

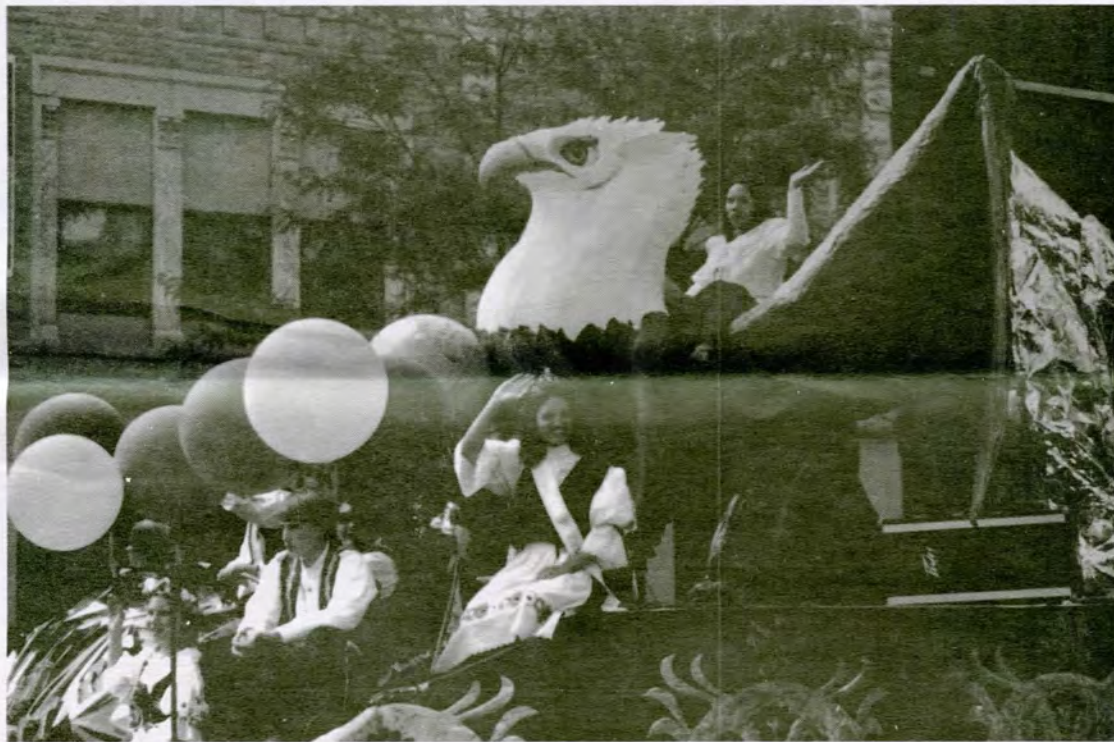
Czech Heritage Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

# NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE



*Photo by Katie Nagel*

THE CZECH HERITAGE FLOAT IN THE FREEDOM FESTIVAL PARADE  
(Story on page 12)



Czech Heritage Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box 781, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52408



## NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR CZECH HERITAGE

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## NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

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

Deadline for receiving articles for the December issue is October 25, 1999.

## NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers who helped with the June issue were Mary Ann Pochobradsky and my husband John. Thank you for your help. It is greatly appreciated.



*Mother's birthplace. Left to right: Dennis Volesky, Adeline Volesky and Carol Baumgartner.*

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

My enthusiasm for my Czech Heritage spilled over to the rest of my family this year. Two of our children Carol Baumgartner and Dennis Volesky and our two granddaughters Kimberly and Lisa Volesky wanted to learn first hand about the land of their ancestors. Planning started in March only to find most of the flights for June booked, but we were able to get the last six seats for a June 15th flight from the the Eastern Iowa Airport in Cedar Rapids to Chicago and direct to Frankfurt where we pre-arranged a rental of a van,

As we approached the Czech port of entry, we had our passports ready and rehearsed any questions we might be asked. The border guards were so busy visiting, they did not see or even ask for our passports, just waved for us to proceed. What a change from some of our past experiences! This time however, we had to stop at a large truck and auto complex and purchase a sticker for \$24 for our vehicle to use the roads. A fine of \$200 would be assessed if stopped.

Our first stop in the Czech Republic was in Pilsen where the Cech family immigrated from. The phone book listed several columns of Cech families, too many to choose from. We did tour the historic brewery.

We got to Prague on the weekend along with throngs of other tourists. Prague continues to be a tourist haven. The beauty of St. Vitas still send chills of beauty down my spine even after several visits. Charles Bridge bustles with artisans, musicians, beggars, tourists and even a wedding.

The next stop and purpose of our homage was to visit the home where my mother was born in Javornice. The brick house is very old but still standing and occupied. We walked through the cemetery and to the church where my mother was baptized in 1891, but the door was locked. Carol and Dennis remember their grandmother very well but Kim and Lisa were too young. Now we all have a sense of completeness.

We visited relatives, toured castles, hiked mountains, rode trollies, and swam. No trip to the Czech Republic would be complete without shopping for garnets and Bohemian glass.

Our trip of 2,000 miles in two weeks were made in Germany, Czech Republic and Austria all without incident, only memories of a family sharing their heritage.

*Adeline L. Volesky*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I always find something interesting in every issue of NAŠE ČESKE DĚDICTVÍ. What a surprise to find mention of the town of Čelákovice, 25 kms east of Prague in your June issue. I lived in this place as a boy from 1922-1927. I moved there with my parents and brother in March 1922 from Prague, where we lived for six months, coming from Chicago, Illinois. In those days the town had only 1500 inhabitants. Today it reaches 10,000 and is a bedroom community for Prague workers. Čelákovice lays in the agricultural part of Bohemia, once called the golden region of Bohemia. It is located on the Elbe (Labe) River from Hradec Karalove on the east to Brandys nad Labem in the west. The main industrial employer was the Stabenow copper plant locate on the edge of town (Jiřina), employing some 350 workers. The 30 office employees, all German, lived in a colony of factory houses close to the plant. Their children never went to Czech schools, but had German tutors. This was long before Hitler. The plant which was built by German owners in 1914 is still operating under new public ownership. While I was studying about the holocaust I ran across the pictures of the copper tanks for poison gas for Auschwitz, marked "Stabenow".

