



Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences Cleveland Chapter

www.svu2000.org/cleveland

Spring 2019

Celebrating 30 years since the 1989 Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia

Thank you all for renewing your support for our Chapter in 2019. I am happy to report that because of our participation in last year's centennial celebration we received a portion of the proceeds from the event along with other participating organizations. With those funds and the refund of the "seed" money that we provided, the treasury is in good shape. I like to emphasize that the Chapter is anxious to support our member's activities; be it painting, history, translations, poetry – you name it. If it relates to our culture the Chapter welcomes your ideas and can support them. Just let me know!



Lucina Slovak Dancers perform at the centennial event in 2018

Please note our "by-line" at the top; this year is significant for the 30 year anniversary of the "Velvet Revolution" and the collapse of the communist regime in Czechoslovakia in November of 1989. Remember the "ringing of the keys" at Wenceslaus Square! We will try to focus our activities around this theme!

Coming Up:



The 43rd Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF) will take place at Tower City Cinemas from March 27th to April 7th this year. Our Chapter is a community partner for the Czech film "Toman", a documentary about Zdenek Toman – politician, entrepreneur and savior of hundreds Jewish families, also known as the Czech Schindler. The film is directed by Ondrej Trojan, starring Jiri Macasek and Katerina Winterova. At this time the schedule of screenings has not been published, our members can visit www.clevelandfilm.org in March to find the times of this and many other films of interest to the international community. For example "The Interpreter" is a Slovak film screened this year.

Tickets can be purchased on the website (see above), by phone 216-623-3456 or at the box office. Discount of \$1 can be obtained on any film using code PRAGUE. This is for any of the over two hundred films to be shown. Use code PRAGUE to save \$1 per ticket and give our Chapter partnership credit. Bring in your parking ticket to be validated for discount rate at the lot behind Tower City (near Sherwin-Williams).

Friday, March 8th; birthday (3/8/1850) of T.G. Masaryk, co-founder - first president of Czechoslovakia – just FYI or if you need a reason for a bite of a cake or glass of wine.

Eastern European Congress of Ohio dinner – April 9. Thanks to our member Laurel Tombazzi's efforts, April has been designated as Eastern European Month by the Ohio legislature. It is EEC's mission to promote the histories and cultures of the central and eastern European nations. The dinner is at Holy Spirit Party Center in Parma. Contact Laurel at laureltombazzi@gmail.com for tickets or to place an ad in the program.

Annual Cleveland Chapter Dinner Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11th at the Braumeister Restaurant, 13046 Lorain Ave. in Cleveland. Social time at 6:00pm, eat about 6:30 and a meeting around 7:30. No elections this year! PhD Candidate Pietro Shakarian will give a short presentation on rise of communism and Mikoyan's visit to Cleveland. Please plan on attending – email invitation will follow in March.

Easter Egg Hunt at the Czech Cultural Garden Saturday, April 13 at 1:00pm. An Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Czech Cultural Garden, 880 East Blvd. just south of St. Clair - rain date of April 20 if the weather is not cooperating. Free parking on East Blvd. next to the garden. This year besides the egg hunt and appearance of the Easter bunny, we plan on a visit from the Sokol marionettes with a short play. Also an Easter Hat contest for the adult ladies with prizes (gift cards) is planned.

April 16, Mariott at Key bank – Chapter President Paul Burik will be inducted into the Cleveland International Hall of Fame for his work in the Cleveland international community and Cleveland Cultural Gardens. See clevelandinternationalhalloffame.com

Report on recent activities:

Film “Vinyl People” at Oberlin College; In November of 2018 SVU Cleveland supported the screening of this film, with director Jeffrey Brown on hand to discuss his film about the impact of rock music on the young people during the communist era.



SVU's Sally Staruch PhD assists with the refreshment table provided by our Chapter during the film screening.

Conductor Jakub Hrusa took the lead of the Cleveland Orchestra in November performing at Severance Hall. Our members, Dr Peachan and Dr. Bohunek, met with the maestro for a cordial dinner during his stay here.

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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