



LA GRANGE, TEXAS

NÁŠ ČESKÝ ŽIVOT

“OUR CZECH LIFE”

(Centrum českého kulturního dědictví v Texasu)

SUMMER 2020

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 2

MIC★CZECH & TUNE★UP!

A LIVE CONCERT ON THE DECK

was held on Saturday, July 18, 2020 from 7-10 pm

The Fundraiser was a Facebook Live Only Fundraiser with music provided by the Czechaholics
The proceeds benefited TCHCC.



On the deck of TCHCC and broadcast LIVE on Facebook, the event was a great success. Special guest musicians joined the Czechaholics performance. Band members are l-r: Brian Klekar, Mayo Walker, Mark Hermes, Brian Svetlik, James Marek. Special guest performers through the event - John Dujka, Mike Marek, Wyatt Hermes.



TEXAS POLKA NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT INFO HERE

Pictured: (l-r): TCHCC President Retta Slavik Chandler, Manager Mark Hermes and TPM Editor/Photographer/Journalist Gary McKee.

Dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the history, language, culture, and heritage of Texans of Czech ethnicity.

Náš Český Život "Our Czech Life"

TEXAS CZECH HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER

250 W. Fairgrounds Road/P. O. Box 6

La Grange, Texas 78945-0006

(979) 968-9399 Toll Free (888) 785-4500

FAX (979) 968-9249

Web Page: www.czechtexas.org

E-mail: info@czechtexas.org

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J. G. Hrnecir

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William H. Schovajsa

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Dennis Vanek

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Newsletter Policy: The purpose of Náš Český Život is to disseminate news of the development and activities of the center, as well as to publish material on the history, culture, and accomplishments of Texas Czechs. Náš Český Život does not involve itself in matters of a political nature.

Newsletter Address: All articles, photographs, advertising and correspondence should be directed to Retta Chandler or Janis Hrnecir, co-editors, P. O. Box 6, La Grange, Texas 78945 (979) 968-9399.

Articles: Anyone may submit articles, which will be accepted for inclusion as space permits and subject to review and editing as necessary. All articles must be typewritten. The publication is not responsible for the return of unsolicited material not submitted with a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Ads: Contact the co-editors regarding advertising. Advertising Rates: We will accept limited advertising-only standard business card size (3 1/2" X 2") - \$20.00 per issue; Send camera-ready business cards to co-editors.

The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, Inc. does not endorse or guarantee the products or services that are advertised in this publication.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the TEXAS CZECH HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER, INC. 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 former Austria-Hungary (including Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia and Silesia), to honor those immigrants, and to operate exclusively for charitable, scientific, literary and educational purposes.

The goals of the TEXAS CZECH HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER, INC. are:

To educate the public about the past and present contributions and status of persons of Czech descent

To encourage the study and preservation of the Czech language, fine arts, music and dance

To provide for the preservation and exhibition of artifacts that are historically significant to the Czech people of Texas

To provide a library and archives for the collection and preservation of books, newspapers, periodicals, family histories, research material, photographs and all printed data of historical significance to the Czech people of Texas

To provide adequate space for gatherings, meetings and educational activities for the benefit of the Czech people of Texas

To encourage and promote a cultural exchange program between the Czech people of Texas and the citizens of the Czech Republic

To provide the public with updated information regarding Czech-related activities and historical sites in Texas, the United States and abroad.

You are invited to continue receiving the newsletter Náš Český Život and an annual calendar by sending in your ANNUAL SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP. This journal will only be sent to members. Support your Center — JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY.

FOLLOW US ON

Facebook: Texas-Czech-Heritage-and-Cultural-Center,

Twitter @TexasCzechHCC

and Instagram @czech.texas.lagrange

We are currently taking 2020 memberships
and donations online.



**FLAG SPONSORSHIP
AVAILABLE**

Texas Czech Heritage & Cultural Center

Heritage Festival & Muziky Saturday October 17th, 2020 250 West Fairgrounds Road La Grange, Texas

Festival Opens
at 10:00 AM

- ☆ Saw Mill Tours ☆
- ☆ Newspaper Museum ☆
- ☆ Demonstrations ☆
- ☆ Antique Tractor Show ☆
- ☆ Car Show ☆

*Visit the
Czech Village!*



**Food & Drinks
Available**

Music with
The Dujka Brothers
6:00 PM - 9:30 PM

**Music streamed
LIVE on Facebook!**



1-888-785-4500
czechtexas.org info@czechtexas.org



Saturday Night Fireworks Finale

Proudly Sponsored by H-E-B

TCHCC Heritage Fest Has It All!

The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange will host the annual Heritage Festival & Muziky on October 17th. The Fest will be altered to a one-day event for 2020 only.

The Fest kicks off at 10 am with heritage & culture in the Czech Village, an early 1900s recreated village complete with residential houses, barns, and stores. Demonstrations of early life for the immigrants will take place throughout the grounds all day, including working in the saw mill, the operation of the Czech Newspaper Museum press and engine, blacksmithing, corn shelling and grinding, hay pressing, and more. Plenty of food and cold beverages will be available as well.

An antique farm equipment show sponsored by the South Texas Wheel Spinners & Crank Twisters Club and an antique/classic car show by H&H Automotive and Farmer's Insurance, Lad Trojacek, of Schulenburg, will spread through the village. Vendors and craft booths will be available for your shopping pleasure. Visit the country store and Gift Shop for some good buys, including fresh, stone-ground corn meal for cooking. The Janak Barn & Texas Czech Agricultural Museum displays farm practices and implements from the late 1800s up to 1940.

The Czech Village houses two music museums. The Czech Music Museum of Texas, located in the Kalich House, features four genres of Czech music – classical, folk, polka, and liturgical. The Polka Lover's Club of Texas Museum, located in the Hoelscher House & Huebner Center, features a display of Texas polka bands, as well as memorabilia and photos of the Polka Lover's Club of America, Texas Chapter.

Inside the TCHCC Main Center, stop by the Czech Gift Shop to browse the brand-new stock of authentic Czech items, T-shirts, caps, crystal, periodicals, music CDs, and new Christmas decorations for 2020. Enjoy the current exhibits in the Main Center Museum: Nas Novy Domov 'Our New Home' exhibit and other rotational exhibits.

Have you always wondered about your Czech roots? The spacious Melnar Library, one of the largest Czech genealogy library in the US, will offer help with genealogy and other research. The Hanslik Hall will be the site of the annual KJT State Taroky Championship.

