



News of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

Volume 4, No. 4 — Fall 1998

Award-Winning Writer Jan Novak to Highlight Fall Dinner

OVELIST AND ESSAYIST JAN NOVAK will highlight the 1998 Fall Dinner at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, October 24. Mr. Novak is best known as the author of Commies, Crooks, Gypsies, Spooks and Poets: Thirteen Books of Prague in the Year of the Great Lice Epidemic and The Willy's Dream Kit, both of which won the Carl Sandburg Award. His other books include The Grand Life and Turnaround, which he co-authored with its subject, the film director Milos Forman.

Born in the Czech Republic, Mr. Novak came to the United States at age 16, after witnessing the end of Prague Spring. Commies, Crooks, Gypsies, Spooks & Poets, his most recent work, describes his return to his homeland after the Velvet Revolution and is filled with boyhood memories and observations on the many changes which occurred in the wake of the fall of communism.

In it he writes, "In Czechoslovakia, the End of Communist Rule marked the Advent of Stress." Commies, Crooks is part how-to manual for coping with life in a post-communist country, part travel guide through the myths and landmarks of Prague, and part cultural introduction to Eastern European art and politics. Commies, Crooks is available in the museum gift store and will be on sale at the Fall Dinner.

Also that evening the museum will dedicate and have the First Lighting of its new chandelier. The chandelier was produced exclusively for the museum by Preciosa-Lustry in the Czech Republic, and will hang in the Roman L. Hruska Grand Hall. Funding for the chandelier was provided by long-time supporter Ms. Leora Zahorik and her brother,



Jan Novak has written two acclaimed books, The Willys Dream Kit, for which he won both the Carl Sandburg Award and the Friends of Literature Award, and The Grand Life. He also co-authored Miloš Forman's recent memoir Turnground.

Edwin, in memory of their parents, Edwin V. and Lillian F. Zahorik.

The Fall Dinner will also continue the annual tradition of crowning the Czech Prince and Princess and commemorating the birth of Czechoslovakia, this year celebrating its 80th year.

A reception begins at 6 p.m., the First Lighting will be at 6:45, and dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets for the Fall Dinner are \$25 and can be purchased by calling 362-8500.

TAKING NOTE...

3-Way Admission Ticket Now Available for National Czech & Slovak Museum, Brucemore and Museum of Art

You can now visit three of Cedar Rapids' premiere cultural and historic sites by purchasing one ticket. The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Brucemore and the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art have joined forces to present this unique Cedar Rapids opportunity.

The tickets, which are available at all three locations, sell for \$10 each and result in a 40% savings for an adult admission. All three attractions are excited about the plan.

The goal, says Museum of Art Executive Director Donald Doe, is to "increase awareness of our Cedar Rapids cultural resources, both locally and regionally." The attractions hope that the tickets will encourage bus tour groups and visitors only planning to visit one institution to take a second look at the other two, and use the tri-ticket.



Inside this issue...

- ► PLANS FOR FALL DINNER, pg. 2
- ► GIFT IDEAS/TRAVEL, pg. 3
- ► COLLECTIONS UPDATE, pg. 4 5
- ► LIST OF DONORS, pg. 6
- ► LOCAL & NATIONAL EVENTS, pg. 7-8

Literary Theme Planned for 1998 Fall Dinner, October 24

HE 1998 FALL DINNER at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library is taking on a particularly literary theme. Jan Novak, the awardwinning novelist and essayist, will be our keynote speaker. Jan came to this country as a sixteen year old in 1969, in the wake of the failed Prague Spring and the renewed iron fist being wielded by the Soviet Union. His perspective is interesting. As an observer of events in this country and his native land, he can be described as both American and Czech. His most recent collection of essays, the Sandburg award-winning Commies, Crooks, Gypsies, Spooks, & Poets: Thirteen Books of Prague in the year of the Great Lice Epidemic, reveals the thinking of an individual with feet planted in both cultures.

My phone conversations with Jan have been fun. He lives in Chicago and is, like me, a sports fan. Where I was raised on football, basketball, and baseball and in later years learned to appreciate soccer and hockey, his experience is just the opposite. Born into soccer and hockey, he has learned to follow traditionally American sports. Like most Czech emigres that I speak with, Jan had heard of Cedar Rapids and the Museum & Library, mostly because of the historic 1995 dedication. But he knew little else. When I described the size and significance, both historically and culturally, of the Cedar Rapids Czech and Slovak populations, and the nature of our institution, he readily agreed to be part of our program.

