trip to the Festival of Nations, St. Paul, Minn. Itinerary includes the Vesterheim Museum and the Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah; Rochester, Minn.; the Festival of Nations, St. Paul; Fort Snelling, St. Paul;: Rates based on single, double, triple or quad room groupings. Registration and payment due April 1.

May 8: Káva a Knihy (Coffee and Books) Reading Discussion Series, 7-9 p.m. Free. Call (319) 362-8500 for information and book titles.

May 17: Learn at Lunch. Bring a sack lunch and learn about Czech & Slovak culture. Noon-Heritage Hall. Free, May 19: Premiere of the film, "Dvořák and America." 7 p.m. at Wilson Middle School, 2301 J Street SW, Cedar Rapids. Call (319) 362-8500 for information.

May 20 and 21: Houby Days celebration in Czech Village and at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Call (319) 362-8500 for information.

May 21: Red Cedar Chamber Music. "Celebrating Czech Heritage with Chamber Music." 4:30 p.m.

May 28: Sunday Lifelong Learning Series. 2 p.m. Free. Heritage Hall.

#### JUNE

June 21: Learn at Lunch. In conjunction with Czech Technology in Motion, bring a sack lunch and learn about bicycling for recreation, bicycle care and maintenance and bike trails and rides. Noon. Heritage Hall. Free.

June 22: Freedom Fest event: William Whipple piano concert. All Czech program, including the Czech National Anthem, Kde Domov Műj (Where is my Home). 7 p.m.

## Eggs are the Focus of Easter Exhibit

The beautiful, unique, intricately detailed, and exquisite designs of Easter eggs will be culled into a colorful exhibit at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library this Easter season from April 8-23. The museum's annual "Easter Customs & Traditions" will focus solely on the Easter egg, pulling together hundreds of eggs from folk artists all over the country and dipping into the museum's collection and displaying some of the eggs for the first time.

"The museum has an extensive collection of eggs representing local artists. This exhibition will allow us to highlight the work of artists around the country," said Carmen Langel, the museum's curator. The egg exhibit will include traditional styles of the Czech, Moravian, and Slovak people.

Folk artists all over the country have been asked to submit examples of their work. Each contributing artist will be allowed to submit one to four examples of their egg art. Entries must be received no later than April 1.

For information contact Patricia Hikiji at (319) 362-8500, by fax at (319) 363-2209, or by e-mail at phikiji@ncsml.org.

The egg has played an important role in Slavic customs and traditions. As the egg contained the embryo of future life, it was regarded as a symbol of life in general. Eggs were considered the first gift of na-



ture because hens would begin to lay them before the spring greening of the land. The bird emerging from the egg was likened to the budding of a flower and so the egg became a symbol of Spring. When large numbers of eggs were gathered, they were given to family and friends. Coloring the eggs made them look more like gifts.

Classes will be held on Saturday, April 15th for those interested in learning to decorate eggs in the batik, or wax- resist, method. Master Folk Artist Marj Kopeček Nejdl will offer instruction in the use of traditional motifs, symbolism, and color in creating designs.

"Holiday Happening," a story and craft activity for children (and adults) centering around the Easter holiday will be offered on Saturday, April 22. See the calendar for more details.

## **OUR GENEROUS DONORS**

### V UPOMINKU "IN MEMORIUM" Donations received for November 18, 1999 – February 18, 2000

In Honor of Dr. and Mrs. Charles P. Darby Dr. David and Mrs. Carol Wolf

In Honor of Leo Modracek's Birthday Glenn and Sharon Modracek

Memorial for Henrietta Bartizal Roman and Nancy Clapalo

Memorial for Pat Bemer Don and Barbara Pulkrab

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Memorial for Lumir Blaylock Robert and Arlene Erusha Ernest and Joyce Ludvicek Irma and Leo Modracek

Memorial for Elizabeth Bowersox Irma and Leo Modracek

Memorial for Milo A. "Mike" Bulicek Marjorie and Edward Nejdl Dolores and "Mike" Usher

Memorial for Lottie E. (Hruby) Cook John Rodemacher James and Martha Serbousek

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Memorial for Jerry Jasa Leo and Irma Modracek Don and Barbara Pulkrab

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Memorial for George Krotz Don and Barbara Pulkrab

Memorial for John J. Kuba Vera and Don Conway John A. Kuba Dolores and "Mike" Usher

Memorial for Walter F. Lucansky Margaret Lucansky

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Memorial for Kenny Merta Darlene Trachta

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Memorial for Robert (Bob) Merta Peg Merta Leo and Irma Modracek

Memorial for Pearl Miessner Leo and Irma Modracek

Darlene Trachta

Memorial for Steve Miklo Robert Miklo Melissa O'Donnell-Long David Schoon Karen Thielman

