On October 27th, 2019, CSHA hosted the 33rd Czech and Slovak Festival at the American Legion Hall in Towson. Despite the heavy rain that plagued us until early afternoon, we had a strong turnout (282 adults, 74 children). Festivalgoers started filling the hall as soon as the door opened at noon. There was a lot to enjoy: traditional meals cooked by Bistro Bohem, a selection of Czech and Slovak beer and liquor, expertly grilled hot dogs and bratwursts, and a variety of pastries baked by La Bohemia Bakery, Dana Petran and Dana Havlik. A carefully selected group of vendors offered cookies, sweets, calendars, handmade gifts, clothing, and jewelry. Little visitors colored, made crafts, and got face painting and tattoos at the Children’s Table. A lucky few won nice prizes in a raffle benefiting CSHA.

The Pajtáši band played music throughout the afternoon. This year’s cultural performance was a recital of songs and poems by children and parents from the Slavic American Sokol in Virginia. The always-popular dance lesson led by Simona Merchant-Dest drew a big and enthusiastic crowd to the dance floor. Lukáš Přibyl, the Head of Public

Photos by Dana Havlik, John Vanko and Olga Mendel

Slavic American Sokol from Washington D.C. performing at the Festival

continues on page 4
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

CHILDREN’S LANGUAGE SCHOOL
Classes meet throughout the school year at Woodbrook Baptist Church on Stevenson Lane. Regular language classes for children aged 3 and up occur every Friday from 6 to 7:30 PM. There are two levels of instruction in Czech (from beginning to advanced). Currently we are seeking students to be able to hold both Czech and Slovak classes.

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS
The Children’s School hosts Family Fun Nights every month or two, offering all CSHA members a chance to get together and share a potluck dinner while celebrating our Czech and Slovak Heritage. Visit our Facebook page or website (see addresses below) for a detailed schedule information, and to register.

ADULT LANGUAGE SCHOOL
Do you like the sound of the Czech and Slovak languages? Are you interested in taking Czech or Slovak classes? CSHA is one of a few organizations in the USA that offers language instruction for adults. Beginning, intermediate and advanced classes are offered on Saturdays in the spring and fall at the Gribbin Center on Bel Air Road in Perry Hall. The spring semester classes begin January 12th.

HERITAGE SINGERS
If you like to sing and you enjoy Czech and Slovak songs, carols and hymns, please consider joining the CSHA Heritage Singers. All voice parts are welcome. The group meets on Mondays from 7 to 9 PM in the months before our Christmas concert and Memorial Day performance.

CSHA ONLINE - For more information about any of these activities or to register for classes, you can contact CSHA at: info@cshamaryland.org. CSHA’s Communication Committee will respond promptly to answer your questions and provide information, and we are eager to hear your ideas and suggestions. Also, please check our website www.cshamaryland.org and follow us on Facebook at Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Baltimore.

DECEMBER 2019

MIKULÁŠSKÁ - December 6th, 2019, 6 to 8PM at our Children’s School location at Woodbrook Baptist Church, 25 Stevenson Lane, Baltimore, MD 21212 - Mikuláš, Anděl, and Čert will make an appearance.

Each child will receive a “balíček” (goody bag) from Mikuláš. Cost: $5 per child (no cost for language school students and members of CSHA).

Registration is required. See details in the Hlas (page xx) or check out CSHA’s Facebook page or website.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - December 15th, 2019, 2PM - The Czech and Slovak Heritage Singers will present a program of traditional Czech and Slovak “koledy” at St. Wenceslaus Church, 2111 Ashland Avenue, Baltimore. A reception will follow the program.

JANUARY 2020

GENERAL BOARD MEETING - January 26th, 2020, 2PM at Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, 5200 N Charles St, Baltimore, MD 21210

OCTOBER 2020

34rd ANNUAL CZECH AND SLOVAK FESTIVAL - tentatively scheduled for October 25th, 2020, noon to 6PM, American Legion Hall, 125 York Rd, Baltimore, MD 21204

HLAS - If you have any suggestions or comments about the CSHA newsletter, email us at info@cshamaryland.org. You can find back issues of Hlas at www.cshamaryland.org.
President’s message: Thanks to All

Thanks to our hard-working Festival Committee chair and members who devoted hours to meeting the challenges of presenting the 33rd Annual Festival. They have mastered the demands of ordering supplies, coordinating the food, preparing the schedule…all the details that make our Festival a success.

While reflecting on the 33rd Annual Festival, it is hard not to think back to preceding festivals and the people who helped organize them. They represented the Baltimore Czech and Slovak community in its entirety, those who grew up in the old East Baltimore neighborhood, those who came here during the 60’s and those who arrived later. They came together in friendship and respect for one another to celebrate the culture in which they took such pride.

