

## 2003 SVU CONFERENCE

### **“The Czech and Slovak Presence in North America: Retrospective Look and Future Perspectives” Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 26-27, 2003**

The plans for our 2003 Conference are well underway, thanks to the splendid cooperation with the Nebraska chapter which took charge of this activity, and particularly their President, Kacénka Oslzly. The Chapter has been meeting every two weeks the past 4 months and will continue to do so until everything is done. Most of the logistical arrangements have been made in Cedar Rapids, with Coe College, the Visitor's Bureau, the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, and the Clarion Hotel. The tours have also been lined up. A schedule of major events is given below. Current work is now focusing on making contacts with local ethnic groups to get them involved and to cosponsor the Conference, to solicit corporate donors and finally to start organizing various academic sessions. The details are given in the Information sheet which follows.

We urge all our members and their friends to attend. It is imperative that all interested persons fill out the registration forms below and return them as soon as possible. It will be a great event which will include highly interesting lectures, arranged into symposia and discussion panels, an exciting social and cultural program, touring and sightseeing of the old Czech settlements, etc., and renewing old friendships, as well as making new ones. And don't forget bring your dancing shoes for Thursday evening Polka Dance.

The State of Iowa more than any other state was a place which reminded the early settlers from the Czechlands of their home country. That's why they came here! It is of note that the Maticе VyssihoVzdelani – which initiated the first scholarship program for Czech American students and still active today – had its beginnings in Cedar Rapids, as did Jonas' periodical Pokrok and Jan Barta Letovsky's Slovan Americky. Among other Iowan personalities of note was a drug manufacturer Vaclav F. Severa, journalist L. J. Palda, and Professor Bohumil Shimek. This was also the place where Frantisek B. Zdrubek founded his Free-thinkers' movement. In the close-by village of Ely, Rev. F. Kun from Moravia established the first Czech Protestant church in the US. Czech Catholics built, in turn, a new church dedicated to St. Wenceslaus. Many of the churches built by the Czech settlers have been preserved to date and are on the National Register because of their unique architecture and the role they played. Not too far from Cedar Rapids is an old Czech settlement Spillville where the famed Czech composer Antonin Dvorak spent one summer and composed some of his most important compositions. You will be able to see it all and more. The history abounds here and the pioneering spirit of the early settlers is in the air.

We have made a call for speakers and would welcome anybody who could contribute to the subject under discussion. Under the general theme, “The Czech and Slovak Presence in North America” almost any topic bearing on Czechs and Slovaks in the US and Canada, and even Mexico, would fit. We are especially seeking speakers in the following areas: immigration to North America from the Czechlands and Slovakia, history of and life in the

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early settlements, establishment and the role of fraternal organizations, the journalistic and other literary endeavors of Czech/Slovaks, contributions of selected Czech and Slovak American personalities, Czech and Slovak American historic sites, monuments and memorials, Czech and Slovak archival material in America and their future, preservation of Czech and Slovak cultural heritage abroad, teaching of Czech and Slovak languages in America, studies in American universities bearing on Czechs and Slovaks, Czech and music and other cultural contributions of Czech and Slovak Americans, their contributions in medicine, business, law, sports and other endeavors, Czech and Slovak ethnic programs for and involving young people, academic exchange programs between the US and the Czech and Slovak Republics, relations of Czech and Slovak Americans with their homeland, attitude of Czech and Slovak governments toward Czechs and Slovaks abroad, business and cultural opportunities for Czech and Slovak Americans in Czech and Slovak Republic, etc.

If you would like to present a paper, please fill out the Speaker's Form and return it right away. We welcome any suggestions for possible speakers.

I look forward to seeing you at the Conference.

*MILOSLAV REHCIGL, SVU President*

## 2003 SVU Conference Schedule of Major Events

June 25, Wednesday	7-9:30 pm	Reception at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library
June 26, Thursday	8:30am-5:30pm	SVU Conference Begins; Opening Ceremony; Paper Sessions
	5:30 - 7:30 pm	Chuckwagon Barbeque, Coe College
	7:30 - 10:30 pm	Polka Dance, Coe College
June 27, Friday	9 am-5 pm	Paper Sessions
	5-6 pm	SVU Annual Meeting
	6:30 - 9:30 pm	SVU Banquet, Coe College
June 28, Saturday	All day	Spillville, Protivin, Ft. Atkinson Tour
June 29, Sunday	All day	Cedar Rapids, Ely, Solon Tour

Tentative times; subject to change depending on the number of paper sessions we will have.

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### 2003 SVU CONFERENCE SPEAKER'S FORM

**Deadline February 28, 2003**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institutional Affiliation (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone and/or FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of the proposed talk: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional comments and/or suggestions including recommendations for speakers:

Speakers are required to send a short abstract (summary) of their paper, not to exceed one page, including the title of their paper, their name and institutional affiliation (if any), with abbreviated address (exclude the street and number). We would prefer either a 3.5 inch disk or via email to Cathy Oslzly ([coslzly1@unl.edu](mailto:coslzly1@unl.edu)). All speakers and panel chairs need to be registered.

Please return this form along with your registration form to Cathy Oslzly, Department of Psychology, 238 Burnett Hall, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588-0308.

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### 2003 SVU CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

**Deadline February 28, 2003**

**Each Individual** needs to fill out one of these forms:(type or print): Feel free to photocopy this form!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Pre-Registration Fee. (After February 28, 2003, add an additional \$10.00.)

All participants, including speakers and panel chairs, need to be registered.

