



News from the Czech Center in the Museum District - November 2015



From the Heart of Europe to the Heart of Houston, The Czech Center Museum Houston

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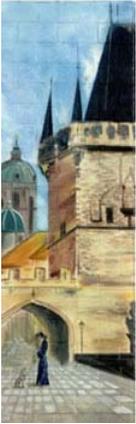
Open Monday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

November 14, 2015 The Czech Center Museum Houston's Annual Gala in Prague Hall. Watch for your invitation for the event of the year!

Read the story of a remarkable life of Lillian Dulaney written by her son.

The Endowment for Perpetuity Fund Advances! Below are those embracing the CCMH's needs for future generations to help individuals realize heritage is important in their lives as this Museum connects People, Heritage, History and the World.

Great News for those who want to learn the Czech Language. Credit course or to audit at Blinn College. Help build Bridges. Join with Effie and Bill in the Rosene Scholarship fund.



Celebrating Gala 2015

**A Festival of Arts and Flowers
A Night of Fundraising with Music, Dinner, Dance
Twenty First Annual Benefit Gala
Czech Center Museum Houston
Saturday, November 14, 2015**

Enjoy the music, fine food, art, history and the architectural grandeur of the Czech Center Museum Houston

**Celebrating Heritage
Honoring Julie Halek Kloess
Prague Hall**

Your Chance to win trip of a lifetime to view splendors of the Czech Republic

Join in a raffle draw at the Gala for a first prize of two round trip tickets to Prague. Second and third prizes gift cards. Raffle tickets \$50 or 5 for \$200.

**Gala Open Seating \$100
Reserve Seating \$150
Table Seating Available.**

Thanks to Friends of the Czech Center Museum Houston who have made a contribution to the CCMH Endowment Fund Appeal. We are grateful to those supporters who will help our museum remain one of Houston's treasured gems and who have recognized, in their generous and thoughtful gifts, this critical component of support to establish an Endowment to allow CCMH to continue its mission for future generations. The following 57 members and friends have rallied to this effort as we go to press:

Larry and Cathy Anderson, Alma Berger, Mary Boul, Brianna Bruckner, Ambassador William and Catherine Cabanis, Richard Collins, **Inez Dokupil**, Lillian Dulaney, Robert Dvorak, Caroline Freeman, Veronica Frost, Sarah George, Adelma Graham, Gerry Hamil, Purvis & Lynn Harper *in honor of James Ermis*; George Havlik, Marietta Hetmaniak, Anna Frances Hornak, Thomas Hrcirik, Stella Hwang, Loraine Ivy, Joseph Jankovic, MD, Dennis Jasek, Ann Popelka Jurecka, **Phillip Kasik**, David Killen, KJZT 8 Liz Zemanek, Julie Kloess, Joseph Kocab, Theodore Lapesh, Marek Family Foundation, Michael McCarthy, Marcella Miley, Emma Montgomery, **Daniel Neskora**, **Gladys Oakley**, **Timothy Opatrny**, Theresa Parker, Eric and Amber Pastusek, Sandra Pickett, **Armin Porter**, Lorraine Strnad Rod, Hugh and Ann Roff, **Treana Rowan**, Maxine and Dane Rudloff, Sandra Rutherford, **Albert Smaistrla**, Lilian Sorrels, John Stavinoha, MD, Michael W. Stavinoha, MD, Lana Sullenger and Laura Lancaster, Jerry and Louise Terrill, MD, Brian Vanicek, William Vavrik, Carolyn Zaskoda, Georges Zemanek, Norman Zetka (*Names in bold added since last news.*)

The Endowment will relieve the constant striving for funds over, above and beyond basic admission and membership dues. Building for future Generations. This effort continues so please consider Gifts to **the Endowment Fund at this time**. **Your gift may be made on-line right here:** <http://www.czechcenter.org/endowment.html>, or make a check payable to CCMH.

