

# NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE

Vol. 14 - No. 4  
Dec. 1989

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



## CALENDAR 1990 KALENDÁŘ

### JANUARY

- 15 Mon. ANNUAL MEETING, Czech Heritage & Fine Arts Foundations 7:30 p.m. (page 8)
- 8&10 M&W CZECH LANGUAGE CLASSES begin in Cedar Rapids (page 7)

### MARCH

- 18 Sun. ST. JOSEPH'S DANCE (page 2)

### MAY

- 18-20 ESS HOUBY DAYS (page 5)
- 26&27 S&S ETHNIC FEST (Details in the Spring issue)

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### OUR NEW PRINCE AND PRINCESS

At the Fall Festival in September two new representatives of our organization were elected. Our princess is Janet Kopecky, daughter of Ernie and Helen Kopecky of Cedar Rapids. Our prince is Brian Faltis, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Faltis of Swisher. Sarah Novotny, daughter of Russell and Linda Novotny, and Zac Steiner, son of Leonard and Carol Steiner, were selected runners-up. We look forward to having Janet and Brian represent the Czech Heritage Fdn. at future dances and festivals. Congratulations!

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### MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 1990 ARE DUE NOW!

Yearly membership runs from January 1st to December 31st. PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

## VÍTÁM VÁS! GREETINGS!

My goodness, here it is time to write an article for the newsletter. It seems that '89 really slipped by us on a run. Maybe it is going the regular gait, but we are slowing down. As far as the Czech Heritage Foundation is concerned, I believe we had a wonderful, but busy year, and it was all due to your help and cooperation. This is my tenth year as your president, and Mae and I have enjoyed all ten of them. This last year has been rather hectic healthwise for Mae and I, but we are fortunate to have been able to cope with our problems. Given a little time we hope that we will be able to polka again. Thanks to your moral support and help, we were able to cope with each situation. A nominating committee has been appointed for the coming year and so time will tell who will be greeting you in future issues of the newsletter. I must say it has been a pleasure to serve you.

Frank W. Novotny, Pres.

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### A NEW CITY PARK FOR CEDAR RAPIDS

Preliminary plans are underway for a welcome addition to our city's southeast side. This month Parks Commissioner Kramer along with several engineers from various departments met with Frank Novotny and Charles Krejci from the Czech Heritage Fdn. and Edward Kuba and Joe Vondracek representing the Southside Self-Improvement Organization to discuss the project. The designated area is adjacent to the new Bridge of the Lions on the east side. Tentative plans are to tie into the riverbank park the sidewalk advertising recently salvaged from in front of the old C.S.P.S. Hall on 3rd Street. The advertising which still lies in front of the old Z.C.B.J. Hall, also on 3rd Street, will be incorporated into the new park as well.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The nominating committee has been formed and are currently seeking interested parties to run for vacancies on the board. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors, or if you know of someone who would make a good candidate, please contact any one of the following: Adeline Volesky, Chairwoman

Netolicky ; Elmer  
Peterson ; Sherlee

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ARE YOU INTERESTED in seeing a Czech Archives and Cultural Center in Cedar Rapids? Not only is it important that we preserve our heritage, it is even more important that we share it with others. A committee has been formed to look into the establishment of a facility. Interested? Contact John Rocarek, Feasibility Study Chairman,

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CHANGE

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CHANGE

We are living in a rapidly changing world. Each day the political scene in Europe is different. Many of us are finding it difficult to find the words to express our feelings. To our friends and relatives in Czechoslovakia - YOU ARE IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS EACH DAY.

V duši vlast, vpaži sílu, v srdci smelost

Your country in your soul, your strength in your willing arms, and courage in your heart

ST. JOSEPH'S DANCE

-2- Time to get out your dancing shoes and join your friends at the Annual St. Joseph's Dance. There are some changes this year due to fact that the Eagles Club has moved to new quarters. We felt that their new location would not be feasible for our dance, so we are in the process of making other arrangements. The dance will be held on March 18th, which is on a Sunday evening. This year the hours will be from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. with an intermission at 6:30, at which time lunch will be sold, and some presentations offered.

This dance is the annual fundraiser for our Homestay Program. Thanks to your attendance and support the program is going into its sixth year. After sending our two ambassadors to Czechoslovakia next summer, we will have sent twenty-five students for a four week stay to the "old country" for an experience of a lifetime. Tickets to the dance will be available from our board members and friends in advance for \$3.00, and \$3.50 at the door. A bake sale will also be held in conjunction with the dance, and door prizes will be given.

Frank W. Novotny, Pres.

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1990 SOKOL CONVENTION  
April 28th. Ft. Worth, Texas. Czech is the third most common language in Texas. English and Hispanic rate one and two.



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AMBASSADORS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Two ambassadors have been chosen to represent the Czech-American community in our area for next year's homestay. Our representatives will attend adult Czech language classes this winter and will be involved with several orientations with our committee before their journey next summer. The grant recipients for 1990 are Todd Slezak, son of Wayne and Judith Slezak of Swisher, Iowa, and Kristin Machacek, daughter of David and Marcia Machacek of Alburnett, Iowa. We congratulate Todd and Kristin and look forward to working with them in the coming months.

