

## 2005 SVU Conference Update

### *“Czech and Slovak Heritage on Both Sides of the Atlantic”*

North Miami, FL, 17-20 March 2005

We are pleased to inform our members and other interested parties that the preparation for the upcoming Conference and the associated Festival activities are proceeding extremely well. You will be pleased to hear that the President of the Czech Republic has given the Conference his sponsorship and we are now awaiting word from Slovak President Ivan Gasparovic who was also invited.

The general theme of the Conference “Czech and Slovak Heritage on the Both Sides of the Atlantic” has attracted a lot of interest among the Czech and Slovak scholars here and abroad, as well as in the Czech and Slovak community in America. We are expecting a strong contingent of visitors from the Czech and Slovak Republics. A moment ago, I received confirmation that from the Palacky University in Olomouc alone, at least three representatives, Prof. Ivo Bartecek, Dean of the Philosophical Faculty, Prof. Milos Trapl, Director of the Center for the Czechoslovak Exile Studies and Dr. Karel Konecny are coming.

In addition to the announced speakers, we also have commitment from Dr. Zdenek David, a Senior Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and Dr. Slavomir Michalek of the Slovak Academy of Sciences to actively participate and take part in the session entitled “Czech and Slovak Historical Traditions”. Prof. Jan Vicar, a noted musicologist and composer from Palacky University and Prof. Vladimir Papousek, an authority on Czech-American literature from the University of South Bohemia will participate in another session “Echoes from the Old Country”. Among other speakers in the same session are Lauren McConnell from Northwestern University, specializing in the Czech Theatre, and Dr. Ladislaus Bolchazy, a known Slovak-American publisher and director of the Slovak-American International Foundation.

A separate session will be devoted to Czechs and Slovaks Abroad which will feature presentations on “Albin Polasek Museum and the Sculpture Garden in Winter Park, FL” and “Czech Music on Player Piano in the US”, by Don Martin of the Albin Polasek Foundation, and Prof. Michael A. Kukral of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, respectively. Other speakers will include Gail A. Naughton, President/CEO of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, IA, Dr. Laurence Cerny from Cleveland, David Chroust from Texas A&M University, Liza Alzo from Cornell University and Vlado Simko of V.A. Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY.

SVU Website: [www.svu2000.org](http://www.svu2000.org)

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There will be a special session devoted to the important subject of “Preserving Czech and Slovak Heritage Abroad”, featuring addresses by the two Ambassadors, H.E. Martin Palous and H.E. Rastislav Kacer, representing the Czech and Slovak Republics in the US, respectively. They will be followed by the major address of Prof. Rudolph Vecoli, Director of the University of Minnesota's immigration History Research Center, where the SVU deposited its archival material. In this connection SVU President will announce the establishment of the Czech and Slovak Studies Fund to assist the Czech and Slovak scholars and students to work on Czech and Slovak documents at the Center.

One of the unique events of the Conference will be a special discussion panel relating to “Institutions of Higher Learning in the Czech Republic and their Collaboration with the US”. In this connection we are expecting participation by a number of high level university officials, including the current and the Past Rector of the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Doc. Ing. Josef Prusa (former Deputy Minister of Education of CR) and Prof. Ing. Zdenek Vostracky, respectively; the Rector of the University of South

Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice, Prof. Dr. Vaclav Buzek, and Vice-Rector Prof. Dr. Vladimir Papousek; and the Past Rector of the Technical University of Ostrava, Prof. Ing. Vaclav Roubicek. The United States side will be represented by Dr. John Dunn, Provost of the University of Southern Illinois in Carbondale and Dr. Jack Rechcigl, Director of the University of Florida's Gulf Coast Research and Education Center. Both universities have strong collaborative links with the Czech universities, specifically with the Technical University in Ostrava and Czech University of Agriculture in Prague.

Dr. Rechcigl, who is building an entirely new state-of-the-art research facility in Balm County, FL, in the amount of some \$15 million, is in the process of negotiating another collaborative agreement between the University of Florida and Agricultural University in Nitra, Slovakia.

As you can see this is a great program. We are still interested in additional papers that would fit our major theme. Those interested should immediately contact SVU President Mila Rechcigl via e-mail: SVU1@comcast.net

The 2005 SVU conference will also highlight the rich cultural customs and traditions that the Czechs and Slovaks have brought to the USA. The programs will feature entertainment, presentations, and demonstrations on a variety of subjects including the legendary pop singer Waldemar Matuska, the third Miss Czech & Slovak Florida Pageant, a kolace-making demonstration, polka and waltz lessons, a strudel-making demonstration, an egg decorating demonstration, a Czech dumpling-making demonstration, and an accordion jamboree.