- **November 7, 2015 First Distinguished Lecture Series**, Frank Fristensky, Lecture at Czech Center Museum Houston - 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. - "Czechoslovakia - The Czech Republic - At Turbulent and Magical Crossroads."
- **November 14, 2015 The Czech Center Museum Houston's Annual Fundraising Gala in Prague Hall.** Please watch for your invitation. For information call 713-528-2060 or on the web at <http://www.czechcenter.org>. Please RSVP.
- **November 17, 2015** Remembering the Velvet Revolution End of Communism in Czechoslovakia in 1989 leading eventually to second Republic 1992. A quiet celebration at 4:00 p.m. with a glass of wine wherever you are!
- **December 4, 2015** As part of International Czech Festival at the University of North Texas is a traveling presentation of Jan Ryba's Christmas Mass performed in Czech which is the keynote of the festival to be performed at St. Justin Martyr Catholic Church, 13350 Ashford Point Drive, Houston, Texas 77082, Friday, December 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Honorariums would be appreciated.
- **December 6, 2015** Saint Nicholas Eve Celebration with the Bishop, Angel, and Devil, A Holiday Dinner for friends, families, and children. RSVP to: 713-528-2060 or czech@czechcenter.org for more info.
- **December 15, 2015** Houston Grand Opera presents a promotional of Antonin Dvorak's Czech classic *Rusalka* at CCMH 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. for Opera and Wine. Discount tickets to the Wortham Theatre to be announced.
- **Watch for Pribyl Family Nativities Exhibit** December through January.
- **January 9, 2016 Second Distinguished Lecture Series** featuring Bill Boyce, a review of his book for sale and signing of *Miss Fortune's Last Mission* at 4:00 p.m. For information call 713-528-2060.

Czech Oktoberfesters made a very happy event on October 24, despite the weatherman's forecast of stormy weather with flooding streets from the remnants of a pacific hurricane. The night before, inner office operation considered the various options: Re-schedule the event; Cancel the event (Some city events had already been cancelled, some had been re-scheduled) or plan event to commence earlier and to close earlier. The latter was chosen as this solution would create the most safety for staff and guests as the attendees had already paid, there was food and beverages on hand, a live band

booked and valet service in place. Attendees were notified to come early so promptly at 12 noon guests began arriving between intermittent heavy rain and winds to the Museum's Brno Gallery, then to Prague Hall for the festivities, where Bob Suttie's Texas Czech Legacy Band was in full swing of vibrant Polish, German, Czech Waltzes, Polkas, Country and Blues. The dance floor was active with young and older devotees from long-time Board Member, Classical Composer, Robert Dvorak, a young 90 to 18 month beautiful Allie, daughter of Jon & Lauren Cotton. As Bob and Joan Connor arrived between thunder bursts, Bob, currently an educator at Lone Star College teaching Texas and Federal Government stated: "Effie, your proven loyal membership has arrived!" Indeed, they had and stayed throughout until we played the last dance and



Brianna Bruckner, Luanne Bruckner, Kate Rowen, Joan and Bob Connor, Alya, Lauren and Jonathan Cotton



l to r: Board members Grace England and James Ermis, Volunteers Carol Vacca, Ginny Stoner, Margot Fucich, Sherry Rosene Pierce, Robert Dvorak with Alya Cotton, Bill Rosene, Effie Rosene, Robert Dvorak, Donna Dvorak



l to r: George Brennan, Marian Brennan, Rosa Brennan, Orion Medina Guerrero, Bob Suttie Band

