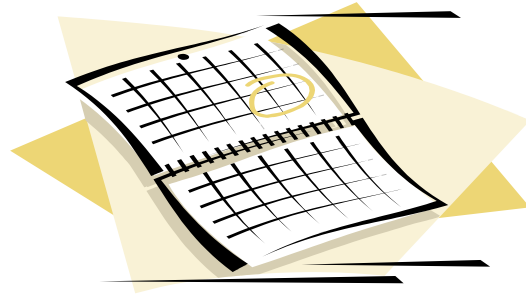


Sdružení Čechů a Slováků pro Uchování Národních Odkazů
Združenie Čechov a Slovákov pre Zachovanie Národných Odkazov

A publication of the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland



UPCOMING EVENTS:



Saturdays throughout the year: Why not consider learning Czech or Slovak? Or brushing up on what you already know? It's not as hard as you think! We have excellent teachers and beginning, intermediate and advanced classes. The Spring Semester began on Saturday, 7 January, 2012. It's not too late to join a class or too early to sign up for the Fall 2012 semester. For complete details, check our website: www.czslha.org or call Lois Hybl at 410-428-6012.

Mondays throughout the year: Czechs and Slovaks have a great musical heritage. Help keep it alive and well in the Baltimore area; join the Czech and Slovak Heritage Singers on Monday evenings in the Choir Room at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, 5200 N. Charles St. Rehearsals begin at 7 PM and conclude at 9 or earlier. All voice parts are welcome. *Singing is an excellent way to improve your Czech or Slovak pronunciation and vocabulary.* Call or email Charles Supik at 410-662-6094, chasupik@juno.com for more information.

Friday evenings throughout the year: Czech language classes for children ages 3 and up. Call or email Margaret Supik at 410-662-6094, usupik@verizon.net or Markéta Traband, marketa.traband@gmail.com. Classes are held in the Undercroft of the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen and will meet at 6:30 until 15 June.

Sunday, 29 April, 2012: Spring meeting of the general membership of CSHA. The program will be a *knedlíky* (dumpling) fest prepared by Bohemian Caterers. So that the caterer will know how much food to prepare, please call 410-662-6094 or email usupik@verizon.net to reserve your place. More information can be found on pg. 5.

Sunday, 15 July, 2012: Our Annual picnic and Summer meeting will be held at 2 pm at Towson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1710 Dulaney Valley Road, Lutherville 21093. Beer, sodas, hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Please bring a salad or dessert item to round out the menu. More information will be posted on our website: www.czslha.org.

Sunday, 28 October: Noon to 6 pm, Baltimore 45 Hall, 2501 Putty Hill Avenue, Baltimore 21234. The 26th Annual Czech and Slovak Festival. Music by JOY of Maryland; folk dancers, food by Bohemian Caterers. Song, dance, great food, great friends, the BEST beer... you just have to be there!



Grand Opening of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library July 14 & 15, 2012



© Mucha Trust 2012

Stunning Art Nouveau Exhibition Opens in Jiruska Gallery



© Mucha Trust 2012

More than 230 rare works by one of the world's most famous artists will be on view for the opening exhibition beginning July 14, 2012 at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library.

Alphonse Mucha: Inspirations of Art Nouveau, features paintings, jewelry, sculptures and lithographs, is coming direct from the Mucha Foundation in Prague and London. Not since 1999 has an exhibit of this size and caliber appeared in the United States and it is the first of its type to appear in the Midwest region.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view the lush beauty



© Mucha Trust 2012

PEVECKE SPOUZENI
UGITELO MORAVSKYCH



© Mucha Trust 2012



of Mucha's flowing, elegant artwork, which is recognized by people all over the world. *Alphonse*

Mucha: Inspirations

of Art Nouveau is divided into six sections and explores Mucha not just as the father of art nouveau, but also Mucha's Moravian roots, his family, his photography and his



© Mucha Trust 2012



© Mucha Trust 2012

devotion to the Slav people.

The exhibit continues through Dec. 31, 2012.

