

Czech Heritage Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE



Sv. Mikuláš with the Devil and Angel. The Devil and the Angel assist Sv. Mikuláš as he wends his way in the village greeting children and giving them a small treat.



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Editor Adeline L. Volesky
Proof Reader Leona Poduska
Contributors Mary & Cyrus Cacioppo
 Marie Cada
 Olga Drahozal
 JoFran Falcon
 Sister Genevieve Novotny
 Frank Novotny
 Leona Poduska
 Roland Raim
 Caroline Touchberry

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NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

Subscriptions for the newsletter are not sold. Members of the Czech Heritage Fd'n. who pay their annual dues of \$3.00 per person per year receive *Naše České Dědictví* free. Dues are renewable on January 1 of each year and expire December 31. The newsletter which is mailed quarterly, serves to inform its members of its activities, people, and places. (Dues received in September apply to the following year for new members.)

Deadline for receiving articles for the March issue is January 26, 2000.

NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers who helped with mailing of the September issue of the newsletter were Donald and Alma Rigel and my husband John. Thank you for your help. Great job!

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Ready or not, the year 2000 is almost upon us. There has been tremendous growth and progress over the past century. With man's brilliant and creative mind and technical progress I will not even venture a guess what lies ahead. How many of our grandparents or even parents would have envisioned a man walking on the moon, computers, and cordless telephones? I went to a new supermarket and they asked me to do my own checkout! I was not ready for the challenge. Besides I enjoy the personal touch.

In September John and I attended the National Master Farm Homemakers Convention in Salina, Kansas. We have attended all but two national conventions in the past eighteen years. This year I was nominated and installed as National Vice President for a period of three years. I am relinquishing my job as editor of *NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ*. I want to thank everyone for all the interesting stories, clippings and articles I received that made my job easier. I will miss the letters and calls I received since my first issue of March 1993. I am happy to have had the privilege to serve as editor. It was a challenge and learning experience in a field I knew very little about, but a rewarding one.

I will continue to be involved in the Czech Heritage Foundation, museum and other Czech activities. My Czech heritage and loyalty runs too deep not to be involved.

I encourage our readers to continue sending articles of interest and more importantly show your loyalty to your heritage and renew your membership. At \$3.00 per year it is affordable to everyone.

Adeline L. Volesky

PERSEVERANCE

A young jockey lost his first race, his second, his third, his first ten, his first twenty. But he kept trying.

He lost his first 100 races, his first 200. But he kept plugging away — and lost fifty more.

After 250 straight losses, Eddie Arcaro won his first race! He went on to become the most famous jockey of his era, winning the most money in 1948, 1950, 1952 and 1955.

Anyone who sets her or his goals high is bound to have a certain number of failures. Babe Ruth set a record for the number of home runs he hit.

We tend to forget he also set a record for strikeouts. He didn't let that worry him — he just kept swinging for the fences!

Submitted by Marie Cada

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

We so enjoy receiving the great newsletter "Our Czech Heritage." Thank you and your team for a job well done.

Perhaps, through this newsletter, I may get the answer I have been looking for, for months. I was given a large head scarf that measures about 55" x 58". I understand there is a specific traditional way to fold the scarf. Someone even said they believe a square piece of cardboard is put into one of the folds to create the headpiece. Do you think one of your readers might be able to tell me how to fold the scarf or give me information as to where I might find this information? I will enclose my address if a reader wishes to drop me a post card or if you think it might be of interest to other readers, the person can send the information to the newsletter and can be published in a future publication.

Thank you and I will appreciate any effort on your part to help me.

Sincerely yours,
Rosemary Kasparian

Dear Editor,

I really enjoy the NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ and do not want to miss out on any copies.

I wish to have my address changed. I recently moved into town after spending fifty years on the farm. I thought it would be hard to leave but I do not miss it. I am 80 years young and much more worry free.

Sincerely,
Agnes Schrumpf
Orland, CA

Dear Editor,

Each time I receive NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ I marvel at its content.

Oh how wonderful it must have been to travel through Germany, Czech Republic and Austria and to have actually visited your mother's birthplace.

We never knew where our grandparents were born — what village. I'm not quite sure why. The Novotny name is very common. The Rozeks came from Moravia.

Do take care and God bless you.

Love & prayers
Sister Genevieve Novotny

WE NEED TO KEEP GOING - GOING - GOING

The Czech Heritage Foundation was organized in 1974. A group met during lunch hour in a store in Czech Village. Over the 25 years much has been accomplished, but like the Energizer battery, we plan to keep going, going and going.

If you have time or a special interest, we encourage you to get involved. Following is a list of committees and activities to consider.

Member of the Czech Heritage Board. It is a one year term. Meetings are held in the museum every second Tuesday of every month.

The Prince and Princess Committee encourages eligible candidates to apply and serve as judges or secure judges.

Budget and Audit Committee checks the financial records once every year.

The Homestay Committee has been in existence for some time. In 1984 we sent our first student for a one month stay in Prague. We have sent students every year since sending 49 in all. We had some disappointed students this year who wanted to go but none went because we were unable to locate an organization through which to work. We need volunteers who can make things happen so we can send students to the Czech Republic again next year.

The Scholarship Committee has been in existence for some time, but we have only recently raised enough funds to award our first college scholarship last year. Applications are made available and applicants are judged.

The Educational Committee mainly visits schools and presents a pre-planned program of 30 to 45 minutes using a portable mini museum and educational kit to students upon the invitation of schools.

The Publication Committee is in charge of our books, pamphlets, histories, songbooks, etc. We receive orders for resale and private use to many states. Orders are filled and shipped.

