

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

O U R C Z E C H H E R I T A G E

Vol.4.No.3. Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations
Aug. 1979 P.O.Box 761 , Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406.



Event No. ONE

TWO BIG EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES

The ANNUAL PICNIC, Thursday, August 23rd. Drive south on Bowling Street from 16th Avenue S.W., for 2 miles to near the Power Plant. Turn LEFT and thru the underpass, turn RIGHT. Drive short distance over small bridge and turn LEFT on black top. Drive 2 miles to the ZCBJ gate on left side of road, turn LEFT and follow the lane to the parking area and pavilion . Plan to come around 5 P.M. . .

FREE HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS, BUNS, COFFEE, KOLACHES

Please bring your own table service and dishes. The following lists are suggestive for pot-luck supper. You may prefer to bring something other than the category of food listed for your name.

A thru H . . .	desserts	R thru Z ..	casseroles, scalloped
I thru O . . .	salads,vegetables, eggs etc.. etc.		potato, tuna, macaroni- cheese, etc. etc.

COME EARLY VISIT RELAX ENJOY YOURSELF - and - bring a guest or guests who want to be members at special \$1.50 for rest of 1979.

Event No. TWO

CZECH FESTIVAL DAYS on the AVENUE..SEPTEMBER 7-8-9. 6th YEAR
See following pages for details of events and the programs.

MORE RECOLLECTIONS . Our recent issues have brought recollections from others about early days in the community. We are pleased to share some of these letters. What is not in this issue will appear later.

SALUTING JAN ABRAHAM is another one of our pioneers who is approaching his 96th birthday. He was born in Proseč in the Province of Bohemia when it was a part of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire. He learned that if he came to America it would be a good idea to have a trade. So he spent 2½ years in a German village of old Sudetenland in N.W.Bohemia, to learn the tool and foundry trade.

At the age of 19 he sailed from the port of Bremen on the German S.S. Breslav.. The trip was to have been (continued, page 2)

LANDMARK BUSINESS GONE

Where in Cedar Rapids will we now find those special things that we could find at only KOSEK'S DIME & DOLLAR STORE? Customers came from all over the city, surrounding area, and from miles and miles away to shop at KOSEK'S. Now that the store is no longer open, it leaves many of us with a sad and lost feeling. KOSEK'S was typical of a small village store in Czechy with many notions and common things but uncommon stock in today's stores.

We all will miss Paul's genial humor and his helpful clerks and workers. Our best wishes to all of them as they leave The Avenue.

Our membership in Czech Heritage Foundation is reaching 650 !

Saluting Jan Abraham... some 8 days but because of bad fall weather, the trip took 2 weeks.

He came to Cedar Rapids because his Uncle John Vavra lived here.

For a while he did odd jobs and then got work at the C.R. Carriage Works as did Mr. Carl Bezdečný who came a few years later. The foundry job was hot working over a forge and fashioning tools and parts for wagons. These were the days before interchangeable parts and assembly line operations. Many items were made piece by piece.

The Averill family had one of the first electric cars in the city. One very cold winter, the axle gave way and Mr. Abraham was given the job of making the parts and repairs.

Later on Mr. Abraham worked at Penick-Ford from which plant he retired in February 1953.

His main interest was his family and his work. A Růžena Černuška had two sisters in the States, so her family allowed her to come to America in 1904, five years after the second daughter left home. Růžena worked as a domestic in the Lounsberry home. In 1906 she and Jan were married. She died in 1971 after 65 years of home life in our city. There were two children, a daughter and son. No grandchildren survive.

Mr. Abraham is another holder of a paid-up policy with the Western Fraternal Life Association. So with Mr. Carl Bezdečný we have two such active senior citizens in our community.

Rose Abraham Marek

from MRS. FAITH CHYLE KNUTSON, Pisek, North Dakota : Her family were early settlers in Protivin and Spillville.

"Czech Day" festivities at Pisek on June 16, 1979, started with Mass and hymns in Czech at St. John's Church. Visitors came from many states and Canada. Afternoon activities in the City Park included singing, band music, horse shoe contest, softball and games. A typical Czech supper was served to more than 600 people at the Pisek Hall.

A large crowd enjoyed dancing from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Hall.

Highlight of the day's events was the 6 x 10 ft. oil painting by Czech artist, ALFONS MUCHA. The picture is in the church and depicts the two missionaries who brought Christianity to Moravia-Bohemia in the 9th century. Cyril and Methodius were both sainted later. The sermon was about these two Saints and Saint John Nepomucene. Mrs. Kuntson has written a book about the painting and the art of Mucha.

