

# NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR CZECH HERITAGE

Czech Heritage Foundation Czech Fine Arts Foundation  
Vol.3. No.2. P.O.Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52406 1978



## COME TO THE PICNIC



August 24 Pot-luck 5:30 P.M.  
For all members. Bring a friend  
who wants to become a member !  
Meat, rolls, drink furnished. Please  
bring your own dishes and silver-  
ware.

A thru J bring baked beans  
K thru O bring desserts  
P thru Z bring a vegetable, or salad,  
or casserole.



Plan the pot-luck GOODIE to serve  
6 to 8 people. Sounds YUMMY !

Where? at ZCBJ Park. Take C Street  
S.W. south to the power plant; turn  
left thru underpass, turn right, go  
south to cross small bridge, turn to  
left..drive 2.8 miles ..turn left  
into park, iron grill gate with the  
letters ZCBJ. See you there !

\* \* \* \* \*



## CALENDAR of EVENTS

Sorry that the listings are  
not as complete as they might be. It  
would help the editor if those in the  
know would relay the facts to us.

July 13-15 Czech Fest, Traer. "Over 60  
Hours of Czech Music, Food, and Enter-  
tainment". Will be several Polka Bands  
Sokol gymnasts and Dancers, and the  
Czech Heritage Band of C.R.

July 29 In Czech Village, C.R. at the  
Kosek Bandstand, TOWN MEETING with  
the Honorable Ray Marshall, Secretary  
of Labor as speaker. Mark the Saturday  
as a must on your calendar. 8-9 P.M.

August 5-6 Czech Festival Days, at  
Wilber, Nebraska.

August 12-13. Centennial Anniversary  
celebration, Protivin, Iowa. west of  
Spillville on highway Iowa 325.

August 24. Thursday 5:30 P.M. PICNIC  
CZECH HERITAGE FOUNDATION. ZCBJ Park.

(continued page 2)

## TWO WAYS TO REPORT THE NEWS

One headline was "BREZHNEV VISITS  
CZECHS" and reported " Thousands  
lined the Prague streets and cheer-  
ed."

But in a London, England, newspaper,  
the headline was "Sabotage row as  
Soviet leader's Prague speech ends  
in shambles".."CZECH BLACKOUT FOR  
BREZHNEV ON TV".."and that".."he had  
returned to Prague as a dishonored  
guest ten years after his tanks and  
guns smashed them into submission..  
and"Brezhnev was cheered by organized  
crowds and given a standing ovation  
by puppet Czech President Husak."..

During the "technical hitch" on that  
program, the studio showed pictures  
of Prague on the screen. . .

The very next day in a London news-  
paper was a cartoon showing Brezhnev  
and Husak walking along the street  
with a sketch of St.Nicholas church  
in the background. Bottles were  
coming at the men from all directions.

(Now it happens that Prince Charles  
was at a ceremony in Newcastle-on-  
Tyne as few days earlier when a bottle  
thrown at the car smashed a window.)

Under the cartoon it said, " Of course  
the Czechs love you, Comrade Brezhnev,  
they're treating you like royalty."

## CZECH-ENGLISH SECTION

With this issue of the newsletter,  
we initiate a new feature, a Czech-  
English section. We welcome suit-  
able contributions for the coming  
issues of the letter.

The first such selection has been  
contributed by Charles Opatrny and  
appears on page 7 of this issue.  
We hope you will like this special  
page.

October CALENDAR of EVENTS

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7-9 Czech Days, Yukon, Oklahoma

14 & 16 Bruno Belcik of the Czech Philharmonic, Prague, will present the premiere of Zelezny's work, a CONCERTO. Violinist Belcik was featured in the same work when our Richard Williams directed the concert last season in Prague.

26 to 29 The 9th International Congress of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Science in America to be held in Cleveland, Ohio.

November 5 Sokols in Berwyn, Ill. put on a Czech play.

12 The Black Light Theater from Prague, Czechoslovakia, appears at Ames, Iowa State University. A black backdrop curtain is used and by means of lights and costumes the play is produced.

AND other dates came to our attention too late to appear in proper place:

July 22-23 Czech Days, Dwight, Neb.

