



Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences Cleveland Chapter

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Autumn 2018

2018 is very special year for Czechs, Slovaks and Rusyns.

Not only are we celebrating 100 years of Czechoslovakia, a country founded on October 28, 1918, we are also celebrating 50 years since the Prague Spring and Alexander Dubcek's efforts to bring a level of humanity to the communist regime. See articles herein and watch for email updates.

Coming Up:

September 16 – this coming Sunday: the Cleveland Cultural Gardens will celebrate “One World Day”, an all day event with the parade of flags starting at noon near the Czech Garden. At 1:30 we plan to dedicate the “Probulov Hall” keystone with presentation by Dr. Sebesta in the Czech Garden. Probulov Hall was a center of Czech life and legionnaire recruitment center during WWI. The hall was raised but fortunately the keystone, the ornamental element often found directly over the entrance, was preserved. The Czech Cultural Garden is located on East Blvd., just south of St. Clair Ave. However, both East Blvd. and MLK Blvd. will be closed to traffic for the event! Free parking at Gordon Park just north of I-90 is available with free shuttle to the Gardens. Entertainment and nationality foods will be available at the 30 gardens from 11 am to 4pm. It is a great opportunity to explore the various cultures that call Cleveland home. The popular “Parade of Flags” steps off at noon near the Czech Garden.

October 26-28, A major celebration is planned for the 100 year anniversary of Czechoslovakia. This weekend event at the Sokol Greater Cleveland Czech Center, aka Bohemian National Hall will coincide with the actual date of the formation of the country; October 28. An open house format will take place Saturday, 10/27 from 10am to 4pm at the hall, 4939 Broadway Ave. in Cleveland – free parking in the back. Czech, Slovak and Rusyn exhibits, programs and foods will be offered. A marionette show for kids and adults, “Silks” - aerial acrobatics, display tables of all kinds and an exhibit from the national museum in Cedar Rapids will be on hand. Saturday is open to all. A formal Sunday dinner with the Bill Hronek Brass Band will cap the weekend activities. Watch your mail for the dinner invitation. If you wish to purchase an ad in the commemorative program book or be an event sponsor, please let me know right away!

November 15,17 and 18; Concert of interest: Conductor Jakub Hrusa will again take the lead of the Cleveland Orchestra performing Kabelac, Stravinsky and Shostakovich at Severance Hall. In the past we arranged a meeting with the Czech conductor including a cruise on the Nautica Queen, Lolley-the-Trolley tour of Cleveland, visit to the Art Museum and dinner at Pier W in Lakewood. If any of our members are interested in organizing an outing with the maestro, please let me know. (paulb54@centurytel.net)

Report on past months activities:



SVU's Renata Schmidt Zahuranec, exhibited her painting in July show in Avon Lake. To her left "English Countryside" and above her "In the Pub" – nice job Renata.

Chapter picnic August 5th Our Chapter held a picnic at Blossom Music Center on the occasion of an all Czech concert featuring: SMETANA - "Sárka" No. 3 from *Má Vlast*, JANÁČEK - Taras Bulba, DVORÁK - Symphony No. 7. The delightful music capped a pleasant afternoon at the Blossom grounds.



Paul Burik (left) and Marjorie Juba (in kroj) joined Slovak Honorary Council designee Richard Crepage (with tie) and UCI President Chris Ronayne for a photo in front of Masaryk statue in the Czech Cultural Garden on Aug. 19.

August 19th, Czech Garden Centennial Event - as a way to recognize the centennial of the foundation of Czechoslovakia and the 50 years since the Prague Spring (the invasion by the Soviet forces in 1968 was on Aug. 20), a dedication of two granite plaques was held in the Czech Garden. The text of the "Kde Domov Muj" (the National anthem) and "Hey Slovane" (a Slavonic hymn) that had significantly eroded on the feature wall in the garden were replaced with black granite plaques with the same inscription. The Czech, Slovak and Rusyn anthems were sung, translated and interpreted as a part of the program. Three newly planted roses were symbolically watered by the three nationalities involved. Other nations also celebrating centennial of their formation were present with their flags and participated in the activities. These included Finns, Estonians, Latvians, Lithuanians and Serbs. Thanks to Dr. Bohonek, Dr. Pechan and Laurel Tombazzi for their narrative and to Marjorie Juba for memorable singing!

Our chapter is dedicated to advancing the understanding of Czech, Slovak and Rusyn cultures by people of all backgrounds.

For SVU Cleveland Chapter - Paul Burik

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