

# NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE

Vol. 9 - No. 3  
Sept. 1984

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



## CALENDAR

## KALENDÁŘ

Oct. 8. Mon. AMBASSADORS, the 3 young women who were Scholarship winners to Czechoslovakia this past summer, will relate their experiences, 7:30 p.m., Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church. All welcome -- bring your friends.

Dec. 1. Sat. Svatý MIKULÁŠ DAY in Čech Village, Cedar Rapids, 1 to 4 p.m.

Dec. 2. Sun. Sv. MIKULÁŠ FESTIVAL DANCE, Eagles Hall, 3 to 9 p.m. Floor show, Dancing, Program. Proceeds to support Czech Museum. Advance tickets \$3.00. At door \$3.50. Sponsored by Czech Fine Arts Fdn., Inc.

1985. Jan. 21, Mon. ANNUAL MEETING of Czech Heritage and Czech Fine Arts Foundations. Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church, 7:00 p.m. Come and bring interested folks.

## VITĀM VĀS! Greetings to All!

Another 3 months have slipped by and it is time for our quarterly newsletter. It has been a busy summer and much has been accomplished because of your help and cooperation. Our three students have returned from their stay in Czechoslovakia with glowing reports of the success of the experiment in international visits. Czech Heritage Fdn. was involved in the parades in nearby Czech communities on their Czech Days -- received an "Entry Cap" at ELY, a 2nd place trophy at Czech Village Festival. Our booth at the Festival was a success--THANKS to your help. An enjoyable evening was spent at the Annual Picnic at ZCBJ Park in mid-August. The lock boxes have been put on the flag poles and the flags wave merrily in the breezes. By the time you read this, the Budvarka will be a sweet memory (I hope)

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## CZECH HERITAGE

### DUES. How used?

Questions have been raised about the \$3.00 dues to the Foundation. As you all know, you receive the newsletter, "Naše České Dědictví" four times a year. The costs of typing, printing and postage are a major item so little is left for other purposes. The Scholarship Program is completely financed by donations and the proceeds from the St. Joseph's Day Dance in March. Still other projects are financed by donations and the proceeds of sales from our publications and other items. The dues of \$3.00 are NOT used to support the Museum. Eight or more volunteers collate the newsletter, fold, staple, sort by zip code and bundle (postal regulations) the newsletters, which include a variety of topics and hope you enjoy receiving the issues!

Frank W. Novotny, President  
Czech Heritage Fdn.

CZECH PRINCE AND PRINCESS for the Sept. 1984-85 reign are crowned. This is the 4th year for this event. Another group of wonderful young people entered the contest. Ten teen-agers, 5 girls and 5 boys sent in applications and were interviewed Friday evening by the judges: Fern Kaplan Fackler, Pat Bezdek Harstad, Beth Conard (KCRG). The contestants were: Brenda Buresh, Glenda Buresh, John Buresh, Jonathan Christensen, David Hrushka, Tim Semelroth, Lynette Styskal, Doris Tesar, David Zahradnik, and Julie Vlasek.

After an interesting and careful deliberation, the following were selected to represent the Czech Heritage Fdn. as the Prince and Princess for the coming year: Czech Princess Lynette Styskal; runner-up, Glenda Buresh;

(Continued page 2)

VITAM VAS.. as I have made arrangements for 3 buses (47 capacity each) to transport the folks to the concert and dance at Waterloo on September 24th. Our one day trip to the Chicago area in April was enjoyed by 47 folks. Some of us went to Green Bay, Wis., along with the Czech Plus Polka Band to attend that Festival. It is educational to see how other organizations are functioning. No wonder we are kept busy with the promotion of our Czech Heritage Fdn., but I want to express our sincere "Thanks" for your excellent cooperation when the need arises. Looking ahead to an interesting season ahead of us.

Mae and Frank Novotny

PRINCE and PRINCESS. Czech Princes, David Hruska; runner-up, Tim Semelroth. Lynette is the daughter of Ken and Sally Styskal of Solon; Glenda is the daughter of Glenn and Frances Buresh of Ely. David is the son of Ted and Sharon Hruska of Cedar Rapids; Tim is the son of Richard and Pat Semelroth of Hiawatha. CONGRATULATIONS to the winners and other contestants! Mae and I wish to express our sincere thanks on behalf of the Czech Heritage Fdn. for the entries we had this year and are hoping that you will try again in 1985. Our appreciation to the judges who gave their time and selected the new Czech Princess and Prince.

Frank Novotny, President  
Czech Heritage Fdn.

VISITORS FROM FAR AWAY PLACES

attended the Festival at a church bazaar in Schnectady, N. Y., Betty and Charlie Svatek from Long Island, N. Y., purchased Pat Martin's publication, THE CZECH BOOK and learned about our Czech Village Events. They came by train to Burlington, rented a car and came to our Festival! "Thanks for a really wonderful time, thanks to many warm people and great music...." they wrote in a recent letter.

AND FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA, a couple were on a trip in the Black Hills, S.D. and

at the Mount Rushmore Gift shop they also purchased The CZECH BOOK! Imagine with Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt looking down on the folks they came to Cedar Rapids to the Festival !!!

