

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR CZECH HERITAGE

Vol. 13 - No. 4
Dec. 1988

Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations
P. O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406



CALENDAR

1988

KALENDÁŘ

DECEMBER

- 3 SAT. SV. MIKULÁŠ DAY, Czech Village (pages 3&5)
- 4 Sun. SV. MIKULÁŠ DANCE, Eagles Club, Cedar Rapids. (page 3)

1989

JANUARY

- 9,11 M&W CZECH LANGUAGE CLASSES begin, Cedar Rapids, (page 6)
- 16 Mon. ANNUAL MEETING, Czech Heritage & Fine Arts Foundations (page 1)

MARCH

Details in ST. JOSEPH'S DAY PARADE
March issue. AND CELEBRATION, C.R., IA

- 18 Sat. SLAVIC FOLKS ART FEST.
Czech Club, Dallas, TX

FIVE TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA!

The Czech Heritage Fdn. is pleased to announce the names of the students chosen to participate in next year's Homestay Program. In alphabetical order they are: Teri Bartachek, Jefferson High School, daughter of Gary and Pam Bartachek, Cedar Rapids; Dawn Buresh, Prairie H.S., daughter of Dale and Betty Buresh, Ely; Darrick Chadima, Prairie H.S., son of George and Joanne Chadima, Fairfax; Matt Faltis, Prairie H.S., son of David and Chris Faltis, Swisher; and Tim Pfeifer, Jefferson H.S., son of Leonard and Rose Pfeifer, Cedar Rapids.

Congratulations!

DIAL 369-6217 for information concerning upcoming events sponsored by Czech organizations in the Cedar Rapids area.

VÍTÁM VÁS!

GREETINGS!

Time to write a few lines for the newsletter and to wish you all Veselé Vánoce a Šťastný Nový Rok! (Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!) The Czech Heritage Fdn. has had a busy and good year and it feels rather nice to be winding down for the holiday season. There are several articles throughout the newsletter but we would like to announce our Annual Meeting at this time so you can mark your calendar. It will be held on the third Monday in January (January 16th, 1989), at the Asbury United Methodist Church located at 336 27th Ave. S.W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, at 7:00 p.m. Election of Officers will take place at this time along with a report of our activities. Membership dues will be accepted at this time as well. We will be introducing the five students chosen to represent our foundation in Czechoslovakia in the summer of 1989. The Czech Fine Arts Fdn. will also have a report for everyone this evening.

It should prove to be an interesting meeting and you are all invited to attend. Refreshments and a social hour will follow. Mae and I extend our sincere wishes for a happy and joyous holiday season to you all and we are looking forward to a wonderful '89.

Frank W. Novotny, Pres.

NEDELNÍ HLASATEL, Sunday Hlasatel is the Sunday edition of the Czechoslovak Daily Herald "the Oldest Czechoslovak Daily Newspaper in the World." It is from Berwyn, Illinois 60402, located at 6426 West Cermak Road. On the Sunday issue of November 6th, 1988, is the headline "NEZAPOMĚŇTE VOLIT" (Don't Forget to Vote) along with a large picture of each presidential candidate. 1988 is the ninety-seventh year of its publication.

cont.

On page nine is the following:

Ceské dědictví

Co je Czech Heritage Foundation, Czech Fine Arts Foundation? Co je Czech Village Association?

Tři skupiny v Cedar Rapids ve státě Iowa udržují naživu českou kulturu a tradice. Všechny se vzájemně doplňují v různých druzích činnosti a kromě toho podporují muzeum a knihovnu.

The Fine Arts Foundation propaguje události kulturního rázu, umění, etnické výstavy a řídí muzeum a knihovnu.

The Czech Heritage Foundation publikuje zpravodaj Naše české dědictví (Our Czech Heritage), My Czech World Book ABC's, Meet the Czech Language

a History of Czechs in Cedar Rapids, a stejné tak knihu kuchařských návodů a tradic The Czech Book.

The Village připomíná časné české kolonisty a jejich příspěví vývoji Cedar Rapids a línnského hrabství. Několik oslav a festivalů ročně je skupinou sponzorováno, jako Houby Days a etnická výstava v květnu, Český festival v září, svátek sv. Mikuláše a Den sv. Josefa v březnu.

The Czech Heritage Foundation má možnost opatřit na požádání potřebné vzdělávací pomůcky a rovněž tak delegovat řečníka zajímavějším se skupinám.

Zájemci, pište na adresu: Melvina Svec, Czech Heritage Foundation, Inc. P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406.

(SVU Bulletin)

SVU refers to SPOLEČNOSTI PRO VĚDY A UMĚNÍ - Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences, Inc. It was at their 14th Annual International Congress, September 15th-18th, held in Chevy Chase, Maryland, that our Honorary Director M. Melvina Svec spoke about the Czech community in Cedar Rapids, our foundation, the Czech Museum, and the Czech Village area. Miss Svec stressed the importance of activities involving the youngsters, particularly the Czech Summer School, Czech Heritage Fdn. Homestay Program, and the Cedar Rapids Community School's Enrichment Program in which we are a participant.

G.KARGER, a retrospective
This new book contains fifty-four black-and-white reproductions which comprise a cross section through almost forty years (1949-1986) of Jiří Karger's art. Twenty-five photos document some of his works as well as his artistic involvement with Czech community, culture and other Czech artists living today outside Czechoslovakia. 110pp., perfect bound. \$25.00 Published by FRAMAR Publishers, P.O. Box 66453, Los Angeles, CA 90066

FALL FESTIVAL DRAWING
For the second year in a row, Bill and Helen Kupka graciously donated to the Czech Heritage Fdn. a large hand-crafted wooden picture. Hundreds of raffle tickets were sold and the drawing was held at the Fall Festival in September. The lucky winners were

Czech Heritage Fdn. members, Edward and Josephine Rocarek, of Cedar Rapids. Congratulations! The ticket sale proceeds were given to the Homestay Program Fund.

LODGE PROKOP VELKY #137 C.S.A. of Cedar Rapids donated \$3,500.00 to the Czech Museum for the purchase of three unique costumes.

Artifact acquisitions such as these are a very important aspect of museum operations. We must obtain these items while they are still available. One Czech costume from the Czechy region is over one hundred years old. The second costume is from the Slovak region and is estimated to be over one hundred and fifty years old. Both are very exquisite. The museum is in the process of acquiring the third costume.