Special admission fees: Members free. Adults \$12; Seniors \$10; Students 13 & above (with I.D.) and active military \$5; youngsters 6-12 \$3; and 5 and under free. Admission also includes the exhibit *Rising Above: the Story of a People and the Flood* located in the Kosek building, 87 Sixteenth Ave. SW. Special group tour rates available.

Hours: Mon. – Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 4 p.m.



www.NCSML.org
1400 Inspiration Place SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
319-362-8500

A HEART FOR VÁCLAV HAVEL (October 5., 1936 – December 18., 2011)

By Olga Mendel

A lot has been written about Václav Havel since his passing on December 18, 2011: about his courage as a dissident; his vision in finding the new country moral values; his essays, absurd plays, speeches and famous remarks; his naïve and trusting belief in the goodness of people; and his vision for free and just and democratic society. So I just want to add a note about heart. Not the symbolic idea of heart, but the actual shape which he used as a personal seal.

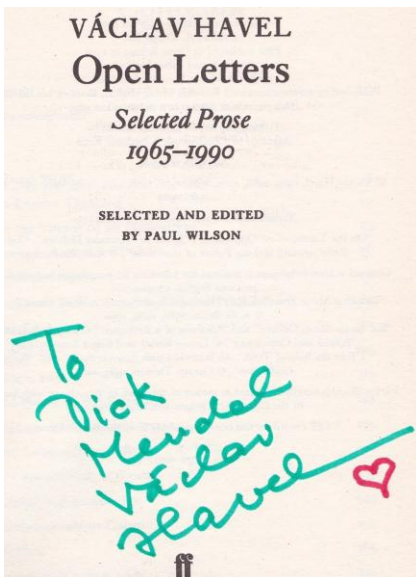
Havel included a heart at the end of his signature everywhere. I know this from my personal experience. My husband and I both own books signed by him, both adorned with a red felt-tip heart. My friend Pavel in Prague owns a pub tab signed by Václav Havel. He gained this by buying Havel a beer when seeing him at a local Prague 6 pub. And again, it is not missing the heart.

Havel's heart was also etched on the house name plaque at his Prague 6 villa, which I passed by on many occasions while living in the neighborhood.

In the late nineties, a giant neon heart hung on the Prague Castle wall to light up the night sky and greet Prague citizens and visitors, endowing Prague's skyline with Havelesque good cheer. (It met with the usual skepticism from Prague's conservative quarters).



Fittingly Havel's affinity for hearts made its way to the commemoration of his death. In the days after his passing thousands of people lit candles in his honor in Wenceslas Square and in many places throughout the country. In February, two artists, Lukáš Gavlovský and Roman Švejda created a wax sculpture from the gathered remnants of the many candles. And guess what - yet another Heart for Václav Havel. (see left)



In his eventful and storied life Václav Havel never had children. But he made a big impression on many kids, including mine. Here he is through the eyes of my two children – Mia (age 7) and Davi (age 4).

- ♥ *He was the leader of the Velvet revolution, then the last president of Czechoslovakia and the first president of the Czech Republic.*
- ♥ *He was sent in jail, because he wrote about how crazy communism is.*
- ♥ *He was an author of plays.*
- ♥ *He worked in the brewery because communists didn't want him to have a job where he would think a lot. So they made him roll the beer barrels around.*
- ♥ *As president, he zipped around long corridors of Prague Castle on a scooter – a gift from his crazy secretary.*
- ♥ *He couldn't pronounce R or Ř (just like Davi and Daddy).*
- ♥ *He was Mommy's hero.*

GENEROUS BEQUEST TO CSHA

Just days before Christmas CSHA received a check for \$25,000 from the estate of the late Donald Otenasek who passed away in August of 2009. Donald was a well-known presence in the Czech community in Baltimore. He was one of the original members of the group which eventually grew into our Czech and Slovak Heritage Association. For over 50 years he was an active member of Sokol Baltimore and served as its president for ten terms. For a number of years he was a member of the board of directors of Slavia Federal Savings Bank.

Professionally Donald Otenasek spent twenty-five years with the now defunct *News American*. He began his career as a police reporter and retired as the paper's financial editor when the *News American* closed its doors in 1986. For eight years he served as president of the New Union of Baltimore, the paper's independent bargaining unit.