Homestay Program Committee

# Czech Museum

10 - 16TH AVENUE S.W.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, 52404 319-362-8500

## CZECH MUSEUM GIFT SHOP & CHRISTMAS SHOP

Visitors to the Museum Gift Shop will delight in the lovely selection of handmade crafts available for Christmas giving. An array of publications, and items imported from Czechoslovakia will also be available. The Museum Christmas Shop features an expanded selection of lovely old-world glass, Christmas tree ornaments, and tree tops, all from Czechoslovakia. The ornaments are handmade from blown glass, using molds, some of which were originally created in the 19th century. Finishing touches are put on by artists who hand-paint each individual ornament. Ornaments, ranging from the traditional Santas, angels, musical instruments, "indents", and birds, to the more unique pickles and pink pigs, offer a variety to satisfy any and all tastes. Both shops are open on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT FUNDRAISER

The Czech Fine Arts Foundation is gearing-up for its 5th Annual Christmas Ornament Fundraiser. Genuine hand-blown glass ornaments from Czechoslovakia will be available for sale at various locations in our area during the month of December. Proceeds will go toward the operation of the Czech Museum.

Patricia Hikiji

## SV. MIKULÁŠ DANCE - NEW LOCATION

The 6th Annual Sv. Mikuláš Dance sponsored by the Czech Fine Arts Foundation was held on Sunday, December 3rd. This yearly get-together helps to raise money for the operation of the Czech Museum. For the first time the dance was held at the new Elk's Lodge at 801 33rd Ave. S.W., and the music was provided by "Dave Franklin and the Party Time Band." The new facility was enjoyed by everyone and the evening was a complete success.

VESELÉ VÁNOCE A ŠTĚSTNÝ NOVÝ ROK!  
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

-3- SV. MIKULÁŠ DAY was celebrated on the Avenue December 2nd. In spite of the extremely cold temperature and high winds, Mikuláš, the angel and the devil, made their way to the local shops up and down the Avenue. Also, the Czech Museum was open all day to receive guests. Special displays featured the Christmas arts and crafts of Czechoslovakia. Demonstrations were offered in the fine art of peroutky making, the creating of traditional centerpieces (including the Sprouted Grain, the Hedgehog, and the Hawthorn Stem), and the making of "Good Luck" branches. The traditions of gingerbread cookie-decorating, and the creating of poppyseed pretzels was also demonstrated. The children's play, "The Visit of St. Nicholas, the Angel, and the Devil," was presented at Joens Bros. Interiors on the Avenue. The play is based on a chapter in the book, HAPPY TIMES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, by Libushka Bartusek, and explains the meaning of Mikuláš's traditional visit. In spite of the uncooperative weather over fifty attended the play's performance, staged by the Czech School children. Following the play, the Czech Heritage Singers braved the freezing weather and sang several songs on the Avenue, and offered a fine performance. Let's all hope for better weather next year!

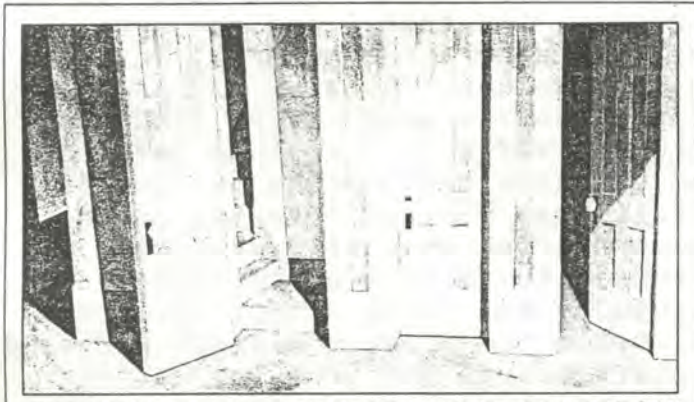
## Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.

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WE'D LIKE TO THANK all of those who purchased raffle tickets for the Experiment in International Living Homestay Program fund-raiser. Several hundred dollars each year have been collected for the advancement of this important activity. The drawing was held at the Fall Festival in September and the winner of the hand-crafted wooden goose was Jon Sebetka of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The original scenic oil painting was won by Mrs. L. B. Richler of Sarona, Wisconsin. Our very special thanks go to Bill Kupka for donating the magnificent wooden goose sculpture, and to Elma Buresh for the beautiful scenic oil painting. Their generously donated creations have helped to fund one of our foundation's most acclaimed efforts.

**THE KOUBAS AND ART**

The Czech Heritage Foundation has been very fortunate to have been able to claim Robert R. Kouba and the late Eva Frances Kouba as members. They were very active participants and instrumental in making many of our projects a success. Eva passed away and lately Robert, or "Bob" as he likes to be called, moved to the East Coast to live with his daughter and family. We still keep in contact with Bob, who by the way is an Honorary Director, but now we find him in the local news. When a recent issue of the Cedar Rapids Gazette Weekender featured the Koubas, we felt that we should share this story with our membership.



"Four Exits," a 1954 oil on canvas, is one of two Marvin Cone works that have been given to the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art. "Four Exit" and "Rolling Hills" were donated by Robert R. Kouba, Cedar Rapids.

**Cone works to Museum of Art**

Two paintings by Marvin D. Cone have been given to the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art by Robert R. Kouba of Cedar Rapids.

