

# NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE

Vol. 8 - No. 1  
March 1983

Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations  
P. O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406



## CALENDAR

## KALENDÁŘ

- Mar. 12 Sat. ŠIBŘINKY CZECH COSTUME BALL, Sokol Hall, Cedar Rapids  
Mar. 19 ST. JOSEPH'S DAY, Czech Village  
Apr. 23 Sat. Sokol PORK SUPPER  
29-30) ETHNIC FAIR, St. Paul, Minn.  
May 1 ) Details in right column  
May 14-15 Sat., Sun. HOUBY DAYS, Czech Village, Cedar Rapids  
June 4-5 Sat., Sun. ETHNIC FAIR, Cedar Rapids, Riverside Roundhouse.  
Aug. 6-7 Sat., Sun. Czech Festival, Wilber, Nebraska  
Aug. 18, Thurs. ANNUAL PICNIC - Czech Heritage & Fine Arts Fdns.  
Sept. 9, 10, 11. The 10th Annual CZECH FESTIVAL, Czech Village, C. R.  
Nov. ? ? SUPER ETHNIC FAIR, Chicago  
Dec. 3 Sv. MIKULÁŠ DAY, Czech Village.

VÍTAME VÁS ! GREETINGS !

The busy year of 1982 is behind us and we are looking forward with anticipation to an enjoyable and rewarding 1983. I was hoping that someone else would be writing this message but it was only wishful thinking! Since I was asked to be President for the coming year, Mae and I will strive to make it just as worthwhile as the past year. I Thank You for the wonderful cooperation in the past and know that by working together as we have in the past, we all shall have a full and satisfying 1983. Looking forward to seeing you at our Board meetings, 2nd Tuesday of the month, at the Lounge of Western Fraternal Life Ass'n. Building and working with you on numerous projects to promote and preserve our Czech heritage.

Na shledanou! Frank W. Novotny  
President, Czech Heritage Fdn.

The ETHNIC FESTIVAL, CHICAGO, is said to be THE LARGEST AND BEST IN THE MID-WEST! Details in the September issue of the newsletter. Some of you might be interested in a bus trip in November.

FESTIVAL OF NATIONS, St. Paul, Minn. After a successful Milwaukee trip last fall, many who enjoyed the trip suggested another trip might be possible. Plans are underway to go to St. Paul, departing Apr. 30, stay at Holiday Inn 2 blocks from the Civic Center and return May 1st in the evening. If you are interested please phone as you read this (1-319-365-0868). We expect the 47 passenger bus to be filled. We look forward to an enjoyable weekend with you!

Frank and Mae Novotny

## CEDAR RAPIDS NIGHT at DES MOINES.

Through the efforts of the Cedar Rapids-Marion Chamber of Commerce, a group of Rapidians (including 40 from Czech Heritage Fdn.) spent an enjoyable evening at "Diamond Jack's" on the State Fair Grounds. Purpose of the trip was to meet with State officials and members of the State Legislature and talk about politics and plans. The theme was "Czech Night". With the able help of Gerald Boddicker on the Board of the Chamber of Commerce, our Czech group in their colorful costumes and the Czech Band playing traditional polkas & waltzes contributed to the success of the event.

A late lunch of ham on rye, cheese, smoked carp, beer, jaternice, kolaches and popcorn were served throughout the evening by many of the Czech participants. A friendly and pleasant evening was had by some 600 guests. You really had to be there to realize the full value of getting together. Gerald and I thank all of you Czechs who made this venture possible.

Frank W. Novotny, President



CZECH MUSEUM, 10-16th Ave. S.W., will be open on Saturdays, starting March 19th. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

FRANK PESEK became a citizen 67 years ago and observed his birthday the 24th of February. He was born in 1885 in the former province of Moravia, some 15 miles west of Litomyšl, in the village of Rychmburk. In the family were an older sister, a brother who died at age 6, and another brother at age 20 died of injuries in World War I.

Frank attended school until age 13 1/2. There were three classrooms, each with two grades, with as many as 80 pupils in each room. The girls sat on one side of the room and the boys on the other side. There were six teachers including the principal who lived in the school. The State religion was Catholic and was taught 2 hours/week by the priest who was paid by the government.



