Going away this winter? Forwarding your mail? Don’t forget about the Slovo! We mail at bulk mail rates. The post office does not forward bulk mail. We pay an added 50 cents (or more) each time the post office returns an issue. Let us know your winter address, or ask us to hold an issue (or two or more) for you. We think our volunteers produce a great newsletter. We want to be sure you receive it!
Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota
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Past issues of Slovo and
Hall Calendar of Events:
www.sokolmn.org

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**Prezidentův komentář/President’s Notes**

By Judy Aubrecht

_Vážení členové Sokola a přátelé / Dear Sokol members and friends,

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota has been busy with many planning meetings to prepare for upcoming activities. Our annual Czech & Slovak Festival, which takes place on September 16, is a major event for our unit. The festival will include gymnastics, dance, and music performances; ethnic dinner plates, grilled food, and the always popular Sweet Shoppe bakery; plus a silent auction and children's games. Registration for classes, including Czech and Slovak language classes and gymnastics instruction for boys and girls, is underway. The gymnastics classes are very popular and often have waiting lists. Early registration is advised.

Another exciting event, _Slavnost_, takes place on Saturday, October 13, from 7 to 11 p.m. This 100/50/25 commemorative event remembers, honors, and celebrates the development of Czechoslovakia in 1918, the Prague Spring in 1968, and the establishment of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic in 1993. This festive feature presents a social hour that includes ethnic appetizers with a sampling of Moravian wine and Czech beer; a special program with honored guests, music, dancing, as well as a late evening dessert table. You will want to order your tickets now because the price increases from $25 to $35 beginning October 1. A postcard with a reservation form was included in your August edition of the _Slovo_.

On September 23, Sokol Minnesota member Ken Janda lectures at the C.S.P.S. Hall on his book, _The Emperor and the Peasant: Two Men at the Start of the Great War and the End of the Habsburg Empire_. Ken will also present this lecture in November at the Slovak Embassy in Washington D.C., and at Northwestern University, in Evanston, Illinois, where he is a professor emeritus in the political science department.

The _Dožínky_ Festival and Car Cruise takes place in New Prague, Minnesota, on Friday and Saturday, September 21 and 22. The Friday night Car Cruise highlights vintage cars from 1998 or older in show condition. A festival highlight is the Parade of Farm Pride, which includes farm equipment, local groups, and bands. Entertainment includes musicians, singers, and dancers. Food booths and trucks, vendors, and authentic Czech beer are also very popular.

Over the weekend of September 28, both the Czech Centennial Gala and the Moravian Day weekend take place in Chicago. The weekend includes a black tie dinner gala (organized by Bořek Lizec, Consul General of the Czech Republic in Chicago), concerts, dancing, an art exhibition with featured artists Alphonse Mucha, Albin Polášek and Vojtěch Preissig, a guided tour of the Bohemian National Cemetery, and Moravian Days. Moravian Days activities will include dancing performances, singing, a bazaar with authentic pastries and food, as well as Czech beer and Moravian wine. For complete information, go to <https://czechcentennialchicago.cz/event/czech-centennial-gala>

Over the past year, we have raised about half of the matching funds needed to secure the City of Saint Paul's STAR grant. Our portion of matching money must be raised by July 2020 to qualify for the full $86,000 grant. The grant will be used for roof and masonry repairs, including brick tuckpointing. Please continue to be generous and help us to qualify for the full STAR grant.

_Nazdar!_

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**Special Festival Exhibits Focus on CzechSlovakCentury**

_CzechSlovakCentury_ exhibits are a focus of the Czech & Slovak Festival on September 16 at C.S.P.S. Sokol Hall in the first-floor classroom and on the third-floor balcony.

**Festival hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

_Czech Monetary exhibit_ tells the history of Czech money, including a display of the current banknotes with a description of the famous people on them. Several Sokol members have offered to display their old coins and old banknotes.

_Carpatho-Rusyn storyboards_, created by Karen Varian, tells the story of a man who lived in the same house his whole life, but lived in five different countries.

_Kroje exhibit and Lace exhibit_ to advertise the _Kroje_ Style Show on November 11.

_Games for Children_ (of all ages), including the large wooden puzzle of the Czech Republic and Slovakia, made by Ken Janda. Children can also enjoy a game based on the money theme.

1918-2018 **Focus on the History of the 100/50/25 Anniversaries** features our large map of the Czech Republic and Slovakia with information on the table about both countries and the 100/50/25 anniversaries that we are celebrating this year.

**Display of 23 small free-themed art boxes (minisalon boxes)**, created by Sokol Culture Camp 2018 children, inspired by dissident artists in Czechoslovakia in 1984, with the theme: Freedom in a Limited and Limiting World. As seen through the children's eyes, this art is thought-provoking.

