

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR CZECH HERITAGE

Vol.5.No.1. Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations
March 1980 P.O.Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406.



Note the variety of coming events in our community! Please write events on the proper dates of your wall calendar. Details about events are found elsewhere in the newsletter.

..... READ ON and ON

- March 16 Film : JAN HUS
- March 17 St.Pat's Parade.
Czech Village Float
- March 22 SIBŘINKY, Sokol Hall
- April 13 State Meeting, WESTERN FRATERNAL LIFE ASSOCIATION
Walford, Ia. Ponderosa Ballroom.
- April 14 Gene and Zdenka DEITCH makers of animated films
- April 15 MORAVANKA, Colesium, 8 p.m.
- April 27 AKADEMIE, LaSalle H.S.
- April 29 District Meeting, REBEKAH, Praha # 5 hosting events.
- May 17-18 HOUBY DAYS, Czech Village.
- June 15,16,17 The 13th Annual Convention of the AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION.
- June 29 POLKA DAY, All Iowa Fair
Hawkeye Downs, noon-8 p.m.
- August Annual Picnic of Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Fdn.
- Sept.5,6,7 The 9th Annual CZECH FESTIVAL'16th Ave.,SW.

1981

- Jan. 19 Annual Meeting of the two FOUNDATIONS
- Jan.27-28 PRODANA NEVĚSTA, (a.k.a.The Bartered Bride) Paramount Theater of the Performing Arts.
- May 9-10 FIRKUŠNY, Czech pianist, C.R.Symphony Orchestra.

* * * * *
 * about MEMBERSHIP today *
 * Report on page 7 so be sure *
 * to read the facts and figures.*
 * * * * *

FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

Elected officers for 1980 are:
 President: Frank W. Novotny
 V.Pres.: Robert J. Kubik
 Secretary: Bette Trefny
 Treasurer: Charles E. Krejci
 Financial Sec.: Charles Vyskocil
 Members of the Board of Directors were also elected.

Public Relations Chairman Frank W. Novotny had reports from only four on the Speakers Bureau altho he does know that others were active on programs. However, a total of 1983 were in the audiences of those four speakers. Groups included our city and county schools, at the Museum, senior citizen clubs, church groups, college classes and service clubs.

People were made aware of Czech Heritage Foundation by representatives at Houby Days and Czech Village Festival.

FILM "JAN HUS"

This film will be co-sponsored by the Czech Heritage Foundation and Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church. On Sunday, March 16, 1980, at 7:30 in the evening the film will be shown at the church, 2808 Schaeffer Drive, S,W, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

This dramatic film is about the life of a noted 15th century Czech priest, a unique historical figure who planted the seeds of the Reformation more than 100 years before Martin Luther appeared on the scene.

The essence of Hus and his faithful struggle are captured. The film's excellence is in its production, quality, and historical authenticity. It was filmed on locations in Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Calif-

ornia., in order to be accurate in details of costuming, settings, and the dialogue.

Plan to see the filmed true story of Jan Hus, an experience you will not want to miss. A silver offering will be taken.

Following the film presentation, a fellowship hour will be hosted and refreshments served by members of Hus Memorial Church.

Robert J. Kubik
Program Chairman

The church is on the corner of 29th Ave. and Schaffer Drive SW. Take J Street to 29th Ave. and turn right; or take 6th St. SW to 29th Ave. and turn left. Ample parking on church grounds.

Please announce this information to others at group meetings you attend - lodges, clubs, church circles and perhaps a notice can be placed in your church bulletin. THANK YOU.
(mms)

SIBŘINKÝ the Annual Czech Costume Ball at Sokol Hall with the Jolly Behemians playing those entertaining polkas, waltzes, and polkas! Come see the newly re-decorated 3rd floor at Sokol Hall, 417 3rd St. SE. Cost for an evening of enjoyment \$3.00 per person. Free kolach and coffee.

Only masked folks will be eligible for prizes but come in your Czech costume if you have one, and if not, borrow one or make one! For reservations phone or write to Joe Pazour.

The DEITCHS are coming! The Heritage Fdn. is cooperating with the Grant Wood Area Community Education Agency on April 14th when Gene and Zdenka Deitch will be in Cedar Rapids. The couple are well known film makers in production of animated films using story book material.

An afternoon workshop will be held for teachers.

