

2024 APRIL



Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln

CZECH PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
April 1, 2024
Easter Monday

MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024

Reservations due by Wed., April 10, 2024

If you make a reservation but don't attend, we will bill you since we are 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: Asian Bar: broccoli beef, cashew chicken, fried or steamed rice, egg rolls & crab rangoon

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

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

TOPIC: The Celts in the Czech Lands

LEADER: Cathleen Oslzly & Tom Zumpfe

Celts in the Czech Lands

Tom Zumpfe & Cathleen Oslzly



Who were the Celts?
How did they impact the formation of the Czech lands?
How did the term "Bohemia" originate?
What is the "Mšecké Žehrovice Hero"?
Have you ever heard of the Kounov Stones?
These are questions that will be addressed at the April meeting. The history of the Celts will be abbreviated to fit into the time allotted but you will leave the meeting hopefully with a greater understanding and appreciation of our Czech ancestors.

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
President: Andrea Volf
Vice President: Rachel Taylor
Secretary: Sinda Dux
Treasurer: Linda Taborek
Festival Chair: Deb Vocasek
Board Members
Connie Jean Hulinaky (ex. 12/31/2024)
Patti Hust Fortik (ex. 12/31/2025)
Diane Vesely-Robb (ex. 12/31/2026)

WEBSITE
[Lincolnczechs.org](https://www.lincolnczechs.org)
FACEBOOK
<https://www.facebook.com/LNKCzechs/>
NEWSLETTER
Contact lol@lolsrood.com
402-570-2333

2024 CLUB CALENDAR
April 12 Membership Meeting
May 5 Lincoln Festival
May 10 Membership Meeting
September 13 Membership Meeting
October 11 Membership Meeting
November 8 Membership Meeting
December 13 Membership Meeting

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

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

MONTH AT A GLANCE

April 12, 2024
Membership Meeting

April 13, 2024
Kolace Baking Event

April 16, 2024—Zoom
Czech Conversation Club

April 20, 2024
Omaha Czech/Slovak Festival

April 27, 2024
Rohliky Baking Event

April 28, 2024
New Sokol Museum—Omaha
Grand Opening

April 30, 2024—Zoom
Reading Circle

May 5, 2024
LINCOLN CZECH FESTIVAL

Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln
Events in Red Type



APRIL IS OUR CLUB'S BIRTHDAY MONTH!

Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln was organized in 1974

On April 19, 1977 our Articles of Incorporation were filed with Secretary of State
 Our first officers were: President, James Sabata; Vice President, William Shandera;
 Secretary Phyllis Sabata; Treasurer, Elsie Ceclie

THE PRESIDENTS LEADING US THROUGH FIVE DECADES

1974 Jacob Hamsa, 1984 Robert Rohla, 1994 Rod Rozanek, 2004 Rod Rozanek, 2014 Anne Callahan





Mark Your Calendar!

LINCOLN CZECH FESTIVAL

Sunday, May 5th
Pla Mor Ballroom
6600 W O St
Lincoln, NE 68528

Be a part of it!
How you can help...
Donate items to the Silent Auction
Bake kolache on April 13 (date changed)
Bake rohliky on April 27
Serve food at the festival
Sell baked goods at the festival
Help set up or tear down

Contact:
 Deb Vocasek at: dvocasek@hotmail.com
 Andrea Volf at: avolf83@gmail.com

CZECH BAKING

for our Lincoln Festival

April 13 - Kolache Baking

8:00 a.m. Dough Makers; 9:00 a.m. Other Volunteers

April 27—Rohliky Baking

9:00 a.m. All Volunteers

Donations Needed!

Write checks to the Lincoln Czech Club (memo: bake sale)

Send to Linda Taborek, Treasurer
 524 S 53rd St., Lincoln, NE 68510

Location for Both Events

Hickman Presbyterian Church

300 E 3rd St, Hickman, NE 68372

Contact:

President, Andrea Volf

SOKOL SOUTH OMAHA

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH, 2024

SOKOL GYMNASTICS
 3632 S 144TH ST
 OMAHA, NE 68144

COME SEE OUR NEWLY RENOVATED
 GYM AND ENJOY:

DRINKS AND KOLACHE
 GYMNASTICS DEMONSTRATION @2:30
 MUSEUM TOUR
 FACE PAINTING
 MUSIC
 SOKOL APPAREL FOR SALE



GRAB A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BEFORE YOU LEAVE!

