



LA GRANGE, TEXAS

NÁŠ ČESKÝ ŽIVOT

"OUR CZECH LIFE"

(Centrum českého kulturního dědictví v Texasu)

SUMMER 2017

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 2

Happy 20th Anniversary, Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, La Grange, Texas

March 24, 1997 - March 24, 2017



Dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the history, language, culture and heritage of Texans of Czech ethnicity.

Náš Český Život
"Our Czech Life"

TEXAS CZECH HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER

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Newsletter Address: All articles, photographs, advertising and correspondence should be directed to Retta Chandler or Janis Hrcir, co-editors, P. O. Box 6, La Grange, Texas 78945 (979) 968-9399.

Articles: Anyone may submit articles, which will be accepted for inclusion as space permits and subject to review and editing as necessary. All articles must be typewritten. The publication is not responsible for the return of unsolicited material not submitted with a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, Inc. does not endorse or guarantee the products or services that are advertised in this publication.

OUR MISSION

The MISSION of the TEXAS CZECH HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER, INC. is to provide a central facility for the preservation and promotion of the history, language, culture and heritage of individuals of Czech ethnicity who can trace their ancestry to the Czechs who immigrated from the present day Czech Republic or former Austria-Hungary (including Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia and Silesia), to honor those immigrants, and to operate exclusively for charitable, scientific, literary and educational purposes.

The GOALS of the TEXAS CZECH HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER, INC. are:

- To educate the public about the past and present contributions and status of persons of Czech descent
- To encourage the study and preservation of the Czech language, fine arts, music and dance
- To provide for the preservation and exhibition of artifacts that are historically significant to the Czech people of Texas
- To provide a library and archives for the collection and preservation of books, newspapers, periodicals, family histories, research material, photographs and all printed data of historical significance to the Czech people of Texas
- To provide adequate space for gatherings, meetings and educational activities for the benefit of the Czech people of Texas
- To encourage and promote a cultural exchange program between the Czech people of Texas and the citizens of the Czech Republic
- To provide the public with updated information regarding Czech-related activities and historical sites in Texas, the United States and abroad.

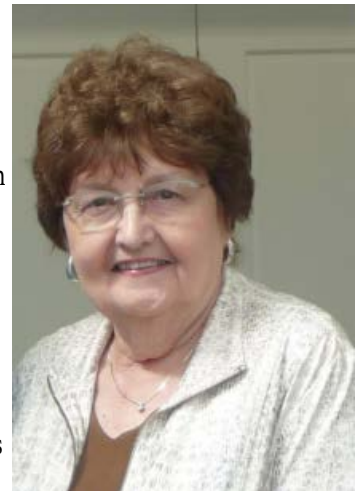
You are invited to continue receiving the newsletter Náš Český Život and an annual calendar by sending in your ANNUAL SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP. This journal will only be sent to members. Support your Center — JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY.



FLAG SPONSORSHIP is Available. Sponsorship can be made in Memory of or in Honor of an individual or group. \$250.00. Contact TCHCC for details.

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT: Retta Slavik Chandler

This newsletter contains the activities of our 20th Anniversary Celebration on MAY 19- 21. The turnout was wonderful. It began on Friday with the presentation, "Legacy of Svatava Pirkova Jakobson" by Dr. Lida Cope. Former students of Jakobson that were present added their experiences as her students at the University of Texas in Austin. Immediately following the presentation, an exhibit of photographs by Svatava Jakobson of Texas Czech Kroje was opened in the Melnar Library. On Saturday a reception to celebrate the 20th anniversary of TCHCC began with a presentation of the history of the center by President Chandler. Judge Ed Janecka presented the welcome. Remarks by Honorary Consul Brian Vanicek expressed support of the Texas Czech community and the Czech Republic. Founder and Past Board Member, Carolyn Heinsohn, shared historical information about the Center. Past Board Member, Pavla Van Bibber, and the Escoffier School of Culinary Arts prepared and served delicious Czech appetizers to all in attendance.



That evening at the Sanford Schmid Amphitheater, a path through memory lane with a music tribute to bands and musicians of the past was presented by Czech and Then Some (CATS) with Mark Hermes serving as MC. The West High School Dancers delighted all with a great performance. CATS also celebrated their 20th anniversary in 2017. They were recognized with a certificate presented to them by Theresa Cernoch Parker, International Polka Association (IPA) representative.

On Sunday the annual Tribute to Czech Immigrants was held in the museum followed by the laying of the wreath ceremony at the Immigrants' Wall. Assisted by 2017 Czech Queen, Brianna Blattman and Honorary Czech Consul Brian Vanicek, the most recent addition to the Immigrants Wall, the ancestors of Frank Kubicek, were recognized. A catered meal was served in Hanslik Hall at noon. The Jodie Mikula Orchestra of Ennis, Texas pleased dancers and listeners with music on the deck from 1:00 to 5:00. A large tent in front of the deck with a dance floor and picnic tables allowed the crowd to enjoy a full afternoon of great music. The Jodie Mikula Orchestra will celebrate their 50th anniversary in August, 2017. They were recognized with a certificate presented to them by IPA Representative Theresa Cernoch Parker.

A continuation of the history of the development of TCHCC is contained in this issue. As we reflect on those beginnings, we are reminded that our work has just begun and that we must continue to make available to the next generation the story of the accomplishments of the Czech people in Texas. We can do this through our exhibits, programs, and the preservation of the artifacts. We must preserve this great heritage. This preservation process began years ago with our Czech leaders in our fraternal organizations, churches, and Czech-founded organizations. Evidence of this effort is a detailed description in an article describing an exhibit at the State Fair of Texas in Texas in 1936. Following the exhibit it was published in "Nase Dejiny" by KJT. An excerpt from an English translation by Kevin Hannan is in this issue.

On August 6, I was honored to be asked to be the guest speaker at the National Czech Slovak Association (CSA) Get Together in Austin. CSA began as a fraternal organization in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1854 with lodges throughout the US including Texas. They are to be commended for their continued work to preserve and honor Czech heritage. Thank you to Susan Skrabanek of Caldwell for the invitation, who was one of the coordinators of the four day event in Austin, Texas.

We look forward to the coming years when we will continue to honor our ancestors and their work so they may never be forgotten. We ask you to join us in this endeavor.

To commemorate the occasion of our 20th Anniversary, we are offering granite stones that will be placed in the sidewalk next to the Rose Garden. Only 20 stones will be engraved for this insertion. We have 16 sold to date. Honor your loved ones or congratulate them with a TCHCC Anniversary Stone. Call TCHCC at 888-785-4500 or e-mail at info@czechtexas.org for information.

TEXAS POLKA NEWS is having a subscription drive to reach 3,000 subscribers by 2018 to celebrate the paper's 30th anniversary. The full-color monthly newspaper features a calendar listing of dances, festivals, and live music events, not only in Texas, but in the U.S. as well. Editor Gary E. McKee of Fayetteville uses his background as a Texas historical author and photo journalist to bring to life the history of bands, instruments, and dance traditions. Owner and Publisher Theresa Cernoch Parker brings her Czech/German heritage and years as a journalist/writer to promote Texas musicians, bands, and dance halls. The events at TCHCC are always well promoted in the paper.

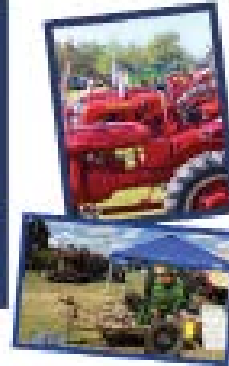
A subscription is only \$25 a year, and during the anniversary drive TPN will donate \$5 of the subscription price to a dance club or music/heritage organization. Not only will the groups benefit from the donated subscription money, cash prizes will be awarded in June 2018 to the organizations that bring in the most subscriptions/renewals. "We encourage all our members to subscribe or renew, and list TCHCC to receive the donation. Subscribe online at polkabeat.com/texas-polka-news or send in a check for \$25 to Texas Polka News, PO Box 800183, Houston, TX 77280. Be sure to designate TCHCC to receive the \$5 donation.

3Kx2018

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The graphic features the text "3Kx2018" in large, bold, red letters with a yellow sunburst background. To the right, there is a black box with white text that reads "SUBSCRIBE TO Texas Polka News EARN MONEY FOR YOUR CLUB/ORGANIZATION". Below this is the website "TexasPolkaNews.com" and the phone number "281-836-5362".



- ☆ Hospoda ^(BEER GARDEN)
- ☆ Train Rides
- ☆ Music
- ☆ Village Tours
- ☆ Demonstrations
- ☆ Antique Tractor & Car Show
- ☆ Arts & Crafts



Heritage Festival & Muziky

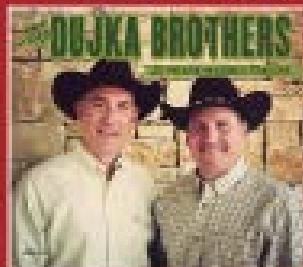
October 20th and 21st

250 West Fairgrounds Road, La Grange, Texas

Friday, Oct. 20th

~ Octoberfest on the Deck ~
 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM
 Czech Style
 Chicken & Dumplings Served!!

Music 6:00 - 9:30 PM with



The
 Dujka
 Brothers

Visit The Czech Village



Saturday, Oct. 21st

Opening Ceremony - 10:00 AM
 KJT State Tandy Tournament • Museums & Czech Gift Shop
 Antique Farm Equipment & Car Shows
 Arts & Crafts • Children's Activities • SPJST Kolač Eating Contest



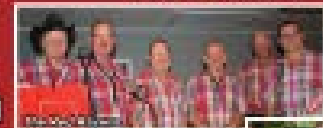
~ Heritage Demonstrations ~

Saw Mill • Blacksmithing • Corn Shelling & Grinding • Textiles
 Noodle Making • Hay Press • Wine Making • Sausage Making
 Peanut Threshing and MORE!!



