



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

**UPCOMING EVENTS
DECEMBER 2016 and
JANUARY 2017**

**Sokol Children's
Holiday Party**
December 2, 7 - 9 p.m.

February Slovo Deadline
January 1, 2017

Membership Holiday Party
January 8, 2017, 4 p.m.

Board of Trustees
December 7 and
January 11, 7 p.m.

Board of Directors
December 15 and
January 19, 7 p.m.

**14th Annual Candlelight
Roast Duck Dinner**
January 21, 2017, 5 p.m.

**Sokol Camp
Annual Meeting**
January 22, 2017, 2 p.m.

Featured Friday
January 27, 2017, 7 p.m.

14th Annual
**Roast
Duck Dinner**
Saturday
January 21, 2017

5:00 p.m. - \$23.00 per person

Limited seating

Prepaid reservations are required by January 14

To reserve call: 952-941-0426

Soup, 1/2 roast duck, potato dumplings, gravy,
sweet and sour red cabbage,
applesauce, caraway rye bread, coffee, and dessert.
Beer, wine, and pop will be available for sale.

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

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

www.sokolmn.org



The Third Annual Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities Fundraiser for Sokol Minnesota features three paintings by our own renowned sumi-e artist Simona Němcová along with enthusiastic help from the School Moms who created cards based on Simona's paintings. The paintings and cards have patriotic Czech themes. All proceeds go to C.S.P.S. Hall with the hope of purchasing one new step for the fire escape reconstruction project. Online bidding is open now: <<http://tinyurl.com/Sokol-Fundraiser-w-S-Nemcova>>. The final bidding takes place during the Roast Duck Dinner on January 21. Sumi-e is the Japanese word for Black Ink Painting. East Asian painting and writing developed together in ancient China using brush and ink on paper. Emphasis is placed on the beauty of each individual stroke of the brush. (Left) Detail of one of the paintings shown here.

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

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Past issues of *Slovo* and
Hall Calendar of events:

www.sokolmn.org

Prezidentův komentář/President's Notes By Judy Aubrecht

Pozdrav bratři a sestry / Greetings Brothers and Sisters

2016 has been an exciting and challenging year for Sokol Minnesota. In addition to hosting our regular cultural, fitness, and educational events, which included dinners, breakfasts, festivals, and gymnastics, dance, and language classes, we were honored in April to host a first-ever visit by a Czech Prime Minister to C.S.P.S. Hall. If you were able to attend the event, you remember the excitement building as we waited for our honored guest, the Czech Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka and his large entourage, including the Czech Ambassador Petr Gandalovič. Our hall looked lovely and was filled to capacity with diplomats, Sokol members, Czech and Slovak state queens, local dignitaries, community members, and guests who made the trip from near and far. Thanks to the efforts of many, the visit was a huge success and a highlight of the year.

June 2016 heralded another important event: the installation and usage of the much-anticipated air conditioning system, just in time for the annual Children's Cultural Day Camp. Fundraising for the air conditioning system took place over many years and included several matching grants. Your contributions to this important project really made a difference. Unfortunately, a recent theft of roughly ten feet of copper pipe from the outside of the building prompted the coolant in the system to drain out, and requires expensive replacement. The value of the scrap copper was under \$10, but our insurance deductible is \$1,000. And it is even more costly with the bill for damages. The bill was referred to our insurance agent, and it is expected that the air conditioning system will be working again in time for spring. Please remember Sokol Minnesota when you make your end-of-the-year charitable donations. Our major expense is the new fire escape, which the City of Saint Paul requires due to safety concerns.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who volunteered at a Sokol event or contributed to the success of our organization in other ways. I am also very grateful to the members of the Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota boards and committees, whose hard work and enthusiasm keep things running efficiently. All of your efforts truly make a difference for our organization.

Looking ahead to 2017, our annual Sokol Holiday party for adults takes place at the C.S.P.S. Hall on Sunday, January 8, beginning at 4:00 p.m. The 14th Annual Candlelight Duck Dinner is on Saturday, January 21 at 5 p.m. Seating is limited, so be sure to make your reservation soon.

