

# NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR CZECH HERITAGE

Vol. 11 - No. 3  
Sept. 1986

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



CALENDAR

KALENDÁŘ

OCTOBER 1986

- 3-4-5 Northern Plains Ethnic Festival, Campus of Dickinson, North Dakota, State College
- 4-5 Czech Days, Yukon, Okla.
- 18-19 International Folk Festival, Chicago, Donnelly Hall about 1 block west of McCormick Place. Parking at Soldiers Field. Shuttle bus service to Hall. Hours: doors open 11 a.m.
- 27 Slovak State Folk Ensemble U of IA., Hancher Aud., Iowa City

NOVEMBER

- 14. Czech Museum - last day of open hours Tues. - Fri. Saturday hours until April 15 - 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tours can be arranged.
- 21-23 Holiday Fair, more than 50 ethnic groups. Milwaukee, Wis. 43rd year.

DECEMBER

- 6 Sv. Mikuláš Day in Czech Village and Museum, Cedar Rapids, IA.
- 7 Annual Fine Arts Fdn. Sv. Mikuláš Dance, Eagles Hall.

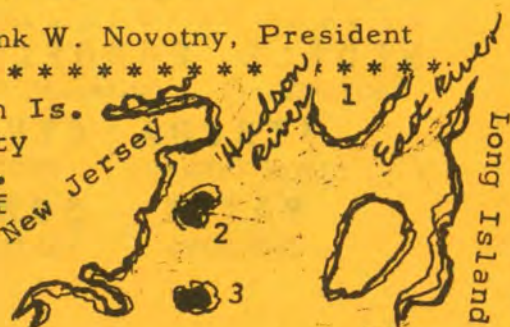
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VITĀM VĀS! GREETINGS! If I thought that time was speeding by in June, I assure you that the summer went by twice as fast. What the Czech Heritage Fdn. did in the last few months in the different events you will read in the various reports in this issue. Again, I say "Thank You" for your wonderful cooperation. The Czech Heritage Fdn. is what you make it and Mae and I do so appreciate your interest and cooperation. Our sincere "Thank you."

Frank W. Novotny, President

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- 1. Manhattan Is. N.Y. City
- 2. Ellis Is.
- 3. Statue of Liberty



SLOVAK STATE

STATE FOLK ENSEMBLE

will be at Hancher Aud., Iowa City, Oct. 27, Monday. The company includes 60 dancers, singers and orchestra. The Czech Heritage Fdn. is planning to have a bus and reserved tickets for the event. Total cost for bus and ticket around \$15.00. Anyone interested in spending an evening with the group, contact

Frank W. and Mae Novotny, [redacted] -- or --  
phone [redacted] FWN

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FALL FESTIVAL FLOAT.

With this year the 100th birthday of the Statue of Liberty, the Czech Heritage Fdn. float in the Parade carried out the theme. Liberty, Marge NejdI, stood at the front of the float with groups representing the different "lands" of the nation. The colorful banners of each of the lands were on the float by the groups. The red banner with a white lion identified the Czech group in the native kroj (costumes) of the area: Frank Kosek, Charles Opatrny, Esther Lippert and Adeline Volesky. The banner for Morava was red with a checkered eagle design to identify Lynn NejdI, Bob Schaffer, Rose Polehna and Vic Naxera in their kroj. Max Naxera and Māna Zlatohlāvek were by the Slovak banner of light blue with white mountains of Tatry in the background. The costumes were brought by Czech families except that of Lynn NejdI's who received it as a gift from the family with which she lived at the time of the Experimental Living Program last summer. The Float Committee thanks all who helped and participated in providing the float, decorating it and then being the living statues on the floats. This float won First Prize.

A. V.



BE THERE - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Returning from their "Homestay" in Czechoslovakia, Sandy Spina, Janelle Rohlena and Lynette Stejskal will share their experiences with us on Sunday, October 5th at 2 p.m. at Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church -- 2808 Schaeffer Dr. S.W., C.R., Ia. All are invited to attend and bring a guest. Everyone is urged to assist us in recruiting applicants for next summer.



EXPERIMENT IN INTERNATIONAL LIVING

homestay. To qualify the student must be a junior in high school during this 86-87 academic year. Applicants must be a resident of Cedar Rapids or the surrounding area and be of some Czech ancestry. One or more qualified students will be selected by an impartial committee after personal interviews are held on Nov. 15, 1986. In preparation for their journey, those chosen attend Czech language classes and orientations. Upon their return the ambassadors share their experiences with local civic and fraternal organizations. APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 1ST, 1986 and are now available from: Shirlee Peterson,

[redacted]; Mae Novotny, [redacted]; Marjorie Stone, [redacted]; John Rocarek, [redacted].

The Committee appreciates the wonderful support and enthusiasm that the "Homestay" program has received. With your continued participation our young people will be able to experience their

Czech culture and heritage first-hand. Please help us in this very worthwhile cause by sending your financial contribution to Czech Heritage Fdn. Scholarship Fund c/o Frank Novotny, [redacted].

Thank you. JR

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CONVERSATIONAL CZECH

The Czech Heritage Fdn. will again sponsor a two hour language course for beginners. Registrants for the Monday night class opening January 12th must be at least 15 years of age. No prior knowledge of the Czech language is required for the 12 week course. There will be a nominal fee for materials and tuition. Instructor--Olga Drahozal. Those interested should write to John Rocarek, [redacted] or call after 6 p.m. [redacted].