After school the boys would go to the woods to hunt mushrooms, berries and nuts in season. After sugar beet harvest the boys picked up the left-over beets in the fields for feed for the one cow the family owned and also beets provided the sugar for cooking. The mother made cottage cheese and from the fruit trees plums and prunes were gathered. Some prunes were dried for winter use. From cabbage there would be kraut. Kolaches were a rare treat on only special occasions.

On small flat fields the family scattered a mixture of seeds of rye, wheat and barley. After harvest the grain mixture was taken to the mill to be ground into flour.

Frank's father worked on highways and road construction. His mother worked in the house of the manager of a nearby estate on which there was a castle dating to the 1300's. Later the castle was enlarged and fortified. The manager wanted to teach Frank to play the flute. Twice a week the flute lesson was from 5:30 to 6:30 a.m. because that was "free time"! At age 16 Frank was playing with the local orchestra. For dances the music was polkas with many Strauss waltzes.

In those days workers lived in villages and worked on estates of the wealthy and nobility unless they had a special trade. The dwellings usually had one large room - sednice (also světnice)-- where the family lived. It served as kitchen, dining room, bedroom and parlor--all in one. Perhaps a small adjoining room would be a

pantry or storage area.

After 1648, the close of the Thirty Years War, the Hapsburg Dynasty came to rule. The workers gave 4 days of free work to the landlord. After the French Revolution, the workers put in 2 days a week for the landlord. Many villages were the property of the landlord who lived in a castle or manor house on the hilltop overlooking the valley farm lands. When Frank finished school, he was apprenticed to a locksmith in a nearby town. At age 17 he was seeking a job. As a member of the Guild of Locksmiths, he wandered about on foot to find work, going to Austria, Moravia, Poland and Germany. In the early 1900's the Guild provided free room and board for itinerate locksmiths. Also he was not permitted to do other work.

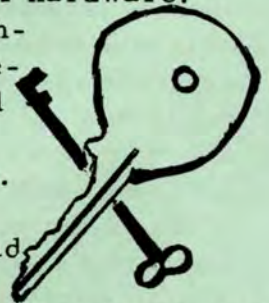
Often one village would be Catholic and the adjoining village would be Protestant. On Sundays, Frank would go to the library to read until one o'clock. He was an omnivorous reader--learning about United States and the Indians!

Times were hard and jobs few. However, he found a job in Tabor. A new building was under construction and he was hired to make locks, bolts, hinges and other hardware.

About this time the new machine-made Yale locks were being imported into Europe and local locksmiths were going out of business by 1903-1904.

A funny thing happened to Frank in Tabor. A woman had a large beautiful cabinet but lost the key to the Yale lock. Frank was sent to open the cabinet. He noticed another cabinet in the room - took the key from that cabinet and - presto! the key unlocked the locked cabinet. The woman gave him a generous tip and asked him to make a spare key. He never did tell his boss how he managed to open the cabinet. His boss thought him to be an exceptional locksmith.

With work as a locksmith unavailable, Frank sought a livelihood in Germany at a factory making enamelware in the Hartz Mts. not far from Leipzig.





**OFFICERS for CZECH VILLAGE ASS'N. 1983**

President, Gerald Boddicker

Vice President, Ernie Hlas

Secretary, Patty Konecny

Treasurer, Ray Snitil

Ass't. Treasurer, Les Sykora

The Board of Directors includes the officers and Ernest Kosek, Frank W. Novotny, Lumir Vondracek, George Joens, Bob Schaffer, Dick Barta, Gary Samek.

**HOUBY DAYS, May 14-15, MUSHROOM DAYS**

Again the Village will display a panorama of mushrooms with Czech fun and tradition for visitors to Czech Village. A Mushroom Hunt Contest will award trophies for the smallest, largest, tallest, most oddly-shaped, best display and most creative display-

of mushrooms. Not the hunters!

