75th Anniversary Slovak National Uprising Memorial Weekend August 24-25 An International Conference and Remembrance

Sign up at cs-center.org, Czech & Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota’s website.

Free conference registration by August 15 for sponsoring groups’ members.

Free Reception and Documentary Film, Saturday, August 24
Minnesota Genealogy Society Conference Center, Mendota Heights
2:10 p.m. · Viewing of a documentary film about the Slovak National Uprising
4:10 p.m. · Slovaks and Poles Together, Two 1944 Uprising stories
4:30 p.m. · Informal Light Reception/refreshments for Members of Sponsoring Groups

International Conference, Sunday, August 25 C.S.P.S. Hall, Saint Paul
8:15 a.m. · National Anthems of the United States and the Slovak Republic, instrumental
8:30 a.m. · Opening and Introduction of Sponsors
8:45 a.m. · How the Slovak State Came to Be and Why It Provoked an Uprising
9:15 a.m. · Nationalism, National Identity, and the Slovak National Uprising
10:00 a.m. · First Keynote Address, Historian from the Museum of the Slovak National Uprising
11:00 a.m. · Presentation of the 2019 Prize of Milan Hodža
11:15 a.m. · Lunch ($10 if a member of a sponsoring group and pre-registered and pre-paid by August 15)
12:15 p.m. · Documentary film *The Final Mission*, dealing with American airmen shot down over Slovakia and rescued by Slovak villagers
1:15 p.m. · The Story behind the Film, personal reminiscences and memorabilia
2:00 p.m. · The Resistance Movement Among the Carpatho-Rusyns
2:30 p.m. · Reminiscence: When the Uprising Came to My Farm in Becherov
3:15 p.m. · Other family reminiscences of the Uprising
3:30 p.m. · Second Keynote Address, historian from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
4:30 p.m. · Closing Remarks and Audience Discussion

Questions? Email mglendillon@aol.com or call 952-473-2765
Prezidentův komentář/President’s Notes  by Dave Stepan

Pozdrav! It’s halfway into the year and I still have lots to learn as president. Thirty-four years as a Sokol member and I have yet to take a gymnastics class. I’m closer to 60 than 50 and I still learn new things every day.

Counsel General of the Czech Republic Jaroslav Kantůrek and movie director Jakub Šmíd had a successful visit on June 8 in connection with the Czech That Film festival. It was one of the first warm weekends and from all that I heard their visit was enjoyable. Thank you to all of you who volunteered your time and talents. A special dakujem to sisters Marit Lee Kucera and Blanka Brichta who made their quick visit remarkable.

Our sister Jitka and brother Jarda puppets were on display July 20 at the Burnsville International Festival. These puppets were created by Sokol Minnesota volunteers and the Heart of the Beast Puppet Theater in 2004 and partially refurbished in 2018 with the loving touch of sister Doreen McKenney. Rather than spending their time just hanging out on the third floor, it was good to see that Jitka and Jarda are getting out into the community.

Mark your calendars for August 25 when the C.S.P.S. Hall will be the site of an international conference on the 75th Anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising. Having spent some time in Slovakia myself and having seen commemorative memorials there, I know how important this event is to Slovaks. At this event Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota will join others as recipients of the Prize of Milan Hodža, named after the former prime minister of Czechoslovakia. I look forward to seeing you there.

Steve Ernest, our new membership records Board member, has been working to organize a bicycling group called Kolo Sokol. These rides are meant to be a fun outdoor activity for Sokol members and friends. Upcoming ride dates are on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/kolo.sokol.mn. For more information, contact Steve at sjernest@hotmail.com. I’m looking forward to the next ride!

Did everyone read the Star Tribune “Home” section this past June 23? Our current education chair Pat Slaber and her husband Dick Vogel’s new home was featured. The view looks to be beautiful! Pat’s touch, together with Blanka Brichta’s, has been beautifying and updating the first floor classroom space. Stop in and take a look.

Our historic Hall continues to stand tall in the community. The parapets and upper few feet of tuck pointing have been completed and painted to match the existing color of the building. The north wall was the first side to have its tuck pointing reworked in this maintenance cycle. This work is invisible to most of us but necessary and critical just the same.

Longtime Sokol brother Ron Andrle, the twin brother of past president, Don Andrle, passed away June 12. Ron was a strong supporter of our Sokol camp in Pine City. I hope to see all of you at the annual booya picnic on August 11.

Sokol Hits the Trails!  By Steve Ernest

In keeping with Sokol’s mission of community and fitness, join Sokol members and friends for exercise on two wheels this year! If you like to bike, check out the Kolo Sokol Bike Club to explore local bike trails and bike-friendly locations. Kolo means bike in Czech and Slovak. The goal of Kolo Sokol is to organize safe, family-friendly outings that help strengthen the physical and social health of our community.

To find out when our rides are happening, go to our group page on Facebook (www.facebook.com/groups/kolo.sokol.mn) and click on the join group button. Or you can sign up for email notifications by contacting sjernest@hotmail.com
The 87th Festival of Nations was held in Saint Paul on Thursday through Sunday, May 2-5. Over 100 ethnic groups shared their culture and traditions through colorful folk dress, ethnic food, music and dance, crafts, and exhibits with the thousands of guests who visit the RiverCentre. Each year, Thursday and Friday mornings, thousands of students are bused in from schools around the Midwest. Friday evening through Sunday the event is open for all. Sokol Minnesota volunteers have represented the Czechs and Slovaks since the festival began. Besides offering great food in the Café, this year we again had a cultural display in the Exhibit area, and our youth, teen, and adult dancers performed. The Saint Paul South Bohemian Bagpipe Ensemble and the Lipa Slovak Dancers also performed.