Our lodge also donated \$100.00 for the Czech Heritage Homestay Program. We're very proud of our Czech Museum and so grateful for our lodge's generosity. These donations are making it possible for future generations to enjoy our Czech heritage.

E. Stejskal

CZECH PRINCE AND PRINCESS

Another year has passed and we have a new prince and princess for '88 - '89. During the Fall Festival we were happy to announce the winners who were chosen by a panel of three impartial judges.

Our princess is Heidi Krejci, a student at Jefferson High School, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Krejci. Staci Mitvalsky, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mitvalsky, was selected as runner-up.

Our new prince is John Dostal, a student at Jefferson High School, son of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Dostal. Alan Tichy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tichy, was selected as runner-up. Heidi and John each received a crown compliments of Dr. Robb, and were awarded a savings bond compliments of the First Trust and Savings Bank and the United States Bank. The Prince and Princess also each receive a Czech costume courtesy of the Czech Heritage Fdn. Our sincere congratulations to these newly elected fine young representatives. We are looking forward to an interesting year ahead!

F.W. Novotny, Pres.

Czech Museum

10 - 16TH AVENUE S.W.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, 52404 319-362-8500

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

The Czech Museum will have special hours (10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) Monday, November 28th, through Friday, December 2nd. Czech Christmas customs will be a featured part of all tours during this week. Three trees will be specially trimmed and various arts and crafts demonstrations are to be held all week long. The Christmas Gift Shop has to offer lovely hand-painted glass ornaments from Czechoslovakia, as well as other hand-crafted gift items with a Christmas theme.

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SV. MIKULÁŠ DAY

On Saturday, December 3rd, the Czech Museum celebrates St. Nicholas Day with holiday activities planned for the entire day. Demonstrations of gingerbread decorating, the making of feather basters (peroutky), dough ornaments, and Christmas centerpieces are to be presented. Also, instructions on the making of decorative paper ornaments for children will be shown. All children will receive a gingerbread cookie during their visit to the museum. A really special treat for the kids will be at 11:00 a.m., when the Eulenspiegel Puppeteers will perform at the museum; and parents, for all children in attendance the puppet show is FREE OF CHARGE!

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SV. MIKULÁŠ DANCE

On December 4th a dance will be sponsored to benefit the Czech Museum. The fund-raiser will be held at the Eagles Club from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Admission at the door is \$3.50. Tickets bought in advance at the Czech Museum or the Czech Cottage are \$3.00. There will be door prizes and a Bake Sale. Anyone wishing to contribute bakery is welcome to bring items the day of the dance or leave it at the museum the day before. A program during the intermission will feature the Czech Heritage Singers, performing Christmas carols and many of your old favorites.

-3- YOU CAN'T MISS IT!

How many times have you set out for a place you've never been before and end up driving around for hours hopelessly lost? Thanks to the Czech Fine Arts Foundation travelers on their way to the Czech Museum in Cedar Rapids shouldn't have any trouble finding their way.



New interstate highway signs on I-380 make it virtually impossible to miss the Czech Museum and surrounding Czech Village area, clearly one of Eastern Iowa's most impressive historical attractions.

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ORNAMENT FUND-RAISER

Czech Christmas tree ornaments make great gifts. This special event is in its 4th successful year. The sale is bigger and better with several sites in and around Cedar Rapids. Armstrong's Department Store in downtown Cedar Rapids is again hosting this popular fund-raiser. Ornaments will also be available at the First Trust & Savings Bank in Ely, on December 2nd, 3rd, and 5th; also at the bank's northwest Cedar Rapids branch office on December 9th and 10th. These wonderful gift ideas will also be available at the United State Bank. Unique old-world Christmas tree ornaments, from Czechoslovakia, are handmade from blown glass. Interesting shapes are created using original 19th century molds. Finishing touches are applied by artists who handpaint each individual ornament. The word "Czechoslovakia" is stamped on the metal cap to identify the country of origin.

Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.

TRAVEL WRITERS VISIT THE CZECH MUSEUM

On Sunday, October 9th, a special tour of the museum was arranged for ten travel writers, three representatives of the Iowa Department of Tourism, and one representative of the Cedar Rapids Convention and Visitors Bureau. The writers had attended a National Travel Writers Conference in Kansas City during the week and had stopped in Iowa to see the "best that Iowa offers." The Czech Museum was proudly on the list, and the only place in Cedar Rapids visited. Brunch was provided at Gordon's Little Prague Restaurant, with music and entertainment by Arlene Boddicker and the Boddicker Czech Showcase. P.H.

RECEPTION FOR CZECH WRITER

On October 23rd, a reception was held for Jaroslav Veis at the Czech Museum. Mr. Veis is at the University of Iowa's International Writers Program this semester as a guest writer. He is a writer of science fiction for children, as well as an editor for a youth magazine. Also, works by American science fiction authors Issac Asimov, Brian Aldiss, and Ursula LeGuin have been translated by Mr. Veis.

At the reception, the author read some of his original short stories, in both Czech and English. The reception was attended by forty people.

Note: If you are wondering how to say "science fiction" in Czech, you will be interested to know that it is "science fiction." As often is the case of new foreign terms, the language the word originates in, is what is used; in this case, the English. P.H.

MUSEUM HOURS

As the seasons change, the museum schedule changes as well. The daily hours ceased on November 16th, but the Saturday hours (9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) will be continued through April 15th.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SPRING - EASTER ACTIVITIES AND EGG DECORATING

Since Easter comes early in 1989 egg decorating demonstrations by artists Marj Nejd1 and Vera Cousins Matejka will be on Saturday, March 19th, and on Saturday, March 26th. Mark your calendars!

This Czech was appointed Commissioner in the United States of the new Czechoslovak Republic in 1918. You may be surprised to learn that when he



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was chosen by the Bohemian National Alliance to serve, he was not an exiled diplomat, working in Washington D.C. He was not a member of the New York aristocracy, seeking a position in the new government of his native country. He was, at the time, a country lawyer in rural northeast Iowa! Can you identify him and the small Iowa town he was called away from to represent the new republic? Watch for the answers in our next issue!

59 16th Ave. S.W.

FALL FESTIVAL - 1988

The Annual Fall Festival sponsored jointly by the Czech Village Assoc., Czech Heritage Fdn., and the Czech Fine Arts Fnd., was held on the traditional weekend following Labor Day.