2 September 2018 _Slovo_
Highlights from the July Board of Directors Meeting  
By Denise Stibal, Recording Secretary

The Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors held its monthly meeting on July 19 at 7 p.m.

Publicity Directors Ken and Ann Janda are stepping down from their duties; recruitment will begin for the position.

Tickets are available for the Slavnost centennial celebration and party on October 13. $25 until September 30; $35 after. Letters have been sent to local businesses requesting gift cards for Slavnost.

Ed Hamernik reported on building repairs, including window replacement, stucco, tuck pointing, and roof repair. Permits will be obtained to begin work on the projects. Glynis Grost Stephan reported that our Biz Recycling Grant has been approved which could provide us with up to $10,000.

No new members for July, current membership is at 276.

Jean Draheim received a request from the International Lace Society to host a bobbin lace class (beginning and master) on a Sunday afternoon. The motion approved.

Joyce Tesarek reported on the Czech Government Grant of $4,260; she distributed a list of items to purchase, including desktop and laptop computers, whiteboard, and printer. Motion approved. The next grant deadline is August 1; requested funds will be used for the annual Fall Festival and general building repairs.

Dan Bednar, Board of Trustees, reported on research for the new freezer for the C.S.P.S Hall; a motion was approved to allow up to $5,000.

Gaming Manager Ed Hamernik gave the report for the fiscal year, with an income of $61,300. Ed provided a detailed list of operating expenses, as well as donations to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota.

Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors  
By Glynis Grost Stephan, Corresponding Secretary

Sokol Minnesota greatly appreciates your donations supporting Sokol programs and the refurbishing of our historic C.S.P.S. Hall.

$100 - $499: Fred Simon to thank Tom Aubrecht for the use of his kroj for Montgomery’s Kolacky Days.

GENERAL FUND: $5,000: Anonymous.

In memory of George Chlebecek: Under $99: Kathleen and Jack Anderson, Janice Baker, Alicia and Raymond Brozovich, Mary and Denis Cahill, Carol Dammann, Mary and John Dolejsi, Barbara and James French, Katie and Donald Haselbauer, Marilyn Hanson Hickok, Libby Imbrone, Carol and John Jacobsen, Robert Kostichka, Claudia and Paul Kraehling, Jeann David Linne, Sharon Liska, Donna O’Brien, Gregory O’Brien, Richard O’Brien, Elsie Roeke, Camille Schroeder, Jessica and Neil Segal, Ina and David Sickels, Gerald Thompson, Louise and Chuck Wessinger, Carol and Karl Williams, Cinder Winkel, Bonnie and Bart Wylie, Sharon and Ken Wyberg, Phyllis Vosejpka. $100 - $499: Marjorie Bingham, Megan Cahill, Patricia and Jim Dolejsi, Paul Folin, Beverly and Lenard Noyes, Penny and Tom Tesarek, Norm Petrik, Joyce Tesarek.


Legacy Fund: $207  General Fund: $6,590  Gymnastics: $20  TOTAL: $6,817

Grant and Fundraising Updates  
By Joyce Tesarek

Our historic C.S.P.S. Hall, built in 1883, still looks good thanks to the continuing care and support of so many of you. To help fund our current projects, including the roof and masonry repairs, we were awarded a Saint Paul STAR Grant for $85,979 from the Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants Program. This is a matching grant, and to access these funds, we need to match $85,979.

We have raised $36,814. Only $49,165 to go! Thanks for all your great support for our C.S.P.S. Hall.

If you would like to donate, go to our website at <www.sokolmn.org> or send a check, using the donation form below. Thanks!

Salute the Czechoslovak Centennial!  
Slavnost, October 13  
Sokol Minnesota’s Celebration

Tickets are on sale now. Go to <sokolmn.org>

C.S.P.S. LEGACY FUND

In order to complete repairs to our roof and brickwork, we need your help! All donations are 100% tax deductible and will help match the $85,979 City of Saint Paul STAR grant.

Let's get the Hall in shape as we commemorate 2018: our 131st anniversary and the centenary of the birth of Czechoslovakia.

Contact Joyce Tesarek to discuss your tax-deductible donation: 612-822-6147 or <finance@sokolmn.org>  
Thank you!

Name: ______________________________

Address: ______________________________

City: __________________________ State, Zip: __________________________

Phone: __________________________ Email: __________________________

To help Restore, Renovate, and Refurbish the C.S.P.S. Hall, I make a tax-deductible donation of $ __________________________

I would like my gift designated: ☐ in memory or ☐ in honor of: __________________________

Make checks payable to Sokol Minnesota

Write Legacy Fund in the memo line

Mail to C.S.P.S. Hall Legacy Fund

Attn: Treasurer

383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Or donate online: www.sokolmn.org

September 2018 Slovo 3
Čas letí (time flies)!  It’s that time of the year again!

**Fall Session Czech and Slovak Classes**

**Beginning Czech**  
Monday, September 17 at 5:30 p.m.  
Instructor is Blanka Brichta

**Advanced Czech**  
Tuesday, September 18 at 7 p.m.  
Instructor is Renáta Tichá

**Intermediate Czech**  
Wednesday, September 19 at 7 p.m.  
Instructor is Blanka Brichta

**All Levels Slovak**  
Tuesday, September 18 at 5:30 p.m.  
Instructor is Barbara Carlson

Classes are very diverse; students join for many reasons, which range from learning basic words to expanding their conversational skills.

Opportunities to explore the culture, heritage, and history of both the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic also are offered to the students. In the past, these have included attending screenings of Czech films and crafting traditional Christmas decorations for the front window display at the Hall.

If this sounds like fun to you, please join us.
Our fall classes start the week of September 17!

For more information, check out <www.sokolmn.org> or email education@sokolmn.org  We look forward to seeing you in the classroom!
Among the many exciting events this year celebrating the centennial of the birth of Czechoslovakia, one of the most exciting will be at The American Swedish Institute (ASI) in Minneapolis. ASI has invited Czechs to decorate one of the Christmas rooms for ASI’s annual Christmas celebration, November 10 to January 13. The Czech room will join the rooms created by the Nordic countries of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, and Finland.

To add an extra connection to Czechs, this year ASI will include a special exhibit from the book Tom’s Christmas Fish by Rita Törnqvist-Verschuur with pictures by Marit Törnqvist (first published in English in 1990 under the title *The Christmas Carp*, originally published in Sweden in 1989 under the title *Julkarpen*). It is the story of Tom going with his grandfather to buy a carp in Prague for Christmas. The theme of this story (buying a carp at the market) is near to the heart of every Czech.

There are many fine Christmas ornaments and decorations, owned by local individuals of Czech heritage (second, third, even fourth generation) or of Czech nationality, which will be in the exhibit. During the for two months of the exhibit, special events will include Czech folks dancers, caroling, classes, and music.

The theme at ASI this year is the Year of the Handmade. Czechs and Swedes share many fine handcrafts, from straw ornaments to hand-blown glass. The Czech Christmas exhibit will include both contemporary and the traditional customs. Our Czech holiday traditions will be displayed in the music room on the first floor of the ASI mansion. We plan to include vintage pieces of fine Czech glass and other works of fine craft. The National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids has been invited to participate.

We will have Sv. Mikuláš, anděl a čert (St. Nicholas, the angel, and the devil), along with a tree decorated with Czech-made/Czech-inspired ornaments. We also plan to create a facade of a Christmas market stall, complete with carp barrel. A table will be set for the family Christmas feast.

Watch for more details of this extraordinary exhibit in upcoming issues of Slovo. Mark your calendar to visit ASI more than once. ASI is located at 2600 Park Avenue South, Minneapolis. <www.asimn.org>
Once-in-a-Lifetime Celebration at C.S.P.S. Hall

SLAVNOST
Saturday, October 13, 7-11 p.m.

Tickets: $25 until September 30/ $35 after September 30

PayPal: Go to www.Sokolmn.org
Check: payable to Sokol Minnesota
Mail to: Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota
383 Michigan, Saint Paul, MN 55102

Pick up your tickets at Will Call at C.S.P.S. Hall, starting at 6:45 p.m., October 13

Social hour with Appetizers and late evening Dessert Table
Special Guests and Recognitions
Music and Dancing to SlovCzech Band
Entertainment and FUNdraising Games
Czech Wine and Czech Beer

SLAVNOST is hosted by
• Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota with support from
  Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota
• Česká a slovenská škola Twin Cities/Czech & Slovak
  School Twin Cities
• Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International
• Rusin Association of Minnesota
• Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers
• Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic for
  Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota

Sokol’s Czech & Slovak Centennial Party
100
1918 - 2018
CzechSlovakCentury.org

Remember | Honor | Recognize | Commemorate | Celebrate

100 years: the formation of Czechoslovakia 50 years: the Prague Spring reform movement
25 years: the creation of the two separate nations of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic
**2018 CGSI Symposium is on September 29: Celebrate Heritage and Culture**

Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International (CGSI) offers a full day to learn about and celebrate Czech and Slovak heritage and culture on Saturday, September 29, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Minnesota Genealogy Center, 1385 Mendota Heights Road, Mendota Heights. Cost for CGSI members is $50; for non-members, $60. Fee includes programming, continental breakfast, and lunch, plus a celebration of CGSI’s 30th Anniversary and access to the CGSI Library. Registration: <CGSI.org/2018/cgsi-symposium>

**One Hour Presentations**

**Introduction to Czech Genetic Genealogy** by Marek Blahuš and Martin Kotačka. Learn about DNA testing and its use in genealogy, with specific focus on the area of what is now the Czech Republic. In addition to DNA basics, ongoing research projects related to Czech DNA will be discussed, plus suggestions for using DNA in your research.

