

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE

Vol. 11 - No. 1
March 1986

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



CALENDAR

1986

KALENDÁŘ

- Mar. 9, Sun. Sokol AKADEMIA, Gymnastic events (p.4)
16, Sun. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT DANCE Eagles Hall (p.2)
19. Wed. ST. JOSEPH'S DAY in Czech Village (p.3)
22. Sat. Sokol ŠIBŘINKY (p.4)
Apr. 23. Wed. MISTRŇANKA ORCHESTRA of Czechoslovakia - Concert and Dance, Ponderosa Ballroom (p.2)
May 17-18. Sat.-Sun. HOUBY DAYS in Czech Village
31-June 1, Sat.-Sun. CITY ETHNIC FAIR, Roundhouse, Riverside Park.
June 10. Sun. FAMILY PICNIC, Czech Heritage Fdn., NOON, POT LUCK, with Mae and Frank at the Novotny Farm.
13-14. Fri.-Sat. HEY DAYS, Fairfax
6-7-8, Fri.Sat.Sun. ST.LUDMILAS KOLACH FESTIVAL. (p.4)
16-17, Mon.-Tues. ANNUAL CZECH DAYS the 39th and 100th Anniversary of Tabor, South Dakota
20-21, Fri.-Sat. FUN DAYS, Swisher, Ia.
21-22, Sat.-Sun. CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNITY FESTIVAL, Phillips, Wis. Welcome - a Newcomer!
July 4-6 SOKOLS ABROAD, VI Slet, at ZURICH, SWITZERLAND.
4. Fri. ELY DAYS, 4th July Celebration: parade, booths, fun.
4. Fri. C.R.FIREWORKS and Family Night on Mays Island.
18-19, Fri.-Sat.CZECHOSLOVAK FESTIVAL, Traer, Iowa.
25-26 Fri.-Sat. BEEF DAYS, Solon, Ia.
25-26 Fri.-Sat. CZECH FESTIVAL, Wilson, Kansas
Aug. 1-3 Sat.-Sun. CZECH FESTIVAL, Wilber, Nebraska

(continued p. 2)

VITAM VÁS!
GREETINGS!

Again it is an honor to have been chosen as President of Czech Heritage Foundation. Although the past 5 years have been very enjoyable, I was hoping that this year someone would step in and take over as president. I know that we shall have another rewarding year ahead of us.

The annual meeting of Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations was held January 20th at Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church with an attendance of 102. We had an interesting and informative meeting. The election of Officers and Board of Directors was held. Look for a list elsewhere in this issue. A "Thanks" to the Czech Fine Arts for their contribution of their annual report to the meeting.

An enjoyable social hour followed which was made possible by the most generous donations of baked "goodies" from the members. A sincere "Thanks" to all for attending and sharing their evening with us.

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors, Mae and I, "Thank You" wholeheartedly for your support. We are looking forward to working with all of you in '86.

Frank W. Novotny, President.

MEMBERSHIP GROWING. Renewals and new members bring our total enrollment over 1,150 as of mid-February 1986. Donations continue to increase the Memorial Fund, Scholarship Fund and General Fund. Sales of publications continue to add a respectable sum to finances. The ABC's, My Czech Word Book, is approaching 10,000 copies sold. In 1985, packages of publications were mailed to 37 cities in 16 states,

coast to coast and border to border! All of the publications have had 3 to 7 printings! Our members are in 38 states and 230 cities. In out-of-state memberships, California leads, then comes Illinois, a tie for Minnesota-Texas; Michigan; another tie North Dakota-Wisconsin. We have one member each in Canada, Austria, Sweden, Czechoslovakia.

Donations the past year were \$986.50. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for your thoughtful financial help. Some 47% of our support comes from the modest dues of \$3.00, some 39% from sale of publications and 14% from donations. Another exciting year is ahead of us.

Charles H. Vyskocil
Financial Secretary

CALENDAR

Aug. 11-17 Mon. -Sun., FOLKORAMA, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

21. Thurs. ANNUAL PICNIC of Czech Heritage & Fine Arts Fdns. Pot luck; ZCBJ Park.

Sept. 6-7 Sat., Sun. 13th ANNUAL CZECH FESTIVAL, Czech Village, C.R.

Oct. 4. CZECH FESTIVAL, Yukon, Okla.

Dec. 6 SV. MIKULÁŠ DAY, Czech Village, C.R.

OFFICERS-BOARD MEMBERS, C.H.F. 1986

Elected at the Annual Meeting, January 20th are the following Officers:

- President: Frank W. Novotny
- Vice President: Charles Jungman
- Secretary: Janice Kralik
- Treasurer: Charles Krejci
- Financial Secretary: Charles Vyskocil
- Members of the Board: Nancy Barta, James Cada, Wesley Drahozal, Florence Dvorak, Denver Dvorsky, Dennis Hrabak, Leona Kaplan, David Kralik, Robert Kouba, Emil Lamparek, Wencil and Esther Lippert, Mae Novotny, Russell Novotny, Shirlee Peterson, John Rocaek, Evelyn Stejskal, Robert & Marjorie Stone, Blanche Trachta, Darlene Trachta, Ted & Bette Trefny, Adeline Volesky and Virginia Wilts.

COME DANCE! POLKA, WALTZ, SCHOTTISCHE, BUTTERFLY or your own style! April 23, 1986,



Wednesday evening, Czech Heritage Fdn. sponsors the MISTŘIŇANKA ORCHESTRA when it tours USA. The group is from CZECHOSLOVAKIA. More than 20 musicians and singers in colorful costumes make up the group known for its "Bohemian and Moravian Specialties". Tentative plans are a four hour concert/dance from 7 to 11 p.m. at Ponderosa Ballroom, Walford, Iowa (9 miles south of Cedar Rapids on Hwy Ia. 150)(was #149 via Fairfax). The orchestra begins the program with music for your listening pleasure for an hour. Then the evening is devoted to dancing and socializing. Tickets will be available at the door or by contacting Frank W. Novotny, [redacted] or by phone: [redacted]. Tickets will be available at several locations in Czech Village and from Officers and Board Members of Czech Heritage Fdn. A memorable evening for all!