This 5th Annual Houby Days, co-sponsored by Czech Village Ass'n.,



Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations,

will feature mushroom delicacies at Village

restaurants. Mushrooms and scrambled

eggs for breakfast will be served on both

Saturday and Sunday, 7 to 11 a.m. at the

Festival Tent on Joens Brothers Interiors

Parking Lot. The breakfast will be sponsored

by the Hawkeye Area Council Boy Scouts of

America. Price per breakfast will again be

\$3.00 per plate. Scouts will plan, prepare

and serve the houby meal. Czech music and

dancing will be presented by Beseda Dancers

from Sokol, the Boddicker School of Music

(Accordionaires, Jets and Peanuts group,

Accordion Aces, Czech Showcase), the Czech

Heritage Band and the Czech Plus Polka Band,

A feature this year will be the FLEA MARKET

with 40 or more booths of arts, crafts, col-

lectibles and antiques and more--held IN-

DOORS at 76 - 16th Ave. S. W. in the Village,

Saturday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. -

4 p.m. On Sunday 1-5 p.m. you will see

displays and demonstrations of Czech arts

and Crafts such as quilting, bobbin lace ma-

king and egg decorating. Details about events

are available: phone Pat Martin, Village Co-

ordinator, , or write her at

59 - 16th Ave. S. W., C. R., Ia. 52404 for schedule.

CZECH BOOK II, in the making -- CONTENTS NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED! Many of you have a copy of THE CZECH BOOK, Traditions and Recipes, by Pat Martin, Co-ordinator, Czech Village. The book she is now developing is to have recipes of the "finger food" type, dainty, nibbling kind, the "hors d'oeuvres" of Czech culinary arts and "how to make them". Other items not in the first book will include folk sayings, witticisms, brief items about musicians, writers, churches, monuments and other special features. If you are interested in contributing to this "sequel" booklet, please send your inquiries and letters to Pat Martin to her home,

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY, March 19, Czech Village Saturday is THE DAY to "think red" while celebrating with friends and well-wishers of the Czech community the end of winter and beginning of spring!

The traditional "caravan" through the Village starts at 1 p.m. leaving Riverside Roundhouse and moving onto the Avenue. Jerry Boddicker, President of the Village Ass'n. says, "This caravan is the highlight of the day."

Special music at restaurants and taverns, and at the Museum will entertain. Village Shops will have some specials--one is a discount to the Joes and Josephines. Visitors can enjoy red beer, red bread and wearing some red clothing. This is a time for fun and time to honor those with the name of JOE. For centuries this annual holiday has its roots in parts of the former province of Bohemia, now part of Czechoslovakia.



THIRD ETHNIC FESTIVAL June 4-5, Saturday, Sunday, Riverside Roundhouse, just off Czech Village, between the 12th and 16th Avenue

bridges. Event celebrates the ethnic origins of some 8 to 10 groups in the area. Come for a weekend of ethnic dancing, music, food and entertainment, arts and crafts.

Village News - by Pat Martin.

FRANK PESEK. There he found Polish workers in the coal-gas-making operation. The gas heated the factory, the resulting coke was used for smelting iron ore in the steel mills. The day and night shifts alternated week by week. Here Frank was classified as an Austrian because it was the time of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

On his night shift, Frank slept from 6:30 a.m. until noon. Pay was \$3.00/day for 10 hours, 6 days a week. At the end of the first month he had a raise to \$5.00/day. In his spare time he went sightseeing with the two daughters of the family with whom he lived. The girls enjoyed the outings because they would not have been able to go any place without a male escort. He enjoyed the outings because he learned much about the people and customs of Germany.

One of his excursions was to the Hartz Mts., famous for its canaries. How the canaries were captured is interesting. A pole was fastened to the trunk of a pine tree. A canary was fastened to the top of the pole. Wild canaries would flock to the tree, settle on the branches and get stuck on the glue which had been spread there. The canaries would be removed, their feet washed, then tested for singing. The singers were shipped to United States to be sold, the non-singers were released.

The year 1906 was THE year for a major change in Frank's life. He went home to visit his parents, knowing it would be his last visit. He had decided to come to the United States. He had saved enough money for passage in spite of low wages. He had friends in Cedar Rapids, Iowa!

Frank had left his trunk at Desden on his way back to Czechy and was assured his trunk would be in Bremen at the ship when he embarked. He was now 21. Because he had been working in Germany, he was not registered for military service in Austria, in the province of Moravia. So! He returned to Germany and arrived in Bremen.

