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President's Message

Dear Members & Friends - It is hard to believe that 2017 is half over. In the last issue of the POSEL, the financial results for 2016 were printed. I'm happy to report that 2016 was one of the best years CCU Life has had. All of our numbers and ratios were positive.

At the Annual Meeting in April, the Board of Directors and Officers decided to reward our member two-fold. The first was the insurance special that was mailed to you in late April. The second is the Annuity-CD that was recently mailed and is also included in this issue of the POSEL. This is our way of giving back to our members besides the dividends you receive each year on your insurance policy.

We certainly want to thank all of our members who remain with us and have invested their money with us. We need to perpetuate CCU Life since many of our elderly are leaving us. Consider taking advantage of one or both of our specials. Continued investment in CCU Life could mean even more positive results in the future and perhaps even better rates of return.

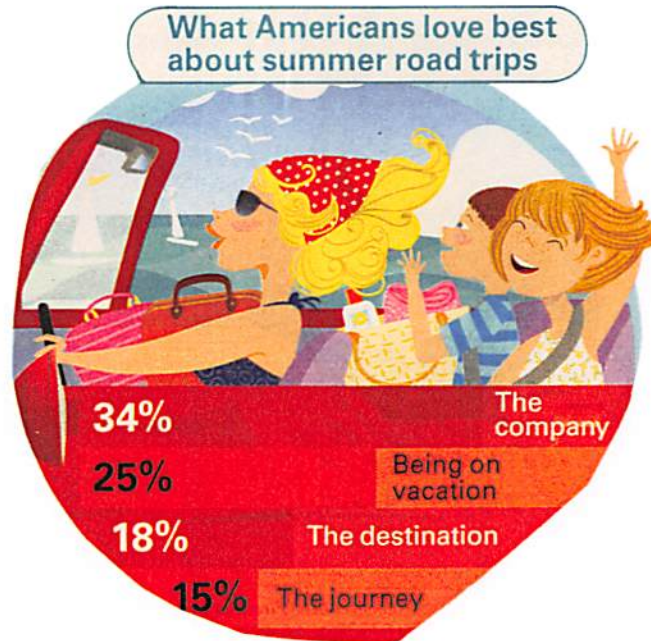
Tell your neighbors and friends about us. Remember they only need to be Christian, not Catholic and all nationalities are welcome.

We hope we will be hearing from you soon. If you have any questions about either of these specials, feel free to call the Main Office during regular business hours.

Fraternally,
Robert L. Cermak
President

SUMMER

COVER PICTURE: Leto means Summer in Czech. Artist is Josef Lada, a Czech painter and writer, born in Hrusice, Bohemia in 1887.



A MILITARY LAB has developed a pizza that boasts a shelf life of three years without being frozen. Here's what they came up with:

- Semper Pie
- The Lasting Supper
- In-dough-structible
- Pizza de Resistance
- DeFrigNo!
- Auld Lang Slice
- Eternal Piece
- Grandpapa John's Pizza

Reader's Digest

When my daughter was little, we took a vacation to Florida. Seated on the airplane near the wing, I pointed out to Rhonda that we were above the ocean. "Can you see the water?" I asked her.

"No," she said, peering out the window at the wing, "but I can see the diving board."



SWIMMING -

Provides a low impact workout
Builds endurance, muscle strength and cardiovascular fitness
Is linked to better cognitive function
Lowers risk of type 2 diabetes
Lowers risk of high blood pressure & stroke

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Free Range | Bill Whitehead



CZECH CATHOLIC UNION CONVENTION 2018

SEPTEMBER 30, OCTOBER 1 & 2, 2018

Please help to make the Czech Catholic Union 2018 convention a success.

The following Committees, manned by YOU the members of the Societies of Czech Catholic Union are necessary for the convention:

Credentialing – 3 positions

- Verification of the delegates at the convention.

Election

- Nominating Committee -- 3 positions
 - Present a slate of Officers for vote at the convention. Assembly of the slate of Officers is completed prior to the convention by selection of those seeking office positions. This task may be completed via phone conference among the committee members.
- Vote tally --- 2 positions
 - Counting of votes at the convention.

Guard – 1 position

- Securing the doors at the beginning of the convention.

Photographer – 1 position

- Taking photos of the convention activities for publication in the next POSEL.

Reception – 2 positions

- Greeting delegates and alternates at convention activities.

Registration --- 2 positions

Registering delegates and alternates.

Directing delegates and alternates to hotel registration.

Distributing various convention documents, name tags, etc.