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FAMILY PICNIC on June 8th was enjoyed by 102 members of the Foundation at the home of Frank and Mae Novotny. The usual delicious and bountiful pot-luck supplemented by Klobasy and music of Czech Plus Band made a to-gether evening. We enjoy having people come to the farm and always look forward to this annual event. Know you all enjoyed the evening as much as Mae and I enjoyed having you there. FWN

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TRAER FUN DAYS, Traer, Iowa, was the first time the Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations were invited to participate, June 18, 19th. Emil Lamparek and Frank Novotny drove over with the items on Friday morning, put up the displays in the Community Building with the "Mini Museum" and our publications and other items so that the public could stop by and get acquainted with our heritage. We reached many people. It was a worthwhile project and we are looking forward to 1987!

FWN

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**NEDELE PONDĚLÍ ÚTERÝ**  
(SUNDAY) (MONDAY) (TUESDAY)

**STŘEDA ČTVRTEK**  
(WEDNESDAY) (THURSDAY)

**PÁTEK SOBOTA**  
(FRIDAY) (SATURDAY)





# Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.

10 - 16TH AVENUE S.W. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52404

### The 13th ANNUAL FESTIVAL

brought more than 500 visitors to the Czech Museum.

Although this is gratifying to the Museum personnel, yet I have often heard local Czechs and others say, "You know, I have never visited the Museum. Guess I ought to go someday." I guess so, too. The Museum has acquired many new items this year.

The Slovak cornhusk dolls show various occupations and are a new item as is the charming puppet theater display next to the dolls. The Puppeteers presented a Sunday show to the delight of all -- young and old.

The Linn County Supervisors' grant enabled the Museum to purchase some over-size picture frames and ten plexiglass cases to display artifacts which hold the most precious of the museum's treasure - stunning glassware several century old gold-thread caps and an old Czech Bible inscribed in German script.

The Gift Shop has more items arranged in an attractive way. The Czech Calendar of 2 years ago is still available and has become a collector's item. The pictures can be framed. My Canadian cousin, a 1969 refugee from Czechoslovakia thought the pictures were taken in Czechoslovakia and was very surprised when I told her they were from one building right here in Cedar Rapids, the Museum.

Even if you visited the Museum some time ago, you will be amazed at all of the changes and improvements including the attached Immigrant's House. Those of you who wish to see it "someday" make it now and bring your relatives and guests often. Do that even before you take them to the Amanas.

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CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS FOR SALE. Again the members of the Czech Fine Arts Fdn. is

organizing a sale of Czechoslovak Christmas tree ornaments. Last year's sale proved such a good fundraiser for the Museum that the 1986 sale will begin in Cedar Rapids, November 12th at the United State Bank at its 16th Avenue S. W. location in Czech Village with open house and coffee, and continue until Christmas.

First Trust & Savings Bank of Ely, Ia. will hold the first sale, Nov. 3, 4, 5 and again Dec. 1-5 inclusive.

We are still negotiating for other sale places to be announced later in the news media.

You may use these ornaments on your trees or make centerpieces with branches for the Christmas table, include them in a wreath or whatever your imagination can devise.

Jaroslava H. Wheatley

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CZECH CUISINE -- authentic recipes, published and imported from Czechoslovakia, in English with U.S. standard measuring units, 223 pages, 92 colored photographs. Recipes are on hors d' oeuvre, main courses, salads, desserts and many more items. Books to arrive in mid-October, limited supply, \$13.00 per copy plus \$1.50 handling and mailing. Send order and check made to the Czech Museum, 10 - 16th Ave. S. W., Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52404.

Jane P. Wiedmeier

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\$5000 GIFT TO MUSEUM was presented by Ed Nejd and Milton Stefl at the May 1986 meeting of the Fine Arts Fdn. The local Prokop Velky Lodge #173, CSA Fraternal Life, stipulated that the money was to be used for the acquisition of artifacts for the Museum.

mms

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Sv. MIKULÁŠ DANCE, Dec. 7th, Eagles Hall. Benefits the Czech Museum. Czech Plus Polka Band 4 to 9 p.m. Come dance and watch the Beseda!



KARLUV most, CHARLES BRIDGE, Prague is surely the most beautiful bridge a tourist might see anywhere in the world! Oh yes, some may be more spectacular as to type of construction, but for sheer beauty and detail and age (construction started 1357, some 630 years ago) it is one of the oldest -- still-used bridges in the world.

LONDON BRIDGE has always been sort of a story-book bridge for most of us. A small wooden bridge was erected in 963-975 to cross the Thames River and was replaced in 1176--1208 by the one pictured below. Shops and a chapel were in use until 1832, some 626 years but not as long as our Praha bridge over the Vltava.

The bridge below had 19 stone piers supported by oak and elm pilings driven into the riverbed. Note the "v" shaped cribs around the piers, called "stirlings" which deflected the tides as they came up-river and the ice floes as they came down-river. So much construction reduced the width of river flow to 195 ft. but the bridge as 5 times that long!

The bridge was often damaged by fire and over the years the structure was modified. In days when beheadings were common, heads were often hung at both portals of the bridge as a warning to "behave"!

And so in 1832, a bridge of 5 granite arches was erected a short distance above this wooden one. In 1968, the bridge was dismantled, each piece numbered and shipped to Lake Havasu, Arizona, where it was reassembled over an arm of the lake at the resort. The old wooden bridge was the only bridge crossing the Thames until 543 years later when the Westminster Bridge was built in 1750. Today some 28 bridges cross the Thames in the London area.



