

UPCOMING EVENTS

December Slovo Deadline
Wednesday, November 1

Board of Trustees
Wednesday, November 8,
7 p.m.

Škola Family Night
Sunday, November 12
4-7 p.m.

**Czech Slovak Century
2018 Planning Meeting**
Sunday, November 12
7 p.m.

Board of Directors
Thursday, November 16
7 p.m.

Sokol Annual Meeting
Friday, November 17
7 p.m. (See page 4)

**Pancake Breakfast/Holiday
Craft and Bake Sale**
Sunday, November 19,
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sokol Children's Holiday Party

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

Friday, December 8
7 p.m.



Sokol friends and families are invited to a special program of song and dance by the Taneční Mládež and Taneční Teens and performance by the Sokol Czech and Slovak Singers.

Activities for the whole family with a visit from Svatý Mikuláš (St. Nicholas), anděl (angel), and čert (devil). Ethnic holiday goodies for sale.

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



Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, November 19

HOLIDAY



Craft and Bake sale
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

French toast, pancakes, fruit cup, sausage, juice, milk, and coffee.

\$7 adult; \$5 children under 9; \$22 family of four (two adults and two children).

Public welcome. No reservations.

Bake goods for your Thanksgiving table (pre-order koláče 651-290-0542)

Exquisite handcrafts for gift giving (vendor table rental 651-433-2008)

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota • C.S.P.S. Hall 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota

**The Twin Cities Horn Club Concert and
Saint Hubert's Day Dinner scheduled for November 3
has been cancelled.**

Prezidentův komentář/President's Notes By Judy Aubrecht

Pozdrav bratři a sestry / Greetings Brothers and Sisters

The 28th annual Czech and Slovak Fall Festival received high praise. Many attendees exclaimed that it was the best they had ever attended! The festival, which took place on Sunday, September 24, featured exciting performances by a variety of dancers, bands, singers, and entertainers. On that record-setting 90° day, the grill, sweet shoppe, and bar were so popular that items were completely sold out well before closing time. The efforts of the many volunteers, led by chairperson Joyce Tesarek, were much appreciated. The guests were eager to attend future events at the C.S.P.S. Hall to get to know more about their heritage. Having both outdoor and indoor performance stages made things even more interesting. On such a hot day, people were very happy to be able to eat their dinners at tables and to listen to the bands in air-conditioned comfort in the main hall.

The Sokol Minnesota Annual Meeting takes place at the C.S.P.S. Hall on Friday, November 17, beginning at 7 p.m. All current Sokol Minnesota members are invited to attend the meeting and vote for officers for current open positions. Refreshments will be provided after the meeting.

The Fall Pancake Breakfast and Bake/Craft Sale is on Sunday, November 19, beginning at 9 a.m. at the C.S.P.S. Hall. Koláče can be pre-ordered for easy pick-up at 651-290-0524.

Included in this edition of the Slovo is a fundraising request to match the \$85,000 City of Saint Paul STAR grant that was awarded for repairs to the roof, parapet caps, and tuck pointing the wall bricks which are deteriorating. As soon as we can raise matching funds, we can request the STAR grant money. Sokol Minnesota's last major fundraising project was in 2010, when we needed to match the Partners in Preservation grant for the air conditioning project. Thank you very much for your past donations. **Please consider making a generous donation to this new fundraising project! Nazdar!**

C.S.P.S. LEGACY FUND

In order to complete repairs to our roof and brickwork, we need your help! All donations are 100% tax deductible and will help match the \$85,000 City of Saint Paul STAR grant. Let's get the Hall in shape to celebrate 2018: our 131st anniversary and the centenary of the birth of Czechoslovakia. *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>](http://www.sokolmn.org)

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

**Czech and Slovak
Sokol Minnesota
2017 BOD
(Board of Directors)**

President
Judy Aubrecht

First Vice President
Denis Novak

Second Vice President
Ed Hamernik

Recording Secretary
Denise Stibal

Corresponding Secretary
Elizabeth Kaliska

Treasurer
Don Haselbauer

Financial Secretary
Tom Aubrecht

Sergeant at Arms
Glynis Grostephan

Members at Large
Steve Ernest
Markéta Resong

Membership Director
Norm Petrik

**Board of Budget
and Finance**
Joyce Tesarek, Chair

Educational Director
Jean Draheim

Board of Instructors
Mary Cahill,
Women's Physical Director
Jason Brozovich,
Men's Physical Director

Publicity Director
Jyni Koschak

Board of Trustees
Dan Bednar

Gaming Manager
Ed Hamernik, Chair

Telephone: 651-290-0542

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

Czech

Slovak
Sokol Minnesota



Address | 385 Michigan Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55102

Phone | (651) 290-0542

Web site | www.sokolmn.org

Dear Sokol Minnesota members and friends of the C.S.P.S. Hall,

Exciting programs, events, and classes happen almost every day at our C.S.P.S. Hall. You may have attended a dinner, movie night, lecture, or concert at the Hall or taken gymnastics, dancing, language, or cooking classes. In 2018, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia. We want the Hall ready to host commemorative events in 2018, as well as our regular programs, but we need to invest in critical maintenance and improvements.