In spite of several frustrating conditions, such as not being able to use the Roundhouse for the polka entertainment, and the Midway not showing up, a fairly successful weekend was enjoyed by all. Many showed up to enjoy the parade, and other featured events did as well or better than ever before.

Paul Kosek came to our rescue by allowing us to use his building. His generosity and kindness was deeply appreciated.

St. Ludmila's Booster Club served a delicious breakfast and we hope a good time was had by all who attended. The co-sponsors sincerely wish to thank everyone who helped to make our festival topnotch.

F.W. Novotny

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16TH AVE. BRIDGE

If work continues on schedule the new bridge should be completed by this time next year. Keep your fingers crossed. If the weather cooperates maybe we can celebrate the re-opening of the bridge and our Czech Fall Festival at the same time. Time will tell.



View of the construction looking south from the 12th Ave. Bridge

LES IS ON THE COVER!

There's a familiar face on the cover of Midwest Living Magazine this month. That's right! Czech Village's very own Les Sykora adorns the cover of the December '88 issue. Sykora Bakery is featured on page ninety-four, where Les shares a recipe for Vánočka. Also immortalized in this issue is Jerabek Bakery of St. Paul, Minnesota, creators of German-Bohemian cookies, cakes, tarts, and breads. Their recipe contribution is for Linzer cookies.

Preheat oven to 350 ...

* * * * *

SV. Mikuláš in Dec. 3rd
Czech Village

NAUGHTY OR NICE?

At 2:00 p.m. Sv. Mikuláš will visit the Czech Village in Cedar Rapids. He will be accompanied by the Angel and the Devil. The children will be asked if they have been good during the year. The names of the children are recorded in the Angel's book and are given a treat for their good behavior. The Devil taunts those who have been bad, shakes his chains at them, and offers a piece of coal as their reward. We are pleased to report that the Devil hasn't had any business for years.

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ST. NICHOLAS, THE ANGEL AND THE DEVIL - THE PLAY

A skit based on the theme of the visit by St. Nicholas, the Angel, and the Devil, will be performed at 1:30 p.m. at JOENS BROTHERS for children of all ages. The play will be produced by children from our Cedar Rapids Czech School.

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CZECH CHRISTMAS CAROLS

The Czech Heritage Singers will be strolling on the avenue in Czech Village from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Come hear them and join in the celebration!

DVOŘÁK'S COMPOSITIONS EDITED?

Just called to our attention are the findings of music conductor, Denis Vaughan, who visited Czechoslovakia this year. He found that editors made hundreds of changes before printing the compositions. Vaughan remarks that Dvořák's skills and ideas were not like the standard works of the times. The differences include the "phrasing, nuances, accent, contrast, and variations of intensity and dynamics, and the way various instruments are blended." Dvořák used his own way of writing musical scores! Not only were the changes found in The New World Symphony but in six of the symphonies. Vaughan plans to make recordings of the symphonies using the original manuscripts.

The above news item was submitted from members in Florida, California, and New York. Thanks to you all!

WINTER DOLDRUMS

Looking for something to do this winter besides shoveling snow? Why not get an education and have some fun too! A two hour (7-9 p.m.), conversational Czech language class, sponsored by the Czech Heritage Fdn. for both beginners and advanced students will commence in January. Beginners will meet on Mondays, starting January 9th. Advanced students will meet on Wednesdays, beginning January 11th. Learn or relearn the language of your ancestors. A nominal fee will cover the cost of materials and tuition for the twelve week class.

Over two hundred students have already participated in the program taught by Olga Drahozal. Why not join them? For more information contact: John Rocarek,

or call after 6:30 p.m. Thank you.

PROGRESSIVE CZECH by Bohumil E. Mikula is one of the best Czech language texts ever written. It unfortunately has been out of print for twenty years and is unavailable. We want to utilize this unparalleled work in our Czech language class. If any of our members have a copy of this text in their attics or basements and would like to see it put to good use, please consider donating it to our foundation library. Write : John Rocarek,

Thank you.

MURDER?

The verdict is in! Over five hundred years after the death of Bohemia's boy king Ladislav Posthumous (d. 1457) experts in Prague now proclaim that the young ruler died of juvenile leukemia. For centuries it was believed he was intentionally poisoned by his successor, George of Poděbrad. Medical experts from Prague's National Museum reached their conclusion earlier this year after a year-long investigation of the king's remains. While King George was never formally charged with the death of Ladislav, foul play was strongly suspected. Political infighting and unusual circumstances surrounding the seventeen-year-old ruler's brief illness and subsequent departure, built a fairly convincing case against King George.



Král Jiří Poděbrad

These recent findings rehabilitate the often maligned King George of Poděbrad, remembered more as a possible murderer than a ruler who helped reunify a Bohemian nation deeply divided by civil wars. King George (Král Jiří) ruled from 1458 to 1471. Text excerpted from the Des Moines Register, April '88 Submitted by F. Fackler

CORRECTION !

In our article titled "Years ending with an "8", the sentence on page eight of September's issue, column two, line eleven, should have read - Following World War II the area was again Ukrainian.

INTERESTED IN YOUR CZECHOSLOVAK ROOTS?

CZECHOSLOVAK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 16225
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55116

A BRANCH OF THE MINNESOTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

We invite you to become a member, participant, and volunteer in our society.

Our purposes are to promote genealogical research and to create an interest in our ancestry and heritage.

--RESEARCH LIBRARY

The Czechoslovak Genealogical Society is compiling a research library for its members. The library already includes many research books, maps, family and church histories.

--RELATED CULTURAL ORGANIZATION - SOKOL MINNESOTA

This center of Czechoslovak culture in Minnesota was founded in 1882 at the C.S.P.S. (Czechoslovak Protection Society) Hall which has become a national historic landmark building. Members are encouraged to join this organization to help keep alive "our" heritage. Sokol activities include dances, ethnic food, language, music, etc. For more information on this important part of practicing our heritage, send a self addressed, stamped envelope to:

CSPS Hall
383 Michigan Street
St. Paul, MN 55102

THE PURPOSE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY IS:

- 1) To promote Czechoslovak genealogical research on Czechoslovak ancestry, including Bohemia (Czech), Moravia, Ruthenia, Silesia, and Slovakia.
- 2) To provide a forum for sharing research information.
- 3) To collect and publish genealogical and historical research materials for use by members.
- 4) To create an interest in Czechoslovak ancestry and heritage.
- 5) To provide a variety of programs and speakers to inform/assist members in research.
- 6) To provide a means of purchasing research materials not commonly available.