The Parade Committee is chaired by Leonard Pfeifer. We participate in the St. Joseph's Day and Houby Day parade as well as some other holiday parades.

The Newsletter is published quarterly. Articles are gathered and prepared to send to the printer.

The Ethnic Fest Committee works with other local ethnic groups to put on a festival. Last year we did not have an Ethnic Fest and the event was missed and it is hoped it can be revived.

We know our readers have a lot of talent and we hope you will help us. Contact: Russ Novotny,
or
call



BIOGRAPHY

Anna Reif was born on May 1, 1904 to Joseph and Katherine Barta Elias only six weeks after her parents immigrated from Bohemia in 1904 to Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Rather than be conscripted into the Austrian army, the

Elias Family and their two children Marie (Havlik) and Wesley (Deceased) opted to leave their homeland and sail for America. After Anna was born 5 more children were born, Sister Christine, Bessie (Sasek), Lula (Burian) deceased, Hattie (Skvor) deceased and baby Joseph (deceased).

Anna attended Van Buren School until St. Ludmilas Catholic School opened in 1914 to accommodate children who spoke Czech and to assist the Czech immigrants who came to settle in the area. Many of the families were too poor to pay for the children's education so they paid in produce or poultry. One family gave a live chicken. The nuns wanted to prepare the chicken but had a bad hand so she asked Anna to help with the butchering. The axe was very dull and Anna had a hard time with the execution. She is still remorseful about the incident.

After graduating from St. Ludmilas she attended old Washington High School. In her second year she saw an ad for a secretary for the Hubbard & Merrill Milling Co. She did not have stationery so she tore a page from her notebook and applied for the job. She had to confess to her parents she quit school for a job. She earned \$15 a week. She gave half her earnings to her parents. The family was never wealthy so the Depression never affected them. One of Anna's favorite holidays was the Fourth of July because that was the holiday when every child got an ice cream cone. Anna's father provided for the family by working for the city with horses at that time.

Anna had a very close friend and did things together. When her friend had a date she found a blind date for Anna. When her blind date arrived, she peeked through the floor register to see what he looked like. The blind date was Edward Reif, who later became her husband. The couple married at St. Ludmilas Church. There was no celebration but a charivari followed.

Mr. Reif needed a job and his brother-in-law asked him to join him in Chicago in the construction of roads to the suburbs. Anna moved to Chicago as a temporary relocation but it lasted 25

years. During that time they had two sons Edward and Glenn. They lived in Chicago until Mr. Reif suffered a heart attack. Mr. Reif died in 1974. Anna has 2 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

Anna, now 95, is quick and alert. She swims at the Y three times a week for exercise. She is a volunteer at the Nat'l. Czech & Slovak Museum & Library every week. She attends senior citizens groups and parties. She crochets, knits and loves to embroider. She lives in her own home and has no health problems and takes no medication. She takes a One-A-Day vitamin pill every day and keeps a bottle of aspirin handy. She looks and acts much younger than her age.

CZECH PRINCE & PRINCESS

It was time to announce our new Czech Prince and Princess sponsored by the Czech Heritage Fd'n. of Cedar Rapids and what better place than at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library annual fall dinner on October 30, 1999.

Due to the absence of Russ Novotny and Sylvia Rohlena the ceremony was performed by Frank Novotny with the help of the Prince and Princess of 1999. The retiring Prince was absent so, the reigning Princess Katie Ziskovsky did the honors. The new Prince James Edward Hamous, son of Bruce and Barbara Hamous and the new Princess Lydia Drahozal, daughter of Walter and Jan Drahozal were asked to come forward and the retiring Princess presented them each with a banner, a crown, flowers and a book of Czech Proverbs by Chas. Krejci. They will each receive a bond from either the Marquette Bank or the Mercantile Bank along with a Czech costume from the Czech Heritage Foundation. We are proud of the young students and are sure they will be wonderful representatives of Czech heritage in the coming year.

Sincerely, Frank Novotny

JANACEK CONCERT

The Janacek Chamber Orchestra is among the leading ensembles of its type in the Czech Republic and has drawn the highest acclaim. Founded in 1964, the orchestra comprises 12 string musicians led by Zdenek Dejmek. Violinist Dejmek graduated from the Ostrava Conservatory. At age 18 he won a national competition of Czech Conservatory students.

The concert was held Oct. 18, in King Chapel on the campus of Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. The repertoire included compositions by Myslivecek, Corelli, Bach, Holst and Leos Janacek.

The orchestra has toured throughout Europe, North America, Mexico, and Japan.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

To show our appreciation for the donations we receive with new and renewed memberships, the Czech Heritage Fd'n. publishes the names of the donors. Donation received with a new membership in August was from William & Billie Ann Vlastnik.

August donations with renewals were from: Richard & Judith Burian, Sandra Clayton, Ron & Peg Detweiler, John & Frances Feiereisen, Joseph L. Kubicek, Richard Liphardt, Alexander & Louise McGilvray, Marion Moravec, Patricia Novak, Betty Perkins, Agnes Schrupf, and Ray & Dorothy Snitil.

AK-SAR-BEN RODEO QUEEN DAWN ZARUBA



Dawn Zaruba is the daughter of Paul Zaruba and Elaina and Dennis Kriegel of Marion, Iowa. She was recently crowned Miss Rodeo AK-SAR-BEN 2000. She has been riding horses and competing since she was very young. As Miss Rodeo A K - S A R - B E N (Nebraska spelled backwards) she is required to attend various activities and rodeos throughout the fall of 2000 in Nebraska and Iowa.

The AK-SAR-BEN is held in Omaha, Nebraska every fall. Girls from Iowa and Nebraska are eligible to compete for the title of Miss AK-SAR-BEN.