In the evening, kick back in your favorite lawn chair to music by the Dujka Brothers from 6 - 9:30 pm. The Music will be broadcasted LIVE on Facebook! Mark and John Dujka have been making music together for over 30 years and have several acknowledgements, including being inducted into the Polka Hall of Fame at the KC Hall in Hallettsville, and receiving a Favorite Song Award from the International Polka Association for their recording of Church Picnic Polka. The song is featured on their latest CD, Let's Have a Party, which celebrates the duo's 30th anniversary.

Plenty to do for the entire family at the Texas Czech Heritage & Cultural Center in La Grange! If you're not kinned when you get here, you will be when you leave!

President's Letter

August 2020

Dear Members and Friends,

On August 1, 2020, Theresa Cernoch Parker donated The Texas Polka News and polkabeat.com to the Texas Czech Heritage and Culture Center. TCHCC will continue publishing the paper with the same name and format. Gary McKee will continue as lead editor. Gary's keenly researched articles have made past issues valuable historical sources. We will partner with the Fayette County Record for writing, printing and distribution. Since 2014, when Theresa bought The Texas Polka News, the paper has expanded its content to reach out to music lovers beyond Texas. As a valuable source of information to music and dance enthusiasts, it has grown in readership. The TCHCC Board is committed to continuing the publication because it aligns with our mission of preserving the history, traditions, and music of our ancestors.

On behalf of the TCHCC Board Members: Retta Chandler, JG Hrnecir, Barbara Hruby, William Schovajsa, Clarice Snokhous, Walter Stoeber, Dennis Vanek, and Brian Vanicek, we thank Theresa for this generous donation.

In July we had a Facebook Fundraiser to reach out with a live performance by the Czechaholics. Thank you all for your participation. We will modify our Czech Heritage Festival on October 17, to a one day. (see flyer in this issue). The TCHCC Gala to Honor Musicians is on schedule for December 5.

This year has been challenging. Since February, dances, church picnics, band performances and events that give us an opportunity to be together were all canceled due to the Corona Virus. Many events have been modified and adjusted to meet the guidelines, but it just is not the same. Hopefully, we will soon be able to resume those activities and have large gatherings with our friends.

The TOCA Awards appreciation dinner and the Slavnost May Fest had to be canceled. TCHCC is now open the Center, but we follow guidelines by wearing masks and ask that visitors also wear masks, safe distancing, and with no large groups at one time. The Czech Village is open to visitors. We ask that you call ahead and schedule a time to give our docents time to open the buildings.

We are deeply saddened that we have lost four TCHCC Board Members the past months, one current and three former members: Richard Cernosek, Joseph Bartosh, Eugene Labay, and Patricia Parma. We send condolences to their families and loved ones.

Thank you to all for your kind expressions of sympathy during a sad time for me after the loss of my husband Charles in April. Thank you for the many cards, phone calls, e-mails, and memorials that you took time to send. I am unable to find enough words to express how your thoughtful condolences are helping me at this time.

Wishing all of you the best,
Retta Slavik Chandler



*TCHCC President
Retta Slavik Chandler*



CAN YOU SPARE A LITTLE TIME TO SHARE YOUR TALENTS?

TCHCC is looking for more volunteers to accommodate our increasing number of visitors. Help is especially needed as docents, gardeners and minor maintenance. If you have computer skills, we could use your help too. If your interest is genealogy, then there is a space for you. Please consider helping out just one day a month.

Contact the Center anytime to find out more.

info@texasczech.org or 888-785-4500

A Message from Mark -
Hello friends!

Well, it's been some interesting times since the last newsletter. We thought we'd be back to normal by now, but what really is normal?? We've been doing some adjusting and it has been keeping us busy. Mostly, the changes have been very beneficial to TCHCC and has opened new doors in the way we fundraise and conduct daily business. For the most part, we have done well!

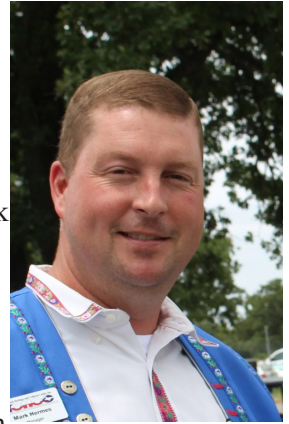
I'd like to thank everyone that made the Mic-Czech & Tune-Up a great success! The Facebook LIVE fundraiser opened one of those doors for us and we will definitely be doing more of them. Thank you to our sponsors which are listed in the Donations pages. Thank you to all the great volunteers that came to help that evening and thank you to the Czechaholics Band members that put in extra time to make the show go LIVE on Facebook without a glitch! Another broadcast from TCHCC will be on August 29th so keep your eyes open for the post when it comes out!

TCHCC recently acquired the Texas Polka News and PolkaBeat.com from a generous donation from Theresa Cernoch Parker. I'd like to say I am humbled to be a part of the Texas Polka News. All the years I would wait anxiously each month for the next issue to come out. Being in a band makes the Texas Polka News that much more important to me. I never would have dreamed I'd play a role in the existence of this publication that has promoted and contributed to keeping Texas polka music strong in a time where other genres have not been as lucky.

What big shoes we have to fill! Julius Tupa and his wife Marie cleared a path for this beacon to shine and John and Marlys Rivard joined their team to keep the light shining as long as they possibly could, bringing the paper to a new generation of dancers and music enthusiasts. Theresa Parker saw this light needed a new lens and stepped up to carry the torch to a brighter future. As one chapter came to an end, a new one began. And so it is with the Texas Polka News and PolkaBeat.

We will continue this legacy with the utmost respect to our past and an eagle eye to the future to keep this beam glistening for generations to come. The Texas Polka News/PolkaBeat.com fits hand and hand with the Texas Czech Heritage & Cultural Center's mission. I am grateful to have a great relationship with the Fayette County Record and their knowledgeable staff. TCHCC is pleased to have been given this opportunity and I look forward to working together with everyone involved to keep that lens clean and the light bright. Please consider subscribing to the Texas Polka News. You will definitely enjoy the stories and pictures throughout the year!!

Hope to see everyone very soon! Take care and Nazdraví!



DEKUJI MOC!

TCHCC has received multiple grants this second quarter of 2020. Fayette Electric Cooperative donated \$5,000 for the Archival Storage Building; LCRA and Union Pacific donated \$10,000 each for the repair of the Amphitheater roof, The Texas Women's League donated \$4,500; and the Czech Foreign Ministry provided 40,000 KC (\$1,639 US Dollars) for the Print Museum Exhibit. We also grateful to Humanities of Texas for \$5,000 toward Covid Relief.

Left, Retta Chandler is pictured with the Fayette Electric Cooperative's donation. Right, Mark Hermes and Retta Slavik Chandler hold the Texas Women's League donation for \$7500.