Transportation – 1 or 2 positions

Directing delegates and alternates for transportation to various venues.

- The transportation will have already been arranged. This position is to make sure all delegates and alternates know time and location for departures.

Call or email me with your questions or interest in one of the committees.

Thank you

Audrey Schmidt
Committee Chairman
440-442-7068 (Home)
216-341-0444 (Office)
Email: babahunt2110@gmail.com

ALSO: Delegates from each society will be appointed soon. If interested, please contact Robert L. Cermak at the Home Office. Each delegate will receive a stipend for their time.

Annuity CD Special

At our recent Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors and Officers decided to offer a one-time special on our Annuity CD's. This offer will be in effect from July 1 thru December 31, 2017.

Any new Annuity CD of \$5,000 or more (maximum \$100,000) will earn an extra 1/2% bonus for the first 6 months with a 2 year maturity. After the first 6 months, the rate will return to 2 1/2% for members and 1 1/2% for non-members. After that, rates are subject to change. If you already have an Annuity CD, with CCU Life, or if this is your first Annuity CD, you will need to fill out the application on the next page and return it to us with your check, within the above-mentioned time frame. Applications received from the 1st thru the 15th of the month will be effective the 1st of that month. Applications received from the 16th thru the end of the month will be effective the 1st of the following month.

Our Annuity CD's are a great place to earn a higher return without having to claim interest each year as income. They are tax deferred until distribution. CCU Life is not a bank, but a very solvent fraternal insurance organization. Therefore, there is no FDIC insurance but your investment is backed by our surplus and investments which have grown to over \$19 million. CCU Life's solvency ratio is 117%, one of the most solvent insurance companies in our industry. CCU Life has been in business for over 138 years.

We hope many of you will take advantage of this great offer. If you are not a current member and would like to become one in order to earn the higher rate, just call the Main Office for an application, or print one from our website (www.czechccu.org). If you have any questions about this offer or any of our other products, please call the Main Office during normal business hours (9AM-2PM, Monday-Thursday).





Czech Catholic Union

24 MONTH SPECIAL

5349 Dolloff Road - Cleveland, OH 44127 - 216-341-0444 - 216-341-0711 Fax

APPLICATION FOR ANNUITY/CD

Society: _____ Annuity: _____

1. ANNUITANT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

DOB: ____/____/____ Age: _____ Sex: ☐ M ☐ F Birth Place: _____ Phone No.: _____

Soc. Sec. No.: _____ Driver's License No.: _____ Email: _____

Marital Status: ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Widowed ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated

Is the Annuitant a member of the Czech Catholic Union? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. ANNUITY DETAILS

Withdrawal/Surrender Schedule: ☐ None ☐ 2 year ☐ 4 year ☐ 7 year ☐ _____ year

Initial Premium Amount: _____ Maturity Date: _____ Benefits commence at age: _____

Settlement Option: _____

Note: On settlement Monthly Benefit Period Certain of Ten Years and Life thereafter is assumed unless otherwise specified.

Is this Annuity intended to replace or change any Insurance or Annuity now in force? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, provide name of company and policy/contract numbers: _____

Will this Annuity be a tax qualified plan (i.e. IRA)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, check basis ☐ Trad. IRA ☐ IRA Rollover or Transfer ☐ Other _____ Tax year applied: _____

Primary Beneficiary(ies) (If more than one indicate share (%) each is to receive) Attach additional page if necessary.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Soc. Sec. No.: _____ Share (%) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Soc. Sec. No.: _____ Share (%) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Contingent Beneficiary(ies) (If more than one indicate share (%) each is to receive) Attach additional page if necessary.

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Soc. Sec. No.: _____ Share (%) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Soc. Sec. No.: _____ Share (%) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

3. OWNER

The Annuitant shall be the Owner of any contract issued, except when the Annuitant is a minor; the person signing this Application on behalf of the minor shall be the Owner and shall control this contract until the Annuitant's 21st birthday. Ownership will then transfer to the Annuitant. The contract shall be effective on its date of issue.

THE CZECH CATHOLIC UNION IS LICENSED TO DO BUSINESS IN THE STATE OF OHIO. AS A TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE OHIO GUARANTY ASSOCIATION. THIS MEANS THAT FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES CANNOT BE ASSESSED FOR THE INSOLVENCY OF OTHER LIFE INSURERS OR OTHER FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES. BY LAW, A FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS OWN SOLVENCY. IF THERE IS AN IMPAIRMENT OF RESERVES, A CERTIFICATE HOLDER MAY BE ASSESSED A PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE IMPAIRMENT. THIS PROCESS IS DESCRIBED IN THE CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE SOCIETY.