They are "Four Exits" and "Rolling Hills." Kouba and his late wife, Eva Frances, residents of New York City at the time, bought the paintings directly from Cone while visiting in Cedar Rapids. Kouba does not recall the year in which the purchases were made.

The couple went to Cone's studio hoping to buy "an Iowa barn painting."

"Cone said he didn't have any barn paintings he could offer us," Kouba recalls, "but he brought out 'Rolling Hills.' We liked it and decided to buy it.

"Then Cone brought out some of the doorways and ghosts he had been doing. I remember that he showed us how you could hang 'Four Exits' right side up or upside down.

"We decided to buy that one, too. He was very pleased that the paintings would be going to New York."

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It is wonderful that people like the Koubas are willing to share their treasures with the public. A sincere thank you to Bob and Eva.

F. Novotny, Pres.

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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 89, it is time for you to renew your membership for 1990.

**ANIMALS**

H U S A Z T N P M K Ā K J  
 E T Ŕ P A E O Q Ž Ā B A J  
 A Z O K T L K O E M Y Š Z  
 Ů P E S Y E N P L A B U T'  
 S L E P I C E A V Ā U Ň Y  
 G O T N K G G R A P X Ů X  
 M N T O O T N Š T M N K A  
 O T H M E Z E K A Ř R O O  
 K O H O U T N P F O Z Ā M  
 N C H B C K Ů A P C P U K N  
 F Ě K D I K M A R S T A H  
 H W U X Y Z N S T N T Ě G

Can you find the animals that are hiding in the puzzle?

HUSA	TELE	PES	MYŠ
SLEPICE	KŮŇ	LABUT'	MEZEK
KOZA	KOČKA	ŽÁBA	KOHOUT

Developed by Holly Upah for Czech Summer School, 1989. For answer and translations see page 7.

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WORDS TO LIVE BY

Your ulcer can't grow while you're laughing.

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The best way for a housewife to have a few minutes to herself at the close of the day is to start doing the dishes.

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There is one day with a motto, which, if acted upon for 365 days a year, would do much good. That is July 11th, National

Cheer-up-the-Sad-and-Lonely-Day, sponsored by Frank Pesek of Battle Creek, Michigan. The purpose of the day is "to cheer up those around you who are sad and lonely, with a friendly smile, a warm handshake, and a kind word." Perhaps every day should be such a day.

From Sunshine Magazine, 1973  
 Submitted by J. Kralik

**Czech Village Association, Inc.**

**59 16th Ave. S.W.**

**Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404**

**SV. Mikuláš in  
Czech Village**



Czech Village is looking forward to expanded projects for 1990. Houby Days will be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 18th - 20th, with new ideas already in the works! The Czech Village Assoc. was recently granted a non-profit status. Business memberships or associate memberships will soon be available. For more information contact Ray Snitil at

Information was gathered from the City of Cedar Rapids, Linn County, and the State of Iowa, regarding grant money that might be available. Four grant applications have been submitted with favorable comments already received. Possible funds available for:

- 1) Promotional material
  - a. Advertising
  - b. Printed material, as in posters, maps, flyers
- 2) Historical improvement
  - a. Kiosk repair and maintenance
  - b. Bandstand repair
  - c. Clocktower and island repair and maintenance

Any questions regarding grant funds availability may be directed to Kristine Jones at the Saddle and Leather Shop,

N. Barta

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MERCHANTS SAY "NO" TO NEW NAME CHANGE

Czech Village merchants put a halt to the passing of petitions last month which would have had a portion of 16th Avenue changed to be known as "The Avenue of the Lions." The petition sought to change not only the Czech Village area, but also a section of 14th Avenue on the east bank of the river. The idea was to draw attention to this area by using the lion theme focusing on the "Bridge of the Lions." Not all of the businesses were against the promotion, but clearly not enough support was garnered to continue with the effort.

VESELÉ VÁNOCE A ŠTĀSTNÝ NOVÝ ROK!

THE VISIT OF ST. NICHOLAS

On St. Nicholas Day, children are visited by the traditionally dressed figure of St. Nicholas (Mikuláš), who is accompanied by the Angel (Anděl), carrying her record book and pen, and the Devil (Čert), rattling his heavy chain. Each child, at each home, is asked by St. Nicholas if he or she has been good during the year. A favorable response is rewarded with candy, fruit, or cookies from the Angel. An unfavorable response earns a lump of coal from the Devil. On this day gingerbread cookies are handed out, sometimes in the shape of St. Nicholas, the Angel, and the Devil, or in the form of hearts, birds, or other interesting shapes.

P. Hikiji

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Sv. Mikulas wasn't the only visitor on the Avenue December 2nd. Leonard Pfeifer gave us one last look at the top prize winner of the Downtown Christmas Parade.

TOP HONORS GO TO NAVAJO NIGHTSTALKERS

On Saturday, November 18th, the people of Cedar Rapids were given the opportunity to see what "our Czech heritage" is really all about. Early that morning, while many of us were still in our cozy little beds, members of the Pfeifer family were busy putting the finishing touches on what was later that morning to be chosen as the sweepstakes winner in the Downtown Christmas Parade. Their winning float, "The Mystical Magic of an Old-Fashioned Christmas - Czech Style," was truly a sight to behold. The theme incorporated a Czech angel, Czech-laced cottages and hand-crafted Czech dolls dancing through the streets of Old Prague. Hours of work went into the masterpiece that shined above the other ninety-three entries.

cont.

