Providing fitness and community for individuals and families through physical, educational, cultural, and social programs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June Slovo articles
due May 1

Sokol Gift Shop
open by appointment

Call for Book Donations
May 3 and May 7
(see page 8)

Craft and Flea Market
May 14
(see page 8)

Outdoor Fundraiser Concert
May 15
(see adjacent)

Children’s Cultural Day Camp
June 13-17
(see page 5)

Annual Members and Volunteers Picnic
June 26, 1-4 p.m.
Lakewood Hills Park,
White Bear Lake
Contact:
Activities@sokolmn.org

Mushroom Hunt
postponed to June

Sokol Gymnasts
Next sessions are in the fall
For updated information, See website: sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/sokol_fitness

OUTDOOR CONCERT C.S.P.S. HALL FUNDRAISER

FEAT U RED BANDS

World Jazz Collegium

A N D

SlovCzech

Listen to music by World Jazz Collegium performing Pavel Jany’s original works with a few samples of music by Jan Hammer, Marián Varga, František Griglák, and other legends of Czech and Slovak jazz-rock era.
Dance to SlovCzech songs from their new album inspired by traditional Moravian and Slovak folk music.

Refreshments start at 3:30 p.m.
Guláš, grilled bratwursts, locally brewed pilsner beer, and home-made desserts available for sale.

MUSIC
4-6:30 p.m.

Sunday
May 15

C.S.P.S. Hall Parking Lot
383 Michigan St., St. Paul
Presidentův komentář/President’s Notes by Dave Stepan

As Darnell and I sit in our garsonka (studio apartment) in Praha at the end of the day, we typically look at our ‘pictures of the day.’ We reminisce about our walks through the ‘nooks and crannies’ of Praha or colonnades leading to another plaza, or our visits to a restaurant, pivovar (brewery), or art installation. Darnell and I have gotten used to walking on cobblestones and to the polite Czechs who, even on crammed trams, give up their seats to an older person or a mother with a child. The atmosphere is boisterous in the tourist areas and restrained at the smaller, out-of-the-way cafes and coffee shops.

While in the Czech Republic, I am learning more about how their Sokol units operate as well as their mission. We have been to six Sokol units so far in Prague and at each I have attempted, in my broken Czech, to explain who I am and where I am from. My Sokol visit usually starts with moje čestina není dobrá (trying to convey that my Czech is not good) and ends with a handshake and a Nazdar! The activities at Sokols that I was able to take a tour of included youth playing games as well as gymnastics for the older children. Sokols continue to have an active place in the Czech community. I hope that is true for the Slovak Republic also. When I toured the Great Strahov Stadium (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Strahov_Stadium), one of the ladies on the tour was a Sokol from a town south of Prague. She told me that almost 200 of the 300 inhabitants in her village are Sokol members! She was not upset that the tour guide continued to refer to Sokol members as “Falconers,” which was terminology I had not heard before, although falcon is the English translation of Sokol.

Our next adventure will be in Olomouc, where we will meet with Sokols as well as staff from Palacký University. Staff from the university recently held its first two online classes with students of the Czech and Slovak School Twin Cities (see page 3). With Prague being seven hours ahead of Minnesota, it is difficult for me to attend virtual meetings held in the evenings in Minnesota, but I do attempt to keep ‘in the loop’ with events and people. I am confident the actions taken by the Board of Directors are in keeping with the best interests and intentions of our Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota.

By the time you read this, I hope you will have enjoyed the Curbside Spring Kolače Bake Sale. I continue to buy a poppy seed (makově) koláče as a daily treat and I recently enjoyed the creme-filled dessert pastries věneček, větrník, and laskonka! I am not sure which is my favorite, but I definitely will have to sample again to try to determine!

Our annual mushroom hunt, while postponed from May, will happen again this summer and I look forward to joining all of you for that event. Our new Sokol Minnesota member, Dan Kirkpatrick, will again lead this event. Invite a friend to join us at an event or to become a member. We need to remember to be inclusive and not exclusive! Nazdar!