I joined the Scouts in April 1922, wearing my American Khaki shirt. I still correspond with my Scout chum Jarda Kosina, who is active in the city museum.

I hope the European Area Women's conference in September is a real success!

Again, all the best for your city's 150th.

*Anthony (Tony) Cifka  
Denver, Colorado*

Dear Editor,

I get excited when the newsletter arrives and I drop everything and sit down and read and read many times over and over NAŠE ČESKE DĚDICTVÍ. It is such a worthwhile precious undertaking. I love it. I am Czech descent and I am proud of my heritage. I speak Czech, write Czech, and used to be very active in my beloved SOKOL HAVLICEK TYRS. Many of us (senior citizens) attend our meetings every month.

I wish you all and all your hard working volunteers much good luck in all your undertakings and God bless you all and thank you all.

*Louise Kliner,  
Hinsdale, IL*

## JOB OPENING

Are you retired or just looking to fill a void? We have just the job for you. The Czech Heritage Fd'n. is searching for a financial secretary since the death of Lovell Dvorak. He held the post since 1988.

It is the duty of the financial secretary to keep records of the organization's membership and dues. He/she must be a member of Czech Heritage.

If you are interested, or in need of an activity without leaving the comforts of home call Pres. Russ Novotny or write: P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406.

## PRES. HAVEL VISITS U.S.

President Vaclav Havel and his wife Dagmar from the Czech Republic visited the United States. After a visit to Washington D.C. he came to Minneapolis/St. Paul on April 25, 1999.

He was invited to Minnesota by several Czech organizations and the Czech community.

In his speech Havel told an estimated 3,000 including Minnesota's Gov. Jesse Ventura that "A civil society is the best safeguard, not only against political chaos, but also against the rise of authoritarian forces that emerge whenever a society feels shaken or insecure. Overthrowing a communist regime and retooling its morbid economy was the easy part. Seeking to undo the damage to public life done by four decades of communist rule and re-establishing a civil society is the most difficult challenge. Restoration will take years."

President Havel presented Sokol Minnesota with a medallion with his name on front. Inscribed on the medallion are the two-tailed lion and two eagles representing Moravia and Czechy.

## CZECH VILLAGE IN JAPAN

Czech Foreign Minister Jan Kavan awarded the Japanese businessman Marahiro Yamamoto the Gratias Agit award for contributing positively to the representation of the Czech Republic abroad. In 1995, Yamamoto opened a Czech restaurant and micro-brewery in Kagoshima 1,054 miles southwest of Tokyo. By 1997, it had developed into an entire Czech village. Some 350,000 Japanese visit the village every year. The experience inspires some of them to visit the real Czech Republic. (From CZECH THE NEWS)

## CORRECTION

On page 9 of the June 1999 issue, the name of Hermina Rigel should have been Hermina Netolicky in the group picture of the plaque dedication. (The editor regrets the error.)



## BIOGRAPHY

Frank G. Koutny was born on February 17, 1909 to Frank G. Koutny Sr. and Mary Moses Koutny. Frank had four brothers, Joseph and William (deceased) and Edward and Leo.

The Koutny's lived in rural southwest Cedar Rapids, Iowa where the ADM Corn Processing plant now stands. Frank attended a one room school. He was not a discipline problem because he was very bashful. As a child he remembers going to town with his mother with a horse and surrey to 16th Avenue when there were only a few stores Anthony's Grocery Store, Zastera's and Pochobradsky's.

Frank left home at the age of 8 to live with his grandparents the Moses' at rural Ely because Henry and Frank Moses were serving their country in World War I. Before he went to school in the morning he had to milk two cows and feed five horses.

While he was growing up he worked hard. He drove horses to town to plow gardens. He cut wood all day when wages were a \$1.00 a day.

He did not go Halloweening but remembers when tricksters upset a wagon in a field and put a plow in a tree. It was a job getting the plow down.

He lived with the Moses' until Henry returned home from service and got married. As a young man Frank attended dances, but that is not how he met Bessie Marousek, who later became his wife. They both went to Rogers Grove School rural Ely, when he lived with his grandparents.

Bessie Marousek was born on November 9, 1911 to Wesley and Frances Marousek. After Bessie graduated from school, she worked for a family near Bever Park in Cedar Rapids. The family had to move to New York and asked Bessie to live with them in the East. After she lived in New York 1½ years she came home to Ely to visit. She had to make a hard decision, return to New York or accept Frank's marriage proposal. Love won out. They were married by Reverend Francis Pokorny in the parsonage of the Bohemian Moravian Church. There was no fanfare or celebration. It was during the depression so they went right to work. Frank said "You could not borrow a dollar anywhere and banks were closed." Then, things were done the hard way, by hand or with horses, but Frank loves horses. His brother brought him a restless horse to train. Frank har-

nessed the horse with two trained horses and went for a ride. The restless horse was no longer a problem. Frank says horses are smart animals and respond kindly to favorable treatment. Frank had all kinds of horses; Belgian, Percheron and roans. The Koutnys have many awards and recognitions with their horse entries in parades. They participated in parades in 23 counties.

When John Deere came out with a tractor they took horses on a trade-in for a new tractor. Frank stepped up to a more modern method of farming. During his 65 years of farming he had seven different John Deeres starting with a 37 A.

Frank and Bessie had three children, Bessie Telecky (Jim), Betty Buresh (Dale) and Edward (Wife Marcella) Koutny. During the time the children were growing up Frank and Bessie lived on a mile long dirt road. At the end of the dirt road was Rogers Grove School, the same school Frank attended. When the weather was bad or during a snow storm a horse and buggy or sleigh was sometimes used to take the children to and from school. Family picnics, home made ice cream, or a game of cards bring back many pleasant memories as well as the three barn dances that were held in their barn.

Bessie Koutny died January 12, 1998, but Frank still lives and keeps house northeast of Ely where he has lived for sixty-five years. He has nine grandchildren: Vicki Young, Becky Wilcox, Debbie Blythe, Terry Smith, Darwin Koutny, Diane Cook, Danette Moore, Brenda Lindemann, and Dawn Buresh. He has fourteen great grandchildren.