**Songs, Poems, and Slovak Identity** by John Palka. Learn how a number of songs and poems played an important role in the Slovak National Awakening of the 19th century, later in Czechoslovakia, and also in the Slovak diaspora. You’ll hear not only the stories, but the songs themselves.

**My Kids Aren’t Interested – What Do I Do Now?** by Suzette Steppe. What do you want to happen with your family history research? Family historians will learn the various options they have for successfully passing along their family history, as well as what they need to do now to prepare their research so it is welcomed with open arms.

**Cemetery Symbolism and Imagery: Grave Markers, Headstones, Tombstones, Stelae** by Cathy A. Dailey. The images engraved on your great-grandparents’ headstone may be pretty… but, do they also hold special meanings? Does the architecture within the cemetery have significance? In addition to the name, birth, and death dates listed on a tombstone, symbols may be another hint to your ancestor’s life’s story. Find out about the meaning of the various symbols, images, and architecture on display.

**Beyond Ancestry** by Debra Dudek. Not all research online can be conducted with <Ancestry.com> Learn about free, budget-friendly resources, plus exciting, and evolving websites from across the United States and parts of Europe.

**15 Minute Presentations**

**Clock Carving with the Bily Brothers of Spillville** by Stanley Maroushek
Hear stories about Stanley’s time spent with the clock carving Bily Brothers of Spillville, Iowa.

**German-Bohemians: Who, When and Where** by Robert Paulson
A short history of the Germanic peoples in Bohemia, and where they immigrated to in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

**A Youthful Quest Fulfilled** by Robert Paulson
Travel to the Borderlands of Czechoslovakia with the founder of the German-Bohemian Heritage Society as he learns about his immigrant family who once lived there.

**Vinobranie: Celebrating Wine in Slovakia** by Michael Kopanic
Lecture and slide show on a Slovak wine festival.

**Mini Czech Lesson** by Anna Cooková
Learn how to properly pronounce some basic words and phrases in Czech.

**Finding Clues in the "Not-So-Obvious, but Obvious Places"** by Cathy A. Dailey
Using clues in a cemetery to break through a brick wall.

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**Tree of Liberty Dedication on September 16 at Czech & Slovak Festival**

In recognition of the Czechoslovak centennial celebration in 2018, a Tree of Liberty linden will be planted at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota. The children of Sokol Minnesota will dedicate this new linden tree on September 16 during the Czech-Slovak Fall Festival. Children will write their wishes for the world, or their wishes for the future of their school, or their wishes for Czech and Slovaks everywhere, on paper, cut in the shape of linden leaves. These leaves, strung on colorful ribbons, will then be hung on the newly planted tree.

The Trees of Liberty symbolize the rise of Czechoslovakia. In the years 1918 and 1919 the people planted thousands of them. Mayors, pupils, and members of local associations participated in the planting. The trees were covered with ribbons, houses were decorated, an anthem was sung, and a list of memories was laid on the roots. The trees were also planted in later years (1928, 1945, and 1968) whenever people wanted to commemorate and celebrate the importance of liberty and democracy.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of Czechoslovakia, there is a year-long organized effort in the Czech Republic [https://www.stromysvobody.cz] to discover the long-forgotten Trees of Liberty, to give them professional care, and to plant new trees. At Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, we are joining our friends and relatives in the Czech Republic by planting a new linden on our property.
Sokol Singers gathered at the piano in the dining room at Sokol Hall on Tuesday morning, August 21, to sing favorite Czech, Slovak, and American songs. (L-R) Richard Sargent, Marlene Hinshaw, Bob Kostichka, Ann Janda, Director Don Haselbaurer, Norm Petrik, Pam Langworthy, and Ken Janda. You are invited to join the Sokol Singers at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at C.S.P.S Sokol Hall. No experience needed. Everyone is welcome! Sokol Singers will join the Czech Heritage Singers in New Prague at St. Wenceslaus on Sunday, October 28, 1 p.m., for the special Mass in Czech as part of the CzechSlovakCentury Celebrations in Czech Country Minnesota.