The conference is especially significant because it is held in conjunction with the First Annual Czech & Slovak Heritage Festival on the historic grounds of the American Czech-Slovak Cultural Club (ACSCC) in North Miami. The ACSCC has played a major role in the attraction of Czechs and Slovaks to the area and in the preservation of the culture through the years. In its 56-year history, the ACSCC has been host, especially in the last three years, to the following personalities: Helene Bain Cincebeaux with her folk dress and folk art, Slovak singer Sisa Sklovska from Prague, Dan Baldwin who was President of the National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library, Slovak film director Lubo Kocka, Czech-American country and western singer Larry Morava, Slovak-Canadian photographic artist Yuri Dojc, Slovak singers Jozef and Dodo Ivaška, Czech comedian Petr Novotny, Czech folk singer Jaromir Nohavica, and Slovak cosmonaut Ivan Bella.

This joint venture between the SVU and the ACSCC is a signature event for the region, state, and the rest of the country as together we are establishing an annual cultural festival. This event not only preserves our history, traditions and artistic and scientific endeavors, but also it provides a venue for others who are unaware of the contributions of the Czechs and Slovaks to become knowledgeable in our contributions to the global society.

Irrespective of whether you are a speaker or passive participant, you are urged to register right away in order that you can get your accommodation at our negotiated price. The reserved rooms will go fast, considering that this is a very busy tourist season in Florida. Send your registration to Robert Petrik at the following address: 5200 NW 67th Ave., Lauderhill, FL 33319.

We look forward to seeing you in large numbers in North Miami. Don't miss this great event. Combine your trip with a family vacation. March is the nicest month of the year in Florida!

*MILA REHCIGL, SVU President*

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**2005 SVU / ACSCC Conference & Festival  
"Czech and Slovak Cultural Heritage"  
North Miami, FL, 17-20 March 2005**

**Preliminary Registration Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number and Names of Accompanying Person(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**1. Pre-registration Fee**

\$15 per person Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$5 for Students Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$0 for children under 6 Number of children: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Matuska Concert

\$20 per person Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Meals

**Breakfast** (Optional) \$6.50 person

Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**3 lunches:** Friday, Saturday, Sunday

\$12 per lunch per person = \$36

Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2 dinners:** Thursday, Friday

\$20 per dinner per person = \$40

Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**1 banquet:** Saturday \$25 per person

Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. Shuttle Fee (for people staying in the motel who won't use cars)

\$15 per person for 3 days

Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Conference Papers

toward publishing by SVU \$10

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Your Payment

Overall Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to ACSCC and send it with your registration form to: Robert Petrik, 5200 NW 57th Ave., Lauderhill, FL 33319; Phone: (954) 749-8857; E-mail: [rjpetrik@comcast.net](mailto:rjpetrik@comcast.net)

**Final Deadline:** 31 January 2005.

## Preliminary Speaker's Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institutional Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of the proposed talk: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other suggestions, ideas, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please send immediately to SVU President Mila Rehcigl via e-mail at: [SVU1@comcast.net](mailto:SVU1@comcast.net). Address: 1703 Mark Lane, Rockville, MD 20852; Phone: (301) 881-7222.

## From Executive Board

SVU Executive Board held its third regular meeting on December 11, 2004 in SVU President Mila Rechcigl's house in Rockville, MD. Nine members were in attendance, more than enough to have quorum. In the absence of Secretary General F. Safertal, V.P. Zdenek David was appointed Recording Secretary.

The meeting was opened with congratulation to Rev. Michael Rokos for his appointment as the new President of the American Friends of the Czech Republic (AFoCR).

Several changes have been made on the Board, including the appointment of Miroslav Wlachovsky as a new Vice President and Vlado Simko as Executive Vice President.

For the benefit of new members, Rechcigl went over the *modus operandi* of the Board, stressing the importance of attending the meetings and responding to e-mail messages in a timely manner.

The SVU Mission Statement was distributed among the members with the request that the Board members go over it so that it can be approved at the next meeting. VP Simko will add a paragraph regarding the SVU's Accent on Youth. Apart from the ongoing efforts, Rechcigl enumerated several SVU new priorities and specific tasks for the current administrative period, including: searching for new SVU leaders; re-activation of dormant local chapters and establishment of the new ones; fostering cooperation with CR and SR on institutional level; encouraging publications of more English titles relating to Czech and Slovak culture; fostering the preservation of Czech and Slovak heritage abroad; develop-ing a new sub-site of the SVU Website relating to the interests of students and young people, generally; and enhancing SVU visibility through increased publicity, press releases, etc.

In this regard, a new SVU Action Plan has been developed, listing specific tasks assigned to individual Board members. It was stressed that the individual responsibilities and assignments by themselves are meaningless unless they are translated into concrete projects and activities.

SVU Treasurer Frank Mucha presented his periodic finance report and informed the members that SVU received a bequest donation from one of the deceased members. Reminder notices to pay dues are in the mail.