For years the Pfeifers have participated in festivals and parades, featuring their family's Navajo Indian ancestry. But this year it was decided the float would have a Czech theme. Why? Leonard Pfeifer offered this explanation, "Last summer our son Tim was one of the students chosen to go to Czechoslovakia in the Czech Heritage Foundation's Homestay



Program. Thanks to the efforts of this group, Tim was able to spend a month with a host family there and experience the Czech culture and traditions first hand. The float is our family's way of saying thank you to the Czech Heritage Foundation and to the Czech community who support it."



We in turn would like to thank the Pfeifer family for sharing their love and pride of their Czech ancestry with us all, and for giving us the opportunity to see what "our Czech heritage" is really all about.

Photos courtesy of Wes & Olga Drahozal

JOSEF LADA dropped out of college after discovering a fairly decent living could be made by selling his cartoon creations to newspaper and magazine companies. He is best known as the illustrator who conjured-up the unforgettable image of Švejk.



1.2.  
3.4.



1. Švejk
2. Pavilec, the inn-keeper
3. Mrs. Muller
4. Lieutenant Dub - figures from the well-known novel "The Good Soldier Švejk"

Jaroslav Hašek, author of the character Švejk, at one time shared an apartment with Lada. It was during this period that the two Czechs teamed up to chronicle the Good Soldier's activities which appeared in serial form in the magazine Karikatury.

Lada's characterizations and drawings are timeless and have graced hundreds of volumes for over sixty years.

Children from all across Czechoslovakia are familiar with his books. Two favorites are *Moje Abeceda* (My ABC), and *Svět Zvířat* (The Animal World). His popular



animal portrayals depict members of the animal kingdom in humanlike roles, playing musical instruments, eating at the table, etc...

Aside from his light-hearted work with cartoon characters and the hundreds

cont.

of animated barnyard inhabitants he drew for his young followers, Lada found time to produce several important works of art. The artist's landscapes and rural scenes have appeared on many picture postcards, and his rare talent has earned him the title in Czechoslovakia of "National Treasure."



Josef Lada was born in Hrusice, a small village about thirty kilometers southeast of Prague. In his autobiography, "Kronika mého života" (The Chronicle of My Life), Lada admits to having led a charmed life. It's the story of a poor cobbler's son who goes on to widespread recognition in his field. It's the story of a man who truly loved what he did for a living, and derived great pleasure from being able to share the results of his talent with those around him. Josef Lada died on the day before his seventieth birthday, on December 14, 1957.

Information and illustrations from 4/87 Welcome to Czechoslovakia

ANIMALS

H U S A Z T N P M K Ā K J	HUSA - GOOSE
E T Ř P A E O Q Ž Ā B A J	SLEPICE - HEN
A Z O K T L K O E M Y Š Z	KOZA - GOAT
Ů P E S Y E N P L A B U T	TELE - CALF
S L E P I C E A V Ā U Ń Y	KŮŇ - HORSE
G O T N K G G R A P X Ů X	KOČKA - CAT
M N T O O T N Š T M N K A	PES - DOG
O T H M E Z E K A Ř R O O	LABUŤ - SWAN
K O H O U T N P F O Z Č M	ŽĀBA - FROG
N C H B C K Ů A P C P U K N	MYŠ - MOUSE
F Ě K D I K M A R S T Ā H	MEZEK - MULE
H W U X Y Z N S T N T Ě G	KOHOUT-ROOSTER

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THE CZECH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OF TEXAS is seeking donations to permanently endow a chair for Czech Studies at a major Texas university. The C.E.F.T. tells us, "Our goal is not just a dream based on unrealistic hopes. About one-half of the required \$500,000 HAS ALREADY BEEN RAISED." Two universities have pledged to match this figure with another \$500,000 for a total endowment of 1,000,000. "We know that there are many more Czech-Americans living in Texas and elsewhere in the United States who care deeply about the preservation of Czech language and culture and who will be willing to contribute once they understand the great importance and feasibility of our project." Send your donations and pledges to: The C.E.F.T. Czech Chair, Ben Trcalek, Jr., Treas. Route 3, Box 111A, Caldwell, TX 77836

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WON'T YOU JOIN US?

A two hour conversational Czech language class sponsored by the Czech Heritage Foundation for both beginners and the advanced will begin in January. Beginners will meet on Mondays starting January 8th. The advanced class will meet on Wednesdays beginning January 10th. Classes start at 7:00 p.m. and will be taught by Olga Drahozal. A nominal fee will cover the cost of materials and tuition for the twelve week course. For more information contact John Rocarek, or call after 6:00 p.m.

ALICE MICKISH HENDRICKSON has spent over sixty-five years in the kitchen. Truly a labor of love. Three hundred and seventy-five of her time-tested, easy to read recipes are featured in a new book.