OLD LONDON BRIDGE, A.D. 1630. MODEL BY JOHN B. THORP

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"I have known such utter poverty that my heart has bled and yet the worst thing is injustice -- the loss of freedom."

Karel Čapek



PONTE VECCHIO, Florence, Italy, crosses the Arno River. Built in the 14th century it dates to the same period as Karluv most. Shops line the passageway. During WW II it was the only bridge in the city that was not destroyed.

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AFTER 11 YEARS, VISITS HOMETLAND.

Martina Navrátilová clinched the Federation Cup for United States. On July 27, she and her teammates defeated the Czechoslovaks 3-0 at the 42 nation tournament. She was so well received that she wept at the closing ceremonies. Twin victories for the week "exceeded my wildest dreams" she said. On Sunday she accepted the trophy and made a few comments and in closing said, "I don't need to tell you how very special it is for me to come back here. I hope it won't be 11 years before I come back again." More than 8,000 spectators gave Martina a 5 minute applause.

St. Petersburg Times EPE

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TENNIS COURTS, ten of them, 4 volley ball courts and a huge swimming pool are all open to the public in Fort Worth, Texas, at the Hulen Street Baptist Church. For the last 3 years, Martina Navrátilová has been using the courts to prepare for those tournaments. The pastor, the Rev. Josef Solc, a former Czech tennis star, said that these clay courts on the church grounds are about the only ones in the area.

Wm. Seidle, Arlington, Tex.  
from Star-Telegram, Fort Worth, Tex.

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"Prague - a precious jewel in the country's crown of stone"

Goethe (1749-1832)





13th ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL, Sept. 6-7, 1986 was again a good time for music, fun and food. Our newest event this year -- PARADE of COSTUMES.

Under the direction of Curator of Czech Museum, Jana Fast, we organized 48 participants into several groups: youth, adults --

some who had authentic costumes (kroj) from Czechy, Morava and Slovensko over the past years. The audience enjoyed a 40 minute "style show", unlike anything Cedar Rapids had seen. Czech Cottage presented each participant with a beautiful bead necklace just for taking part in this first annual event.

BEER RAFFLE winner was J. A. Haddad of Cedar Rapids.

BUTTON ACCORDION CONTEST: 1st place to Henry Dvorak, Chelsea, Ia., 2nd place to Ray Svoboda, Lincoln, Neb., 3rd place to Clarence Lohff, Holstein, Ia.

KOLACH EATING CONTEST winners were awarded kolaches from Les Sykora's Bakery. Pat Martin was there to help with this event.

She reported that Kirk Gustafson was 1st, eating 9 kolaches, followed by Kip Palmer with 8.

PARADE at 11 a.m. Sunday, had 45 entries with quite a few last minute changes, directed by Patty Konecny. Czech Heritage Fdn. took 1st place with a colorful float reported elsewhere in the issue; 2nd place to Jay McMath and his two ponies glittering in such fancy harness; 3rd place to Hochsted Service, driving a 1930 Ford A. Two Honorable Mentions went to Bartunek's Maytag and Boddicker's Young Musicians.

BAKE-OFF CONTEST had about twice as many entries as last year. The contest was managed by Emily Larkin and Darlene Trachta. It was decided to not auction off the entries and food that was donated because of the rain so the items were sold, for a total of \$125.00, one of the biggest "takes" ever.

Elaine Brejcha  
Czech Village Coordinator

The Bake-Off winners for 19 yrs. and older were:

Desserts: 1st-Angie Rohlena

Yeast Breads: 1st-Georgia Nesetril, tie for 2nd- Georgia Neprash and Martha Kubik, 3rd-Lillian Miller

Sweet Rolls: 1st-Lema Poduska, 2nd Evelyn Stejskal, 3rd - Adeline Volesky

Kolaches: 1st-Blanche Trachta, 2nd-Lema Smith, 3rd Judy Modracek

Cookies: 1st-Lema Smith, 2nd-Martha Kubik, 3rd-Irma Binko

Pies: 1st-Georgia Nesetril, 2nd Georgia Nesetril, 3rd-Blanch Trachta

18 years and under: Sweet Breads, Sweet Rolls, Pies: Julie Vlasek took all awards.

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EIGHTY YEARS... BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

In 1906 St. Pauls Methodist Church established the "English Sunday School" to teach Czech speaking immigrants the language of their new home -- America. Classes were held in the afternoon at 48 - 16th Ave. S.W. and then later moved to Jan Hus Church. After the opening ceremonies of Houby Days in Czech Village, May 17, 1986, Frank Novotny Pres. of Czech Heritage Fdn. presented Mr. George Barta, proprietor of The Saddle & Leather Shop and current owner of the location, with a bronze plaque to permanently mark the original place where the language classes began generations ago.

C. J. J. R.

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PAT MARTIN, six years the Czech Village Assoc. coordinator, is pursuing a Masters Degree at the U. of Iowa and also teaching language arts at the local Metro High School. Recently she was named the area educator Friend of Literacy by the Cedar Rapids Area Council of the Int'l. Reading Assoc.

J. R.





VESELKA, a Czech Brass Band from Prague, Czechoslovakia, provided an evening of concert and dance music at the Ponderosa Ballroom in Walford, Iowa. Over 200 people spent an enjoyable evening after a rather eventful day. The group arrived in Cedar Rapids, an hour late because of bus trouble but enjoyed a pot-luck weiner roast at the Novotny home with about 40 people. Also the concert started an hour late and people were very cooperative and understanding. A sincere "Thank You" to all for making the evening a night to remember. The music was excellent.