In recent years, we've made significant building improvements to the C.S.P.S. Hall, including the fire suppression system, the much-needed air conditioning, and the recent replacement of the 1919 fire escape. Your generous support helped accomplish these projects.

The Hall needs extensive parapet and roof surface repairs, plus brick tuckpointing. A STAR grant from the City of Saint Paul for more than \$85,000 for the first phase of this work requires matching money. We greatly need your help to generate that match.

When the old fire escape was removed two years ago, we had to replace the shed covering the steps into the basement due to water damage and other problems. We had to remove the security fence, enclosing the fire escape and shed, to bring in equipment needed to level the space. Sokol Minnesota received a \$500 micro-grant from the West 7th Business Association to start the fence replacement project.

C.S.P.S. Hall needs you to donate to our Legacy Fund. The total cost for the proposed projects is nearly \$300,000. This is a lot of money for our small organization and our supporting community to raise. Let's first work together to raise the \$85,000 match for the STAR grant and then work on the \$130,000 balance. **We can do it with your help.** You could join together as a family to make a tax-deductible legacy gift in memory or in honor of a loved one. Or select a specific project to fund. How about a roof in their honor? A stately parapet? A square yard of tuckpointed bricks? Or even a fence gate?

Kindly give generously to help match the \$85,000 STAR grant. Your donation insures the future of our beloved C.S.P.S. Hall for classes, dinners, events, and activities.

Please make donations and pledges to Sokol Minnesota Legacy Fund.

Donate online at <www.Sokolmn.org>

or mail your check to 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102.

For questions on stock transfers or to include the Hall in estate planning, contact Joyce Tesarek, Legacy Building Fund Chair, at 612-822-6147 or finance@sokolmn.org

We genuinely thank you for your support of the Sokol Minnesota Legacy Fund.

Sincerely,



Judith H. Aubrecht

Judy Aubrecht, President

Joyce Tesarek

Joyce Tesarek, Finance Committee Chair

Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Election, Friday, November 17, 7 p.m.

The annual meeting of Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota is November 17 at 7 p.m. at C.S.P.S. Hall.

Please plan to attend the meeting.

The bylaws state members must be present to vote.

There will be an election of officers and board members for 2018. Several positions are up for election in the rotation process. Finance Committee and Charitable Gaming Committee also need additional members.

Please consider joining Sokol Minnesota's leadership.

If you would like to run for an office or if you know someone who would like work on the BOD, but is too shy to offer, but would accept a position, please contact

Louise at <louisewessinger@msn.com>
or 651-452-6240

or Joyce at <joycedvm@aol.com>
or 612-822-6147.

Highlights from the September Board of Directors Meeting

By Denise Stibal, Recording Secretary

The Sokol Board of Directors held its monthly meeting September 21 at 7 p.m. Prior to the meeting, we inspected the stairs, shed and fence projects at the back of the building, which are a great improvement to the exterior of the building.

President Judy Aubrecht reported that a fundraising appeal letter is being developed to distribute to all Sokol Minnesota members (see page 3).

Ed Hamernik updated the Board on further renovation work needed on the back of the building, and the Board approved the use of concrete, with a not-to-exceed cost of \$3,000.

Norm Petrik reported that we have three new members.

Education Director, Jean Draheim, reported that we have 14 students in the Beginning/Intermediate Czech class starting on September 25, and she also noted the growing interest in the Slovak classes beginning October 3.

Glynis Grostephan, working on the silent auction for the Czech and Slovak Fall Festival, reported on a gift card and liquor donation from Pajarito, our restaurant tenant.

Joyce Tesarek noted fundraising attempts to match the City of Saint Paul STAR Grant, with approval pending in October.

Dan Bednar, from the Board of Trustees, reported that the C.S.P.S. Hall is in need of window repair, and will need to have an elevator inspection in the near future.

The Board approved the purchase of ten 60" round tables for events at the Hall.

Jason Brozovich, Men's Director, reported that we are in the second full week of gym classes at full capacity. We also have two new graduates from the Sokol National Instructors School.

Ed Hamernik presented the gaming budget, which was approved by the Board.

Jean Verner Draheim expressed gratitude for our support during her mother Shirley Verner's passing and memorial service at the C.S.P.S. Hall on September 17.

Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors

By Elizabeth Kaliska, Corresponding Secretary

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

General Fund: under \$99: **Tom and Judy Aubrecht, Ed and Arlene Hamernik** in memory of **Don Pafko, Don and Katie Haselbauer** in memory of **James Fisher, Steve Mello** in honor of the **SlovCzech Band, Elsie Roepke, Terry Shima** in memory of **Shirley Verner.**

\$100 - \$499: Norm Petrik and Joyce Tesarek in memory of **Don Pafko.**

Legacy Fund: under \$99: **George Chlebeczek, Arlene Drabek** in memory of **Florence and Albert Drabek.**

\$100 - \$499: Georgiana Soboda.

Gymnastics Classes: under \$99: **Jim and Mary Jo Chlebeczek** in memory of **Don Pafko.**

General Fund: \$295 **Legacy Fund:** \$130
Gymnastics Classes: \$20

Amazon Smile Foundation

Thanks to all Sokol members and friends who use Amazon Smile Foundation, which donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization selected by the customer. See <smile.amazon.com>

New Members

By Norm Petrik, Membership Director

At the September 21 Board of Directors meeting, three people were accepted to membership at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota: one couple, Monika Lopašovská and Luboš Polniš, from Montgomery, with interests in cultural events, cooking, crafts, and children's cultural camp; as well as Gloria Olson, from Falcon Heights, with interest in Slovak language, cooking, and various events.

At the October 19 Board of Directors meeting, two couples were accepted as members: Terry and Dave Gilbertstadt, Saint Paul, with interests in cultural events, music, and festivals; and Chad Holliday and Chloe Rizzo, Saint Paul, with interests in language, cooking, and history/genealogy. Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!

Czech Slovak Century Celebrations in 2018

Celebrate 100/50/25 with Czechs and Slovaks
around the world in 2018.

- ♥ 100 years since the formation of Czechoslovakia
- ♥ 50 years since the Prague Spring reform movement
- ♥ 25 years since the creation of the two separate nations of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic

Thanks to web designer Kevin Hurbanis from CGSI (Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International) and Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic for Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota, there is a website calendar listing all events, large and small, that pertain to Czech and/or Slovak culture, heritage, music, dance, art, lectures, cinema, athletics, or business in our four upper Midwest states.

<www.CzechSlovakCentury.org>

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Member News

Minnesota Scholar Mark Neuzil Teaching in Prague

By Vanda Kofroňová, Praha Correspondent

I met Mark Neuzil in April 2013 at St. Thomas University in Saint Paul when I was part of a Rotarian-sponsored journalist program for Czechs and Slovaks.

Mark was the one who kindly guided us through Tommie Media Campus. With his students, he showed us how young reporters in Minnesota are prepared for their future jobs. In fact, I still drink from the mug I received that day.

I was excited when I learned he was coming to Prague. He is a Fulbright scholar at Charles University this autumn, teaching journalism ethics and history.

Back home, he is a professor in the Department of Communication and Journalism at the University of St. Thomas, a 10,000-student comprehensive university in Saint Paul, Minnesota, USA. He is the author, co-author, or editor of seven books. His freelance journalism has been awarded top honors by the Minnesota chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists and the national Society of Environmental Journalists, where he served two terms on its board of directors.

He has written from Cuba, Armenia, the United Kingdom, Kyrgyzstan, Italy, and Costa Rica. We can hope he will now write from Prague.

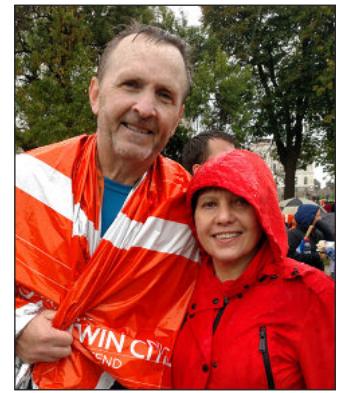
Mark is accompanied by his wife Amy Kuebelbeck, who is also a freelance reporter specializing in medical topics. It is not the first time in Prague for either of them. However, it is their first long-term stay. They will spend the whole fall semester in Prague. Christmas included. They are already preparing themselves for having a carp in a bathtub!

It was great to meet both Mark and Amy in Prague. Welcome!



Mark Neuzil and Amy Kuebelbeck with Vanda Kofroňová and her son Jindřich in early October, with the Vltava River and the Prague Castle in the background.

Gary Zweber ran the Twin Cities Marathon on Sunday, October 1, in 5.28 hours. He placed 234 out of 257 in the 55-59 age category. Gary "guessed" it was maybe his 18th TC Marathon.



Gary Zweber and Denise Stibal.