Another article about MUCHA appears elsewhere in this issue. (p.4-5)

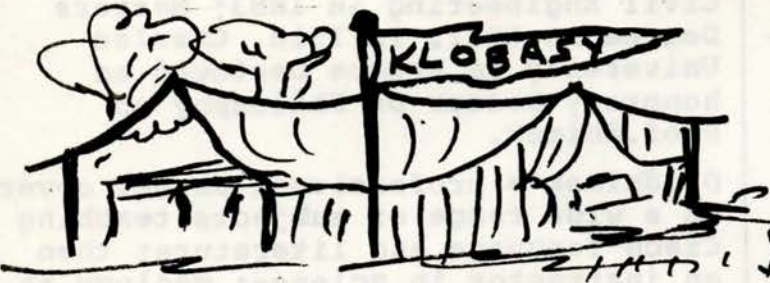
DID YOU KNOW? that the 1979 tennis champion at Wimbledon in England was MARTINA NAVRATILOVA? Later she and Billy Jean King won the women's doubles. The events were very very special for Martina because her mother had a visa for 2 weeks to have this reunion with her daughter who had defected from Czechoslovakia. Last year Martina's family went to a border town near Germany to get the broadcast of the contest. The Czech news media said nothing about her tennis successes.

* * * * *

ARA BERBERIAN of suburban Detroit, once a lawyer, then in the U.S. Army, decided he wanted to have an career in opera. And it all came true! He has the role of KLECAL, the marriage broker, in Smetana's BARTERED BRIDE. At the Metropolitan Opera he sings bass parts and also understudies two other roles for the 1979-1980 opera season.

from Glen Holubar of Minneapolis... The family lived at 1113-2nd St. SE. He and Ed Stanek took off to watch the fire at the Quaker Oats sitting on the railroad tracks watching the grain cars being switched away from the fire. His Dad arrived, piled him into the wire basket on the bicycle and Eddie on the crossbar and took them home. It was tender sitting for the next few days. He recalls playing with Louie Pochobradsky..riding the open street cars in summer. . . The family was related to Dr. Petrovitsky.

Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.



See you here!

Come to the Czech Fine Arts TENT for those plump, juicy, tasty sausages, KLOBASY, served with sauerkraut and a soft drink. Net proceeds from the sale of foods help to support the MUSEUM and Library. Hours are -

Friday 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
 Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 Sunday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

OPERA NEWS published by Metropolitan Guild features Czechs in the lead item of the May 1979 issue. Entitled "Czechs at Table" article gives eight recipes of foods served at the newly opened Czech Pavilion on East 58th St. in New York City.

The article says " A recent influx of artists from the land of Smetana and Janáček inspires memorable gastronomic celebrations".

Several of the cast in Smetana's well-known BARTERED BRIDE and Janaček's KATYA KABANOVA were photographed at the social events at the Pavilion. Among those attending were MILOS FORMAN (he did the musical HAIR and movie ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST); Jarmila Packard, daughter of beautiful Jarmila NOVOTNY who recorded songs with Jan Masaryk at the piano some years ago; Mr and Mrs. Walter Slezak, son of the leading tenor LEO SLEZAK who was with the "Met" for years; Rudolf FIRKUSNY the pianist, who was at the Dvorak Anniversary recently at Spillville, and his wife Titiana and others. The colored photos show the elegant decor of the restaurant as well as the dress of the guests.

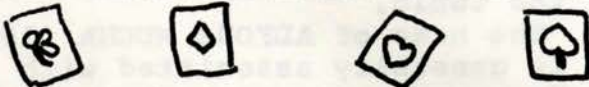
The group was booked to play at Plains, Georgia since it was on the route of their return trip. The posters listed them as CZECHOSLOVAK DANCERS. Unknown to the group, some 20 extra Secret Service men were sent to Plains. The Aces put on the concert at the depot before some 500 people including some members of the Carter families.

When they went to Americus, Ga. to the motel for the night, Arlene tho't it strange that two men sat at a table near the pool while the group took a swim after the strenuous day at Plains. Later she learned about the detail of the Secret Service and was informed that the group had been "tailed and watched" from the time of their arrival in Plains until their departure!

On August 24th, the ACES will be at the FAIR in Des Moines and on Sat., the 25th They will appear at three different places at the Fair. And she chuckled, saying " We are getting paid to be there!"