Also at the Fall Dinner it will be a real pleasure to have the First Lighting of our long-awaited chandelier. This project was under discussion when I came to the museum in 1996, but a series of foibles bordering on the Kafkaesque (to use a Czech reference!) has meant many delays. I want to thank Leora Zahorik and her brother Edwin, the donors for the chandelier, for their patience as we moved forward on this project. Their support is particularly appropriate as Ms. Zahorik was very involved in the design and development of our facility.



Dan Baldwin, Executive Director

N SEPTEMBER I HAD THE HONOR OF ATTENDING two events held in conjunction with the state visit of President Václav Havel. The first was a luncheon at the State Department honoring President and Mrs. Havelová hosted by Vice President and Mrs. Gore. The second was a program and reception at the Library of Congress, for the opening of the special exhibit *The Birth of Czechoslovakia: October 1918*.

Attending these events is a wonderful reminder of the profile and significance of our institution. Representatives of Czech groups from around the country were assembled to honor and meet President Havel. The work that is going on in Cedar Rapids is well known to these people, many of whom have already visited the museum. Several talked about the possibility of donating items to the collection.

- Daniel Baldwin, Executive Director

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Motorcoach tours have been popular since the opening of *Homelands*. Discounted admissions rates are available for group tours.

Veselé Vánoce

HY NOT AVOID THE RUSH of the holiday Christmas Season by shopping early in our gift store. We carry a variety of gift items that are suitable for all ages and here are a some ideas.

We have many books which include History of Czechs in America, by Jan Habenicht; for children, the Christmas Carp, by Marit and Rita Tornqvist, and paperdoll books representing folk costumes; books on tatting, crocheting, hardanger embroidery, lace knitting; dictionaries and phrase books for traveling or to use at home; cookbooks; maps and many more selections.

If you need a good briefcase or book bag, the Plumbers's Bag is a rugged, leather, oversized briefcase, manufactured in the Czech Republic for at least 50 years. All of the bags can be carried as a shoulder bag with an adjustable and detachable strap or by the rivet-attached handle.

How about purchasing a gift that can become a family heirloom such as Royal Dux Bohemia porcelain; Egermann glass; Earl Anton glass; Modra Ceramicware (tin-glazed pottery from Slovakia); Czech glass perfume bottles, or Czech crystal — everything from large bowls and vases to salt and pepper shakers.

We have dolls of various sizes in costume; Slovak cornhusk dolls and bookmarks; kitchen witches; eggs decorated by local artists and imported;



Czech glass perfume bottles for sale in Museum Gift Store.

Czech glass-bead necklaces and earrings; white peasant-style blouses; the beautiful hand-blown glass Christmas tree ornaments and much more.

And don't forget the stocking stuffers such as Czech and Slovak flags and pins; National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library coffee mugs, refrigerator magnets and collector spoons; tatted note cards and bookmarks; hand-painted thimbles; and if you are a true Czech or Slovak at heart you will want some great music on tape or CD.

Maybe you are undecided about the perfect gift. We have gift certificates available for any amount that would be sure to please your special someone for Christmas

Feel free to call us for more detailed information and shipping is also available. Happy Holidays!

- Shirley Rosencrans, Gift Store

Local artisit, Marj Nejdl, teaches class on egg decorating at the NCSML.



Board and Staff retreat held June 18. Board members pictured, from left, are Frank Novotny, Carol Burns and Ron Detweiler.

Holiday Christmas Parties

ES, IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR to start planning your holiday Christmas party. Whether it be for business or a family affair, the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library has a reception hall that can seat 25 to 250 people. Enjoy your party in the private but refreshing atmosphere of the WFLA Heritage Hall. We offer free off-street parking and a tour of our new exhibit, Homelands: The Story of the Czech & Slovak People may be included for an additional fee.

The WFLA Heritage Hall is also a great place for wedding receptions, family reunions, anniversary celebrations, meetings, seminars, etc. If you have any questions or would like a site tour, please give me a call.

- Shirley Rosencrans, Gift Store

1999 Heritage Tours Presents: Small Group Journeys through the

Czech Slovak

Republics

Hosted by Mark Vasko-Bigaouette, former President and Founder of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, includes: Round-trip airfare from Cedar Rapids to Košice Slovakia, and Prague back to Cedar Rapids. Small superior hotels, each room with private bathroom. 2 to 4 night stays in one place. Two full meals daily, of local specialties. Lots of entertainment, many surprises and unique places visited, plus lots more. Early sign-up discount. For more information, call Mark anytime at 612/426-1222

or toll free 1-888/427-8687.