\$ 35.00 (SVU Member)	\$ 30.00 (Spouse)	=	\$ _____
\$ 45.00 (NonMember of SVU)	\$ 20.00 (Students)	=	\$ _____

2. Housing accommodations in the dorm or apartments.

Nights of (please check):

- Tuesday, June 24                       Friday, June 27  
 Wednesday, June 25                     Saturday, June 28  
 Thursday, June 26                       Sunday, June 29

\_\_\_ Nights x \$17.00 per person (dormitories) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

or

\_\_\_ Nights x \$27.00 per person (campus apartments) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Single Dorm room, if available:  Yes       No

Name of your Roommate(s): \_\_\_\_\_

3. Meals.

			Circle Days		# of Days
Breakfast	\$5.00 per day	T W Th F Sat Sun M	_____ x \$5.00	=	\$ _____
Lunch	\$6.00 per day	T W Th F Sat Sun M	_____ x \$6.00	=	\$ _____
Dinner	\$10.00 per day	T W Sat Sun	_____ x \$10.00	=	\$ _____

**Thursday Night Chuckwagon BBQ + Polka Dance**

\$16.50 per person      \_\_\_\_\_ x \$16.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dance only @ \$5.00 per person      \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday Night Banquet: Czech Dinner**

\$21.50 per person      \_\_\_\_\_ x \$21.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL for Meals**

= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL CONFERENCE COSTS:

1. Registration Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. Dorms Rooms or Apartments: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. Meals: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. Bus Tours – Transportation and Admission to Museum per person:

Sat. \$30.00 Spillville \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sun. \$20.00 Cedar Rapids \$ \_\_\_\_\_

5. **OVERALL TOTAL** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks are payable to SVU Nebraska. Mail all forms to: Cathy Oslzly, Department of Psychology, 238 Burnett Hall, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588-0308.

## Information Sheet for the 2003 SVU Conference

**Flying into Cedar Rapids** — Eastern Iowa Airport: There is excellent air service into Eastern Iowa Airport with direct service available to 6 cities and serviced by the following airlines: American/American Eagle, Delta, Northwest, United, and US Air/US Air Express. There is Airport Shuttle Service available (319-365-0655).

**Registration Fee:** Your Registration Fee covers the Reception at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library on Wednesday evening, entrance into the Opening Session, two days of academic sessions, and all costs associated with putting on the conference.

**Housing at Coe College:** Coe College has two types of housing available for conference participants. Voorhees Hall is a typical dorm setting which was totally renovated the summer of 2000. It is a beautiful facility with 35 single rooms and 50 double rooms available. Bedding and towels are furnished; please bring your own hangers. There are three floors and two wings per floor, with bathrooms/showers on each wing. There will be bathrooms/showers designated for men or women on each floor. An elevator is available. \$17.00 per person, per night.

The two apartment buildings are relatively new and contain four single bedrooms, two baths, a full kitchen and living area with a table and 4 chairs. They are very nice and spacious. We will have access to 12 apartments; up to 48 people can stay

there. Bedding and towels are furnished; please bring your own hangers. One of the buildings contains an elevator. \$27.00 per person, per night. If you are coming alone, we will match you with same sex roommate(s) because there are only 12 units available and space is limited.

If you wish to stay on campus and want a single room in the DORM, be sure to indicate it on your Registration Form. Every attempt will be made to give you a single DORM room and this will be based on a first come, first served policy. If you plan to have a roommate, please let us know the name of your roommate as well. [www.coe.edu/CampusTour/VoorheesHall](http://www.coe.edu/CampusTour/VoorheesHall)

**Recreation Center at Coe:** The Clark Racquet Center will be available to on-campus residents. It has racquetball courts, fitness equipment (stair climbers, stationary bicycles, etc.), universal weights and outdoor tennis courts. The hours are M-F 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 am-pm. The swimming pool will also be available for lap swimming, usually at noon M-F and 7-9 in the evening M-Th. The hours have not been set yet for summer 2003.

**Clarion Hotel:** The Clarion Hotel is the offsite hotel for the SVU Conference. Special SVU prices have been negotiated: \$69/single; \$79/double; \$89/triple. This is a family owned hotel and the hospitality, food and service are first rate. Please call them direct for your reservation: 800-325-3535 or 319-366-8671. Be sure to let them know you are with the SVU Conference. The Clarion will shuttle you to and from the Wednesday evening reception and the conference. It is not a walkable distance. The owners are very accommodating and we know you will enjoy your stay with them.

**Meals at Coe College:** The Student Union has a cafeteria complete with 2 chefs and the food is very good! The Registration Form has a place for you to circle which meals you want and on which days. There will be two special dinners, one Thursday evening — a Chuckwagon Barbeque followed by a polka dance — and a final banquet on Friday evening, complete with a Czech menu, both at the Coe College Student Union. Tickets for your meals will be issued to you when you register onsite. There are four fast food restaurants and four casual sit-down restaurants an easy two block walk from the campus, if you choose to eat off-campus.

**Parking at Coe:** You will not need a special permit to park on campus for the conference. There is a parking lot directly across the street from the Voorhees Dorm and right behind the apartments. There is a circular drive at the dorm that you can pull up to and unload. The parking lot is less than one block from the dorm.

#### **Tour #1: Spillville, Protivin, Ft. Atkinson — Saturday, June 28**

This will be an all day tour to Spillville, Protivin and Ft. Atkinson (all located 2 hours north of Cedar Rapids). Among the many sites in Spillville are the Bily Brothers Clock Museum, the Antonin Dvorak Museum, the St. Wenceslaus Church where Dvorak performed the summer of 1893, the adjacent cemetery with the Andera crosses, and the Dvorak monument. Protivin and Ft. Atkinson both have beautiful churches, still attended by many Czechs and Slovaks. The bus will leave from Coe College after breakfast (8:30 a.m.) and go directly to Spillville. The first stop will be the Antonin Dvorak monument, located in the town park, followed by lunch at the Old World Inn (currently being renovated). Then you will have a chance to meander down the main street of Spillville to the Bily Brothers Clock Museum and take a tour there (incredible carved clocks are on display) followed by a leisurely stroll through the upstairs home of Antonin Dvorak (summer of 1893). It is small, quaint, and interesting. After that we will go over to the beautiful St. Wenceslaus Church. We will then board the bus to see the Czech settlements of Protivin and Ft. Atkinson. The cost of this bus tour is \$30.00 per person, which includes museum admission and an afternoon snack. However, each person will need to buy his/her own lunch. We will be back at Coe College sometime around 6 p.m., in time for dinner at Coe (for those who are staying there and would like to eat there). A minimum of 30 participants is needed for this tour (maximum 56; first come, first served).