Considering high expenditure for printing and distribution of *Zpravy SVU*, it was suggested that advertising be introduced in the newsletter to offset part of the cost. With reference to *Kosmas*, whose publication heavily depends on the subsidy from the Society, a recommendation was made that SVU seeks a grant from the Slovak and Czech Ministries of Foreign Affairs.

SVU Publication program was discussed next. The Iowa Conference 2003 papers are now available on the web site and a CD may also be produced. Additional Conference papers can be added, pending the receipt of papers from the authors. The English papers from the Plzen 2002 Congress were published and can be ordered through SVU Treasurer. We are awaiting a shipment from CR. As for the Olomouc 2004 Congress papers, Rechcigl completed their editing and they are now in the hands of Palacky University in Olomouc for publishing.

The planned monograph on the Czech and Slovak Theatre Abroad, under VP Vera Borkovec's editorship, is progressing well, pending the receipt of a few remaining solicited chapters. As for the second mono-graph on Czech Opera Abroad, VP Dagmar Hasalova White will present the Table of Contents at the next Board meeting. The third proposed monograph relating to Czech and Slovak Art abroad depends on finding a suitable editor.

Until now it has been difficult to meet satisfactorily all the orders we have been getting from members for the new *SVU Biographical Directory* because of insufficient number of copies available in the US. We have now received a shipment of the Directories from Europe which can be ordered from SVU Treasurer F. Mucha for \$25. Do it fast as long as the supply lasts. The members are also encouraged to prompt their institutions to order a copy for their library. It is an invaluable source of information for anyone interested in Czech & Slovak culture or who is involved in some professional work with CR and SR.

Regarding SVU periodicals, particularly the newsletter *Zpravy SVU*, some concern was expressed about the new post office rules which will considerably delay the distribution of the newsletter which may seriously hamper publishing of news in timely manner. Regarding the newsletter coverage, there was a consensus that the personal members' column is wanting. Consequently, the Board urges the membership to send in more items about the activities, publications and accomplishments of individual SVU members.

The Fall issue of *Kosmas* has been sent to the subscribers and the spring issue is in preparation.

As described elsewhere, the Florida 2005 Conference is proceeding well. There is still time to include additional speakers on the program and all members are urged to register as soon as possible to assure that they get accommodations during the busy March season when the Conference will be held.

Preparations are also made for the next SVU World Congress to be held in 2006 at the University of South Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice. We are seeking volunteers to help with the program and with organizing specific sessions, discussion panels and symposia.

The Board noted with great satisfaction the establishment of a new SVU Chapter in Olomouc, under Dean Ivo Bartecek's leadership and is anxious to reactivate some of the dormant SVU Local Chapters, such as Kosice and Toronto. VP Simko is responsible for the latter. The members from these localities are admonished to assist in the effort.

With reference to the SVU "Accent on Youth" initiative, VP Margaret Peaslee distributed the listing she made of the Czech universities to be posted on the Internet. It was recommended that she also includes the Slovak

institutions, American universities in CR and SR, US universities offering Czech and Slovak language and area studies programs and US and CZ/SL universities that have collaborative agreements, as well as the relevant available grant, contract and other aid programs available to students and scholars on both sides of the Atlantic. As a liaison with American Fund for Czechoslovak Relief, (AFCR) VP Simko will handle a special column in *Zpravy SVU* on CZ & SL students in the US. VP Michael Rokos, who previously assumed responsibility for developing projects bearing on the involvement of young people in SVU, was requested to come forth with concrete proposals at the next meeting.

Because of the scheduling problems, the Andrew Elias Humanitarian Award presentation to Jan Figel will have to be moved to Slovakia.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 26, 2005 in Mila Rechcigl's residence.

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## **New Faces on SVU Executive Board**

### **MIROSLAV WLACHOVSKY, Vice President**

Miroslav Wlachovsky was born on February 3, 1970 in Bratislava, Slovakia. He studied philosophy-sociology at Philosophical Faculty of Comenius University in Bratislava. During his studies he worked as free-lance writer for Czech weekly magazine *Reflex* and Radio Free Europe. After graduation, in 1994, he started to work at Slovak Institute for International Studies (SIIS), a think-tank attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic. He was responsible for editorial policy of the institute and worked as editor-in-chief of quarterly *International Issues*.

In 1995, during autocratic government of Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar, he left the SIIS and joined Slovak Foreign Policy Association (SFPA), an independent citizen association focused on foreign policy and international issues, led by former Czechoslovak ambassador to Austria, Mrs. Magda Vasaryova. Together with a group of former col-leagues they established the Research Center of SFPA. He became his first director. After victory of democratic opposition in elections 1998 he was asked to join the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On November 9, 1998 he became Director of the Department of Analysis and Policy Planning at the ministry. In his new position he was responsible for preparing and finalizing concepts and strategic foreign policy materials for the Slovak government. He also worked as a foreign policy speech-writer for the leadership of the ministry and the Prime Minister office. During the period of Slovakia's preparation for NATO membership he was a chairman of interagency committee for public relations and he was major contributor to NATO Public Awareness Campaign Strategy.