He ran the last two years with his daughter, who chose not to run this year. His words at the finish line were "I want a hot bath and two pizzas." Congratulations on finishing!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **November 17 -19**, the 12th Annual Harvest Jam Acoustic Music Experience, **Czech and Slovak Cultural Center is a sponsor of the screening of *Banjo Romantika***, a film documentary of Czech musicians who play their own unique style of bluegrass music. Held at the Minneapolis Marriott West Hotel in Saint Louis Park. The Malina Brothers from the Czech Republic will headline on Saturday evening, as well as play a 30-minute set on Friday night and a gospel set on Sunday morning. For ticket details: 800-635-3037 or <www.minnesotabluegrass.org>
- **June 30 - July 7, 2018, International Sokol Slet in Prague.**

Going away this winter? Forwarding your mail? Don't forget about the Slovo!

We mail at bulk mail rates. The post office does not forward bulk mail. We pay an added 49 cents (or more) each time the post office returns an issue. Let us know your winter address, or ask us to hold an issue (or two or more) for you.



Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Gymnastics 2017-2018

SESSION II STARTS NOVEMBER 27

Sokol Gymnastics provides a safe and fun learning environment, all while challenging your child to master exciting new skills. Our program boasts small class sizes, allowing each gymnast plenty of individual attention. Moreover, our program is designed to accommodate a variety of ages across all abilities from beginner to intermediate all the way up to advanced and competition.

Our program is led by experienced and qualified instructors.

For more information: 651-290-0542 or fitness@sokolmn.org

28th Annual Czech & Slovak Festival on September 24



1 and 3: With great team work the Sokol Board of Trustees, Sokol members, and friends put up the tents early Sunday morning, September 24. **2:** Sokol President Judy Aubrecht, Sokol Financial Secretary Tom Aubrecht, and Chair of the Festival Joyce Tesarek (also Board of Budget and Finance Chair). **4:** Flag ceremony led by Chuck Draheim. **5:** Cheryl Nelson Theuninck (L) watched as Mark Pafko received flowers in honor of his father Donald Pafko, Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic, who passed away suddenly on September 9 (see pages 12-14). **6:** Jason Brozovich set up trash boxes near the Beer Garden. **7:** Sokol Singers, led by Don Haselbauer on accordion. **8:** Official Festival Hosts Pat (L) and Don (R) Andre welcomed John Topic (center). **9:** Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Queen Bailey Gare, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic M. L. Kucera, Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Princess Mary Carson. **10:** Saint Paul South Bohemian Bagpipe Band: Dawn Bulera, Jason Brozovich, and John Topic. **11:** Flag Bearers: Dawn Bulera and Chuck Draheim (American flag), Sandy Prochaska and Rick Palma (Czech), Lara Ciganko and Paul Knuth (Slovak), Teresa Pojar and Richard Sargent (Minnesota), Judy and Tom Aubrecht (American Sokol), Courtney Benson and Jason Brozovich (Sokol Minnesota).

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota hosted the 28th annual Czech and Slovak Festival on September 24 at C.S.P.S. Hall.

Our guests and volunteers voted this festival our very best yet! First and foremost, the festival is a chance to enjoy and celebrate our heritage, but it also is an important fundraiser for our historic C.S.P.S. Hall. Treasurer Don Haselbauer reported income of \$15,234.83 with a profit of \$9,670.18. Since the event was free to attend, the success is a tribute to the outstanding food, bakery, beer, gift shop, kids' games, and silent auction sales. All our hard-working volunteers were instrumental to our success.

Thanks to all our volunteers, especially our area leaders. Also a huge thanks to all our guests! *Děkuji!*

Doreen McKenney designed our **printed program**, which was financed by ads featured in the program. Cheryl Nelson Theuninck solicited the ads. Thanks to our **sponsors**: Andrej's European Pastry, Jan Gadzo; Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota; Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International; Czech and Slovak Heritage Tours, Mark Bigaouette; Czech Tours, Hana Matousek; *Domáci* Czech Folk Dancers and also Hometown Holidays, Domaci, Inc.; Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic, M. L. Kucera; the late Honorary Slovak Consul, Don Pafko; Jean Draheim; *Lipa* Slovak Folk Dancers; MetroTek.MN; Muddy Paws Cheesecake; Minnehaha Animal Hospital and Pet Doctors, Dr. Joyce Tesarek; Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers; and Western Fraternal Life Association.

Publicity: The efforts of Sokol Publicity Director, Jyni Koschak, along with our social media stars, Sue Martin and Martina Gurgel, as well as our Slovo staff, brought out our largest crowd ever.

Hosts Don and Pat Andriele, dressed in *kroje*, welcomed and informed our volunteers and guests.

Steve Ernest and Denise Stibal with their **ticket team** masterfully handled selling the thousands of tickets.