July 28-29 Czech Days, Wilson, Kansas

July 13 - see page 6 . . . . .

A TRIBUTE

Our Newsletter brings back to some of our members, memories of years ago. The following tribute to J.J. Hajek who died fifty years ago was sent by his daughter, Irma H. Lowe, a resident of California and a member of Czech Heritage Fdn.

"J.J. Hajek was Editor of the Vestnik Iowasky, a daily newspaper. People from everywhere sought his help and advice. He was called upon constantly to make speeches for occasions - he spoke at Czech holiday festivities and wrote articles and poems for the issue of Sibrinky. He was prompter for the Bohemian Dramatic Society plays and also took time out to teach Bohemian School in the summers and for most of these things, he gave freely of his time.

Father was a graduate of the University of Prague and studied law. While a student he became a friend of Anton Dvorak of "Humoresque" fame. They became good companions. He was

also a friend of Tomáš Masaryk, the first president of the Republic of Czechoslovakia. Many people had a great regard for my father because of his willingness to help and he was, indeed, a friend to everyone.

Cedar Rapids Czechs lost a devoted citizen when he passed away. I'm sure he would have been pleased to hear of the changes being made on the Avenue and would have been right in there pitching. His motto was, "TO BE GOOD AND TO DO GOOD" .. and that was the man so many of us remember so well.

And so for him, I say to you: "Good Luck Czech Heritage Foundation."

SPEAKERS BUREAU

Before the leaflet is reprinted, revisions and additions are needed. Please send you suggestions for topics and speakers at once to our PO Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia 52406.

NOTICE to those who have calls to put on programs: Please keep a list of the number of talks you give this year (1978), the approximate number in the audience, and the groups you meet. Then in late December, please send the summary to PO Box 761 so it will be available for the January Business Meeting annual reports of committees.

Correction: in the last issue of our newsletter the name of one of the Czech women's groups was incorrect. It should have read Dámský Sbor Matice Školské.

DID YOU KNOW? that in World War II, ZCBIJ donated 12 ambulances to our Army? Sales of War Bonds totaled millions in Home Office and even more in other lodges. . One B 52 was named the Spirit of Iowa !

CSPS was the earliest fraternal lodge - started in 1854.

Kathy Brym, graduate student in Dance at Univ. of Iowa is from Czechoslovakia. Her family escaped to America.



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# fine arts

## LIBRARY and MUSEUM A REALITY

The Foundation is pleased to tell you that our Czech Library and Museum will be a reality in the near future. The location will be 1607 C Street Southwest.

We wish to thank the Czech Village merchants, Czech Heritage Foundation, and Czech Heritage members for the financial support we have received thus far.

Monetary donations for operating expenses, upkeep, purchasing of articles and so forth, would be very much appreciated. Send such donations to Czech Fine Arts Fdn., PO Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406.

If you have articles to donate or loan to the Museum, please call one of the following:

Robert Schaffer	366-4937
Melvina Svec	364-6402
Elsie Jelinek	365-3401

Volunteers to oversee the Library and Museum during open hours are needed. If you, a friend, a relative have 2 or 3 free hours a week, we would like to have you volunteer your time. Please call one of these

Robert Schaffer  
John Kuba  
Eslie Jelinek

Watch the news media for further information as to opening date! (EJ)

GIFT of an ANTIQUE "KROJ". We now have an authentic kroj, costume, which was an antique at the time it was obtained at the turn of this century in the former Province of Bohemia. It is now in our Museum. Also an embroidered apron, headdress and an elaborate silk hand-embroidered parasol. The above items and a large wooden trunk are gifts from Mrs. Norman Dake and Mrs. Zulina Severa Wilhelm.

## an early wheelright, a KOLAŘ !

Charles Bezděčný learned the trade of a wheelright and carriage maker as a young man in Bohemia. He came to the United States in 1908 and for a time was employed by Joseph Vesely at the Cedar Rapids Carriage Works. Late he was employed at J.G. Cherry Company where he became the foreman in the crating department.

