

2023 NOVEMBER



MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, November 10

Reservations due by Wednesday, Nov. 8

If you make a reservation but don't attend, we will bill you since we are still charged for your meal.

Please let us know if you have special dietary needs when you make your reservations.

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: Oven roasted turkey on top of a bed of stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean casseroles & butter, tea and water

serole

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

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

TOPIC: **Genealogy—For Beginners & Experts Alike**

LEADERS: **Maurice & Bev Vonacek**

RESERVATIONS: 402-416-6390



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Our October 13 program, 'Ancestral Mapping of the Czech Lands' was, to say the least, most interesting as our members discovered and pinned their ancestral locations. The mapping remains as a perpetual work-in-progress as our members discover additional ancestors.

This leads us right into our November 10 program, 'Genealogy – For Beginners & Experts Alike'. Expect the November program to be filled with a plethora of information, resources, tips, how-to's & pitfall avoidances allowing for better genealogy research. Whether you are just getting started researching your family tree or a seasoned veteran with a full tree in bloom, I promise, there will be something of interest for everyone. We will have handouts that will help you get started and/or assist as you continue down the yellow brick road journey.

Do you know the golden rule of genealogy? "Genealogy Starts with You! Start with yourself and work backwards in time. Start with what you know and then move into the unknown." On the surface this may seem somewhat simple as you have two parents, four grandparents, eight great grand parents and sixteen great-great grandparents.... mathematically it is simple, finding information for each of these folks is where you will question your sanity. So, please join us November 10...it's going to be great!

'Genealogy = Confusing the dead and annoying the living' -
by Unknown Author



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Connie Jean Hulinsky
Diane Vesely-Robb

WEBSITE
Lincolnczechs.org
FACEBOOK
www.facebook.com/LNKCzechs

NEWSLETTER
Contact lois@lolsrood.com
402-570-2333

2023 CLUB CALENDAR
November 10: Membership Meeting
December 8: Membership Meeting

3rd Tuesday: Conversation Club (Zoom)
Last Tuesday: Reading Circle (Zoom)

MEETING LOCATION
HyVee 84 & Holdrege
5:30 Social - 6:00 Dinner

COMENIUS: Life & Legacy of Jan Amos Comenius FREE ADMISSION!

Kearney World Theatre
2318 Central Ave, Kearney, NE 68847
November 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Contact: Timothy L. Price
c. 531-217-1212
website: <https://www.labyrinthoftheworld.com/>

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Friday, November 10 MEMBERSHIP MEETING ELECTION OF OFFICERS

HyVee, 1601 N 84th St. Lincoln
5:30 pm Social; 6:00 pm. Dinner

Thursday, November 16 COMENIUS: Life & Legacy of Jan Amos Comenius

Kearney World Theatre, 7:00 p.m.
2318 Central Ave, Kearney, NE 68847
Kearney, NE

Thursday, November 23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Club events in Red Type

Czech Children's Gifts

at the Czech/Slovak Educational Center & Cultural Museum



The Little Mole (Krtek)
Art Prints
Czech Marionettes
Czech Dolls
Children's Books

**CZECH it
off your
Christmas
list!**

Shop online or in person
<https://czechandslovakmuseum.org/>



NEBRASKA CZECHS OF LINCOLN CZECH READING CIRCLE & CZECH CONVERSATION CLUB

THE READING CIRCLE

MONTH: NOVEMBER 28, 2023

**LEADERS: CATHLEEN OSZLY, B.A. &
TOM ZUMPFE, P.E.**

BOOKS: PURRKIN THE TALKING CAT (1935
Czech; 1966 English Translation)

AUTHOR: JOSEF LADA



**2023 WINNERS
DR VLADIMIR KUCERA
AWARD**

**LEADERS, TOM ZUMPFE
AND CATHLEEN OSZLY,**

live on an acreage east of Lincoln, Nebraska with their dog Bella. **Cathleen Oszly**, graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Education. She worked 30-plus years as an Academic Advisor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. **Tom Zumpfe**, is a Registered Professional Engineer in Nebraska. He is owner of R. T. Zumpfe Engineering, Inc. in Lincoln. Both are 100% Czech and have each discovered several generations of ancestors from Bohemia. They are active in The Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln, and support many Czech activities. Together, they celebrate and promote their Czech heritage with family and friends. Cathleen is an amateur genealogist tracing the Zumpfe family back to the 1640's. They have visited the Czech Republic 13 times and are ready to go again! They are most proud of their inception of the **Czech Language Foundation Scholarship Partnering Program** which allows organizations and individuals to sponsor scholarships for students of Czech Language at UN-L. At the time, Czech Language classes were in peril of being discontinued after being taught for 100 years. Enrollment is now at an all-time high.

