



Brazos Valley Czech Heritage Society

P.O. Box 3383 – Bryan, TX 77805

Website: bvchs.webnode.com

September 2017

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BVCHS Meeting

September 19, 2017 at IHOP Restaurant

758 N. Earl Rudder Fwy – Bryan, Texas

6:30 p.m. dining – 7:00 p.m. Meeting & Program

“Prague Spring 1968” - Presentation by Stan Vitha

Post War history of Czechoslovakia, Stalinism in the 50s, reformist movement, invasion of Soviet Union and other friendly armies in August 1968, the era of “normalization” in the 70s and events leading to Velvet Revolution in 1989. What do beer and hockey have to do with this?

Event is a great opportunity for a history lesson, to learn about events BVCHS has planned and to reacquaint with chapter members.

BVCHS Czech Heritage Month Celebration

October 8, 2017

Polka Masses - 10:00 & 11:30 a.m. with Taylor Czech Chorus

St. Joseph Catholic Church – Bryan, Texas

Catered Meal Starting 1:00 p.m.

Dance at 1:30 p.m. – Music by Praha Brothers

St. Joseph Parish Activity Center

Our President's Thoughts

Thanks to everyone who provided responses to the Newsletter Survey in the first edition. Most responses favored quarterly newsletters. Please continue to provide feedback as the newsletter is for all members of the chapter. With summer on the wane, chapter activities pick back up, as evidenced by the schedule of upcoming events.

Please keep the victims of Hurricane Harvey in your thoughts and prayers as they begin the recovery process.

Bůh žehnej!
E.J.



Club News:

20th Anniversary Celebration

On May 21, 2017 Brazos Valley Czech Heritage Society celebrated their 20th Anniversary at the St. Joseph Parish Activity Center with 40 members and 7 guests present. Charter members in attendance were Marvin Dvoracek, Lorence and Zora Bravenec. Pictures and past club functions were on display for attendees to view.

To celebrate the occasion a delicious meal, catered by Joe & Mae Fazzino, and anniversary cake was enjoyed by all. During the BVCHS meeting, charter member Marvin Dvoracek gave a short talk about the formation of the organization in 1997. Zora Bravenec told about the formation of the Czech language class for the community. Then Jo Ann Zaeske, Historian, presented a historical summary of the society activities over the past 20 years.



CHS State Meeting

Seven members of BVCHS attended the CHS Summer State Meeting & Genealogy Conference held Saturday, July 15th at the Texas Czech Heritage & Cultural Center in La Grange, Texas. Five Chapter Anniversaries were recognized and celebrated with cake: Brazos Valley CHS – 20 years; Concho Valley CHS, Fayette Co. CHS, Ft. Bend Co. CHS and Ellis Co. CHS - 30 years.

Genealogy topics presented were "Texas Czech History & Historical Background" by Rhetta Slavik Chandler and "Immigration and Early Settlers" by Judge Ed Janecka.

During the State business meeting, it was announced that Galveston CHS will hold the State Queen's Pageant in 2018.

BVCHS member Christine Shimek, State CHS

Webmaster, spoke to the membership on the progress and challenges updating the CHS website. We know she will do a great job in this position.



2017 Novak-Zaeske Scholarship Award



The Brazos Valley Czech Heritage Society was honored to award Emily Hubacek the 2017 Novak-Zaeske Scholarship at the 20th Anniversary Celebration. Emily is the daughter of Richard and Lisa Hubacek and the granddaughter of Margaret Hubacek.

Emily graduated from Bryan High School ranked 13th in her class with an overall GPA of 4.739. As well as being an outstanding student, Emily was also a varsity athlete. She was on the BHS Varsity Volleyball and Softball team all four years of high school and also played competitive volleyball all four years of high school. In addition, Emily was a Girl Scout and camp BASIC leader with St. Joseph Keysis. She has been awarded the KBTX Classroom Champion Student/Athlete Award, District Offensive MVP, Academic All-State all four years of high school, plus many other awards. Other activities include a member of the National Honor Society, serving as Junior and Senior President and an active member of her church youth group.

Emily will be attending Texas A&M Corpus Christi this fall and plans to study Early Childhood Development in hopes of becoming an elementary school teacher. She was also given the opportunity to be a part of the Islander volleyball team as a recruited walk-on. Emily is looking forward to starting this new chapter of her life in Corpus Christi and we wish her the very best.

Submitted by Cheryl Wenck

Fall Czech Language Class

Brazos Valley Czech Heritage Society in conjunction with the Czech Educational Foundation of Texas will be offering Czech language classes starting September 11, 2017 at St. Joseph's Parish Activity Center. Classes will be every Monday night from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Cost will be \$35.00 for the semester.

Jan Beneš, the CEFT William J. Hlavinka fellow, will be the instructor.

For information regarding the class contact Jo Ann Zaeske at (979) 224-4434 or Lynette Urbanovsky at lurbanovsky@gmail.com

Club News (cont.):

Fall Baking Class

"Baking for Czech Christmas"

- St. Joseph PAC – Bryan, Texas
- 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Cost: \$35.00
- Instructor: Stan Vitha

For further information contact Stan Vitha at (979) 587-1777 or email: bohemian2012@aol.com

Membership:

Please welcome the following new members since May:

- Margaret Hubacek
- Luke Hubacek (Youth)
- Rebekah Hubacek (Youth)

Condolences

Our heartfelt sympathy extended to:

- Sharon Mena whose father Joseph Hill passed away on August 1, 2017.
- Charlene Lusk & Mae Fazzino in the loss of their brother, Willie John Matejka on August 11, 2017
- Chris, Jeannine, Jennifer & Lauren Koll in the loss of their mother, mother-in-law & grandmother, Rae Nell Taylor on August 16, 2017.

Please submit any recipes or news articles you think are relevant to the local Czech Heritage Society. Contact Marie Dulak at 979-589-1903 or email at mdulak52@gmail.com

Czech Vocabulary:

Jaro	Spring
Léto	Summer
Podzim	Autumn
Zima	Winter
Dýně	Pumpkin
Dušíčky	Halloween
Šťastné díkůvzdání	Happy Thanksgiving
Krocan	Turkey
Nádívka	Dressing
Sladké brambory	Sweet Potatoes
Adventní kalendář	Advent Calendar
Svatý Václav	St. Wenclaus
Veselé Vánoce	Merry Christmas
Jesličky	Nativity
Šťastný nový rok	Happy New Year

Recipe:

Palačinky

(Crepes – A Czech Specialty)

4 eggs	6 tablespoons butter
6 tablespoons flour	Powdered sugar
½ teaspoon salt	Whipped cream or topping
½ teaspoon vanilla	Shaved chocolate
½ cup milk	

In a bowl, beat eggs, add flour and beat till smooth. Add salt, vanilla, milk and beat well. Heat tablespoon of butter in heavy skillet until it sizzles. Pour in ½ cup batter and brown lightly, flip over, cook briefly and remove. Place fruit filling or jelly-jam on crepes. Roll up and sprinkle with sugar. Top with cream & chocolate. Serves 6.

Excellent dessert with strong black coffee. Apricot, strawberry and cherry fillings are favorites.

Alden Blamar Smith – Czech Reflections Cookbook

Upcoming Events

September 9	33 rd Annual Kolache Festival Caldwell, Texas
September 11	Fall Czech Language Class St. Joseph PAC
September 19	BVCHS Meeting & Program IHOP Restaurant Bryan, Texas
October 8	BVCHS Czech Heritage Celebration
October 14	BVCHS Baking Class "Baking for Czech Christmas" St. Joseph PAC Kitchen
October 20-21	Heritage Fest & Muziky Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center La Grange, Texas
November 5	BVCHS membership meeting St. Joseph PAC - 2 p.m.
November 11	CHS State Fall Meeting San Antonio, Texas
November 18	Brazos Valley Worldfest Brazos Expo Center Bryan, Texas
December 1	BVCHS Christmas Party, St. Joseph PAC
December 2	Christmas Open House TCHCC – La Grange, Texas