Our Café booth again offered a menu of our much in demand halušky a kapusta (bacon and cabbage hot dish), jitnirice (Czech sausage); chlebíčky (liver sausage, radish, or egg salad Czech sandwiches), hot dogs, pork burgers, and fried cheese; and for dessert, cream rolls and cream cheese, apricot, raspberry, poppyseed, and prune koláče to choose from. This year Martina Gurgle and several assistants hand-decorated perníčky (honey ginger cookies) that delighted our guests.

The Cultural Exhibit was another chance for visitors to view part of the Czech Christmas exhibit that was on display this past winter at the American Swedish Institute (ASI) in Minneapolis. This much-acclaimed display was created by Doreen McKenney. Our booth featured Christmas market stalls with the popular carp barrel (Czechs keep the carp alive until it’s time to prepare their traditional holiday dinner) and wall murals of the city of Prague given to Sokol Minnesota by ASI. Not only did we share Czech and Slovak culture and have a fun opportunity for volunteers to enjoy each other, we made over $3,000. Volunteers helped with food prep, designing the cultural display, set up, take down, and staffing the kitchen and cultural booths, and offered wonderful dance performances by adults, teens, and children (see separate article). Thank you to all of this year’s volunteers!

Exhibit volunteers:
Chair: Blanka Brichta
Tom and Judy Aubrecht, Christy Banks, Blanka Brichta, Meghan Domonoske (Miss Czech Slovak Princess 2019-2020), Autumn Gare (Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Queen 2019-2020), Stana and John Gerlach, Glynis Grostephan, Jean Hall, David Hartman, Junior Ambassadors of Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant, Marit Lee Kucera, Zuzana Majkova, Madison McKenna, Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, Rob Sekora, Pat Slaber, Katerina Swenson, and Mendee Tarnowski.

Café volunteers:
Café Co-Chairs: Jason Brozovich, Dawn Bulera, Joyce Tesarek
Don Andrle, Pat Andrle, Judy Aubrecht, Tom Aubrecht, Diane Bell, Jason Brozovich, Megan Cahill Brozovich, Dawn Bulera and Julian, Mary Cahill, Dennis Cahill, Lucas DeBono, Cecelia Dillon, Mark Dillon, Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Shannon Duffy, Peg Endres, Sue Goodspeed, Glynis Grostephan, Roger Green, Martina Gurgel, Arlene Hamernik, Ed Hamernik, Don Haselbauer, Katie Haselbauer, Larry Hlavsa, Dennis Johnson, Lisa Johnson, Darla Kolb, Bob Kostichka, Pam Langworthy, Doreen McKenney, Rick Palma, Norm Petrlik, Teresa Pobar, Marketa Resong, Richard Sargent, Jitka Sebek and Sally, Joan Sedlacek, Terry Shima, Joanne Sipe, Ted Skluza, Dave Stepnow, Denise Stubal, John Tesarek, Joyce Tesarek, John Topic, Michael Topic, Dave Wanless, Louise Wessinger, Alena Younberg and Elsa, and Gary Zweber.

2019 Festival of Nations Dancing  
*by Louise Wessinger*

**Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers**  
The St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers are honored every year to share our heritage with all those who attend the Festival of Nations. This year on the main stage they presented three dances. The first dance was a combination of the Valašské Moravian dances *Pilky* and Čeladenský choreographed by Charlie Rusnacko for our group in 2005. The second dance was a women’s dance from Slovakia. The last dance was a lively Slovak dance called in English, *The Girl will be Happy*. The dancers also did a twenty minute presentation on the atrium stage which ended with an audience participation dance.

Adult dancers this year were Diane Bell, Dawn Bulera, Jason and Megan Brozovich, Dave Cammack, Bobbie Jo Chandler, Chuck Draheim, Lenka Hester, Stefan Heyn, Jyni Koschak, Pam Langworthy and Richard Sargent, Emma Martin LaPlant, Judy Metcalf, James Metcalf, Rick Palma, Teresa Pojar, Sandy Prochaska, Lucy Rose, Dave and Darnell Stepan, Brittany Stepan, John Topic, Michael Topic, Michaela Wentz. Louise Wessinger is Program Director.

**Taneční Mládež and Teens**  
The Taneční Mládež and Teen Dancers, sponsored by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, performed on the main stage of this year’s Festival of Nations. The teen group danced with 24 dancers on Friday for the students. They did three of their favorite dances: Bohemian *Kalamajka*, Slovak *Women’s Flip Dance*, and Czech Milovecká Polka. On Saturday the 36 children performed Czech *Boleslav*, *Boleslav* and Moravian *Pasačka* and 27 teens performed Moravian *Černá Vlna* and Slovak *Čerešničky*, *Čerešničky*. This is the 29th year the Taneční Mládež have performed for this event.

Children and teen dancers were Adam Acs, Asher Bendt, Adam and Ema Blul, Anna and Izzy Bracknell, Adela and Petra Bragg, Tanah and Zephyr Bulera, Izabela Carlson, Madeline Delay, Benjamin Doyle, Chloe and Marius Elias Morse, Lucien and Isabel Espinosia, Kristina Gurgel, Anna Hester, Althea and Kla’ra Hoffmann, Nora Holliday, Talia and Tiana Intepe, Callista, Keely and Seanna Kluzak, Kaya Koudela, J.P. Kraemer, Juna and Leo Krikava, Kamila and Olivia Marko, Adela and Liliana Peterson, Silvia Pulkrabek, Matthew Resong, Syylie Rose, Sara Rosenthal, Gregory and Savanna Shoultz, Sofia Scholtz, Sally Sebek, Isabella Spiess, Elisa, Everett, Eva, and Erik Swartz, Sophia Wenberg, Elizabeth Wentz, and Elsa Youngberg. Assistants: Dawn Bulera, Lenka Hester, Romana Pulkрабek, Lucy Rose, John Topic, and Michaela Wentz. The Dance Director is Louise Wessinger.

**Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers perform in Tabor, South Dakota**  
*by Louise Wessinger*  
This year was the first time in many years that the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers were invited to perform for Czech Days in Tabor. On Saturday, June 15, eleven members of the group performed in Sokol Park next to the Beseda Hall in Tabor. The dancers performed a dozen dances from the Bohemian and Moravian areas of the Czech Republic and from the Slovak Republic. Those dancing were Teresa Pojar and John Topic, Dave and Darnell Stepan, Rick Palma and Sandy Prochaska, Mike Topic and Jyni Koschak, Robert Jacobson and Diane Bell with Louise Wessinger, Group Performance Director, who announced the dances and spoke about *kroje* from each area. The performance was very well received and the dancers enjoyed performing for a large and enthusiastic audience. The festival itself offered lots to do and see. A fabulous Czech meal was served, 240 dancers performed the Czech *Beseda*, and the evening ended with a great Czech polka band. The group stayed in Yankton. One wild sight was seeing Rick on his Harley and Sandy on the back of Keley’s motorcycle riding in *kroje* to the performance in Tabor, with the Bohemian National Polka blaring so they could practice on the way to the performance. The dancers thoroughly enjoyed visiting Czech Days and are thankful to already be invited back for next year.
Taneční Mládež Children and Teen Dancers perform for Houby Days  by Louise Wessinger

The Sokol Minnesota Children and Teen Dancers were invited by the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to perform on May 18 for the community Houby Days festival. The children and their parents were very excited for the opportunity to perform and to see the exhibits at the museum. They had been invited to be in the morning parade and perform twice on the outdoor stage. However, the weather did not cooperate. Because pouring rain and kroje do not mix, the group was unable to be in the parade and both performances were in the museum ballroom. The families enjoyed the museum exhibits, street vendors, and carnival rides. Many had a fun guláš supper at a local restaurant. Many of the families also took the opportunity to visit Spillville, Iowa, home of the Bily Clock museum, on the way back to the Twin Cities.

Composer Antonín Dvořák and his family spent the summer of 1893 in Spillville.

A huge thank you to the families who took the time and effort to perform in Cedar Rapids. Although the group was paid $1,000 for performing, many of the group chose to donate their expenses to Sokol rather than be reimbursed. So a big double thank you to them.

The children and teens who performed were Adam Acs, Adam and Ema Blul, Adela and Petra Bragg, Tanah and Zephyr Bulera, Benjamin Doyle, Kristina Gurgel, Althea and Klara Hoffmann, Nora Holliday, Kaya Koudelka, J.P. Kraemer, Silvia Pulkrabek, Matthew Resong, Sylvie Rose, Sally Sebek, Sophia Wenberg, Bridget and Greta Yanta and Elsa Youngberg. Assistants were Romana Pulkrabek, Lucy Rose and John Topic. Director of the groups is Louise Wessinger.

Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities at the 6th Annual Sokol Camp Weekend  By Lenka Bragg

Sokol Camp in Pine City has been enjoyed by generations of Czech and Slovak descendants for its tranquil setting among the trees on the shore of Cross Lake. While one can seek an opportunity for a quiet getaway there, the group of members and friends of Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities filled the camp over Memorial weekend with the sounds of happy children running free, conversations both in Czech/Slovak and English, games played inside the lodge as well as on the large grassy areas, and songs sung around the campfire. The shaded rustic lodge and the tents pitched around it reminded those of us who grew up in the Czech Republic or the Slovak Republic of the camps we attended as children. We reminisced about the simplicity of those days by spending time together in conversations on the dock by the lake, roasting sausages over the fire, sharing breakfast in the lodge, and watching our children make memories without the usual distractions of today's life. We cherished the evening hours when we gathered around the campfire to sing songs in our native languages. The sounds of these songs, accompanied by a guitar (and an accordion this year) reminded us of the bond we share and transferred us to faraway times and places. The next day, our stay was completed with a meal of traditional guláš eaten on the picnic tables to savor the last moments of another eventful stay at Sokol Camp. We are grateful to all those who have maintained the camp over the years. It continues to be a special place to return to each year and make new memories.

August 2019 Slovo 7
The C.S.P.S. Hall rang with the laughter of 32 children’s voices during the annual Sokol Minnesota Czech and Slovak Children’s Cultural Day Camp from June 17 to 21, 2019. One change we feel really helped to improve camp this year was extending camp hours by a half hour in the morning and a half hour in the afternoon, which offered working parents a longer day and gave us more time with the children. An early-bird price discount helped us complete camp registration nearly a month before camp started. This facilitated group assignments and the selection of age-appropriate activities and materials.

