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Brothers and Sisters,

We’ve finally made it to summer, now that we’re in June…thankfully! I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the nicer weather.

Here at the Home Office, things are going well. Our Fraternal Department is working fast and furiously with the many programs and projects that we have going on. Recently, we finished up our Photo Contest, as well as our Junior Bowl-o-Rama. We’re now in the process of processing and judging the applications for the annual CSA Scholarship. Of course, the Fraternal Department is also putting the final touches on the planning for the Get-Together events, such as our Miss National CSA Contest.

In addition, the Get-Together Committee gang from Iowa is also working hard on additional final touches for the details of the Get-Together in Cedar Rapids, which will be held in early August. As I do every year, I highly encourage each and every one of you to make the trip and enjoy the festivities. It’s the crown jewel of our social calendar, and never fails to be a great time. Thanks to all, in advance, who are volunteering to help make the Get-Together happen. There’s a lot of work that goes into setting up an event such as this, so thank you again.

From an Operations standpoint, we’re also keeping busy. As I reported in some of my previous articles, we recently finished up our Insurance Department Financial Audit, which occurs every five years. Again, I’m happy to report that the audit went very well. CSA Fraternal Life is in a good place both financially and fraternal. As I’ve preached before, there will always be room for continued strengthening, as we increase our surplus by keeping our operations efficient. Though, rest assured, your Life Insurance and Annuity dollars are safe and secure.

From a Product standpoint, we continue to have a very competitive Fixed Annuity Product, which has a first year interest rate of 4.5%. Our Life Insurance portfolio is also worth taking a look at if you’re in the market. From smaller whole life policies, to good-sized term policies, we have a number of options for you. If you have interest in any of these options, your local CSA agent or our Sales staff in the Home Office can assist you with your needs.

As always, thank you for your support over the years. We are here to assist the membership in any way that you need. Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Until next month….

Fraternally,

John J. Kiełczewski, CLU, FLMI
President
CSA Fraternal Life
Calendar of Events

Wednesday, June 5, 2019
Deadline for:
Kropik Scholarship Applications
Recipient Information for CSA Scholarship

Friday, June 14, 2019
Deadline for:
Bowl-o-Rama Scores
Miss CSA Application
Fraternalist of the Year Nominees
Miss CSA Photos

Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5, 2019
Home Office Closed for Independence Day Holiday

Friday – Sunday, August 2 – 4, 2019
CSA 83rd Annual Get-Together
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
See page 8 and 9.

Monday, September 2, 2019
Home Office Closed for Labor Day

Saturday, October 12
Deadline for Veterans Names/Articles for Journal*

Monday, October 14, 2019
Home Office Closed for Columbus Day

Saturday, October 19, 2019
Czech Festival 2019
American-Czech Educational Center
4690 Lansdowne Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri
Czech food, pastries, pivo, music, and more.
See Facebook page for details.

Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29, 2019
Home Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Sunday, December 1
Deadline for CSA Serves Matching Funds Requests

Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25
Home Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

Wednesday, January 1
Home Office Closed for New Year’s Day

*All Journal articles are due the 12th of the month prior to publication
(Ex: Articles for January would be due December 12.)
Hello, Brothers and Sisters,

I hope you are enjoying the start of your summer. As per usual, May was a busy month for us at the Home Office. This is that special time of year where we are working on several programs at once – Scholarship Program, the Miss National CSA Contest, the Fraternalist of the Year applications, Bowl-o-Rama, National Bowling Congress, Lodge Recognition Award ceremonies, and, of course, assisting the Get-Together Committee in any way that we can. We run a tight ship here at the Home Office, so we thank you for your commitment and patience!

By this time, all lodges should have received their Lodge Recognition Program awards from the Directors of their region. Congratulations to our lodges for your hard work. If your lodge wants to apply next year in January, but perhaps you need a little help with the paperwork, please don’t hesitate to give me a call! I’d be happy to walk you through the process.

I’d like to personally shout out Lodge Independence Liberty Bell No. 408 of St. Louis, Michigan. How many of you knew that there is another St. Louis outside of Missouri? This lodge has been active for years, but there was a time where we hadn’t heard much from them. They were doing their work quietly, so to speak. Therefore, Sales Director Julie Souza and I made the trip to visit them last November in order to get to know the members, see where they meet, and see how they conduct their meetings. What a kind, generous, and tightknit group! They’re actually one of the few lodges left that own their own hall and of course, a bar! That is where our society started, you know, in a hospoda! Lodge No. 408 just received their first LRP award after a seventeen-year-long hiatus, which is a huge accomplishment. We love to see lodges reactivate themselves and get involved fraternally again.

Have you signed up for the CSA Get-Together yet? One copy of the registration form was sent to each lodge, but you can also find it on the CSA website under Member Forms. Please note: there will be an ad booklet (each page is 5.5 x 8.5 inches); a cash raffle; a gift basket raffle; and the Get-Together Committee asks that you bring either blankets, stuffed animals, or a monetary donation for the Service Project, Project Night Night.

In closing, I would like to encourage you to nominate an active member as Fraternalist of the Year. Additionally, send me those Miss National CSA applications! I’m looking forward to another successful pageant with several inspiring young ladies!

Fraternally,
Amanda S. Lovell
Fraternal Director
Brothers and Sisters,

Summer has arrived with its flurry of activities. All winter, my wife has looked forward to getting outside to start working on all the projects that I was foolish enough to agree to in January. Of course, that means that now I cannot avoid putting off what I promised to do over the winter months. With those special projects also comes the more mundane summer activities such as cutting the grass, planting and tending to flower gardens, and basic upkeep. I suspect that when our sons leave the nest, I, for one, will sorely miss the labor that they contribute to these tasks.

As you work through your projects this summer, think about the many endeavors that CSA and other Czech organizations have planned for the summer months. Just recently was the Lidice memorial event in Crest Hill, Illinois. This is a ceremony of remembrance that is held each year in June. It is wonderful to see the Czech community come together to be sure that the tragic events that occurred in Lidice during WWII are never forgotten.

Coming up is the Cedar Rapids Freedom Festival. CSA Fraternal Life and local Cedar Rapids Lodges will be sponsoring a concert featuring Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchman. There is sure to be a strong CSA presence at this concert. If you happen to be in the area at that time, come out and enjoy the concert. It is always a good time. At the end of July, there is the Czechoslovak American Congress Festival and Picnic that is moving to a new location in Summit, Illinois this year. This is a great way to celebrate your heritage by eating and drinking traditional fare, and there is always a crowd of people enjoying fellowship and music at this festival. These are only a few of the events in the Midwest that come to mind. I know that there are many in all of the different areas where our members live. Take some time to check the internet for additional events. Please feel free to send the Fraternal Department information about any cultural events over the summer. We will gladly post the information on the CSA Facebook page.

As we attend the many festivals and celebrations this summer, we are also gearing up for the annual CSA Get-Together. Our Brothers and Sisters in Iowa are planning a fun and activity-filled time for all to enjoy. This might just be the year that you choose join us. There is something for everyone at this annual destination event, and there is a strong Czech community in Cedar Rapids. We would love to see you there.

Get outside and enjoy that warm summer weather, because the season will change before you know it.

Fraternally,
Matthew A. Koski

Message from the Secretary

Something for Everyone

Do you know a CSA member who deserves recognition?

Are they active in the community?