#### **Tour #2: Cedar Rapids, Ely, Solon — Sunday, June 29**

This tour will be on Sunday, June 29. The bus will leave Coe College after breakfast (9:00 a.m.) and take participants to the Czech Village for a walking tour of the area. We will go back to Coe College for lunch, followed by a tour of St. Wenceslaus Church, established in 1873. View the magnificent stained glass windows that portray Czech saints. Murals depict ancient monasteries, which still exist today. Antique old paintings show the life of the Czech patron saint, King Wenceslaus. The tour will continue on to the Czech National Cemetery and the nearby communities of Ely and Solon. Ely is the home of the first Czech Protestant Church in the United States. Sts. Peter & Paul Church can be found in Solon. Both of these towns were settled by Czechs in the 2nd half of the 19th century. The cost of this tour is \$20.00 per person, transportation only. We will be back at Coe College late afternoon. A minimum of 30 participants is needed for this tour (maximum 56; first come, first served). You have the option of eating lunch at a Czech restaurant in Czech Village — Zindrick's. They have a fantastic Sunday Brunch with many delicious Czech foods for \$15.50 per person. You may choose to eat lunch there or go back to Coe for lunch. The bus would pick you up after brunch at Zindrick's and we would continue on our Cedar Rapids tour. As you fill out the Registration Form, be sure to note on there that you will have lunch at Coe College on Sunday, June 29 if you opt to do that.

**Freedom Festival:** The 20th Freedom Festival will be held from June 26 - July 6, 2003 in Cedar Rapids. The Festival celebrates the spirit of patriotism and a sense of community and family. There are many activities scheduled every day and evening. Some of the past events have included a Cardboard Boat Regatta, BBQ Roundups, Horse Shows, Wild West Weekends, Rodeo, concerts, dances, parades. The 2002 Calendar of Events can be found at: [www.freedomfestival.com](http://www.freedomfestival.com). The 2003 Calendar of Events will be posted in the near future.

**Amana Colonies:** The Amana Colonies are seven historic German villages in the scenic Iowa River valley, featuring over 60 specialty shops, working artisans, legendary restaurants, wineries, museums, furniture and clock making shops, bakeries, woolen mill, famous festivals and live professional theatre. Historic sites tell the story of one of the longest communal societies in the world. One of Iowa's top visitor attractions they are located just 19 miles southwest of Cedar Rapids via U.S. Highway 151. Call the Amana Visitor's Center for a schedule (800-352-6262) or see their website at [www.amanacolonies.com](http://www.amanacolonies.com).

If you have any questions concerning any of the above points, please address them to Cathy Oslzly (phone: 402/472-3121 — work; or email: [COSLZLY1@UNL.EDU](mailto:COSLZLY1@UNL.EDU)).

#### Important Iowa Websites

Cedar Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau: [www.cedar-rapids.com](http://www.cedar-rapids.com)

Coe College: [www.public.coe.edu](http://www.public.coe.edu) Voorhees Hall: [www.coe.edu/CampusTour/VoorheesHall](http://www.coe.edu/CampusTour/VoorheesHall)

Clarion Hotel: [www.sheratoncr.com/hotel.htm](http://www.sheratoncr.com/hotel.htm)

National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library: [www.ncsml.org](http://www.ncsml.org)

Spillville, Iowa: [www.spillville.ia.us](http://www.spillville.ia.us)

Andera Crosses, St. Wenceslaus Church, Spillville, Iowa: [www.klimesh.com/cross](http://www.klimesh.com/cross)

Freedom Festival: [www.freedomfestival.com](http://www.freedomfestival.com)

Amana Colonies: [www.amanacolonies.com](http://www.amanacolonies.com)

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## From SVU Executive Board

This was the third meeting of the Executive Board since our SVU Congress in Plzen. The meeting was held at SVU President Mila Rech-cigl's residence in Rockville, MD. The meeting which was attended by most of the Board's members from the US and Canada, had more than a quorum for making decisions. Since Dr. Machac could not regularly attend the meetings it was agreed to replace him by Dr. Jiri Glos.

Initially there was a discussion of the need to revisit the SVU Mission Statement and its current Action Plan and also make an effort to assure that there is equity among the individual Board members. It was further reaffirmed that all e-mails be responded to promptly and reports sub-mitted in timely fashion, within as well as outside the Board, which rule applies to all SVU local chapters and their officers.

The Board is searching for a suitable persons(s) who would assist us with the distribution of the *Zpravy SVU*, following the resignation of Zdenka and Maryna Vozarik. The latter were responsible for timely dis-tribution of our newsletter on which they worked for some seven years. The Board acknowledged its appreciation of their efforts.

Based on Editor Machann's recommendations several changes were made on the *Kosmas'* editorial staff. Prof. Charles Townsend was made a new Associate Editor and three additional Editorial Board members have been included, namely Dean Ivo Budil, Prof. Betty Unterberger and Prof. Alan Houtchens. There is still the need to find a new Management Editor with the responsibility of building a wider subscription base for the periodical. With the assistance of Dean Budil effort is on the way to increase subscriptions in the Czech and Slovak Republics.

Treasurer Frank Mucha presented a detailed report on SVU finances and the various tasks he was involved in his position as Treasurer, including the filing of SVU reports to IRS. His report was accepted with appreciation for work well done.