Our theme this year was “Czech and Slovak Art through the Ages and Sports”. Our visiting guests on Monday were the Minnesota Czech Country Junior Ambassadors. These young ladies shared with us their growing knowledge of Czech and Slovak kroje (folk dress) and how the ambassadors represent the Czech and Slovak community. On Tuesday, glass artist Chad Holliday shared his knowledge of Czech glass art and then helped the children and leaders create their own glass art pieces. Joan Sedlacek took the campers on a tour of the hall, including the history-oriented third floor and the mysterious basement. On Wednesday, Czech swimmer Olga Špíchalová Espinosa told the children about growing up dedicated to her sport and swimming in the Barcelona and Atlanta Olympic Games. On Thursday, Blanka Brichta presented Czech composer Antonín Dvořák and talked about the Slavonic Dances he wrote using melodies from Czech folk music as the campers listened to the music.

Our craft director Doreen McKenney developed several wonderful projects for the children, including making pop-up art using Prague landmarks, which the children colored with watercolor pencils. Doreen was assisted by Jean Draheim. The peony design of Czech artist Alphonse Mucha was the inspiration for the children’s reverse painting on glass project. Graffiti art used in protests was demonstrated by making baseball cap visor designs and graffiti blocks; the blocks will be displayed at the Czech and Slovak Festival on September 15. (Continued on Page 9)
(Continued From Page 8) Cooking is one of the camper’s favorite activities. Cooking skills were tested as campers made goulash with hot dogs, apple pie tarts, *Halušky a kapusta*, and rolled out sugar cookies which they decorated themselves using Czech and Slovak designs. Judy Aubrecht, Anne Jans, Lorraine Olson, Peg Pursell, Lida Strot, and Theresa Schousek helped with cooking projects, but also prepared snacks and washed dishes. Sokol Minnesota has gone green, so we used compostable dishes, washable dishes, and some recyclable materials. Campers became very serious about disposing of their trash in the proper bin. Glynis Grostephan and Dawn Bulera helped keep us on track ecologically.

Czech language was taught by junior leader Kate, with her brother David filling in for Kate on Friday. Additional junior leaders were group leaders Lida, Anna, Chloe, and Elisa. Junior leader assistant Everett led games and helped us keep camp rolling. Junior leader jobs included helping with small groups and games, assisting with choice groups, and helping to move furniture for lunch and classes.

Our Sokol gymnastics instructors Claire, Ella, and Teresa, who teach our classes during the school year, led the gymnastics activities. We also had music each day to teach Czech and Slovak folk songs and dances. Louise Wessinger was the instructor, accompanied by her cousin, Don Haselbauer, at the piano.

In the afternoons, Glynis Grostephan directed our all-camp play. This year the play was *Tom and the Christmas Fish*. Props created by Doreen McKenney for the exhibit at the American Swedish Institute this past winter were used, as well as additional props made by the campers. The play was presented at the program on the last day of camp.

Campers were offered five choice classes in the afternoon. Jean Draheim led jewelry making, Glynis Grostephan taught off-loom beading, Diane Bell and her mother, Libby Imbrone, offered huck toweling embroidery, Lorraine Olson and Everett Swartz led the ever popular Lego castle building, and Anne Jans directed the Adventures and Surprises group.

One of the things Louise Wessinger always teaches to the children from day one is the big “V” word. That is Volunteers! Without all of our volunteers, there would be no camp. No one is paid at camp except our gymnastics instructors, which is required by our insurance coverage. Louise always explains to the campers that the reason volunteers spend hours getting camp ready and being there is because they enjoy being with children and helping them learn about our beautiful Czech and Slovak heritage. What impressed the leaders about this year’s campers was how friendly and truly kind they were to each other. Campers helped each other when it was needed and supported each other’s efforts. They were also wonderful singers! Thank you to everyone who made camp a memorable experience for all!
The last weekend in August is a time when it is easy to focus on preparing for a new school year or escaping to the Minnesota State Fair. Consider instead taking a day or two to learn what happened in Slovakia 75 years ago, and why it matters now.

The 75th Anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising. Starting in March 1939, Slovakia was ruled by a totalitarian government whose leaders ranged from Nazi collaborators to active supporters of Hitler (see Slovo, June/July 2019). On August 29, 1944, a coded radio broadcast from a secret transmitter in Banská Bystrica set in motion a massive armed rebellion against this regime; it was supported by the armed forces of the United States and other countries. German divisions expected to crush the Uprising in days, but in fact it took months. Horrific revenge was extracted—thousands of civilians around Slovakia were summarily shot and tossed into mass graves.

The International Conference. The story of the Slovak National Uprising, including accounts of personal sacrifices and courage, will be shared and discussed on August 24th and 25th in two locations at an international conference and remembrance. See event times, topics, and details on page 1. Historians, diplomats, and other experts on Slovakia’s history will gather on the conference weekend to provide in-depth insight and multiple perspectives on the Uprising, its consequences, and its present-day relevance. It is an opportunity to learn why Slovakia remains proud that tens of thousands of its people, at the risk of their lives, stood up against evil and for a better future society. See cs-center.org/uprising-75th/ or www.sokolmn.org/upcoming-events/ for the full list of speakers.

Recognition by the Ambassador and the Consul General of Slovakia. For the first time in the 137-year history of Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, a Slovak ambassador has written to directly praise the efforts of Twin Cities-based groups to increase awareness and knowledge of Slovak culture and history.