In the evening, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Theater, 1124 -3rd St. S.E.

Mr. Deitch will present a program and show some of the films. The event is free to the public. Following the program, the audience will be invited to a reception for Mr. and Mrs. Deitch at the Sokol Club Rooms, The Czech Heritage Fdn. will host the reception.

On April 15th, the MORAVANKA will be in town. See page 5 for details.

The AKADEMIE is the annual spring SOKOL program at which time the students in the gym classes demonstrate what they have accomplished during the year. Come the afternoon of April 27th to LaSalle High School.

HOUBY DAYS. See Czech Village News.

coming! POLKA DAYS coming!
come to the ALL-IOWA FAIR at the HAWKEYE DOWNS, June 29th

FOUR GREAT BANDS
8 HOURS OF CONTINUOUS MUSIC
POLKAS WALTZES POLKAS
NOON continuously until 8:00 p.m.
FOOD DRINKS

At the TAVERN on the MALL. Come in your costume ethnic or polka style, meet your friends in Czech Heritage Fdn. Acres AND acres for parking cars.



SEE YOU THERE !

TWO SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 17, downtown Cedar Rapids the St. Patrick's Parade. see page 5 for details under Czech' Village News, * * * * *

The Czech Heritage Band will entertain at the reception at Sokol Club Rooms following the Deitch program April 14th. See item at left of this sentence.

More Czech Heritage news items on pages 4 and 7.

Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.

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The MUSEUM 1607 C Street S.W. has reopened for the 1980 season. Hours will be 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays. . and by special appointment for groups by calling 366-4937, Bob Schaffer will make arrangements.

From the January ANNUAL MEETING .The Officers for the coming year are:

President: Bob Schaffer

Vice Pres: John A.Kuba

Treasurer: Elsie Jelinek

Co-Secretaries: Rose Kopecky

Marie Trachta

Members of the Board of Directors were also named.

The JUNIOR LEAGUE and CZECH FINE ARTS

The Czech Fine Arts Fdn. took part in a Junior League sponsored project at Ambrose Center on Feb. 19th. Marie Trachta arranged an exhibit of ruby red Bohemian glass, costumes, garnets, porcelain, and other items.

The program gave various community organizations and agencies an opportunity to share their materials and inform others about their works. Volunteers from the League are interested in participating in community projects.

One hundred Junior League members attended the showings to view the displays and visit with the representatives from Health, Education, Fine Arts, and Social Service groups.

The Czech Fine Arts Fdn. appreciated the opportunity to have been invited to take part in this worthy project.

Elsie Jelinek

KARL HUSA, composer, director, musician, and member of our Czech Heritage Fdn., and on the faculty at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, has had many of his works presented at such places as Texas, Connecticut, Michigan, Maryland, Spain, Japan, Mexico, Czechoslovakia. In addition to records and publications, he was guest conductor at the American Premiere of Dvorak's opera, JACOBIN, in Washington D.C. in Oct. '79. Members of the National Symphony Orchestra participated. Some of you may recall Husa was at Coe College and appeared on WMT TV when here. . .

LARGER MUSEUM SOON A REALITY !

The Czech Fine Arts Fdn. has received approval on its bid to lease the former Dowie Outdoor Advertising Bldg. at 10 -16th Ave., SW. between the Wareco Service Station and the Cedar River. The lease is for ten years with rent to begin when the City Building Department issues an occupancy permit. The building needs much repair and remodeling work. We are, therefore, launching a fund drive to raise \$30,000.00 for the renovation of the building and for purchase of display cases, shelves, and items display.

We are in need of assistance with carpentry, plumbing, heating, electrical and general labor for clean up and all of those little jobs that are so necessary.

A "Founders Group" is being considered to give special recognition to those who make substantial donations of sums of money, labor, or materials for the initial remodeling and set up of the new Czech Museum and Library.

We are also in the process of establishing categories for donations to be recorded in our special Gift Book.

We consider this in all ways to be a community project for the preservation of the history of an ethnic group that played a substantial role in the history of Cedar Rapids and Iowa.

