The Museum Guild of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Members/friends,

As I was baking items, putting them in the freezer until we make our holiday trips to "Sons & Wives plus Grandkids" I got to thinking about the usual "Things I am Thankful For" said around the Turkey Dinner Table. Bruce and I were fortunate to observe our 50th. Anniversary in August with all the family in WI. On the way he and I stopped in Yuba, WI to visit the cemetery where many of my Stanek ancestors are buried. A day or so later I reminded the folks at our gathering; of how fortunate we are that our ancestral relatives had the bravery and determination to come to this country! Otherwise, where might we be and how might we have lived? At our Thanksgiving Day table I think I will give them a review of that reminder.

At our November meeting, Irma Kelly encouraged us to locate our favorite recipes for the 9th. Annual Cookie Walk on Dec. 8th. Guild Cookbooks will be for sale and if members want to purchase aprons with the Guild logo that Marj Nejdl did on them, they will be available. I hope some of you were able to attend Lavanda Woosley's fall trip to Lincoln's Springfield, IL. Her trip to Warrens Cranberry Festival was enjoyable also.

Thanks to all of you who donated time, effort and food toward what has become the Museum's annual Brew Nost. The good weather, plus largest attendance ever helped to make it a very pleasurable and successful evening event.

The second printing of our CZECH AND SLOVAK HERITAGE cookbook has been completed and kudos to Irma Kelly and Emil Koval who came to our rescue

Museum Guild WINTER 2007-08

a second time with his red pickup to bring the books back to Cedar Rapids from the printer in Independence. Our original committee will be describing the development & editing process at this week's Learn at Lunch in Heritage Hall. 90 persons attended Babi's Kitchen at which we sold 25 books. They make wonderful Christmas presents!

As of our November meeting we now have our 2008 slate of officers who assume office at the January meeting. Thanks to the nominating committee and those taking on the officer responsibilities: President, Marilyn Tucker, VP, Gary Dvorak, Recording Secretary, Carolyn Holubar, Corresponding Secretary, yours truly. Pat Kent will continue another year as Treasurer. Marilyn is asking for committee persons so please consider one of those positions within our group if you have not already done so. The committees are what "make it happen" successfully throughout the year.

Holiday Time is fast upon us and Patty Hikiji and Pat Kent will need even more volunteer help so please contact those two, sign up and come join in the festivities at the museum. A VERY SPECIAL "Thank You" to each of you who gave time and effort to committees during my past two years as president. I truly appreciated your assistance.

Wishing you and yours: healthy, happy holidays and safe traveling.

Sincerely, Shirley

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2007 MUSEUM GUILD OFFICERS

President Vice President

Treasurer Rec. Secretary Corres. Secretary

Museum Guild Rep. Ex-Officio

Shirley Alexander JoAnn Neff Pat Kent

Cynthia Monroe (Cell) Carolyn Holubar Mel Holubar

Andrea Siebenmann

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dolores Blood

Joseph R. Kurka

Susan Rock

ADDRESS CHANGE

Barb Dalecky Pulkrab

EIE

PUBLICATIONS COMMIT

Marilyn Shima Tucker, Editor Fern Kaplan Fackler Betty Truesdell

Dorothy Voelkers

Editors Note: Thank you to Jessie Stastny and Marge Stone for their assistance in writing Program Reviews for this edition.

Museum Guild Program August 13, 2007 "Back to School" By Mark Stoffer Hunter

The beginning of the new school year is coming soon and Mark Stoffer Hunter took the Guild members a long way back to school with a presentation on historic area schools.

160 years ago, in 1847, the first school was built in Cedar Rapids. In 1855, the first brick school building was built on the site of the old Washington High School south of Greene Square Park.

In 1869, the first high school class was enrolled and the first graduation was held in 1873 with six or seven students.

Throughout the years, about twelve "castle schools" were built. Five of these unique buildings went up on the Southeast side of the city. A growing Czech population increased the need for more schools.

The Czech School at Second Street and Tenth Avenue S was built in 1901. It is the oldest school still standing-public or private. When the building was sold, the ladies literary society, Damska Matice, used the proceeds of the sale to endow a scholarship fund which is still awarding monies to students of Czech heritage. The St. Wenceslaus school was established in the 1870's. The community close to Czech Village known as Stumptown, was served by Pierce School. Members recalled that many children spoke only Czech when they began their education at Hayes School.