I hereby represent that the statements and answers included herein are full, complete and true, to the best of my knowledge and belief. I agree that this application shall be the basis for and a part of any contract issued. I understand that only an officer of the Czech Catholic Union, in writing, may 1) make or modify contracts; or 2) waive any of its rights or requirements.

Signed at _____, _____ Date _____ X _____

City

State

Date

SIGNATURE ANNUITANT (IF AGE 18 OR OVER)
OR PARENT OR GUARDIAN (IF ANNUITANT UNDER 18)

X _____
SIGNATURE OF HOME OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER

A person who knowingly presents a false or fraudulent claim for payment of a loss or benefit or knowingly presents false information in an insurance application may be guilty of a crime subject to fines.

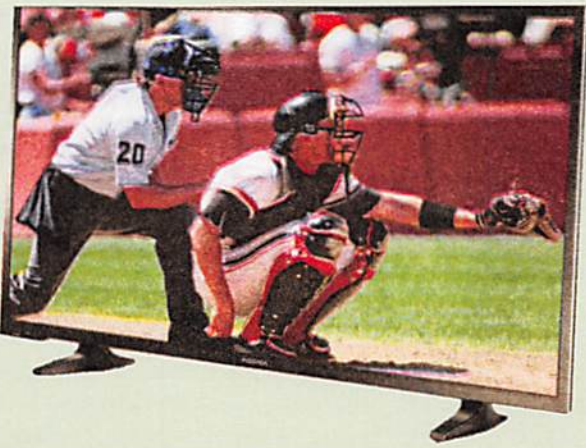
REMINDER

Our mid-year Insurance Special is still in effect through October 31, 2017.

Save on your purchase of a minimum \$3,000 or larger single life policy.

Each application receives an entry for the drawing for one of two large screen TV's.

For an application, please call the home office or see the May-June Posel.



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EARLY REMINDER

The Annual St. Wenceslaus Day Celebration will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2017 with a 4 PM Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 3395 East 53rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44127. Dinner will be served afterwards at the Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44127

For more information, please contact Amy Bican at 216-641-9128.

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ATTENTION:

After completing two mass mailings, we have had many returned items due to wrong names or the address is in care of someone else.

In the mailing we did to individuals, we found many were returned because the person does not live there (that is the address we have on file) but it's the address of a family member. The Post Office does not deliver to a non-resident. The Post Office used this label

RETURN TO SENDER
NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSED
UNABLE TO FORWARD

BC: 44127162049

State of Ohio requires us to have GOOD ADDRESSES FOR ALL MEMBERS

TRUST MYTHS

A Trust is a legal document that dictates how your property will be passed to your loved ones upon your death. One consistent myth about Trusts is that they are only for the wealthy among us. However, there are many reasons to create a trust that have nothing to do with the amount of money in your bank account.

A Trust may be necessary if one (or more) of the following apply to you:

- Your beneficiaries are young, immature, a "spend-thrift" or are in a shaky marriage
- A beneficiary receives government benefits.
- You have a blended family with children from prior marriages.
- You seek to keep your assets private upon your death.

Don't make assumptions about Trusts! A Trust can be a very effective estate planning tool.

Christina M. Hronek

Attorney at Law

HRONEK LAW, LLC

8191 Broadview Road, Suite 201

Broadview Heights OH 44147

(440) 546-5290

christina@hroneklaw.com

www.hronek-law.com

Note: Christina is the legal counsel for the Czech Catholic Union and has graciously offered to extend a 10% discount to any of our members who mention this article.

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In Appreciation

St. Ludmila Society #2, New York, New York - "I would like to thank you for the grant that you awarded my daughter, Laura, for this past school year. As you are aware, the cost of a Catholic education continues to rise and your support is greatly appreciated.

Laura attended the University of Scranton this past school year where she is an Exercise Science major and a member of the swim team. She has embraced college and is working very hard. Her teammates voted her the most Improved Female Swimmer. Again, the generosity of the Czech Catholic Union has helped her in her education. Thank you for your continued support."

Sincerely, Susanne T. Iobst

St. Stanislaus School, Cleveland, Ohio -

"Thank you so much for the folders you purchased for our school."