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota provides fitness and community for individuals and families through physical, educational, cultural, and social programs for children, teens, and adults.

Information on our programs, calendar of events, membership, C.S.P.S. Hall rentals, and gift shop, plus e-addresses for our board, program directors, volunteer staff, and the Czech Honorary Consul, as well as Slovo past issues, are available at www.sokolmn.org or www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota
2021 BOD
(Board of Directors)

President
Dave Stepan
Vice President
Cinnamon Whaley
Recording Secretary
Denise Stibal
Corresponding Secretary
Glynis Grostephan
Treasurer
Don Haselbauer
Financial Secretary
Steve Ernest
Sergeant at Arms
Blanka Brichta
Members at Large
Markéta Pálková
Fred Simon
Membership Director
-
Budget and Finance Committee
Joyce Tesarek, Chair
Activities Director
Jean Draheim
Educational Director
Patricia Slaber
Publicity Director
Brittany Stepan
Board of Instructors
Mary Cahill,
Women’s Physical Director
Jason Brozovich,
Men’s Physical Director
Building and Property Trustees Committee
Bob Kotek, Chair
Gaming Manager
Ed Hamernik, Chair

Telephone: 651-290-0542

Past issues of Slovo and Hall Calendar of Events: www.sokolmn.org

2 May 2022 Slovo
2022 Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Royalty
(Left) At the 33rd Annual Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant on Saturday, April 9, in Montgomery. (L-R) Marisa Winget was crowned Queen, with Sarah Holicky as First Princess, and Halie Wentworth as Second Princess. Miss Congeniality was awarded posthumously to Kailey Lynn Mach, who died in a tragic accident on February 26. A full article will appear in the June/July Slovo.

Partnership of Škola with University Palackého has Begun
(Left) On April 2 and 3, representatives from Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic, presented their first online Czech classes to students of the Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities (Škola). Škola is in its 17th year and provides language instruction that can lead to the Seal of Biliteracy: https://sealofbiliteracy.org

The 24th annual Children’s Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camp is scheduled for June 13-17, 2022

Register by May 1 to qualify for the Early-Bird discount. All camp registration materials must be received by June 1. Registration materials for campers ages 6 to 14, adult volunteers, and junior leaders ages 15 to 21 can be downloaded at www.sokolmn.org

Full refund if camp needs to be postponed.

Questions? Contact Louise Wessinger 651-271-3601
Flavors of Slovakia Dinner
By Co-chairs
Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, and Joyce Tesarek
The Curbside Flavors of Slovakia Dinners were handed out Saturday, March 12, 2022, by Sokol Minnesota volunteers dressed for a frigid cold morning: Mary Cahill, Glynis Grostephan, Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, and Joyce Tesarek.
The Sokol Minnesota cooks for this event were Roger Green, Don and Katie Haselbauer, Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, Joyce Tesarek, and Louise Wessinger. Don also assisted in his treasurer role. Ed Hamernik assisted with supplies delivery and Richard Sargent provided website administration for advertising and the order-placing system.
Indoors or outdoors, it is always nice to visit with both first-time patrons and those like the Matykiewicz family, whose son mentioned he was fourteen when he started coming to the Flavors of Slovakia dinner and he is now 39.

Sokol Camp Booya Picnic Sunday, August 14
Dear Sokol Minnesota Brothers and Sisters,
The winter months have become long and cold, let’s face it. It is time to turn our thoughts to much-needed warmth and summer fun! Please mark your calendars now for summer 2022, when we host the 91st Annual Booya Picnic at historic Sokol Camp in Pine City, Minnesota. The Camp has been a part of our beloved organization for nearly 100 years! The proceeds from the Booya Picnic go directly back to the maintenance and upkeep of the camp buildings. Perhaps you have stayed at the Camp or participated in a cultural event or retreat there in the past?
Please consider assisting with the preparation or serving of Booya, table or tent set-up, or other intriguing and fun-to-do tasks. Feel free to contact us to be a part of this festive event. You won’t want to miss it! Nazdar!

