

2025



# Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln

MARCH



*"Truth and love will overcome lies and hatred."*  
— Vaclav Havel

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2025

Reservations due by Wednesday, March 12, 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 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: Pasta bar with meatless marinara sauce and Alfredo sauce grilled chicken strips. Tossed salad. Garlic bread.

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

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

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

**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 Fortlik** (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  
 Robin McClanahan

**FACEBOOK**  
[www.facebook.com/LNKCzechs/](http://www.facebook.com/LNKCzechs/)  
 Andrea Volf

**NEWSLETTER**  
 Contact [lois@loisrood.com](mailto:lois@loisrood.com)  
 402-570-2333

**2025 Membership Meetings**  
**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**

## MARCH PROGRAM

### CZECH WOMEN ON THE WORLD STAGE



PRESENTER:  
 Dr. Mila Šašková-Pierce

Several Nebraska Czechs were involved in the cultural and social advancement of the United States, and indeed, were important on the international scene. The presentation on March 14th deals with two of them, Dr. Olga Šťastný born near Wilber and Professor Sarah Hrbek born in Iowa, Cedar Rapids. Both were involved in the US Red Cross. Olga Šťastný was also one of the founders of social medicine. She was a recipient of several medals, (French and Greek governments, for example) for her international activities. Sarah Hrbek was a translator and community organizer, besides her teaching at the university.

### ORDER YOUR LICENSE PLATE ONLINE

Google: Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles Specialty Plates

[dmv.nebraska.gov/dvr/license-plates](http://dmv.nebraska.gov/dvr/license-plates)

Click on the Czech Heritage Plate at the bottom row of **Specialty**. (photo right)

Then follow the prompts.

### Czech Heritage Plate



## MARCH

Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln Club Events In Red Type

### March 3

Jan Comenius, Lecture by Tim Price  
 UNL Burn. 301, UNL DT Campus

### March 8

Lincoln/Lancaster Genealogy Society Day Fair  
 2900 O Street, 1:00—5:00

### March 14

Membership Meeting, Hy Vee  
 84 & Holdrege at 6:00 p.m.

### March 15

Czech Language Foundation  
 Kava a Koláč

### March 18

Czech Conversation Club  
 Via ZOOM at 7:00 p.m.

### March 25

Reading Circle  
 Via ZOOM at 6:30 p.m.

### March 30

Czech Culture and Education Foundation  
 Annual Banquet, Abie's Place, Abie, NE at 5:30 pm

# Area Upcoming Events



Join us in person in BURN 301  
or via Zoom at  
<https://unl.zoom.us/j/93517667381>

Timothy L. Price is Nebraska-based independent researcher and author. His 2021 adaptation of Comenius's Labyrinth of the World serves as an accessible guide to Comenius's thoughts and writings. Price has published 34 books, including the 2024 Comenian-influenced 100+ Words I've Not Lived Without.

John Amos Comenius, was a Czech-born 16C philosopher, educator, and writer who significantly influenced modern education worldwide. Forced into exile during the Thirty Years' War due to his Protestant beliefs, he dedicated himself to educational reform while living in exile, including in America. Comenius advocated universal education, and believed education could unify humanity and promote peace. He died in 1670, leaving behind a legacy that continues to shape educational practices till now. Timothy L. Price will illuminate Comenius's profound impact and practical legacy, demonstrating why he rightfully earned the title of the father of modern education.

Event is sponsored by:  
UNL CZECH STUDIES and  
DEPARTMENT OF MODERN  
LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES,  
UNL

**LUNCHEON LECTURE  
MONDAY MARCH 3  
12:30-1:30pm  
BURN 301**

**Timothy L.  
PRICE:  
J A Comenius  
- the father of  
modern  
education**

<https://www.pressonly.com>



## CELEBRATE CZECH HERITAGE CZECH LESSON & KOLAČE SALE



March 15th

Share Czech culture  
& language with  
your whole family!

A 1 hr Czech lesson  
from an amazing  
instructor

Pre-order kolače  
online to be sure  
you have some to  
take home

Free Coffee

Do you need a  
reason to tour the  
museum?



### Support Czech Language & Culture

By joining us at the Czech and Slovak Educational Center and Cultural Museum (8106 S 84th St, La Vista, NE) on March 15th.