Did you know that the November 2016 *Mpls St. Paul* magazine in its list of "Where to Eat Next in 2017" included the Pajarito restaurant, our new tenant? I was recently invited to tour the new Pajarito restaurant, and was very impressed with its bright, fresh look that includes murals, Mexican tiles, and a spacious, open floor plan. Chefs Hesse and Nelson are eager for Sokol Minnesota members and guests to enjoy their exciting menu, and see all of the changes that have been made to the restaurant.

Wishing you happy holidays and *nazdar!*

2016 Roast Pork Dinner on October 23 Was a Great Success

By Dawn Bulera, Joan Sedlacek, Mary Cahill, and Joyce Tesarek, co-chairs

In spite of a conflict with the MEA weekend, the 2016 Roast Pork Dinner served 112 hungry diners and brought in \$1,739.79. Dinner guests were welcomed by hosts Sokal First Vice President Denis Novak, Sokol Minnesota President Judy Aubrecht, Honorary Czech Consul Marit Lee Kucera, and Honorary Slovak Consul Don Pafko. As our strolling musician, Don also entertained guests on his concertina.

Door prizes included a beautiful hand-blown glass pumpkin donated by member Jim Chlebecek, Jr., from his studio in Rhode Island, won by Michael Matykiewicz, and gifts donated by Czech Honorary Consul Marit Lee Kucera: hand-blown Czech ornament won by Marietta Gabriel, Czech-Slovak cookbook won by Ron Taibaka, and a bottle of Czech champagne won by Jill Judy (who had just received a job promotion).

Special thanks to chefs Dawn Bulera and Joan Sedlacek. Sokol Cedar Rapids, our sister unit, once again made the bread dumplings, hand delivered by Joan. Also special thanks to Bobbi Jo Chandler, who stayed from start to finish washing dishes.

Our volunteer team included Don Andrlle, Pat Andrlle, Judy Aubrecht, Tom Aubrecht, Dawn Bulera, Mary Cahill, Dennis Cahill, Bobbi Jo Chandler, George Chlebecek, Jim Chlebecek, Sr., Mary Jo Chlebecek, Cindy Coulter, Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Jean Hall, Arlene Hamernik, Ed Hamernik, Don Haselbauer, Ann Janda, Ken Janda, Lloyd Krocak, Marit Lee Kucera, Anna Hester, Lenka Hester, Doreen McKenney, Doris McKenney, Denis Novak, Joan Sedlacek, Denise Stibal, Colleen Tabaika, Ron Tabaika, Shirley Verner, and Gary Zweber.



Artists' Circle, a Twin-Cities based fine crafts and fine arts organization, made a donation of \$1,000 to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota on Sunday, November 20, in honor of Artists' Circle founder and long-time president, Marit Lee Kucera, for the first anniversary of Kucera's installation as the Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic for Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota in December 2015. (L-R) M.L. Kucera, Sokol Minnesota President Judy Aubrecht received the check from Artists' Circle Vice President Emily Chesick along with Artists' Circle members Kate Daly, Tracy McMan, and Colleen Tabaika.

• **Gift a friend or family member
with a donation to Sokol Minnesota "in honor of"**

• **Remember a favorite person
with a donation to Sokol Minnesota "in memory of"**

Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors

By Arlene Hamernik, Corresponding Secretary

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

General Fund: under \$99: In memory of **Anne Neubauer: Don and Katie Haselbauer.**

In memory of **Marlys Liska: George Chlebecek, Janice Jacobson, Sharon and John Liska.**

\$100 - \$499: In memory of **Anne Neubauer: Louise Cameron; Marge Norling: Give MN; RAD C LEV No 10; Joan Sedlacek.**

In memory of **Mildred Rasmussen** by her daughter, **Elizabeth Singer.**

\$1000 - \$4999: **Dave and Sue Martin.**

In honor of **Marit Lee Kucera: Artists' Circle.**

Legacy fund: \$100 - \$499: **Darlene Sitko.**

\$500 - \$999: In memory of **Ralph MacHolda: Beverly MacHolda.**

Sokol Gym Classes: under \$99: In memory of **Marlys Liska: Jim and Mary Jo Chlebecek.**

In-Kind Donations: **Louise Cameron,** Czech and Slovak items for resale.