In his will Donald provided generously for organizations which reflect his pride in his Czech ancestry and his hope that the Czech language will not be forgotten in Baltimore. To that end his will also provided for a gift of more than a hundred Czech language books to CSHA. Those books form the core of our growing library which is housed in the caretaker's cottage at the Bohemian National Cemetery.

NIGHT WITH THE ABERDEEN IRONBIRDS

The purpose of this article is to determine if there is any interest among the CSHA members, their families and friends, to participate in an Association sponsored baseball game at the Ironbird's stadium. The event would include a buffet meal. There are several plans available both as to seating as well as meal selections. The cost per package would start at approximately \$ 27. per person

More details will be provided if there is a sufficient positive interest expressed.

Richard C Pazourek - Treasurer

SPRING MEETING— DUMPLING FEST

Once again Bohemian Caterers have agreed to come to our Spring meeting, at 3 p.m. on Sunday 29 April, to demonstrate dumpling making the Czech way. This year they will show us how to make two types of *knedlíky*, a sweet fruit-filled dumpling and a potato dumpling stuffed with ham.

After the demonstration, a choice of three main courses will be available for \$7.50 per portion. Option 1 is beef goulash with bacon and bread dumplings; option 2 is roast pork with bacon and bread dumplings and sauerkraut; option 3 is potato dumplings stuffed with smoked ham and served with sauerkraut and caramelized onions. For dessert the choices are Moravian koláče (\$2.50) or warm blueberry dumpling topped with melted butter, powdered sugar and whipped cream cheese (\$4.00).

Dumpling loaves, wrapped and ready to take home will also be available. These can be refrigerated for a few days before using, or they can be frozen for a longer storage period.

Don't forget to reserve your place by calling 410-662-6094 no later than 23 April.

BO AND RUTH BATA

The Czech community was saddened to learn of the deaths of Bo and Ruth Bata in November, 2011. Bo, a Sokol member for more than fifty years, served seven terms as president of Sokol Baltimore and ten years as president of the Eastern District of Sokol. In addition he was a member of the Board of Governors of American Sokol for ten years.

Until undergoing heart surgery, which was followed by an incapacitating stroke, Ruth was also active in Sokol. Both Bata's were enthusiastic participants in the Beseda dancing group. After the onset of her health problems, Bo became Ruth's full time caregiver. In early November he suffered a fall and passed away a few days later on 10 November; Ruth followed him five days later.

VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY AT CZECH AND SLOVAK CHILDREN'S SCHOOL FEBRUARY 10, 2012

For the second year in a row the children from the Baltimore Czech and Slovak Language School celebrated Valentine's Day together. This year it was more festive and since the children know each other much better now, they all exchanged their Valentines in each class. Then they all performed – acted out a play, recited a poem, sang a song.... In addition there was a little concert by one of the students and a group sing-along accompanied by guitar. Parents received *Valentinky* made by their children in their classes.



Pod vedením Zlatky a Markéty zahrály předškolní děti pohádku *Budko, budko, kdo v tobě bydlí?*



Paní učitelky Zlatka a Katarina hrají s dětmi *Zlatá brána otevřená.*



Čeští předškoláci ukazují svá Valentýnská přáníčka.



Slovenské třídy společně zrecitovaly i zazpívaly s paní učitelkou Katarinou a Martinou.



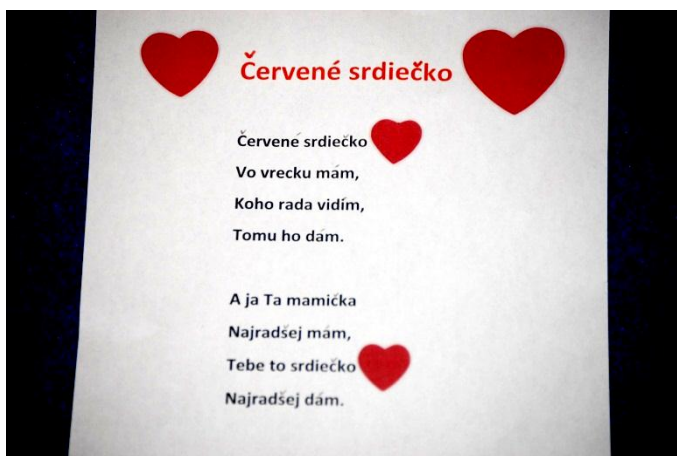
Vladimír zahrál skladbu Oskara Riedinga *Skripka.*



Děti zpívají oblíbené písně pod vedením Olgy.

