

Recognizing the significance of 2018, the Cleveland Chapter embarks on an active year.



At the **Czech Cultural Garden** a major trimming while the shrubs are dormant was done in February, capitalizing on a warm weekend. Chapter president Paul Burik and several volunteers filled a dumpster with cuttings, thus making the statuary in the Garden more visible. Jan Amos Komensky statue is in the center of it all.

Installation of a historic key stone saved from demolished **Probulov Hall**, a center of Czech activity in Cleveland in the early 1900s, is planned for the summer in the Garden. This

and the replacement of commemorative plaques is intended as a legacy project celebrating 100 years of the formation of Czechoslovakia and 50 years since the Prague Spring, both anniversaries will be celebrated this year.

A presentation was made on the Czech Republic in a program titled **“The World in Our Backyard”**. A power-point show as well as display of artifacts presented not only the history but also current conditions in Czechia. The program was very well received by an audience of over 80 attendees.

Lou Huml, center, demonstrates “dudy” at “World in our Backyard”



The Chapter will host **Jakub Hrusa**, a Czech conductor in April. Maestro Hrusa is coming to conduct the renowned Cleveland Orchestra, and he always finds time to meet with our membership. His performance will include **Josef Suk’s Symphony No. 2**.

As Cleveland is home to the **Cleveland Agreement of 1915**, which was instrumental to bringing the Czechs and Slovaks together in their quest for a new nation, a weekend long celebration is planned for October. Dr. Stephen Sebesta and Helen Roth, both our Chapter members, are spearheading the planning effort. The event will be held at the Sokol Greater Cleveland Center, aka Bohemian National Hall, where the Agreement was executed and where T.G. Masaryk spoke on several occasions.