General Fund: \$1,875 Legacy Fund: \$600
Gym Classes: \$25 Total: \$2,500

Sokol Minnesota and C.S.P.S. Hall Donations

By Joyce Tesarek, Finance Chair

When you consider your end-of-year giving, think about including Sokol Minnesota and the C.S.P.S. Hall on your list. Have you had special times at the Hall? Enjoying a class, event or activity, meeting great people, listening to a concert or play? Or admiring the beautiful and historic Hall and its treasures? Do you enjoy reading the *Slovo*, visiting our website, or looking at our Facebook page? With your help, we can make all these continue.

In 2016, we completed the installation of the central air conditioning, and replaced the dangerous fire escape stairs with a temporary scaffolding stairway. Our next project is to replace them with permanent steel stairs following the City of Saint Paul codes and required Historic Preservation guidelines. Estimate for just the stairs alone are just over \$27,000, and with installation, close to \$50,000.

Donations given "in memory of" or "in honor of" would make a great gift, and would be acknowledged in the *Slovo*. 100% of your tax-deductible contribution or pledge will go to support Sokol activities and the C.S.P.S. Hall.

If you have a company match or would like information on Legacy Giving or becoming a monthly Sustaining Member, contact Joyce Tesarek, Fundraising Chair, at 612-822-6147 or <fundraising@sokolmn.org>. Make checks to Sokol Minnesota and mail to 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102, or donate online at <www.sokolmn.org>.

Do you have talents or time you would like to share? We welcome you to join our fundraising team or to help at a dinner or event. We always need helpers with cleaning and repairs of our Hall. Our computers and software need upgrading and we want to expand our new website.

Want to help? Meet great people? Learn new things?
Have fun? Join us!

Call 651-290-0542 or email <finance@sokolmn.org>.

C.S.P.S. LEGACY FUND

We ask for your support for renovations to C.S.P.S. Hall as we celebrate the Hall's 130th year in 2017.

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 Thank You!**

MEMBER NEWS

In the News: Deborah Elias, Sokol Minnesota member and mother of Marius and Chloe Elias Morse, was pictured in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, October 19, as a performer in “Lorca’s Women” by Zorongo Flamenco Dance Theatre, which received the Minnesota 2016 Outstanding Performance award at the Minnesota SAGE Awards for Dance at the 12th annual awards event.

In the September issue of the *American Sokol* magazine (page 12), **Siri Schroeder** is featured as a Rising Star. Head Gymnastic Coach Courtney Benson, who nominated Siri, starts the article, “She may be only 17 years old, but Siri Schroeder has made quite the impact on Sokol Minnesota – especially Sokol Minnesota gymnastic....she has been a driving force in the development of the program, and deserves much recognition for her transformation from gymnast to coach to leader.”

In Memoriam: Sokol Minnesota extends sympathy to Sokol members **Mary Jo (Liska)** and **Jim Chlebecek** and also **Sharon Liska**, who lost their sister-in-law, **Marlys (Elsholtz) Liska** (born January 24, 1931) of Minnetonka on October 26, 2016. Marlys and her husband Jim were members of Sokol in the 1940s. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, a son, two daughters, eight grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and many other relatives and friends.

At the annual meeting on November 18, a moment of silence was held to honor members who passed away in 2016:

Ralph and Mary Halbert, George Pokorny, Ralph MacHolda, Lucille Pavlicek, Anne Neubauer, and other friends of Sokol Minnesota.

Upcoming Czech and Slovak Language Classes

Language classes begin the week of January 9, 2017, and run through the end of March 2017. We again offer Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Czech and Slovak. The Beginning Czech language class meets on Monday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. The Intermediate Czech language class meets Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The Advanced Czech language class meets Tuesdays from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. All levels of the Slovak language classes meet on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

For more language class information or to register for classes, please email Jean <education@sokolmn.org> or call 651-433-2008.

Registration payment and forms may be mailed to: Jean Draheim, 12685 170th Street North, Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota 55047.

