

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE

Vol. 9 - No. 1
March 1984

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



CALENDAR

1984 KALENDÁŘ

- MARCH 4, Sun. SOKOL AKADEMIE Exhibition Prairie Jr. High Gym, 2 p. m.
9. Fri. Tune KCRG, TV, 9 at 9:30 a. m. Students on International Living Program. More on p. 10
10. Sat. Annual ŠIBŘINKY costume ball Sokol Hall, 8:30 p. m. - 1 a. m.
18. Sun. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT DANCE Eagles Hall - - Czech Plus Band 7:30. See p. 2.
19. Mon. ST. JOSEPH'S DAY, Czech Village. Parade at p. 5
27. Tues. Sokolice Renata Tyršova CARD PARTY, Sokol Hall. p. 10
- APRIL 10-11-12 Tues. - Thur. CZECH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, Ames, p. 2
- MAY 19, 20. Sat., Sun. HOUBY DAYS in C. R. Czech Village.
- JUNE 2, 3 Sat., Sun. ETHNIC CELEBRATION in Czech Village, Farmer's Market. p. 5
23. Sat. SOKOL SLET, Toronto, Canada
- AUGUST 18. Thur. ANNUAL PICNIC Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations.
- SEPT. 7, 8, 9, Fri., Sat., Sun. CZECH FESTIVAL, Czech Village, C. R.
- DEC. 1, Sat., Sv. MIKULÁŠ, Czech Village.

VÍTĀM VĀS! GREETINGS! Here we are in the 9th edition of our newsletter with the promise of a busy year ahead. I was hoping that some one else would be greeting you this year but here I am in my 4th term thanking you for your faithful support and looking forward to working with you all and having a wonderful year ahead of us. I won't go into details as to what we have planned as several events are presented elsewhere. Again THANKS for your

wonderful help in the past and will be calling on you as the needs arise.

Sincerely

Frank W. Novotny, Pres.

At the Annual Meeting, January 16th

OFFICERS elected are:

Pres. Frank W. Novotny, V. P., Charles Jungman, Secy. Janice Kralik, Fin. Secy. Charles Vyskocil, Treas. Charles E. Krejci. BOARD MEMBERS are: Nancy Barta, James Cada, Wesley Drahozal, Denver Dvorsky, Dennis Hrabak, Leona Kaplan, David Kralik, Robert Kouba, Robert Kubik, Emil Lamparek, Esther and Wencil Lippert, Mae Novotny, Russell Novotny, Shirlee Peterson, Betty Petržalek, John Rocarek, Raphael Snitil, Robert and Marjorie Stone, Blanche Trachta, Bette and Ted Trefny, Adeline Volesky, Mana Zlatohlavek.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT. According to our records some members of the Czech Heritage Foundation have not paid their dues for the year 1984. It must be noted that no Officers or Directors of Czech Heritage Fdn. receive any compensation for their work. All the funds derived from dues are used to provide you with the newsletter and carry out other functions of the Foundation.

As of December 31, 1983, we had a total of 864 members located in 142 cities in 30 states. Of this number, 577 members reside in Cedar Rapids area. We believe that with such a large Czech population in this city, we should have many more members. Therefore, if you have relatives and friends who would be interested in our endeavors, have them join or provide them with gift memberships. The dues remain at \$3.00 per year per member (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31) in spite of the increased costs of printing the

newsletter, the cost of postage, etc. YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE APPRECIATED. CHV

Pre-ST. JOSEPH'S DAY BENEFIT DANCE

The C. H. Fdn. sponsors the event to support the Experiment in International Living. Come for an evening of fun and help our 3 students to spend 4 weeks in Czechoslovakia this summer.

When? March 18, day before St. Joseph's
Where? Eagles Hall, 2nd floor, at
202 7th Ave. S. E., C. R.

Time: 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Music by Czech Plus Polka Band
Tickets sold before dance from CH members \$3.00, at the door, \$3.50.
COME Y' ALL and dance, watch, visit.

CZECH PHILHARMONIC CONCERT, AMES, Ia.

The Ames International Orchestra Festival Ass'n. (AIOFA) hosts the Orchestra at 3 concerts, April 10, 11, 12. The week of April 8th has been designated as Czech Heritage Week. On March 12th, representatives of the different Czech organizations will travel to Des Moines to witness Gov. Terry Branstad sign the proclamation designating that week as "Czech Heritage Week in Iowa". Quite an honor for Czechs!

In the lobby and reception area in one of the Halls will be displays of artifacts and handcrafts from Cedar Rapids along with some folks who will demonstrate the techniques. Wed. 10th, a pre-concert performance by Arlene Boddicker and accordionists and dancers; on the 11th, the singers from Protivin will perform before the concert; on the 12th the Czech Plus Polka Band will play before the main concert after which there will be a reception with usual Czech refreshments. At this time there will be an opportunity to visit with the musicians in Czech!

At the present time C. H. Fdn. is arranging a bus for the Thursday concert. \$8.00 bus fare, round trip. Concert ticket prices and program in next column. Make plans to go. Phone F. W. Novotny for reservation

C. R. - MARION NIGHT IN DES MOINES

On February 14, 1984, 3 busses left C. R. with 127 passengers to attend the "C. R. - Marion Night" at Diamond Jack's on the State Fair Grounds. About 40 folks drove their cars making the attendance from C. R. about 175. Czech Heritage was represented by 27 members.

The purpose of the evening was to meet with our representatives in the State Legislature and get an insight as to what was being accomplished. This was our 2nd such meeting. Gov. Terry Branstad attended along with a good turn out of other elected officials and their aides and spouses.

The Czech Heritage group served a delicious lunch of ham, cheese, bratwurst, smoked "Cedar" salmon along with the traditional rye bread and kolaches. Because of the help of our Czech Heritage members we think we did our share to make the evening a success. Sincere THANKS to all.