2018-2019 Czech-Slovak U.S. Royalty Crowned on August 5: First Runner-Up Elyssa Walloch of Scotland, South Dakota; Queen Janae Buckley of Omaha, Nebraska; and Second Runner-Up Heather Vikla of Lonsdale, Minnesota. The pageant is held annually in Wilber, Nebraska, the first full weekend in August. Congratulations to Sokol Minnesota member Heather Vikla who is also Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota 2018-2019.

Member News

Andy and Anne Jans stood beside their Škoda. This Czech automobile was the highlight of the Car Show at Kolacky Days 2018 in Montgomery.

On August 11 at C.S.P.S. Hall, the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center and Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota co-sponsored a talk about the life of famed Slovak architect Dušan Jurkovič. Presenter Mark Dillon highlighted Jurkovič’s many contributions to hospitality, civic monument, residential, and cemetery design in Slovakia, the Czech Republic, and Poland from the 1890s to 1947. Among Jurkovič’s many works were the Bratislava apartments for veterans of the Czech Legion. August 23 marked the 150th anniversary of Jurkovic’s birth in Turá Lúka.
Sokol Minnesota congratulates Claire and Theresa, our two Sokol Minnesota Gymnasts who graduated from the two-week Instructors Course at Sokol Cleveland in June. Marji Juba (on right) was one of many Sokol Cleveland members who lent a hand, wearing many hats as support staff at the Instructors Course from working in the kitchen to chauffeuring students. We all know that Sokols are great volunteers. Sokol Minnesota thanks Marji for helping our Minnesota instructors. Kudos to all Sokol volunteers!!

The tapping of the first keg of Stoleté Pivo (Centennial Beer) from Montgomery Brewing Company took place on the hot afternoon of July 28 during Montgomery’s Kolacky Days. CzechSlovakCentury Committee Members Jean Keogh (chair), M.L. Kucera, Fred Simon, George Mikliska enjoyed the brew with A.J. Newton (brewer) and Charles Dorsey (co-owner). Stoleté Pivo will be available at the Czech & Slovak Festival at Sokol Hall on Sunday, September 16, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. in Saint Paul and also at the CzechSlovakCentury Celebration on Sunday, October 28, 2 - 6 p.m., in New Prague at the Parish Activity Center, St. Wenceslaus Church.

Welcome New Members
By Norm Petrik, Membership Director

At the August 16 Board of Directors meeting, Marlene Tupy was accepted to membership. Marlene is from Saint Paul with interests in language, cooking, history/genealogy, and dance. Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!

Sokol Fall 2018
Regularly Scheduled Programs

• **Gymnastics**: Boys: Monday evenings. Girls: Tuesday and Thursday evenings.
• **Czech and Slovak language classes**: Monday through Wednesday evenings.
• **Children and Teen Folk Dancing**: Saturdays, 9 a.m.-noon.
• **Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities for Children**: Saturdays, 8:45 a.m.-noon.
• **Sokol Minnesota Singers**: First and third Tuesdays, 10 a.m.
• **Sokol Presents**: Special 2018 events, Sunday afternoons.

Louise Wessinger (right) and M. L. Kucera (center) discussed the importance of our local and national Czech organizations with Dion McInnis, National Development Officer for the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library, Cedar Rapids, on August 9. Dion praised the tour of our C.S.P.S. Sokol Hall that Joan Sedlacek gave him the day before.

Kroje Style Show on Sunday, November 11
Prepaid reservations by November 4 Call 952-941-0426
New at the Parade - Jarda and Jitka!

There will be a couple of new entries in this year’s Kolacky Days Grand Day Parade. One will be the appearance of Jarda and Jitka from Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota.

These 10-foot tall puppets will be in the parade, thanks to Rustic Farmer who is sponsoring their appearance. Owner Julie Bifano said she saw them on display at Sokol during a visit two years ago. She said she needed a kroj for Montgomery’s first May Day celebration and went to Sokol for assistance. It was there she “met” the paper mâché couple.

“I was so taken aback by them, and the Sokol board told me they can do parades, and I thought, I want to bring them to Kolacky Days!” she said.

Over the course of two years, Bifano had to convince the Sokol board to allow the oversized marionettes to come to Montgomery. They are protected from damage and harm and aren’t allowed to attend just any event.

“The puppets have godmothers, Sokol Hall members, who protect them and fix them and look over them. There’s maintenance to these guys,” she said.

“The decision to get them here was long because all of the members on the board had to agree,” she said.

Bifano explained that Montgomery was celebrating the Czech Slovak Century 1918-2018 and that it would be a great thing to have Jarda and Jitka in the parade to encapsulate the heritage.