JANUARY FEATURED FRIDAY PROGRAM

GARMENT RESTORATION By Chuck Draheim

On January 27, Duane Schumann of Treasured Garment Restoration is our guest speaker at our 7 p.m. Featured Friday meeting at the C.S.P.S. Hall.

Perhaps you have vintage *kroje* or other vintage apparel that you would like to have cleaned and restored. Learn what can be done to preserve those precious articles.

Treasured Garment Restoration is a division of St. Croix Cleaners and has become a nationally recognized specialty cleaning and preservation company. TGR cleans vintage clothing, fabrics, tapestries, and many other specialized materials. It is the premier cleaners for many theaters in the Twin Cities, including the Guthrie Theater, The Children’s Theatre Company, The Minnesota Opera, CostumeRentals, and more. If it can be cleaned, Treasured Garment Restoration can clean it!

The Minnesota Historical Society recommends Treasured Garment Restoration for cleaning, restoration, and preservation!

Duane is a Certified Professional Wet Cleaner (CPW), Master Spotter, and a Certified Wedding Gown Specialist. Over the past 20 years, he has established himself as an expert in the cleaning of wedding gowns and costumes, and in the restoration of specialty clothing and textiles that have been damaged by age, fire, or water.

I first met Duane after contacting the Minnesota Historical Society seeking a recommendation for a cleaner who could clean my father-in-law’s vintage *kroje*. Since then, Duane has cleaned many of our *kroje*, some several times, as they became soiled from dance performances and general use. He has also cleaned *kroje* for several other members of the St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers.

We are inviting other ethnic organizations and dance groups to this event. To ensure adequate seating, we are requesting that you contact <education@sokolmn.org> if you plan to attend.

Membership Five-Year Milestones in 2016

At the 2016 Annual Membership Meeting on November 18, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota recognized these members for their years of membership. Congratulations! Thank you!

5 Years (joined in 2011): **Jason Brozovich, Barbara Duvier, Mary J. Edel-Joyce, Robert Jacobson, Pam Snopl, Will Wilson.**

10 Years (joined in 2006): **Lydia Jaros Akradi, Jennifer Aubrecht, Edward Hamernik**

15 Years (joined in 2001): **Kate Aubrecht, Joyce M. Ehmke, Anne Jans.**

20 Years (joined in 1996): **Mark Andrle, Julie Andrle, Renae Faunce, Jean Hall, Kent Hinshaw, Kari Muyres, W. Scott Muyres.**

25 Years (joined in 1991): **Cecilie Gaziano, Medard Kaisershot, Doreen McKenney.**

30 Years (joined in 1986): **Geraldine Dooley, Steven Fritze, Susan Fritze.**

40 Years (joined in 1976): **Joan Sedlacek.**

55 Years (joined in 1956): **George Chlebecek.**

65 Years (joined in 1951): **Agnes Zeman.**

MEMBERSHIP Updates

By Norm Petrik, Membership Director

At the October 20 Board of Directors meeting, four persons were accepted as members to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota: **Glynis Grostephan** from Minneapolis with interests in language, cooking, singing, events, and genealogy; **Petr Hoffmann** from Saint Paul, with interests in cooking, gymnastics, language, dinners, films, and music; **Carissa Skrivanek** from Minneapolis, with interests in cooking, gymnastics, and language; and **Meredith Gear** from Saint Paul, with interests in genealogy, gymnastics, history, language, dance, and music.

At the November 17 Board of Directors meeting, three persons were accepted as members to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota: one couple, **Alexander Ivaskovic** and **Amy Patella** from Woodbury, with interests in cooking, gymnastics, history, language, films, and music, and **Stacey Bulera** from Lakeland, with interests in gymnastics, language, and dance. Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!

Board of Instructors Met October 27 to 30 at Sokol Greater Cleveland



Mary Cahill and Joan Sedlacek attended from Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota. Pictured at the District Directors Conference: (Back L-R) Jane Wise (National BOI member), Joseph Ehrenberger (Eastern District Representative), Howie Wise (Northeastern District Men's Director), Barb Vondra (National BOI member), Roger Martanovic (guest, Second VP of American Sokol), Jan Kalat (National

BOI member), Rome Milan (Southern District Men's Director), Chris Yatchyshyn (Sokol USA Director), Todd Yatchyshyn (National BOI member and Sokol USA Director), Cynthia Duff (Southern District Women's Director), Irena Polashek (guest), Rich Yatchyshyn (guest), Heidi Vencl (National BOI member), Mary Cahill (Western District Men's Co-Director) Lynn Conrad (Northeastern District Women's Director), Mary Cushing (National

School Board Director). (Front L-R) Juanita LoGuidice (BOI Office Secretary), Kathy Barcal (Second Assistant Female and Central District Women's Director), Allison Gerber (First Assistant Female and 2017 *Slet* Chairperson), Maryann Fiordelis (National Physical Director), Bob Kucera (First Assistant Male and Central District Men's Director), Chuck Kalat (Second Assistant Male), Bev Domzalski (BOI Recording Secretary).



Representing Western District at the Board of Instructors' Meeting: Back (L-R): Joan Sedlacek*, Allison Gerber**, Sandy Benak***, Buddy Benak***. Front: Mary Cahill*, Bud Benak***, Haven Appel***, Taylor Morse***.

*Minnesota **Cedar Rapids ***South Omaha

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota 2016 Annual Meeting



Attending the annual meeting on November 18: Cindy Coulter, Recording Secretary; Jason Brozovich, Men's Physical Director and automatic Delegate to the Western District; Judy Aubrecht, President; Lloyd Krocak, Board of Trustees; Deb Ziskovsky, Board of Budget and Finance; Norm Petrik, Membership Director and Delegate/Alternate to the Western District; Joyce Tesarek, Chair, Board of Budget and Finance and Delegate/Alternate to the Western District; Tom Aubrecht, Financial (Membership) Secretary; Mary Cahill*, Woman's Physical Director and automatic Delegate to the Western District; Joan Sedlacek*, Delegate/Alternate to the Western District; Ken Wyberg, Board of Budget and Finance; Don Haselbauer, Treasurer and Board of Budget and Finance; M. L. Kucera, Slovo Managing Editor and Delegate/Alternate to the Western District. Arnie Ziskovsky, Board of Trustees, took the picture. *Western District Officers

Elizabeth Kaliska is the newly elected Corresponding Secretary to the Board of Directors. Newly elected to the Board of Trustees is Gary Zweber.

***As of November 16, 2016
Sokol Minnesota
has 284 members***

**Annual Meeting
Sokol Camp Association
Sunday, January 22
at 2 p.m.
at C.S.P.S. Hall**



Perform the *Prostná* with Sokol Minnesota at the American Sokol XXIV Slet and Festival

You are invited to perform with Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota at a *Slet* (gathering) of Sokols from across the United States, the Czech Republic, and Canada in a *prostná* (a calisthenics number) in June in Cedar Rapids. Sokol Minnesota will teach the *prostná* starting in early 2017, dates and times to be determined based on Hall and participant availability. The *prostná* we are teaching is for adults of all ages and all abilities.

The national *Sokol Slet*, which is a gymnast and sports competition, culminates in a grand performance on the afternoon of Sunday, June 25, with hundreds of Sokols on the field. It is a spectacular sight!

Participation in *prostná* at the *Slet* requires an official American Sokol "parade uniform" that consists of shorts, shirt, white tennis shoes, and white socks. The official uniform white shirt and blue shorts must be ordered by February 1, cost is approximately \$60, prices vary by sizes. Estimated cost of white tennis shoes and white socks, purchased on your own, is about \$45.

For more information on participating in the *prostná*, please email <fitness@sokolmn.org> and we will get back to you. See page 8 for the *Slet* schedule of events.

February 1 is the deadline to order the PARADE UNIFORM for the American Sokol XXIV Slet and Festival in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 22-25.

Of course, you are also encouraged to attend the *Slet* as a spectator for any and all of the wonderful events that will occur over the four-day celebration and competition. No uniform is required for spectators.

Watch the future *Slovos* for more 2017 *Slet* information.

We Go On: Film Review by Christy Banks

Film with a Czech Connection: *We Go On*

2015 (90 min.) Directors: Andy Mitton, Jesse Holland.