Bob Schaffer

EXHIBIT AT KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

An exhibit of 19 items filled the display cabinet at Kirkwood Library for more than two weeks in February. Exhibited were: toy, fez, booklets, 1855 prayer book in German print but Czech words, fancy work, doll's quilt, perotka, shepherd's flute, Old Lady Winter, doll, Domazlice porcelain, cup for drinking mineral water, ruby red garnets, cut glass, colored eggs, and Marge Nedjl's fancy cut lace work in a large goose egg. Our thanks to Mrs. Florence Masters for inviting us and to Ms. Hanson at the Library for her help in arranging the display. mms

Czech Fine Arts Foundation

Coming: PRODANA NEVĚSTA

The MUSEUM IDEA. The setting up of a Museum was an idea that started in 1975 at a meeting of the Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations. And so a committee was appointed and work started in earnest.

By September 1978 the doors opened into scrubbed and cleaned floors, curtained windows, dressed manikins, hung pictures and well placed china, glassware and many other items. The Library collection is not yet fully organized or open to the public.

In 1979, more than 2,100 visitors registered at the Museum and we are sure many more did not register. Visitors came from 27 states and 10 countries. One distinguished visitor was Bruno Bělčík, violin guest soloist, with the C.R.Symphony, and his son from Colorado. They seemed impressed with our early efforts and we were indeed honored by their visit. Bělčík lives in Praha.

We are especially grateful to the many who have made large and smaller donations at the Museum, to the many volunteers who spent countless hours conducting tour groups, maintaining the up keep of the place, to Pat Martin who has conducted the many special tours at the Museum, and to those who speak at many gatherings about Czech culture .

Substantial donations have been made by not only individuals ,but from lodges , businesses, industries, and families, and estates of deceased members.

Much of our work will continue to depend upon volunteers to be on duty at hours that the Museum is open, and to those who offer their skills and services for special events and projects.

Elsie Jelinek

In the south of Moravia, there is an oak tree which is said to be over 1,000 years old. Now THERE is one acorn that grew and GREW. You know, big oaks from little acorns. . . .

"The Bartered Bride", a comic opera by Smetana, will be here in 1981 ! January 23 and 24 at our Paramount Theater for the Performing Arts. What a treat for all the community. Information will be in the news media as the season approaches.

We can tell you this: local groups will fill the chorus and dance parts; of the 8 solos roles, 2 will come from out of the state and the other 6 roles will be filled by holding auditions state wide. Members of Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Fdns., will be helping in whatever was we can. Plans for the production are still in the making.

Richard Williams, Conductor of the C.R.Symphony Orchestra, has had much experience directing this opera in 1979 in Kenya.

mms

RUDOLF FIRKUŠNY, Czech pianist, will be guest soloist, May 9, 10, 1981, with the C.R.Symphony Orchestra. He is said to exhibit "dazzling technique and sensitive interpretation" in his approach to music. Tickets for the coming season now on sale at C.R.Symphony office. (366-8203)

mms

DO YOU REMEMBER

the umbrella mender, scissor grinder, chimney sweep, gypsies, hurdy gurdy and monkey, peddler with grey valise held together with brown leather straps, horses pulling fire engines and the sprinkler wagons, Smulekoff's store on the Island, explosion at Douglas Starch Works, revival meetings under big tents, summer time of Chautauqua, iron bridge over the Cedar at 3rd Avenue, open trolleys in summer going to Bever Park , rag picker with gunny sacks, Greene's Opera House at time of high school graduations, Harding funeral train, digging clams in the river near the Starch Works, German Brass Bands roaming about the town, ration books WW I., going to the "milk depot" with a tin pail to buy bulk milk and? ? ? ?

COMING to CEDAR RAPIDS
the all new "exclusive"

MORAVANKA

Billed as the finest brass polka band in Czechoslovakia, perhaps in all of Europe. The 19 member ensemble will be performing in only 25 areas of the United States and will play at Veterans Memorial Coliseum on Tuesday, April 15, from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight.

Advance ticket sales are obtainable in Czech Village Shops which post a MORAVANKA flyer in their windows. The advance ticket price is just \$8.50 per person.

"The Coliseum was selected as the concert location because it will accommodate the dancing as well as listening. Don't miss this opportunity to see, listen, and dance to authentic sounds of the Polka from Czechoslovakia," said Pat Martin, Czech Village Coordinator.

