



THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



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an Incorporated Non-Profit Organization
Winner of Numerous Philatelic Literature Awards

A.P.S. Unit 18

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President's Corner

WESTPEX 2003 and 'the city by the bay' served as the backdrop for this year's board meeting. The members of the Board selected me for the honor of filling the post of President of the Society for the next two years. After more than thirty years as a member of the Society, including the last eleven as Secretary, I realize how fortunate we are to have had such leadership and dedication from past presidents. We are equally fortunate that many of these past presidents continue to give their time to serve our Society.

Rich Palaschak, our outgoing President, provided our Society with superb guidance these past four years. His wisdom and calm demeanor allowed the Society to continue to prosper. Thanks Rich for your time and dedication. I hope that we can continue to build on your successes.

Elections: The Board elected Tom Cossaboom as President, Rich Palaschak as Vice President, Peter Kleskovic as Secretary, and Ed Lehecka as Treasurer.

Society Status: Membership remains above 300 active members and our financial status continues to be excellent.

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Here is a list of benefits to which S.C.P. members in good standing are entitled.

1. A sales circuit is operated by H. Alan Hoover. The circuit itself has been fully written up in the Aug/Sep 1989 SPECIALIST, page 8. For complete details, contact H. Alan Hoover, 6070 Poplar Spring Dr., Norcross, GA 30092, or e-mail: h.alan.hoover@mail.com
2. A book sales division is run by Savoy Horvath. Ads listing philatelic books for sale appear regularly in the SPECIALIST. For further information, contact Savoy Horvath, S8207 - US Hwy 61, Readstown, WI 54652-7056, or email: canclcek@mwt.net
3. A Society library is housed with Richard Palaschak, librarian. For inquiries on borrowing books, buying past SPECIALISTS or making book donations, contact Rich Palaschak, 4050 Carbury Court, Chantilly, VA 20151-2613.
4. An expertization committee operates under the direction of Ludvik Z. Svoboda. Depending on the nature or substance of the item to be expertized, he will direct you to the appropriate source for expertization. Please contact Ludvik Z. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, or email: LouSvoboda@attbi.com
5. THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST is the official bi-monthly publication of the Society. For inquiries on obtaining back issues, contributing original articles of related significance, advertising rates, and bound copies, contact Ludvik Z. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, or email: LouSvoboda@attbi.com
6. The Society has a web site (www.czechoslovakphilately.com) on the Internet where you can find Society information on Membership, History, Education, Auctions, Exhibits and much more. The site is maintained by Jaroslav Verner, 8602 Ewing Dr., Bethesda, MD 20817-3846, or email: sibpost@starpower.net

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All officers and board members serve the Society voluntarily and without compensation.

ITALIAN WWII POW'S IN THE PROTECTORATE

by Piero Santangelo
trans. by Vladimir Kralicek

The Italian Government, after verifying the impossibility of continuing the uneven struggle against the devastating might of its adversary and to save the nation from further and even greater damage, requested of General Eisenhower, as the head of the Anglo-American Forces, for the cessation of hostilities. This request was granted.

As a consequence of this request the Italians, wherever they were, had to cease all adverse actions against the Anglo-American Forces. However the Italian Forces were allowed to take any action necessary against attacks coming from other sources.

By way of this declaration, which was broadcast by microphone of EIAR radio in Rome on the evening of 8 September 1943 and subsequently similarly broadcast by Radio London, the Italian nation was made aware that their alliance with Germany was at an end. Afterwards there began, for the Italian Forces, a period of dramatic events.

The situation rapidly worsened, and the Italian Forces were placed at the mercy of the German command, who -- without difficulty -- began to control them. At the time of the capitulation the Italian Forces were comprised of 83 divisions of about 1,520,000 men approximately half of which became German prisoners.

The Italian soldiers, disarmed on various fronts, were deported to POW camps or were interned in Germany, Poland or the Protectorate. The Germans would not



Figure 1: Postcard dated 3.6.1944 to Padova. Censor cancel of camp "Stalag IV C"

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Figure 2: Postcard dated 18.6.1944 to Ancona – Italian Zone under Allied control; censor cancels "Stalag VIII B" and U.S. Army

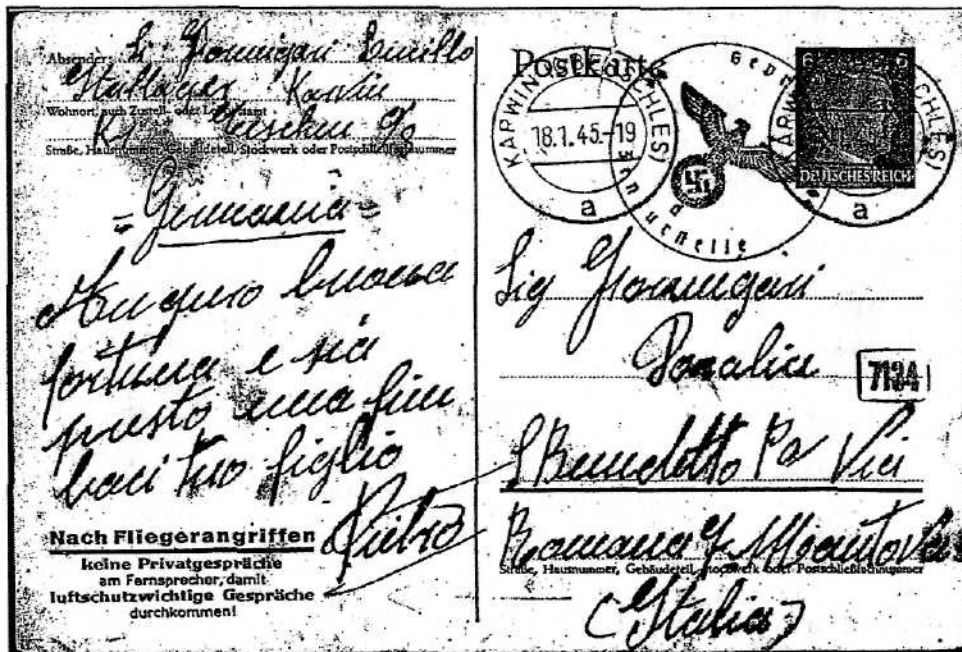


Figure 3: Postal card dated 18.1.1945 from Karwin [Karvina] to Italy. From the text: "if you do not receive any other news of me, I will be a prisoner of the Russians, who are already near".



Figure 4: Pre-printed card with propaganda text "Keep quiet because the enemy can hear you". Sent "in franchigia" from Camp 23 Herkules in Niederleutensdorf (Dolní Litvínov), Brux (Most).

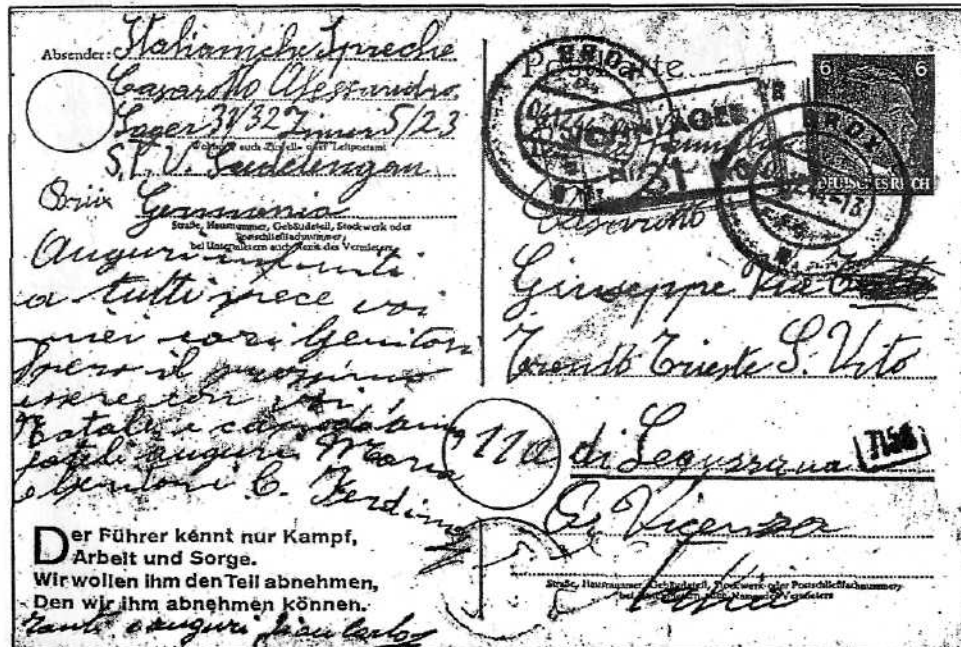


Figure 5: Postal card from Camp 31/32 in Brux, S.T.W. (Sudeten Deutsche Treibstoffwerke) dated 4.12.1944, camp cancel "Wohnlager 31 Brux"

give POW status to about 750,000 Italian soldiers, and these thus became internees to whom the protection and assistance of the International Red Cross would not apply.

The Germans offered the soldiers the following terms:

- a) continue to fight -- in conjunction with the Germans -- in their former units
- b) join the Wehrmacht albeit as volunteers or as auxiliary forces
- c) refuse to co-operate with the Germans and face being interned
- d) join the newly formed forces of Mussolini's Social Republic
- e) join the Social Services.



Figure 8: Card of the Slovak Red Cross in Bratislava, dated 31.7.1945. The internee sender was waiting for his return to Italy.

The majority of the Italian soldiers refused to co-operate in any way with the German Army and thus consented to be interned.

A group of them -- about 20,000 soldiers -- were interned in Bohemia and Moravia. Of them, 7,000 were placed in "Stalag IV C" (Fig. 1), a camp located in Teplice Šanov, and about 10,000 men were consigned to various -- lesser or greater known -- camps in Těšín, along what is today the border with Poland (Fig. 2).

In June 1944, either at their own request or by compulsion, the majority of the soldiers were moved from the internee camps to factories -- they were designated as "volunteer workers". This redeployment was carried out without the obligatory signature consent. In this way it was arranged for the majority of internees to go to various work locations, but mainly to factories situated in the Protectorate.

Here it is necessary to bring to your attention that there were about 1500 of these camps in Bohemia and Moravia (information obtained from the publication "Místa Utrpení a Vzdoru" [Places of Suffering and Defiance], František Nedbálek, issued 1984)(Fig. 3).

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The majority of the Italian workers were placed into factories which operated in the Most (Brüx) region and its surroundings (Fig. 4 - 6).

In April 1945, with the end of armed conflict and the subsequent liberation of all internees from concentration and labor camps, the International Red Cross established reception camps for internees in Prague and Bratislava. The function of these camps was to provide the initial logistical and informational assistance to facilitate their return to Italy (Fig. 7 - 8).

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President's Corner

(Cont. from Page 1)

SPECIALIST Index: The Index covering the years 1939-1999 is now ready for our members. The Board agreed to make one copy available to any member who requested it. The copy can be either on a CD Rom or a hard copy. Details will be provided in a future edition of the *SPECIALIST*.

Society Circuit: Sales receipts have slowed down mainly because there is now a lack of material to put into the circuit. If you have extra items, please contact our circuit manager to get them into the circuit.

Exhibiting Chairman: Because we continue to have difficulties in finding enough exhibitors, the Board decided to establish an active program to recruit and train new exhibitors from among our members. To help facilitate this, Henry Hahn has agreed to be our *Exhibiting Chairman*. His primary function will be to advise new exhibitors in putting together their first exhibits.

Conventions: Next year's Society convention will be held in conjunction with the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition (PNSE), 1 - 3 October 2004 at King of Prussia/Valley Forge. In 2005, the Society will meet at EXPO Minnesota 2005 during the third week in July. There is also a possibility of a meeting in conjunction with BRNO 2005. This show will be held in Brno, Czech Republic during May 2005.

Librarian: The Society's new *Librarian* effective 1 September 2003 will be Mark Wilson of Winchester, VA. I have also appointed Mark Wilson to the Board of the Society to fill the vacancy from the last election.