Frank celebrated his 90th birthday earlier this year. His health is good and his memory of his youth is keen. He chuckles when he says "When I was young I had a head of black curly hair. Now its white and there isn't much of it."

Frank is the happiest when he is busy or talking about horses. When asked for a word of wisdom for the younger generation he said "Do not be afraid of work. It will not hurt you."

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## TAXI DRIVERS PROTEST

Taxi drivers in Prague are protesting new tests which will examine their knowledge of the capital's streets. All taxi drivers must take a test by October 1, or face a fine up to half a million crowns.

Drivers say they are expected to learn legal terms and exact distances of particular streets. If they fail the test they face six months of unemployment. Drivers arouse little sympathy from the public, as Prague's taxi drivers enjoy the worst reputation in Europe, particularly for over-charging foreigners.

*(from Czech & Slovak Connections)*

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## ELLIS ISLAND RECORDS

A nonprofit organization will soon finish a more than \$15 million project to post Ellis Island immigration records on the Internet.

By helping people to access information instantly that previously was buried in bureaucratic quagmire, the project will revolutionize genealogical research for more than 113 million Americans who pursue their family histories.

Officials at the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation in New York, estimate that more than 40% of Americans can trace their European ancestry back to Ellis Island.

By the end of next year the foundation hopes people will be able to enter any information they know about a progenitor and the program will search more than 20 million records for a match.

The database, which is hoped to be ready by the year 2000, will catalog records of almost 20 million immigrants who flooded the New York island.

Until now, these documents have been stored at National Archives and Immigration and Naturalization service.

Information on the project may be found by contacting: <[www.ellisland.org](http://www.ellisland.org)> on the Internet.

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## MIDDLE NAMES

Middle names were once illegal. Royal persons have always been allowed to have more than one given name, but as late as 1600, it is said there were only 4 persons in all England who had two given names.

When the MAYFLOWER sailed for America there was not a single man or woman who had a middle name.

The old English law was very definite as to the naming of children. The English used to dodge the law by ingeniously compounding names. Thus an old parish register in England may show combinations such as Annamaria (Anna+Maria).

Miris is one of the earlier middle names on record for boys. It was given in honor of the Virgin Mary.

When the idea of middle names got going they became fashionable. One custom was done away with, naming the eldest son for the estate, particularly when he inherited the estate through his mother. The old practice is still followed to some extent in this country by giving the mother's maiden name to the eldest son. This identifies the boy when he reaches manhood and it has some significance.

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## PROF. JAN VICAR

*Submitted by Olga Drahozal*

Professor Jan Vicar was born in 1949 in Olomouc, Czech Republic. He began playing the accordion at the age of eight and won many awards. After graduation from secondary school and the Prague's conservatory in accordion and clarinet, he continued his studies in music at the Liberal Arts College in Palacky University.

During his studies he was a leader of student musical ensembles, an excellent instrumentalist, choirmaster, and composer. In 1980 he began to teach classes at the Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Prague. By 1985 he was an associate professor in Palacky U. He is a Czech pioneer of computer music notation and translator of the Textbook Finale (Praha 1997).

Many of Prof. Vicar's new popular compositions for children and young people have been recorded by Czechoslovakian Radio. He has emerged as one of the most promising composers of the new Czech generation. Prof. Jan Vicar came to the U.S. in 1993 with the Campanile Choir from Olomouc. These young boys and girls have a long history of giving excellent concerts all over Europe. They performed at the invitation of Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa in the fall of 1993. They did come to Cedar Rapids on their free day. Wes and I were privileged to have Prof. Vicar as our house guest.

Prof Vicar was teaching in St. Cloud State University in the College of Fine Arts and Humanities in the Department of Music.

He brought his wife and son to stay with him for the duration of his teaching contract which ended in June 1999. Recently he and his son, Ondrej, were in Cedar Rapids to visit the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library. They also toured Czech Village. They were impressed at the dedication of our local Czech people in their effort to preserve their Czech heritage, this in spite of the fact that many of us are second and third generation born.

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## SLOVAK HISTORY CONFERENCE

Friday October 29 and Saturday October 30 a Slovak History Conference will be held. It will appeal to scholars as well as local residents and will include discussion of the 10th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, the role of Slovak-American groups and Slovak life under communism. The event is sponsored by the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, the center for Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies at the University of Iowa, the Embassy of the Slovak Republic and the Kirkwood Community College International Studies Program. The conference includes the museum's fall dinner on October 30.

## TOUCHBERRY GOES TO CZECH SCHOOL



*Sam Touchberry*

Sam Touchberry lives in St. Louis Park, Minnesota and has attended summer Czech School in Cedar Rapids, Iowa for three years. At the age of nine, Sam and his parents Mr. & Mrs. Alan Touchberry visited Czech Village. Bessie Dugena, operator of the Shirt Shop and a teacher in Czech School, was excited about the start of another session that was about to start. That excitement inspired Sam to attend.

Sam was able to attend summer Czech School by spending the five weeks term at his grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Touchberry at rural Ely, Iowa. His grandmother made the eight mile trip in the morning for the 8:00 a.m. class start and his grandfather would pick him up at 11:00 a.m. for the ride back to Ely.

At the end of the class session in July, his family came from Minnesota to attend the students' program and the ice cream social.

There is a Czech connection in Sam's family tree. His great grandmother was Anna Hromatko, however grandmother Caroline Fuhrmeister Touchberry is part German, and Sam's mother is Swedish.

Since he graduated and completed the Czech course of learning, he thinks he might be back as a teachers aide. Sam is a devoted young man and with his determination he will do well. Congratulations on your graduation and the best of luck to you.

### "ONE OF A KIND"

"Ray Kroc was as American as baseball, apple pie, and hamburgers. He was a dreamer, a fierce competitor, a brilliant business innovator and a man who believed in giving



back to the community." This is how the folks at McDonald's Corporation describe their founder.

Kroc worked for many years for the Lily Tulip Cup Company and became that company's Midwest Sales Manager. Wanting to strike out on his own, he mortgaged his home and invested his entire life savings to become the exclusive distributor of a five-spindled milk shake maker called the Multimixer. Traveling around the country selling Multimixers he learned about restaurant management.