VALENTÝNSKÁ PÁRTY V ČESKÉ A SLOVENSKÉ ŠKOLE - 10. ÚNORA, 2012

Letos je to již druhý rok, kdy se v české a slovenské škole v Baltimoru slaví svátek Sv. Valentýna. Letos byly oslavy větší, a nebot' se děti už znají lépe než vloni, vyměnily si navzájem v každé třídě Valentinky, převážně ručně vyráběné. Poté se každá třída představila se svým programem: čeští předškoláci měli pod vedením Zlatky Tracy a Markéty Traband připravenou pohádku *Budko, budko kdo v tobě bydlí*. S maskami na obličejích představovaly dohromady 8 zvířat a moc jim to slušelo. Třída českých školáků pod vedením Jany Rehak nastudovala básničku *Lesní studánka*, přikládáme její text, třeba si zarecitujete s námi. Děti ze slovenských tříd společně zarecitovaly i zazpívaly pod vedením Katariny Milovčíkové a Martiny Tesfayeové. Navíc byl program proložen houslovým vystoupením Vladimíra ze třídy Jany se skladbou O. Riedinga *Skripka*. Pod vedením Olgy Mendel a za doprovodu kytary si všechny děti společně také zazpívaly svoje oblíbené písničky. Nakonec děti předaly maminkám a tatínkům přáníčka, která pro ně vyrobily.



Text slovenské básničky Červené srdiečko.



Markéta Traband sleduje Valentýnské představení.

Naučte se s námi:

LESNÍ STUDÁNKA Josef Václav Sládek

*Znám křišťálovou studánku,
kde nejhlubší je les,
tam roste tmavé kapradí
a vůkol rudý vřes.*



Děti se připravují na své vystoupení.



Všem se líbí Zlatá brána otevřená.....

*Tam ptáci, laně chodí pít
pod javorový kmen,
ti ptáci za dne bílého,
ty laně v noci jen.*

*Když usnou lesy hluboké
a kolem ticho jest, a nebesa i studánka
jsou plny zlatých hvězd.*

We are pleased to present an excerpt from an upcoming book by JANA KOPELINTOVÁ REHAK :
Czech Political Prisoners: Memory, Relatedness, Reconciliation

This is the story of men and women who survived Czechoslovakian Communist concentration camps. Men and women disappeared, were arrested, imprisoned, interrogated, tortured, put on trial, convicted and sentenced to forced labor camps. In 1948, in Czechoslovakia political others became political prisoners.

New forms of political practices developed under the institution of the totalitarian Czechoslovak Communist state. The new regime of totalitarian political power produced culturally specific forms of political violence.

The political power of the state was constituted in ritualized forms of violence. Between 1948 and 1989 some citizens recognized by the state as political others were subjected to such ritualized political violence. The link between ritualized violence and the prisoners' political passage laid the groundwork for the formation of new social identities.

New social relations developed under the Communist regime in Czechoslovakia after 1948. Over a long period of time state violence affected not only Mukls and their families, but also the whole society governed by the Czechoslovak Communist party. The boundaries between specific violent events and everydayness collapsed. State terror, focused on the 'political enemy of the state', was diffused outside institutions such as police, prisons and the courts, institutions guarding the state's political regimes, and became part of everyday life within the Czechoslovak state. Ultimately such practices impacted 'relatedness' within Czechoslovak society as a whole.