~ LaGrange Ford Hospoda ~ "Beer Garden"

Shiner Beer Stage
 11:30 AM - 6:00 PM
 Red Ravens and
 The Bohemian Dutchmen



~ Amphitheater ~

7:00 PM - 9:30 PM
 Muziky, Muziky

"THE LEGENDS SERIES" Part V
 Featuring
 The Legacy of Bobby Jones
 and the Bobby Jones Czech Band



= Saturday Night Fireworks Finale = Proudly Sponsored by H-E-B

US CZECH AMBASSADOR VISITED TCHCC

Hynek Kmoníček became the Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States of March 16. He replaced Petr Gandalovic who left the post in January.

Ambassador Kmoníček presented his credentials to President Trump on April 24. Before his appointment and since 2013, Ambassador Kmoníček worked as the Director of the Foreign Affairs Department in the Office of the President of the Czech Republic.

Ambassador Kmoníček's diplomatic career has spanned more than two decades since he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, specifically its Department for Middle East and Africa, in 1995. He worked in different positions such as the Director of North Africa and Middle East Department, the Director General for Asia, Africa, and America, and the Deputy Foreign Minister in two different periods. He served as the Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Australia, India and to the United Nations in New York before joining the foreign service, the Ambassador studied English and Arabic Language Studies at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, and Modern History of the Middle East and Hebrew and Arabic Languages Studies at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel.

Ambassador Kmoníček enjoys cooking ethnic cuisine, collecting the hottest sauces on this planet and writing for various magazines and newspapers.

Texas has many communities with Czech roots and a large population of Americans of Czech descent - approximately one million men, women, boys and girls by some counts. The Czech Republic presents an important cultural and economic gateway between the two countries.

The itinerary of the Ambassador had him arriving in Dallas on June 15 for a series of business meetings followed by a public reception at the Dallas Sokol from 7 until 9 p.m. Friday, June 16, he attended a public reception at West Sokol in West, featuring kolače from the Village Bakery. The new Ambassador is well aware of the tremendous rebuilding efforts over the past four years and he is anxious to meet the residents of West and see the progress firsthand. He is especially interested in seeing the new Sokol gymnasium as the Czech government was a major contributor on this project. The Ambassador and his wife, Indira Gumarová, also toured the History of West Museum. From West, a visit was planned to meet the SPJST officials at the SPJST Home Office and a visit to the Czech Heritage Museum in Temple.

Later that afternoon, Ambassador Kmoníček was in Austin for a meeting with National Guard of Texas officials at Camp Mabry to discuss matters relevant to the Texas Partnership Program. Since the early 1990s, the Czech Republic and U.S. Armed Forces have been working together on the state level through the Texas Partnership Program. A business dinner followed later that evening in Austin.

On Saturday, June 17, Ambassador Kmoníček visited the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange where a reception and lunch were prepared. He was also given a tour of the Czech Villages houses. Later that afternoon and evening, he was in Houston for a welcome reception hosted by Honorary Consul and SPJST President Brian Vanicek and his wife, Joan, and attended the grand opening of the Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic at the Czech Center Museum in Houston.

Ambassador Hynek Kmoníček and Indira Gumarova plan to visit La Grange again, very soon.



Ambassador Hynek Kmoníček's address.



TCHCC President Retta Chandler, Ambassador Kmoníček and Indira Gumarová.



Joan and Brian Vanicek, Honorary Consul and SPJST President, Clarice Snokhous, Mary Paul and Patrick Janacek.



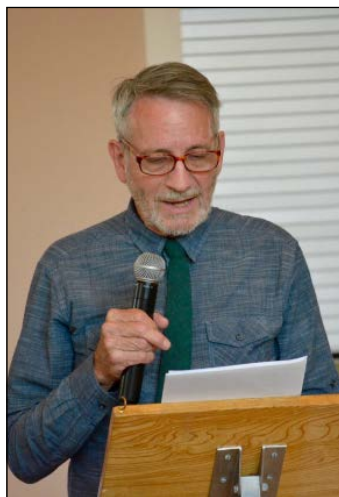
The Legacy of Svatava Pírková Jakobson, Educator and Supporter of all things Czech in Texas

TCHCC's 20th Anniversary Celebration involved three days of festivities. It was kicked-off on Friday evening with a Round Table discussion of Svatava Jakobson, her life and career as a teacher, fieldworker, and scholar at the University of Texas at Austin (1968-1978). The round table discussion was immediately followed by the opening of an exhibit of Svatava Jakobson's photographs of Texas Czech kroje from 1984.

Lida Cope discussed what she learned about Jakobson by examining her personal archive of recordings, notes, and manuscripts. Another archive, that of the Czechoslovak Secret Police, offers evidence of politically motivated pursuits of both Svatava and her husband, Roman Jakobson, in the 1950s and 1960s.

Roger Kolar shared his memories from his years as a student at UT Austin beginning with the first class in Czech he took from Mrs. Jakobson in 1972. Thadious Polasek often accompanied Svatava Jakobson during her fieldwork trips through 'Czech Texas' and shared special moments regarding her travels around the state. Also a student of Mrs. Jakobson, he was there when she began filming her Texas Czech documentary, recording songs, cooking, gardening, traditional quilt and costume-making, church picnics, hall dances, and all that makes 'Czech Texas' so unique. Woody Smith shared his experiences and impressions of being a student of Mrs. Jakobson at UT both inside and outside the classroom. Both Thadious Polasek and Woody Smith took the visitors back to their summer study abroad trips to (then) Czechoslovakia, traveling and learning with Svatava Jakobson in Prague and other locations in the country. All the participants added pieces to the puzzle of Texas Czech kroje photographs recovered from Dr. Jakobson's archive just recently and, for the first time, on display at TCHCC.

The presenters are no strangers to the Czech community in Texas: Mr. Roger Kolar, architect from Austin, Mr. Thadious Polasek, a teacher at Blinn Community College in Schulenburg and director of the Schulenburg Public Library, Dr. Woody Smith, associate director of Texas Intensive English Program at the TIEC in Austin and President of CEFT, and Dr. Lida Cope, professor at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina, and director of the Texas Czech Legacy Project. Kolar, Polasek, and Smith have been ardent advocates for the Czech language and culture in Texas, actively involved in the Czech Educational Foundation of Texas, Czech Ex-students Association of Texas, and T.O.C.A. Smith has also served on the board of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center.



Left to Right: Lida Cope opened the evening with highlights of Mrs. Jakobson's life in Texas. Round Table Participants: Roger Kolar, Thadious Polasek and Woody Smith. Below: Many of Svatava's former students were on hand to celebrate her life: Clarice Snokhous, Roger & Patty Kolar, Helen Oelrich, Beverly Gavenda, Thadious Polasek, Woody Smith, Darlene Sugarek, Marilyn Cernoch, Dennis Vacula, Dennis Kubiak.



EXHIBIT OF THE CZECH FOLK COSTUME IN TEXAS “NO EMBROIDERY - NO FOLK COSTUME”.



Left: Presenter Lida Cope, SPJST Museum Director Susan Chandler, and Carolyn Sumbera Heinsohn.
Right: Hand embroidery by Frances Olexa of Houston for the kroje owned by Mickey Hagens..



TCHCC Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, May 20, 2017, the Hanslik Hall was the site of a reception, dinner and the celebration of twenty years since the incorporation of TCHCC. President Retta Slavik Chandler spoke and presented a power point program taking those in attendance back to the beginning of the organization with its struggles and accomplishments. A brief history is provided on the following pages.

Fayette County Judge Ed Janečka welcomed all. He spoke about how he was “on board” the project to locate TCHCC in La Grange from the very beginning and is so pleased it came to be. Opening remarks were then provided by the Czech Consul to the State of Texas Brian Vaniček. Past Board Member Carolyn Sumbera Heinsohn shared valuable historical information that completed the first part of the program. The program was followed by a reception. Pavla Van Bibber with the Escoffier School of Culinary Arts in Austin served delicious Czech appetizers to all in attendance.



The 20th Anniversary Celebration included a reception in the Koliba Lobby.



A Musical Tribute to 20 Years

TCHCC continued its celebration of the 20th Anniversary with a Musical Tribute in the Sanford Schmid Amphitheater on Saturday evening, May 20, 2017. The performance did not disappoint. Through the continuation of music, current generation can honor all of those who have contributed their talents.

As the Czechs made Texas their new home, their music took on many different sounds. As it still is today, Texas is a melting pot of many cultures. Through the years, the sound of Polkas and Waltzes became a Texas style and many different instruments were used to create that sound.

The first half of the show honored musicians that have passed away and special musical events that have occurred in the last 20 years since the incorporation of TCHCC. Each were recognized and represented by songs played in the original style.

The band for the evening, Czech & Then Some from Ennis, Texas, also celebrated their 20th anniversary this year. The second half of the show featured Czech & Then Some sharing some special memories and playing their own 20th anniversary show. The West High Junior Historian Dancers also provided entertainment as they danced the traditional dance steps in beautiful kroj dress.



Left: George Koudelka and Donald Cernosek and Right: Julie and Wes Matus enjoyed the evening. George Koudelka, renowned musician and music historian, Donald Cernosek played with the Donny Wavra Band and Wes Matus played with the City Polka Boys Band.





Left: Theresa Parker of the Texas Polka News presented Czech & Then Some with a certificate from the International Polka Association honoring their 20th anniversary Saturday evening. Right: The Czech & Then Some Band performed.



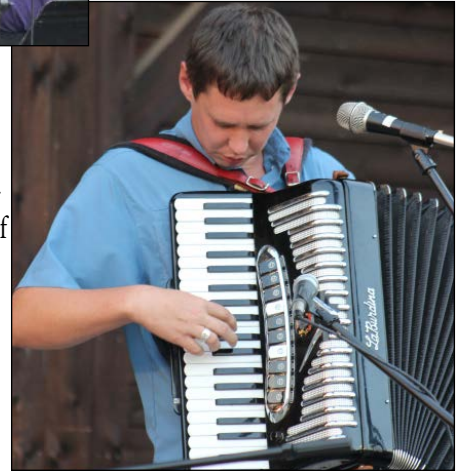
Left to right: Rebecca Hegar, Bill Bishop, Julie Ardery, Czech Exchange Student Johanna Nemeckova, Liz Kallus and Marilyn Kothmann.

