



# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



(USPS 808300)



Official Quarterly Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately,  
an Incorporated Non-Profit Organization  
Winner of Numerous Philatelic Literature Awards  
**CELEBRATING OUR DIAMOND (75<sup>TH</sup>) ANNIVERSARY**

A.P.S. Unit 18

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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It is time for you to renew your membership for 2015 (there is no increase in dues). **Renewal deadline is December 31.**

Please make sure that you do this by the December 31 date. If you renew after December 31, your *Winter 2015* issue will NOT be mailed until the *Spring 2015* issue which will be sent around May 2015, in order for it to be sent Second Class mail. For us to send your *Winter issue* First Class later costs the Society almost 5 times as much. So please help the Society, and RENEW NOW.

Enclosed is a card explaining the options for membership and payment.

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## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

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

1. A sales circuit is operated by H. Alan Hoover. However, the circuit is currently not operating because of a lack of materials from members. When this situation is remedied we will notify you in the *Specialist*.
2. A book sales division is run by Sam Horvath. A listing of philatelic books for sale appears regularly in the *Specialist*. For further information, contact Sam Horvath, S8207 - US Hwy 61, Readstown, WI 54652-7056, or email: [cancelcek@mwt.net](mailto:cancelcek@mwt.net)
3. A Society library is housed with Ludvik Svoboda, librarian. For inquiries on borrowing books, buying past *Specialist's* or making book donations, contact Ludvik Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, or email: [Lousvoboda@comcast.net](mailto:Lousvoboda@comcast.net)
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. (see address/email above).
5. THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST is the official quarterly publication of the Society. For inquiries on obtaining back issues, contributing original articles, advertising rates, and bound copies, contact Ludvik Z. Svoboda (see address/email above).
6. Our web site ([www.csphilately.org](http://www.csphilately.org)) on the Internet provides Society information on Membership, History, Education, Auctions, Exhibits, Book Reviews, Contacting other members via email, and more. The site is maintained by Marisa Galitz, 8932 Groff's Mill Drive, Owings Mills, MD 21117, email: [mimgalitz@gmail.com](mailto:mimgalitz@gmail.com).

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## THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

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11½ North Washington Street, Shippensburg, PA 17257

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### Editorial Staff

Managing Editor: Ludvik Svoboda, 4766 South Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

Email: [Lousvoboda@comcast.net](mailto:Lousvoboda@comcast.net) Phone: 303-680-7118

Assistant Editor: Marisa Galitz, 8932 Groff's Mill Drive, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Foreign Editor: Sam Horvath, S8207 US Highway 61, Readstown, WI 54652

### Elected Officers

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*All officers and board members serve the Society voluntarily and without compensation.  
Society Constitution and By-Laws can be found on the website.*

## THE SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY COMMEMORATES ITS 75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

by Ludvik Z. Svoboda

*(Continued from the Summer 2014 Specialist issue)*

Early on -- in fact by the end of the first year of existence, 1939 -- nuclei of interest in Czechoslovak philately formed in the USA. These first groups were in New York City and Chicago and eventually became branches or chapters of the Society. They had regular meetings, first in member's homes, and then in restaurants and meeting halls, where they would exchange information about their collecting interests and buy, sell, and trade their excess philatelic materials. These branches became magnets which attracted new members.

In 1945, the Cleveland chapter was formed as the third branch of the Society, embodying mostly members from the Garfield-Perry Club. By 1947, the Cleveland chapter and the Chicago chapter, called the Chicagoland Czechoslovak Philatelic Society, were large enough that they were very active participants in CIPEX (the International Philatelic Exhibition held in New York city). Society events were held in the Bohemian National Hall, and this being the brief period of Czechoslovak freedom between WWII and the communist coup of 1948, a number of noted Czechoslovak collectors were also in attendance. Meanwhile the Society's membership had erupted to 185.

A final major chapter came into existence in the 1960's in the Washington DC area, largely as a result of the efforts of member Henry Hahn. Most of their regular meetings were held in his home. This chapter has been very active and has stayed in existence to this day even after Henry's passing a number of years ago, and has had the greatest influence on the Society for many years now. Henry's legacy is that the Society's library is now named in his honor.

As with any human organizations, the strength, vitality, and influence of these chapters would ebb and flow over time, largely as a result of who was in charge and leading them. The New York chapter played a major role in the formative years of the Society. Then, in 1958 Dr. James J. Matejka of the Chicago chapter became president of the Society. Known to his friends as "Doc", he was responsible for an upsurge in Czechoslovak collecting and its philatelic redound -- he was always promoting the heritage he so richly cherished. His dynamic personality brought to the Chicagoland branch virtual control of the Society. While at the Society's helm, Matejka exerted considerable influence in pushing for issuance of the T.G. Masaryk Champion of Liberty stamp. He himself personally visited the then Postmaster-General Arthur Summerfield to make his plea. The highlight of his presidency was clearly the realization of his dream to have the likeness of Masaryk adorn a U.S. Stamp (Fig. 1). On March 6, 1960, this realization was celebrated during a reception at the Willard Hotel in Washington, DC that was attended by 700 people, mostly of Czechoslovak ancestry. The Chicago chapter would continue to exert a great deal of influence in the activities and growth of the Society for a



Fig. 1

## THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

number of years with presidents and other officers coming from there.

It was during these “middle years” (1950’s, 1960’s) of the Society’s life that active participation in at least one major national philatelic exhibition every year became a benchmark for the Society that has continued until today. The participation would consist of: a manned table where our members or potential members could sit and discuss aspects of Czechoslovak philately with our leadership and experts and/or purchase books on our field of collection; inclusion of a number of Czechoslovak area philatelic exhibits for the pleasure and education of visitors; a Board of Directors meeting; a General Membership meeting; a presentation on some aspect of Czechoslovak philately; and an awards breakfast.

Early on the Society realized that to be of real service to its members (most of which either did not speak Czech or Slovak, or only marginally), they needed to provide a means for them to be able to utilize Czechoslovak publications. As a result, as early as 1940, a progression of translation dictionaries were produced to help them to understand key Czech and Slovak words that they might encounter -- especially in catalogs. This culminated in 1996 with the production of a 128 page publication “Glossary of Philatelic Terminology” which has thousands of words, terms, and symbols translating Czech into English and then English into Czech that any collector would find invaluable. It is so popular that it is in its third edition.

In addition, a great effort was made to translate a small number of key Czechoslovak publications that might be of the greatest benefit to our members. Possibly the most significant of these efforts began in 1965 when Henry Hahn and Jaroslav Verner translated the PADĚLKY HANDBOOK which was published in serialized form in the *Specialist*, as well as in pamphlet form. This went a long way to provide to members a central point which gave them information on the forgeries of First Republic Czechoslovak philately.

And there is almost no need to mention this publication, *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, which is now in its 76<sup>th</sup> year providing valuable information of all kinds about our collecting area to our membership. It is interesting to note, that also in 1965 the first Index of the *Specialist* covering its first 25 years was compiled by Mrs. Henry Stollnitz. But the greatest achievement in this area must go without a doubt to our member Mark Wilson, who in 2010 produced an Interactive Index DVD of every issue of *The Czechoslovak Specialist* for the years 1939-2009 that allows you to search for and read articles on topics, stamps, etc. It is a researcher’s dream and worthy of the highest compliments (I use it almost every day). The Society has two members who are working on an update to make it a 1939-2014 DVD with the intent to continue this work into the future.

Another area worthy of mention has to do with the members who over the years have contributed their artistic talents to Society programs. I will mention two. George Kobyłka of the Chicago area is a printer and publisher. For many years, through his K-Line Publishing company he produced a compilation and printing of a comprehensive stamp album for Czechoslovakia with a never-ending series of yearly supplements. It provided not only space for the stamp, but also historical background for the significance of the issue, space for couponed stamps, sheetlets, blocks of four, stamp booklets, etc. The series ended in the 1990’s when George entered an assisted living facility. And the second is Olech Wyslotsky of New Jersey and Florida. He was a talented graphic artist who produced many of the Society’s exhibition cachets (to be seen later), the Mucha Award ribbon, and

other graphic needs. Unfortunately this issue of the *Specialist* contains an obituary as to his recent passing.

Finally, it is only appropriate that we should here also present some of the commemorations that have occurred over the years. We are going to “start” with the most recent one.

Our member in the Czech Republic, Jiří Sedlák, had the following article placed in the publication *Zpravodaj*, the official publication for members of the Society of Collectors of Czechoslovak Stamps, Union of Czech Philatelists (SČF), 2/2014, July 2014. It is translated here for us by Lucie Harris.

### “THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Jiří Sedlák

This journal is published by The Society for Czechoslovak Philately in the USA, which this year in March celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary! And they certainly celebrated it properly -- for the first time their journal was issued in a full color version, which underlined the quality of its very interesting articles. The journal comes out regularly every other month [*sic*] in a 44 page edition in A5 format.

The journal’s chief editor is philatelic enthusiast Ludvik Svoboda [lousvoboda@comcast.net](mailto:lousvoboda@comcast.net). Marisa Galitz and Sam Horvath are additional editors.

I always look forward to every new issue, which brings information about Czech, Slovak, and Czechoslovak stamps from another point of view. Very often there appears information which to us is entirely new.

In the first article, Mr. Svoboda narrates the entire history of the Society.

A further article by Mr. Jiří Kaspar and Karel Holoubek is about stamps -- due to political reasons -- that did not get to bask in the sun: the Hussite issue, the stamps of the XIV Communist Party Congress, the President Svoboda issue, and also certain American and German stamps. Mark Wilson and Ludvik Svoboda write about the postage dues stamps of 1926.

Ludvik Svoboda’s article captures the sadly notorious but interesting history of Jáchymov. Zdeněk Fritz and Vladimír Kralicek write an article about our castles and their use on postage stamps. The article is full of historical information and thoroughly prepared, as we are accustomed with an article from Zdeněk Fritz. In the conclusion of the journal is information about the new Czech and Slovak stamps, and a list of literature that you can order. The importance of paper literature in this electronic age may have in fact declined a little, but from my own experience I can confirm that in old literature I can find new information and discoveries which makes the effort of page turning in old books and catalogs worth while. The offerings in the journal are extensive and the group of books are still very valuable today.