Then followed a discussion of SVU publication program. With reference to Congress papers from Plzen, Rechcigl reported that VP Ivo Budil is currently working on two volumes of selected Czech and Slovak papers with the aim of finishing it by summer 2003. The volumes will be published by the University of Western Bohemia Press. As far as the English papers are concerned, they are being collected, edited and formatted by VP Jan P. Skalny. The current plan is to publish the latter as a diskette with the possibility that they may also be issued as a monograph later on.

Based on VP Vera Borkovec's report, she is planning to finish the monograph on Czech and Slovak theatre by 2004. *SVU Biographical Directory*, according to Rechcigl, has been proofread and both its subject and geographical indexes completed. The printing will be done in the Czech Republic. Because of the relatively low price, it was recommended that a larger number of copies be printed and then shipped to the US by a surface container. Among possible future publications, VP Dagmar White suggested the consideration for publishing a special monograph on Czech and Slovak opera abroad.

Rechcigl presented a detailed report on the 2003 Conference. Thanks to the splendid cooperation with the Nebraska chapter and particularly her President, Kacenska Oslzly, the preparations are well in hand. The Chapter meets every two weeks, logistical arrangements have been made and tours have been lined up. The work is now focused on making contacts with local ethnic groups to get them involved and cosponsor the Conference, to solicit corporate donors and finally to start organizing various academic sessions. The details have been separately reported in *Zpravy SVU*.

With reference to the next SVU Congress, Rechcigl reported that he has made initial contact with the rectorate of Palacky University in Olomouc. They expressed interest but as yet they have not submitted any concrete plans.

The next point on the agenda was a discussion of several recent SVU initiatives, including Women's Issues, Accent on Youth and SVU Civil Society initiative. Rechcigl gave a glowing grade to Lois Herman for her efforts on behalf of the Women's Issues group. The group now includes some twenty "activists" from the US, Czech Republic and Slovakia. She regularly posts various items of interest on SVU Website (under Accent on Women), including news releases, statistical and research report on the women's situation in CR and SR, new job opening, conferences and meetings of interest to women, discussion of issues, resolutions, etc. With reference to Accent on Youth, an effort is made to constitute a nucleus group which would be

engaged in similar activities to those of the Women's Issues group. Interested individuals should e-mail us to [SVU1@aol.com](mailto:SVU1@aol.com).

With reference to Civil Society Initiative, VP Marc Weiss has pro-posed a special demonstrative project involving his Prague Institute and the SVU. The details will need to be worked out.

Another new initiative is the formation of a Jewish History and Culture Group headed by Ruth Davis who organized an excellent Jewish panel at SVU Congress in Plzen. Interested persons should contact her at: [Dobruska@aol.com](mailto:Dobruska@aol.com).

Progress has also been made on the SVU Fellows program, as Rech-cigl and Skalny reported. A six-member committee, constituting

various intellectual sectors, have completed their task of selecting candidates for SVU Fellows whose names will be submitted to SVU Council for vote.

Another item on the agenda was the discussion of SVU efforts toward preservation of our cultural heritage abroad. Under this rubric, Rechcigl reported on his successful efforts to transfer the SVU archives to IHRC Center at the University of Minnesota for safekeeping and for the use by scholars worldwide. The details have been reported in *Zpravy SVU*.

The SVU initiative to place a special marker in Annapolis to com-memorate Augustine Herman is still in statu nascendi. VP Dagmar White has been asked to take the initiative to call the appropriate offices in Annapolis to find out what needs to be done and then proceed with the project.

VP White was asked to organize a group of artists who would design various diplomas and certificates for SVU awards and finally, the Board approved the recommendation that the previous search committee for new leaders be changed to SVU Nominations Committee.

The next meeting date was set for March 15, 2003.

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## NEW FACES ON EXECUTIVE BOARD

### IVO BUDIL

Doc. RNDr. Ivo Budil, PhD., vystudoval Přírodovědeckou fakultu UK, disertační práci obhájil a PhD. získal na Filosofické fakultě UK (1994). Habilitoval se v oboru sociologie na Fakultě sociálních věd UK (2001). Působil na univerzitách v Lyonu a Aix-en-Provence (1994-1995) a na Johns Hopkins University (1999-2000). V letech 1991 až 1996 pracoval na 1. lékařské fakultě UK, od roku 1996 na Západočeské univerzitě v Plzni, od roku 1998 vedoucí katedry sociální a kulturní antropologie, v roce 1999 zvolen děkanem Fakulty humanitních studií Západočeské univerzity v Plzni (2002 zvolen na druhé období). Člen mimo jiné šesti vědeckých rad vysokých škol (například Filozofické fakulty UK).

Zabývá se především dějinami věd o člověku v širším historickém kontextu. Autor tří knih, *Mytus, jazyk a kulturní antropologie* (1992, 1995, 1998), *Za obzor Západu* (2001) a *Od prvotního jazyka k rase* (2002). Nositel Ceny Josefa Hlávky za nejlepší publikaci v oblasti společenských věd (2002).

### JOHN L. FIALA

John L. Fiala was born near Brainard, Nebraska which is located in the Bohemian Alps of east central Nebraska. Both his father and mother were born near Mysliborice in the Moravian province of the Czech Republic. His parents lost their farm during the Great Depression of the early 1930's. He attended schools in Lincoln, Nebraska. and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II aboard several naval ships and with the 1st Marine Division as a Disbursing Yeoman in the South Pacific. He graduated from Lincoln School of Commerce, Nebraska Western Col-lege, Chadron State College and LaSalle Law School with degrees in the field of law and criminology. He is a retired Claims Administrator from State Farm Insurance Company with whom he worked for over 41 years.