Coffee will be served and a limited amount of kolače will be available to purchase. To ensure you have kolače to take home, pre-order kolače by the half dozen at [www.czechlanguagefoundation.org](http://www.czechlanguagefoundation.org).

- Museum/gift shop open 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
- Coffee and pre-ordered kolače available 10:30 am – 1:30 pm
- Join us for the Czech lesson at 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

CZECH LANGUAGE  
FOUNDATION  
[czechlanguagefoundation.org](http://czechlanguagefoundation.org)

CZECH AND SLOVAK  
EDUCATIONAL CENTER  
AND CULTURAL  
MUSEUM  
[czechandslovakmuseum.org](http://czechandslovakmuseum.org)



**ADVANCE TICKETS: \$30  
PORK AND DUMPLING MEAL  
MUSIC BY MARK VYHLIDAL**

**MARCH  
30TH**

Doors Open 4:00pm

HONOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS AND  
GROUPS WHO HAVE WORKED TIRELESSLY TO PRESERVE  
AND PROMOTE CZECH CULTURE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

# CCEFNBANQUET

ABIE'S PLACE  
101 ASH ST. BRUNO, NE 68014

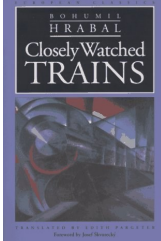
Contact Steve Steager at [ccfnebraska@gmail.com](mailto:ccfnebraska@gmail.com). Website is [czechcultureandeducationfoundationofnebraska.org](http://czechcultureandeducationfoundationofnebraska.org)  
Please purchase tickets in advance for an accurate count.

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN NEBRASKA CZECHS OF LINCOLN TODAY!  
Go to: [lincolnczechs.org](http://lincolnczechs.org), Click on Membership for the Membership form**



# NEBRASKA CZECHS OF LINCOLN CZECH READING CIRCLE & CZECH CONVERSATION CLUB

**MONTH:** March 25, 2025  
**BOOK:** Closely Watched Trains  
**AUTHOR:** Bohumil Hrabal  
**LEADER:** Andrea Volf & Iva Volf



**Bohumil Hrabal**  
Source: Wikipedia

Bohumil Hrabal's post-war classic about a young man's coming of age in Nazi occupied Bohemia is among his most beloved and accessible works. *Closely Watched Trains* is the subtle and poetic portrait of Miloš Hirma, a timid young railroad apprentice who insulates himself with fantasy against a reality filled with cruelty and grief. Day after day as he watches trains fly by, he torments himself with the suspicion that he himself is being watched and with fears of impotency. Hirma finally affirms his manhood and, with a sense of peace and purpose he has never known before, heroically confronts a trainload of Nazis.

**LEADERS:** Andrea & Iva Volf



**Andrea Volf** is the President of Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln and has been passionately involved in promoting Czech heritage for the past 10 years. A former math professor, Andrea's dedication to her roots was inspired by her children, Iva Volfova and John Volf, who actively participate in Czech festivals alongside her.

**Iva Volf** is the current Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Runner-Up, a former Lincoln Czech Queen, and a former Lincoln and Wilber Czech Princess. She is the new festival coordinator for the Lincoln Czech Festival and a college student studying radiology technology. The family travels to festivals from Minnesota to Texas, sharing Czech culture through music, dance, and traditional foods.

The Lincoln Czech Festival remains a beloved tradition, where Andrea and her family work to preserve and celebrate Czech heritage for future generations

## READING CIRCLE CONTACTS

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

## 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  
2025

## CZECH CONVERSATION CLUB

### Řekněte to česky!

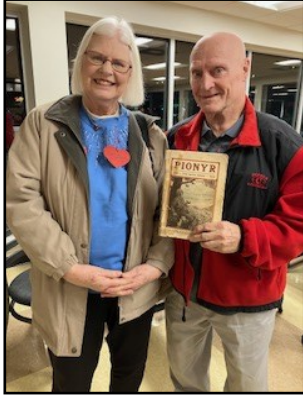


**Via ZOOM**  
**Month @ 7:00 p.m.**

March 18– 18 března  
Linda Táborek: O divadle  
(about the theater)

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](mailto:msaskova-pierce1pierce1@unl.edu)



# Special Guests at February Meeting

**Larry & Gloria Hrbek** were special guests at the Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln meeting on Friday, February 14th. Larry Hrbek is the great, great grandson of one of the founders of the Nebraska town of **Verdigre**. Larry and Gloria now live in Lincoln but were originally from Verdigre. They brought with them a 1919 copy of **Pionyr**, a literary magazine published in Omaha that tells the story of the arrival of the Hrbek family in Nebraska.