Frank and Mae Novotny.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMS--CZECH PHILHARMONIC

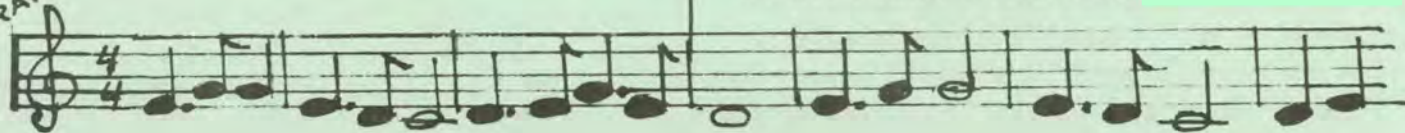
Tues. Apr. 10: Brahms' Academic Festival Overture; Tchaikowsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 in b flat minor, Op. 23, with Andras Schiff, soloist; Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in c minor, Op. 67 (Jiri Belohlavek, conducting).

Wed. Apr. 11: Smetana's "The Moldau"; Dvorak's Concerto in b for Cello, Op. 104, with Nathaniel Rosen, soloist; Tchaikowsky's Symphony No. 5 in e, Op. 64 (Vaclav Neumann, conducting).

Thur. Apr. 12: Smetana's Overture to "The Bartered Bride"; Dvorak's Concerto in a for Violin, Op. 53, with Robert McDuffie, soloist (Neumann conducting); Dvorak's Symphony No. 9 in e, Op. 95 "From the New World" (Belohlavek, conducting).

Price for one concert will be about \$13.00 and with bus fare total under \$25.00. Ticket prices range from \$11.00 to \$17.00. Reservations must be made by March 28th. Phone Frank W. Novotny

DVORAK





Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.

10 - 16TH AVENUE S.W.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52404

CALENDAR
KALENDÁŘ
Special Events
Museum Hours

MARCH Museum open 11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
 19 Mon. Easter Exhibit opening. St. Joseph's Day events.
 27 Tues. "Geneological Research: Tracing Moravian and Slovak Ancestry" by Jana Fast. Presented at Iowa State Historical Society, Iowa City, 7 p.m. The public is invited.

APRIL Museum Exhibit at C. Y. Stevens Auditorium, Ames. Part of the Czech Sun. - Week in Iowa events. TV special, 30 Thur. min. of C.R. Czech Museum and Library.
 14&21 Egg decorating at the Museum-- Sat. Marge Nejdil and Vera Cousins. Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 17 Museum start of DAILY HOURS
 Tues. Tues. thru Fri. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Saturday hours: 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MAY 3 Special Event at Museum, at Thur. 7:30 p.m. p.4
 19 Summer exhibits change at the Sat. Museum. Houby Days: 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
 20 Sun. Houby Days: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

JUNE 2 Ethnic Celebration Hours are Sat. 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 3 Ethnic Celebration Hours are Sun. 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SEPT. Museum hours Fri. and Sat. are 7-8 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
 9 Sun. Hours 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

NOV. Last day of the Mon. - Fri. hours of Daily Museum being open.
 16 Fri. Saturday hours continue.

DEC. Museum open 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 1 Sat. Sv. Mikuláš Day. Demonstrations of peroutky and cornhusk doll handiwork.

J. F.

PROGRESS REPORT ON PROJECTS. Our Foundation started a project of restoring an early Czech immigrant home. In late 1983 under a grant from the Linn County Board of Supervisors, a house was secured and moved to the area at the rear of the Museum and set on a foundation. Recently, another grant from the Supervisors provides restoration of both exterior and interior. The grant pays for the needed materials. All labor is volunteer. We plan the completion of this project in time for the Fall Festival. Last fall the Foundation received a grant from the Iowa Jobs Commission enabling us to expand the open hours of the Museum to encourage more tourism to this area. Also we could start the much needed organization of the Library. The grant pays for salaries. For every \$1.00 received, we must match with 50¢ in cash and 50¢ in volunteer labor. During 1984, Museum hours from April 17 to November 16 Tuesdays thru Fridays. The usual Saturday hours 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. of course, tours and groups can schedule Museum Tours.

I would appreciate your continued support-- the Museum still depends on you for our continued growth. No grants pay for the purchase of artifacts. Some costumes (kroje) that were purchased in Czechoslovakia in 1978 are now five times more costly if they are even available. That is just one example. Donations (tax exempt) may be mailed to the Czech Fine Arts Foundation or Czech Museum and mailed to 10 - 16th Avenue S.W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404.

Bob Schaffer, President
Czech Fine Arts Fdn.

BŘEZEN
 4 9, 10
 18, 19 27

Mark dates and events on your "date calendar" and come to the events!

DUBEN
 8-12;
 10, 11, 12,
 17

KVĚTEN
 2, 3
 23

ČERVEN
 3
 19, 20

MUSEUM IN THE NEWS. Last October, PM Magazine of KWVL's station, featured short introductions to the national stories from the Museum. On Dec. 16th Denny Frary included a 10 minute special feature with president Bob Schaffer telling about the 1984 Calendar. On Jan. 21, 1984, Barry Norris produced a 30 minute special feature on the Czech Museum on KGAN, Ch. 2 T. V. "Thanks" to KGAN for their civic interest in airing this program. Many favorable comments on this TV feature have come to us. Please write to the stations and tell them. Public response increases future coverage.

VIDEOTAPE COPY available of the above program, the Barry Norris Special. Phone Bob Schaffer, , or Jana Fast, 362-8500 to make arrangements.

We are proud to announce that a copy of the program has been requested by the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. A copy will be deposited in their Ethnic Studies Section.

Jana Fast, Curator

SPECIAL EVENT, May 3rd, Thursday.

An original lithograph featuring a national costume from the Museum Collection will be introduced. Our artist is Rick Kasperek. This is the 3rd in a series of five lithographs. Reception will start at 7:30 p.m. The Museum will also take this opportunity to feature recent special acquisitions. We invite all to join us that evening.

1984 CZECH FINE ARTS BOARD OF

DIRECTORS. Serving on the 1984 Board are: Robert Schaffer, Pres., Lovell Dvorak, V. P., Marie Trachta & Rose Kopecky, Sec., Elsie Jelinek, Treas. The General Board Members are: Arlene Boddicker, Georgiann Brejcha, Mildred Drahovzal, Jana & Milan Fast, Dorothy Gilmore, Charles Krejci, Milton Langer, Esther & Wencil Lippert, Evelyn & Emil Lamparek, Harriet Nowadzky, Mildred Ortner, Gus Pesek, Alma Turechek, Carl Volesky, Jaroslava Wheatley, Leora Zahorik, Robert Kazimour.