In conclusion I am glad to state that the journal is of a high standard and is not filled with chatty articles and “fluff”, and I can sincerely recommend it to other philatelists.”

And now let us close with an assortment of our Exhibition Cachets (many of them designed and produced by Olech Wyslotsky):

CHICAGOLAND CZECHOSLOVAK  
PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
At Comex-74 Salutes



Society for Czechoslovak Philately  
Biannual Convention and Exhibit  
May 24 - 26, 1974




1874 1974



U.S. POSTAGE 00

COMMEMORATING  
UPU  
CENTENARY



US 10c Skylab

M. De Lany  
6007 McKinley Street  
Bethesda, MD 20034

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY  
DEATH OF T. G. MASARYK



SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY

BALPEX '77






SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY, INC.  
SALUTES





U.S. FLAG DAY JUNE 14 78

PRAGA 1978

CSR-CANADA COOPERATION DAY JUNE 14

Canada Postage Postes 12 CAPEX 1978



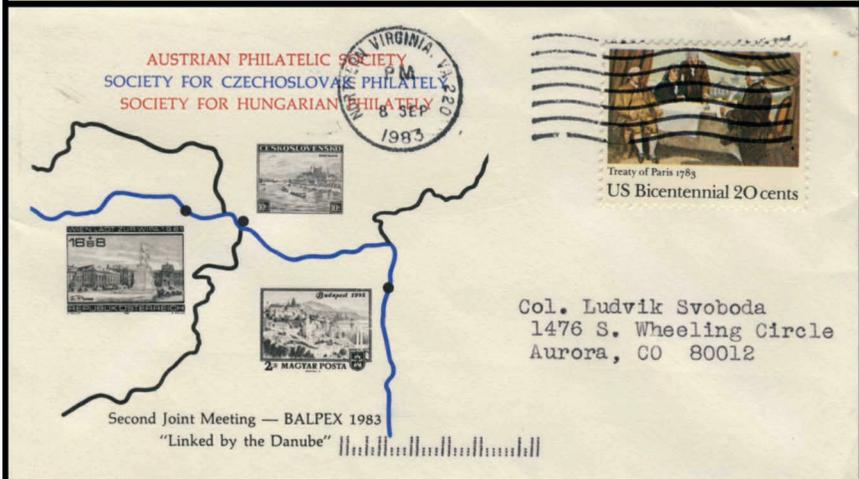
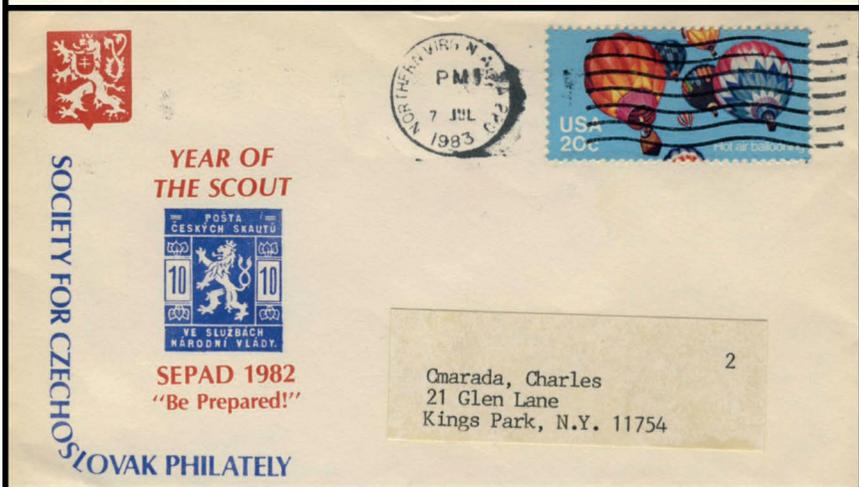
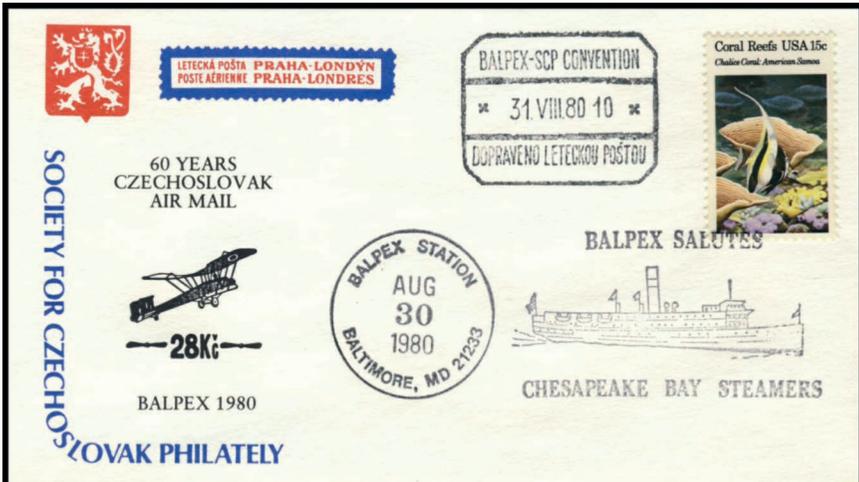
CANADA POST-PCS PRAGA 1978 14.VI.78

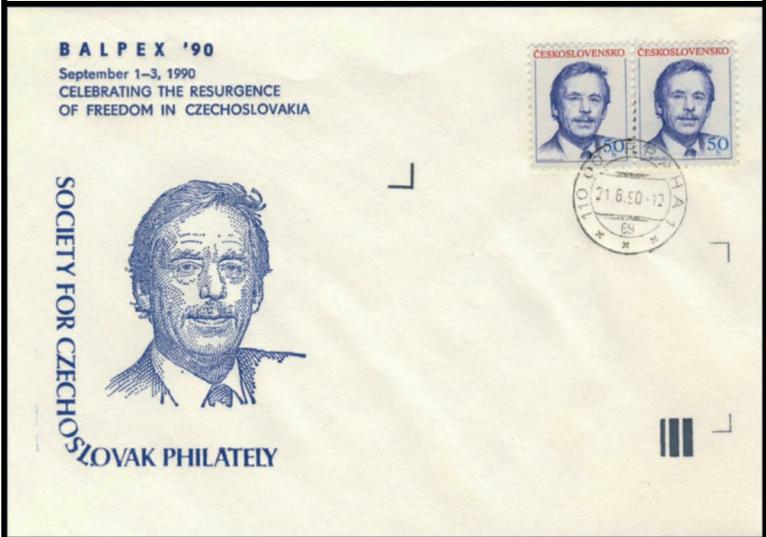
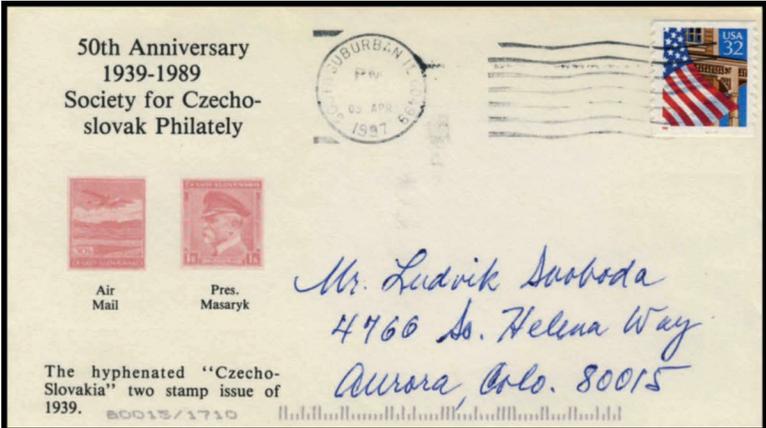
MR. VEJDEK VEJDEKOVICVJAY

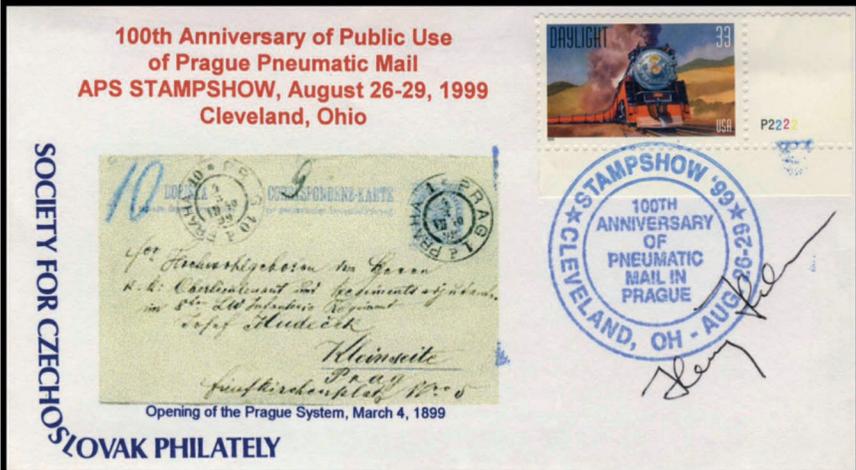
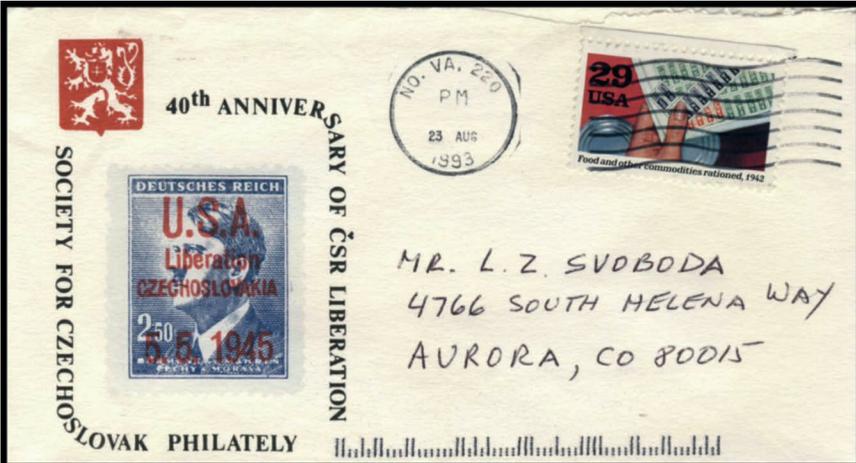


