

How are we all related?



Answer: We share a common ancestor

...for most of us, that is **Matej Komasa Souhrada and Anna Stara**

- **Matej** was born on a winter day in January, 1796 in Dolni Novosedly, Bohemia, the 11th (of 13) children of **Jan Komasa** and **Eva Styblova**.
- At least 5 of his siblings would not live to adulthood.
- **Anna Stara** was born in 1794.
- They were married in 1814...he was 18 and she 20.



Francis II, Holy Roman Emperor



Matej Komars Souhrada and Anna Stara

- They lived at #2 Dolni Novosedly, the same house as Matej's father (**Jan**), his grandfather (**Ondrej**) and his great grandfather (**Vitus**) before him.
- This house still stands today.



Matej Komas Souhrada and Anna Stara

- They had nine children (the first five of those over a six year period!)
- Tragedy struck in March of 1822 when their oldest and youngest child die 10 days apart...**Josef** (age 7) and **Barbora** (age 1)
- Matej Komas died at age 70, his wife Anna at 60. They are buried in St. Michael's cemetery in Záhory in a common grave shared by many of their ancestors and many of their decedents.






RODINA SOUHRADOVA
 z DOLNÍHO ZÁHOŘÍ

VÁCLAV
 * 9. 12. 1956 — † 30. 10. 1962
ZDENIČKA
 * 22. 5. 1964 — † 28. 10. 1964

SOUHRADOVA
 z VLASTCE

RODINA SOUHRADOVA
 A
KLOBOUČNIKOVA

RODINA SOUHRADOVA
 A
MACHŮVA


RODINA ŘÍHOVA
 A
SOUHRADOVA
 ZE VLASTCE

BICANŮVA
 SPĚTE SLADCE

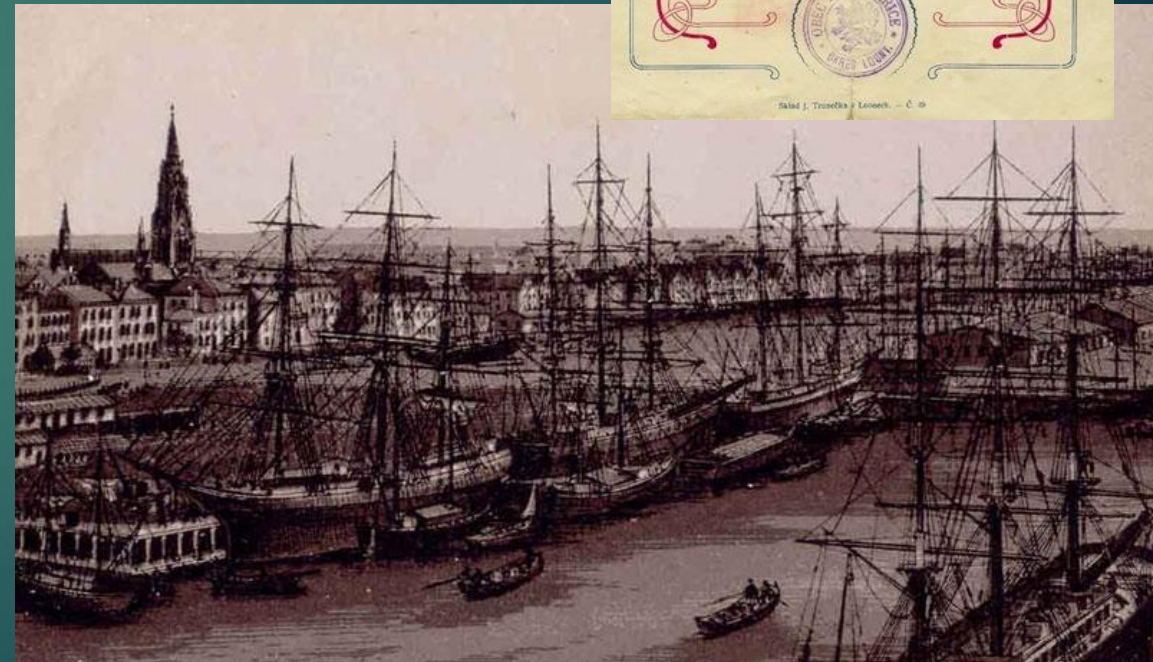
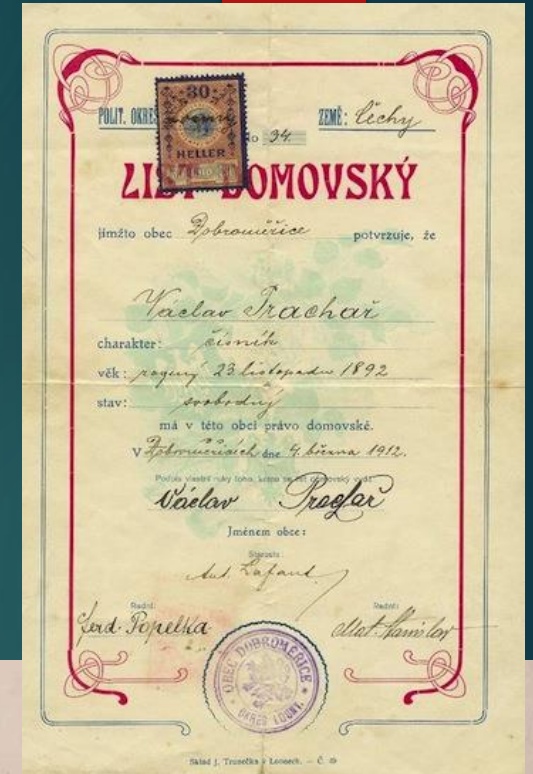
SOUHRADOVA
 DOLNÍ NOVOSEDLY č. 2

