

HLAS

Sdružení Čechů a Slováků pro Uchování Národních Odkazů
Združenie Čechov a Slovákov pre Zachovanie Národných Odkazov

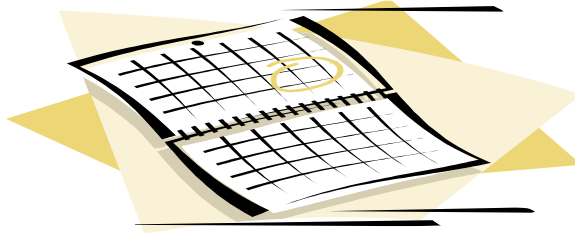
A quarterly publication of the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland



Žimu jsme vám
odnesli,
Nový léto přinesli.
Bud' te tu babičky,
veselé,
Už vám to létečko
neseme,
Pékné zelené
rozmarýnové.

We carried winter
away, and brought you
a new year.
Grandmothers, be
happy, soon we'll bring
you lovely green
rosemary.

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Sunday, April 18, 2010 3 PM: The second quarterly meeting of the year will be held at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, 5200 N. Charles Street in Baltimore. We will meet in the Undercroft in the Adult Education room. Enter through the street level door on the north side of the cathedral. The words *Maria Immaculata* are carved above the door. Go down a short flight of steps and to your left. The Adult Education room will be directly in front of you. Our program will be a documentary film, *Immortal Balladeer of Prague*, about Czech film star, song writer and patriot Karel Hašler. More about this extraordinary story on pages 5 and 6.

Sunday, July 18, 2010: Our Annual CSHA Picnic and quarterly meeting. We are looking into using Towson Unitarian Church on Dulaney Valley Road as a new location.

Sunday, October 24, 2010 from noon to 6 PM: The **TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CZECH AND SLOVAK FESTIVAL** at Baltimore 45 (Tall Cedars) Hall on Putty Hill Ave. in Parkville. Don't miss it!

The President's Corner

Many thanks to all of you who have already sent in your annual dues. A number of you were generous enough to make a contribution as well and the officers and board are very appreciative of your generosity and commitment to CSHA. Thanks, too, to those of you who *will* send in your dues upon being reminded that **THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST ISSUE OF HLAS** if we do not get your payment very soon. More about this on page 3.

Our good friend, board member and tireless worker Anna Losovsky graciously contributed an article about Rozutec to the last issue of HLAS which I mistakenly attributed to someone else. I want to here apologize to Anna for my carelessness and to urge you, the readers of HLAS, to keep me fair and honest. If you catch an error or disagree with something you read here, let me know. Likewise, if you would like to contribute or suggest something for inclusion in YOUR newsletter, let me know that too.

S pozdravem,

Margaret

A Slovak Patriot's Story

On September 7, 1909, a young Slovak immigrant named Jan Kocur first set foot on American soil bound for Pittsburgh. Now, 100 years later, a fresh biography *Jan Kocur – A Story of Slovak Pride, American Patriotism and the Golden Age of the Slovak League of America*, sheds new light on a man who embraced all America had to offer while never losing touch with his Slovak heritage.

By chronicling John Kocur's life from his earliest years in the Slovak lands of Austria-Hungary to his work as a laborer in Pittsburgh, his service in WWI, and his quarter century as the secretary of the Slovak League of America, Richard D. Kocur, Jr. offers a carefully researched story about his grandfather that goes well beyond that of an immigrant simply achieving the American dream.

The book is available on line at www.Amazon.com.
And the author may be contacted at
rkocur@yahoo.com.

Excerpted from Friends of Slovakia Newsletter, Winter 2010

Liptovsky syr

Zrobý to asi dva hrnčeky

8 oz. tvarohu
8 oz. neslaneho masla zmäknutého
1 veľka lyžica maďarskej papriky
čerstvo pomleté čierne korenie
¼ maláj lyžičky soli
2 malé lyžičky rasce
1 malá lyžička zomletých horčičných semenok
1 mala lyžička posekané capery
1 veľka lyžička jemno posekanej cibule
½ hrnčeka kyslej smotany
3 veľke lyžičky jemno nasekanej pažitky

Pretlačiť tvahroh cez sítko, vmiešať maslo paprika a
hojne korenia (podle chuti), rascu, horčične
semienka, capery cibulu a kyslú smotanu.

Sformovať na homolu posypať s pažitkou a dať do
ľadničky na dve hodiny.

