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Spjst lodge 88 houston

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SPJST Lodge 88 Pokrok Houston came into existence on March 20, 1910, when the Czechoslovak Cultural Club Pokrok decided to establish a lodge. The club sent a letter to the SPJST Supreme Lodge requesting permission to organize and was granted the number 86, later changed to Lodge 88. The lodge's first meeting took place on May 1, 1910, at Bruner Park. Initially, meetings were held in the Clay Building for \$1.25 per month. To attend a meeting, members used a password to gain admittance from both inside and outside guards. In January 1911, a motion was made to explore finding a suitable location for the lodge's home. A committee was appointed to locate a site and report back at the next meeting. On February 12, 1911, the committee recommended two conveniently located lots in the Studewood addition for \$525 with a discount of 25% if construction began within three months. The membership approved, and the committee was given authority to close on the transaction. On March 11, 1911, the building committee reported that three lots had been purchased thanks to a generous member who lent additional funds. The first building of SPJST Lodge 88 was dedicated on June 18, 1911. In the years following the dedication, the lodge hosted many meetings, dances, and activities in their building. The membership voted on various matters significant to the history and values of our lodge, some of which continue to this day. Some notable contributions from the members at that time include providing monetary benefits to sick members (including other lodges), raising money for local charities, hosting drama plays, teaching Czech language classes, and setting up a Youth Club until its dissolution due to World War II. In 1934, the Lodge membership held their last meeting in their first home due to poor condition. The second home of Lodge 88 was built and dedicated on February 10, 1935, at 1140 Robbie Street. After the dedication, the members continued hosting dances, free picnics for their members, and donating to local charities. It was also decided that the new building would be rented out for parties or weddings as requested. Several years later, the membership voted again to begin searching for a new site for Lodge 88 since the current site had become older and not suitable for its original use. On August 24, 1962, a special meeting was held to announce the proposition to buy a nine-and-a-half-acre property on Beall Street. The membership approved this. The current and third site of SPJST Lodge 88 sits on twelve-and-a-half acres of property at 1435 Beall Street. The building was dedicated, marking a new beginning. A year later, the membership voted to construct an Olympic-sized swimming pool at the back of the property. The Lodge also built a children's playground and subsequently added tennis and basketball courts, as well as a gazebo. The members continued their activities and contributed to the community, introducing new events such as ceramic classes and hosting Little League games. The new location became a beacon of hope for future members. In 1996, an annex building was constructed behind the main Lodge building, providing more space for meetings, special events, and rentals. Today, our leaders are building upon past progress and keeping that beacon shining. Members have worked together to maintain the property on Beall Street and rejuvenate it to preserve its significance. SPJST is a fraternal organization open to all ages, promoting Czech heritage while welcoming everyone. Events include musical performances, dance groups, picnics, games, contests, summer camps, and youth activities. Lodge members participate in community service projects, contribute funds, assist hospitals and nursing homes, and support police and fire departments. The lodge hosts dances with live music throughout the year, open to the public. You can pre-purchase tickets or buy them at the door. Dress codes apply: formal attire on Big Band nights (ties and jackets for men; nice pants or dresses for women). Our bar is open, and you're welcome to bring your own snacks and drinks (with a \$4 corkage fee per bottle). No table reservations are accepted unless pre-purchasing tickets. Upcoming dances: