

2025



Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln JANUARY

**January 1
New Years Day
Restoration Day of the
Independent Czech State**

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
President: Andrea Volf
Vice President: Evie Kantor
Secretary: Sinda Dux
Treasurer: Linda Taborek
Festival Chair: Iva Volf

Board Members
Patti Hust Fortik (ex. 12/31/2025)
Diane Vesely-Robb (ex. 12/31/2026)
Deb Vocasek (ex. 12/31/2027)

2025 State Delegates
Deb Vocasek
Mila Saskova-Pierce

WEBSITE
Lincolnczechs.org

FACEBOOK
<https://www.facebook.com/LNKCzechs/>

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

2025 Membership Meetings
Friday, January 10
Friday, February 14
Friday, March 14
Friday, April 11
Friday, May 9
Friday, September 12
Friday, October 10
Friday, November 14
Friday, December 12

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

EVENTS
3rd Tuesday: Conversation Club (Zoom)
Last Tuesday: Reading Circle (Zoom)
Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln Annual Festival
Sunday, May 4

MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, January 10, 2025

Reservations due by Wednesday, January 8, 2025

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
- SOCIAL TIME:** 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- WELCOME & DINNER:** 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. (Cost \$15.00)
- MEAL:** Roast Beef, mashed potatoes & gravy, buttered corn, roll & butter; with cherry cheesecake for dessert!
- BUSINESS MEETING:** 6:30 to 6:45 p.m.

*As you start the new year, so shall
your footsteps fall all year.
A Czech folk saying.
Taking a walk on New Years is a
Czech tradition.*



PROGRAM Happy New Year!

- ◆ **Enjoy a great meal!**
- ◆ **Celebrate the New Year together!**
- ◆ **Install our 2025 club leadership!**

SOME CZECH NEW YEARS TRADITIONS

Carp is a New Year's favorite that symbolizes abundance and good luck!

Serve some jednohubky which are pieces of rolls with toppings such as spreads, salami, and/or pieces of fruit.

Share a toast! People in Prague will be sharing a toast while they view a marvelous display of fireworks!

Bring out the tambourines! Making noises with them chases away the evil spirits!

Cut open an apple. If the seeds inside form a star, the year will bring you good luck!

Take a nature walk on a park trail or in the woods. This symbolizes starting a new and better path in the new year.



**MONTH NAME
Month at a Glance**

**NEW YEARS DAY
RESTORATION DAY OF THE
INDEPENDENT CZECH STATE
January 1, 2025**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING
January 10, 2025**

**CZECH CONVERSATION CLUB
January 21, 2025**

**READING CIRCLE
January 28, 2025**

Send in your 2025 membership today . To get the membership form go to: <https://www.lincolnczechs.org/members>

NEBRASKA CZECHS OF LINCOLN 2025 CALENDAR

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS 2nd Fridays (not summer)

January 10
February 14
March 14
April 11
May 9
September 12
October 10
November 14
December 12

FESTIVAL BAKING DATES (tentative) APRIL 12 and APRIL 26

From your new festival coordinator:

Save the dates of April 12 and April 26 for Kolace Baking. These are tentative dates as of today. Many stores at this time are having baking sales, so if you feel like picking up some of the following items to donate to the kolace baking event, it would be very much appreciated.

FLEISCHMAN'S RAPID RISE YEAST
SUGAR
EVAPORATED MILK (12 OZ CAN)
SALT
CANOLA OIL
GOLD MEDAL FLOUR
FILLING INGREDIENTS:
SOLO APRICOT FILLING
SOLO PRUNE FILLING
SOLO POPPYSEED FILLING
SWEETENED APPLESAUCE
CHERRY PIE FILLING – THE CHEAPER THE BETTER
Dekuji,
Iva Volf

CZECH READING CIRCLE Last Tuesdays 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

January 28
February 25
March 25
April 29
May 27
June 24
July 29
August 26
September 30
October 28
November 25

CZECH CONVERSATION CLUB Řekněte to česky!



Every month on the Third Tuesday, 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)
Via Zoom

The Czech Conversation Club is a group of heritage speakers and former students of the Czech language. Anybody can join. It is sponsored by the Czech Club of Lincoln, NE. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM Central Time and talk about a chosen theme prepared by one of Conversation Club members. We prepare vocabulary ahead of time and share it with the group before the meeting. If interested, please, let me know at msaskova-pierce1@unl.edu. **THIS is the Zoom Link for the Czech Conversation Club. Just copy and paste.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82597938964?pwd=Ra6HEgGiOlqZsPSdkBZzXgDF1WlvHd.1>

Meeting ID: 825 9793 8964

Passcode: 231581

Program for Czech Conversation Club in 2025

January 21– leden: Garret Scholberg: Písňe biblické Anronína Dvořáka
February 18– únor: Marie Sedláček: O lásce
March 18– březen: Linda Táborek: O divadle
April 15– duben: Karen Moritz: Velikonoce
May 20– květen: Ryan Scholberg TBA
September 16– září: Layne Pierce: Rodokmen - Genealogie
October 21 říjen: Sociální sítě a počítač
November 18– listopad: Chuck Rompotl: TBA
December TBD- prosinec: Brianna Tichý: Fenomén disidentství; disidentští spisovatelé a umělci

CZECH LICENSE PLATE

The Czech license plate application should be available through the DMV or their county clerk.



NEBRASKA CZECHS OF LINCOLN CZECH READING CIRCLE

MONTH: January 28, 2025
BOOK: **Miracle Game(1972)(1972)**
Translation by Paul Wilson (1990)
AUTHOR: **Josef Skvorecky'**
LEADERS: **Layne Pierce**



Moving between 1948, when our hero Danny Smiřický falls asleep in church while a miraculous event occurs, and 1968, when he observes the miracle of Prague Spring, The Miracle Game is a sharp look at the strange, sad, and silly things people do to survive.

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

NEBRASKA CZECHS OF LINCOLN

NEWSLETTER CONTACT:

Newsletter Deadline for Contributors: 2nd Friday of each month.

Newsletter Deadline for the Program and Special Board Updates: 3rd Friday of each month.

Submit to: lois@loisrood.com

NEW WEBMASTER CONTACT:

Robin McClanahan is the new webmaster rmcclanahan1@unl.edu

LEADER: LAYNE PIERCE, M.A., MLS

Born and raised in Kansas. Graduated from Emporia St. University with minor in Spanish. Veteran of the United States Army, graduate of the Defense Language Institute in Monterey California, with an emphasis on Czech language. Master's degree in German Languages and Literatures from the University of Kansas. Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Emporia State University. Worked as reference Librarian at Bellevue University, and Reference and Community Outreach Librarian with the Lincoln City Libraries in Lincoln, Nebraska. Co-authored Czech language textbook with Dr. Miluse Saskova-Pierce. He has taught Czech classes and tutored students in Czech at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. At present he is retired from the library, but continues to work as Czech translator. He is currently translating František Vavák's 18th Century Chronicle together with Dr. Mila Saskova-Pierce. He is retired but continues to be active in American and Nebraska Czech organizations. He is President of the Czech Language Foundation, which supports the teaching of Czech language and culture classes at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Board Member of the Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln, and Treasurer of the Czech and Slovak Educational Center and Cultural Museum; and secretary of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences, Nebraska Chapter.

February 26, 2025 at 7:30 PM

THE CZECH NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRICE: \$31.20

If you have reserved tickets
send your payment to:

Linda Taborek, Treasurer
524 S 53rd St., Lincoln, NE 68510-2022

Contact: Linda Taborek: lstaborek@gmail.com





CZECH PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

**January 1
New Years Day**

Restoration Day of the Independent Czech State

Wednesday, January 1, 2025 Restoration Day of the Independent Czech State

This is a public holiday in the Czech Republic that commemorates the day, January 1 in 1993 when Czechoslovakia was split into the Czech Republic and Slovakia. This has been referred to as *The Velvet Divorce*. When Communist rule in Czechoslovakia ended in 1989 resulting from the Velvet Revolution, negotiations began between the Slovak and Czech leaders. In November 1992, the federal parliament of Czechoslovakia voted to dissolve the country on December 31st 1992. So, on January 1, 1993, the two countries separated into the Czech Republic and Slovakia. They have remained close partners and share many traditions still today.;

New Faces: Meet Our New Vice President



Our new Vice President introduces herself to our club members.

My paternal grandparents' families were from Chrestovice and Milevsko, province of Tabor, both in Czechoslovakia. J. V. Slepicka and Mary Sindelar were married in America in 1889. My maternal grandparents, Joseph Smetana and Anna Somol, were married January 19, 1900 in a Catholic Church in Peruc, near Louny in Czechoslovakia. They came to America in 1911. In 2016, I visited the church where they were married.

**Meet our new Vice President,
Evie Kantor**



My mother was a school teacher and my father worked the farm where he was born. I went to a one room school house through 8th grade and graduated from Wilber Clatonia High School. Ten years later I started taking night classes at UNL. I graduated in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree. I worked at State Farm Insurance for forty-six years, retiring in 2013. I enjoy taking OLLI classes, volunteering at the Quilt Museum, gardening, plus serving on council and various committees at United Lutheran Church.

New Faces: Meet Our New Festival Chairperson!



Our new Festival Chairperson is IvaMarie Volf

IvaMarie Volf is our new festival coordinator. Iva is a student at SCC in Lincoln pursuing a degree in radiologic technology. Iva has represented the Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln as our princess (2017-2018), Queen (2022-23, (2023-24) and is the current Miss Nebraska Czech Slovak Queen Runner up. Iva has attended many Czech Slovak festivals throughout the Midwest and is excited to share her experiences from these festivals with our club to make our Lincoln Czech festival even better.