Anna Losovsky



Liptauer Cheese

To make approximately 2 cups

8 oz. cottage cheese
8 tsbp softened unsalted butter
1 tsbp sweet Hungarian paprika
freshly ground pepper
¼ tsp salt
2 tsp caraway seeds

1tsp dry mustard
1tsp chopped capers
1 tsbp finely chopped onion
½ cup sour cream (plus another ½ cup if a dip is
desired)
3 tsbp finely chopped chives

Press cottage cheese through a sieve into a mixing
bowl. Beat in butter, paprika, a generous grinding
of black pepper, salt, caraway seed, mustard, capers,
onion and sour cream.

Shape it into a mound and decorate it with the
chives. Refrigerate it for 2 hours or until it is firm.

Anna Losovsky

Dues are Due!!\$!!\$!!\$!!\$!!\$!!\$!!

The Association's bylaws state that those who have
not paid dues by March 31 shall be dropped from
the roll of active members. This means that you
will no longer receive the newsletter HLAS nor
notification of activities that come up during the
course of the year. We are grateful to those who
have already sent in dues and also to those who will
send in dues after reading this gentle reminder. If
you aren't sure you sent in your check, you can
always check with Membership Chair Charles
Supik at: chasupik@juno.com or at 410-662-6094.

Winter Meeting and Roadshow

The January CSHA general meeting was held at the
Catherdral of Mary Our Queen on Sunday, January
31. After a brief meeting, members of the Czech
and Slovak Heritage Singers performed a few
selections. They were joined enthusiastically by
several attendees of the meeting.

The members' displays of their Czech and Slovak
memorabilia were the highlight of the afternoon.



photo: Lois Hybl

We admired Dolores Gentes's *Betlem*, a Nativity with hundreds of figures: shepherds, Mary and Joseph, angels, the baby Jesus, kings, carpenters, sheep... a whole Czech village in the Czech Christmas tradition of elaborate displays of the events at Bethlehem. Other members displayed china and ceramics, textiles, books, clothing; it was a very eclectic array.



photo: Lois Hybl

Our plan is to make the Road Show an annual attraction at the January meeting. This year's event attracted a few more exhibitors and a slightly larger attendance than last year. It may be modest progress, but this is the direction for the future. We welcome all of our members at all of our meetings and encourage you to come and participate.

Láhev becherovky vždy pomůže

Před několika lety jsem byl na dovolené u moře v Bulharsku. Jeden můj kolega v práci je Bulhar; ten napsal svému příteli, který má u Černého moře dost velký dům, aby mi na čtrnáct dní rezervoval jeden pokoj. Na cestu k moři jsem si vzal věci, které obvykle turisté k moři berou, a také dárek pro majitele toho domu – velkou láhev výborného českého likéru, který se vyrábí v Karlových Varech. Ano, přivezl jsem do Bulharska láhev becherovky.

Bez problémů jsem přijel k Černému moři do města Varny, u nádraží jsem si vzal taxík, ukázal jsem taxikáři adresu a za deset minut jsem již byl na místě. Byl to hezký dům se zahradou, já jsem dostal pokoj v přízemí. Vybalil jsem si z kufru své věci, lahev becherovky jsem postavil na stůl, protože jsem ji chtěl hned večer majiteli bytu darovat. Vzal jsem si plavky, brýle proti slunci a šel jsem k moři koupat.

Brzy však začal foukat nepříjemný vítr a lidé začali od moře odcházet. I já jsem pospíchal domů. Jenže jsem si nepamatoval, kde bydlím. Také jsem neznal adresu, ta byla napsaná na papírku, který jsem nechal ve svém pokoji. Nevěděl jsem ani, jak se majitel domu jmenuje, všichni Bulhaři mají podobná jména, každé končí na *-ov*, kdo si má pamatovat. Tak jsem chodil městem a bál jsem se, že za chvíli začne pršet a že už nikdy ten dům nenajdu. Všechny domy byly nové a podobaly se jeden druhému jako vejce vejci. Najednou jsem uviděl v přízemí jednoho domu na stole láhev. Byla to moje becherovka připravená jako dárek. Byl jsem doma!

225 x Česky Zábavná čítanka pro zahraniční studenty

A Bottle of Becherovka Always Helps

A few years ago I was on vacation at the sea in Bulgaria. One of my colleagues at work is Bulgarian and he wrote to a friend of his who has a large house near the Black Sea asking if I could reserve a room for fourteen days. For my trip to the sea, I packed those things a person usually takes to the sea, plus a large bottle of a very fine Czech liquor which is produced in Karlovy Vary. Yes, I took a bottle of Becherovka to Bulgaria.