A PRAIRIE KITCHEN SAMPLER, written by Alice's daughter, is "More than a Cookbook... More than a Storybook." This four hundred thirty-five page, hard cover delight captures a giant slice of Americana. It combines kitchen classics with priceless stories about barn dances, chivarees, and down-home family gatherings. Glimpses of life on a Nebraska farm are offered, remembering occasions such as lilac day on the family homestead, electricity coming to the house, and the advent of running water in the kitchen. Just before she married, Alice learned to bake and cook with a corncob-fired cookstove, using recipes handed down from her mother and future mother-in-law. A combination of three ethnic heritages make up the basis of

-8-her cooking style, Czech, German, and Irish.

Czech recipes included in the treasury are - several variations of kolaches, Babicky's Rye Bread, houska, rohliky, sausage making, and liver dumplings, thanks to the families Fiala and Miller.

Excerpt from page 160 - "Can she bake a cherry pie, Billy Boy, Billy Boy? Can she bake a cherry pie, charming Billy? She can bake a cherry pie, quick as a cat can wink its eye, but she's a young thing and cannot leave her mother." I remember singing that old ditty as a school kid. It was just a song, but in a way, it reminded me of how a Czech mother might have felt about teaching a daughter to bake a pie, first to please her Papa, and then to please a husband.

Ever drink rhubarb punch or bake a coffee cake in a coffee can? Only a few of the items included are that exotic. As a matter of fact most of the recipes in this handsomely bound volume are in the true midwestern tradition. Down-home goodness blended with straight-forward instructions, and all are guaranteed winners. The Special Tips section is especially useful for novice bakers of cakes, pies, and breads.

Available at bookstores or from Prairie Winds Press, 5515 North 7th St., Suite 5-163, Phoenix, AZ 85014, for \$16.95 plus \$2.00 shipping.

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#### ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual meeting of the Czech Heritage Foundation and the Czech Fine Arts Foundation will be held on our traditional date, the third Monday in January. We will be meeting on January 15th, 7:30 p.m., at the Asbury United Methodist Church located at 336 27th Ave. S.W., in Cedar Rapids. Election of officers and directors for the Czech Heritage Fdn. will be held, along with reports from both organizations. Refreshments will be served and we look forward to an enjoyable social hour to follow. This meeting is open to all of you, and we hope to see you all there. Please plan on joining us and bring a guest. P.S. Anyone wishing to contribute cookies for the social hour are invited to do so. Your time and energy is greatly appreciated. F.W.N.



AVAILABLE THRU THE CZECH HERITAGE FDN.

The following collection of publications are available through our organization. Write to the Czech Heritage Fdn. %Elmer Netolicky,

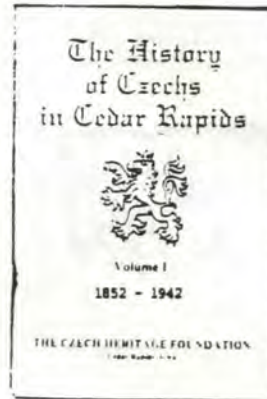
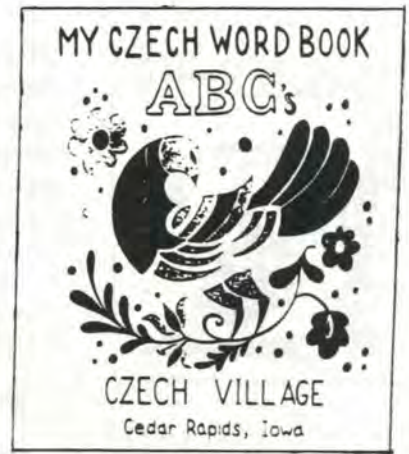
Make checks payable to the Czech Heritage Fdn. \*Please add \$1.50 mailing charges for one to three books. 20% discount on ten or more books of the same title.

ČÍTANKA (READER) Hot off the press! Reprint of A. Machek's childrens' tales. Originally published in Chicago by the Czech Freethinkers School in 1949. Favorites include Žabí Koncert (Frogs' Concert) and Ververka a Vlk

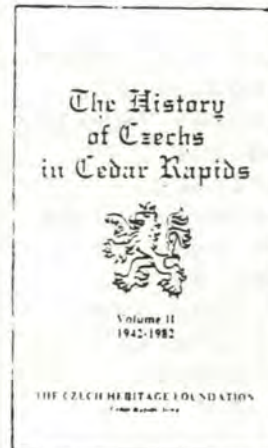


(Squirrel and the Wolf). Bring back those memories of Czech School with this collection of animal stories and delightful narratives. In Czech, red cover, 62 pages, 6" x 9", \$3.50\*

-9- 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, \$2.00\*



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.

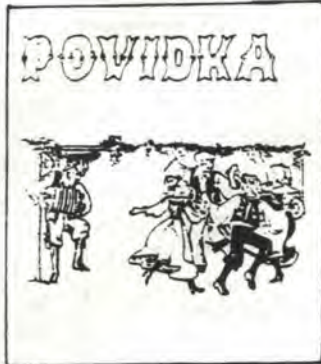


**Příslaví (Proverbs)**  
 Words of wisdom passed down from generations. Czech with English translation. Compiled by Charles E. Krejci. 7"x 8 1/2", Brown cover, 112 pages. \$4.00\*



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, \$3.50\*

**Povidka (Sayings)**  
 Released in 1987 with Příslaví. Stories and rhymes, riddles, and verse. Czech/English. By Charles E. Krejci. 7"x 8 1/2", Brown cover, 87 pages. \$3.50\*