Do they volunteer often or donate money to charitable organizations?

Send us their photo, a brief description of who they are and what they do, and we will publish them in the Journal.
Fellow Brothers and Sisters,

Happy June! Although I had been out of school for a month, it hadn’t quite felt like summer just yet. However, I feel like I finally got the feeling when this month arrived. For the past month, I’ve been keeping myself busy with two jobs. I am a bank teller at Chase Bank and a Certified Nursing Assistant at Alvernia Manor Senior Living Home in Lemont, Illinois. I’ve spent the last month training at both jobs and trying to adjust to a busy work schedule, but so far I like both! Besides keeping myself busy with work, I’ve also been keeping up with my reading. The latest book I’ve read was called “The Silent Patient” by Alex Michaelides, which I very much enjoyed!

In May, I was able to celebrate my birthday early in the month with my friends and family at my uncle’s house. My parents did a barbeque and had a traditional Mexican band play for my friends and I, which was pretty fun. In addition, I also had the opportunity to attend the 72nd Annual Bowling Congress in Westmont, Illinois where I spent time with many familiar – and new – faces! It was nice seeing everyone having fun with their family and friends. I had the chance to pull the numbers for the raffle, so congrats those who won and thank you to all who had the ability to attend, even from different states.

This summer, I was planning to visit both of my grandmas, one being in Mexico and another in Florida. I love being able to visit both because I am unable to spend a lot of time with them, since most of my time is dedicated to school and working. Of course, the distance between us poses a challenge, too. I am hoping to go, despite starting these two new jobs, but it’s probably one of the most important things I do during the summers. Other than that, I am pretty much focused on working as much as I can before the school year starts up again so I can save enough for my trip to Italy coming up this December. The administrators of the trip confirmed that we will be staying four nights in Rome, three in Venice, and three in Florence, which I can’t wait for! I hope everyone has a great month of June.

Warm regards,
Cassandra Stone
Miss National CSA 2018-2019
2019 83rd CSA Get-Together

Please fill out and postmark by June 30, 2019 to:

District Council #14  
c/o Get Together  
2940 U Avenue  
Elberon, IA 52225

Phone: 319-479-2202 or 641-485-1738  
Email: csagettogther2019@gmail.com

Bohemian Alps ... Iowa  
August 2-4, 2019

Make all checks payable to: 83rd Annual Get-Together

PLEASE PRINT BELOW (Duplicate as necessary)

NAME ________________________________ LODGE (if applicable) ________

ADDRESS __________________________________________________________

CITY, STATE, ZIP ________________________________________________

PHONE _______ EMAIL _______________________

Is this your first CSA Get-Together? _______

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY, THEN ADD YOUR TOTAL:

Adult Delegate: _______ $125  
Youth Delegate or Guest (under 18): _______ $100  
If youth, would like an adult meal: _______ + $25

*Adult T-shirt Size: (circle) S M L XL 2X 3X 4X  _______ $18.00

*Youth T-shirt Size: (circle) XS S M L XL
XS 7-8 S 8-10 M 10-12 L 12-14 XL Small Adult  _______ $12.00

*Coffee Mug  _______ $10.00

*Proceeds from the sale of T-shirts and coffee mugs go to the CSA Scholarship Fund

Are you attending a banquet dinner only?  

Friday Night  _______ $35.00  
Saturday Night  _______ $35.00  
Sunday Brunch  _______ $35.00

TOTAL: $ _______  

List any food allergies or dietary restrictions/requirements here:

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________
Things To Do In Cedar Rapids

NewBo City Market
1100 3rd St SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
This dynamic public space promotes health, happiness, and well-being in the heart of the downtown New Bohemia District. As a gathering place, business incubator, and event center, NewBo City Market services many different needs for a wide spectrum of people and organizations. This remarkable nonprofit organization is home to unique food and retail business start-ups; farmers and artisans markets; and numerous community arts, entertainment, and educational events. Czech Village and what is now New Bohemia (NewBo) is home to the large Czech and Slovak communities that settled in Cedar Rapids.

The Play Station
200 Collins Rd NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
This 3-level play center is over 12,000 square feet and is designed for kids 12 and under. This is a fun and imaginative play center where kids and adults can spend quality time together in a safe and healthy space. The Play Station also includes a large dining area with a deli that serves cold drinks, snacks, pizzas, and sandwiches.

Old MacDonald’s Farm in Bever Park
2700 Bever Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
This is a free petting farm that includes many farm animals and North American waterfowl. The farm is open every day April-October.

Sky Zone Trampoline Park
5515 Council St NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
Take advantage of the world’s first all-walled trampoline playing court, offering a variety of activities such as Open Jump, Dodgeball, Capture the Flag, SKYSLAM, the Foam Pit and now SKYWARS!

Veterans Memorial Stadium
950 Rockford Rd SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
This is a minor league baseball stadium and home field of the Cedar Rapids Kernels of the Midwest League. It is often called New Veterans Memorial Stadium to distinguish it from the original Veterans Memorial Stadium, which existed from 1949 to 2001.

Dragon’s Lair Family Adventure Center
6545 4th St SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
It’s not just Laser Tag but Laser Tag with a mission. Battle your friends or people you don’t even know for the ultimate goal… victory for your team!

Speedeezz Indoor Karting
4750 Tama St SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
This is a premier indoor go kart racing facility. All karts are inspected daily for your safety and satisfaction and to assure that every kart is performing at its best level. All karts are set at the same level so that each racer has the same great experience and chance to win every time they hit the track.

GoFree Escape Rooms
208 Collins Rd NE STE 206
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
An escape room is a live adventure in which players work together to solve a series of puzzles, clues, and riddles to complete an assigned mission. Players are given a set amount of time to complete their task and reach their goal of “escaping” through successful mission completion.

Penguin’s Comedy Club
208 2nd Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
Come enjoy both local and headlining comedy acts at Penguin’s. Penguin’s Comedy Club offers a variety of entertainment to suit your needs.

African American Museum of Iowa
55 12th Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
This is a statewide museum dedicated to preserving, exhibiting, and teaching Iowa’s African American history. As Iowa’s leading educational resource on the topic, they educate more than 30,000 people each year through museum tours, traveling exhibits, research services, youth and adult education programs, and community and fundraising events.
Houby Days of Cedar Rapids, Iowa – From Friday, May 17 until Sunday, May 19, folks from Cedar Rapids celebrated all things “houby”! Houby, of course, means “mushroom” in Czech. It was a weekend full of many activities including a parade on Saturday, live music, carnival, mushroom sale, Czech folk dancers, the Houby Hunt, mushroom contest, kids games, great food, and interesting vendors.

This year’s music line-up included performances by Michael Moncada and Whiskey High and The Electric Koolaid Trio sponsored by the Linn County Blues Society, Czech Plus Band, and more!

The Houby Hunt took place throughout the village restaurants. Participating restaurants offered special dishes featuring, of course, houby! Great prizes were given away during a raffle.

Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137 had a beautiful CSA float in the parade. Many thanks to the owner, creator, and decorator of this float, Sis. Judy Vondracek. Thank you, Judy, for all of your hard work.

