

2014 TCHCC HERITAGE FEST & MUZIKY – PRESS RELEASE

The Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange will be hosting the *Heritage Festival & Muziky* on October 17-18, 2014. The Fest will begin at 4 PM on Friday afternoon with the vendors and craft booths open in the village. At 5:30 PM, Chicken N Dumplings will be served while it lasts in the Hanslik Banquet Hall. *Oktoberfest on the Deck* will begin at 6:00 PM with music by the *Dujka Brothers* Band till 9:30 PM. The Dujka brothers have been making music together for 27 plus years and have several acknowledgements to their name. They have been very successful in bringing new songs written by themselves and other local Texas writers to the Czech music and Polka scene. The evening will conclude at 10 PM.

Saturday will see plenty of action all over the TCHCC Complex. The day will centralize in the Czech Village, an early 1900s recreated village complete with residential houses, barns, tavern, and general store. Demonstrations of early life for the immigrants will take place throughout the grounds all day. There will be farming and household demonstrations. An antique farm equipment and antique car show will spread through the village. At 10 AM, The new Barn in the village will be dedicated. A Biergarten Tent will be in the center of the village with musical entertainment all day long. Music will begin at 11 AM till 6 PM by Mark Halata & Texavia Band and the Eurofest Band alternating.

Vendors and Craft Booths will be available for shopping pleasure on the main street of the village, *Czech Trail*. A country store will be open for some good buys and you can also pick up some fresh ground corn meal for cooking. Plenty of food and cold beverages will be available as well. In the air conditioned TCHCC main center, the Czech Gift Shop will be open with a brand new stock of authentic Czech items, T-shirts, caps, crystal, periodicals, music CDs, and new Christmas decorations for 2014. Maggie Grmela of Maggie's Fabric Patch of West, Texas, will have Kroje apparel, shirts, and other items for sale. There will be textile demonstrations of spinning and looming, crochet, and knitting to view. In the Museum, a display of early Texas schools will be open along with authentic kroj. The spacious Melnar Library will offer help with genealogy research for those interested in finding out more about their family or Czech history.

Relax in the comfort of the Hanslik Hall and listen to historical and informative speakers. There will be several topics to choose from. Retta Chandler, President of TCHCC, will speak about '*Czech Language*' and '*Traveling to the Czech Republic*'. Maggie Grmela, an expert in the history and making of the Czech costumes, Kroje, will present '*Czech Kroj: Demo and Discussion*'. The Texas Czech Music Museum featuring four genres of Czech music, classical, folk, polka, and liturgical, is located in the Kalich House and will be open for tours along with the Polka Lovers Club of Texas Museum housed in the Hoelscher House.

The day will conclude the annual performance of *Muziky, Muziky* at the Sanford Schmid Amphitheater on the complex grounds overlooking the scenic Colorado River Valley. This year's Muziky will feature the *Legends of Texas Polka Music* with the re-creation of the famous *Hi-Toppers Orchestra* of New Braunfels Texas. It will be an exciting and memorable performance as the sounds of the *Hi-Toppers* come to life. Many talented and well known Texas musicians have been assembled to recreate the historic sounds to perfection. The performance will be 7-9:30 PM with Master of Ceremonies Larry Haag, an original band member of the Hi-Toppers. A huge Fireworks Finale will finish off the evening at 9:30 PM sponsored by HEB.