COLLECTIONS UPDATE

Recent Additions to the Artifact and Library Collections

Artifacts

The number of active Czech and Slovak organizations in the United States is striking. Of special note are the organizations offering financial benefits to its members (benevolent societies).

The museum collections contain a variety of memorabilia from these fraternal organizations. This summer Joseph A. Kocab of Cleveland, Ohio donated several badges and ribbons from the Our Lady of Good Counsel Society (Chicago) Czech Catholic Union. Two years ago his cousin, Joseph C. Kocab of Parma, Ohio, donated ribbons, pins, and pamphlets from the St. Badge Augustine Society No. 246 donated by Joseph Bohemian Catholic First A. Kocab. Central Union. The Augustine Society was founded in 1896 and in 1965 merged into the Catholic

Order of Foresters.

These two Catholic benevolent societies are part of a larger complex of Czech and Slovak benevolent societies around the country. The first permanent Czech benevolent society, the Česko-Slovanska Podporujici Spolecnost (the Czecho-Slavonic Benevolent Society, or simply C.S.P.S.) was established in St. Louis in the mid-1850s. With the growing number of Czech and Slovak immigrants in the U.S., and the poor working conditions endured by immigrants, the society was needed to provide financial aide to sick workers, widows, and orphans.

Soon after C.S.P.S. was founded, many other benevolent societies sprang up, including more conservative Catholic societies. In 1862, nine Catholic societies merged to form the Bohemian Roman Catholic First Central Union. The St. Augustine Society was established 34 years later as a member of this Union.

The history of Czech and Slovak benevolent societies contains several mergers and separations. One notable separation was the formation of the Zapadni Česko Bratrska Jednota (Western Bohemian Fraternal Association or Z.C.B.J., now WFLA - Western Fraternal Life Association) in 1897 as a spin-off from C.S.P.S. (now CSA - Czechoslovak Society of America). Z.C.B.J. introduced "new" ideas such as admission of women as fully insured members, premiums established by age, and establishment of a reserve fund.

Benevolent societies were probably at their peak during World War I, when an estimated one third of all Czechs in the United States were members of a society.

Although the museum collections contain items from many of these societies, they share similar traits. For example, ribbons, pins, bylaw booklets, seals, and medallions always indicate the society, lodge

name, number and location. Most of the ribbons are reversible with bright colors on one side and black on the

back. The black side was worn to members' funerals.

Other items in the collection include a colorful 1908 C.S.P.S. calendar donated by Gail and Russell Follmann in 1996. This calendar can be seen in *Homelands*, along with an early 20th century Z.C.B.J. memo pad donated by Rick and Ella Douda in 1995. Photographs of World War II ambulances and an airplane purchased by fraternal lodges illustrate the patriotic efforts of these societies to the war effort.

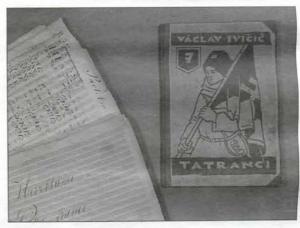
Today these societies continue to offer both financial and social benefits to its Czech and Slovak members. The activities of several of these societies may be reviewed in their current newsletters, many of which are available in our library.

Library Materials

The library continues to add interesting and unique items into its archival collection. Alexander Pazandak of Edgewater, Colorado donated eight handwritten musical manuscripts that were created by composer and bandleader Karl Komzak. Komzak's band, which played waltzes, polkas and mazurkas, toured as far as Canada and the United States. The manuscripts, which most likely came from Prague, were in the possession of Mr. Pazandak's grandfather, Ferdinand Kaspar Pazandak. Ferdinand and Karl were fellow musicians, so it seems that this is how the manuscripts were passed along.

It is worth noting that five of the manuscripts were made of paper with a high cotton rag content. Paper made from cotton rag is a very stable substance that holds up well over time. These five manuscripts are in very good condition, as evidenced by their white appearance and pliable feel. A careful look at the bars on which the notes are set reveals that they were drawn by hand with a rastral, a five-pen instrument. A date on one of the manuscripts reads "4/18/1864."