AMC has purchased the rights to the film, and intends to release it in January; DVDs and Blu-Ray available in March.

The independent film *We Go On*, a supernatural thriller, was featured at the Twin Cities Film Festival in October. Although suspenseful, the film also considers serious issues such as life after death, and whether or not existence has meaning. The plot centers on Miles Grissom (Clark Freeman), a video editor living a stunted existence because of an intense fear of his mortality caused by his father's violent accidental death years earlier. After Miles places an advertisement offering \$30,000 to anyone who can show him genuine proof of the hereafter such as ghosts or past-life memory, he tests the most likely among many clearly fraudulent responses. Assuming he'll be easy prey for swindlers, his anxious mother Charlotte (Annette O'Toole) tags along, alternately glowering at the "spiritualists," and crabby lecturing Miles on the futility of his quest. "When you're dead, that's it!" she snaps. She is right, at least, in that Miles should be careful about what he wishes for. His ad elicits one uncanny reply that leads him into a gruesome encounter that he's unable to put behind him. How Miles chooses to respond finally determines his fate.

With engaging acting, compelling story, and skilled production, *We Go On* was an audience favorite at the Twin Cities Film Fest and at other festivals around the country.

It won in the Audience Award/Competition Feature category at the 2016 Dances with Films festival in Los Angeles and was nominated for Best American Independent Feature Film at the 2016 Cleveland International Film Festival. Previously, Clark Freeman has appeared in *NCIS: New Orleans* (2014) and *Beverly Hills Chihuahua 2* (2011).

Czech Connection: Clark Freeman is the son of Lee Freeman, an attorney, who is also the Czech Honorary Consul for Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho, with the Consulate in Livingston, Montana. Lee supported many Czech artists during the period of Communist repression in Czechoslovakia (1964-1985) by smuggling their works out of the country. He donated representative paintings of many of the artists from his collection to the National Czech and Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

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

Honorary Consuls, plus Sokol Minnesota Committee Chairs (not seated on the BOD)

Honorary Slovak Consul: Donald Pafko Honorary Czech Consul: Marit Lee Kucera Past Honorary Czech Consul: Robert Vanasek
Gift Shop: Doreen McKenney Housekeeping: Robert J. (Jake) Jacobson Kitchen Coordinator: open
Sunshine Committee: open Website: Cinnamon Whaley Volunteer Coordinator: open
Hall Contacts: Dan Bednar, Ed Hamernik, Joan Sedlacek *Taneční Mládež* and Teen Folk Dancers: Louise Wessinger
Slovo newsletter: Marit Lee Kucera, Madison Jerde, Deb Ziskovsky, Mary Kucera
Board of Trustees: Dan Bednar, Dennis Cahill, Jake Jacobson, Lloyd Krocak, Terry Shima, Arnie Ziskovsky, Gary Zweber

E-Addresses: ▪ President: president@sokolmn.org ▪ Board of Directors: board@sokolmn.org ▪ Education/Language Programs: education@sokolmn.org ▪ Events: events@sokolmn.org ▪ Czech/Slovak Festival: festival@sokolmn.org ▪ Finance/Fund Raising/Legacy Fund: finance@sokolmn.org ▪ Fitness Programming: fitness@sokolmn.org ▪ Folk Dancing: folkdancing@sokolmn.org ▪ Gaming: gaming@sokolmn.org ▪ Gift Shop: giftshop@sokolmn.org ▪ Hall Rentals: rentals@sokolmn.org ▪ Hall Contacts: hallcontacts@sokolmn.org ▪ Housekeeping: housekeeping@sokolmn.org ▪ Membership: membership@sokolmn.org ▪ Newsletter: slovo@sokolmn.org ▪ Planning: planning@sokolmn.org ▪ Publicity: publicity@sokolmn.org ▪ Public Relations: publicrelations@sokolmn.org ▪ Treasurer: treasurer@sokolmn.org ▪ Board of Trustees: trustees@sokolmn.org ▪ Webmaster: webmaster@sokolmn.org

Charles Jonas: Outstanding Czech-American BOOK REVIEW By Gwen Willems, Ph.D.