Tom Cossaboom

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PODLEPKA: WHAT IS IT?

by Lubor Kunc

One of our members discovered the entire shown at Figure 1 and asked me, what is the piece of paper bearing text that is affixed under the stamp? Because this matter is not widely known, I am answering his question by way of an "open article", so other collectors can check their material to see if they do not also have similar items.

First, I need to mention that the piece of paper with the commemorative text is called -- in Czech -- "podlepka" [*literally, something to be stuck or glued under*

something else). It was invented during the time of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy by Czech patriots who were displeased by the absence of Czech language on Austrian stamps (if you examine them, you will find that not a single stamp from 1850 to 1918 bears a Czech word!). Nevertheless, the Austrian Postal Administration refused to use any other language but German on postage stamps.

An ingenious person then discovered that while the Czech language could not be placed directly on stamps, it was possible to affix the stamp onto a piece of paper containing Czech text. This technique was extremely popular in 1908 when a beautiful set was issued commemorating the 60th anniversary of the governance of Emperor Franz Joseph I. This set was created by the best Austrian artists, and the "podlepka" for these stamps were produced in the same style. As a result it was sometimes not easy to determine, what is the real stamp and what is the "podlepka".

When independent Czechoslovakia was created in 1918, the above reason for using "podlepka" was no longer valid -- but they continued to exist. They were issued by the organizing committees of various exhibitions or social events as an inexpensive way to attract public attention to the event and to enable "personalization" of the postage stamps. This is the case with the entire shown in Figure 1.

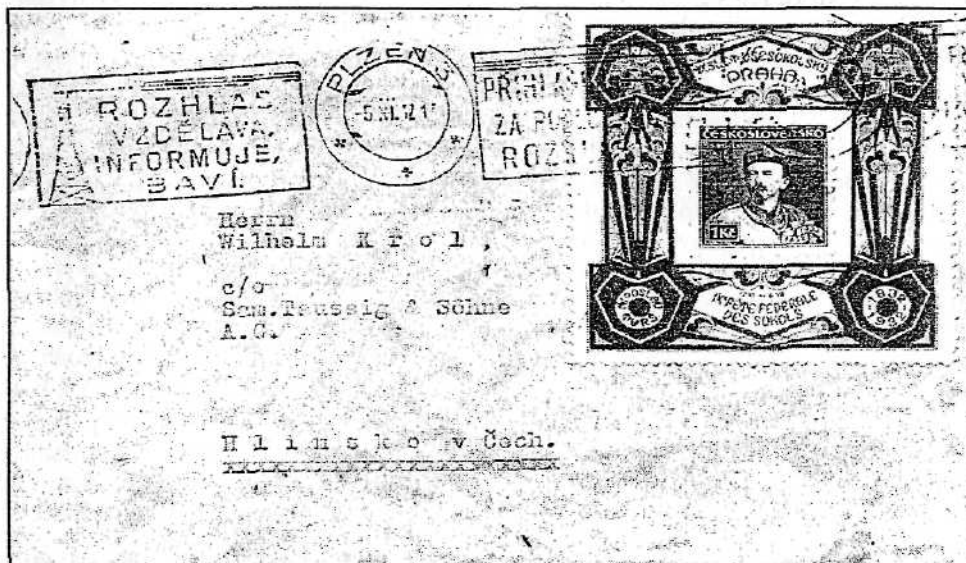


Figure 1: Miroslav Tyrš 1 Kc stamp on a "podlepka", which contains his name, 1832-1932, "IX Slet Vsesokolsky Praha" (9th All-Sokol Slet Prague), repeated on the bottom in French plus 12.VI - 6.VII

It would be beneficial to mention here when "podlepka" finished being used, but unfortunately I don't know. I can only add, I have not seen any originating from the time of WW II nor since then, so we would expect that their "death" occurred about the beginning of WW II.

I have a question for our SPECIALIST readers: do you know what the correct English expression is for the Czech word "podlepka"? Studying Czech - English vocabularies, we were not able to find a word for it. Do you have one? Please let us know.

**LADISLAV FISCHMEISTER,
MD, PhD: 1923-2003**

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our good friend Dr. Lada Fischmeister, who died in Sarasota, Florida on Easter Sunday, having reached his eightieth birthday on March 12th (Fig. 1). He had undergone a serious operation ten days earlier. He seemed to have been recovering well the first three days, but his condition worsened, and he passed away in the intensive care unit of the hospital, with his wife Martha by his side.



Fig. 1

Born in Humpolec, Czechoslovakia, Lada was the only child of Andela and Bretislav Fischmeister. In his youth he spent time in the Auschwitz concentration camp, having been judged as not fully Aryan. After WW II his undergraduate studies at Prague's Charles University were terminated by the Communists for political activities. He quickly left for Switzerland, receiving a long sentence in absentia. He completed his studies at the University of Geneva, where he earned his medical degree, specializing in obstetrics and his PhD in biochemistry. He later emigrated to Quebec where he practiced obstetrics at a Catholic hospital. Upon being discovered as not being Catholic, he was given an opportunity to study further, became a psychiatrist, and practiced in a northern Canadian hospital. In the early sixties he and his wife, Marush, came to Washington where he entered a position at St. Elizabeth's Hospital. In the eighties he joined the Veterans' Mental Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida, from whence in 1988 he retired and moved to Sarasota, Florida. After the death of Marush he married his second wife, Martha who cared for him throughout the rest of his life.

Dr. Fischmeister spoke six languages. He was known as one of the half dozen most prominent Czechoslovak stamp collectors, primarily for his exhibits of stamp rarities, which won him numerous national as well as international awards. Dr. Fischmeister was a member of the American Philatelic Society where he served on the Expertizing Committee and of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately.

Lada had an extraordinary love and respect for animals and would want any memorial contributions to be made to animal rescue charities of the donor's choice.

He had no close living relatives and is survived only by Martha and their five cats who live at 1419 Fleetwood Dr., Sarasota, FL 34232.

A memorial service will take place in Humpolec at a later date.

He will be sorely missed by his philatelic and other friends on both sides of the Atlantic.

Henry Hahn

WESTPEX '03 – UPS AND DOWNS

by Ludvik Svoboda
photos by Susan Smyth

As with any philatelic exhibition at which we hold our annual convention there are always positive aspects and negative ones; WESTPEX '03 just accentuated the two extremes.

Of the 48 competitive philatelic exhibits at WESTPEX this time, only five were by members of the SCP and only four of those were about Czechoslovakia. While the numbers of our exhibits were not many, their awards were quite good:

-- Jerry Verner's **Czechoslovakia: 1918-1938**, a comprehensive study of the stamps, designs, proofs, color shades, varieties, and covers of Czechoslovakia's early postal history -- won a WESTPEX Gold, the Collectors Club of San Francisco - Reserve Grand Award, the California Collectors Club Award for Best 20th Century Exhibit, the Society's award for Best Czechoslovak Exhibit of the show (chosen by the show jury), and the Society's Gold Medal (chosen by a Society jury).

-- Al Kugel's **Austro-Hungarian Forces in World War I**, the story of Imperial & Royal forces of Austria-Hungary in 1914-1918 as told through contemporary postal history -- won a WESTPEX Gold, and the Military Postal History Society Grand Award - Best Military Postal History Exhibit.

-- Bob Koschalk's **German Occupation of Czechoslovakia**, the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia -- won a WESTPEX Vermeil, and the Society's Silver Medal.

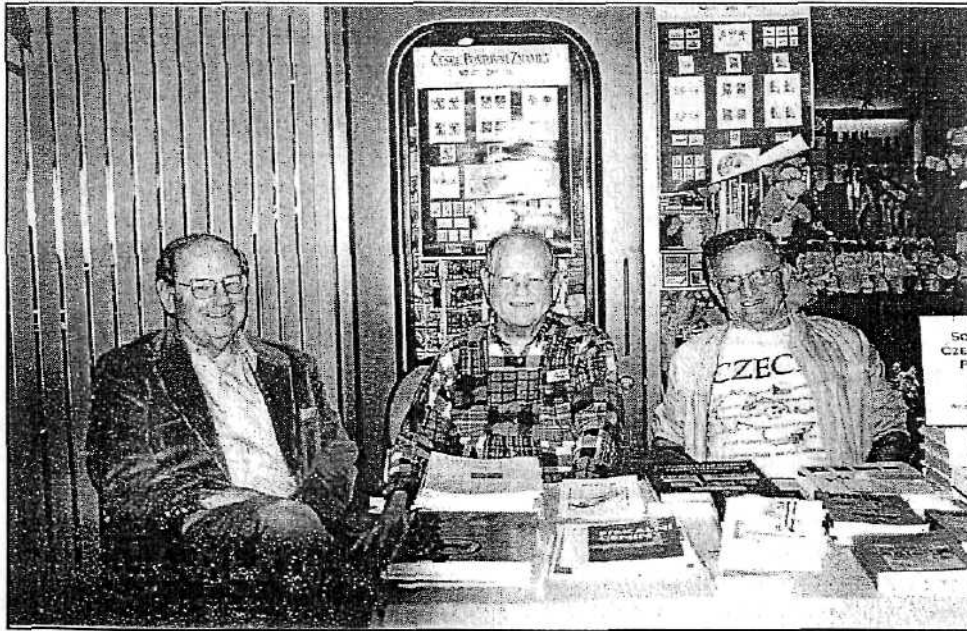


Figure 1: Manning our lonely "bathroom" table are new president, Tom Cossaboom, Lou Svoboda, and Savoy Horvath.



Figure. 2: One of the gypsy band members demonstrates a typical Transylvanian dance.

-- Al Zulueta's **Bohemia, Moravia, and Czechoslovakia: 1569-1919**, pre-philately, stampless, and Austrian stamps used in Bohemia and Moravia, and including the First Issue of Czechoslovakia -- won a WESTPEX Vermeil, and the Society's Bronze Medal.

-- Charlie Chesloe's **Slovakia - Postal History: 1918-1920**, stamps and covers telling the story of the struggle of Slovakia to free itself from Hungarian rule -- won a WESTPEX Silver medal.

The philatelic jury consisted of: Jay B. Stotts, Chair; Henry Hahn; Anthony K. Brooks; Bernard Beston; and Hal Vogel.

The show itself was held at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco where it has been for many, many years (but this is the last time that it will be held there since the hotel has been sold and will be demolished to make room for a larger facility). The show was situated on the mezzanine floor right above the main hotel lobby in several larger rooms and a large open area around the central

cross-stairway. All of this was very attractive, well set up, and well diagrammed in the show booklet. Our booth was scheduled to be located on the mezzanine floor immediately next to the cross-stairway which would have placed us in perfect position to be seen by virtually every show attendee, thus maximizing our opportunity for getting new members and book orders. But 9/11 intervened. The San Francisco fire department ordered that because of new access and egress restrictions, our booth (along with the other Society booths) would have created a hazard. Our booth was then relegated to be an open table placed in front of a store window on the lobby floor (Fig. 1) about 30 feet to the right of the cross-stairway -- the only show attendees that came by were those who needed to use the bathrooms on that floor. We didn't even have a place to hang our new Society banner to attract attention. As a consequence we did not do well in attracting new members or in book orders (one new member and about \$125 in book orders). No blame should be placed on the organizing committee, they were victims as much as we were. Nevertheless, it made for a very disappointing convention from this perspective.

On the social side we had a success. Although we did not have a Society dinner at a Czech restaurant (the only one in the "area" was about 30 miles up the coast across the mountains), we did expand our horizons by taking part in other cuisines. After the Board meeting we retired to the Basque Cultural Center for a great evening and some wonderfully different food. It was all very delicious. The



Figure 3: Palmares attendees and award recipients: standing - Tom Cossaboom, Richard Palaschak, Al Kugel, Lou Svoboda, Henry Hahn, Bob Koschalk, Jerry Verner; seated - Carol Ziegelmeier, Susan Smyth, Lois Verner, Marilyn Hahn.