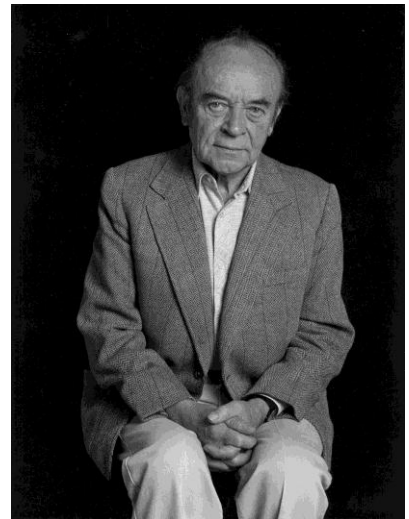
They call themselves Mukl/Muklyne- a man/woman selected for liquidation (in the Czech language - Muž urcený k likvidaci). In the post-totalitarian state the 'political other', Mukl, from the previous political regime, remains an 'other' through distinct desires and acts of 'coming to terms' with the experience of organized violence.

Like other members of the Czech and Slovak states, former prisoners are now facing the post--totalitarian 'remaking' of life. In contrast to society at large, the political prisoners' recovery from the totalitarian past has proven that the ethics of political life and individual 'coming to terms' with the past are closely related and crucial to the Mukl's efforts toward reconciliation.

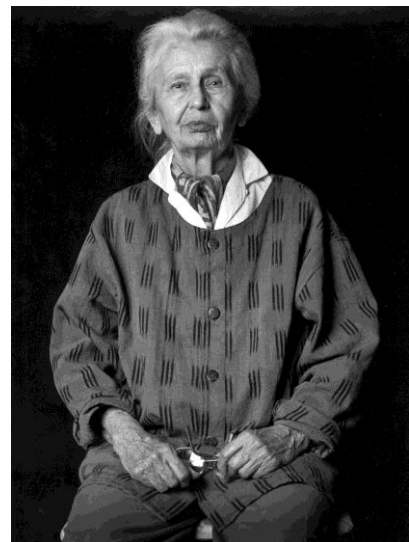
In the summer of 1995, I found myself in Prague looking closely at the faces of people on the streets. I asked myself questions about "their"/"our" memories of the oppression. One Sunday morning in the Café Ganyš I noticed a small group of older men. The questions I'd been asking myself about faces and memories of those on the streets came to rest on them; I wanted to find out who they were.



Albína Pálková



Čeněk Sovák



Miloslava Holubová

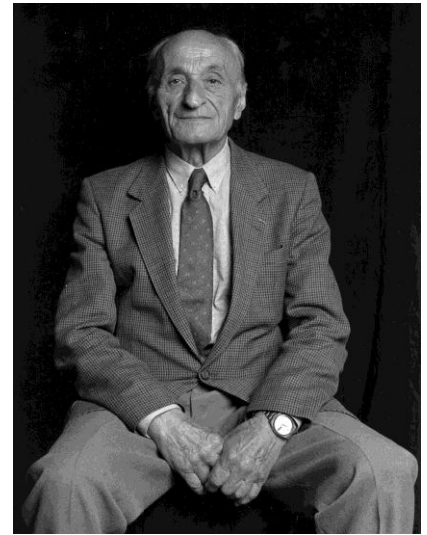
As my curiosity grew, I went over to their table, introduced myself and asked about the reason for their gathering. I asked them who they were and what brought them together. They first looked at each other with uncertain expressions on their faces. Then one of them said: “We worked together, a long time ago”. After that a second man said: “We worked together in uranium mines, in the fifties”. They invited me to join them, and began to tell me how they met in the work camps during the 1950’s.

I was told they were Mukls. In 1948 the StB (State Secret Police) had arrested them. Their lives had been controlled by the State until 1989.

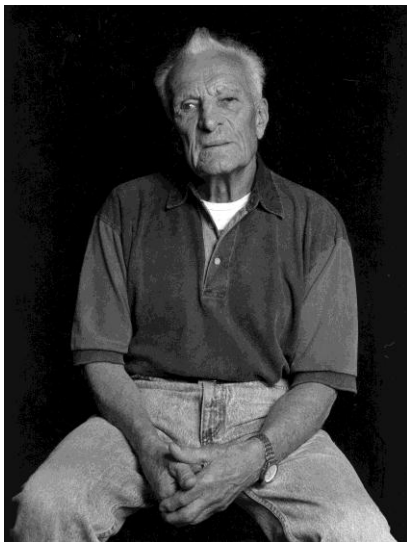
The focus of this book is on two concepts: Subjects in the context of violent practices of the state and their remaking of life afterwards. I write about social suffering, subjectivity, remaking life after violence and the register of hope within the Mukls’ language of ‘reconciliation’.