Right: The always-popular West High School Junior Historians stole the show.





Center: Sonny Patalik, Danny and Josh Zapletal. Sonny joined CATS in several of their songs. Sonny arranged many of the selections that were played. Left: David Slovak of CATS. Right: Garrett Neubauber was a guest musician who performed in memory of his father, Daryl.



Annual Mayfest/Slavnost Celebration

TCHCC Slavnost Celebration took place on Sunday and featured Jodie Mikula and his Orchestra on the TCHCC's deck.

Below left: Theresa Parker of the Texas Polka News presented the Jodie Mikula Orchestra with a certificate from the International Polka Association honoring their 50th Anniversary.



Mayfest/Slavnost

2017 Immigration Recognition Ceremony took place in the TCHCC Museum on Sunday morning at 10 AM. TCHCC Board Vice President Bill Schovajsa led all in an opening prayer. TCHCC Board Member, SPJST President, and Czech Consul Brian Vanicek gave opening remarks. Carolyn Summers Heinsohn led the singing of the national anthems and President Retta Slavik Chandler and Vice President Bill Schovajsa presented the certificates.



President Retta Chandler, Ray Darilek, and 2017 CHS Queen Brianna Blattman.



TCHCC VP Bill Schovajsa, Dorothy Downing, 2017 CHS Queen Brianna Blattman



TCHCC VP Bill Schovajsa, Angelina Kretschmar, 2017 CHS Queen Brianna Blattman, and Glenn Felder



Marilyn Kothmann, Kallie Kothman, Liz Kallus, 2017 CHS Queen Brianna Blattman, Robert Kallus, TCHCC VP Bill Schojvasa.



TCHCC VP Bill Schojvasa, Edward Kozel, Albert Kozel, 2017 Queen Brianna Blattman, and Thomas Kozel.



Left: The Annual Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Immigrants' Wall was performed by 2017 CHS Queen Brianna Blattman, TCHCC Board Member, Czech Consul for the State of Texas and SPJST President Brian Vanicek and immigrant descendant Frank Kubicek. Center: Frank Kubicek is pictured next to his ancestors' plaque: *In Memory of Frantisek and Anna Kubenka Kubicek, Dolni Hermanice, Bohemia. 1854.* Right: Zack Novak (pictured with his family) provided music in the foyer for Slavnost.

2017 Immigrant Certificate Recipients

Descendant: Raymond Roy Darilek, Sr.

JOSEPH AND ANASTASIA ZALMAN DARILEK immigrated from Lower Hermanice, Lanskroun, Czech Republic on the ship *Etruria* in 1893. They settled in Fayette County, Texas. The family name dates back to 1620 when the first Darilek was an estate manager for Prince Lichneteyn. He was rewarded with a village named Darilek. His family moved from there to Lower Hermanice.

Descendant: Dorothy Downing

(1) JOSEPH K. AND MILADA ANN ZALMAN DARILEK immigrated from Lower Hermanice, Lanskroun, Czech Republic on the ship *Etruria* in 1893. They settled in Fayette County, Texas. (2) JOSEPH AND FRANCES ROZNOVAK BARINA immigrated from Kobyli, Breclav, Czech Republic in 1888 and settled in Fayette County, Texas. (3) JOHN AND JOSEPHENE OLBRICK ZALMAN immigrated in 1880 and settled in Round Rock, Williamson County, Texas. John was a music teacher and justice of the peace in his home town before moving to Texas. (4) JAN ZALMAN immigrated from Croatia in 1880 and settled in Mulberry, Fayette County, Texas.

Descendant: Joycelyn Faltisek Marquis

(1) JOSEPH F. FALTISEK immigrated from Cermna near Lanscroun, Bohemia in 1873 and settled in Praha, Fayette County, Texas. (2) FRANTISEK AND ANNA KUBENKA KUBICEK immigrated in 1854 from Dolni Hermanice in Lanskroun, Czech Republic. They settled in Frelsburg, Fayette County, Texas. (3) JAN ZALMAN immigrated from Croatia in 1880 and settled in Mulberry, Fayette County, Texas.

Descendants: Angelina Genzer Kretschmar, Glenn David Felder, Phyllis Spaniel Schoenfeld, Theresa Spaniel Fraser

MARIE ZIDEK GENZER immigrated from Frenstat, Moravia in September of 1880 on the ship *Nurnberg* and settled in Fayette County, Texas.

Descendants: Marilyn Kallus Kothmann, Kallie Kothmann, Elizabeth Kallus, Robert B. Kallus, Joseph Kruppa, Andrew Kruppa, Felix Stavino-ha, Steve Janda, Jaime Janda, Connie Janda Smith, Johnny Janda, Max Lidiak, Daniel Cernoch

JOSEF AND ANNA KANA JANDA immigrated in 1856 from Trojanovice on the *Anna Elize*. They settled in Fayette County, Texas and were one of the first groups from Frenstat and Trojanovice arriving in Galveston on October 30, 1856.

Descendants: Marilyn Kallus Kothmann, Kallie Kothmann, Elizabeth Kallus, Robert B. Kallus, Joseph Kruppa, Andrew Kruppa, Felix Stavino-ha, Connie Janda Smith, Max Lidiak, Daniel Cernoch

(1) BOHDAN TEODOR KALUS immigrated in 1881 from Frenstat on the *Neckar* and settled in Fayette County, Texas. He was a cabinetmaker, carpenter and farmer. He served in elected positions in KJT and RVOS from 1902-1934. (2) FRANTISEK AND FRANTISKA THEIMER DRAPAL AND DAUGHTER ANNA immigrated in 1873 from Frenstat and settled in Fayette County, Texas.

Descendants: Sr. Annie Kozel, O.S.B., Alois Kozel, Joseph Kozel, John Kozel, Albert Kozel, Bro. Raphael Kozel, O.S.B., Lillie Kozel Vecera, Mary Kozel Grahmann, Beatrice Kozel Janecka, Frances Kozel Holan.

KAREL KOZEL immigrated in 1914 from Sviadov, Frydek-Mystek, Moravia on the *Neckar* and settled in Fayette County, Texas. His mother ANNA KOZEL and brother JOSEF arrived in 1920 and joined Karel in Fayette County, Texas.

Certificate Recipients Not In Attendance

Descendants: Cecelia Marak, Emily Dohnalik, Frances Henry, Pauline Pease

ANTON KLECKA AND FRANCES FAJKUS immigrated in 1909 from Stare Mesto, Moravia on the ship *Hannover* and settled in Marak, Texas.

Descendant: Jeanette Korenek Stanton

JOSEF AND TERESIE TOMANEC SUROVČÁK immigrated from Horni Lidec, Vsetin District, Moravia in 1887. They first visited with Teresie's borther in New York and then settled in Fayetteville, Fayette County, Texas.



Left: Museum Docent Ted Kaspar and Jerry Janecka catch up. Center: Richard G. Cernosek and family: Lisa, Chris, Richard and Bailey. Right: The annual Maypole dance was coordinated by Cathleen Noska.

Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, Inc., LaGrange, Texas Twenty Years of History

The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center (TCHCC) is celebrating its twentieth anniversary since it was incorporated on March 24, 1997.

Events leading up to that date are worthy to note because of the many people of Czech ethnicity that had a hand in its development. Actually, the idea of preserving the Czech language and traditions dates back to the many Czech organizations that were founded in the years from 1889 through 1915. The Čechia Club at the University of Texas was founded in 1915. Their programs consisted of Czech language study, Czech literature study, and Czech traditions. Even before that time, the KJT, KJZT, SPJST, and RVOS (insurance companies founded between the years of 1898 and 1901) included in their mission the preservation of the Czech heritage. Another organization, the SOKOL, founded in the Czechlands in 1862 and later brought to the United States, promoted the preservation of the Czech culture. During the years leading up to 1997, these organizations had small libraries in their gathering places and promoted Czech culture and traditions through their programs for their members. The interaction among families at social gatherings that were sponsored by these organizations were extremely important to the well-being of these hard-working rural people. The churches in Czech communities of Texas also promoted and preserved the Czech heritage in celebrating feast day traditions. In many ways, they significantly preserved the music, food, feast day traditions, and dance of the Czech people.

Leaders from Czech organizations, communities and churches spread the word for Czechs to become involved in the celebration of the 1936 Centennial Celebration of Texas Independence by developing an exhibit at the State Fair of Texas in Dallas. The result was an outpouring of talent and hard work to build an exceptional exhibit that told the story of the Czechs in Texas. This story is visually present today in the TCHCC Museum.

The Čechia Club evolved into the Czech Ex-Students Association of Texas in the 1940s. Leaders from that organization then formed other Czech-founded organizations based on special interests such as the Czech Educational Foundation of Texas (1954) and the Czech Heritage Society of Texas (1982). In 1978 a three-day multidisciplinary symposium, "Czechs In Texas", sponsored by the Department of English, Texas A & M University in cooperation with the Office of Continuing Education, was held in Temple, Texas with a supplemental grant from the Czech Ex-Students Association of Texas. In 1980 the publication "Czechoslovakia, Information Minimum" was published by the Texas Education Agency. It contained important facts about Czechoslovakia, especially as they relate to the history and culture of the United States. It was compiled by Dr. Václav Huňáček from Charles University in Prague during his one-year stay as visiting consultant in foreign languages and social studies at the Texas Education Agency. The purpose of this listing was to furnish teachers with information based not only on American, but also on Czechoslovak sources.