In July 2001 he joined the team of Slovak Prime Minister Mikulas Dzurinda as his Foreign Policy Advisor. As PM's advisor he was respon-sible for preparation of PM's foreign policy agenda and speechwriting. He was part of a Slovak delegation to NATO summit in Prague, where Slovakia was officially invited to become member of the alliance as well as EU summit in Copenhagen in December 2002, where Slovakia final-ized its negotiations of EU membership.

Since February 2003 Miroslav Wlachovsky works as Political Coun-selor at the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington, DC.

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## **SVU Local Chapters**

### **CHICAGO SVU CHAPTER**

In August 2004 the Chicago SVU Chapter held an election with the following results: *President* – Vladimira Williams, *1st Vice Pre-sident* – Anthony J. Jandacek, *Sec-retary* – Vera Roknic, *Treasurer* – Eva Folke; *Board members*: Vera Dobrovolny, Gr. Vladimir Holecek, Dr. Zdenek Hruban, Joseph and Rose Pritasil. Atty. Michael Seng, Marcela Svehlik and Dr. Mojmir Viktorin.

The Chapter meets every third Friday of the month (except Ja-nuary, June, July and August) at 6:30 PM at the Mid America Bank Building, 5900 West Cermak Road in Cicero, IL.

The fall season started with the September 17th meeting with Dr. Josef Podzimek, Professor emeritus of the University of Mis-souri, Rolla, MO. He lectured on „Založení observatoře v pražském Klementinu a její význam pro stu-dium dlouholetých změn počasí“.

**November 10, 2004** — Con-cert by Czech artist and pianist RADOSLAV KVAPIL in coopera-tion with the Prague Committee – Sister Cities International with music of Dvořák, Schumann and Liszt.

**November 19, 2004** — DVOŘÁK – COMPOSER IMMORTAL. A program featuring videos of Dvořák's orchestral and operatic works as well as a live recitation by Board members of the “The Gold-en Spinning Wheel” from Erben's Kytice, followed by the musical rendition of this symphonic poem by Dvořák.

In cooperation with T. O. Dalava KAREL KRYL V ROCE KARLA KRYLA. Upomínkové pásmo hud-by a básní k 10. výročí smrti a 60. nedožítých narozenin českého barda, písničkáře a básníka Karla Kryla.

**December 10, 2004** — ČES-KÉ VÁNOCE. Pásmo zobrazující české zvyky a tradice podmalova-né hudbou a koledami a poezií a prózou s menším občerstvením při přátelské debatě.

**Planned for year 2005** — a lecture t.b.a.; a travelogue, participation of some members at the North Miami Conference in March, concluding with meetings in April and May 2005.

Submitted by VERA ROKNIC, secretary



## WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

**January 19, 2004** — Piano Recital, RADOSLAV KVAPIL. At the Czech Embassy.

**March 1, 2004** — FILM SCREENING, Babí léto. At the Little Falls Library.

**April 6, 2004** — ELECTIONS

to the SVU Washington Executive Board. Poetry readings, film from SVU Los Angeles, 2001. At the Little Falls Library.

**May 1, 2004** — SVU Washington ANNUAL CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION. Rastislav Káčer, Distinguished Speaker. At the Czech Embassy.

**May 31, 2004** — Concert, MUSICA VIVA. At the Czech Embassy.

**June 2, 2004** — FILM SCREENING, Drawn from Memory (Paul Fierlinger). At the Czech Embassy.

**September 25, 2004** — Wine and Cheese Party. At the Czech Embassy.

**October 4, 2004** — FILM SCREENING, Pelišky. At the Bethesda Library.

**Nov. 14, 2004** — SVU Washington Czechoslovak CHRISTMAS BAZAAR. At the Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church.

**December 7, 2004** — ILLUSTRATED LECTURE on China and Tibet by Helena Fabry. At the Bethesda Library.

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## Activities of Members

**PETER SIS**, an internationally acclaimed author, artist, and film maker has written and illustrated a new children's book, entitled *Train of States* (New York: Greenwillow Books, 2004). The book has been inspired by a visit to Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Peter Sis was born in Brno, Czechoslovakia and graduated from the Academy of Applied Arts in Prague. He also studied at the Royal College of Art in London. His previous picture books for children include the Caldecott Honor books *Tibet: Through the Red Box* and *Starry Messenger: Galileo Galilei*, the New York Times best illustrated book *Tree of Life: Charles Darwin* and several popular books inspired by his own children, such as *Madlenka* and *Fire Truck*. He also illustrated best-selling books written by Jack Prelutsky, among them *Scranimals* and *The Dragons Are Singing Tonight*. Peter Sis is the first children book artist to be named a MacArthur Fellow. He lives with his family in Irvington, New York.