His activity in Czech and Slovak heritage, culture and traditions covers many areas. He is currently the Chairman and Pageant Director of the Miss Czech-Slovak USA Pageant which he and his lovely wife Lois founded and organized in 1985. He is also past President and currently President of the Nebraska Czechs, Inc. which is the umbrella for eleven Czech chapters in Nebraska. He is past President of the Nebraska Panhandle Czechs, Inc., a member of the Czech Language Foundation Board of Directors affiliated with the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, Vice President of the Nebraska Czechs of Wilber which sponsors and handles the National Czech Festival in Wilber each August, charter member and Treasurer of the Nebraska SVU Chapter and was elected a Vice President of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences during the 21st World Congress conference held in Plzen, Czech Republic.

His perpetuation of Czech and Slovak ancestry, heritage, culture and traditions is directed to the young people of society. During the last 16 years as chairman and pageant director of the Miss Czech-Slovak USA Pageant he has encouraged many, many young ladies to go out into society as ambassadors to sow the seeds of youth movement. In Nebraska he is known as "Mr. Czech". His knowledge and experience is reflected in many Czech message presentations about culture and traditions which he has given to many organizations and public schools. John has been instrumental in strengthening the proud Czechs and Slovaks in the Midwest of America with personal encouragement of their ancestry and heritage. His time is also being directed to organizing new SVU chapters Kansas, Iowa, Florida and Washington.

When not involved in Czech and Slovak events, he is a master of Magic. He has and still entertains people and events with his show called "Magic Moments". Lois and John are the sponsors and donors of the "Stephen Fiala Culture Memorial" presented to an outstanding person or persons at the SVU conferences. John and Lois are grandparents to four grandchildren and one great grandchild.

## ZLATICA PLAŠIENKOVÁ

PhDr. Zlatica Plašienková, CSc. (Ph.D.), was born 14. 3. 1957 in Brezno, SR. She is married and her husband RNDr. Dušan Plašienka, CSc., is a scientific worker at the Geological Institute of Slovak Academy of Science in Bratislava. They have two children: a son, Dušan is a student at the Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, and a daughter Alica who is 12 years old.

Zlatica completed elementary school in 1972 and finished high school (gymnazium) in 1976. She graduated from the Philosophical Faculty of the St. Petersburg State University in 1981, specializing in history of philosophy. She received "PhDr." degree in 1983 at the Philosophical Faculty of the Comenius University in Bratislava and her "CSc" degree (Ph.D.) in philosophy at the Philosophical Faculty of Comenius University in 1989.

Presently she teaches at the Department of Philosophy and History of Philosophy at the Philosophical Faculty of the Comenius University. Her specialization and courses: History of Ethics, Environmental Ethics, Philosophical Anthropology and Philosophy of Teilhard de Chardin — teilhardism. The last is the topic of her soon to be published book. She is author of over 50 scientific papers and book chapters in the field of Ethics, Environmental Ethics and Teilhardism.

Zlatica lectured at several universities in Poland, including Lodz, Olsztyn, Warsaw, Katowice and Crakow. She gave lectures for one term at the University of Cardinal Wyszyński in Warsaw at the Faculty of Christian Philosophy in 2000/2001 and for the academic year of 2001/2002 she received a scholarship from the Queen Jadwiga Fund at the Jagiellonian University in Crakow at the Institute of Philosophy. She is a member of the Slovak Philosophical Association, Polish Philosophical Society and of the SVU.

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## Společnost pro vědy a umění Studentské ceny pro rok 2003 Cena Dr Josefa Haška

Společnost pro vědy a umění oznamuje svou studentskou soutěž pro rok 2003. Jména výherců budou oznámena ve *Zprávách SVU* a čestné diplomy budou předány.

Hlavním účelem soutěže je podnítit a podpořit vědecký zájem zahraničních univerzitních studentů o české a slovenské záležitosti. Odměněny budou nejlepší seminární práce (jedna „undergraduate“ a jedna „graduate“), týkající se nějakého aspektu českých a (nebo) slovenských dějin, politiky či kultury. Výherci obdrží cenu dr. Josefa Haška ve výši \$250, čestný diplom, jednorozhodní studentské členství v SVU a jednorozhodní předplatné na SVU *Zpravodaj*.

Podmínky soutěže jsou následující:

- 1) Seminární práce musí být podána univerzitním profesorem, pro jehož kurs či seminář byla napsána a má být provázena jeho dobrozdáním.
- 2) Práce musí být napsána v akademickém roce 2002-2003. Diplomové práce, kapitoly thezí nebo dizertací nejsou přípustné.
- 3) Soutěžní práce musí komise obdržet nejpozději do **15. května 2003**.
- 4) Práce musí být zaslána v trojitém zkopírování na adresu předsedkyně komise: Prof. Věra Bořkovec, 12013 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, MD 20902. Musí být napsána na stroji, obřádku a může být psána česky, slovensky, anglicky, francouzsky nebo německy.
- 5) Členy komise, která hodnotí kvalitu obdržených prací, jsou: Prof. Věra Bořkovec (American University), Prof. Ivo Feierabend (San Diego State University) a Prof. Milan Hauner (University of Wisconsin).
- 6) Rukopisy se nevracejí.

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## An anthology of exile poetry published by SVU

„Chut' zraceného domova“ or „The Taste of a Lost Homeland“ is the title of one of the two recent SVU publications which was displayed and on sale at the 21st SVU Congress in Pilsen. The book is a hand-somely bound gift edition, with an elegant jacket bearing a reproduction of a 1993 painting by SVU member Oton Kovarik of Los Angeles.

This is a bilingual anthology of Czech and Slovak exile poetry with translations into English. Twenty-one poets who live or have lived in the USA and Canada are represented with close to a hundred poems. Some of the poems are translated by the authors themselves: in addition fourteen other translators have lent their talents to this endeavor. The uniting theme of the anthology is nostalgia and the poets' longing for the homeland which they left behind.