The other three manuscripts look



Alexander Pazandak of Edgewater, CO, donated eight handwritten musical manuscripts created by composer and band leader, Karl Komzak. The book *Tatranci*, was donated by Stanley Trojan of Warminstar, PA.

noticeably different. The bars on the paper sheets were machine printed, which suggests that Komzak purchased the sheets ready to use. The paper is brown and brittle, which gives away the fact that the paper was made of highly acidic wood pulp. This kind of paper came into use in the 1860s, so

COLLECTIONS UPDATE

Continued: Recent Additions to the Artifact and Library Collections

we know that these manuscripts were composed no earlier than that time period.

Ferdinand Pazandak and his family immigrated to the United States in the late 1800s, settling first in New York, then Chicago and finally in northeast Iowa. Ferdinand, his son Alexander Ambrose and daughter Božena all played instruments in the original Chicago Symphony. When Antonín Dvořák visited Spillville, Iowa, Alexander went there and played a duet on the viola with him. Alexander taught music lessons to his son, also named Alexander, who went on to become a composer. Mr. Pazandak has composed eight symphonies, eight operas (and is currently working on his ninth), and various overtures and choral works.

In addition to the manuscripts, the library acquired a very rare book about the Czechoslovak Legion in Siberia. Entitled Tatranci by Václav Ivicic, the book is a history of the 7th Marksmen "Tatra" Regiment during World War I. A title search revealed that only two research institutions — the University of California at Berkeley and Oxford University in England — hold this particular book. Stanley Trojan of Warminster, Pennsylvania donated this book. Mr. Trojan's father, Adolf Trojan, fought with the Czechoslovak Legion in Siberia and was the original owner of this book. Adolf later immigrated to

the United States and settled in Pennsylvania, where he worked as a shoe repairman, a trade he learned while he was a Russian prisoner-of-war.

For those readers not familiar with the story behind the Czechoslovak Legions, many Czechs and Slovaks who were conscripted into the Austro-Hungarian army either surrendered to the Russians and Italians or volunteered for service in France so that they could fight against Austria-Hungary and Germany. This led to the formation of the Czechoslovak Legions in Russia in 1916, in France in 1917, and in Italy in 1918. With the Russians dropping out of the war in 1917, the new Soviet government agreed to allow the Czechoslovak troops to withdraw from Russia by way of Vladivostok, the far-eastern Russian port. Transport ships were to then take them to the battlefields in France. The Soviets were at first cooperative but soon became hostile, forcing the Czechoslovak troops to occupy the Trans Siberian Railway to ensure safe passage. When the war ended in 1918, tens of thousands of Czechoslovak troops were still marooned in Siberia. They finally did make it back to their new homeland, though some came home as late as 1921.

— Carmen Langel, Curator and David Muhlena, Librarian

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Soup Supper & Auction Event Planned for November

ANY OF OUR NATIONAL Czech & Slovak Museum & Library members have commented, "they wished they could volunteer," but live too far away to participate in such activities. Here's an opportunity to be part of a volunteer appreciation event to be held at the museum November 9, 1998.

All of our volunteers have been recording their hours since January 1 and will continue to do so through November 1. These hours will be their

"buying power" at an auction to be held in conjunction with a soup supper. The auction items will be donated baked goods, hand-crafted items, homemade jams, pickles, floral arrangements, centerpieces, handwork, etc. If there is something you would like to donate, please send it to the museum in care of Patricia Hikiji, Program Coordinator, by October 15th. We look forward to having our long-distance members participate in this event.

Děkuji vám! (in advance).

Do You Have the Treasures We're Looking For? (Artifact and Library Wish List)

If you have any of the following

If you have any of the following materials that you are willing to donate (or perhaps purchase), please contact Carmen Langel, Curator, or David Muhlena, Librarian at 319-362-8500.

Artifacts

- Political ephemera (buttons, posters, photos, etc.)
- Items related to Prague Spring, the Velvet Revolution, or the Velvet Divorce
- Objects or literature related to the 1891 Prague Exposition
- Slovak kroje
- Objects or literature related to early film in Czechoslovakia

Library Materials

- Items related to the Czechoslovak Legions during World War I
- Books to help identify kroje, glassware and ceramics, folk and fine art
- Current and back issues of newspapers and periodicals published in the United States by and for Czechs or Slovaks
- Current and back issues of newsletters and journals produced by Czech and Slovak affinity groups such as the Sokols, CSA, WFLA, etc.
- Photos of Czech or Slovak affinity groups, families, businesses, events, etc.
- Genealogical resources such as family histories, biographies, death indexes, city directories, etc.
- Ephemeral items such as theater programs, advertisements, playbills, etc.