Deborah A. Martin, Principal



MOCK JATERNICE PATTIES

- 1/2 lb. Ground Beef
- 1 Slice Bread
- 1/2 Tsp. Salt
- 1/2 Tsp. Allspice
- 1/3 Cup Milk
- 1 Egg
- 1 Small Onion
- 1/4 Tsp. Pepper
- 1/2 Tsp. Worcestershire Sauce
- Little Garlic desired to taste

Place slices of bread under cold water tap until wet. Squeeze out water and crumble bread into meat. Combine ingredients with meat and mix well. Mixture will be quite moist.

Heat 1 tbsp. cooking oil at 340 degrees in electric skillet. Make patties and fry on both sides, 8 to 10 min., or until brown. Gravy can be made out of the fat left and served with rice. Also good with potatoes or dumplings with sauerkraut.

BOHEMIAN ICE CREAM KOLACHKY

- 1 pt. ice cream
- 1 lb. butter or margarine
- 2 Tbsp. sugar
- 5 c. flour
- filling (your choice)

Thaw ice cream and soften butter or margarine. Cream together. Add sugar and flour gradually. Refrigerate dough overnight. Roll out dough to 1/4-inch thickness. Cut in squares and fill with desired filling. Overlap opposite corners. Grease cookie sheet. Place in moderate oven and bake at 375° for 15 to 20 minutes, until cookies brown. Remove from oven and cool.

CZECH DEVEILED EGGS

Halve hard-boiled eggs lengthwise or crosswise. Cream the yolks, add dry mustard, salt, pepper, melted butter, vinegar or lemon juice to taste, mix thoroughly, and fill the whites with this.

SEMAFOR (TRAFFIC LIGHT)

- 1 part griotka (Czech cherry brandy)
- 1 part zelena (Czech peppermint liqueur)
- 1 part vaječný konak (Czech eggnog cognac)

Fill the bottom of a shot glass with the griotka. Next, using the concave side of a spoon, pour the vaječný over the griotka (it should form a layer over the surface of the griotka). Last, carefully pour the zelena down the rim of the glass so that it settles atop the denser vaječný. Your drink should look like layers of red, yellow, and green. Enjoy!

MINTY MELON POPS

- 5 cups honeydew, cantaloupe and watermelon balls
- 2 tablespoons lime zest (from 2 to 3 limes)
- 6 tablespoons lime juice (from the same 2 to 3 limes)

- 1/3 cup sugar
- 4 tablespoons finely chopped fresh mint leaves
- 12 (6-inch) bamboo skewers

In a large bowl, combine melon balls, lime zest, lime juice, sugar and mint. Refrigerate for 1 to 3 hours. Impale five melon balls, alternating colors, on each skewer and serve. Makes 12 skewers.

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July is National Hot Dog Month

Hot dogs are probably the best picnic and family gathering food ever because everyone from the grade schoolers to grandpa loves them.

If you love hot dogs, and you want the very best, tastiest hot dog for your summer fun, experts agree that temperature is the most important consideration. Hot dogs must be hot enough but not too hot.

The optimum temperature for a hot dog is between 150 and 160 degrees. The temperature is key because hot dogs cooked at under 140 degrees will be spongy and dull tasting. Cooked over 165 degrees, they get bloated and quickly start to dry out.

Oscar Mayer recommends dropping the 10 hot dogs into boiling water; return to boil and cover. Remove from heat. Let stand 7 minutes or until the hot dogs are heated through.

According to Nielsen data, Americans bought 1 billion pounds of hot dogs in retail stores last year. The National Hot Dog and Sausage Council (NHDSC) estimates we'll consume 8 billion Hot Dogs between Memorial Day and Labor Day, and more than 19.4 million at ballpark concession stands during the 2017 Major League baseball season.



Cleveland, Ohio



The Annual Meeting of the Czech Catholic Union was held on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at the Home Office. All officers and directors were present either in person or by telephone. Reports were given by our auditor, our statutory accountant, both our financial advisors and our actuary. Our legal counsel was in attendance as were several members who participated in the meeting. Discussion was held and decisions were made concerning the present and future of the CCU. Everything looks good, but we really do need more members and policies.

The group attended Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, followed by dinner at Das Schnitzel Haus in Parma.



Belated Birthday greetings are sent to our Director and Auditor, Karla Mahoney. She celebrated her 60th birthday on June 9, 2017. Hope you had a wonderful day and many more to come!!!



So what's it like being rich?

Beetle Bailey | Mort Walker



New York, New York

For many years, Catholics of Czech & Slovak heritage had the opportunity to attend Sunday Mass in their native language at Our Lady of Perpetual Help (O.L.P.H.) Church on East 61st Street in Manhattan.