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. \$2.00\*



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\*

**Pohádky naší matinky 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. \$3.50\*



Months in the Year was last year's new offering translated by M. Melvina Svec. Reprint of a turn-of-the-century childrens' book. Fully illustrated. Colorful cover design. 7 1/2" x 10 1/2", 26 pages. \$3.50\*



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. \$5.00\*

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

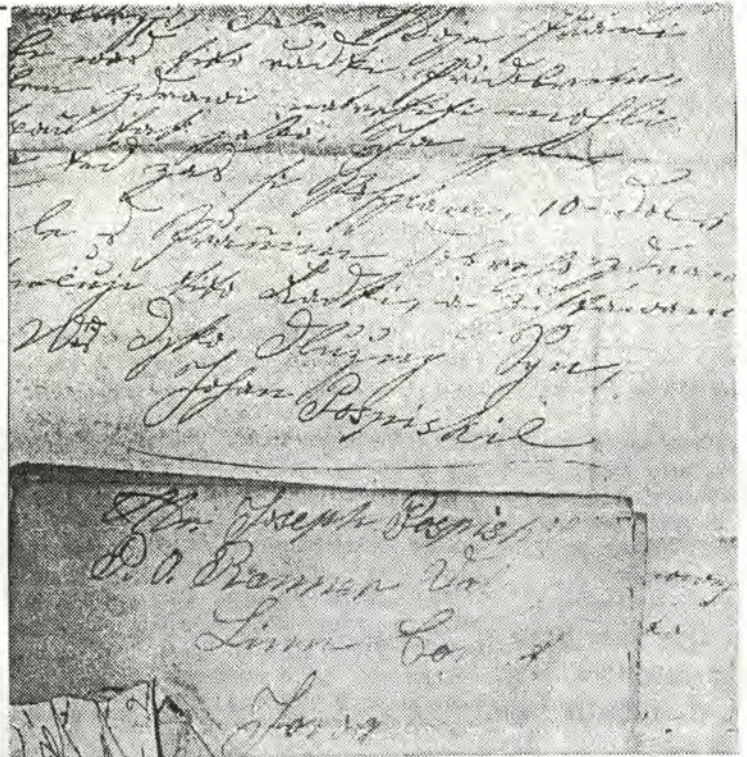
**NEW FOR '89 - CZECHOSLOVAK CULTURE**

Recipes, history, and folk arts are combined in this compilation by Pat Martin. Various articles including cornhusk doll making instructions dating back to 1887 are inside. A center section displays colorful photographs, and stories come from all over the U.S. The material in the book has taken over five years to put together, and included is a long list of Czech festivals held nationwide. Cedar Rapids, Iowa tops the list, boasting five festivals annually - St. Joseph's Day (March), Houby Days (May), Ethnic Fest (May), Czech Village Fall Festival (September), Sv. Mikuláš Day (December). 6" x 9", 176 pages, \$13.00\*



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**CIVIL WAR LETTERS** found in long-forgotten cupboard. John Pospishil served 1862-1865 in Company K, 22nd Volunteer Infantry. In 1966 Joseph Pospishil of Ely, Iowa, was remodeling the family home. Some



-Gazette photo by Rex Conn

twenty-five letters tell of John's travels during the war. John was twenty-three years old, an immigrant from the Province of Bohemia. Company K was mustered in Iowa City and sent to Davenport. They trained at Rolla, Missouri. In the spring of 1863 the Company moved south, were in two battles, and with General Grant at Vicksburg which fell July 4th. Then the company went down the Mississippi River by steamboat, around Florida, and on to Fort Monroe near Norfolk, Virginia. Next stop Washington, and then marching onward to the Shenandoah Valley to join General Sheridan. By 1865, the regiment went by rail to Baltimore after the events at Appomatox. From there they marched to Augusta, Georgia and were mustered out at Savannah, Georgia. Finally they returned by ship to Baltimore, and by rail to Davenport, Iowa. Final figures for the 1,084 men in Company K: 60 killed in action, 55 died of wounds, 276 wounded, 128 died of disease, 187 discharged for wounds, 29 captured, 42 transferred to other units, 78 buried in national cemeteries. The letters, written in the Czech language, are now over one hundred years old, faded, and not easy to translate. cont.

Joseph Pospishil of Ely, Iowa, was remodeling the family home when he found the letters written by his grandfather to his great-grandfather. They are addressed to Joseph Pospishil, Banner Valley Post Office, Linn County, Iowa. From a 1966 C.R. Gazette news item submitted by C. Zvacek

BANNER VALLEY POST OFFICE

This once popular stagecoach stop still stands today. The post office



was established in 1853 on what was then the Stream family farm. The farm, south of Ely, was purchased by Christopher Fuhrmeister shortly after the Civil War. It is still known as the Fuhrmeister Place to the local residents.

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FESTIVAL OF NATIONS is Minnesota's largest ethnic celebration, held each year at the St. Paul Civic Center. The monster effort is sponsored by the International Institute of Minnesota in cooperation with seventy-five ethnic groups, including Czechoslovaks. Included are ethnic cafes, exhibits, folk art demonstrations, folk dance performances, and an international bazaar. Plan your trip to this gigantic ethnic festival now. The three day event is scheduled for April 27th, 28th, and 29th. For tickets and more information call (612) 647-0191.