MUSEUM CALENDAR for 1984 is colorful and devoted to sharing the rare and beautiful artifacts in our Museum collection. The 10"x12" wall calendar has 13 color photographs, three

of which feature national costumes. An introductory text gives a short story of the Czech homeland and the coming of Czechs to Cedar Rapids. On the back cover are calendars for 1984-85 and a list of 1984 events in Czech Village. Holidays are listed in both Czech and English. Calendars are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$21, postpaid. To order, write Czech Fine Arts Fdn., 10-16th Ave. S. W., Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52404. A calendar for a gift-birthday, holiday, anniversary, or other event will be a cherished keepsake.

GREGOR JOHANN MENDEL (1822-1884)

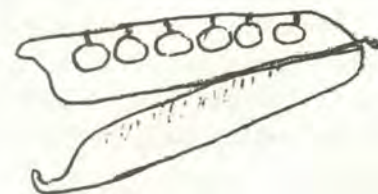
was the scientist who discovered the basic "Secret" of genetics but it was not accepted by others until 16 years after his death. In 1883 he remarked that his findings brought him much satisfaction and it would eventually be recognized by the world.

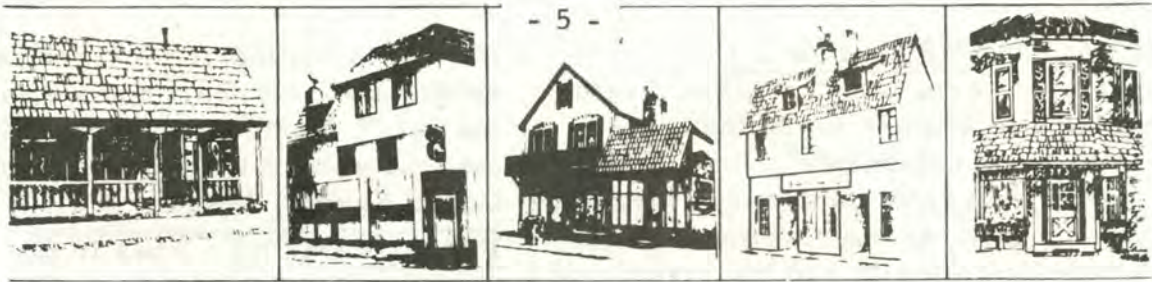
Mendel's parents were peasant farmers in northern Moravia, but this did not deter him from seeking an education.

At age 21 he enrolled at the Augustinian monastery in Brno. Later he was at the University of Vienna where he took courses in physics, chemistry, zoology, paleontology and meteorology. Back at the monastery he had a garden plot 22 x 115 feet where in 7 years he is said to have planted 15,000 pea plants. He kept a record of every cross-pollination experiment.

During the experiments he "covered each plant with a calico hat to prevent wrong pollination". In 1965 the Mendel Museum was opened at the monastery. Some of you may recall that at one time the Russian scientists discredited the Mendelian Law. BBC2 (British Broadcasting) filmed the life of Mendel which was shown this February. The production had the title "The Garden of Inheritance".

O. M. England





Czech Village

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

CZECH VILLAGE OFFICERS for 1984 are Kris Barta Jones of Saddle and Leather Shop, president of the Association, Les Sykora, vice president; Lumir Vondracek, secretary; Ray Snitil, treasurer and Ernie Hlas as ass't. treasurer. Serving on the Board of Directors are: Dave Barta, George Barta, Richard Barta, Dick Bartunek, Jerry Boddicker, George Joens, Patty Konecny, Ernest Kosek, Dick McDonald, Paul Novak, Frank Novotny, Gary Samek and Robert Schaffer. Village Coordinator: Pat Martiň.

PROJECT CIVIC PRIDE. In September 1972, Robert Caldwell was vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce. He and CHARLES E. KREJCI talked about the preservation and perpetuation of the culture, heritage and local history of the Czech people. Mr. Krejci then sent letters to the Sixteenth Avenue Commercial Club and merchants, suggesting ideas to develop the Avenue. The first organizational meeting was held at Joens Bros. during a noon hour. Ideas were discussed to ascertain if there was enough interest in the project. By 1975 the Czech Village Assoc. held meetings and made plans to restore and change the looks of the Avenue. By 1984 much has been accomplished and more changes are yet to come.

C. E. K.

ETHNIC CELEBRATION, 4th ANNUAL EVENT June 2-3, when Czechs join some eight to ten other ethnics to celebrate their origins. Held at the Riverside Roundhouse in Czech Village, the Saturday and Sunday event features ethnic music and dancing, food and entertainment, and arts and crafts.

Czech Village Association, Inc.
59 16th Ave. S.W.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404

NEW MEMBERS FOR CZECH VILLAGE ASSOC. Happily we announce the addition of six new members: Old Towne Inn; Tidy Car; J-C Boddicker's; Polehna's; Bulicek's Bridge Villa; Czech Set Salon. If we are to continue to boost Czech heritage through our important neighborhood shopping area, important as the site of five Czech festivals and events annually, we need the support of a strong Czech Village Association.

Kris Jones, Pres.

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY will be celebrated Monday, March 19th, in Czech Village. Don your favorite red outfit and "think red" while celebrating with friends of your community "all things Czech" and the beginning of Spring!

St. Joseph's Day has its roots in parts of the former PROVINCE OF BOHEMIA, now Czechoslovakia, for centuries past and is celebrated annually in the Czech community of Cedar Rapids on the feast day of St. Joseph. Because it is just two days after our Irish friends celebrate St. Patrick's Day, the three days--March 17, 18 and 19, are always fun days in the Cedar Rapids area.

"St. Joseph's Day PARADE will be at 4 p. m., with that hour chosen for school children who may want to attend", Kris said.

There will be special Czech music; the Museum will be open and Village shops will feature "red specials" such as red bread, red beer, drawings, discounts for Joes and Josephines and other gimmicks to focus on this community celebration, an occasion for fun for all, Kris explained.

*From Bulletin
 Sacred Heart
 Church*



*Salvation
 of Texas*

MORE VILLAGE NEWS, NEWS!

Over the past 10 years, Czech Village Ass'n. has worked hard to acquire more than \$1 million worth of improvements to this neighborhood. More than \$800 thousand in streets, parking lots and general improvements such as the two pedestrian malls and the riverfront park areas are included in this tally. More than \$400 thousand in private monies have been spent on the shopping area. Also we promote and support our beautiful Museum.