Mushrooms and Umbrellas, Koláčky and Queens
The National Czech and Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa sustained very significant damage due to terrible flooding in June 2008. On June 13, 2008, the Museum & Library was approximately 80% under water. The destruction was devastating, and they had to remove all of the damaged library items and anything else that could be saved from the main building. They had moved most of the important items from the library before the flood, but many items still remained. They froze them and then afterwards decided which ones to conserve. Of the artifacts, many remained above water and were moved to a safe place. The ones that were damaged were treated by a team from the Chicago Conservation Center.

Inside the building, the exhibitions were completely destroyed, including exhibit cases and all furniture. Sheet rock was removed from the walls and was disinfected so that mold didn’t take hold. A beautiful chandelier was still intact.

A few years later…

Amid confetti cannons, a champagne christening, and hundreds of well-wishers, the flood-damaged building of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library began its journey across the street on Wednesday, June 8, 2011. With the museum webcams and local media live streaming to viewers around the globe, Patterson Structural Movers of Washington, Iowa orchestrated the slow crawl. The goal of moving the building 480 feet to the former Roundhouse location, just across A Street and positioning it parallel with the new foundation, would not be completed for several days. Continual rain created soft, muddy ground that slowed the progress, but 10 days later during a break in the drizzle, the famous pivot of the building finally occurred.

With the river side of the structure now in view, just 100 feet remained to reach the new foundation. On Tuesday, June 21 with the assistance of dump loads of rock, metal plates, a track hoe, and a large towing truck, the building’s historic trek concluded.

“Our thanks is extended to FEMA who funded this hazard mitigation project for the move of the building,” said President/CEO Gail Naughton. “Along with many others, they have helped the Museum & Library take a major step in its recovery. We’ve come so far but continue to look forward to a new museum future that promises a modern and interactive story of Czechs and Slovaks and the experiences we all share.” During July of that year, the building was elevated another 12 feet, then slid on top of the new foundation and parking garage. Masonry workers then added brick and mortar to the outside of the building and the 30,000 sq. ft. expansion continued into 2012.


District Council

72nd Annual Bowling Congress

District No. 12 Athletic Division of Northern Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana – Thanks to all of our CSA friends who supported the annual bowling weekend. The turnout was smaller than usual, but stay tuned because we have big plans in the works for next year! Regardless, attendees had a fun and fraternal weekend.

Thanks to Director Diane DiBianca for her family’s team from Cleveland and to Director Terry Placek for his Lodge Groveton No. 4 team from “the ‘Burgh”, Thanks go out to CSA President John Kielczewski, CSA Treasurer Jim Kovac, and Director Cary Mentzer for attending. We enjoyed a surprise visit by Miss National CSA Cassandra Stone and Fraternal Director Amanda Lovell, who helped make this a memorable weekend. Finally, a big thank you goes out to Richard Nowaczynski for organizing the weekend’s events.

Watch the Journal for plans for 2020.

Fraternally,
Ken Dvorsky

Many Things are Happening!

District Council No. 12 of Northern Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana – Hey! Can you believe that almost half of 2019 has passed us by? Time really does seem to fly! Now we are in June, the sixth month of the year and many things are happening.

On Sunday, June 9 we have the Lidice memorial program in Crest Hill, Illinois. Why not come out and take part in this traditional Czech tribute, honoring the courageous adults and children who lost their lives by the hands of the Nazi regime. Come early to find parking.

Flag Day is celebrated on June 14, so be sure to display “Old Glory,” which is a little way of showing our love and respect for our country. President Donald Trump was born on this same day – June 14, 1946. Summer arrives on June 21, which means it’s time to enjoy the great outdoors and do all the things you’ve been waiting so patiently to do.

District Council No. 12 hosted our annual Lodge Recognition Award Night on April 25 where eleven awards were presented to our hardworking lodges, along with a sizable monetary check. A lot of pictures were taken during the evening, and coffee and cake were enjoyed. We had 30 attendees present.

The Czechoslovak American Congress Picnic will be held in Summit, Illinois on Sunday, July 28. This extra-large park is located at S. Archer Road and 57th Street (Bulldog Drive). Come early at 9:30 a.m. and stay late. The Bohemian National Cemetery picnic was cancelled due to newly released insurance regulations. We had over 40 lodge members, guests, and friends take part in the Join Hands Day cleanup at the cemetery on May 11, where they cleaned and beautified the buildings and grounds. A big thank you goes out to all who participated.

The Get-Together in Cedar Rapids, Iowa will soon be here during August 2-4. Remember to get your Registration Forms in on time. They are due on June 30! Enjoy the summer, keep busy, and stay happy.

Fraternally,
Edward Slavik
Bowl-o-Rama
Lodge Minnesota No. 210, Owatonna, Minnesota – Bowl-o-Rama photos from Audrey Schroht
Lodge Century of Progress/Bila Hora No. 231, Cicero, Illinois – Lodge members met on what would become a rainy day on April 10 at the historic T.G. Masaryk School in Cicero. My ride home to Des Plaines via the tollway was hazardous. I could not even see the cars and trucks in front of me. There was not only the rain but the water that was sweeping up from the trucks and cars. It seemed like a complete whiteout but with rain, not snow!

In any event, the Lodge minutes of March 13 were read and approved as corrected. Members were thanked for food pantry contributions. District Council No. 12 events were announced and monetary contributions by our Lodge were made. We also celebrated our Lodge Recognition Program award. Our Lodge has purchased a half page ad in the program book for the Annual Get-Together in Cedar Rapids, Iowa scheduled for August 2-4. Several members had indicated that they will participate.

Also, members traveled to Tabor Hill on April 11 to lead the residents in the game of Bingo. This is an annual event for our Lodge. Lodge members conducted the Bingo game and winners were awarded prizes donated by our Lodge. This time all participants received a little Easter-themed stuffed animal. We included a photo of Delores Klejko and Ed Slavik holding them.

Officers and members of the Lodge wanted to acknowledge Marianne Medlick by sending an Easter card thanking her for all she has done in helping members with contributions to various activities conducted during the year. Reports on the District Council No. 12 meeting, the Bohemian National Cemetery, and the T.G. Masaryk School were heard. Articles appeared in two Prague publications about the school and featured Klára Moldová, the Principal and Head Teacher. Congratulations, Klara!

This month, we heard from Sister Nita Natkowski. Nita writes: “I grew up with five brothers. I did everything they did. They taught me how to climb a tree, shoot marbles, spin a top, play cards, and fight – among other things – but most of all, to play baseball. I even had my own glove. My brothers were loud, funny, kind... well maybe not always! Though, I loved them anyways. So thank you Buddy, Don, Tom, Joe, and George. It was a blast growing up with you!”

Nita says that her mother sometimes was upset with her and called her a “tomboy.” Growing up with five boys certainly gave Nita insight on how to conduct herself in her future life! Lucky Nita!

Fraternally,
Elaine Tejcek

Outing Planned

Lodge Anton J. Cermak No. 99, Brookfield, Illinois – One of the highlights of our lodge’s May meeting was the return of our member, Sis. Linda Rivoli. Plans were discussed for an outing at Cantigny Park, which harbors a World War One museum, many beautiful flowers, and the home of Colonel McCormick, who is the former owner of the Chicago Tribune. The Battle of Cantigny was noteworthy for being the first serious engagement of American forces with the German Army.

We also reviewed our Platinum Award for our 2018 activities. Lodge Anton J. Cermak has received 19 awards since the Lodge Recognition Program was initiated in 1991.