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KOCOUR AND THE FEATHERS

Ever pick up a copy of the GOOD OLD DAYS magazine? The January, 1990 issue has a story on page twenty-two that is guaranteed to bring back

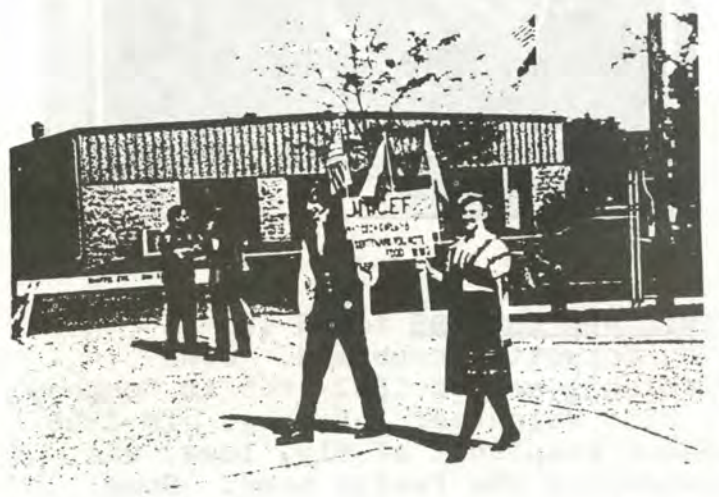
memories. The article, written by I.D. Messman, relates the tale of what happens when an unwanted tomcat introduces himself to a good old-fashioned Czech feather-stripping bee. Look out!

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THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDRENS FUND

received a thank you note from an eight-year-old Czech girl shortly after the second world war. From this single small act by a grateful young recipient sprang the idea for UNICEF's major fundraising efforts. Each year the organization sells millions of dollars of greeting cards, calendars, and other seasonal items. These efforts amount to as much as one third of UNICEF's yearly operating budget. At the Fall Festival parade, dressed in Czech costumes Kim Fisk, a student at Kennedy High School, and Todd Slezak, a student at Prairie High School, commemorated the event by carrying a banner topped with flags of the United Nations, U.S., and Czechoslovakia.



STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

What's next? Who's doing what? Where do we go from here? These are the types of questions a newly formed group is trying to tackle. The committee is made up of two or three interested parties from each Czech organization in our area. It was not formed in an effort to try and combine these groups. Its sole aim is to present a forum under which all of the groups can meet under one roof at the same time to discuss our Czech community's future. The free exchange of ideas and goals between our individual organizations is vital to our success. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on January 30th, at the Lion's Pride Restaurant on the Avenue. Communication and cooperation. That's what it's all about!

\* \* \* \* \*

CZECH IMMIGRATION PASSENGER LISTS, VOLUME III, is now available. It identifies over 7,400 Czechs who arrived in Galveston during 1907-1914. Information was gathered from National Archives microfilm sources. Includes name of the home village in Cechoslovakia as well as stated destination in the New World. Pictures and data on ships and much much more. To order your copy send \$16.95 to Leo Baca,

\* \* \* \* \*

BOHDAN TREFNY traveled all over Bohemia and the European continent with the Sokol organization. The Sokol philosophy was in his blood. He had three brothers, and they all were very active in the Sokol movement during the final quarter of the last century. One brother even lost his life due to an accident on the parallel bars. Bohdan was born in Prague on July 1, 1875, and went on to become a jeweler and watchmaker there. He moved to České Třebové to go to work for another jeweler, Marie Poldouf. It wasn't long before employee and employer became husband and wife. Frank Filip Sr. was a close friend of the Trefnys. He also was from České Třebové, born within a few months of Bohdan. Filip came to Cedar Rapids

with his family in 1887. In 1906 the Trefnys accepted Filip's invitation to Cedar Rapids and Bohdan became the new Physical Instructor for the Sokols. Bohdan, now thirty years old, came to the U.S. with his wife Marie, step-son Fred, their two sons Milo and Charles, and their daughter Mary. Marie made the long oceanic journey safely in spite of being pregnant at the time with their second daughter, Vlasta. Their sons, Theodore and Louis, were born later.

Trefny arrived just in time for Cedar Rapids' semi-centennial celebration. The Sokols came out in record numbers to commemorate the city's first fifty years. Trefny was placed in charge of the Sokol exhibition at Riverside Park, instructing and coordinating the entire gymnastic effort enjoyed by thousands. The newcomer didn't disappoint the Czech element here. So many attended the June 14th celebration in 1906, that two performances were scheduled - a morning and afternoon show.

Just two and a half years later, Trefny's skill as a physical education instructor was again put to the test. On January 17, 1909, the grandest Sokol celebration Cedar Rapids ever experienced was witnessed. The Cedar Rapids Evening Gazette reporters had this to say about the grand dedication of the new Sokol Hall at 417 3rd St. downtown, "....