After the termination of the Mass at O.L.P.H., one of the staunch Czech supporters, Vaclav Sedlacek met with Msgr. Heneghan, Pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Astoria to determine whether a Sunday Czech Mass could be held there. Msgr. Heneghan gave his approval and Rev. Alois Vyoral traveled every Sunday from New Rochelle to Astoria to say the Mass in the lower church. Fr. Vyoral served the Czech parishioners for about 20 years. He was followed by Fr. Kotvrda (1996-1999), Fr. Antonin Kocurek (1999-2009), Fr. Jan Czudek (2007-2011) and once again Fr. Antonin Kocurek (2011 to present).

For social gatherings St. Martin's festival (Martinske Posvicieni) was started. This was held in November and traditionally was a festival for all in small villages.

Also, a pre-Lenten Sunday festival was arranged. The first festival had over 500 persons attending.

With the young members having a need for social life, soccer and volleyball teams were arranged.

Over the years as the younger generation matured, they moved away and the attendance fell off somewhat.

With the continued need for a Czech Mass and fellowship, 30-50 persons gather each Sunday for the 10:30 a.m. Mass followed by coffee and baked treats in the auditorium.

We pray that this tradition continues.

Ed Babor

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St. Louis, Missouri

Andrew Auer, a member of St. Ludmila Society #7, being installed as an Acolyte this past spring. Andrew returned to St. Louis in June, after 23 months in Rome. He will be home for the summer and will return to Rome for his third year of Theology around Labor Day. God willing he will be ordained a Deacon on May 5, 2018, in St. Louis.



Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Sympathy to St. Mary's Society #119 members, Judy Block and Ellen Mara, on the passing of their mother, Martha Mara, in March 2017.

Donna (Yilek) Heaston passed away in January 2017. Although Donna lived in California, she maintained strong ties with Cedar Rapids, returning to attend class reunions of her nursing class from Mount Mercy College and St. Wenceslaus High School. When in Cedar Rapids, she enjoyed her connections to her former home by singing with the church choir and meeting with classmates from her school years.

Masses are scheduled at St. Wenceslaus Church for Lillian Kopecky, Donna Heaston and Donna's sister, Patricia Yilek, who also had been a member of the Czech Catholic Union.

Memorials have been given in memory of Lillian Kopecky to the Catherine McAuley Center, a facility for women and families providing transitional housing, teaching English as a second language and financial assistance and counseling. A memorial in honor of Lillian was given to the Willis Dady Shelter for homeless men.

As mentioned in a previous issue of the Posel on the death of astronaut Eugene Cernin, he attributed his Czech and Slovak heritage and the values instilled in him by his family for his success in life. Mr. Cernin had a connection to the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. He was a member of the Museum Advisory Council in the late 1990's. The Museum placed on display several items pertaining to him, including an Order of the White Double Cross, the highest decoration from the Slavik Republic. Mr. Cernin was the featured speaker in June 2013 at the opening of the permanent exhibit, "Faces of Freedom, the Czech and Slovak Journey."

St. Mary's officers met on Tuesday, April 18, to make plans for the Annual Communion Breakfast and Meeting, held on Sunday, May 7 at St. Wenceslaus Church.

The annual Chili Supper, a fundraiser for the Czech Summer School, was held in March at St. Ludmila's Parish Center.

Joan Sebetka

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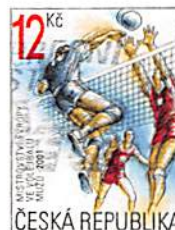
Stamp Korner

ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



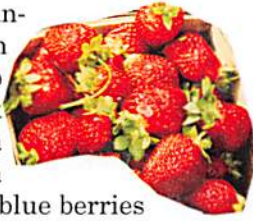
Czech Republic "Tulip"
30 Crowns = \$1.20

Czech Republic "Volleyball"
12 Crowns = \$.60



IT'S THE BERRIES

The season's red and blue bounty can help you stay in the pink. In recent studies, three half-cup servings of strawberries per week lowered heart attack risk by a



third, and a daily cup of blue berries improved cognitive performance.

It is high summer in the Czech Republic, a time when all sorts of fruit are ripening and ready for pick-

ing.