Frank W. Novotny, Pres., C.H. Fdn.

AND ANOTHER DANCE, ST. JOSEPH'S on March 16, Sunday, Eagles Hall, 202 - 7th Ave. S.E. in Cedar Rapids, Ia. OUR 3rd Annual Dance with all proceeds going to benefit the International Living Scholarship Fund. Music by the Czech Plus Band. The Beseda Dancers make a return engagement for your entertainment at 6:30 p.m. Also the 3 students chosen to be our Ambassadors to Czechoslovakia this summer will be introduced.

Tickets \$3.00 in advance, \$3.50 at the door and are available by contacting Czech Heritage Board members or local merchants in Czech Village. Door prizes. Bake Sale. Your donations will be greatly appreciated. Mark the 16 of March on your calendar, wear a little red and join us in having an enjoyable evening! See you all there.

Frank W. Novotny, President
and Scholarship Committee



Czech Village Association, Inc. Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404

CZECH VILLAGE CALENDAR 1986

March 19, Wed., ST. JOSEPH'S DAY
 May 17-18, Sat., Sun., HOUBY DAYS
 May 31, June 1, Sat., Sun., ALL CITY
 ETHNIC FAIR, ROUNDHOUSE, IN
 RIVERSIDE PARK AREA
 Sept. 6-7 CZECH VILLAGE FESTIVAL

OFFICERS OF CZECH VILLAGE ASS'N.

The 1986 officers are:

- President: Lumir Vondracek
- Vice President: Les Sykora
- Secretary: Virginia Wilts
- Treasurer: Ray Snitil
- Asst. Treasurer: Dennis Hrabak

The Board includes the officers and the following members: Dick Barta, Rick Bartunek, Patty Konecny, Paul Novak, Frank Novotny, Terry Reid, Dr. Alan C. Robb, Gary Samek.

With the resignation of PAT MARTIN, Village Coordinator, candidates are being interviewed for the position. Pat not only teaches full-time in our city schools but is taking courses at the U of I toward a Masters Degree. She has family responsibilities as well. Two active teen-age sons are busy in school athletics and on teams.

Pat has been a loyal friend and booster for Czech Village in the 8 years during which she was Coordinator in planning festivals, fairs, parades and events. Best Wishes and Good Luck to you, Pat Martin!

"VILLAGERS" SPEAK OF PAT MARTIN:

"We truly will miss her. She's been a part of our lives for the last 8 years. She did a fine job."

"She got us on our feet. Without her, no festivals or carnivals".

"She worked her heart and soul out for 8 years!"
 "She did a fine job."

"Pat Martin made Czech Village, put the folks of Czech ancestry of Cedar Rapids on the map."

N. B.

After interviews with interested applicants, Czech Village Ass'n. announces that ELAINE BREJCHA has officially taken the position, effective immediately, Feb. 12th. Plans are underway for St. Joseph's Day, Houby Days and Festival in September.

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY, March 19th, in Czech Village will find specials in the Village Shops, Red Tag specials in other stores. Those who have a name of JOE or JOSEPH-INE are eligible for prizes in some stores! Come forward and be recognized, Joe and Josephine ! ! N. B.

FESTIVALS ELSEWHERE. Each year nearly 10,000 immigrants are naturalized in Houston. This influx of people with different backgrounds has brought to this Texas community a growing demand for a unique type of shopping centers which cater to the individual nationalities.

Popular are the areas labeled "International" where several individual ethnic shops and restaurants are under one roof. There is a Fiesta Mart, Indian and African as well as Vietnam - each with its specialty items, side-by-side, line the store shelves. Houston salutes its ethnic diversity each year by hosting festivals sponsored by Mexicans, Greeks, Italians, Germans, Czechs, Koreans, Vietnamese, Filipinos, Chinese and other groups.

Excerpted from Houston Chronicle
 C. V., J. R.

DUES of \$3.00 are DUE. IF you do not have your 1986 membership card, your dues should reach us soon. No more newsletters unless dues are paid. Also any donation your budget will allow will be welcome. We do need and appreciate your support of the Czech Heritage Foundation.





SOKOL AKADEMIA: SALUTE TO THE STATUE OF LIBERTY, March 9th, Prairie Jr. High School Gym, 401 - 76th Avenue S. W. Take 6th St. S. W. to 76th and turn left OR take Bowling St. S. W.

south to beyond Kirkwood Comm. Coll., turn right at 76th Ave.

PROGRAM: 2-4 p. m. Events include: Tots 4-5 yr. olds and Beginners; Small Boys and Girls, Beginners to Advanced; Jr. Girls with Sr. Men and Women in calisthenics; Apparatus exhibition

by Junior Girls and Men. Grand Finale closes the program.

Music for the events will include numbers from the 1800's, the arrival of Liberty to the present, the 100th Anniversary. Donation of \$2.00 adults, \$1.00 children.

ŠIBŘINKY, Annual Traditional Party Masquerade Ball, Sokol Hall, March 22, Saturday. Doors open at 7:30 p. m. No table reservations needed. So wear a costume if you have one or can "rig one up"! Prizes for the different categories of costumes. Refreshments. Dancing 8:30-12:30. Jolly Bohemians furnish the music. \$3.50 donation admission.

FINE ARTS FOUNDATION, INC.
OFFICERS AND BOARD, 1986 of Czech Fine Arts Foundation are:

- President: Robert Schaffer
- Vice President: Thomas Hruska
- Secretary: Marie Trachta
- Secretary: Rose Kopecky
- Treasurer: Elsie Jelinek
- Board Members include: Arlene Boddicker, Georgiann Brejcha, Mildred Drahovzal, Jana & Milan Fast, Dennis Hrabak, Emil & Evelyn Lamparek, Leo & Erma Modracek, Marj Nejd, Mae Novotny, Harriet Nowadzky, Mildred Ortner, Zula Oujiri, John Secl, Dr. Richard Travnicek, Jaroslava Wheatley.