Charles Jonas (1840-1896): Czech National Liberal, Wisconsin Bourbon Democrat. C. Winston Chrislock. Philadelphia: Balch Institute Press, 1993, 209 pages in libraries and used bookstores.

Charles Jonas (1840-1896): Czech National Liberal, Wisconsin Bourbon Democrat is a very thorough and dense biography by historian C. Winston Chrislock, a professor emeritus at the University of St. Thomas. The author's fine scholarship is reinforced with extensive notes and bibliography. Thanks to the Fulbright program, Chrislock lived in Czechoslovakia from 1986 to 1987, where he researched and read original source material regarding Charles Jonas.

During his academic career, Chrislock's research focused on recent Czech and Czechoslovak political and cultural history. He also examined Czech immigration to America, which he explored in a chapter for the encyclopedic source book, *They Chose Minnesota: A Survey of the State's Ethnic Groups*.

Charles Jonas was a Czech and American political leader, as well as a prolific author and editor. In the United States, he served as a state representative, state senator, and lieutenant governor in Wisconsin, and in Europe as an American consul.

The author organized the book into eight chronological sections. In the first section, "Bohemia (1840-1860)," Jonas spends his youth and childhood in Malešov, Bohemia, attends Prague Technical School, begins his journalism career, and is incarcerated for eight days and banished from Prague after participating in nationalistic festivities. In "London (1860-1863)," Jonas focuses his efforts on journalistic and political writing. In "Racine (1863-1870)," Jonas' journalism career flourished, when he becomes editor of the weekly *Slavie*, and he marries the daughter of the *Slavie's* co-owner. In "Europe (1870-1871)," Jonas is a Franco-Prussian War correspondent, visits Bohemia incognito, and publishes several books. In "Racine (1870s)," he continues his career as a journalist, linguist ethnic leader, and politician, where he is elected to the Wisconsin state assembly in 1877. "Racine and Prague (1880s)" sees him serving as Wisconsin state senator and later American consul to Prague. Back in "Wisconsin (Early 1890s)," Jonas becomes state lieutenant governor. In "St. Petersburg, Prague, Krefeld, Olšany (1894-96)," he is American consul general in St. Petersburg,

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE: The *Slovo* is published ten times per year by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, a non-profit organization, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102. Sokol Minnesota members receive the *Slovo* with their membership. The *Slovo* Advisory Committee welcomes submissions. Send news, articles, and pictures digitally to <slovo@sokolmn.org>. **The deadline for the February 2017 issue is January 1.**

This issue of *Slovo* will be archived on the Sokol Minnesota website by December 31: <www.sokolmn.org>

Slovo accepts business card-size ads (3.5"x2"), paid in advance: one-time insertion \$25; 3 consecutive issues: \$65; 10 consecutive issues: \$175. Ad reservation deadline is 6 weeks before publication (December 15 for February issue), with ad and payment due by copy deadline (January 1 for February issue).

***Slovo* gift subscriptions and non-member renewals** are \$15/year (10 issues). (Rate is good through December 2017.) Please include name, address, phone number, and email address with your new/renewing non-member subscription.

Make your check to: Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota.
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Czech Honorary Consul News



Together the Czech and the Slovak Honorary Consuls in Kansas City hosted a reception to celebrate *Czech and Slovak Cultures* on November 11 and to honor the visit by

the Consul General of the Slovak Republic in New York, Jana Trnovcová, at Will & Grail in Kansas City, Missouri. (L-R): Anna O'Renck, Miss Czech-Slovak US First Runner-Up 2016, state queen from Missouri; Marit Lee Kucera, Czech Honorary Consul (Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota); Sharon Valasek, Czech Honorary Consul (Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska); Jana Trnovcová, Consul General of the Slovak Republic in New York; Ross Marine, Slovak Honorary Consul (Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma).

Prague, Krefeld (Germany), and Olšany. His continuing mental and physical deterioration leads to his suicide.