Gardens are full of colour now as various berries are just ready for picking. Most often you will find strawberries - jahody, raspberries - maliny, less often blackberries -



červený rybíz

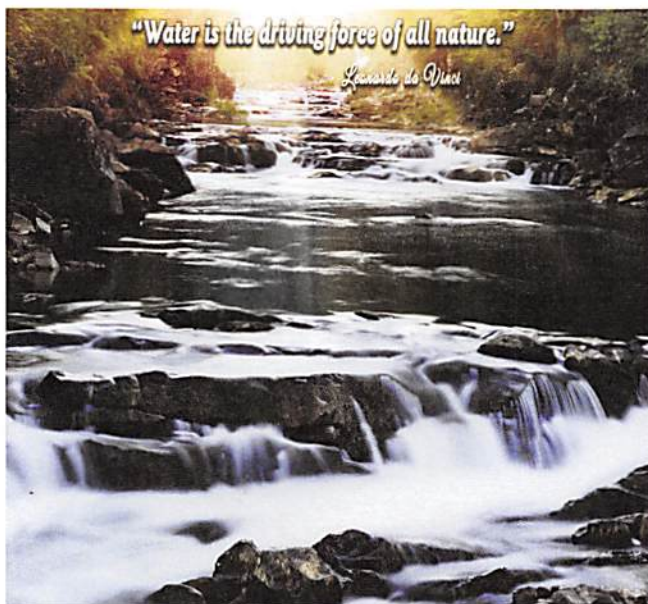
ostružiny, but a lot of red currants - červený rybíz, and black currants - černý rybíz. Another traditional garden berry is the gooseberry - angrešt which now seems to be losing popularity.

angrešt

Summer is also the time of forest berries. There are borůvky - blueberries, which get their Czech name from the pine tree - borovice. They are abundant especially in higher altitudes. There are wild strawberries - lesní jahody which translates as forest or wood strawberries.

August is the only time when you can enjoy summer apples - letní jablka - small green apples which taste lovely and fresh, but don't keep and often go bad when they're still on the tree. These apples are sometimes called padávky from the verb padat - to fall because they fall from the apple tree before they are picked.

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A Czech Pub Classic

The local pub is the gathering place of working class men, the after-work place where many important life decisions are talked over and made. Sitting on the bar in a place of honor near the tap is a jar of pickled hot dogs, onions, and spices called utopenci, "drowned men."

The name comes from a tragic ending for a Mr. Samanek, a Czech pub owner who invented the pickled hot dogs and served them to his patrons 100 years ago. They were very popular, making his pub famous throughout the country (and because they were accompanied by wonderful Czech beer, their popularity soared). In a horrible twist of fate, Mr. Samanek drowned one day as he was repairing his mill's wheel. His famous sausages were named "drowned men" in his memory. Today, utopenci are a staple in all Czech pubs, just like our peanuts or popcorn in our bars.

Utopenci "Drowned Men"

- 2 1/2 cups water
- 1 1/2 cups white vinegar
- 10 whole pepper corns
- 4 pieces allspice
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 lbs. thick hot dogs (garlics)
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. sugar
- 5 cloves garlic
- 4 or 5 big onions

Method: Mix the water, vinegar, salt, sugar and spices. Bring to a boil, and boil for 2 minutes. Then let the liquid cool. Peel the hot dogs. Slice the onions into rings. Prepare a 2 liter jar. Layer the onions, garlic, and hot dogs with the onions last at the top of the jar. Pour the lukewarm liquid into the jar, including the spices. Shake the jar to get rid of bubbles. Seal the jar, and refrigerate for 2 weeks.

CSA

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WORRY is like a rocking chair. It will give you something to do, but it won't get you anywhere.

Proverb

Czech to English

Mate stul pro...?	<i>Mah le stool pro...?</i>	Have you got a table for...?
Chtel(a)* bych rezervovat stul.	<i>khtyel(a) bikh rez-er-vov-at stool</i>	I'd like to reserve a table
Snidane	<i>Snyee-danye</i>	Breakfast
Obed	<i>Ob-yed</i>	Lunch
Vecere	<i>Vech e-rzhe</i>	Dinner
Procim, ucet.	<i>Pro-seem oo-chet</i>	The bill, please
Jsem vegearian(ka)	<i>Ysem veghe- tariahn(ka)</i>	I am a vegetarian.
Slecno	<i>Slech-no</i>	Waitress
Pane vrchni	<i>Pane vrkh-nyeel</i>	Waiter
Hlavni jidlo	<i>Hlav-nyee yeed-lo</i>	Main course
Zelenina	<i>Zel-en-yin-a</i>	Vegetables
Zakusek	<i>Zah-kusek</i>	Dessert
Poplatek	<i>Pop-la-tek</i>	Cover charge
Napojovy listek	<i>nah-po-yo-vee lee-stek</i>	Wine list
Krvavy	<i>Kr-va-vee</i>	Rare (steak)
Stredne udelany	<i>Strzhed-nye ud-yel-an-ee</i>	Medium
Dobre udelany	<i>Dobrzhe- ud-yel-an-ee</i>	Well done
Sklenice	<i>Sklen-yilse</i>	Glass
Lahev	<i>Lah-bev</i>	Bottle
Nuz	<i>Noozh</i>	Knife
Vidlicka	<i>Vid-lich-ka</i>	Fork
Izice	<i>Izbee-ise</i>	Spoon