“I want to express my appreciation of your efforts to promote and honor this milestone of Slovak modern history and its heroes fighting against all odds. It is so important that Americans remember because they should be proud of their compatriots who supported our cause,” wrote Ivan Korčok, the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the United States, on June 14. See cs-center.org/uprising-75th/ or www.sokolmn.org/upcoming-events/ for the complete text of Ambassador Korčok’s letter.

A letter of support will be sent by the Consul General of the Slovak Republic in New York, Ladislava Begeć. Further, at least one, perhaps two, Slovak on-line newspapers will feature our event!

The Prize of Milan Hodža. Four organizations and two honorary consuls who have long cooperated on programs and events important to Slovaks, Czechs, and Rusyns, will be honored with the 15th Annual Prize of Milan Hodža, awarded under the auspices of the Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic. This is a prestigious national award that recognizes people and institutions whose work makes the culture, history, and values of Slovakia more visible on the international scene.

Milan Hodža is widely regarded by historians as one of the most influential Slovak political figures of the first half of the 20th century. He played an important role in the establishment of Czechoslovakia, held a variety of ministerial posts in Prague, and was the only Slovak to serve as prime minister of Czechoslovakia during the entire 20-year history of the Czechoslovak First Republic. Hodža is especially well known in international circles for advocating a federation of states in Central Europe, one of the concepts that later led to the establishment of the European Union.

The Prize of Milan Hodža has been awarded annually since 2005. There are two versions of the prize. One primarily recognizes scholars, the other recognizes institution or individuals who make visible the story of Slovakia in a way that captures public attention, whether within Slovakia or abroad. The first recipient of this version of the prize was the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The 2019 honorees are:
- Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota
- Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota
- Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International
- Rusin Association of Minnesota
- Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis, Marit Lee Kucera
- In Memorium, the late Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic/Minnesota, Donald Paťko (1939-2017).

(Continued on Page 11)
Czech and Slovak Language Classes start the Week of September 15

Why might you want to study Czech or Slovak? Are you planning a trip to the homeland and want to order a beer? Did you marry into the family and want to be able to understand what your mother-in-law is really saying about you? Do you want to surprise babička (grandma) with learning a few words? Already know some Czech or Slovak, but want to improve? Whatever your reason, we’ve got a class to meet your needs.

Classes meet weekly for twelve weeks at the C.S.P.S. Hall.

Czech Classes
Beginning Czech (A1), Monday evenings at 5:30 p.m., beginning September 16
Beginning Czech (A2), Monday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning September 16
Intermediate Czech (B1), Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning September 18
Instructor for A1, A2, and B1: Blanka Brichta

Advanced Czech (B2), Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning September 17
Instructor for B2: Renáta Tichá

Slovak Classes
All Levels, Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m., beginning September 17
Instructor for Slovak: Barbora Carlson

Class Fee: $120 (Sokol members); $145 (non-members).
Class fees do not include books, which are additional.

For more information, visit www.sokolmn.org or email education@sokolmn.org

Documentary Films. As part of the weekend’s activities, we will show two films made by Slovakia’s foremost documentarist, Dušan Hudec. Both films center on powerful interviews with men, women, and families who experienced the harsh realities of war, and on vivid archival footage portraying those realities. Saturday’s film is about Slovak veterans of the Uprising. Sunday’s film is about American airmen who were shot down over Slovakia during World War II, primarily during the time of the Uprising, and the Slovak families who rescued them. One can find an account of this amazing film at www.finalmission.eu/en/#news

Personal Stories. A number of people in the Twin Cities have personal stories of the Uprising. One of them is North Crystal resident Demeter Kokosh, 85, who will, for the first time in public, share his story of survival at age 11 as Slovak and German troops encamped on his family farm just a few miles from one of the main battle sites of the Uprising.

Education Committee Seeks Members
By Pat Slaber

Hello! I’m Pat Slaber and I’d like to introduce myself as the new education chair. Currently, I have responsibility for organizing the language classes. I have been attending the language classes at Sokol for 10 years. I’m not very good, but our class has a lot of fun! We play language games, learn songs in Czech, watch movies, have potlucks, and study those wretched declensions and prepositions! Please see the fall language classes ad above.

I’d like to get a committee together to brainstorm, plan, and execute other educational/cultural classes, such as cooking, art, polka, holiday traditions, mushroom hunting, etc.

If this is something that you might be interested in, please contact me at education@sokolmn.org. Even if you don’t want to be on the committee, but have an idea for an event, please feel free to contact me at any time.

STAR Grant is matched!
By Joyce Tesarek

We’ve done it! Congratulations! With all of your help we have completed the match for our $85,979 Saint Paul STAR Grant. This means we have $171,958 to repair our historic 1887 C.S.P.S. Hall’s roof, parapets, and masonry. Completing the match in less than three years is an impressive accomplishment which took many donations from our Sokol Minnesota members and friends, special fundraisers by the Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities, three Band Blasts, and a grand finale of a special match by some loyal Sokols. Thank you to all of you for helping complete this huge step towards keeping our Hall in good repair for another 130+ years!

Donald Haselbauer is turning 70. Help Match a Donation in his Name!