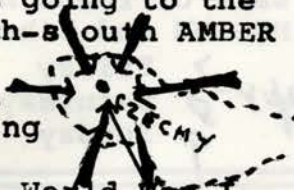
LIBRARY books are being indexed and many surprises are found. Some are real treasures and would be helpful to those doing research on special topics.

We have FIVE books on KROJ (costumes). Four books are from districts of Plzen, Kozácký, Mladoboleslavský, and Chodský. One book is on costumes of Dětský. The author of the series is Blažena Šotková. The books vary from 30 to 60 pages. Colored illustrations show the main costumes. In the back of each book are patterns and designs and sewing helps.



ACCORDIAN ACES RETURN AFTER TRIUMPHANT TOUR directed, of course, by our own Arlene BODDICKER. The group appeared in mid-July at the Miami Beach Roc Hotel taking part in the convention of Accordion Musicians. They later then appeared at Disney World in Florida, and Opryland in Nashville, Tennessee.

For centuries the old Province of Bohemia had been on the crossroads of north-south and east-west routes in Central Europe. Many examples include the early Roman rule of the Mediterranean world, the invasion of Mongols from the east, the warring tribes from the north. It was also involved in the route of the Crusaders going to the Holy Land; on the north-south AMBER Route to Venice from the Baltic lands. Then came an almost unending parade of wars on the continent, . . . Napoleon, World War I and World War II, even unto 1968 when Russian tanks rolled down Vaclavski Namesti. . .



In addition the mixture of people came from Spain, Italy, France, Turkey, Luxembourg, Hungary, Germany.. as the royal families intermarried and new rulers and nobles from many lands brought in artists and architects who introduced different skills and ideas.

Thus one finds many Czech words that are similar in other languages. Here are some examples in Turkish (T), Chinese (Ch), Spanish (Sp), Portuguese (P) German (G)..

<u>CZECH</u>	<u>Others</u>
káva (coffee)	Kahve (T); café (Sp., P) der Kaffee (G)
barák (hut)	baraka (T)
čaj (tea)	te (Ch); çay (T); cha (P) der Tee (G)
ananas (pineapple)	ananas (T); anana (Sp); ananas (P); die Ananas (G)
cukr (sugar)	seker (T); azúcar (Sp); der Zuker (G); açúcar (P).
brambor (potato)	patatas (T); batata (P); potato (Sp).

When I was in Brazil, I asked for tea, I was served the native kind, yerba maté, but when I asked for čaj, it was India tea.

Two Czech words that are the same in English are: robot and polka.

(mms)

and from Mrs. Lawrence Kessler, (Mae Hanzlik), some items about Dr. Bohumil Shimek. One of her brothers, Dr. Paul Hanzlik married Bertha Shimek and Attorney Milo Hanzlik married Anne Shimek, daughters of Prof. Shimek.

The following are excerpts from family records:

Prof. Shimek was born in 1861 in Shueyville, Iowa; graduated from the University of Iowa with a degree in Civil Engineering in 1883; Masters Degree in 1902. In 1918, Charles University in Prague bestowed an honorary Doctor of Philosophy on Prof. Shimek.

Dr. Shimek's professional career covered a wide range of subjects: teaching Czech language and literature; then an instructor in science; geology at the Univ. of Nebraska; in 1890 he became an instructor of Botany at the University of Iowa where he moved up the ladder to be Professor of Botany and Head of the Department.

He continued his work and participation as lecturer and speaker at many meetings in the areas of geology, zoology, botany, forestry, and natural history. He authored some 160 papers and scientific articles. Dr. Shimek was nationally known for his classification of plant families. His memberships extended to scientific societies and associations in Iowa and the nation and to Prague, CSR. He was an officer and active participant in such societies.

Someday when we set up an IOWA HALL of FAME with the names of famous Iowans of Czech ancestry, the name of Bohomil Shimek will lead the list!

Mrs. GAIL KÁŇA-BUTRICA of Ames has completed her Master Degree in Art History at the University of Texas. Her thesis is on the historical paintings of ALFONS MUCHA about whom you have read on an earlier page.

What now follows is an interesting but brief resume of her thesis on the topic.

"The name of ALFONS MUCHA (1860-1939) is generally associated with the Art Nouveau movement which swept Europe at the turn of the century. Few people are aware of his role as an historical painter. His most famous work is the series the SLAV EPIC consisting of twenty canvases dealing with the history of the Slavic nations.