There are many Souhrada's from different houses and generations all buried at St. Michael's.

Matej Komas Souhrada and Anna Stara

- Two of their children emigrated to America...
 - **Matej J.** in 1870, at age 37, and...
 - **Jan Nepomucky** in about 1892, at age 63 (Note: two of Jan's children precede him to America)

Oldest son **Frantisek** stays in Bohemia and inherits house #2 and farm.



Matej J. Souhrada (1833–1905) Veronika Luzum (1835–1912)

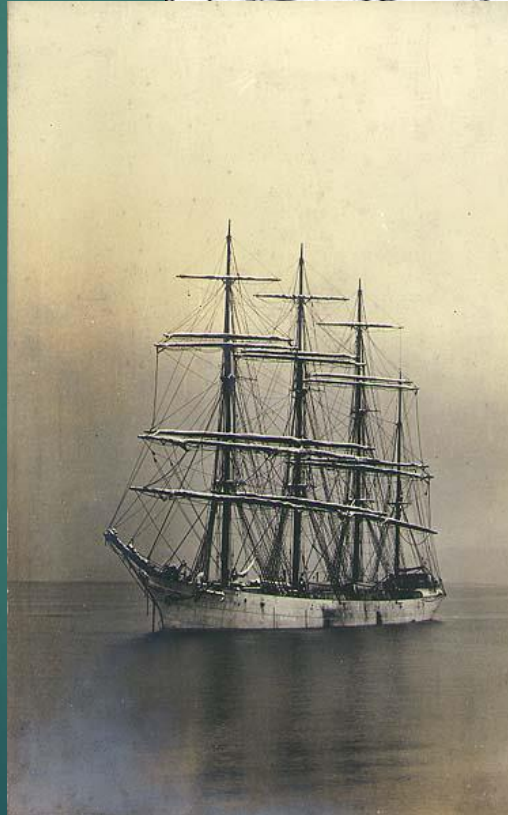
- Matej J. was pressed into work as a farm laborer as a young man. Later moves to house #7 in nearby village Brloh
- meets future wife Veronika at #2 Brloh where she was a maid and he was a farm laborer.
- They were married when he was 26, and she 23
- The couple later move to house #20, Dolni Novosedly



Matej J. Souhrada (1833–1905) Veronika Luzum (1835–1912)

- In 1870, the family set out for America with six year old son **Johann**, four year old daughter **Anna**, and 11 mo. old infant son **Thomas**
- Also with the family was their 18 year old nephew **Vaclav Souhrada** (oldest son of his brother **Jan**).
- They came on the sailing ship "Amaranth" (along with 324 other immigrants!)