At the port he found emigrants from all over Europe on their way to America. There was a 4 day delay as one of the ships in the fleet was returning from Argentina and went down in a storm off Cuba. Finally a ship sailed for Liverpool to pick up more passengers and also to place some of the passengers on another

ship. One sailed to New York and the other to Baltimore. Frank did not get the



Welcome from the Statue of Liberty because his ship went to Baltimore. This is something he very much regrets.

At Baltimore, helpful people served a sumptuous meal. Frank was warned not to part with any money under any circumstances. He had his train ticket. A tag was fastened to his coat with his name and destination.

From Baltimore it was the B & O that took him to Chicago. There the Milwaukee Rd. took him to Marion, Iowa, where he arrived at a late hour. He slept in the depot and in the morning, Dec. 26th he took the train to Cedar Rapids to meet his friend, Mr. Melichar, with whose family he lived for some time. The snow was several feet deep and it was a real wintry day.

Frank was willing to do any work he could find. He started at Sinclairs (now Wilson & Co.) but was laid off after a few months. Short jobs were of various kinds, one was digging ditches for the Gas Company, then unloading box cars for the Rock Island. A rupture forced him to the hospital for surgery and a lay off for 3 months. He returned to work at Sinclairs for a year. Then he took to the road for St. Joseph, Mo., to Omaha, and for 9 months on a farm near Wilber, Nebraska. Back to Sinclairs for a short time, then hauling milk for a farmer near Ely for a few months. Finally he returned to Sinclairs where he remained until he retired. He began Americanization classes at Matice Školská and received his citizenship papers in 1916. In 1912 he had married a classmate in that group, Agnes Stulik. Their children are Frank, Jr. who served in the Army Engineers in WW II and now an industrialist in Tokyo; Gustav, now retired, was in the Navy in submarine service in the Pacific, and Katherine, a retired teacher, who returned to C.R. to live with her father. She was a program director in the Urbana, Ill. USO during WW II.

When Frank, Sr. was first working at Sinclairs, his pay was 15¢/hr. with extra for overtime, making \$14/wk. He was with Wilson's until 1950 when he retired. He has led a long adventuresome and fulfilling life in America.

Katherine P. Archibald

# Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.

At the Annual Meeting of the Czech Fine Arts Fdn. in January the following officers for 1983 were announced:

President - Robert Schaffer; Vice President - Lovell Dvorak; Secretaries -- Marie Trachta, Rose Kopecky; Treasurer, Elsie Jelinek.

The Board members in addition to the officers are: Arlene Boddicker, Jana and Milan Fast, Georgiana Brejcha, Mildred Drahovzal, Dorothy Gilmore, Joan Havran, Charles Krejci, Milton Langer, Esther and Wencil Lippert, Harriet Nowadsky, Mildred Ortner, Gus Pesek

Senator JEPSEN visits Czech Village, to meet some of the officers of the Village, the two Foundations and visit the merchants on the Avenue as the group toured the village, and enjoyed refreshments at Wencesslaus Square Restaurant. The Senator was introduced by Ernest Kosek.

**CZECH STAMP COLLECTION ON DISPLAY** at the Museum. The Czech Heritage Fdn. is pleased to announce the exhibition of a collection of 84 Czechoslovak Commemorative Stamps on loan from Chares E. Krejci. Famous Czechs, Slovaks and a few Russians are identified by name and field of achievement. If you have not seen the display of "The History of Czechs in Linn County" plan to see it soon. Many changes have been made at the exhibits so you will be sure to see something new and interesting.

R. J. Stone

**Annual ŠIBŘINKY CZECH COSTUME BALL**, Sokol Hall, 415 3rd St. S. E., Cedar Rapids, Saturday, March 12, 1983, from 8:30 p. m. to 12:30 a. m. Free kolaches and coffee for those in masked costumes and prizes for best costumes! Music by the Jolly Bohemians. Tables set around the dance floor. \$3.00 per person. Phone Jos. Pazour, or write to him at

for reservations and tickets.