The book will certainly be a valuable tool for anyone teaching Czech or Slovak in America. Many SVU members will find in the anthology the works of some wellknown poets and to many old friends. Individual copies will be sold for \$18.00 plus shipping costs.

Anyone interested in purchasing the book should contact the Chief Editor of the anthology, Dr. Vera Borkovec, at 12013 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, MD 20902-1515, or E-mail her at [borkovec@erols.com](mailto:borkovec@erols.com).

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## In Memoriam

### JAROLD KNOX ZEMAN (1926-2000)

We only learned now that our longtime member Rev. Jarold Knox Zeman died on September 18, 2000, at the Valley Regional Hospital, Kentville, NS. Born and raised in Czechoslovakia, he came to Canada on scholarship in 1948 and chose to make Canada his home. He earned degrees at Charles University, Prague; Knox College at University of Toronto, and University of Zurich, Switzerland (Th.D.). He served as a Baptist minister in Toronto to his fellow Czech-speaking compatriots, followed by-a-pastorate in Villa Nova, Ontario (1949-1959). For the next decade, he assumed denominational leadership in the Department of Canadian Missions of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec. Upon completion of his doctorate in 1968, he was called to the Chair of Church History (and related topics) at Acadia Divinity College, Wolfville, NS, where he taught for 23 years until his retirement. He will be remembered by his students for his listening ear and caring heart as well as for his academic expertise. In recognition of his contribution to scholarship and leadership within his own denomination and interdenominationally, he was awarded honorary degrees by McMaster and Acadia Universities.

He authored several scholarly books on the Radical Reformation and numerous journal articles, both academic and popular. He served on many Baptist inter-church, academic boards and agencies including the CBC advisory board on religion and served a term as president of the Canadian Baptist Federation. He was an active member of his home church, New Minas United Baptist. He was a proud Canadian with keen interests in world affairs. He enjoyed the outdoors whether driving the vast distances across his adopted county, hiking on woodland trails, or putting in the garden. He passed on his love and appreciation of music to his children and grandchildren. A special trust, **DR. JAROLD K. ZEMAN MEMORIAL BURSARY**, has been established in his memory at the Acadia Divinity college by the family and friends.



### KOLOMAN SOKOL (1902-2003)

V decembri minulého roku sme oslávili majstrove sté narodeniny slávnostným otvorením Galérie Kolomana Sokola, spojenom s výstavou jeho obrazov, v krídle slovenského veľvyslanectva vo Washingtone.

Dnes so smútkom sa skládame nad jeho pamiatkou. Dvanásteho januára nás navždy opustil velikán slovenského výtvarného umenia Koloman Sokol. Zanechal nám monumentálne dielo svojho génia, odraz jeho duše, ktorá vždy sa obracala k trpiacim a utláčaným. Sokol sám si vybral tmistú cestu emigranta, aby nezradil princípy svojej umeleckej a osobnej slobody.

V Kolomanovi Sokolovi odišla veľká osobnosť slovenského výtvarného umenia, jeho výtvarný prínos presiahol hranice Slovenska. Zanechal nám svoje dielo, ktoré ho bude sprítomňovať cez budúce epochy.

MARY T. · IMKO, M.D.

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## REPORT TO SVU BOARD FROM SVU WOMEN'S ISSUES COMMITTEE

The SVU Women's Issues Committee has expanded significantly since the last Report to the SVU Board. Members of the SVU Women's Issues Committee/Program are:

Chair — Lois A. Herman-US, Anna Vysoka-US & Czech Republic, Petra Hejnova-Czech Republic & US, Alena Kralikova-Czech Republic, Lenka Simerska-Czech Republic, Robin Quizar-US, Viera Klementova-Slovakia, Amy Garrett-US, Alena Heitlinger-Canada, Alena Krizkova-Czech Republic, Ethna McDermott-Czech Republic & Ireland, Irena Coufalova-Czech Republic, Katarina Farkasova-Slovakia, Ivona Skande-rova-Czech Republic, Asako Umezu-Japan, Slavka Macakova-Slovakia, Monika Holeckova-Slovakia.

Our primary focus has been to form this core group of the SVU Women's Issues Program, to explain more about SVU, the Women's Issues Committee Resolution, our Women's Issues Panel at the SVU World Congress in Pilsen, AND to look ahead at what we might accomplish together.

A major communication vehicle for the SVU Women's Issues Committee, in addition to E-Mail interchange, has been the FOCUS On WOMEN subsite of the SVU website – <http://www.svu20000.org>.

SVU Women's Issues Committee members have increased the awareness of SVU and education thereof, from our referral to the website and our Women's Issues website. Just one example is our established connections now with the Network of East-West Women – <http://www.neww.org>, and the International Association of Women in Development – <http://www.awid.org>. It was at the AWID Forum in Mexico that SVU women were able to meet and dialogue.

E-Mail interchange with SVU Women's Issues Committee members has included very important news releases, statistical and text research reports, job openings, very often funding opportunities, and more.

An important next step will include responses to our CALL FOR ISSUES.

### CALL FOR CZECH & SLOVAK WOMEN'S ISSUES OF FOCUS

The SVU Women's Issues Standing Committee is calling Czech and Slovak women in home countries and the diaspora, to send us your defined Current Issues of Priority for Women, in the Czech Republic and in Slovakia. We are asking for issue specificity, and your rationale. We would appreciate any abstracts, research, reports, and data you have. We will prepare statements and seek support, including from diplomatic, foundation, and government contacts, to make our Women's Issues



targeted by the SVU Women's Issues Standing Committee, move to more awareness, more authenticity, more space in appropriate venues/audiences, for serious consideration and understanding.