Food: Our kitchen leaders Markéta Resong, Hana Matousek, and Rad Rasmussen prepared authentic *segedínský guláš* and chicken *paprikáš*. Outdoors at the grill, Jason Brozovich, along with Mike Rasmussen, led the team serving *jitrnice* (Czech sausage), homemade Czech burgers, hot dogs, and the ever popular Slovak *halušky* (cabbage, bacon, and dumpling hot dish).

Thanks to Cynthia Forster of Sausage By Cynthia who donated all the *jitrnice*.

By midafternoon Cinnamon Whaley's team in the **Sweet Shoppe** sold out all the *koláče*, baked goods, and *perníčky* (traditional decorated gingerbread cookies, created by several members from the Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities).

Bar and beverage tent crew, led by Ed Hamernik and Dan Bednar, served the crowd cold *Czechvar* beer, wine, and soft drinks.

Silent auction: Glynis Grostephan organized and led the successful silent auction, bringing in \$2,120. We want to thank all our donors.

Business donors: Cafe Latté, Chicago's Taste Authority, Crayola Experience in the Mall of America, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Gift Shop, O'Gara's Bar and Grill, the Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic M.L. Kucera, Kowalski's Market, Mississippi Market, Natural Foods Co-Op, Olive Garden, Pajarito Restaurant, Pizza Luce, Punch Pizza, Root Salon, Run N Fun, Sea Turtle Conservation Project, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, Theatre Unbound, The Wellness Center, Tom Reid's Hockey City Pub, and Yoerg's Beer. Please support these businesses with your patronage.

Individual donors: Judy Aubrecht, Dan Bednar, Judith Benton, Mary Jo Chlebecek, Katherine Eckstrom, Michaela Giancarlo Kotek, Yana and Lubor Manalov, Doreen McKenney, Judy Metcalf, Doris Moravetz, Ellen and Eileen Navrina, Mark Neuzil, Mike Norman, Denis Novak, Norm Petrik, Renee Reed, Jitka Sebek, Steve Shimer, Denise Stibal, Joyce Tesarek, Renáta Tichá, and Kris Wessinger.

Sokol Minnesota gained \$500 from the drawing for 12 Czech crystal wine glasses. Our lucky winner was Phyllis Doman!

Program team leader Louise Wessinger provided our guests with an authentic and entertaining program. We thank all of the Sokol Minnesota members, as well as our associated groups, for providing entertainment. Very special thanks goes to our guest royalty, musicians, and dancers who graced our stages with their talent. They enhanced our programs and made the day extra enjoyable for all our attendees.

Logistics and Flag Ceremony: Chuck Draheim

Flag Bearers: Dawn Bulera and Chuck Draheim (American flag), Rick Palma and Sandy Prochaska (Czech), Paul Knuth and Lara Ciganko (Slovak, Richard Sargent and Teresa Pojar (Minnesota), Tom and

Judy Aubrecht (American Sokol), Jason Brozovich and Courtney Benson (Sokol Minnesota).

Emcee: David Stepan

Welcome greeters: Judy Aubrecht, Sokol President; Marit Lee Kucera, Czech Honorary Consul; and Cheryl Nelson Theuninck read a tribute in honor of Slovak Honorary Consul Donald Pafko (who passed away just two weeks prior on September 9). Members of the Sokol Minnesota *Taneční Mládež* Dancers presented flowers from Sokol Minnesota to Mark Pafko in memory of his father, Don Pafko.

National Anthem: Don Haselbauer, Director, led the **Sokol Czech and Slovak Singers**: Jim Chlebecek, Mary Jo Chlebecek, Bob Kostichka, Pam Langworthy, Norm Petrik, Richard Sargent, John Topic, Arnie Ziskovsky, and Deb Ziskovsky.

Sokol Minnesota Taneční Mládež and Teens: Louise Wessinger, Director; Dawn Bulera and Romana Pulkrabek, Assistants. Dancers: Adam Acs, Andrea Atcheson, Tannah and Zephyr Bulera, Olivia Contreras, Anna and Izzy Bracknell, Adela and Petra Bragg, Isabela Carlson, Isabel and Lucien Espinosa, Ellen Ferry, Kristina Gurgel, Seanna and Keely Kluzak, Juna and Leo Krikava, Marius Morse, Everett Paylor, Sylvia Pulkrabek, Matthew Resong, Sara Rosenthal, Sally Sebek, Isabella Spiess, Elisa, Everett, Eva and Erik Swartz, Sophia Wenberg, and Elsa Youngberg.

Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers: Louise Wessinger, Director, with Dawn Bulera and Chuck Draheim, Jason Brozovich and Megan Cahill, Robert Jacobson and Jyni Koschak, Lenka Hester, Richard Sargent and Pam Langworthy, David and Sue Martin, Teresa Pojar and John Topic, Judy and James Metcalf, Michaela Wentz and Tony, Sandy Prohaska and Richard Palma, Tom and Judy Aubrecht, Bobbie Jo Chandler, and Dave Stepan.