The McDonald brothers in California were running eight Multimixers at a time and when Kroc investigated their operation he had never seen so many people served so quickly and efficiently. Kroc was 52 years old and now found himself in the restaurant business after convincing the McDonald brothers that their hamburger stands should be replicated and that he was the man for the job.

The first restaurant of Kroc's opened a year later in 1955, with first day's revenues of \$366.12. In 1965 McDonald's went public with the company's first offering on the stock exchange. A hundred shares of stock costing \$2,250 that day would have multiplied into 74,360 shares today, worth approximately \$3 million.

It took a lot of work and long hours to build his restaurant business, but Kroc was no stranger to hard work.

Visitors to the Ray Kroc Museum in Oak Brook, Illinois at McDonald's Headquarters are greeted by the friendly voice of this late great entrepreneur. Ray Kroc, in his own words during a taped interview, explains that he owes his success in business to his "Bohemian upbringing."

Mr. Kroc was extremely proud of his heritage and even attempted to market "kolace" in his chain of McDonald's Restaurants. He was very disappointed when they didn't sell to his high expectations.

The Ray Kroc museum is filled with fascinating displays and is a "must see" for anyone interested in Horatio Alger success stories. It is open 9-5, Monday through Friday, and admission is free. For museum information call 630-623-2377.

There are many great Americans of Czech descent, but it is doubtful that anyone made a larger impact in our society than Ray Kroc. Not only did he change the way millions of Americans eat, he and his family have donated hundreds of millions of dollars to important charities across the U.S.

*(Submitted by John Rocarek)*



Lidice 1942



Lidice 1945

## LIDICE

The destruction of the village of Lidice and the extermination of its residents by the Nazis 57 years ago binds all people together in an effort to

prevent similar atrocities and humanitarian catastrophes. Deputy Prime Minister Pavel Mertlik spoke June 12th at a commemorative meeting at Lidice. Mr. Mertlik compared the Lidice tragedy with the current Kosovars. "Our commitment towards the Lidice victims prevents us from allowing anything similar to happen again. When it happens near our homeland, as it has recently, we must be ready to protest the atrocities, and, if necessary to intervene."

The Nazis razed Lidice to the ground on June 10, 1942 in retaliation for the local residents' alleged cooperation in the assassi-



Peppermint



Elder Flower



Bodlák Kanadský



Wormwood

PRICE OF ANY HERB — 50¢ Pkt.; Large Size \$1.00

## HERBS-CURES

(Reprinted from *National Seed & Importing Co., Omaha, Neb. catalog*)

**856 Canada Thistle — Pravý kanadský bodlák.** — V poslední době se hodně psalo v českých listech o blahodárných účincích kanadského bodláku při revmatických, arthritidách a jiných nemocech. Bodláků všelijakých je mnoho a proto chcete-li zkusit pravý kanadský, objednejte si jej od nás.

**809 Catnip—Šanta.** — Hot catnip tea is a stimulant and strengthens the kidneys as well as the whole system. — Ledvinové nesnáze.

**810 Celery—Celer.** — Strong and hot has been valuable in the relief of sciatica and neuralgia. — Nemoci nervové.

**822 Centaury—Zeměžluž.** — Has been said to relieve the pains of obstructions of the liver, gall and spleen. — Slabý žaludek, porušené trávení jater a ledvinové nemoci.

**801 Chamomile Flowers — Heřmánek.** — Well known for its soothing quality. Besides this tendency to act as a nerve sedative it acts as a tonic to the digestive organs. Taken in sufficient quantity it is very effective in colds and fevers. May be sweetened with sugar or honey. A recommended night-cap tea. An excellent children's tea. — Revma, křeče, kolika u dětí, též k vymývání vlasů.

### CHICORY—ČEKANKA

Very useful as a tonic and mild laxative. In Hepatic congestions, jaundice, and visceral obstructions has proved beneficial.

### DILL SEED—KOPR

Dill tea has long been used as a remedy for nausea and stomach disorders. An infusion of Dill, Anise, and Fennel seeds is recommended for infant colic. Used also for flavoring cucumber pickles and beets.

**811 Elder Flowers—Bex černý.** — Used in rheumatism, gout, and colds. Helps clean the system. — Revma, vodnatelnost, krční nesnáze.

**824 Eucalyptus Leaves—Blahovičník.** — Was noted for its antiseptic qualities in cleansing wounds. — Dýchavičnost, kašel.

**867 Eyebright Herb—Světlik lékařský.** — Dle Čermákovy Herbáře odvar Světlíku je ode dávna oblíbeným lékem pro bolavé oči, zvláště při zánětu víček. Nať vaří se asi 10 minut a vychladlým odvarem se bud' oči vymývají neb plátěné náčinky se přikládají na oči 2–3krát denně.

### FENNEL SEED—FENYKL

A tea made from Fennel Seed is one of best remedies for wind-colic and spasms in children. Add honey to tea for coughs and colds.

### 859 GENTIAN—HOŘEC

An all-around stomach tonic, as it increases appetite, invigorates digestion, relieves gases, and reduces excessive amounts of acid formed by a faulty digestion. Chewing of root aids in overcoming the desire for chewing or smoking tobacco.

## KARLOVY VARY (KARLSBAD)

Karlovy Vary in Bohemia is a city best known for its many spas. The town lies in a narrow valley of the Ohře and Tepla rivers and is surrounded by forest covered hills.

It was founded by the Emperor of Rome and King of Bohemia, Charles IV. One day in 1358 he was stalking a stag and could hardly believe his eyes when the animal led him to a spot where a jet of warm water shot high into the air. On that very spot he founded a town called Charles' Bath. Ever since the 14th century the curative properties of its warm mineral springs (106°-160° F) rise to a height of 34-50 feet from the strongest spring. The spas have been tamed and water gurgles out of pipes. The water from the spas fight diseases of the digestive system. A traditional treatment recommends 5-7 cups a day from a flat cup with a sipping spout. Diet, exercise, massage, mudbaths and electro-therapy is also a part of the program.

There are 12 mineral water springs in Karlovy Vary. Mlynska Colonnade is a pedestrianized zone where you can drink from 4 different springs. A little farther along is a splendid building lined with Corinthian Columns and arcades giving access to 5 more mineral springs. The Colonnade was designed by Josef Zitek, architect who designed the National Theater in Prague.