In the 1980s, as time drew near for the Sesquicentennial Celebration in 1986, a group of leaders in Czech organizations and communities again made the effort to contribute to this celebration. In 1985, a loosely formed coalition of Czech organization leaders (Texans of Czech Ancestry) met and organized a three-day event to highlight, celebrate, and to share Czech heritage and traditions with the public. At the conclusion of the successful project, this coalition met again to determine whether or not to continue. It was decided to incorporate as Texans of Czech Ancestry (October, 1987) with a mission to facilitate communication among Czech-founded organizations. They continued to have annual meetings. During the meantime, the Czech Educational Foundation, the Czech Ex-Students Association and the Czech Heritage Society grew in membership with similar missions to promote Czech language and heritage. In 1995, the Texans of Czech Ancestry met to consider a proposal submitted by the Czech Heritage Society to spearhead the building of a library to preserve Czech heritage. They voted to take on the project. During 1996, monthly meetings were held at the SPJST, RVOS, and KJT headquarters to determine the scope and mission of such a project. Members of all Czech-founded organization were invited to the meetings resulting in a wide range of ideas and suggestions. Committees were formed and met to develop a mission statement, to determine possible locations, and to decide what to include in the preservation.

During those meetings it quickly became apparent that the population of those with Czech ethnicity had assimilated into the language and culture of the United States and a stark realization faced a generation that saw itself as the last one closest to the mother tongue. Thereby, it was determined that they had to preserve more than the books in a library, because so many of the significant artifacts that belonged to their parents and grandparents were being thrown away.

In December of 1995, Texans of Czech Ancestry (TOCA), an umbrella organization that serves to improve and facilitate communication among Czech-founded organizations, agreed to support the project of building a statewide Czech cultural center with a library, museum, and archives. Representatives of the Czech Heritage Society of Texas met with the Texans of Czech Ancestry at which time they expressed the need to build a library for the preservation of books and documents significant to Texas Czechs. At this meeting, others in attendance expressed the need to preserve artifacts and other aspects of the Czech heritage and culture. The Texans of Czech Ancestry agreed to spearhead the project. Supporting this project was consistent with the mission of TOCA, which is to mutually assist one another in the pursuit to preserve and promote the Czech Culture and Heritage. The member organizations of TOCA pledged and donated seed money to begin the project. At subsequent TOCA meetings, proposals were discussed and planning committees were organized to discuss the type of facility needed to address the various aspects of Texas-Czech heritage and the best type of location needed to accommodate such a facility.

Member organizations of TOCA were the American SOKOL Organization, Southern District (SOKOL); Bexar County Czech Heritage Society (BCHS); Catholic Family Fraternal (KJZT); Catholic Union of Texas (KJT) Czech Educational Foundation of Texas (CEFT); Czech Ex Students Association of Texas (CESAT); Czech Heritage Society of Texas (CHS); Czech Heritage Society of Travis/Williamson Counties (TWCCHS); Farmers Mutual Insurance of Texas (RVOS); and the Slavonic Benevolent Order of the State of Texas (SPJST).

A statewide request was sent the following year asking for any communities that were interested in such a facility to present a proposal. Proposals were received from the cities of Caldwell, Ennis, La Grange, and Temple. After a thorough examination of each of the proposals, including a visit to each site and a meeting with city officials, the TOCA Board Members selected the LaGrange proposal.

Fayette County was selected as the site for the Center because of its significance in the history of Texas Czechs. It had the largest Czech population per capita and the most Czech communities of any county in the state. Many Czech-related historical sites and events, as well as prominent Texas Czechs, are linked to Fayette County. It had the distinction of having had more emigrants from the Czech lands of the Austro-Hungarian Empire settle there in the second half of the nineteenth century than any other county in Texas. Other reasons for selecting LaGrange included the location with a view of the Colorado River valley and the seventy acres of land with a perpetual lease offered by the City of LaGrange.

On March 24, 1997, the TCHCC, Inc., was officially incorporated. The Interim Board Members of TOCA then became Board Members and founders of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, Inc.

Governor George Bush signed House Concurrent Resolution Number 265 from the Texas House of Representatives and Senate on July 14, 1997. This Resolution recognized all those associated with the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center to be built in La Grange, Texas. The resolution further recognized the contributions of Texans of Czech ethnicity to the state's history and that Fayette County, which is known as the "Cradle of Czech Immigration," is an appropriate site for the Center.

On November 1, 1997, representatives from the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, Inc., the City of La Grange, Fayette County and the La Grange Chamber of Commerce had the official signing of the land lease between TCHCC and the City of La Grange at the future site of the Cultural Center. At the same time that the land lease was signed, TCHCC and the La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce entered into a yearlong contract for the Chamber to provide administrative support for the Center.

An Economic Development Grant from the City of La Grange, Texas funded a Walking Trail with stations, hand hewn by George Hlavinka of Caldwell, Texas. The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, Inc. has evolved from a single desk housed in the La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce Office, to a one-room office in a professional building in La Grange, to a location in the meticulously restored early Texas-Czech Farmhouse, the Kalich House.

The Kalich House, donated to TCHCC by Peggy and Jonathan Kalich in memory of their family, was moved to the site by The Kana Brothers House Leveling & Moving Inc. Volunteers from throughout the state lovingly restored it. Until funds became available for the construction of the planned Library, Museum/Archives facility, the Kalich House served as the official TCHCC Visitors' Center. It had a small Library, Display Area, Gift Shop, and Office. The master plan of development called for among others, a living-history village, an immigrants' wall, memorial paving stones, and a perpetual rose garden.

Another major component of the TCHCC, now on the site, was the Sanford Schmid Amphitheater. In July of 2003, a Wallachian Bell and Belfry were donated to the TCHCC by the Czech Heritage Society of Texas and was moved onto the TCHCC site. An additional farmhouse, donated to the TCHCC by the Migl family, was moved to the site and restored by the Migl family. The Bucek Building donated by Mr. Roy Bucek was moved to TCHCC on May 11, 2005. The Hoelscher Haus, donated to TCHCC by Henry and Esther Hoelscher was moved to the site on October 19, 2005 and houses the Polka Lovers' Club of Texas Museum. The Vasek Log Barn, The Hlucanek-Salas house, Zapalac Saw Mill, and the Janak Barn were soon added.

Thanks to the following organizations, the dreams and goals of 1936 have become a reality in the creation and establishment of TCHCC. A project initiated by the Million Dollar Club and subsequent fund raisers and generously supported by Czech organizations across the state including: CEFT, CESAT, Czech Heritage Society of Texas and their many chapters, KJT, KJZT, RVOS, SPJST, SOKOL.

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**THE GOALS OF THE 1936 CENTENNIAL TEXAS CZECH EXHIBIT AT THE
STATE FAIR OF TEXAS AND THE TCHCC MUSEUM.**

Czech Exhibit at State Fair

The Centennial Texas Czech Exhibit at the State Fair of Texas was compiled under the direction of Dr. Josef Kopecky and Miss Marie Parma. This article was printed in the *Náše Dějiny* of Granger, 1939, pp. 666 - 674 and was translated from Czech by Kevin Hannan. The article was discovered in a collection of informative posters donated by Ann Elzner Spencer. Ann was the sister of the late Jerry Elzner and Agnes Elzner Burge.

(Editor's Note to Readers: Remember, this translated article reads as if it were in the present tense and time so it should be read remembering as if it were 1936 instead of 1985.)

Texans celebrated the centennial anniversary of their state's independence with an expansive exhibit in Dallas in 1936. Preparations for this event lasted eighteen months and cost millions of dollars. It occurred to several Texans of Czech descent that this event would offer an opportunity to demonstrate our contributions to the growth of this great state. A meeting was held in Schulenburg the second Sunday of February 1936 to discuss this idea. Czechs from all parts of the state attended. The interest exhibited at this initial meeting demonstrated the enthusiasm of Texans throughout the state for the project. Most all professions and fields, churches, clubs and organizations of Czech Americans were represented. Dr. Josef Kopecky of San Antonio proposed the following program for the exhibit: The goal of the Czech exhibit should be to illustrate accurately, for all visitors and especially for visitors of other nationalities, that immigrants of Czech origin possess a culture which is at least on the same level as that of other immigrant groups; that immigrants of Czech origin have contributed their share towards the development of the state; that Texans of Czech origin have been exemplary citizens, in war as well as in peace; that Texans of Czech descent can be found in all fields and professions and are well represented throughout all branches of society in modern Texas. This exhibit should show from whence our pioneer ancestors emigrated; who they were and why and when they came; what type of spiritual and material heritage they brought with them; where they settled; what type of obstacles they met; finally, how through their dedication, diligence and hard work they have contributed to the development and welfare of Texas. In order that this goal be achieved to satisfaction, the exhibit should illustrate the beginnings and development of our people in these areas; the home, agriculture, industry, business, citizenship, politics, journalism, social life, clubs and organizations. The exhibit should use original materials brought from Europe by immigrants. Maps, pictures, drawings, replicas, reproductions of original documents and properly compiled data may also be used. Expenses should be paid from a common fund solicited from sacrificing individuals and organizations.

The proposal was accepted in the form it was introduced. Officers were elected and committees set up to fulfill the difficult tasks. In Schulenburg work began on the project immediately. Before long nearly every Czech settlement in Texas was making its contribution. Individuals and organizations, without regard for religious or political distinctions, joined together to work towards a single goal; to be properly represented at the centennial celebration. Thanks to this spirit of cooperation, our exhibit in the Varied Industries Building was complete and ready for viewing when the exhibition opened to the public June 6, 1936. Custodian of the exhibit was Miss Marie Parma, treasurer of KJZT.