Categories of the Rodeo Queen contest include modeling, appearance, speech, personality, impromptu questions and her showmanship. Dawn also won the horsemanship category. This is the third Rodeo Queen title Dawn has won so far. She was the Iowa High School Rodeo Queen in 1997 and the Sidney, Iowa Pro Rodeo Queen in 1998. Prizes Dawn has won is a \$1,200 scholarship, trophy belt buckle, tiara, and a pair of custom made boots.

Dawn had horses as her 4-H project before she went to high school. Her mother was her trainer. She rides and trains quarter horses. She graduated from Linn-Mar in Marion, Iowa in 1998. Dawn is currently a sophomore in Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa studying pre-med.

TO GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE WE GO

(By JoFran Falcon)

I am very proud of my Czech ancestry and have been interested in seeing the areas where my grandparents came from in Bohemia. In April 1999 I was able to actually see the home of my great-grandparents Frank Stary and Katerina Martinek and my grandmother Frances Stary Slapnicka. Frances was my mother's mother and the only grandparents I actually knew, and a very special part of my life.

My husband Jim and I took the train from Prague to Ceska Trebova where we met Jiri Osanec, who had been doing research several years for us. First he drove to the church where my grandmother Frances was baptized January 12, 1861. Next, we bought flowers for relatives we were going to visit. The young clerk was pleased to use the English she had learned as an exchange student in the U.S.

We went to Kozlov and drove to the home my grandmother Frances had left with her parents in 1864 at the age of three. With them also came her brother Frank and two sisters, Anna and Rose. Her father's younger brother, George Stary, came to New York on the same ship, the Hansa, with his wife Anna and sons John, Aloys and Frank. They all settled in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. George ran a grocery store and Frank established the Stary Foundry. The exact part of the home where my grandmother was born has been incorporated into a much larger home. The original part is owned by a couple in Prague who use it on weekends. The main part is lived in full time. Jiri spoke to the resident Mrs. Volesky and she graciously offered to show us around, although she did not have access to the original portion. A famous Czech artist Max Svabinsky had a studio in the house next door around 1910. He had drawn graffiti scene on the outside gable of his studio and one on the gable of my grandmother's house. He also used the house as a subject in some of his paintings, so it is well known. On the way to Nemcice we had lunch in a small restaurant, named after Svabinsky, which had a display of some of his prints of his paintings.

We visited the home of Jaroslava Stranikova in Nemcice and her husband Frank. We were soon joined by their extended families. They prepared a delicious lunch of tea with rum, toasties, pastry, liver dumpling soup, pork, potatoes and fresh vegetables, although they did not eat with us. We had a wonderful time exchanging information and gifts. It was hard to leave.

Next Jiri drove us to Litomysl. We saw the church where my great-grandparents Frank Stary and Katrina Martinek were married. We returned to Prague. It was a memorable day. I later came the realization that I probably had more memories of my grandmother's birthplace than she did, and they are special indeed.

CZECH PLUMS

Joseph Stodola, his wife and three children left Proseč, Bohemia in 1905 for a new world and new life. He hated to think that he would no longer enjoy his favorite fruit, the plum, in America. In Proseč the tree was very hardy. It even grew near the Charles Bridge in Prague. Why not take it along?

The trees are propagated from the suckers from the root. Joseph Stodola hid the roots of the plum tree in his clothing for the long voyage.

The family settled in the East side of the Cedar River, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa where Masaryk Park now stands. Later the family moved to K Street always planting plums. The plum trees are still thriving today. Now the grandchildren, Kazimour Orchards and Cyrus and Mary Kazimour Cacioppo at Honey Creek Orchard grow the plums.

The trees reach a height of about 30 feet. It takes 8 years for the trees to bear fruit. The blossoms are white with a pink cast. The trees bear every other year and are heavy producers. The plums are blue and are ripe around September 10. They are hardy in Iowa's growing zone, but must be propagated continually. There are only about 40 trees in existence. The trees die in 13 years.

This variety of plum is used for eating, plum brandy and dumplings. Plum growers say you have not yet lived unless you have eaten plum pie.

Another new and younger generation plan to continue fruit production and they are planning to raise the special plums. After all the plum trees are a family heirloom.

CHRISTMAS CARP

There are many dishes that are prepared for Christmas Eve. Some could be omitted, but if you were to ask any Czech what food is absolutely essential, the answer would be carp. It would be hard to imagine Christmas Eve dinner without carp. A carp is selected well before Christmas and kept alive in a tub of water with the water changed daily.

The large carp was prepared four different ways. Best cuts were dipped in flour, eggs and rolled in crumbs and fried.

Lesser cuts were baked with dried fruits and served with dumplings mixed with croutons.

The third menu was fish served with a black fruit sauce and served cold.

The remaining parts of the carp were the head and tail. They were wrapped in a cloth and boiled. The fish stock was made into soup by adding vegetables and served with croutons.