What: Sokol Camp Booya Picnic
When: Sunday, August 14, 2022. Noon until 5 p.m.
Where: Sokol Camp, 19201 Woodland Acres South, Pine City, Minnesota 55063
Why: Fraternize with Sokol Minnesota friends and neighbors while raising money for Sokol Camp!
Who to contact: Kari and Scott Muyres, Sokol Camp Booya Picnic Co-chairpersons: 763-226-0313

Join the Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures book discussion group for a discussion of
Hell and Other Destinations: A 21st-Century Memoir
by Madeleine Albright
at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 21
The Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures book discussion group is cosponsored by the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, and the Office of the Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic.
Find information at cs-center.org or contact gwen@cs-center.org

Kolo Sokol Bike Club
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.
sokolmn.org/bike

4 May 2022 Slovo
Shine Through is the theme of the 2022 Minneapolis Saint Paul International Film Festival. The Festival, which runs for two weeks, May 5-19, invites cinema buffs to attend in-person and virtually to enjoy more than 200 films from around the world, plus a full array of parties, panels, and filmmaker networking events and discussions. In keeping with MSP Film Society’s mission to increase audience access to these films, many MSPIFF41 films will also be available to screen virtually. https://mspfilm.org/festivals/mspiff/

MSPIFF41 also celebrates the Grand Opening of the newly renovated 5-screen cinema, MSP Film at The Main, located on the historic Mississippi waterfront at 115 Main Street Southeast in Minneapolis. The MSP Film Society has taken over the operations and year-round programming at the former St. Anthony Main Theatre.

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota joins other local Czech and Slovak organizations to support MSPIFF with its donation to support Czech and Slovak cinema.

2022 Czech That Film is Virtual from May 13-22: Order Online

The annual Czech That Film series, again virtual in 2022, returns for its 11th anniversary feast of films from May 13-22. The features dramas, comedies, and documentaries, from full-length to shorts. For information to order tickets, search online for Czech That Film 2022, check sokolmn.org, or see Sokol’s May E-blast.

Full-length Features

Mart'anské lod'ě / Two Ships, 2021, 76 minutes, Director Jan Foukal. Martin’s and Eliška’s story resembles a Hollywood romance, except it takes place in Brno. Can a cosmic love cure all their pains?

Gump - pes, který naučil lidí žít / Gump - The Dog That Taught People How to Live, 2021, 92 minutes, Director F. A. Brabec, family movie. Every dog is a bit stray in himself until he finds his luck, and the dog finds his luck only with a human.

Czech Republic:

Zátopek, 2021, 130 min., Director David Ondříček, fiction/biography category. Czech super athlete runner, held 18 world records and won three gold medals in the Helsinki Olympic Games, 1952. His successes continued despite living with increased pressure of the communist regime.

Slovakia, Czech Republic, Ukraine: 107 Mothers (Cenzorka), 2021, 93 minutes, Director Péter Kerekes, docu-fiction. Inside a women’s prison in Ukraine, incarcerated mothers are forced to hand over their children after three years.

Czech co-productions:

The Crossing, Director Florence Miailhe, with France and Germany
Leave No Traces, Director Jan P. Matuszyński, with Poland and France.

Deníček moderního fotařa / Diary of a Modern Dad, 2021, 97 minutes, Director Jan Haluza. Bouyant romantic comedy about non-traditional parenting and love experienced by a new father who decides to stay at home to look after his child.

Jiří Mádl is the new dad. Many of you might remember when Jiří (as the Czech director and screen writer of To See the Sea) visited us here in Minnesota as the touring film artist with 2015 Czech That Film.

Atlas ptáků / Bird Atlas, 2021, 92 minutes, Director Olmo Omerzu, drama. A large money embezzlement in a multi-million company creates a domino effect of suspicion among the members of the family who run the business.