* * * * *

"A LITTLE BIT OF BOHEMIA ON KOŠTA'S FARM"

(Seven Hills, Ohio - Circa 1927-1967)
My earliest recollection of Grandpa and Grandma's farm home comes from a scene in which my parents had scolded me for some misdemeanor at the age of three and Grandma taking me into her arms to comfort me by saying, "Budeme utícat do Čechah!" which implied that there she and I would live happily ever after - no matter what! How many times her words echoed in the memories of my mind to comfort and sustain me as I grew older, but not always wiser, and dealt with life's tribulations, as we all must do.

-7- The fifty acre farm on Sunday afternoons was a plethora of visitors - relatives and Czech friends congregated there in the dining-sitting room or on the large front lawn under shady trees after a leisurely drive from the big city of Cleveland, about a dozen miles away. The Košta farm was a homey visiting place where numerous relatives and friends gathered informally and chatted about family and world events. This was "networking" at its best - no phones were needed in that era - these afternoons provided it all! Likewise, no generation or gender gap existed either.

Then there were times when Grandma would ask my dad to play some Czech tunes on the accordion - an instrument that filled me with awe and wonder as the bellows opened and closed and music came forth.

As the "old folks" chatted, the young parents would take their children on walks in the meadow or the woods. There with our folks we would pick wild flowers, pussywillows, dogwood blossoms, autumn colored leaves, acorns, and houby!

Then, back to the house, sporting our treasures and always just in time for the delicious light supper Grandma had ready. This consisted of kolachky filled with cottage cheese, povidla and poppyseed, plus houska with jam and homemade butter. No one made coffee better than "Babi" (Grandma), partly because of the sweet smetana (cream) from the cows which Grandpa had just milked!

Later, the women cleared off the table and went into the kitchen to wash the dishes. Meanwhile, the men listened to the news on the radio via the Walter Winchell program. There was much fun in the kitchen as the women exchanged stories at the kitchen sink. This was somewhat of a production line - dishwasher, driers, and stackers. Many hands made light work! Strangely enough, the most "exalted" task was to be the dishwasher - a far cry from today's homes with automatic dishwashers in this era of avoiding the task completely. Incidentally - the young girls who were relegated to the mere task of wiping and drying, actually looked forward to becoming the dishwasher some day - because she was the first one finished!

Inasmuch as I preferred the more

cont.

THE IMPORTANCE OF JOINING THE CZECHOSLOVAK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY:

Due to the difficulty in doing Czechoslovak research, you can help both yourself and others who may be interested in collecting data on a certain area or surname in the U.S. or in Czechoslovakia by liaison between members to provide links of common interest. The society intends to maintain a master list of the Czechoslovak surnames, the districts, and towns of origin of our member's families. The society may also be able to help individual members locate missing relatives or groups of families who may have moved to various places throughout the U. S. after emigration to this country. Act now and help set up a major network of contacts for solving problems in your research.

CZECHOSLOVAK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OFFERS YOU:

--A WELCOME PACKET

Each new member will receive a packet of basic research information and forms.

--QUARTERLY MEETINGS

Meetings are held quarterly and consist of:

- 1) A variety of programs and speakers to inform our members.
- 2) Book reviews and cameo reports on a wide range of topics.
- 3) Sharing of resource materials and information.
- 4) "Help tables" maintained by experienced researchers available at each meeting.
- 5) Research books and materials for sale (discounts to members).

--NEWSLETTER

All members receive ten issues of Sokol Minnesota's "Slovo" newsletter published by the largest Czechoslovak organization in the state. The "Slovo" will contain our society's information including:

- 1) Notice of upcoming meetings and activities.
- 2) Up-to-date information on what's happening on Czechoslovak research in the U.S., Canada, and Europe.
- 3) Free research queries for members.
- 4) Notice of upcoming events in the Czechoslovak community-statewide.

exciting political conversation of the men over the "kitchen patter" of the women, I watched for my golden opportunity to slip back into the sitting room. There I could inject some of the knowledge I had learned from my history and social studies classes. My dad and Grandpa were proud that I was so well informed, which motivated me to do well in school. As I grew older I especially recall that there was great concern among all present for the safety of Czechoslovakia and America's future. The older folks were native born Czechs, now naturalized Americans, proud of their status as Americans, yet proud of their country of origin and its cultural and political achievements. Their children (my parents), and my aunts and uncles, making up the first generation Americans in our family, were bilingual. The grandchildren, myself included, could also speak both Czech and English, therefore we were able to relate to our elders' concerns. What a beautiful life we led, before the complexities of adulthood descended upon us - the lifestyle of our world changed with the arrival of World War II. Such was the world of the Košta farm - where weekends were brightened by visits from the DVOŘAK, PICHERT, KUŘATKO, KUNA, MASHEK, LISY, SRBENY, VOKATY, and FASHIMPAUR families, among many others, now long gone. If any of these surnames happen to ring a bell with my fellow Czech Heritage Foundation members, I would enjoy hearing from them.

Wynona (Nona) Lisy-Drews

OXFORD JUNCTION, IOWA

On October 27th, the Czech Heritage Fdn. of Cedar Rapids introduced itself to the young people of this community, in addition to almost fifty local residents. Our scheduled activities were a part of the Phase III program to aid in the preservation of Oxford Junction's local Czech heritage. Several Czech Heritage members took part in the event which took place in the Oxford Junction gym and featured lessons in music, history, language, culture, and more. Thanks, Oxford

Junction, for the invitation, and for the special interest and pride you take in your Czech heritage! Keep up the good work.

Vánoční stromek



Před štědrým dnem bývá na trhu mnoho stromků na prodej. Jsou to mladé smrky a jedle; jedličky jsou bujnější a mají tmavší a silnější jehličí. Jehličnaté stromky ty přinesli lidé z lesa. Berou se na vánoce smrčky a jedličky, protože mají rovný kmen a na všechny strany rozprostřené větve, a dobře se na ně dá věšeti cukroví a všelijaké hračky.