In addition to the six newcomers to the Village Association, the names of members displayed prominently on all of our promotional materials are:

Bartunek's Maytag--Boddicker School of Music--Czech Cottage--Czech Inn--Chem Mark--Ernie's Avenue Tavern--Ernest Kosek Enterprises--First Trust and Savings Bank--Granny's Attic--Joens Bros. Interiors--Konecny's Restaurant--Novak Heating and Air Conditioning--Old Towne Inn--Ramco--Dr. Alan Robb--Saddle and Leather Shop--Slavia Agencies--Sykora Bakery--Dr. Rick Travnicek--United State Bank--Village Major Muffler--Vondracek's 16th Avenue Meat Market--Wareco.

Pat Martin, Village Coordinator

As you know, The Czech Village Association stages FIVE ANNUAL FESTIVALS and EVENTS: St. Joseph's Day, Houby Days, Ethnic Celebration, Czech Village Festival and Sv. Mikuláš (St. Nicholas) Day. Much of our personal effort and money goes into these events which benefit the entire 16th Avenue area. In 1977 we employed a coordinator who helps us organize our efforts year round.

Kris Barta Jones

CZECHS VISIT "SEA WORLD".

A couple from Clutier, Ia., visited friends in San Diego. They were seated for the 2 p.m. performance. Two vacant seats were in front of them. A couple arrived and took the 2 seats. She was wearing a large hat. One woman said, "Ta bába si sedne zrovna přednámi. Potom nebudeme moc vidět". In a gracious manner the woman turned and said, "Ženský, jestli nebudete moc vidět, já můžu klobouk sundat." Astonished,



the friend apologized for her remark and said, "You are short and we can see over the hat." Further conversation revealed that the woman with the large hat was from Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

FAMOUS LÁZNĚ --Spas in Czechoslovakia.

At least 20 lázně are listed in the "auto atlas CSSR." KARLOVY VARY, (a. k. a. Carlsbad), is the best known, located some 73 miles N.E. of Praha. There is a legend that Emperor Karel IV was hunting in the area and the hounds were yelping. The hunters located the dogs and discovered they had unwittingly tried to drink the hot mineral waters, temperatures of which can reach 160° F! Karlovy Vary was chartered by the king some 600 years ago. Up to World War I it was THE place for royalty and aristocracy to spend time for rest and recreation--as well as for treatments. The church is very ornate and in baroque design.

MARIÁNSKÉ LÁZNĚ is said to be the 2nd in popularity, some 30 miles south of Karlovy Vary.

FRANTIŠKOVÝ LÁZNĚ is S.W. of Karlovy Vary and has been a royal spa since the 18th century.

Most of the spas have some like and some different minerals in the waters such as alkalis, salts, carbons, iron, sulphur, mercury and others. Treatments include heart, arthritis, digestion, diabetes and others. The architecture of the older buildings have crenelated decorations on the verandas and cupolas.

In a class by itself is JÁCHYMOV to the north of Karlovy Vary. Since 1516 it has been famous for radium water and treatments. Water temperature is 82° F. Besides baths, treatments include inhaling gas and irradiation. Silver was mined here and the coin "Jachymovské taler"(dollar) was minted.

Some 10 of the spas are north and west of Praha -- the other 10 are to the east and in Slovakia.

Mineral Waters are sipped from the mug. Note "built-in straw" in handle of cup.



LIFE in a MORAVIAN VILLAGE. It was in the early 1900's, December 1905, that VIKTORIE KOPEČEK was born in the village of Budiškovice, Province of Moravia, Austro-Hungarian Empire. Within a few months the family moved to Peč, a village in the valley of the Dyje River. To the north was the town of Dačice, to the southwest was Slavonice which is less than a mile from the Austrian boundary. Peč was a village of 65 houses. Villagers worked in the fields of the landowners. There were no home industries as in larger towns.

Up to 1918 there was the one-room school in Peč. Lessons were in German, the official language of the Empire in that province. There were the usual three grades all in one large room. School was required until age 14. On Thursdays the priest came to hold catechism classes. At noon the boys went home to work and the girls learned to crochet, embroider and knit. During World War I, two villages shared the teacher with classes in one village in the mornings and at the other in the afternoons. The following day the routine was vice versa. If it rained while the teacher was in one village he stayed there rather than walk 1 1/2 miles to the other school.

Father Kopeček was a bricklayer. Work was slow. The home was sold, so father and mother went to Vienna to seek work. The two younger children, Viktorie and Karel (Charles) went to live with grandmother Rob and uncle Joseph Rob. Marie, the oldest, went to live with uncle Gustav Kopeček. Uncle Rob was a freeholder (owned land) so there was work to do in the fields and room for them at the home.

At age 12, Viktorie was taking care of four cows and the geese. Because pasture was limited, she had to gather grass and weeds in fields of potatoes, rye and wheat. Thistle was a real nuisance on cropland. Some folks rented roadside ditches from the village to cut the grass for their animals. A sickle or scythe was the hand tool used along with muscle power.

World War I started. Vienna was all but shutdown. Father and mother returned to Moravia. Uncle Joseph Rob had served his 3 years in the Emperor's Imperial Austrian Army and was inducted to serve 4 more years. Now the Kopečeks lived in his house.

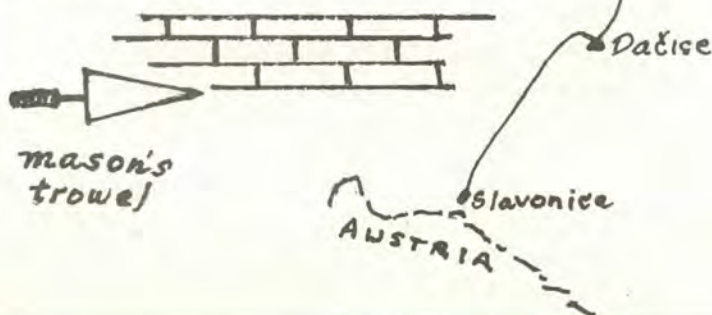
The villagers knew that mobilization started when they heard the roll of the drum to summon them to the yard by the mayor's house. A poster was nailed to the door of the house. Men, ages 21 to 36, were to report within 24 hours. During those war years the villagers worked in the fields. To get a job, a person had to have identification paper certifying his name, home town, trade, age, etc.