When he was 89, he had a strong desire to make a trakař (wheelbarrow) the way he learned to make it long ago. He had the most trouble making the wheel. He put the iron rim into a hot oven so it expanded, then he fitted it on the wheel. As it cooled, the rim shrunk to fit the wooden wheel! Someday this TRAKAŘ will be in our Museum !

## OUR GROWING COLLECTIONS

A large number of books from the home library of Mrs. Adolph (Mary) Jandrt have been received.

Alma Turechek reports the receipt of hundreds of music scores from the home of Mrs. Mary Sibrava. The works are band arrangements of Czech songs, folk music and popular tunes.

Friends of the Library have added 24 more books to our collection.

And 58 volumes from William Cuhel and Family give us a wide variety of volumes of essays, novels, biographies, and other categories. One volume of 1923 is very special with a unique collection of photographs, travel topics, about the new Republic and ever so many more topics and themes.

THE FOUNDATIONS ARE EVER SO GRATEFUL AND APPRECIATIVE OF THESE GIFTS. WE ARE ON OUR WAY AND THE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY WILL BE OF INTEREST TO THE COMMUNITY, STUDENTS, TOUR GROUPS AND ALL OF US ! Many THANKS .....

FINE ARTS cont'd

TWO SPECIAL TREASURES among gifts

"Ceskoslovenská Anabase" Moje Paměti, by Lt. General R. Gajda, General of Ruských Legií, is the story of the Czechoslovak military advance across Siberia. When Russia went Bolshevik, the Czechoslovak Army was in enemy territory. The volume has maps, many pictures of officers, troops, scenery and even a color view of the harbor at Vladivostock in 1919. That port is NO, NO nowadays for visitors and it is one of the heavily fortified of Soviet areas today. . .

A copy of the first picture book for children was written by Jan Amos Komensky. We have a copy of that small volume in our collection.

The HARVARD GLASS FLOWERS

The American Sokol Monthly often has special articles on a wide range of topics such as: Smetana and his life, Kraslice (Easter eggs), T.G. Masaryk, and most recently the story of that fabulous glass flower collection. Some 200 families of flowers and plants are in exact colored glass and in perfect details. In 46 years ( 1890-1936 ) the factory of Leopold Blaschka of Aicha worked on the contract to produce this collection. Rudolph Blaschka died in 1939 at the age of 82. Then the family secrets of his glass work went with him to his grave. . . .

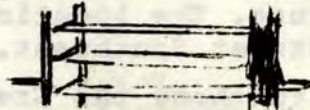
PIONEER ZAHRADNICEK

The Fraternal Herald, monthly organ of the Western Fraternal Life Assoc. makes its contribution to America's Czech heritage. A recent issue, April 1978, carried the first part of John Zahradnicek's story of early days in Nebraska in the 1880's. Six men drove west following the Union Pacific railway tracks, searching for available land for farming.

Coufal paid \$2.50/acre for 640 A.1 Dvorak took a homestead and then Zahradnicek's land was west of what Dvorak bought. These three men were the first settlers in that area . .

Sod was broken with hand tools and corn was planted. Six years of dry weather and late spring frosts killed oats and corn. Wind driven sand cut down the crops and blotted out the sun. Tree claims required the planting of a certain number of acres. Wheat sold for 50¢/ bu. . .

HELP!

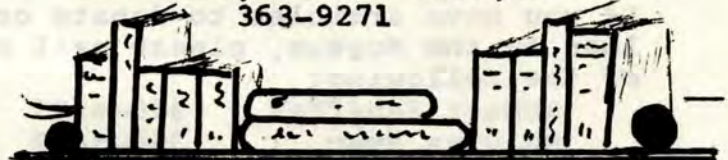


HELP!

Our IMMEDIATE need is for ways to shelve the book collection which numbers between 600 and 700 volumes AND IS GROWING...

We can use your no longer used bookcases, storage shelving, or even bricks and planks that are suitable for book shelves. . .

Write us at PO Box 761, or phone 364-6402, or 366-4937, or 363-9271



ABRAHAM LINCOLN SAID:

- You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong -
- You cannot help the small men by tearing down the big men -
- You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich -
- You cannot lift the wages of the earner by pulling down the wage of the payer -
- You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income -
- You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatreds -
- You cannot establish security on borrowed money -
- You cannot build character and courage by taking away a man's initiative and independence -
- You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves . .

Do a good deed today ? Add a new member to our roll call for Czech . . . Heritage Foundation . . .



## Czech Village

## Cedar Rapids, Iowa



### HOUBY DAYS



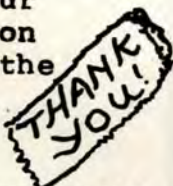
Czech Village Association and Czech Fine Arts Foundation co-sponsored HOUBY DAYS on May 19, 20, 21. Thousands of visitors, mushroom enthusiasts and people who were interested in the heritage and customs of Czechs enjoyed the events. More than 650 guests were served the breakfast of scrambled eggs with yummy mushrooms, hashed brown potato, and sausage on Saturday morning. More than 30 "houby hunters" entered their prize "findings" of houby for the Saturday afternoon judging contest.

Twelve demonstrations of Czech folk arts ranging from quilting to egg coloring were going on in the Roundhouse on Sunday afternoon. The three-day festival included midway rides, booths where kolaches and folk arts were sold, and other attractions as well. Bingo, clowns and fun for all ages added to the events.

Houby Days '78 received a great deal of television, newspaper, and radio attention. "Community interest was high", said Bob Schaffer, president of Czech Fine Arts Foundation.

Czech Village Association plans for 1979 Houby Days, the week-end following Mother's Day. (P.M.)

" A very special THANK YOU to all who contributed in time, effort, exhibits, and sharing of your talents in demonstrations on HOUBY DAYS on May 21st at the Roundhouse. " Bob Schaffer



SEPT  
8, 9, 10

ANNUAL CZECH FALL FESTIVAL  
Coming ! 1978 Fall Days  
on the AVENUE.

Mark the above dates on your date calendar . . . Come! Have Fun !

### VILLAGE BUSINESS

COTHRAN'S ART GALLERY on the corner of 16th Ave., C Street SW is a show-place of sculpture, pottery, sand castings, stitchery, batik, prints, and jewelry handcrafted by Nancy and Sidney Cothran. Works of 70 Midwestern artists appear in a mini-gallery. Did you see the houby sandcasting on Houby Days?

BABI SWEET SHOP is now under the management of Ann Kenjar, a well-known cook on the Avenue. The menu now includes home baked pies, chili, apple strudel, goulash, fried chicken, a variety of salads, beverages and many ice cream goodies.

ERNIE'S AVENUE TAVERN soon-to-be Czech looking building through and through! Watch the changing of the facade.

SYKORA BAKERY will open a quaint coffee shop, a kavarna!

JUDY'S GIFTS AND CRAFTS at 65 - 16th Avenue S.W. features handmade gifts, plaques, doll clothes, capes, shawls, ponchos, slippers and pillows. (PM)

### HOUBY PRIZES

More than 40 GIFTS were awarded to houby contest winners and to those lucky at drawings at the breakfast. Mushrooms were judged on size, shape, display arrangements. Awards went to: Chris Webber, E.L. Calvert, Leo Johnson, Mary Dostal, George Tichy, Melba Allbones, Robert Blin, Jack Jacobs, Patty Konecny.

Gifts were donated by various merchants on The Avenue - gifts of merchandise and/or gift certificates. More fun had by all !

Some former members did not get this issue. \$3 dues for 1978 when paid, a copy of Newsletter will be sent . . .

CZECH VILLAGE NEWS

Czech Village joins the City Market at the Roundhouse on June 24; and July 15; August 24; Sept. 23, and Oct. 4. Ya'all COME!

All varieties of produce, flowers. home baked pies. Market opens at 5:30 AM and closes at Noon.

The Czech Village Booth features Czech music, foods, and fine arts. Of course, the people at the Czech Booth will be in costume. COME!

\* \* \* \* \*

TOURS in CZECH VILLAGE

Czech Village Coordinator, Pat Martin, invites you and your group to tour the Village. Visitors will find that the best days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday mornings or afternoons. She will be glad to make arrangements for lunch, dinner, or coffee and kolaches - whatever meets your pleasure and schedule. Before the tour about The Avenue, a 15 minute talk briefs you on the background information of the area. You can reach Pat at Czech Village headquarters, 59, 16th Avenue SW., or phone 366-7348.

\* \* \* \* \*

On June 20th, a group of students from Central College at Pella, Iowa, visited the Czech classes at Hayes School, toured the shops and stores on The Avenue, tasted some of the "goodies" found there. The group is making a study of ethnic groups and cultures found in Iowa.

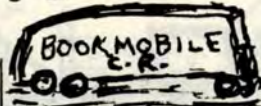


OTHER NEWS ITEMS

**\$** Again, Damská Matice Skolská distributes \$1200. to students and Czech School. Awards went to students who have a Czech ancestry: Laurie Hogan, Todd L. Sirotiak, Terri Uthe, Susan Drahozal, Ann Elizabeth Nemeč of \$200. each.

Two students attend State University of Iowa at Ames; and one each at the State University of Iowa at Iowa City, Luther at Decorah, and Kirkwood.

Also \$200 was presented to Czech School to help defray expenses.



CHRISTENING PARTY FOR NEW BOOKMOBILE ! !



JULY 13th, at 7 to 9 P.M. Another special event on The Avenue ! The merchants have invited the FRIENDS of the LIBRARY to have the mini-bus bookmobile "christened" in the Czech Village. Come to the Bandstand, the band will play and the ceremonies will be held right there, too. . .

Nov. 5 Czech play in Berwyn . There may be some available space so if interested phone Jim Cada at his home in the evening to ask about costs and transportation.

SPACE RESERVED BY CZECH HERITAGE

FOUNDATION to fill in the names of those whose dues for 1978 have as of this minute not yet been paid . .

AND THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR THE NAMES OF THOSE NEW MEMBERS WHO ARE SENDING \$3.00 TO P.O.Box 761 . . Dues are \$3.00 per person per year .

P.S. We have more sheets of paper for much longer list space.

# The Czech-English Treasure

"Chrám a tvrz" - - Vyňatek z knihy Pavle Eisnera.

"Milujete češtinu? Usmíváte se, že se tak ptám. Dobrá tedy. Ale buďte tak hodní a dovolte mi několik otázek.

Kterou češtinu? Svou? Přítelovu? Češtinu pana Roštapila který bydlí pod vámi? Jsou to češtiny různé: není na světě dvou lidí, aby stejně článkovali hlásky, aby měli stejný slovník a shodnou dikci. A kdybyste nakrásně řekl, že milujete češtinu svou, jen tu svou vlastní, ja to zas totéž: jako se od dob libušiných nenarodily ve Vltavě dvě úplně shodné vlny, nepodaří se vám, abyste i jen dvakrát vyslovili a úplně shodností jediné české slovo, jedinou českou hlásku. A mění se - a to měrou, o níž se vám ani nezdá - váš slovník, vaše frazeologie, vaše dikce a veškerá vaše čeština. Nemluvě ani o tom, že i za jediný den mluvíte jinak se sluhou v úřadě a jinak se svým představeným, jinak se svým děckem, a jinak s kolegou odborníkem. Je tady i ve vás čeština kolikrát."

The translation by Charles Opartny appears in the adjoining column.

## MORE FOLKS SAYINGS

1. Kdo pamalu jde, dále dojde.
2. Kdo nic nemá, ani smrt nebere.
3. Prazný pitel nestojí.
4. Nemusi pršet, jen když kape.
5. Stěsti jest vrtkavé.

Vlasta and Frank Fajmon and her father, Charles Bezděčný (age 95)

sent in these sayings. Can you think of sayings that are similar to the translations? e.g. Haste makes waste. . . . .

"Cathedral and Citadel" - - Excerpt from the book by Pavel Eisner.

"Do you love the Czech language? You smile that I ask such a question. Well, all right. But have goodness and allow me some questions.

Which Czech language do you love? Yours? That of your friend? Or the one of Mr. Rostapil who lives on the floor below you? You see, they are all different Czech languages.