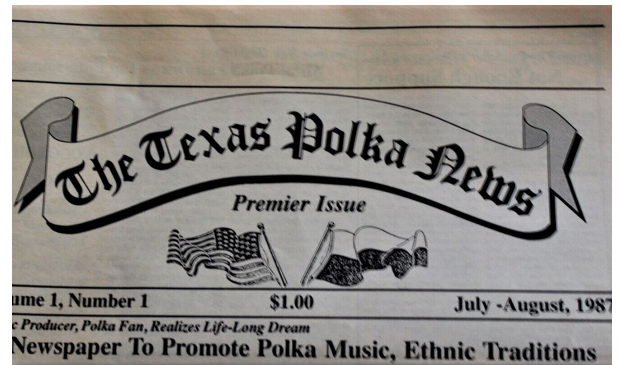


POLKA WILL GO ON

The Texas Polka News has a new owner. TCHCC has become the owner of a newsletter that was begun in 1987 with Julius and Marie Schultz Tupa. In 2014 Theresa Cernoch Parker became the owner.

This year, 2020, TCHCC has acquired the newsletter that will continue the work started by Julius and Marie Tupa and Theresa Cernoch Parker. Nothing will change, lead editor will be Gary McKee.

As we look forward to this new partnership, let us take a look back to where/how it all started.



A HISTORY OF THE TEXAS POLKA NEWS

It all began with Julius and Marie Schultz Tupa. Marie and her husband, Julius Tupa, made their home in Houston. In fact, they first met at Bill Mraz Dance Hall, and that's where he proposed to her as well. She jokingly said she wouldn't marry him if he was going to be a musician. He told her he would give it up. Both of them knew that wasn't going to happen. "Music was his life," she said.

Julius went on to form three bands – Sagebrush, Night Shift, and Sound Connection. He also hosted a polka radio show on KYND in Houston. In 1987, Marie and Julius, together with seven other couples, formed the first Texas chapter of the Polka Lovers Klub of America (PoLK of A) in 1987. The Tupas served as the group's first king and queen. Also, that year, Julius united the statewide polka community when he began publishing The Texas Polka News, with the mission to preserve and promote polka music and dance.

When Julius passed away in 2002, Marie had a decision to make – continue publishing the paper or stop the presses. She knew how much the paper meant to Julius, and with the help and support of John Rivard as volunteer editor, she took on the role of publisher. John's wife, Marlys, also was a regular contributor to the paper, and the couple were always on the floor at dance halls throughout Texas and the U.S.

When John stepped down as editor in the summer of 2014, Marie once again was faced deciding the fate of the paper. She decided to sell the paper to Theresa Cernoch Parker. "I am happy to announce the sale of the paper and see Julius' legacy live on," Marie said in the September 2014 issue of the paper. "I can't thank John enough for his dedication and friendship over the years. And I can't think of a more fitting person to take the publication to the next level than Theresa."

Theresa Cernoch Parker is a third-generation Texan and native Houstonian born to a German mom from Weimar (Florene Helmcamp) and Czech/Irish dad from Dubina (Willie "Bill" Cernoch). She grew up within walking distance of SPJST Lodge 88 in the Heights area and remembers going to dances with her parents at the lodge and Bill Mraz Ballroom. Theresa used her journalism degree from the University of Houston to write for newspapers, magazines, and communications departments at major corporations. She founded polkabeat.com in 2010 to honor the memory of her dad, a passionate polka promoter.

The site is the only online source for a compilation of dance schedules of Texas polka bands, festivals, and church picnics. The site also has a Polka On! store featuring T-shirts, koozies, magnets, and other novelty items, along with a large selection of CDs. Almost 2,000 subscribers enjoy receiving a weekly e-newsletter listing the weekend lineup of dances, as well as photo and video coverage of festivals, band news, and a weekly laugh. The polkabeat Facebook page has more than 2,000 fans who appreciate the sharing of polka news, as well as information on all types of Texas music.

In 2011, Theresa collaborated with musician Jimmy Brosch to publish the book Jimmy Brosch *Remembers Twenty Legendary Texas Czech Polka Bands*. More information on Julius Tupa can be found in the book.

THE NEW TPN

Theresa purchased The Texas Polka News in July 2014 and resumed publication of the paper in September 2014. After three years of publishing under the guidance of Theresa and Editor Gary E. McKee, the paper has been hailed as the premier polka publication in the nation.

Gary uses his background as a Texas historical author and photo journalist to bring to life the history of bands, instruments, and dance traditions. Theresa brings her Czech/German heritage and years as a journalist/writer to promote Texas musicians, bands, and dance halls.

Polka lovers are also dance lovers, and Theresa and Gary have continued the tradition, started by John, of covering other genres of music, including Country, Western Swing, and Cajun. And the paper has stepped up coverage of opeys and other live music venues across the state. It's a tribute to Texas roots music.

The newly designed, full-color newspaper debuted in January 2015 with polka legend Alfred Vrazel as the first cover story. Jeff Brosch, musician, artist, and son of Jimmy Brosch, led the redesign efforts, and continues to head the art department.

TPN stays true to featuring a calendar listing of dances and festivals, and has broadened the list to include live music events. Thanks to advertising partners Janak's Country Market in Hallettsville and Slovacek's in West, the paper also has expanded coverage of church picnics, and features "polka smiles" photos every month. Special editions include Spring/Summer Fest Guide (March), Oktoberfest Guide (August), and Christmas Gift Guide (November).

Now it us up to TCHCC and their supporters to continue the legacy.

For subscription information, visit TexasPolkaNews.com. or contact TCHCC... COST????

PICTURE OF MARIE TUPA AND THERESA

LCRA, CITY OF LA GRANGE AWARD \$10,000 GRANT TO TEXAS CZECH HERITAGE AND CULTURAL CENTER FOR A NEW ROOF ON THE SANFORD SCHMID AMPHITHEATER

LA GRANGE, Texas – The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center will replace the aging roof of the popular amphitheater, thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the Lower Colorado River Authority and the City of La Grange.

The Community Development Partnership Program grant, along with \$22,125 in matching funds, will help replace the 20-year-old roof atop the Sanford Schmid Amphitheater.

"We really appreciate the grant and look forward to getting this project underway," said Retta Chandler, Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center president. "Although the building is not old, it is very special. It was designed in the European style that is very important to the Czech culture."

The entire roof is worn, Chandler said, and a replacement is essential to protecting the amphitheater's integrity and visitor safety. The amphitheater is available to the public for an array of events, including musicals, weddings and concerts. Visitors can also explore the amphitheater when touring the cultural center.