In 1884 Van Buren School was built and was referred to as the "Cedar Rapids School on the Prairie". All schools had a favorite grocery store close by and Sheronick's store across from Van Buren served those students.

In addition to the interesting information presented by Mark, Guild members shared memories of their school days and added a personal dimension to the morning.

— Fern Kaplan Fackler



September 2007 MEETING MINUTES

The Museum Guild of National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library met at NCSML on Saturday, September 08, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

Shirley Alexander (President) called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. 36 volunteers attended. Marj Nejdl introduced her guest, Dr. Susan Rock, a long-time friend.

Hostesses were Alicia Jackson, Lydia Elias and Irma Kelly. Czech/Slovak Word of the Day (Bob Stone):

English How is the weather today? Czech Jakeje dnes počasi?

Slovak Aké je dnes počasie?

English	Czech	Slovak	
It is nice.	Je hezky.	Je Pekne.	
It is cold (chilly).	. Je chladno	Je chladno	
It is warm.	Je teplo.	Je teplo.	

Program: Gary Dvorak introduced Jessie Stastny, who spoke about Kirkwood's Adult Literacy Reading Program. Jessie shared information about her role as a tutor helping adults learn to read and encouraged members to personally volunteer or to suggest the opportunity to others.

Secretary's Report (Cindy Monroe): Minutes will be found in the Guilded Page.

Corresponding Secretary's Report (Carolyn Holubar): No activity to report

Treasurer's Report (Pat Kent):

Beginning Balance in August: \$10,952.19
Receipts \$314.31
Disbursements \$953.45
Ending Balance in August: \$10,313.05

Receipts were cookbooks (\$276), donations (\$20), and interest (\$18.31). Disbursements were cookbooks (\$87.50), programs (\$25), misc. supplies (\$5.21), Taste supplies (\$85.74), and NCSML gift (\$750). Pat presented bills for \$28.20 (Corresponding Secretary), \$7.19 (memory book), \$55 (Guilded Page printing), and \$41.08 (Guilded Page Postage). Marge Stone moved and Pat Martin seconded that the bills be paid. Motion carried.

Museum Representative Report (Mel Holubar): Mel attended the July 24 Board meeting. Jan gave Board members a tour of the puppet exhibit. A condo in Iowa City will be gifted to NCSML. The building across the street that was razed shared a common wall with the Saddle and Leather Shop, creating extra costs in demolition that were shared by the Shop, insurance company and NCSML. The next Board meeting is September 25, 2007. Mel also attended a focus group meeting looking at the document of recommendations from John Landis. One of the important recommendations was to increase museum space. Money is available to complete a feasibility study if the focus groups recommend action to the Board.

Volunteer Coordinator (Patty Hikiji): 40 Guild volunteers recorded 639.75 hours in August. Leaders were Ann Kloubec, Alicia Jackson, Carolyn Holubar, Marilyn Tucker, Dolores Usher, Karen Hospodarsky, Betty Suchan, Bonnie Holubar,

Shirley Alexander, Betty Gallagher, Mel Holubar. Upcoming events for volunteers include attending the volunteer potluck on September 24 at 6:00; BrewNost! On October 5 at 6:30; Learn at Lunch, "Edward Benes: More than a President in Exile presented by Bob Stone. The Czech Children's Choir has cancelled their trip.

Fundraising Committee (Irma Kelly) Andrea presented a report summarizing how to get a copyright and ISBN number for our cookbook. The cost of a copyright is \$45. Pat Martin moved and Marge Stone seconded a motion to pursue the copyright. Motion passed. The ISBN number will allow our cookbook to be searched and on several booklists. The cost of applying for the ISBN number is \$55. Marilyn Tucker moved and Mel Holubar seconded that approval to pay the cost of ISBN application be approved.

Membership Committee (Milly Ortner) We have 103 members, an all-time high! New members Dolores Blood and Joe Kurka were introduced.

Program Committee (Pat Martin) Next program will be Mark Stoffer Hunter.

Garden Committee (Cindy Monroe) Congratulations to Mel Holubar, Emil Koval, and Joe Kurka for completing the first planter in the new green space across the street. Cindy is contacting the CR/Linn County Solid Waste Agency to confirm that they are willing to donate 50 truckloads of top soil and compost to the green space. A young man will be working with Cindy to complete 20 of hours of community service. The garden committee will be completing the green space and dividing plants over the next month.