At 13, Viktorie lived with an elderly couple in a small village. Here she was the "grazing girl" and did field work. When chores were done she went to the nearby woods to gather twigs and sticks for fuel. Some branches would be laid on the ground, then small pieces placed on top. Then the bundle was tied at the ends, hoisted on her back and she trudged along to the house.

At age 14, Viktorie was in another small village, Chlumeč, where there were only 25 houses. Again it was the usual farm work for a year. It was a lonesome life there.

It was now June 1920. The war was over. Father left for the United States and traveled to Nebraska where former neighbors were farming. His pay was \$50/month with room and board.

Living in Cedar Rapids was Joe Pazour, Sr., who wrote to father and advised him to come to Cedar Rapids. There he could make ^{Telk} \$50/week, as a bricklayer. The Douglas Starch Works (now Penick & Ford) had damaged buildings by an explosion. Bricklayers were needed.



Now it was time to bring the family from Moravia. A bank loan was underwritten by two friends (Pazour and Dědek) to pay the \$700 for the trip for Mrs. Kopeček and the three children. There were no problems. Passports were 1100 crowns (\$10) for each person. Mrs. Kopeček had a large sack under her skirt to hold all of that paper money! It took some time to count all of that money for the payment.

By train the family went to Praha and on to Antwerp, Belgium, where they boarded the S. S. Zeeland for a 12 day stormy passage to America. The ship, built in 1901, had been a troop transport and also carried livestock during the war under the British flag.

The ship was in poor shape. During storms water reached the level of the first bunks. Men slept in separate quarters from the women but married couples might be in the women's quarters. Food was not very good and lacked variety. The menu was usually salty ham, beans and bread. Water to wash hands (not bathing) was salty and sticky. It was a weary and smelly trip crossing the Atlantic



S. S. Zeeland: 11,905 T., 508 x 60 ft. twin screw, 15 knots/hr., renamed Minnesota, broken up 1930.

Upon arrival at New York, they were transferred to Ellis Island, then to the train for Chicago. The usual name tags with destination were pinned to their coats. A box lunch could be purchased for \$2.00 for the trip. In Chicago, they changed to the Milwaukee Station. Travel was by a sort of a "carry-all" pulled by horses. (In England the wagon would be called a "lorry"). The family had left Antwerp Dec. 2, 1920, arrived in New York on the 14th and arrived in Cedar Rapids on the 16th. No one met them at the depot because they were expected at the Union Station via the Northwestern Railway!

At the station they spoke German and no one could understand them. Among themselves they spoke Čech! A young woman overheard them and offered to help. In fact she took the family to her home so mother could meet them. At the Chocholka home, Viktorie sat in a rocking chair - her first such experience. As it rocked, she screamed and jumped out of the chair. She thought it was going to tip over!

After the visit at Chocholkas, the family were invited to the Joe Pazour, Sr. home for a dinner of dumplings, pork, sauerkraut and kolaches. But now Viktorie had a bad case of tonsillitis and could not eat. When a neighbor of the Pazour's saw her predicament, she advised them to see a doctor. This scared Viktorie very much because she thought she was going to die. She had never been to a doctor and she knew people usually died after a visit by a doctor.

Dr. Petrovitsky examined her, prescribed medication and told her that in 2 or 3 days she could swallow a whole dumpling.

The reunited family lived in a small two-room House on C Street S. W., just south of 16th Ave. for a short time. The owners sold the house so they moved to a duplex nearby.

One day Viktorie and sister, Marie, went to Sinclair's (now Wilson) to apply for jobs. The boss looked at them and said, "You, the big one, you come with me. You, little one, go home to mama."

Mother went to work so taking care of the home was Viktorie's work. Soon, mother was laid off so both girls did "domestic" work for different families. Viktorie went to a farm doing housework for \$2.50/wk. She did so much scrubbing on her knees that she wore out the toes in her shoes in two months. Shoes were \$5.00 a pair so she quit that job.

Soon she would be 16 so she went to the Quaker Oats to apply for work. Legally in Old Country she was 16. When asked for proof of age, she said the papers were kept

(continued on page 9)

in New York. When she gave her name Viktorie Kopeček, the clerk said "Spell it". Of course this meant nothing to Viktorie. Then the woman gave her a pencil and paper so she wrote her name. When she returned home she told her mother that the woman could not even SPELL! Viktorie spoke warmly of Miss Gertrude Stenner who supervised women employees. The Quaker Oats job lasted 6 years.

It was now 1924 and there was a wedding of Viktorie Kopeček and Martin Polehna who with his brother, Andrew, operated the well-known Polehna's Meat Market in what is Czech Village today. Although the business has changed ownership twice over the years, the name and good-will goes along with the transfer of the business.

Compiled from conversations with Mrs. Martin Polehna mms

PIONEERS! OH! PIONEERS! One has only to read a life story of folks from the Old Country who came to the Midwest from the 1840's to 1920's to appreciate how much they have accomplished in not only their generation but the descendents unto the 7th and 8th generations. Truly their adventure into a unknown land to them, except for stories of Indians in those early years and later the emblem of the Statue of Liberty and not of streets paved with gold but hard work, freedom of religion and education... these were the attractions so strong that they were eager to leave family, home and country.

Since then, the children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren have done well. Some in hard-hat jobs, others as farmers, nurses, lawyers, teachers, merchants, musicians, authors, artists, administrators, veterinarians, politicians, doctors, government officials and the list goes on.

When one reads of the hardships of child labor, government control of the past in some countries and of the horrible violations of human rights in some nations nowadays, how very ~~FORTUNATE WE ARE TO BE LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES OF~~

NORTH AMERICA where we may not approve or agree with EVERYTHING that goes on, we still are blessed with many, many good things--including values and ideals that money cannot buy. mms

The present editor has been on the job for 8 years -- a volunteer -- and it is time for another to take over. If interested, please write to the Czech Heritage Foundation, P.O.Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52406....