I am concerned with the tensions between individual and social experiences of suffering caused by state organized violence. Memory, time and place are instrumental concepts for my interpretative analysis.

This study is limited to a number of individual survivors and therefore cannot be understood as a representation of the general experiences of all prisoners of the Czechoslovak Communist regime.



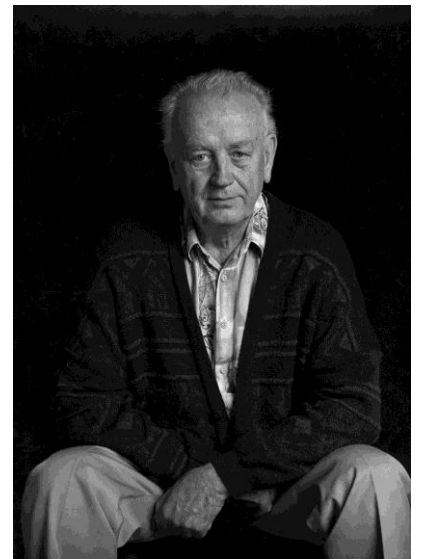
Rudolf Pernický



Jiří Krbec



Hilda Hojerová



František Melichar

Jana Kopelentová Rehak, who was born in Czechoslovakia and has lived in Baltimore since 1994, presented a lecture on her book for the Czech and Slovak Heritage association at the January meeting. She is a photographer and anthropologist currently working on a new project about Baltimore. Dr. Rehak is a professor at both Loyola and Towson Universities. Publication of her book is expected this Fall. In the belief that these stories must be told, CSHA will assist Dr. Rehak with a grant to help underwrite the cost of preparing her manuscript for publication.

VEĽKÁ NOC - ZVYKY A OBYČAJE NA SLOVENSKU

Podľa kalendára sa začína jar bez ohľadu na podnebné podmienky a vegetáciu dňom jarnej rovnodennosti. Zmeny v prírode malo pozitívne ovplyvniť jaré vynášanie Moreny, prosperitu hospodárstva mali zabezpečiť hlavne úkony a obyčaje vykonávané v týždni veľkonočnom. Vďaka tomu, že naši predkovia nepovažovali zmenu ročných období za zákonitosti prírody, ale za dôsledok pôsobenia nadprirodzených síl, si dnes môžeme priblížiť mnoho pekných a veselých obyčajov a k niektorým už takmer zabudnutým sa opäť vrátiť.

Na Smrtnú nedeľu dievčatá súce na vydaj si priviazali na žrd' Morenu-figurínu zo slamy poodievanú do ženských šiat a utekajúc s ňou cez dedinu vyspevovali. Keď dobehli k potoku, hodili Morenu do vody. Poobede chodili dievčatá spievajúc po dedine so "zeleným májom" - rozvinutými prútmi ozdobenými stuhami, za čo dostali vajíčka na kraslice. Takto sa lúčili so zimou veriac, že pochovaním Moreny sa počasie naozaj zmení.

Na Kvetnú nedeľu si ľudia do kostola doniesli rozvinuté vrbové prútiky, ktoré im kňaz svätzil modlitbami. Doma si ich zastokli za hradu na povale alebo obrazy, aby ich chránili pred búrkami, alebo zapichovali vetvičky na hroby svojich blízkych, aby podobne ako sa budí na jar príroda prebudili aj duše svojich príbuzných.

Na Bielu sobotu sa ľudia venovali vareniu a pečeniu obradných jedál. Bola to bravčovina, často sa varila šunka. Najviac sa však všade jedli vajíčka. Významnú úlohu mal oheň, ktorý sa roznecoval na Bielu sobotu. Novým ohňom zapálili večnú lampu a veľkonočnú sviecu zvanú paškál. Oheň mal mať magicko-ochrannú silu. Biela sobota bola považovaná za šťastný deň na sadenie a siatie. Na Veľkonočnú nedeľu sa cez omšu svätily veľkonočné jedlá.