From Czech Traditions

KRAUT MAKING TIME

It was late summer, the cabbage heads were large and some ready to burst. (Mother's favorite brand was Marion Market.) Father had some free time so Mother had some help. The feed cart that was used for hauling slop buckets was pressed into service today. Mother chose the heads that were ready, which was most of them, and cut them off with a butcher knife. Father loaded them on the cart and pulled them under the shade of the big cedar tree that was near the cellar door. After trimming off the outer leaves the heads were cut in half or the larger ones into quarters and the cores were taken out. The kraut cutter was readied for business, each end placed on the edge of a kitchen chair. Under and in between the two chairs was waiting the regular washtub to catch the ribbons of shredded cabbage. Father sat on one of the chairs, placing one leg on each side of the cutter so he could bend over and put pressure on those big blades. As one head was shaved down, another was placed on top to keep the square frame full of cabbage and there would be a safe distance between fingers and blades. As the tub filled, Mother transferred the cut cabbage into a ten gallon crock that had a bunch of dill heads in the bottom. The crock was filled gradually by stomping it with a specially made heavy wooden block on a handle. It brought forth a lot of juice. Salt was carefully sprinkled throughout the mixture and then covered with a board and a well scrubbed heavy rock. The juices covered up the board. A white flour sack was used to keep out the flies and gnats. The warm days and nights brought about the desired fermentation that foamed over. When the kraut was through "working" the crock was carried by its wire handles to be stored in the cellar with the potatoes and the wine barrel. How good the sour kraut tasted with the fried down pork in the winter!

L. P.

HERITAGE TOURS

Mark is planning five tours to the Heart of Europe in year 2000. They are:

May tour April 30 to May 12

Empire tour May 15 to May 31

June Festival tour June 17 to July 1

Heritage tour June 28 to July 12

Fall Treasures tour September 14 to Sept. 29

For information call 1-888-427-8687 or by email at: CStour@visi.com or write to: Heritage Tours Inc., 4219 Thornhill Lane, St. Paul, MN 55127-7822.

NEW BANK ORGANIZED

(From the archives of the Linn County Genealogical Society)

November 16, 1905 — The bank will be known as the Iowa State Savings Bank. It will be located at 12th Avenue and 3rd Street. The stockholders held a meeting and chose the following officers: Pres. A. J. Temec, V. Pres. Vaclav Hasek and cashier Joseph Lesinger. Directors named are: John Cervený, Albert Dvorak, Joseph Koutný, Wencil Zalesky, Joseph Simon and Joseph Kozlovsky.

The bank's capital stock is \$50,000. Its directors are well known business men. Mr. Lesinger, new cashier, has been cashier at Merchants National Bank and is experienced and has a lot of friends. Mr. Temec, the president, has been a shoe dealer and is well known. He is an able and popular man. Vaclav Hasek is a well known and liked dentist. John Cervený is a well-to-do retired farmer with acquaintances in Linn County. Joseph Koutný, who lives south of the city is another well known farmer. Wencil Zalesky is the agent of the Anheuser Busch Brewing Co. and a popular and successful business man. Albert Dvorak is with Fay Bros. Joseph Simon is a well known tobacco merchant and Joseph Kozlovsky, well, everyone in and around Cedar Rapids knows him and if the bank is not a success it will not be his fault.

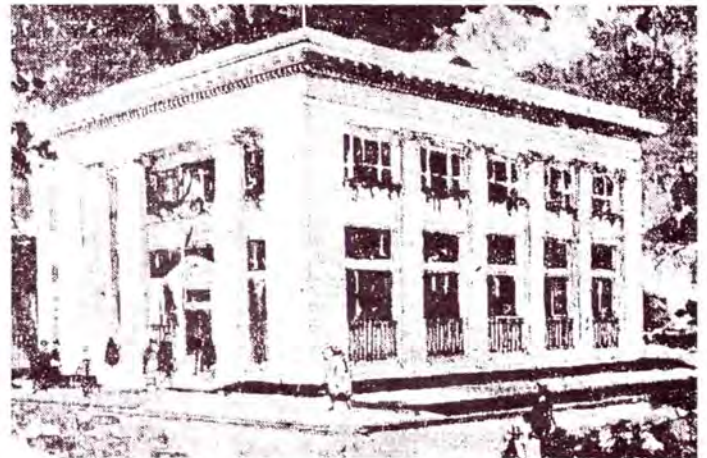
(The bank opened July 1, 1906. After 11 years of service, cashier Joseph Lesinger announced on Jan. 26, 1917 that a new and more commodious quarters were needed. The Globe Grocery occupied the bank after it moved into its new building. This postcard was postmarked in 1914.)



A HANDSOME STRUCTURE

Jan. 19, 1917 - The new 48 X 75 foot structure will be across the avenue and opposite the present Iowa State Savings Bank. Architects are Dennison & Hirons of New York and Riddle & Riddle of Chicago. The contract was let to John Klepach to be done with local labor. The structure will cost \$60,000. Tall columns will reach from the ground to the roof giving the bank the appearance

of a Grecian temple. The tall windows will allow a full view of the interior from the sidewalk. The vault will be manganese steel and will be burglar and fireproof. The vault door weighs 6 tons and takes a day to install as it moves an inch at a time.



Feb. 6, 1917 - A painting of the new proposed bank that will be one of the most artistic structures in the city.

ALWAYS ON TIME

Nov. 4, 1917 - No south side young man is ever late keeping his appointment and no south side girl misses her date. Street cars leave on the minute, everything on the south side runs exactly on time.

It's all because of the beautiful, four faced clock which the Iowa State Savings Bank installed on its beautiful new building.

The big clock was put up before the ZCZJ convention convened in the city and was one of the many courtesies extended them during their stay in the city and helped to time one of the greatest Bohemian events ever held in the city.

The great clock is illuminated at night and with its four dials, people are able to tell the time several blocks from the corner of 12th Avenue and 3rd Street.

In this age of industrial efficiency, the great clock with its accuracy and guidance will aid the public both night and day and will extend the same efficient service as the bank of which it stands as a symbol.



There have been some changes. The clock was removed when it stopped working. The name of the bank was changed in 1934 to First Trust and Savings Bank. In 1988, the bank's new owner is Carl Pohlad but the name Marquette did not appear until this year.