FWN

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ABOUT THE POSTAL SERVICE. The June issue was delivered to the local P.O. Bulk Mail Div. about noon on May 28th. Delivery of the issue was received by many of the members in this local area the following day (Thurs.) and Friday.

Delivery in St. Petersburg, Florida, was June 9th! This is most interesting and was sent "not as a complaint but as a matter of business information".

We made a slip up as well. In putting the pages together, two address pages (13-14) were clipped together and so a member received her copy but not the other member. The Vinton member thoughtfully returned the address page so we were able to send the June issue to a member in Swisher and add a note of explanation for the delay.

Editor

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CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS. Page 5 of June issue reported 4 recipients were awarded the Komensky Scholarship. One name was omitted and one sent to the wrong college. Susie Kader enrolled at UNI, Cedar Falls; Shannon Mattice enrolled at Central College, Pella, Ia. And HONORS to Lora Kloubec of Amana who was elected to a 4H State Office, the only student on the NCA Building Committee which makes suggestions about schools.

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STATE FAIR, Des Moines, IA. On Aug. 22nd the Czech Village Association, the Czech Heritage and Czech Fine Arts Foundations were asked to have a display in the Earth Home featuring our Ethnic background. We were honor-

ed to have been asked by the Chamber of Commerce to represent Linn County for a day at the Fair. It was a long-tiring day but the Brejchas, Nejdls, Novotnys, Oujiris, Simaneks and Voleskys had a wonderful day talking to people, playing the accordion and dancing on TV! Truly an unbelievable number of people stopped at the exhibits, a worthwhile project indeed.

FWN

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CZECH SCHOOL's 116th YEAR drew to a close July 18th with an ice cream social and program. Thirty-five students and three teachers, Patricia Hikiji, Bessie Dugena and Olga Drahozal presented songs, poetry, a short play and recitations. Over 125 people attended this annual event at the Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church. Graduating this year after attending Czech Summer School for 8 years were Jeff McLaskey and James Hruska. The displays of the creative work and projects of the students and the posters were of real interest and attracted many of the visitors.

S.H.

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KDE DOMOV MŮJ, the plaintive melody of the Czech National Anthem when written reflected the mood of an entire country in 1834. Written by Josef Kajetan Tyl and František Skroup the moving piece rapidly spread throughout the country to become 84 years later the Czech part of the anthem. The Slovak portion NAD TATROU SA BLÝSKÁ was written by Jan Matuska. At its birth in 1851 it expressed unequalled Slovak patriotism at a time when suppression by the Hungarians was at its peak. Both songs share a proud history and have remained with us for well over a century.

Czech Slovak Club, Greater Kansas City

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A VISIT AT HRADČANY, on the Royal Heights in Praha above the Vltava River with its 1,000 room castle, Sv. Vita Cathedral, Palaces, chapels, former convent, church and Zlatá Ulička at the rear of the area. All attract the visitor.

Sv. Vita was started in 1344 and was completed in the 1920's. Beneath the floor of the cathedral are the tombs of kings. What Westminster Abbey is to the British, so Sv. Vita is to the Czechs. Steps lead to the catacombs where "the ceiling may be low but you will be walking among royalty".

Some days the "treasure house" of the castle is open where one sees the painted ceiling, robes made of gold threads, jewel encrusted cups. The Art Museum area is extensive with paintings of scenes from history, favorite people and rural landscapes. A small white building, the oldest part of the castle, was a part of the original fortifications. (The word castle comes from old French and means a "fort"). On the lower floor area is a display of primitive tools and pottery of people who lived in the area in ancient times.

In the medieval part of the castle, once knights on horseback were riding up the stairs to salute the King! The former Hall, Czech Chancellery, was the site of the 2nd "defenestration" 1618 - the 1st was 1419 the throwing out the window of the King's vice-regents by some members of the Czech

Estates. This was the start of the Thirty Years War (1618-1648)... and with Zlatá Ulička nearby, you would not miss roaming through the small buildings and feeling the presence of former occupants, the poor folks, former workers at the Castle area, shop keepers and even lodging for Seifert, the Nobel Prize Poet of 1985.

Excerpted in part for Sokol Minnesota SLOVO... by Joan Sedlacek (Minn.)

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- 7 - In 1771, a MORAVIAN MISSIONARY group



established the settlement of NAIN, the most permanent inhabited spot so far north along the coast of Labrador where the southward moving cold Labrador Ocean Current washes the rugged fiorded coast the year round. Today the population is about 1000, mostly the INUITS. Their name translated is "true men". They do not like to be called Eskimo because that word means "eater of raw meat". It is said that the scenery in that province of Canada looks much as it was after the glacial era some 9000 years ago! "...hundreds of square miles of rugged wilderness virtually uninhabited... but a teeming wildlife population where glacial features and deposits are clearly visible".

Excerpted from TRAVEL-HOLIDAY, 6/68

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PILSEN NEIGHBORHOOD, Chicago.

Saint Procopius Church.

The monks of St. Procopius Abbey played a special role on Chicago's west side a hundred years ago. Illinois Benedictine College is just one outcome of this Benedictine heritage of community service.

by Joseph Cada, Ph.D.