Publication (Marilyn Tucker) The next issue will be out in December. Marilyn thanked Dorothy Voelkers for folding, labeling and stamping the Guilded Page each month. Thanks also to writers who contribute to the publication.

Social Committee (Irma Kelly) October hosts will be Carolyn and Mel Holubar and Emil Koval.

Education (Jan Stoffer) NCSML is in dire need of docents for school trips. The Homelands is officially part of the Cedar Rapids Community School District's 3rd grade curriculum. A donor provided funding for 5000 students to visit the museum. Volunteers are needed to reset supplies, teach easy dances and crafts, keep groups moving on time, and lead tours of the Homelands and Village. There will be docent training at 3:00 on September 20. March, April and May are filled with student trips. Pat Martin reminded members to look in new places for volunteers. If you are interested in learning Czech folk dances, call Sokol for their schedule. Peter Sis (author and NCSLM national board member) will be here Monday, October 1 at 7:00 to discuss his work and autograph books. A panel, sponsored by Hometown Perry Iowa- Immigrant Concerns, will discuss immigration (past and present) in the Cedar Rapids area on November 20.

History and Property (Andrea Siebenmann) Andrea continues to work on our memory book and would love to have any pictures members have for the book.

Public Relations (Carol Ann Rexroat) No report Old Business: Marie Webster needs bakers for Brewnost! New Business: President Alexander invited all interested members to attend the Governor's Volunteer Award



October 2007 MEETING MINUTES

The Museum Guild of National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library met at NCSML on Saturday, October 13, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

Shirley Alexander (President) called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. 21 volunteers attended. There were no visitors or new members.

Hostesses were Carolyn and Mel Holubar and Emil Koval.

Czech/Slovak Word of the Day (Bob Stone):

English	Czech	Slovak
It is sunny.	Je Slunecno.	Je slnečno.
It is cloudy.	Je oblačno.	Je oblačno.
It is windy.	Je vetrno.	Je veterno.
It is raining.	Pršt	Prst
It is snowing.	Snezi	Sneži

Gail Naughton:

Program: Jessie Stastny introduced Mark Hunter who presented *The Show Must Go On*, a history of Cedar Rapids theatre.

Shirley Alexander (President): All Guild members are invited to attend the Governor's Volunteer Awards Ceremony on October 22, 2007 at Linn-Mar High School.

Secretary's Report (Cindy Monroe): Minutes will be found in the Guilded Page.

Corresponding Secretary's Report (Carolyn Holubar): Gail Naughton extended a thank you for the purchase of the camera and fax machine for \$750.

Treasurer's Report (Pat Kent):

Beginning Balance in September: \$10,313.05 Receipts \$100.57 Disbursements \$176.47 Ending Balance in September: \$10,237.15

Pat moved that copyright expenses of \$275 be paid. Motion carried.

Museum Representative Report (Mel Holubar): No report. Volunteer Coordinator (Patty Hikiji): 41 Guild volunteers recorded 641.25 hours in September. Several events are planned next month. October 1 - Author Peter Sis. October 18 - Learn at Lunch. October 20 - Cooking in Babi's Kitchen. October 27 - Exploring Czech & Slovak Cinema. November 1 - Annual Fall Dinner and Exhibit Opening Reception. Please see your newsletter for further details. The programs are in-service opportunities and may be used for volunteer hours. Thank you to Irma Kelly and Marie Webster for taking care of the reception for Peter Sis. Thank you also to all Guild members who helped with Brewnost. Your hard work washing beer glasses, baking sweet treats, assisting the celebrity chefs, setting up for the event, and tearing down (late at night) were sincerely appreciated. Be sure to record your volunteer hours. Thank you again to Marie Webster for providing a delicious array of goodies for the volunteer workers to snack on during the evening - whenever they could get a break, that is.

Fundraising Committee (Irma Kelly) Thank you to Andrea Siebenmann for her work in getting a copyright for our cookbook, scheduled to be printed by the end of the month. Please be thinking about cookies you would like to make for the December 8 Cookie Walk. Fancy cookies sell first.

Membership Committee (Milly Ortner) We have a new member, Marlene Chramosta.

Program Committee (Pat Martin) The next program will be Jan Stoffer, providing information about our next exhibit, *The History of the Brave Czech Nation.*

Garden Committee (Cindy Monroe) Dirt has been promised by a construction company for the green space.

Publication (Marilyn Tucker): Items needed by November 15, 2007 so newsletter may be mailed before December meeting.