CHRISTMAS

Christmas is the most beautiful time of the year. It is a time of setting aside worries and decorate a tree much to the delight of the children. It was a tradition to have a tree. It stood on a table or hung from the ceiling.

Advent is a church season which includes four Sundays before Christmas. It is a time of prayer and fasting to prepare for the anniversary of the birth of Christ. The season was observed as early as the sixth century. During this time gifts are prepared mostly for children which were made by family members. Christmas treats were nuts, apples, oranges, houska (braided bread), fried carp and carp soup.

Czechs were known to be poor, but they were rich in tradition. The Christmas tree was heavily decorated. The ornaments were made with supplies readily available. One of the most accessible materials was straw. It was found in every household. It was used in the manger to bed the cattle. The straw had a ecclesiastical recognition. The baby Jesus was born in a manger

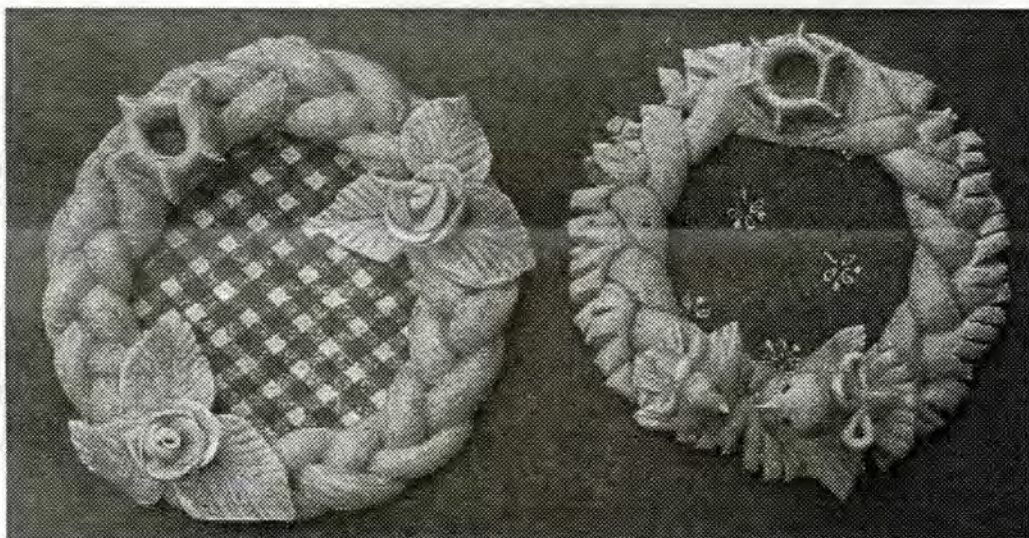
The golden straw was folded into a star for the top of the tree. The star motif was made by folding five or seven stalks of straw. Caution must be taken so the stalks are pliable to bend but not break. A flat star can be made by cutting several stalks flat and then sewing or gluing the center. Cleverly folded straw made a variety of spiral ornaments.

Dolls were made using left over scraps of materials of canvas, denim, linen and lace trim. Fabric was stuffed with cotton to make the head and body. The hair on the head was made of wool or braided pig tails. The doll wore a scarf on her head and was tied at the neck. The stuffed body was covered with a fancy dress of lace and trim. The eyes and mouth were drawn with colors. Some dolls had the appearance of religious figures, storybook characters or dress in a costume native to the child's village.

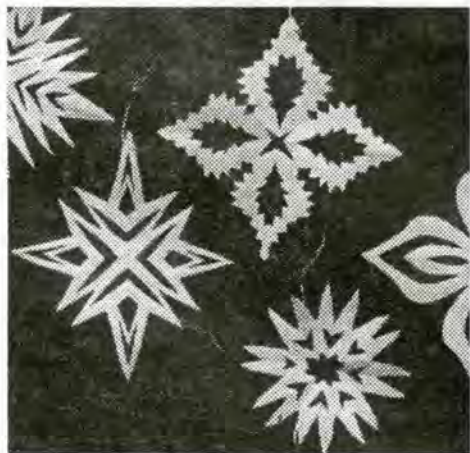


Dough figurines were used for tree ornaments and table decorations. Dough art began in the village of Vizovice (near Zlin). The art spread quickly. Poor families who could not afford gifts, made gifts from the dough made with flour and water. Artists were very creative and made beautiful figurines and plaques. The dough was kneaded until it was pliable and set to chill overnight or at least 6 hours. The family sat around the table to visit or sing while they created animals or figurines. Families snipped off a piece of dough with scissors. Other necessary supplies was a knife, metal sheet, beads, seeds and colors.

The figurines that were made had a lot of symbolism. A jezek (hedgehog) would chase evil away from the home. A frog symbolized clear water, a fish symbolized discreetness, a crab prevented bad luck, a swan, love and a rooster good luck. Dough figurines on the tree predicted the family would have a successful year. The knife was used to form and create the ornaments. After the objects were made they were left to dry off on a metal sheet. The figurines were then brushed with a beaten egg to form a glaze and golden color. They were put in the oven at the lowest possible temperature for 4 to 5 hours. Eyes, lips, and cheeks were made for the finishing touches with colors.



Paper was used to cut snowflakes and paper chains. Narrow paper strips were coiled into simple attractive tree ornaments. Nuts were painted or gilded and hung on the tree, as well as pine cones. Twine, cord or macrame decorations were popular ornaments. Corn husks were used as craft material for dolls and Nativity scenes.



GOOD KING WENCESLAUS

The path of history through medieval Bohemia was not a smooth one. Generally, revolts and disputes were a result of religious differences and personal lust for power.

Borivoj I was the reigning prince of Bohemia from about 870-890 A.D. He and his wife were the grandparents of St. Wenceslaus who is referred to in the legend and carol as "Good King Wenceslaus".