Omaha Czech-Slovak Cultural Festival

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Noon-4:30 pm

St. Nicholas Community Center
 5008 Harrison Street, Omaha, NE

**Czech Dinners—Noon until sold
 out**

Roast Pork \$18 Guláš \$18
 1/2 Duck \$27 Hot Dog Plate \$5

Noon Music Jamboree
 1:00 Opening Ceremony
 1:30 South Omaha Gymnastics Demonstration
 2:00 Kenny Janak Orchestra
 3:00 Czech Queen Presentations & Kroje Parade
 3:30 Kenny Janak Orchestra

Vendors featuring crystal, garnet jewelry & gifts from the
 Czech & Slovak Republics, Czech Beers, Baked Goods, Great
 Raffle Prizes! Plenty of Parking

Presented by the Omaha Czech/Slovak Cultural Club

<https://www.facebook.com>

[OmahaCzechSlovakCulturalClub/](https://www.facebook.com/OmahaCzechSlovakCulturalClub/)

Donors: Omaha Sokol, Automatic Printing, Better Life, Ralston

NEBRASKA CZECHS OF LINCOLN CZECH READING CIRCLE & CZECH CONVERSATION CLUB

MONTH: April 30, 2024
BOOK: *Reflections of Prague: Journeys through the 20th Century* (2006)

AUTHOR: Ivan Margolius
LEADER: Hana Waisserová, Ph.D.
SUMMARY:

Reflections of Prague is the story of how a Czech Jewish family become embroiled in the most tragic and tumultuous episodes of the twentieth century. Through their eyes we see the history of their beloved Prague, a unique European city, and the wider, political forces that tear their lives apart. Their moving story traces the major events, turmoil, oppression and triumphs of Europe through the last hundred years – from the Austro-Hungarian Empire to the First World War; from the vibrant artistic and intellectual life of Prague in the times of Kafka, the Capek brothers and Masaryk to years of hunger in a Polish ghetto and the concentration camps of Hitler; from the tyrannous rule of Stalin to the rekindled hopes of Dubcek and the subsequent Soviet occupation to liberation under Havel. Told from Ivan's perspective, it is a poignant but uplifting tale that tells of life lived with purpose and conviction, in the face of personal suffering and sacrifice.

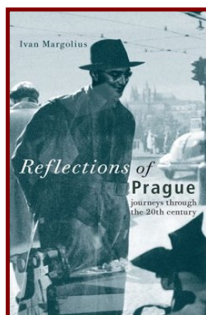
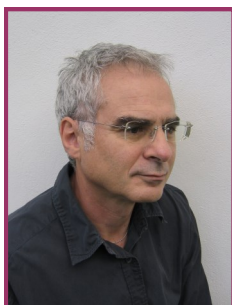
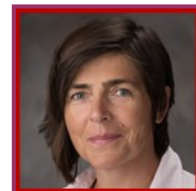


Photo Right Above: Ivan Margolius, author

Photo Source: <https://doppelhouse.com/ivan-margolius-wins-annual-prize-from-british-czech-and-slovak-association/>



OUR LEADER HANA WAISSEROVA, PH.D., is an Assistant Professor of Practice and leads Czech Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is also a fellow of the Harris Center for Judaic Studies, UNL and a scholar in Czech and Central European cultural, gender, and literary studies. Over the years, she taught various courses focused on Gender and Central and Eastern European Studies. She earned a Ph.D. in transnational literature from Palacky University, CR, and Gender Graduate Certificate from TAMU, TX. Her current research interests include Central and Eastern European women, transnational literature, cultural memory, women's totalitarian experience, women's Holocaust experience, women dissidents, and literary ethnography. She has published numerous articles and book chapters. She has traveled widely in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Central America, and is much invested in promoting cultural sensitivity and global citizenship.