JOHN ROHLENA, Prince of Czech Village, is the twin of Princess Janelle. The two reigned from Sept. 1983 to Sept. 1984. He is in the 10th grade at Prairie Senior H.S. of the College Community School Dist. He is President of the 4H College Westerners and 4H Council Representative. John's major project is raising sheep, a cross of Suffolk and Rambouillet-a long time project. This year hogs were added to his projects. His hobby is collecting small engines. Reporting on the activities as Prince he said that he had a very interesting and enjoyable experience as Prince of Czech Village. Both Janelle and John found the tasks highlighted by meeting people, attending the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra Concert at Ames as guests of Czech Heritage Fdn., dancing at St. Joseph's Day events, helping register Houby Day entries and being in many parades in nearby Czech communities during festivals. As greeters at the Czech Museum they became familiar with how much we inherited from our ancestors. As "royalty" they wore handsome Czech costumes presented to them by Czech Village Assoc. at the time of their being "crowned".

FESTIVALS -- FESTIVALS ??

CZECH DAYS

WHEN? WHAT IS DOING? WHERE?

The Editor would be pleased to have information about the coming events in 1985 so that we and others would know about events that interest us all!

Please help us to enlarge our Kalendář and get to know you by visiting your events.

SCHOLARSHIPS THRIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY. Every issue of late seems to add more information about funds available to students of Czech ancestry. We have TWO announcements to add to the list: Coe College of Cedar Rapids announces the creation of the Matthew and Zdenka SPINKA SCHOLARSHIPS to students of Czechoslovak descent who attend Coe. Zdenka is a sister of Agnes and the late William Dvorak (Swisher). Zdenka was a talented artist using oils. Matthew Spinka graduated from Coe 1918 and conferred with Honorary Degree, D.D. at Coe, 1949. Other degrees were from Univ. of Chicago and St. Andrews (Scotland). He was Prof. of Theology at various Theological Seminaries: Chicago, Hartford, Conn., Central. His early ministry was at the Czech Reformed Church in Cedar Rapids.

And SEVEN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED BY SBOR DĀMSKĀ MATICE ŠKOLSKĀ.

Awards of \$200 were made to 3 students who are "carry overs" that received awards last year since a student may be a recipient after one year at college. The 3 are Cynthia Hadish, SUI, Journalism; Joan Schultz, Mt. Mercy, later into Veterinary Medicine; Kristen Becker, Kirkwood, Physical Therapy. Then 4 received awards for the first time: Janice Reu, Mt. Mercy, Nursing; Anne M. Stanley, Univ. of Ia., Bus. Admin., Bruce E. Miller, Waldorf Coll., Bus. Admin., Randy E. Dvorak, Iowa State, Mech. Engr. Requirements for the award are: must be of Czech ancestry and deserving, personal aptitude and graduate of a high school in the Cedar Rapids District.

Dāmská had a membership of more than 90 members. Income from investments from the sale of the former Čech School (Matice Školská) and donations make this "helping hand" possible. The organization was founded in 1895 and started the scholarship program in 1956.

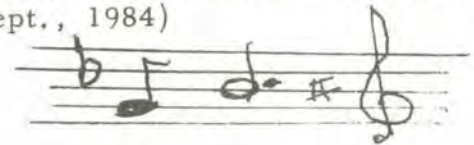
MUSEUM HOURS. Until Nov. 17, 1984, daily hours at the Museum will continue at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tues., through Fri., and 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sat. . . . From Nov. 17, 1984 to April 15, 1985. The Museum will be open Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tours arranged by appointment.

The Iowa City/Johnson County Arts Council offer a unique exhibit, Sept. 4 -- Oct. 10 in Iowa City, LIGHT AND COLOR: STAINED GLASS IN JOHNSON COUNTY. A guided walking tour to churches and public buildings will be Sept. 30th. Exhibits at the Art Center, lower level, Jefferson Bldg., one block from Old Capitol, 129 East Washington St. Hours: Mon. thru Sat. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mon. evenings 5-7 p.m. At the Art Center is a continuous slide/tape presentation on the history of American stained glass in Iowa and Illinois. Also a catalog has the history, cultural and artistic aspects of stained glass.

INTRODUCING JOSEPH SKVORECKY if you have not met him in his writings, graduate of Charles University, Professor of English and film studies at the University of Toronto and since the 1970's a citizen of Canada. He was the recipient of a Nobel Prize in 1982.

Two of his works, Engineer of Human Souls and The Cowards are about life behind the Iron Curtain under the Nazis and Communists. His scores of works include novels, short stories, translations into Čech plus film scripts and many other writings -- a total of more than 35 publications. At one time he worked with the underground and left Czechoslovakia in 1969. Scherzo Caprissios (in Čech) is about Antonin Dvořák's stay in Iowa and New York is his latest publication. His wife Zdena Salivarová and he operate a Čech publishing business.

(From WORLD PRESS REVIEW, Sept., 1984)



OUR AMBASSADORS TELL THEIR STORIES

"Kde domov můj?" (Where is my home?) the national anthem of the Czechs has this answer, "Where the heart is". Now I have 3 homes! in Cedar Rapids, in Praha and Moravia. Everywhere I went open-hearted people greeted me. The people I've met and places I've seen will never be forgotten. Thank you Czech Heritage Fdn.

In Prague, my 2nd home, my family numbered 5 members; father Charles, Doctor of the Czech Hockey Team, mother Karla, employed by the CKM Travel Agency, sister Martina, 20, employed by the same Agency, sister Jane, 16, in secondary school, and Babi, 74, the housewife.

Now I know why people say "Zlatá Praha" (Golden Prague) -- day or night the scene is breathtaking -- Hradčany, St. Vita, Charles Bridge and many other features. Uherské Hradiště, Moravia, my 3rd home is beautiful. Here I acquired 3 aunts, 5 cousins and a dog, Dunna. In contrast to the hustle and bustle of Praha the smaller city was slower and quieter. Moravians enjoy the simple things in life and take time to sit back and relax.

Departure time drew near. I thought of the many friends I had made, the many things I had seen -- this was no dream. It was REAL ! Now I want to share with others the beauty of the trip. Perhaps one day freedom will not belong to a select few but to all in the world.

Lynne Marie Nejd1

Jefferson Senior H.S., Cedar Rapids, Ia.

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The trip to Czechoslovakia was about the best experience I ever had to meet wonderful people and tour through cities and the countryside. My wonderful family were father, mother, 2 sisters. With Michael, age 19, we did everything together -- walking, shopping or relaxing. At night Praha was really golden as the lights glowed in the gold painted towers and domes of the buildings. The countryside tours were just as golden. Wheat was ripened and

being harvested everywhere.

The best part of the trip was meeting people -- Michael's friends were as eager as I to learn about the other. I will never forget my family in Prague.

Julie Jilovec

Lisbon High School, Lisbon, Ia.

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For 20 days I was adopted by a family in Praha, Czechoslovakia, to stay in their home! My "home" family was very similar to my family in Iowa. They met me at the airport with huge smiles and bouquet of flowers! At once I knew that this was going to be a whirlwind trip, full of surprises. We visited all the historical spots that I had heard so much about, tasted the good food we have been trying to duplicate at home for years! The best part of the trip was doing and being together with my family. It was as though I had been a part of their family all my life. I will miss father and mother Benes, sister Andree and brother Přemysl, forever.

It was a privilege for me to tour the beautiful city of Praha and the countryside. To the Czech Heritage Fdn. my thanks for the experience made possible by their scholarship fund.

Sara Joens

Prairie Senior H.S., College Comm. School Dist., Ely, Iowa.

A TRIP TO WHERE IT ALL BEGAN. Cyril M. Klimesh, author of "They Came to This Place" is the story of Spillville, Iowa. Trip April 16-29, 1985 at \$2295, all inclusive, Chicago and return. Tour includes Vienna, Brno, Telč, České Budějovice, Tábor, Konopiste, Praha, Melnik, Plzen, Nurnberg, Munich, Salzburg, Vienna and Chicago. Send \$200 per person for reservation. If complete payment is made by January 1, 1985, Mr. Klimesh will send you an autographed copy of the book (see p. 2, Sept. 1983 issue of Newsletter for announcement about the book.) The final payment due March 15, 1985. Travel arrangements

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**Czech Village Association, Inc.**  
**59 16th Ave. S.W.**  
**Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404**

**11th ANNUAL CZECH  
VILLAGE FESTIVAL**

The Fall Festival, Sept. 7-8-9 was bigger and better than last year! The active participation of the 28 merchants who are members of the Village Association and the cooperation of the Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations made this another banner year.

**CARP ANGLERS CONTEST.** 202 entrants! Entry fee of \$1.00 was donated by Bud and Rosemary Novak of the Novak Bait Shop. They also provided the \$100 prize for the largest carp(s) since Larry Hayes and Don Vobejda tied by catching a 7 3/4 pound carp - so they split the prizes.

**BEEF RAFFLE** winner was Bill Secl of Cedar Rapids.

**PARADE AWARDS.** 1st: Trophy to Capital City Czech Choraliers, Lincoln, Neb., 2nd. Czech Heritage Fdn., 3rd. Kuba Funeral Home; 4th. Mt. Vernon, Iowa H.S. Marching Band. The Runner-up, Marj and Sheryl NejdI and Nancy Barta flopped around on land as the largest carp ever seen in a papier-mache skin covering! 2nd the Severyns of Hastings, Neb., of the South Central Neb. Czech Society. The 49 formal entries grew to an additional 17 others.

**KOLACH EATING CONTEST.** Young children, Liz Raymo received the trophy; Steve Myers also participated. In the adult group, Mary Jirek of Fort Dodge and Bonnie Luthro daintily munched 2-3 kolaches and were awarded a dozen kolaches from Les Sykora's Bakery.

**BUTTON ACCORDION CONTEST.** I. Edwin Nosek of Saginaw, Mich., Dennis Roseman, Iowa City; Lillian Trunecek, C.R., Elmer Sass, Shellsburg, Ia., Fran Netolicky, C.R., Henry Lutrlle, Fort Dodge; Leonard Pistek, Britt, Ia.

II. Frank Lundak, Traer, Ia., Lester Dostal, Toledo, Ia., Cliff Hauschildt, Dysart, Ia.

III. Frank Sonka, C.R., Albert Podhajsky, Toledo, Ia., Ed Hooper, Gladbrook, Ia., IV. Frank Naber, Dyersville, Ia., and Elmer Netolicky, C.R.

Some travelled more miles than the buttons on the accordions!

**BAKE-OFF CONTESTS** with some 20 participants with prized goodies. For 19 years and older:

**Desserts:** 1st, Martha Kubik, 2nd. Angie Rohlena.

**Yeast Breads:** 1st. Darlene Trachta; 2nd Denise Upah; 3rd. Martha Kubik. Honorable mention to: Karen Vlasek and Richard Lewis.

**Sweet Rolls:** 1st. Darlene Trachta; 2nd. Kathleen Lewis; 3rd. Angie Rohlena.

**Kolaches:** 1st. Darlene Trachta; 2nd. Georgia Nesetril; 3rd. Leona Smith; Honorable mention: Denise Upah and Angie Rohlena.

The 18 years or younger category:

**Desserts:** 1st. Dina Tesar; 2nd. Dorie Tesar; 3rd. Julie Vlasek.

The items were later auctioned at the Bandstand Mall and brought the sum of \$52.00 to the Village Assoc.

**REPORT OF ASSOCIATION BUSINESS.**

Over the past 10 years, the Association has worked hard to acquire more than \$1 million worth of improvements to the neighborhood. More than \$800,000 on streets, parking lights and general improvements as the two pedestrian malls and riverfront park areas are included in this tally. More than \$400,000 in private monies have been spent to improve the shopping area. We have helped to build the Czech Museum which observed its 5th birthday this year.

We want to share with you the 1983 Annual Report of a typical year of our expenses:

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FALL FESTIVAL, 1984, CZECH VILLAGE,  
C. R.

Another financial report from Pat Martin informs us who have the fun and others have the work follows:

Advertising & Promotion	\$ 750.00
Music & Entertainment	2000.00
Police Security	1208.00
Roundhouse Rent	487.00
Beer License Expense	305.00
Clean up & Hauling	200.00
Chair-Table rental	350.00
Awards & Prizes	175.00
Total . . .	<u>\$5475.00</u>

The Bingo income goes to the Foundations and not to the Village Assoc. The Foundations are tax-exempt and non-profit.

Snow removal from parking lots in the Village in the early months of 1984 cost \$955.00. Moved a lot of snow!

BUSES BRING GUESTS . A large group came to the Festival from New Prague, Minn., another from Peoria, Illinois, from Nebraska and many came in vans and other means of transport. Cars and vans were parked on the streets for many blocks in the neighborhood as the parking lots were filled. The Midway was located on the River Park area south of the Museum so that released more parking area near the Museum and Roundhouse.

Czech Village, a means of preserving a heritage appeared as the headlines in the New Prague Times (Minn.) on Sept. 13, 1984 after the visitors and news reporters returned from Cedar Rapids! Detailed stories of the origins and work of the Association and Foundations were reported. Every business and shop on the Avenue was mentioned with comments about each. Pictures of the Boddicker School of Music with chimney and stork made the front page. The front of the former Kosek Store, now Owen's Kitchens, showed the ornamented shutters, window boxes and overhang. The Czech Village Bake Shop, long known as Sykora Bakery, and a picture of some of the folks from New

Prague along the Avenue were other pictures on an inside page. The article told of the collection of costumes (kroje) in the Museum, the cut glass and other items. Also reported was the Mass in Čech at St. Wenceslaus Church -- a very special event-- once a year at the time of the Village Festival.

The tour group stopped in Spillville, Iowa, on their return journey to Minn. They visited the Bily Clock Museum and also saw mementoes of Antonin Dvořák's summer visit in the town.

MORAVIAN BRETHREN started in 1457 in Bohemia. During the many upheavals in Central Europe during the following years, many believers fled to Saxony, Germany. Some followers of Jan Hus were among these groups. Jan Amos Komenský was the last Bishop of the Brethren Church in Bohemia. The first Brethren to come to America settled in Germantown, Pa., 1733, and in Lititz and Nazareth. In 1742 some missionaries settled in North Carolina where a woman's college was founded. Since 1807, the Moravian College has been in Bethlehem, Pa. with the Carolina College being absorbed and ever since a co-ed college. Some years ago, by public subscription in Czechy, it was possible to fund the erection of a monument in front of the Moravian Brethren College and Seminary in Bethlehem, Pa., to honor Jan Amos Komenský. The native artist, Vincent Makovský, designed the monument.

In Iowa, to the south of Highway, Iowa 92, between Washington and Sigourney, is a sign pointing to Grace Hill, the site of a small country church maintained by the Mich family. No services are held but visitors are welcome. It is one of the 10 Brethren Churches that had been established in Iowa many years ago.

M. W.  
mms





GRANDFATHER WAS A FORESTER. I remember Josef Pazour, my grandfather who lived in the Province of Moravia before World War I. A wire-woven fence some 15 feet high enclosed most of the property. At intervals, there were steps so the forester could get from one side of the fence to the other. The tasks of the forester were to supervise the planting and cutting of trees, protect the game from poachers, keep out trespassers and over-all care of the property. The uniform was a special blue-gray color, a hat trimmed with green and a feather. Knee high boots completed the outfit. A double-barrelled shotgun was slung across the shoulder.

The Baron provided living quarters for the Forester and his family. They had some fields for crops with pasture to graze cattle. Large orchards provided a variety of fruits: apples, pears, plums, prunes (švestky) cherries. Two large walnut trees (similar to English walnuts) provided another treat that lasted through the season. The prunes were dried in the oven after the loaves of rye bread were baked. The hot ovens still had a use. The round loaves of rye bread were as much as 16 inches in diameter!

The Forester took ill and died. The wife and daughter had to move. Had son Josef not been in the Army (1914) he would have been the new forester.

J. P. and mms



A \$500 THRILL to go over Niagara Falls in a barrel in July 1984. Who did that? KAREL SOUCHEK, born in Czechoslovakia thought it a great idea. He is a motorcycle stuntman. So he added a first-to go over the Falls in some years, survive and then arrested!

ABOUT THE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

MUSEM ATTRACTS VISITORS. From May through September, more than 2,800 visitors viewed the exhibits and displays. At the time of the Czech Festival in the Village, Sept. 7-9, more than 960 registered at the Museum.

The books donated to the Library are in the process of being catalogued and so progress is being made.

MAP OF ČESKOSLOVENSKO - just the one you have been seeking! Size 22" x 45", scale approx. 12 mi/inch. Available from American Map Co., 46-35 54th Rd., Maspeth, N. Y. 11378. Folds into a booklet of 38 pages, of which 17 list names of places from A to Z. Six pages show main downtown areas of Praha, Bratislava, Brno, Banská Bystrica, České Budějovice, Hradec Králové, Košice, Ostrava, Plzeň, and Ústí Nad Labem. Included are Tourist information about Customs, Currency system and regulations, Traffic regulations, Voltage, Shopping hours, Telephone, Tourist offices, et cetera. Highways are classified as autobahn, Europe roads, Main roads, Secondary roads and other roads. The adjoining 6 nations are clearly marked. Map folds accordion-way into a pocket size 5 3/4 x 8 1/2 inches. A firm cover is plasticized. \$5.50 plus postage, handling about \$1.65. The map number is ISBN 3-444-00066 - 9.

CORRECTION. The profits of the Sokol Detroit Heritage Liberty Run which were donated to the Statue of Liberty Ellis Island Renovation Fund and not as our item erroneously reported that it was the profit from the Xmas in July Festival, July 13-15. The sum donated was \$700. CONGRATULATIONS!



I REMEMBER MAMA telling the story of her childhood and coming to America.

ANNA DRAHOS was orphaned at age 5 in a village in old Bohemia, Česká Rybná. Emily, her sister, and she were allowed to be with their father even though he was in Emperor Josef's Austrian Army. He served 18 years. When Anna was 14, her father died. As was common in those days, she was hired out as a domestic in the home of a well-to-do family.

In 1898, Frank Topinka and his wife, Anna Drahos Topinka, came to America. The trip over the Atlantic took 3 weeks. A fire broke out in the engine room; Anna calmed the many passengers by singing songs in German. The people joined in singing. The next day the ship's Captain thanked Anna for helping to quiet the terrified passengers. A baby was born during the voyage which was another exciting event. Several of the passengers died during the trip. Without ceremony, the bodies were dropped into the ocean. Then many sharks followed the ship.

The sight of the Statue of Liberty was overwhelming to the people. The Topinkas passed thru Customs and the Health Examinations but found they did not have enough for train fare to Cedar Rapids! They put up 2 coats and their trunk to a loan office and came on to Iowa. As soon as they had saved enough money to reclaim the coats and trunk they sent the money. Their possessions reached Cedar Rapids.

At first Frank worked on the railroad, Anna was a cook in a restaurant. After some 7 years in the city, they bought some 35-40 acres down river on the west bank of the Cedar near the Palisades. The land was cleared and the timber was cut into lumber for the house and barns.

In the meantime, the family began to grow. There were 6 boys and 6 girls. The large garden and fruit trees supplied food and some

income. The cows, pigs, geese and chickens provided food as well as the sale of milk, cottage cheese, eggs and poultry. A large grape arbor furnished the makings for wine. But the farm was not enough income so father and mother worked in hay fields of neighbors and picking of corn at harvest.

The children helped, too. Nearby were summer cottages of several Rapidians and others who bought the vegetables and fruits. The children had a 3 gallon can they could manage to carry to peddle milk to the summer folks. A long-handled dipper measured a pint of milk to ladle the milk as it was sold. That was before pasturization and ice. Cottage cheese was made of the left-over milk.

Sunday dinner was typical of the American Czech families: noodle soup, chicken, potatoes with gravy, kolaches and rohlíky.

Some young women did housework, others did family washings. In fact, Anna washed clothes at the Sinclairs! Washboards, large copper boilers along with the wash tubs (galvanized or wooden) were the wash machines along with elbow and handwork. By about 1917-18, the Topinkas had the \$18.00 to buy a wash machine! There was a large wheel, propelled by hand and arm muscle which turned the "dolly" inside the tub. After that life was brighter.

Today that farm is the location of the Ledjen Hill Boarding Kennels operated by Bob and Vylma Nejdí.

From conversations with  
Olga Topinka Mally  
(Mrs. Fred Mally)

The 1980 U.S. Census reported Linn County had 274 Czechs born over there now living here.



JULIE VALIŠ TELLS HER STORY. Julie was born Dec. 7, 1896, in the small village of Pec near Dačice some 7 miles from the Austrian border and 10 miles west of Moravské Budějovice. Houses were numbered in the order they were built. Their home was No. 26 and as time passed, No. 63 was reached. Her father had a cooperage workshop making casks, barrells, boxes and wooden shoes as there was need for the items.

The family farmed some 10 acres (2 1/2 hectares). The fields were long and narrow and located in different parts of the surrounding area. The crops were rye, oats and wheat. The garden supplied the family with cabbage, beets, potatoes--the main staples--and a few other vegetables. A pear and plum tree supplied fruits in season. The animals were usually 2 cows and 2 to 5 calves, geese and chickens. A small stream along the edge of the property was dammed and fish were stocked to be harvested in due time. When the dam was opened, much of the water drained away to make it easier to gather the fish. This was not their property. Where the land was low along the stream the grass would be cut for hay. After 2 crops of hay, the cows were pastured. Since it was community land-use, the children had the job of watching or herding the animals.

Julie attended school to age 13 and 11 mos. and allowed to leave school before the actual age of 14! At school the language was German since "Bohemia" was an Austrian Province. At home, Čech was spoken.

Mother kept busy taking care of 3 boys and 4 girls as well as working in the fields and garden.

Threshing of grain was done by the use of a treadmill. Landlords had threshing machines, the steam engine type before the combine was in use. (Even today combines do not move on the hilly fields but the grain is hauled to the farmyard to be threshed. Most likely the equipment is Russian made.)

In the meantime, the Pazour Family had problems. Mother had died and the children,

Charles, Joe, Caroline and Fred went to live with grandmother. Father was to serve 4 years in the Imperial Austrian Army -- to report within 24 hours for duty. For 2 of those years he was a prisoner of the Russians, held at Kiev in the Ukraine. He was put to work in a factory making files (pilníky) and also did some blacksmithing.

Almost suddenly, things began to change. The CZAR WAS ASSASSINATED! Confusion and unrest took over. The prisoners escaped, took over a train and headed homeward. When the supply of fuel (wood) was needed, they stopped the train, went into the nearby woods, cut up some firewood and continued their journey. Finally the men had to walk the remainder of the way home. The trip took 2 months, arriving home in 1918. (Railway gauge in Russia is 60 inches). So the Russian train could not travel beyond the Russian border.

On the way home, the men met bands of Communists pillaging homes of landlords and taking off with what they could haul or carry.

Upon Joe's return home, he had nothing left in property, a job or any sort of future. In 1920 he married Julie Vališ. They decided to come to America where Josef had 3 brothers; Cedar Rapids would be their destination. Julie and Joe and the 4 children took the train to Praha and on to Antwerp, Belgium. There was a strike in Bremen port in Germany. They boarded the "Finland" and sailed for New York City.

(The Red Star S. S. line operated from 1873 to 1935. During WW I ships of the Line were placed under British and American Registry. It is possible that the Finland was a troop or cargo ship during the war).

The trip took 11 days. On June 12, 1920, the family arrived at Ellis Island, passed the health examination. Their visas were in order so they left by train for Chicago. Changing to the Chicago-Northwestern Rwy., they arrived in Cedar Rapids, took a taxi to

(Continued on pg.10)

## JULIE

the home of the brothers, Charles and Joseph.

The very next day, the family went to work, picking strawberries at 1¢ per box, at the Horáček Farm on 16th Ave. S. W., which was across from the present Executive Inn (was Holiday Inn). Husband Joseph found work at the J. G. Cherry Co. (Now Cherry-Burrell) in metal fabrication and blacksmithing. Later he worked for the Rapids Equipment Co. Julie and Joseph had 3 children: Julie, Charles and Robert. At age 53 Joseph's health began to fail and he died in 1953. Julie went to work at the Quaker Oats and retired in 1965. She has lived in the same house since 1935.

Joe, Caroline and Fred enrolled at Hayes School. Two of the teachers, Miss Ann Soukup and Miss Lillian Pudil helped these and other newcomers to learn English. Then on to Van Buren and Joe went on to McKinley. Joe took a 4 yr. correspondence course in radio and electronics and worked at the C. R. Sash and Door. In 1930 he took a 6 months course in electronics in Chicago and has been in that field since 1947 when he started his own business. He has been very active in SOKOLS, holding various offices, including Physical Director.

J. V. P., J. P., mms

A DREAM COME TRUE. Ten years ago Adeline and John Volesky visited relatives in Czechoslovakia and met the Suchy family, Iva and Paul. Over the years they have kept corresponding. He studied geology in the Technical Inst. in Praha. He was active in the student radio broadcasting on campus, acted as disc jockey and sang. He was active in a small group of students interested in democracy and yearning for more freedom. Iva had completed school and was improving her skill in sewing, embroidery and being a seamstress or dress maker.

Six years ago they decided to seek the freedom they so desired. After 2 years of planning, arrangements finally worked out for them to make the move, risky tho it was.

They have lived in Austria near Vienna the last 4 years. Paul is a manager of a limestone quarry. Iva works in a shop making costumes for films, operas and theater.

Altho they are Czech, they speak German fluently since that is the official language of Austria. Their daughter, Nicol, speaks Czech at home but at school the language is German. Hours are from 8 a.m. to noon and on Friday until 1 p.m. Nicol studies math, music, science, reading, writing, spelling, gym and geography. Religion classes are once a week as are handcraft--skill classes. The afternoon at home is spent in study and homework which may take an hour, two or more, until the tasks are finished. If students make a good academic record, they go on to the gymnasium level (high school).

Mr. Suchy knows that there are relatives in the United States but he has no idea where. Should any reader of this news item know of family names of Zak or Humenne, let us hear from you, P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52406. A son of one of the families is or was on a university basketball team. The family home was in Hradec Králově, and the other in eastern Slovakia.

Do you realize that when a member of a family defects, the record is on file and consequently further education to any member of that family could be (and in fact, IS) denied? Jobs may be cut off, advancement curtailed and so on. Also all personal property, belongings are taken over by the government. Departure means the loss of much of one's material possessions, books, property, bank funds, just everything left behind. One report is that some 40,000 defect in a year and take the chance and pay the price. But at long last, Paul and Iva and Nicol have visited the United States.



FATHER WAS A TEACHER when we lived in the Moravian village of Rovečne, N. W. of Brno. Mother was a homemaker with 3 boys and 3 girls. School days started at 8 a. m. until noon and from 1 to 3 p. m. depending on the day of the week and the school program. Walking to school took about an hour over rough paths and roads, also depending upon the season and weather conditions.

Schools were one or 2 rooms depending upon the number of grades and for larger towns up to 4 rooms with 2 grades in a room. Education was completed by age 14 after 8 years at school. In this village there were both Protestants and Catholics so both had religious education twice a week in their own faith, lasting 1 hour. At age 7, handwork was taught.

Attached to this school was sort of a kitchen where soup would be prepared for hot lunch during cold weather for those who brought a piece of rye bread to go with the soup if they lived too far to go home for the noon meal. The hearty soup had potato, barley, carrots and farina to chicken the water. Sometimes a bone added flavor but not meat. This "hot lunch" was prepared by volunteers in the community. Forty to 60 children would be in a classroom.

At home the girls herded the geese and now and then there would be a turkey or two. If a little girl had a red ribbon on her hat or dress, the gobbler would be sure to chase her.

The teacher had a comfortable house adjoining some 4 or more hectares (10 acres) to raise potatoes, rye, cabbage, turnips and poppyseed for kolaches! Orchard crops included pears, apples, peaches, prunes along with berries and grapes. One cow, 2 pigs, chickens and rabbits kept the young folks busy with chores.

On Sundays when the "carriage" folks would come to church they would put up their horses in the "livery stable" in the cold months.

With a population of some 900, there were needs to be supplied locally. Apprentices

learned to be bakers, shoemakers, wagonmakers, butchers and other occupations. Often the youngsters would visit the smithy to ask if they might pull the ropes of the bellows -- what fun to see the fire spurt flames when more oxygen fed the fuel!

Another fun the youngsters had was to search for little garnets as they rolled down the rock piles as the stone weathered and loosened the gems which were of little value, but they were garnets!

During WW I, the area was not in the path of armies or warfare. Two brothers served in the Austrian Army and were in Italy and the Russian Front. Local men served as look-outs but near the closing days of the war the Hungarians sent some 15 soldiers to look for the soldiers who forgot to return from "leaves". They did not have much luck and soon the war was over.

Then in 1927, one of the girls of the family married a teacher who later went to Charles Univ. in Praha to study theology. It was the time of the Republic. Czech communities in United States were seeking ministers. One such call came from Binghamton, N. Y. The family moved there for a stay of 13 years -- then to West, Texas and to Cedar Rapids. The family had 2 sons both of whom are medical doctors, a daughter who is a nurse and the other an artist.

(Report of an interview with a member of Czech Heritage Fdn.)

#### A TRIP

by NOSEWORTHY Travel, Inc., 1315 E. Katella, Orange, Calif., 92667. Phones (Calif. -714-997-9212). Elsewhere USA 800-854-4661. Telex: 4722067. Write Mr. Klimesh if you wish, 7878 Twin Pines Lane, Sebastopol, Cal., 95472.



The Czech Heritage Board of Directors has voted to again participate in the "Experiment in International Living Program." Scholarships will be awarded to one or more qualified students to stay in a home in (or near) Prague, Czechoslovakia for the "Homestay Program" of four weeks during the summer of 1985.

Host families are carefully selected. The object of the homestay is to experience the daily life of the host family, the local community and culture. This is a wonderful opportunity to help young people learn about their Czech heritage, to build bridges of understanding and to develop lasting friendships.

Students will be selected by a 3 member committee. In order to qualify, the student must be a Junior in High School during the '84-'85 academic year; have some Czech ancestry; be willing to attend Czech language and culture classes (prior to trip) and be a resident of Cedar Rapids or surrounding area.

Applications are due November 1, 1984 and may be obtained from: Sherlee Peterson,

, Mae Novotny

or Marjorie

Stone,

The Czech Heritage Board appreciates the wonderful support and enthusiasm that the project received last year. You can again participate by making a financial contribution. Mail your check, made out to Czech Heritage Fdn., (Scholarship Fund), to Frank W. Novotny,

On Sunday March 24, 1985 the Czech Heritage Foundation will again sponsor a benefit St. Joseph's Day Dance. The time and place will be announced later. All proceeds will go to finance the EIL scholarships.

MFS

On page 4 you read the reports of our 3 "Ambassadors" in the EIL Program who spent some of the 1984 summer in Czechoslovakia.

HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED: ¢¢ to \$\$ !

On page 4 you read of author Klimesh and the tour to Czechoslovakia and Germany that he conducts in April 1985. Also you read about his book on Spillville, Ia., **THEY CAME TO THIS PLACE**. The reader would find how times have changed.

	<u>THEN</u>	<u>NOW</u>
corn/bu.	\$ .30	\$ 2.90
wheat	.65-80	3.50
oats	.20-35	1.75
barley	.35	2.00
<u>GROCERIES</u>		
flour, 5#	.10	.85
butter/lb.	.08-.12	1.85
coffee	.16	2.50
rice	.10	.40
salt	.02	.25-.30
eggs/doz.	.05-.08	.40-.80
sugar, 1#	.11-.12	.30-.35

For the farmer, another story: per acre \$1.25. In Dakotas from some \$300-\$400, depending how far west; in Iowa from \$1500 to \$4000/acre. Old fashioned reaper and threshing machine (called a separator) \$175 and \$200. Combines vary in price and size: \$50,000 to \$200,000 -- vary with horse power and width of swath cut of corn or wheat; and as for a yoke of oxen \$100 but tractors vary in horse power so range from some \$50,000 to \$150,000.

Husking and cribbing corn was 3 1/2¢ per bu. but today's combine does the job. Yard goods such as percale, gingham and flannel ranged from 10¢ to 16¢ per yard. Shoes ranged from \$1.00/pair to \$1.50.

With an ax to cut timber and then build a shelter and a gun to hunt, a family could manage. Deer, wild turkeys, wild honey, fruits, nuts and vegetables from the garden provided ample food. Corn bread and molasses were staple fare.

These and other examples of how times have changed intrigued Charles E. Krejci who read the book.

C. E. K.

ALFONS MUCHA, CZECH ARTIST. July 14, 1984 was the 45th anniversary of the death of Alfons Mucha, one of the most important creators of "Art Nouveau". His work is now well known throughout the world.

Alfons Mucha was born July 24, 1860 in Ivančice, South Moravia. His family were very poor vintners. Against his father's wishes, he left home when very young and made his living with his extraordinary artistic talent. He studied at the Munich Academy, then settled in Paris where he developed fully his skills. His illustrations and posters of this period are well known, some of which were created with the cooperation of Sarah Bernhardt. He designed costumes and decorations for the theater as well as posters. Mucha was a close friend of Guagin and Rodin. His painted decorations with Slavonic motifs for the 1900 World Exhibition in Paris were a huge success. In the following years he was the most celebrated artist in France.