Sokol Minnesota Gymnasts: Jason Brozovich and Courtney Benson, Directors; Matt Schussler, Coach; Mitchell, Emery, Kylie, Lydia, Anna, Isabelle, Lily, Charlotte, Claire, Ella, Zoe, and Amari.

The Mondo Jugglers: Tom and Penny Tesarek.

Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities: Lenka Bragg and Romana Pulkrabek

Saint Paul South Bohemian Bagpipe Band: Dawn Bulera, Jason Brozovich, and John Topic (Frank Trnka, Director).



1. Beverage Tenders: Lloyd Krocak, Ed Hamernik, Dan Bednar, Denis Novak. 2. Sweet Shoppe: Gentleman bought *koláče* with help from Jan Roers, Cinnamon Whaley, and Rosemary Whaley-Baisden. 3. Ticket Sellers: Bob Kosticka, Steve Shimer, and Dan Washick. 4. Everyone loved the Silent Auction. 5. Rhondi Waldron, behind her Girl Scouts helped with grill food sales, along with Teresa Pojar (L), Julie Bifano and Pam Langworthy (R). 6. Decorating bee cookies: Michaela Giancarlo Kotek and Eva Giese. 7. Glynnis Grostephan chaired the Silent Auction. 8. Silent Auction items included the book, *Canoes, a Natural History in North America*, co-authored by new member, Mark Neuzil. 9. Upstairs Ticket Sellers: Darla Kolb and Shannon Duffy. 10. Gary Zweber tended bar in the dining room upstairs. 11. Christy Banks wrote myriad sales slips in the Sokol Gift Shop. 12. The cooks never stopped smiling: Alena Youngberg, Mary Cahill, Markéta Resong, Rad Rasmussen. 13. In the first-floor classroom stood the decorated horse representing the Ride of the Kings (*Jízda králů*), handmade by Doreen McKenney. Visitors also viewed documentaries.

Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota

Organization: Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Queen Bailey Gare, soloist; Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Princess Mary Carson, flutist.

Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers from Minneapolis: Lara Ciganko, Kristen Chepp, Karen Doten, Emily Fiamova, Kathryn Gallagher, Katarina Grajcarova, Vladia Gregorski, Paul Knuth, Silvia Magana, Brenda Rogers, and Peter Vilim.

Czech Heritage Junior Royalty and the Domáci Czech Folk Dancers of New Prague: Arnie and Deb Ziskovsky, Directors; Ambassador Sylvia Lemke; Little Ambassadors Aria Beaudin, Kristin Siebsen, and Ruby Nazzal.

Carpathy Children's Folk Dance

Ensemble: Lara Ciganko, Director; Emma B, Faith H, Natalie K, Patrick K, Sophia K, Lainey R, Konstantine S, Lilian T.

Ethnic Dance Theatre of Minnesota:

Donald LaCourse, Artistic Director, and his sister Renee, from EDT provided a lovely Bohemian waltz and *Mazurka*, followed by a Rusyn suite danced by eight members of their ensemble.

Tapestry Folkdance Centre: Blanka Brichta and Jan Morse, Dance Instructors, provided lessons in the air-conditioned gym during the afternoon band breaks. The audience learned two dances *Zemer Atik*, a traditional Jewish wedding dance, and also a Roma circle-dance from the eastern Slovakia region.

George Palma's Concertina Band: from Brownton, Minnesota, set toes a-tapping and folks a-dancing in the gym during two music sets.

SlovCzech Band: Petr Bachan, Director, brought the party to a great last hour as everyone celebrated a wonderful and successful festival!

Information tables: Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota: Norm Petrik and Tom Aubrecht handed out membership applications, issues of the *Slovo*, and event postcards at the Sokol membership table.

Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota: Renáta Tichá, Cheryl Nelson Theuninck, and Jan Knudtson.

Western Fraternal Life Association: Lodge Orel no. 69 and Lodge Cesky Lev no. 10 awarded (3) \$50 Target gift certificates. Carol Loss drew the winners' names: Sienna LoPesio (age 6), Ben Grindheim (age 8), and Madison Lunders (age 13).

Polish American Cultural Institute (PACIM): Cecelia and Mark Dillon and Paul Rog from PACIM, first time at our C-S Festival, had information about upcoming events.

Childrens' Activities: Jitka Sebek and crew from Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities made sure the kids had lots to do. The children spent endless time joyfully in the inflatable castle, scored a painted face or a temporary tattoo, played games for irresistible prizes (donated by generous parents), participated in juggling gigs, or crafted greeting cards with a Czech and Slovak touch.