Dr. Hana Waisserova
Photo used with permission

READING CIRCLE CONTACTS

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

CZECH CONVERSATION CLUB

Řekněte to česky!



Via ZOOM
April 16 @ 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-pierce1@unl.edu

Czech Conversation Club
April 16 @ 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

April: Layne Pierce
typical Czech food

duben: Layne Pierce
typické české jídlo



Officers



Andrea Volf, President, Term Expires 12/31/2024)

My paternal great grandparents came from the former Czechoslovakia. My children, Johnny and Iva, were the prince and princess for the Lincoln Czech Club. I have been on the board for about 5 years. I serve as a delegate to the Nebraska Czechs, Inc. I am a math professor at SCC, with a Masters' degree. I served on the board of Nebraska Association of Teachers of Mathematics. I presented to the National Conventions for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. I adopted my two kids by myself, they are brother and sister. I live in Hickman on an acreage. My kids and I have started our own business- selling Czech/Slavic crafts and imports. We travel selling these at Czech/Slavic festivals. I have a cousin who was on a Stanley Cup winning team. Kladno, CZ is known as a hockey town and the mayor is Milan Volf.



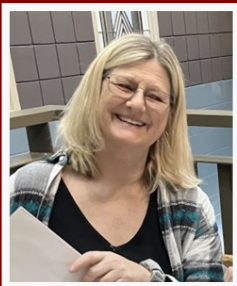
Rachel Taylor, Vice President (Term Expires 12/31/2024)

I have been a member of the Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln, since 2018. I joined because I wanted to learn more about my ancestral heritage from the Czech lands. My mother's family all came from CZ and my father's grandmother also came from CZ as well. I grew up in a part of Nebraska with a lot of people with Czech heritage and I enjoy learning more about the language, culture, traditions, as well as hearing about the experiences of other Czech-Americans. I have served 2 different times as a board member and I enjoy giving presentations about different aspects of Czech history. My professional background is that I studied microbiology and genetics at university and I work for a pharmaceutical company.



Sinda Dux, Secretary (Term Expires 12/31/2024)

My great-grandparents on my father's side came from Bohemia, Wenzel Schelbitzki and Maria Krutova. He spoke German, she spoke Bohemian, but they managed to have 13 children, 9 of whom lived to adulthood. I've belonged to the Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln since 2022. I joined because a FREE membership was offered and because Connie Jean Hulinsky told me of this organization. Connie Jean and I belong to the Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society. I plan to help bake for the Festival and work at the Festival. I'm now retired but I worked as a secretary/office manager during my working life and also played pipe organ, piano, handbells, and carillon for church and many, many musical events. I have two grown sons, two daughters-in-law, and two granddaughters. Of my 7 family members, 4 of them have PhD's.



Linda Taborek, Treasurer (Term Expires 12/31/2024)

I grew up in Crete, where my Mom (Donnalee) was a teacher and my Dad (Bob) was an electrician. I am descended from some of the Saline county early arrivers: Brt, Bauer, Janecek, Val-ecka, Taborek, and later, Marhan. (Also Busbooms, who came from Ostfriesland to Seward county.) As near as I can tell, all my Czech ancestors came from Bohemia. I came to Lincoln to attend Nebraska Wesleyan. There I met Beth Haring of the Physics department, who gave me a crash course in genealogy. I also met my husband, Bob, who is from York. After completing my BA, I proceeded to UNL's east campus, where I completed my JD. After practicing law for a while, I realized that I wasn't going to get to be Perry Mason, so most of my employment was in accounting. I have a daughter, Rani. I work part time as event staff at the Lied Center.