Congratulations and sincere good wishes to Petr Justin on his election as the sixth president of CSHA. We have a great opportunity here, a new opportunity to come together in the spirit of friendship and respect for one another to celebrate the culture in which we take such enormous pride. Petr will need everyone’s good will, respect and spirit of co-operation. This is what CSHA is, why it was founded, and we have a chance to carry it forward. CSHA depends on member involvement in our activities. Let’s support Petr as he leads us forward.

Margaret Supik - CSHA president

Message from the Nominating and Election Committee

The Association’s new Board of Directors for 2020-2021 has been elected. We received 19 valid ballots and all candidates received 19 votes. One ballot suggested Dana Petran for the President and Petr Justin for the Vice President.

Our long-term President Margaret Supik and Treasurer Jana Vanicky are passing the torch to new Officers, Petr Justin and Zuzana LaBuff, respectively. We welcome them to the Board in their new roles. Many thanks and gratitude go to Margaret and Jane for the many years of dedicated service to the Association. We look forward to their continuing involvement with the Board as a regular member (Jana) and as an immediate past President (Margaret, non-voting member).

The Board is saying goodbye to long time member John Vanko, who is planning relocation, and gaining a new member, Bill Schuman.

The new Board of Directors will be seated at the General Meeting in January 2020. Please join us to welcome the new Board and become personally involved with the Association. We need more active members to serve on the committees and help us plan and organize our events.

Zuzana Justinova, on behalf of the Committee

Donations:

Many thanks to these members, who made donations to the association from December 2018 to October 2019:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Michael &amp; Deborah Bull</th>
<th>Zuzana &amp; Petr Justin</th>
<th>Viera &amp; Stephen Sabol</th>
<th>John &amp; Rachel Sullivan</th>
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<td>Frederick Dvorak &amp; family</td>
<td>Jana &amp; Mark Kaidy</td>
<td>Marie Schmitt</td>
<td>Margaret &amp; Charles Supik</td>
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<td>William &amp; Barbara Hatchl</td>
<td>Ronald Kozich</td>
<td>Kathleen &amp; Edward Sievers Jr.</td>
<td>Denise &amp; Kirk Thomas</td>
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<td>Dana Havlik &amp; Gregg Iskra</td>
<td>Paige Krivda</td>
<td>Charles Sinlock</td>
<td>Alex &amp; Jane Vanicky</td>
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<td>Albert Heck</td>
<td>Zuzana LaBuff</td>
<td>Barbara Sonberg</td>
<td>Milada &amp; Vojtech Vala</td>
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<td>Ann &amp; Frank Huber</td>
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<td>Emilie Sosnoski</td>
<td>Paul Vitek</td>
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<td>Lois Hybl</td>
<td>Nancy &amp; Robert Murphy</td>
<td>Barbara Stinson</td>
<td>David Yanosik</td>
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<td>Vladislav &amp; Nadezda Jandasek</td>
<td>Dana Petran</td>
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Diplomacy at the Embassy of the Czech Republic gave a speech remembering the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, which was the theme of the Festival.

Festivalgoers lingered until the closing at 6 pm. It was clear that the visitors enjoyed celebrating the Czech and Slovak heritage with us.

The Festival is a labor of love for many contributors. We offer our thanks to the selfless volunteers who show up year after year to help out throughout the day and make the event a success. Thanks also to the Festival Committee for your hard work and dedication. The Festival would not happen without you!

We look forward to seeing you at the next year’s Festival.

Volunteers at the 2019 Festival in alphabetical order:

- Debbie Bull
- Michael Bull
- Dana Havlik
- Michael Havlik
- Ludmila Havlova
- Lois Hybl
- Gregg Iskra
- Nicol Iskra
- Denis Justin
- Petr Justin
- Zoe Justin
- Zuzana Justinova
- Andrea Kletetschka
- Kate Kousouris
- Jessie LaBuff
- Zuzana LaBuff
- Mary Logan
- MacLean Lunko
- Mia Mendel
- Olga Mendel
- Dana Petran
- Russ Rezek
- Sasha Rezek
- Vilma Rychlik
- Stephen Sabol
- Viera Sabol
- Jessica Sandrock
- Tanya Hybl Sandrock
- Bill Schuman
- Rena Schuman
- Dan Sullivan
- Joe Sullivan
- John Sullivan
- Rachel Sullivan
- Margaret Supik
- Martina Tesfaye
- Negussie Tesfaye
- Alex Vanicky
- Jane Vanicky
- John Vanko
- Francis Vojik
- Irena Vyvleckova
- Kate Wychgram
- Iva Zicha

Opening of the Festival with a parade of flags

Pajtasi band performing traditional music

Hot dog table

Pastry, the most popular table...