Ticket information may be obtained by calling Joens Brothers, Interiors at (319) 366-7348, or Pat Martin

VILLAGE OFFICERS, 1980

Lester Sykora has been re-elected as President of the Czech Village Association Inc. Other officers are:

- V. Pres.: Lumir Vondracek
- Secretary: Julie Sadler
- Treasurer: Gary Samek
- Asst. Treas.: Nancy Barta

The Board of Directors include the above named officers and Ernie Hlas, George Joens, Paul Novak, Dick Holden, Bob Schaffer, Rick Bartunek, Jessie Stastny, Kris Jones, Jerry Boddicker, Ernest Kosek, Rollie Pierson

Come to the Village and match pictures with the shops!



Czech Village



HOUBY DAYS are COMING !

May 17-18, Czech Village
16th Avenue S.W., Cedar Rapids

Houby Days are co-sponsored by the Czech Village Association and Czech Fine Arts Foundation. Featuring Czech Fine arts, folk arts, customs, Czech music and dancing, mushroom hunt contests and delicious mushroom food, the focus of this celebration is the heritage of the Czech people.

Special events will include the 5000 meter race, sponsored jointly by the Czech Village Assoc., Cedar Rapids Recreation Commission, and the First Trust and Savings Bank., old time photography, Merchants Breakfasts, and Houby events.

Specific times and events will be available in Czech Village and thru local news media at least three weeks before the Festival.

Bids for the Czech Village **SIDEWALK SCHEME** and two new **VILLAGE PARKS**, the one next to the Bandstand and the second between Sykora Bakery and Ernie's Avenue Tavern, will be let to contractors the last of February or early March.

The **TRAVEL BUREAU** of the Iowa Development Commission was in Czech Village in January to collect colored slides and also black-white materials on the Village for promotional use.

Czech Village Association will have an entry in the downtown Cedar Rapids **"ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE"**, March 17th. We'll not only salute the Irish but promote the Czech **ST. JOSEPH'S DAY** of March 19th.



This page of news by Pat Martin, Czech Village Coordinator . . .

FARMING in the EARLY 1900's

Come visit with Mr. William Faltis (age 94) and Mrs. Faltis (age 89), the former Olga Dobrovsky, at their home on 18th Avenue S.W.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. & Mrs. Faltis on their 64 years of wedlock! He remembers the 4th grade McGuffey's Reader. Mrs. Faltis attended 9th grade at high school. The Faltis and Dobrovsky families lived to the southwest of Cedar Rapids, both families farmed. Dances at Western were a popular meeting place for young folks.

The young couple farmed 120 acres for 50 years. In 1978 a part of the land was acquired for the Cedar Rapids Municipal Airport.

To them were born three children: Mae Faltis Novotny (Frank W.), Viola Faltis Zahradnik (Lumir), and a son, William J.

Listen to them tell about farming in the early years of this century, and up to the 1950's. In the early days corn was 11¢/bu., with yields 30-40 bu./acre when using stubble and manure for fertilizer. When commercial fertilizers came on the market, yields were 50-60 bu./acre. Recently, their son-in-law had close to 200 bu./acre and placed in a contest. Today, corn is around \$2.50/bu.

Oats were 10¢/bu. or even less some times. Yields varied from 40-50 bu./acre to 60-70 bu./acre which was very very good return. Today oats runs \$1.50 bu., more or less.

Mr. Faltis was one of the earliest of farmers to raise alfalfa. He said that he got more tons per acre than from timothy hay crops. The alfalfa was of better quality of feed, more nutritious, & high in protein. Three cuttings a year were a real advantage. The crop of loose hay was then hauled in the hay racks and stored in the hayloft part of the barn. In later years, hay was pressed into rectangular bales, tied with wire.

On the 120 acres, no wheat was grown and only occasionally some barley.

Mrs. Faltis took care of some 200 Rhode Island Reds, then later White Rocks. At first, setting hens were used to hatch the chicks, then came incubators, and eventually chicks came from a hatchery.

Every week, riding in a spring wagon drawn by horses, Mrs. Faltis sold eggs to stores @ 9¢/doz., in winter for 20¢ - 25¢ dozen.

The 17 dairy cows, milked by hand, were Holsteins, some Brown Swiss and few Guernseys. At first cream was sold to the creamery to be made into butter. Later bulk milk was delivered by a truck from the farm in 10 gallon cans to Vondracek Dairy. Later on, milk tank trucks took the milk to the Sanitary Dairy Co.

