



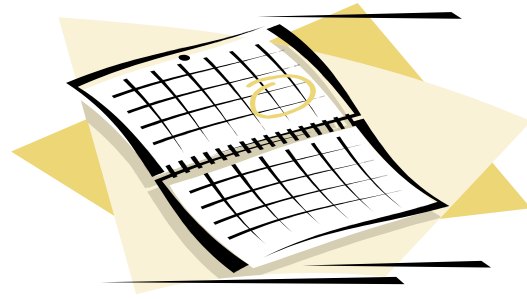
Sdružení Čechů a Slováků pro Uchování Národních Odkazů  
Združenie Čechov a Slovákov pre Zachovanie Národných Odkazov

*A publication of the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Maryland*

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# UPCOMING EVENTS:



**Sunday, 5 MAY, 2013:** Our now famous Dumpling Meeting, 3 PM in the Parish Center of the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, 5200 N, Charles St. in Baltimore. Bohemian Caterers will again be on hand to delight us with a selection of their delicious *knedliky* and *kolace*. Reservations are needed for this event; to make yours email or call Margaret at [usupik@verizon.net](mailto:usupik@verizon.net) or 410-662-6094 on or before 29 April.

**Friday evenings throughout the year:** Czech language classes for children ages 3 and up. Call or email Margaret Supik at 410-662-6094, [usupik@verizon.net](mailto:usupik@verizon.net) or Markéta Traband, [marketa.traband@gmail.com](mailto:marketa.traband@gmail.com). Classes are held in the Undercroft of the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen from 6:00 – 7:00 pm on Friday. New students are welcome at any time.

**Saturdays throughout the year:** Why not consider learning Czech or Slovak? Or brushing up on what you already know? It's not as hard as you think! We have excellent teachers and beginning, intermediate and advanced classes. It's not too early to sign up for the Fall 2013 semester. For complete details, check our website: [www.czslha.org](http://www.czslha.org) or call Lois Hybl at 410-428-6012.

**Mondays throughout the year:** Czechs and Slovaks have a great musical heritage. Help keep it alive and well in the Baltimore area by joining the Czech and Slovak Heritage Singers on Monday evenings in the Choir Room at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, 5200 N. Charles St. Rehearsals begin at 7 PM and conclude at 9 or earlier. All voice parts are welcome. *Singing is an excellent way to improve your Czech or Slovak pronunciation and vocabulary.* Call or email Charles Supik at 410-662-6094, [chasupik2@verizon.net](mailto:chasupik2@verizon.net) for more information.

**Hlas:** We would love to hear your feedback about Hlas. Let us know your comments, ideas, or what you would be interested in reading about in the next issue. Please contact Margaret Supik at [usupik@verizon.net](mailto:usupik@verizon.net) or Olga Mendel at [omendel@gmail.com](mailto:omendel@gmail.com)

**31 March, 2013:** the last day to pay 2013 dues. It's that time again! To keep your membership current, dues should be paid before the end of March. **DON'T LET THIS BE YOUR LAST ISSUE OF HLAS!**

# RUZYNĚ AIRPORT NO LONGER EXISTS – WELCOME TO THE VÁCLAV HAVEL AIRPORT PRAGUE

Václav Havel would have celebrated his 76<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 5, 2012. Instead, the ceremony renaming the former Ruzyně airport as Václav Havel Airport Prague was held on that day. The campaign to rename the airport, initiated by movie director Fero Fenič and supported by many artists, diplomats, politicians and ordinary people, began shortly after Havel's death on December 18, 2011. It was Fenič who approached Havel's wife – Dagmar Havlová-- with this idea and she gladly embraced it. For her, remembering her husband this way was really symbolic. Removing the name Ruzyně from the airport's name was a relief because Ruzyně was an infamous prison in that area and Havel himself spent several years in the Communist prison there.

The ceremony was attended by many people close to Havel. They were welcomed by his wife Dagmar, who was accompanied by her daughter Nina and Havel's brother Ivan.