“Koláče”and pastries

Children’s table
Festival visitors
Alex Vanicky in Sokol uniform
Lois and Albert Hybl in traditional “kroj”
Dance lessons with Roman Lewkowicz
Vera and Steve Sabol dancing
Learning to dance the Slovak way
Simona Merchant-Dest teaching traditional dances
Ready for raffle
Vera and Steve Sabol dancing
Festival visitors
Alex Vanicky in Sokol uniform
Spiritual Kvintet highlights busy fall schedule of cultural events at the Czech Embassy

by Olga Mendel

This fall was filled with more cultural events than I ever remember. The Czech Embassy in Washington D.C. put a huge amount of energy into organizing one interesting event after another - these included exhibits, movie screenings and theater performances as well as several concerts, many of them closely connected with the Velvet revolution 30 years ago.

For me, the highlight was an evening concert of Spiritual Kvintet on November 10th, 2019. The group of 7 musicians led by Jiří Tichota is celebrating its 60th anniversary. The band started the program with several newer songs. But soon they invited the audience to join in and sing along to the older songs that many people knew by heart, even those who emigrated a long time ago. Most of these songs focus on fight for freedom, something so important not only 60 or 30 years ago, but always. Czech Ambassador, Hynek Kmoníček, welcomed the group and but translated for them throughout the evening.

Upon their return to the Czech Republic, Spiritual Kvintet performed the very same songs on Národní třída in Prague on the day of the 30th anniversary of the Velvet revolution, at the very place that the events leading then-Czechoslovakia to freedom started. The audiences in Washington and in Prague both sang along to “Musíš za svou pravdou stát, za svou pravdou stát” (you have to stand behind truth). It’s the same song Spiritual Kvintet played at the Wenceslaus square in November of 1989 to 200 000 people gathered in the freezing weather.
Christmas Poppy Seed Hedgehogs
(Vánoční Makoví Ježci)

INGREDIENTS:
500g (3 1/5 cups) all-purpose flour
20g (2 tea spoons) active dry yeast
40g (1/4 cup) sugar
250ml (1 cup) warm milk
1 large egg
1/2 teaspoon salt
70g (1/3 cup) butter, softened
1/2 teaspoon grinded lemon peel
Poppy seed filling
Raisins

DIRECTIONS:
Mix flour, sugar, salt and lemon peel in a mixing bowl. Add yeast and warm milk, and let rise for 10 minutes. Add melted butter and egg, and mix into a flexible dough. Let it rise in a bowl covered with a towel for 30-45 minutes.

Roll out the dough into a flat sheet about 1/8 inch thick and cut into squares of 2 by 2 inches. Place a teaspoon of poppy seed filling, press the edges together, form into “hedgehog” shape and let rise for 10 minutes. Before baking, use scissors to cut little spikes on the back and add raisins for eyes and nose. Glaze with lightly whipped egg and bake for 20-30 minutes at 325 F.

On July 19th 2019, two members of our association were awarded a prestigious medal from Matice Slovenská.

The gold medal was awarded to Lois Hybl, the head of Adult Language School and Margaret Supik, president of the CSHA, for their work in promoting Slovak-American cultural experiences in the USA.

The Matica slovenská is a Slovakian scientific and cultural institution promoting the wellbeing of the Slovak nation.

Matica slovenská was established in 1863 as a result of the Slovak people’s efforts to lay the foundations of Slovak science, libraries and museums. Nowadays it is governed by the “Act on Matica slovenská” of 1997.

The anniversary of the 1863 establishment of Matica slovenská on August 4 is locally known as Deň Matice Slovenskej.

by Dana Havlík
OFFICERS:
President - Margaret Supik
Vice President - Dana Petran
Secretary - Lois Hybl
Treasurer - Jane Vanicky

BOARD MEMBERS: alphabetically
Dana Havlik
Gregg Iskra
Zuzana Justinova
Zuzana LaBuff
Olga Mendel
Stephen J. Sabol Jr.
Rena Vanicek Schuman
Alex Vanicky
John Vanko

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:
Communication - Olga Mendel
Education - TBD
Events - John Vanko
Festival - Zuzana Justinova
Finance - Zuzana LaBuff
Governance - Gregg Iskra
HLAS - Olga Mendel

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Postmaster: Dated material, please do not delay.

Matica slovenská se snaží prehľadať svoju pozitívnu vztah k svojej vlasti, domovine svojich predkov, a tak upevňovať národnú hrdosť a vlastenectvo; národne aktivizovať a zjednotovať všetkých občanov a to bez rozdielu národnosti, náboženského vyznania, politickej príslušnosti vrátane slovenských komunit v zahraničí v záujme upevňovania slovenskej štátnosti.


Matica Slovenská-medals for Margaret Supik And Lois Hybl