NAZDAR ! Jos. Pazour

AND the ever popular **PORK SUPPER** at Sokol Hall, April 23, Saturday - In Czech Village tickets (\$5.50) may be purchased at United State Bank, at Bartunek's Maytag Store in the Village

**SUDEK/SAUDEK EXHIBIT** at Museum of Art, University of Iowa, Iowa City, now on until April 3rd. Both are Czechs, both photographers, but unlike in the nature of their work. Josef SUDEK (1896-1976), was recognized by the Czech Gov't. in 1961 as "Artist of Merit". Jan SAUDEK (1935 - ) is Jewish, spent some months in a WW II concentration camp and continues to be a factory worker as well as an artist.



? ? DID YOU KNOW ? ? that UNICEF GREETING CARDS were the result of a young Czech girl writing a "thank you" note with a drawing on it in 1950 to UNICEF

for her appreciation what had been done in Czechoslovakia to provide a hot meal a day (1948-52) to thousands of children in the war torn Central Europe? Her name was Jitka Samova. By 1957 over a million cards were sold by UNICEF whose designs on cards come from all over the world. UNICEF items are sold in 137 countries. The total number of cards sold (1950-1981) is more than 1 1/2 billion. UNICEF funds must be matched by the applying country to provide school books, pens, pencils, lunch programs, schools, training of local teachers, and nutrition programs in schools.

? ? DID YOU KNOW ? ? that Poet Henry Longfellow wrote a poem about Prague? It is 12 stanzas, written in 1839 - the same year he wrote The Village Blacksmith! The title of the poem "THE BELEAGUERED CITY" has ideas somewhat mystical and ethical. The poem was sent to us by Eleanor Pohorsky Fencil Elkington of St. Petersburg, Fla. A few quotes: I have read . . of . . the walls of Prague . . . The Moldau's rushing stream, With the wan moon overhead. . the old cathedral bell proclaimed morning prayer . . Faith shineth as a moving star, Our Ghastly fears are dead."

or from Jos. Pazour. The number of tickets is limited to 400 so shop early for your reservation.



MEMBERSHIP reported by Charles Vyskocil as of January 1, 1983 was 834, with persons in 126 cities, 29 states, one in England and 2 in Czechoslovakia. We have yet to reach that 1000. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. It is NOT a train headlight but your bright two eyes seeking new members!

mms

CZECH FOLKLORE (Český Národopis) by Dr. Vladimír Kucera has 230 pages, with illustrations at \$12.95 including postage and tax. Order from Dr. Kucera at 2511 North 46th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68504. Dr. Kucera has written several books about Czechs in Nebraska and has recently retired from the Nebraska Historical Society.

Ottův

SLOVNÍK NAUČNÝ

printed in Praha, is a 28 volume set of encyclopedias now available at our Cedar Rapids Library. You will

find them a most helpful source of reference for past events and historical facts along with 12 volumes of DODATKY (the supplement volumes) dating to 1943. The City Library had a grant in 1975 from some federal funds that came from the State for the purchase of books to improve the reference collections. Not only did they purchase the set in Czech but also volumes in Italian, German and French. The Czech set cost \$520. The problem is that space is SO LIMITED in the present library, that these handsome books are on the very top shelves in the stacks. Fortunately, soon this will be remedied when the new library is completed.

Item from NEW YORKSKÉ LISTY, Oct. 16, 1948. An event held in Rapid City, So. Dakota, commemorated the defeat of General George Custer at the Battle of Little Big Horn, 1876, by the Sioux. A picture from the parade showed 3 Sioux Chiefs, Iron Hawk (89), Dewey Bear (88) and High Eagle (87) in their traditional regalia.

ALBIN POLÁŠEK, Sculptor, is represented in the famous Myrtle Beach, South Carolina Gardens. His work, MAN CARVING HIS OWN DESTINY, is among 400 sculptures in the Brookgreen Gardens. His works tend to be the massive-heroic type. Originally the land supported one rice and four indigo plantations. The collection of those 400 pieces is said to be THE largest in the world!



(picture from MODERN MATURITY June-July, 1982)

In 1930 the plantation became the property of Archer Huntington, heir to a railroad fortune, and his wife, Anna Hyatt Huntington, a sculptor. Both are known for their philanthropic works.