Social Committee (Irma Kelly) November hosts will be Evelyn Dvorak, Fern Fackler and Gary Dvorak.

Education (Jan Stoffer) The next exhibit, The History of the Brave Czech Nation is opening at the Fall Dinner on November 1. It will be open until January 27. On March 6, the exhibit 1968 opens. On March 6, 7, and 8 the fourth conference in a series, The Twentieth Century in Retrospect, 1968-1980: Prague Spring, Normalization, Charter 77 will be held. There are several additional programs scheduled to support 1968.

History and Property (Andrea Siebenmann) If you have pictures or items for the memory book, please give them to Andrea.

Public Relations (Carol Ann Rexroat)

New Business: An auditing committee of Leni Stastny, Marilyn Tucker, and Virginia Wilts was appointed. A nominating committee slate of Cindy Monroe, Annie Kloube Marj Nejdl, Irma Rozek was moved and passed unanimously. A slate of officers will be presented at the November meeting, voted on at the December meeting (Cookie Walk), and take office in January.

Door Prize Drawing: Secretary failed to note recipient.

Adjournment Dolores Usher moved and Lu Volsch seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Next meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 3, 2007.

Respectfully submitted, Cynthia Monroe, Secretary

September 2007 MEETING MINUTES

Continued from Page 3

Ceremony on October 22 at 10:30 in Linn Mar's Auditorium. Thanks to Patty's hard work in organizing us, we are receiving this recognition. Auditing and Nomination committees must be formed so slates of officers can be presented in October and elected in November. New officers begin January 1, 2008. Door Prize Drawing: Gary Dvorak won a splash cloth, Joe Kurka and Marj Nejdl won books donated by Andrea Siebenmann, and Dolores Usher and Laverne Fisher won bookmarks donated by Andrea.

Adjournment Gary Dvorak moved and Evelyn Dvorak seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Next meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 13, 2007.

Respectfully submitted, Cynthia Monroe, Secretary

NCSML Guild													Annual
Rcpts.& Disbursmts.													Total
2007	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May ·	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	to Date
Beginning Balance	7020.38	6,635.17	6,580.55	6,253.73	7,642.32	10,951.08	8,892.91	10,952.19	10,313.05	10,237.15	1,968.11		7020.38
Receipts													
Dues	250.00	130.00	120.00	130.00	57.00	6.00			12.00				705.00
Cookbooks	440.00	2,178.00	3,300.00	1,364.00	731.00	110.00	584.00	276.00	74.00	616.00			9673.00
Cookbooks (shipping)	18.00	126.00	155.95	45.00						4.00			348.95
Donations		25.00	20.00	19.00			330.00	20.00					414.00
Aprons		30.00		10.00									40.00
Interest	12.17	12.27	13.58	14.94	14.64	15.88	17.28	18.31	14.57	14.91			148.55
Ckbks-paymt.from NCSML			1,453.40		1,118.00	894.40	1,118.00			1,341.60			5925.40
Cz. Her. Found Ioan		3,000.00	T										3000.00
Taste of Czech & Slovak					1,241.00								1241.00
Taste of Cz. Donations					185.00	10.00	10.00						205.00
Total Receipts	720.17	5,501.27	5,062.93	1,582.94	3,346.64	1,036.28	2,059.28	314.31	100.57	1,976.51			21700.90

Editor's Note: Treasurer's report prepared by Pat Kent 2007 Museum Guild Treasurer (Continued on Page 6)

NCSML Guild	10												Annual
Rcpts.& Disbursmts.													Total
2007	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	to Date
Disbursements													
Cookie Walk	5.38	18.61											23.99
Cookbooks	1100.00	5,353.04	5,353.04			1.12				9,937.20			21743.28
Cookbooks (misc.)		57.33						25.45	-				82.78
Cookbooks (shipping)				194.35				62.05					256.40
Programs		25.00						25.00		25.00			75.00
Memory Book		13.61							7.19				20.80
Newsletter		45.40				45.45			55.00			4	145.85
Newsletter (postage)		42.90				39.00			41.08				122.98
Returned Check			22.00										22.00
Printed Checks			14.71										14.7
Food for Houby Days					37.88								37.88
Loan Repayment-Cz. Heri.						3,000.00				/-			3000.00
Reimb. Memb. Dues						16.00							10.00
Supplies - Misc.								5.21					5.21
Supplies - Taste of Cz.								85.74					85.74
NCSML gift								750.00					750.00
Cards and Postage						1			28.20				28.20
Register of Copyrights									45.00				45.00
Copyright						- 1				275.00			275.00
Shipping/Copyright)									8.35			8.35
						- 1							
Total Disbursements	1105.38	5,555.89	5,389.75	194.35	37.88	3,094.45	0.00	953.45	176.47	10,245.55			26753.17
Ending Balance	6635.17	6,580.55	6,253.73	7,642.32	10,951.08	8,892.91	10,952.19	10,313.05	10,237.15	1,968.11			
Paid Dues - Current Yr.	25	20	2										

