

2023 MAY



Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln

FRIDAY, MAY 12

MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Reservations due by Friday, May 5

Cancellations required by Wednesday, May 10 by 9:00 p.m.

Reservations that are made, but not kept and not cancelled by the deadline will be billed.

We have to pay for all reservations made even if you don't attend.

LOCATION: HyVee 2nd Floor Party Room
1601 N 84th St, Lincoln, NE 68505

SOCIAL TIME: 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

WELCOME & DINNER: 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. (Cost \$15.00)

MEAL: **Taco Bar:** corn and flour tortillas, corn tortilla chips, two meat choices, toppings, Spanish rice, refried or black beans, tea and water

BUSINESS MEETING: 6:30 to 6:45 p.m.

PROGRAM: 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.

TOPIC: **THE VELVET DIVORCE:
Splitting Chechia & Slovakia
BILL SMRIGA**

LEADER:
RESERVATIONS: 402-416-6390 (avolf83@gmail.com)

**CZECH REPUBLIC
MAY PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**
May 1, Labor Day
May 8, Victory in Europe Day
Liberation Over Fascism Day

Newsletter Contact

Lois Shimerda Rood
lois@loisrood.com
402-570-2333

Submissions deadline:
2nd Friday of each month
Distribution date:
Last Friday of each month

WEBSITE:
lincolnczechs.org/

2023 CLUB CALENDAR

May 7: Festival @ Pla Mor

- May 12: Membership Meeting
- September 8: Membership Meeting
- October 13: Membership Meeting
- November 10: Membership Meeting
- December 8: Membership Meeting
- 3rd Tuesday: Conversation Club (Zoom)
- Last Tuesday: Reading Circle (Zoom)

CZECH COSTUME FESTIVAL CONTEST

Wear your krojel!

This year, the festival Queens are conducting a contest for the best-dressed male and female costumes worn by festival attendees on May 7th. So, be sure to wear whatever Czech costumes you may have. You could be a winner!

STAFFING FESTIVAL

Can you volunteer?

Call Deb or Connie Jean

Set Up at 8:00 a.m.

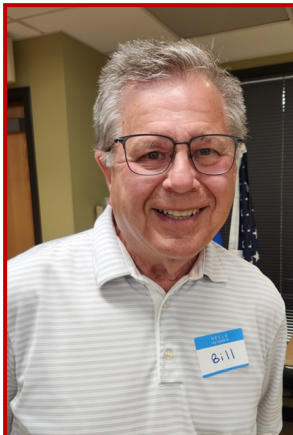
Bake Sale, Food Service, etc.

Deb Vocasek:

dvocasek@hotmail.com; 402-570-7300

Connie Jean Hulinsky:

luconnie@windstream.net; 402-464-5184



For Better or Worse The Velvet Divorce 30 Years Later

On January 1, 1993 Czechoslovakia peacefully separated into two independent states. How and why did this happen? And why did two nationalities...the Czechs and the Slovaks....decide to become one country after World War I? I plan to briefly describe the history and distinct cultures, differences and similarities of the Czech and Slovak people, how they got along for 75 years, and how they split up. I will also discuss how the Czechs and Slovaks feel about each other, and if they regret the split. Numerous Czechs and Slovaks I know have shared their opinions with me. These opinions range from good to bad to indifferent.

Meet Bill Smriga

I retired from Kansas State University in 2018. I was the Executive Director of the Kansas State Student Union corporation. In 2020 my wife Elaine and I moved to Lincoln to be closer to my son and his family, which includes three small grandchildren. My parents and two older sisters immigrated from Czechoslovakia, and I was born in the US shortly thereafter. I grew up in Whiting, Indiana, and attended Indiana University, where I received my Bachelor's and Master's degrees. I have worked at five different universities, including Indiana University, University of Missouri, and Kansas State University. I have visited the Czech Republic and Slovakia numerous times and have hosted Czech and Slovak University students here in the US.

FESTIVAL SILENT AUCTION

Bring donations to the May 7 Festival

Auction starts at noon and ends at 3:00 p.m.



2023 FESTIVAL

Flag Ceremony at 10:45 a.m.



ARE YOU A VETERAN? Let us know!