Czech Day At the State Fair 1936 (courtesy of Southern District, SOKOL, Dallas)





...The interior and exterior walls of the exhibit room were tastefully painted by the Czech artist Lešovský and attracted the attention of passers-by. Similarly, the items on exhibit were arranged so that they caught the eye of the crowd and drew visitors inside. If a visitor were to enter through the smaller--side entrance, he faced the main wall and a mural by Lešovský, which had a significance quite appropriate for the occasion. This work was painted specially for the exhibit and was dedicated by the present generation of Czech Texans to their pioneer ancestors. The painting recalls how our first settlers earned their living as farmers. For those disposed to contemplation, this work has a much deeper significance in that it represents the relationship of the immigrant Czech family to its new country and new home in Texas. A boy holding a cotton plant in his hand speaks to his mother. The father, dressed as a Texas farmer, plows the loose soil. In the distance to the left the family's new home is shown. In the background to the right the Statue of Liberty is visible. The inscription above the painting reads: *"You America, offer me liberty. I give you my devotion, sincerity, honesty and love of the truth."* This, you see, represents our beginnings in Texas. Emblems of Czech organizations in Texas, beautifully crafted from wood, together with information about these organizations hang above the painting. These represent the spiritual and material strength of the modern organizations of Czech Texas.

A print of the mural is on display in the TCHCC Museum and was donated by SPJST, Temple, Texas. The original hangs in the SPJST Lodge 88 in Houston, Texas.

About the artist: Adolf Jan Lešovský was born in Humpolec, Czechoslovakia on June 14, 1885. He immigrated on May 3, 1906 to New York at the age of 21. His immigration document states that he is joining his cousin, Fred Kachofka in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Lešovský settled in Los Angeles in 1906. He married Pavla Kolenaty around 1911 in Los Angeles. They had four children: Florence Lešovský (Mrs. Karl Palas), Luda J. Lešovský, Master Sgt. Victor Stanislav Lešovský, and Rodin Voltaire Lešovský. He worked in California both as a portraitist and as an artist for the Garret Corporation (air research) until his death on December 30, 1972.

An article published in the *Los Angeles Times* on September 22, 1918 about the "Czecho-Slovaks in California Number Over Ten Thousand" mentions Lešovský as the president of the Los Angeles branch of the Czech National Alliance of America. This organization was one of thousands across America who worked for the Allied causes and held fund raisers, bazarrs and worked for the Red Cross. (More about this in TCHCC's Museum exhibit on WWI opening in March of 2018).

In 1947 he is listed as Vice President of the Slavic Council of Los Angeles and was active in SOKOL. He is included in an article in the *Novy Domov* (January 6, 1960) as part of a festival in San Bernardeino, California.

Awards: gold and silver medals at Pacific SW Expo, 1928. Work on display: Riverside CA Gallery of Art, Elks Club in Santa Barbara, mural in Texas Centennial Expo, and a wall mural at the Mission Inn, Riverside, California.

...If the visitor enters the exhibit through the main entry, he meets a sight which is no less interesting, instructive and well - arranged. The entire opposite wall is covered by an encased, illuminated map of Czech Texas. Six flags, which signify the flags which have flown over the state in the past three centuries, hang above the map. Made from plastic materials, the map measures nine feet by eight feet and faithfully represents the elevations and topographical features of the State of Texas. This interesting and instructive work was conceived by Dr. Henry Maresh, who also supervised its construction. The map was paid for and donated to the exhibit by František Dvořák, František Olexa, Sr. and František Olexa, Jr., all of Houston. This work required several months of exhaustive research and work and could have easily been an entire exhibit by itself. It contained all important geographical and cultural data, as well as historical information. Not only the first Czech settlements, schools and churches were shown, but each of the present - day 154 Czech settlements in Texas*, denoted by a number, appeared on the map. A legend for the numbered settlements appeared to the left of the map. The map also illustrated other peculiarities of our people. By viewing the map, for example, it was possible to see that the Czech settlements were located in those topographical belts which are best suited to farming.

The article continues and a full transcript is available from TCHCC.

*A list of the Czech settlements published in 1939 appears on the following two pages.



The three dimensional map's photograph at left appears on page 670 of *Nase Dejiny*. The map is in the possession of SPJST, Temple and part of their museum collection.

The article ends with the following: "If we look back today on the work and sacrifices which made this exhibit possible, we can certainly say: "It was well worth it!" Hundreds of thousands of Americans were impressed by our exhibit. Yet this enterprise also had enormous significance for our own community. Our exhibit portrayed our history, traditions, maturity, culture, unity, endurance and commitment. This was not all, however, for it showed us that our work has in fact only just begun. It showed us the path which we shall trod together towards the future."

The Goals of TCHCC and their museum parallels the goals set by Dr. Joseph, Kopecky, Marie Parma, Dr. Henry Maresh, and all who worked on the exhibit. The goals of the permanent exhibit in the museum at TCHCC are to present to visitors and, in particular, school groups, the desire that the immigrants had for a new life. A life free of interference from the government and one where they could choose their own paths. The museum is dedicated to contributors Richard and Molly Cernosek, The Joseph and Sophie Loika Schwartz Family and Liberty Pollard, descendants of these immigrants who wanted a better life. We also know that our work has only just begun and will do our best to trod together towards the future.

TCHCC was organized to present a museum that would tell the history, traditions, maturity, culture, unity, endurance and commitment of the Czechs. The inception of many, it came to fruition beginning at a TOCA meeting on December 2, 1995 in the Conference Room, SPJST Supreme Lodge, Temple, Texas. The Voting Organization Representatives were: Elo Goerig (KJT), Retta Chandler (CESAT), Carolyn Meiners (CHS), Sylvia Laznovsky (SOKOL) and Howard Leshikar (SPJST). President Leshikar opened the meeting. The minutes were recorded by Carolyn Meiners. An election of officers was held resulting in the slate of officers being President Retta Chandler, Vice President Elo Goerig, Secretary Carolyn Meiners and Treasurer Arnold Pechal.

At the April 20, 1996 meeting the concepts for a state facility were expanded with a report from Carolyn Meiners who reported that "Her committee feels that we should plan for the entire facility, acquire the land, and then focus on the key part of the facility that can generate some money. She gave an overview of what the proposed facility could include: a library, archive, museum, visitor information center, a large auditorium, and meeting room... Carolyn reminded the group that we need to focus on the fact that this should be an educational facility, a legacy for our descendants, and that it has to address every Czech organization and every aspect of our heritage; therefore, it has to be more than a library and archives. It has to be a large facility to be able to include all of these areas of interest." A scouting committee was suggested to investigate appropriate sites and on April 24, 1997 TCHCC was incorporated. And as they say, the rest is history—Texas Czech history.

CZECH SETTLEMENTS IN TEXAS (BY COUNTY) BY 1939

Gazetteer of Czech Texas (1939) by Robert Janak

Published by the Czech Heritage Society of Texas under the direction of Arnold Pechal, Temple, Texas 1995

Pages 1-119: Community's establishment date based on the organization of a fraternal organization, church, school, or individuals.

Towns included in bold lettering were taken documented in the Handbook of Texas Online

Archer: Holliday (1909), Megargel (1907)

Atascosa: Dobrowski (1923), Jourdanton (1912), La Parita (1924)

Austin: Bellville (1920), Bleiberville (1900), Cat Spring (1849), Frydek (1852), Industry (1856), Nelsonville/Nanceville (1873), New Bremen (1852), New Ulm (1852), San Felipe (1871), Schoenau (1854), Sealy (1882), Wallis (1890)

Bastrop: Elgin (1890), Kovar (1877), Smithville (1902)

Baylor: Bomarton (1908), Seaborn (1906), Seymour (1907), Westover (1908)

Bee: Beeville (1889), Central Community (1889), Olmos (1889), Skidmore (1889)

Bell: Bartlett (1908), Cyclone (1876), Holland (1904), Meeks (1916), Nova Osada (1907), Ocker (1876), Oenaville (1910), Ratibor, Seaton (1876), Temple (1883), Zabcikville (1890), Zizkov (1927)

Bexar: San Antonio (1833)

Bosque: Kopperl (1881)

Bowie: Texarkana (1910)

Brazoria: Alvin (1920), Damon (1913), Danbury (1911), Iowa Colony (1931)

Brazos: Bryan (1871), Edge (1916), Kurten (1879), Millican (1871), Smetana (1880) **Kosarek (1880), Tabor (1873)**

Burleson - **Berry Creek (1870)**, Birch Creek (1890), Caldwell (1886), Chriesman (1907), Cooks Point (1913), Deanville (1914), Frenstat (1884), Gus (1911), Hogg (1895), Novy Tabor (1870), **Merle (1880)**, Sebesta/Snook (1884)

Calhoun: Marekville/Six Mile (1895), Port Lavaca (1850)

Cameron: Harlingen (1926), Rio Hondo (1915)

Colorado: Columbus (1882), Content (1859), Eagle Lake (1937), Frelsburg (1847), Garwood (1913), Nada (1882), Oakland (1882), Pisek (1902), Vox Populi (1882), Weimar (1879)

Comal: New Braunfels (1840)

Cook: Gainesville (1911)

Dallas: Dallas (1910)

Denton: Pilot Point (1891)

DeWitt: Cuero (1876), Friendland (1897), Hochheim (1886), Westhoff (1915), Yoakum (1867), Yorktown (1867)

Ellis: Alma (1877), Ennis (1874), Telico (1909)

Erath: Thurber (1914)

Falls: **Lamar (1890)**, Lott (1939), Rosebud (1876), **Zipperlandville (1870)**

Fayette: Ammannsville (1874), Bridge Valley (1875), Cistern (1881), Dubina (1856), Ellinger (1854), Engle (1880), Fayetteville/Wadis Post Office/Alexander's Voting Place/ Lick Skillet (1853), Flatonia, High Hill (1879), Holman (1903), Hostyn (1856), La Grange (1879), Nechanitz/Long Prairie (1855), Plum (1890), Praha/Hottentot, Mulberry/New Prague (1855), Primm/Kirtly (1901), Psencik (1888), Rek Hill (1910), Ross Prairie (1853), Roznov (1897), Rutersville (1909), Schulenburg (1872), Sedan (1870) St. John's (1889), Warrenton (1875), Zapalac/Zapalac Switch (1884)