HALL DEDICATED WITH INTERESTING SERVICES - With an athletic exhibition given at the auditorium in the afternoon, participated in by members of the local society and by teams from the Bohemian athletic organization from a number of other cities, and a program given in the new gymnasium that was attended by as many people as could get into the hall, the magnificent new Bohemian gymnasium was formally dedicated yesterday. It was without a doubt the greatest day for the Bohemian Sokols in the history of Cedar Rapids, and it was a day that will be long remembered as marking the completion of one of the greatest achievements ever undertaken by the local officers and members of the order. That the work that is being done by the society is appreciated was

cont.

evidenced by the fact that the new gymnasium was packed to the doors last evening, and scores of people who wanted to attend were unable to get in... There were people present from a number of nearby cities, including a large delegation from Chicago, at both the afternoon and evening programs, and it was one of the most enthusiastic crowds ever seen in Cedar Rapids... The athletic exhibitions given under the direction of Prof. B. Trefny, physical director of the Sokols, was one of the greatest exhibitions of the kind ever given in the city... The work of the Cedar Rapids Sokols on the parallel bars and the Chicago athletes on the horizontal bar was of a startling nature and showed in a convincing manner the high state of physical development to which the men have been brought. The flag and wand drills given by the boys and girls were especially good, the youngsters going through different exercises in a manner that brought forth storms of applause."

Trefny offered much of his time to the Sokol organization and was at one time an executive director of the Sokol

-14- Union of America. He left his position as instructor (náčelník) at the Sokols and was replaced by Frantisek Machovsky. It was time to go back into the jewelry business full time, first locating in Frank Muzik's Cigar Store on 16th Ave. S.W., later moving across the street into the old Bulicek building. The jeweler then moved his bench to the rear of the A.C. Fisher Jewelry Store, on 3rd St. downtown, where he taught the trade to his son Theodore. Now Mr. Trefny, mainly in the wholesale watch repair business relocated to Boyson's Jewelry Store in the Kimball Building, which is now Merchants National Bank. Before retiring, he moved the business one more time, upstairs above Klinger's Paint Store on 2nd Ave. downtown.

At age sixty-seven Bohdan became ill from cancer and passed away on September 7, 1942. His wife, Marie, born on September 25, 1870, passed away eight years after her husband, on July 28, 1950.

From an interview with Theodore (Ted) Trefny and his wife Elizabeth (Bette) Landa Trefny



Trefny Family Portrait, 1926  
 Milo, Vlasta, Fred Anthony, Mary, Theodore (Ted)  
 Bohdan, Louis, Marie Poldouf Trefny  
 Not pictured is Charles (3/3/05 - 4/10/26)

ARLENE SMULSKI was handed down a lot of recipes from her mother and grandmother. Some recipes she finds in her collection of cookbooks. She is a nineteen year resident of Lyons, Illinois, who loves to cook and bake traditional Czech foods including bread and fruit dumplings and koprova (beef with dill gravy). Other favorites include kolacky, rohlicky, and strudl. Arlene is our newest Czech Heritage Foundation member and below shares with us an award winning recipe of hers recently published in the Suburban LIFE Citizen Newspaper's cookbook:

Bohemian Stew

- 2 to 3 pounds beef stew cut in chunks
- 2 cups chopped carrots
- 2 cups chopped celery
- 3 onions quartered
- 3 tablespoons tapioca
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 22-ounce canned whole tomatoes
- 1 tablespoon salt (opt.)
- 1/2 tablespoon pepper

Combine all ingredients. Bake covered at 250 degrees for five hours stirring occasionally.

Makes 10 to 12 servings.

Serve with dumplings, boiled potatoes, or buttered egg noodles.

Dobre chutnani!

From newspaper article submitted by L. Dvorak

\* \* \* \* \*

# SOKOL COOK BOOK II



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Cedar Rapids, Iowa

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\* \* \* \* \*

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 9 & 10 . 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 !

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IN THE CZECH VILLAGE?

Stop in at the Saddle and Leather Shop at 48 16th Ave. S.W., and check out the Czech Heritage Foundation's newest sale item, a 12" x 14" canvas tote bag (perfect size for a dozen kolače!). The tan colored bags are inscribed with names of Czech cities in the U.S. and Czechoslovakia. Excellent gift idea!

\* \* \* \* \*

ALMOST GONE

There are still some commemorative t-shirts and buttons for sale at reduced prices. Adult sizes \$8.00, children's \$6.00 Buttons are \$1.00 each. Buy your souvenirs at Vondracek's Truck Shine, located at 1223 3rd St. S.E. in Cedar Rapids. When they're gone, THEY'RE GONE!

\* \* \* \* \*

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 1990 ARE NOW DUE!

Yearly membership runs from January 1st to December 31st. PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

THE GRAND GENERATION is the title of an upcoming visual arts exhibit sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution of Washington D.C., and hosted by the Iowa State Historical Society. The presentation, scheduled in January, will feature the works of master folk artists from throughout the U.S., who have been awarded National Heritage Fellowship awards by the National Endowment for the Arts/Folk Arts Program.

The Department of Cultural Affairs in Des Moines is promoting the affair, which they call, "a highly professional exhibit with folk arts and crafts by the finest practitioners in the United States." Czech Heritage Foundation member and master accordionist Arthur Simanek of Walker, Iowa, will represent the Czech Community during the program, accompanied by his son, Allen. Keep up the good work!

The program will be held at the new State Historical Building in Des Moines, on January 20th.

**CZECH HERITAGE FDN.**

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