*Dr. Joseph Cada is professor emeritus at Illinois Benedictine College and living in retirement in Florida. He is the author of Czech Benedictines in America among other works. This article is excerpted from his paper delivered Nov. 17 in IBC's Humanities Lecture Series entitled "The Benedictines of Lisle," marking the 100th anniversary of St. Procopius Abbey.*

When the Czech Benedictines arrived in Chicago, that city was already a leading center of Czech immigrant life in the United States. It served as a home to some ten thousand of these aliens from Bohemia and Moravia and housed more of their associations, churches and institutions than any other area in America. By 1885, the early Czech enclave had already occupied and abandoned two Chicago districts: namely, the pre-Civil War Squatters Town near Lincoln Park, and the Van Buren Street edge of the future Loop. Before the Great Fire it established its first stable community on DeKoven and Jefferson Streets and, after that conflagration, drifted into the Near West Side of Chicago. Here, in what popularly was called Pilsen, the Czechs, also known as Bohemians, accommodated the Benedictines.



St. Procopius Church in Chicago is in the heart of the Pilsen neighborhood, where the Czech Benedictines served

from: Cleveland, Ohio, POSEL 1985

J. K.



BOOKS. The forthcoming booklet entitled "CZECH CULTURE" completes the trilogy by Pat Martin, former Čech Village Coordinator, Cedar Rapids. Many of you are acquainted with "CZECH TRADITIONS AND RECIPES" and "WIT AND WISDOM". This final booklet features pictures of the Czech Museum at Wilber, Nebr., Slovaks at Pittsburgh, PA., photographs of Ellsworth and Caldwell, Kansas, Minnesota and Florida, the singing and dancing groups in their gorgeous costumes when they were at the Czech Village Festival. The groups include Moravians from Berwyn, Ill., Sokols from St. Paul and Singers from Lincoln, Nebr. Topics in the booklet include egg coloring, glass blowing and embroidery. Pat said, "People like Charles Vyskočil who did all of the translating of recipe titles (English and Czech) and others nationwide who added recipes and feature ideas are really responsible for this book". **THANK YOU ALL.**

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IN THE AUTUMN

I wonder, in the mountains,  
 In the autumn of the year,  
 If the aspens are as golden  
 As the maple trees are here.

If the leaves fall just as sadly  
 And cιδadas ply the air  
 With monotonous a music  
 And as chilly a despair.

If the mountains streams are colder,  
 If the canyons bear a sigh  
 Like the dry stalks in the cornfields  
 When the wind comes swiftly by.

And if summer in its passing  
 Leaves the heart a little drear -  
 In the Colorado mountains,  
 In the autumn of the year.

Margaret Peck Svec, Seattle

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OUR APPRECIATION to those who send remarks about an issue of the newsletter. This came from a member: "What amazes me is what all we get for \$3.00! Information, participation in events and opportunity and education!!!! All this takes work, work, work."

THANKS EFE

METRO OPERA GUILD'S first vice president is Mrs. Peter F. Packard who had a career in TV before marriage. She also was active in various committees of the Guild, other programs in Dramatic Arts and Musical Arts. Mrs. Packard is the daughter of our beloved Jarmila Novotná Daubek and Mr. George Daubek.

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N. Y. CITY MAYOR, ED KOCH, presented the 1986 Mayor's Liberty Awards to 87 naturalized and "to be so" citizens who have "made a major contribution to New York State and United States". Recipients of the award came from 50 different nations. The event was July 3rd at Battery Park. The Mayor's Ethnic Advisory Council selected the list of people. Among those receiving recognition Miloš Forman so well known for films, Jarmila Novotná (Daubek) retired opera singer, Rabbi Leo Jung, born in Moravia in 1892, of Orthodox faith, authored many religious and other books, Prof. of Theology at Yeshiva Univ., N. Y., N. Y. Other Slavs on the list were: Isaac Asimov, scientist & writer, Wassily Leontief, Economist, Mikhail Baryshnikov, dancer, and Louise Nevelson, sculptor, from USSR. From Poland were Zbigniew Brzezinski, Political scientist, Issac Singer, writer -- Tadeusz Sedmzmiri, inventor and metallurgist, Yugoslav opera singer, Zinka Milanov and from Ukraine, Nicholas S.H. Krawdiv, Brigadier General.

Excerpted from St. Petersburg TIMES  
 Thanks to E. P. E.

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EARLY MORAVIAN SETTLER, Josef Ferdinand Buliček, was born in Bohemia in 1729. He came to the colonies in 1752 on the ship IRENE landing in New York. He was a skilled cabinet maker and sawmill operator. He built the cabinets which house the N. C. Archives in Salem. In 1772 he built an organ for the New Salem Saal (Hall) where Winston-Salem State University now stands. For a time he lived in Bethlehem, Pa. at the Moravian settlement. He also lived in Bethabara, N. C. which has a church dating 1771 in the Moravian village.

Darleen Dobrovlny, Kansas.



VETERAN OF WW I and WW II and active at age 90, Robert R. Kouba attended old Monroe, Tyler and Adams schools and graduated from old Washington HS in his hometown of Cedar Rapids, Ia. He enrolled at Iowa State College at Ames and at the end of his junior year, he enlisted (1917) in the U.S. Navy. His training was at the Navy Electrical School. Before the course was finished, he volunteered for submarine service! He served on USS K4 as a First Class Electrician and Qualified Submarine man.

After discharge from the Navy, he returned to college and graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering. He then went to General Electric in Schenectady, N. Y. taking the Electric Test Course. He was assigned to the Railway Transportation Dept. and to other Divisions for training. He then became a full-fledged Engineer in the Railway Dept.