Irish Shamrock, 'tis said, is a symbol of the TRINITY



ASSIST OUR AMBASSADORS. Our E. I. L. Ambassadors can profit from your help! In an effort to better inform and prepare our exchange students for their journey and visit, we are seeking timely materials on such subjects as architecture, history, culture and travel in Czechoslovakia. If you have currently published books, periodicals or leaflets that could be lent to the students, please contact John Rocarek, , at

. Thank you for your support.

J. R.

DO YOU REMEMBER? that During WW II, more than 80% of the buildings in Warsaw were reduced to rubble? - and - Between 1939-1944, during the Nazi Occupation, some 600,000 to 800,000 Warsaw residence died? - and - more than 300,000 Jews died in gas chambers?

Nowadays it is not gas chambers but other forms of torture that reflect the days of the Roman Empire, the Middle Ages and Inquisition. Chopping off heads is still common in some places in this world... and the news and visual media are producing many forms of brutality. What goes on in the minds and heads of people? One wonders

The Museum will be open extra days and hours on St. Joseph's Day, Houby Days and Ethnic Fair. After April 15, the Museum will be open Tuesday to Saturday at hours as usual.

NEW MEMBERS have come this year from not only Iowa and local places, but from Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Connecticut, Minnesota, Texas, Colorado and California. More than 25 are on the new listings.

* St. Ludmilas KOLACH FESTIVAL, *
* for a real good time! Not only those *
* genuine kolaches, but carnival, booths, *
* games, rides, and other attractions. *
* Come one! Come all! *
* ***** *
* ***** *

EXPERIMENT IN INTERNATIONAL LIVING

Vice-president Alan Carter visited Cedar Rapids in January. Mr. Carter is in charge of the Vermont-based foreign exchange program that enables our young Ambassadors to spend one month in the home of a Czech family to learn and experience the language and culture first-hand. The scholarship committee shared brunch with our visitor at the home of Cliff and Shirlee Peterson in Mt. Vernon. The afternoon was spent touring the Czech museum in Czech Village. Mr. Carter commented that he was pleasantly surprised and impressed with the museum's extensive collection of historical and cultural items. Later that evening a pot-luck supper at the W.F.L.A. building was held. In attendance were members of the Czech Heritage Executive Committee, along with past and present Ambassadors and their parents. Special guests included Mr. Carter, Dick Landis, and Susan Turner. Mr. Landis serves on the National Board of the E.I.L. and Mrs. Turner is their regional representative. With the supervision and guidance from such well-qualified individuals as Alan Carter, Dick Landis and Susan Turner, our program has been an overwhelming success. Our thanks to all who made our guests' stay here an enjoyable one.

J.R. -- Scholarship Committee

"My name is Sandi Spina, a junior at Washington H.S. My favorite subjects are Foreign Studies, Spanish and French. I participate in the Model United Nations Assembly with groups at other schools.

My school activities are Spanish Club, Pep Club. I enjoy volleyball and basketball and reading. I have been in school bands playing drums.

In summer, I have attended Czech Summer School classes.

I am very honored to have been chosen as one of the Ambassadors by Czech Heritage Foundation for the Experiment in International Living. Through this experience I want to learn more about the language and customs of my ancestors."

Sandi Spina



FOUNDATION AWARDS THREE SCHOLARSHIPS TO AMBASSADORS

who will spend a month in the summer of 1986 in Czechoslovakia. "I am JANELLE ROHLENA, age 17, and live on a farm south of Cedar Rapids. My parents are Robert and Sylvia Rohlena and brothers John and Charles. I attend Prairie High School. My extra-curricular activities include: Chorus, Swing Choir, Student Council, Keep Statistics on wrestlers at meets (STAT), Future Problem Solving, 4-H Club and Council, voice lessons, and Representative of Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation award for leadership and activities. I have a part time job at "Chicken Shop". Other interests and hobbies are: tennis, swimming, traveling, skiing and meeting people.

May I say at this time, my deepest appreciation and gratitude goes to the Czech Heritage Foundation for sponsoring me on a trip to Czechoslovakia. I know this will be a memorable and exciting experience."

Janelle Rohlena

Janelle was Czech Village Princess 1983-84 and her twin brother, John, was Czech Village Prince. Also she was an Ambassador for her 4-H Club to Germany the summer of 1985. (ed.)

Another Ambassador is LYNETTE STEJ-SKAL. "I am presently attending Solon High School in my junior year. Among my many interests are music, playing the flute, Flag Corp, the Concert Band and Pom-Pom Squad. For recreation I enjoy dancing, shopping, sewing, reading and swimming. Being chosen as one of the Ambassadors to Czechoslovakia, I am very much looking forward to the experience with enthusiasm and excitement. After my home stay in Czechoslovakia I will be more than eager to speak on my experiences and share them with others."

Lynette Stejskal

Lynette was Czech Village Princess Sept. 1984-85. (ed.)



PRICELESS AUTOGRAPHS. A precious small, brown, leather-bound autograph book was called to my attention recently. Several treasured signatures are in this guest book. Not just the name but thoughts and sayings are inscribed on some pages. On Nov. 28, 1907, Gabriela Preissova wrote "Oceans can limit boundaries of the world but not a Čech's love of the homeland." Preissova was the author of a novel, "Her Stepdaughter" which was the inspiration for Leoš Janáček to compose his finest opera, "JENŮFA". You will recall that the opera "The Cunning Little Vixen" was another of Janáček's compositions. Many of you readers attended the performance of that opera at the Hancher Auditorium in Iowa City. Another page has 3 bars of music, the words, "Čechy krásné, Čechy mé." with signature of Heřman. A Karel Pelant of Cedar Rapids, 2, April 1908 wrote, "I would wish that my homeland had at least one Carnegie fortune."

Visiting in the city, 15, May, 1905 Alice Garrigue Masaryk quoted from beloved poet Havliček, "Moje barva červená a bílá, Moje heslo poctivost a síla." (My colors are red and white, my motto integrity and strength). At that time, red and white were the colors of the Province of Bohemia. On another page: "Unforgettable are my memories which are with you across the ocean even in Čechy among your loved ones and friends. With Thankful and Friendly remembrances".
Praha, 17, Nov. 1907.

Although the book is not even half used, the last page on which inscriptions occur has the signatures of several well-known Cedar Rapidians of the early 1900's:

Joseph Fort Newton, minister of Peoples Church, and Jeanette Mae Newton. During WW I, Dr. Newton was minister at City Temple, London.

E. R. Burkhalter, long-time beloved minister of First Presbyterian Church.

Martha N. Marquis, wife of Dr. Jno. Marquis, President, Coe College.

Prof. Anna Heyberger of Coe, classes in French and Czech.

Jos. Mekota, active Democrat and prominent attorney.

W. F. Severa, owner of wholesale pharmaceutical company.

Rosina Westein -- medical doctor.

Josephine Severa, wife of W. F. Severa

Date of event, April 26, 1916.

Gabriela Preissova

Ella Preissova

Alice Garrigue Masarykova

E. R. Burkhalter

Jos Mekota



* * * * *

CZECHOSLOVAK BASKETBALL TEAM

VISITS THE MIDWEST is news in Dec. 23 issue of the newspaper, "Večerní Praha" (evening newspaper, Prague). The report of the visit is in our newsletter, Dec. issue, page 9.

Headlined "Šťastné a veselé přes moře" (Happy and merry overseas)

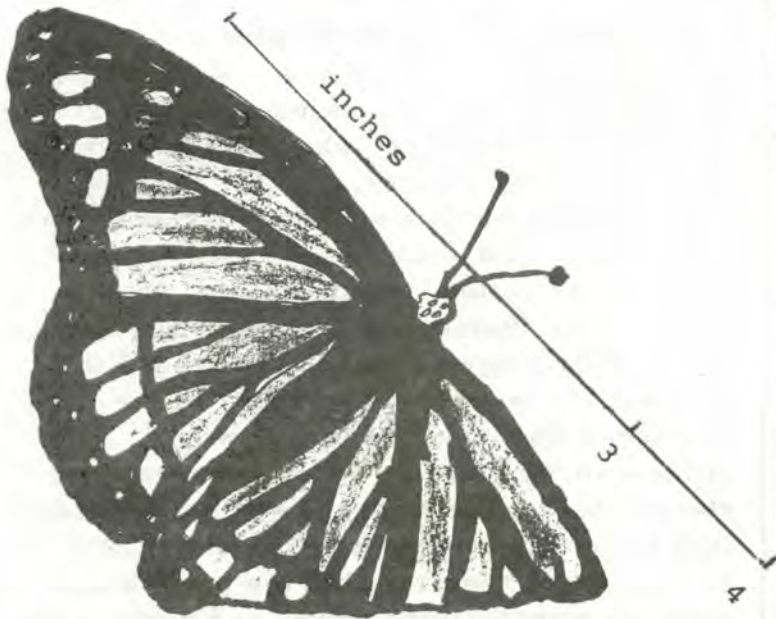
The report tells of the pleasure the team had in meeting people from their homeland and of their early arrival at the Cedar Rapids airport and effort made by Cedar Rapidians to locate them in Iowa City. They smiled with pleasure to see the 4 visitors dressed in costumes made in Czechoslovakia. They regretted that there was no time for them to visit the Czech Museum in Cedar Rapids. The men were surprised that folks here knew about the Spartakiada (field events) held last June in Praha. They told of their holidays and learned that here the preference for a holiday meal is goose, dumplings and sauerkraut rather than their carp dish. Over there carp is raised in village ponds and not caught in polluted river waters. Mrs. Stejskal (Iowa City) told them how Czechs here hold on to customs of their ancestors.

From: C.O., R.S., C.K.

1986 TEXAS SESQUICENTENNIAL year includes projects of Texas Českého Původu (Origins or Descent). Ever so many communities have been developing projects since last year. Activities include: History of Czech Communities, Pioneer Schools, Church Families, Placing Historical Markers at sites of significant Czech Events, a Register of Čech Pioneers and autobiographies will be up-dated. Several Czech Festivals will carry Sesquicentennial Themes.

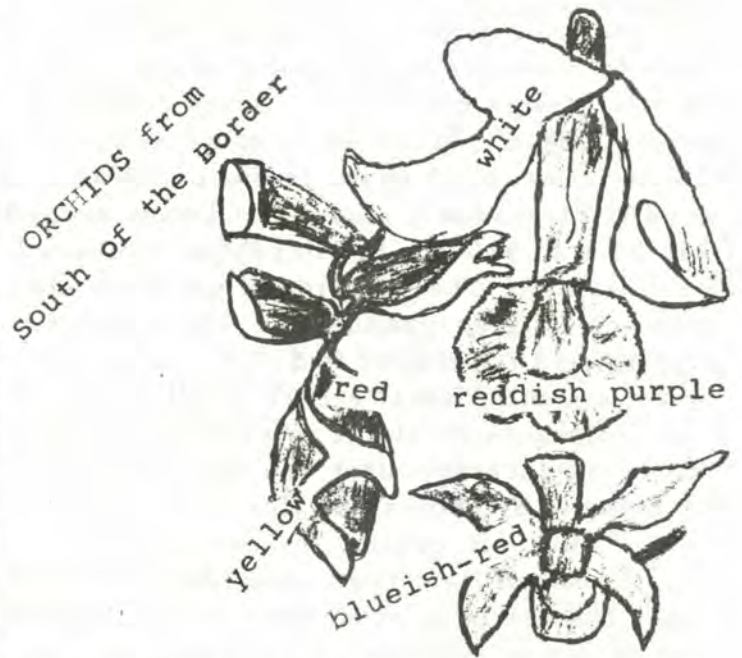
Evelyn Vecera, Bellaire, Texas.

In the 1930's CZECH CLASSES flourished in high schools in many parts of Texas. Today-- few and an effort is being made to have Czech available to students at high school and college levels. The University of Texas at Austin offers on campus as well as correspondence courses. An effort is underway to establish a Chair of Czech Culture Endowment Fund. Such a project would require a start of \$500,000. The location of the project would be in one of the units of the College-University system.



MONARCH BUTTERFLIES wing their way southward in mid-October, passing through Monterey, California. Last fall 600 children "dressed as butterflies or with a big butterfly on their back" celebrated the event.

Mrs. Lumir (Jean) Vondracek Redding, California.



ROEZLIELLA, an orchid, is named for a Czech botanist, an importer in the 1880's, who lived in Prague. He discovered some 800 new species of orchids in his travels to Central and South America. He was envied but admired by rival collectors. He is described as "imposing and self-assured.... conspicuous for the iron hand he wore in place of a left hand severed in an accident." A statue of Benedikt Roezel stands in Charles Square in Praha. Roezel's nephew, Klabodi, who carried on the search for orchids in Mexico, was killed there.

Excerpted from SMITHSONIAN magazine, Nov. 1985, pp.176-77.

To reach Charles Square, (Karlovo náměstí) walk down hill from the National Museum on Václavské náměstí, take any one of the 3 streets at your left to Žitná ulice. Turn right and the park will be just ahead of you... OR... if you are at National Theater (Národní Divadlo) walk south along the bank of the Vltava River to the next bridge, Jiráskův most, turn left on Resslova ulice, continue some 3 blocks to the Park. The statue is posed with Roezel holding an orchid in his hand.



REPORT from COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION, Matice Vyššího Vzdělání.

In 83 years of its existence, the Council continues to announce bequests to fund the loan and scholarship programs. In the academic year of 1984-85, loans were made to 54 (30 women, 24 men) of whom 30 were undergraduates and 24 graduate students. Loans ranged from \$400 to \$1000. Scholarships numbered 59 (30 women, 29 men) with 34 graduate students and 25 undergraduates. The scholarships ranged from \$500 to \$1000. It is the income from the ENDOWMENT FUND that makes these programs available to students of Czech and Slovak ancestry after one year in college. The bequest by James and Helen Hovorka was a major sum. Recently, the estate of Dr. Miloš S. Bil of New York added \$89,621 to the Fund. He was born at Hradec (1911), Moravia, south of Opava and west of Ostrava. He was educated at Charles University. He and his wife, Dr. Dana Bilová, came to New York after WW II. He was a well known chemist. Family and friends of Mr. Jaromír Špaček made a memorial gift of \$725 to be used for a music student.

For INFORMATION ABOUT THESE LOANS AND SCHOLARSHIPS, write Mrs. Sonja Bečvař, Secretary of the Council, PO Box 136, Brookfield, Illinois, 60513. Loans are processed throughout the year, Scholarships are awarded annually and applications must reach the secretary by July 1, each year.

The Council makes a continuing effort to seek financial support from individuals and organizations. This is an organization worthy of your support. The editor was helped as a graduate student by the Council. I can assure you donations and bequests are the life of the Council.

mms

FOUNDED 1902



CZECH NEWSPAPERS printed in that language still exist in the United States. Among the few are: HOSPODÁŘ once in Omaha now in West, Texas; the HLASATEL, Berwyn, Ill., and NASINEC in Granger, Texas.

Things are not as they were once in Granger, Texas. Perhaps the summers are as hot as they were a hundred years ago, the black prairie soil as rich and the cotton bolls just as white, but the small, central Texas town with its wide, empty main street sits in the middle of an ever shrinking circle of farmland. There is still cotton

lining the roadway to town, bolls that have been blown off a passing truck into the dry grass and brittle weeds. And the sour smell of cottonseed oil is carried across the fields by an occasional hot gust of wind, just as it was before the turn of the century. But now, just beyond the horizon, lies Austin with its booming suburbs and high-tech industries, where folks on main street talk about the future of Texas in terms of chips and bytes, not bolls and bales.



Farmers first came to this fertile area northeast of Austin in the 1850s and the town was founded in 1882 when the railroad came through. Immigrants, many of them from what is now modern day Czechoslovakia, had settled in the area and by the turn of the century, Granger was a flourishing community, the center of a busy farm belt. It was King Cotton and the railroad that made Granger what it was. A hundred years later, there are shopping malls with big chain stores just a few miles away in Taylor and Georgetown, subdivisions with swimming pools and hot tubs, offices with mirrored windows and landscaped parking lots, airports and commuter buses — King Cotton has had his day.

Joe Vrabel is surrounded by the Industrial Age equipment he uses to print the Nasinec.

OCTOBER 6, 1985, SAN ANTONIO LIGHT/17

The NASINEC is unique because the paper is not printed on present day machinery. For 71 years the Nasinec continues to be "the life blood" of readers "who regularly write to Joe Vrabel -- owner, typesetter, editor and publisher". The equipment is an "Optimus" press in use since 1939. A staff of three carry on the tradition of the weekly paper. One feature folks enjoy is the story, most likely a novel, that is "continued in next week's issue". In a corner of the shop is a large Babcock "Reliance" press. . . . still in working order. Along one wall are stacked trays with type and some old wooden type in German typeface. The use of this early method requires that the proof reader sees the words upside down, and reads right to left. It takes a real expert to read the copy. . . . but it can be made easier by using a copier machine to proof read the copy before the page goes to the press. . .

News item sent in by Jim Vavra, San Antonio, Texas.



BOOKS and AUTHORS

"The Cunning Little Vixen" the "classic Czech novel" is now available in an English edition, 1985, 7 3/4 x 9 3/4 inches, drawings by Maurice Sendak, 162 pages of text and an "Afterword" telling about the author. The drawings are the same as those used in the April 1981 production on stage by the New York City Opera. Author Rudolf Tesnohlídek of Brno wrote a series of stories for the newspaper in 1920. Ever since it has been popular elsewhere and only recently become a part of the repertoire of opera companies.



HISTORY OF ČECHS IN SOUTH DAKOTA now available in English. The original publication was 1920. Author, Joseph Dvořák, publisher of the "Tabor Independent" tells in detail the 21 towns and 7 counties, 1869-1920, along with the rest of the state. Content includes biographical sketches of pioneers. Write Mrs. Alice Rokusek, or Vlasta miller,

. Book is \$12.00 plus \$1.50 for handling and postage.