The Spring Colonnade is built over the river inside a glass building of steel and marble and boasts the hottest and most powerful geysers of all, the Vridlo. The geyser shoots 600 gallons of hot mineral water 46 feet into the air every hour of the day.

Famous visitors have been Tsar Peter I, Empress Maria Theresa, Goethe, Scheller, Beethoven, Chopin, Brahms and Bismark.

The Karlovy Vary of today still preserve an air of Victorian grandeur. The town dates back to the 18th and 19th century when Karlovy Vary was at the height of its popularity as a spa center and the nobility and rich were outdoing one another.

Visitors can visit the Baroque church of St. Mary Magdalene (1732-1736) and see the statue of the Virgin Mary done around 1500. Tourists come for the curative waters, porcelain factory, cut glass (Moser) and Becherovaka, a healing herb liqueur founded by Jan Becher and bottled in 123 plants. Jokingly it is the 13th healing spring water.

Before you leave you must try "Oplatky", a thin wafer the size of a big plate and a bit like an ice cream cone that can only be found in Karlovy Vary and surrounding area.

*Right — Karlovy Vary (Karlsbad) of today with its Victorian grandeur.*



*The original mineral spring founded in 1358 by Charles IV. The mural above the spring depicts the hunter, the deer, and hunting dogs in the forest.*



*The Corinthian Columns housing the mineral springs.*



*Photos by Kim & Lisa Volesky*



*Entrance to  
the brewery in  
Pilsen (Plzeň)  
Czech  
Republic*

## CZECH BEER

These arches in Pilsen (Plzeň), Czech Republic are the entrance to the brewery that boasts the finest beer in the world and beer is considered the national drink. Czech beer was brewed in the 10th century. The name "Pils" identifies a type of light beer named after the town Pilsen where it has been first brewed since October 5, 1842. Four basic materials are used for Pilsner Urquell production: soft water coming from Pilsen, hops from the Žatec area, barley malt and yeast. Malt is prepared from first-rate brewing barley by means of a technological process including controlled soaking, germination and drying. Using the traditional method of beer brewing, one batch of beer is brewed in 12 hours. The process of fermentation and post fermentation then follows. The majority of beer connoisseurs believe that beer is best when served at a temperature of 7-9 degrees C (46°-48° F). Medical experts have confirmed that drinking Pilsner Urquell beer reduces stress, supports blood circulation and lowers the risk of developing heart disease. Pilsner Urquell beer also supports the treatment of digestive problems. It has a beneficial effect upon kidney function and it consolidates bone development.

The Brewing Museum is a medieval malthouse which dates to the 1400's. It is situated within the historic inner city in the picturesque grounds of the



*Beer in wooden vats in beer cellar.*

house that was granted the very first license to brew beer as well as its adjacent malt house. Both buildings date to the late 13th century. Pilsen has the oldest brewery in the world.

Included in the complex is a gift shop with a large selection of beer steins. The "Na Splice" is a restaurant representing a beer house of Pilsner Urquell. It is located within the premises of the brewery. The restaurant used to be a fermentation cellar (Spilka) in the past. It can seat 580 people where Czech cuisine can be splashed down with 12% beer.

50,000 eager guests from around the world visit each year. The sight-seeing tour of Plzensky Prazdroj brewery involves a visit to the brew house, its historic cellars, as well as the modern plant (utilizing cylindrical conical tanks), the bottling room and a video on the most renowned Czech brewery. Visits take place daily and include a 12% brand tasting program.

The awards and medals won by Pilsner beer over the past decade represents a logical seal confirming the steadily growing popularity of Pilsner in the Czech Lands and in the world. A bronze medal was received in Vienna in 1873, a gold medal in Leipzig in 1887, a gold medal in Vienna in 1890, a gold medal in Barcelona in 1991 and a gold medal in Wettbewerb in 1993.



## PILSEN (PLZEN)

On May 5, 1945, General George Patton's 3rd Army entered Pilsen and liberated the city from occupying German soldiers. The Czechs urged Patton to continue on to Prague, the capital city, but Patton had firm orders to stop in spite of his bitter disappointment.

Today there still are posters "Thank You Amerika." One of the major thoroughfares through Pilsen is named Amerika.

## NATIONAL HERITAGE COMMISSION

The newly organized National Heritage Commission is undertaking the preservation of Czech cultural heritage in the United States. This effort has been prompted by the general concern for the sad state of Czech monuments and other memorabilia, as well as archival material throughout America, which document the hard life and contributions of our ancestors. Practically all major Czech ethnic organizations in the U.S. have agreed to participate in this important undertaking. It is our hope to eventually enlarge the project to also include Slovak material.

The first phase of this effort is to survey historical sites and monuments and archival material relating to Czech Americans. Once the material is collected, it will be put in a suitable publication, hold a special conference and exhibit, where findings will be reported, and some of the documents shown. The subsequent phases of this endeavor would include serious discussions with various government agencies concerning the transfer and storage of the material or possible restoration of historic sites.

Towards the first goal we would like to canvas, as quickly as possible, information available at or through various Czech American ethnic organizations. Apart from your organization's holdings, we are, of course interested in learning about any other archival material that might be in private hands and would be obligated for bringing it to our attention. Here too, we would be willing to provide a small stipend to catalogue each archives. With reference to historic sites, persons may be familiar with a particular Czech related site, be it a statue, church, hall or park, in which you live.

In addition to accomplishing a noble objective, this effort could galvanize and revitalize the spirit of the Czech American community and give a common purpose to our organization throughout the land.

Czechoslovak Society of Arts & Sciences  
Miloslav Recheigl, President

Phone/Fax:  
e-mail:

## LEAD CRYSTAL

Do you have, or have you seen a lead crystal vase that has a little round sticker that says HAND MADE from the Czech Republic? It really is hand made even though it could come from a factory. A factory can have many cubicles where each individual works.



*A demonstration on glass cutting in a shop in Trebechovice, Czech Republic.*

The worker you see in the picture once worked in a factory, but she opened up her own shop. It is very hard work. Lead is added to glass to make it softer. The more lead that is added, the softer the glass becomes. Some of the large vases are very heavy and hard to hold for a long time. By evening the arms are very tired. The emery stone is kept wet with water. The glass chips sting and cut the hands.