Foard: Crowell (1913), Thalia (1927)

Fisher: Longworth (1907)

Fort Bend: Beasley (1909), Fairchilds (1895), Guy (1907), Krasna (1890), Needville (1895), Orchard (1911), Richmond (1911), Rosenberg (1909), Sugarland (1912)

Frio: Dilley (1900), **Schattel (1924)**

Galveston: Galveston (1906)

Gonzales: Dilworth (1915), Gonzales (1885)

Grayson: Sherman (1939), Southmayd (1939), Tioga (1914)

Gregg: Longview (1939)

Guadalupe: Seguin (1873)

Harris: Alief (1924), Baytown (1933), Crosby (1890), Houston (1908)

Haskell: Weinert (1910)
 Hidalgo: Edinburg (1919), Mercedes (1909), Mission (1913), Sharyland (1911)
 Hill: Abbott (1902), Mount Calm (1912), Penelope (1902)
 Hockley: Anton (1920), Pep (1932)
 Houston: Crockett (1913), Lovelady (1906)
 Jackson: Ganado (1913), LaSalle/Benwest/Bennview (1928)
 Jim Wells: Alice (1913), Orange Grove (1914)
 Jones: Stamford (1908)
 Karnes: Falls City (1902), Hobson (1900), Karnes City (1904), Kenedy (1916), Runge (1885)
 Kaufman: Kaufman (1910), Terrell (1912)
 Kleberg: Kingsville (1909)
 Lamb: Littlefield (1921)
 La Salle: Fowlerton (1926)
 Lavaca: Bila Hora (1876), Breslau (1901), Dickson (1914), Ezzell (1832), Hallettsville (1854), Hope (1904), Kinkler (1890), Koerth (1850), Komensky (1902), **Midway (1925)**, Mont/Dew-Cox/Needmore/Monserate (1850), Moravia (1872), Moulton (1879), Novohrad (1876), Shiner (1887), St. Mary's/Smothers Creek (1840), Sublime (1873), Sweet Home (1895), Velehrad (1896), Vienna (1858), Vlastenec (1886), Vsetin (1884), Vysehrad (1924), Wied (1873), Williamsburg (1881), Witting (1885), Worthing (1911)
 Lee: Dime Box (1902), Hranice (1882)
 Liberty: Dayton (1918), East Gate (1911), Sheeks (1897), Stilson (1918)
 Limestone: Billington (1887)
 Live Oak: George West (1934), Mikeska (1892)
 Matagorda: Bay City (1920), Blessing (1915)
 McLennan: Axtell (1902), Cottonwood (1897), Elk (1901), Mart (1916), Ross (1902), Tours (1874), Waco (1870), West (1874)
 McMullen: Calliham (1925), San Fernando/Prince (1925)
 Milam: Buckholts (1897), Burlington (1939), Cameron (1883), Marak/Maraksville/Marek, Marekville/Big Elm Neighborhood (1870), Rockdale (1890), San Gabriel (1921), Wokaty (1890), Yarrelton (1905)
 Newton: Deweyville (1910)
 Nueces: Agua Dulce (1913), Corpus Christi (1906), **Kostoryz (1906)**, Robstown (1907)
 Palo Pinto: Lyra (1917), Palo Pinto (1909)
 Parker: Buckner (187), Weatherford (1939)
 Polk: Moscow (1925)
 Refugio: Woodsboro (1933), **Bonnie View (1907)**
 Robertson: Wheelock (1910)
 Runnels: Rowena (1894)
 San Patricio: Sinton (1936), Taft (1915)
 Scurry: Hermleigh (1909)
 Tarrant: Ft. Worth (1880)
 Throckmorton: Throckmorton (1911)
 Tom Green: Bohemia (1906), San Angelo (1937), Wall (1931)
 Travis: Austin (1909), New Sweden (1880)
Trinity: Bohemian (1920)
 Val Verde: Del Rio (1939)
 Victoria: DaCosta (1914), Guadalupe (1911), Holub (1904), Inez (1872), Placedo (1918), Ragsdale (1911), Shillerville (1894), Victoria (1938)
 Waller: Brookshire (1914), Holik (1902), Sunnyside (1897), **Slovanville (1897)**, Waller (1892)
 Washington: Brenham (1868), Latium (1860), Wesley (1859)
 Wharton: East Bernard (1891), El Campo (1898), Hillje (1902), Hungerford (1896), Louise (1902), Pierce (1902), Taiton (1890), Wharton (1929), **Nottawa (1878)**
 Wichita: Wichita Falls (1887)
 Wilbarger: Vernon (1890)
 Willacy: Raymondville (1935)
 Williamson: **Behrenville (1890)**, Beyersville (1902), Circleville (1890), Corn Hill (1880), Coupland (1911) Friendship (1890), Georgetown (1908), Granger (1877), Machu (1890), Mozo (1890), Neusser/Naiserville (1881), Palacky (1910), Polanka (1907), Taylor (1870), Theon (1890), Thrall (1917), Waterloo (1914).
 Wilson: Floresville (1882), Loire (1869), Poth (1901)
 Wood: Mineola (1902)

Library Dream by William Melnar

When in high school, I enjoyed reading and regularly checked out books from the school library and the Fort Bend County Bookmobile. At this time, Wallis, Texas, my hometown, did not have a public library. I felt the community needed this resource and I made myself a promise that someday, when I earned enough money, I would build them a library. It took me many years to save the required funds and by that time, somebody had already built a library in Wallis. I was happy for the community, but disappointed for not being able to fulfill my dream. I told my wife, Betty, of this unfulfilled dream. However, we felt that another library opportunity would come.

After retiring, I became interested in genealogy and became concerned about preserving the culture and heritage of the Texas Czechs. I saw some efforts at the local level, but it was my opinion that we needed one central state Czech organization to pursue this effort. It was at this time that I learned such an organization already existed by the name of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange, Texas. I learned its mission and goals (see the *Nas Cesky Zivot* for specifics) were precisely what was needed. Betty and I became a member in 2002 and learned the Center was trying to raise funds to build a 20,000 square foot museum and library. I immediately thought this was an opportunity to be involved in helping to preserve our heritage and build a library. Betty and I gave the Center \$200,000 to build the library in 2005 and I volunteered to serve on the board. The board invited me to join in 2006 and I accepted for a three-year term.

In 2007, the board decided a 20,000 square foot facility was too expensive to get the necessary funds in the near term (two to three years). Since the board wanted to build the museum and library immediately, it reduced its size to 10,000 square feet to reduce the cost. To raise the remaining necessary funds, a dollar figure was placed on each room based on its size. A contribution of that amount would entitle the donor to name the room. The cost of the library was \$260,000, so we were required to contribute an additional \$60,000 and were able to name the room the William and Betty Melnar Library.

The museum and library building was completed and dedicated in 2009. We were very happy to be a part of the many Czechs committed to building the library and museum facility at the Center because it serves all the Czechs of Texas. My dream of a library was now a reality. The library contains over 11,000 manuscripts (several thousand are Czech books). Its many resources are being utilized by both Texas and Czech countries.

Since its beginning twenty years ago, the Center is doing an outstanding job of meeting its mission and goals.

The Library

1. is a Family Search Center affiliated with Ancestry.com that offers international searches for any ethnicity. The latest offering by the Family Search Center is an inclusion of state, national, and international microfilm which can be viewed on the research computers in the Library.

2. contains books donated by Czech genealogists including all of the research of Dr. Josef Simicek, Dr. Drahomir Strnadel, and others, as well as Czech Texan genealogists and researchers. Also available to view is the collection of the Czech Brethren ministers which includes birth, marriage and death records. This collection as well as numerous other books have been donated to TCHCC by the Czech Heritage Society of Texas.

3. possesses microfilmed parish records of the majority of parishes in the surrounding Fayette county area that are available to search.

4. provides a "card catalogue" online as part of our Past Perfect Computer Program. Go to <http://czechtexas.pastperfect-online.com>.



FUTURE MUSEUM EXHIBITS

Czech Ceramic and Glass Exhibit

TCHCC will display their Czech Ceramic and Glass Collection. Many of these items were donated by patrons who were avid collectors. Private collections will also be on display. The exhibit opens October 2, 2017 and will be on display through the Christmas holidays, closing on February 17, 2018.

World War One and the Birth of Czechoslovakia

An exhibit detailing the Czech efforts on the battlefield and the Czech Americans on the home front during World War I will open March 12, 2018 and close December 1, 2018. Any TCHCC member or patron who has memorabilia of an ancestor who fought in WWI and would like to lend these items to the museum during the exhibit are invited to do so.

THE TEXAS CZECH HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER
 Centrum českého kulturního dědictví v Texasu
 and so it continues...2003-2005

Frantisek and Johana Jezek Migl arrived in Galveston, Texas on October 3, 1874 from the village of Poderist, Bohemia. They came with their five youngest children. Their five older children, already in America, paid for their trip. They settled in the Praha, Texas area. They began to establish a home and farm and were successful. In 1890, the house was built by Frantisek and Johana Migl as their retirement home on the land they homesteaded in 1880.

Jim Jasek coordinated the restoration of the house. With help from family members and friends restoration began in 2002 and the house was moved to TCHCC in 2004. Additional restoration was done after it was moved to the Czech Village site. In 1924, there were 311 descendants of Frantisek and Johana and in 2005, there were over 5,000 descendants including spouses. The descendants maintain the house. It includes one room that houses the Migl memorabilia and the other two rooms exhibit period artifacts. The ten children and spouses were: Marie Migl/Lorence Jares, Anna Migl/Frank Jakubik, Jan Migl/Marie Holub/Anastazie Koudelka, Magdalena Migl/Frank Jares, Katherina Migl/Ludvik Horak/John Dostalík, Rosalie Migl/Josef Hybner, Tomas Migl/Katerina Stary, Frank Migl/Teresa Barta, Joseph Migl/Aloisie Mikulik, and Terezie Migl/Aloise Kallus.