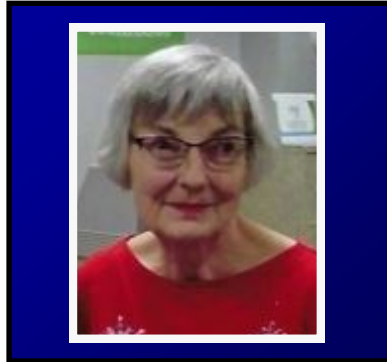


Board Members



Deb Vocasek, Board Member (Term Expires 12/31/2024)

I joined the Lincoln Czech Club in 2004 when my daughter Stefanie represented the Lincoln Chapter as Queen. I continued to be involved serving as Vice-President, President, producing the monthly newsletter, Chair of the Queen Committee and also Chair of the annual Lincoln Czech Festival. My daughter Stefanie went on to win the Miss NE Czech-Slovak Queen title in 2009 and then on to win Miss Czech-Slovak US Queen title in 2010. With help from other members of the club who taught Stefanie how to sing in Czech, loaned her a Czech scarf to go with her authentic kroj, and gave her all the support they gave her to fulfill her dreams and represent her heritage. The whole family enjoyed travelling to other states to experience their Czech events and traditions. I have learned many things since joining the Lincoln Czechs organization and I cherish the friendships I have made through the years.



Connie Jean Hulinsky, Board Member (Term Expires 12/31/2024)

My husband, Lumir and I joined in January, 2012. My grand-nephew Carter Hulinsky became the President of the club in 2016. I have served as the coordinator of the Baked Sales Table at the Festivals. I am a Board Member and Courtesy Committee Chair. I was the only child of Frank and Lillian (Ruzicka) Pesek and grew up on a farm near Comstock, NE. My father and mother spoke Czech but I was encouraged to speak English which was required in school. My career has been in the life/health side of insurance. I still works part time for the owner of Career Achievement Insurance School. I am an active member of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society and the Insurance Professionals of Lincoln, Inc. In 2015 I traveled to the Czech Republic and will return in 2024.



Patti Hust Fortik, Board Member (Term Expires 12/31/2025)

I was raised in a Nebraska Czech community and my heritage helps define me. I am a UNL graduate and retiree. My new husband and I recently moved to Wahoo and enjoy polka dancing and are learning to play the button accordion. I've been active in the Czech Language Foundation for many years and only recently have joined Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln.

Note: Patti Hust Fortik is our newest Board member filling the vacancy of Rev. Karen Moritz. Patti, along with Linda Taborek, initiated the Czech heritage license plate that the Nebraska Legislature approved this year and will become available hopefully, in 2025.



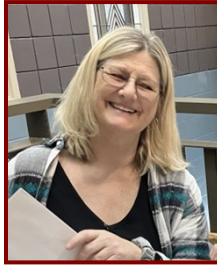
Diane Vesely-Robb, Board Member (Term Expires 12/31/2026)

I live in Lincoln with my husband and we have three children who are grown. I work at Southeast Community College and have been there about 14 years. I have been part of the Nebraska Czech's of Lincoln since about 2017. I have been on the Nebraska Czech's of Lincoln Board since 2020. I found out about this club from a friend at SCC, so I joined! She also helped me plan a three week trip to the Czech Republic in 2019. This trip was a once in a lifetime trip with my son and dad. It was incredible to experience your culture with three generations. My mom is also active with the club in helping prepare kolache and rohlíky for our May festival. I love the opportunity to learn about our culture each month through our programming! If you love the Czech culture, you should join!

**A Nebraska Czech Heritage License Plate!
What an Idea!!! See page 7**



Patti Hust Fortik



Linda Taborek



Dr. Mila Saskova-Pierce, Honorary Consul

Bylaws Committee



**Tom Zumpfe
Bylaws Committee Chair**

The Bylaws Committee completed a major revision of our club's Bylaws and it was not an easy job. Hats off to the entire committee and all those who participated in the process! A job **VERY WELL DONE!**

- Deb Vocasek**
- Layne Pierce**
- Connie Jean Hulinsky**
- Rachel Taylor**
- Diane Vesely-Robb**
- Linda Taborek**



HATS OFF TO ALL OF YOU!



2024 Committee Chairs

- Audit Committee:** Connie Jean Hulinsky
- Courtesy Committee:** Connie Jean Hulinsky
- Festival Committee:** Deb Vocasek
- History Committee:** Deb Vocasek
- Nominating Committee:** Appointed in the Fall
- Membership Committee:** Diane Vesely-Robb
- Newsletter Committee:** Lois Shimerda Rood
- Publicity/Website Committee:** Vacant
- Queen Committee:** Deb Vocasek
- Reservation Committee:** Andrea Volf



Audit Report



**Board Member
Audit Committee Chair,
Connie Jean Hulinsky**

The 2023 Financial Audit was completed as required by the Bylaws. The committee's report was accepted by the membership at the March 8, 2024 meeting.