After some of the pattern has been etched onto the glass, the vase is put in an acid to give the vase a polished look. The length of time for the acid treatment depends on the size of the vase. The larger the vase, the longer the treatment. After the acid treatment, the final delicate cuts are made but it is not followed by an acid treatment. That leaves a frosty appearance and adds a dainty pattern to the otherwise polished glass vase.

An advantage of owning one's shop in the Czech Republic is the popular "private enterprise". If you are very skilled and have name recognition, your merchandise is sought out and the business becomes profitable. You must locate the shop easily accessible to patrons and tourists.

The disadvantages are you must purchase the "basic ware" and must establish your own clientele.

## NEW NATIONAL PARKS

The Czech Republic will have four national parks as of January 2000, after the Chamber of Deputies passed a law establishing the National Park of Ceske Svycarsko (Czech Switzerland) in northern Bohemia. Environmentalists say the park, which will spread over 75 square kilometers, is unique for its sandstone towns, canyons, ravines, and towers and for its original or only slightly modified ecosystems.

*(FROM CZECH THE NEWS)*

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Czech Heritage Fd'n. appreciates the donations that are enclosed with new memberships and renewals.

Donations received with new memberships for April were from: Evelyn Maciejewsky, Paul Pitlick, and Marcella Svoboda.

Donations with renewals were received from: Marie Bauer, David, Chrystal, Brian & Matthew Faltis, Bruce Janda, Bonnie Payne McDonough, Raymond Marek, Mrs. Roy Mathison, Jerry Ptacek, Kandy Jonas Rogers, Ed & Erma Schuch, Carol Jean Smetana, Cookie Vanous, Charles & Lillian Vyskocil, Bishop Emil Wcela, Vernon Zach and Robert Zenishek

Donations received with renewals up to June 8 were from: Jeff & Judi Barta, Father Karl Glovik, Mrs. Delores Hubert, Norman Kallaus, Judith Lindsay, Helen Masha, & Nancy Polansky

Donations received through July 13th were received with new memberships from: Ed Colton, Albie deMendona AE Silva, Linda Hey, Edward Machacek, Leonard & Barbara Machan, Scott & Janis Nester, Petr Paulu, Edie Vocolka, & Fran & Dick Whitters

Donations with renewals were from: Franklin Barta, Sharon Benesh, Dorothy Davis, Mary Ditch, Charles Dolezal, Anna Eisner, Donald, Barb & James Horak, Alberta Panek Husch, Ronald Keberle, Louise Kliner, Jerome Kovar, Patricia Novak, Joe & Mildred Peshek, Raphael Pisarik, John Repka, Mrs. Louis Roberts, Suzanne Roehr, Vernie Stehno, & Mike Uzel.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

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## SPECIAL LIBRARY FUND

It is a pleasure to announce that the Czech Heritage Fd'n. achieved its goal in the Special Library Fund. As promised, all donors would be recognized in the newsletter,

A donation to the Library Fund was received in April from Bruce Janda.

We urge visitors to the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library to see the library and the progress that was made possible through your efforts and funding.

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## ST. WENCESLAUS TO CELEBRATE

St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church at 1224 5th Street S.E. is celebrating its quasiquicentennial this year — 125 years of being an integral part of the Czech community here in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and vicinity.

The original church was built in 1874 with the pastor and parishioners furnishing all the material and labor. The church was very important to the early immigrants who came from Bohemia, Poland, and Lithuania and who saw it as a so-called entry port into American society and it aided them in adjusting to a sometimes cold and harsh society. It met their needs as far as church, school and social life was concerned.

The present church of St. Wenceslaus was built in 1904 at a cost of \$33,000 and was named after King Wenceslaus, the martyred king and patron Saint of Bohemia. The church has preserved on its walls, painted murals depicting Bohemian legends and famous shrines. A number of the windows contain imported Bohemian stained glass. It is considered a Czech National Parish and the only one in this Dioceses.

The church will be celebrating a special day of worship in November in honor of their 125 years here in Cedar Rapids.

As part of the church quascentennial this year, the church hopes to publish a hard bound copy of the church history.

*By Rose Kopecky*

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## CZECH GOULASH & BAZAAR

Webster's dictionary defines goulash as a beef stew with onion, paprika, and caraway. Webster has three definitions for a bazaar. The definition that best fits St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church is: the sale of articles especially for charitable purposes.

On Sunday, September 19 you can enjoy the dinner and festivities. Followers of all denominations look forward to the annual event that is held at the church.

Serving starts at 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Besides goulash, the menu includes Wence burgers, pies, cakes, kolaches, pop and coffee.

A Polka Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. It is open to everyone and all are welcome to come.

Other festivities include games, cake walk, bingo, country store and an auction at 6:30. Bring the whole family.

St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church is located at 510 - 16th Avenue S.E. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

## CZECH HERITAGE FLOAT

The Czech Heritage Fd'n. float won second place in the Freedom Festival's sesquicentennial parade in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The 1999 float creation of the two-tailed Griffin was created for all American born citizens of Czech ancestry so that they might see a beautiful majestic beast that personifies the pride of the past, the prestige of our present, and the promise of the future.

It is a symbolic representation of American Czech existence into the next millennium, the year 2000 and beyond.

The symbol of the American people is the eagle, the symbol of the Czech people is the two-tailed lion. A two-tailed Griffin best represents American born people of Czech ancestry, a majestic symbol to display pride in an American/Czech identity.

Riding high is the winged two-tailed Griffin. Enveloped around the Griffin is another symbol that represents American pride wherever it flies, and that's our flag.

Riding the float is Theresa Pfeifer, 4th generation born, along with Czech Prince Jesse Upah and Czech Princess Katie Ziskovsky. Our future depends on the next generation. We need to inspire the next generation to hold their heads high and walk with pride.

With television coverage, newspaper photo, and public relations, it is estimated that the Czech Heritage Fd'n. float created an exposure to 113,760 people.