In honor of Don Haselbauer’s 70th birthday, an anonymous donor has agreed to match all donations to Sokol Minnesota made between now and December 31, up to $7000. Don is a second generation Sokol (his parents Frank and Florence were also life-long members) and he and his wife Katie are an important part of the Sokol family. Don is an Honor Award recipient (see the April 2019 Slovo), and has served as Sokol Minnesota treasurer for seven years. Don has supported the C.S.P.S. Hall in many ways and these donations will help enable us to continue the Hall’s renovation and restoration. Help celebrate Don’s birthday with a donation that will be matched 100%. Send along your wishes with a check to the Legacy Fund, or donate online at www.sokolmn.org.
Potato salad, or *bramborový salát*, is a popular dish in the United States, especially for outdoor eating during the warm summer months. In the Czech and Slovak Republics, potato salad stands out on the Christmas table and other festive occasions throughout the year. To acknowledge the importance of potato salad in the Czech and Slovak Republics, three cooks were invited to submit their favorite potato salad recipe and to tell how they learned to make their recipe, what makes it unique, and why their recipe is special to them. Two of the cooks mentioned that they do not measure their ingredients, so their recipes are more general.

The influence of family was important to each of the cooks. Lenka Hester shared her Bohemian potato salad recipe, which includes root vegetables and grated bologna. Marketa Palkova Resong mentioned the importance of homemade pickle juice as an ingredient for her Moravian potato salad. Silvia Purdy’s Slovak recipe emphasized the importance of homemade mayonnaise and good mustard.

The nutritious potato is native to the Andes Mountains in Peru. Explorers brought this new plant to Europe. Potatoes have become an essential part of the Czech and Slovak diet, both at lunch and for dinner. In addition to potato salad, other popular potato dishes include *Bramboračka* or Potato Soup, *Bramborák* or Potato Pancake, and *Bramborové knedlíky* or Potato Dumplings. The word ‘potato’ is derived from the Spanish word *Batata*, which refers to the sweet potato. The soil in Eastern Europe produces about 90 varieties of great-tasting potatoes.

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**Bohemian Potato Salad by Lenka Hester**

Here in the U.S., we cannot imagine a 4th of July celebration without a potato salad. It is definitely one of the most popular summer picnic foods. On the other hand, the Czechs most often think about winter and the Christmas season in association with potato salad. A festive traditional family Christmas Eve dinner typically includes potato salad and breaded pork schnitzel (*řízek s bramborovým salátem*) along with fried carp. A layer of a potato salad is also often used on open-faced sandwiches or *chlebíčky* made for New Year’s celebrations, birthday parties, or other special occasions and gatherings.

There is a significant difference in taste when comparing U.S. and Czech potato salads. The Czech version has boiled root vegetables, such as carrots, celery root, and parsnips. Pickles are an important addition, which you don’t find in many American versions. Every Czech family prepares potato salad a little differently according to their taste and customs.

I learned how to make a potato salad simply by observing my mom and grandma prepare it at home. All of the root vegetables and potatoes came from my grandma’s garden. My mom would make a homemade mayonnaise. She would make sure the eggs and oil were at room temperature to prevent curdling. She would whip egg yolks by hand while gradually adding small doses of oil to get the right consistency. All was made without any electric mixer, which I admire and consider quite a workout, in retrospect.

Here is my recipe for anyone who would like to have fun exploring Czech cuisine. Enjoy it in any season, whether it is for a laid back summer picnic or a festive occasion.

**Ingredients**

- 10 large yellow or red potatoes boiled in water with the skins on, cooled, peeled, and cubed
- 2 small parsnips, wax removed, cut in half, boiled, and grate
- 2 large carrots, cleaned, cut in half, par boiled, cooled, and grated with a food grater
- Half of a large celery root, peeled, par boiled, cooled, and grated with a food grater
- 4 larger pickled gherkins, finely diced
- 1 small yellow or white onion, finely diced
- 2 Tbsp. yellow mustard
- ½ c. Hellman’s™ mayonnaise
- Half of ring Bologna, casing removed, grated
- Salt and pepper to taste

**Directions**

Boil potatoes with skin on, completely submerged in salted water, until a fork will pierce them. You do not want them very soft, or they will mash up when you mix them. But you don’t want them too hard either or they will taste raw. When the potatoes are done, drain the water, and allow potatoes to cool. Then peel and cut them into small sized cubes and place them into a very large mixing bowl.

Finely dice onion and pickles and add to the potato mixture. Grate the bologna using a food grater and add to the mixture. Boil root vegetables, drain, cool, and grate with a food grater. Add the grated vegetables, mayonnaise, mustard, and salt and pepper to the potato mixture. Mix or blend everything carefully to incorporate it all together. Some people like potato salad creamier with a lot of mayo, so feel free to add more. The same applies to mustard, pickles, and basically all other ingredients. You can add more of anything to create the taste you desire. A small amount of pickle juice can also be added. Cover and refrigerate overnight so that the flavors will blend properly. Enjoy.
**Slovak Potato Salad**  
*by Silvia Purdy*

How to make the mayonnaise: Take 2 raw egg yolks from pasteurized eggs, put them into a blender or food processor and start mixing on low speed. Add vegetable oil very slowly until the mass has a texture of mayonnaise. Boil whole 6-8 potatoes with skin on, until soft. When potatoes are cooled down, peel the skin and dice them into cubes. Dice one medium yellow onion and add to potatoes. Add salt to taste and a pinch of powdered sugar. Dice canned vegetables, such as Moravanka, which is a mixture of carrots, parsnips, kapia, shallots, etc., and add to the mix. Add 3 to 5 finely diced pickles, depending on how sour you want the salad to be. Mix everything together and add mustard, the mayonnaise that you made earlier, and a bit of pickle juice, to taste. Add salt and pepper, to taste. Mix it all really well, let sit for couple hours, and eat.