Jarda and Jitka will come to Montgomery with several stipulations. Bifano and fellow Rustic Farmer owner Scott Stasney will have to be trained, before picking them, on up how to operate them. They also need to provide eight to ten people to operate the two puppets during the parade.

If temperatures get too hot, Jarda and Jitka are not allowed to “walk” in the parade and need to move via a trailer.

The Puppets

- Owned by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota
- They stand around 10 feet tall
- Heads are approximately 3 feet long and 2.5 feet wide
- Takes 3 people to operate each one, with others to swap out and give breaks.
- More than 300 pounds of clay was used to make molds for faces and hands
- Using paper mâché, ten layers of newspaper and paper bag strips were placed over the clay forms.
- Each layer took 24 hours to dry
- Body structures were built using PVC pipe.
- They are wearing modified kyjovské kroje from Moravia, which were custom sewn.

Lloyd Krocak (above left) drove his 1949 Plymouth in the 2018 Kolacky Day Parade on July 29 in Montgomery for Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic Marit Lee Kucera along with George Mikiska and Fred Simon, representing the CzechSlovakCentury celebrations on October 27-28 in New Prague, Montgomery, Lonsdale, and Veseli. These four towns are known as Czech Country Minnesota. In the parade, the Plymouth followed Jitka and Jarda, one of the most popular attractions, stopping often to shake hands with adoring parade goers. Sokol members worked the puppets: Jana Castillon, Julie Bifano, Michaela Giancarlo Kotek, Robert Kotek, Scott Stasney along with Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities members: Eva Giese, Darren Giese, Petra Riedel. Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers walked ahead: Jason Brozovich, Dawn Bulera, Rick Palma, Teresa Pojar, Sandy Prochaska, Louise Wessinger.

Royally surrounded Lloyd Krocak’s vintage car before the parade started. Representing Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota were Miss Congeniality and Second Princess Michelle Vlasak, First Princess Mary Carson, and Queen Heather Vikla. Representing Kolacky Days Royalty/Ambassadors were Queen Rianna Doyle, First Princess Elizabeth Trnkova, Second Princess Maggie Trnkova, and Miss Congeniality Kailey Mach.

In the car: M.L. Kucera, Fred Simon, George Mikiska, and Lloyd Krocak.
Sunday
November 11
11a.m. - 2 p.m.
Kroje Style Show

Presented by
Czech and Slovak Saint Paul Folk Dancers,
Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota,
and Ethnic Dance Theatre

Serving: Czech wine and canapés; Coffee and dessert.
Non-alcoholic beverage available.

Modeling: Bohemian, Moravian, Ruthenian,
and Slovakian Folk Dress (Kroje).

$16 per person. Limited seating.

Prepaid reservations are required
by November 4
To reserve call: 952-941-0426

C.S.P.S. Hall, 383 Michigan Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102
www.sokolmn.org

100
1918 - 2018
October 27–28, Saturday and Sunday: Czech Country Minnesota Celebrates CzechSlovakCentury. Saturday events include flags on immigrant family plots in 12 cemeteries and church tours in Montgomery, Lonsdale, Veseli, and New Prague; at the Hilltop Hall in Montgomery: culture camp for kids organized by Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota Pageant; genealogy by Czech Heritage Club; 100/50/25 commemorative booklets and other information at the Arts and Heritage Center.

Hilltop Hall is located at 201 First Street North, Montgomery. <www.CzechSlovakCentury.org>

October 27, Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Kenwood Symphony Orchestra, Psalm of the Sub-Carpathian Land by Eugen Suchoň, Ives Auditorium, 11411 Masonic Home Drive, Bloomington. <www.kenwoodsymphonycorchestra.org>

November 10–January 13: visit the Czech Christmas display at the American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Avenue, Minneapolis. <www.asimn.org> (See page 5)

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED
Wanted for Czech & Slovak Festival in September and Slavnost in October

Silent Auctions are a popular part of our Sokol events!

If you have special items, tickets, or gift cards to donate, please bring them to the C.S.P.S. Hall. Box your donations and leave them in the first floor classroom or in the closet on the second floor. Label them “Silent Auction.” Include your name/address for a donation receipt.

Contact Glynis Grostephan: <ggrostephan@earthlink.net> or call 612-724-0932 if you have questions or need to arrange a drop off.
Czech Roast Pork Dinner

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

Sunday, October 21, 12:30 p.m.

Menu: Roast pork, raised-bread dumplings, sauerkraut, rye bread, dessert, and coffee. Beer and wine cash bar.

$18/adult; $9/child under 9

Prepaid reservations required by October 16
To reserve call: 651-290-0542

Limited reserved seating

Pre-paid takeout available by reservation

C.S.P.S. Hall, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102

www.sokolmn.org
2018-2019 Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures

Join us for literary presentations and small-group informal discussions of Czech and Slovak books in English translation. Everyone is welcome. Discussions are sponsored by the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, and the Office of the Honorary Consul for the Czech Republic.