Na velkém smrku rostou dlouhé šišky, proto se také na vánoční stromky věšívají pozlátkem polepené šišky, ano i ořechy. Tenké listy, jehličky, se smrku ani v zimě neopadávají a na vánočním stromku také dlouho vydrží. Z kůry smrkové vytéká pryskyřice, která lípá se na prsty a na šaty. Aby na vánočním stromku bylo vše dobře viděti, dávají se naň také rozžaté svíčky. Jak se těším na vánoce a na štědrý den!

CHRISTMAS TREE

At the market the day before Christmas there are many trees for sale. They are young spruce and fir; the first are fuller and have a darker and stronger needle. The coniferous trees were brought from the forest by people. At Christmas the spruce and firs are taken because they have a straight trunk and full branches on all sides so that it is easy to hang larger pieces of confectionary and various toys.

Long cones grow on the large spruce trees; therefore on Christmas trees are hung cones decorated in gold, and even nuts. The thin leaves and needles of the fir trees do not fall off even in the winter and thus the Christmas tree will last very long. From the bark of the spruce seeps a resin which sticks to one's fingers and clothes. Lighted candles are put on the Christmas tree so that everything can be well seen. How I look forward to Christmas and Christmas Eve!

Article from the Druhá Čítanka, F. Zdrůbek, circa 1915. Translation courtesy of Sister Christine Elias, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

CZECH PLOWMEN COME TO IOWA

Iowa had the unique privilege of hosting the International Plowmen Assn. plowing contest at the Amana Colonies this fall during the World Agricultural Exposition. Twenty-six countries including the U.S. sent two contestants and a coach to participate. From Czechoslovakia came Jiří (George) Dondt, Vladimír Písek, and Miroslav Pospíšil.

In early spring Mae and I were asked if we would care to host one of the contestants. Well, you know us, we said we would be delighted!

On the Tuesday after the contest we picked up Vladimír Písek and he spent the day with us. It was a very short visit though as the three Czechs left for home on Wednesday from the Cedar Rapids airport.

Vladimír Písek is forty-eight years old and a very pleasant gentleman. His stay with us was interesting as he couldn't speak a word of English. Our minds were kept busy trying to answer his questions in Czech and at the same time we had many questions for him. The name Vladimír has no equivalent in



Mae Novotny, Jiří Dondt, Vladimír Písek, Miroslav Pospíšil, Frank Novotny Czech Village 9-11-88

English, but the word "Písek" means sand. Our guest is married, has a son and a daughter and two grandchildren. He works on a communal farm of five thousand acres and his job is to drive a tractor with a feed wagon for eight

hours a day. He feeds the six hundred dairy cows that the commune milk in shifts of one hundred and fifty each. The farm also raises replacement stock and feed out the bull calves to produce food. Vladimír's wages amount to about \$3.50 per day in our money. The communal farm is located near the Rip Mountain and the valley they are in is very similar to Iowa.

He was amazed at the way we live. We took him to a senior citizen pot-luck and to our polling place where we voted for our school director. After touring our school area we went to the farm of Clarence and Arlene Netolicky, who raise Duroc hogs and Angus cattle, which interested him. That evening we enjoyed another pot-luck at the Ely Community Center where about one hundred and thirty-five people gathered to visit with other plowmen that were hosted by different families throughout the community. The group sang Czech songs and danced a few polkas. The visiting went on until way after midnight.

Wednesday morning we visited for a short while, drove into Cedar Rapids, did some shopping, and then took Vladimír to the airport.

We will always remember the time we spent with Vladimír. It was a very memorable day and a half.

I could go on and on for pages; we had such a great time. Our new-found friend was very appreciative of everything we did for him. We received a letter just recently, inviting us to visit the Písek family so that they may repay us for the hospitality we extended to Vladimír. If we ever make the trip, I shall report again!

F.W. Novotny, Pres.

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SEE CZECHOSLOVAKIA with host John H. Marvin, teacher, lecturer, and genealogist from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. The tour runs from April 22nd to May 5th, 1989 and is sponsored by Brave New World Tours, P.O. Box 103, Spillville, Iowa 52168. Deluxe accommodations. See such cities as Gottwaldov, Litomyšl, Pilsen, Písek, Domazlice, and of course the "City of a Hundred Spires" Prague. Write today for more details!

EDUCATIONAL KITS FEATURE CZECH HERITAGE

Six units, each unique, are available for loan to your organization or classroom.

UNIT I. Miniature Museum. Case opens like a book to display dolls, garnets, beads, colored eggs, glassware, ceramic ware, and other crafts.

UNIT II. Case opens like a book with six pages displaying Czech postage stamps, puppets, types of architecture, and pages from story books in Czech and English. This kit also contains info on Spillville, Iowa, famous for the Bily Clocks and Dvořak's visit there.

UNIT III. Collection of objects which can be handled: toys, books, Christmas stockings and contents, Old Woman Winter, costumes, flag, plastic case with Sv. Mikuláš, Angel and Devil, and other items.

UNIT IV. Music for piano and also a tape of band music for the folk dance, BESEDA (Sousedska) along with directions for the dance.

UNIT V. Tapes of Czech lessons, polka music, classical music, stories, and other recordings.

UNIT VI. Slides of a trip through Czechoslovakia showing cities, fields, crops, villages, festivals, scenery, people, events, etc. Also a set of slides depicting the special exhibit of Czechoslovak Glass (1350-1980), which has been on loan to the Corning Glass Museum.

A guidebook accompanies each unit. Units may be borrowed individually or in sets by applicants who live within reasonable driving distance. For complete information regarding the EDUCATIONAL KITS write: Czech Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

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YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT?



BUCHTA, plural: **BUCHTY**

definition: a poppy seed, prune or fruit filled biscuit



KOLÁČ, plural: **KOLÁČE**

definition: an open faced round tart with poppy seed or other filling



KOLÁČEK, plural: **KOLÁČKY**

definition: a smaller version of the KOLÁČ

-10- Pastry item submitted by Steve Wencil of Owatonna, MN

Members are encouraged to share articles and news items with us. Please write to: John Rocarek,

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DARCIE NOVOTNY, seventeen, one of our 1988 ambassadors to Czechoslovakia, was selected as the Second Runner-Up in the 1989 Iowa Junior Miss Scholarship Program. The event was held in Ottumwa, Iowa on November 12th. Darcie also placed second in the scholastic achievement competition.