Migl house on the original site in Praha, Texas.



The Kana Brothers' Movers bring the house onto the TCHCC grounds.



A few of the volunteers who were present at the completion of the project.



Decorated for TCHCC's Christmas Open House

Hospoda (Tavern) and General Store was the next building to be added to the grounds. The main building was donated by Roy Bucek of Schulenburg in 2005. A tavern and store was part of an early Texas-Czech town and displays the place where immigrants would meet, get mail and information of the outside world, and purchase necessary staple goods such as flour, sugar, and coffee. The building sat on the side of Hwy. 77 in Schulenburg and was moved to the TCHCC grounds by the Kana Brothers Movers. Many volunteers spent countless hours cleaning and preparing the building. Top left: the store as it sat in Schulenburg. Top right: The finished project. A side room for a general store was added on later by volunteers. Center left to right: Georgia and Elmont Vyvial, Carol Kitchen, and Georgia Funderburk cleaned and added the items that make it a showpiece.



The Hoelscher Haus was built in 1880 by Anton and Elizabeth Bruese Hoelscher. The house had a bedroom/parlor addition to their original house. The house was donated by Henry and Esther Hoelscher of Houston. The house was moved to TCHCC for the home of the Polka Lovers' Club of Texas Museum.



The Log Crib is an authentic circa 1904 double log corn crib with a dog trot that was constructed with hand hewn logs that were joined with single saddle notching. It has a central passageway that allowed for easy loading and unloading of wagons to or from a crib on either side. The Log Crib was built in 1904 on the Fajkus Farm and donated by Hilda Fajkus and Sylvia Ratcliffe of Cistern, Texas on December 29, 2005 and was moved to a staging area on the Ed Vasek farm. Ed renovated the barn with the assistance of his brothers David, Ernest and Robert along with friend and fellow TCHCC volunteer Robert Stall and advice and assistance from Ed Krivacka. Replacement logs were donated by Vickie Matocha and Jeb Pape. Delivery from the staging area to TCHCC was done by Kana Brothers Moving Company of La Grange on November 29, 2006. The final renovation work was completed by the Vasek brothers and Robert Stall in November of 2008.



Left: The corn crib as it appeared in 2005. Center: Ed Vasek at work taking down the center roof section. Right: Ed Vasek and Robert Stall.



Vasek Brothers: Ernest, Ed and David hard at work. Center: Ed Vasek leveling one log at a time. Right: Restoration was needed by 2014. Mary Vasek oversaw the repairs with volunteers Harry King, Dan Bolton, Corie Bolton, and Ernest Vasek. Bottom left: The log crib pictured in the stained glass window created by John Keble.



Top Left: Kana Brothers Movers prepare to move the log crib. Right: The log crib arrived at TCHCC and the new site.



DONATIONS FOR 2017
from April 1 to August 1, 2017.

BENEFACTOR

Henry and Carolyn Holub

FOUNDER

Sanford and Mannie Schmid

MONETARY DONATIONS

Lavaca County CHS

Waymond and Jean Blaha Davis

Charles and Angelina Kretzschmar

J. G. and Janis Hrcncir

KJZT - Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas

Peter Cajthaml

David and Beatrice Sumbera

Clarice Marik Snokhous

GIFT IN KIND

Dr. Larry and Mary Ann Hatfield

ENDOWMENT FUND

Fort Bend Chapter, CHS

Bill and Betty Melnar

Kenneth and Julie Stock

LIBRARY FUND

Exxon Corporation

Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Bohlmann

Milady A. Blaha

GRANT

Community Foundation of Louisville

Texas Women's league

City of LaGrange

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS 2017

March 1 to August 1

Individual Membership

Dian Blomquist

Georgia Kocurek Chamberlain

Vaclav J. Jasek

Mary Lou Krenek

Marjorie Kultgen

Norma Kovar Littlefield

Nancy Hrcncir Johnson

Mary Ellen Hrcncir Madalinski

Dayna DeLaVergne

Katherine Svatek

Dorothy Kaluza Tichavsky

Family Membership

William and Marilyn Baca

Jimmie & Vickie Hosek

Russell and Katherine Horak Smith

Billy & Marcella Teague

Family Membership 2018

Charles Waligura

Jean Rayhill

Business Membership

KJZT #6, St. Elizabeth Society

Gift Membership 2018

Randy Cernosek

from Kenneth & Cathleen Noska

Slavnost 2017 Donors

Johnnie and Lorenda Polasek

Daniel & Rose Cernoch

Randy Marak Pest Control

KJT

KJZT - Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas

Reeder's Air Conditioning and Heating, Inc.

RVOS Farm Mutual Insurance Company

South Texas Wheel Spinners and Crank

Twisters

Oran T. Hrcncir

Barbara Stratton Hruby

J. G. and Janis Hrcncir

Clarice Marik Snokhous

Fr. Stephen Nesrsta

Frank Svrcek

Mary E. Vasek

Edward Jones Investments, Chuck Mazac

Kenneth and Cathleen Noska

David M. Wagner

Charles and Retta Chandler

Alvin and Marilyn Cernoch

Jim D. and Marilyn Kothmann

Honorary Czech Consul Brian Vanicek

Dick W. and Joy E. Bily

Richard G. and Molly Cernosek

SPJST, Temple

CZECH VILLAGE

In Memory of Brian Carr

South Texas Wheel Spinners and Crank

Twisters

Janak Barn

Rita Janak

Migl House Fund

Vaclav J. Jasek

BELFRY MEMORIALS

In Memory of Eugene Kristynik

from Leon and Bettye Anhauser

MEMORIALS

In Memory of James Edward Vasek

Charles and Retta Chandler

Georgia W. Funderburk

Kenneth and Cathleen Noska

In Memory of Bennie E. Orsak

Mark and Ashley Hermes

J. G. and Janis Hrcncir

Lavaca County Chapter of CHS

In Memory of Johnnie I. Krajca, Polka D.J.

Mark and Ashley Hermes

In Memory of Marvin Cernik

J.G. and Janis Hrcncir

In Memory of Morris Jurecka

Mary Peska

Gene and Carol Janecka

In Memory of Raymond Snokhous

Sr. Elizabeth Riebschlaeger

In Memory of Bernice Zapalac

Dr. Thomas and Donna Z. Mueller

In Memory of Melissa McCanless

Albert and Lorene Chilek

In Memory of Virginia Adamcik

Jim D. and Marilyn Kothmann

Elizabeth Ann Kallus

In Memory of Rudy Marek, Jr., Dorothy Brzo-

zouski Bluhm, Lois Bratka, Tony Havel, Sandy

Marek & Alan Marek, Sr.

Marek-Pesek Reunion

In Honor of Richard and Molly Cernosek - 65th

Wedding Anniversary and Molly's 85th Birthday

Jim D. and Marilyn Kothmann

Elizabeth Anne Kallus

MEMORIAL BRICK

In Memory of Joe R. and Margaret Niesner

Dean and Kim Niesner

The Lee Roy Matocha Orchestra

Eileen Graeter

Lee Roy and Doris Matocha

Eileen Graeter

In Honor of Hayward E. Krall & wife Johnnye

Krall

Clyde Cantrell

In Honor of Albert Janca, Sr. & wife Frieda Janca

Clyde Cantrell

In Honor of Louis W. Sedlar 75th Birthday

Lori L. Jones

PERPETUAL ROSE GARDEN MEMORIAL

In Memory of Charles & Vlasta Kovar

Norma Kovar Littlefield

20TH ANNIVERSARY PAVING STONES

Bob C. Heinsohn

Charles and Retta Chandler

KJZT-Catholic Family Fraternal of Texas

James and Malvina Slovak

Dr. Thomas and Donna Z Mueller

In Memory of Ed and Christine Bezdek

Knappek

Malvina Slovak

In Memory of John & Christine Knappek

Sykora

Richard J. Sykora & Doris Koliba

In Memory of Cerny and Vacek Families

Elizabeth C. Patalik

In Honor of the Kubala & Poessel Family

Pioneers

Mark J. Kubala

In Memory of Parents Leland and Bernice

Elsik Miller

Bill and Kathy Miller Voshalike

In Memory of Hubert E. Janak, Musician

Elizabeth Janak

In Memory of the Hruby Brothers

Barbara Stratton Hruby

In Honor of Ted and Dorothy Kaspar Family

Ted and Dorothy Kaspar

To Volunteers. We thank you for your service.

Bill and Betty Melnar

IMMIGRANTS' WALL

In Memory of Frantisek and Anna Kubenka

Kubicek, Dolni Hermanice, Bohemia, 1854

Frank Kubicek, Jr.

MUSEUM/LIBRARY ARTIFACTS

DONATED

Paul and Dottie Watthuber - framed poster and Czech language centerpieces.

George Koudelka - Tenor Saxophone and Albert System. Clarinet from Henry Kubala played in the Adolf and The Goldchain Bohemians from 1935-1937.

Gloria Gochenour - wedding dress, veil and boutonniere of Elizabeth Netardus and Fred Urbish, married September 17, 1945 in St. Mary's Church, Hallettsville.

Eva O. Syrový - 16 Czech Dolls

Ladislav Suva - Josef Lada children's book.

Angelina Kretzschmar - Orphan Train Book, Holy Trinity Church Book, Fall City.

June Knolle Levy - Historical records of J. J. Franka family and records of Sladovnik, Frnka and Maler families

Sherri Tomasek - 1930s quilt donated in loving memory of Wilma Tomasek

John Novosad Family - wheel barrel

Joe and Connie Stevens - old quilting frame

Irene Fedork Moninger - Czech candy, 1 holy card from her father who immigrated to New York City and settled in Pennsylvania.