St. Procop

St. Procop was born about 985 in Bohemia. His name is of Greek origin and means "a man who makes progress in work." He went to the fine school of Vysehrad, in Prague, and was ordained a priest. He desired a solitary life, so he went to a monastery and later became a hermit. His home was the beautiful Sazava forest. Procop's wisdom, holiness and the fact that he was a priest drew people to him. In the year 1030, King Oldrich made Procop his trusted advisor. At the king's urging, Procop founded the first Slavonic Abbey in Bohemia. After erecting a church at the Abbey of Sazava, Procop immediately erected a school. He served at the Abbey until his death in March 1053. On July 4, 1204, Procop was declared a Saint of the Church by Pope Innocent III. St. Procop was the first saint of Czech nationality. He is the Patron Saint of Artisans, Craftsmen and Tillers of the Soil. His feastday is July 4.



Say it in Czech



**The Home Office Wishes
Everyone a Happy and
Safe 4th of July!**





Questions

Q: Why do we celebrate the 4th of July with parades, fireworks and BBQ?

A: Many believe that it has to do with a letter John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail, on July 2, 1776 about America's Independence. In the letter he wrote, "The day will be most memorable in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, bonfire and illuminations (fireworks) from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward and forever more."

Q: What kind of tea did the American colonists thirst for?

A: Liberty

Q: Why were the first Pennsylvania settlers like ants?

A: Because they lived in colonies.

Q: What happened as a result of the Stamp Act?

A: The Americans licked the British!

Q: What did King George think of the American colonists?

A: He thought they were revolting!

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The Fourth of July weekend was approaching, and Miss Pelham, the nursery school teacher, took the opportunity to tell her class about patriotism. 'We live in a great country,' she announced. 'One of the things we should be happy about is that, in this country, we are all free.'

Trevor, who was a little boy in her class, came walking up to her from the back of the room. He stood with his hands on his hips and said loudly, 'I'm not free. I'm four.'

Mutts | Patrick McDonnell



God, Bless America.

Guide us through trials and darkness.
Keep us humble and grateful in times of prosperity.
Keep our leaders strong; fill their decisions with right wisdom.

May YOU always have a place in this blessed land of liberty.

Amen.



The famed Liberty Bell was cracked in 1835 and again in 1846, but not before ringing out at an epochal event in American history, the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia. The historic relic was first rung in 1753.

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Trivia

The names of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were withheld from the public for more than six months to protect the signers. If independence had not been achieved, the treasonable act of the signers would have, by law, resulted in their deaths.

The origin of Uncle Sam probably began in 1812, when Samuel Wilson was a meat packer who provided meat to the US Army.

The meat shipments were stamped with the initials, "U.S." Someone joked that the initials stood for "Uncle Sam." This joke eventually led to the idea of Uncle Sam symbolizing the United States government.

JAN NERUDA



Jan Neruda was born in Praha, on July 9, 1834, son of a poor family. He became a writer of poetry, prose, travel sketches and novels.

He studied languages and history at Charles University of Prague. He became a school-teacher, but gave up teaching to become a journalist.

In Neruda's volume of poems, "Cemetery Blossoms" (1857), there are indications of his being swayed by his youthful pessimistic feelings. But he did show originality, sincerity and a broad humanitarian outlook on life. His "Pisne Kosmicke" (Cosmic Songs, 1878), prove that he was interested in outer space and that he often pondered over the mysteries of the universe.

In 1872, Neruda published "Obrazy z ciziny" (Pictures from Abroad). He had a keen sense of observing people and viewed what he saw with a good sense of humor.

In 1883, Neruda published "Ballads and Romances," considered his best work. The verses are based spiritually on Czech folk motives.

Neruda's last collection "Zpevy Patecni" (Friday Songs), as in his first work, are lyrical with patriotic fervor, mystic ideas combined with pensive reflective words and sorrowful hymns. They show religious feelings of love for his Czechs.

His "Povidky Malostranske" (Tales of the Little Quarter) is considered first among Prague's classics. It is a book of short stories written from his memories of the people who were his neighbors and with whom he had spent 36 of his 57 years of life.