- Audit Committee Members**
- Evie Kantor**
- Maxine Johnson**
- Gwen Belden**



**CZECH OUT THE
SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY
COLLEGE
SUMMER CALENDAR
Continuing Education**

**Tentative Classes
Accordion
Egg Decorating**

**Google SCC Continuing
Education—Summer 2024**

Open the pdf and scroll to Art and Music Sections
(Will not be posted until mid-May)

**Radio Prague International
Czechast**

**A Podcast
in English about all things Czech
Reading Circle Favorites on Prague Podcasts**

Czechast, Radio Prague International is a podcast by Radio Prague International about Czech and Moravian culture, history and economy.

Czechast with Dr. Evelyn Funda: Weeds: A Farm Daughter's Lament (a 2024 Reading Circle selection)

Czechast : My Antonia and Czechs in Nebraska by Dr. Evelyn Funda (Reading Circle Author and Reader, 2024)

Czechast with Holocaust Historian Anna Hajkova, author of "The Last Ghetto" (2022 Reading Circle Selection)

Czechast about the Political Landscape of Czechia, by Petr Just (2023 and 2024 Reading Circle Leader)

Website: <https://english.radio.cz/> (click on Czechast icon)



Source: <https://english.radio.cz/node/8794382/o-poradu>

**HOW NEBRASKA GOT A
CZECH HERITAGE
LICENSE PLATE**



NEBRASKA

Linda Taborek and Patt Fortik along with Deb Spanyers of Wilber have been working to create a statewide license plate celebrating our Czech Heritage. Senator Brandt along with co-signers, Senator Carol Blood, Danielle Conrad and others presented a bill to our Unicameral to create a license plate. The bill passed and Governor Pillen has signed it. Under current rules the alphanumeric plates would be \$5 and personalized plates would be \$40. Mila Saskova-Pierce is our representative to the Department of Motor Vehicles for the final design, which must meet very specific requirements. We are so excited for this success, but the plate won't be available until 2025.

ONE LIFE

IN THEATERS NOW! DON'T MISS IT!

From Rachel Taylor;

By Tommy McArdle



The Moving True Story Behind Anthony Hopkins' *One Life*: Hero Who Helped Save Hundreds of Children from the Nazis
Anthony Hopkins and Johnny Flynn portray the humanitarian Sir Nicholas Winton in the 1980s and the 1930s in "One Life". In *One Life*, Hopkins, 86, shares a dual role with Johnny Flynn (*Emma, The Outfit*) as Sir Nicholas Winton, a British man who assisted in efforts to rescue hundreds of predominantly Jewish children from Nazi-occupied areas in what is now the Czech Republic. ... The film depicts Winton's visit to Prague in December 1938 and January 1939, shortly before Nazi Germany occupied the area, then known as Czechoslovakia.



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)

2024 Nebraska Czech-Slovak Festivals

April 20 - Omaha

Czech/Slovak Cultural Festival 12-4:30pm

St. Nicholas Community Hall, 5008 Harrison St
Czech Dinners from Noon till sold out! Kids meal.
Accordion Jamboree, Kenny Janak Orchestra
Vendors, Kolače, Raffle, Czech-Slovak Royalty
Facebook: [OmahaCzechSlovakCulturalClub](https://www.facebook.com/OmahaCzechSlovakCulturalClub)

May 5 - Lincoln

53rd Annual Czech Festival 10-4pm

Pla Mor Ballroom - 6600 West "O" St
FREE ADMISSION Accordion Jams, Czech Vendors,
Dancing, Silent Auction, Bake sale (Kolache), Czech
Demonstrations, Royalty Introductions & Coronation
Authentic Czech food served from Noon until gone!
Current Info: www.nebraskaczechs.org