Fraternally,
Charles Courtney
Join Hands Day

Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372, Bedford, Ohio – On May 11, Michelle and Michael Wallette, Chris and Bruce Marek, Melisa Gardener, Donna Stupka, Johnnie Weiss, Annette Reichman, myself, and friends of DTJ, Larry, Luke, and George spruced up the grounds and bar of the DTJ in Taborville, Ohio. Flowers were planted, brush cleared, kitchen, bar area, bathrooms, and floors were cleaned. It was fun working with the group and the weather was great. We enjoyed a nice lunch of baked chicken, potato salad, cheesy potatoes, and cake for dessert.

Fraternally,
Mary Ann Toncar
Lodge Happenings

Weekend Filled with Fun and Fraternalism

Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372, Maple Heights, Ohio – Our lodge meeting was held at the Maple Heights Senior Center on a nice spring day. The highlight of the meeting was the Platinum Award certificate and check we received from the Lodge Recognition Program. We definitely earned it! We all worked hard to earn this award, and would discuss at every meeting what points we were working on next.

Two of our members attended the National Bowling Tournament held in the Chicago area. Join Hands Day was spent cleaning up DTJ (Dělnická Tělocvičná Jednota), one of our CSA Serves organizations. During our meeting, we took a vote on purchasing two packs of raffle tickets for a chance to win money at the Get-Together. We also voted to purchase 10 blankets, books, and stuffed animals for the Service Project, “Project Night Night,” at the Get-Together in Iowa. We will use the money from the profits that we make from our Annual Gambling Bus Trip fundraiser. This trip always sells out quickly, due to all the fun we have on the ride there. You heard the saying, “lions and tigers and bears, oh my.” Well we say, “Jell-O shots, beers, and pastries, oh my.”

Members are looking forward to the District Picnic to be held on Wednesday July 24 at Hemlock Creek Shelter in the Bedford Metro Parks. Consider joining us this year. We will have grilled burgers and all the fixings. Please RSVP to me (Diane) at 216-392-9074 so we have an accurate head count for the food.

Our July meeting will be held after the picnic. August, September, and October meetings are back at the Maple Heights Senior Center on the fourth Thursday of the month. We will be reaching out to all of the young female members of our Lodge who are between 18 and 25, to see if any of them would be interested in representing the Lodge for the upcoming Miss National CSA Contest.

Special thanks goes out to Richard Nowaczynski and his helpers who planned the National Bowling Tournament held in the Chicago area the first weekend in May. The weekend was filled with fun and fraternalism. There were bowlers from Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas. There was a fun hospitality night on Friday at the hotel. On Saturday, three games of doubles and three games of singles were bowled, and on Sunday, three games of team bowling. Everyone felt welcomed and just had tons of fun. On Sunday, Miss National CSA Cassandra Stone and Fraternal Director Amanda Lovell were there to cheer us on and to pass out some giveaways.

During bowling, I heard lots of “oos and ahas,” but I’m not sure if it was because the ball missed a pin by less than an inch, or if backs, legs, and hands were aching in pain. There was some great bowling going on as well, with lots of strikes from the advanced players. Mystery scores were played both days, along with brackets, for a chance to win some extra money. I am not one of those advanced bowlers, but was thrilled with my score of 87 when it was called after 32 picks in the first mystery score, winning me some extra drinking money. I made it through the doubles and watched from the sidelines as the singles were bowled. I was a little intimidated on Sunday, as the team we were bowling against had beautiful matching bowling shirts on. I soon found out they were not a weekly bowling team and were just representing the Chicagoland Czech Heritage Museum. Their bowling was both just as good – and bad – as our team. After the three games were bowled, goodbyes were exchanged and safe travels ahead were said.

Until next year... see you then!

Fraternal well wishes to all,
Diane DiBianca

June Anniversaries

June 6
Don and Irene Hamous
Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137

Would you like your anniversary recognized?

Send your names, anniversary date and Lodge name and number to csajournaleditor@gmail.com
**Lodge Happenings**

**Bowling Bests and Baby Blessings**

**Lodge Benjamin Franklin No. 02, Seven Hills, Ohio** – Not since the 2013-14 bowling season, has Team Franklin taken home the trophy in the competitive Thursday night Parma Home Builders League. But the drought is over! The good guys in the black and orange shirts came out on top in a hard fought battle at the Seven Hills house of thrills. This league uses a three-session season, with the best team record over all, as a wild card. For the roll offs, “X Men” took the first two thirds, so they had a “bye” in the first round. “The Lodge,” as our boys are called, defeated the wild card during that week, and would take on the X Men after the banquet/bowlers meeting on May 2.

Captain Ken Burdzinski fine tuned his lineup to include Scott Krecow at leadoff, himself in the two slot, followed by the father and son tandem of Paul and Andrew Malkus. The hard-hitting Dan Krecow would anchor with Bill Daglow in reserve. Game one went to the lodge by 49 pins. However, X Men were just warming up. Game two saw the lodge crushed 1069 to 918. Captain Ken, in all his infinite wisdom, had felt this series would be a dogfight, so he put out the call the day before to the alumni of the lodge colors and be the team’s so called “sixth man” and do some cheerleading.

Showing up late in the second game, Mike Cernosky and the Zidlicky boys, Jim, Jimmy and I were fired up and ready to go. The team responded to the X Men’s last game onslaught. The cries of TOWER of POWER... Tee-Burd... Dan the Man-n-n and Hoo-Ah were cause for some serious high fiving. In the end, Team Franklin took the best of three games with a 1085-1032 final. Kudos to Andrew Malkus who fired his first perfect game four weeks earlier and finished with the team high 216 average. Super season, guys. We’re all proud of you!

Denise Veverka-Gillombardo, who is an accomplished bowler in her own right, is also in line for congratulations. Not for bowling, but on the birth of her beautiful baby granddaughter. Vivian Rita came into the world at 9:02 a.m. on April 18. Parents Megan and Brian Hansen welcomed the nine pound, two ounce bundle of joy at University Hospital’s Parma Campus. Grandma Denise brought out her baby picture, and it’s a mirrored image to that of baby Vivian. Congrats and best wishes on this Easter blessing!

Fraternal regards,
Jeff Zidlicky

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Read the Journal online at: www.csalife.com
“The Accidental Hero”

Lodge Sionilli No. 170, Brookfield, Illinois – Lodge Sionilli members gathered in the Czech classroom of Sokol Spirit in May to watch a video they have been talking about for a while. It was called, “The Accidental Hero,” and is a one-man show by the son of a Czech man from Wisconsin who found himself accidentally leading the liberators of his parents’ native villages in then Czechoslovakia during WWII. They highly recommend you see it, or even better, the live show, if you have the chance.

In June, the meeting will be held on Thursday the 13th at Irish Times in Brookfield for a dinner meeting at 7:00 p.m. The group will gather in a social setting at the Czechoslovak American Congress picnic at the Summit Park District on Archer, just west of Rt. 171, on Sunday, July 28. On August 18, we will be having a cookout at Stan and Pat Smolucha’s house in Winfield at 12:30, and then we will go to Cantigny Park for a free concert featuring the Four C Notes, who do the music of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons.

Congratulations to Alix Wilt on earning a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction with an ESL Endorsement from Concordia University. Alix has been working towards this degree for the past two years and finished just before she gets married this July!