**TOMAS HUDLICKY** accepted the position of Canada Research Chair Professor in Organic Synthesis and Biocatalysis at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. In July 2003 he relocated his program in asymmetric synthesis, natural product chemistry, and environmentally benign manufacturing from the University of Florida in Gainesville following the offer of this prestigious program funded by the Canadian government. Brock University received \$1,400,000 from the government over seven years in support of Hudlicky's salary. Brock offers a unique opportunity in research at the interface of chemistry and biology and Hudlicky's program in enzymatic synthesis of natural products will benefit from interactions with the biology and chemistry faculty there.

His group consists of three postdoctoral associates, four Ph.D. students, and several 4th year Honors Thesis undergraduates working on efficient syntheses of such compounds as the anti-tumor agent pancrati-statin, the analgesic morphine, and many others. He and his wife Josie and their son Jason, 15, enjoy living and working in Canada's wine region. Jason attends Ridley College and is actively pursuing hockey, playing on the school team as well as in weekly pick-up games with his Dad. For more details regarding Hudlicky's program at Brock please visit: <http://www.brocku.ca/chemistry/faculty/hudlicky/>

**VICTOR M. FIC**, Professor Emeritus, published the III volume of his studies on Indonesia entitled *Anatomy of the Jakarta Coup: October 1, 1965*. Collusion with China which Destroyed the Army Command, President Sukarno and the Communist Party of Indonesia. New Delhi: Abhinav Publication, 2004, pp. 406, cost Rs 1,000, available at Barnes and Noble Web Site.

**Hon. MILAN SPACEK**. Run-off in Czech Senate by-elections for the Znojmo constituency has resulted in victory for Milan Spacek, candidate for the Christian Democrats, who got 53 percent. He won against Civic Democrat Jaroslav Parik. MUDr. Milan Spacek has been SVU member ever since he attended the SVU Conference in Belton, Texas in July 1997, in his previous capacity as Chairman of the Senate Permanent Committee for Relations with Czechs Abroad. Currently, he holds the post of Undersecretary in the Czech Ministry of Health.

**Hon. JAROSLAVA MOSEROVA**, senator of CR, had been awarded the French Order of Merit by President Jacques Chirac. A doctor who specialised in burns, she was the first to treat Jan Palach after he burnt himself to

death in 1969 in protest of the Soviet invasion of his homeland. Jaroslava Moserova entered politics after the Velvet Revolution, later serving as Ambassador to Australia and New Zealand. She was also a candidate for president in 2003.

**GERALD CERNY**, a Washington, DC-based collector, donated to the Library of Congress a substantial gift of contemporary prints by Czech, Slovak, Polish and Hungarian printmakers.

Other selections from Cerny's collection are at the National Gallery of Art. Cerny's gift of 269 prints brings fresh examples of work by many artists already represented at the Library of Congress, as well as first-time representation of a number of notable contemporary artists, making the Library of Congress an important US repository for graphic art from East Central and Eastern Europe. The collection was described in detail in The Library of Congress Information bulletin, Vol. 63, No. 8 (August 2004), pp. 139-143.

**JAROMÍR ŠLÁPOTA**, dlouholetý předseda Československého ústavu zahraničního oslavil 29. října 2004 jubileum svých 65. narozenin. Je předsedou této významné organizace již od června 1992. V prvním období své činnosti pomáhal ústavu při přeměně z organizace dotovené státem na organizaci na státu nezávislou. Poté se soustředil na řadu projektů ve prospěch Čechů v Bulharsku, Francii, Chorvatsku, Izraeli, Mexiku, Německu, Rakousku, Rumunsku, Rusku, na Ukrajině a v USA. Za svoji práci byl Ústav odměněn Cenou ministra zahraničních věcí ČR Gratias agit 2004. S opožděním předsedovi Jaromíru Šlápota blahopřejeme a přejeme mu mnoho zdaru do další práce.

## From New SVU Rolls

**SUSAN L. LUCAK** is a Physician and holds the position of Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine at the Columbia University Medical Center in New York. She is a native of Teplice Lazne, Czech Republic and holds academic degrees from Barnard College (B.A., 1977) and Albert Einstein College of Medicine (M.D., 1981). She specializes in gastroenterology.

**NINA HECLOVA** is employed as a proofreader at RR Donnelley (Publishing, Literary Agency, Film and TV Production) at Torrance, CA. She is a native of Dunajska Streda, Slovakia and holds a degree from the University of Economics in Bratislava (Ing., 1981). Her interests are in publishing of scientific books and documentary film production and book exhibitions.