OUR GENEROUS DONORS...

V UPOMINKU "IN MEMORIUM" Donations received for June 20, 1998 through September 14, 1998

For: Milton Babbage
Olga Sedenka
For: Gerald Boddicker
Charles & Laverne Fisher
Marj & Ed Nejdl
Kenneth & Carol Stodola

or: Georgiana Brejcha Mitchell & Jane Cunningham

For: Joe R. Doupnik

Bessie Dochterman

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For: Frank Nesetril Lillian Janousek For: Milton Sabacky
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Former J Street Neighbors

For: Loren Shestak
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For: Betty Stepanek Alice Kadlec

For: Lois L. McDermott Sterenchuk

Mr. & Mrs. James R. Kane Various Family & Friends Ed & Helen Kuba Robert & Joyce Crawford Lucille Pazour

For: Adolph Topinka Mrs. Ida Caldwell



IN HONOR

For: Wes & Olga Drahozal — 50th Wedding Anniversary

Esther F. Lippert
For: Marcus "Pat" Pace

C.S.A. Prokop Velky' Lodge No. 137

NEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

June 11 through September 15, 1998

Robert & Danice Babey Barbara Beach Rev. James L. Blocklinger Esther Bowman Velma Vanicek Flynn Mary Ellen Grgurich Joseph Hartzel Connie Hove Francis Kalvoda Kellie J. Lala Beatrice LeClere Melvin & Faye Lenhart Michael & Susan McDermott Faye Ohrt Don Schmidt Pat & Jack Skay

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Gary and Kay Walla Charles Zlamal, Sr.

Alice Slatin

NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS

June 11 through September 15, 1998

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Edward Kuba, Sr.

Insurance Gift Creates New Endowment Fund Named for Josephine and Edward R. Kuba, Sr.

Funds, given by the late Edward R. Kuba, Sr., and his wife, Josephine Barta-Letovsky, will provide resources to assist in growing the museum's endowment, an initiative that will be one of the institution's main focuses during 1999. Mr. Kuba, a lifelong Cedar Rapids resident, an active member of the Czech community, and a volunteer at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, was able to provide long-term support for the organization while also helping to sustain his Czech heritage, of which he was very proud.

By naming the Museum & Library the beneficiary of a life insurance policy he started many years ago, Ed was able to fulfill his dream by creating a memorial fund with proceeds that will continue to grow in perpetuity. This gift, in addition to an antique printing press now on exhibit in *Homelands*, make it possible for the story of his Czech heritage to be told to thousands of people who come to visit the museum each year.

Programming Schedule through December 1998

October 14 — Learn At Lunch: "Stitching in the Ditch" Sokol Quilters, Sokol Sewing Circle

• 12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m. in WFLA Heritage Hall. Bring your lunch and learn about the centuries-old, needlecraft technique of hand-quilting. Find out what tools and supplies are needed for a project, what types of designs can be used, what the steps are in assembling a quilt, and what basic hand-quilting stitches and techniques are used. Free to the public.

October 24 - Dožinky Fall Dinner

Speaker: Jan Novak, award-winning novelist and essayist. Lighting Ceremony for Grand Hall Chandelier.

October 24 — Stories, Tales, Legends, & Lore (Children's Storytime)

10:00 a.m. in Museum Library. Free to the public.

November 2 — "Káva a Knihy" Reading-Lecture-Discussion Series • 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Museum Library. Free to the public.

November 18 — Learn At Lunch: "Bez Práce Nejsou Koláče" Irma Kelly, museum volunteer and koláč baker.

• 12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m. in WFLA Heritage Hall. Bring your lunch and learn about this Czech pastry specialty — how to make the dough, shape the dough, and fill the dough, what different kinds of koláče can be made, and how the techniques differ from region to region, old world to new world. Free to the public.

November 27 — "Fun with Christmas Crafts" Crafts Workshop for Children

Group A, ages 6 - 8; Group B, ages 9 - 12

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in WFLA Heritage Hall. Registration Fee:
 \$5.00. Pre-registration required. Deadline for reservations: November 20.

November 28 — Stories, Tales, Legends, & Lore (Children's Storytime)

• 10:00 a.m. in Museum Library. Free to the public.

December 2 — Learn At Lunch: "Stained Glass and Delicate Lace" Ray and Dorothy Snitil, crafts demonstrators

• 12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m. in WFLA Heritage Hall. Bring your lunch and learn how pieces of colored glass and a soldering iron, and double stitches, rings, and picots can become beautiful ornaments to decorate your Christmas tree. Free to the public.