November 2007 MEETING MINUTES

The Museum Guild of National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library met at NCSML on Saturday, November 3, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

Shirley Alexander (President) called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. 30 volunteers attended. There were no visitors or new members.

Hostesses were Evelyn Dvorak, Fern Fackler and Gary Dvorak.

Czech/Slovak Word of the Day (Milly Ortner):

English Czech
Female member clenka
Male member clen

Members, it is time to pay membership dues.

Clenstvo, je cas platit clenstvi dluhy. Ten dollars deset dolaru

Program: Jan Stoffer reminded us that our previous training will be very useful with our new exhibit, *The History of the Brave Czech Nation*. It is a 6 foot tall and 210 foot long model of a book – which is available in our Museum Store. Jan reminded us to watch exhibits to be sure nothing is taken. Shirley Alexander (President): Thank you to Carolyn Holubar, Dolores Usher, Dorothy Voelkers, Fern Fackler, Marilyn Tucker (and Shirley) for attending the Governor's Volunteer Awards Ceremony on October 22, 2007 at Linn-Mar High School. The Guild received a certificate and pin. Secretary's Report (Cindy Monroe): Minutes will be found in the Guilded Page.

Corresponding Secretary's Report (Carolyn Holubar): Treasurer's Report (Pat Kent):

Beginning Balance in October: \$10,237.15
Receipts \$1,976.51
Disbursements \$10,245.55
Ending Balance in October: \$1,968.11

Receipts included \$616 for cookbooks, \$4 for shipping, \$14.91 in interest, and \$1,341 NCSML Museum Store payment for cookbooks. Disbursements included \$9,937.20 for cookbook printing, \$25 for shipping, \$275 to register copyright for cookbook, and \$8.35 for copyright shipping.

Museum Representative Report (Mel Holubar): No report Volunteer Coordinator (Patty Hikiji): 38 Guild volunteers recorded 646.5 hours in October. The top ten volunteers were Shirley Alexander, Ann Kloubec, Marie Webster, Alicia Jackson, Carolyn Holubar, Marjeanne Jungjohann, Lu Volsch, Ed Volsch, Karen Hospodarsky, Dolores Usher, and Marj Nejdl. November 15 is a Learn at Lunch titled Czech and Slovak Heritage... Family Stories... Traditions... Recipes..., presented by our own cookbook committee. This program is an in-service opportunity and may be used for volunteer hours. Thank you to Irma Kelly and Lydia Elias for taking care of the reception for The History of the Brave Czech Nation opening reception.

Fundraising Committee (Irma Kelly) Thank you to Emil Koval for saving the Guild \$400 by transporting the cookbooks for us from the printer. We also saved approximately \$240 by paying printing costs early. If members have not signed up to provide cookies for the Cookie

Walk, they will be called and asked if they are willing to provide cookies or make a financial donation. Members are asked to make at least 4 dozen cookies. Please deliver cookies on Friday, December 7, or from 8-8:30 on Saturday morning. Doors will open for buyers at 9:30.

Membership Committee (Milly Ortner) Please pay your dues.

Program Committee (Pat Martin) There will not be a program in December. This is our Cookie Walk.

Garden Committee (Cindy Monroe) Pray for dirt.

Publication (Marilyn Tucker): Items needed by November 15, 2007 so newsletter may be mailed before December meeting.

Social Committee (Irma Kelly) December hosts will be Guild officers, providing breakfast for Cookie Walk Workers. Come hungry.

Education (Jan Stoffer) There are several staff changes. Trish Bender joins NCSML as collections manager. Rebecca Bartlett has taken a position with the Cedar Rapids Public Library. Jason Wright joins NCSML as Vice President of Development. Jan Stoffer will be Director of Operations and Education, reporting to Gail. There are several programs scheduled of interest to Guild members. November 10 – Daniel Melarky. November 20 – Immigrant Experience Panel. December 1 – St. Mikulas Day. January 6 – Film.