Figure 4: President Tom Cossaboom presenting the Society's Gold medal to Jerry Verner with Society Bronze medalist Al Zulueta awaiting his turn.

next evening we took a recommendation from a local friend and went to a Hungarian restaurant that featured a five-piece gypsy band (called Danubius) playing traditional gypsy music from five different regions of southeastern Europe. The restaurant was in a traditional row-house that could only seat about 35 patrons at a time and was not much to look at from the outside. But, the food was delicious (home cooked by a single chef) and the band entertained us for three hours (Fig. 2) -- we even ended up dancing among the tables.

The Palmares was held as a reception rather than a sit-down dinner and was thus a pleasant surprise (Fig. 3). Our awards breakfast on Sunday gave us an opportunity to honor our Society recipients (Fig. 4). The Society

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meeting on Saturday gave our new president, Tom Cossaboom, an opportunity to present our status and to introduce our speaker, Jaroslav Verner, who made a fascinating talk (with slides) about his new book, *Mail of the Czechoslovak Legions in France*. It was very well received and generated many questions.



MEET JAN PREISLER

by G.M. van Zanten

You may wonder, who is Jan Preisler. This brief outline of his life will clear up this question.

Toward the end of the 19th century in the field of graphic art several leading lights were born. To name just a few: Antonín Slavíček 1870, František Kupka 1871, Jan Preisler and Antonín Hudeček both in 1872, Max Švabinský 1873.



Figure 1

Several of these artists have had their works represented on postage stamps, for instance František Kupka -- refer my article in the April 1988 issue of the SPECIALIST, page 15, which covered the only stamp with his art issued up to that date. A further stamp with one of his works was issued in 1998, it is entitled "Amorpha - two colored fugue (1912)" (Fig. 1, Sc. 3054/Pof. 191). Max Švabinský also had many of his works represented in the world of philately.

But back to our subject, Jan Preisler.

He was born on February 17, 1872, in the small village of Popovice near Beroun in Central Bohemia.

His father was a metallurgical worker, and as a little boy Jan experienced poverty and hardship. At the age of 15 he came to Prague where he enrolled in the College of Applied Arts, motivated by his desire to earn a living as a painter. He stayed there for a full 8 years until 1895. Later on he worked at the college as a lecturer and visiting professor taking evening classes in drawing.

In 1896 he exhibited his paintings for the first time. The rest of his life was filled by working -- mostly on drawings and paintings -- as well as organizing activities in the Mánes art group, in particular the publication of the group's periodical called VOLNÉ SMĚRY (Free Trends). He undertook several study trips abroad, among them to Italy, Paris, Belgium, and the Netherlands, sending his works annually to foreign exhibitions. In 1913 he was appointed professor of the general painting school at the Academy of Fine Arts, and from 1917 he led a special painting school.

He died on 27 April 1918 in Prague, just 46 years old.

In 1964 an exhibition of his works was staged in the Prague National Gallery,

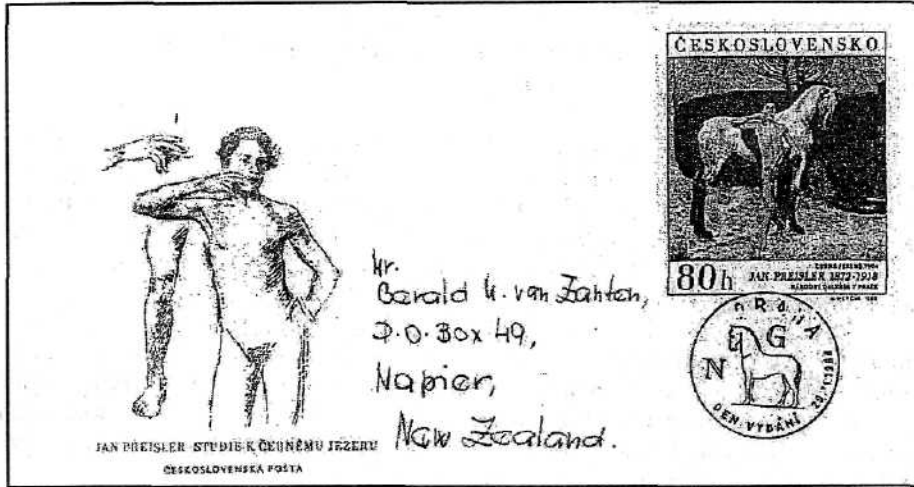


Figure 2: FDC for "Black Lake 1904" (Sc. 1590/Pof. 1730) with the cachet entitled "Jan Preisler - Study for Black Lake"

a total of 188 oil paintings, 39 pastels, 141 drawings and 7 posters. Shown here are two of his more famous pieces of art as portrayed on stamps on FDC's (Fig. 2, 3).

As a man and artist, Preisler was a powerful personality and a great artist, one of the precursors of Czech modern painting.

For more reading on Jan Preisler, I recommend the following rather large book: *PRAGUE, Fin de Siècle* by Petr Wittlich, published in 1999, originally published in French in 1992.



Figure 3: FDC for "Painting from a Greater Cycle 1902" (Sc. 3075/Pof. 202) with a cachet reflecting "Self Portrait 1902-1903"

SO YOU WOULD LIKE TO EXHIBIT?

by Henry Hahn

I'm sure some of our members have entertained the thought while attending a stamp show that "I really ought to exhibit -- my collection is getting pretty good". And they are absolutely right. The joy in exhibiting goes far beyond the winning of awards. It goes to becoming a "real" member of the collecting community and gives you a sense of accomplishment well beyond that you can reach by enjoying your collection in solitude.

At its Board Meeting at WESTPEX in San Francisco, where only five (5) members of our Society exhibited -- although one received the Reserve Grand -- it became evident that some help is necessary to encourage more members to exhibit. The "help" idea became my assignment. As a long time exhibitor, national and international judge and occasional leader of seminars on philatelic judging, I was asked to assist our membership on a one-to-one basis.

I will advise you on which category of exhibits to select, what the main criteria in each category are, what to show and what to avoid, what mounting technique to utilize, how to select and accomplish the purpose of the exhibit, and how to optimize its appearance. I am most familiar with Traditional, Postal History, Literature and Single Frame exhibits. I also have some experience with Thematic, Display Class, Cinderella and Youth Exhibits. I will help you formulate and write your Title Page as well as your Synopsis, which is to be submitted to the judges before the show. Many exhibits containing no rarities whatsoever are successful in US shows, though having some and knowing how to present them helps.

It is a frequent error to think that one must have lots of time or be retired to assemble a good exhibit. Today, with available computers, no need for framed pages and de-emphasis of hand drawn illustrations, you can mount 5 - 10 pages in an evening -- particularly if you exhibit covers -- which have gained much popularity in recent years.

So -- to get started -- tell me what you collect, whether you have a computer (and possibly scanner) available, what your best or favorite items are, and let me know by e-mail or snail mail that you are ready to start. You have over a year to our next show -- PNSE in October 2004 near Philadelphia.

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ELECTION RESULTS

In our recent election you re-elected incumbent board members Edwin Lehecka, Richard Palaschak, Karl Ruzicka, and Jaroslav Verner. Their terms of office begin immediately and run through 2009.

In addition, at the WESTPEX'03 Board Meeting, newly elected President Tom Cossaboom selected Mark Wilson of Winchester, VA, to fill the remaining vacancy on the Board (which is a specific designated power of any President). His term of office also runs through 2009.

"CHARACTER HEADS"
by **FRANZ XAVER MESSERSCHMIDT**

1736 - 1783

by **G. M. van Zanten**

Franz Xaver Messerschmidt was born in the Swabian village of Wiesensteig in 1736. He trained as a sculptor under two of his uncles, one in Munich and the other in Graz.

In 1762 he went to Vienna and studied at the academy under B. F. Moll and Matthias Donner, younger brother of the famous Georg Raphael Donner.

His travels in pursuit of his art led him to Rome and also London, where he arrived in 1765, one year after the death of William Hogarth. He most likely studied Hogarth's drawings of the human face, his caricatures of the human figure and wit, which was said to be of particular importance for his future creations. In 1760 he returned to Vienna where he was engaged as a lecturer at the academy until 1775.

His most important works, which brought him fame were created in Vienna between 1770 and 1778, during this period he created most of his "CHARACTER HEADS".

It is the 10 Sk stamp in the Slovak Art series of 1996 that made the writer do some research on the subject. The stamp on the FDC in Figure 1 shows the sculpture "SUPPRESSED LAUGHTER". This work is in the Slovak National Gallery. The cachet depicts the head "THE MOST PERVERSIVE SMELL". The cancellation shows "SECOND HEAD WITH A BEAK", the original in alabaster measures 43cm in height (Fig. 2). Also refer to my New Issues of Jan/Feb 1997.

After disagreements at Vienna Academy he left and turned his back on the

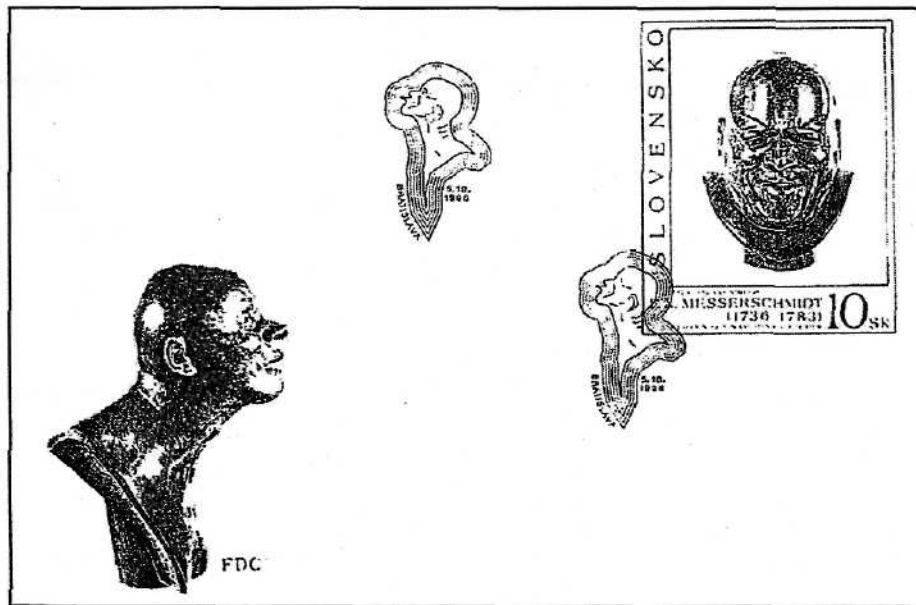


Fig. 1

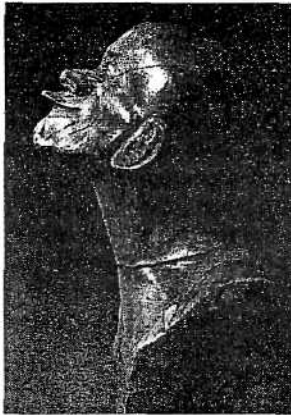


Figure 2



Figure 3: "A HANGED MAN",
alabaster, h . 38cm



Figure 4: "LUSTY FOP",
marble, h. 45cm

city and in 1775 returned to his hometown in the Swabian Alps. In 1777 he moved to Pressburg (Bratislava) where he established a studio and worked on further character studies up until his death in 1783. Sixty-nine of his facial expression works were found in his studio after his death.

A mere ten years later these were exhibited in Vienna for a first exhibition for which they were collectively dubbed "CHARACTER HEADS" and given individual titles by which they are still known. Two other illustrations may be of interest to readers.