The paintings are of mural proportions, approximately ten by twenty feet, and executed in tempera and oil



The editor is appreciative of items sent by friends and our members because they bring to us many informative and personal news about people, places and ideas and events. Thank You!

on canvas. The theme concerns the development of all Slavic nations and their working toward a Panslavic ideal. Ten canvases are devoted to Czech history, Mucha chose Saints Cyril and Methodius and Master Jan Hus as the major elements of expression. Each of them advocated a religious and social revolution that insured the Slavic peoples their own language and right of autonomy within their own lands. The other ten canvases represent various events from other Slavic countries which exemplify the idea of Slavic brotherhood or show supreme sacrifices made by individuals for their nation.

The idea of a Slavic Epic came to Mucha in the 1890's while living in Paris and much involved with his career and Sarah Bernhardt. It was not until 1901 when he met the American industrialist, Charles Crane, that he could begin to see his dream come true. Crane then agreed to finance Mucha's commission paying for paints, canvases and also offering Mucha a stipend for his work. The contract stated that upon completion the series would be given to the City of Prague which would build a suitable exhibition hall.

In 1928, the tenth anniversary of the Czechoslovak Republic, the paintings were exhibited in the Veletržní Palace which is no longer standing. During World War II, the canvases were stored in the basement. They are now on exhibit in the Knight's Hall of Moravský Krumlov castle near Brno and the village of Ivančice where Mucha was born.

A visit to the exhibition allows one to walk through 2000 years of Slavic history. One is not only overwhelmed by the historical record but also by the size and poetic style for which Mucha is so famous. Mucha wanted to express his feeling towards his country in terms similar to those used by the great Czech composers, Smetana and Dvořák. His symphony of canvases attains this goal, creating for the viewer the panoramic view of the struggles of the Slavic nations. "

G.K-B .

JÁN KADÁR, altho Hungarian born, was a survivor of war-time camps. He was a film director in Czechoslovakia but escaped to United States when the Russian tanks rolled into the country in 1968 after Dubček's brief "PRAGUE SPRING" as that period of liberalization was called. Kadár's masterpiece film was in 1965, "The House on Main Street" - a story of a Jewish woman who is betrayed by a Nazi sympathizer. Kadár died recently at the age of 61 in Los Angeles.

It was for the 125th Anniversary of Coe College that Prof. KAREL HUSA of Ithaca, New York, was commissioned to write a musical composition. He called it 'Te Deum' with its premier here in 1976. Last May, the Cornell University Chorus and Glee Club presented the composition in Ithaca. Prof. Husa continues to travel to conduct concerts and festivals. So far this year he has been guest conductor on campuses at Harvard, Eastman School of Music, Syracuse, Buffalo, Ball State, Toledo, McGill in Montreal and others. He says that in the future he may travel less and compose more.

For the last few weeks you may have read a new feature, WRITE RIGHT, in the lower left or right hand corner of the Gazette editorial page. The author, CARL KANE, and his wife have been on our membership list ever since Czech Heritage Fdn. started. You will chuckle over the articles and be more observing of reports of news media, both oral and written. I still wonder where the man was shot when it was reported he was shot in his bed. . . .



6th Annual

Czech Village Festival

THREE DAYS of CZECH MUSIC, DANCING, CZECH FOODS, ARTISTRY and HERITAGE and OLD-WORLD FUN AND GAIETY WILL DELIGHT GUESTS AT THE 6th ANNUAL CZECH VILLAGE FESTIVAL: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, SEPTEMBER 7, 8, 9 in CZECH VILLAGE.

COME and PLAY, BROWSE, and ENJOY YOURSELF in CZECH VILLAGE in NEAR-DOWN-TOWN CEDAR RAPIDS, JUST TWO BLOCKS SOUTH of the NEW 12th AVENUE BRIDGE.

NOTE the NEW, NEW, MANY NEW EVENTS and DIFFERENT FEATURES such as : CLOGGERS, RAFT RACES, the SUNDAY SERVICE, and OTHERS.



Friday, Saturday and Sunday September 7, 8, 9, 1979 Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Three days of Czech music, food, gaiety, and old-fashioned fun!

- Street Antique Sale
- Parade
- Midway rides, concessions
- Jolly Bohemians Street Dance
- Czech Arts and Crafts
- Kolache Breakfasts
- Czech Bake-Off
- Czech Heritage Band, Beseda Dancers
- Polka-Dots, Accordion Aces, Accordionaires and Dancers
- Bingo and Contests, Contests, Contests!
- Sunday morning — All Faith Service
- First Annual Red Cedar River Raft Race!
- Old-Time Photography

CZECH MUSEUM HOURS

Friday.....	5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday	9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Czech Fine Arts Klobase Tent

Friday.....	5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday.....	11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday	11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Sidewalk Sale
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Shorter's Gala Midway
10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Old Time Photography
1 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Joens Brothers

Bingo
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Polka-Dots at Czech Bandstand
7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Clippity Cloggers (with Czech Flair)
8 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

KOLACHE HEADQUARTERS
4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Street Antique Show

6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Czech Bake-Off

A contest for Czech baked delicacies.