History and Property (Andrea Siebenmann)
Public Relations (Carol Ann Rexroat) Posters were available for members to take and distribute.

New Business: The nominating committee of Annie Kloubec Cindy Monroe, and Marj Nejdl, presented a slate of 2008 officers. President – Marilyn Tucker, Vice President – Gary Dvorak, Treasurer – Pat Kent, Recording Secretary – Carolyn Holubar, Corresponding Secretary – Shirley Alexander. Members were reminded that the best thank you to our officers is to step forward and say yes when they ask for help. This slate will be voted on at our December Cookie Walk. Door Prize Drawing: Secretary failed to note recipient. Adjournment Mel Holubar moved and Gary Dvorak seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Next meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 8, 2007.

Respectfully submitted, Cynthia Monroe, Secretary



Bill Shiffer, NCSML Facilities Manager and his daughter Tears Joy Hiwia. Tears delights all of us Museum Guild members.

Museum Guild Program
September 8, 2007

"Adult Literacy Reading Program
Through Kirkwood"
By Jessie Stastny

Iowa's Community College adult literacy program serves the literacy needs of Iowa's adult populations. "Adult Basic Education includes programs that provide for adults who lack competence in reading, writing, speaking, problem-solving, or computation at a level to function in society, on a job or in a family."

Jessie became interested in the program after reflecting on her husbands 17 year illness and her care giving. She realized how essential reading was to their well being. She made a call to Maryanne Wanerus, director of the Kirkwood Adult Learning Program located in the Lincoln Learning Center in Cedar Rapids. After the initial interview, and attending various workshops, Jessie was assigned a student. Her student is a 32 year old high school graduate who is married and has a 7 year old son. She works full time in an office position. Her goal has been to be able to read to her son. They began in a level 5 book and now are in a level 8. They have worked weekly for 1 ½ years. Most sessions are 1 1/2 to 2 hours long. They meet at the Lincoln Learning Center. The student is tested periodically to assess her improvement.

This is what Jessie's student has to say about her learning experience. "I was doing this for my son at first, but now, I'm doing this for me. I can't believe I let myself go through life not reading to my fullness. The confidence in being able to achieve anything is only growing stronger each time I meet with Jessie. Reading is so powerful, the journeys I've been on and the journeys yet to come, I can't wait. I wish someday I can return what has been taught to me."

Kirkwood has had 69 tutors involved in the literacy program this past fiscal year and has served 228 students. Is this a program of interest to you?" The program is very flexible and giving a few hours a week, for a lifetime of reward, is a wonderful opportunity." Make that call! For further information phone the Kirkwood Adult Learning Services

— Marge Stone

Museum Guild Program
October 13, 2007
"The History of Cedar Rapids Theatres"
By Mark Stoffer Hunter

Everyone has a favorite theatre or movie experience and some were shared by Guild members when Mark gave his presentation on the history of theatres and performance halls in our fair city.

The citizens of Cedar Rapids could not enjoy a performance a formal theatre or hall until the 1850's when a three story building was constructed on the present site of the Cedar River Towers. The top floor of this building with a stage and an audience space was named Daniels Hall.

In 1870, Union Block, one of the first four story buildings in the city, was built on the site familiar to us as the Brenton Bank corner. The upper two stories of the building were known as the Union Opera House.

In 1880, Greene's Opera House was opened and the Union Opera House closed soon after. The former theatre space was later converted to an indoor parking garage.

George Greene had the vision for the opera venue but died in June of 1880 before it was completed. His son, Calvin Greene, finished the project.

The stage of the opera house attracted such performers as Sarah Bernhardt and John Wilkes Booth as it was the largest theatre between Chicago and Denver at the time. In this era, a community was judged by its opera house so Cedar Rapids ranked high in many eyes.

Silent movies led to the demise of live theatre and offered a new form of entertainment. Initially, some vaudeville theatrescombined films and live acts on their programs.

The admission price for films was a nickel and consequently movie houses were often referred to as nickelodeons. The first movie theatre was the Delphus built in 1906 at 310 First Avenue NE. This cinema had about five name changes including the Crystal, the Amuse You Theatre and finally became the Rialto.

Many theatres closed when "talkies" became popular as the owners could not afford the sound equipment. In the 1930's, the prominent playhouses were the Paramount, the Iowa and the Majestic.