We will present both the American and Czech flags at our festival on May 7th and sing both national anthems. We want to recognize our members who are veterans at that time. Let us know if you have served, and thank you for your service!

VETERAN VOLUNTEER Present Czech Flag

We also want a veteran volunteer or military person to carry the Czech flag.

Please let Deb Vocasek know your veterans status and if you would volunteer to present the Czech Flag.

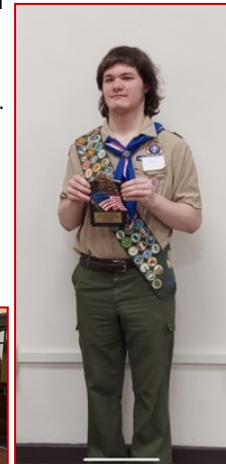
Deb Vocasek: dvocasek@hotmail.com; 402-570-7300

JOHNNY VOLF WINS AWARD

The Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln 2017/2018 Prince has received the 2023 Eagle Scout Project of Year Award. This is the Cornhusker Council Salt Valley District Award. His project was the re-painting of the symbols on the front of the Wilber Czech Museum. He worked with Doris Ourecky, a founder of the museum and Wilber Czech Festival. Heidi Pospisil of the Wilber Czech Cottage donated paint and supplies. Johnny will present the American flag at the May 7th festival.

EAGLE SCOUT

PROJECT OF THE YEAR



MAY 24 IS GIVE TO LINCOLN DAY Remember ... *The Czech Language Foundation*

We are fortunate to have The **Czech Language Foundation** listed among the organizations that may receive donations on Give to Lincoln Day, May 24th, 2023.

From the website: <https://www.givetolincoln.com/>

Give to Lincoln Day, coordinated by Lincoln Community Foundation, is a time when everyone in Lincoln is asked to make a donation toward the organizations that are critical to the care, support and spirit of our great city.

The Czech Language Foundation

Czech has been taught at the University of Nebraska since 1907. Many Nebraska citizens of Czech Heritage as well as some Czech ex pats want this to continue for many years into the future. To this end, the Czech Language Foundation was formed "to promote, improve, enhance and maintain the instruction of Czech language and related activities at the University." The Foundation's actions include sponsoring activities to encourage the study of Czech and providing scholarships to students of Czech. Diky moc za vaši pomoc!

You can donate by following these simple steps:

1. Go to the website: <https://www.givetolincoln.com/>
2. In "Search by Name" type in Czech Language Foundation and click on "GO"
3. Click on the Czech Language Foundation Logo
4. From here you will get instructions on how to donate on May 24th.

Mark your calendar!!! LINCOLN CZECH FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 7th at Lincoln's Pla Mor Ballroom - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

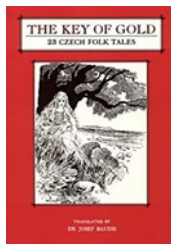
THE READING CIRCLE

MONTH: MAY 30, 2023

LEADER: MILA ŠAŠKOVÁ-PIERCE, PH.D.

BOOK: CZECH FOLK TALES (1917)

AUTHOR: JOSEF BAUDIS



OUR LEADER MILA ŠAŠKOVÁ-PIERCE is one of the coordinators of the Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln Reading Circle. Professor of Russian and Czech Emerita, and former Head of the Less Commonly taught Languages Section, Dr. Mila Šašková-Pierce has been at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln since 1989. She has published articles on learning processes; American Czechs' cultural history; Russian, Ukrainian, Slovak, and Czech languages in the United States. At present, she is translating 18th century Czech chronicle into English, with Layne Pierce. She has received the prestigious Gratias Agit Prize from the government of the Czech Republic for the Czech cultural activities of the Komensky Club at UNL and in Nebraska. Since 1917, she has served the Czech Republic as an Honorary Consul for the State of Nebraska.