*By Leonard Pfeifer  
Float Chairman*

## NOTICE

Leonard Pfeifer is looking for a building where he could build and store the chassis and supplies for the Czech Heritage float. The desired dimensions are 14 feet wide, 17 feet long, and 13 feet high, and preferably located on the northwest side of Cedar Rapids. If you have or know of such storage call .

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Dámského Sboru Matice Školské (Ladies Educational Society) has been awarding scholarships. Since 1956, 231 scholarship have been given. The principal money was received from the

sale of the original Czech School. Only the interest is used every year.

Recipients for 1999 are: Emily Breslin, Katherine Brown, Anna Rawson King, Kerianne Moucka, Cathryn Polehna, and Lisa Volesky.

Students who applied to renew their scholarships and were granted renewals were: Karie Drexler and Casey Parker.

*By Irene Hamous*

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Czech Heritage Foundation is pleased to announce the winner of their scholarships. Each student is of Czech decent and attending an accredited post-secondary education institution on a full time basis. The winners will each receive a \$500.00 scholarship. They are:

Tamara Chadima, in May graduated with a B.M. in flute performance at San Jose University. This fall Tamara will attend The University of Iowa to earn a Master of the Arts Degree. She hopes to some day be a flute player in an Opera or Ballet Orchestra. Parents are: George and Joann Chadima of Fairfax, IA.

Dana Jacob-Dvorsky, A Luther College graduate, Dana will attend the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences this fall. A sincere compassion for people has influenced her to someday become a doctor. Parents are: Denver and Joan Jacob-Dvorsky of Cedar Rapids, IA.

Quentin Lewis, attends Boston University as a music major. Quentin has added another found interest, that being Archeology. He is working this summer as an excavator. Parents are Kenneth and Pamela Lewis of Cedar Rapids, IA.

Amy Novotny will be a Senior at Indiana University earning a Bachelor of Music Education degree. Amy performs with the world famous Singing Hoosiers which she thoroughly enjoys. Parents are Russell and Linda Novotny of Cedar Rapids, IA.

Casey Parker attends The University of Iowa majoring in Economics in the college of Liberal Arts with an international emphasis. Casey has always been interested in learning different languages and experiencing different cultures. Parents are Jerry and Jeannie Parker of Hiawatha, IA.

*(continued to page 13)*

Jayden Serbousek has completed his Junior year at Iowa State University working on a Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering. Jayden was named Outstanding Math and Science Student at Kirkwood College. He is working this summer with the survey crew for Linn County. Parents are James and Judy Serbousek of Cedar Rapids, IA.

Kimberly Volesky attends Mercy-St. Lukes School of Radiology and Technology in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She is in her second year of studies. She works part time in the hospital.

The achievements, heritage, character, and needs of these students have proven that they are perfect candidates for these scholarships,

*By Sylvia Rohlena*

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## KOMENSKY SOCIETY AWARDS SIX SCHOLARSHIPS

The Komensky Society has announced the names of six high school seniors who will each receive a \$500 scholarship from the Society. The special Vlastenky Scholarship was awarded to Kathryn A. Polehna of Kennedy High School and the regular scholarships to Emily K. Prasil, Lisbon High School, Jeri Serbousek, Prairie High School, Ashlee Offerman, Center Point/Urbana High School, Chad Netolicky and Nathaniel T. Smith, Washington High School.

The purpose of the Komensky Society is to provide aid for the education of students of Czech or Slovak ancestry. To be eligible students must graduate from a Linn County High School and must attend a college, university or other approved school in the state of Iowa. The awards are made for one year only. The first scholarship of \$450 was awarded in 1955. Including the 1999 awards, a total of 154 scholarships have been given in the total amount of \$55,450.

The society is named after Jan Amos Komensky (1592-1670) who was a world famous Czech educator, scholar and philosopher who introduced modern educational methods and textbooks throughout Europe during his lifetime. He is often referred to as "The Teacher Of Nations."

The Society in Linn County commenced in the fall of 1909 when a group of 8 students at Coe College organized to study Bohemian literature and history. In 1912 Dr. Anna Heyberger came to Coe to teach the French and Czech languages. She was born and educated in Bohemia. As a teacher she stimulated the interests of her students in the language, history and culture of the Czech people. She also acted as a faculty advisor

and sponsor of The Komensky Club. During and following World War I, the group sponsored many benefit concerts and other fund raising projects for the benefit of a health camp for sick Czech war orphans at Cernovice near Tabor. Dr. Heyberger personally helped to establish the health camp while in Czechoslovakia in 1919. It was originally known as "The Coe Camp". She visited the camp annually and The Komensky Club continued to support the camp. During her final year at Coe in 1939, Dr. Heyberger promoted a fund raising drive for a new building at the camp and a total of \$12,772 was raised, but the money could not be sent due to the war. After the war the communists seized control of the government and the project had to be abandoned. The funds were retained by The Komensky Club.

After the death of Dr. Heyberger in 1952, her former students begin meeting as the Komensky Alumni Society and they established the scholarship fund in honor of their beloved teacher. The sum of \$12,772 has now grown to approximately \$32,000 from which only the interest is used for the scholarship awards. All administrative expenses are contributed by the officers.

The current officers and board members are: Frances (Chaloupka) Brown, Pres., Vic Naxera Vice Pres., Jan Naxera, Secy., Max Naxera, Treasurer, Bob Stone, Director and Marge (Lala) Stone, Director. Anyone who is interested in joining The Komensky Society, contributing to the fund or securing more information, may call any of the officers or directors. Bob Stone.

*By Bob Stone*

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## FEATURING

The Nat'l. Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids has added an exhibit of documents and photos on loan from the Library of Congress including the Czech Declaration of Independence, a document released in 1918 and inspired by American democratic ideals. The loan which runs through January 2, includes photos and letters from Pres. Thomas Masaryk to U.S. Pres. Woodrow Wilson. The photos and documents were part of a Library of Congress exhibit which ran in Washington last fall. The exhibit includes photos from Prague Spring in 1968 and plane wreckage retrieved from the site where Slovak Gen. Milan Stefanik died in 1919.

The exhibit CZECH CONTRIBUTIONS TO CEDAR RAPIDS runs through September 30th. Call (319) 362-8500

## HISTORY OF CEDAR RAPIDS CZECHS

Many of the first Czech Immigrants came to Iowa by ox team. Others traveled to the Mississippi River and then by ferry to reach Linn and Johnson Counties.