DECEMBER READING CIRCLE NOTICE:

Carter Hulinksy will present Karel Capek's *The Gardner's Year* on **Tuesday, December 12th**, 2023. Same time, same link.

READING CIRCLE CONTACTS

Lois Shimerda Rood	402-570-2333;
lois@loisrood.com	
Layne Pierce	402-770-5029;
layne.pierce@yahoo.com	
Mila Saskova-Pierce	402--770-4624
msaskova-pierce1@unl.edu	

BOOK: PURRKIN THE TALKING CAT

(1935 Czech; 1966 English)

AUTHOR: JOSEF LADA

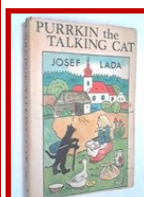


Photo: Josef Lada,
Wikipedia



In this children's book, Peter, a village boy, teaches his cat, Purrrkin, to talk and Purrrkin then teaches the pig and the goat. They have many splendid adventures. Sadly, the cat's name was reassigned from Mikeš to Purrrkin in the translation. Lada wrote and illustrated several books on the adventures of Mikeš, a little black cat who could talk. This one is translated into English Josef Lada (1887-1957) was an artist, illustrator and writer. The leaders will introduce you to Josef Lada, the man, and his incredible contributions to Czech culture. In his career he illustrated over 200 books, some fairytale anthologies for children, others like Švejk, intended for grown ups. Lada is credited with over 15,000 illustrations. He worked as a cartoonist for several newspapers and became famous for his landscapes and village paintings which ended up in private collections.

WANT TO BE A LEADER FOR THE 2024 READING CIRCLE?

Would you like to choose a book and be a leader for one of our 2024 Reading Circles? If so, please contact one of the three people listed below. Let them know which book you would like to review and all of the months that you would be available to be a leader. Thanks.



CZECH CONVERSATION CLUB

Řekněte to česky!

Via ZOOM

November 21@ 7:00 p.m.

Participants should already know some Czech, either as heritage speakers, or former students of the language.

Members can prepare material for the themes that are conversed about and share it with the club members. For information contact

msaskova-pierce1pierce1@unl.edu

CZECH/SLOVAK EDUCATIONAL CENTER & CULTURAL MUSEUM

8106 S 84th St, La Vista, NE 68128

402-686-9837

Open Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Visiting this South Omaha center of Czech culture is an aesthetic experience!

Thanks to COLLEEN KURMEL for the tour!

Every display is a work of art!

DON'T MISS IT!

Only 50 miles from Lincoln



Slovak & Czech Kroj



Czech Crystal



Czech Embroidery



Josef Lada Art



The Sokol Room



The Bohemian Cafe



The Accordion Wall



The Music Room



Czech Marionettes



**Beautiful gifts
for the holidays**
Shop in person or online



RACHEL SWEENEY GREEN

Wants to bring Czech classical music to American vocalists

Fiala Award Recipient

THE FIALA AWARD

Every year the Czech Language Foundation presents this important award to a student of the Czech language. This award was made possible from the generous financial support of John Fiala, a strong supporter of the Czech Language Program at the University of Nebraska Lincoln.



Rachel Sweeney Green receiving the Fiala Award from Czech Language Foundation President, Layne Pierce.

Rachel Sweeney Green's Essay

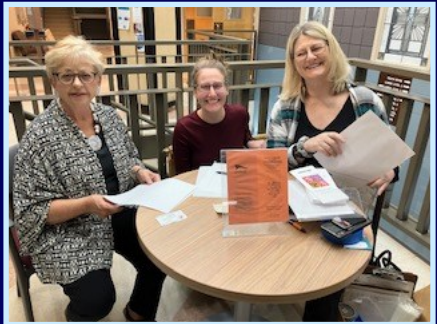
My name is Rachel Sweeney Green, and I am currently a 3rd year DMA student studying Vocal Performance at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I grew up in Blair, Nebraska, received my undergraduate degree from Wayne State College, and received my masters degree in vocal performance in Oklahoma. It is great to back in my home state. I have been singing opera and classical music for a little over 10 years. When I first started singing, I never thought I would have the pleasure of learning the Czech language and discovering Czech culture. I thought I would be teaching K-12 music in a small town somewhere in Nebraska. However, I am so excited that I am now at UNL studying music and the Czech language.