My mom and dad taught me this potato salad recipe. They always made their own mayonnaise which makes the salad so very special. We made this salad every Christmas, when it was served with carp. We also made it throughout the year on special occasions and usually ate it with schnitzel. Cooking tips that my parents taught me were to always taste the potato salad when you make it, to make sure it has the correct amount of salt and other flavors. They also told me to never add too much mustard or pickle juice at the start: add less and increase the flavors as needed to make sure it turns out just perfect. The best canned mixed vegetables to use are Moravanka, which may not be available in the United States, but I am sure there are other canned vegetables available that can be used. In Slovakia, the base for every potato salad is good mustard and mayonnaise and the ratio of ingredients you put in the salad. My own special tips for tasty potato salad: I follow my mom and dad’s recipe to the T. I like this recipe because it reminds me of my childhood, Christmas, and of course of my amazing parents. Hanka and Mirko Illovic, who made everything from scratch for us, and cooked every day. Dobrú chut!

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**Kapia Recipe**

Lenka Hester shared her recipe for kapia, which is preserved, sweet bell peppers in an oil-based, sweet and sour juice. Lenka added "Kapia is wonderful to use as a topping for chlebičky too." Cut up sweet, red bell peppers into small strips, place in canning jars. Fill jars with juice made out of oil, water, vinegar, sugar, salt, and spices, such as whole peppercorns, bay leaves, whole cloves, and salt. Place covers and rings on the canning jars. Then sterilize using hot-water, canning techniques, to preserve the jars of kapia.

**Moravian Potato Salad**  
*by Marketa Palkova Resong*

My mom, Ludmilla, makes this potato salad, and so did her mom, my grandma. Using golden potatoes, boil the potatoes in water, then peel off the skins. We usually cut the potatoes into circles, but lately we also use a tool called a potato ricer for squeezing through into sort of a French fry shape. We add salt, black pepper, sweet peas, cooked and cut carrots, onion, homemade pickles, and pickle juice, as the potatoes absorb so much moisture. To finish, add mayo! The best is to make potato salad one to two days ahead, as it tastes better!

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**89th Annual Sokol Camp Booya Picnic**  
*by Kari and Scott Muyres*

Come one, come all to the 89th annual Sokol Camp Booya Picnic on Sunday, August 11, from noon until 5 p.m. Rain or shine, the picnic is held each year in Pine City at the Sokol Camp, which is located on the Northeast corner of Cross Lake. We feature live entertainment, including the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers and folk singer Dave Carlson. Come hungry, because we are serving piping hot Booya, homemade cabbage rolls, jitrnice, meatloaf, and a wide assortment of koláče!

On Sunday, August 4, at 10 a.m. there is a volunteer opportunity for tent and bench set-up. If you are available, please contact Kari or Scott Muyres at 763-226-0313. Also, for those attending or volunteering at the picnic, please add a minimum of 30 minutes commute time for road construction on Interstate 35. Thank you!

See you at the picnic! *Nazdar!*

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**Silent Auction Items Needed by September 9 for Czech and Slovak Fall Festival**

Our Silent Auction is a popular part of our annual Czech and Slovak Fall Festival. If you have special items (especially if they are Czech or Slovak), tickets to events, or gift cards to donate, please bring them to the C.S.P.S. Hall. Items may be left in the first floor classroom or on the third floor landing.

Please box and label donations “Silent Auction” and include your name and address so a donation receipt can be sent to you.

Contact Glynis Grostephan, ggrostephan@earthlink.net or call 612-724-0923 if you have questions or need to arrange a drop off.

Thank you for your generosity!

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Come join the fun! Volunteer for our 30th Annual Czech and Slovak Fall Festival on Sunday, September 15. Meet great people and help raise money for our Hall. Contact Joyce: Festival@sokolmn.org or call 612-822-6147.
**Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors**

By Glynis Grostephan

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

LEGACY FUND (includes matching Saint Paul Star Grant donations):
- Under $99: Maryann Tumasmith, Roger Wenel, Michael Wolesky.
- $100 - $499: Jaroslav Verner.
- $500 - $999: Gabrielle Gerbaud and Andrew Johnson. Parents of children and teen dancers on Cedar Rapids trip.
- $1,000 - $4,999: Marit Lee Kucera In honor of Consul General Jaroslav Kantůrek’s first visit to Sokol Minnesota on June 8, and all of the work by Sokol members to make the day a success.
- $5,000 - $9,999: Anonymous (1).

GENERAL FUND:
- $100 - $499: Joyce Tesarek and Norm Petrik, Pat Andrle and Don Andrle in memory of Ron Andrle.
- $5,000 - $9,999: Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International In honor of Czech Consul General Jaroslav Kantůrek.
- $5,000 - $9,999: Sokol Minnesota Gaming.

**TOTALS:**
- Legacy Fund: $6,696
- General Fund: $5,300
- $11,996

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**Obituary**

Long-time Sokol member Ron Andrle passed away on June 12, 2019. Our sincere condolences are extended to Ron's wife Ann, Ron's twin brother Don Andrle and his wife Pat, and their families.

Ron had a zest for life, often telling jokes and making others laugh and smile! Regarded as a fun-loving person, Ron was reminded that there was a 17-year old inside of him, just dying to get out!