Many actors and artists were present along with Havel's architect, Bořek Šípek, and Prague's Archbishop, Cardinal Dominik Duka. Even the nuns from the Boromejský Monastery, who had provided Havel with care at the end of his life, attended. Movie director Fero Fenič was happy to see that his idea had turned into reality in a relatively short time. Actor Jan Hrušínský was proud to have been one of the first supporters of this idea. Lída Rakušanová, former Radio Free Europe reporter, mentioned that naming airports after a country's most important and famous men is quite common in the world. Now, the Czechs have joined the world in this way, too. Other speakers were the director of the Airport, Miroslav Dvořák, the Primator (mayor) of Prague, Bohuslav Svoboda, and Finance Minister, Miroslav Kalousek.

Karel Schwarzenberg, Havel's friend and current Minister of Foreign Affairs said: "There is no better place or institution than the largest Czech airport to carry the name of Václav Havel – a man known by whole world, who opened the Czech Republic to freedom and the whole world."

The fact that president at that time, Václav Klaus, did not attend the ribbon cutting ceremony didn't surprise me. Klaus is known for his rude attacks on and never ending criticism of Havel, but yet I did find it insulting.

Next time you arrive in the Czech Republic, you will hear, "Welcome to the Václav Havel Airport." When I will be landing there next month, for the first time at Havel's airport, I know I will be touched and proud of being Czech and living through that period of time when Havel contributed to the Czech Republic and the world.



New signs installed at the airport



Ribbon cut by Dagmar Havlová and other speakers.

*Olga Mendel*



## BANSKÁ BYSTRICA



Mesto Banská Bystrica (78 068 obyvateľov k 31.12.2012) – srdce stredného Slovenska – leží vo Zvolenskej kotline, v údolí rieky Hron medzi Kremnickými a Starohorskými vrchmi a Poľanou. Je vstupnou bránou do pohorí Nízke Tatry, Slovenské Rudohorie, Kremnické vrchy, Veľká Fatra a hovorí sa o nej, že je najkrajšia perla na rieke Hron. Polohou patrí medzi prírodne najkrajšie situované mestá na Slovensku, a preto stále platí:

### ***Za živa v Bystrici – po smrti v nebi".***

História mesta sa začala písať v 13. storočí, kedy vďaka hospodársko-správnej a remeselníckej základni banskej výroby ju kráľ Belo IV. v roku 1255 povýšil na mesto. Do novodobých dejín Slovenska sa mesto zapísalo 29. augusta 1944, keď tu bolo vyhlásené Slovenské národné povstanie - ozbrojený odpor proti fašistickej okupácii. Po oslobodení mesta v druhej svetovej vojne - 26. marca 1945 sa Banská Bystrica stala jedným z troch hospodársko-správnych centier Slovenska, v roku 1955 bola ako jedno z prvých miest na Slovensku vyhlásená za mestskú pamiatkovú rezerváciu. Medzi najcennejšie pamätihodnosti patrí areál mestského hradu (Barbakanu), námestie s kostolmi Panny Márie a sv. Kríža, starou radnicou, Matejovým domom a zvyškami mestského opevnenia. Srdcom mesta je veľké, obdĺžnikové námestie Slovenského národného povstania s Mariánskym stĺpom a šikmou hodinovou vežou. Námestie ohraničujú honostné meštianske domy, z ktorých sú najvýznamnejšie Beniczkého a Thurzov dom. Založením Univerzity Mateja Bela 1. júla 1992 sa Banská Bystrica stala jedným z centier vysokoškolského vzdelávania na Slovensku.

Dnes je Banská Bystrica modernou krajskou metropolou a jedným z najkrajších miest Slovenska. Obnovené historické centrum, nová moderná výstavba a krásna okolitá príroda ponúkajúca široké možnosti pre šport (lyžovanie, golf, cykloturistika, skalolezectvo, paraglajding, splavovanie rieky Hron), turistiku a rekreáciu pozývajú návštevníkov k ich prehliadke a sú nevyčerateľnou studnicou ich spoznávania. Milovníkov jaskýň iste poteší, že v blízkosti Banskej Bystrice nájdu prístupné hneď tri – Harmaneckú jaskyňu – Izbicu s rozsiahlymi podzemnými priestormi, Bystriansku jaskyňu a unikátnu jaskyňu Mŕtvych netopierov v Ďumbierskom vysokohorskom kráse. Keď si plní zážitkov budete chcieť odpočinúť, vychutnať relax a načerpať sily na ďalšie „blúdenie“ po okolí, oddýchnite si v kúpeľoch Brusno, Sliač alebo Kováčová, ktoré poskytujú okrem liečebných procedúr i široké rehabilitačno-rekreačné možnosti.



