



## 15th Anniversary of Česka Beseda Sarajevo

This Fall the Association of Citizens of Czech origin Česká Beseda Sarajevo celebrated the 15th anniversary of renewal of their work. The celebration of the 15th anniversary of renewal of the work of Česka Beseda Sarajevo and St. Vaclav's Day took place on 28 September 2011 in the St. Anthony's Franciscan Monastery in Bistrik



The major event was the opening of the Czech Corner Library with fiction books, professional journals and magazines, children's books, publications of Česka Beseda and treasures of archives. President Jovanka Manžalović Šalaka spoke about that as well as of the further program.



This was followed by several Czech lidas and lidovkas performed by Lira Tamburica Orchestra. Accompanied by them, Martina Milošević sang a potpourri of Czech songs, and Zvezdana and Ivan Stuchlý sang Kristinka. All songs were arranged by the leader of Lira, Mr. Anton Tvrtković.



Floral displays arranged by Ljerka Latal Danon for the jubilee contained also the roses brought by her grandfather from Czechia in the end of the 19th century, which bloom in Sarajevo even today.

Tomislav Krzyk prepared a presentation on a great Czech woman writer Božena Němcová and her most famous book Babička with slides he took during his visit to Babiččino údolí.



Director of the Ethnology Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic from Prague, Dr. Zdeněk Uherek, presented his new book Češi v Bosně a Hercegovině. His presentation was interpreted by Jadranka Šuster. A guest from Czechia and his assistant Veronika Beranska brought a beautiful present for the anniversary of Česka Beseda : a Czech national costume which the Ethnography Museum from Brno gave as a gift under auspices of Dr. Jana Pospíšilová. A woman's national costume from the village of Šlapanic, ten kilometres from Brno, was made by Zdeňka Drlíková in 1993..

Then the cocktail party followed with guests who graced the celebration. The following persons attended the party: Consul Jana Stará, guardian Perica Vidić, Deputy President of the Council of National Minorities of BiH Vasilija Ibrahimagić, Assistant to the Mayor of the Municipality of Novo Sarajevo responsible for Social Affairs Emina Rovčanin, representatives of Associations HUM, SKD Cankar, Association of Italians and Association of Bosnia and Czech Friendship Snješka, Principal of the Secondary School for Environment and Wood Design, Nada Miletić and other guests.

The 15th anniversary of Česka Beseda Sarajevo will be fondly remembered by all participants for interesting program and pleasant atmosphere, and the leaflet, new edition of Informator and a jubilee badge designed by Igor Sivjakov.

**Leona Sabolek**



## Hello!

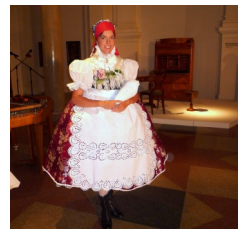
I wanted to send you a letter earlier, but I was preparing the costume for a museum symposium, so I did not have time to do so. I am sending you the information about the costume I have sent you: It is the costume from Šlapanica a place 10 km east of Brno, the costume has been made for a single girl whose waist is 75 cm. I made it in 1993 for young girls whose director I was in the Vrčka Ethnographic Choir. It was then when I made 4 costumes, two for my daughters, one for myself and one "just in case", that is, in case that someone needs it, and now you in Česka Beseda need it, so I have sent it to you.



### How to put the costume on:

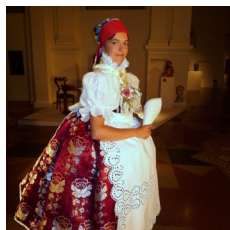
- The first thing you put on are white socks, white shirt and white underpants, then you tie a jelito (a little round cushion) (Mrs. Jana from the Museum will send you a photo showing how to tie the cushion – she took a photo of me), it is tied in a knot, behind the girl's back..

- Then the underskirts are tied to jelito (the little cushion) starting with the shortest one, each has to be tied tightly behind the back and while doing so, the girl has to take a deep breath. The first two underskirts have to be tightly tied and must not stick out at the back. Then the third underskirt is tied. Two longest pleated underskirts are put on one another, and then upper silk skirt over them. These three skirts (two underskirts and one silk skirt) are put on at the same time over the head and each of them is tied separately. They are tied in the same manner like the first three- one has to pull them strongly behind the back and then tie firmly.
- Important!!! The skirt with pressed pleats is tied behind the back, and in front, on the belly, there should be a 60 cm long flat ironed part of the skirt. No pleats in front, please!!!
- The skirt is ironed in 9 pleats, the fifth is in the middle and it has to be in the middle of the back, otherwise the skirt will be awry.
- Then sleeves and a waistcoat are put on, which have to be sewn or pinned to the shoulder, depending on the size of the person putting on the costume. The blouse with the sleeves is then "tucked in" the silk skirt and then tied.
- The apron is tied over the front parts of the waistcoat, and behind the back over long ends of the waistcoat.
- Then the collar is put on the neck – turned upward, and a silk scarf around it and on the back. The end of the scarf is in the middle of the back, and then the two front ends of the folded scarf (diagonally) are pinned with the brooch to the waistcoat. The loose ends are put one over the other into the waistcoat to appear as if the fringes hang from the waistcoat. Then they are firmly pinned. To hide the pins girls from Šlapnica use a bunch of fresh flowers. Carnations with asparagus are the best wrapped with ribbon).
- The ribbon is wrapped around the waist over the end of the silk scarf and tied into a large bow at the back.



### Hair dressing:

- Make a bun and put a wreath around it.
- Make braids and cross them at the back of the head, then put the scarf on the head in the same way as the photo shows taken by Mrs. Jana from the Museum.



### Starchning:

- Put 8 litres of water into a pot, then add 3 tablespoons of starch heaping full, and one tablespoon of borax, filling it full. Stir it well and then soak the underskirt well, wash it out and rub it out and squash it in a towel or bigger underskirt and iron it while it is wet. While being ironed the underskirt dries and the pleats are made. If the iron sticks to the cloth, then you should use the soap. Soap the underskirt and it will not stick to the iron. Before the pressing 9 pleats should be made, making sure that in the front of the underskirt, on the belly there is 60 cm of flat cloth and then the first plate.
- A white apron and a white or wine-red (dark red) bow goes with the silk pink skirt, and wine –red ribbon bows may be tied around sleeves. The light blue apron goes with a white striped skirt, light blue bow and light blue armbands on the sleeves.
- Ribbons are not worn in Šlapnica but they do appear in Brno, thus you may well tie them to make your costume more colourful. I think I have told you everything about the costume. Regretfully, I did not understand your letter correctly, but I will go to the Museum, and have it translated there. Then I will respond to it again. Have a nice day and I wish you a lot of joy wearing the costume from Šlapnica,