Book discussions are held on Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 12 noon at the C.S.P.S. Hall, 383 Michigan Street. Questions? Contact <gwen@cs-center.org>

September 8, Spaceman of Bohemia by Jaroslav Kalfař

October 13, A Romantic Education by Patricia Hampl

November 10, I Served the King of England by Bohumil Hrabal

December 8, The Little Town Where Time Stood Still by Bohumil Hrabal

January 12, Poetry reading by all attendees. Paper Shoes by Pavel Srubů

February 9, We Shall Live Again by Maurice Hindus

March 9, Lay Down Your Arms: The Autobiography of Martha Von Tilling by Bertha von Suttner


May 11, Fascism: A Warning by Madeleine Albright

Sokol Minnesota Annual Memberships

Renewals: Individual $50; Couple $90. Senior $40 (over age 65); Senior couple $80. New memberships: Individual $55; Couple $95. This includes a one-time $5 registration fee with our national organization, American Sokol Organization. Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's annual membership runs from January 1 to December 31. Dues are reduced for members joining after June 30.

Membership applications: <www.sokolmn.org> or by request from Norm Petrik (612-822-6147). Please send your completed membership application and check to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, Attn: Membership, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

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BOOK REVIEW

By Gwen Willems, Ph.D.

The Czecho-Slovak Legion and the Creation of a Nation


Available at libraries and bookstores.

 Dreams of a Great Small Nation has two significant strengths. One is that it alternates between giving readers information about the Czecho-Slovak* Legion and international events, thus putting the legion’s details into the larger context of World War I, the Russian Revolution, and the founding of Czecho-Slovakia in 1918. The second is that author Kevin McNamara drew on information not widely distributed before. After McNamara traveled 2,000 miles along the Trans-Siberian Railway and did years of research; a colleague told him about more than 400 first-person legion accounts that were published in the 1920s in the Czech language in five volumes. He had them translated into English. McNamara combines extensive secondary historical sources with these legionnaire memoirs to tell about the soldiers’ travels along the Trans-Siberian Railway, their thoughts, hopes, and fears as they fought for more than three years.

McNamara, an associate scholar of the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia, is a former journalist and U.S. Congressional aide. His book will interest European history buffs and anyone wanting to know more about Czecho-Slovak relations and nationalism in Europe.

The author shares fascinating details about the activities of Tomáš Masaryk, Edvard Beneš, and Milan Štefánik in exile, working to promote and build a Czecho-Slovak nation. Masaryk, the philosophy professor and protagonist of this fascinating story, traveled across the United States and Europe promoting the new country. He went to Russia to recruit Czech and Slovak prisoners of war into the legion. And lastly, Masaryk served as president of the First Republic for seventeen years.

While World War I descriptions tend to focus on the western front, this is an unusual view of the eastern front. The plan was for these soldiers to march across Siberia, board Allied ships in Vladivostok, circle the globe, land in France, and fight for the Allies on the western front. Instead, the legionnaires fought their way across the increasingly communist Russian empire, winning a long series of victories and seizing control of the Trans-Siberian Railway and Siberia. Along the way, what started as a small group of 250 former prisoners continued on next page
of war and deserters grew in size and discipline, and helped to destroy the Austro-Hungarian Empire and found Czecho-Slovakia.

As McNamara said in an interview (Radio Praha, May 14, 2016), “… by September 1918, while the legionnaires had taken over all of Siberia they had done it with only 50,000 men. And at the time of their greatest victory, they were immediately overstretched, outnumbered, and they were not being supplied by anybody. And so from September 1918, they start to fall back and die, frankly, while Trotsky builds up this Soviet Red Army. And the fighting goes on for a long, long, time and the men are virtually abandoned by the Allies except that back in America and Western Europe, Masaryk is being hailed as a hero and a savior and the Allies give the Czechs and Slovaks their country at Versailles in 1919.”

In 1920, the legionnaires returned to Europe from Vladivostok in five US Army troop transport ships and additional ships arranged by Beneš and his associates through a loan from Washington to the new Czecho-Slovak government. Estimates are that a little more than four thousand legionnaires died in Russia. Masaryk estimated that forty-five hundred died in all of Russia, France, and Italy.

*Note: McNamara consistently used the term Czecho-Slovak, rather than Czecho-Slovakia, for the legion and the new nation.

Gwen is coordinator of the Literary Ventures: Czech and Slovak book discussion group. For more information, go to <www.cs-center.org> or contact <gwen@cs-center.org>.

Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures members discuss Spaceman of Bohemia by Jaroslav Kalfàa on Saturday, September 8, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., first-floor classroom, C.S.P.S. Hall.

Ken Janda’s talks about his book, The Emperor and the Peasant, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, September 23, at the C.S.P.S. Hall. Open to the public, this talk was originally scheduled for April 15, but was canceled due to the record-breaking snowfall.

The book is about World War I and Slovak and Czech emigration to the United States. This history, presented in alternating chapters as two intertwined narratives, juxtaposes the experiences of Emperor Franz Josef and Samuel Mozolák, a Slovak peasant and grandfather of the author’s wife. Mozolák emigrated to New York, started a family, returned to Slovakia, and died on the Eastern Front in World War 1.

The book will be available for purchase with a book signing to follow the lecture. It may be purchased in advance online from the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International at <https://www.cgsi.org/store/item/310775> or from the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library at <http://www.ncsml.org/product/emperor-peasant/>

A Sokol member, Kenneth Janda is Payson S. Wild Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Northwestern University.

The April issue of Slovo, page 9, carried a review by Mark Dillon of Janda’s book.
EVENTS AT C.S.P.S. HALL
ATTEND AND VOLUNTEER!
Sokol Minnesota Events

29th Czech & Slovak Festival
C.S.P.S. Hall • Sunday, September 16, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Ethnic food, folk dancing, exhibits, bake sale, gymnastics,
live music, beer garden, silent auction, children’s games,
vendors and more! Free admission. Accessible facilities.
Volunteer to help: 612-822-6147 or <Festival@sokolmn.org>

The Emperor and the Peasant
Kenneth Janda’s book presentation
C.S.P.S. Hall, Sunday, September 23, 2 p.m.

Centennial Celebration: Slavnost
C.S.P.S. Hall • Saturday, October 13, 7-11 p.m.
• Awards • Recognitions • Special Guests
• Music • Dancing • FUNdraising Games
• Small Bites and Desserts • Czech Wine/ Beer

www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota
Check for event updates: www.sokolmn.org

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota SLOVO September 2018

Fall 2018 Events at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota
383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102 | 651-290-0542
Go to www.sokolmn.org for the latest information | Questions? events@sokolmn.org

29th Czech & Slovak Festival, Sunday, September 16, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Music, folk dancers, gymnasts, children’s games, ethnic foods, Sweet Shoppe with koláče, Czech beer, vendors,

Volunteer to help: 612-822-6147

Slavnost: Sokol’s Centennial Party
Saturday, October 13, 7-11 p.m.
Social hour, special guests, entertainment, recognitions, FUNdraising games, music, Czech wine and beer,
late evening dessert table, dance to SlowCzech band.
Prepaid reservations by September 30: $25/after: $35.
Reserve at: sokolmn.org/upcoming-events
Czech Roast Pork Dinner
Sunday, October 21, 12:30 p.m.
Traditional menu: roast pork, raised-bread dumplings,
sauerkraut, dessert, and coffee. Cash beer and wine bar.
$18 adult, $9 child under 9.
Prepaid reservations by October 16: 651-290-0542

Kroje Style Show
Sunday, November 11, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Honoring Centennials: Founding of Czechoslovakia (October 28) and Armistice Day (November 11).
Presenting a style show of kroje and an historic review
of ethnic folk dress, along with Czech wine sampling,
canapes, coffee, and dessert. $16/person.
Prepaid reservations by November 4: 952-941-0426

Pancake Breakfast, Koláče, and Craft Sale
Sunday, November 18, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
$8 adult, $5 child under 9. $26 family of four.
No reservations needed. Pre-order koláče 651-290-0542
Reserve a craft table: 651-433-2008

Sokol Minnesota is proud to be part of the many special Czech and Slovak commemorations in 2018.
Sokol Minnesota is part of the Czech and Slovak commemoration of 1918-2018.

On-line calendar lists events throughout the upper Midwest at www.CzechSlovakCentury.org

Sokol Children’s Holiday Party
December 7, 7 p.m.
Dancers perform and special visits from Svatý Mikuláš, anděl a čert (Bishop, angel, and devil).
Czech & Slovak Family Monthly Events
Potluck suppers, family activities in Czech and Slovak
for children of all ages.
For monthly dates and more information:
www.facebook.com/CzechToddlerFun

16th Annual Candlelight Roast Duck Dinner
Saturday, January 26, 2019, 5 p.m.
Menu: soup, half a roast duck, potato dumplings,
sweet and sour red cabbage, and dessert
Limited seating. $23/person. Cash bar.
Prepaid reservations by January 14: 952-941-0426

Sokol gift shop open during Sokol Minnesota events.