

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

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE



Above: The winning Czech Heritage Fdn. float in the 1993 Holiday Parade in Cedar Rapids.

Below: Participants in the Czech Heritage Fdn. float. See story on page 9.





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

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR CZECH HERITAGE



Editor Adeline L. Volesky

Contributors

Wendy Booker
Lillian Cach
Olga Drahozal
Evelyn & Emil Lamparek
Frank Novotny
Leonard Pfeifer
John Rocarek
Melvina Svec
Darlene Trachta
Larry Vavra

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Czech Bible.....	14
Czech Crisis.....	9
Děkuji Vám	12
DeFore Biography.....	7
Economic News	8
Ethnic Fest.....	15
Houby Days & Concerts	11
Holiday Float	9
Immigration	10
Lamparek Biography.....	13
Letters to Editor	3, 4, 5
Masaryk Park	8
Puppetry.....	7
Rita Klimova	2
Recipes	12
Spring Dance.....	14
Village News	11
Washington's First Lady	6

Czech Heritage Board of Directors 1994

President.....	David Faltis
Vice President	Frank Novotny
Secretary.....	Carol Danek
Treasurer	Charles Krejci
Financial Secretary	Lovell Dvorak

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dale Buresh	Russ Novotny
Florence Dvorak	Sherlee Peterson
Denver Dvorsky	Leonard Pfeifer
Ernest Kopecky	John Rocarek
Diane Krejci	Sylvia Rohlena
Esther Lippert	Dorothy Simanek
Kacy Novak	Elsie Sova
Quinn Novak	Emil Velky
Duane Novotny	Adeline Volesky
Mae Novotny	Joe Vondracek

HONORARY BOARD

Bob Kouba (deceased), Melvina Svec, Charles Vyskocil

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Since becoming editor of Naše České Dědictví, I noticed I get inquiries about the Czech Heritage Fdn., Czech Fine Arts, and Czech Village Association. These are three separate organizational bodies but it can be confusing. Even though they each have separate boards and spheres of activities, we all strive to promote our heritage and share a sense of cooperation. We also know the three groups working together have more strength to accomplish a goal than doing it alone. That confuses things even further.

As you read about the various activities in this issue, I tried to label the contributing organization hoping it will help you to see that there are three groups and all are busy promoting OUR HERITAGE.

THANK YOU

Volunteers who helped with the December newsletter were Frank and Mae Novotny and Cheryl Nejd.

Děkuji Vám mnohokrát — *Editor*

RITA KLIMOVA 1931-1993

Rita Klimova was born in 1931 in Rumania. She spent her high school years in the U.S. She was an associate professor of Economics at Charles University in Prague. In February 1990, Rita Klimova was entrusted by Pres. Vaclav Havel with the post of the 1st ambassador of the new democracy of Czechoslovakia to the United States. She lost her battle with leukemia in Prague on December 30, 1993.

Cedar Rapids and the Czech community were honored to have Rita Klimova be a special guest on March 6-7, 1992. She was the keynote speaker at Ballantyne Auditorium at Kirkwood College at the Global Cedar Rapids Conference to accept the International Award in behalf of Pres. Vaclav Havel, who was unable to attend.

Rita Klimova will always be remembered by her colleagues and her many friends and hearts she touched in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

This issue in my column I'm going to do something different. I've long wanted to consider ways of doing business and thereby helping the economic changes in the Czech and Slovak Republics at the individual citizen level. A couple of opportunities have appeared that I'd like to share with you.

When I travel I like to meet and talk with local residents and, if possible, stay in small lodges or homes and avoid the "tourist freeways." We've had Czech and Slovak visitors in our home and stayed in homes there and enjoyed very much the interesting differences you might never see in a hotel. I've received a letter and brochure from American-International Homestays Inc. (now moved from Iowa to Colorado - ph. 1-800-876-2048). They offer 17 day homestays in English speaking homes in Eastern Europe including Prague. The travelers have a separate room in the home of the host family. Host families are on vacation and act as guides for your stay. The host families are compensated under American Homestay's direction. American Homestay reports that some families are hosts year after year. The brochure lists testimonials. Prices start at around \$1700—including roundtrip air from New York.

Another way to do business with them might be the purchase of authentic costumes from specific areas made by local seamstresses. I've received an ad from PRVNI MORAVSKOSLEZSKA, KOMERCNE PRAVNI KANCELAR, JUDR VLADISLAV SUPA, Myslbekova 14, 787 01 Sumperk, IMSK, Czech Republic. They say they have done research to provide costumes from Moravian Slovakia from shoes to costume to hat and so forth. They need only specific tailoring measurements. No indication of price is given.

I've not used either operation. I'd appreciate hearing if anyone has and their results. Until next time think spring (jaro) and

Na schledanou,
Dave Faltis
Czech Heritage Fdn.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The December 1993 Naše České Dědictví was beautiful. Thank you so much for including Modlitba and Tichá Noc. I have wanted them so much. I did get Modlitba from my Czech friend here at the University and I did (to the best of my ability) repeat it at our family reunion in 1992—unfortunately I lost the copy and Dr. Meduna went back to Brno so I couldn't get it again. Now I have it! Thanks.

Christmas this year was fun because I had greetings from the Czechs I met through the university. Mirek Konvalina wrote that he is a foreign correspondent with the Czech Republic Radio and has traveled to London, Rome, Budapest, Oslo, and Stockholm and had interviews with Pope John Paul II, James Carter, and Greenspan. Josef Vonasek wrote the economy is struggling and Dr. Meduna wrote he will be returning to Missouri U. to teach. His wife will come later. I'm looking forward to their return and maybe they can come to Cedar Rapids this summer.

Keep up the good work—Ja sem Czech a Czechem budu.

Viola M. (Wachal) Young

Dear Editor,

I am sending my renewal which will be for 5 years. I did not know we could pay in advance until I saw it in the December issue. Also I am sending an inquiry.

I have started on the Grone's lineage and have not been able to locate anyone who has that name.

The information I enclose is all that I have at this time. Appreciate any help. Grones (Krones) Katherine Krones Nov. 23, 1834 came to Texas with her son Paul born June 6, 1868. Katherine had the following brothers and sisters: Mariana, Jakob, Johanna, Theresa, Joseph, Karolina and Veronica.

Katherina's mother died and her father remarried to a Marion Schimova and they had the following children: Franz, Matthaus, Johann, Josepha, Anna, Thomas, and Appollina. All of the children were born in Spalov which is in Moravia near the Oprava area.

Nancy Polansky

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Please accept our congratulations for doing a fine job publishing *Náše České Dědictví*. The wide variety of subjects covered makes interesting reading.

We were particularly interested in the "Music" articles presented in the June 1993 and Sept. 1993 issues, regarding local Czech bands/orchestras.

Leo Rigel (trumpet), age 94, who with Joe Cervený (tuba), are the last known living members of the WMT Bohemian Orchestra, played many wedding, anniversary, and public dances during the 30's and early 40's. The cities/towns played in 1939 for example were: Cedar Rapids, Manchester, Iowa City, Walford, Davenport, Lowden, Bellevue, Guttenberg, Solon, Prairieburg, Vining, Stanwood, Oxford Junction, Blainstown, Plainview, Balltown, Clinton, Waterloo and Sabula.

Typically dances were held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. with a 30 minute intermission. The pay in 1939 was usually \$5.00 per dance and those who furnished the transportation also received some expense money. When greater distances had to be traveled, musicians had to leave home around 4 to 5 p.m. and then they would return home just in time to milk the cows. Of course, vehicles in those years were much slower than those of today and not as reliable.

The WMT Bohemian Orchestra disbanded about late 1942 because of World War II but Leo Rigel convinced Leo Cole to get the musicians together one more time to play for our wedding dance on Jan. 5, 1944 at the CSPA Hall in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Although the WMT Bohemian Orchestra was the principal group with which Leo Rigel played regularly, he also played with the following local Czech bands at various times during the 20's and 30's: *Hickory Hollow Band, *Swisher Imperial Orchestra, *Sedlacek's Band, Ben Jansa's Band, *Frank Stangler's Band, Vlasek's Band, *Hronik's Band, Kubovec's Orchestra, *Rigel Bros. Band, *Ely Band, Joe Fisher's Concertina Orchestra, and Skersick's Orchestra.

The bands in the list which are asterisked are in addition to those listed in the June '93 and Sept. '93 issues. That makes more than a total of

about two dozen different Czech Polka Bands which were organized and played in the Cedar Rapids, Ely, Swisher area. That is an amazing statistic. Today there are about 3 or 4 of that group carrying on the tradition of playing principally Czech polkas, waltzes and schottisches.

Our hats off to the younger members of these bands, who represent the link from the past to the future and upon whose shoulders rests the burden of carrying on this very important Czech tradition. May the bands Play On!

Irma Rigel Modracek
Leo A. Modracek

Dear Friends,

Many thanks for all the help provided by the foundation to promote cultural exchange between the Czech Military and the Czech-American community.

Thank you also for the assistance rendered to promote NATO membership for the Czech Republic.

With great respect and warm regards
LTC Bob Blecha

My wife and I have the same job. I began with an organization of exchange of American college students in the Czech Republic. Our YMCA starts a collaboration with The Centre for Cultural Interchange, 42 W 273 Retreat Ct., St. Charles, IL 60175. I am the director of this program. We would like to accept American students for 10, 5, or 2 months stay. The students must know basic Czech language. We think there could be some people with interest in this exchange in Iowa. Please give this information to members of the Czech community in Cedar Rapids. More information is available on the address mentioned above.

Petr Jilek
Hradec Kralove

Dear Editor,

I am enclosing a letter from the wife of my cousin, Radka Vanickova, who is a teacher in the schools of Frydek-Mistek, Czech Republic. I am sending it to you in hopes that you see fit to give it some publicity in the *Nase Ceské Deditví*.

Some background information: Radka is a citizen of the Czech Republic. She has been very active in encouraging American teachers to come to the schools in their area to teach conversational English. I've been trying to help her in a small way by publicizing here in the USA their need for these teachers. We have been gratified to have several Americans respond by going there to teach. They have included teachers from Cedar Rapids, Iowa City, Ames, and Albert City in Iowa, Florida, Vermont, Minnesota, Illinois, California and other states. Without exception, they are reporting wonderful experiences. Some of them expected to go only six months, but are now on their second year.

You and the "*Nase Ceské Deditví*" deserve much credit for helping us. I think it was about two years ago you printed our request for these teachers. I received many responses from all over the USA for more than a year from that one notice! And as a result, many young Czech students in the Frydek-Mistek area now speak English, and more importantly, have a much greater cultural tie to those of us living in this country. Thank you!

Now Radka, the Mayor, and the City Council of Frydek-Mistek want to expand and enhance what has been a very successful program. With that, we hope you are able to print her letter that is enclosed. Again, your help is much appreciated.

Sincerely
Anton Vanicek

P.S. Danica Novotny (daughter of the Duane Novotny's) was one of the teachers who responded, and taught there. She did a great job.

Dobry den,

I am writing to you in hopes of establishing a lasting interaction of friendship and cooperation. I feel that a program of mutual exchange would be

very beneficial to both countries. I have been involved in bringing American English teachers to our area since the Velvet Revolution. Our schools and studies have benefited greatly by having a native English speaker teaching in their schools. And the American teachers have also enjoyed their time here. I needn't tell you how rewarding working and living in a foreign country can be for an individual. Therefore I would like to expand this program with your cooperation so that some of our Czech teachers can have the same rewarding experiences in your country as your teachers had in ours. I propose a teacher exchange program. We would like for an American English speaker to come around June 15. Our schools finish on June 30. By coming by June 15 the teacher can observe our school's operation and meet everyone. In the meantime, living arrangements would be made with a Czech family and the teacher would be shown around our lovely country. Our schools begin operations Sept. 1 so the teacher would have the entire summer holiday to get acquainted with our area and Czech Republic. However, because our schools finish on June 30, our teachers would only be able to come to your country after this date. We expect the same program for our teachers in your country. Our teachers will pay for their own affair. I can provide you with the names and addresses of present American teachers if you would like to contact them concerning their experiences. I feel this program can later be expanded to include student exchanges also. The Czech Republic has a very rich culture and many long standing traditions. There are possibilities of joining folk clubs, and learning traditional dances. There are many possibilities for other types of cooperation in the future. I am excited about this program, and I hope you will be too. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,
Radka Vaníčková

P.S. Or contact Anton Vanicek,

CZECH WOMAN COULD HAVE BEEN GEORGE WASHINGTON'S FIRST LADY

During the interim of the French and Indian Wars and a lull in defending the colonies, George Washington was a guest of the Frederick Philipse family at Manor Hall, Younkers, New York.

Young Mary Philipse was always enchanted by officers in uniform and Washington was no exception and he became deeply enamored of her.

Col. Philipse became alarmed at the prospect of a courtship. Philipse was of Czech heritage bloodlines, a descendent of Bohemian aristocratic nobility, the powerful Kinski/Chinski family that fought and lost the Battle of White Mountain. Having lost the battle of White Mt., the Kinski/Chinski family retreated to Holland and changed the name to Philipse and emigrated to America.

Washington's pursuit of Philipse was derailed by a number of factors. Besides his poor teeth, he was without formal education and a pauper by the Philipse standard. Washington was at a disadvantage, that rankled him, he was to prove later.

Besides Manor Hall, Frederick Philipse built the Old Dutch Church in Tarrytown, New York. Believed to be the oldest church in New York state and still used for religious purposes, it is featured in the writing of Washington Irving and his "Legend of Sleepy Hollow." He is buried in the cemetery of the church yard. In the manner of Czech nobility, the first Frederick Philipse and family members are buried in a crypt beneath the church.

Although Col. Philipse was an American by birth, he took pride in his lineage of Czech nobility, which was most apparent at the wedding in Manor Hall on January 19, 1758 of Mary Philipse to Capt. Robert Morris.

It is a great pity Philipse didn't become the bride of Washington. The first lady of the land would have been of Czech nobility heritage and Washington's influence would have affected the politics of the Philipse family more favorably.

On June 15, 1764 Morris retired from military service to enjoy his new home, the Morris Mansion of 19 rooms on 160th Street, New York

City. When the War of Independence erupted, the Morris Mansion was one of the first seized by Washington. Morris escaped on a mail packet to England. He would have been hung for his treason had Washington caught him.

The Morris Mansion had a spectacular view as to the movement of British troops and ships in the river. However, there isn't any documentation of Morris' spying activities. Was Washington's action revenge/retribution on the Philipse family for his aborted romance?

When the colonies won the War of Independence from England, the huge Philipse estate of 165,000 acres in West Chester County was seized in 1785 and sold at auction by the state of New York. Completely ruined, the nucleus of the Philipse family left with other royalists for England.

Permission from Lillian Prikoda

WHAT ARE SENIORS WORTH

Remember, old folks are worth a fortune with silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet and gas in their stomachs.

I have become a little older since I saw you last and a few changes have come into my life. Frankly, I have become a frivolous old girl.

I'm seeing five gentlemen every day. As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me out of bed. Then I go see John. Next, it's time for Uncle Toby to come along, followed by Billy T. They leave and Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn't like to stay in one place very long so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day I'm really tired and glad to go to bed with Johnny Walker. What a life! Oh yes, I'm also flirting with Al Zymer.

P.S. The preacher came over to call the other day. He said at my age I should be thinking of the hereafter. I told him, "Oh I do, all the time. No matter where I am, if I'm in the parlour, upstairs, in the kitchen or down in the basement, I ask myself: Now what am I here after!"

CZECHOSLOVAK PUPPETRY

The tradition of Czech itinerant puppeteers reaches as far back as the 17th century. What started as imitation of the earlier English, Italian, and Dutch puppet traditions, developed under the Austrian Empire and in Germany, with many companies performing both in Czech and German. Eventually a deep-rooted Czech folk art evolved.

The typical puppeteering family owned a transportable stage, about twenty marionettes and a set of at least four backdrops: a room, a village, a royal castle, and a forest. For most of the 18th & 19th century a wheelbarrow or cart was used for transport.

One performer, usually the "principal" or head of the troupe, produced the voices of all the characters and was also the main puppet operator while other family members helped in other facets. Many of the early puppeteers and audiences were illiterate, therefore the plays were an important tradition. Some puppeteers had other jobs and traveled only during the off season. Others supplemented their income performing as jugglers, fire eaters or selling patent medicines.

Since their main goal was the entertainment of predominantly adult audiences, itinerant puppeteers presented "chevaleresque" scenes. They shared these themes at the village fairs and marketplace. The puppet troupes were by law excluded from performing in large cities. But unlike the strictly regulated live theatre, puppeteers were not subject to censorship and reacted freely to political topics of the day. Their peasant audiences, for whom the puppets often represented their only exposure to theatre, had to rely on information about the life of nobility. Comical characters were the village oafs "Skrhola" and bell clad joker "Kasperek" and others who inevitably were "high" themes.

The other powerful source of tradition of fairy tales came in the second half of the 19th century due to competition, refinement of taste and audience crisis. Puppeteers were forced to search for new audiences — children. Widely known folk tales with kings and princesses are familiar players on puppet stages.

DeFORE BIOGRAPHY

While attending meetings in Washington D.C. as an Advisory Committee Member for the Peace Corps, an article appeared in a publication there regarding Mr. Don DeFore. The article mentioned

his ancestral background being Czechoslovakian and French. Shortly thereafter, he was introduced to an affluent Czechoslovakian family residing in D.C. (the Koubeks) and Mrs. Koubek excitedly asked him if any of his family ever discussed the castle their ancestors owned since the early 1600's in northeastern Czechoslovakia. Mr. DeFore admitted that he had not heard of this previously. The following night at dinner, Mrs. Koubek brought out a map showing the castle's location along with pertinent translated documented history. In this recorded history, a several hundred year old mystery was revealed, which is included in the last two chapters of HOLLYWOOD DEFORE AND AFTER.

In October, 1987, the DeFores visited the castle outside Prague where it was a Russian Museum. They were fortunate to have arrived after the tourist season. They hired a TV camera crew and filmed both inside and outside the famous castle.

From there they visited the last living DeFore family member, then in exile in Vienna. Again they hired a TV camera crew and have that visit recorded on a cassette. This material is incorporated in Mr. DeFore's autobiography.

In the December issue of the newsletter, you read about the groundbreaking and celebration for the new National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Czech Village in Cedar Rapids on October 28. We were very honored to have Don DeFore in attendance for the various receptions and ceremonies.

We were saddened to read he died December 24, at a Santa Monica Hospital at the age of 80.

Don DeFore was born in Cedar Rapids, August 25, 1913, one of seven children and grew up on the near southeast side. His mother's maiden name was Nazerka. He and his wife, Marion Holmes, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Valentine's Day last year. They had 5 children.

DeFore left Cedar Rapids in 1935 after winning a three year scholarship with the Pasadena Playhouse theatre school

He played the part of Thorny Thornburg in the adventures of "Ozzie and Harriet" from 1952 to 1957. DeFore appeared in 90 movies. He appeared in Ronald Reagan's first film "Brother Rat."

Don DeFore occasionally returned to Cedar Rapids to class reunions and to visit a brother and sister who still reside here.

His presence at our Czech celebration made the event very special and more meaningful.

ECONOMIC TURNABOUT SWEEPS CZECH REPUBLIC

With the second-lowest unemployment rate in Europe, and the most foreign investment per capita in Eastern Europe, the Czech Republic appears to have left behind the turmoil of its transition to a market economy and be coasting to prosperity.

The government is preparing the second wave of a mass privatization program which is scheduled to sell an estimated 8.5 billion in state assets.

So far the country's leadership has played a masterly game of cushioning the shock of the transition to a market economy that has bedeviled its counter parts in Warsaw, Budapest, and Slovakia.

The challenge facing the administration of Vaclav Klaus is daunting how to keep the republic on its free-market course and avoid the pitfalls that have undermined support for reforms in other parts of Eastern Europe.

"So far" said one diplomat, "he's done a tremendous job of keeping the wolf from the door."

In 1993, about 40% of the republic's trade was with Germany, a tenfold increase since 1989 and evidence that the country's integration into a German sphere of influence is a matter of time.

Everywhere one turns, reforms from the opening up to Western investments to bankruptcy, are accompanied by counter measures to soften the blow.

Critics of the Klaus administration argue that society no longer can afford cushions and in the words of a Czech proverb — let the wolf eat and keep the sheep alive, too.

from Star Tribune

CONGRATULATIONS

The Czech Heritage Fdn, family and friends want to extend our congratulations to Charles and Martha Krejci, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. The couple were married December 25, 1933. Charles and Martha are active supporters of the Czech activities and he is currently an officer serving as treasurer. HAPPY 60th ANNIVERSARY.

CZECH EXPORTS

The main items exported to the U.S.A. in the Jan. - Sept. 1993 period: (in thousands of USD)

Glassware	21,423
Footware	12,840
Tools	12,103
Textile & leather machinery	10,167
Tractors	8,436
Woven fabrics	7,473
Rubber tires	7,430
Cotton fabrics	6,996
Wov. fabrics & Text mat.	6,877
Vegetables fresh & frozen	5,860

CZECH IMPORTS

The main items imported to the Czech Republic in Jan.-Sept. 1993 period:

Auto. data process machs	29,263
Telecommunications Equip.	22,566
Aircraft & assoc. equipment	14,718
Machine tools	10,828
Est. low value shp	9,905
Specialized Machinery	9,510
Meas/check/analy/const inst.	8,279
Parts/office mach/auto data	6,939
Musical inst, records, tapes	6,463
Cars & vehicles	6,110

Reprinted from the newsletter "Czech the News" January 1994 issue.

MASARYK PARK

Cedar Rapids, Iowa and the Czech community will enjoy a new park. The park is located on the east bank of the Cedar River at the end of the 16th Avenue Bridge of Lions. It is named Masaryk Park in honor of Tomas Masaryk who is known as the Father of the Czech Republic. The beloved president served from 1918 to 1935.

The park is located along 1st Street SE where new curbs and gutters were installed and widened to accommodate parking.

Twelve six foot high masonry columns will be set in a semi-circle. Seven of the columns will have lights.

A special feature of the park will be a Name Display Walk where sidewalk panels with brass letters or nameplates from by-gone days will be placed for interest and preservation.

A circular terrace is planned where a Masaryk plaque/statue can be seen from the street and will have an area for a flagpole.

Arnest Kluber, who is a landscape architect with the Cedar Rapids Park Dept., said plans are to include a total of 25 trees and 80 shrubs.

Masaryk Park will be an appreciated asset. We will try to keep you informed of its progress.

CZECH HERITAGE FLOAT

Czech Heritage Fdn. News

Once again the Czech Heritage Fdn. participated in the 10th annual Cedar Rapids Holiday Parade. This year the theme for the event was "The Gift of Giving." The theme was selected to highlight this year's outstanding community outpouring to flood victims in Cedar Rapids and Eastern Iowa.

This year the Czech Heritage Fdn. entered a float bearing the title "Receivers of Gifts" to highlight this year's giving to flood victims, worthy causes, and to reflect community support that helped "set in stone" the soon to be erected National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library. The Czech community can feel a certain sense of pride in knowing we live in a caring community with a genuine spirit of giving.

The float won a first place trophy in the category "best use of costumes." The Czech costumes (kroje) were beautifully and painstakingly hand-crafted by Jeanne Swift, who is knowledgeable about them.

It is of interest to note that this year's parade audience was in excess of 20,000 viewers, which was the smallest in 10 years due to the cold weather. The downtown audience expressed rave reviews on this year's entry.

Others who participated and need to be recognized are Jim Chantelle, Theresa Pfeifer, Rob and Kristin Dripps, Tona and Tosha Pierce, and Bob Dushane, who with a sense of Czech pride proudly paraded in the cold winter streets to represent Czech Heritage in the 1993 Cedar Rapids Holiday Parade. Behind the scenes man of the hour was Pat Swift, who has safely driven the Czech Heritage float in over 15 parades.

THANK YOU LEONARD

The Czech Heritage Fdn. would like to thank Leonard Pfeifer for designing and constructing this year's float as well as all the floats in the past years. He also is responsible for decorating the Czech Heritage booth at the Roundhouse at the Ethnic Fest. Last year our booth won a \$100 prize for the best decorated booth. Sometimes Leonard receives an invitation to enter a float in a parade on a short notice, but he always comes through. Thank you, Leonard Pfeifer.

CZECH CHRISTMAS CRISIS

If Santa Claus wanted to bring real joy to Czech's, he'd replace his elves with laying hens, load his sleigh with fresh eggs and deliver them to Prague.

As the crucial Christmas baking season got under way, the Czech Republic was in an egg crisis. Some border regions lacked eggs entirely. In major cities, they cost more than twice what they did two weeks earlier, if you could find them.

"It's terrible, because we all make our cookies and our cakes. We need eggs for everything we cook at Christmas," retiree Karla Halkova said as she stood in line at one of the few stores in Prague selling them. "In my family, we'll have 14 people at the table on Christmas Eve, and I expect we'll need 120 eggs."

Some blame the crisis on egg snatchers from Poland and faulty hens laying fewer eggs in winter months.

The current shortage can be traced to last summer, when low demand forced producers to kill and sell off their hens.

Then last month the price of eggs in Poland was 20 U.S. cents apiece, sending Poles across the border for Czech eggs selling for six cents apiece.

For more than a week, newspapers devoted front page space of the shortage bringing on a wave of hoarding. The price of one egg now had tripled to about 16¢.

Many cooks dashed to see long-forgotten relatives in the countryside where people still keep laying hens.

Nearly every kitchen becomes a cookie factory for sweets of every imaginable size, shape and color.

"It's a catastrophe that shouldn't have happened. It's not right to leave Prague housewives without eggs at Christmas," said a distraught lady.

From Chicago Tribune



CZECH IMMIGRATION

The Czech immigrants came with their families; they came to stay. They were settlers, not seekers of dollars, to be repatriated. They were mostly farmers, laborers, artisans and tradesmen, hoping to own their own home. They contributed to the main stream of America, not only as hewers of wood and drawers of water, but also their skills, music, and humor. They brought us as a dowry their traditional love and respect of learning and for freedom of conscience. It is significant that their leaders, Hus, Komensky, and Masaryk, were teachers and protestants. The nation produced a St. Wenceslaus, but also a Svejek, the "New World Symphony" as well as the "Beer Barrel Polka." Characteristic features of Czech immigration to America were a high percentage of skilled labor and literary rate.

1633 — Augustine Herrman(1605-1688) from Mseno, son of a Pastor of the Brethren, was the first Czech immigrant known by name to settle in America. He was a surveyor and one of the first founders of the Virginia tobacco trade.

1742 — Komensky "No reason can be shown why the female sex should be kept from a knowledge of language and wisdom."

1748 — First Moravian Church built in New York.

1755 — Samuel Barta, an early pioneer along the Kennebec River in Massachusetts, petitioned Gov. Wm. Shirley for protection against Indians.

1776 — William Paca (1740-1799) signed the Declaration of Independence for Maryland, was a descendant of Czechs settled in Herrman lands of Bohemian Manor.

1777 — Alexander Barta was among American prisoners captured by the British.

1858 — The Protestants established their church in Ely, Iowa; their pastor was the Rev. Frank Kun, a Hungarian missionary.

1884 — In Chicago, the First Methodist Church was established by Frantisek Hrejsa, considered the Father of Methodism.

1888 — Dr. Frantisek Adolf Valenta practiced medicine and ran an Apothecary Shop in Chicago, Illinois.

1890 — Czechs from Zirovnice arrived in large numbers and brought with them their skills in Pearl Button making. There were 67 Czech owners of Pearl Button making businesses, employing 1500 Czech workmen.

July 4, 1897 — In a second secession from C.S.P.S., the Zapadni Cesko Bratrská Jednota was formed in Cedar Rapids, Iowa consisting of 37 lodges in Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Dakotas, Colorado, and Kansas.

1852 — In the winter, the ship Amor arrived in Boston with a small group of immigrants. Among those was John Barta, who edited the *Slovan Americky* in Iowa City, Iowa in 1869.

1907 — The first Chair of Czech language and Literature was established by the University of Nebraska, held by Jeffery Hrbek, born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. After his untimely death, his sister Sarka Hrbkova took over.

Excerpts from Czechs in America 1633 -1907 by Vera Laska.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Czech Heritage Fdn. News

Again this year the Czech Heritage Fdn. wants to acknowledge those who gave voluntary donations. Here's a word of explanation to our new members and readers. Our financial secretary, Lovell Dvorak, suggested in 1992 that our \$3 for membership, which was established 18 years earlier, might be outdated and raised. It was not a popular move and we began to receive voluntary donations. It continues to be successful so we will continue dues at \$3 per member per year. Because the list is too lengthy to publish in its entirety, we will acknowledge them in partial listings throughout the year.

Our thanks to: Harold Adams, Gladys Aldridge, Marcella Anderson, Jeanne Andre, Lucian Andrie, Pauline Baca, Helen Barta, Jeff and Judi Barta, Elizabeth Becicka, Richard and Tammy Beranek, Mrs. Charles Blazek, Lillian Cach, Wm. V. Cerny, Geo. and Joanne Chadima, Tom Collins, Charles Danek, Harold and Emma Davidson, Bette Dempnook, Geraldine Dhooghe, Mary Ditch, Martha Divisek, Fern Fackler, Victoria Fisher, Grace Flis, Anna Gillings, Mary Halbert, Donald and Dorothy Harrelson, Douglas Hladek, Joan Jacob, Leona Janesovsky, Jeanne Jares, Pauline Jasa, Louis Jedlicka, Eugene Kadlec, George Klumpar, Mildred Konigsmark, Anthony Konvalinka, Jerome Kovar, Edwin Kral, Joseph L. Kubicek, Mildred Kucera, Emil and Evelyn Lamparek, Ken Lastufka, Emily Lins, and Edith Lund.

(to be continued next issue)

CZECH VILLAGE

Czech Village Ass'n. News

If you haven't been to the Czech Village lately you will be surprised by all the activity and changes taking place! Not only will 1994 mark the opening of the museum, but it will also see the opening of two new restaurants and a facelift for the bakery.

Don and Sheila Janda took over the proprietorship of Sykora's Bakery as of Jan. 1. Lester is a valuable part of this turnover, giving Don the secrets of his own long success. Sykoras will still be the famous old world bakery that has been a landmark on the avenue so long with some new enhancements. Don is busy utilizing a part of the building that has not been used before for indoor seating, tables and chairs. This space will not only be a wonderful respite, but will also be handicap accessible. In the future, you will be able to enjoy coffee and a variety of delectable baked goods as well as a special line of croissant sandwiches for a light lunch or snack. Other future additions will be an increase in the product line to include homemade noodles and flour to use in bread machines. How about hand-dipped ice cream on a hot summer day? Sykoras will offer that too, plus a line of confections and fudge. Much of this is still in the future, but watch for all these exciting additions.

Have you ever been to Al's Red Frog? If so, you can't help but notice the construction going on next door. Zindrick's Czech Restaurant is scheduled to open March 1st. It will be a traditional Czech restaurant offering a wide variety of Czech cuisine. The atmosphere will be warm and cozy with no expense spared on the decor. Al plans on having an old world atmosphere with antiques and Czech crystal on display and plenty of food. Unlike the "Frog," Zindrick's will be a full service restaurant with a full menu and a Sunday brunch. Al assures us his potato dumplings and cinnamon apple strudel will be just like your grandmother made! It will seat 120 and be available for private groups and tours. We have been anxiously awaiting a good Czech restaurant that will greatly enhance the village and Zindrick's has it!

Across the street from Al's our newest business on 16th Avenue is Jenny's Cafe and Catering. Jenny has turned the old St.

Wenceslaus Square Restaurant into a real jewel with many Swedish accents and cuisine. Jenny has been serving lunch to a full house since Nov. and recently added dinner on Thursday and Friday plus a Sunday brunch. Part of the fun of eating at Jenny's is enjoying her surroundings. Jenny has collected numerous gadgets, dolls, bears, and other Scandinavian folk art and has them displayed throughout the restaurant. Save space for dessert, everyday Jenny offers a variety of incredible goodies.

HOUBY DAYS AND SUMMER CONCERTS

Czech Village Ass'n. News

Plans for our 17th annual Houby Days celebration are well under way. This year our annual celebration will take place May 14 and 15. There will be an abundance of activities, contests, food, music, things for kids of all ages too numerous to mention! The Moravian Cultural Society Dancers will return again this year for another spectacular show and a new addition will be the St. Paul Dancers. Should you want more information or a flier sent, contact me, Wendy Booker at 59 - 16th Ave. S.W., Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 or call

Plan on spending both days at the village to take in all the music and entertainment!

Our summer concerts will resume in June and be held every Friday evening through September 9. This proved so successful last year that we are adding more wonderful evenings under the stars. Bring your own lawn chair and listen to the Czech Plus Band and perhaps a visiting artist. The concerts are sponsored by various village businesses and run from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m..

I am always looking for new entertainment, bands, choral groups and even a business who might be interested in setting up shop in Czech Village. Contact me at the address given above with your comments. I value your input and want to make the village a jewel for the city and Czech people. I am always in need of spare hands during Houby Days. It is difficult to put on a festival of this size unless we have plenty of help. Remember, I can always be found walking the avenue and look forward to talking with all of you. I hope the future will continue to be as positive as the last two years have been, we can only get better.

DEKUJÍ VAM — THANK YOU

Czech Fine Arts News

Not long ago, Czech Heritage Foundation members received an invitation from Foundation President Dave Faltis. To contribute to the building fund for the new National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. Members from Iowa and across the U.S. have responded generously. I am pleased and extremely proud to report that the goal of \$25,000 has been met and the Czech Heritage Fdn. will be honored and recognized in the new facility. A permanent exhibit will be sponsored in its honor. Congratulations!

Our Foundation and its members have been traditionally the museum's most loyal supporter. For years our Foundation has made regular contributions to the museum for operational support. The museum is our national entity and we are proud of its accomplishments. Now, thanks to your generous support, the Czech Heritage Fdn. will be permanently recognized. In addition to the Czech Heritage Foundation's special named exhibit, each individual contributor of \$300 or more will be honored on a special plaque in the new facility.

HELP PRESERVE OUR CHERISHED HERITAGE

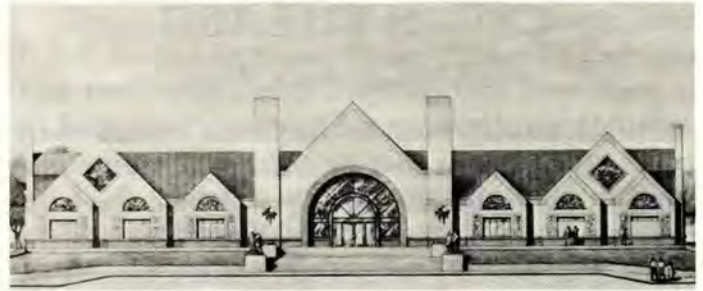
Czech Fine Arts News

It's not too late! If you have not sent your pledge, please consider a donation to the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library today. Your name will join other Czech Heritage Foundation members who have given generously to support the museum, and honor their Czech Heritage.