In 1904, Mucha came to U.S.A. and lived in New York City. He established a painting academy and lectured in Philadelphia and Chicago. There he met Charles Crane, a millionaire, who commissioned Mucha to create a monumental cycle of paintings about the history of Slavonic nations. He started this "artistic dream" in 1910 and returned to Praha in 1913, working in the Zbiroh castle nearby. For the next 15 years he devoted his energy and talent on this gigantic cycle "Slavonic Epopée" (Epic) of 20 huge canvasses, 26 ft. by 19 ft. Sadly there was no gallery large enough to display the heroic history, a gift to Praha. Mucha created the first Czechoslovak postage stamp designs, bank notes and State emblem after WW I. Between the two Wars, some of the Epopée canvasses were exhibited in Praha, Brno, Philadelphia and Paris. In New York City in 1921 the exhibit attracted some 600,000 people. Never were the entire 20 pictures exhibited as a unit!

Before the German occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1939, the Epopée was hidden. Alfons Mucha was seriously ill and was interrogated by the Gestapo who wanted to destroy the Epopée. In July 1939, Mucha died, age 79. The Germans never found the

canvasses. During the 6 years of German occupation the 20 canvasses were rolled onto wooden cylinders and stored in a cellar in Praha. Water flooded the cellar and the cylinders floated about. After drying, the paintings were badly damaged. After being moved to other places, the cylinders were secretly moved to Moravský Krumlov but stored in an open arcade where weather damaged them still further.

In 1961 the Ministry of Culture charged Oldřich Míša with the restoration of the 20 enormous pictures. After 7 years of painstaking labor of love and with the help of 3 others the restoration task was completed (1968). For the first time all 20 pictures were exhibited in 2 halls of the castle and are now the permanent home for display-- seeing the "light of day" -- after 22 years rolled on the cylinders!

Moravský Krumlov is only 6 miles from the birthplace of Alfons Mucha, the town of Ivančice and 18 miles from the birthplace of Oldřich Míša at Znojmo.

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Naše České Dědictví is indebted to Oldřich Míša for the above article. He left Czechoslovakia in 1968, to live in Suffolk, England. His own career since 1941 when he started to paint and engrave glass, is highlighted by participating in many exhibitions in various countries, a career as restorer of pictures and wooden sculptures, lecturing, now active in England's various art and craft societies. His works have appeared in booked Czech newspapers and magazines.

mms

In the small town of PISEK, NORTH DAKOTA, a large framed picture by Mucha hangs on the south wall of the Catholic Church! It is very special as Mucha's daughter came there some time ago to restore the painting. Needless to say it is the pride and joy of the congregation.

Interesting to note that the house organ AMERICAN SOKOL, Sept. 1984, pages 97-8 has a detailed article about Mucha and his poster creations.

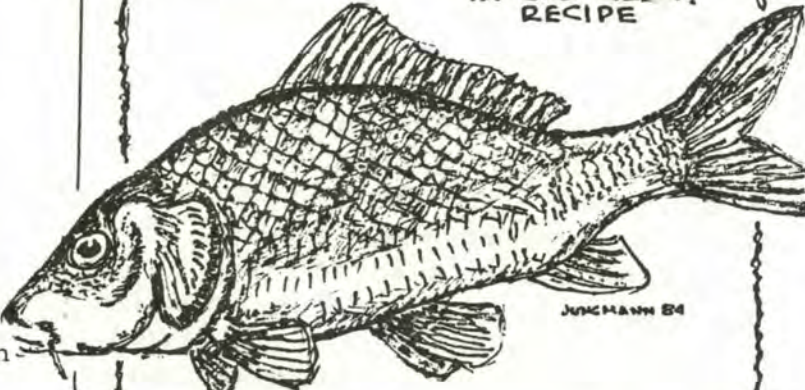
Electricity -- our share	
of parking lots .....	\$575.00
Snow Removal .....	1600.00
Insurance .....	1338.00
Advertising, Promotional	
flyers for events.....	2558.00
Accounting & Taxes .....	1280.00
Police Security for	
Public events .....	646.00
	<hr/>
	\$7997.00

Funds to defray these costs and also others are from monthly assessments paid by members of the Village Assoc. Then there is another budget which concerns only the Festivals held in September.

Information supplied by Pat Martin, Village Coordinator.

## Ryba Ala Dřevo

AN OLD CZECH RECIPE



JUNGMANN 84

1- 4 TO 5 LB CARP  
 1- TSP VEGETABLE OIL  
 1- TSP PAPRIKA OR MINCED FRESH DILL  
 1- 1X12 BOARD- OPENED GRAINED

CLEAN CARP. LEAVE WHOLE AND SOAK IN SALT WATER OVERNIGHT.  
 PLACE CARP ON BOARD, BRUSH WITH VEG. OIL - SPRINKLE ON PAPRIKA AND DILL.

PUT INTO PREHEATED SLOW OVEN AT 300° F. ALLOW APPROX 10 MIN. FOR HEAT TO PENETRATE FISH 1" THICK - 15 MIN. FOR 2" THICK AND 20 MIN. FOR FISH 3" THICK. WHEN TOP SURFACE BROWNS AND JUICES STOP RUNNING OFF, REMOVE FROM OVEN. TO SERVE - THROW FISH AWAY AND EAT THE BOARD.

**CZECH HERITAGE FDN.**  
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 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

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