The pigs were Duroc-Jersey, Chester Whites, Berkshire, and spotted Poland China. Mr. Faltis raised 30 to 40 hogs. When the meat supply was low a pig was butchered, hung out of doors overnight to cool off. Then Mrs. Faltis would "fry down" the fat and meat, storing it in large stone jars or crocks.

To cure hams and bacon, a brine of salt peter, brown sugar, and a little pepper was boiled & cooled before the hams and bacon were packed into the brine in stone jars. It took six weeks to cure the meat. From time to time, the brine was drawn off, heated and cooled and poured over the meat.

Piggies went to market at 200-250 pounds, taken by wagon or bobsled, according to the season.

Mr. Faltis had a hobby - horses! live ones - as many as 16 at a time, some were part Belgian. Most machinery required four horses to a hitch. In 1921, he bought two strawberry roan broncos from a Texas rancher. At only 700# each, they were a carriage team, or for light work in fields.

In 1913 the family had their first automobile - an OVERLAND! 4 door. No worry about miles per gallon then. There are 8 grandchildren, 7 of whom are college graduates. There are 7 great-great grandchildren.

MEMBERSHIP as of March 1, 1980, is 755. As expected Cedar Rapids has the largest number of members, and 44 other Iowa communities rank next. Seven states have from 4 to 14 members; 19 states have 1, 2, or 3. The distribution extends from Alaska to Texas and from east to west coast on the Mainland.

Cedar Rapids	569
Other Iowans	109
Illinois	14
California	11
Colorado	6
Florida, Minnesota,)	
Nebraska, Ohio . . .)	16
(4 in each)	
19 other states	30

Total 755

At this time, 441 members have paid dues for 1980. We are certain that those who have not yet paid dues wish to remain affiliated with the Heritage Foundation and to con-

tinue to receive your copy of the "DEDICTVI" as only in this way will you know what is going on and what will take place during the year.

We have a long ways to go to attain our goals. If you retain your membership, we can be assured of continued success in our undertakings.

IF you have not paid your dues, you will find a form with this letter. Send your check to Czech Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia 52406. Dues are \$3.00 per person (Jan. thru Dec.)



If you wish to give a gift membership to your relatives, friends, or even neighbors, you may do so at this time and they will receive all 4 issues of the newsletter for 1980.

Charles H. Vyskocil
Financial Secretary

To Members, Friends, and All Czechs,

All of us will want to take part in the coming FUND DRIVE to rehabilitate our future Museum and Library and to ADD MORE DISPLAYS to our permanent collections.

You are familiar with such categories of donors to worthy causes who are often listed by such names as PATRON, BENEFACTOR, SPONSOR, CONTRIBUTOR, FRIEND, based on the amount of the contribution. Such sums are tax exempt when given to the Museum Fund. In the meantime, watch for details about such a drive and start feeding that big "piggy bank" from time to time.

The Editor

..... cut off here.....

MEMBERSHIP IN CZECH HERITAGE FOUNDATION

renewal _____ new _____ gift membership _____

Your name _____ Phone _____

Your address _____ zip _____

If you include a gift membership, name of person(s) _____

_____ and address _____

Dues are \$3.00 per person for one year (Jan. 1 to Dec 31.) Please make check payable to Czech Heritage Foundation and mail to PO Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406.

Enclosed: Dues \$ _____ Donation \$ _____ Total \$ _____

If you need more space for names, please use other side of this form or add another sheet of paper. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA acclaimed - 8 -
the world tennis champion continues
to win tournament after tournament
Australia, England, USA, elsewhere.

Do you remember the old time big
circus parades? People came on foot,
wagon or buggy. As the parade moved
along, an outrider would call out,
"Hold your horses, the elephants
are coming!" The men folks would
grab the halter and steady the animal
and keep him from looking
around at the elephants. (Maybe
the horses could smell something
different was afoot?)

Members and other Readers-
you are invited to send remarks,
suggestions and even questions
to the Editor, P.O.Box 761, The
Czech Heritage Foundation, Cedar
Rapids, Ia 52406. Next issue out
late June.

Editor gives THANKS to the
helpers in addressing the news-
letters: Libbie Vig, Elizabeth
Burianek, Mildred Drahovzal and
Janice Kralik. Any other of you
want to volunteer? Let Editor
hear from you. mms

***To Members whose dues for 1980 remain unpaid: THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE !!

CZECH HERITAGE FDN.
P. O. Box 761
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

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