BOOK: CZECH FOLK TALES (1917)

AUTHOR: JOSEF BAUDIS

The selection has been made from all sorts of folk tales, artistic and primitive alike; and yet two things are common to all of them: the moral tendency and a sense of humour. By this I do not mean morality in the vulgar sense of retribution for evil, or of filial devotion, or the sentimental insistence upon ... *every one living happily ever afterwards*, and above all, upon Jack marrying his Molly. Available: HathiTrust Digital Library Full View U.S. Only (Source: Bookshop.org)

READING CIRCLE CONTACTS

Lois Shimerda Rood 402-570-2333;

lois@loisrood.com

Layne Pierce 402-770-5029;

layne.pierce@yahoo.com

Mila Šašková-Pierce 402--770-4624

msaskova-pierce1@unl.edu

In Loving Memory

Mary Ann Havlovic

September 30, 1928—April 6, 2023

Mary and her husband Bob were very active members of the Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln and Mary Ann always did a lot of baking for the Lincoln Czech Festival. They were always there to help with any of our club activities. They were a fun couple, and very proud of their Czech heritage. Tom Zumpfe

Svoboda Funeral Home Obituary: <https://marcysvoboda.com/obituaries/mary-ann-havlovic/>

Lincoln Journal Star: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/journalstar/name/mary-havlovic-obituary?id=51597529>

THE COURTESY CORNER

**Connie Jean Hulinsky, Chairperson
Courtesy Committee**

- ◆ If you are new to our club or a guest, please introduce yourself to our Courtesy Committee Chairperson, **Connie Jean Hulinsky**.
- ◆ Give her a call if you need a ride to a meeting or an event.
- ◆ Let her know if you are aware of someone who is celebrating something very special or is in need of our support.

Connie Jean Hulinsky

Chairman, Courtesy Committee 2023

402-464-5184 (leave message)

(land line with recorder after four rings)

Luconnie@windstream.net

CZECH CONVERSATION CLUB

May 16, 2023

Řekněte to česky!

Via ZOOM

Next virtual meeting will be on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The ZOOM link is: 825 9793 8964 and password 231581 For questions call: 402-770-4624. This is for participants who are conversant in the Czech language, and therefore, it is not a language teaching space for beginning learners.



Slavit! Celebrate!



NEBRASKA CZECH FESTIVALS 2023

May 7—Pia Mor Ballroom, Lincoln
Lincoln Czech Festival
Crowning of the Lincoln Czech-Slovak Queen
1:00 p.m.

June 3
Hastings/South Central Czech Festival

June 11
Milligan June Jubilee

June 23, 24, 25
Clarkson Czech Festival
Crowning of the Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen
Saturday, June 24 at p.m. Main Stage on Main Street

July 21, 22, 23
Dwight Czech Festival

August 4, 5, 6
Wilber Czech Festival
Crowning of the National Czech-Slovak Queen
Saturday & Sunday, August 5 & 6 at 7:00 p.m.

August 12
Prague Czech Heritage Day

September 9
Milligan Saint Wenceslas Brewfest

October 15
York Czechfest

* Presentation date, time & location of the **Dr. Vladimir Kucera Award** is determined each year based on what is convenient for that year's recipient.

CZECH MAYPOLE DANCING

Learn all about Czech Maypole Dancing at: <http://www.maypoledance.com/maypoledance.html>

OUT-OF-STATE MAY CZECH FESTIVALS

Houby Days—Cedar Rapids, IA
May 19 at 10:00 to May 21 at 3:00 p.m.
Czech Heritage Foundations

Slavnost 'May Fest' – La Grange, TX
May 21, 2023
Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center

National Polka Festival - Ennis, Texas
May 26 – 28, 2023
56th Annual Festival

Nebraska Czechs Raffle Czech Flag Quilt

Drawing in Clarkson
June 24th

Buy and/or sell Tickets
\$1.00 each

Tickets available at the Lincoln Czech Festival



CZECH REPUBLIC MAY PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Monday, May 1 2023
Labor Day

Celebration\ Observance

People will spend the day relaxing with family and friends. Some will attend a union or workers parade event to celebrate the advancement of workers rights.

History

Labor Day is a relatively new holiday because the workers movement did not get much attention until the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries when factory workers' human rights were violated with extreme work conditions.

Monday, May 8 2023
Victory in Europe Day
Liberation over Fascism Day

Celebration\ Observance

On this holiday people attend churches, sing patriotic songs, and remember those who have died in the War. Most schools learn about Nazi oppression and World War 2 before Czech Republic Victory Day happens. Most buildings are closed other than airports and railway stations..

History

The day is remember the end of World War 2 and the liberation from the fascist who ruled over the country for 6 years. Source: https://www.calendardate.com/cz_labor_day.htm