Vaclav was born to Vratislav and Drahomira in about 907 A.D. in Budec, near Prague. This was an historic Slavic settlement. He was educated there, and the school which he attended was the first Bohemian School to appear in historical records. Vaclav was taught Christian principles from his grandmother Ludmila.

Due to constant warfare, Vaclav was murdered by his younger brother Boselav on September 28, 929 A.D. upon the steps of a church Vaclav recently built.

The martyred Vaclav was canonized. A statue of him dominates Wenceslaus Square in Prague. He is known as the Patron Saint of Bohemia and stands as a symbol of Czech unity and independence.

A CZECH NEW YEAR

New Year's Eve is a night of merrymaking, but the fest would not fill Americans with eager anticipation. The ear or jowl of a hog must be eaten. These cuts of pork are served with marinated horseradish and apples for the superstition is that this menu will insure happiness all during the forthcoming year. In meat markets you will see hog's head on display during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

In olden times it used to be the custom for village boys to go around a week later in groups of three, each dressed in long robes and paper crowns to represent the Biblical "Three Kings". They scrawled their initials in chalk on doors and walls: "K" for Kaspar, "M" for Melichior and "B"



for Balthazar. The houses they marked with these initials were supposed to be protected against misfortune for a year. The "Three Kings" received candy and apples or money from those they "protected", much as American children do during Halloween "Trick or Treat".

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

December 2nd, 1999 the Czech Heritage Singers will appear at the Atrium at University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City to entertain with Koledy and Carols.

Special activities are planned for Svaty Mikulas Day in Czech Village, Saturday Dec. 4. Czech Heritage Singers will be singing Czech and English Carols (Vanocni Koledy) at 1:00 p.m. in Hruska Hall at the Nat'l Czech & Slovak Museum & Library.

The annual puppet show (for which there is a nominal charge) will be presented in the museum's Heritage Hall at 11:00 a.m. The newly crowned Prince and Princess will be on hand to greet their "subjects" as they enter the auditorium. After the program, the royal duo will assist with "Hands-on" Christmas crafts.

Svaty Mikulas himself will appear and interview all children to see "if they've been bad or good". He will be accompanied with a devil, rattling his chains at "bad" children and ready to hand them a lump of coal as their "reward". The angel who accompanies Svaty Mikulas carries a notebook and pencil, ready to check off those children "who've been good". Their reward is a cookie or apple from the angel's basket. The trio will be walking up and down the streets of Czech Village. Even adults better watch out!

The Federation of Czech Groups will be sponsoring a Cookie Walk at the Two Star Hall in Czech Village on St. Nicholas Day from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Come in and choose some treats for your family from among the many Christmas goodies being offered.

The Festival of Trees sponsored by the St. Luke's Auxiliary at the Five Seasons in Cedar Rapids will present the Czech Heritage Singers on Wed. Dec. 15th. The Festival of Trees is an exhibit of many trees, each decorated differently by local business and organizations. There is a \$5.00 fee at the door. The Heritage Singers will sing from 7:15 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Czech Plus Band will also be appearing at the Festival of Trees on Sunday, December 19th, 1999 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Prejem Vam Vesele Vanoce a stasny Novy Rok (Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year).

O. D.

CZECH SCHOOL 1999

The Czech School for children in Cedar Rapids was founded in 1870 by early immigrants who wanted their children to learn to read and write the language of their ancestry.

The earliest mention of the old Czech school is a reference on the hiring of a teacher, John Suster, in 1870. Though there have been many changes in the operation of the school over the years, the purpose was the same: to teach the Czech language, Czech customs, and Czech heritage.

In the early days the youngsters attended classes in empty stores and halls around town. This was not entirely satisfactory. Czech organizations met on March 9, 1891 and outlined plans for a Czech school building.

Ten years later their efforts were realized on Jan. 1, 1901 with the dedication of a new building. It was the first building in the U.S. to be used exclusively as a Czech school. It still stands at 927 Second Street S.E.

In future issues of the "Dedictvi" this writer will endeavor to trace the course of "nase Ceska Skola" to the year 2000.

This year Czech school conducted classes for 5 weeks at Wilson Middle School. The annual field trip was to the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah where the students learned the Norwegian culture.

The teachers, Bessie Dugena, Leona Poduska and Olga Drahozal are grateful to folk artist Marji Nejdl who taught classes on Moravian folk art, to Elmer Netolicky who demonstrated the heligonka, and to Wes Drahozal who shared his love of stamps. Thanks too, to teachers-aides Fred Anthony, Jeanne Tompkins, Helen Cross and Irene Hamous.

The school year ended with a program on July 15th. The 56 students representing 36 families entertained the audience with songs, poems and skits. Awards were given. A special award for significant progress in the field of Czech language was given to Stephen Stepanek, a first year student. Students having reached the age of 13 and having attended Czech school for at least 2 years received graduation certificates. They are: Sam Touchberry, Eric Gervais and Erin Flaherty. An ice cream social followed the program.

O. D.

HIPPOCRENE BOOKS INC.

Hippocrene Books Inc. announces for Sept. 1999 publication the HIPPOCRENE CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED CZECH DICTIONARY for children ages 5 - 10. The dictionary English-Czech/ Czech - English is 96 pages 8-1/2 X 11. The cost is \$14.95 hardcover. (212) 685-4371 or write Hippocrene Books Inc., 171 Madison Ave., New York NY 10016. Also available in Arabic, French, German, Irish, Polish, Russian, Scottish Gaelic and Spanish.