We are well briefed on the importance of the momentum and requirements of the European Union Enlargement Process, and that this has brought women's issues to the agenda in a new way in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. However, paper changes are only a beginning, and there is a broad educational need for gender, a sense of belief of women's power and possibilities for women themselves and their organizations, and a need for commitment of enforcement codes, institutions, and financing, to make sustainable progress for civil society women in the Czech Republic, and Slovakia, as women move from Communism to a market economy and Democracy, and then potentially to part of the European Union.

Send Women's Issues suggestions and documentation to: Lois A. Herman, SVU Women's Issues Standing Committee Chair, e-mail: [mosie@pioneerplanet.infi.net](mailto:mosie@pioneerplanet.infi.net). We also invite all interested women to be part of our FIRST and GROWING, and SVU Board approved, SVU Women's Issues Standing Committee. Please also visit the subsite FOCUS On WOMEN on this SVU website.

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## From New SVU Rolls

**ANNA MARIA CERNY** is student at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA. She is a native Worcester, MA and holds academic degree from Worcester State College (B.A., 2002). She is also employed by the School as a laboratory research aide in immunology.

**TEREZA NOVOTNA** is a student at Charles University of Prague where she will receive her B.A. degree in political science. She is a native of Prague, Czechoslovakia. She is interested in East-European studies.

**LEAH BETH MARKOWITZ** is an international trade specialist at Central and Eastern Europe Business Information Center, U.S. Department of Commerce. She is a native of Detroit, MI and has academic degrees from University of Michigan (B.A. 1995) and George Washington University (M.A. 2002). She is interested in Jewish history and culture and Central and Eastern Europe.

**VLADIMIR KYSUCKY** is a student at the University of Economics in Bratislava. He is a native of Bratislava.

**LUBOR KUNC** holds the position of country account manager at AON CR s.r.o. in Prague, Czech Republic. He is a native of Prague and has been educated in commercial schools in Prague and Austria. He is continuing his studies at Masaryk University in Brno.

**RAYMOND AUGUSTINE HOLLY** is a bookkeeper with Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman and Goggin in Philadelphia. He is a native of Hazleton, PA and holds academic degree from Divine Word Seminary, St. Mary's Seminary, Techy, IL.

**TOMAS HALIK** holds the position of Professor of Philosophy at Charles University, Prague. He is a native of Prague and holds academic degrees from Charles University (Ph.D. in Philosophy, 1972), Lateran University in Rome (Th.Lic. 1992) and Political Theological Faculty in Wroclow (Th.Dr.hab. 1992). He is the author of over 200 publications, including 7 books (in Czech, German, Polish, Italian, and Spanish), textbooks, 32 chapters in books, numerous articles, in addition to over 70 editorials and popular articles in newspapers and periodicals.

**JAN M. CHARVAT** is a retired chemical engineer, residing in Visp, Switzerland. He is a native of Nitra and holds degrees from VŠCHT in Prague (Ing. in Chemistry, 1960) and Pacific Western University in Los Angeles (Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering, 1988). He has specialized in industrial management, process development, quality assurance, manufacturing, logistics, and production planning. He is the author of monograph, *Managing Operations in the Chemical Industry by Aggregate Quality* (1990).

**JAN CERNY** is a postdoctoral fellow at Roger Williams Medical Center at Providence, RI. He is a native of Prague and holds academic degree from Charles University (M.D. 1999). He is also continuing his studies toward Ph.D. at Charles University. His interests are: internal medicine, hematology, oncology, molecular biology and clinical research.

**L. JOE STEHLIK** is an independent attorney residing in Pawnee City, NE. He is a native of Humboldt, NE and holds academic degrees from University of Nebraska at Lincoln (B.S., in 1968 and J.D. in 1971). He is very active in community affairs.

**JAN OUHRABKA** is a chief executive officer and owner of Providence Chain Co. in Providence, RI. He is a native of Providence and acquired his education at Brown University. Apart from pursuing business opportunities in Czech Republic he has an active interest in genealogical research.

**LADISLAV VANYS** is Chairman and CEO of Anglo-American Business Institute and Center for Democracy and Free Enterprise, Prague, Czech Republic. He is a native of Prague and holds academic degrees from Charles University (Dipl. in Oriental and English Studies, 1966; Ph.D. in Oriental Studies, 1969; CSc. in Political History, 1990) and Syracuse University (M.A. in Political Science, 1968). His interests include democratic governance, entrepreneurship and book publishing.

**JIRI K. LUKAS** has recently retired as obstetrician and gynecologist who makes his residence in Lincoln, NE. He is a native of Brno where he received his MUDr. degree at Masaryk University. He is an outstanding photographer and devotes his time to photojournalism.

**KAREL PACAK** holds the position of a principal investigator at the National Institutes of Health. He is a native of Czechoslovakia and holds academic degrees from Charles University (MUDr. in 1984 and Ph.D. and DSc. in Neuroendocrinology in 1993 and 1999, respectively). He is author of over 100 original scientific papers and book chapters and recipient of numerous awards and prizes. His interests are in internal medicine, endocrinology and diabetes.

**HELENA J. LAWSON** is an Instructor at Manchester Community College, Manchester, CT. She is a native of Prague, Czechoslovakia and holds degrees from Central Connecticut State University (B.A. in English, 1973) and Trinity College, Hartford (M.A. in English, 1975; Teaching Certificate, 1977). Her interest are: English, French, Czech, poetry, fiction writing and publishing.

**JANA MAJER NEWMAN** is a senior supervising environmental scientist in South Florida Water Management district at West Palm Beach. She is a native of Maryland and holds academic degrees from Northeast Louisiana University (B.A., 1985). University of New Haven (M.S., 1993) and University of Connecticut (PhD., 1997). She specializes in water quality monitoring, treatment wetland performance and ecosystem restoration.

**MARTINA MINARIKOVA** is an independent artist who now resides in Dvur Kralove nad Labem in Czech Republic. She is a native of Bratislava and holds academic degree from the University of Applied Arts in Prague (M.A., 1993). Her specialty is art influenced by science.