60h CESKOSLOVENSKO

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**SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY**

The Czech-Slovak Specialist  
Hope Is Seen For Philatelic Future

MAY, 1939



MAY, 1999

**60. VÝROČÍ – 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Mr. Ludvik Svoboda  
4766 S. Helena Way  
AURORA, CO 80015  
USA




**PAR AVION**

**150th ANNIVERSARY  
BIRTH OF TOMÁŠ G. MASARYK**



**BALPEX 2000**




Balpex Station Hunt Valley, MD  
21030

September 3rd, 2000

**LUDVIK Z. SVOBODA**  
**4766 S. HELENA WAY**  
**AURORA, CO**  
**80015**

**SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY**

**600<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF JAN HUS  
PREACHING RELIGIOUS REFORM**




AT THE BETHLEHEM CHAPEL  
IN PRAGUE ON FEBRUARY 14, 1402

**NAPEX 2002**





**FIRST DAY OF ISSUE**

MCLEAN VA  
MAY 31 2002  
22107

**SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY**

**SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY**

**60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1945 2005**

New Prague, MN 56071  
60th Anniversary of Czechoslovak Liberation Station  
May 9, 2005

*Ani sa neopamätám, keď som sa narodil, ale som tu, aby som tu bol.*

**☆☆ SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY WASHINGTON 2006**

**L'UDOVÍT ŠTÚR**  
28 October 1815 - 12 January 1856

**WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION MEMORIAL DAY STATION**  
MAY 29, 2006  
WASHINGTON, DC 20066

Champion of Slovak Unity  
Creator of Slovak Literary Language

**SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY CHICAGOPEX 2007**

**VICTORY AT ZBOROV**  
2 JULY, 1917

**CZECHOSLOVAK BRIGADE**

**PHILATELIC SHOW 2010**  
**BOXBOROUGH, MA.**

**SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY**

**PRESIDENT T.G. MASARYK**  
**160<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**



**PRESIDENT T.G. MASARYK**  
**160<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY STATION**

**COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH  
THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

Check out our sister organization, the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, at their website: [www.cpsgb.org.uk](http://www.cpsgb.org.uk), and through their Membership Secretary, Hans van Dooremalen at [cpsgb1@gmail.com](mailto:cpsgb1@gmail.com).

Their publication *Czechout* and our *Specialist* have little duplication in content. In addition, under a new agreement the two societies have arranged for payment of your CPSGB dues to our SCP Treasurer, without having to worry about foreign currency or sending it to the UK. So why not have more fun, become a member of both societies! CPSGB Dues are US\$10 for digital, US\$45 for printed copies by airmail or US\$39 for printed copies by surface. Payment can be made via Paypal to [sales@cspphilately.org](mailto:sales@cspphilately.org) or by check to SCP, c/o Tom Cossaboom, P O Box 4124, Prescott, AZ 86302.

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**Website: [stampsunlimitedofga.com](http://stampsunlimitedofga.com)**

**HRADČANY GUTTER PAIRS**  
**Their Printing Plates and Plate Marks (1)**  
 by Zdeněk Filípek  
 trans. by Lucie Harris

*The definitive “Hradčany” stamp issues were printed by the typographic technique during December 1918. They were produced under state supervision in the printery of the Czech Graphic Union company. Our first postage stamps with the Hradčany motif were successively issued beginning December 18, 1918. Besides the first issued 5h green and 10h red, post office counters soon received further denominations of the “Hradčany” stamp issue. On 21 December 1918 that was the 3h violet value, then subsequently on 30 December 1918 the 20h blue-green, the 25h blue, and on 17 January 1919 the 30h yellow. Other denominations of the “Hradčany” issue, which were sequentially delivered into distribution, are the topic of the further continuation of this article. It is also important to point out that along with the definitive “Hradčany” issue there were printed and distributed several denominations of newspaper and postage due stamps. These -- our first Czechoslovak postage stamps -- were printed together in printing forms having four counter sheets of 100 stamp positions each. All of these mentioned individual issues have a common denominator, and that is the designer of each of these issues, the artist and painter Alfons Mucha.*

Chart: Summary of plate marks of issued gutter pairs

[TD = printing plate #, Same = same dir., Opp. = opposite, ZP = stamp sheet position]

| <u>Value</u> | <u>TD</u> | <u>Gutter Pairs</u> | <u>ZP</u> | <u>Plate Mark</u>                     |
|--------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 3h violet    | I+II      | Opp.                | 93/2      | Without decimal point in -.90         |
| 3h violet    | I+II      | Same                | 93/2      | Without decimal point in -.90         |
| 3h violet    | I+II      | Same                | 100/2     | Slanted line to the right of stamp    |
| 5h green     | I+II      | Opp.                | 91/2      | Without decimal point in -.50         |
| 5h green     | I+II      | Same                | 91/2      | Without decimal point in -.50         |
| 10h red      | I+II      | Opp.                | 91/1      | Incision in fantail of left pigeon    |
| 10h red      | I+II      | Opp.                | 100/2     | Bent, shortened line after 10.--      |
| 10h red      | III+IV    | Same                | 94/3      | Broken line after 4.--                |
| 20h bl/green | I+II      | Opp.                | 97/2      | 4 has a heel, broken line after 14.-- |
| 25h blue     | I+II      | Opp.                | 95/2      | Sheered bottom of 5 in 12.50          |
| 30h yellow   | I+II      | Opp.                | 92/2      | Cut off bottom of 6 in 6.--           |
| 30h yellow   | I+II      | Opp.                | 96/2      | Cut off bottom of 8 in 18.--          |

The issued Hradčany gutter pairs come from the initial printing run of the “Hradčany” stamps. All of these values of the surviving issued gutter pairs were printed using the first design. These gutter pairs are formed from the first and second printing plates. The only exception is with the 10h red value with the same-direction gutter pair which is put together from the third and fourth printing plates.

Altogether with this issue there were produced five designs, which were essentially only refinements. Successively they were provided to the postal system, where they were used for concurrent franking together with the currently valid Austrian and Hungarian issues. It was exactly these values from the first design of the “Hradčany” issue which are predominantly known in mixed frankings.

Plate marks which occur at uncut gutter pairs are of greatest interest. The majority of separated printing plates have their own plate mark, which identifies them. They most often occur with the sheet row control number, but also in a stamp sheet position or next to a stamp. The marking is a deliberate action of a printery worker during the compilation of the printing form prior to printing. A vertical gutter pair, which includes a plate mark, is reliable evidence of the arrangement of the printing plates for the entire printing form and their occurrence is certainly rarer than a gutter pair without a plate mark.

These imperforate stamp gutter pairs are known and catalogued as issued because they got into postal operations. The technical reasons could be at least two. The first reason could be the speed of distribution to postal counters where there began to be a noticeable shortage of some values of currently valid definitive Austrian and Hungarian stamps. The second reason is related to distribution. Due to the urgency the print sheet was cut vertically into a small number of pieces, where the stamps of different values were separated. Thus were created vertically joined dual sheets of the same value which contained the mentioned issued gutter pairs. They are popular among collectors not only for the low incidence (especially in the same-direction positions or of higher denominations), but also as a procedure for arrangement proof of printing plates and of the printing period.

### Literature:

- *Monografie československých známek*, Part I, POFIS Praha, 1968
- *Specializovaný katalog Československo 1918-1939*, Merkur Revue Brno, 2002
- Personal documentary study material

[Ed. Note: *The Specialist* is pleased to reprint this article from the 2/2014 issue of *MERKUR REVUE* with the permission of the author and editor.] Here are the captions for the 12 illustrations in the Hradčany Gutter Pairs article.

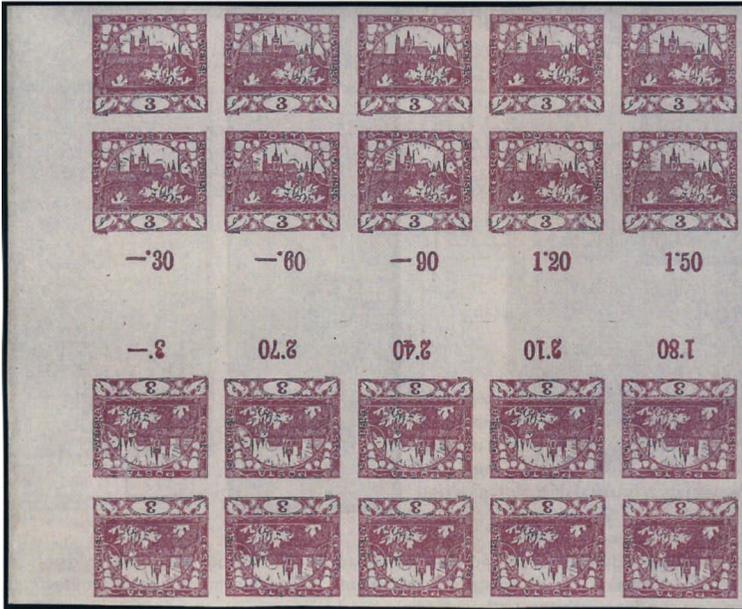


Fig 1. 3h violet, opposite facing, TD II+I, ZP 93/2, without decimal point in -.90

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| 3<br>II,TD | 2<br>nov. |
| 3<br>I,TD  | 2<br>nov. |