INTERNATIONAL RADIO of PRAGUE awarded First Prize to TED HLUBUCEK of Cedar Rapids for his essay on "How Important has or had Czech Folk and Classical Music in the Country Where You Now Live?" Competition was world-wide. The prize was a set of recordings of Dvorak's "Symphony of the New World". Many of you will recall that Dvorak completed that work when he spent a summer in Spillville, Iowa.



Women' SOKOL Unit, CARD PARTY--March 30, Wednesday. Doors open at noon. Sokol Hall, Cedar Rapids Donation \$1.25. Refreshments served.

SUMMER TRIPS to CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Often we are asked about tours and here are two possibilities altho there may be others: group departs Chicago June 16 and returns July 2. Twenty cities and places are visited under tour leader. Departing with the same group it is possible to stay 21 days visiting relatives and friends and making your own bus trips or even going to Vienna. Return to Chicago is July 9. A 30 day trip is also available with return July 16. Details and prices may be obtained from agent, James V. Cada, Western Fraternal Life Ass'n., 1900 First Ave. N.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402. For those who would be interested in departure from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, on a conducted tour depart May 31, return June 22. Guide is Dr. Vera McKenna who was born and raised in Prague. She writes she "has access to people and places most tourists do not see." Write her at

Dr. McKenna is on the staff of the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks and teaches some classes in Czech culture and heritage.



MANY ETHNIC PROGRAMS heard on four radio stations in Cleveland, Ohio. Joe Kocab is the "Czech Voice of Cleveland" on Sunday mornings. These ethnic programs are representative of the following groups in that area: Czech, Slovenian, Irish, Polish, Slovak, German, Italian, Lithuanian, Spanish, Croatian, Hungarian and Ukrainian. Polka party programs are broadcast. Hours range from a half-hour to two hours per program. A few noon time programs are listed for Saturday and Thursday evenings. Some are on AM and others on FM stations. That takes a very considerable production activity by the persons planning the programs in so many languages! CONGRATULATIONS on such a community effort!



Famous HARVARD GLASS FLOWERS by Leopold and Rudolph Blaschka. Grandfather Blaschka learned the glasswork in Bohemia-- the most widely known glassworks at the time. Son Leopold and grandson Rudolf were in Dresden, Germany, when in 1886 the first Director of the Botanical Museum at Harvard, Dr. G. L. Goodale, persuaded the Blaschkas to try their skill at plant models. The men had been pre-occupied with making glass models of marine life but agreed to spend one-half of their time on plant models. Four years later (1890) the Blaschkas agreed to devote ALL of their time to models of plant life.

Known as the WARE COLLECTION because the project was financed by the Ware family of Boston and others in the city, the exhibits number 850 life-size models of 750 species and varieties of plants in 164 families with more than 5000 detailed models of enlarged flowers.

Because the first shipment of models were badly damaged by customs inspectors, later shipments were unpacked at the Museum while the customs inspectors looked on!

At different times and to different places the son went on trips to the tropics and North America to see the live flowers in their environment, making sketches and taking voluminous notes. Some specimens were collected, some species' seeds were planted in royal gardens and arboretums. In 1936 the last of the family who worked on the project retired after some 50 years of devotion to the art. Grandfather Blaschka would say that glass objects are made by tact and one must be born with the skill.

An average of 2000 people/week visit the Museum at Harvard University. The collection is the only one of its kind in the world. Some of the objects let out on loan have been ruined beyond repair. Adapted from Nov. 1982 SMITHSONIAN. Original book published by E. P. Dutton, authored by R. E. Schulte and W. A. Davis.



ANNUAL MEETING OF CZECH HERITAGE FDN  
January 17, 1983, the following were elected for  
1983 term -

President, Frank W. Novotny  
Vice-Pres., Charles Jungmann  
Secretary, Janice Kralik  
Treasurer, Charles E. Krejci  
Fin. Secretary, Charles H. Vyskocil

Board members include the officers and: James  
V. Cada, Denver Dvorsky, Dennis Hrabak,  
Leona Kaplan, David Kralik, Robert and Eva  
Kouba, Robert Kubik, Emil Lamparek, Wencil  
Lippert, Mae Novotny, Russel F. Novotny,  
Betty Petrzalek, Donald Smith, Marjorie and  
Robert Stone, Blanche Trachta, Ted and Bette  
Trefny, Adeline Volesky, Mana Zlatohlavek.