THINGS IN THE CITY

r	e	s	t	a	u	r	a	c	e
✓	m	n	u	k	o	s	t	e	l
o	t	u	a	i	t	✓	c	d	e
a	k	l	k	n	c	e	f	✓	r
n	a	i	t	d	l	c	n	l	t
a	✓	r	r	a	o	m	í	r	a
t	k	s	v	h	n	n	b	m	b
n	e	m	o	c	n	i	c	✓	u
o	n	l	✓	z	i	✓	c	i	c
f	z	m	i	m	s	s	✓	z	t
h	✓	z	b	r	o	b	c	h	o
a	✓	c	a	k	✓	i	v	a	l
									✓

Find Czech words on grid. Do you know the words in English?

CZECH

nemocnice
křižovatka
město
obchod
kostel
restaurace
chodník
mír
fontana
autobus
lavička
auto

ENGLISH

By Nate Schulte Czech School 1999
Answers on page 13

GRANDMA'S BUSTLE OVEN

My Grandma's bustle oven
Protruded out in back
But it sure baked good muffins,
Bread, cake and gingersnack.

It took three hours to heat it
Each brick must be hot thru.
All the children liked to come
They got a taste of something new.

Along the side there always was
A fireplace for cooking food.
The crowds who came to Grandma's
Were always in an eating mood.

Whether it was rainy or shiny
It was the best place to be,
Near Grandma's bustle oven
And the food she served to me.

by Mary Taylor

FIRST LADY

Young Thomas Masaryk, after receiving his degree as Dr. of Philosophy, went to Leipzig in 1877 to study further. He lived in the boarding house of a Frau Goering where he met Charlotte Garrigue who was visiting Goering's daughter. The friendship blossomed into love and "Charlie" Garrigue and Thomas Masaryk were married the next year. Their spirited union was so strong that he gave it expression by adding her family name to his own and becoming officially Thomas Garrigue Masaryk.

CHARLOTTE

Charlotte's father was born in Denmark and her mother in America. She was one of seven children. She was beautiful to look at and had magnificent intellect. She was brought up in a family of religious freedom. Charlotte became a Unitarian. She was deeply religious. Death was to her as the passage from one chamber to another. She was decided and firm on political and social questions, uncompromising and utterly truthful.

The Masaryk marriage was happy and family life rich. While living in Vienna two children were born, Alice and Herbert. After moving to Prague in 1882, Jan and Olga were born. Family cares did not fill all of Charlotte's life. As an adopted member of the Czech nation, she set herself to know their history and literature. She was interested in art since her son Herbert was a painter. She was musical and liked Smetana and studied his works.

Political life to Mrs. Masaryk was not easy. She opposed all violence. She believed the Czech nation had good reason for continued existence and a great right to freedom. She actively worked for women's rights. She was active in politics and in 1905 joined the Social Democratic Party.

Soon after the outbreak of World War the Czechs began to realize there was an opportunity to be freed from Austria's yoke after 300 years. In December 1914 Prof. Masaryk secured a visa to take his daughter Olga to Italy for her health. He intended to return to Prague but received secret information that the Austrian authorities ordered him hanged. He spent the next four years in Europe, Asia, and America working for the liberation of his people.

At home Mrs. Masaryk feared for the lives of her husband and Olga, but the first blow was the death of Herbert who was stricken with typhus in Poland.

In July 1915 Masaryk spoke at a Jan Hus celebration in Zurich, Switzerland. The celebration served as an open declaration of hostility. Mrs. Masaryk and daughter Alice were searched in their home in Prague. Their son Jan was conscripted for the Austrian Army. The next blow fell Oct. 28, 1915 when Austria arrested their daughter Alice, who was a teacher, to a garrison prison in Vienna. She was never tried, but imprisoned because she was the daughter of Prof. Masaryk.

Mrs. Masaryk wrote letters often to Alice. The letters were brave and encouraging. Alice was freed after eight months. That she was freed at all was due to the campaign of American women such as Dr. Wistein, Jane Addams, Mary McDowell and Prof. Heyberger who presented a petition bearing thousands of signatures to Pres. Wilson asking him to take steps through the American Ambassador in Vienna.

The whole world knew Prof. Masaryk's work for freedom. This led to the German abuse of Mrs. Masaryk. Her health became critical and lay ill in a sanitarium. On December 21, 1918 Prof. Masaryk took oath of office as President. He hastened to her bedside. She regained her health for a time and was able to live in the Castle of Prague and the Presidential Chateau at Lany. It was May 22, 1923 that the nation mourned the passing of its American First lady.

(From Czechoslovakia's American First Lady by Mila Veger.)

ANNA HEYBERGER

Anna Heyberger was born in Bohemia. She studied in Charles University in Prague, Vienna, Austria, Sarbonne U. in Paris, University of Geneva and Westminster College in Pennsylvania. She was an instructor in Bohemian Language and Literature at the State University of Iowa 1912-1914 and Professor of French, Bohemian and Russian at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa from 1912 to 1939. She was a good friend of Pres. Thomas Masaryk. She died in 1952 at age 78 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

KOMENSKY - HEYBERGER

The Komensky Society of Coe College in Cedar Rapids had the unusual distinction of founding and supporting a hospital for the tubercular war orphans of Czecho-Slovakia. The lack of food and clothing brought on by the war caused thousands of victims. The hospital cared for the sick children.

Miss Anna Heyberger, head of the French and Slavic languages department and advisor of the Komensky Society, started the work during her sojourn in Europe in 1919. Through her efforts the government donated the Castle Cernovice, formerly the summer residence of a Prussian princess, for this health resort. The spacious castle was surrounded by a beautiful park and a pine forest.