In June 1922 he married Eva F. Slapnicka in New York City. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Joseph Fort Newton, formerly of Cedar Rapids and during the war years in City Temple, London. The Koubas celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary in June 1983. She died later that same month.

In 1927, he was sent to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to take charge of the electrification of suburban lines entering the city. Unfortunately, the money allocated to the project was spent on other projects and the electrification was abandoned for the time.

He stayed in Brazil as Chief Engineer for General Electric, South America. His contract expired, so he returned to Schenectady.

When WW II started, he was called back to the US Navy as a Reserve Officer. The submarine was in the Caribbean area. The convoys with oil from Venezuela were routed to our East Coast at that time. He retired as Lt. Commander at the close of WW II.

After discharge from the Navy, he returned to International General Electric at Schenectady where he established a Transportation Division International which covered the world except for Canada. Headquarters were in New York City. This position required a great deal of travel to all parts of the world, esp. South America and the Near and Far East. After

acting as a Consultant for various firms in New York City, he retired in 1961 and returned to Cedar Rapids, Ia. where he now resides.

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ALEŠ HRDLIČKA (1869-1943) arrived in the United States when he was 12 years old, a "little penniless boy" from the Province of Bohemia. There is a story that he threw his last 15¢ into New York Harbor from the ship.

Whatever spare time he had from a job, he spent studying English and business and he was only 13 years old! Although he received his medical education in United States, he became world renowned as an anthropologist. Starting in 1898 at the age of 29, he was leading expeditions seeking more and more evidences of prehistoric people and "higher primates". In 1903 "He founded The Smithsonian Division of Physical Anthropology and remained the curator until his death, 1943, at the age of 74 years." Over the years his investigations included parts of East Asia, Australia, Egypt and Europe. He led expeditions to Alaska from 1926-1937. On one of the trips to Alaska, some 200 years after Vitus Bering (Danish explorer who was working for the Russian Czar) for whom Bering Sea and Island are named, Hrdlička visited Bering's grave on Bering Island. It was in 1741 that Bering sighted Alaska.

Excerpted in part from "Smithsonian Experiences", 1977, and other sources.

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SUBTLE CZECH HUMOR

Save for a rainy day and you will have enough to buy an umbrella.

Better to live in poverty than in disgrace.

Truth cannot retreat -- Like a river that does not run backward.

Two friends met, One asked the other for a cigarette. "Oh! I no longer buy them." The other asked, "Why not?" The reply: "So you would stop smoking".



STUDENT REPORTS on the Experiment in International Living. "I really enjoyed my trip to Czechoslovakia! My family was so kind and welcomed me with open arms. The family consisted of Babi, a mother who worked at a TV station (in a very high position) a sister who was an actress and dancer in a theater. The two brothers were on their own: one in West Germany and one in Prague. He was a nutritionist in a hospital and worked with children. Our home was 15 km. south of Prague in a little village called Pruhonice. The nice size house had a beautiful garden and a view of the castle which dates late 1800's and an arboretum with a remarkable rich collection of trees. Besides seeing all the wonderful and beautiful expositions and events, the highlight of the trip was to meet and visit with my relatives! I stayed with them my last week and felt so comfortable and at-home. We attended the Federation Cup tennis match and visited a glass factory closed to tourists. I want to thank the Czech Heritage Fdn. for choosing me as an ambassador. It was an experience that will always hold a special place in my heart. Also I would like to invite any group or organization to call me for an exciting and cultural trip to Czechoslovakia through my slide presentation".

Janelle Rohlena

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"How proud I am to be a Czech! Because of my heritage and interest and hard work being done by the Czech Heritage Fdn., I had the most memorable experience of my life this summer in Prague, Czechoslovakia. My four week stay was with the Svoboda family (my grandmother's maiden name) which is as common in Prague as Smith is in the United States so I was not able to establish an ancestral relationship. Tata's name is Jiří, an engineering scientist, my matka, Vera, is a housewife. Every morning she would greet me by squeezing my cheeks and proudly saying, "Lyn, you're my daughter. I prepare for you a good breakfast." I loved to make her eyes sparkle by eating with gusto the scrumptious

food always prepared. My sister, Irena, is my age -- seventeen -- and brother Jirco (little George) is twelve. The first week was spent in Prague where Irena introduced me to the most important historical sites, buildings and monuments. We attended many plays, concerts and folk ballets since music is an important part of my family's life. Irena is an excellent pianist and at one concert we met jazz pianist, Vladimir Klousak, with whom we had an interesting conversation since he had recently returned from a concert tour in United States. We'd have dinner during our tours at a nearby pub or outdoor cafe -- always a special treat. The 2nd and 3rd weeks were spent traveling to the Krkonoše (Giant Mts.) in N.W. Cechy and the low Tatra Mts. in northern Slovakia where we went hiking, mountain climbing and swimming. Many trips were made to the local potravina (grocery) for rohlíky, vino, cheese, salam and cookies.

The last and too short week was spent with my family and all of the friends I made during my visit to this beautiful country. The love and affection I received from my Czech family and many people will be my greatest memories.

I want to thank all of the people who made this Experiment in International Living home-stay possible. I hope I can continue to convey to others the beautiful tradition, culture and even superstitions which I acquired from my visit in my ancestral home. It is a summer I will never forget."

Lynette Stejskal

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"On leaving Chicago the evening of June 26, I had many preconceived ideas about what Czechoslovakia would be like. This was my first flight so it was an experience in itself! By the time we reached Zurich, Switzerland, in the morning, I was excited and energetic even after a sleepless night. After arriving in Prague, I met my host family, the Blahas. Father was a doctor, mother a social worker and the 18 year old daughter, Jitka, had just graduated from high school."