Because many of the early pioneers were farmers they purchased land south and southeast of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. This they secured at a nominal price. For example, a deed, dated April 8, 1854, which was in the possession of Anna and Mary Woitishek, records their grandfather Vaclav Riegl purchased twenty acres of land in Linn County for one hundred dollars. Still cheaper was a farm of eighty acres which Tom Korab bought April 4, 1862 for four dollars an acre. After the purchase of a farm, the next task of the pioneer families was to erect a house. Often while clearing land, they lived with Czech families already established in the neighborhood. It was not uncommon for three families to live together in a one-room log cabin. Sometimes sod houses were erected and both thatched and shingle roofs were used.

Much can be said for the trials and tribulations of our pioneers. In 1870 Thomas Korab sold a load of straw for one dollar and twenty-five cents: corn for eighteen cents a bushel and hay for four or five dollars a ton.

*(from the Cedar Rapids Centennial)*

## HISTORY OF CZECH NEWSPAPERS

The first Czech newspaper published in Cedar Rapids was POKROK. It was brought here from 1869 to 1871 by Joseph Pastor.

SLOVAN AMERICKY, founded in Iowa City in 1869 by Jan Barta Letovsky, was moved to Cedar Rapids after 1872.

SVIT (The Dawn) followed in 1896 through the efforts of F. R. Ringsmuth and Jan Borecky.

PRAVDA (Truth) published from 1900 to 1902.

CESKA LIPA (Czech Linden) LIDOVE LISTY (Paper of the People) and in April 1905 Jos. Hajek edited VESTNIK IOWSKY, a Cedar Rapids edition of the Daily SVORNOST published in Chicago.

Frank Hradecky published the weekly HUMORISTICKE LISTY (Humor Paper) which in 1900 was changed to CEDAR RAPIDSKE LISTY. This newspaper was published locally until 1950 when it merged with semi-weekly AMERIKAN Thursday editions which were edited by T. B. Hlubecsek

In 1941 an old Czech paper KRESTANSKE LIST was brought from Pittsburg, PA under the editorship of Rev. Milo Filipi.

*(from Cedar Rapids Centennial)*

## CZECH PRINCE & PRINCESS

A Czech prince and princess will be selected again this year, The Czech Heritage Fd'n. is encouraging youths between the ages of 14 to 16 years of age, of Czech background, and a resident of Cedar Rapids and surrounding area to enter.

A Czech costume will be awarded to the prince and princess and a savings deposit.

Contestants are scored on a completed written entry stating basic information such as extracurricular activities, and a personal interview with a discussion of participation in some of his/her Czech Heritage.

The crowning will take place at an October celebration.

The prince and princess will preside at various events and activities.

Registration forms may be obtained by writing to: Sylvia Rohlena

Entries are due October 5, 1999.

## FAVORITE SAYINGS

To handle yourself, use your head, to handle others, use your heart.

Even a mosquito does not get a slap on the back until it starts to work.

When you move from temptations way, do not leave a forwarding address.

When a man is all wrapped up in himself, he makes a pretty small package.

Always tell the truth, that way you do not have to remember what you said.

Days are like suitcases. By careful arrangement, some people can pack more than others can.

It's better to be thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt.

It's all right to have butterflies in your stomach, just get them to fly in formation.

Some people are like boats, they toot the loudest when they are in a fog.

People who believe the world owes them a living usually spend a lifetime waiting to collect.

## 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 Naše České Dědictví, 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**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 9 .....Czech Beer Tasting & Program, By Doug & Mike Alberhasky  
Museum (319) 362-8500
- September 10 .....Czech Plus Band Concert, Kosek Bandstand 7:00 p.m. Free
- September 13 .....Kava a Knihy (Coffee & Books), "Talks With T. G. Masaryk"  
By Karl Capek - Museum 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- September 14 .....Czech Heritage Board Meeting, Museum 7:30 p.m.
- September 15 .....Learn at Lunch "The Top Ten"  
Cedar Rapids Czech Historic Events  
By Rollie Raim, noon - 1:00 p.m., Museum, Free
- September 19 .....St. Wenceslaus Goulash Day  
St. Wenceslaus Church 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- September 26 ..... "Bohemian Decorated Porcelain"  
By Dr. James Henderson, 1:30 p.m., Museum, Free
- October 11.....Kava a Knihy (Coffee & Books), "Ultimate Intimacy"  
By Ivan Klima, Museum, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- October 13 .....Learn at Lunch "Farm Market - A City Tradition"  
By Lenora Jelinek Watson, Museum, noon-1:00 p.m., Free
- October 13-16 .....Genealogical Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska
- October 29-30 .....Slovak History & Culture Conference  
National Czech & Slovak Museum, see page 5
- November 9 .....Czech Heritage Board Meeting, Museum 7:30 p.m.
- November 15 .....Kava a Knihy (Coffee & Books ), "Widow Killer"  
By Pavel Kohout, Museum, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Free
- November 17 .....Learn at Lunch "Christmas Menu"  
By Jana Burdova Cutler, Museum, noon-1:00 p.m., Free
- December 4 .....Svaty. Mikulas, Museum & Czech Village (319) 362-8500
- December 8 .....Learn at Lunch "Spider, Mushroom & Pickle"  
by Shirley Rosencrans, Museum, noon-1:00 p.m., Free
- December 14 .....Czech Heritage Board Meeting,  
Museum 7:30 p.m., Bring Refreshments

**CZECH HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.**

P.O. Box 761  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

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Cedar Rapids, Iowa



## **LIFE'S GARDEN**

To have a successful life you must cultivate your own garden, planting as follows:



4 Rows of Peas:  
perseverance,  
personality,  
promptness,  
preparation.

4 Rows of Squash:  
squash gossip,  
squash indifference,  
squash criticism,  
squash negative thinking.



4 Rows of Lettuce:  
let us obey rules and regulations,  
let us be true to our obligations,  
let us be faithful to duty,  
let us love one another.



4 Rows of Turnips:  
turn up for meetings,  
turn up with a smile,  
turn up with new ideas,  
turn up with determination.