Fig 2. 3h violet, same facing, TD II+I, ZP 93/2, without decimal point in -.90

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| 2<br>nov. | 3<br>I,TD  |
| 2<br>nov. | 3<br>II,TD |

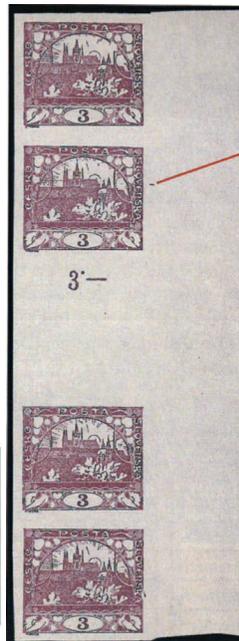


Fig 3. 3h violet, same facing, TD II+I, ZP 100/2, slanted line right of stamp

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| 2<br>nov. | 3<br>I,TD  |
| 2<br>nov. | 3<br>II,TD |

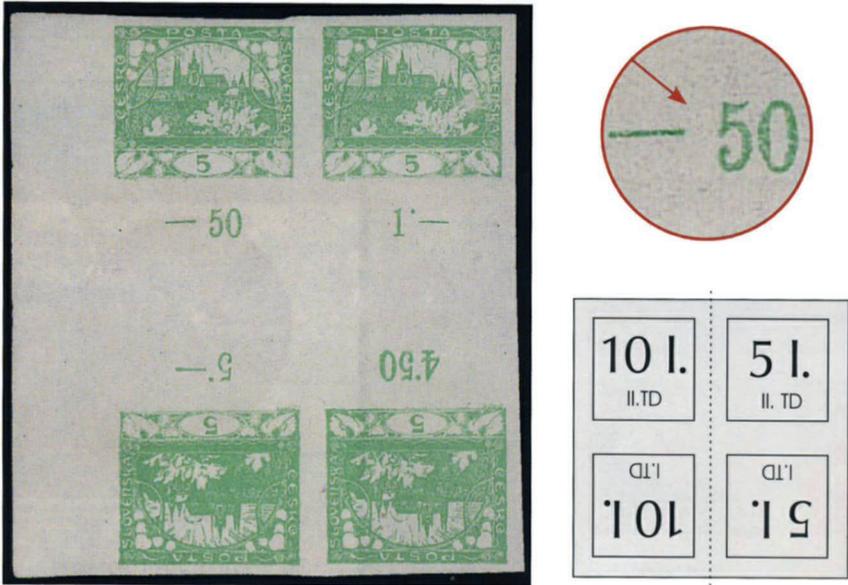


Fig 4. 5h green, opposite facing, TD II+I, ZP 91/2, without decimal point in -.50

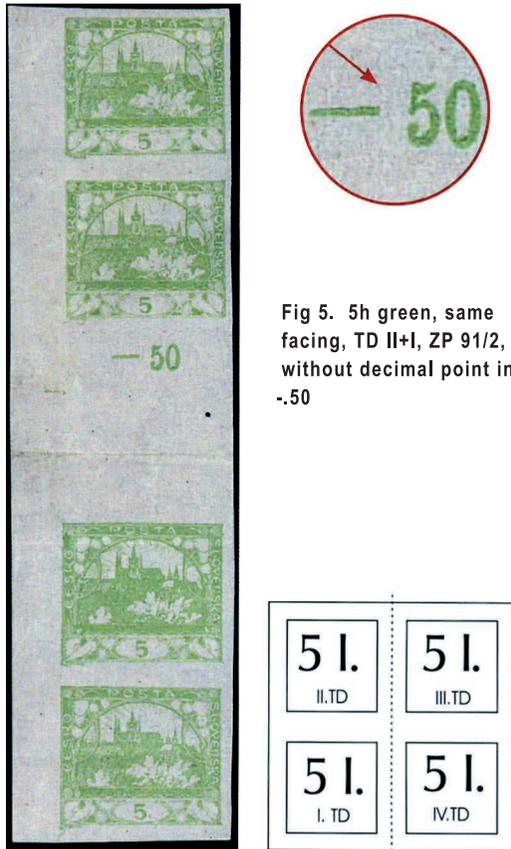


Fig 5. 5h green, same facing, TD II+I, ZP 91/2, without decimal point in -.50

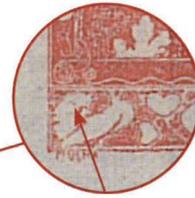
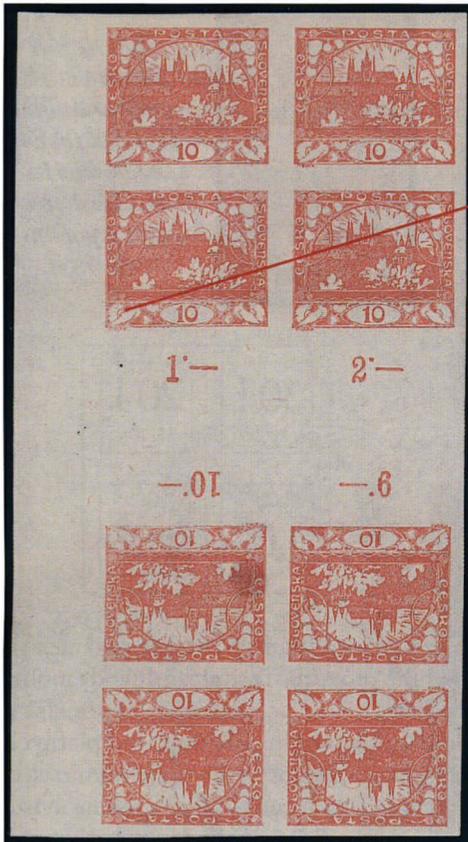


Fig 6. 10h red, opposite facing, TD I+II, ZP 91/1, incision in fantail of left pigeon

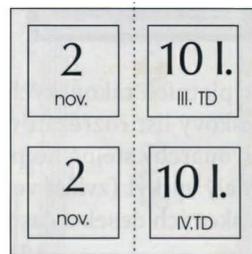
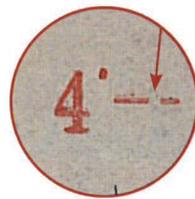
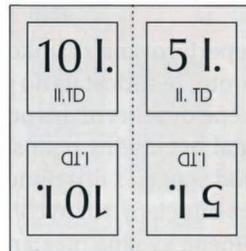


Fig 7. 10h red, same facing, TD III+IV, ZP 94/3, broken line after 4.--



Fig 8. 10h red, opposite facing, TD II+I, ZP 100/2, bent, shortened line after 10.--

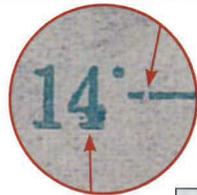
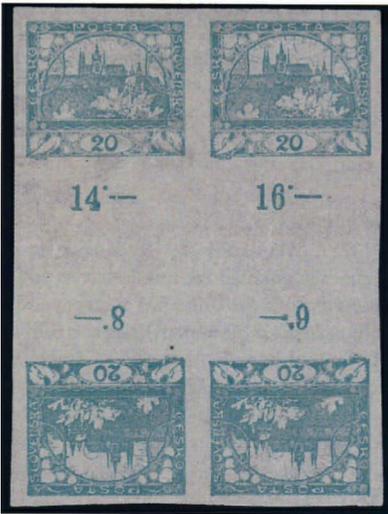
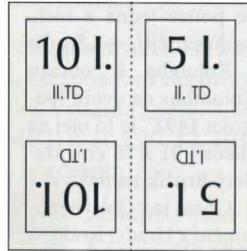


Fig 9. 20h blue-green, opposite facing, TD II+I, ZP 97/2, 4 has a heel, broken line after 14.--

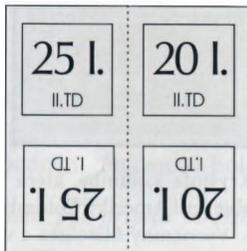
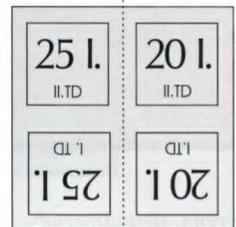


Fig 10 25h blue, opposite facing, TD II+I, ZP 95/2, sheered bottom of 5 in 12.50



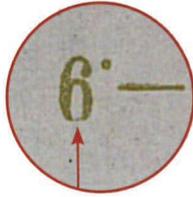


Fig 11. 30h yellow, opposite facing, TD II+I, ZP 92/2, cut off bottom of 6 in 6.--

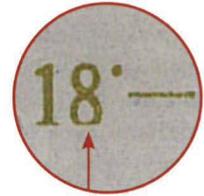
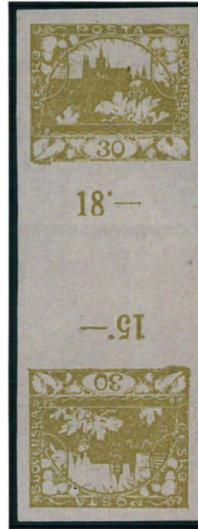
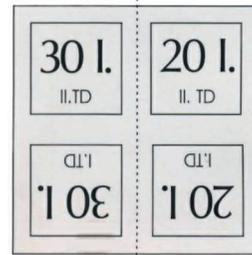
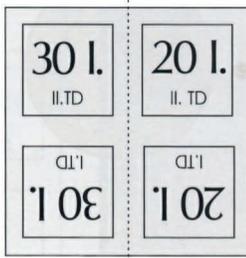


Fig 12. 30h yellow, opposite facing, TD II+I, ZP 96/2, cut off bottom of 8 in 18.--



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Cercle Philatélique France Tchéquie Slovaquie  
(Czech Slovak Philatelic Society of France)  
by Jean Louis Bardelli**



Fig. 2

Our French Society commemorates this year our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary by 3 sheetlets, one for each country:

-- France: sheetlet of 2 x 2 stamps -- “priority letter” representing a Slovak map and Czech heraldic lion; the picture at the top represents the French statue of the Peace Memorial in Slavkov (Austerlitz); 100 sheetlets issued (Fig. 1).

