

TWCCHS ZPRÁVY DOPIS

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TWCCHS CHAPTER PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIP



At our May meeting at the Pflugerville Recreation Center, President Eileen Rosipal presented a \$500 Scholarship in behalf of the chapter to Nicholas R. Petter. Nicholas, is a graduate of Georgetown High School and the son of Greg and Amanda Petter. Proud grandparents are Frances & Jim Petter of Pflugerville and Linda & Ken Fontenot of Georgetown.

Nicholas thanked the members and told them of his plans for the future. He also presented the members with a copy of his great-grandmother, Frances Zimmerhanzel Kubicek's pickle recipe, his favorite.

OUR CZECH WEDDING

By Eileen Sladeczek Rosipal

Being that June is known for weddings, I thought it would be appropriate to write about our Czech wedding. Since both of our families are 100% Czech, it was expected that we follow all of the Czech wedding traditions carried down by our ancestors. When I was in high school, my mom mentioned to me that I would be old enough to get married on their 25th wedding anniversary which would be on January 28, 1966. I told her that I would never get married in January. As the saying goes, never say never. On May 8, 1965, Cyril proposed and we started planning our Czech wedding. You guessed it, the date was set for Saturday, January 29, 1966 and we decided that it would be nice if my parents celebrated their 25th anniversary the same day.

My mom designed and made my bridal dress which was unique in that it was 2 separate pieces; a lace dress along with a satin jacket that had a train attached. She also made dresses for the two flower girls and a couple of the bridesmaids. The other bridesmaid dresses were made by their moms. Cyril and I chose 7 attendants and all of them had to be **"single"** because that was a Czech tradition. Besides the two flower girls we also had a ring bearer and two male witnesses.

A month before the wedding we had to change our wedding date to Sunday, January 30th because my twin brothers were in basic training and their graduation was changed to January 29th. Since Cyril had twin sisters who were bridesmaids, we wanted my twin brothers to be their partners. After my pastor got permission for a Sunday wedding, the invitations were printed and mailed out. (Our groomsman did not have to go house to house and **"announce"** our wedding like they did when our parents got married.) Also, wedding banns were announced in the parish bulletin three weekends before the wedding. Thank God that no one came forward proclaiming that we could not marry each other.

Since we were now getting married on a Sunday, our ceremony would take place at the usually 10 a.m. Sunday mass and parishioners would be present. Before church, Cyril and his parents drove to my parents' house give the **"traditional blessing"** to their children. Then they departed for the church and my parents took me to church. Needless to say, the church was full and there was also a collection for the parish. The weather was nice except for being very cold. Some of our relatives had to drive through snow and ice to get to Holy Trinity Church in Corn Hill for the wedding.

After the wedding ceremony at the church which included a special anniversary blessing for my parents on their 25th anniversary, we drove half a mile to the Moravian Hall. Guests were presented with a **"sprig of rosemary with ribbon"** to show that they were our guests. (The dance would be open to the public and the sprig of rosemary would identify the wedding guests.) **Dinner prepared by relatives and friends** was served at 12:00 noon and consisted of soup, barbecue, sausage and other side dishes. The soup was wonderful since it was very cold outside.

After the meal, we gathered upstairs where Cyril and I **"opened our wedding gifts and passed them around"** for everyone (mostly ladies) to see what we received. After this Czech tradition was completed, there was some visiting before another full meal was served. I don't remember what was served but most likely what was left over from noon meal. Guests were treated to **kolaches, strudel and other desserts** throughout the reception.

After the second meal, there was a dance with music by Johnny Holub band. The dance started with the **"grand march"** another Czech tradition. After Cyril and I did our first dance, the attendants were expected to join us on the dance floor. It was great that I was able to remove the satin jacket with train attached so that I could easily dance the night away. At the first intermission, we cut the 3-tier wedding cake that was made and decorated by my aunt. At the second intermission, they did the **unveiling of the bride** and all 17 verses were sung in Czech. Then the best man and maid of honor carried the veil around **seeking donations for the bridal couple**. (Supposedly, for a baby crib.)

Then Cyril and I left the hall and went to my parents' house to change into our "going away" clothes. We went back to the hall so we could bid farewell to our family and friends before departing for a honeymoon to Galveston.