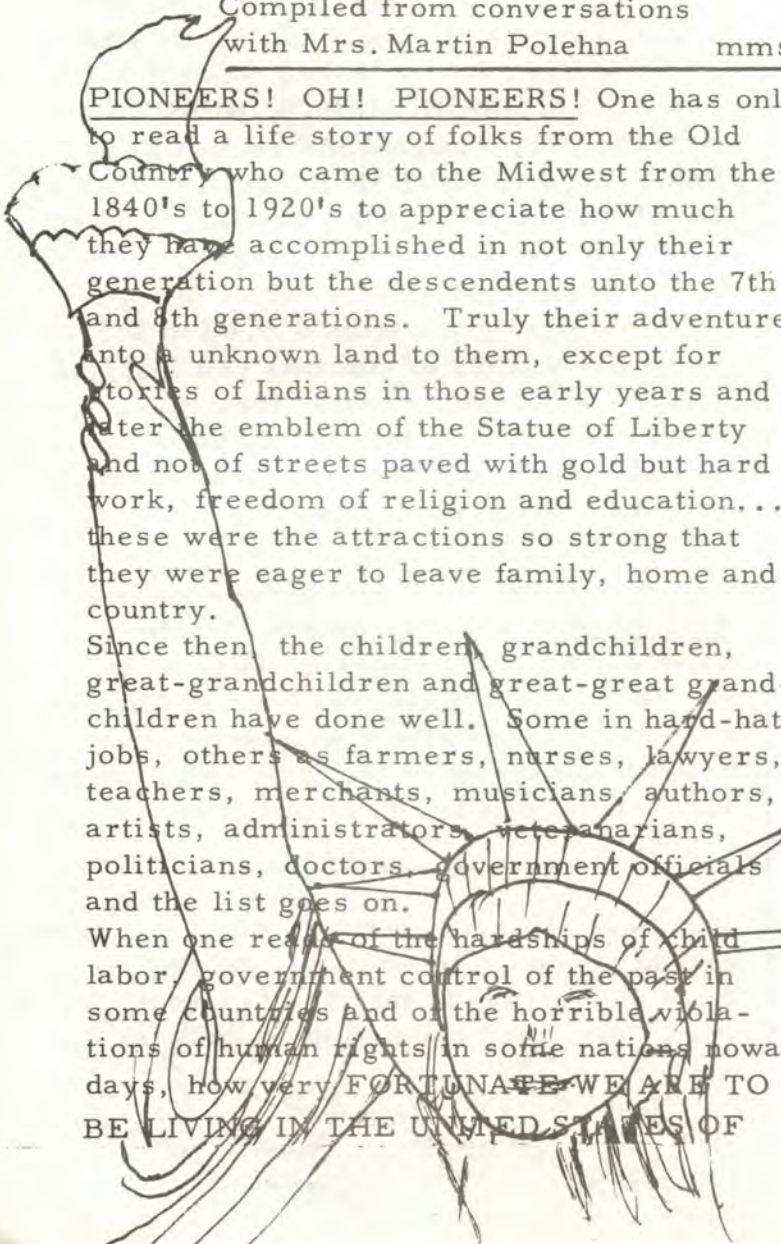
WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT MAMA? ABOUT PAPA? We are starting a new series and invite your stories, yes, true, short and interesting episodes in your life. Of course one recalls ever so many events, be "choosey"!

An earthquake and volcanic eruption devastated some villages in Italy. Papa was reading the evening newspaper while mama was busy at the sewing machine. That was about 1908 and I listened to the report of people buried in the rubble. Through holes, potatoes were dropped to give them something to eat until rescue operations liberated them. I was worried how they would get a knife to peel the potatoes!

I remember Mama never once spanked sister or me and not even slapped our hands. Of course we were naughty at times. Mama had one sit on a chair in one room and the other in the next room. She would be busy in the kitchen. Another form of discipline was to kneel on our knees, not rest on our haunches....I am sure it was not hours but a few minutes -- but it sure felt like hours!

CORRECTIONS Dec. issue. Some place names had errors in diacritical markings, e.g. Žlin is Zlín. Also some names under the map on p. 10 have errors but trust you can figure out the real places! Sorry.

As I sat thinking (with what?), alone and melancholy and without a friend (not true), there came a voice out of the gloom saying, "Cheer up, things might be worse." So, I cheered up and sure enough, things got worse!
anon.



PROJECT INTERNATIONAL LIVING: Czech Heritage Fdn. is pleased to announce the names of the high school juniors who will be participating in the Experiment Living Program. They will join their host families near Prague in July. The three chosen are: Julie Jilovec, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jilovec of Lisbon; Lynn Nejd, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Nejd and Sara Joens, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. George Joens, of Cedar Rapids. The students' qualifications are truly outstanding and the Foundation is proud of their records. The three students along with Frank W. Novotny, President of the Foundation, will be the first feature on the Denny Frary Show, GOOD MORNING EASTERN IOWA, KCRG, TV, Ch. 9, at 9:30 a.m., Friday, March 9, 1984. Mark your Calendars!

MFS



CARD PARTY, Mar. 27, Tues.
 Sokol Hall
 Door and Table Prizes
 Refreshments: 12:30--1:00 p.m.
 Donation: \$1.25 per person.

THOMAS STRAUSSLER, born in Czechoslovakia in 1937, now known as TOM STOPPARD, has "made it" on Broadway with a play "The Real Thing". His family left Čechy when the Nazis took over and moved to Singapore. Then the Japanese took over and the family left for India but the father did not follow nor did he survive. Tom's first language was Czech. He learned English in India and continued his education in England. He says that his English by then had a Czech-American-Chinese accent which gave him a certain mark of individuality!

The January 16, 1984 issue of "Newsweek" carries a 2-page feature article in the THEATER section about Stoppard - his ideas, philosophy about the theater, life, journalism and an analysis of seven of his successful theatrical productions.

LETTER to the Editor "It was a real delight to discover your quarterly publication NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ - Our Czech Heritage: I cannot think of another publication which contains such a useful wealth of information about our Czech culture and heritage.