-- Czech Republic: sheetlet of 9 stamps -- “Orchidea with letter A” and special coupons made for the CPFTS 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary; 50 sheetlets issued (Fig. 2).

-- Slovakia: sheetlet of 8 stamps -- zodiac signs with T2 50g and special coupons made for us; 50 sheetlets issued (Fig. 3).

The price for the 3 different sheetlets is: 42.00 EUR + 6.70 EUR (postage and delivery by registered letter); the price for the 5 different stamps (2 French stamps, 1 Czech stamp + coupon, 2 Slovak stamps + coupons) is: 10.00 EUR + 1.80 EUR (postage).

Payment is possible by Bank transfer to:

Jean Louis Bardelli

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Fig. 1

50ème anniversaire du  
Cercle Philatélique  
France Tchéquie Slovaquie



CPFTS was born in Paris in 1964 with 12 members, first called Cercle Philatélique France-Tchécoslovaquie.

The number of members growing until 1994 was 102, but down since that year until now in 2014 we are 36 members from all the different areas of France and Belgium.

I am the treasurer and in charge of provisioning our members in the latest and passed issues (stamps, prepaid stationeries, souvenirs, catalogues, etc.).

I am living in Argelès-sur-mer in the south of France on the Mediterranean seacoast, close to the Spanish border. I am a member of the SCP since 1991 (#1558) and CPFTS since 1989.

My address:  
Jean Louis Bardelli,  
CPFTS

e-mail: [jlb66@orange.fr](mailto:jlb66@orange.fr)

60 Avenue du Tech  
667 00 Argelès-sur-mer-  
FRANCE

Fig. 3

## SOCIETY LIBRARY

Probably the least appreciated benefit of our Society is the Library.

It contains the best and largest collection of books on Czechoslovak, Czech, Slovak and associated philately outside of the Czech Republic. While many of the books are in Czech or Slovak, many, many of them are in English.

And, it is all very available to every member. Just go to the Society website (csphilately.org), then click on Services, go down to Library (to learn about the regulations for borrowing books, etc.), or to the List of Titles Available (to the right).

If you see a book or books that interest you, send me an e-mail or letter indicating what you are interested in [contact info on page 2 of this issue]. The only charge to you is for the postage in mailing them to you and for returning them to the Library. You can keep them for up to 10 weeks.

The Library was moved to Denver -- whereupon I became the librarian -- about four years ago. Not all of the books are in the current listing found on our website. I will be working on updating the list this winter.

I will also be running a column in next year's *Specialists* that will be talking about certain books or series that can be found in the Library that I feel our members might be interested in.

Ludvik Svoboda

## Questions and Answers

1. From Steve Friedenthal:

Answer: Here is further in answer to my question #2 on the route of a cover going from Prague to Shanghai in the 1930's.

Looks like the letter traveled from Prague through Austria to Trieste [undergoing a revival in the 1930's according to Wikipedia]. Trieste was the main Austrian port before WW I. Seat of the Navy and Austrian Lloyd lines. Than would have gone from Trieste through Suez and around India to Shanghai.

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## *Philatelic News and Views*

### 1. **From Rex Dixon, Chairman of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain:**

-- Fellow Members, for some time now our indefatigable membership secretary Yvonne Gren has indicated that she wished to give up the post and hand it over to a younger person. Hans van Dooremalen volunteered and his offer was accepted at the recent meeting of your committee, with immediate effect.

Yvonne took over as secretary in 1982 (she was already on the committee as librarian). When she relinquished this role after 14 years she retained the membership aspects of this role. She has been the smiling face that has greeted all new members ever since.

### 2. **From Yvonne Wheatley, Treasurer, CPSGB:**

-- . . . we will have a new Membership Secretary from our AGM on 8 November 2014.

Hans van Dooremalen: [cpsgb1@gmail.com](mailto:cpsgb1@gmail.com).

The new rates for printed copies of *Czechout* will be:

45 US dollars for airmail and 39 US dollars for international economy (surface) mail.

The cost of electronic copies of *Czechout* will remain unchanged at 10 US dollars.

### 3. **From Ludvik Svoboda:**

-- As a result of the Bound Volume Give-Away advertised in the Spring issue, seven members took advantage and received 34 bound volumes, FREE.

However, realizing that the Society had spent quite a bit (about \$20 - \$25 each) on their binding, these seven donated \$178.66 to us.

Thank you to William Capps, Vera Devlin, Jaroslav Havel, John Pavlik, John Schoenbeck, George Shaw, and Michael Zelenak.

### 4. **From Ludvik Svoboda:**

-- A recent *Philatelic Library Review* showed the recent winners at the NAPEX 2014 Literature Awards. Under the Periodicals, the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain's publication, *Czechout*, editor Mark Wilson, won a Silver award.

### 5. **From Ludvik Svoboda:**

-- Elsewhere in this issue you will find a notice from our member Jean Louis Bardelli telling us about the Cercle Philatélique France Tchèque Slovaquie (Czech Slovak Philatelic Society of France), and the fact that this is their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and how to purchase their anniversary sheetlets.

Shown here are the individual stamps that are a part of the anniversary sheetlets: the two from the French sheetlet (on the cover, Fig. 1), the one on the Czech one (Fig. 2), and the two that are on the Slovak one (Fig. 3, 4).



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

## *Closed Albums*

Dear Friends of Olech:

It is with great sorrow that I share the sad news that my husband, Olech (Alex) Wyslotsky, passed away on October 8 from complications of pneumonia.

Alex was born in Czechoslovakia in 1934 when Europe was consumed by the complicated events that led to World War II, and then by the war itself. As a child he witnessed the horrors of war, and that experience led to his lifelong commitment to peace, avoidance of conflict, and respect of life. During his earliest years, his parents returned with the family to their native Ukraine, but escaped during the war by way of Germany and France to Argentina, where Alex lived until his immigration to the United States in 1958.



At the age of eight, he was introduced to stamp collecting by an older family member and discovered philately to be a wonderful way to learn about art, geography, and history. This early introduction to stamp collecting became a lifelong hobby and ultimately a passionate life pursuit that lasted until his death.

During his time in Argentina, he mastered the Spanish language like a native, embraced the local culture as his own, and adopted soccer, the national sport. For a brief period, he was a professional soccer player for the famous team Boca Juniors. Throughout his life he loved anything and everything to do with soccer and he followed the games and scores of the world's professional teams. Alex knew every detail about the teams, top players, trainers, referees, and owners and delighted his friends with his soccer stories.

Just a month after his arrival in the United States, Alex was hit with a surprise. He was drafted into the U.S. Army and sent to the American base in Germany. In a twist of fate he was assigned to the same Army unit where Elvis Presley served, one of my all-time favorite singers.

After serving in the Army, Alex settled in New Jersey and found work in graphic arts. His work as a graphic artist in the days before computers was highly respected in the industry.

After his retirement, he continued to work on his stamp collection and participated in many international exhibits where he received top awards in the exclusive international world of philately. Together we traveled to important exhibits in many countries. A stamp collector since childhood, he owned many unique and valuable collections, and developed a loyal following of like-minded friends throughout the world.

What set Alex apart from others was his knowledge of languages (8) and history; his unique voice and interpretation of politics and the world; and most importantly, his love of nature and all things that are beautiful in this life.

In January 2014, we moved to Florida, where Alex was able to enjoy the climate and the beautiful sea, palm trees, flowers and birds that reminded him of his youth in Argentina. He arranged his stamp collections in a unique dedicated room, where he amassed hundreds of albums, and the special equipment needed for philately. It is in this special room that I will place his ashes surrounded by all the medals we won and in the company of his beloved dogs: Boca, Santuzza, and Tosca.

Alex passed away just 9 months after moving to Florida. It is certain that he is up in heaven looking at his stamps and sipping on a glass of Argentinian wine. He left a distinctive legacy as an extraordinary human being and husband. Please join me in celebrating his life by remembering in your hearts the times you spent together and the conversations you shared.

With gratitude,  
Karen Wyslowsky

#### **Sam Horvath:**

*Sitting at our Society book table at different stamp shows, a couple of times Olech sat with me for hours, so I got to know him from conversations. We were both born in Czechoslovakia about 30 miles apart, and both left the country for political reasons. He amazed me with his life in Argentina, and he loved to listen about my life in Germany after escaping communist Czechoslovakia. Olech being one year younger than me, I used to tell him that he is young enough to fetch a beer for me, he said he heard it before from Czechs. I will most certainly miss him.*

#### **Ludvik Z. Svoboda:**

*Olech will be remembered for a number of his talents and achievements -- many of which will live on long after his passing. We are talking about his artistic talents which he was so generous to share and always willing to produce. Elsewhere in this issue you see many of the exhibition cachets which he designed and produced. Also shown here is his culminating design for the Mucha Award ribbon (Fig. 1). Forever, starting with MILCOPEX 2015, this ribbon will be placed on the Best Czechoslovak Exhibit displayed at*

## ALFONS MUCHA AWARD



*Alfonso Mucha*



Fig. 1

## THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

*the annual Society show. I said culminating design, because Olech provided 6 different designs for the Board to consider. Being a committee, naturally the Board selected a design which had a combination of different portions of two of the designs. Olech knew the Board, having been a member for many years helping in its governing.*

### **Richard Palaschak:**

*We must not forget that Olech had a wonderful Hradcany exhibit which he showed at almost all of our recent shows, both nationally and internationally, winning gold and vermeils. Being the first issue of Czechoslovakia, his Hradcany exhibit provided the correct flavor to our participation at these shows.*

### **John Pojeta:**

*It was a pleasure knowing Olech! He was my smoking buddy and honest as the day is long. I remember buying some Slovak overprints on Czechoslovak stamps on cover. The overprints turned out to be fakes, and Olech returned my payment. I will miss chatting with him at the annual meeting and learning about his Argentina soccer days.*

### **Mary Lou Pojeta:**

*I have very fond memories of Olech. It was wonderful to sit and talk with him. He was a gentle man with many talents and will be missed.*



## *New Issues*

### **CZECH REPUBLIC** **by Ludvik Svoboda**

1. On September 3, 2014, the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic issued a commemorative souvenir sheet "Nature Protection -- The Beskid Mountains" with 4 stamps and 3 labels (Fig. 1). The souvenir sheet with stamps and labels was designed by the family team of Libuše and Jaromír Knotek, engraved by Martin Srb, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague using colored offset combined with brown-black engraving. The souvenir sheet contains the following postage stamps:

-- 13 Kč: the forest badger *Meles meles*; its FDC in blue depicts the badger in the forest (Fig. 2).