During his career years, Ron taught Health and Physical Education for 32 years in the Osseo School District until his retirement in 1997. He greatly enjoyed coaching kids and young people in various sports such as football, hockey, and girls' softball. He was a kid-centered person; he attended many youth athletic activities for his children, nieces, nephews, and grandchildren in his later years. In the stands and in the bleachers, one could easily hear his bellowing voice cheering on his team!

A spiritual person, Ron was also involved with Fridley United Methodist Church for many of his adult years. He served as a member of the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee and as an usher.

Ron's involvements in Sokol Minnesota were many, including Sokol Camp, often assisting Don in chairing Booya picnics, C.S.P.S. Hall dinners and dances, and Sokol Slets during his earlier years. At Sokol Camp in Pine City, he and his wife Ann proudly served as head camp counselors at Kids' and Teen Weeks from 1973-1988.

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**Member News**

**Anniversary**

Congratulations to Arlene and Ed Hamernik, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on July 30!

**Sokol Minnesota Welcomes New Member**

by Norm Petrik

At the June 20 Board of Directors meeting, one new member was accepted to Sokol Minnesota. Laura Goodman from Saint Paul has interests in gymnastics, language, dinners, dances, and history/genealogy. Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!
At the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, CGSI president Kevin Hurbanić and immediate past CGSI President Suzette Steppe gave a tour of CGSI’s facilities at the Minnesota Genealogy Center in Mendota Heights.

Our special Czech guests received the traditional Slovak and Bread Welcome by the Junior Ambassadors at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, where Sokol President Dave Stepan was the emcee. Hana Matousek led the singing of the Czech and American anthems.

Czech Honorary Consul Emeritus Bob Vanasek introduced the living Černín Palace Award Recipients who are Sokol members: Dr. Joyce Tesarek (2006); Libuse Imbrone (2007); and Arnold Ziskovsky and Deborah Ziskovsky (2010). Unable to attend was Milan Sebek (2009). Vanasek encouraged the Consul General to ask for the revival of these awards.

Emcee Dave Stepan introduced Chuck Nickolay, Mayor of New Prague; Gabrielle Gerbaud, Executive Director of the Minnesota Trade Office; Dobruška Czech language school graduates; and Miss Minnesota Czech-Slovak Pageant and Montgomery’s Kolacky Day Royalty.

Special thanks to Sokol Minnesota for hosting a potluck lunch with Minnesota-themed foods. Consul General Jaroslav Kantůrek enjoyed the opportunity to meet many Czech Minnesotans and learn about their strong connections to Czech culture and heritage.

After the screening of his film on Saturday, Director Jakub Šmíd answered questions, and then joined the moviegoers, including many Czech compatriots, at a reception sponsored by Sokol Minnesota in the Fireplace Room at St. Anthony Main.

Czech Honorary Consul News

Czech that Film, with nine current Czech films, screened at the Minneapolis St. Paul Film Society, June 7 to 9. Under the marquee are Jaroslav Kantůrek (left), our new Czech Consul General/Chicago, M. L. Kucera, Honorary Czech Consul, and Jakub Šmíd, Director of Short Cut/Nakrátko, which screened on Saturday, June 8.

Four members of the Czech Junior Royalty, all dressed in kroje, with their director Anne Jans, and M. L. Kucera greeted the Consul General and Director at the airport with flowers. Kucera and Blanka Brichta were tour guides for the day-long events.

Slovo Publication Information and Committee

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Sokol Minnesota members receive the Slovo with their membership. A subscription to the Slovo is available for $15 annually. For a subscription, please include name, address, phone number, email address and a $15 check payable to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, and mail to Slovo at the above address.

The Slovo staff welcomes submissions. Send news, articles, and pictures digitally to slovo@sokolmn.org. The copy deadline for each issue is the first day of the prior month.

Advertising in the Slovo is available. Please email slovo@sokolmn.org for information on due dates and rates.

Moving or temporarily away: Please notify us via email or USPS mail of your change of address to make sure you continue to receive the Slovo. The Slovo is bulk mailed and non-deliverable copies are not forwarded or held by the Post Office. Non-delivered copies are returned to Sokol Minnesota and they are billed to us at the first class mail rate. For this reason, we will not send additional issues until we have a current, correct mailing address on record for you.


Additional contributors this issue: Blanka Brichta, Mark Dillon, Steve Ernest, Glynis Grostephan, Lenka Hester, M.L. Kucera, Kari and Scott Muyres, John Palka, Silvia Purdy, Marketa Palkova Resong, Pat Slater, Denise Stibal, Joyce Tesarek, Louise Wessinger.

Additional photographers this issue: Judy Aubrecht, Rosina Blanco, Martina Gurgel, Doreen McKenney, Johnny Palka, and Pat Slater.

June/July mailing: Mary Cahill, Joan Sedlacek.
EVENTS AT C.S.P.S. HALL
ATTEND and VOLUNTEER!

Sokol Minnesota Events

30th Annual Czech and Slovak Festival
Ethnic food, beer, and wine!
C.S.P.S. Hall
September 15, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Family Night
September 29, 4 p.m.

Check for more events and updates:
www.sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/hall-calendar/
www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota SLOVO AUGUST 2019

FREE Admission!
Public Welcome.

- Live Music
- Dance Performances
- Ethnic Food
- Czech Beer
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- Children’s Games
- Sokol Gift Shop
- Street Vendors
- Exhibits
- Silent Auction
- Accessible Facility

Find out more at
www.sokolmn.org

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