Jason Cadek, has written a wonderful summary of that story "*Tragedie rodiny Brabencovy*" by Josef P. Šedivý published in the 1919 issue of Pionyr. It is included as a supplement to this newsletter. Don't miss it!

## Six New Members in Southeast Nebraska's Musicians Hall of Fame

On January 25 at Tabor Hall, six new musicians were inducted into the Southeast Nebraska Musicians Hall of Fame at Tabor Hall.

Those honored in the deceased category were:

- ◆ Leonard Havranek
- ◆ Dawn Becwar Mundt
- ◆ Robert "Bob" Ohnoutka

Those honored in person were:

- ◆ Jim "Bochnicek
- ◆ Loren Joe Stehlik
- ◆ Robert "Bob" Mager.



### Organizers

Randy Korebelik, Sue Placek & Debra Polacek

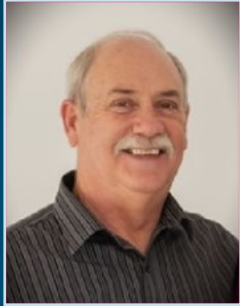
## Please join us for a Genealogy Fair! Saturday, March 8 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm

**Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society**  
2900 O Street, Lincoln NE 68505—Lower Level Room 2  
Website [www.LLCGS.info](http://www.LLCGS.info)

As an entity supportive of locating, preserving, and sharing of community and family history, we invite your organization to be part of a Genealogy Fair. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Genealogical Society (LLCGS) has missions that include assisting people interested in their family history to not only find information but also preserve and share it through various methods. LLCGS also has a mission of collaborating with other organizations and societies to attain this. Thus, LLCGS is inviting the Public to attend our Genealogy Fair to learn from ALL organizations in the area who promote learning and preserving Genealogy and Family History. The LLCGS Library and Family Research Center has plenty of parking, an elevator, and restrooms. We will offer refreshments and entertainment as well as PLENTY of resources and knowledgeable folk to assist you in any way you need.

Please mark the afternoon of Saturday, March 8, and come see what we can offer YOU!

Judi Cook LLCGS Project Committee Chair Cell (402) 416-9139



# The Genealogy Corner

## Seignorial Records

From Maurice Vonasek

The Genealogy Corner is here to provide insights, tips and techniques to help you build that precious family tree. Each month, we will try to provide a little something of interest, depending upon the available space of the Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln Newsletter.

### “Seignorial Records” (also known as “Manorial Records”)

What are these things? These are records (registers) that were kept long ago by upper-crust landowners about their feudal lands, the dependent people (peasants/serfs) that lived on the land often with their production records. Administration of these records (registers) is different for each principal domain. The oldest known registers were created in the mid-1500's and kept going until the mid-1800's. The original intent for these records was to keep track of orphans until value was found in the keeping of additional information.

Each of these record “lists” contain all dependent people of a domain. Note that a domain may consist of multiple villages. Each village then may be divided into three parts; Housekeepers, Day Laborers and Orphans. Every part contains a list of the families and family members along with their names and ages. Starting out with the head of the family, then his wife, then their children. Other inhabitants of the house may also be included ie; the head of the family's parents, servants, other helpers, etc.. Some records even contain livestock, harvest, dwelling information, marriage records, marriage contracts, wills, permissions and some financials.

When searching Parish records, note that those records may contain a surname that was named “after the house”. Luckily for us, in the seignorial records, both surnames, the “real” one and the one named “after the house” are often listed. So, you may be able to find an ancestor in the seignorial records that crosses over to another surname listed in a Parish record book and get additional information for him/her there...as if searching for our ancestors wasn't already challenging enough! You might even find a wealthy land owner ancestor.

The seignorial registers/records are usually divided into sub-parts by the administrative units called “rychta” (magistrate's house) which were administered by the magistrate (rychtář). Every rychta may contain three or more villages and sometimes these are listed in alphabetical order, but more often listed by geographical layout.

I find these seignorial registers fascinating as they are so eloquently written often in Latin. Please visit the FamilySearch site to view this outstanding collection for the Czech Republic, Archive of Třeboň, Nobility Seignorial Records, 1579-1859 <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1918547>.