"The stadium can hold up to 400 seats, plus the grassy area behind us can accommodate up to 1,000 people," Chandler said. "We want the community to enjoy the beauty of the amphitheater and the special events it hosts, like the Czech Heritage Festival, which draws between 400 to 500 people."

The community grant is one of 28 grants awarded recently through LCRA's Community Development Partnership Program, which provides economic development and community assistance grants to cities, counties, volunteer fire departments, regional development councils and other nonprofit organizations in LCRA's wholesale electric and water service areas. The program is part of LCRA's effort to give back to the communities it serves. The City of La Grange is one of LCRA's wholesale electric customers and a partner in the grant program.

About LCRA

The Lower Colorado River Authority serves customers and communities throughout Texas by managing the lower Colorado River; generating and transmitting electric power; providing a clean, reliable water supply; and offering outdoor adventures at more than 40 parks along the Colorado River from the Texas Hill Country to the Gulf Coast. LCRA and its employees are committed to fulfilling our mission to enhance the quality of life of the Texans we serve through water stewardship, energy and community service. LCRA was created by the Texas Legislature in 1934 and receives no state appropriations. For more information, visit lcra.org.

RICHARD GEORGE CERNOSEK
September 19, 1927/June 27, 2020

Richard George Cernosek, 92, of La Grange, passed away on Saturday, June 27, 2020. Richard was born in Columbus, TX on September 19, 1927, the son of Jim and Daisy (Griffith) Cernosek. Richard served in the United States Army and was honorably discharged in 1947.

Richard married Amalie “Molly” Machala on July 12, 1952, in Plum, Texas. The couple was blessed with two children: Chris and Carmen.

Richard was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Council # 2574; and SPJST, Lodge # 106, and KJT. He was also a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church for 67 years.

He was a real estate investor for most of his career. His later years were spent enjoying watching his cows, having an occasional beverage, and once in a while, a good lobster tail.

He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Amalie “Molly” (Machala) Cernosek; son, Chris Cernosek, and wife, Lisa all of La Grange, TX; daughter, Carmen Cernosek of Austin, TX; granddaughter, Bailey (Cernosek) Steinhauser and husband, Matthew of San Marcos, TX; granddaughter, Carrie Binford of La Grange, TX; granddaughter Chelsea Kmiec and husband Tate of Bellville, TX; and grandson Carson Binford of Austin, TX; brothers: Frank Jack Cernosek and wife, Donella of La Grange, TX; Edwin “Corner” Cernosek of Cedar Park, TX; sisters: Lillie Mae (Cernosek) Tiedt and husband, Weldon of Houston, TX; Rosalie (Cernosek) Stevenson and husband, Kenneth of La Grange, TX. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jim & Daisy Cernosek; sister, Frances Kana, and husband, Johnny; brothers-in-law, Frank Machala; Edward P. Machala; sister-in-law, Celestine Ermis and husband, Leonard, and sister-in-law, Georgia Mae Kana Cernosek.

Richard was a TCHCC Board Member for eighteen years from 2002-2020, during which time his advice and philanthropy was evident. Richard and Molly contributed to the Museum, the Maintenance Building, and the Czech Newspaper Museum as well as volunteering their time over the years.



Richard G. Cernosek

JOSEPH STEPHEN BARTOSH
September 2, 1949/June 4, 2020

Joseph Stephen Bartosh was born on Sept. 2, 1949 and passed away on June 4, 2020. He was a resident of Taylor for most of his life. He graduated from Taylor High School, attended Blinn College and graduated from St. Edward’s University, Austin, Texas.

Joe opened his own independent tax accounting service in Austin in 1983 after having worked in various other professional positions. He co-owned and operated the Granger Villa Nursing Facility in Granger, Texas.

He served on the board of the Texas Czech Heritage Cultural Center in La Grange from 2002 and the Treasurer from 2004 until his death. He served on the Advisory Board for the Moody Museum in Taylor from 2013-2020.

He had a lifelong interest in cars and sometimes drove a 1962 Cadillac Coupe de Ville which he showed at the Taylor Car Shows often.

He was preceded in death by his parents Roman and Marie Stiba Bartosh and sister Louise Marie Beard. He is survived by niece Ebony Joy Beard and nephew Joshua Adam Beard.

A memorial celebration will be announced at a future date. Memorial contributions may be made to the Texas Czech Heritage Cultural Center in LaGrange or to the Moody Museum in Taylor.



Barbara Hruby & Joseph Bartosh

EUGENE B. LABAY
July 20, 1938/June 8, 2020

Eugene Benedict Labay, 81, of San Antonio, joined his lord on June 8, 2020. He was born on July 20, 1938 in El Campo to the late Ben and Cecilia Orsak Labay.

He is survived by his wife, Katherine Sue Labay, children Eugene Michael Labay, Joan Labay-Marquez and husband Felix, Paul James Labay and wife Sonia, David Lawrence Labay, Patrick Bennett Labay and Steven Vincent Labay and wife Angela; grandchildren Steven James Marquez, David Michael Marquez, Brian Christopher Marquez, Mary Sue Rachel Marquez, Andrew Benjamin Labay and Matthew Christian Labay. Eugene was preceded in death by his parents; son, John Kevin Labay and brother Lawrence Labay.

He graduated from El Campo High School in 1956, earned his Bachelor of Business Administration in 1960 and Juris Doctor from St. Mary's University in 1965. He began his legal career as a Briefing Attorney with the Texas Supreme Court and then went on to practice law with Cox and Smith Inc. He was a former trustee with the Czech Heritage Society, former director and board member of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center Inc. and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Czech Heritage Society of Texas in 2016.

Funeral took place on Friday, June 12 at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Gabriel Oduro-Tawiah officiating. Burial followed at St. John's Cemetery in New Taiton.

Eugene Labay was an active supporter of promoting Czech heritage and made numerous contributions to the Czech organizations in Texas. He was a Director and one of the Founders of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center (TCHCC). He also served on Boards of The Czech Heritage Society (CHS), the Bexar County Czech Heritage Society, and The Texans of Czech Ancestry (TOCA). His contributions of time and expertise have made a significant impact on the progress that is being realized in the preservation and promotion of Czech heritage in Texas. He had a deep concern that the history of the Czechs be remembered for future generations.

PATRICIA AHLHORN PARMA
November 28, 1941 - August 01, 2020

Patricia Ann Ahlhorn Parma, 78, of Richmond, Texas passed away on August 1, 2020, in Richmond, Texas. Visitation and a service was held on the same day (Thursday, August 6) at noon. The burial will be private for immediate family members only.

Patricia was born on November 28, 1941, in Bellville, Texas to Dennis and Irene (Kuhn) Ahlhorn. Pat grew up in East Bernard, Texas.

She married her loving husband Frank Jerome Parma on November 22, 1962, in Wallis, Texas. They owned and operated the Czech Bakery in Rosenberg, Texas serving the community delicious kolaches and strudels.

Pat was involved with the Czech Heritage Society of Texas, Texans of Czech Ancestry, and Fort Bend County Czech Heritage Society State of Texas and The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange.

Pat served many roles of leadership in each of these organizations ranging from the secretary, vice president, and president and volunteer.

In addition to her parents, Patricia is preceded in death by her loving husband of 35 years, Frank Jerome Parma. Survivors include daughter, Pam Ohl companion Jerry Pavliska, son, Patrick Parma fiance Joyce Stavinoha and daughter Paula Vecera, and husband Glenn. She has three grandchildren Peyton Ohl and wife Liz, Conner Vecera, and fiance Celeste and Carson Vecera. Three great-grandchildren Kyle, Kaden, and Kolton Ohl. Sister Myrna Foster and husband Kenneth of Runge, Texas.

The family of Pat Parma would like to sincerely thank the wonderful staff at Oak Bend Hospital and Vantage Hospice.



*Eugene was involved with the move of the Wallachian Bell and Belfry to TCHCC.
l-r: Retta Chandler, Eugene, Margie Matula, Daniel Hrna and Carolyn Heinsohn.*



Patricia Ahlhorn Parma

THE UNIVERSAL APPEAL OF PEASANT ART POTTERY

TCHCC has received a donation of Josef Mrazek Pottery from Caroline Scott O'Connell. The Peasant Art Pottery was passed down to her mother, Ann McCormick Scott in 1964 and then to her in 2017. Her grandmother, Dorothy Josephine Queen, was born in Boston in 1906 and married James Breese McCormick, an executive with Smith Corona typewriters in 1930. The couple spoke of the Czech pottery set as a wedding gift from a friend in New York City, where there was a Czechoslovak crafts store. They settled in Syracuse in 1933 and lived out their lives in New York State.

Caroline's mother used to admire these colorful dishes in her grandmother's well stocked china cabinet — of all the pretty things, these were what her mother liked the most.

Caroline's ancestors are French-Irish by way of Newfoundland and raised in Boston. With no Czech blood in their veins, they admired and appreciated an artform that was created from the mind, artistic vision and hands of a potter, Josef Mrazek.

TCHCC is happy to give their wedding gift a new home along side the pottery and ceramics in the museum. James and Dorothy Queen McCormick's pottery is pictured below showing the Mrazek seal.



OTHER PEASANT ART ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN DONATED TO TCHCC.

Below: Items donated by Mary Ingles.



MRAZEK PEASANT ART POTTERY

Joseph Mrazek was born on November 3, 1888 in Podebrady, Bohemia. He apprenticed in artwork at an early age. At the time, the two major influences were Art Nouveau (found in the large cities) and Peasant Art (found in the small villages and towns). He preferred the Peasant Art that he saw in the homes, the buildings, the clothing, and the ceramics of his homeland. According to his Passport Application, he entered the U. S. on September 22, 1892 sailing from Bremen, Germany. He was fortunate enough to study art at the St. Louis Academy of Arts. Once he graduated, he went to New York City and found work with Hester Decorating Company.

He married Ada Miksicek on May 24, 1913 in Manhattan. They are found in the 1915 New York census married and with one child. His occupation was decorator. On his WWI Draft Card he gives his birth date as December 20, 1888 and his profession as a decorator, painter who owns his own business at 435 E. 86th Street, Manhattan, New York.

During the Christmas season of 1917, Macy's Department Store advertised a do-it-yourself ceramic kit. The store would sell the kits that contained the unpainted pottery, paints, brushes, etc. along with a guide. Once the pottery was decorated, the artist would return it to Macy's who would fire it in their kiln.

Joseph Mrazek began to buy and decorate the kits. His neighbors and friends were so impressed that they bought the pieces. So, he went back to Macy's and bought a kiln so that he could create the pottery himself. His endeavor proved very profitable and he began the Czecho Peasant Art Company which he ran from the kitchen of his Yorkville apartment in New York. He sent samples to wholesalers and retail outlets in Boston, Philadelphia, Miami and New York. It was so profitable that he resigned from his job at Hester Decorators, rented a loft on West 19th Street in lower Manhattan, began his business, and hired employees.

In 1922 he took a trip to the new Independent Czechoslovakia and began the search for a suitable ceramic factory. In the small Moravian town of Letovice, Blansko District of Southern Moravia, he found the ideal place. The town had coal, clay mines and several other pottery factories nearby. He leased the building and moved his base of operations to Letovice. In 1925 he built his own factory and in 1926 he enlarged it. His wife Ada and their son Bill stayed in Czechoslovakia to run the business while Joseph traveled back and forth to Czechoslovakia three times a year to help manage and supervise.

His pottery specialized in the traditional patterns of tulips, daisies, apple, bleeding hearts, birds and symbolic designs. With Art Deco becoming popular, he added the geometric designs to his patterns and called them Modern Patterns. Pottery was exported from Letovice to the U.S. until 1933 when he closed the Czecho Peasant Art Company there because of the worldwide depression.

At the Philadelphia Fair in 1926 the Peasant Art Industries pottery won the Gold Medal.

In the 1940 census Joseph, Ada, and sons Milos and Harold (Bill) are living in Queens, New York where he states his profession is managing executive of a "plastic Art Mfg". It was truly a family affair as his son Milos was a clerk and his son Harold was the shipping clerk at the "plastic Art Mfg".

Joseph and Ada moved to Centerpoint, Long Island and Joseph died there on September 1, 1959 (New York Death Index). Ada was born on January 21, 1886 in Mirovice, West Bohemia and died in February of 1973. They are buried in Huntington, Suffolk County, New York. They had two sons: Milos (1914/2003) and Harold Richard (Bill) (1919/2008).

Many artists and factories produced Peasant Art. Joseph Mrazek applied for patents as early as 1926 to guarantee his craftsmanship and artistry. He is considered the originator of the Peasant Art – the colorful pottery that encompasses the attitude and spirit of the Czech people.

Sources: Ancestry.com

"The Colorful Pottery of Joseph Mrazek" May 29, 2012, editor David Fein of Antiques and Auction News
Made in Czechoslovakia by Ruth Forsythe, 1993. Antique Publication, Marietta, Ohio.