61	Berta	5	5	Ym		
62	Wilhelm	2		m		
63	Heinrich		3	"		
64	Michael	65	7	"		
65	Johann Hegebauer	75		"		
66	Johann Bauch	44	2	"		Ohio
67	Caroline	15		Ym		
68	Carl	11		m		
69	Matthias Souhrada	28		"	Bohemia	New York
70	Veronika	26		Ym		
71	Johann	6		m		
72	Anna	4		Ym		
73	Thomas	11		m	Prussia	





1881

Letošní výprava

brémských poštovních a parních loďí

z Bremen do New-Yorku

parní loď Bremen, kapitán Neynaber, parní loď Amerika, kap. Meyer, parní loď New-York, kap. Ernst, parní loď Hermann, kap. Wenke, parní loď Hansa, kap. Oterendorp, parní loď Deutschland, kap. Wessels, parní loď Union, kap. v. Santen a sice v následujících dnech:

- v sobotu dne 24. března,
- v sobotu dne 7. dubna,
- v sobotu dne 14. dubna,
- v sobotu dne 21. dubna,
- v sobotu dne 5. května,
- v sobotu dne 12. května,
- v sobotu dne 19. května,
- v sobotu dne 2. června,
- v sobotu dne 9. června,
- v sobotu dne 16. června,
- v sobotu dne 30. června atd.

Převozné ceny na těchto parních lodích obnášejí s úplnou stravou:

- v 1. kajutě 150 pruských tolarů aneb 225 zl. r. č. ve stříbře,
- v 2. " 110 " " " 165 " " "
- v mezipalubí 60 " " " 90 " " "

za jednu osobu přes deset let starou, za děti pod 10 let staré platí se polovička, za nemluvňátka pod rokem platí se na všech místech 3 pruské toлары.

Výborné trojstožárové, mědopevné, zvláště k přepravě cestujících vystavené plachetní lodi první třídy budou pravidelně 1. a 15. každého měsíce řádně do New-Yorku, Baltimore a jiných přístavů vypraveny.

Též se přijímají c. k. bankovky při placení za převozné vždy v nejvyšší denní ceně (kursu) i též jiné druhy peněz.

Na písemné poptávky podají ochotně zprávu

J. H. P. Schröder a spol.,

kupci a loďní výpravě,

aneb

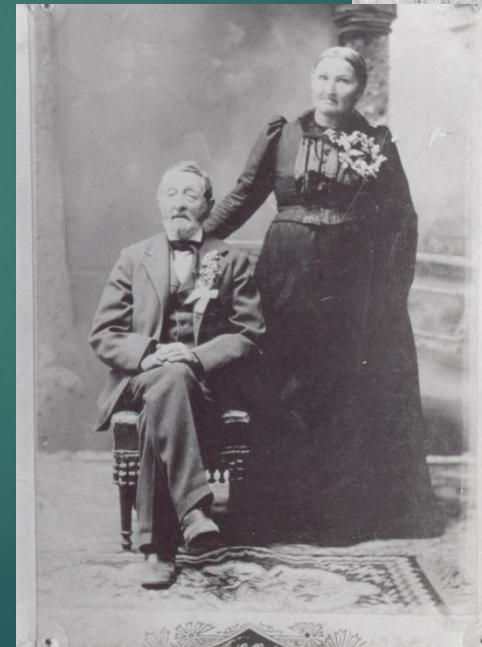
Jan Bušek,

pisárna: Langenstrasse číslo 32 v Bremách.

"The poorest wandered to the port on foot, others traveled by train where a traveling company's agent awaited them. At seaports the people waited for their ships a long time, which further increased their travel expense."

Matej J. Souhrada (1833–1905) Veronika Luzum (1835–1912)

- They arrive in America May 25, 1870.
- They settle in Cleveland where Matej works in the steel mills.
- In Cleveland, three more children are born:
 - **Frank C.**
 - **Ruzena “Rose” (Vavroch)**
 - **Antoinette “Nettie” (Radloff).**
- For health reasons, Matej and Veronika later move to Calmar, Iowa where daughter **Anna (Thaler)** was living. Matej and Veronika are buried in Calmar near daughter Anna.
- Their two youngest daughters lived here in Cedar Rapids. In fact, Rose’s services were held right here in Saint Wenceslaus church!