Blanka Brichta created **interactive and digital presentations**, a new concept featured at this year's festival. Attendees had an opportunity not only to be spectators, but also to become participants. At the **Trivia Corner**, everybody tested his/her knowledge of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic. It was very popular, especially with young teens! Lenka Brag and Denisa Acs, with many children, manned this table, making it fun and engaging for all.

The **Map Display Station** drew many people to find the towns of their ancestors. Dita Martinez patiently volunteered assistance to those who needed to locate a particular village. Throughout the afternoon, it was incredible to listen as many people shared their personal stories about how and when their ancestors immigrated to Minnesota. The stories were both unexpected and very touching! Thomas Sebek volunteered at the "3D Virtual Reality Walk though Prague;" he diligently and patiently helped all interested people to download the correct app on their phone and to set them up with the goggles for the 3D walk. All of the interactive activities were very well-received, and people had fun.

Ride of the Kings Display: In the first floor classroom stood a life-size decorated horse, handmade, by Doreen McKenney, of the Ride of Kings (*Jízda králů*). Several short documentaries about that tradition were screened, including a current celebration from the village of Vlcnov, as well as a documentary from a celebration in 1946. It was interesting to see what has changed, and yet how the traditional way still is preserved. These documentaries were followed by videos: "Short History of the Czech Republic," "Geography of the Czech Republic," "Review of Slovakia," "Old Prague Legends - The Orloj Story," and "How to Make *Koláče*." Both the horse display and the screenings were well-attended. Our volunteers were Mary Jo and Jim Chlebecek, Shannon Krenik, and Pavel Šulc.

See page 16 for a list of all the volunteers.

Vendors: Jean Draheim gathered vendors of many varieties. **Joe Niese** offered a book about Andy Pafko, a baseball player. **Willows Coffee** donated coffee from their farm in Costa Rica, offered cups of cold brew, and sold bags of coffee. Anna Cookova, of **CzechTalk, LLC**, offered translations and children's activities.

Bone Lake Meadows Apiary sold their honey and bee related products.

Ludmila Pálková sold her homemade pickles, jams, and baked goods.

Toni Brendel of **Slovak American Touches** had a wide variety of Czech and Slovak imports including glassware, jewelry, and several books that she has authored. **Jean Draheim** presented handcrafted jewelry, using Czech glass and crystal as well as natural stones.

Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International offered books, clothing, music, and maps, as well as other imported goods from the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic. **Ethnic Dance Theatre** offered information and tickets for upcoming dance concerts.

Our **Sokol Minnesota Gift Shop**, specially organized by Doreen McKenney for the Festival, sold everything from cookbooks, straw ornaments, t-shirts with clever Czech idioms, and cards to Bohemian glass and moldavite jewelry. Katie Haselbauer with assistance from Christy Banks and Marit Lee Kucera staffed the gift shop. With so many items to admire and acquire, shoppers lingered and asked questions! The shop volunteers offered a first introduction to Sokol, the C.S.P.S. Hall, and all the Czech/Slovak gift items to many first-time festival guests. The gift shop sold \$1,200.50 during this 6-hour festival.

Special salute goes to Chuck Draheim, our Board of Trustees, and all the volunteers who set up and took down all the tents, booths, tables, and chairs. What a remarkable job by those who started early Saturday morning and stayed to close on Sunday evening. What tremendous efforts for a tremendous festival! It was a great day for our Czech and Slovak community, Sokol members and friends, and the West 7th Street area neighbors.

Celebrate in 2018!

- ♥ 100th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia
- ♥ 50th anniversary of the Prague Spring reform movement
- ♥ 25th anniversary of the formation of the two independent nations of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic



1. Czech and Slovak Cultural Center: Renáta Tichá, Jan Knudtson, Cheryl Nelson Theuninck. 2. Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International. 3. Mondo Jugglers Penny and Tom Tesarek with four brave young people who watched wood pins fly by. 4. Katarína Bilá painted hands. 5. Sokol Gymnasts. 6. PACIM (Polish American Council in Minnesota): Mark Dillon, board secretary and PolAm editor, with Paul Rog, PACIM board member and president emeritus. 7. Jitka Sebek in charge of Kids Events and Games with Katarína Bilá and daughter. 8. Vendor Ludmila Pálková sold homemade pickles, jams, and baked goods. 9. Dave Stepan ran the Kolacky Eating Contest, and like last year, the winners ran off before we recorded their names. 10. Children watched the puppet show (13) with pure delight. 11. Western Fraternal Life booth: Sandy Saliny (Lodge 10), Richard Saliny (Lodge 10), Carol Loss (Lodge 69). 12. The WFL (Lodge Orel no. 69) members Carol Loss and Kathy Richardson, with Louise Wessinger holding the basket, drew for gift certificates; winners were Sienna LoPesio, Madison Lunders, and Ben Grindheim. 13. The Puppet Show, staged by Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities, main hall, as seen from the balcony by our giant puppets, Jitka and Jarďa.