**KVETOSLAV HECKO** is a Suspense Coordinator with Country-wide, West Hills, CA. He is a native of Bratislava, Slovakia and was educated at the University of Performing Arts in Bratislava (Mgr. Art with Honors, 1987, Art.D. in Film & TV Art/Management, 1987). His interests are in film, TV, entertainment industry, journalism, writing.

**TONIA RENNAE BROOKS** is a Family Involvement Specialist at Mohave Mental Health Clinic in Kingman, Arizona. She is a native of Savannah, Georgia and has an academic degree from Northern Arizona University (B.A., 2003). She is presently studying toward her MA degree in psychology at the Union Institute & University Vermont College. Her interests are in child and family counseling, psychotherapy, substance and alcohol abuse in children.

**JITKA PONKA** is self-employed and is associated with Lady Davis Institute/McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She is a native of Prague, Czech Republic and has a medical degree from Charles University (MUDr., 1972). She specializes in dentistry.

**PREMYSL PONKA** is Professor of Physiology and Medicine at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. He is a native of Prague and has academic degrees from Charles University (MUDr., 1964; Ph.D., 1969). His interests lie in hematology, physiology, biochemistry and cell biology.

**ELAINE SUSAN WEINER** is Assistant Professor of Sociology at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. She is a native of Chicago, IL and has degrees from Grinnell College (B.A., 1990), University of Florida (M.A. in Anthropology, 1995) and University of Michigan at Ann Arbor (Ph.D. in Sociology, 2003). Her areas of interest include gender, work, family, culture, political economy and citizenship, development, qualitative methods, sociological theory, central and East European societies.

**CHARLES JAROMIR KULP** is a financial economist with FDIC in Washington, DC. He is a native of Chicago, IL and holds degrees from University of Kansas (B.A. in Slavic Languages and Literatures, 1983; M.A. in Economics, 1987) and Kansas State University (Ph.D. in Economics, 1992). His interests are in banking and capital markets.

**CARLOS (KAREL) F. STOHR** is retired and lives in Caracas, Venezuela. He is a native of Prague, Czechoslovakia and holds a degree from the Central University of Venezuela (Ing., 1959). His interests are in history and visual art.

## IN MEMORIAM

### **ANTONIN MĚŠŤAN** (1930-2004)

Antonin Měšťan, a long-time member of SVU, professor of Slavistics at the University of Freiburg, Germany, died on May 20, 2004 at the age of 74. Since 1990 he also had an appointment in the Czech Republic, serving as director of Slavonic Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

He was born in Prague on August 29, 1930 and had academic training from Charles University (promovaný filolog 1953, PhDr. 1966) and the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (CSc. 1959). Starting 1966, he was a lecturer of Czech and Polish at the University of Freiburg, where he became docent in 1969 and full professor of Slavistics in 1974. The same year he held a guest professorship at Amherst in the US. He also taught in Italy, France, Great Britain, and Austria.

He authored a number of important publications, including German written *History of Czech Literature in the 19th and 20th Centuries* which was translated into several foreign languages. His *Česká literatura 1785-1985* was published by Sixty-Eight Publishers, Corp. in Toronto, Canada in 1986. He was also active as a translator; from Polish alone he translated twelve books. For a number of years he also wrote for *Lidové noviny*.

He was an active members of Pen Club in exile and his contributions were recognized by several awards, including a medal "Za zásluhu" from President Václav Havel, J.E. Purkyně Medal and others.

### **JAN KRISTOFORI** (1931-2004)

Jan Kristofori, SVU member of many years, died on March 23, 2004 in Prague before reaching 73 years. He was an extraordinary Czech artist, known for his paintings, illustrations, graphic art and sculpture. In the fifties he was jailed, in 1968 he participated in the activities against the Soviet occupiers, a year later emigrated to Oslo, Norway, and in 1989 returned to Prague where he opened his popular Atelier Vox Humana.

### **JAN FILIPEK** (1913-2004)

Jan Filipek died peacefully in his sleep on September 23, 2004. He was born on December 31, 1913, in Sviny, Bohemia. He graduated from the Business Academy and the Agricultural College. During the First Czechoslovak Republic, he was employed in Prague by "Kooperativa", the headquarters of the Czechoslovak agricultural cooperatives. During the Nazi occupation, he was imprisoned for four years. After the 1948 communist coup d'état he went into exile to Britain, Australia, and finally settled in Southern California, in Palm Springs and Santa Monica.

Jan Filipek, energetic, assertive and diligent, was the exemplar of the striving, successful emigrant entrepreneur. And, he did not forget his native country as is witnessed by his literary endeavors. His real estate holdings included hotels in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. His writings include the dramatic autobiography, *Shadows of the Gallows. His Reflections and Perspectives* mirror the concerns of the patriotic Czech American. His last monograph about the Munich agreement revisits the historical trauma of the Czechoslovaks.