EARLY PROMOTERS OF CZECH HERITAGE IN TEXAS

Various organizations and, in particular, individuals were instrumental in raising awareness about the rich Czech and Slovak culture that is prevalent in Texas. The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center was officially organized in 1995 and became the child of the many organizations that came before. From the early days of Texans of Czech Ancestry (TOCA) and its member organizations, to the present time, TCHCC has benefited greatly both with continued physical and financial support.

TCHCC would like to take a step back and recognize a few of those who led the way.



Charter Members of the Czech Heritage Society that was organized in 1982 by Albert Blaha

Top Row: Leo Baca (Richardson), George Bujnoch (Hallettsville), Charles Hrcir (Austin), First CHS President Robert Janak (Beaumont), Marvin Marek (Katy), Arnold Pechal (Temple)

Seated: Beatrice Barler (Bellville), Dorothy Bujnoch (Hallettsville), Marilyn Hrcir (Austin), Elsie Steffek (Hallettsville), Mary Popp (San Antonio), Anne Rhodes (Hallettsville)

Photograph taken in 1993.



Texans of Czech Ancestry (TOCA) September, 1989

Top Row: Vice President Jerry Milan (Fort Worth), C. J. Trenda (San Antonio), George Valenta (San Antonio), Third Vice President Calvin Chervenka (Dallas), Robert Ptacek (San Antonio), Larry Laznovsky (Ennis), Treasurer Jerry Valchar (Temple).

Seated: Loretta Valenta (San Antonio), Vice President Glenn Hutka (Temple), President Howard Leshikar (Temple), Mary Popp (San Antonio), Mildred Chervenka (Dallas), Robert Janak (Beaumont) present but not photographed.

History of Czech Organizations in Texas

The idea of a preserving the Czech language and traditions dates back to the many Czech organizations that were founded in the years from 1889 through 1915. The Čechia Club at the University of Texas was founded in 1915. Their programs consisted of Czech language study, Czech literature study, and Czech traditions. Even before that time, the KJT, KJZT, SPJST, and RVOS (insurance companies founded between the years of 1898 and 1901) included in their mission the preservation of the Czech heritage. Another organization, the SOKOL, founded in the Czechlands in 1862 and later brought to the United States, promoted the preservation of the Czech culture. During the years leading up to 1997, these organizations had small libraries in their gathering places and promoted Czech culture and traditions through their programs for their members. The interaction among families at social gatherings that were sponsored by these organizations were extremely important to the well-being of these hard-working rural people. The churches in Czech communities of Texas also promoted and preserved the Czech heritage in celebrating feast day traditions. In many ways, they significantly preserved the music, food, feast day traditions, and dance of the Czech people.

Leaders from Czech organizations, communities and churches spread the word for Czechs to become involved in the celebration of the 1936 Centennial Celebration of the Texas Independence by developing an exhibit at the State Fair of Texas in Dallas. The result was an outpouring of talent and hard work to build an exceptional exhibit that told the story of the Czechs in Texas. This story is visually present today in the TCHCC Museum.

The Čechia Club evolved into the Czech Ex-Students Association of Texas in the 1940s. Leaders from that organization then formed other Czech-founded organizations based on special interests such as the Czech Educational Foundation of Texas (1954) and The Czech Heritage Society of Texas (1982).

In 1978 a three-day multidisciplinary symposium, "Czechs In Texas", sponsored by the Department of English, Texas A & M University in cooperation with the Office of Continuing Education, was held in Temple, Texas with a supplemental grant from the Czech Ex-Students Association of Texas.

In 1980 the publication "Czechoslovakia, Information Minimum" was published by the Texas Education Agency. It contained important facts about Czechoslovakia, especially as they relate to the history and culture of the United States. It was compiled by Dr. Václav Hunáček from Charles University in Prague, during his one-year stay as visiting consultant in foreign languages and social studies at the Texas Education Agency. The purpose of this listing was to furnish teachers with information based not only on American, but also on Czechoslovak sources.

In the 1980s, as time drew near for the Texas statewide Sesquicentennial Celebration in 1986, a group of leaders in Czech organizations and communities again made the effort to contribute to this celebration. In 1985, a loosely formed coalition of Czech organization leaders (Texans of Czech Ancestry) met and organized a three-day event to highlight, celebrate, and to share Czech heritage and traditions with the public. At the conclusion of the successful project, this coalition met again to determine whether to continue. It was decided to incorporate as Texans of Czech Ancestry (October, 1987) with a mission to facilitate communication among Czech-founded organizations. They continued to have annual meetings to this day.

In the meantime, the Czech Educational Foundation, the Czech Ex-Students Association and The Czech Heritage Society grew in membership with similar missions to promote Czech language and heritage.

In December of 1995, the Texans of Czech Ancestry met to consider a proposal submitted by the Czech Heritage Society to spearhead the building of a library to preserve Czech heritage. During that meeting several ideas for preserving Czech heritage were presented to the group. In this group were individuals who had assimilated into the language and culture of the United States. They were faced with the stark realization that saw itself as the last one closest to the mother tongue and the generation that must act to preserve the culture and heritage for future generations. They voted to take on the project. Supporting this project was consistent with the mission of TOCA, which is to mutually assist one another in the pursuit to preserve and promote the Czech Culture and Heritage. The member organizations of TOCA pledged and donated seed money to begin the project.

During 1996, monthly meetings were held at the SPJST, RVOS, and KJT headquarters buildings to determine the scope and mission of such a project. Thereby, it was determined that more than the books in a library had to be preserved because so many of the significant artifacts that belonged to our parents and grandparents were being thrown away. Members of all Czech-founded organization were invited to the meetings resulting in a wide range of ideas and suggestions. Committees were formed and met to develop a mission statement, to determine possible locations, and to decide what to include in the preservation.

Member organizations of TOCA were the American SOKOL Organization, Southern District (SOKOL); Bexar County Czech Heritage Society (BCCHS); Catholic Family Fraternal (KJZT); Catholic Union of Texas (KJT) Czech Educational Foundation of Texas (CEFT); Czech Ex Students Association of Texas (CESAT); Czech Heritage Society of Texas (CHS); Czech Heritage Society of Travis/Williamson Counties (TWCCHS); Farmers Mutual Insurance of Texas (RVOS); and the Slavonic Benevolent Order of the State of Texas (SPJST).

A statewide request was sent the following year asking for any communities that were interested in such a facility to present a proposal. Proposals were received from the cities of Caldwell, Ennis, La Grange, and Temple. After a thorough examination of each of the proposals, including a visit to each site and a meeting with city officials, the TOCA Board Members selected the LaGrange proposal.