-- 17 Kč: the wildcat *Felis silvestris*; its FDC in brown-violet depicts the wildcat sitting on a branch (Fig. 3).

-- 21 Kč: two brown bears *Ursus arctos*; its FDC in dark green depicts a mother bear and two cubs (Fig. 4).

-- 25 Kč: the speckled nutcracker *Nucifraga caryocatactes* with two wolves *Canis lupus*; its FDC in brown-black depicts the pack leader and the pack of wolves (Fig. 5).



Fig. 2

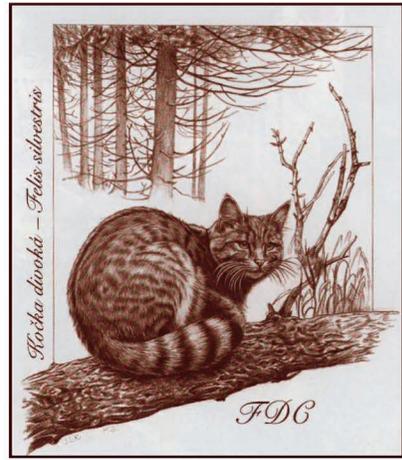


Fig. 3

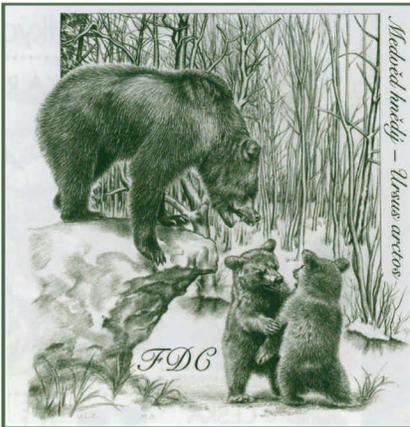


Fig. 4

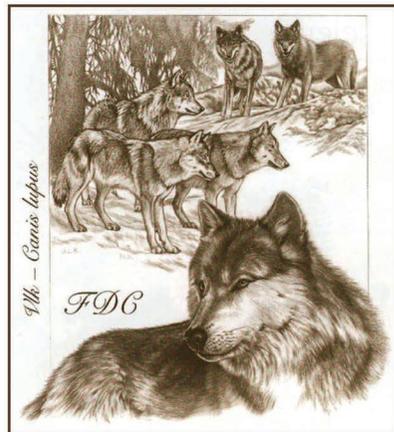


Fig. 5

The Beskid Mountains are located in northeastern Moravia in Wallachia, in the southeast of Czech Silesia, in southern Poland, and in northern Slovakia in the Orava region. The Beskids are mostly forested mountains with rounded peaks, with rocks only occasionally protruding from the surface. The highest peak is Babi Hora (1725 m), located on the border between Poland and Slovakia in the area of the Orava and the Zywiec Beskids. The Beskids generally have the character of central mountains permeated by a number of aulacogen and basin depressions. Typically, they are a range of parallel mountains arranged one after the other and bound to the occurrence of more resistant rocks. They usually contain smoothly sculpted reliefs, whose morphology reflects the composition of flysch rock substrate (sandstones, conglomerates, and clay stone shale). Shunting movements are common on the steep slopes. The original forest cover has been broadly reduced and the species altered in favor of spruce. Towards the east, grassy areas called plateaus are gaining ground. Their use in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century helped pastoral



Fig. 1

colonization to spread. The Beskids are home to typical mountain and forest animals, such as deer, wild boar, foxes, martens, badgers, bears, wolves, lynxes, and wild cats. Visitors can also see birds, such as tits, thrushes, woodpeckers, wood grouse, lesser-spotted eagles, buzzards, ravens, hazel grouse, and eagle-owls.



Fig. 6

2. On September 3, 2014, the Ministry issued a 29 Kč commemorative stamp in the Personalities series honoring Karel the Elder of Žerotín (1564-1636)(Fig. 6). Karel the Elder of Žerotín (Žerotín) was born in Brandýs nad Orlicí and died in Přerov. He was an important Moravian nobleman, politician, writer, and Moravian patriot. He graduated from the Czech Brethren school in Ivančice, later studying at evangelical schools in Strasbourg

and Basel. He was raised in the Czech Brethren faith and in adulthood he became a protector and secular head of the United Brethren in Moravia. Between 1578 and 1587 he studied law, theology, and languages and traveled around Europe, establishing many contacts with major European politicians. He mastered Latin, Italian, French, and German. In 1583, after the death of his father, Jan the Elder of Žerotín, he took over the Brandýs nad Orlicí estate as well as the Rosice estate, on account of which he became a member of the Czech Estates Society (Česká Stavovská Obec). Later he inherited from his uncle, Bedřich the elder of Žerotín, the Přerov estate, and in 1616, after the death of his brother Jan Divís, the Náměstí nad Oslavou estate. Through his estates, he built an extensive dominion in the west and in the east of Moravia. Karel also became a supporter of Jan Ámos Komenský (Comenius), whom he commissioned for the drafting of Žerotín genealogy and in the years 1611-1613 financed his studies in the German lands. In 1591 he fought in France, on the side of the Huguenots and King Henry IV of Navarre, which made the Emperor Rudolf II his enemy. In 1594 he became a member of the Moravian Provincial Court. In addition, he became involved in the wars against the Turks -- he led the Moravian cavalry. Gradually he became the leader of the Estates' opposition, and therefore in 1599 he was accused by the provincial under-chamberlain, Zikmund of Dietrichstein, of defaming the imperial majesty and creating treasonous links with France and the Palatine elector. The accusation was not based on truth, which was also shown in the subsequent trial. However, this trial had a heavy influence on the life of Karel the Elder, as after it he was removed from office and lived in seclusion for several years. After the Battle of White Mountain (1620), he was one of the few non-Catholics who received an offer to remain on their estates. After the issuance of the Renewed Land Ordinance, he retained the Brandýs nad Orlicí and Přerov estates in his possession. At this time he tried to assist (especially financially) the victims of re-Catholicization in Moravia and Bohemia. He also sought to support the Unity of Brethren by trying to secure to its members exile in Hungary and especially Poland. Thanks to him, the Brethren succeeded in moving the printing works of the Unity from their strong-

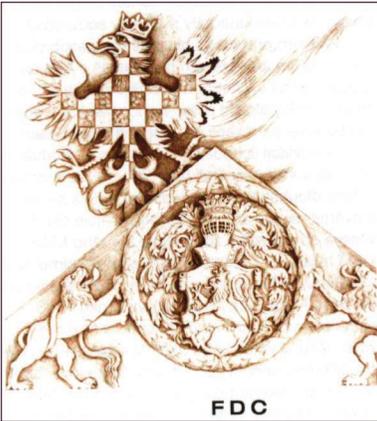


Fig. 7

hold in Kralice nad Oslavou to Polish Leszno, and their library to Wrocław (Breslau). In 1629, Karel voluntarily left the country, but he continued to visit Moravia and Bohemia. From 1633 he lived in Přerov where he died. He was buried in Brandýs nad Orlicí by the local Brethren congregation, but later his remains were moved to the Zerotin crypt in a church in Bludov. The stamp was designed by Karel Zeman, engraved by Jaroslav Tvrdoň, and produced by rotary recess print in black combined with photogravure in red, brown, yellow, and ocher green in printing sheets of 50 pieces. A FDC in red-brown depicts the coat of arms of Zierotin (Fig. 7).

3. On September 3, 2014, the Ministry issued a self-adhesive stamp booklet with 2 different non-denominated definitive stamps with imprinted letter “A” from the issue Václav Zapadlík -- Czech Cars -- Škoda II (Fig. 8). On two different self-adhesive stamps are depicted these cars: Škoda Popular Monte Carlo, vintage 1938 and Škoda Superb 3000, vintage 1941. Václav Zapadlík was born on September 23, 1943 in Prague. In the 1990’s the whole world began to be interested in his painting art. He cooperated with the Blackhawk Automotive Museum; we can find his works in galleries in San Francisco and in Pebble Beach. After the success of his stamp booklets “World Cars” and “Czech Cars -- Škoda I” the Czech post came out with a second booklet dedicated to Škoda cars. Issues on the theme of historic cars will continue. The stamps and booklet were designed by Václav Zapadlík and are produced by the Post Printing House in



Fig. 8

Prague by multicolored offset and will be issued in a self-adhesive stamp booklet containing four pieces of each stamp. The front page of the booklet depicts four cars: Škoda Popular 1935, Škoda Popular 1939, Škoda "Tudor" 1101, vintage 1947, and Škoda Rapid 1937. A FDC in blue-violet is issued for each stamp depicting a car of the same brand as on the stamp.

4. On October 15, 2014, the Ministry issued a commemorative souvenir sheet with one 58 Kč stamp for St. Vitus Cathedral (Fig. 9). On the stamp is depicted a kneeling Ernest of Pardubice, the first Archbishop of Prague, taken from his book of hymns, and, the first image of the cathedral from Schedel's World Chronicle (Nuremberg 1494). The miniature sheet displays a stylized picture of today's cathedral with invoking angels designed according to the painting of the Klodzko Madonna. The painting was donated by Ernest to the Augustinian monastery established by him in his birth town.