MEMBERS PARTICIPATE AT SLAVNOST IN LA GRANGE

On May 19, 2019, several of the TWCCCHS members attended the Slavnost celebration in La Grange. Our chapter was in charge of the “desserts” and we thank members, Phyllis, Julia, Nancy, Vlasta, Sarah, Janie and Eileen for donating their favorite desserts and helping with manning the area. We are also grateful to the other Czech ladies for their donations of sweets. As we all know, Czechs have a sweet tooth and always enjoy their dessert after a good meal. The meal served at this event was DELICIOUS.

There was a May pole dance, good music provided by the Texas Dutchman, dedication of the SPJST Velehrad hall, Country Store and many other events. The print shop was also very interesting.

Upcoming Events:

June 22 TCHCC & CHS Youth & Family Day, TCHCC – La Grange, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

July 20 TCGS Conference in Caldwell (more info for this event in another email.)

July 27 State CHS meeting hosted by Fort Bend CHS



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hope everyone is doing well even with the horký počas. Thank God for the nice rain showers we have been receiving that somehow seem to cool things down. At least we have not experienced any tornadoes or floods.

I will be sending you the flyer for the Texas Czech Genealogy Conference in Caldwell in July. Our own member, Sarah Vitek, will be one of the presenters. She will be demonstrating how to make strudel. The other presenters also sound very interesting and I hope that you will attend this genealogy conference.

Some of us will be participants in the Youth & Family Day in La Grange on June 22nd. Bring your children or grandchildren to the event that promotes our Czech language and traditions with the younger generation. (See flyer in the recent issue of Cesky hlas.)

Remember to keep practicing this Czech prayer that was written by Rev. Paul R. Chovanec and Rudolph Rusňák. Chapters are encouraged to learn this Czech prayer so that it can be recited at all CHS meetings. Jana Vaculin Riley has also recorded this prayer and this may help you with the words. [chs.prayer.mp4](#)

Ó, Pa-ne Bo-že, po-že-hnej nás a na-še če-ské, mo-rav-ské a slo-ven-ské dé-dic-tví.

Když nás na-ši ro-di-če a pra-ro-di-če vy-cho-vá-li, v-ští-pi-li nám ta-ke do srd-ce lás-ku k na-še-mu rod-né-mu ja-zy-ku, zpě-vu, ná-rod-ni kul-tu-ře, his-tor-ii a tra-dič-ním zvy-ků.

Ó, Pa-ne Bo-že, pro-sí-me, dej, ab-y náš spo-lek rost-la a sí-li-la, a a-by na-ši věr-ní čle-no-vé na-dá-le pře-dá-va-li čes-ké od-ka-zy příš-tím ge-ne-ra-cím. Amen!

Remember our VP, Kay Bouska, in your prayers as she deals with some difficult health issues. Thanks to all of you for paying your 2019 membership dues. We reached our goal of 75 members but let's continue to promote our CHS.

Uvidime se! *Eileen Rosipal*



EDITOR'S NOTES

Na Shelednau Members!

I say goodbye because as we close our meetings for summer break, we bid you goodbye for a while. We wish you a most wonderful, happy and safe summer. If you are traveling be SAFE. We will resume our monthly meetings in September just in time to make final plans for our State meeting in November. We hope you will make a special effort to attend the meetings in preparation for this special event.

Congratulations are in order for a very special young man, Nicholas R. Petter. He was presented with a \$500 scholarship from TWCCCHS. His family was all present for this special event. Nicholas is a graduate from Georgetown High School. His plans are to attend Texas A & M University in College Station to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering. We wish him the best in his years ahead.

Although, we will break for summer, mark your calendar for the TCGS event in Caldwell on Saturday July 20th. Get your reservations in ASAP.

Our plant exchange was a big success. Learning the Czech name and learning about different plants. Then we had a test to identify the English plant name and Czech plant name. Darwin Machu won the challenge getting 9 plant names correct. Hmmm....but Darwin speaks Czech ??? It was fun. Thanks for these learning experiences that we love to play.

Ahoj, until September,

Dotty Davis, TWCCCHS Editor