The board of the camp consisted of leading men and women of that country. Among them was Dr. Alice Masaryk, daughter of the president of the Republic, who was chairman of the board. The enterprise was a success for the country.

ALMA TURECEK HONORED

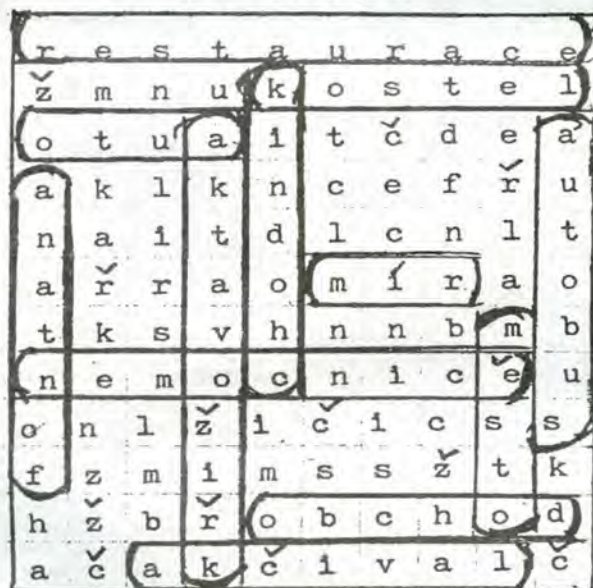
Alma Turecek was honored on Sunday Oct. 17th in the Perrine Gallery on the campus of Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa where she was a Professor. She attended Coe College and in 1925 upon graduation, she was asked to join the faculty. She was the Professor of Music Theory and Piano for 48 years until her retirement in 1969.

Alma's mother was born in Bohemia and her father was the only child of seven to be born in America. The other six siblings were born in Bohemia. When the family emigrated to America the sailboat was blown off course near a field of icebergs.

The family and Alma lived in Southwest Cedar Rapids and her father was one of the first businessmen in what is now Czech Village. He was a grocer. Alma had one sister who died in the flu epidemic in World War I. Alma attended Van Buren School and Old Washington High School before she enrolled in Coe College.

During her tenure at Coe College, she noted that the Czechs enjoy music and folk songs but none were written down. Only recently with a grant, a book of Czech and Slovaks songs were published and released. Some of the songs were performed at the reception honoring the 97 year old Alma Turecek. Folk songs depict a people's culture and music is a big part of their culture.

Answers to page 11



CZECH
nemocnice
křižovatka
město
obchod
kostel
restaurace
chodník
mír
fontana
autobus
lavička
auto

ENGLISH
hospital
crossroad
city
shop
church
restaurant
sidewalk
peace
fountain
bus
bench
car

AVAILABLE THROUGH THE CZECH HERITAGE FDN.

The following collection of publications are available through our organization. Write to the Czech Heritage Fdn., c/o Frank Novotny, 5750 26th St. S.W., Cedar Rapids, IA 52404. Make checks payable to the Czech Heritage Fdn. *Please add \$1.50 mailing charges for one to three books, 20% discount on ten or more books of the same title.



Čítanka (Reader)

Reprint of A. Machek's childrens' tales. Originally published in Chicago by the Czech Freethinkers School in 1949. Favorites include Zabí Koncert (Frogs' Concert) and Veverka a Vlk (Squirrel and the Wolf). Bring back memories of Czech School with this collection of animal stories and delightful narratives. In Czech, red cover, 62 pages, 6" x 9", \$3.50*

Zvířátka — Little Animals

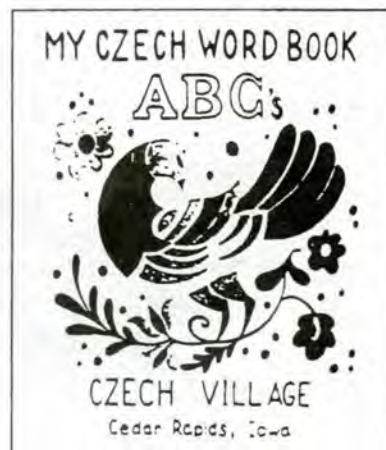
19 different animals are in a variety of environments. The verses are in Czech, the English in the same order.

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and our
HERITAGE



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POHÁDKY NAŠÍ MATINKY S TATÍNKOVÝMI OBRÁZKY



*Please add \$1.50 mailing charges for one to three books.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- December 4Czech Village Celebration
(see page 10 for details)
- December 14Czech Heritage Fd'n. Meeting
Museum 7:30 p.m. Bring refreshments
- December 15Festival of Trees (see page 10)
Czech Heritage Singers
- December 19Festival of Trees (see page 10)
Czech Plus Band
- January 17Czech Heritage Annual Board Meeting
Museum 7:30 p.m. Bring refreshments
- February 8Czech Heritage Board Meeting
Museum 7:30 p.m.
- March 4Czech School Chili Supper
St. Wenceslaus Church Basement
Serving 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- March 19St. Joseph's Day Dance
P.T. Retiree's Hall

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GOLDEN RULES OF LIVING

1. If you open it, close it.
2. If you turn it on, turn it off.
3. If you unlock it, lock it up.
4. If you break it, admit it.
5. If you can't fix it, call in someone who can.
6. If you borrow it, return it.
7. If you value it, take care of it.
8. If you make a mess, clean it up.
9. If you move it, put it back.
10. If it belongs to someone else and you want it, get permission.
11. If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.
12. If it's none of your business, don't ask questions.
13. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.
14. If it will brighten someone else's day, say it.
15. It is will tarnish someone's reputation, keep it to yourself.

(Taken from *For Mercy's Sake*, Mercy Hospital Auxiliary,
Davenport, June 1990)

S.G.N.