(continued on p. 12)





MAIL to CZECHOSLOVAKIA

According to the U. S. Post Office, Int'l. Mail Manual, certain restrictions apply to mail to Czechoslovakia. Prohibitions include photos, publications, drawings, sheet

music, records, etc. which are deemed to be contrary to the State public order. Coins, currency and certain commodities may only be imported with prior authorization of the State Bank. Gift parcels must be sent to private individuals only, not by businesses. Import permits are required for gift parcels exceeding 3 per year for one addressee or any parcel valued at over 3000 Czech Crowns\*\*. Philatelic articles and stamps exchanged between member collectors must not exceed 1000 crowns\*\*. Gift packages of philatelic items are limited to 3 per year and each shipment can't exceed a total of 100 stamps or philatelic articles of 50 crowns in value. The U.S. Postal Dept. suggests senders ascertain from the addressee before mailing whether the contents of a forthcoming package are allowable or if special permit will be required.

\*\* Value of crown depends upon tourist rate or citizens exchange of other currency. Value of one crown may vary from 6 1/2, 7 1/2 to 9 1/2, 10¢ U.S.

J. R.

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KEEP THE LANGUAGE ALIVE Now available- Contemporary Czech, M. Heim, 271 pages, 1982 \$14.95 "This textbook aims to give the beginning student a solid working knowledge of the literary language". Discounts of 10% on one book, 20% on 2 books plus \$1.00 handling-postage charge on all orders from Slavica Publishers, Inc., P.O. BOX 14388 Columbus, Ohio 43214. Slavica also stocks a wide selection of texts and reference books covering Eastern Europe and the U.S.S.R.

J. R.

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Picture courtesy C. R. Gazette

BABI AND DĚDA'S HOUSE once located on 15th Ave. S.W. in the Czech Village area is now one of the museum pieces at Seminole Valley, Usher's Ferry, the PIONEER VILLAGE. The Pioneer Village Commission has 6 people with the C. R. Parks Dept. Commissioner as ex-officio. A committee with Mrs. James Browne as chairperson volunteered to refurbish the house inside and out and find appropriate items with which to furnish the rooms. Some unemployed who had had job-training did some of the carpenter work. The first floor room served as kitchen, dining room and living room, a period from about 1910-1917. Pictures, books, violin, dishes, wash basin, pump, cast-iron stove for cooking and heating, 2-burner oil stove for summer cooking, linoleum, desk, bookcase and many other items complete the furnishings. Upstairs is a bedroom with a rod on which to hang clothes, a trunk and other furniture.

The younger generations who visit will have an experience of quite a different decade. The house was once occupied by a grandma grandpa who often were children of families who came from Europe before there was a Statue of Liberty to greet them to their new country. At one time a Rejsa family occupied the house.

If any readers can find more information about former occupants of the house Mrs. Browne would like to hear from you.

Visiting hours are Sundays 1-4 p.m. May 15 to Oct. 15. Appointments may be made for group tours at other times. Phone (319) 398-5104.

L. B., MMS





MATEJ BENCUR (1860-1928) was born in the village of Janesново, Slovakia, some 35 km. (22 miles) N. W. of Baňská Bystrica. After finishing his education at the Teacher's Institute in Klášter po Znievom, he taught for six years in his native village. He

practiced medicine in Vienna and on the island of Brac (Adriatic coast). Not only an accomplished teacher and physician, Bencur went on to become a reknown novelist and playwright. In 1904 under the pen name of MARTIN KUKUCIN he wrote what is considered to be his best novel, Dom strani (House on a Slope). Later moving to Punta Arenas, Chile (one of the worlds southernmost cities 53.09° S. lat.) he wrote "Prechadzky po Patagonlii" (Strolls through Patagonia) and Matvola (The Motherland Calls).

Bencur returned to his motherland in 1922 and after a brief stay went to the Croatian spa of Lipik where he remained until his death. He is buried in the national cemetery of Martin, Slovakia. "As a writer of Slovak prose in the romantic tradition, KUKUCIN is without peer".

Excerpted from Minnesota SLOVO.

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Prior to WW II, JOSEF SKORECKY wrote, "In my opinion American theater and publishers should pay more attention to Czech literature and the theater." He is now a citizen of Canada and at the University of Toronto. His 16th novel "ENGINEER OF HUMAN SOULS" now translated into English, is the story of his own life. All of his writing is in Czech language. His wife has a Čech Publishing business in Toronto. This remark of his is worth pondering: "Freedom is like breathing. If there is air, you don't realize you are breathing. But if you are denied air, you know something is wrong. His real homeland is Czech culture, not the country".

Excerpted from Chr. Sci. Monitor

FINE ARTS: MUSIC, Fifty one years ago, JAN KUBELIK appeared at a concert in Cedar Rapids, sponsored by the then Czech Fine Arts Society. Kubelik was born in the Province of Bohemia 1880, died 1940. He was 18 when he made his debut in Vienna and in 1901 in United States. He was "acclaimed for his great virtuosity and dramatic power". His program at the Memorial Coliseum included a Concerto by Dvořák, a composition by Paganini and four shorter numbers, 2 of which he composed. His son, Rafael, who was only 20 years of age was the pianist for the program. Jan Kubelik's appearance in 1935 was rather unusual as he did not travel distances after WW I. Son Rafael (1914) was Director of the Chicago Symphony (1950-53) and later at Covent Garden, London. Like his father he was a composer as well as musician.