V okolí mesta si zaslúži pozornosť drevený kostol v obci Hronsek, kaštieľ v Dolnej Mičinej i hrad v Slovenskej Ľupči. Vzácné sakrálne pamiatky sú v obciach Čerín a Poniky. Banícku minulosť "medenej Bystrice" pripomína horská obec Špania dolina, klenot ľudovej architektúry. Folklor, bohaté ľudové tradície a zvyky ponúka množstvo festivalov a podujatí, ktoré sa konajú v Banskej Bystrici a v jej okolí najčastejšie v lete. V Bystrici má svoje sídlo Štátna opera, a tak si aj milovníci tohto umenia prídu určite na svoje.



## BANSKÁ BYSTRICA



The town of Banská Bystrica (population 78,068 as of December 12, 2012) – the heart of Middle Slovakia – lies in the Zvolenská Basin in the Hron River valley between the Kremnický and Starohorský hills and Veľká Fatra. It is said that it is the loveliest pearl on the River Hron. This setting is among the most beautiful natural settings of any city in Slovakia, and because of this it is always said: (One goes) **From life in Bystrica – after death, to heaven....**



Written history of the town begins in the 13th Century when, thanks to the successful agriculture and mining operations there, King Bela IV, in 1255, made it a city. In modern Slovak history August 29, 1944 is important as the day the Slovak National Uprising – armed rebellion against the Fascist occupation - was proclaimed. After the liberation of the city in the Second World War – March 26, 1945 – Banská Bystrica became one of three major agricultural centers of Slovakia. In 1955 it was one of the first cities in Slovakia to be designated a heritage reserve. Among its most beautiful heritage sites are the castle area (Barbacan); the town square and the Church of the Virgin Mary; the old Town Hall; Matej House and the remains of the city fortifications. The heart of the city is the large rectangular Slovak National Uprising plaza with its Marian Column and its slanting clock tower. Around the plaza are many townhouses; the most famous are Benický's house and Thurzo House. Matej Bel

University was founded in July of 1992 and Banská Bystrica has become one of the centers of higher education in Slovakia.

Today Banská Bystrica is a beautiful modern city, one of the loveliest in Slovakia. It has a restored historical center, new modern structures and beautiful natural surroundings which offer a wide variety of opportunities for sports such as skiing, golfing, bicycling, rock climbing, paragliding and rafting on the River Hron. An inexhaustible array of possibilities invites visitors' attention.

Lovers of caves will find three in the immediate area of Banská Bystrica, the Harmoneck Caves – Izbica with its vast underground spaces -- Bystrianská Cave, and the unique Cave of Dead Bats in the Dumbiersk alpine karst. After these strenuous possibilities, you will want to rest, to enjoy some relaxation and recharge your energy by roaming farther into the countryside and take a break at a spa. Brusno, Sliach or Kováčova, all offer therapeutic procedures as well as a wide range of rehabilitational recreation possibilities.

Close by the city, the wooden church in the village of Hronsek is worthy of note, as are the chateau in Dolnej Mičinej and the castle fortress in Slovenský Ľupč. There are rare holy shrines in the villages of Čerín and Poniky. Banská Bystrica's mining past as "copper Bystrica," is recalled in the village of Špania Dolina (Sleeping Valley), a jewel of folk architecture. Folklore and folk traditions abound and offer many possibilities for festivals, mostly during the summer, in and around Banská Bystrica. Banská Bystrica has its own venue for the State Opera and opera lovers will surely want to attend.



## SUMMER CLASSES AT MCDANIEL COLLEGE OVERTONE FLUTES – FUJARA AND KONCOVKA (Beginner level)

A FUJARA is a large overtone flute with 3 side holes, a unique Slovak folk instrument with a magic voice. Beginning students will learn to play simple melodies, scatter and overblowing techniques, and to access the whole tone range of the fujara (2 octaves). Advanced students will learn to play in different major and minor keys. Bring your own fujara for the class. If you don't have one, loaner instruments will be available. Contact the instructor, Bob Rychlik, for more information at.