Okupace / Occupation, 2021, 97 minutes, Director Michal Nohejl, drama. A sleepy party is disrupted by an uninvited guest. A game becomes a trap, heroes become cowards, and cowards become heroes.

Documentaries

Jednotka intenzivního života / Intensive Life Unit, 2021, 73 minutes, Director Adéla Komrzý.

Každá minuta života / Every Single Minute, 2021, 80 minutes, Director Erika Hníková.

Sny o toulavých kočkách / Dreams About Stray Cats, 2021, 96 minutes, Director David Sís.

Shorts

Anatomie českého odpoledne / Anatomy of a Czech Afternoon, 2020, 22 minutes, Director Adam Martín.

Rudé boty / Red Shoes, 2021, 14 minutes, Director Anna Podskalská.

Milý tati / Dear Dad, 2021, 12 minutes, Director Diana Cam van Nguyen.

Raven / Raven, 2021, 10 minutes, Director Eva Doležalová.
Highlights of the March 2022 Sokol Minnesota Board Meeting

By Denise Stibal

The Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors meeting was called to order on March 17 at 7 p.m. by Vice President Cinnamon Whaley.

A discussion was held on whether Sokol Minnesota can directly support humanitarian efforts for the Ukrainian crisis. The opinion of our attorney was reviewed. The majority view of the Board was that the Sokol Minnesota Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws prohibit us from sending funds to a foreign country. Members are encouraged to send donations on their own to established humanitarian groups. Motion carried to invite the Ukrainian American Community Center to have a table and accept cash donations at the Curbside Spring Kolače Bake Sale.

Finance Chair Joyce Tesarek reported the checking account signatures have been updated to include current committee chairs and to remove former chairs.

Financial Secretary Steve Ernest noted we received four new applications for membership; motion carried to accept the new members.

Gaming Chair Ed Hamernik requested approval for the April 2022 budget; motion carried. The actual expense report for February was submitted; it included a $15,000 transfer from Gaming to the General Fund.

Board of Instructors Directors Mary Cahill and Jason Brozovich reported American Sokol plans to host an in-person National Instructor School in Detroit from June 26 to July 10. We hope to send one to three students, pending confirmation on those wishing to attend. There will be no Western District Competition this spring; however, plans are to host an end-of-year celebration for Sokol Minnesota gymnasts and a limited number of family members. Classes will end April 25.

The boys class is participating in the fitness testing that the number of family members. Classes will end April 25. The boys class is participating in the fitness testing that the maintenance of our historic C.S.P.S. Hall.

A discussion was held on the requirement of masks to assist with COVID control per updated City of Saint Paul regulations. Motion carried to post a sign on the door suggesting that masks are recommended, but not required.

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For the Rental Committee, Denise Stibal noted we continue to have more inquiries and bookings. Cinnamon Whaley will send a Request for Purchase form to Dawn Bulera for the Committee to request purchasing new chairs for rental events.

Corresponding Secretary Glynis Grostephan reported that, as of March 17, donations totaling $4,010 have been received for the General Fund. Flowers were sent to Norm Petrík’s family in memory of his passing. A sympathy card was sent to the family of Evelyn Holman, who was an honorary member and in her 70th year as a Sokol.

New Business: A discussion was held on the requirement of masks to assist with COVID control per updated City of Saint Paul regulations. Motion carried to post a sign on the door suggesting that masks are recommended, but not required.

MEMBER NEWS

Sokol Minnesota Welcomes New Members

By Steve Ernest

Four new members were accepted at the Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota March Board of Directors meeting:

Andrea Manolov, Minneapolis, with interests in the literature group, films and theater, history and genealogy, language, cooking and crafting classes.

Michal and Mirka Novosad, Lakeville, with interests in youth dance, youth culture camp, and the Kolo Sokol Bike Club.

Barbara Pavelka, New York, New York.

Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!

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.