When he died in 1891, the people, grieving for their famous son, wanted him to be put into a vault in the Vysehrad Cemetery. Anna Haralik, his housekeeper who had lovingly cared for him in his long and painful illness, and many good friends who did not want him laid away against his wishes fought so hard that his wishes to be buried in Czech soil were carried out.

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Define Points

Assaultonbattery: The sound an engine makes when it is trying to start on cold winter mornings. Also: arctic-choke, engine, ice whine.

Autofixation: Spontaneous act of a computer fixing itself as soon as a repair person arrives. Also: expertease, repairadox

Alfons Mucha

Alfons Mucha was born in 1860 in Ivancice, Moravia. Despite having great artistic talent, the Prague Academy of Fine arts did not accept him.

After designing a poster advertisement for Sarah Bernhardt, theatre star, he was hired to design more posters, set designs and costumes. From then he became well known. Mucha spent some time in America, teaching and painting numerous portraits. He returned to Prague in 1910. In 1918, he designed postage stamps and the bank notes for the new Czechoslovak state.

At the same time, he designed a stained glass window for St. Vitus' Cathedral in Prague. In 1938, the Germans invaded Bohemia. Mucha was among the first to be arrested by the Gestapo. He eventually returned home, but his health never recovered. Mucha died in Prague on July 14, 1939 and is buried in the Vysehrad Cemetery.



Woody Guthrie

Woody Guthrie was born in Oklahoma on July 14, 1912. He wrote lyrics for almost 3,000 songs, he published two novels and wrote many poems, plays, newspaper articles and letters.

This Land is Your Land

This land is your land, this land is my land
From California to the New York Island;
From the Redwood Forest, to the Gulf Stream waters
This land was made for you and me.

As I was walking that ribbon of highway.
I saw above me that endless skyway;
I saw below me that golden valley;
This land was made for you and me.

In his late 30s, Woody began to act strangely. He had a disease that sometimes made him moody or violent. His mother had also suffered from the disease. Doctors discovered that Huntington's disease was causing his odd behavior. He died in 1967 in a hospital in New York. He was just 55 years old.





Virgin Mary with her parents, St. Joachim and St. Anne. Feastday is July 26.

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Prayer for Protection

Take my hand, dear Mother Mary,
Hold me firmly lest I fall.
I'm so nervous when I'm walking,
Humbly on thy strength I call.
Watch me when I'm at the crossings,
Guide me when I'm on the stairs.
Let me know that you're beside me,
Listening to my trusting prayers.



St. Clare was born on July 16, 1194 in Assisi, Italy. She was the foundress of the Poor Clare Order of Nuns. Clare was one of the first followers of St. Francis of Assisi.

St. Clare died on August 11, 1253 in Assisi, Italy. She is the Patron Saint of sore eyes. Her feastday is August 11.

Feast of the Assumption - August 15



The Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Stara Boleslava, Czech Republic.

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St. Monica was born in 331 in Tagaste, Numidia, Roman Empire (present day Souk Ahras, Algeria) and died in 387 in Ostia, Italy.

She is the Patron Saint of mothers, widows, religious lay women and abused women.

Her feastday is August 27.



ZIGGY

BY TOM WILSON



Notice To Members

A Mass for Deceased members of the Czech Catholic Union is offered periodically at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Cleveland, Ohio.



PAYMENTS OF MORTUARY DEATH CLAIMS

The Czech Catholic Union extends its sincerest sympathies to the bereaved families of the following deceased members:

Name	Location	Soc. Name	No.	Date of Issue	Date of Death	Age
Richard Krejci	Cleveland, OH	St. Joseph	156	02-01-1948	03-12-2017	78
Phyllis Zea	Cicero, IL	Our Lady of the Mount	143	12-01-1944	03-17-2017	90
Mary Olberding	Omaha, NE	St. Ludmila	46	07-01-2004	06-30-2016	80
Russell Vanek	Cleveland, OH	St. Joseph	156	04-01-1949	02-28-2017	69
Marilyn Williams	Cleveland, OH	St. Ann	11	11-01-1967	03-17-2017	83
William Bican	Cleveland, OH	St. Joseph	156	02-01-1943	03-03-2017	86
John C. Jenkins	Cicero, IL	Our Lady of the Mount	143	11-01-1998	03-24-2017	74
Lois Strnad	Chicago, IL	St. Ann	117	10-01-1948	05-06-2017	86

TOTAL DEATH CLAIMS PAID IN 2017 \$89,889.00