References;

- VIENNA Art and Architecture by various authors
- VIENNA Eyewitness Travel Guide

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**COMPARISON SURVEY OF CATALOG NUMBERS
OF CZECHOSLOVAK POSTAGE STAMPS**

by Savoy Horvath

(continued from previous issue)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA
POFIS/Scott/Michel

<u>1984 (cont)</u>	<u>1985 (cont)</u>	<u>1985 (cont)</u>	<u>1986 (cont)</u>
2648/2513/2768	2688/2550/2805	2725/2587/2842	2763/2625a/2880
2649/2516/2769	A2688/2550a/BL62	2726/2588/2843	A2763/2625/BL68
2650/2514/2770	2689/2551/2806	2727/2589/2844	2764/2626/2881
2651/2515/2771	A2689/2551a/BL63	2728/2590/2845	2765/2627/2882
2652/2517/2772	2690/2552/2807	2729/2591/2846	2766/2628/2883
A2652/2517a/BL58	2691/2553/2808		2767/2629/2884
A2653/2517b/BL59	2692/2554/2809	<u>1986</u>	2768/2630/2685
2654/2518/2773	A2692/2554a/BL64	2730/2592/2847	2769/2631/2886
2655/2519/2774	2693/2555/2810	2731/2593/2848	2770/2632/2887
2656/2520/2775	2693a/2556/2816	2732/2594/2849	2771/2633/2888
2657/2521/2776	2694/2557/2811	2733/2595/2850	2772/2634/2889
2658/2522/2777	2695/2558/2812	2734/2596/2851	2773/2635/2890
2659/2523/2778	2696/2559/2813	2735/2597/2852	2774/2636/2891
2660/2524/2779	2697/2561/2814	2736/2598/2853	2775/2637/2892
2661/2525/2780	2698/2560/2815	2737/2599/2854	2776/2638/2893
2662/2526/2781	2699/2562/2817	2738/2600/2855	2777/2639/2894
2663/2527/2782	2700/2563/2818	2739/2601/2856	
2664/2528/2783	2701/2564/2819	2740/2602/2857	<u>1987</u>
2665/2529/2784	2702/2565/2820	2741/2603/2858	2778/2640/2895
2666/2530/2785	2703/2566/2821	2742/2604/2859	2779/2641/2896
A2667/2527-30a/ BL60	2704/2567/2822	2743/2605/2860	2780/2642/2897
2668/2531/2786	A2704P/2567a/BL65	2744/2606/2861	2781/2643/2898
2669/2532/2787	A2704I/----/----	2745/2607/2862	2782/2644/2899
2670/2533/2788	2705/2568/2823	2746/2608/2863	2783/2645/2900
A2671/2533a/BL61	2706/2569/2824	2747/----/2864	2784/2646/2901
2672/2534/2789	2707/2570/2825	A2747/2609/BL67A	2785/2647/2902
2673/2535/2790	2708/2571/2826	A2747a/----/BL67B	2786/2648/2903
2674/2536/2791	2709/2572/2827	2747b/----/2864B	2787/2649/2904
2675/2537/2792	2710/2573/2828	A2747b/---/BL67C	2788/2650/2905
2676/2538/2793	2711/2574/2829	2748/2610/2865	2789/2651/2906
2677/2539/2794	2712/2575/2830	2749/2611/2866	2790/2652/2907
2678/2540/2795	A2713/2572-5a/ BL66	2750/2612/2867	2791/2653a/2908
2679/2541/2796	2714/2576/2831	2751/2613/2868	A2791/2653/BL69
	2715/2577/2832	2752/2614/2869	2792/2654/2909
<u>1985</u>	2716/2578/2833	2753/2615/2870	2793/2655/2910
2680/2542/2797	2717/2579/2834	2754/2616/2871	2794/2656/2911
2681/2544/2799	2718/2580/2835	2755/2617/2872	2795/2657/2912
2682/2543/2798	2719/2581/2836	2756/2618/2873	A2795/----/BL70
2683/2545/2800	2720/2582/2837	2757/2619/2874	2796/2658/2913
2684/2546/2801	2721/2583/2838	2758/2620/2875	2797/2659/2914
2685/2547/2802	2722/2584/2839	2759/2621/2876	A2797/----/BL71
2686/2548/2803	2723/2585/2840	2760/2622/2877	2798/2660/2915
2687/2549/2804	2724/2586/2841	2761/2623/2878	2799/2661/2916
		2762/2624/2879	2800/2662/2917

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

<u>1987 (cont)</u>	<u>1988 (cont)</u>	<u>1988 (cont)</u>	<u>1989 (cont)</u>
2801/2663/2918	2839/2699/2955A	2873/2724/2982	2913/2762/3021
2802/2664/2919	2840/2698-9a/BL79		2914/2763/3022
2803/2665/2920	2841/2700/2956	<u>1989</u>	2915/2764/3023
2804/2666/2921	2842/2701/2957A	2874/2729/2983	2916/2765/3024
2805/2667/2922	2843/2702/2958A	2875/2725/2984	2917/2766/3025
2806/2668/2923	2844/2703/2959A	2876/2726/2985	2918/2767/3026
2807/2669/2924	2845/2704/2960A	2877/2727/2986	2919/2768/3027
A2808/2668a/BL72	A2842/2701a/2957B	2878/2728/2987	2920/2769/3028
2809/2670/2925	A2843/2702a/2958B	2879/2732/2988	
2810/2671/2926	A2944/2703a/2959B	2880/2730/2989	<u>1990</u>
2811/2672/2927	A2845/2704a/2960B	2881/2733/2990	2921/2770/3029
2812/2673/2928	A2846/2701-4b/BL80	2882/2734/2991	2922/2772/3030
2813/2674/2929	2847/2705/2961	2883/2735/2992	2923/2771/3031
2814/2675/2930	2848/2706/2962	2884/2731/2993	2924/2773/3032
2815/2676/2931	2849/2707/2963	2885/2736/2994	2925/2774/3033
2816/2677/2932	2850/2708/2964	2886/2737/2995	2926/2775/3034
A2817/2653b/BL73	A2851/2705-8a/BL81	2887/2738/2996	2927/2776/3035
A2817Imprint/--/--	2852/---/2965A	2888/2739/2997	2928/2777/3036
2818/2678/2933	A2852P/2709/BL82A	2889/2740/2998	2929/2778/3037
2819/2679/2934	A2852I/---/BL82B	2890/2741/2999	2930/2779/3038
2820/2680/2935	2853/2710/2966A	2891/2742/3000	2931/2780/3039
2821/2681/2936	2854/2711/2967A	2892/2743a/3001	2932/2781/3040
2822/2682/2937	2855/2712/2968A	2893/2743b/3002	2933/2782/3041
2823/2683/2938	2856/2713/2969A	A2892-3/2743/BL92	2934/2786/3045
	A2857/2712a/BL85	2894/2744/3003	2935/2785/3044
<u>1988</u>	A2858/2713a/BL86	2895/2745/3004	2936/2783/3043
2824/2684/2939	2859/2714a/2970	2896/---/3005	2937/2784/3042
2825/2686/2940	A2859/2714/BL87	A2896/2746/BL93	2938/2787/3046
2826/2687/2941A	2860/2715a/2971	2897/2747/3006	2939/2788/3047
2827/2688/2942A	A2860/2715/BL88	2898/2748/3007	2940/--/3048
2828/2689/2943A	2861/2716a/2972	2899/2749/3008	A2940/2789/BL95
A2826/---/BL74	2862/2716b/2973	2900/2750/3009	2941/2790/3049
A2827/---/BL75	A2861-2/2716/BL89	2901/2751/3010	2942/2791/3050
A2828/---/BL76	A2861-2a/---/BL91	2902/2753/3011	2943/2792/3051
2829/2685/2945A	A2863/???/BL90	2903/2752/3012	2944/2793/3052
2830/2690/2944A	A2864-5P/--/BL77A	2904/2754/3013	2945/2794/3053
2831/2691/2947	A2864-5I/---/BL77B	2905/2755/3014	2946/2795/3054
2832/2692/2948	2866/2717/2975	2906/2756/3015	2947/2796/3055
2833/2693/2949	2867/2718/2976	2907/2757/3016	2948/2797/3056
2834/2694/2950	2868/2719/2977	A2908/2757a/BL94	2949/2798/3057
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2837/2697/2953	2871/2722/2980	2911/2760/3019	2952/2801/3059
2838/2698/2954A	2872/2723/2981	2912/2761/3020	2953/2802/3060

<u>1990 (cont)</u>	<u>1991 (cont)</u>	CZECH REPUBLIC	<u>1994 (cont)</u>
2954/2803/3061	2996/2845/3104	<u>1993</u>	40/2920/40
2955/2804/3063	2997/2846/3105	1/2877/1	41/2921/44
2956/2805/3064	2998/2847/3106	2/2878/2	42/2922/41
2957/2806/3065	2999/2848/3107	3/2879/3	43/2923/42
2958/2807/3066	3000/2849/3108	4/2880/4	44/2924/43
2959/2808/3067		5/2881/5	45/2925/45
2960/2809/3068	<u>1992</u>	6/2882/6	46/2927/46
2961/2810/3069	3001/2850/3109	7/2883/7	47/2926/47
2962/2811/3070	3002/----/3110	8/2884/8	48/2928/48
2963/2812/3071	A3002/2852/BL96	9/2885/9	49/2929/49
2964/2813/3072	3003/2853/3111	10/2886/10	50/2930/50
2965/2814/3073	3004/2855/3112	A10/2887/BL1	51/2931/51
	3005/2854/3113	11/2886/11	52/2891A/52
<u>1991</u>	3006/2856/3114	12/2888/12	53/2932/53
2966/2816/3074	A3006/----/-----	13/2889/13	54/2933/54
2967/2815/3075	3007/2851/3115	14/2890/14	55/2934/55
2968/2817/3077	3008/2857/3116	15/2891/15	56/2935/59
2969/2818/3076	3009/2858/3117	16/2892/16	57/2936/56
2970/2819/3078	3010/2859/3118	17/2893/17	58/2937/57
2971/2820/3079	3011/2860/3119	18/2894/18	59/2938/58
2972/2821/3080	3012/2861/3120	19/2895/19	60/2891B/60
2973/2822/3082	3013/2862/3121	20/2901/20	
2974/2823/3081	3014/2863/3122	21/2902/21	<u>1995</u>
2975/2824/3083	3015/2864/3123	22/2903/22	61/2939/61
2976/2825/3084	3016/2865/3124	23/2904/23	62/2940/63
2977/2826/3085	3017/2866/3125	24/2905/24	63/2941/62
2978/2827/3086	3018/2867/3126	25/2906/25	64/2942/64
2979/2828/3087	3019/2868/3127	26/2907/28	65/2943/65
2980/2829/3088	3020/2869/3128	27/2908/29	66/2944/66
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2982/2831/3090	3022/2870/3129	29/2910/27	68/2946/68
2983/2832/3091	3023/2871/3131		69/2947/69
2984/2833/3092	3024/2871A/3132	<u>1994</u>	70/2949/71
2985/2834/3093	3025/2872/3133	30/2912/30	71/2950/72
2986/2835/3094	3026/2873/3134	31/2911/31	72/2948/70
2987/2836/3095	3027/2874/3135	32/2913/32	73/2951/73
2988/2837/3096	3028/2875/3136	33/2914/33	74/2952/74
2989/2838/3097	3029/2876/3137	34/2915/34	75/2953/75
2990/2839/3098		35/2890A/35	76/2954/76
2991/2840/3099		36/2917/36	77/2955/77
2992/2841/3100		37/2916/37	78/2956/78
2993/2842/3101		38/2918/38	79/2957/79
2994/2843/3102		39/2919/39	80/2958/80
2995/2844/3103			81/2959/81

(To Be Continued)

Philatelic News and Views

From Edwin Lehecka:

-- Your Society donated 16 books to the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, which is located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. These books were first offered on a discounted basis to our membership in a previous issue of the SPECIALIST, but did not sell.