Miss Novotny has also been chosen as Linn-Mar High School's representative to the 1989 Youth Inaugural Conference held in Washington D.C. January 17th - 21st. The trip will include attending a performance at the Kennedy Center and a breakfast meeting at the National Press Club. Darcie will also be attending Inaugural ceremonies and an Inaugural Ball.

Our past ambassador is the daughter of Duane and Fran Novotny of Marion.

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EDUCATION - CZECH STYLE

It has been the privilege of the Czech Heritage Fdn. to present our Educational Kit to several of the schools in the Cedar Rapids area. We take various sections of our Educational Unit and in cooperation with the Volunteer Office present our Czech heritage to the student body. Generally an entire week is scheduled at each school during which time the students are exposed to our speech, music, customs, food, costumes, and the Mini Museum. It is always a very rewarding experience. We visit three schools a year, and this year went to Van Buren, Nixon, and Johnson Elementary Schools.

In addition to these week-long events, several people within our organization make individual presentations at different schools upon request. It takes many people to continue this program, and we want to take this opportunity to publicly thank all those who have volunteered in the past and continue to give us their undivided support. Thank you.

F.W. Novotny, Pres.

NOTICE: The following amendments to the articles of incorporation of Czech Heritage Foundation of Cedar Rapids, Inc. will be proposed for adoption at the annual meeting of the membership January 16, 1989 at 7:00 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 336 27th Ave. S.W. Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Resolved: that article VII of the Articles of Incorporation be amended by deleting the existing article VII in entirety and substituting a new article as follows:

The Board of Directors shall, by a majority vote of all of the directors of the corporation then in office, have the power to adopt, amend and repeal By-Laws that are consistent with the Articles of Incorporation.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

Resolved: that article X of the Articles of Incorporation be amended by deleting the existing article X in its entirety and substituting the following new article:

All matters pertaining to the annual meeting of the members, elections, voting and vacancies in office shall be included in the By-Laws.

The above amendments have been approved by the Board of Directors.

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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We now have over twelve hundred members. One half of our membership resides in Cedar Rapids. The other half is evenly divided between other Iowans and members living out of state.

In the March issue we sent out a plea to our membership to help us meet our goal of 100% representation in each of our country's fifty states. We are pleased to report that while we have not yet reached 100% representation,

we are getting close. Thanks to you we now have members in Alaska, Hawaii, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Louisiana. We still haven't heard from Delaware, Maine, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

* * * * *

The following information from Thomas Capek's THE CECHS IN AMERICA (1920) helps us to understand why our goal is not easily met. The chart below shows where those whose mother tongue was Cech settled, as determined by 1910 Federal Census figures.

DISTRIBUTION OF STOCK ACCORDING TO STATES ¹

Illinois	124,225	California	3,707
Nebraska	50,680	Massachusetts	3,010
Ohio	50,004	Washington	2,984
New York	47,400	Colorado	2,903
Wisconsin	45,336	Connecticut	2,693
Texas	41,080	Indiana	2,126
Minnesota	33,247	Oregon	1,709
Iowa	32,050	Montana	1,653
Pennsylvania	13,045	Virginia	1,059
Missouri	13,928	Arkansas	778
Kansas	11,603	Wyoming	671
Michigan	10,130	Idaho	663
So. Dakota	9,043	West Virginia	535
Maryland	9,109	Rhode Island	346
No. Dakota	7,387	Kentucky	305
New Jersey	6,656	Utah	268
Oklahoma	5,613	Alabama	184
Tennessee	179	Florida	92
New Mexico	175	Nevada	84
Louisiana	173	So. Carolina	71
District of Columbia	135	Mississippi	61
Georgia	127	New Hampshire	44
Delaware	121	Maine	41
Arizona	97	No. Carolina	16

¹ Thirtieth Census of the U.S., 1910: Mother Tongue of the Foreign White Stock, Table 17, pp. 985-86.



The Distribution of the Stock in the United States. Altogether 325 centers are marked on the map on each of which live more than one hundred people of Cech birth and descent.

It will be seen that the stock is bulked in the Middle West. South of the Mason and Dixon line, Texas comes first with considerable Cech population, and Oklahoma next.

THE CZECH HERITAGE SINGERS of Cedar Rapids participated in the Iowa City Folk Arts Festival in June, the Czech Museum Annual Radiothon, and sang in September at the Main Entertainment Area for the World Agricultural Exposition.

We number about thirty members and are dedicated to the preservation of the Czech folk songs as they were popular in our area in the first half of the twentieth century. The chorus especially enjoys singing the music of Vaclav Blaha and Karel Vacek, two composers who were very popular in Czechoslovakia in the 1930's.

Our singing group and the Czech Plus Polka Band provided a charming close to the week-long "Festival of Czechoslovakian Music" at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, November 14th through the 20th. They sang and played and danced their way into the hearts and memories of not only Wisconsin area residents of Czech descent, but also of visiting well-known Czech Musicologists and composers. Enjoying the festivities were Peter Eben of Prague - Master organist and composer; Karel Husa - composer and teacher from New York, originally from Czechoslovakia; and Josef Suk of Prague - a great grandson of Antonín Dvořák and a Master violinist in his own right.

Czech Plus presented a one hour dance-concert featuring nostalgic melodies of old Czechoslovakia in addition to new Czech material. Norb and Vera Banowetz and Larry and Arlene Spina contributed greatly with their colorful dancing steps. The Czech Heritage Singers presented an hour of wonderful melodies, and Elmer Netolicky and Emil Lamparek entertained the audience with their button accordions. The band closed the program with their second hour of music during which the audience delighted in the folk dances of Čechy, including "Šla nanyňka" and The Butterfly." The evening was a complete success.

The band played for a benefit dance at Blessed Sacrament Church, with the proceeds going to the Lakewood Chorale for their European Concert Tour scheduled for next summer.