Na Veľkonočný pondelok sa niekde šibalo, inde šibalo aj polievalo. Chlapci šibali najmä gazdiné, aby vraj neoprašiveli. Odmenou im boli vajíčka a koláče. Pri šibaní predniesli rôzne riekanky. Mládencov v každom dome bohato pohostili. V utorok si mohli dievčatá a ženy vynahradiť štipance od korbáčov a premočené šaty. Od rána striehli s vedrami vody za plotmi a oblokmi a poliali každého muža, ktorý mal menej ako päťdesiat rokov.

Aj keď dnes už na čary neveríme, radi sa vraciame a mnohé zvyklosti a tradície ešte na Veľkú noc každoročne robievame. Prichádza k nám do našich domovov radosť, pohoda a úsmev na tvári, ktorý počas veľkonočných sviatkov nesmie nikde chýbať.

EASTER TRADITIONS IN SLOVAKIA

Calendar spring starts at the spring equinox. It was believed that changes in nature could be positively affected by sending *Morena* away. A rich harvest was supposed to be assured by practicing traditions during Easter Week. Our ancestors didn't think of changing seasons as part of nature, but as the power of supernatural forces. Thanks to that, we can still enjoy some fun traditions.

On Passion Sunday the girls would tie the *Morena*, a straw, lifesize figure dressed in women's clothes, on a stick and run singing with it throughout the village. When they reached a stream or small river, they would throw *Morena* in. After lunch, the girls would walk door to door with green budding branches decorated with ribbons and be given eggs they will decorate later. This was a symbolic goodbye to winter in the belief that drowning *Morena* would cause the weather to finally change.

On Palm Sunday people brought budding willow branches to the church to be blessed by the priest. At home, they placed them in different locations so that the home might be protected against storms. They would also take some of the branches to the cemetery in the hope that, just like nature awakens in the spring, the blessed branches would help awaken the souls of their deceased loved ones.

White Saturday (Holy Saturday) was mostly spent in the kitchen preparing special holiday meals. The traditional dish was pork and ham, but mostly eggs were on the menu everywhere. The fire that is lit on White Saturday is used to light a special Easter candle called *paškál*. The light had magical protective powers. White Saturday was also considered a lucky day for sowing and planting. On Easter Sunday the Easter meals were carried to the church and blessed during the Mass.

Easter Monday was all about whipping girls with braided willow sticks and pouring water on them. The boys and young men whipped all the women and young girls and poured water on them so that they didn't „dry out“. As a reward the men received decorated hardboiled eggs and baked goods. While whipping they recited different traditional poems and were generously hosted at each house. The girls got their turn on Tuesday morning. From early morning they waited for the chance to pour water on every man under 50 years old.



Even though we don't believe in magic and unnatural forces anymore, we love to be reminded of our traditions.

KIDS' CRAFTS – *DÍLNIČKA PRO DĚTI* make your own decorated egg – *velikonoční kraslice*

To make the *kraslice* shown on the right, you will need – 2 unboiled eggs, a thick needle, strong lungs, a bowl to blow the egg into, ribbon and a skewer, glue, small beads, sequins or glitter.

To blow the eggs, use the needle to make 2 small (about 1/8“) holes, one at the top and one at the bottom of each egg. Then blow into the top hole and watch how the egg comes out from the bottom. When the eggs are completely empty, you can start working right away. Paint the eggs with glue and then roll them in the beads. Beads spread on a plastic plate or paper towel will make clean up easy. You can use Elmer's or any craft glue. Let the glue dry, then use the skewer to join the two eggs. Add a few ribbon bows and your simple, beautiful *kraslice* is done.



The VOICE of The Czech & Slovak
Heritage Association
Post Office Box 20261
Baltimore, MD 21284-0261
www.czslha.org

U.S. POSTAGE **PAID**
NON-PROFIT ORG.
Permit 5543
Baltimore MD

Postmaster: Dated material, please do not delay.

JARO 2012

SPRING 2012

CSHA OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS 2012

President	Margaret Supik
Vice President	Steve Sabol
Secretary	Lois Hybl
Treasurer	Richard Pazourek

Chairpersons:	
Membership	Charles Supik
Education	Lois Hybl

HLAS Editors:	Olga Mendel and Margaret Supik
----------------------	--------------------------------