About five years ago a voice teacher introduced a new aria to me and suggested that I learn the music. The music was so beautiful it brought me to tears. The music seemed too perfect for me to even attempt. Learning the music and pronunciation was difficult. It wasn't until years later that I met wonderful professors who helped me perfect these skills. Just this past year, I had the opportunity to perform this same aria for the Czech ambassador, as well as in Graz, Austria with the American Institute of Musical Studies. This aria was none other than the world-famous piece from Dvořák's opera *Rusalka*, "Měsíčku na nebi hlubokém."

While I was completing my master's at the University of Oklahoma, I had the pleasure of study with vocal coach Dr. Elizabeth Avery. In 2018 I took a course with her titled "Czech Diction." This course was designed to help vocalists properly pronounce the Czech language while singing. During the process of learning how to pronounce words correctly I learned that there are many pieces of music from the Czech Republic that are not represented or performed here in the States. This music speaks to the soul and should be appreciated by more people. **So, I decided that I wanted to make this music, like that of Kaprálová, Janíček, Dvořák, Smetana, and many more, approachable and accessible for vocalists in the States.**

In 2019 I made the decision to pursue a doctoral degree in vocal performance. While looking at different Universities and Conservatories, the choice became easy. I wanted to attend a program that had a great vocal department and offered Czech language courses. Nebraska became the perfect home for my academic goals to be accomplished. I wanted to learn the language that was connected to the music that continues to inspire me today. The Czech language program has offered so many opportunities to me. I have been greatly encouraged by the program and the amazing Czech community in Nebraska. Thank you for supporting the many students who aspire to learn this beautiful language.

As I finish my doctoral degree here at Nebraska, I am pleased that I had the opportunity to be a part of the Czech program. **My goal is still to make Czech písně approachable to young vocalists.** My doctoral dissertation is "**Making Czech Art Song More Approachable and Accessible for Beginner Vocalists.**" I am truly hopeful that this information will introduce young vocalists to the music and language I have come to love. Thank you for helping me achieve my goals. I will continue performing and promoting music by Czech composers.
Děkuji



SINCE 1907



Czech Language Classes at UNL

**Today the largest undergraduate Czech language program in the U.S.
2023 CZECH LANGUAGE FOUNDATION BANQUET**

2023 MEMBERSHIP GOAL 100 MEMBERS



NEBRASKA CZECHS OF LINCOLN FARMER'S MARKET IN THE HAYMARKET September 16, 2023

(Photo: L to R) **Diane Vesely-Robb, Connie Jean Hulinsky, Susan Nagle, Mike Nagle & Andrea Volf**
These volunteers spent the morning promoting our club and recruiting new members.

Only **10** New Members
Needed to Reach Our Goal
WE CAN DO IT!

Try to bring a guest to our
November or
December meetings
Maybe they'll want to join us!

THE COURTESY CORNER

Let us 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



Struggle for Freedom & Democracy Day November 17



Mila Šašková, student protester , Prague, 1968

Student Protests in Prague, November 17, 1989

November 17th commemorates two important events in Czech history. The first being a student demonstration against Nazi occupation in 1939 and the second being the beginning of the **Velvet Revolution** in 1989 ending control of Czechoslovakia by the Communists.

On October 28, **1939, Jan Opletal**, a student at Charles University in Prague was shot in the stomach during a demonstration against the Nazi occupation. He died on November 11. Nazis stormed the University of Prague and executed nine student leaders on November 17th. Over 1200 students were sent to concentration camps.

In **1989**, on November 16th, students held a peaceful demonstration in Bratislava commemorating the 50th anniversary of the 1939 student protests. A larger demonstration occurred the next day in Prague. The protests turned into a protest against the control of the communist regime. The November 17th demonstration was suppressed which led to rioting. On November 28th, the Communist Party relinquished its power. On December 29th, **Vaclav Havel** became the new president of Czechoslovakia.



Jan Opletal

Shot October 28, 1939
Died November 11, 1939
Nazi execution of 9 student
leaders November 17, 1939



Vaclav Havel

Last President of Czechoslovakia
from 1989 to 1992
First President of the Czech
Republic from 1993 to 2003

November 17th is also known as
International Students Day and celebrates students
participation in the democratic political process.