GENERAL FUND:

Under $99: Anonymous (1) through Network for Good, Frederick Simon, Jim Trachet through Give MN, Michaela Makarianova-Wentz.

In memory of Don Andrle: Tom Aubrecht.

In memory of Norm Petrík: Anonymous (1), Tom Aubrecht, Barbara and Robert Bolich, Mary Jo and Jim Chlebecek, Barbara and Jay Fonkert, Roger Green, Arlene and Ed Hamernik, Pamela Kotval, Pamela Langworthy, Richard Sargent, Dolores and Thomas Shusko, Sharon and Ken Wyberg, Louise and Chuck Wessinger.

$100 - $499: Milan Sebek, Roger Wenc.

Youth Leadership Award: M. L. Kucera.

In memory of Don Andrle: Joyce Tesarek.

In memory of Norm Petrík: Mary and Dennis Cahill, Glynis and Dave Grostephan, Ann and Ken Janda, Barbara and Lester Owczarski, Joyce Tesarek, Penny and Thomas Tesarek, Cheryl Theuninck.

$500 - $999: Arlene and Ed Hamernik, George Hoffman.

$1000 - $9999: Medtronic Your Cause LLC Matching Grant.

In memory of Norm Petrík: Anonymous (1).

In-kind Donations: Susie Fritz (books), Alena Youngberg (assorted items), Jessica Lourey (four new hardcover books in Czech).

General Fund: $ 6,980

TOTAL: $ 6,980

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Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!
Markéta cut and pre-soaked fresh red dogwood branches to demonstrate how to braid eight sticks into one whip, then decorated it with ribbons. In Moravia, where Markéta grew up, willow branches are used, but only dogwoods are pliable enough this early in our Minnesota spring to make the whips. Both the whips and Easter Monday are called pomlázka. Traditionally it was the boys who went from house to house to paddle/whip/switch the girls on the back of their legs for luck, youth, good health, and fertility. Many women can attest to the fact that the whipping was not gentle! Today both boys and girls have whips. Many of these traditions date back more than a thousand years, to pagan times. After the demonstration, Ludmila offered delicious samples of her freshly baked mazanec (Easter bread).

Czech Country resident Randy Peck held the branches tightly for whipping was not gentle! Today both boys and girls have whips. Many of these traditions date back more than a thousand years, to pagan times. After the demonstration, Ludmila offered delicious samples of her freshly baked mazanec (Easter bread).

On March 23 Arnold (Buck) J. Zaratka, age 96, of Montgomery received the prestigious French Legion of Honor for his service during World War II in France, including the Battle of the Bulge. When presenting the award, French Consul General Yannick Tagand said, “Thanks to you, I grew up in a country that has been living in peace for more than seven decades.” The award ceremony, held at the American Legion Post 79 in Montgomery, was attended by dozens of local and state-wide American Legion members.

Seated: Arnold J. Zahratka. (L-R) Christina Selander Vouzouna, Honorary Consul of France/Minneapolis; Yannick Tagand, Consul General of France/Chicago; and M. L. Kucera, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis.

Remembering Czech-born Madeleine Albright (1937-2022), the first woman to hold the post of United States Secretary of State (1997-2001), who died on March 23.
The Craft and Flea Market on May 14 will NOT be collecting the usual garage sale items to sell this year; however, SMYL is collecting new/gently used books to sell that day. Proceeds will go towards youth-led activities.

Book donations can be dropped off at the C.S.P.S. Hall in a designated box by the elevator on the first and third Tuesdays of the month and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Contact: Glynis for questions 612-724-0923 or youths@sokolmn.org

For status of events scheduled for the C.S.P.S. Hall, check our calendar at www.sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/hall-calendar/

Saturday
MAY 14 2022
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- new and gently used treasures
- food
- handmade items

C.S.P.S. Hall Parking Lot
383 Michigan St., Saint Paul, MN 55102
Sponsored by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

To reserve a space, call or text Jean at: 651-210-0401 or email activities@sokolmn.org