Jan (John) Nepomucky Souhrada (about 1818 -1918)

- Born in Dolni Novosedly, Jan had 15 children...11 from first wife **Barbora Anna Hanova**
 - in 1867, (Jan is now 49) their oldest daughter **Barbara** (age 21), and her husband **Michael W. Wosoba** emigrate to America with infant daughter Anna. *(Note: Other Wosoba's had preceded them. The Wosoba's and Souhrada's lived in neighboring villages in Bohemia as they do, even today.)*
 - Three years later oldest son Vaclav leaves for America with his uncle. (Jan's brother **Matej J.**)
- Jan begins to make plans to go to America with the entire family, but...
 - remaining oldest child (Rose) marries and wants to stay in Bohemia and...
 - wife Barbora dies (at age 54).



nd of
ford Jc

Jan (John) Nepomucky Souhrada (about 1818 -1918)

- Five months after Barbora's death, Jan marries **Anna Ticha/Tichy** in 1878. They have four children, two born in Bohemia.
- In about 1882 Jan emigrates to Iowa.
- About a year after Jan, **Anna** makes the journey to Iowa with:
 - Their daughter **Mary**
 - Their infant son **Michael**, and three of Jan's other children from his previous marriage
 - **John**
 - **Elizabeth "Lizzie"**
 - **Josefa "Josephine"**
- John was living in Oxford Junction at the time of his death. Some sources, say he was 100, most records indicate mid to late 90's.



Vaclav Souhrada (1851-1909)

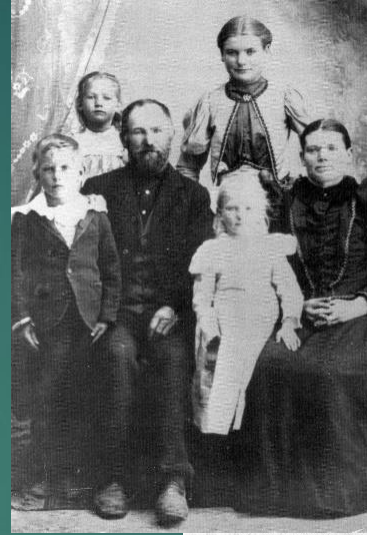
- Born in Dolni Novosedly (House #3), then emigrated to America at age 18 with his Uncle Matej.

- For a time Vaclav lived in Jones County and later moved on to the Saratoga-Cresco area of Howard County where he worked for the railroad. In 1879 he married Kathryn Bican (born in Pisek) and they began farming on a homestead claim near Saratoga, IA

- They had 11 children. Georgina, Vaclav, Anna Katherine, Kathryn, John J., James, Albert, Mary, Barbara, Martin, Libbie. **ALL** of them were born in the farmhouse pictured in the upper right corner.

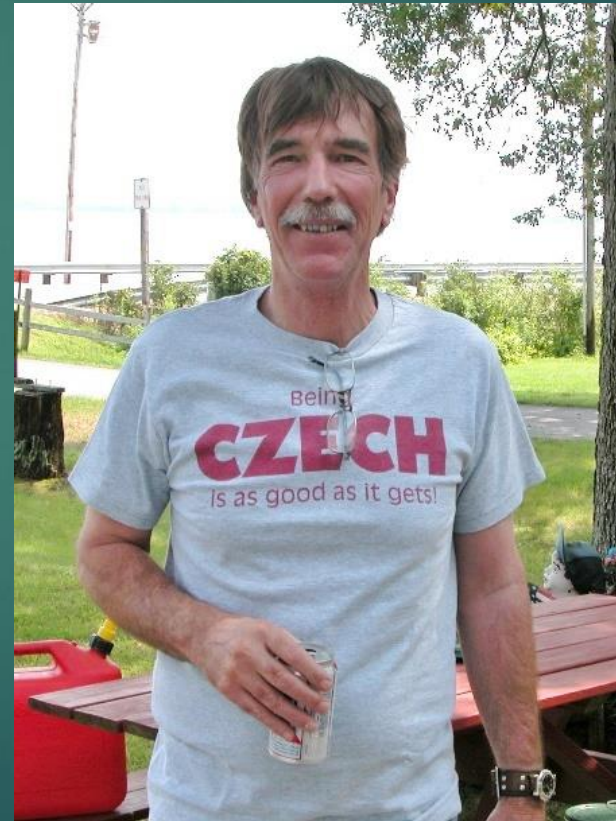
- In 1977 Vaclav's farm became an Iowa "century farm" It is still owned by Souhrada's today, Vaclav's grandson Dalyn.