Leon and Bettye Anhaizer: 5 Czech books.

Dorothy Zabransky - two piano accordions

Tom and Sheryl Hrcirik - 20 boxes of Czech history and genealogy books, genealogy research, *Morava Krasna* newsletters, ceramic, wooden and glass items.

Wes and Julie Matus - Family History Books for families: Herzik, Matus, Toman, Grossman, Korenek, Kubala, Dybala, Krenek

2017 SLAVNOST RAFFLE

WINNERS

1. Ken Kaspar, Lake Jackson
2. Elizabeth Kallus, La Grange
3. Mildred Koehn, Pearling
4. Vlasta Vitek, Austin
5. Frances Vesely, Ganado
6. Debby Schovajsa, La Grange
7. Leonard Korenek, Schulenburg
8. Ted Kaspar, Brazoria
9. Arnold Pechal, Temple
10. Helena Nouzovsky, Austin
11. Joyce Hermes, Hallettsville
12. Lynn Harbers, West Point
13. Jeanne Behal, Seguin
14. Dennis Kubos, High Hill
15. Mary Cernoch, San Antonio
16. Barbara Brauner, La Grange
17. Vlasta Vitek, Austin
18. Peggy Walicek, Smithville
19. Frank Dulak, Bryan
20. Ron Frnka, Columbus

HOURLY DRAWING WINNERS

Lillian Kaderka, Taylor
Jaime Cantrell, San Antonio
Richard Pavlasek, Austin
Malvina Slovak, Victoria
Lara Hermes, La Grange

TCHCC is wanting to sell this New Holland MZ 16H 38" mower.
We have outgrown it and have larger mowers now. Please contact
Mark if interested.



TCHCC Memorials can be made to your deceased loved ones or to honor a family member that is still active in promoting Czech culture and tradition.

IMMIGRANTS' WALL

A stone wall with engravings on plaques that include the name(s) of the immigrant(s), village of origin and date that he/she/they arrived in the United States. Plaques are available for \$2500. Contact us for details.

ENTRY PAVING STONES & 20TH ANNIVERSARY STONES

A 12" x 12" pink granite stone will be engraved with your choice of wording up to 40 letters for \$1000. These stones are in the entryway of the Czech Center. Contact us for details.

ROSE GARDEN MEMORIAL

For \$250 a brick will be placed along the Rose Garden path that lines the entry sidewalk to the Czech Center. The brick will be inscribed with your choice of wording. Contact us for details.

MEMORIAL BRICK PAVERS

A brick paver will be engraved with your choice of wording for \$100. The bricks will be placed in the sidewalk leading from the flagpoles to the steps that enter the Czech Center. Contact us for details.

BELL & BELFRY

For donations of \$50 or more, inscriptions are painted on the memorial sign. For donations under \$50, a record of the donation is made on a parchment list.

AMPHITHEATER SUPPORTERS

A designated amphitheater seat will be reserved with your name plate. Participant can reserve this seat whenever there is an event at the Amphitheater by calling ahead. Seats range: \$1,000, \$750 and \$500.

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE CENTER.

Donation amounts are recognized by levels:

___ Permanent Endowment Fund
___ Maintenance and Operations

- \$200,000 ___ Five Star
- 100,000 ___ Platinum Benefactor
- 50,000 ___ Gold Benefactor
- 25,000 ___ Silver Benefactor
- 10,000 ___ Bronze Benefactor
- 5,000 ___ Benefactor
- 2,500 ___ President's Circle
- 2,000 ___ Pioneer
- 1,500 ___ Heritage Friend
- 1,000 ___ Founder
- 750 ___ Steward
- 500 ___ Patron
- 250 ___ Donor
- 150 ___ Special Friend
- 100 ___ Friend

Membership from

January 1—December 31

- \$500 ___ Corporate
- \$200 ___ Non-Profit Organization
- \$ 75 ___ Family
- \$ 50 ___ Individual
- \$ ___ Other

ANNUAL SUSTAINED MEMBERSHIP (yearly)

Benefits: Annual Calendar and *Nas Cesky Zivot* newsletters

MEMORIALS can be made to honor someone living, on their birthday or anniversary etc., or the memory of a deceased friend or family member.

FOR _____

Send Acknowledgement to: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Donor: Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone _____

Message: _____

MAIL TO:

TCHCC, P.O. Box 6, LaGrange, TX 78945-0006

CZECH REPUBLIC BOHEMIAN AND MORAVIAN GRAND TOUR 2018

Be in the Czech Republic in 2018 - help them celebrate 100 years since the beginning of CZECHOSLOVAKIA

14 Days in the Czech Republic

Monday, July 16 to Sunday, July 29, 2018

ALL-INCLUSIVE PRICE INCLUDES: Airfare, bus transfers, entry fees of excursions on the tour,
and 24/7 tour guides.

12 overnight hotel accommodations, 12 breakfasts and dinners or evening meals, 11 lunches, free selection
of a drink with each meal.

Cost: \$3,890.00 all-inclusive double occupancy

\$4,280.00 all-inclusive single occupancy

Highlights: Experience the homeland, history, trace your roots, visit a castle, museums and factories.

Enjoy the best food, beer and wine and the fellowship of members in your group.

The tour begins and ends in Prague where you will be able to tour the majestic and fairy tale city of antiquity. Walk the cobble-stone streets of **Old Town Square (Wenceslaus Square)**, observe the **Astrological Clock** as it performs on the hour and shop along your way to the **Charles Bridge** including a **sightseeing cruise on the Vltava River**.

Excursion to **Dubí**, northern Bohemia where we will visit the **Cesky Porcelain Factory**, the producer of the "onion pattern" porcelain made in the Czech Republic and famous worldwide.

Take a boat or road trip through to **Hřensko**, the lowest place in the Czech Republic, situated in a valley along the Kamenice River.

Visit the historical royal city of **Litomerice**. Visit **Tepla Monastery** in western Bohemia.

Travel to **Chodová Planá**, a restaurant and small Chodovar brewery museum. Visit the **Plzen Memorial**, a "thank you, America" to the US troops.

Tour the **Glassworks Svoboda** in **Karlov** and the Danzinger family blueprint manufacturer.

Take a mouth-watering tour of the **Dalešice Confectioners**.

Walk the streets of the unique historical city center of **Telč**, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site, and visit its wine cellar.

Walk the grounds in **Slavkov u Brna**, known as Austerlitz, where the Battle of the Three Emperors took place in 1805. Tour the museum and memorial that honors the victims of Napoleon's victorious battle between Napoleon, Austria's Holy Roman Emperor Francis II and Russian Tsar Alexander I.

Settle in and relax in the heart of Moravia: **Roznov**. Taste the frgál kolače of the Cyril Bakery in **Hrachovec**. Visit the **Unipar Candle Manufacturer**, the **World of Stones** selling semiprecious stones, the **Wallachian Open Air Museum**, the **Frenštát museum**, **Mr. Drahomir Strnadel** and **Dr. Josef Šimíček** (Lichnov Museum of the Czech Immigrants to Texas) where genealogy research can be pursued.

**If wanting an extensive genealogy tour please plan to visit TCHCC's Melnar Genealogy Library
where you can prepare for your visit to the Roznov area.*

Visit **Hodslavie** - historic village and birthplace of Frantisek Palacky, historian politician, and influential in the Czech National Revival.

Also on the list: excursions to **Vizovice** to tour the Jelinek Distillery, well known for its slivovice and other spirits and side trips to the Chateau Lešná, the Baťa Institute in **Zlín**, the Gingerbread Museum in **Pardubice** and tour the National Stud **Kladruby** (oldest major stud farm in the world).

AND MUCH MORE..

Contact TCHCC for a more detailed schedule of the trip.

Tickets and Details: probert420@aol.com Patsy Robertson

LAST CALL FOR RESERVATIONS



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
LA GRANGE TX
PERMIT NO 94

250 W. FAIRGROUNDS ROAD
P.O. BOX 6 ★ LA GRANGE, TEXAS 78945-0006

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB:
www.czechtexas.org

FOLLOW US ON OUR NEW & IMPROVED WEBSITE
*on Twitter @TexasCzechHCC
 and Instagram @czech.texas.lagrange*
 You can now pay your membership and donate online.
 We are currently taking 2018 memberships

UPCOMING EVENTS 2017

- October 20 (Friday) HERITAGE FEST: Music on the Deck by Dujka Brothers 6-9:30 PM
*Chicken & Dumplings 5:30 pm
- October 21 (Saturday) Entertainment by Red Ravens and Bohemian Dutchmen in the LaGrange Ford Hospoda.
Antique Farm Equipment and Car Show, KJT State Taroky Tournament, museums, demonstrations, tours, children activities and more.
Muziky, Muziky - Amphitheater 7-9:30 PM Legend Series, Part V: Legacy of Bobby Jones & the Bobby Jones Czech Band, Fireworks Show Finale by HEB
- December 2 10 AM - 3 PM TCHCC Christmas Open House, Gift Shop, village homes displaying vintage Christmas decoration, museums, Chicken Noodle Soup and Sandwich Lunch
- December 2 TCHCC Annual Gala - 6-9:30 PM Pavilion
Honoring: East Bernard Czech Singers, Martha Viktorin, Alice Sulak, and the Texas Polka News Marie Tupa & Theresa Cernoch Parker
- 2018**
- February 10 Valentine Dinner & Concert 4 PM Social, 6 PM Dinner, 7 PM Piano Concert by John Dujka
Tickets go on sale January 2, 2018
- May 20 Slavnost "MayFest" and Tribute to the Immigrants
Ceremony at 10:30 AM. Meal served beginning at 11:30 AM
Music, Raffle, Country Store, May Pole Dance, Village Tours, Museum WWI Exhibit
- July 16-29 Czech Republic Bohemian and Moravian Tour 2018
14 Days through the Czech Republic. Tickets & Details: probert420@aol.com (Patsy Robertson)