getting everyone on their way home to safety between the hours of 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. prior to the expected forthcoming inclement weather. We would have preferred more pleasant weather, but we couldn't have had a lovelier time with our Czech Center Museum Houston friends. In fact, to prove the point, as an encore, CCMH friend Sharon Clay did a solo dance performance to one of Bob Suttie's greatest hits. Wow did that Sharon have some moves! Portraying as she said, "everyone's having a good time." Yes, indeed! We were so grateful to all who came to celebrate Czech *Oktoberfest 2015* and recognition of the October 28 date of 1918 Czech-Slovak Democracy as an official country at the time Czechoslovakia. Today two separate entities, the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Among the crowd were Board Members Dr. Sally Miller and husband David Miller, M.D., Rev. Paul Chovanec, Dr. Grace England, James Ermis, Vice Chair/Treasurer and Effie Rosene, Chairman /CEO with husband V.P. Admin W. G. Bill Rosene. The limited activities allow us to carry over the items to be shown for the Annual Gala on November 14, 2015: Win a prize and Guess the number of Corks in a huge wine bottle; Bazaar treasures to be auctioned, sale and raffle prizes to be drawn at the November 14 event. Please note our website for all event postings in November and December and even if you are not able to attend the Gala, send in your raffle ticket/s as you might win a first prize trip for two airline tickets to Prague. As always, an exciting raffle is in store. We can't thank enough our staff Clay Zapalac and volunteers Carol Vacca, Ginny Stoner, Jalisa Kocurek, Brianna Bruckner, who brought her mother, Sharon Clay, and Lindsey and Sherry Rosene Pierce and all the guests who braved the elements to have a wonderful and exciting time enjoying a fall theme Oktober Fest with zest of camaraderie, wine and beer tastings and *Klobase* and sides.



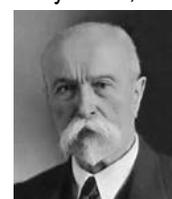
Carol Vacca's Innovative Table Arrangements for the Oktober Fest added just the right touch!

On October 28, 2015 we invited all to join us at 4:00 p.m. to commemorate the National Czech Slovak Day, the day of the official statehood of Democracy in the now states of Czech Republic and Slovak Republic. We did that with a "Na zdravi" and "Vsechno nejlepsi" to good health and all the best to the beautiful land of our heritage and our friendship.

The Formation of Czechoslovak Statehood October 28, 1918 Following the Pittsburgh Agreement of May 1918, the



Czechoslovak declaration of independence was published by the Czechoslovak National Council, signed by Masaryk, Štefánik and Beneš on October 18, 1918 in Paris, and proclaimed on October 28 in Prague. Towards the end of the First World War which led to the collapse of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire, several ethnic groups and territories with different historical, political, and economic traditions were blended into new state structures. In the face of such obstacles, the creation of Czechoslovak democracy was indeed a triumph. Initial authority within Czechoslovakia was assumed by



the newly created National Assembly on November 14, 1918. Because territorial demarcations were uncertain and elections impossible, the provisional National Assembly was constituted on the basis of the 1911 elections to the Austrian parliament with the addition of fifty-four representatives from Slovakia. National minorities were not represented. Hungarians remained loyal to Hungary, and on November 12, 1918, ethnic Germans of the former Empire declared the short-lived Republic of German Austria with the intent of unifying with Germany, relying on President Wilson's principle of self-determination. The National Assembly elected Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk as its first president, chose a provisional government headed by Karel Kramář, and drafted a provisional constitution. The Paris Peace Conference convened in January 1919. The Czech delegation was led by Kramář and Beneš, premier and foreign minister respectively, of the Czechoslovak provisional government. The conference approved the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic, to encompass the historic

Bohemian Kingdom (including Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia), Slovakia, and Carpathian Ruthenia. The inclusion of Ruthenia provided a common frontier with Romania, an important ally against Hungary. In January 1920 Czechoslovakian army breaking prior agreements with Poland, crossed the demarcation line and by force of arms occupied the Zaolzie, where a 60% majority of the population was Polish, compared to 25% Czechs. After brief fights they made a truce on the power of which Czechoslovakia occupied areas to the west of Olza River. The Czech claimed Lusatia, which had been part of the Bohemian Kingdom. The establishment of the Constitution of 1920 installed a parliamentary system and representative democracy with relatively few constituents for each representative. This allowed a great variety of political parties to emerge, with no clear front runner or leading political entity. Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk was elected the country's first president in the 1920 election and his guidance helped to hold the country together. A coalition of five Czechoslovak parties, which became known as the "Pětka" (The Five), constituted the backbone of the government and maintained stability. Prime Minister Antonin Svehla led the Pětka for most of the 1920s and designed a pattern of coalition politics that survived until 1938. Masaryk was re-elected in 1925 and 1929, serving as President until December 14, 1935 when he resigned due to poor health. He was succeeded by Edvard Beneš.