Fraternally,
Alix Wilt

Welcome Home the Honor Flight

Lodge Washington No. 30, St. Louis, Missouri – Congratulations to Karen Ditz and Gail Petelik on their great results at this year’s CSA Bowling Congress Tournament. They and Lynne Petelik had a good time at this year’s event and that brought back a lot of fun memories of past tournaments and the bus trips our league took each year. Many thanks to the local committee for continuing the tradition – maybe we’ll get a few more St. Louis bowlers to make the trip next year!

At our meeting, we made plans to head out to St. Louis-Lambert Airport to greet the returning veterans from the Honor Flight on Saturday, June 29. We’ll be there with flags and “welcome home” signs for those vets who make the trip to Washington that day. This is a very festive and emotional gathering to show our respect for these individuals who served our country with such bravery and sacrifice. If you’d like to join us, please call me at 314-732-9620 and I’ll give you all the particulars.

It’s still spring, but we talked about our Christmas Party and some new ideas for it. We’ll be tweaking those ideas in the months to come, so put the date on your calendar – it’s Sunday, December 8 at our American-Czech Educational Center. Invitations will go out later.

But of course, before that is our big event in St. Louis – the Czech Festival, also at the ACEC, on Saturday, October 19. We celebrate all things Czech with great food and music, beer and wine, slivovitz, booths and games, pastry, and a full day of fun for the whole family, from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. The Center is at 4690 Lansdowne Avenue, St. Louis. Hope to see lots of our members there!

Fraternally,
Deborah Zeman
Lodge Happenings

Three Frozen Kings

Lodge Harrison/Hus/Garfield No. 378, Cicero, Illinois – Can you believe that we finally had a meeting where there was no snow, rain, or high winds? After having a lunch – served by Gladys – and several “low calorie” bakery items, our May meeting was called to order.

Information was given about the meeting on June 3, which was the annual Parents’ Day flower presentation and memorial for our lodge founders. The new location for the Czechoslovak American Congress picnic was discussed and all were welcome to visit the T.G. Masaryk Czech School tent. The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the Lodge Recognition Program Platinum Award to our lodge and the $500 check. Being a good Bohemian, I deposited it the next day.

We thanked the members for their support and explained what we need to do this year. We will once again support the school with our CSA Serves donation. I updated all on the progress of our members Charles and Gloria Valestin. I closed the meeting reading the Czech legend of the Three Frozen Kings as a warning to all gardeners.

We will meet on July 1 at noon at our usual meeting place, the T.G. Masaryk Czech School.

Fraternally,  
Ken Dvorsky

Mark Your Calendar for Many Upcoming Events

Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219, Cleveland, Ohio – We had a great meeting on May 14; fourteen members were in attendance. We had a surprise member who hasn’t attended our meetings in a long time, Frank Svaty.

On a bright note, we won the LRP Platinum Award! We received our money and award, which we will hang up in our meeting room. We also received a nice letter from the Home Office thanking us for our hard work in obtaining the award. We received another letter from the Home Office regarding CSA’s Scholarship Fund (our lodge is sending money to the fund for Helen and Betty). We also received a thank you from DTJ Farm for our donation to them and a copy of the letter the Home Office sent to DTJ matching half of our donation to them.

Bowling season is over. We will start up again in August. Please contact June Karecki at 216-941-6969 if you are interested in bowling with us. The State Bowling Tournament is this October in Pennsylvania. More details to come.

We are also having our “Crock Pot Cook-off” on October 5. This is a great fundraiser for our lodge. More details to come. Please come and join us!

Our June meeting will be held at Merwin’s Restaurant in the Flats. This should be a great time. We hope it’s warm enough to sit on the open patio by the river.

We will be bringing children’s clothing and other needed items for the Providence House for our August meeting. At this meeting, we ask that everyone bring their own lunch. We will provide the drinks and dessert. We will have a contest for the cutest lunch bag that people bring. A small prize will be awarded.

At our September meeting, we will have a presenter who is speaking about a trip to Antarctica. We will also have pizza for lunch!

On July 24, there will be a District picnic at the Hemlock Picnic Area in Bedford Reservation. Please come at 11 a.m. for a short meeting and bring a dessert. Everyone is invited. Let June Karecki know if you are coming.

Our Pin Party is on December 8 at noon at St. Michael’s Woodside Party Center. It is a wonderful event.

Also remember, the pork or chicken dinners! After this month’s dinner, there will be two more on September 25 and October 23. Call Don Kotlan the Friday before the dinner to make reservations. His number is 216-228-0027.

We sang “Happy Birthday” to Karen Buzek whose birthday was on May 10 and Tony and Judy Genco celebrated their 43rd anniversary on May 1. Congratulations!

Our 50/50 raffle was won by Karen and Jan Russell. We then played bingo with lots of winners.

We ended our meeting with a yummy lunch provided by Dolores Clark and Joanie Sapp. They provided sloppy joes, potato salad, fruit, and dessert. Thank you, girls!

Spring is here, so enjoy the weather!

Fraternally yours,  
Judy (Sevcik) Genco

Birthday girl Karen Buzek won a trophy from bowling for women's high game.
Lodge Happenings

Nifty Knitter

Lodge Brookfield No. 475, Brookfield, Illinois – This year, we had three youngsters participate in the Junior Bowl-o-Rama, namely Marisa and Michelin Spano and Karel Kuttler. I was told it was great fun!

A few weeks ago, Kimberly Silhan was honored to be a guest speaker at a Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison meeting. Kim demonstrated how to knit stocking caps on a simple device called “the nifty knitter”. It is easy to do and you can create a colorful cap in just a matter of hours without any special knitting skills or ability.

Looking forward, we are planning to conduct our garage sale in September, hold another Yahtzee tournament in October, and our annual movie night in November. Stay tuned for details.

Lodge Brookfield meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. at CSA Home Office in Lombard, Illinois. See you there!

Fraternally,
Kimberly Silhan

Coming Events

Lodge Independence-Liberty Bell No. 408, St. Louis, Michigan – At the time of writing this article, it seems like winter still has a hold on us here in Michigan. However, that has not stopped us from having an eventful month!

We are busy planning a Trivia Night on Friday, May 11 at 7:00 p.m. and are anticipating a packed house of trivia buffs. This is our first attempt at this and we are hoping it becomes an annual event.

Our Euchre Night was held on Saturday, April 27 with 44 people playing. We enjoyed a lot of food and had a ton of fun. Our next Euchre Night will be on Friday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m. Come join us!

Another fundraiser is being planned for June 22 to benefit Michelle Tyron.

Darrin Giles is busy planning another Car Cruise-In for Friday, June 14 at the CSA Hall at 5:00 p.m. Come on out and see all the oldies but goodies!

Fraternally yours,
Mary Anderson
Lodge Happenings

Hot Dog Dinner

Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 77, North Riverside, Illinois – Our April meeting started with our Annual Hot Dog Dinner. Thanks to all the members who donated items for the meal. A special thanks to Cindy Bueneman for her famous homemade potato salad. There were 17 members in attendance; two of whom were junior members. Benny Saballus is in first grade and enjoys playing soccer. Frankie Saballus is in third grade and also attends classes at T.G. Masaryk School.

We voted on giving a monetary donation for the Get-Together Service Project, “Project Night Night,” which consists of a tote bag, blanket, book, and stuffed animal.

I would like to thank Sister Kathleen Riha for making Shamrock magnets in March and Easter magnets in April for our members.