Excerpted, Fraternal Herald, 1/186

Many readers will be familiar with stories of Čech settlers in Nebraska, Texas, Kansas and about single settlements as Spillville, Ia. Often the newsletter reports such publications.

JAROSLAV SEIFERT, Nobel Poet Laureate 1984, realized his poetry was difficult for foreigners to appreciate because an "inner rhythm" that could not be translated from the Moravian dialect he used. For 60 years, Seifert had ups and downs with authorities. A heart attack on Jan. 9th brought his death the next day, Friday, 1986, while he slept. Three of his volumes of poetry are now available in English.

"The Casting of the Bells" by Seifert familiar to some of you, is now followed by 2 more books but these are bilingual editions. The left side page is in Czech, the right side page is in English. The translations are by the same two who did "The Casting of the Bells".

MOZART IN PRAGUE has 13 "Rondels", poems of 13 lines with rhyme and rhythm typical of that style of writing.

EIGHT DAYS, an Elegy for Thomas G. Masaryk has a 2 1/2 page Introduction about the poem and Masaryk's ideas and philosophy. Vice President Bush was the commencement speaker at the Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia at the time of the conferring of an Honorary Degree from the college on 5/V/1985. Seifert was not present to receive the honor.

The EIGHT DAYS are from 14/IX/1937 through 21/IX/1937, the mourning period. Masaryk's years were 1850-1937.

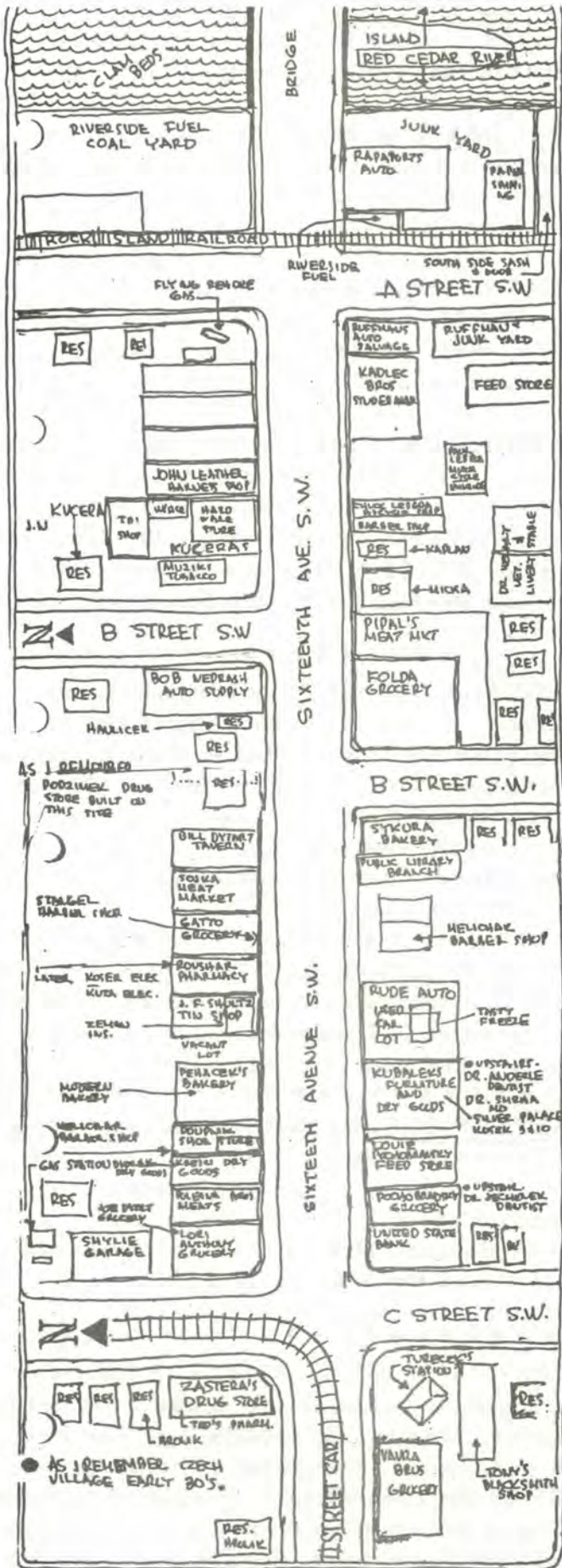
Both books are available at \$7.00 each, postpaid, or \$12.50 for the two on one order. Penfield Press, 215 Brown St., Iowa City, Ia. 52240.

LANGUAGE CLASSES are sprouting here and there and that is heartening to find that young folks ARE interested in their heritage and culture. The Czech and Slovak Club of Greater Kansas City reports in their newsletter that the University of Kansas at Lawrence offered Czech last fall and this spring offers Slovak.

CONVERSATIONAL CZECH classes began in Sept. at Victoria College, Texas. Forty-two signed up, 14 members of the Czech Society. The course is accredited.

"EASTERN EUROPE WEEK" was the theme of a series of lectures at U. of Texas last April. The Slavic Dept. and Czech Club sponsored the events. On the last day, a film by Bohumil Hrabal, "Closely Watched Trains" won the 1967 Academy Award for best foreign film.

MOZART, 1756-90, as AMADEUS (movie) began music lessons at age 3; age 5 his debut in Munich, fascinating royalty; age 7 in Paris; age 8 in London. Composed festival opera (1790) for the coronation in Prague of Leopold II, king of Bohemia. Composed 40 symphonies, 31 light short numbers, 9 marches, 25 dances and others.



Remembering 16th Avenue S.W. as it was in the early 1930's.
 Bridge to the East, street car came from the West... C. Jungman

F. PANCNER prominent merchant of Berwyn, Illinois, died Oct. 18, 1985 at the age of 93. He was born in Kyjov, N. W. of Presov and arrived in Chicago at the age of 20 in 1912. He attended a business college and then opened a bookstore in Chicago. Later his store in Berwyn on West Cermak Rd. was well known for imported giftware of all varieties and was said to have the largest best-stocked Czech bookstore in America. Many of you have, no doubt, had a Pancner catalog or sales listing at one time or another.

Excerpted in part from Sokol Minnesota SLOVO. Dec. 1985.

Production of FIBER OPTIC CABLES starts this year in Czechoslovakia. The well developed glass industry and needed sands were factors in this new development. Other countries which produce this product are: Britain, France, Japan, West Germany and the United States.

ORIGINAL IDEAS in FIRST GRADE.

A teacher of children in 1st grade in California uses the following plan to encourage reading and writing. She would give the start of a sentence and then leave a blank space for the children to write the end of the sentence:

If at first you don't succeed.....

GET NEW BATTERIES.

Don't cross bridges before you

PAY THE TOLL.

Strike while the

BUG IS CLOSE.

Don't bite the hand

THAT LOOKS DIRTY.

A penny saved

IS NOT MUCH.

Laugh and world laughs with you, cry...

AND YOU HAVE TO BLOW YOUR NOSE

When the cat's away

NO POOH.

Now this IS a usable idea. How about trying some in Cech classes?

IF SOMETIMES YOU THINK AN ITEM IS IRRELEVANT, THERE JUST MIGHT BE A GEM OF AN IDEA THAT MIGHT BE MODIFIED AND USED TO YOUR ADVANTAGE !!

Try it...

WORLD'S TOP RANKED PLAYER. In January Czechoslovakia's IVAN LENDL completed a strenuous 12-month international Nabisco Grand Prix tennis circuit. With his straight-set victory over Germany's Boris Becker at the Master Tournament, Lendl proved himself as the men's best tennis player. This was Lendl's 6th straight trip to the Masters, winning in 1982 and 1983 and nearly one million dollars for his year-long effort.

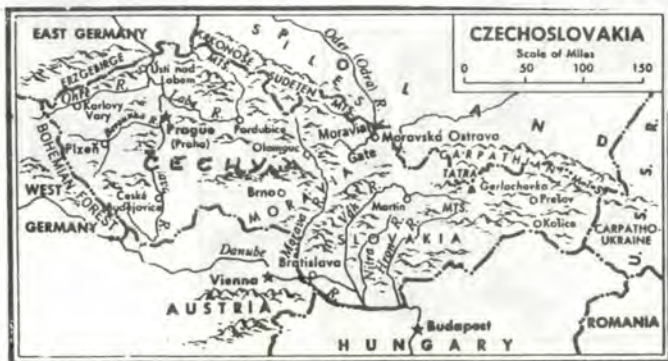
JR

GOING TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA? Ever popular charter tours out of Chicago O'Hare go to Prague, Bratislava, Vienna are scheduled for: May 14, 29; June 12, 26; July 10, 24; Aug. 7, 21; Sept. 4, 16. Of course there are tour groups from other places. For information write Weber Travel Agency, 6805 West Cermak Rd., Berwyn, Ill. 60402.

C. R. Representative: James Cada

A vacation consists of 2 weeks which are 2 short after which you are 2 tired 2 return to work and you are 2 broke not 2.

ACID RAINS in northwestern Czechoslovakia are affecting the forests in the Erzgebirge Mts., also known as the Ore Mts., and Krušné Hory. In West Germany, the Black Forest, also known as the Schwarzwald, in upper Rhine valley, east of the river, is said to be similarly affected. The causes? industrial wastes and auto exhaust pollute the air.



LEOŠ JANÁČEK'S OPERA "JENŮFA". The January issue of OPERA NEWS features some 14 pages about Čech operas. The articles include a biography of Janáček, an analysis and interpretation of his finest rated opera, JENŮFA, pictures of his studio, of Gabriella Preissova whose novel, "Her Stepdaughter" inspired Janáček to write the opera.

An idea often mentioned in our newsletters is the difficulty to find adequate words in English to convey the depth of meaning of some Čech words. Janáček used his Moravian dialect which has speech rhythms not found in literary Čech but was better adapted to telling the story and fitting the soul of the music to bring out feelings.

In another article the writer emphasizes folk sources being so basic to opera. Since the middle 1800's rural customs preserved so much of the Čech heritage. "Of nearly 30 operas produced by Smetana (8) Dvořák (11) and Janáček (9), more than half are based on folk tales, legends, superstitions and ritual." A double page spread shows stage scenes and close-ups of some actors. The next page has a synopsis of each of the three acts.

Jenůfa has become a staple on the European continent as of now and growing in popularity in England and United States.

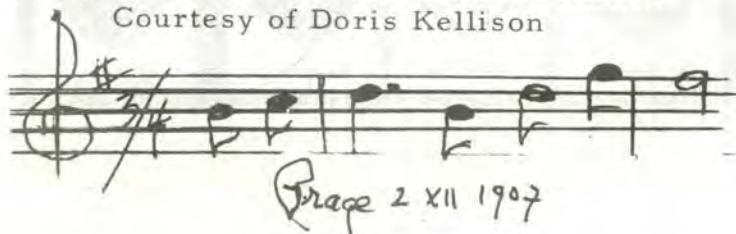
The first performances of Jenůfa at the Met. were in German (1924-25) season..... starring Marie Jeritza (Jedlička, of Brno, Moravia). Since 1959, Jenůfa was back on the American circuit in Chicago, San Francisco, and the Met. 1974. More recently the opera was presented in Čech in San Francisco. In 1981, in Paris, the first performance of Jenůfa was exactly as Janáček intended it should be.

Those of you familiar with "The Cunning Little Vixen" will be interested to know it has been labeled Janáček's "most charming opera".

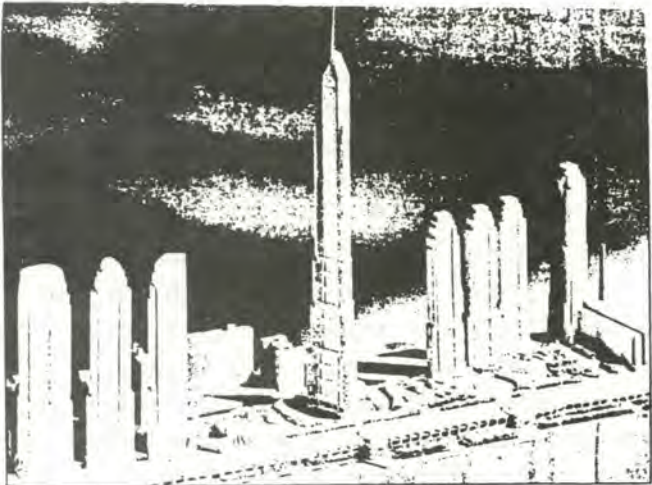
If you are interested in a copy, write OPERA NEWS, 1865 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10023 (Jan. 1986 issue. \$2.50 postpaid.)

Excerpted from Jan. 1986 OPERA NEWS.

Courtesy of Doris Kellison



NEWS FROM MEMBERS. We do appreciate news items you send to us. And so if your news media, radio and others did not carry the item, here it is! Donald Trump plans to build the world's tallest building in New York City in a triangular-shaped skyscraper of 150 stories. Plans include 7 other buildings with heights of 65 to 75 stories and underground parking for some 8500 cars.



Of equal interest, if not more, is that Mrs. Trump is a Czech, speaks English and works with him as well as appearing on TV interviews. It is hard to believe that the Empire State Bldg. has been in use 55 years.

Excerpted from St. Petersburg Times
Eleanor Pohorsky Fencil Elkington

And now a comment or two: When I was in Czechy in 1938 I visited schools. I was asked questions by pupils and one was, "Jak vysoký jsou ti mrakodrapy?" It took some fast thinking and imagination to translate "cloudpoker" to skyscraper.

Since the publicity about Trump and his plans, some wonder if they will materialize.



STAMP STORIES. You may not be a stamp collector, but everyone has to look at stamps now and then! Try to identify the groups with these themes: 1. war; 2. coat-of-arms; 3. cities; 4. sports; 5. air transport; 6. ceramics and glass; 7. palace windows; 8. fairy tales; 9. theater or opera; 10. horses.



C. E. K.

HARVARD ENCYCLOPEDIA of AMERICAN ETHNIC GROUPS is a volume of more than

1,050 pages, copyrighted 1980 with a 2nd printing 1981. The price is \$60.00 for the book.

We are so pleased to find that our CZECH HERITAGE FOUNDATION of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is included in the topic "Ethnic Revival". The information mentions the Museum, The Czech Village altho it is not so-named, our festivals, our publications of Czech-English books for children and the issuance of our newsletter which "prints excerpts from archival holdings". The Czech section covers 12 pages (8 1/2 x 11 inches) using 2 columns per page. Also mentioned is the Maticе vyššího vzdělání being founded in Cedar Rapids, 1902. It is now located in the Chicago area. You will recall that our newsletter has mentioned that the Council has loans and scholarships which are available to students of Czech descent. Some of our Czech organizations help support the Maticе with annual donations.

The volume includes a brief history of the Czechs in the days of the old Empire, the period of the Republic, Immigration, Settlements, Settlers, Education, Religion, Czech Press, Politics, Writers and many other

topics. The volume is printed by the Belknap Press of Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England. Our THANKS to Robert Kouba for supplying the information.

SHARING IDEAS OF OTHERS. An active growing organization in Texas is CESAT, Czech Ex-Students Association of Texas. President Marvin J. Marek was asked, "What practical value of promoting Czech language in our schools if it is no longer spoken at home"? He thought it over and had this to say: "The major reason that comes to mind is that governments through diplomacy have not solved international disputes without ultimately resorting to war and killing of its citizens. The only alternative to this madness is the understanding of one another at "grassroots" level. In this vein, language for international understanding and its development must continue to be promoted by groups like ours. The world is too small and filled with ever-present threat of holocaust to do otherwise."

(Continued p. 14)

IMPORTANT NOTICE PLEASE READ AT ONCE

IF you have PAID the annual dues of \$3.00 per person for 1986, you have received your membership card. If you have NOT PAID, then this will be the LAST ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER.

Sorry and note, we do not send statements. That is costly. We welcome your renewal of membership at this time and please make out the check to Czech Heritage Fdn., mail to P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, IA. 52406

Name _____ Renewal _____ new _____

Address _____ zip _____

Donations and Gift memberships are always welcome! Donation \$ _____ Gift memberships are acknowledged with a special card sent to the person. The newsletter went to press Feb. 21 so if you mailed your dues in the meantime, you will receive your membership card soon. Thank you.

Na shledanou! "Till we meet again"

SHARING

Along a similar line of thought is by John Karras, teacher of Czech in the Houston area who says, "Speak softly and carry a big foreign dictionary. Our United States is a Nation of Immigrants and its strength lies in its diversity -- a world of culture melted into one social and political system." He continues his remarks by giving several examples of bad blunders made by companies with foreign trade when translating slogans into other languages. Many of you have seen the same in Czech translations. He then quotes a few proverbs: Nikdo nemá patent na rozum a znalosti, vše záleží na pili. (No one has a patent on intellect (sense or wit) and judgment, all depends upon application (zeal).") Taking a thought from Jan Neruda, Czech poet (1834-1891), Karras said, "Budeme-li pevní v rozhodnutí zachovat v Texasu český jazyk, tak naše národní dě-

dictví nikdo nerozboří." "(If we are firm in our decision to preserve in Texas the Czech language, then our national heritage will never be destroyed)".



Where was the Declaration of Independence signed? Ans. At the bottom of the page.

Is this a 9 weeks test? Ans. No, only some 45 minutes.

That is a fine horse but why 2 saddles? Ans. That's the rumble seat.

Found in a student's notebook:
E= Excellent; F= Fine; G= Good;
P= Perfect.

CZECH HERITAGE FDN.
P. O. Box 761
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Non-Profit Organiz.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 127
Cedar Rapids, Iowa