Chrislock investigates many pertinent themes in the book, such as women's rights, Czech nationalism, federalism, and mental health (Jonas was likely bipolar). The author's breadth of knowledge about history is helpful, as in this passage about the impact of historical events on Czech migration:

"The process of Czech migration to America began only after the 1848 revolutions, and then gained momentum after conclusion of the American Civil War (1865). The Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867, which brought about significant constitutional revisions including the right to emigrate, removed an obstacle that had stood in the way of Czech migration. Consequently, the trickle of Czech settlers to the United States in the 1850s became a steady flow in the late 1860s and early 1870s."

Gwen is coordinator of the *Literary Ventures: Czech and Slovak book discussion group*. Information: <www.cs-center.org> Contact: <gwen@cs-center.org>.

Join *Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures members to discuss* *By Night Under the Stone Bridge* by Leo Pervitz, on Saturday, December 17, 10:00 a.m.-noon, at the C.S.P.S. Hall. For more information: <cs-center.org>

Please contact us for a **change of address**, for problems with *Slovo* subscriptions, if you missed an issue, or if you received notice of payment due when a payment has already been made.

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After one returned issue, we hold all future issues until you notify us. We pay 47¢ for each returned issue.

Email us: <slovo@sokolmn.org>, phone us: 651-290-0542, or write us: Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102. *Thank you!*

Member Volunteer *Slovo* staff: Madison Jerde, copy editor; M. L. Kucera, managing editor; Mary Kucera, production assistant; Deb Ziskovsky, labels; Martina Gurgel and Joyce Tesarek, photographers; Doreen McKenney, ad designer; Mary Cahill, mailing production; Joan Sedlacek, mailing; with Christy Banks, Arlene Hamernik, Norm Petrik, Jitka Sebek, advisors. Photographs: Tom Aubrecht, M.L. Kucera, Chuck Kalat, Gary Löfström, Joan Sedlacek, Jitka Sebek, Arnie Ziskovsky.

**EVENTS AT C.S.P.S. HALL
ATTEND AND VOLUNTEER!
Sokol Minnesota Events**

Sokol Children's Holiday Party

December 2, 7 - 9 p.m. Participants arrive by 6:30 p.m.
Dancers perform. Special visit from Svatý Mikuláš.

Membership Holiday Party

January 8, 2017, 4 p.m. Please bring an appetizer or dessert!
Cost of ticket is \$12, which includes a drink ticket.

14th Annual Candlelight Roast Duck Dinner

January 21, 2017, 5 p.m.
Limited seating, \$23 per person.

Film: *Limonádový Joe*

The classic Czech musical comedy (1964).
Sunday, February 19, 2017, 7 p.m.
Details in the February *Slovo*.

Sokol Minnesota on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota

Check for event updates: www.sokolmn.org



Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *SLOVO* December 2016/January 2017

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

**Membership
Holiday
Party**

*Sunday, January 8, 2017
4:00 p.m.*

\$12.00 per person includes a drink ticket

No reservations are needed

Guests are asked to bring hors d'oeuvres or dessert to share.

C.S.P.S. Hall 383 Michigan Street

2017 *Slet* in Cedar Rapids on June 22-25

Thursday, June 22 • Coaches Meeting, Cal and Marching Competition, Opening Ceremonies at Scottish Rite Temple
<www.CRScottishRite.org>

Friday, June 23 • Volleyball and Fitness Challenge at Iowa Sports Center
<www.iasportscenter.com> • Banquet National Czech and Slovak Museum & Library

Saturday, June 24 • Gymnastics competition at Sokol Cedar Rapids <www.sokolcr.com> • Victory Dance <www.ncsml.org> at Clarion Hotel

Sunday, June 25 • *Slet* Program Rehearsal and Program at Kingston Stadium Cedar Rapids, 907 15th Street Southwest, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.
<www.gocedarrapids.com/directory/kingston-stadium/>

The host hotel for the *Slet* is the Clarion Hotel, 525 33rd Avenue Southwest, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, with an indoor pool, free full breakfast, free off-street parking.

To reserve a room, call the hotel direct: 319-366-8671.
Be sure to mention that you are with American Sokol.
<www.clarioncr.com>

The hotel is providing a room for the Sokol Museum, which will include a display of past and present uniforms. If you have a uniform that you are willing to lend for the *Slet*, please contact Allison Gerber at <akgerb@netins.net>.