Nomina Subditorum gagatorum	Etas	Alimonia diligenti	Locus	Sexus	Notae
Simon Hauska	47	90	idem	vir	3
Maria Anna uxor	47			uxor	1
<i>Solus</i>					
Matthaus	23		in Hofstoria in Lutina	vir	2
Josephus	21		apud Bartenhem	vir	
Jacobus	17		idem apud Bartenhem	vir	
Antonius	12		idem apud Bartenhem	vir	
Casparus	7		apud Bartenhem	vir	
Thomas Leich	56	7	idem	vir	

Seignorial Record from the village of Poříčí, December 26, 1774...lists a family, their role, house #, livestock, etc.

#### NOTE:

Excellent preserved examples may be found for the infamous Schwarzenberg family stretching from 1718-1780. <https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/Seignorial-Registers-SRA-Trebon-department-Trebon-Orlik-nad-Vltavou>

All known digitized Seignorial Registers may be found here: <https://digi.ceskearchivy.cz/Seignorial-Registers>

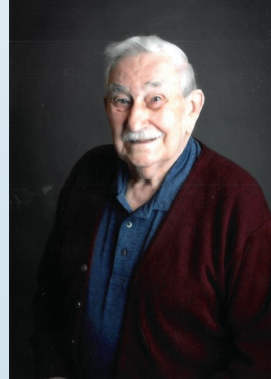


### Remembering Joe Vosoba...

From Míla Šašková-Pierce

Joe Vosoba (1929-2025), was a true Czech Nebraskan involved in everything Czech. Among many other endeavors, he was one of the founders of the Nebraska Czech Festivals (together with Dr. Kucera). He also took part in the politics of the post-Velvet Revolution restoration of Czechoslovakia. He volunteered his help to the newly formed Czechoslovak government of Václav Havel in 1990, using his political experience as Nebraska senator and his knowledge of democratic law. He will be missed in the heart of two continents.

## In Loving Memory



### Clarence Fritz Johnson

March 15, 1928 – February 15, 2025  
Obituary: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/lincoln-ne/clarence-johnson-12250581>

**The Visitation** was: Saturday, Feb. 22, 2025

**The Service** was Monday, Feb. 24, 2025

At Lincoln Memorial Funeral Home, 6800 S. 14th, Lincoln, NE

**The Graveside Entombment** was at the Lincoln Memorial Park Ceme-

**Clarence Johnson** and his wife Charlene were active members of the Nebraska Czechs of Lincoln for many years. Clarence served on the Board from 2013 to 2017. His wife, Charlene, served on the Board in 2014.

He was very proud of his Czech heritage and visited his homeland four times. He was born in Valparaiso to Frank and Carrie (Krafka) Johnson. He died on February 15, 2025 at the age of 96.



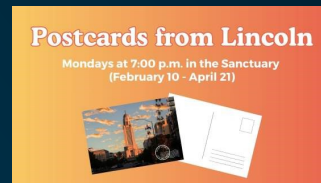
### DONATIONS WELCOME

- Cash
- Fleischman's Rapid Rise
- Yeast
- Sugar
- Evaporated Milk (12 Oz Can)
- Salt
- Canola Oil
- Gold Medal Flour
- Solo Apricot Filling
- Solo Prune Filling
- Solo Poppyseed Filling
- Sweetened Applesauce
- Cherry Pie Filling



## What is the *Postcards from Lincoln Lectures Series*?

from Jason Cadick'



**Saint Paul United Methodist Church** hosts this series which is in its 7th year. This series is about the history of Lincoln and features well known historians and scholars. All events are held on Mondays from February 10th to April 21st from 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. and are held in the sanctuary at Saint Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 M Street and are free and open to the public. Support for this program is provided by **Speedway Motors Museum of American Speed** Founded in 1992 by "Speedy" Bill and Joyce Smith. The museum is dedicated to preserving racing and automotive history.

**Dates:** 2/24/2025, 3/10/2025, 3/24/2025, 4/7/2025, 4/21/2025  
**Source:** <https://www.lincoln.org/event/postcards-from-lincoln-speedway-motors-museum-of-american-speed/7144/>

### BAKING DAYS

April 12

April 26

**Hickman Presbyterian Church**

300 E 3rd St #9301, Hickman, NE