The Czech Village area was home to three theatres including the Olympic which eventually became the home of the CR Community Theatre. The building that housed the Ideal is still standing and is now being used by Borgenson's Paint. The Praha showed silent films with Czech language titles.

In 1967, the Plaza theatre was constructed next to Lindale Plaza and was the last single screen cinema to be built in the city. On the other side of the Plaza, now known as Lindale Mall, the Twixt Town Drive In was built on a site across Collins Road.

The audience sincerely enjoyed the slide photos and information presented by Mark that brought forth great memories.

Fern Kaplan Fackler



TOP TEN GUILD VOLUNTEERS

64.25

35 50

18.00

AUGUST 2007

Number of Guild members recording hours in August — 40

Number of Guild Hours recorded — 639.75

Ann Kloubec	49.50
Alicia Jackson	37.75
Carolyn Holubar	37.50
Marilyn Tucker	34.00
Dolores Usher	34.00
Karen Hospodarsky	27.75
Betty Suchan	26.00
Bonnie Holubar	25.50
Shirley Alexander	25.00
Betty Gallagher	21.50
Mel Holubar	21.00

SEPTEMBER 2007

Number of Guild members recording hours in September— 41

Number of Guild Hours recorded — 641.25

Ann Kloubec

Lu Volsch

Lu voiscii	33.30
Shirley Alexander	34.00
Alicia Jackson	34.00
Ed Volsch	34.00
Betty Suchan	32.00
Bonnie Holubar	23.25
Karen Hospodarsky	23.25
Carolyn Holubar	23.00
Cindy Monroe	22.00
Charles Opatrny	21.00

Marjeanne Jungjohann 18.25

Dorothy Voelkers

OCTOBER 2007

Number of Guild mem	bers recording
hours in October - 38	

Number of Guild Hours recorded — 646.50

Shirley Alexander	45.00
Ann Kloubec	39.00
Marie Webster	38.00
Alicia Jackson	37.50
Carolyn Holubar	33.50
Marjeanne Jungjohann	33.00
Lu Volsch	30.50
Ed Volsch	27.50
Karen Hospodarsky	26.00
Dolores Usher	26.00
Marj Nejdl	20.25

THANK YOU FROM VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR PATRICIA A. HIKIJI

Thank you to Irma Kelly and Marie Webster for taking care of the reception for Czech author Peter Sis on October 1st.

Thank you to all the Guild Members who helped with the "BrewNost!" fundraiser. Your hard work washing beer glasses, baking sweet treats, assisting the celebrity chefs, setting up for the event and tearing down, (late at night) afterward were sincerely appreciated. Be sure to record all the volunteer hours you spent in these activities. A special thank-you to Marie Webster for providing a delicious array of goodies for the volunteer workers to snack on during the evening whenever they could get a break, that is!



Patricia A. Hikiji Volunteer Coordinator

Thank you to Irma Kelly and Lydia Elias for taking care of the opening reception in Petrick Gallery for *The History of the Brave Czech Nation*.

Marilyn Shima Tucker Editor







NEXT MEETING/COOKIE WALK

8:00 A.M.

Saturday December 8, 2007

52403\$9999

UPCOMING GUILD MEETINGS

Saturday, December 8, 2007, 8:00 a.m. at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library "COOKIE WALK"

Breakfast by 2007 Museum Guild Board Hosts: Shirley Alexander, JoAnn Neff, Pat Kent, Cynthia Monroe, Carolyn Holubar, Mel Holubar and Andrea Siebenmann

2008

Saturday, January 5, 2008, 9:00 a.m. at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library "MEMBERS REVIEW THEIR BUS TRIP TO SPRINGFIELD, IL" Hosts: TBA

Saturday, February 2, 2008, 9:00 a.m. at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library "CZECH SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS OF PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE"

Presentation by Pat Martin Hosts: Betty Pulkrab Gallagher and Barb Pulkrab Museum Guild Program November 3, 2007

> "The History of the Brave Czech Nation" By Jan Stoffer

Jan gave us some information about the new exhibit "The History of the Brave Czech Nation". The book is available in the gift shop for docents wanting more information. The historical information in the "Tragedy of Slovak Jews" and "Puppetry" docent materials may be referred to in the November 2, 2007 - January 27, 2008 exhibit. All exhibits are free.

—Jessie Stastny

9th ANNUAL COOKIE WALK at NCSML Saturday, December 8, 2007 9:30 AM - Noon (or until sold out) \$ 6.00 /lb.