From Ludvik Svoboda:

-- I manned a booth for our Society at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show 2003 that was held in Aurora, Colorado on May 16-18. I met a number of interesting philatelists including one of our newer members who had come some distance -- from Cleveland, MN (yes, MN not OH). I had originally met Phil Rhoads two years ago while I was again manning our Society booth at this same show. At the time he approached and asked whether I could help him with getting additional information about the town of Lidice, Czechoslovakia both from a historical and from a philatelic perspective. I provided him with what information I had with me (through catalogs and books that I had there -- as examples -- for sale) and then sent him additional information once I got home. I, of course, also sent along a membership application which resulted in a new Society member. This time Phil came to participate in the show with an exhibition: "The Murder of Lidice -- Exhibit displays material related to the Nazi destruction of Lidice, a small Czech village, in retaliation for the assassination of SS General Reinhard Heydrich". He had been assembling this 10-frame display class exhibit ever since we had talked that two years before. Being a display class exhibit it included items such as pictures, newspaper articles, and other non-philatelic items, and as such produced an extremely interesting -- almost hypnotic -- story. It definitely was not the stereotypical "stamp exhibit" showing ten frames of, for example, every conceivable variety, color shade, perforation type, paper use, watermark, and postal use of a 2¢ stamp issued 80 years ago. To me, there is little surprise then that his exhibit won the show's People's Choice Award (best exhibit as voted by the people in attendance) and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) Creativity Award. It did not do as well with the show judges, however, who found fault with it (some deserved) and only awarded it a Silver award (it is interesting that the "same" exhibit in an 8-frame version received a Gold at the previous STAMPSHOW, so I am sure that Phil is home now trying to determine what part of the two additional frames of material caused his exhibit to drop two levels of award). I encouraged Phil to make sure that he showed his exhibit at other exhibitions, and to make absolutely sure that he submitted it to PNSE'04 -- our next annual convention site -- to share it with our members.

From Savoy Horvath:

-- I would like to pass on to you that the philatelic club of Trutnov has philatelic auctions -- twice a year of picture post cards and twice a year of philatelic materials (stamps and covers). The catalogs can be viewed on the Internet at www.volny.cz/philatelist or by request from PhDr. Zbynek Sychra, Zvonkova 473, 541 02 Trutnov 4, Czech Republic.

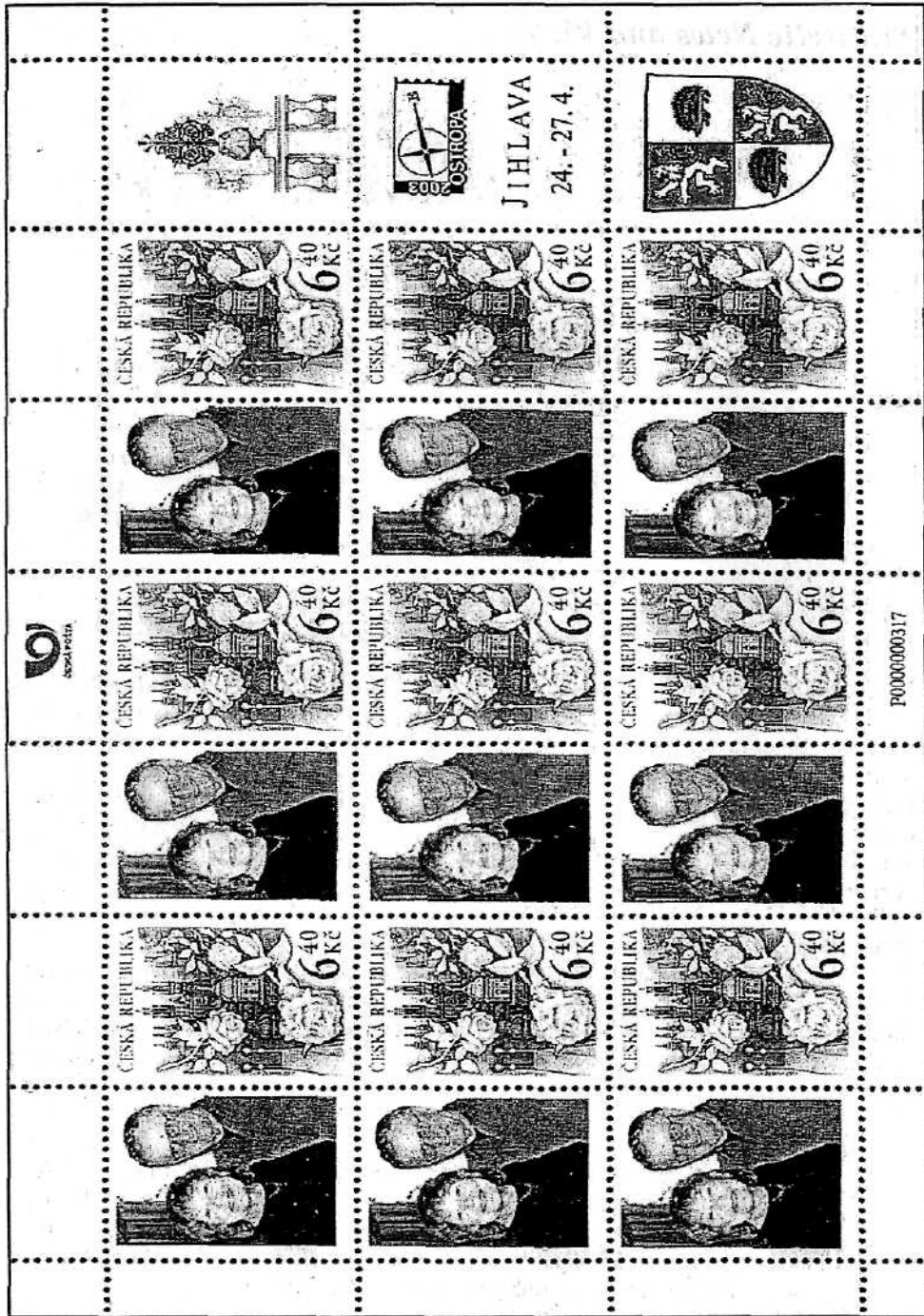


Fig. 1

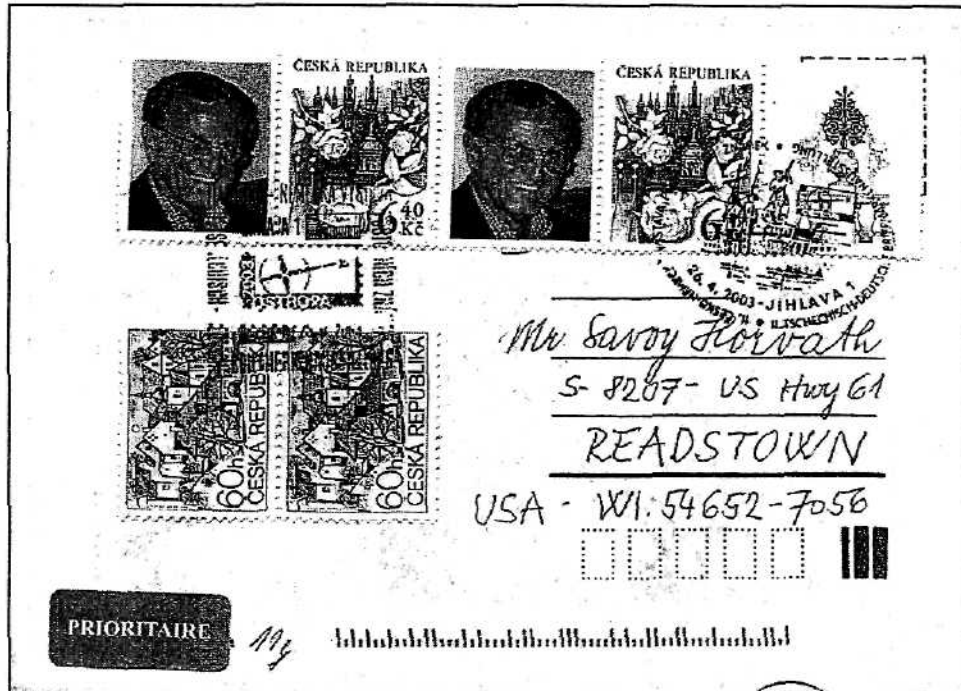


Fig. 2

-- As I mentioned in this column last issue, the personalizable stamp was issued in conjunction with OSTROPA 2003 in Jihlava. Here are two examples of what can be done with them. Figure 1 shows a sheetlet of them including a picture of my wife, Nadia, and I in one of the sheet formats that are available (there are a number of different coupon designs that can appear in the lower right corner two coupon positions or in the personalizable coupon positions). Figure 2 shows a cover sent to me from OSTROPA using the two couponed stamps from the upper right corner of a personalized sheetlet.

From Richard Palaschak:

-- As was reported in last year's SPECIALIST, the Czech Postal Museum in Prague was inundated by several meters of water when the Vltava river flooded downtown Prague late last summer. The Board decided to help by sending \$1,000 to the Museum to help in its clean up and restoration. We received the following letter from the Director of the Museum:

"Dear Mr. President,

We are much obliged to you for sending a contribution for 1,000 U.S.D. to be used for restoring especially the engraving plates which have been strongly damaged by flooding in August of this year. We hope, that after reconstruction of the ground floor of the museum we should open the philatelic collections for the public in June 2003.

Mr. President, thank you very much for big-scale help and we look forward to see you in newly reconstructed museum. Thank you.
With kind regards

[signed]
Dr. Pavel Čtvrtník
Director"

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

**2002 FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE
SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY INC.**

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Member Dues	\$7,655.00	SPECIALIST	\$7,941.00
Circuit Sales Fees	1,000.00	Adm & Membership Expense	496.00
Donations	88.00	Convention Expense	1,291.00
Advertising	53.00	Education Expense	261.00
Net Book Sales	731.00	Special Projects & Misc	3,366.00
Miscellaneous	286.00	Patron Books	1,191.00
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	\$ 9,813.00	<u>TOTAL EXPENSE</u>	\$14,546.00
<u>NET GAIN/LOSS</u>	(\$4,732.00)		
<u>CASH BALANCE</u>	\$18,146.00		

Respectfully submitted,
Edwin W. Lehecka
Treasurer

Notes:

1. Previously the Board decided that as a result of a growing bank balance the Society could afford to engage in some sort of educational or related project in keeping with our charter. We sponsored a book by Jaroslav Verner on the Czech Legion in France. Net expenses were \$2,022. A donation of \$1,000 was also made to the Czech Postal Museum in Prague to help offset flood damage.
2. Patron books are issued on a bi-annual basis and the expense of \$1,191 will next appear in 2004.
3. Convention expenses included a \$500 deposit for Washington 2006, and \$594 for a new run of Society award medals.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT

JAN 1, 2002 - DEC 31, 2002

Membership -- Jan 1, 2002 300

GAINS

New Members	24
Reinstated	<u>10</u>
	34

LOSSES

Died	4
Resigned	3
Dropped - NonPay	<u>26</u>
	33

Membership -- Dec 31, 2002 301

Regular Members	226
Patron Members	52
Honorary Members	11
Senior Members	5
Complimentary Members	7

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**OSTROPA 2003
THREE IMPRESSIONS**

Here are the impressions of three of our members that attended the recent OSTROPA 2003 philatelic exhibition. As they allowed me, I have edited them to remove some duplication and other unnecessary information.

OSTROPA 2003
by Hans van Dooremalen

The second Czech-German philatelic exhibition was held in Jihlava from April 24th-27th, 2003. It was held in the Dum Kultury Odboru (the culture house). . .

The actual exhibition was held in a hall on the 3rd floor of the exhibition. It was very clear that the hall used to serve as a theater. Some of the exhibits were housed on the stage (Court of Honor), others on the balcony (Airmail). In the center of the hall the lighting was ample, however in the corners and on the balcony it was very poor. I had great trouble studying Georg Wilhelm's airmail exhibit.

The overall quality of the exhibits was high, especially considering the large number of large and small vermeils given. I made a thorough study of some of the postal history exhibits which were new to me and was pleasantly surprised by the following:

-- Zdenek Mazura: The Austrian post office in the Bohemian lands 1600-1850, containing several covers carried by the Prague City Mail.

-- Horst E. Horin: Field and military post under the Double Eagle, a thorough study of mail relating to all campaigns, made by the Austrians.

-- Ing. Michal Prikasky: Bohemia and Moravia, containing several documents never seen before.

I tried to look at some of the airmail exhibits, but the poor lighting on the balcony made it virtually impossible.

What always strikes me when visiting Czech exhibitions is the large number of people between the frames. People really seem to be interested to see what others collect (and how they collect) and you can always find someone to have a discussion about an exhibit.