Twelve junior members attended the Bowl-o-Rama in April. Mia Allen; Colin, Troy, and Vanessa Graveen; The Michaleks - Chase, Chloe, Connor, Finn, Reed, and Trevor; and Bennet and Frank Saballus.

The Miss CSA contest is in August and our Lodge is hoping that one of our members would consider entering the event.

Some of our junior members are graduating from high school this year. Have you applied for a CSA Scholarship?

Fraternally,
Mary Ellen Janda

“Beauty and the Beast”

Lodge R.T. Crane Jr. No. 7, North Riverside, Illinois – Lodge R.T. Crane enjoyed seeing photos of the Thorfeldts’ recent trip to Asia at the May meeting following Adam Wilt’s meatloaf dinner. June, July, and August meetings will be cook-outs at members’ homes: June 26 is the steak dinner to celebrate our Platinum Award at Vera Wilt’s, July 24 will be at Adam Wilt’s and will feature sausages, and August 28 will be hot dogs and hamburgers at the Thompsons.

In May, a group of our members went to see the North Riverside Players production of “Beauty and the Beast.” Adam Wilt, Vera Wilt, Charmaine Thorfeldt, Dennis Thorfeldt, and Dawn Jensen all attended the show. The performance took place right at the North Riverside Recreation Center, across the street from the North Riverside Library where we hold our monthly meetings. We have attended other shows here in the past and each one is better than the last!

The Best Buddies Friendship Walk in May was postponed due to snow! It was rescheduled for June 2, which gave us more time to fundraise for this amazing cause!

Fraternally,
Alix Wilt

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Lodge Happenings

The Czech Republic – 20 Years in NATO

Lodge Missouri No. 1, St. Louis, Missouri – On April 5, my wife Connie and I were invited to attend a commemorative luncheon honoring the Czech Republic being a part of NATO for 20 years. NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, is an international alliance that consists of 29 member states from North America and Europe.

The event that we attended took place at the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri. The original ceremony took place on March 12, 1999 at this exact place. At that time, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and three foreign ministers from the Czech Republic, Poland, and Hungary were present to sign the accession agreement.

Among the many prestigious speakers at this event were Mgr. Tomáš Petříček, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. Also, a special thanks goes to Sharon K. Valášek, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic, for making this a memorable day!

Fraternally,
Mike Wolf
Lodge Betsy Ross No. 151, Berwyn, Illinois – Our history: Betsy Ross was originally a subordinate lodge of The Unity of Bohemian Ladies, a fraternal benefit society dating back to 1870. There were three requisites to membership: 1) you were of good moral character, 2) you were Czech or of Czech descent, because business was conducted in the Czech language, 3) you were female. Other nationalities were admitted when the realization came to be that there were not enough Czechs to keep the organization growing. Male members were allowed after the 1938 Convention. We were then known as The Unity of Czech Ladies and Men. The next name change to the Czechoslovak Society of America in 1977 came after a merger. CSA Fraternal Life, our current name, came out of the Convention of 1982.

In 1933, the name Betsy Ross No. 151 came to be out of a dream plan by the then president of the Supreme Lodge of the Unity, Sister Alzbeta Lish Strohmajer. After the formation of our lodge by 37 young women, English speaking lodges popped up all over the country. We were a very active lodge up until the late 1990s.

Our future: I had said in my last communication in the Journal that we would be contacting members of Betsy Ross in the Chicago suburbs to see if there is any interest in reviving our lodge, so please watch your snail mail for this info and the questionnaire with it to get your opinions about what you would like to see Betsy Ross do in the future. There will probably be some info on social media also if you’d rather participate that way.

Fraternally,
Nancy Cepuder Reagan

On May 11, Nick Kosmas and his wife, Lisa, participated in the Join Hands Day clean-up at Bohemian National Cemetery. Nick took several pictures that were posted to the CSA Fraternal Life Facebook page. Join Hands Day is a national volunteer day and annual event sponsored by the American Fraternal Alliance in May.

Our lodge has also made a recent donation to the Scholarship Program.

At this time, members Nancy Reagan and Nick Kosmas are discussing new programs and activities for 2019 and 2020. Please let us know if you have any suggestions!

Fraternally,
Nick Kosmas

Sprucing Up the Cemetery

Lodge Svetlo No. 277, Caldwell, Texas – Members donated flowers and helped clean the New Tabor Cemetery for Join Hands Day on Sunday, May 5. Pictured are: Sisters (literally) Betty Suehs, Carol Petty, and Susan Skrabanek getting the flowers ready to take to the cemetery. In the second photo, you’ll see Susan Skrabanek, Betty Suehs, Albert Joe Surovik, and Carol Petty, who assisted the New Tabor SPJST youth group in the cemetery cleanup. Together, we put new flowers on approximately 200 graves.

Fraternally,
Susan Skrabanek
Lodge Groveton No. 4, McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania – Volunteering in the community is a very important part of CSA Fraternal Life as well as a valued tradition with its members. It is even written in as part of the mission statement, “CSA Fraternal Life is a benefit society providing families with financial security while promoting community involvement and volunteerism.”

Volunteering in the community is something that Lodge Groveton No. 4 has prided itself on for many years and 2019 will be no different.

The end of April provided an opportunity for Lodge Groveton to help not only in our community but at the same time clean up the environment. CSA members Terry, Jean, Barb, and Patty participated in a roadside cleanup project hosted by Robinson Township that helped clean up the litter and trash throughout the area. They were responsible for cleaning up trash along a well-traveled roadway and they performed their task admirably. A road sign recognizing Lodge Groveton and its efforts was placed in the cleaned area as a reminder of what hard volunteer work can produce.

Not to be out-done by the roadside cleanup, members Terry, Dana, Vince, and Jean volunteered their time at the West Hills Food Pantry. The food pantry is a local non-profit organization that provides groceries to individuals in the area who have fallen on hard times and could use some extra assistance to make sure their families do not go without. These four members took time to help separate and pack grocery bags that were handed out to those in need. Their selfless efforts surely brought a smile to some faces that have not had much to smile about lately.

Lodge Groveton members are even known to volunteer within our own Lodge by providing rides to meetings and Lodge functions. Not only does it save on gas, but it allows members time to engage in conversation and form a stronger bond within the Lodge. We proudly attempt to live up to the lofty expectations of CSA by tirelessly volunteering time and funds to organizations and individuals that need them. After all, volunteering is what we at CSA do.

If you would like to tag along on one of our many excursions, feel free to contact us at our Facebook page, Lodge Groveton, and leave a message. Until next time, take care, fellow members.

Fraternally,
Bro. Gary Forrester
Lodge Happenings

Cirque du Soleil

Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137, Cedar Rapids, Iowa – Congratulations to our lodge and all members who made it possible for us to win the 2018 Lodge Recognition Program Platinum Award. This is our 28th year in receiving this “top” award through CSA. Each year it takes a lot of hard work and many willing hands to participate in the many events that help make this award possible. Let’s make 2019 our 29th year for winning the award!