Jan Filipek, during the war years, in the Nazi occupied country was instrumental in saving the life of my father, Dr. Ladislav K. Feierabend, and perhaps, the lives of our entire family. He was the trusted private secretary and confidant of my father, the Director of Kooperativa, and later Minister in the Elias Government under the German, so called, Protectorate. My father's leadership role in the anti-Nazi underground was betrayed. Filipek, with other members of the underground organization, assisted in my father's difficult, dangerous, but successful, escape. He remained in clandestine contact with him, even as my father joined President Benes' Government in exile in London.

In 1941, Filipek's role in the Resistance was also betrayed. With others, he was arrested by the brutal Gestapo and indicted for treason for assisting in my father's escape. Filipek escaped a death sentence by his masterly defense before the German court, maintaining that Minister Feierabend was the "Trojan Horse" sent to London to help the Nazi war effort. But there was more. My father writes in his memoirs: "Filipek, while being interrogated by the Gestapo, [did not implicate my wife] and thus his silence saved my entire family."

The friendship between the two men carried over into the years of the second exile. Also, my mother and myself were the yearly visitors with Jan in Palm Springs. Our entire family is forever indebted to Jan Filipek.

IVO K. FEIERABEND

### **MILADA V. HORNA** (1925-2004)

The Czech community in Washington DC suffered a great loss by the sudden departure of Dr. Milada V. Horna on October 13, 2004. Dr. Horna was the President of the Washington D.C. Chapter of the Czechoslovak National Council of America, the editor-in-chief of the Washington *Zpravodaj*, and founding member and organizer of the Czech Chapel. She was also an active member of SVU and the Czech representative in the Washington D.C. based Central and East European Coalition.

Dr. Horna was born Milada Dundackova in Havlickuv Brod on June 12, 1925. She attended Charles University, studied languages and obtained a Ph.D. in Literature/Languages. She then worked in Prague as a technical librarian and translator (in Russian) at the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.



In 1968 she, her husband and daughter sought political asylum in the United States and settled in Bethesda, Maryland. Here she began a second career as a teacher of Czech at American University, USDA Graduate School, and subsequently the Foreign Service School. She also wrote two Czech language books. Dr. Horna finally retired from US Department of Justice where she worked as a translator.

She then threw all her energies into her activities in the Czech community and the Central and East European Coalition. One of her proudest days was when the Czech Republic was admitted to NATO. Dr. Horna leaves behind her daughter Dagmar Horna Stock, her son-in-law Henry, and her beloved grandson Richard. She will be greatly missed by her friends and family.

## GLEB ÎEKULIN

Profesor emeritus na Torontské univerzitě zanechává po sobě manželku Lilit, s kterou žil 60 let, čtyři z pěti dětí: Nicholase s rodinou v Calgary, Anthonyho s rodinou v Bramptonu, Lilit Thwaites s rodinou v australském Melbourne, Glebu Deacon s rodinou v Calgary a rodinu Xenii Hartley v australské Canbeře.

Gleb Îekulin se narodil v Praze v roce 1922 v rodině ruských emigrantů, maturoval na francouzském Lyceu, byl nasazen několik let v Německu na nucených pracích. Po válce ukončil Vysokou školu ekonomickou v Praze s titulem inženýr.

Po útěku z Československa v roce 1950 se rodina usadila v Anglii, kde Gleb získal na Liverpoolské univerzitě titul Master of Arts v ruštině. Současně působil jako učitel na částečný úvazek. V roce 1956 se stal pedagogem na Glasgowské univerzitě. V roce 1963 se rodina pře-stěhovala do Kanady, kde přednášel ruštinu na univerzitě McGill. Po pěti letech přešel do oddělení slovanských jazyků a literatury na Torontské univerzitě, kde se později stal profesorem češtiny a ruštiny. Pět let před odchodem do důchodu v roce 1987 byl ředitelem Střediska pro ruská a východoevropská studia.

Rozloučení s modlitbami za zemřelého se konalo v Ruské pravoslavné katedrále Krista Spasitele (823 Manning Street, Toronto) ve čtvrtek 17. června 2004. Následujícího rána po krátkých bohoslužbách se konal pohřeb na hřbitově Mount Pleasant, v oddělení M.

K uctění památky můžete podpořit stipendijní program Oddělení slovanských řečí a literatury na Torontské univerzitě nebo dát peníze na charitativní účely dle vlastního uvážení.

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## New SVU Publications for Sale

Until recently we have had difficulties in meeting the members, demand for SVU publications that have been printed in the Czech Republic, such as the *SVU Biographical Directory*, because we did not have sufficient copies available in the US due to the high cost of shipping the publications from Europe. We are pleased to inform you that we have now received a new shipment of *SVU Biographical Directory*, as well as the monographs published by Palacky University in Olomouc.