- It was the location of the second Souhrada Family Reunion held in 1982



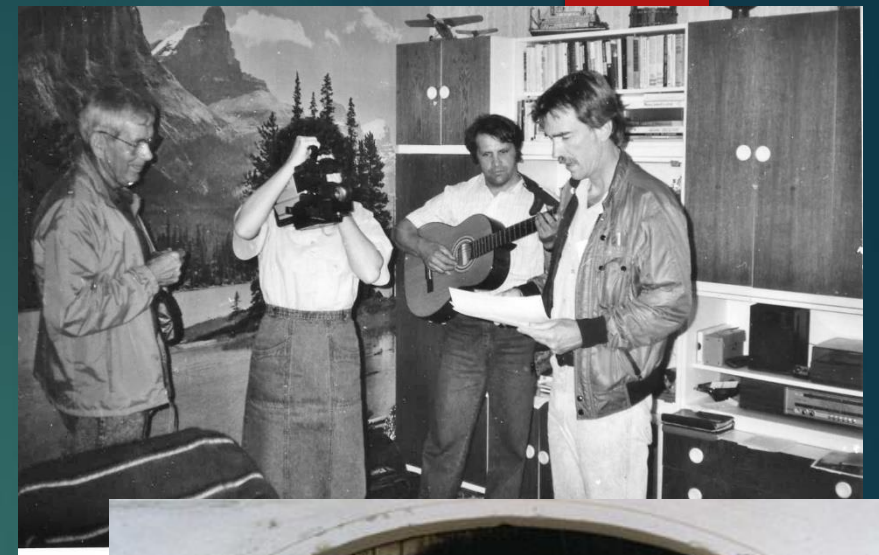
Making the connection: Reuniting Souhrada Cousins from the Czech Republic

- First known attempt to find Souhrada relatives in Czech homelands was in 1971. On a trip to Czechoslovakia to visit Vanicek relatives, Anton Vanicek, Velma and Gordon Flynn, mother Elizabeth Wosoba and Nelda Vanicek stopped in Pisek (population ~90K) looking for Souhrada's but unable to connect.
- 19 years later, **Frank Souhrada III** (great grandson of Matej) and wife **Linda**, following up on a lead in old family documents visit Dolni Novosedly (population ~200) but found no Souhrada's living there. They left their name and address with a brief note just in case any Souhrada may stop by.



Making the connection: Reuniting Souhrada Cousins from the Czech Republic

- 9 months later, Frank gets a letter from **Jiri Souhrada**, and quickly calls **Anton Vanicek** with the exciting news. Together they plan a joint visit back to the Czech Republic.
- **Jiri** is the great-grandson of **Frantisek Souhrada**, who in 1870 said good bye to his younger brother **Matej** as he left for America.
- It wasn't until 120 years later that their descendants would reconnect once again!



Matej Komars Souhrada (partial descendent chart)

- Franticek (Stayed in CZ)
 - Jan
 - Jan
 - Jiri
- Jan Nepomucky (Emigrated in 1892)
 - **Next Slide**
- Matej J. (Emigrated in 1870)
 - Anna Veronika (**Thaler**)
 - Frank C.
 - Helen (**Albin**)
 - Mike
 - Susan (**Watson**)
 - Frank C. Jr.
 - Pete
 - Frank III
 - Ruzena "Rose" (**Vavroch**)
 - Ella (**Douda**)
 - Antoinette "Nettie" (**Radloff**)

Matej Komars Souhrada (partial descendent chart)