Cook Like a Czech Roast Goose – Pečená husa – Traditional Fall Fare

Ingredients: One oven ready goose, salt and pepper, 2 lbs. of apples, 1 sprig of thyme, 1 cup of water. Preparation: Rub with salt and pepper, peel and core the apples, and add to the goose, with the thyme, close the neck and breast openings, placing the goose in a roasting pan, pour on the water hot, cover and place in an oven preheated to 210 degrees and cook for approximately 4 hours. Turn regularly and baste with the drippings. Uncover for the last half-hour, and roast the goose until golden. Serve with the drippings.



Roast Goose

About Czech Wines

Like many pubs in Prague's historic Malá Strana district, the bar at 8 Míšeňská Lane has the dark and moody vibe and chalkboards listing the drink specials. But beyond the ceilings: the bar, Vinograf, doesn't have a single Czech beer listed on its menu. Instead, it focuses on the Czech Republic's wines, featuring a who's who of the country's most obscure winemakers, as well as quality imports. "It's changing," said the bar's manager, Klára Kollárová, who, at 33 years old, comes off as a grande dame in the youthful new world of Czech sommeliers. "It's an evolution in Czech wine." Though the area's wine history dates back centuries, if not millennia, it is only in the past 10 years or so that the Czech



Republic's winemakers have found the plus side of their region's capricious weather, stony soils and limited production, creating charismatic wines through the use of modern techniques and know-how that only became available after the fall of communism. While the French-educated, Prague-based Holy Roman Emperor Charles IV might have ordered the local planting of his favored Pinot Noir grapes in the mid-14th century, the region seemed a long way from Burgundy in the early 1990s, producing wines that often ranged from bland to astringent. The evolution of regional wines doesn't exactly leave the Czech Republic's well-regarded brewers still swinging in the vines and huddling in caves with its world-beating annual consumption per capita, beer is likely to remain the country's preferred tittle for years to come. But look carefully in the Czech capital and you'll find a pronounced new interest and heightened appreciation for fine wine (*vino*), with a new generation of wine bars, as well as well-stocked wine shops and improved restaurant wine lists. Much like the country's now well-regarded Skoda automobiles, a unit of Volkswagen AG, wine here has come a long way in the two decades since the Velvet Revolution. Located just across the border from Austria's *Weinviertel*, the Czech Republic's South Moravian wine region uses many of the same varieties as its neighbors, and occasionally bests them in the process at the *Vinalies Internationales* competition in Paris last year, bottles from the Czech Republic picked up a total of nine gold medals, while Austrian wines earned just seven. The total usable area for grape production in the Czech Republic is around 19,300 hectares, of which the planted area is about 18,500 hectares. Estimated average yield of grapes is 5 tons per hectare. Czechs grow white and blue grapes, not reds; white grapes are two thirds of the total planted area, whereas blue grapes are about a third. The favorite varieties of white grapes are *Müller Thurgau*, *Veltlinske zelene*, *Ryzlink vlassky* and *Ryzlink Rynsky*. *From the red grapes are mostly present varieties of Svatovavřinecké, Frankovka, Zweigeltrebe and Rulandské modré.* With the entry to the European Union in 2004, the Czech Republic had to commit that the acreage of vineyards will not be increased. For that reason, in the Czech Republic there is a maximum planted acreage of around 19,300 hectares, so one thousand hectares is unused. Compared to previous years the production has been on the rise. In 2007 the production level was between 600,000 – 630,000 hectoliters. One hectoliter equals one hundred liters. In 2009 the domestic wine production reached a record of 820,000 hectoliters.