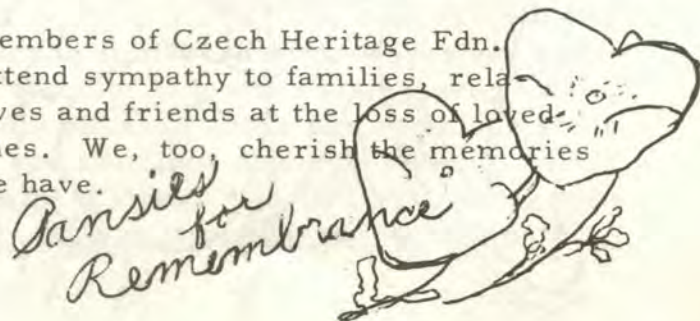
It is especially valuable in developing and expanding one's knowledge and is an excellent source for stimulating ideas for cultural and educational programs. There is so much to share with family, friends and fellow members in our ethnic organizations. I have recommended it to more than 600 persons through our SOKOL DETROIT NEWSLETTER! For \$3.00 a year, I couldn't find a better buy anywhere. Every Sokol Unit should subscribe as well."

Sincerely,
 Bruce Janda

The Department of SLAVIC LANGUAGES & LITERATURE, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 48109, has a remarkable list of publications. To name but a few which are available are: CZECH POETRY (Bilingual Language), The CZECHS IN THE UNITED STATES, MOROVÝ SLOUP The PLAGUE MONUMENTS, HUSSITE MOVEMENT, T.G. MASARYK in PERSPECTIVE, BAROQUE IN BOHEMIA, EARLY LIVES OF SAINTS AND PRINCES, CROSS CURRENTS--No. 1 & 2. These are Year-books on the Culture of Central Europe. Most range in price from \$10.00 to \$15.00. To judge by titles of contents you will find articles on people, events, theater, history short stories, art, letters, authors, politics and other contributions. If interested in more information, phone the editor
 B. J. (Mich).

ROY KROC made a fortune in the McDonald hamburger empire. Yes, he is of Czech ancestry and was born in Chicago in 1904. He was also a well-known baseball fan and owner of the Cubs some years ago. He died at age 81 at San Diego in January.

Members of Czech Heritage Fdn. extend sympathy to families, relatives and friends at the loss of loved ones. We, too, cherish the memories we have.



ROBOTS and ROBOTICS are words that you see and hear in present day news. ROBOT is one of the few words from Čech that appears in English dictionaries. The word first caught the attention of readers of the book and play by KAREL ČAPEK entitled "R. U. R." a short title for "Rossums Universal Robots".

The play is about mechanical men taking over the universe. Written in 1921 the book was translated within a year or two as were other of Capek's works.



ROBOTA (work) and ROBOTNÍK (worker, a drudge) are in Čech dictionaries published in 1882! Meanings listed are: hard work, drudgery, soccage (labor owed the landlord). A 1974 dictionary published in Praha gives this meaning to robot: (kitchen) mixmaster, mixer. Another source lists robot as "slave". Perhaps that idea ties in with soccage. The Čech word for slave is "otrok".

KAREL ČAPEK (1870-1938) wrote plays, novels and essays. The themes are about materialism, social, economic and political conditions. Some writings are tinged with satire. JOSEF ČAPEK, a brother, was also a writer and a painter of some repute. He died in 1946 in the Belsen Concentration Camp. While there, he wrote "Poems from a Concentration Camp."

PROTEST IN TEXAS. The December issue of our newsletter cited that Czech is the 3rd most commonly spoken language in Texas. A recent article in the Dallas News tells that Texas Czechs are protesting that the United States Census Bureau gives all kinds of information on Greek, Polish and Chinese language speakers in Texas but lumps Czechs in "other unspecified groups". Nick Morris, President of 60,000 members of Slovanská Podporující Jednota Státu Texas, says that "no one has ever challenged the statement that Czech is the third most spoken language in Texas, behind English and Spanish."

C. E. K.

Ever hear of "ROBOLUTION"? The new word comes from Japan! Yes, Czech robots are doing well over there. A recent news item states that "More robots are installed in Japan than in all other countries combined".

PRECIOUS LEGACY is the title of a very special exhibition of treasures--to name a few are paintings, portraits, a Torah Crown, an alms box. These Judaic Treasures are on loan from the Czechoslovak State Collection. This is the first time these objects of art and history have been in the United States. Saved from the Nazi attempt to Obliterate the Jews, their culture and heritage, these were once in homes of Jewish families in Bohemia and Moravia for the most part. In the collection are "links in a chain of beauty and faith". The exhibit was at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C. and is now in Miami Beach; later on it travels to New York, San Diego, New Orleans, Detroit and Hartford, Conn., completing its visits in mid-1985. Philip Morris and Associates, Inc. sponsored this special project.

MLS

Translations of Czech humor from old copies of AMERIKÁN NÁRODNÍ KALENDÁŘ and HLASATEL KALENDÁŘ published in the first half of this century, will give you some hearty chuckles.

A man went to buy a pair of shoes. He was shown 3 dozen. He said, "I want broad toes like the shoes I have on my feet."

"Sir," said the clerk, "this year the style is pointed toes."

"That's too bad, I am still wearing my last year's feet with broad toes."

"Sir, how long will that locomotive last?"

"Oh, maybe some 30 years."

"Maybe it would last longer if it did not smoke so much."

Two beggars, one blind and the other deaf, met on a street corner.

"What is happening to young people today? Did you see that short skirt the girl is wearing?" asked the blind one.

"Indeed! it is today's jazz-age which is what I hear everywhere I go" replied the deaf one.

The above year-books have stories of settlers, some of whom were in Ely, Swisher, Cedar Rapids, Belle Plaine, and Czech communities in other states. Pictures, stories, events, and history of settlement tell their stories. If you have any of the books, do treasure them. Your family might be listed!

ML

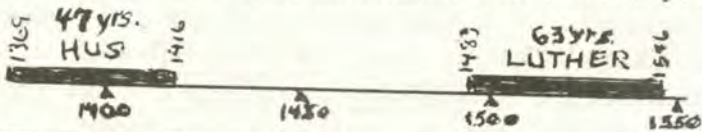
JH

In 1983, the Lutherans observed the 500th ANNIVERSARY of the birth of MARTIN LUTHER.

Many Čechs know that JAN HUS was born long before Luther (some 114 years) who often referred to Hus. In July 1519, at Leipsig, Germany, Luther engaged in a debate before an audience of politicians and churchmen. Hus' adversary charged that ideas of Luther sounded much like Jan Hus.