I arrived at the Black Sea town of Varna without any problems. At the train station I hailed a taxi, gave the driver the address of the place and in ten minutes I was there. It was a really nice house with a garden; I was given a room on the ground floor. I unpacked my things and stood the bottle of Becherovka on the table because I wanted to give the owner his gift that evening. Then I took my bathing suit and sunglasses and went off to the sea to swim.

Early on however, a nasty wind began to blow and people began leaving the sea shore. I hurried home, too. Only I couldn't remember where I was staying. Neither did I know the address; it was written on a little piece of paper which I'd left in my room. I didn't even know the owner's name—all Bulgarians have similar names, they all end in *-ov*, the ones I remember. So I wandered around the town and feared that it would soon begin raining and I would never find the house. All of the houses were new and as similar to one another as eggs to eggs. All at once I saw, on the ground floor of one house, a bottle on the table. It was my Becherovka which I'd prepared as a gift. I was home!

Translation: Margaret Supik

Slovak Folk Ensemble in the US

Planning has begun to bring one of two highly regarded folk ensembles from Košice in eastern Slovakia to our area for a performing tour. Karel

Matejovský has been in contact with Vladimir Urban, the director of *Železiar* (Iron Men) and their youth training group *Želiezko* (Little Iron Men). Both groups have traveled extensively and are world famous for the quality of their performances.



photo: Margaret Supik

The target date for the visit of the group's five musicians and fourteen dancers is Fall or Spring of 2011. We are planning to work with the Kennedy Center's Centennial Stage, World Artists Experience and several local schools and cultural organizations to arrange performances. We will also be recruiting volunteers to provide home stays, transportation and sight seeing for the group while they are in the Baltimore area.

2011 sounds a long way off, but for a venture of this kind, the earlier the planning begins, the better the result will be.

Jarmila Vanická

01-12-1919 – 02-01-2010

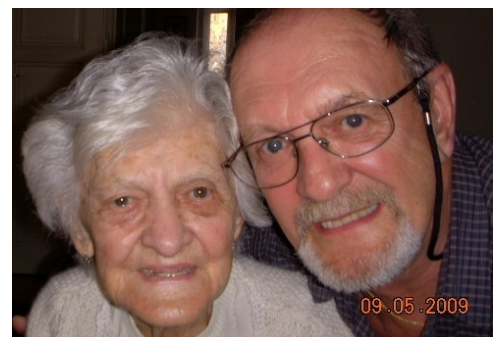


photo: Alex Vanicky

CSHA extends our sympathy to our members Alex and Slavoj Vanicky and their families on the death of their mother Jarmila Vanicka. Mrs. Vanicka lived in Prague with her two younger sons Vladimir and Milan. Her daughter Jarmila Sojkova also lives in Prague. Mrs. Vanicka had celebrated her 91st birthday shortly before falling ill.

Hašler Documentary to Be Shown at April Meeting

Most of us are probably familiar with the song *Česká písnička*, but how many know anything of the man or the story behind the song? The man was Karel Hašler and his son, Tom Hasler, has spent many years and great effort in the making of a documentary film telling the extraordinary story of his father's life from stage and film star in Czechoslovakia to Nazi prisoner in the Mauthausen concentration camp. His songs, collectively called Hašlerky, are still heard frequently on Czech radio and are sung in pubs all over the country. Noted author Arnošt Lustig, who collaborated on the documentary and who wrote the text for the sleeve of the soon to be released DVD put it this way: "The balladeer Karel Hasler is the Czech nation's cultural treasure, he is the Czechs' immortal bard - the Immortal Balladeer."

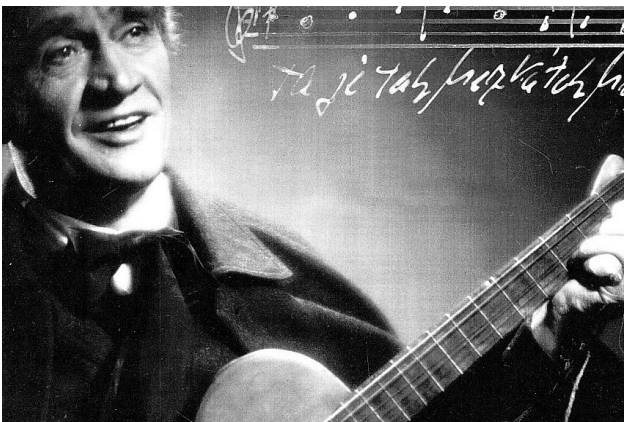


image: courtesy of Tom Hasler

Karel Hašler. Notice the hand written words below the line of music: *Ta je tak hezká tak...* from *Česká písnička*.