The publications in question are as follows:

1. ***SVU Directory. Organization, Activities and Biographies of Mem-bers.*** Compiled by Miloslav Rechcigl, Jr., Eva Rechcigl, and Jiri Eichler. Washington, DC: SVU Press, 2003. 368 p. Price: \$25.

An impressive publication comprised of some 3000 biographical entries of individual members, listing their addresses, telephone numbers and e-mails, apart from information of their education, publications and the areas of their expertise. Includes classification of members by subject and by geographical location. In many respects, it represent the “cream of the crop” of the Czech and Slovak intellectuals and other professionals interested in Czech/Slovak matters and affairs. An indispensable source of information for scholars, students and professionals interested in the thing Czech or Slovak. The *SVU Directory*, now in its 8th edition, has always been the SVU bestseller and it is the best business card SVU has to offer its members.

2. ***Czech-American Historic Sites, Monuments, and Memorabilia.*** Olomouc-Ostrava: Centrum pro ceskoslovenska studia pri Katedre historie Filozoficke fakulty Univerzity Palackeho v Olomouci, 2004. 142 p. Price: \$15. Listing of historic sites and monuments in the US that have some bearing on Czech immigrants, their life and activities in their new homeland. Based on comprehensive survey undertaken by SVU, in cooperation with the major Czech-American organizations, associated with the National Heritage Commission, as part of their effort to preserve the Czech heritage in the US. Important resource for scholars and students and community leaders.

3. ***Czechoslovak Archivalia.*** 2 Vols. Olomouc-Ostrava: Centrum pro ceskoslovenska studia pri Katedre historie Filozoficke fakulty Univerzity Palackeho v Olomouci, 2004. 206 p., 368 p. Total price: \$25. Listing of US-based archival materials and library holdings relating to emigres and exiles from the territory of former Czechoslovakia and relevant holdings bearing on their ancestral land. Based on comprehensive survey undertaken by SVU in cooperation with the National Heritage Commission. The first volume encompasses US government repositories, university-based collections, collections maintained by public museums and libraries, collections of ethnic and other cultural organizations. The second volume covers personal papers and collections, including notable personalities, as well as lesser known individuals, emigrants and exiles, who have distinguished themselves in public life and professions. An indispensable resource for scholars and students.

The above publications can be ordered from SVU Treasurer at the following address: Frank Mucha, SVU Treasurer, 36 W 88 Street, Apt. 1, New York, NY 10025. The prices are quoted above. Please add \$5 for shipping.

In addition to the above, we are hoping to soon get a shipment of the two publications listed below:

4. ***Czech and Slovak American Archival Materials and their Preservation.*** Proceedings of the Working Conference on Czech and Slovak American Archival Materials, held at the Czech and Slovak Embassies, Washington, DC, 2003. Prague: Prague Edition Ltd., 2004. 166 p. Price: \$10.

5. ***The Transformation of Czech and Slovak Societies on the Threshold of the New Millennium and their Role in the Global World.*** Selected Papers from the 21st World Congress, June 23-30, 2002. Edited by Jan P. Skalny and Miloslav Rechcigl, Jr. Plzen: Ales Cenek, 2004. 640 p. Price: \$25.

We'll inform you once the publications will be available.

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## SVU ENTERS THE ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING AGE

*Dear Members:*

*On behalf of the SVU Executive Board, I am pleased to inform you that Selected Papers from the 2003 SVU Iowa Conference have been posted on SVU Website. Since this covers only a portion of the papers presented at the Conference, we would consider adding some of the remaining papers provided the authors send them to us.*

*The list of the posted papers is given below. Individual papers can be accessed on the following address:*

**<http://www.svu2000.org/conferences/papers.htm>**

*The collection will soon also be available for sale on CD-ROM. We will inform you in due course.*

*This is the first SVU's attempt at the electronic publishing. It will save the Society high publication costs and the inherent problems with distribution and storage.*

*MILA REHCIGL, SVU president*

### **The Czech and Slovak Presence in North America: A Retrospective Look and Future Perspectives**

*Selected Papers from the 2003 SVU North American Conference,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 26-28 June 2003*

**<http://www.svu2000.org/conferences/papers.htm>**

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#### SELECTED PAPERS

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Miloslav Rechcigl, SVU, Rockville, MD

*The Immigration to America from the Czechlands and Slovakia in the 17th and 18th Centuries*

Robert Paulson, German-Bohemian Heritage Society, St. Paul, MN

*German-Bohemian Immigration to North America*

Michael A. Cwach, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD

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Cyril Klimesh and Michael Klimesh, Spillville, IA

*The Spillville of A. Dvorak's Sojourn and Inspirations for the  
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Michael A. Cwach, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD

*Two Examples of Czech-Americans' Influence in American Popular Musical Culture in the Early Twentieth-Century: Bohumir Kryl and J. S. Zamecnik*

Robert J. Stone, Cedar Rapids, IA

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Anne Keown, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

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