

1 zari (September) 2011

Month of bright sunny weather. From the word **zariti** (to shine or sparkle).

OFFICERS

President: Robert Trampota
Vice-President: Larry Jackson
Secretary: Paula Looney
Treasurer: Leroy Janda
Reporter: Alice Vida

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerome "Jerry" Janecka
Stephen Bishop
Willie Rainosek
Andy Tokoly
Dolores Bueche
Trish Martin

YOUR PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS:

Hello everyone! Welcome (Vitame vas) to a new Bexar CHS year! Please join us at our chapter meetings, Czech language classes, October Czech Festival, Christmas party, the March dance and fun-socials we plan to have!!

The Board of Directors met recently to plan the up-coming year, but we welcome and need your input. Please share your ideas with us!

We (BOD) ask you to call your city council persons and county commissioners in reference to the planned demolition of the Institute of Texan Cultures! Ask them to stop the plans to demolish the current ITC. The citizens of Bexar County have a wonderful facility that should not be removed to "expand" the convention center. Many local and state citizens of Czech ancestry donated over \$30,000 to build the Czech ITC exhibit.

Please call soon and encourage your neighbors to do the same. Thank you.!

Robert Trampota, President

----- Cut and Save -----

Bexar County Czech Heritage Society Calendar - 2011

- October ? - Czech Heritage Proclamation at Commissioners Court (Date and time to be announced.)
- October 22 - San Antonio Founders Day – Our chapter has been invited to participate.
- October 23 - Czech Heritage Festival at the Knights of Columbus hall on Rigsby Ave., from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**
- November 13 - Bexar County CHS General Meeting at 1:30 p.m., at St. Anthony de Pauda, 102 Lorenz Lane. Election of officers. ** (Note – date changed at Sept 11th meeting)**
- November 12 - State Czech Heritage Society meeting in East Bernard, Texas.
- December 4 - Bexar County CHS Christmas Party from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.; at St. Anthony de Pauda's Banquet Hall**

****After each meeting, refreshments are served and there is visiting time with good friends and new friends.**

CZECH LANGUAGE CLASS:

We are very fortunate to be able to continue with two **Czech Language classes**: a class which will be taught by **Ludmila Krupova**; and an intermediate class, which will be taught by **P.K. Nesbit**. Both classes will be held on Monday evenings, at 7:00 p.m., in the **Education Center at St. Anthony of Padua**, located at **102 Lorenz**.

The beginner's class focuses on pronunciation, learning helpful phrases, building vocabulary and a little writing. This class will have a review in the beginning and is a good introduction to the language of our heritage.

The intermediate class will continue to focus on conversation and vocabulary. The first class (for both classes), will begin on September 12th, at 7:00 p.m. in classroom 1 and 2.

These classes are open to anyone, who is a member of the society. Even if you are unable to attend every class, feel free to drop in and experience a class. The members, who attend, sincerely thank the Chapter for the teachers which are provided for us.

The schedule for this semester is as follows:

BEXAR COUNTY CHS - CLASS SCHEDULE 2011

September : 12, 19

(No classes on Sept. 26th or Oct. 3rd, due to the church festival).

October : 10, 17, 24

(No classes on Oct. 31st. – It's Halloween)

November : 7, 14, 21, 28

The schedule for 2012 will be in the January newsletter. If you are interested in learning the Czech language, please call either **Alice Vida (497-4456)** or **Dolores Bueche (344-5718)** for more information about the classes or if you need help in getting started.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:

Congratulations to our 2011 Scholarship winners!!!! They are Gretchen Ludwig Cabrera, the daughter of **Mary (Lou) Ludwig** of New Braunfels; and Derek Bueche, the grandson of **Dolores Bueche**. Gretchen will continue with her studies in the medical field, and Derek will continue attending North West Vista. Our Chapter sends best wishes to Gretchen and Derek regarding their studies this year.

CZECH HERITAGE FESTIVAL: On October 28, 1918, the Czechoslovak National Committee in Prague officially proclaimed its independence from Austria, and Tomas G. Masaryk was elected the first President of the new nation of the Republic of Czechoslovakia. Since then, October 28th is celebrated in the same manner as our 4th of

July. In 1999, the Texas legislature proclaimed October as “Czech Heritage Month” and has continued to do so each year.

We may not be able to celebrate our heritage on the same day as they do in the Czech Republic, but we can celebrate!!! Come join with us on **Sunday, October 23rd**, from **11:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**, at the **Knights of Columbus Hall at 5721 Rigsby**, San Antonio, Texas (0.6 miles outside Loop 410), when the Bexar County Chapter of the Czech Heritage Society celebrates with a Czech Heritage Festival. **A Czech meal** (sausage, pork roast, sauerkraut, potatoes, peaches, pickles, etc.) **will be served from 11:30 A.M. to ????**. The cost of the meal is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 10 years of age. Drinks, kolaches, and a variety of delicious pastries will also be on sale throughout the day.

Our featured performer will be **Chris Rybak**, playing polka, waltz, and country music from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Other activities will include a history/ genealogy display, and the very popular silent auction. Invite your friends, neighbors, and relatives!! Everyone has a wonderful time!!! Contact **Robert Trampota**, at rtrampota@yahoo.com or (210) [649-2702](tel:649-2702), if you have questions or need additional information

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS:

CARES AND CONCERNS : Please continue to remember **Sr. Bernadette Hajovsky, Andy Tokoly, and Frank Jasek** in your prayers. . Also prayers are requested for **Emil and Evelyn Matula**. Emil and Evelyn have moved to New Braunfels. Anyone interested may contact Irene Mazoch for additional address and phone information.

New Members: We are delighted to welcome our new members: **Carol Allen, Del Jean Bauer, Alvin R. Hajek, Jerry Keating, and Rex T. Teachenor**. Also a big welcome back to **Iva Valchova**. We will look forward to meeting all of you at the General meetings and our various activities.

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to **Sister Anna Marie Vrazel**, CDP, who celebrated 50 years as a Sister of Divine Providence at Our Lady of the Lake in May, 2011. Sister Anna Marie has been a faithful member of our Bexar County CHS and has worked very hard during all of our activities. She is very well known as the cook, who prepared the wonderful chicken noodle soup at our October Heritage Festivals. On Sunday, July 12, 2011, she was one of our members, who represented our Czech culture at the Folklife Mass at the Fountain Plaza at the Tower of the Americas in HemisFair Park..

Our member, **Susie Tolman**, was featured in a very interesting two-part article in the Today's Catholic (in July) regarding her life in Czechoslovakia, before, during and after World War II. It was very touching to read about the experiences of Susie and her parents during the war. How fortunate for us, that she married an American soldier, William “Bill” Tolman, and that they finally came to San Antonio. We have always known Susie for her generosity in sharing her knowledge and expertise with kraslice (beautiful decorated eggs) at the ITC Folklife Festival in San Antonio, but she has also shared her displays at the Czech SpringFest in Houston, where her daughter, Noreen lives.

A special congratulation we extend to **Emil and Grace Rohan** on the celebrations of their 70th wedding anniversary.- a rare and marvelous accomplishment that is so seldom seen in this day and time. Happy wedding anniversary to a beautiful couple.

CONDOLENCES: Our sympathy is extended to **Diana Schiller**, who suffered the loss of her mother in May.

PAINTED CHURCH TOUR:

The Painted Church Tour on March 26, 2011, was enjoyed by members and guests very much. We learned about the history of each church from our own special tour guides: **Jerry Janicka, Irene Mazoch** and from the local people in the area. Many thanks to **Larry Jackson**, our Vice-President, for taking care of all the planning and scheduling .

The Painted Churches at Praha (St. Mary's Church), Dubina (St. Cyril and Methodius) and Ammannsville (St. John the Baptist) were visited, with the new addition of the church in Moravia, the Ascension of the Lord Catholic Church, which is a very unique painted church that is not normally on a tour agenda.

The tour ended at the Texas Czech Heritage Cultural Center in La Grange, where everyone visited the exhibits, the library, and the very popular gift shop, that has Czech items.. This was an interesting, informative and fun activity; enjoyed by all..