[fujara@gmail.com](mailto:fujara@gmail.com).

The KONCOVKA is easy to play. Unlike a recorder it has no side holes and instead uses its natural overtone scale. Native to Slovakia, Scandinavia and other countries, overtone flutes have gained popularity in the USA for their unique tone and capabilities. Students will learn to play simple melodies in the basic overtone scale, learn to use "the other scale" with the flute end closed, and then play melodies by combining both methods. Students will learn overblowing, vibrato and sliding between tones, including the "blue notes." Bring your own overtone flute in the key of C, or purchase a beginner koncovka at the class for \$20. Bring writing materials + recording device, if you have it.

Hear examples of fujara and koncovka overtone flutes at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Y5fonktBzQ>

Bohuslav "Bob" Rychlik is an internationally recognized player and teacher of fujara, koncovka and other overtone flutes. He has performed at the Library of Congress, the Kennedy Center, St. Petersburg Russia, in many folk

festivals, Czech and Slovak events and other small venues. He has appeared on Czech and American TV, Czech and Slovak radio, and has taught his new fujara and koncovka method in the USA and in the Czech Republic. He plays has appeared on Czech and American TV, Czech and Slovak radio, and has taught his new fujara and koncovka method in the USA and in the Czech Republic.



He plays the traditional Slovak repertoire, but also composes for fujara, guitar, keyboard and other instruments. See here: [http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature\\_wdesc.php?rec=5044](http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=5044)

Bob was born in Czechoslovakia, where he learned to play guitar, banjo and piano as a child and later played in bands, organized country and blues festivals, and taught classical guitar in the State Music School. Later he continued teaching guitar and banjo after arriving in Maryland, where he has been living since 1984.



## BÁSNĚ O PSOCH - POEMS ABOUT DOGS

**Marta Hlušíková**

*Translations: Margaret Supik*

### Zvedaví psi

V listoch lúčnej trávy  
psi hľadajú správy:  
Či sa ešte treba postiť  
a kde rastú dobré kosti.

### Curious Dogs

In the blades of meadow grass  
dogs look for news:  
Must they go hungry?  
Where do the good bones grow?



### Muzikanti

Psi vraj majú hudbu v krvi.  
Môj Azor je jeden z prvých:  
Ja si cvičím bicie,  
Azor skúša vycie.

### Musicians

Dogs, it is said, have music in their blood.  
My Azor is the best of them:  
I practice my drumming  
Azor tries barking.

### Susedov pes Rexo

Susedov pes Rexo  
býval v búde z keksov.  
Potom schrúmal búdu z keksov,  
vraj nebola vôbec pre psov.

### Rexo the Neighbor's Dog

Rexo, the neighbor's dog,  
lived in a house built of cookies.  
Then he gobbled up that cookie house,  
which, it seems, was really not meant for a dog.

**Marta Hlušíková** is the author of several children's books as well as the *Latinsko-slovenský slovník*. Originally from Trenčín, Slovakia, and studied at the prestigious Ľ.Štúr gymnasium and later at Bratislava's Komenius University where she concentrated on the Slovak language and Latin. In 1982, following the births of her children, she became a professor at the school of economics in Rimavska Sobota. Later she accepted a position as professor of Slovak and Latin at the local gymnasium.

## CZECH AND SLOVAK HERITAGE SINGERS

The group began singing together in 1994 and had only about 6 members. Their first performance was at a celebration marking the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of CSHA. Since then the ensemble has grown to about 14 and their repertoire has expanded to include folksongs and hymns from Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia as well as classical and modern pieces. We are always ready to welcome new members. It's said, *every Czech/Slovak is a musician*. Right? Join us and see. Contact info is on pg. 2. See you soon!



The VOICE of The Czech & Slovak  
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**Spring 2013**

**Jaro 2013**

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Vice President	Steve Sabol
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Chairpersons:

Membership	Charles Supik
Education	Lois Hybl
<b>HLAS</b> Editors:	Olga Mendel and Margaret Supik