June 1 - Hastings

South Central Nebraska

48th Annual Czech Festival 9:30am-3pm

Hastings Eagles Club - 107 N Denver
FREE Admission - 9:30-11:00 Accordion Jam
Kolace Bake Sale, Vendors, Auction, Flag presentation
Royalty Introductions, Dance and Kolače eating contest
11:30-1:00 (or until sold out) Authentic Czech meal
1:15-3:00 Brad Husak Band
Facebook: [Nebraska Czechs of South Central Nebraska](https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaCzechsofSouthCentralNebraska)

June 9 - Milligan

36th Annual Milligan June Jubilee

Milligan Centennial Garden, **12-10 pm**
Czech food, Music, Parade 1:00 pm, and more
Facebook: [Milligan NE Community](https://www.facebook.com/MilliganNECommunity) (402-629-4446)

June 28, 29, 30 - Clarkson

62nd Annual Clarkson Czech Festival

Friday - Comedian 7:30pm
Saturday - Wine tasting in beer garden 3:00 pm,
Miss NE Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant 6:00 pm,
Sat & Sun - Cooking Demo's at Opera House 1:00 pm,
All weekend - Accordion Concerts, Music & Dancing
Dinners: **Saturday** at New Zion Presbyterian Church
Sunday at St Cyril Methodius Catholic Church
Sunday - Parade 4:00 pm
Current Info: clarksonczechdays.org

July 19, 20, 21 - Dwight

60th Dwight Czech Festival

Friday - Road Rally, Free Polka Dance-Legion
Saturday - Olympic Games, Youth Czech Dancers,
Kiddie & Adult Tractor Pulls, Crowning of Royalty,
Free Polka Dance-Legion
Sunday - Pork Dinner-Assumption Parish,
Bohemian Classic Auto Show, Youth Czech Dancers,
Parade, Free Polka Band-Legion
Food Served at: Legion, Cy's Café & Pivo's Tavern
Facebook: [Dwight Legion Post-110](https://www.facebook.com/DwightLegionPost110)

August 2, 3, 4 - Wilber

63rd Annual Czech Festival

Theme: "Together We Can"

Czech Capital of Nebraska and U. S. Czech Dancers,
Czech Food, Vendors, Museum, Bands at Sokol and
Hotel Wilber, Accordion Jams **Fri, Sat, Sun**
"Tales of the Czechs" - **Friday & Saturday** 9 pm
Kid's Parade: **Fri** 7 pm, Grand Parades **Sat & Sun** 2 pm
Miss Czech-Slovak US Queen Pageant **Sat & Sun** 7 pm
Current Info: www.nebraskaczechsowilber.com

August 10 - Prague

Czech Heritage Day 10-3:30pm
(during Beer Barrel Days)

Prague Parish Hall downtown Prague
10 am - 12 pm Accordion Jamboree, Coffee & Kolace
11 am - 3:00 pm Pork, Dumplings Kraut meal
12 Noon - Opening ceremonies, Royalty introductions,
Coronation of new Queen, Prague Czech Brass Band,
Prague Czech Dancers. Refreshments served all day.
4 pm - Parade on main street
Facebook: [Nebraska Czechs of Prague](https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaCzechsofPrague)

August 24 - Milligan

Presented by the Milligan Auditorium
4th Annual Saint Wenceslas Czech
Brewfest 12-9pm

Patron Saint of beer & Czech Republic
Milligan Centennial Garden
Czech food, Music, Beer, Wine, & Liquor
Visit with Czech Embassy Personnel & Vendors
Facebook: [Milligan NE Community](https://www.facebook.com/MilliganNECommunity) (402-629-4446)

October 20 - York

19th Annual Czechfest of York 9:30-4pm

Holthus Convention Center
9:30 - 10:30 am Coffee and Kolače
10 - Noon Accordion Jamboree
10 - 2 pm Silent Auction
11 - 2 pm Authentic Czech Dinner
1 - 4 pm Music by Milligan Czech Brass Band
Current Info: www.nebraskaczechs.org



Vitáme Vás

(We Welcome You)

For More Information Visit:
www.nebraskaczechs.org