The exhibition was supplemented by a bourse. Immediately after entering the building there were a few booths and several tables, where all kinds of material was sold. Again however, especially near the tables, lighting was very poor. All kinds of material was offered; it was very hard to go home without finding anything.

On Saturday afternoon a joint meeting between the Society of Collectors of Czechoslovak and Czech Stamps and the German Arbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei was held in one of the rooms in an adjacent building. It was a good opportunity to meet our Czech friends. A large number of Austrian collectors were present too.

Overall I can say that our Czech friends did a very good job organizing this exhibition. It certainly gave an appetite for BRNO 2005, which is now less than 2 years away.

OSTROPA'03
by Milan Cernik
trans. by Henry Hahn

. . . At the OSTROPA exhibition one could see many new and remounted exhibits, and a large area was devoted to single frame presentations. Having attended this exhibit, I would like to describe some of the exhibits which were of major interest to me.

In the Court of Honor I found most interesting the exhibits by V. Drazan "Czechoslovak Currency Reform -- 1953" and most particularly F. Puschmann's

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

"Mail in the Austrian Hapsburg Empire, 1526 - 1816". In the Class of Invited Exhibits, I was pleasantly surprised by the thoroughly assembled and presented exhibit of B. Zicha entitled "Mail from Czechoslovak Prisons after 1948". Interesting was an exhibit of the "Jihlava (Iglau) Language Isle" by the German collector G. Rubant. Interesting items for the specialist could be found in the exhibit of S. Šablatura "Caution -- Forgeries". All these exhibits as well as some I have not pointed out received high awards.

In Territorial (traditional) philately a gold medal was awarded to J. Pelikan for his "Austria-Hungary Issue of 1908" . . . Others I'd like to mention are "Hradčany 1918-1920" by M. Rozhon, . . . This class being well represented is supported by the fact that nearly all of its exhibits won at least a Vermeil.

Very strongly represented was the class of Postal History, which of course interested me most. A large Gold + special prize was awarded to Z. Mazura for "Austrian Mail Service on Czech Lands, 1600-1850". Worth mentioning is an exhibit by a similar title by J. Šedivy who won a Large Vermeil. Another Gold was won by H. Horin for "K.u.K. Feldpost -- Health Institutions". An extraordinary exhibit in this category was "Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia" by M. Příkladský as well as "Czechoslovakia: Frontier Changes 1918/1924" by Dr. W. Rauch. Both received Large Vermeil. The same medal was awarded to J. Vormela for his showing of "Brno (Brunn)" and to Dr. Červinka for "History of Postal services in the Děčín (Tetchen) Region". Also exhibited were several exhibits dealing with the complicated 1945/46 period, among which I would rate highest that of H. Liebermann, who received Vermeil.

The Class of Aerophilately was well represented. A Large Gold and Grand Award was won by B. Helm for "Czechoslovak Air Mail from the Beginning to 1930". . . In the Class of Philatelic Literature J. J. Verner received Gold + Special



Fig. 1

Prize for his book "Mail of the Czechoslovak Legions in France".

I went through the Topical Exhibit Class quickly and will not report on these. However, I spent considerable time examining the One Frame Category. Here I believe many exhibitors missed the purpose of one frame exhibits by showing just portions of exhibits deserving multiple frames. What I found very nice among these exhibits was . . . "Private Stations of the Pneumatic Post in Prague" by A. Šmid.

At the show there were issued two types of postal stationery, one of which is pictured below (Fig. 1). The show logo could be found on empty coupons of a new stamp issue "Česká Lidová Krajka" and the Czech Post Office used four commemorative cancels + a cachet of the Slovak Post. . . . The show included many supplemental activities including a bourse, site-seeing excursions by train with an old steam locomotive, a visit to the local brewery and others, all to the visitors personal liking.

**At OSTROPA/Jihlava
by Karel Holoubek
trans. by Savoy Horvath**

The stamp show was great. The location was in the House of Culture, a large complex ideally located. The exposition was all connected to the bourse, the dealers, society tables, and the post offices. Besides the Czech Post, Slovakia and the UN also had counters. The complex housed an excellent restaurant which served all day.

. . . the German group was showing a cover found in a collapsed bank days after the atomic bomb flattened Hiroshima. The cover was encased in a lead box with a thick leaded glass lid.

The Czech Post issued a sheet of nine stamps "Roses Over Prague", 6.40 Kč in value, each with a blank label which can be imprinted with a slogan or a picture. The cost is 98 Kč plus the 57.60 Kč value of the sheetlet. The sheetlet is sold with six different types of printed labels besides the personalized variety.



Letters to the Editor

1. Lou:

I have a few questions that maybe some of the Society members can answer.

(1) I have noticed that most Czech postal stationery catalogs list Parcel Cards, and Parcel Cards with attached Money Order Forms issued up until 1922 which have imprints of the Hradčany or of the Dove issue stamps (Fig. 1, 2). However, after about 1925 similar cards were issued which now have an imprinted 50h revenue stamp, and NONE of the postal stationery catalogs currently list these cards (Fig. 3, 4). The 1974 Higgins and Gage catalog portion covering Czechoslovakia even has an illustration of some of these revenue imprint cards and a note saying they used to list such cards, but they don't anymore since the imprinted stamp is a revenue stamp. Higgins and Gage did list and price some of these in their 1966 edition.

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Fig. 1

Now to my basic question. Did the parcel and parcel/money order forms prior to and then after 1925 perform exactly the same function, and were these functions performed by the Postal Service both prior to and after 1925? If so, then why don't the stamp catalogs list the later forms if they were used exactly the same way as the earlier forms were used? Just because the later forms show a revenue stamp imprint instead of a postage stamp imprint should not make a difference **IF** the use and the services of both cards were identical.

(2) If someone wants to explain some of the headings for the various parts of these forms and labels and various cancellations, I would be very interested especially since I don't read Czech.

(3) Why do some early Parcel forms (clippings of them) have additional stamps added and canceled on the top right side of the forms (see Fig. 2) while the forms in Figures 1, 3, and 4 have NO additional stamps added to them?

(4) My last question is about the 2 numbers in a rounded corner box cancel that is found on many higher value Bohemia/Moravia stamps (Fig. 5). This type of cancel apparently was used on Czech money order forms prior to 1939, but I have never seen it on any Czech stamps. However, this cancel appears on a large number of Bohemia/ Moravia stamps. Why the difference?

Figure 6 shows some typical 1939 Money Order Form clippings that show the 2 number cancels at the bottom of the card and Czech stamps at the top right canceled by normal Czech postmarks. Apparently some time after Bohemia/Moravia issued stamps, this practice may have changed since the 2 numeral cancels in a box then appear ON B&M stamps.

Ceskoslovenská
Administrace **699**
Hrádek u Liberce-Brottau

POŠTOVNÍ PRŮVODKA
BULLETIN D'EXPÉDITION

Počet celních osvědčení /
Nombre des déclarations
en douane 2

assurée 7/10/11

určení
de destination Martava

číslo domu
numéro 181/8

určení
de destination Praga

Váha - Poids
kg 1,11

Celní poplatek
Droit de douane 10

Směr dopravy
Acheminement
Praha 15.

Plní vstupní poštovní úřad, výměnný nebo celní úřad země určité,
à remplir par le bureau d'échange d'entrée ou par le service de la douane du pays de
destination.

Fig. 2

Garfick - Coupon 60 h

1525
Praha 6

Ceskoslovenská
Tchécoslovaquie

POSTOVNÍ PRŮVODKA - BULLETIN D'EXPÉDITION

Výhodná cena - Valeur déclarée Kč 1000

hálky 1 celních prohlášek 2
colis déclarations en douane

Číslo osvědčení nebo účtů
certificats ou factures

P. P. W. e i b e l - J u r t

Místo a země určení
Lieu et pays de destination Z u r i c h

Ulice a číslo
Rue et numéro U R A Y S K É H R A D E C E

Váha - Poids
kg 3
g 150

Celní poplatek
Droit de douane 1000

Směr dopravy 40

Výhraní
oplatek
Taux postaux 10,50

Česká pošta
Budějovice

11/20

Fig. 3
31

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

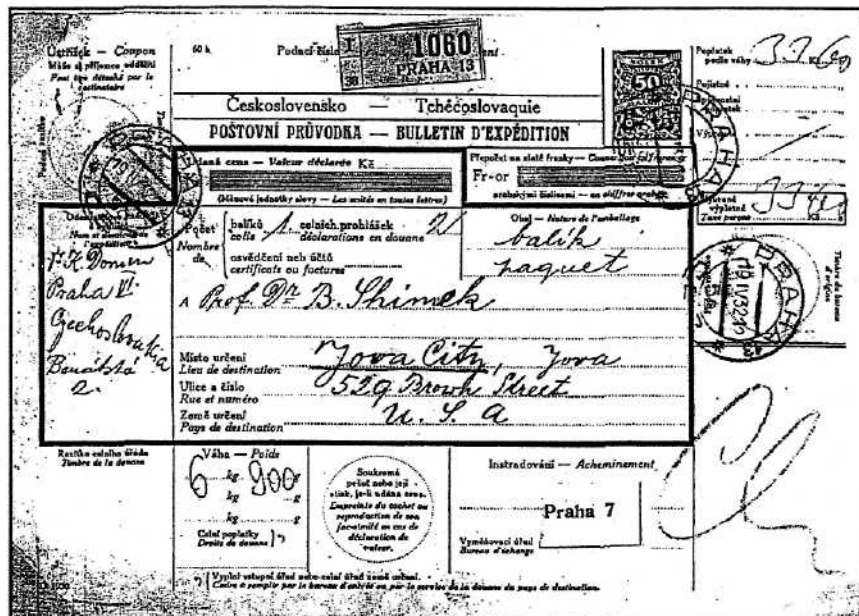


Fig. 4

Based on what I have read in various auction lot descriptions, apparently the top number of the 2 number cancel refers to the Postal District, and the lower number designates a specific Czech town. These B&M box cancels on stamps from District 1 appear to be the most common (about 20 in my collection), while those from District 3 (10 in my collection) and District 2 (6 in my collection) are less common. There appears to have been 7 of these Postal Districts in pre-war



Fig. 5

Czechoslovakia, and 3 Postal Districts (1,2,3) in occupied Bohemia/Moravia. The 7 Money Order Postal Districts in 1919-1939 Czechoslovakia were: 1 Prague, 2 Pardubice, 3 Brno, 4 Opava, 5 Bratislava, 6 Košice, and 7 Berehovo (Carpatho Ukraine). Figures 7 and 8 show some pre-1939 Carpatho Ukraine Money Order cancels.

If any of this information is incorrect hopefully some Society members will provide the correct information. These box numeral cancels on Bohemia/Moravia

stamps should be mentioned to our society members, since I have seen one auction lot where the seller claimed that such a canceled Bohemia/Moravia stamp was a rare overprinted stamp and put a price tag of many dollars on it. However, I believe that the auction lot did not sell.

Phil Melamed

2. Dear Ludvik:

I have been collecting the early Czech issues designed by Mucha for almost nine years now. I have a particular fondness for the one commemorative issue that he designed, the 1920 Husite Issue. I find the story behind the stamps most interesting. The design changes imposed on it, the odd denominations, the limited distribution and short term of validity make it a most challenging set.

I've been working towards putting up a 1-frame exhibit on the issue, which in my opinion is the perfect subject for this type of exhibit. I also plan on a broad survey exhibit, tentatively called "The Philatelic Legacy of Alfons Mucha", which will also include the Husite stamps.

While I've had a fair amount of success in acquiring material from

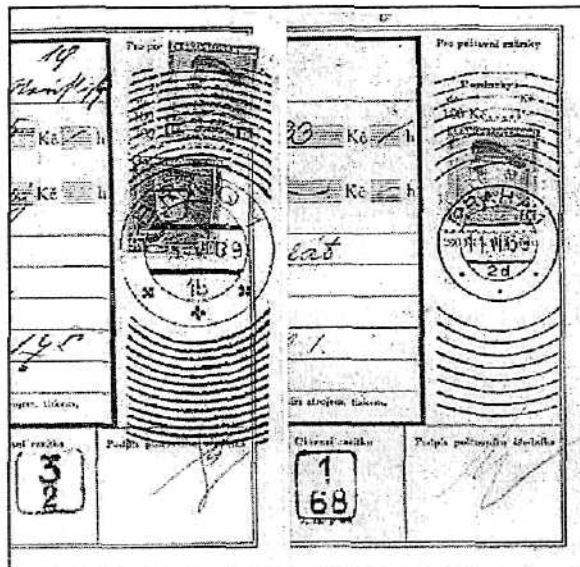


Fig. 6

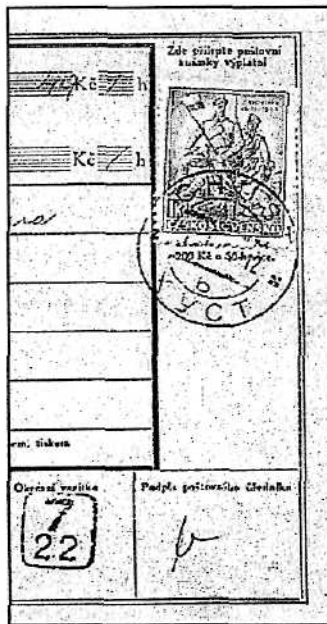


Fig. 7

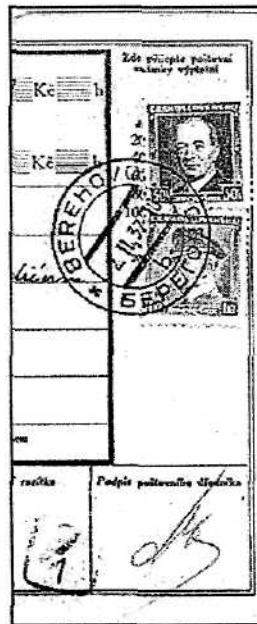


Fig. 8

various dealers about the U.S. and from auctions in the Czech Republic, I'm still missing a number of items in the collection and for the exhibits. For instance, I lack any plate number margin copies of the stamps. FDCs and various uses, particularly

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

solo uses, are absent from the collection, too. The collection also is missing some heavy-hitter items such as the 100h essay and cross-gutter pairs.

I expect to eventually acquire the later items via one of the auctions, . . . But, I thought that I could also look to my fellow SCP members for material. Some may have duplicates . . . [see Tony's ad elsewhere in this issue]

Tony [Dewey]

✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻

Errata

-- In "The Nachod Discovery: . . ." article of the May/June 2003 issue, on page 5, I made a major error in footnote 6 when I stated "Unfolded gutters are quite common; . . .", and should have said "Unfolded gutters are quite uncommon; . . .". My apologies to the author.

-- The Financial Statement that I placed on page 32 of the May/June issue was one that I had for quite a while (and I even modified it) and should have been published more than a year ago -- I kept putting it off because there always seemed to be more important articles. Thus, it should not be construed that the author was responsible for the timing and modified content.

Farewells

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the passing of our member, Jerry J. Sudlik (member #1748) on November 23, 2002. His wife, Bess, informed us that he died at the Hines VA Hospital the Saturday before Thanksgiving. She went on to say, "He really enjoyed The Czechoslovak Specialist and made starter albums for all the family and me. With a name like Sudlik, what else. Thank you for many hours of happiness with his stamps." We extend our sincerest sympathies to his wife and the entire Sudlik family.

New Issues

CZECH REPUBLIC

by G.M. van Zanten

1. On March 26, 2003 the Ministry of Communications issued a 6.40 Kč definitive stamp entitled "A Rose above Prague" (Fig. 1). This first stamp with coupons that are for printing-to-order was first publicly presented at OSTROPA 2003, the 2nd Czech-German exhibition of postage stamps held in Jihlava. The stamp, inspired by Jaroslav Seifert's verses about Prague (possibly by his poem, *View From Charles Bridge*), is a symbol of his most beloved flower, the rose, and his most beloved city, Prague. Seifert, who lived from 1901 to 1986, was considered the national poet of Czechoslovakia. He also was a journalist and winner of



Fig. 1

the Nobel Prize for literature in 1984 "for his poetry which endowed with freshness, sensuality and rich inventiveness provides a liberating image of the indomitable spirit and versatility of man". (Czechoslovakia honored him on a 1 Kč stamp issued Feb. 18, 1991 (Sc 2822) as part of a Famous Men set.) On this current stamp, the center of the graphic composition is the astronomical tower of the Clementinum with the statue of Atlant, the foreground the tower of Charles Bridge, the background the Church of the Virgin Mary in front of the Tyn, the left-hand upper corner the Church of St. Nicholas, and the Powder Tower in the right-hand corner. Decorated in the right-hand border with an architectural ornamentation detail, the printed sheet has 9 stamps and 9 coupons. The coupons designed for the date of issue will bear the text "Kupon pro Vás" (A Coupon for You) and a tiny ornament; the empty coupons in the other printed sheets can be additionally printed according to the customer's order. Both the stamps and the printing sheets were designed by Karel Zeman and were produced by Victoria Security Printing, a.s. by multicolored offset. [Ed. Note: Part of this information was taken from the World of New Issues column by Denise McCarty in the May 12, 2003 issue of Linn's Stamp News.]

2. On May 7, 2003 the Ministry issued a 9 Kč commemorative stamp in the EUROPA series entitled "The Art of the Poster" (Fig. 2). The pioneer of the poster was the Frenchman Jules Chéret who used the lithographic technology of printing. He created his first posters in the early decades of the second half of the 19th century. The 1890's saw the rise of Czech poster creation, and around the year 1900 Czech posters began to be recognized all over Europe (such as the posters by Alfons Mucha, L. Marold, J. Preisler, V. Preissig and others). The biggest boom of the poster and publicity pictures occurred worldwide after World War II. Perhaps the highest standards were attained by film posters. This stamp features a poster for the famous Italian film *La Dolce Vita* by F. Fellini created by Karel Vaca, and the First Day Cover features a poster by the author of this issue, Z. Ziegler for the Italian film *Roma* (Fig. 3). The stamp was designed by Zdeněk Ziegler and engraved by Miloš Ondráček. It was produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by recess print from flat plates in black combined with multicolored offset in printing sheets of 8 pieces.



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

3. On May 7, 2003 the Ministry issued a set of two commemorative stamps in the "Beauties of Our Country" series which depicts scenes of the Czech countryside (Fig. 4). These multicolored stamps were designed by RNDr. Adolf Absolon, engraved by Martin Srb, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by recess print from flat plates in printing sheets of 8 stamps.

-- 12 Kč, The Czech Paradise (Hrubá Skála region) - in ocher, blue, light green,



Fig. 4

dark green, brown. The "Czech Paradise" is a landscape area in the Jičín hills protected since 1955. Covering an area of 120 square kilometers (Hrubá Skála, Příhrazské Skály, Prachovské Skály, Mužský and the basalt vein Trosky). The Hrubá Skála consisting of Mesozoic square-shaped sandstones form whole rock towns or individual "towers", mountain passes and gorges. The stamp features a part of this area known as Dračí Skály (Dragon Rocks) with the castle Trosky in the background. The Dragon Rocks attained their name at a time when they were the nesting ground for eagles. The towers known as the Dragon Tooth and the Dragon Tower are accessible through difficult but wonderful mountain paths.

The castle Trosky, which became the symbol of the Czech Paradise, was built in the years 1380-1390. Both rocks were used for building towers aptly nicknamed by the people as "Virgin" (the taller and slenderer one), and "Old Hag" (the lower one). In 1998 the Trosky castle was declared a national nature monument. A FDC in gray depicts a group of sandstone rocks with tree vegetation (Fig. 5).

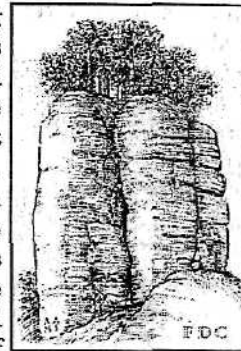


Fig. 5

-- 14 Kč, The Moravian Karst (Punkva Caves) - in ocher, dark green, red-brown, dark brown, black. The Moravian Karst is the most noted karst region in the Czech Republic. The limestones of the Devon age (approximately 350 million years ago) arose in the shape of a strip located to the north of the city of Brno, the strip being 25 kilometers long and 3-6 kilometers wide. The karst contains unique phenomena of both animate and inanimate nature, and a number of archaeological, paleontological and cultural monuments. There are more than 1,000 registered caves in the area, of which four are accessible to the public. The stamp features a part of the Punkva Caves known as Masaryk Dome. The Punkva Caves is the name of the subterranean cave system

between the bottom of the Macocha abyss (138 meters) and the spring of the Punkva river in the Pustý Žleb glen. The total length of the Punkva Caves is almost 3.5 kilometers. They were discovered by speleologists led by professor K. Absolon in 1909, and the research leading to the discovery of the whole cave area lasted until 1933. A FDC in dark brown depicts the rock Hřebenáč at Sloup (Fig. 6).

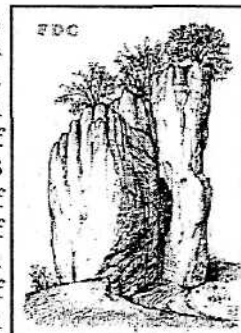


Fig. 6

4. On May 28, 2003 the Ministry issued a 6.40 Kč multicolored commemorative stamp in the "For Children" series (Fig. 7). The stamp bears school friends Mach and Šebestová with their dog Jonathan and a magic telephone receiver through



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

which they undergo many adventures. A series of evening TV programs for children based on the popular children's book *The Boy Mach and the Girl Šebestová*, spread the fame of these two pupils from the 3.B class of a basic school, their best friend -- the dog Jonathan, their class teacher, fellow-pupils, and the people inhabiting their house and the whole town. The book written by Miloš Macourek and illustrated by Adolf Born, has all the characteristic features of Czech humor aimed at children, such as wit, information, playfulness, ingenuity, but especially kindness, friendship and sense of honor and justice. Both the small and large adventures of Mach and Šebestová and their magic earphone which turned all their wishes into reality, were turned into a TV series and a film directed by Václav Vorlíček. The stamp was designed by Adolf Born, engraved by Miroslav Tvrdoň, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by rotary recess print in black combined with photogravure in yellow, red, blue and black in printing sheets of 30 stamps. Besides stamps in sheet arrangement, philatelic booklets of 8 stamps and 2 labels showing Mach, Šebestová, dog Jonathan and the cat Míca were issued. The label is printed in the same colors and size as the stamps. A FDC in black depicts Mach, Šebestová, and Jonathan on a stylized scooter (Fig. 8).