The Cathedral of St. Vitus, St. Wenceslas, and St. Adalbert is the dominant structure of Prague Castle. It is a three-nave Gothic cathedral with three towers and is the residential church of the Archbishop of Prague. The present building was built in several stages -- in the years 1344-1419, 1490-1510, 1556-1593, and 1873-1929 (its western part). In the years 1060-1920 it was dedicated to the three major Czech saints: St. Vitus, St. Wenceslas, and St. Adalbert. Until 1997, the name of St. Vitus Cathedral was used; that is why the abbreviated name became well-established. The cathedral is known by it even in the present times, even though in 1997, the former Archbishop of Prague, Cardinal Miloslav Vlk, restored the original full name.

On November 21, 1344, Charles IV, then the Prince and Margrave of Moravia, with his longtime friend Ernest of Pardubice, his father John of Luxembourg and his brother John Henry, laid the founding stone of St Vitus on the occasion of the promotion of the Prague bishopric to be an archbishopric. The main architect was Matthias of Arras. The construction started with the east presbytery, in order to be able to serve mass as soon as possible. In the chancel (in the shape of a horseshoe) eight chapels were erected with the same plan which corresponds to a trapezoid box gallery. Finally, the choir was built with triforium arcades. The eastern part of the long chancel was built with one chapel on the northern side and two on the southern side. The construction of the southern side began with the perimeter walls of the Chapel of the Holy Cross, which was initially housed separately from the unfinished part of the cathedral. On the north a sacristy begins. After the death of Matthias of Arras, Peter Parler, born of significant architectural lineage, took over the management of construction in 1356. In the cathedral of St. Vitus, an unusual network ribbed vault (at that time they were still supporting ribs), later known as the Parleresque type, was used, which is actually a barrel vault with cutouts for windows with beautiful embellishments.

St. Vitus is a three-nave cathedral with a transversal nave, triforium, and a ring of chapels. The most important of these is the St. Wenceslas Chapel built over his grave. Through this almost cubic room Parler built a star-pattern vault, unique at the time, the support of which, compared to traditional vaults, was shifted from the corners of the room to the third walls. St. Wenceslas Chapel was consecrated in 1367 and adorned in 1373. In addition to the Chapel of St. Wenceslas, a southern hall was finished in 1368. It includes the Crown Chamber where the



Fig. 9

Czech Crown Jewels are stored. Parler then established a large bell tower which his successors brought up to 55 meters. The chancel was vaulted and finished in 1385. After the death of Charles IV, Parler still continued to work, but twenty years after the emperor he died as well. The interest of the successors then faded.



Fig. 10

Parler's sons hammered up boards on the construction site walls and with fragments of the cathedral they closed off the walls. The cathedral remained fragmented so for the next five hundred years. In the era of Vladislav II (also Vladislaus or Ladislaus) Jagiellon, a late Gothic royal oratory was built, whose authorship is attributed to the architect Benedict Ried and carried out by Hans Spies. It connects the cathedral and the Old Royal Palace. After the great fire of Prague Castle and Lesser Town in 1541, which destroyed many buildings, the west Wohlmüt choir was built during the ensuing repairs in the years 1556 to 1561, which closed off the unfinished cathedral. The copper helmet of the Baroque tower, where the bells are hung, originated in 1770.

The western part of the nave and the façade with two eighty-meter towers, was built between 1873-1929 by Josef Kranner and Josef Mocker. After Mocker's death in 1899, Kamil Hilbert took over leadership. In September 1929, with the participation of President T.G. Masaryk and the Archbishop František Kordač, the cathedral was completed on the occasion of the thousand-year anniversary of the murder of St. Wenceslas. Besides worship, the cathedral serves as the repository of the Czech Crown Jewels, the mausoleum of Czech kings, and a gallery of sculptures and portrait paintings. Many prominent artists contributed to the adornment of the western part of the cathedral, for example František Kysela, Max Švabinský, Alfons Mucha, Karel Svoboda, Otakar Španiel, Vojta Sucharda, and others. In the years 1934-1935, the tombs of the kings were reconstructed by the Czech architect Kamil Roškot. The sculptor Ladislav Kofránek assisted with the coats of arms. In the 1950's the southern hall was repaired, with new doors and a vestibule designed by the architect Jan Sokol.

By the decree of Cardinal Vlk of April 23, 1997, at the millennial anniversary of the death of St. Adalbert, the Cathedral was dedicated to St. Vitus, St. Wenceslas, and St. Adalbert. This consecration was already given to the previous Romanesque basilica by Svyatopluk II from Bishop Gebhart in 1074. In December 2011, the state funeral of Václav Havel was held in it, the first funeral since 1875.

The souvenir sheet with its stamp were designed by Jan Kavan, engraved by Miloš Ondráček, and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by colored offset combined with black engraving. A FDC in brown-green depicts a composition containing images of the first benefactors of the cathedral (Fig. 10). These are the heads of Charles IV, John of Luxembourg, Ernest of Pardubice, and the first and second builders and architects Matthias of Arras and Peter Parler (from bottom to top). The composition combines these heads with the so-called free ribs of Parler's vault in the southern vestibule.

5. On October 15, 2014, the Ministry issued a non-denominated definitive stamp "Bouquet" with labels for additional printing and with imprinted letter "A" (Fig. 11).



Fig. 11

The stamp depicts a bottle of wine with a bunch of flowers in a funnel. The stamp was designed by Jiří Slíva and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by multicolored offset. It is issued in arranged printing sheets with 9 stamps and 12 labels. The 9 main labels and 2 side labels published on the date of issue portray a flamingo drinking from a glass of wine. The side upper label in the right-hand section of the printing sheet

include the head of the Gorgon Medusa from Greek mythology together with glasses of wine. A part of the sheets will be issued with blank labels for additional printings in accordance with the wish of the customer. A multicolored FDC depicts the figure of a man carrying a grape over his shoulder.

## Stationery

4. On September 3, 2014, the Ministry issued a commemorative postal card with an imprinted letter-denominated “A” stamp for Sběratel (Collector)(Fig. 12). The definitive imprinted A-stamp depicts the logo of the Sběratel fair. On the left-hand side of the postal card is depicted the logo PRAGA PICCOLA -- International Philatelic Exhibition. The postal card is issued on the occasion of the first year of



Fig. 12

the International Philatelic Exhibition PRAGA PICCOLA which from this year will accompany the Sbĕratel fair. The exhibition will take place together with the Fair on the exhibition grounds PVA Expo Prague -- Lĕtnany from 4 - 6 September 2014. This year, the PRAGA PICCOLA exhibits will examine the anniversary of the Great War (WW) and the breakup of Austria-Hungary. The exhibition will continue to focus on members of the general public with the aim of showing them the beauty of the art of collecting and of attracting new prospective collectors. The imprinted stamp and postal card were designed by Václav Zapadlík and produced by the Post Printing House in Prague by full-colored offset.

## SLOVAKIA

by Ludvik Svoboda



Fig. 13

5. On June 13, 2014, the Ministry of Transport, Posts, and Telecommunications issued a 0.45€ commemorative stamp honoring the new President of the Slovak Republic, Andrej Kiska (Fig. 13). Born on February 2, 1963, Andrej Kiska graduated from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava. After completing his studies, he worked as a designer in Naftoprojekt in Poprad. Next, trying his luck in the USA (1990), he only stayed for just over a year, returned to Slovakia and founded his first company. Then in 1996, he was the co-founder of Tatracredit, s.r.o., which implemented the catalogue installment sale system Triangel and later on, also the installment sale system Quatro. Triangel and Quatro became the largest systems of their kind in Slovakia. Nonetheless, Kiska sold all of his

shares in these companies in 2005 and decided to focus on charity. In 2006, together with his friend, he founded a non-profit organization Dobrý Anjel (Good Angel) and donated one million Euro for its funding. Dobrý Anjel provides help to families with children suffering from serious, life-threatening diseases which have brought families to a difficult financial situation. Today, the organization represents the most successful non-company charity in Slovakia. In 2011, Kiska also co-founded Dobrý Anjel in the Czech Republic. In 2006 he was awarded the Manager of the Year prize from Trend magazine. Then in 2011 he received the Krišťalové Kriídlo (Crystal Wing Prize) for philanthropy. Andrej Kiska decided to stand as a candidate for the office of the president of the Slovak Republic as an independent and non-party candidate in 2012. He won

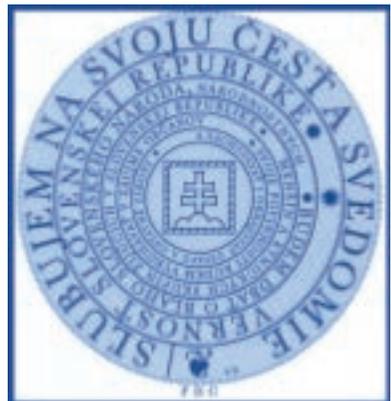


Fig. 14

the elections of 2014 and assumed his office on June 15, 2014. The postage stamp was inspired by a photograph by Tomáš Benčík, was designed by Vladislav Rostoka, engraved by Martin Činovský, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House in Prague using rotary recess printing combined with recess printing in printing sheets of 100 pieces. The FDC graphically depicts the text of the presidential vow (Fig. 14).