The ceremonial groundbreaking took place on Oct. 28th and not wasting any time, construction began November 1st. With a mild winter, the building should be completed and operations from the new facility will begin this fall.

Please help us to raise the additional funds. By sending your pledge today, you will not only be honoring your valued ethnic heritage, but permanently recognizing your family name. Remember, by contributing \$300 or more over a three year period, your name will be honored on a special plaque permanently displayed in the new museum and library.

John Rocarek, Development Director, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, P.O. Box 5398, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-5398.



National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

HELP! WE NEED YOUR RECIPES

Czech Fine Arts News

The fund raising committee from Czech Fine Arts have embarked on a proven money making project and would appreciate the help of members of Czech Heritage Fdn.

We would like to publish a "Cookbook," not just an ordinary cookbook, but one with your favorite recipe or recipes and with your help we hope to have it available for our grand opening at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library.

All we want from you is:

- 1 - Use a single recipe per page, clearly printed or typed with name and address.
- 2 - Indicate which category recipe fits.
- 3 - Name of recipe, anything special about it, is it Czech?
- 4 - Ingredients, divide into left and right columns.
- 5 - Mixing of ingredients, baking or cooking time, temperature, how many it serves and how to serve.

You can include any kind of recipe and we shall classify them by category. Please send us your recipe by APRIL 15, 1994. There is a lot of work involved in getting a book printed.

We are looking forward to hearing from you. For more information, call or mail direct to Mrs. Mae Novotny,

phone _____ or to Mrs. Marj
Nejdl, phone _____

BLANCHE CECH LAMPAREK BIOGRAPHY



My parents were born in Kraj Pilsen Okres, Bohemia. My father, Peter Cech, was born on January 30, 1871 and my mother, Anna Hajsman, was born August 21, 1869.

They knew each other as young people in the old country and decided to come to the United States on the same boat in their early twenties. They settled in Chicago, IL. where they married and lived for four years. My oldest brother, Emil, was born in Chicago. Edward, Milo, and myself were born south of Fairfax, Iowa. I was born on August 17, 1897.

I never really knew why they moved into this area except they wanted to farm and live in a Czech neighborhood where the people were much like themselves. In 1894, they bought the eighty acre farm for \$90 an acre and rented additional land. My three brothers and I grew up on this farm and it is still in the Cech family. With three brothers, I grew up liking the outdoors and helped dad and the boys with the outdoor work. It was more fun than housework, which I didn't like; however, this didn't make my mother very happy.

For fun the whole family went to local dance halls and parties. The fourth of July is most memorable because the whole family would go by horse and wagon to Rapp's Dance Hall near Amana. We arrived at two in the afternoon and stayed all night. At five the next morning we sang our way home as the sun was coming up and the roosters crowing. The young men without dates would sometimes play tricks on those with a young lady by unhitching their horses from their buggies. All ages had a good time at these parties.

I attended a one room school with no modern facilities. We spent our time studying. Most youngsters finished eighth grade; few started high school. I met my boyfriend and future husband, Joseph Lamparek, at Cloud School, rural Fairfax.

Joseph and I were married November 16, 1915. We started farming on a farm owned by Joe's father; we later bought it from him. Farming at that time meant raising your own horsepower, milking cows, feeding hogs and cattle, and tending to chickens. Much of the grain raised was marketed through the sale of livestock. Two children were born to us. Emil, our son, married Evelyn Petrak and our daughter, Rosie, married Edward Kilberger. My husband died in 1967 at seventy-four years of age.

War broke out in 1918 and created hard times for everyone. My brother, Milo, served overseas and returned in 1919. Sugar and flour were rationed and molasses was used as a sweetener.

Today we complain about the roads, but I remember when the snow covered the fence tops for days; there were no snowplows. We hitched up bobsleds and traveled to Amana or Swisher to buy groceries, supplies, or make a visit to the doctor, if needed. Kerosene was 5¢ a gallon, 100 pounds of flour cost \$10 and fifty pounds of sugar was \$3. Bread was baked, vegetables were canned, and meat was butchered at home. Pork was fried down, packed in crocks and covered with hot lard. If done right, our food kept a long time without refrigeration.

I still enjoy living in our original home which now has modern equipment; the woodburning stove is still in my kitchen and I use it for heat if necessary. Our daughter, Rosie Kilberger, died in 1981; her husband died three months later. I have living a son and his wife, six grandchildren and their mates, 16 great grandchildren and 8 great great grandchildren.

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY PARADE

Czech Village News

The annual St. Joseph's Day parade will be held March 19th at 1:00 p.m.

Entries will assemble at 12:30 p.m. on 2nd St. S.E. between 12th and 14th Aves. The parade will cross the Bridge of Lions and 16th Ave. in Czech Village.

St. Joseph's Day tradition in Czechy was for musicians to call at the home of every Josef in the village. Josef is a common Czech name.



Left to Right: Marie, Ludmila, Ben, Martha, Ruth Hlavaty.

HLAVATY BIBLE DATED 1587

Many of you have seen the old Czech Bible that is over 400 years old. The Bible dated 1587 is in the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, IA. It is the oldest artifact in the museum. However, most of us do not know that the minister who brought it from Czechoslovakia in 1888 served the Hus Memorial Church.

Vaclav Hlavaty came to the U.S. as a candidate of theology. He was born in Bohemia, studied theology in Vienna and Edinburg. He came to Cedar Rapids during the Christmas holiday and was called to preach at the newly organized Central West Bohemian Presbytery. The Church maintained a preaching station in Walker, whose population consisted of 70 Czech families and, in 1892, Rev. Hlavaty was requested to visit the community and preach. From that time he visited regularly and preached in a country school four miles southeast of Walker.

Rev. Hlavaty served in Cedar Rapids from 1891-1919 and it was an epoch of progress. By 1900 the church had 220 members, 150 pupils in Sunday School at Hus Church and did 738 baptisms. He was helpful in the building of the church at 9th Ave. and 7th St. S.E. That church was sold when the present Hus Church on Schaeffer Dr. S.W. was built.

Rev. Hlavaty had a family of four daughters, Ludmila, Marie, Martha, and Ruth and one son, Benjamin. The three older daughters graduated from Coe College, the youngest, Ruth, an excellent pianist graduated from Northwestern U. but also studied with Schnabel, a famous pianist in Germany. Ben attended college in Wagner, South

Dakota where Rev. Hlavaty had a short pastorate after retiring from Hus Memorial. Hlavaty returned to Cedar Rapids and died in his home May 19, 1942.

The only survivor of the Hlavaty family proper today is Marie, the second daughter. She was a music major at Coe College. She had a beautiful soprano voice and was very popular teaching choral music. Today, we are told, after teaching voice and directing musicals over the years at Sarasota, Florida, she still plays the piano at age 94. The third daughter, Martha (unmarried) a business woman, shared her home with her widowed mother in Minneapolis, MN., where Mrs. Hlavaty died. Martha had to dispose of much of the household goods. When she considered where best to place the old Czech Bible, she called the Vavra family, who suggested the Czech Museum.

Martha died Nov. 28, 1993. Besides her sister Marie, other surviving relatives are Reece Kiner (son of Ludmila) and his wife, Betty, in Minneapolis, MN. and Sylvia Graves (daughter of Marie) in Sarasota, FL.

SPRING DANCE

Czech Heritage News

The annual Czech Heritage Fund raiser for the Home Stay Program which has been held as a St. Joseph's Dance, has to be held at a later date due to conflicting events. Therefore, we are having a spring dance on the 10th of April (second Sunday of the month) at Hofer's Danceland Ballroom at Walford, IA. It will be from 1:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon with music furnished by the Czech Plus Band. A bake sale will be held along with the dance and any baked goods will be appreciated. Door prizes will be awarded. The ambassador to Czechoslovakia will be introduced along with the Czech Prince and Princess.

Plan to spend an enjoyable afternoon with us at our spring dance. Whether you are dancing or visiting with your friend or listening to the music, we know you will have an enjoyable time. Lunch will be available.

Admission is \$5.00 per person. Tickets are available from board of directors of the Czech Heritage Fdn.

See you there!

Frank Novotny
Chairman of Committee

Membership Application

Please check the proper item: Renewal____ New____ Gift____

Name(s) Ms., Mr., Mrs. _____

Address _____ Zip + 4 _____ - _____

Make check payable and mail to :

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

Membership dues \$_____ Donation \$_____ Gift Membership \$_____

Why not consider a gift membership for someone special? Your dues and generous donations help to fund several worthwhile endeavors such as Czech Prince and Princess sponsorship, financial support for the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, adult Czech language classes, the Homestay Program, along with publishing the quarterly *Nase Ceské Dedictví*, and other numerous publications. The list of Czech Heritage projects goes on and on.

We appreciate your continued support. With your help we can carry on with projects, activities, and goals to preserve our heritage and culture. **THANK YOU! Na shledanou!**

Please renew today! A Bargain at \$3.00 per year

ETHNIC FEST

Czech Heritage News

The plans for our annual 14th Ethnic Fest are progressing very nicely and the sponsors, the Greeks and the Czechs, are looking forward to sharing an exciting weekend with you.

The Ethnic Fest has become a Memorial Day weekend tradition and also a major fund raiser for the ethnic groups, providing money for scholarships, sending students abroad, help for people with special needs, and aid to people new to the U.S. That is just a few projects.

As of now, we have approximately ten ethnic groups participating. For you who have attended our fests in the past, you know what to expect, and for the newcomers we have this to offer. Each of the ethnic groups will have a booth and sell food and desserts that are their specialties. In addition to the stage in the Roundhouse, we have a large tent with a stage and both stages have ethnic entertainment going while the fest is in progress. It is geared to be a family affair and a fun and casual weekend.

The Ethnic Fest is held at the Riverside Roundhouse, 1350 A Ave. S.W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Saturday, May 28th, 2:00-10:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 29, 12:00-8:00 p.m. Admission \$2.50 in advance and \$3.00 at the gate, accompanied youth 14 and under are FREE.

For information, contact the board members of Czech Heritage Fdn. or members of St. John's Orthodox Church.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Ethnic Fest 1994.

Frank Novotny



COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| March 1 | Museum opens
Tue.-Sat. 9:30-4:00 p.m. |
| March 19 | St. Joseph's Day Parade 1 p.m.
16th Ave. S.W. |
| March 26
and April 2 | Easter Egg decorating & craft
demonstration at museum |
| April 10 | Spring Dance, Hofer Ballroom
Walford, Iowa at 1:00 p.m. |
| May 14 & 15 | Houby Days, Czech Village in
Cedar Rapids, Iowa |
| May 28 & 29 | Ethnic Fest, Roundhouse in
S.W. Cedar Rapids, Iowa |



CZECH HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

P.O. Box 761
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Non-Profit Organiz.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 127
Cedar Rapids, Iowa



Bernice Ann

A very lovely niece is mine
her personality is such,
She spreads sunshine all the time,
Can't help but love her very much!
A special talent she does have . . .
Now I must make confession
Animals — she dearly loves
And grooming dogs is her profession!
Now animals I also love,
But only if they keep their places.
They give themselves a tongue bath,
Then would love to lick our faces.
Now, Ital-i-on is husband Joe
does create a hot spaghetti.
Hours and hours it takes to cook . . .
But . . . the taste you can never forgetti.
May God watch over, and bless this soft-
spoken Italian man,
May God watch over and caress my lovely niece
That's Bernice Ann.

Written by Lillian Cach