During lunch time, Luther spent his time in the library going over Hus' collected writings. When the debate resumed, Luther stated that on most points he agreed with Hus and found "no reason why he had been condemned." Within a year, Luther was saying, "We are all Hussites without knowing it."

From The SMITHSONIAN, Nov. 1983, p. 56



CZECH SCHOOL IN CEDAR RAPIDS has had at least 60 women and men on the staff in the 113 years of existence. Some teachers were on the staff a term or two and some taught a score or more years. Of the 60, at least 40 are deceased. The December newsletter listed only a few names of the teachers saying that there were many others. The above information was supplied by Marie Wokoun who has the complete listing of teachers.



ERNEST KŘENEK (1900 -) 83 years of age, composer and gifted conductor lives in Palm Springs, California, in exile, was honored at a concert last fall when his "Diary of a Trip Through the Austrian Alps", a 54-year old song cycle, was the surprise hit of the evening. He is little known. His compositions are in the modern style.

CORRECTIONS. The name of Mildred Dra-hovzal should have been listed as the person who suggested the name of Naše České Dě-dictví and Sharon Hruska as the one who se-conded the motion. ALSO there are several "errors" on page 10. Krajina #6 and #7 should be reversed as to location. Sorry... also that KRAJINA is incorrect and should be Kraj. However, my Čech Dictionary dated 1882, Praha, lists Krajina as dis-trict, province, region, county, etc.

RECIPE FOR JITERNICE. In a warehouse in New Prague, Minnesota, a sausage factory is busy these days making jiternice. The recipe? 10 pig heads, boiled, remove meat, snouts and skin from the bones. Add plenty of onion, garlic, farina, pearl barley, pep-per, marjoram, some bread and nutmeg. Run thru the mill, grinding and blending ingredients. Now cook, mix and cook in a large caldron. Put the batch in a stuffing machine with casing over the end tube and start the wheel which is overhead to move the mix. When 12 inches of the casing is fil-led, cut, and a worker ties the end with string. The 150 jiternice are now cooked in the broth, then placed on paper to drain and cool. 150 jiternice result from the mix. Now the mix for JELITA, blood sausage is pre-pared by adding pig blood to the earlier mix that remains. These are often called "black" jiternice. 30 rings of jelita result in 12 inch long casings. Theophile Mareš and helpers follow recipes used by parents and grandparents. C. E. K.

From Neighbors page
Minneapolis Star Tribune
P.S. Yes, we know the words jiternice and jaternice refer to the same "ring" of heated "baloney" and it is yummy with fresh rye bread!!

THE BELEAGURED CITY **

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Written in 1839

- * I have read, in some old, marvelous tale, Some legend strange and vague,
That a midnight host of specters pale Beleagured the walls of Prague.
- * Beside the Moldau's rushing stream, With the wan moon overhead,
There stood, as in an awful dream, The army of the dead.
- * White as a sea-fog, landward bound, The spectral camp was seen,
And, with a sorrowful, deep sound, The river flowed between.
- * No other voice nor sound was there, No drum, nor sentry's pace;
The mist-like banners clasped the air As clouds with clouds embrace.
- * But when the old cathedral bell Proclaimed the morning prayer,
The white pavilions rose and fell On the alarmed air.
- * Down the broad valley fast and far The troubled army fled;
Up rose the glorious morning star, The ghastly host was dead.
- * I have read, in the marvelous heart of man, That strange and mystic scroll,
That an army of phantoms vast and wan Beleaguer the human soul.
- * Encamped beside Life's rushing stream, In Fancy's misty light,
Gigantic shapes and shadows gleam Portentous through the night.
- * Upon its midnight battle-ground The spectral camp is seen,
And, with a sorrowful, deep sound, Flows the River of Life between.
- * No other voice nor sound is there, In the army of the grave;
No other challenge breaks the air, But the rushing of Life's wave.
- * And when the solemn and deep church-bell Entreats the soul to pray,
The midnight phantoms feel the spell, The shadows sweep away.
- * Down the broad Vale of Tears afar The spectral camp is fled;
Faith shineth as a morning star, Our ghastly fears are dead.

** This poem of 12 stanzas was written at the time of the Austro-Hungarian Empire when Bohemia was a Province and the Habsburg dynasty was ruling Central Europe. The poem was sent to Newsletter by Eleanor Pohorsky Elkington, St. Petersburg, Florida. * indicates first line of each stanza.

MATICE VYŠŠÍHO VZDĚLÁNÍ, Council for Higher Education of Brookfield, Ill. reports for 1982-83 academic year awarding 40 scholarships: 20 to graduate and 20 to undergraduate students, totaling \$29,410 in sums ranging from \$340 to \$900 per student.

Loans were made to 22 men and 22 women for a total of \$31,300. In the 81 years of operations the Council had a total of 771 loans. Of loan awards, 21 to graduates and 23 to undergraduates. Loan repayments were over \$21,000 for the fiscal year!

As many of you know, the Council originated in Cedar Rapids in 1902. Donations by organizations totaled \$1145, memorials \$490, by individuals \$2908 in amounts ranging from \$2.00 to \$200, for a grand total as of June 1983 of \$4543. If you would care to make a donation to any of the above categories, send to the Council of Higher Education, P.O. Box 136, Brookfield, Ill. 60513. A Life Membership is \$200. Suggest to organizations that they might be interested in helping a good cause in education.

MEMBERSHIP IN CZECH HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Dues are \$3.00 per person for one year, Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Please make the check payable to Czech Heritage Foundation and mail to us at P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406.

This newsletter went to press Feb. 28th. If you have mailed your dues in the meantime, you will receive an acknowledgment later. Thank you.

If your dues ARE PAID for 1984 you will find PAID stamped on this form.

Name _____ renewal _____ new _____

Address _____ zip _____

Donations and gift memberships are always welcome. Donation \$ _____.

If dues ARE NOT PAID for 1984 this will be your LAST NEWSLETTER !Sorry!

Donations to support the Foundation and/or gift to the International Scholarship "Homestay" Project are all welcome.

Donation to Czech Heritage Foundation \$ _____. May be included in the check for memberships. Mail to CHFnd. P.O.Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52406.

Donation to Scholarship Fund \$ _____. All checks to this Fund made payable to Scholarship Fund, CHFdn. and mail the check to Mr. Frank W. Novotny,

THANK YOU

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