CEDAR RAPIDS a NADACE (Cedar Rapids  
and Foundations) appeared in the Czechoslo-  
venský SVĚT, #18, 1981 on page 6, by T.B.  
Hlubucek, USA. The article covers about  
one-fourth of the page telling that years ago  
Cedar Rapids was called CZECH ATHENS.  
For over 100 years the learning of their cul-  
ture and language, young people attended  
Matice Školská (Mother School). A second edu-  
cational opportunity was available with the  
founding of Matice Vyššího Vzdělání (Council  
of Higher Education) in Cedar Rapids (later  
moved to Chicago area) which continues to  
provide loans and scholarships to college  
students of Czech ancestry. The most recent  
foundation organized is the Czech Heritage  
Foundation and also the Czech Village Ass'n.  
on 16th Avenue S. W. in the city of Cedar  
Rapids.

"Thank you" Ted for telling the folks in  
Czechoslovakia about us and Cedar Rapids.

A lady visiting here from a far-away state  
paid Cedar Rapids a compliment that we like  
to hear, namely that we are the cleanest city  
in the United States. Why - she even got  
specific and mentioned southwest side, 16th  
Ave. none other than Czech Village!



FRANTIŠEK SMETANA, grand-nephew of  
Bedřich Smetana, is a cellist and on the  
faculty of the Virginia Commonwealth  
University in Richmond. He will be the  
soloist with the Northland Symphony Or-  
chestra in an all Dvorak program, April  
24th at Park College, Parkville, Mo.

COUNCIL OF HIGH EDUCATION reached  
80 years of service and dedication in pro-  
viding loans and scholarships. The stu-  
dent's academic record after one year at  
college is important to qualify and also to  
be of Czech or Slovak ancestry. Over the  
years, 741 students have benefited with  
interest-free loans. The Hovorka Endow-  
ment Fund has made more than 600 grants  
to over \$300,000 in the 16 years of its  
existence. In the academic year 1981-82,  
grants helped 63 students, totaling  
\$31,903. If you have a student in college  
or know of worthy students needing some  
financial aid, let them know about this  
source of funds.

To keep up this good work, you might be  
interested to send in a Life Membership  
which is \$100 for individuals and \$250 for  
organizations. Whatever you choose, send  
your check to the Council of Higher Edu-  
cation, Box 136, Brookfield, Ill., 60513.

FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY are  
of interest to many families and indivi-  
duals. Too many facts are too often un-  
known to the present generations.  
WHERE were your ancestors born? WHEN?  
WHAT village or province or district?  
DATE they departed for America? From  
what PORT did they sail and the NAME of  
the ship? At what PORT did they arrive in  
United States? When a person knows NONE  
of the above facts, what is one to do?  
Often it was a case of disinterest of the  
early families to want to remember about  
the "Old Country" and for some it was the  
lack of any skills in writing and reading.

(continued on last page)



MEMBERSHIP IN CZECH HERITAGE FOUNDATION

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

This newsletter went to press Feb. 28th. If you have mailed your dues in the meantime, you will receive an acknowledgment later. Thank you.

If your dues ARE PAID for 1983 you will find PAID stamped on this form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ renewal \_\_\_\_\_ new \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Donations and gift memberships are always welcome. Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
If dues ARE NOT PAID for 1983 this will be your LAST NEWSLETTER !Sorry!

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Family History. Would any of you be interested in having a list of names printed in the newsletter and then if you have the same family name and wish to write to those people, send us your name and address and we will send on to you the persons of the same name. Anyone reading this who might be a Smetana? We will send you the name of the family that made the inquiry. P.O. Box 716, Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52406.

35th ANNUAL CZECH DAYS, TABOR, SOUTH DAKOTA... June 20-21, 1983 Monday-Tuesday. Giant Parade, Band concerts, Beseda Dancers, Free Stage Shows and more...

ST. LUDMILAS KOLACH FESTIVAL, Cedar Rapids, June 10, 11, 12. All kinds of goodies, entertainment, music, rides, midway and contests.

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