On Sunday morning the Czech Plus Band, with the help of leaders from the Czech Heritage Singers, presented the Czech Plus Marian Polka Mass at

-12- Edgewood College. The congregation heard each hymn sung once in Czech and then responded with the English version. A brunch was then served at which there was an opportunity to meet our distinguished guests from Czechoslovakia before their departure to the airport. O. Drahozal

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TIME CAPSULE FOUND

On Sunday, November 6th, members of the St. Wenceslaus Church congregation in Cedar Rapids took a trip back in time. The year - 1894. Demolition of the church school earlier this fall uncovered a long-forgotten time capsule. During Sunday Mass the capsule was opened and found inside were six newspapers and a letter. The letter, written in Czech, explained what the school cost to start and the names of the papers enclosed. The papers were the Narod, now the Voice of the Nation, printed in Berwyn, Ill., Hlas, printed in St. Louis, Mo., the Czechoslovakian, the Katolic and the Pretel Diek, all printed in Chicago. They were wrapped in a copy of The Evening Republican, which is now The Cedar Rapids Gazette. From an article in the Nov. 7th issue of The Cedar Rapids Gazette

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WHIFFENPOOFS

Since 1909 Yale's all male singing entourage has held fast to their traditions: Dinner at Mory's every Monday evening, followed by song; maintaining a sacred respect for the group's most prominent and revered alumnus, Cole Porter; and the most public tradition, Tap Night, the annual "lambing," when graduating seniors choose their successors. One tradition appears to be a bit of a mystery to those not in the group. Parading onto the stage at the opening of each concert, the Whiffenpoofs' first song is always the same - "Aj Lučka, Lučka," a Bohemian marching song.

Nov.'88 Town & Country

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BRAIN FOOD

Since organizing over fifteen years ago, our foundation has been in the business of collecting and distributing publications in an effort to preserve and share our Czech heritage.

Not all of them were published by our cont.

foundation. Some of the works were written by foundation members, others were not. All of the items listed below do however have one very important thing in common. They all, in their own way, protect our heritage and culture from ever being forgotten.

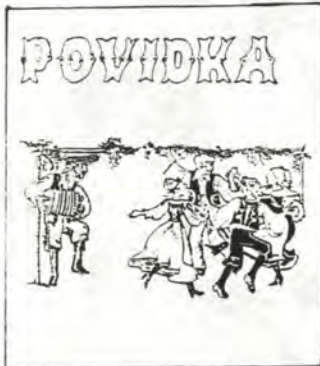
ORDER TODAY FOR CHRISTMAS DELIVERY
Write to Czech Heritage Fdn. Elmer Netolicky,

Make checks payable to the Czech Heritage foundation. *Please add \$1.50 mailing charges for one to three books. Merchants and organizations may inquire for wholesale prices on quantities of ten or more of the same title. Prices subject to change.



Příslloví (Proverbs)
Words of wisdom passed down from generations. Czech with English translation. Compiled by Charles E. Krejci. 7"x 8 1/2", Brown cover, 112 pages. \$3.50*

Povidka (Sayings)
Released just last year with Příslloví. Stories and rhymes, riddles, and verse. Czech/English. By Charles E. Krejci. 7"x 8 1/2", Brown cover, 87 pages. \$3.00*



Meet the Czech Language in Nature, Family, and our Heritage Conversational and easy to use. By M. Melvina Svec. 8 1/2"x 11", 48 pages. \$2.50*

Czechoslovak Wit and Wisdom includes kolache recipes, Czech Nat'l Anthems, Prune Song, and of course Czech wit and wisdom. Czech/English. Compiled by Pat Martin, Pub.-Penfield Press. 5 1/2"x 8 1/2", 40 pages, \$2.95



Fables From Czechoslovakia
Ten delightful childrens' stories from the "Old Country." Translated into English by M. Melvina Svec. Illus. by Jean E. King. 7"x 9", 36 pages. \$1.50*

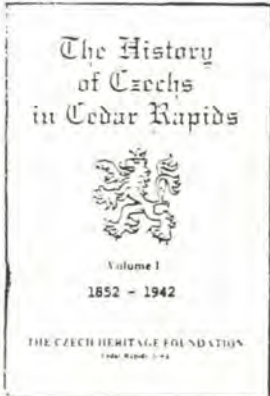
Pohádky naši matínky s tatínkovými Obrázky
Same as Fables From Czechoslovakia, except this one's the original Czech version by F.J. Andrlík and A. Kratkeho, circa 1930. 7"x 9", 48 pages. \$2.50*



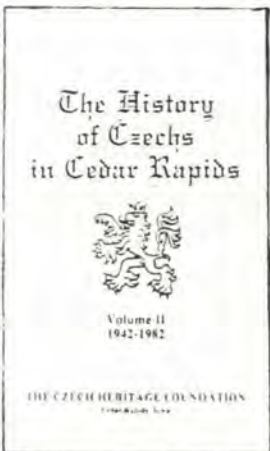
The Czech Book
Favorite Czech recipes and traditions in English. Stories and colored photos of costumes, bakery, and our people. By Pat Martin, publisher-Penfield Press. 6"x 9", 64 pages. \$3.75*

*Please add \$1.50 mailing charges for one to three books.

My Czech Word Book, ABC's
An introduction to the Czech alphabet, widely illustrated by Jean E. King. Text by M. Melvina Svec. 8 1/2"x 11", 26 pages, \$1.50*

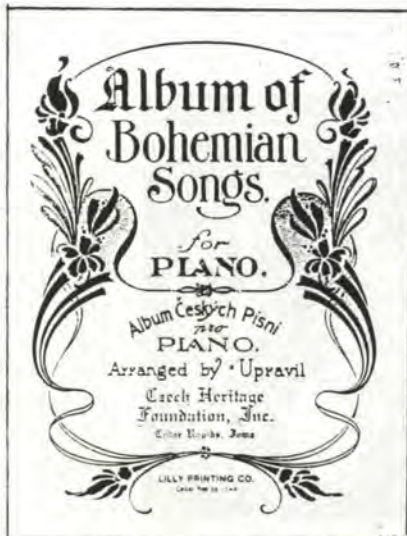


The History of Czechs in Cedar Rapids Vol. I 1852-1942 English. Chronicle of persons, places, organizations, and events. Complete with 227 footnotes. By Martha Griffith. Red cover, 5 1/2"x 8 1/2", 96 pages, \$2.00*



The History of Czechs in Cedar Rapids Vol. II 1942-1982 English. Sequel to Vol. I. Compiled and edited by our foundation. Includes index for both Vol. I and II. 5 1/2"x 8 1/2", 112 pages. \$3.50* Set of Vol. I & Vol. II \$5.00*

Album of Bohemian Songs for Piano
Fifty-one Czech and Slovak songs. Music with both clefs, words in Czech, and English story-lines. Red cover. 8 1/2"x 11", 62 pages. \$3.50*



*Please add \$1.50 mailing charges for one to three books.