December 5 — Sv. Mikuláš: A Celebration of Christmas Customs and Traditions

• 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in WFLA Heritage Hall

The Museum will be the setting for ethnic crafts demonstrations. A puppet theater performance will entertain young and old alike. All are invited to join in the singing of "Vanočníkoledy" (Czech Christmas carols.) Admission fee for puppet show.

December 7 — "Káva a Knihy" Reading-Lecture-Discussion Series • 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in Museum Library. Free to the public.

December 12 — Stories, Tales, Legends, & Lore (Children's Storytime) • 10:00 a.m. in Museum Library. Free to the public.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS...





Sixth grade students from Taylor Elementary School paint an architectural style mural on the surface of the old museum building adjacent to the new facility. Their teacher, Linda Black, (pictured above) was named National Elementary Art Teacher of the Year in

MEMBERS RECEIVE FREE ADMISSION

A reminder to all current members of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library: Your membership allows you free admission and unlimited visits to all museum exhibits! All you need to do is show your current membership card at the visitors station in the Grand Hall. Encourage your family and friends to become members so they too can enjoy these privileges.

Note: Admission prices for non-members are \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, and \$2 for children ages 5 - 16. Children under 5 are admitted free with a paying parent or guardian.



NATIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

- October 12-28 "80th Anniversary of Independent Czechoslovakia and President Tomas Garrigue Masaryk" An exhibition of rare printed matter from the New York Public Library. Open to public Tuesday 11-7:15, Wed. 11-5:45, Th-Sat 10-5:45.
- October 15-Nov. 27 Vladimir Kokolia "Water History" Exhibit of drawings and paintings. A reception for the artist will be held in November. Call the Czech Center New York for details 212/288-0830 ext. 100.
- October 21-Nov. 11 Exhibit of Contemporary Czech Fine Arts, presenting the works of Viktor Karlik, Josef Zacek and David Nemec. Target Gallery of the Torpedo Factor, 104 North Union Street, Alexandria, VA. For information, call 703/549-6877.
- October 25 Dvorak/Czech Independence Day Concert at St. George's
 Church on Stuyvesant Square, New York.
 • Sunday, 7:00 p.m. Free to the public.
 Internationally renowned artists. For information, call 212/222-6684.

- October 28 Ceremonial Raising of Czech Flag at Bowling Green, south end of Broadway, near Wall St., NYC. •
 Wednesday, noon. Pilsner Brass Band. For information, call 212/535-8814 ext. 106.
- * Special Announcement: On Wednesday, October 28, the Empire State Building will be illuminated red, blue and white in recognition of the Czech Independence Day.
- November 20 Exhibit Opening Wedding folk treasures from the Czech and Slovak Republics will be on display at California's Mingei Museum, San Diego's Balboa Park at 1439 El Prado, San Diego 92101. For more information, call 619/239-0003.
- * January 15-17, 1999 Symposium celebrating Eastern European Folk Art, Folk Culture and Folk Ritual at the Mingei Museum (address above) in conjunction with the exhibit.

Exhibit and Symposium on Folk Culture of East Europe from Helene Cincebeaux

Open the Dower Chests: Wedding Folk Treasures from the Czech and Slovak Republics will be on display at California's Mingei Museum in San Diego, opening November 20. The exhibit from the Baine/Cincebeaux Folk Dress Collection showcases antique wedding finery from Bohemian, Moravian and Slovak villages dating around the turn of the century. Helen Zemek Baine and her daughter Helene Baine Cincebeaux collected the handmade treasures during 30 years of travel and research involving over 2,000 villages.

A symposium celebrating Eastern European Folk Art, Folk Culture and Folk Ritual is scheduled for January 15-17, 1999 at the Mingei Museum in conjunction with the exhibit. Papers are invited on the topics of folk arts and handicrafts, costumes and textiles, architecture and interiors, myth and ritual, folklore and family history. Submission deadline for proposals is November 15, 1998. For more information, contact Robert Michael Cerello, Ethnic Textile Council of San Diego, P.O. Box 34052, San Diego, CA 92163.

For additional information call Helene Cincebeaux at 716/342-9383, e-mail helenezx@aol.com or write 151 Colebrook Drive, Rochester NY 14617.

National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library 30 Sixteenth Avenue S.W. • Cedar Rapids, Iowa USA 52404-5904 319-362-8500 • Fax 319-363-2209