Vino: A short video: <https://www.facebook.com/anna.slichtova/posts/1146664045361621>

Shop at Kroger's? Have a Plus Card? Help our Museum by registering your card every time you shop at Kroger's – a small percentage of your purchase each time is donated to our organization. Go to www.kroger.com; click on register; enter personal information and designate Czech Center Museum Houston, d/b/a Czech Cultural and Community Center Kroger charity account number **82266** as the designee for your contribution from your purchases. If you cannot register online, call the number on the back of your card and ask that your card be linked to account number **82266**. Every little bit helps. Call 713-528-2060 if you have questions or need help entering online.

The CCMH Member's Loan Investment Program was instigated in 2010 as a way to retire the building's bank mortgage with its required monthly payment. From its members CCMH received sufficient funds from seventeen persons which were used for this purpose. Since that auspicious beginning eight very generous individuals have forgiven or donated \$165,000 or 26% of the funds initially received. The CCMH's Board of Directors has authorized the continuation of the Loan Program with issued certificates receiving a 3% interest return on their investment with funds received in this new program to be placed in the Center's Endowment for Perpetuity Investment Fund. *If you are interested in joining with us in this program, please call. Your investment in this matter is highly important and beneficial to you and the Czech Center Museum Houston.*

We Need Volunteers: We honor them, not just today, but every day, our Volunteers, members of the Czech Center Museum Houston Guild. They Tend the Prague International Gift Shop, Give Docent Historical Tours, Meet every visitor to the CCMH from around the world, and Answer every telephone call for its execution. **We honor their "stepping up" in great attitude and aptitude to administer the Museum's needs. Please join us in any hours or days you can commit to this special group. Call 713-528-2060 or 713-682-4608. We promise you will be glad you did! It's special work from the heart. Thank you. Please welcome our newest volunteer long-time member and supporter Laverne Nash.**

NEW! Read a virtual *Docent Historical Tour* of the Czech Center Museum Houston by clicking the following link: <http://www.czechcenter.org/VerticalResponseEmails/pdfs/Docent-Tour-Czechvar.pdf>.

Good Reads Available at our Prague International Gift Shop:

Texas Czech Bands by CCMH Members Jimmy Brosch with Theresa Cernoch Parker.

Rustic Baroque - A novel by Jiri Hajicek - Set in South Bohemia about a decade after the Velvet Revolution.

Border Crossings - A Memoir that Reads Like a Thriller! By Charles Novacek.

Prague, My Long Journey Home - by Charles Ota Heller. A memoir of Survival, Denial and Redemption. Providing a window into one Czech American's experiences!

The Czech Pioneers of the Southwest by Dr. Henry R. Maresh - a must read for research of your genealogy.

Living Longer Than Hate - W. J. Bill Morgan's life, a Story of Survival and Success by C.S. Ragsdale.

Fields of Light, A Son Remembers His Heroic Father by CCMH Member Joseph Hurka.

Žižka the One-Eyed - A grizzled warrior, he rose from service as a mere bodyguard at the court of King Wenceslas to lead armies of peasant men and women. By Jim Fuxa, CCMH member.

For information on these books and to order call 713-528-2060 or visit our website.

For your Viewing and Listening Pleasure at the Czech Center Museum Houston:

- **CCMH Foyer.** Art Nouveau Beveled glass doors and windows; The 1850 palace low-boy chest with Hanak Biblical Times Ceramics Art Collection by Czech Karel Hanak highly awarded academic artist for bringing past history to the future; A gemstone globe on the antique lawyer's desk; The Pekar family gold table holds ceramics and awards.
- **Wenceslas Chapel.** Czech Crystal Chandeliers, Stained Glass Windows, Antique Castles/Chateau furniture and paintings; King Wenceslas on his horse is as on Wenceslas Square in Prague.
- **Brno Gallery.** Porcelain and numerous collections, paintings, and antique furniture with King Rudolf II to greet you!
- **The Presidents Room** includes the Ermis ceramics collection; Rev. Paul Chovanec Moser collection; Eggermann, Bohemian crystal; Brychta figures and Hoffman boudoir pieces and the Presidents' portraits.
- **Prague International Museum Gift Shop.** A collection of heirlooms, antiques and only twenty items left of 100 year-old collection, jewelry, and art.
- **Grand Staircase Landing and Pilsen Hall** features magnificent artworks of Houston's own John Pavlicek, his art showing regularly at Gremillion Gallery remembering the early Immigrants.
- **Prague Hall Ballroom** filled with permanent exhibits of Czech Masters Alfons Mucha, father of the **Art Nouveau** Movement and Czech born American international artist to presidents, royalty and art patrons of all ages, Kamil Kubik **Impressionist** of landscape and cityscape paintings plus more Crystal Chandeliers and Petrof baby grand piano.
- **Pilsen Hall** features Roy Cullen's Prague International Ballet in Houston Debut Photo Gallery; Folk Art *Galerie* with 1750s era village wedding and models with festival dress and permanent exhibit of the Ottervik Collection of 1289 pieces of Czechoslovakian Art Glass/Ceramics 1918 - 1938. Note the two Special Effects Photography by Czech/Slovak born New York artist Jaroslav Pecha on the west wall.
- **Comenius Library.** A permanent exhibit of early Czech immigrant rancher/farmer/photos who came to America from *VelkyUjezd*, Czech lands then Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1903 - the Frank Joseph Tomek family to Cameron, Texas.

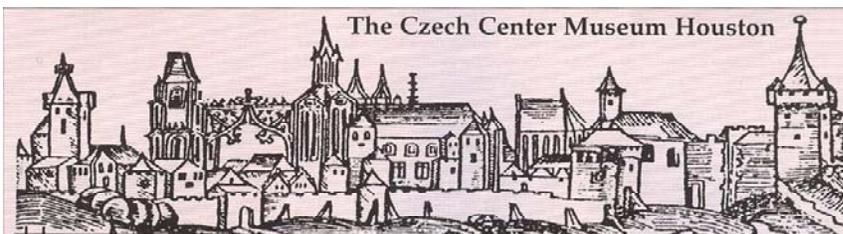
You are welcome to view this organization's **IRS Form 990** available on the GuideStar website. Note this organization's name on filing was the Czech Cultural and Community Center, which now does business as the Czech Center Museum Houston. <http://www.guidestar.org/FinDocuments/2011/760/496/2011-760496649-08e34299-9.pdf>
Interested Members may also view financial records by appointment.

Czech Language Online Daily: It would be impossible not to learn from these simple distinct lessons. Try it now!
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bY9cp7r2CZc>.



Mural of Prague Bridge
A Houston Cultural Destination Point:
Czech Center Museum Houston and the Charles Bridge of Prague
at 4920 San Jacinto and Wichita in the Museum District!

"When we build let us think that we build forever. Let not it be such for present delight or for present use alone. Let it be such work as our descendants will think of us for. And Let us think, as we lay stone upon stone, that a time is to come when these stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them, and that men will say as they look upon the labor and wrought substance of them, 'See this our father did for us.'"
John Ruskin



An Irish Toast: *There are good ships, and there are wood ships, The ships that sail the sea, But the best ships are Friendships – And may they always be.*

Sayings for your consideration: *"Time goes by so fast; people go in and out of your life. You must never miss the opportunity to tell these people how much they mean to you."* **Anonymous.** *"Those that say that individuals are not capable of changing anything are only looking for excuses."* **Václav Havel.** *"To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root."* **Chinese and Czech Proverb.**

Questions or comments or to be removed, please email first and last name to
Effie M. Rosene, Chair/CEO on behalf of Board of Directors, Volunteers and Members and Friends.

This organization is supported in part by a grant from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance and by the contributions of our Friends, Members and Volunteers.

View the latest issue of CCMH Newsjournal: www.czechcenter.org/news/pdfs/Czech_News.pdf

View our blog: www.czechcentermuseumhouston.wordpress.com

View special items for purchase: www.czechcenter.org/giftshop/giftshop.asp