For our May Lodge Prokop Velky meeting, 30 members had the pleasure to attend the Cirque du Soleil “Corteo” performance at the U.S. Cellular Center in Cedar Rapids, with a bus taking us to and from our cars when the show was over. Wow, what a show! This huge visual and aural production was packed into 700 road cases and loaded onto 20 semis to travel from city to city. The costumes alone filled 2.5 semis. This should show how impressive a production they put on stage. Crew members outnumber cast members 58 to 52 and represent 22 nationalities. The six musicians speak four different native languages. One member of the cast is from Cedar Rapids, with her parents still living in the Cedar Rapids area, who proudly watched their daughter at all of her five shows held here locally. Many of the crew members are busy sewing, washing, and drying costumes and keeping the makeup cabinets stocked. Shoe specialists keep the footwear at top performance. These are just a few jobs that were required to keep this wonderful show going. The fast action unfolds with 51 acrobats, musicians, singers, and actors from around the world, including one from Eastern Iowa. We all enjoyed this professional production and recommend that this be on everyone’s bucket list!

Join Hands Day was held on Saturday, May 4 at the Czech National Cemetery in Cedar Rapids. A variety of work was accomplished both inside the office and outside on a beautiful day. Thanks to all who helped.

Lodge Prokop Velky’s next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5 at 6:00 p.m.

Happy Father’s Day to all!

Fraternally,
Barbara Edmunds
Great Graduates!

Lodge Mile-Hi Czechs No. 432, Lakewood, Colorado – We have three very merry graduates to congratulate! First is Nicole Lantz, who is a 19 year lifetime member of CSA and will graduate from the Aveda Institute in Denver. The cosmetology program is a year long. She passed the practical and written Colorado State test and received her license. She is now working at Luxe de Vil Salon in Denver. Her family is very proud of her and so are we!

Second is former Miss National CSA of 2016 and the 2016 Kropik Scholarship winner, our own Kristin Payer. She graduated from the University of Mississippi, cheered on by her whole family and doting grandmother, Vera Payer.

Last but not least, is Jack, the third and last of the Strunc boys. All of them received CSA Scholarships. Like his brother Tom, he graduated with Honors in Business from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. Since he was playing baseball at the time of the formal ceremony, a special event for graduating members of the team was held later in the field house, complete with cap and gowns. His two brothers were there as well as their parents, all proud and happy to congratulate Jack and welcome him into “adult life”. Jack’s baseball season will last a few more weeks. All three grads gratefully received book money from the Lodge during their studies.

Our May Lodge meeting was both informative and eye-opening. We met at the St. Bernadette Catholic Church, which, aside from having a K-8 school on campus, also has the Marisol Home for single women with children who need help, who may be homeless, and who need care, counseling, and compassion. Yolanda Greene-Sanders explained to us how the Marisol Home offers services and homes to women and their young families and how they help them become independent. We took a brief tour, donated paper products to the wonderful facility, and counted our blessings!

We would like to announce that Beth Egan is our nominee for Fraternalist of the Year. Also, we were pleased to see that we won the Platinum Award in the Lodge Recognition Award. Pictured left, you’ll see Treasurer Maryellen Vialpando happily holding our check and certificate.

Janet Farrar and Phil were featured in the Sunday, May 12 issue of “The Denver Post’s Travel Tales” on their trip to Rome and tour of the Domus Aurea, the palace built by Emperor Nero who famously played the fiddle while Rome burned in 64 A.D. After the ashes, he ordered this magnificent new dwelling! Janet and Phil did not do much hiking this trip.

Happy summer days to all,
Sis Pat Kenning
Lodge Sokol Plzen No. 434, Oak Brook, Illinois – Saturday, May 18 was the last day of classes for T. G. Masaryk Czech School until they begin again in September. The children performed and there was a barbecue. In attendance was a Czech Chicago Blackhawks player, Michal Rozsival. We took pictures with him and Director Ken Dvorsky. We all had a great day!

On May 19, we met at Candy Papuga’s home and celebrated Stan Papuga’s 75th birthday. Stan, after all these many years, is preparing to retire and enjoy life with his family. Some of us also participated in the Join Hands Day cleanup at Bohemian National Cemetery. It was a cool, damp day but all the lodges worked hard cleaning the cemetery grounds, Gate House, and Columbarium. Stan, Candy, and their twin grandsons came later and cleaned the area around the Krupek grave site.

The Jaros children are getting ready to end the college semester for this year. The Malusa family are busy preparing for upcoming events for Michael and Michelle, too. Matthew Bultas is finishing up the Riverside Brookfield Girls Lacrosse season, where they have 12 wins and one loss. Matt almost took them to an undefeated season, but there is always next year. Candy and Stan Papuga’s grandsons, Nathan and Zachary, are also becoming good athletes after winning first place in the Downers Grove YMCA youth basketball team. They are also playing baseball in the Hinsdale Little League Baseball program. All and all, the lodge is doing well and is looking forward to the Get-Together in August.

Until next month,
Andy Bultas
Scholarship Fund Donation Form

With the price of higher education rapidly increasing, scholarships continue to be an important fraternal benefit. The CSA Scholarship Fund assists young adults, not only with their education, but with their professional goals. We appreciate your generous donations and your continued support!

Fill and send this form with donation. Please make checks payable to CSA Fraternal Life Scholarship Fund.

Enclosed is my donation of $ ____________

☐ For the general Scholarship Fund or ☐ In Memory of __________________________

Send acknowledgement of contribution to __________________________

Address _____________________________________________________________

City __________________________ State __________ Zip ____________

Donor’s Name _______________________________________________________

Address _____________________________________________________________

City __________________________ State __________ Zip ____________

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. —Nelson Mandela

CSA Fraternal Life
In New York Czechoslovak Society of America

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Collecting Pill Bottles

Lodge Pingree No. 366, Dearborn Heights, Michigan – Our lodge has been remaining busy! Jerry Vimr, Marie Palmer, and Jeff Teichman participated in Join Hands Day with Sandy and Karen from His Church Anglican to pack food for the food pantry on Tuesday, May 14.

Also you will see a photo of Jeff Teichman, Dale Giacchina, and Jerry Vimr giving pill bottles to CSA President John Kielczewski. As many of you know, the CSA Home Office has been collecting cleaned, empty pill bottles that are sent to third world countries in need. These were given to John after the Bowling Congress event on May 5, which was super fun!

We hope you will join us at an upcoming meeting!

Best,

Jeffrey Teichman
### In Memoriam

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Bill (William) McFee of Lodge Independence Liberty Bell No. 408 passed away on April 26. There was a memorial held in his honor on Sunday, April 28. (See photo, left.)

Bob (Robert) LeRoux of Lodge Independence Liberty Bell passed away unexpectedly on May 3. A memorial in honor of Bob was held at the Alma Elks on Thursday, May 23 at 1:00 p.m. (See photo, right.)
In Memoriam

Helen Makes, 93, of Lodge Anton J. Cermak No. 99, was born June 24, 1925 in Chicago, Illinois. She was the only child of parents Charles and Josephine Jirec, who immigrated to the United States from then-Czechoslovakia. Czech was her first language and she remained fluent in it throughout her life. Helen was an accomplished musician playing both the violin and accordion. Helen, along with her late husband Joseph Makes, entertained together throughout the years in Česká divadla (Czech theatrical productions), several Czech polka bands, and in the Czech Christmas Around the World performances at the Museum of Science and Industry of Chicago.

For many years, Helen was the Secretary of Lodge Zizkov-Plzen No. 18 (which merged with Lodge Anton J. Cermak No. 99). She was proud of her role as the Scribe, in which she wrote numerous articles for the Journal. She was also a long-time active member of Western Fraternal Life Lodge Pilgrim No. 330 (Treasurer) and Klub Bedřich Smetana.