Fayette County was selected as the site for the Center because of its significance in the history of Texas Czechs. It had the largest Czech population per capita and the most Czech Communities of any county in the state. Many Czech-related historical sites and events, as well as prominent Texas Czechs, could be linked to Fayette County. It has the distinction of having had more emigrants from the Czech lands of the Austro-Hungarian Empire settle there in the second half of the nineteenth century than any other county in Texas. Other reasons for selecting LaGrange included the location with a view of the Colorado River valley and the seventy acres of land with a perpetual lease offered by the City of LaGrange.

On March 24, 1997, the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, Inc., was officially incorporated. The Interim Board Members of Texans of Czech Ancestry then became Board Members and founders of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center, Inc.

TCHCC 1998 Officers: President Retta Chandler, Vice President George Hruby, Secretary Carolyn Sumbera Meiners Heinsohn, Treasurer Arnold J. Pechal.

Board: Chairman Retta – CESAT, Dorothy Bohac – Travis-Williamson Counties CHS, Don Chovanec, Fayette County, Elo J. Goerig, KJT, George Hruby, Bexar CHS, Glenn Hutka, RVOS, Ed A. Krivacka, Business Leader, Larry Laznovsky, American SOKOL, Southern District, Howard Leshikar, SPJST, Carolyn S. Meiners Heinsohn, CHS of Texas, Patricia Parma, Community Leader, William H. Schovajsa, Legal Advisor, and Woody Smith, CEFT.

Thanks to all for the efforts that had the dream and desire to preserve the Czech culture, we celebrate 33 years.

On... 1995, Governor George Bush signed a proclamation designating the third week of October Czech Heritage Week in Texas. l-r: Judge Ed Janecka, Ken Armbruster, Lists House reps at signing



CZECHS IN THE TEXAS CENSUS

An article by Professor R. L. Skrabanek of the A&M Department of Sociology appeared in the *Vestnik* on March 21, 1984 in which he reported on the distribution of Czechs in Texas according to a 1980 state census.

The record revealed that there were 178,932 persons of Czech ancestry living in Texas in 1980. Of that total number, 91,295 were 100% Czech and 87,437 were a combination of Czech with another ethnicity. 2677 people living in Texas in this 1980 census were born in Czechoslovakia. Skrabanek is quick to point out that about 20% of those surveyed, did not provide an answer as to specific ethnicity, only stated that they were “American” or “United States”.

Comparing this number to the 1,892,456 individuals who were in the United States in 1980 provided the ranking of the states in the United States with persons of Czech ancestry. Skrabanek reported that Texas ranked second behind Illinois (208,421) in persons of Czech origin with seven other states reporting more than 100,000 Czechs. They were: California (134,000), Wisconsin (131,000), New York (120,000), Ohio (118,000) Pennsylvania (111,000), Minnesota (105,000), and Nebraska (101,000).

Skrabanek reported that “Historians have indicated that an overwhelming majority of Czech immigrants entered Texas through the port of Galveston. Being mainly interested in farming they were looking for good, fertile farm land.”

The number of Czechs in Texas by counties revealed an interesting breakdown of Czechs. Of counties having more than 10,000 Czechs, Harris County had 30,906 (17.3% of the state’s Czech) and Dallas had 11,701 Czechs. Skrabanek points out that “These two counties together have almost one-fourth (23.8) of all Texans of Czech origin”.

Seven counties of Czech ancestry numbering from 6,000 to 10,000 persons revealed the percentage of Czechs found by counties: Lavaca County (35.6 %), Fayette County (25.6%), Wharton (18.7%), Austin (15.8%), Jackson (15.3%), Colorado (14.5%) and Burleson (14.1%).

Skrabanek’s accompanying chart revealed that the only counties in Texas who had less than 10 persons (or no persons) of Czech ancestry were: Armstrong, Andera, Borden, Briscoe, Brooks, Childress, Cochran, Coleman, Collingsworth, Delta, Dickens, Donley, Edwards, Gaines, Hall, Hudspeth, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, Kent, Kimble, King, Loving, McMullen, Martin, Menard, Mills, Motley, Oldham, Presidio, Raines, Roberts, Somervell, Stonewall, Terrell, Terry, Throckmorton, Winkler, Zapata, and Zavala.

Texas Czech genealogists have often pointed out that Czechs stayed “down on the farm” one generation longer than other ethnicities. This can be seen in the counties to which they had dispersed by 1980. Robert Janak’s report in the *Gazetteer of Czech Texas* (1939) by Robert Janak under the direction of Arnold Pechal, and published by the Czech Heritage Society of Texas provided a comparison of the Czech’s movement in 40 years. Janak’s research was based on the community’s establishment date based on the organization of a fraternal organization, church, school, or individuals. In Janak’s 1939 report, Czechs lived in 83 counties. The 1980 census upon which Skrabanek based his articles showed that Czechs now lived in 39 counties. This revealed a change in population in 40 years from 83 to 39 counties, a 44 county shift or drift to larger cities. Janak stated that “The terminal date of 1939 was originally chosen because two of the most important sources for the paper, *Nase Dejiny* (1939) and *Czech Pioneers of the Southwest* (1934), were published about that time. That date turned out to be apropos because World War II, the proliferation of highways, the urbanization of American society, the advent of television and other homogenizing phenomena ushered in a new era in the history of Czech Texas.”

Counties with Czech residents in 1939 were: Archer, Atascosa, Austin, Bastrop, Baylor, Bee, Bell, Bexar, Bosque, Bowie, Brazoria, Brazos, Burleson, Calhoun, Cameron, Colorado, Comal, Cook, Dallas, Denton, DeWitt, Ellis, Erath, Falls, Fayette, Foard, Fisher, Fort Bend, Frio, Galveston, Gonzales, Grayson, Gregg, Guadalupe, Harris, Haskell, Hidalgo, Hill, Hockley, Houston, Jackson, Jim Wells, Jones, Karnes, Kaufman, Kleberg, Lamb, LeSalle, Lavaca, Lee, Liberty, Limestone, Live Oak, Matagorda, McLennan, McMullen, Milam, Newton, Nueces, Palo Pinto, Parker, Polk, Refugio, Robertson, Runnels, San Patricio, Scurry, Tarrant, Throckmorton, Tom Green, Travis, Trinity, Val Verde, Victoria, Waller, Washington, Wharton, Wichita, Wilbarger, Willacy, Williamson, Wilson, and Wood.

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info@texasczech.org or 888-785-4500

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In Memory of Naomi Vitek Holtkamp

CHS – Fort Bend County

In Memory of Leonard Svrcek

CHS – Victoria County

MIC CZECH & TUNE UP!