5. On May 28, 2003 the Ministry issued a 10 Kč commemorative stamp to mark the 100th anniversary of the first electric railway in Bohemia (Fig. 9). On 21 June 1903 two electric railway cars began to link the South Bohemian towns of Tábor and Bechyně. The maximum speed was set at 25 kilometers per hour, and the ride on the route which was 23 kilometers long and had 12 stops took somewhat longer than



Fig. 9

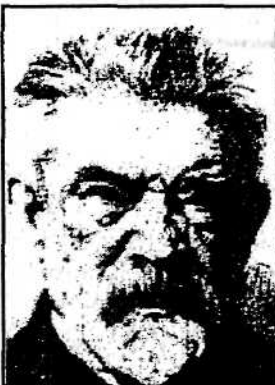


Fig. 10

one hour. The construction of this first electric inter-city railway in Bohemia, sponsored by the Country Committee of the Kingdom of Bohemia and by the two towns which were linked by this project, was headed by the pioneer of Czech electrical engineering, inventor and able businessman Frantisek Křižík. He was born on 8 July 1847 and died in 1941 (Fig. 10). As an electrical engineer and inventor he gained worldwide prominence as the inventor of the automatic arc lamp regulator. In addition to that he established Prague's first public electric lighting system. The illuminated fountain installed in front of the Palace of Industry was also by Křižík and bears his name. This

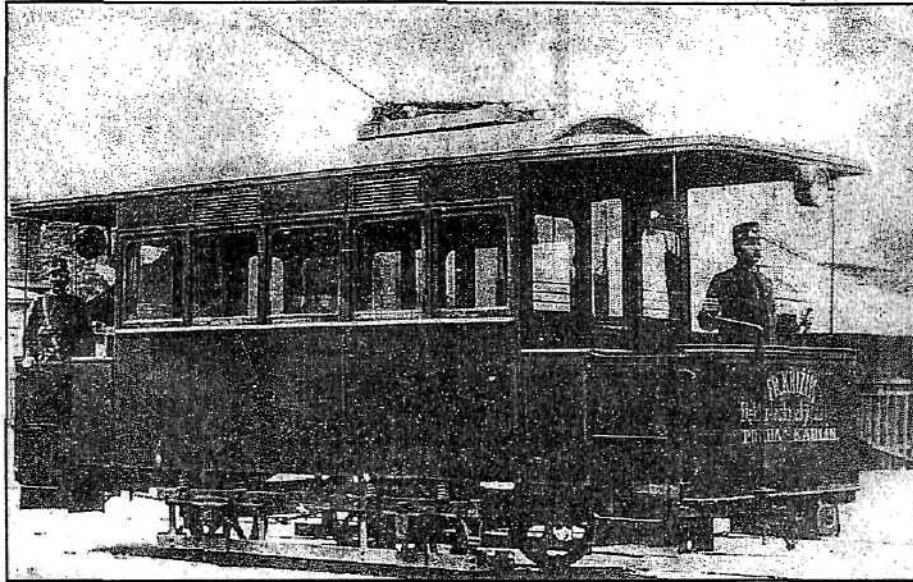


Fig. 11

This fountain was restored in 1991, it features 50 computer controlled pumps, 3000 nozzles, and 1248 floodlights, giving a spectacular light and water show at night. The copy of a picture postcard depicts Křižík's electric tramway in Prague from the year 1891 with his name on the front (Fig. 11). The stamp shows a carriage of this railway -- the carriages were later marked by the series numbers M 400.001 and 002. The stamp was designed and engraved by Jiří Bouda and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by rotary recess print in black combined with photogravure in yellow, blue and two shades of red in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in black depicts a map of the railway from Tábor to Bechyně (Fig. 12).



Fig. 12



Fig. 13

6. On May 28, 2003 the Ministry issued a set of two 6.40 Kč commemorative stamps in the Technical Monuments series entitled "The Oldest Czech Viewing Towers" (Fig. 13). The stamps were designed by Adolf Absolon, engraved by Martin Srb, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by rotary recess print in black combined with multicolored photogravure in printing sheets of 50 stamps.

-- Klet' in Český Krumlov district -

in yellow, red, blue, black-brown. The oldest surviving stone viewing tower in the Czech Republic is in Český Krumov district. It was built in 1825 by Prince Josef Schwarzenberg on Klet, the highest peak in Blanský forest (1083 meters above sea level). The tower was built in a pseudo-gothic style by the architect Jan Sallaba and is an example of high romanticism. A historical hikers' refuge stands immediately under the tower.

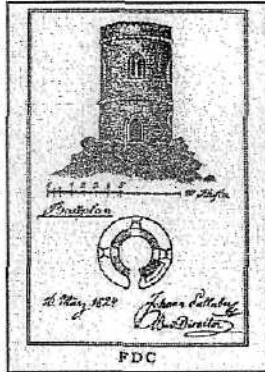


Fig. 14

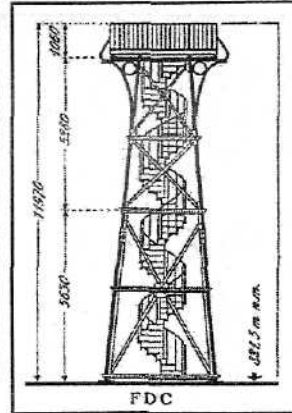


Fig. 15

The slopes of Klet are a nature reserve, and a chair lift leads to the top. In clear weather, it is possible to see as far as the Alps. An observatory was built here in the 1950s, and many notable scientists had worked there. A FDC in brown depicts an adjusted drawing of the original tectonic plan of the viewing tower from 1824 (Fig. 14).

-- Slovanka in Jablonec nad Nisou district - yellow, red, blue, black-brown. Although the Jizery mountains are densely wooded, viewing towers are a typical sight there. The oldest is Slovanka above Hrabětice in Jablonec nad Nisou district. Its metal structure, nearly 12 meters high, was made by the Vienna firm Waagner

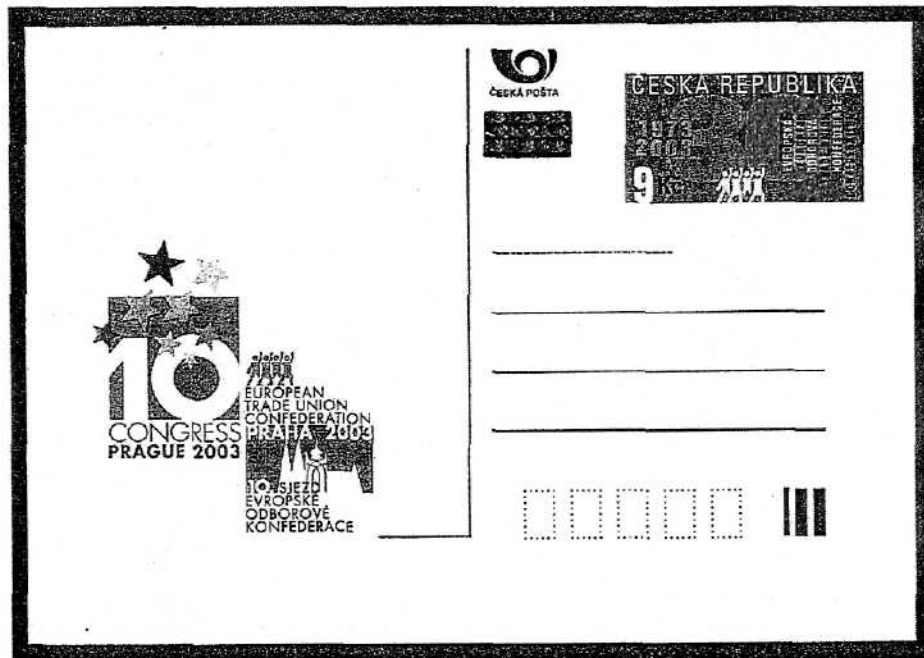


Fig. 16

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

and mounted on a 3 meter high base at an elevation of 821.5 meters above sea level. The grand opening of the tower was on 14 August 1887. In 1999, a society was founded in Lučany nad Nisou to renovate the tower. They dismantled, repaired and reassembled the corroded structure. In the same year it was declared a national technical monument. A FDC in blue depicts a modern technical drawing of the viewing tower Slovanka (Fig. 15).

Stationery

7. On May 7, 2003 the Ministry issued a commemorative postal card with an imprinted 9 Kč postage stamp for the 10th Congress of the European Trade Union Confederation (to take place in Prague from 26-29 May, 2003) as well as for the 30th anniversary of the founding of this organization (Fig. 16). The image of the imprinted stamp is created by the logo of the European Trade Union Confederation, its name in English and Czech, the years of its founding, and the time of its duration. The cachet on the postal card shows a graphic composition of the logo of the organization and its congress, and a stylized symbol of Prague with appropriate texts. The postal card was designed by Václav Kučera and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset. It sells for 14 Kč.

SLOVAKIA

by Gerald M. van Zanten



Fig. 17

8. On January 12, 2003 the Ministry of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications issued a 20 Sk commemorative stamp entitled "10th Anniversary of the Slovak Republic" (Fig. 17). This postage stamp -- showing a father, mother, daughter, flower, and the national coat of arms -- and issued on the anniversary of the establishment of the Slovak Republic as a sovereign and democratic state, beautifully illustrates the 41st article of the Constitution of the Slovak Republic, which legally protects marriage, parenthood and family emphasizing the highest moral and social values. The issue also reminds us of the 10th anniversary of the Constitutional Court, established as an independent judicial authority for the protection of the constitution. The stamp was design by Jozef Baláž and Martin Činovský and engraved by Martin Činovský. It was produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using recess printing from flat plates combined with offset. The cachet on the FDC depicts three national symbols -- the national flag, seal, and the first two bars of the national hymn.

9. On February 5, 2003 the Ministry issued a 7 Sk definitive stamp (second issue) honoring the President of the Slovak Republic, Rudolf Schuster (Jan. 4, 1934, Košice) - civil engineer, president since 1999 (Fig. 18). After his graduation from the Slovak

Technical University, Faculty of Construction in 1959, he worked at the Slovak Academy of Sciences, served with the Košice National City Council, was elected Mayor for the first time in 1983 (and again in 1994 and 1998), in 1990 entered the diplomatic service by becoming Ambassador to Canada, worked in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and won the first direct presidential elections in 1999, being elected by the citizens. He is the author of several travelogues, radioplays, radio shows, travel and documentary movies. He has been awarded state honors not only from the Slovak Republic but from numerous other countries and has received honorary degrees from prestigious universities in six countries. The stamp was designed and engraved by Martin Činovský from a photograph by Pavel Kastl. It was produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing. A FDC was issued.



Fig. 18

10. On February 14, 2003 the Ministry issued a 7 Sk commemorative stamp entitled "Greetings and Congratulations" (Fig. 19) showing a bunch of flowers. There are many occasions when the postal services are chosen, be it to send best wishes from a holiday destination, for an anniversary or joyous event, and



Fig. 19

of course for the traditional Valentine card greeting. How much nicer it is to receive beautifully handwritten letters or pretty picture post cards, rather than electronic mail impersonally delivered through the air or via a telephone cable. A heartfelt message, a feeling of love or caring is easily conveyed and, delivered by post, can act as a keepsake of happy memories in years to come. To commemorate joyous occasions, the Post Office has, over the past years, issued a

number of artistic postage stamps illustrating happy events. The stamp was designed by Kamila Štanclová, engraved by Martin Srb, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing. A FDC was issued.

11. On March 10, 2003 the Ministry issued a 7 Sk commemorative stamp in the Folk Customs series entitled "Carrying the Lesola" (Fig. 20). The stamp depicts a girl wearing a folk costume from the Vajnory area carrying the "lesola" as a symbol of the spring season and the blossoming of nature. Easter customs in Slovakia go back as far as pre-Christian times. On Palm Sunday many spring rites were carried out to celebrate the coming of spring after the long winter season. In western Slovakia, girls and children were singing and marching carrying green twigs. The twig, called "lesola", was decorated with painted Easter eggs and colored ribbons. Sometimes it was adorned with paper, straw chains and bird figures called "kršák". These figures were made from paper and Easter egg shells. Although the folk traditions are not as widespread anymore, they are still preserved by folklore



Fig. 20

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

groups inspired by folk songs. The stamp was designed by Marián Čapka, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing. A FDC was issued.



Fig. 21

12. On March 20, 2003 the Ministry issued an 18 Sk definitive stamp in the Cities series entitled "Kremnica" (Fig. 21). Back in the 10th century Kremnica was one of the most important towns in Slovakia, mainly due to the large reserves of gold and silver which were mined there. In 1328, King Karol Robert granted the town municipal privileges and a national mint was founded -- indeed the mint is still in operation today. The ducats, or florins, from the Kremnica mint became the most sought after coins in Europe, and due to the fact that in the 14th century the Kremnica mines produced more gold than any other European mine, the town was named the "Golden Town Kremnica". Local trade subsequently flourished, and the town had an abundant supply of craftsmen. For over 100 years Kremnica has had a school for the young with hearing impediments, it also has a college of applied arts. In 1950, Kremnica was declared an Urban Conservation Area. The many historical monuments and cultural events attract numerous visitors every year. The stamp was designed and engraved by Rudolf Cigánik and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House, Prague, using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing. A FDC was issued.

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