Helen filled her days with volunteering, playing with her grandchildren, and traveling. In addition to visiting many interesting places in the U.S., she enjoyed visiting with all of her extended family members at family reunions in the Czech Republic. Helen is survived by her three daughters (Lynda, Anita, and JoAnn) and four grandchildren (Kristen, Matthew, Kevin, and Mikayla). Her son Dennis passed away in October 2018.

Submitted by, JoAnn Cekanor

Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372 and our members were saddened by the passing of our dear member, Helen Mary Martanovic. Helen passed away on April 27, 2019 at the age of 95 years. Helen Martanovic (nee Sevcik) married John Martanovich on July 18, 1942 while John was serving in the US Army. Beloved wife of John (deceased); loving mother of John (Kay-deceased) and Diane Hampton (deceased); cherished grandmother of Kimberly Nash (Gerry), Ronald Boehnlein (deceased), John Martanovic, Eric Martanovic (Iris), and great-grandmother of five; dearest sister of Bessie Pobuda (Jerry) and Frank Sevcik (Inez) (all deceased).

Helen, along with sister Bessie, were both 75-year members of CSA Fraternal Life. Helen loved and enjoyed the CSA bowling events. She rarely missed a lodge meeting. She served for many years as the Lodge Secretary. Helen enjoyed the family gatherings, playing cards, family Las Vegas trips, lodge bus trips, bowling tournaments, and CSA Get-Togethers.

Helen, with sister Bessie, enjoyed gym classes at Sokol Nova Vlast when they were young girls. They were 75-year Sokol members. Helen was also a member of DTJ (Dělnická Tělocvičná Jednota). You could always find Helen helping at Český Den and Obžínky with the 50/50 side boards and raffles. Helen was the winner of one of the televisions raffled at Český Den by District Council No. 10.

Along with the CSA, DTJ, and Sokol activities, there was always time for family gatherings for clambakes, hayrides, and fish fries at Aunt Bessie’s and Uncle Majo’s in Macedonia. In the early 1950s and 1960s, Helen and John enjoyed the once a month card club made up of friends (ten couples) from CSA, DTJ, and Sokol.

We will always remember Helen’s great smile and her friendly, caring demeanor. She will remain our “forever friend”.

Submitted by: Fran Weiss

Condolences from Lodge R.T. Crane Jr., No. 7 go out to the Novalich family on the passing of Helene Novalich. Helene and her daughter, June have attended many lodge meetings and events over the past few years. Helene even gave us a book report at one of our meetings last year. We will miss her smiling face!

On May 19, Lodge Sokol Plzen met at Candy Papuga’s home and held a memorial for Marie Schnabla and her husband Joseph who were longtime members of Lodge Sokol Plzen. Joseph passed away years ago, and he was the Treasurer for the lodge for many years. Marie, because of her age, had not been attending lodge meetings for a couple of years. Marie passed away on May 6 at the age of 97. Marie had five children, 15 grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren. Marie was buried at Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Not everyone at our meeting knew Marie but many of us did. Everyone participated in the memorial for Marie.

Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219 mourns Betty Svaty’s passing on May 1. Her son, Frank Svaty thanked members for the get-well cards they had sent her. Betty was a beloved member of the lodge who attended every meeting she could and was simply a lovely and kind lady.
Proud of Our Award

Lodge Virginia No. 230, Colonial Heights, Virginia – At our May meeting held on May 11, we proudly received the 2018 Lodge Recognition Program Gold Award. This is our 11th year receiving this award! We are proud of our lodge members and appreciative of our hardworking Fraternal Department employees at the Home Office! Pictured here are members Mary Zahradka and Anne Michalek receiving the award.

We hope you will join us at an upcoming lodge meeting. If interested, please email me at jzreiner@gmail.com.

Fraternally yours,
Janet Zahradka Reiner

Bringing Home the Platinum

Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377, Lombard, Illinois – Thanks to all of our lodge members for their efforts last year. We are once again a Platinum Star lodge! Projects, service, and social activities in 2018 that contributed to this recognition were many and varied, and I’ll highlight just a few, to remind you of our busy year. For Join Hands Day, we partnered in service to the Share Food Share Love Food Pantry in Brookfield, with the project itself organized by some of our youngest members, Annabelle and Savannah Porter (with mom Jamie’s help!). Our annual craft night produced adorable snowman ornaments for donation to the residents of Tabor Hills Assisted Living; we also took time to socialize and have fun together; and our total volunteer hours, monetary donations, and donations of goods – including our toy drive – once again exceeded expectations. Congratulations to all of us, on a job well done!

To celebrate this accomplishment, our Lodge Recognition picnic will be held on Sunday, August 18. Details are as in past years: we will gather at noon in the North Pavilion of Katherine Legge Park (5901 S. County Line, Hinsdale). The grill will be fired up, and we plan to eat at 12:30-ish. Entrées and beverages are provided; we ask you to bring a side or dessert to share. It always helps to know how many will attend: please email or call me, not later than a few days before the picnic. Hope to see you there!

While your calendar is out and you are marking dates, have you reserved your place at our upcoming dinner meeting? Details were in my last column: July 5 at Sawa’s Old Warsaw. It’s not too late to join us: just call Larry Ebenroth at (708) 535-8852.

So many opportunities to get together with lodge friends! As always, we can provide transportation if needed, so there’s no reason you can’t be part of the fun!

Fraternally,
Jean Hemzáček Laukant
hemzacek.j@gmail.com / 630-279-7894
Lodge Kruh Osvojenych Zen a Panu
No. 121, Dillonvale, Ohio – Greetings, friends! I hope the onset of summer has everyone feeling energized and anxious for all the fun to come! It seems like it takes forever to get here, but once it does, it really goes fast! Enjoy!

We are so excited to share our news of receiving the Platinum Award regarding the Lodge Recognition Program. Our members are to be commended for their volunteer efforts and charitable donations both from our lodge and on an individual basis. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to our chosen charities!

Lodge No. 121 will be supporting the upcoming Get-Together this summer with an advertisement in the program book and the purchase of raffle tickets. We will also be making a donation towards supplies for the backpack care packages for Project Night Night, our GTG Service Project.

Please see next month’s Journal for a report on our Join Hands Day Project with Dillonvale’s Post #529 American Legion and Auxiliary Units. We will be contributing to and participating in our town’s Memorial Day Service and Luncheon along with the Legionnaires and Auxiliary members.

Recently, the Dillonvale Presbyterian Church was blessed with a new metal roof and some needed repairs. The previous roof was not functioning as necessary and, unfortunately, the church was left with some interior damage as well. Several of our lodge members are also members of that church and we make contributions to it as part of our CSA Serves Project. The church’s Social Hall is a gathering place for many of our monthly lodge meetings. We are grateful to have such a nice place to get together. We extend our well wishes to the members of the church and join in their happiness and celebration over the recent improvements.

Well, it’s finally here... that long awaited month! As you soak up the sunshine while eating your ice cream cone and cheering for your favorite ball team, remember that summer only lasts a short time. Seize every opportunity for fun and relaxation!

“It is the month of June,
The month of leaves and roses,
When pleasant sights salute the eyes,
And pleasant scents the noses.”

~Nathaniel Parker Willis

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Sister Wendy Kurtz Lovell
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