SPONSORS

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H & H Automotive Supply
Janak Packing, Inc.
Lad and Denise Trojacek/Farmers
Insurance

MIC CZECH & TUNE UP!

DONATIONS

Annette Burns
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Mary E. Vasek
Pat Vrazel
Nancy Wilson
Vera Matocha Wehring
Kristen Wendel

In Memory of Lee Roy Matocha

Eileen Graeter
Michelle Huebner

LIVE OAK TREE DEDICATIONS

***In Honor of Col. Ervan E. Zouzalik,
Retired***

Ervan & Jeanette Zouzalik
***In Memory of Joseph A. and Lucille
Bolf Hegar***
Dr. Rebecca L. Hegar

2021 CALENDAR ADS

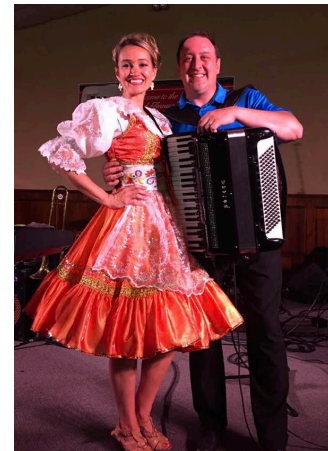
Czech Heritage Society of Texas
CHS - Fort Bend Chapter
Hostyn Parish, Queen of Holy Rosary
KJT
William and Betty Melnar
National Polka Festival of Ennis
RVOS Farm Mutual Insurance Co
Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce
Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Plum

ENTRY PAVING STONE DONATION



**LIBRARY & MUSEUMS
DONATIONS**

Frank Bily: Czech bible & prayer-book
Jo Ellen Fisher Coker: Victorian Eastlake Chaise louise with fold-out bed
Leah Failla: 5 piece Parlour Furniture Set
Greg & Joan Griffin: Bohemian/American cookbook and 1883 Memorial Badge
Patricia Havel: Smoking pipes, ceramics
Carolyn Heinsohn: Items for Salas house including Box of Faultless Starch, Bar Fels Naptha Soap. Items for General Store including box of Sunbrite cleaner, bottle of Pitcher's Castoria - Laxative, box of Plough's Face Powder, Edison cold moulded cylinder phonograph record, DeWitt's creosote cough syrup, Elixir of Five Bromides.
Edward Klecka: Begus and Klecka Family Histories
Carolyn O'Connell: 9 piece J. Mrazek Peasant Art Industry pottery
Brandon Pieper - 10 Cedar Logs for Saw Mill cutting and demonstrations



"We appreciate all of the support that we've been given by so many from the Czech and polka community, and we wanted to take this opportunity to show our support for an organization that helps preserve and promote the music we all love."
Mollie and Ted

TCHCC Memorials can be made to your deceased loved ones or to honor a family member that is still active in promoting Czech culture and tradition.

IMMIGRANTS' WALL

A stone wall with engravings on plaques that include the name(s) of the immigrant(s), village of origin and date that he/she/they arrived in the United States. Plaques are available for \$2500. Contact us for details.

ENTRY PAVING STONES

A 12"x12" pink granite stone will be engraved with your choice of wording up to 40 letters for \$1000. These stones are in the entryway of the Czech Center. Contact us for details.

ROSE GARDEN MEMORIAL

For \$250 an 8" x 8" brick will be placed along the Rose Garden path that lines the entry sidewalk to the Czech Center. The brick will be inscribed with your choice of wording. Contact us for details.

MEMORIAL BRICK PAVERS

An 8" x 4" brick paver will be engraved with your choice of wording for \$100. The bricks will be placed in the sidewalk leading from the flagpoles to the steps that enter the Czech Center. Contact us for details.

BELL & BELFRY

For donations of \$50 or more, inscriptions are painted on the memorial sign. For donations under \$50, a record of the donation is made on a parchment list.

AMPHITHEATER SUPPORTERS

A designated amphitheater seat will be reserved with your name plate. Participant can reserve this seat whenever there is an event at the Amphitheater by calling ahead. Seats range: \$1,000, \$750 and \$500.

FLAG SPONSORS

Sponsorship can be made in Memory of or in Honor of an individual or group. \$250.00/newsletter.

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE CENTER.
Donation amounts are recognized by levels:

____ Permanent Endowment Fund
 ____ Maintenance and Operations
 ____ Other: _____

- 200,000 ____ Five Star
- 100,000 ____ Platinum Benefactor
- 50,000 ____ Gold Benefactor
- 25,000 ____ Silver Benefactor
- 10,000 ____ Bronze Benefactor
- 5,000 ____ Benefactor
- 2,500 ____ President's Circle
- 2,000 ____ Pioneer
- 1,500 ____ Heritage Friend
- 1,000 ____ Founder
- 750 ____ Steward
- 500 ____ Patron
- 250 ____ Donor
- 150 ____ Special Friend
- 100 ____ Friend

Membership from
January 1—December 31

\$2000 ____ Lifetime Membership **NEW!**
 \$500 ____ Corporate
 \$200 ____ Non-Profit Organization
 \$ 75 ____ Family
 \$ 50 ____ Individual

ANNUAL SUSTAINED MEMBERSHIP (yearly)
 Benefits: Preserving YOUR Heritage, Annual Calendar and Nas Cesky Zivot newsletters

MEMORIALS can be made to honor someone living, on their birthday or anniversary etc., or the memory of a deceased friend or family member.

FOR _____
 Send Acknowledgement to: _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Donor: Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip: _____ Phone _____
 Message: _____

MAIL TO:
 TCHCC, P.O. Box 6, LaGrange, TX 78945-0006



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UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2020

- October 17** **HERITAGE FEST - 10 AM - 9:30 PM**
Saw Mill Tours, Newspaper Museum, Demonstrations, Antique
Tractor Show, Car Show, Food and Drinks Available, & MORE
Music by the Dujka Brothers from 6-9:30 PM on the Deck
MUSIC STREAMED LIVE on Facebook
Fireworks Finale sponsored by H-E-B
- December 5** **Annual Gala - Pavilion Hall**
Exquisite Dinner with appetizers and desserts, open Bar, Honoree Program,
Silent Auction, Raffle, Door Prizes, Music and Dancing to the Czechaholics Band.
*2020 Honorees: Larry Sodek, Polka DJ, Ellinger Combo, Harold Strand Orchestra
- 2021**
- February 6** **Valentine Dinner and Piano Concert by Prof. John Dujka - Hanslik Hall 4 PM**
Appetizers, Open Bar, Dinner & Dessert
Tickets Available January 2, 2021! \$80/person