From the program leaflet of 1935.

Mildred Drahovzal

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Ambassador. "During the first and last week I was in Prague visiting the Castle, Sv. Vita Cathedral, Old Town Square, Charles Bridge, National Theater, Karlstein Castle and other places. During the 2nd week, the family were at their cottage in South Czechy where we visited Český Krumlov, Česká Budějovice, Hluboká Castle and Devils Wall.

The 3rd week was with Lynette and her sister, Irena, in the Tatra Mts., Slovakia. The splendor and beauty of the mountains awed me. I had never seen scenery quite like it. The final week in Prague was a surprise. I found the birthplace of my grandfather, Milo Špina. Relatives still live there and I spent two wonderful days with them. When I left for home on July 26, I had a feeling of peacefulness."

Sandra Spina,





SHIPS AND RECORDS. Have you ever been on a cruise or passenger liner or even a cargo vessel? The Titanic is the news nowadays with reports of its cargo and condition some 400 miles off the coast of Labrador in ice-cold water of the iceberg carrying Labrador Current chilling the nearby coastal lands. The Titanic was some 880 feet long. Larger liners were later: Queen Mary, QE 1 were over 1,000 ft. long. Both had a speed of 29 knots/hr. QE 2 and the United States were more than 950 ft. in length, QE 2 of more than 65,000 tons, United States of more than 53,000 tons the fastest liner ever built. What a beautiful ship the U.S. making record crossings on the Atlantic in her day. At night the engines would rev up way over 35 knots/hr., moving quietly and swiftly. but no stabilizers! Since a passenger ship has little heavy cargo and rides high in the water, how come so stable? There was a story that if the deck were removed, there would be gun emplacements for cannons and the ship would be a troop carrier. IS THIS TRUE? If you know the true facts the editor would appreciate hearing from you.

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HĀDANKY

RIDDLES

1. Letí, letí, křídla nemá  
sedne na zem, nohu nemá?  
Flies, flies, wings it has not  
sits on the ground, has no feet.
2. Co pálí bez ohně?  
What burns without fire?
3. Co rychle ubíhá a nemá nohy?  
What runs fast, has no feet?
4. Jaký len roste na čtyřech nohách?  
What len g\_ows on 4 legs?
5. Kdo poví v\_ždy pravdu?  
Who always tells the truth?

Answers at bottom of page

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1. snh (snow); 2. kopřiva (nettle);  
3. čas (time) 4. jelen (deer) and  
5. zrcadlo (mirror)



Starý dřevěný kostel sv. Michala ve Konczycach Wielkich ve Slezsku (kostel z r. 1777).

Solemn and Divine Services were held last summer in some churches and churchyards to honor St. Cyril and St. Methodious. The wooden church is in Silesia (Slezsko) 1777.

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From 1894 Chicago HUMORESTICKÝ

Žena: Dnes odpoledne přijde k nám maminku návštěvou.

(Wife: This afternoon coming to us to visit is mother)

Můž: To jsem se hned myslil. Barometer věští už od ráno bouřka.

(Husband: That I at once thought. The barometer (is) rising already after this morning's storm.)

-----  
"Dnes ráno řekl hluchoněmý tramp mě ženě o snídani.

(This morning a deaf-dumb tramp spoke to my wife about breakfast.)

"Jak to, když byl němý?

(How was that since he was a mute?"

"Neřekl nic a začal řezat dříví."

(He said nothing but started to saw wood.)

-----  
Old Maid: "Považte si, co povídají lidé o vaši paní sestře, že prý má dva muže?"

(You consider, what talk people (make) about your married sister, that she has 2 husbands.)

Panu Jara, "Nucož slečinko snad to je lepší než nemít žádného!"

Mrs. Jara: Well, so what, Miss, maybe it is better than not to have anyone!



SESQUICENTENNIAL SYMPOSIUM: CZECH MUSIC in TEXAS. Events include lectures, panel discussions, interviews, plus entertainment as dancing and dancers, Texas bands and orchestras and from out-of-state and singing groups, classical and folk music, exhibits, demonstrations, out-of-state as well as international speakers. \$20 fee covers all events for adults, children \$5.  
 Place: Brazos Center at Bryan, Texas.  
 Time: Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m. to afternoon of 16th.

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SLAVIC PUBLICATIONS by the University of Michigan, Dept. of Slavic Languages at Literature and Modern Language Bldg., Ann Arbor, Mich., 48109 cover a wide range of topics and themes. The listings include volumes on Russia, Czechy, Yugoslavia. If interested write to the above address for the 12 page leaflet.

B. J.

For more information write to: Clinton Machan, CESAT Symposium Director, Dept. of English, Texas A & M Univ., College Sta., Tex. 77843  
 Housing: Brazos Inn near the Center; Relax Inn (economical) Hy #21F; and in Coll. Sta. which adjoins Bryan are: Texian Inn, Manor House, Ramada Inn -- all have free van service to the Brazos Center. Hilton Hotel has "van on call". All have zip 77840. Rates given if attending the Symposium. Suggested orders be sent before Nov. 1st.

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THEATER. Last summer at the Broom Street Theater, an experimental theater in Madison, Wisconsin, the play "THE HANG-WOMAN" (Katyně) was performed. Author PAVEL KOHOUT, lives in Vienna. He is considered "one of the most thought-provoking Czech playwrights.....this play presents the danger of totalitarianism".

**CZECH HERITAGE FDN.**

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