There are not in the whole world two persons who would articulate all sounds in exactly the same way, or who would have the same dictionary and analogical diction. And if we would say at best that we love the Czech language which is our own, there is again the same identity: just like there never has been created since the times of old, when Libuse was living, in the river Vltava, two precisely same waves, you will not be lucky to pronounce even twice with exactly the same identity one single Czech word, one single Czech sound. And it changes to such an extent - which you would not think possible - namely your dictionary, your phraseology, your diction and all of your Czech language. Not to say the least about the fact that within a single day you speak differently with the servant (attendant) at the office and in a different manner with your superior, in another way with your child and again in a different way with your colleague-specialist. Thus there are even in you, several different Czech languages."

1. He who walks slowly, walks farther.
2. He who has nothing takes not death with him.
3. Empty sacks do not stand upright.
4. It does not have to rain, just so it drips.
5. Good luck is fickle.

FROM the ARCHIVES

WHAT A SCRAP BOOK ! A member, Lumir Vondracek, 1533 Maplewood Drive, NE., donated a scrap book with news items dating back 50 to 77 years ago! The clippings include songs of those days, obituaries of many well known local and international figures, stories about local folks. Some items are in Czech but most are in English. One item with a wide black margin and a picture of President McKinley report in Czech his death; others are pictures of the sinking of the Titanic, the signing of the Peace Treat at Versailles 1919, .Quite a few large pictures in color come from Czech magazines with the words in Czech! e.g. Geranemo meets the U.S. Cavalry, Washington at Valley Forge, Custer at Little Big Horn, First Thanksgiving of the Pilgrims, landing of Columbus on San Salvador, Declaration of Independence, and of de Soto, the meeting of the railway at Promontory Point, Utah; Sokol Slets, Fulton's "Clermont", zeppelin von Himmnburg and on and on.

These historical and patriotic items let us know that the early Czech magazines and newspapers wanted the Czechs to learn about their new home land and become informed of events that really were newsworthy.

Along this same line of thought -did you know that translations into our Czech language were made of many of the writings of Longfellow, Edgar Allen Poe, Hawthorne, Mark Twain, Victor Hugo, Charles Dickens and other famous writers were often in the private library collections of Czechs in old Bohemia, in libraries, and in reading socities in United States?

The CEDAR RAPIS VALLEY ROUTE - old clippings list the names of many people who bought stock in the inter-urban route which operated between Cedar Rapids and Waterloo. Some of the investors listed were: Horak, Kurek, Houser, Hach, Mally, Kriz, Kos, Chadima, Dostal, Coenen, Koch, Vavra, Kolarik, Karbusicky, Martinek, Mekota, Pazdernik, Sikora, Turechek, Stephan,

Stodola, Viktor, Popelka, Zbanek, Filip, Janda, Novotny, Matyk, Ulch, Hubacek, Bohac, Burianek, Nemecek and others. No doubt many of you readers recall these family names. In fact, some of you are those very families!

The 1916-1917 plat of Romport Farm sales were by George T. Hedges and Company.

The plat of Fruitland Heights said "BUY A RANCH", Oct. 1922.

Witwer & Witwer were the agents for Casper Schaeffer Heights, Plat 83. This sale was 1917.

The 16th Avenue Commercial Club in 1956 proposed ways to reduce the traffic congestion on the avenue: change traffic light, purchase off-street land for public parking and other ideas. Some were carried out.

Frank Filip & Co. sold 24 lots in Herner's Addition, 19-20 Avenue between J and L streets for the tidy sums ranging from \$ 250. to \$550. Imagine what those lots would sell for today, 1978 ! ! !

Irma Hasek Adams gave us a picture of the Matices Skolska float with the cast of players of "CINDERELLA" Another picture shows Sokol Picnic July 4, 1919 at Kosek Park. C St. & Bowling Hill, S.W. Fifty young people and four adults. Were YOU there?

In 1935 a picture of the "Wining Shirttail Team" of the 16th Ave. Commercial Club picnic. Know any of these folks?

YOU ALL CAN HELP TO MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER MORE TO YOUR LIKING WHEN YOU SEND US ITEMS ABOUT PEOPLE AND REPORTS ABOUT EVENTS THAT ARE OF INTEREST ! Send the material to the Editor: M.M. Svec, PO Box 761. Cedar Rapids. Ia. 52406--