JUST OFF THE PRESS!

A twenty-six page booklet about the MONTHS IN THE YEAR. Cover in color. 7 1/2"x 10 1/2". Pictures date back to the 1880-1900 era. The title says, "If it is warm, if it is cold, on our earth everything makes us happy." On page two is the story of the names of the months. The original book was a gift to the Czech Heritage Fdn. from Richard Julis of Cedar Rapids. It was one from his mother's collection. Translated by M. Melvina Svec. Additional illustrations are by Jean E. King who created the drawings for My Czech Word Book, ABC's which is now in its eighth printing. \$3.50* each or three for \$10.00*



A ninety-seven year-young friend was given this book for her birthday and she was thrilled to read the meaning of the months' names and was pleased with the pictures. The illustrations took her back to her childhood when her own storybooks had similar pictures of cute children. ORDER NOW FOR PRE-CHRISTMAS DELIVERY!

"A TASTE OF CZECH CULTURE"

"On that long, straight stretch of I-35 that cuts beside grainfields north of Waco, the town of West, Texas, is known best as 'a kolache stop'... Four bakeries begin working as early as 3:00 a.m. to make kolaches... The Westfest in West, September 3-4, draws about 35,000 visitors. 'That's pretty good for a town of 2,500 people,'... 'Last year 25,392 kolaches, 432 strudels, and over 2,659 pounds of sausage were sold during the festival.'... in West and dozens of other Czech communities, descendants of immigrant settlers still share a love of their heritage."

Excerpted from a recent issue of Southern Living Magazine
Submitted by E. Kopecek

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MILOŠ FORMAN (b.2-18-32) Časlav, Czechoslovakia. The well-known film director has received many awards for his productions. The most recent such recognition (OSCAR) came for the movie "Amadeus." The complete works of this talented director are now being bought for distribution in Czechoslovakia, twenty years after he left his native land.

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'88 - '89 ?

Check the mailing label affixed to this issue. Is your name and address correct? If not please let us know. Above your name is a date. If your label reads 88, its time for you to renew your membership for 1989.

Michigan Slavic Publications

THE CZECHS IN THE UNITED STATES

by Joseph Chada paper, \$10.00

EARLY SLAVIC LIVES OF SAINTS AND PRINCES

by Marvin Kantor
Michigan Slavic Translations, 5
ISBN 0-930042-44-1 cloth, \$15.00

HUSSITE MOVEMENT

A Bibliographic Study Guide by J. K. Zeman
Reformation in Central Europe, 1
ISBN 0-930042-00-X cloth, \$15.00

Checks should be made payable to the University of Michigan and sent to

Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures
The University of Michigan
Modern Languages Building
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109

Our thanks to member Bruce Janda, of Livonia, Michigan, for the book information above.

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MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 1989 ARE DUE NOW!
Yearly membership runs from January 1st to December 31st. RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

DUES TIME IS HERE AGAIN! Dues remain at only \$3.00 per person per year. Don't delay. Why not consider a gift membership for someone for Christmas? Your dues and generous donations help to fund several worthwhile endeavors, among them: Czech Prince and Princess sponsorship, financial support to the Czech Museum, adult Czech language classes, Homestay Program, along with publishing the quarterly Naše České Dědictví and other numerous publications - presented on pages 13 & 14 . The list of Czech Heritage projects goes on and on...

Please check proper item: Renewal New Member Gift Membership

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

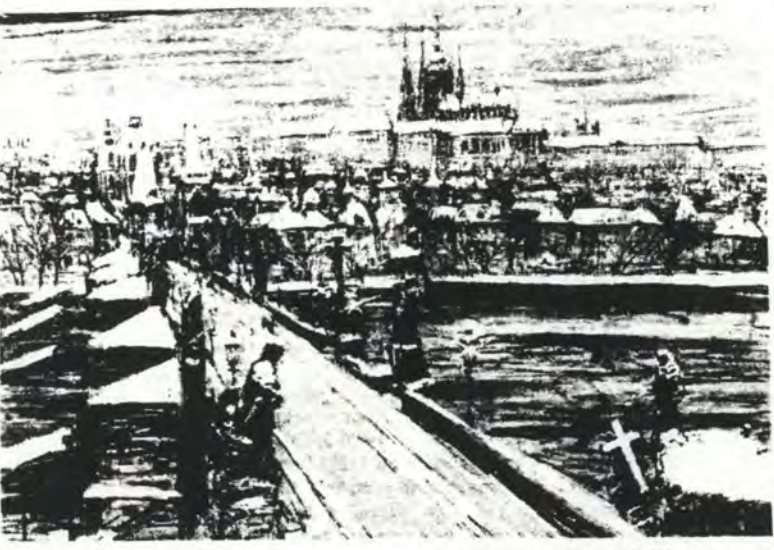
Address _____ Zip _____

Make check payable and mail to: Czech Heritage Fdn., P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Membership Dues \$ _____ Donation \$ _____ Gift Membership \$ _____

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 !

Winter view of Charles Bridge and the Castle Heights - Hradčany in Prague



6. listopadu 1988 Nedělní Hlasatel

OF LOCAL INTEREST

Important - The ZCJB Park is not for sale! Input is needed on how to make this favorite summertime meeting place profitable once more. Pass your ideas along to your WFLA lodge executive.

IOWA PUBLIC TELEVISION will present an hour long program about Czechoslovakia and her people on December 21st at 8:00 p.m.

"Between 1892 and 1954, 17 million fled the wars, famines and pogroms of the Old World for Ellis Island... When the Ellis Island Immigration Museum opens next fall, visitors will be able to experience the place of so many American beginnings... the facility that once processed 1 million people a year is being restored... The project has turned up remnants small and large of the island's history... The most revealing glimpses are the thousands of artifacts, from tradesmen's tools to teddy bears, sent in by immigrants and their descendants, in response to an appeal from the National Park Service... Donated artifacts include spectacles from Scotland, watches from Ireland, hand-painted eggs from Czechoslovakia, riding boots from... These artifacts, along with oral histories and a reference library, will preserve the stories of all America's immigrants...

Excerpted from 11-21-88
U.S. News and World Report
Submitted by B. Stone

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