BATTLE OF FLOWERS PARADE:

The Bexar County Czech Heritage Society was invited to march in the Fiesta Battle of Flowers Parade on April 15, 2011. **Irene Mazoch** and her group of volunteers, **Bea Jarzombek, Mike Vajdos, John Jetelina, and Robert Trampota** marched for the entire 2 ½ miles. There was a lot of waving, smiling and calling out to the crowd along the way. If you have never participated in this parade, you have really missed a unique experience and a lot of fun. Thanks to the "Intrepid Five" for representing our organization so well.

CZECH STUDENTS VISIT: Our Bexar County CHS was asked to host a reception at Incarnate Word University, for seven Czech students, their two sponsors, five San Antonio students, and several local sponsors on Saturday, July 9th. These students were participating in a partnership program between the Alamo Regional Academy of Science and Engineering and AMAVET, a Czech science youth organization.

A huge thank you to our hard working members, **Robert and Debbie Trampota, Willie and Georgie Rainosek, and Trish and Brian Martin**, who helped sponsors John and Rose Perez transport the students from the airport to UIW. Also attending the reception was **Laddie Zezula, Paula and Carolyn Looney, P.K. Nesbit, Victor and Anna Maresh, and T.J. Slansky**.

CZECH HERITAGE DANCE: My fellow helpers: I want to thank each of you, who helped with the cooking at the dance in March. **John Jetelina** and **Jerry Janacek** took care of the cooking of the sauerkraut. John and Jerry also served the sausage on a bun almost the whole time. **Charles Kretzschmar** helped with the cooking of the sausage

and helped **Irene Mazoch** with the cooking of the chicken noodle soup. Charles and Irene also served the soup. **Sr. Anna Marie Vrazel** came in later to help serve the soup and clean the stove. Many others were serving the kolaches and cakes. **Willie and Georgie Rainosek** made the coffee. Thanks again from Willie.

TCHCC GALA: The 10th Annual Gala sponsored by the San Antonian Czechs for the TCHCC Library Museum in La Grange, was held at St. Luke's Church on August 26th. Everyone enjoyed the good food (Czech style meal) prepared by the Knights of Columbus Council 4140, good friends (from the surrounding area), and good music (supplied by the Chris Rybak Band).

The Mission of TCHCC 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 the former Austria-Hungary areas (Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia and Silesia).

Approximately 40 Bexar County CHS members attended the Gala. **Bishop Patrick Zurek** gave the Invocation and **Jerry Janecka** was the Master of Ceremonies.

SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS WANTED FOR CHAPTER ACTIVITIES:

What activities would you like the Chapter to have again or initiate? We could have a few informal socials at various times and days, Czech movies and travelogs, even a few cooking classes. What are your ideas for new activities? Come to the next Chapter meeting (Sept. 11th) and make some suggestions; or call any officer or **Alice Vida** at (210) 391-0632, or email Alice at avida@satx.rr.com. If you have an interest in helping, that would be great. If you even have suggestions for some of our present activities or our meetings, we would appreciate your sharing them with us.

100 YEAR CELEBRATION INVITATION: St. Gerard's Catholic Church, located at 1523 Iowa Street, will have an outdoor Mass celebration on Sunday, October 16th, at 11:00 a.m.. Last year, a representative group from the Bexar County Czech Heritage Society, participated in the opening celebration of the Centennial Year. **Barbara Banse** would like to invite members of the Bexar County CHS to again attend. It is being planned to have chairs for seating, and so it would help to know how many chairs will be needed. If you would like to attend, please call **Barbara Banse** at (210) 534-0644 or (210) 878-9800 and let her know you are coming, so that she can turn in a number for the chairs. Thank you.

CORRECTION: My deep apology to **Jerry Jurena** for not mentioning that he is a Docent for the ITC OutReach program in the January 28, 2011 newsletter. It was not intentional, but rather the "old mind" slipping at times. Please accept my sincere apology, Jerry.

Dolores Bueche, Editor (210) 344-5718 / buechedm@sbcglobal.net