Our pre-release showing of *The Immortal Balladeer of Prague* will be for our members and a few invited guests on Sunday, April 18 at 3 PM in the Adult Education room at the Cathedral of Mary Our

Queen. 5200 N. Charles St. Baltimore 21210. The Adult Education room is in the Undercroft. Enter through the street level door on the north side of the cathedral. The words *Maria Immaculata* are carved above the door. Go down a short flight of steps and to your left. The Adult Education room will be directly in front of you. Refreshments will be served following the film.

Sunday May 16 -- St. Wenceslaus Friends and Family Celebration

St. Wenceslaus Church, Ashland Ave. will host its annual Friends and Family Mass and Buffet Lunch on Sunday, May 16. Mass will begin at 10 AM and the buffet will follow in the Lyceum Building on Madison Street. The luncheon is free for former and current parishioners, but tickets are necessary. To reserve yours call the parish office at St. Wenceslaus at: 410-675-7304.

Towson Rotary Czech/Slovak Project

As part of their international outreach program the Towson Rotary Club invited Margaret Supik to give a presentation about the Czech Republic. The breakfast meeting was held at Confetti's on Cromwell Bridge Rd. Among the guests were Charles Supik and George Mojzisek. Margaret gave a twenty-five minute talk and power point presentation covering the vast time period between the Boji and Vaclav Klaus. The most difficult thing about the preparation of the talk, she says, "was deciding what to leave out in order to cover 2000 years in twenty-five minutes." As one of their international projects, the club is sponsoring a visit to the Towson area for several businessmen from Czech Republic and Slovakia this summer.

New Recruits for Singing Group

Julia and Emily Traband, daughters of Marketa Traband, along with their friend Maddie Stout have been working with Greg Satorie, director of the Czech and Slovak Heritage Singers, to prepare for the Slavic Festival to be held on Saturday, May 15

at St. Luke Orthodox Church in McLean, VA. The event is sponsored by the Czech and Slovak Cultural Society and Washington Sokol.



photo: Margaret Supik

Emily, Maddie and Julia work with Greg to learn their Czech songs.

The girls are learning several songs and dances to perform with other children for that festival.

Later they will rehearse with the Czech and Slovak Heritage Singers and plan to appear, wearing their *kroje*, with the adults at the St. Wenceslaus Friends and Family Day celebration on Sunday, May 16. The girls and more of their friends will also sing and dance at the 2010 Festival on October 24. More information about the Friends and Family Day can be found on the previous page.

Reaction from the Heritage Singers has been nothing but positive. We want to encourage everyone, but especially young people, to take part in all of the activities of the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association.

Language School Still Humming

In spite of the recession and loss of some long-time students for health reasons and a two-week snow break, we still have 35 students registered for the spring semester. We decided to try offering Czech 102 from 9-11 a.m. with a class taught by Margaret Supik. Dolores Gentes continues teaching our beginning Czech 101.

George Mojzisek and Mary Lou Walker are co-teaching Czech 201. On most Saturdays, the class spends half of the time with each teacher. George Mojzisek works on conversation and oral reading. Mary Lou Walker is using lots of fruit and vegetable props to emphasize verbs and phrases that use the dative case.

Iva Zicha teaches Czech Conversation and Czech 202. We invite students for any classes, but urge people not to be afraid of the Czech Conversation class. This is an opportunity to have some fun speaking Czech without a big emphasis on grammar.

Natalie Karlinsky's Slovak 201 class plans a sequel to the book *Slovak Marylanders*. Slovak 101 is an extremely small class. Would it help to offer that class at 9 a.m.? Let us know.

Also, do you have any contacts for places to advertise—especially to attract new beginning Czech and Slovak students—that will publish our information well in advance of classes without a high fee? The fall semester will begin Saturday, September 11.

Get Well Wishes

We wish Michael and Brigita Krompholz and Dolores Soul all the best as they continue to recover from a rough winter. The Krompholzes are recovering at home. Dolores is recuperating at FutureCare on Charles St. in Baltimore.

Přijde Jaro!



Spring is coming!

HLAS

The VOICE of The Czech & Slovak
Heritage Association

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JARO 2010

1 SPRING 2010

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