Fig. 15

6. On August 29, 2014, the Ministry issued a 0.65€ commemorative stamp for the Slovak National Uprising (Fig. 15). The Slovak National Uprising (SNP) of 1944 represents one of the greatest armed anti-fascist events taking place during the years of WW II. Slovak political representatives of the left-wing communist and civic democratic illegal anti-fascist movement (with a military headquarters founded at the Headquarters of the Land Forces of the Slovak Army in Banská Bystrica in spring 1944) had participated in its preparation since December 1943. An objective of the uprising was to militarily react against Nazi Germany and its Slovak cooperators at the right moment, change

Slovakia's position as a vassal state of the Third Reich with the help of the allied world powers, and to bring it to the anti-fascist camp of the Allies. The Slovak anti-fascists advocated two objectives of the uprising -- an optimal one, counting on a coordinated reaction of the Slovak army and the Allies, and an emergency one, relying on armed resistance at all costs, in case Nazi Germany attempted to occupy the territory of the Slovak Republic. On August 29, 1944, German troops tried to militarily occupy Slovakia, which was a signal for the military headquarters to declare the uprising and to use the emergency alternative. Approximately sixty thousand Slovak army soldiers and from twelve to fifteen thousand partisans gradually started to participate in the armed resistance against the German occupation. In the territory of central Slovakia with the center in Banská Bystrica, a continuous liberated area was formed which managed to defend itself against the German numerical superiority for almost two months. In the final phase, the German army used military troops with the power of almost four divisions in order to suppress the uprising. The organized military resistance within SNP was defeated at the end of October 1944. However, many of the military troops did not surrender and managed to fight in the Slovak mountains until the end of the war. The



Fig. 16

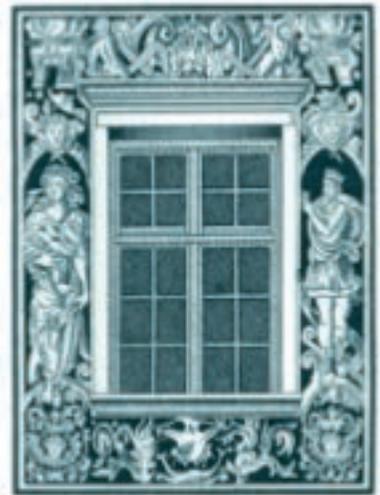
postage stamp is based on the impressive work of the sculptor Jozef Jankovič from 1969, “Obete Varujú” (Victims Warn Us), being a part of the SNP memorial in Banská Bystrica. The stamp was designed by Jankovič and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House in Prague using offset in printing sheets of 35 pieces. The FDC depicts the town castle in Banská Bystrica (Fig. 16).



Fig. 17

premises, the palace is called “palota” (events hall) in historical sources. The term does not usually represent a particular type of building, rather it denotes a pompous room of large dimensions. Having a rectangular shape, its impressive great hall located on the first floor of the one-story building is exceptional from the perspective of local buildings. The circumstances of its construction and its purpose itself are recorded in the inscription above the main entrance: “Palatine George Thurzo, pincenarum regallium and adviser of His Imperial Highness, built this palace of paternal love for the wedding feast of his beloved daughters, if God let them live so long, in A.D. 1601.” George Thurzo was married twice and had seven daughters. Thanks to him, they made their bonds of marriage in spectacular weddings in the Wedding Palace in Bytča. Although its creator proclaimed it to be a place of entertainment, in fact, it became a focus of social and political life. Thurzo may have been inspired by Prague’s Belvedere, villas in Vienna or Innsbruck, or by his travel to Venice in 1597 where he recorded in his diary the sea views and the enormous wealth of its monuments. Without a doubt, impressions he gained affected his representation requirements as well as his need to construct the Wedding Palace. The stamp was designed by Doc. Robert Brun, engraved by Jozef Cesla, and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House in Prague using recess printing from flat plates combined with offset in printing sheets containing 8 pieces. A FDC depicts one of the Palace’s ornate windows (Fig. 18).

7. On September 19, 2014, the Ministry issued a 1.30€ commemorative stamp in the Beauties of Our Homeland series: The Wedding Palace in Bytča (Fig. 17). The Wedding Palace in Bytča is generally viewed as one of the most significant late Renaissance buildings in the Kingdom of Hungary. It draws one’s attention through its specific function and crucial position in the political and educational life of the region. Standing detached within the castle



FDC

Fig. 18

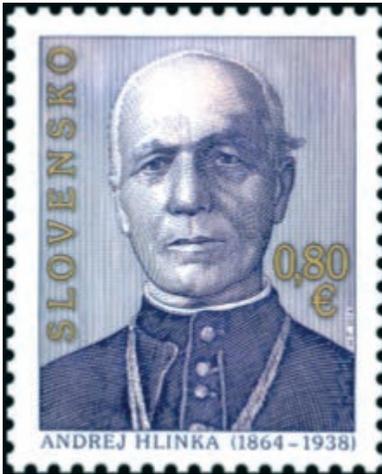


Fig. 19

and additional political development in Slovakia. His political and social engagements promoting Slovak national interests aroused a negative reaction from the Hungarian authorities as well as the church. Subsequently, in 1906, he was suspended as a Ružomberok parish priest and sentenced to two years imprisonment because of political Slovak nationalistic activities. He served his sentence in Szeged. Upon his return in 1910, he continued his political, social, and religious conservatism. Then as a spiritual and ecclesiastical authority (chairman of the Slovak People's Party -- bearing his name since 1925, and member of Parliament), he developed the concept of Slovak nationalism and autonomy. He influenced the thinking of whole generations, including those exceeding



Fig. 21

8. On September 26, 2014, the Ministry issued a 0.80€ commemorative stamp in the Personalities series: Andrej Hlinka (1864-1938)(Fig. 19). Andrej Hlinka was a Roman Catholic priest, papal pronotary, and son of a simple family of a raftsmen and peasant from Černová, an urban area of Ružomberok. He became one of the most outstanding figures of modern Slovak history from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> to the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century through the way he lived his life. He was appointed a priest of the Ružomberok parish in 1905 where he supported the candidacy of Slovak representative Dr. Vavro Šrobár to the Hungarian Parliament -- these activities represented a breakthrough from the perspective of his personality

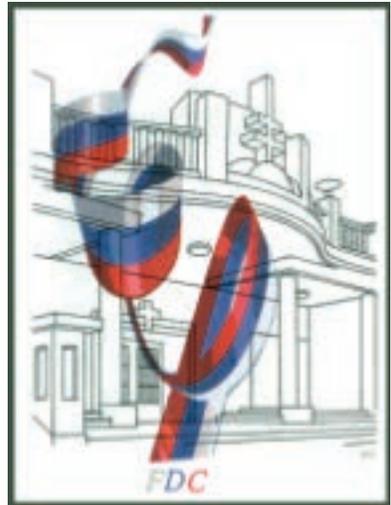


Fig. 20

the horizon of his life. The stamp was designed and engraved by Martin Činovský and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House in Prague using recess printing from flat plates combined with offset in printing sheets of 4 pieces. A FDC depicts the cathedral in Ružomberok along with the Slovak colors ribbon (Fig. 20).

9. On October 5, 2014, the Ministry issued a 0.45€ commemorative stamp for the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the International Peace Marathon in Košice (Fig. 21). The Marathon in Košice came to existence thanks to the zeal and enthusiasm

of its founders in 1924. It took place immediately after their arrival from the Olympic Games in Paris. The race represents the continuous efforts of lots of generations of organizers and has been awarded the title "The Oldest Marathon in Europe". During its rich history, tens of thousands of sportsmen from the entire world including Olympic Champions and many other great athletes have participated in the International Peace Marathon. The names of those who have won in Košice are inscribed forever in bronze on a pylon of the marathon runner sculpture -- the unique symbol of the Košice marathon. Being the most significant athletic Slovak event, the International Peace Marathon in Košice is a traditional sport and social occasion drawing the attention of people from around the world for nine decades now, and represents the ability, invention, and determination of those who founded it, and those who did not ever let this noble mission and idea perish. The stamp was designed by P. Uchnár and produced by the Postal Stationery Printing House in Prague using offset in printing sheets of 54 pieces. A FDC depicts the outline of the Košice skyline with marathon runners in the foreground (Fig. 22).

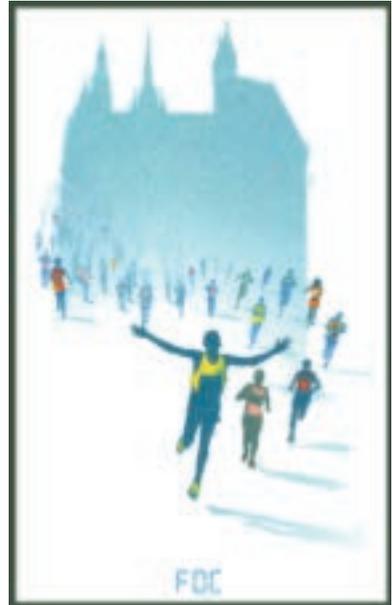


Fig. 22

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**Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation 1. Publication Title:** The Czechoslovak Specialist, **2. Publication No.:** 0526-5843, **3. Filing Date:** Sep. 28, 2014, **4. Issue Frequency:** Quarterly, **5. No. of Issues Published Annually:** 4, **6. Annual Subscription Price:** \$25.00, **7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication:** 11 1/2 N. Washington St., Shippensburg, PA 17257, Contact Person: Nancy Godfrey, Tele. 717-530-8818, **8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters:** 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, **9. Names and Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor:** Publisher: Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc., 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015; Editor: Ludvik Z. Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015; Managing Editor: (same as above), **10. Owner:** Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc., 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, **11. Known Bondholders:** None, **12. The purpose, function, and non-profit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:** Has not changed during preceding 12 months, **13. Publication Name:** The Czechoslovak Specialist, **14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below:** 10 Sep 2014, **15. Extent and Nature of Circulation:** **a. Total No. Of Copies (net press run):** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 months: 350; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 300; **b. Paid Circulation (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 --** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 213; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 201; **(2) Mailed In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 --** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; **(3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution --** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; **(4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS --** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 42; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 40; **c. Total Paid Distribution:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 255; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 241; **d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution: (1) Outside County as Stated on Form 3541 --** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 12; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 12; **(2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541 --** Average No. Copies During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; **(3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS --** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 12; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 12; **(4). Free Distribution Outside the Mail:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0; **e. Total Free Distribution:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 24; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 24; **f. Total Distribution:** Average no. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 279; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 265; **g. Copies Not Distributed:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 71; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 35; **h. Total:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 350; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 300; **i. Percent Paid:** Average No. Copies Preceding 12 Months: 92%; No. Copies Published Nearest to Filing Date: 91%, **16. Publication of Statement of Ownership:** X Publication required. Will be printed in the Fall 2014 issue of this publication. **17.** I certify that all information furnished on this form is true/complete. Ludvik Z. Svoboda, Editor, 28 Sep. 2014