Judging at 10 a.m.

Contest entries available in Czech Village.

Winning entries announced at 1:30 p.m. at Bandstand.

Kolache Breakfast

Hosted by Merchants

7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Tickets available at door

Old-Time Photography

9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Shorter's Gala Midway

10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Bingo

1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Kolache Headquarters

Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Kolaches will be available as well as information, Czech Village Festival '79 Buttons, and Raffle Tickets.

MUSIC AT CZECH BANDSTAND

9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

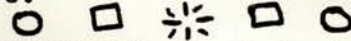
9-11 a.m. Mini Concerts
 11-12 noon . . . Boddicker Accordionaires & Dancing Children
 12-2 p.m. Mini-Concerts
 2-4 p.m. Polka-Dots
 4-5 p.m. Mini-Concerts
 5-6 p.m. Cedar Rapids Accordion Aces
 Czech Heritage Program
 6-7 p.m. Boddicker Accordionaires & Dancing Children
 7:30-10:30 p.m. Jolly Bohemians Street Dance
 Beseda Dancers will perform during evening Street Dance

CONTESTS

Dunk the Merchant
Carp Fishing



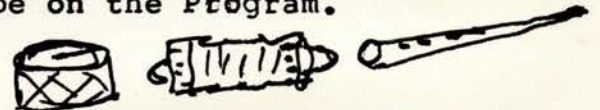
Have you ever seen the foot-work and heard the clippity-clop of those CLOGGERS in their square-dance style? Only recently has this folk dance of the hill counties in our Southeastern States come to Cedar Rapids. SEE and HEAR the group on Friday evening as their routines will be set to Czech music. THAT will be special and really different!



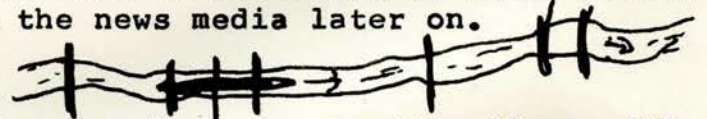
and the BAKE-OFF on Saturday morning will have two classes: "teen age" 13 to 19; and over 20 adult group. Details will be available at stores on 16th Avenue after August 20th.



and the POLKA-DOTS, CZECH HERITAGE BAND, JOLLY BOHEMIANS, AND BODDICKER ACES and the ACCORDIANAIRES with the YOUNG DANCERS -all will set your head nodding, feet swinging and even you will be dancing! BESEDA DANCERS will also be on the Program.

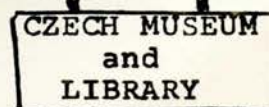


On Sunday, THREE NEW EVENTS : The ALL FAITH SERVICE at 11 a.m., then comes the PARADE .. and the RAFT RACE of one mile on our own Red Cedar River. More details about all of these events in the news media later on.



Other popular repeat attractions will be BINGO, KOLACHES, FOLK ART, CONTESTS, FOOD TENTS, DEMONSTRATIONS, THE KCRG "Czech Party", the GALA MIDWAY RIDES, and other events.

Plan to stop at the MUSEUM around the corner on "C" Street going south See the grey house with the sign



Admission is free. We have been there less than one year. Come - see the displays .

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Kolache Breakfast

Hosted by Merchants

7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Tickets available at door

KCRG's "Czech Party"

will be live from breakfast tent.

Folk Arts and Crafts

On Sale and Demonstrated

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Batik Egg Decorating, Quilting, Gold & Silversmithing.

All-Faith Service

Preached by Rev. Carroll Kakac

The First Christian Church, Fairfield, Illinois

11 a.m. at Czech Bandstand

Mini-Concerts

At Bandstand 10-11 a.m.; 11:30-12 noon.

Kolache Headquarters

Open at 9 a.m.

CZECH Heritage Parade

12 noon - 11:30 line-up

Bingo

1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

First Annual Red Cedar River Raft Race

1:30 p.m. - Co-sponsored by Czech Village Assn. with Cedar Rapids Jaycees

Czech Heritage Band

2:30-4:30 p.m. at Czech Bandstand