➤ Jan Nepomucky/**Barbora**

➤ Barbora (**Wosoba**)

➤ Anna (**Henack**)

➤ Antoinette (**Burda**)

➤ Viola (**Powelka**)

➤ Vaclav

➤ **Next slide**

➤ Josefa (**Wosoba**)

➤ Hattie "Blance" (**Willimack**)

➤ Helen (**Vacek**)

➤ Patricia (**Lyon**)

➤ Mona (**Fuess**)

➤ Edna (**Henningsen**)

➤ Mary Elizabeth "Lizzie" (**Vanicek**)

➤ Anton

➤ John

➤ Elizabeth (**Jarvis**)

➤ Velma (**Flynn**)

➤ Barbara Jo (**Erickson**)

➤ Maureen (**Currier**)

➤ Jan Nepomucky/**Anna**

➤ Mary (**Collins**)

➤ Lydia (**Ethridge**)

➤ Michael A.

➤ Albert

➤ Michael Jon

➤ Catherine (**Wyrobeck**)

➤ Jan Nepomucky/**Barbora** (partial descendent chart)

➤ **Vaclav**

- Vaclav
 - George
 - Rosemary (**Knutson**)
 - Anna (**Merrill**)*
 - Deanna (**Comstock**)
 - Emma (**Stevenson**)
- Anna "Annie" Katherine (**Rassman**)
- John Joseph Sr.
 - Viola (**Leslie**)*
 - John Joseph Jr.
 - Janel (**Stephens**)
 - Dave
 - Emil
 - Cheryl (**Lamon**)
 - Jane*
- James
 - Viola (**Noska**)*
 - Lavonne (**Noska**)*
 - Dona Mae (**Urman**)*
 - Dalyn*
 - Mary (**Gerber**)
- Barbara (**Daws**)
 - Leota (**Campbell**)*
 - Connie (**Schiffert**)
- Martin
 - Marlys (**Gronwoldt**)
 - Darrell
 - Martin
- Libbie (**Prochaska**)*

* Attended 1st Souhrada Reunion in 1981

The First Souhrada Cousin's Reunion (U.S.A)

Bloomington, Minnesota

June 28th, 1981

- 8 of 17 first Souhrada cousins, grandchildren of **Vaclav and Kathryn Souhrada**, gathered at the home of **George and Leota Campbell** in Bloomington, MN

- One month before at the funeral of **Anna Katherine Souhrada Rassman**, Leota was invited by her cousin **Dalyn Souhrada** to visit his farm home the following day when five Souhrada cousins got together for the first time. This invitation was the start of the Souhrada Family Reunions.

- The following year, 49 cousins and their families attended reunion #2 at Dalyn's home in Lime Springs Iowa, Vaclav and Kathryn's original farm.

- Today we continue this tradition with our 35th reunion in the USA.



The First Souhrada Reunion

Krizatke, **Czech Republic**

September 9, 2000

- **Jiri and Vera Souhrada** of Pisek, CZ were hosts to the first Souhrada reunion outside the United States
- The festivities took place at a hunting lodge near Krizatke, overlooking the Souhrada farmland
- Seven relatives from the USA attended. (Anton Vanicek, Viola Noska Souhrada, La Vonne Noska Souhrada, John Vanicek, Janel Stephens Souhrada, Dave Stephens, and Velma Vanicek Flynn).
- Since then, there have been seven more Souhrada Family reunions in the Czech Republic.
- Reunion #9 in CZ is coming up next month. (September 10th and 11th).
- A visit to a family reunion in our ancestral homelands is an experience that you will never forget. It should be on everyone's "bucket list".



The Ninth Souhrada Reunion

Zahoří – at the Hunter's chalet , CZ
September 10 and 11, 2016

- Hosted by **Jiri and Vera Souhrada** of Pisek, CZ
- They will arrange for airport pickup in Prague and for local accommodations.
- Authentic Czech food, music, culture, and family exhibits





SOUHRADA FAMILY
REUNION
2004

1990 SOUHRADA
REUNION

SOUHRADA

1990 SOUHRADA
REUNION

Hand-drawn sketches and drawings held by people at the bottom of the collage.