Memorial for Virgil S. Minor Irma and Leo Modracek



This steam locomotive (type 310.0) represents the first type of locomotive built by Czechs. A sign proclaiming "Na Zdar" was posted on it when it rolled out of a Prague factory in 1900. Visitors will see a model of the train in *Czech Technology in Motion*. (Photo courtesy of Garrett Lamb)

Memorial for Richard Mitvalsky Daniel Baldwin and Monica Wiegand Theodore Feder Theodore and Shirley Johnson Frank and Cheryle Mitvalsky Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nazette Lumear and Margaret Netolicky Ted and Marj Paulson Karen Reichard Mr. and Mrs. Raymond R. Stefani Clarence Wade Family Dr. and Mrs. Campbell Watts Julie and Campbell Watts, Jr. R. A. Wolfert Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Zeman

Memorial for Sister Monique Charles and Martha Krejci

Memorial for Anna Osborn Edwin Kral

Memorial for Milo and Mary (Kocur) Papich Marion and Jean Papich

Memorial for Joe Petrzelka Don and Barbara Pulkrab

Memorial for Victoria (Viki) Polehna Vera and Don Conway Joseph and Libby Dalecky Lillian Kroupa Edward Machacek Irma and Leo Modracek Marjorie and Edward Nejdl Pat and Marge Pace Betty and Dick Petrzalek Eugene and Norma Rousseau

Memorial for Alma Pospisil Betty and Dick Petrzalek Don and Barbara Pulkrab

Memorial for Donald E. Rigel Ernie and Joanne Buresh Annalou Johnson Irma and Leo Modracek Leona and Harold Poduska Mrs. Alma Rigel Edward and Carol Vavra John and Adeline Volesky

Memorial for Sherry Skalicky Sheahan Helen Christophersen Memorial for Don Sirowy Edwin and Wilma Benesh Stan and Dorothy Ditch Marj and Ed Nejdl Bob and Marlene Sirowy

Memorial for Evelyn Kaplan Spina Warren and Fern Fackler

Memorial for Civil War Soldiers Corporal Frank Smrcek, Private Joseph Smrcek, & Private Vincens Smreck Ethel Herda Baxter

Memorial for Alice Stodola Don and Barbara Pulkrab

Memorial for Ruth Stolba Marj and Ed Nejdl

Memorial for George Svoboda Betty and Dick Petrzalek

Memorial for Ernest Trachta Darlene Trachta

Memorial for Charles Uchytil David M. Lyons

Memorial for Lewis Vornholt Marjorie and Edward Nejdl

Memorial for John and Ruth Vosatka Richard and Janet Ransom

Memorial for William (Bill) Vrzał Edwin Kral

Memorial for Julia Yuva Wadden Levern Dostal Tammi Heaton Howard and Patricia Heithoff Her Friends at Five Seasons Senior Housing Bette Olseni Wes Ralston

Memorial for Tami Rae (Pisarik) Welty Bob Vanourny Robert and Irma Vanourny

Memorial for Charles Elmer Witousek Ernie and Joanne Buresh

Memorial for Joe L. Zalesky Richard Louvar Marjorie and Edward Nejdl John and Adeline Volesky

## **NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS**

## New and Renewed Members: November 18, 1999 through February 18, 2000

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## New and Renewed Organizations November 18, 1999 – February 18, 2000

AEGON USA Beach Consulting Group Broulik Painting, Inc. Cedar Rapids Truck Center, Inc. Czech Cottage Czech Heritage Foundation Gringo's Mexican Restaurant J. P. Gasway Itten's Inc. Iowa Wireless McLeod USA Novak Construction Company Our Lady of the Mount Society Polebna's Meat Market Rexco Equipment, Inc. Robert Bodnar Company SCI Smulekoff and Lipsky Fund Stamats Communications, Inc. WFLA Cedar Lodge #7 WFLA Lodge Colorado 431 Western Fraternal Life Association

Czech Technology in Motion
Exhibit Fund Pledge Form

Slovak Museum & Library in m and the creation of the
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# FEATURED EXHIBITS

## Did Czechs Invent the Motorcycle?

Artwork like this poster will be part of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library's summer exhibit, *Czech Technology in Motion*, which opens April 29 and closes October 1.

Laurin & Klement founded a bicycle manufacturing company in Mlady Boleslav in the mid 1890s. They expanded their product line to include motorcycles in 1899 and automobiles in 1905. In fact, unlike other companies at the time, they didn't fit an engine to a bike frame, they built a frame about the engine. Because of this, Czechs claim that the company built the first true motorcycle in the world. Laurin & Klement became the basis for Škoda Automobile when Škoda Works purchased the company in 1925.

## Stefanik exhibit tells fascinating tale

An exhibit of photos chronicling the life of Slovak Gen. Milan Stefanik is being shown at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library. During Stefanik's short life (1880-1919) he was a distinguished scientist, celebrated war hero and one of the founding fathers of Czechoslovakia. He also traveled to every continent except Antarctica. The exhibit is courtesy of Dr. and Mrs. Miroslav Musil.





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