**ALES POSPISIL** holds the position of Consul General of the Czech Republic in New York, NY. He holds an academic degree from Charles University (M.A. in English and Political Science) and, in addition, spent a year of study at Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania.

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## ACCENT ON YOUTH – NO. 1 PRIORITY

Upon assuming SVU Presidency at our General Assembly Meeting in June 2002, I stated that I would make SVU's initiative "Accent on Youth" our number one priority. I am pleased to report that the newly elected Executive Board has given the idea their full-hearted support.

It is my desire not only to revitalize the SVU ranks with young people but to eventually put them in the leadership roles. The young people are capable of organizing our conferences and congresses, taking charge of specific projects, editing monographs, etc.

We are obviously not starting from scratch. Some ground work has already been laid, thanks to last year's Youth Advisory Committee chaired by Anna Vysoka and by activating our SVU Forum run by Amy Garrett. Through our deliberate efforts we have also been extremely successful in the recruitment of young people and their roles are continually growing.

We are now entering the second phase of our initiative – a proactive stage – in which we want to get the young people involved in all aspects of our work. I am therefore asking the young people to come forward and get involved. There are tremendous opportunities for anyone who has ideas and is interested in doing something that is worthwhile while also advancing his/her own professional career.

In this connection, the SVU Executive Board has already appointed a special Search Leadership Committee whose function will be to seek potential leaders among the younger generation to succeed us, whose time has come to retire from leadership roles.

In the same vein, we would also like to constitute a new committee composed entirely of young people worldwide to help us with the next rejuvenation steps and with the preparation of a meaningful agenda for the future. Anyone who would like to participate in such a committee, please let me know.

A logical place for the young people to start are our SVU Local Chapters. Although a number of these chapters are doing an outstanding job, there are some which do very little. The age factor obviously plays a role here. Not too long ago, several of our chapters ceased to exist primarily because of the inability of the local members to find suitable leaders and partly because of the unwillingness of the previous officers to let new people take over. Chapters which are currently showing poor performance may follow them soon, unless some corrective action is taken. Here is a real opportunity for young people to change the trend by stepping forward and offering help. We have already advised these Chapters of the necessity to enlist assistance of our younger generation before it is too late. Consequently they may be receptive if you volunteer for some of the functions and/or activities.

What the young people can do has been amply demonstrated in Nebraska where the young people assumed leadership positions in the newly organized Nebraska Chapter. In less than 10 months they have had 26 different activities to their credit which outdistance all the other SVU chapters throughout the world.

We had similar experience during our last SVU World Congress in Plzen in June 2002. As I stated in my appraisal, "Plzen with Flying Colors", ". . . the Congress was a smashing success, which was due not in a small part to the young people, working under the leadership of Dean Ivo Budil. It was the army of his young people – there must have been some fifty of them – all of whom attend the University of West Bohemia, who made the difference. They seemed to be everywhere, handsome looking with pleasant smiles and helping hand, many of whom spoke flawless English. Most of them sat behind a whole array of computers, both at the registration desk and in the press room. They were not only computer literate, many of them were real pros. Some of these young people were in evidence already upon our arrival at the Prague Airport carrying highly visible signs "SVU World Congress" for easy identification. They were there on Saturday and Sunday, guiding the Congress participants to buses which too . . ."

In a category of its own, stands our capable Webmaster, Jiri Eichler, who has done wonders with our SVU Website and who can serve as the prime example of what a young person can do if given an opportunity.

In this spirit, I call on young people to get involved. Apart from doing something really worthwhile, you would also gain a unique experience and make personal contacts that may be helpful to you later on. Don't stand by – the train may pass you by!

We wish you would pass the word on to your friends and tell them about the advantages and benefits they would gain from SVU membership which is still only \$5 for students. Some of these benefits include: 1. to present papers in SVU conferences and world congresses; 2. to submit papers to the SVU English periodical Kosmas; 3. to periodically report on their progress and work in SVU Newsletter (actually we have a special column entitled "Focus on Our Younger Generation" for which we solicit success stories); 4. to participate in student essay contests; 5. to consult with many of our knowledgeable members at universities and other institutions throughout the world; 6. to assist in organizing future SVU congresses and conferences; 7. to work on special projects; 8. to become active in various SVU Committees or become SVU officers. You may, of course, have additional ideas. We welcome specific suggestions on how SVU could be helpful to students and young people starting their careers, on b.

The possibilities of your involvement are unlimited and your initiative is encouraged. Send your suggestions or comments to the following address: [SVU1@aol.com](mailto:SVU1@aol.com)

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

*MILA REHCIGL, SVU President*

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## Activities of SVU Members

During the recent floods, the Prague National Theater suffered considerable damage to its technical equipment. In response to its call for financial help, SVU Washington Chapter combined its annual Wine & Cheese Party with a fund-raiser and in November, 2002, its Treasurer Ota Safertal presented a check for \$2,600 to Daniel Dvorak, the theater's Director. In his response to Dr. Alexej Borkovec, Chairman of the Washington, DC chapter of SVU Mr. Dvorak expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the badly needed funds. The Wine & Cheese Party was held at the Czech Embassy in Washington, DC on September 26, 2002 and some guests came from out of town to help raise funds for the beloved National Theater.

## POCTA ČLENŮM

U příležitosti slavnostního odhalení pomníku prvního prezidenta Československé republiky Tomáše G. Masaryka ve Washingtonu, D. C. dne 19. září 2002, prezident Václav Havel udělil Medaile za zásluhy o Českou republiku I. stupně Profesoru Janu F. Třískovi, bývalému prezidentu SVU, a (posmrtně) Franku Marlowovi, bývalému pokladníku a generálnímu sekretáři SVU. Tímto činem poctil prezident Havel také naši Společnost.