10 November 2017 *Slovo*



1. Domáci Czech Folk Dancers of New Prague 2. Dave Stepan presented flowers from Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers to Louise Wessinger upon her retirement from dancing. 3. Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers. 4. Ethnic Dance Theatre. 5. Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers. 6. Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers 7. Carpathy Children's Folk Dance Ensemble. 8. Sokol Minnesota *Taneční* Teen Folk Dancers. 9. Sokol Minnesota *Taneční Mládež* Children's Folk Dancers. 10. Dancing in the gym/ballroom on the second floor at C.S.P.S. Hall to George Palma's Concertina Band. 11. Graduating seniors in Sokol Minnesota *Taneční* Teen Folk Dancers are the high jumpers on the far right; Andrea and Ellen. 12. Sokol Minnesota *Taneční Mládež* Children's Folk Dancers. 13. Dancing to SlovCzech Band at the end of the Festival. 14. Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers invited the audience to join them in learning two dances. Everyone had a great time!

Save the date for the 29th annual Czech and Slovak Festival: September 16, 2018

Remembering Donald Pafko (24 April 1939 to 9 September 2017)

Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic to Minnesota since 2009, Sokol Minnesota Member since 1984,
and Founder/Director of Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers since 2000

Many of you will probably never know how much Don Pafko enjoyed serving the Slovak community in Minnesota and working with Slovak nationals both here and abroad. His passion for his heritage showed each and every time he took the stage with the *Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers*, a group he proudly founded. He was looking forward to his performance at the Czech and Slovak Festival at the C.S.P.S. Hall this fall. I know this because I found the *kroj* he planned to wear neatly arranged on his bed for the coming appearance. I have fond memories of both my parents' participation in all the numerous activities through the years. I always knew that if my mother wasn't home, she could probably be found at the C.S.P.S. Hall. I want to thank the membership and all the affiliated groups for their kind thoughts, memorials, and expressions of sympathy on the loss of my father.

Mark Pafko, son

Many times over the past 20 years, the theme for the Czech and Slovak Sokol Children's Cultural Day Camp has been Czech and Slovak folk heroes. As co-director of the camp, I had the good fortune to observe Don Pafko's enjoyment of being the special Slovak guest speaker. In the folk-hero themed years, Don dramatically told the story of Juraj Jánošík, who was born in January 1688, in Terchová (Kingdom of Hungary), now a part of the Slovak Republic.

Before beginning his story, Don would select a male camper, between ten and twelve years old. The camper was honored to be dressed in *kroj* as the young Jánošík, even though the clothing was much too big for him. Don explained the importance of the colorfully embroidered wool pants and woolly decorative sheepskin vest for warmth, sturdy leather moccasins for safe walking in mountain areas, and a very wide leather belt to help with heavy lifting. During his presentation, Don spoke very enthusiastically about Jánošík and enjoyed sharing his Slovak background with the campers and staff. We will miss Don at the Children's Cultural Camp and at many other Sokol Minnesota events.

*Judy Aubrecht,
President, Sokol Minnesota*

Don Pafko was a very special Sokol Minnesota friend, and I will miss him dearly. I envied his devotion to the organization, his fondness of his heritage, and his professional attitude to all he did.

He had a strong desire to get others involved, and was willing to step back and assist them. I was relatively new to Sokol Minnesota when I was elected president, and I frequently used Don as resource and guide to the organization's operation. Don was very proud to be Honorary Consul to the Slovak Republic. From all indications, he was respectfully received by all and performed the duties exceptionally well. I feel truly honored and blessed to have had this relationship with Don, a great individual.

*Ed Hamernik, Second Vice
President, Sokol Minnesota*

Arnie and I spent a lot of time with Don and his late wife, Jeanette. They were our good friends and a source of support in our mutual promotion of the heritage. We were all active in Sokol. As members of the decoration committee, we spent hours at their house making wall décor and dance props. And we can't forget the hours spent dancing in their basement as members of the St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers!

Don was instrumental in getting our Domáci Dancers started. To reciprocate, we helped him to get the Lipa Dancers off the ground. Earlier this year, Don accepted our invitation to be on our Domáci Advisory Board.

We took road trips presenting information about national folk costumes (*kroje*). The Pafkos presented Slovak; we, the Czech. We took it seriously, visiting the University of Minnesota Library and translating many books on *kroj* in order to have accurate information. We presented close to home at Sokol Minnesota, Bechyn Czechfest (Minnesota), and Chicago, but also flew to San Diego and New York.

They were mentors in showing us what it meant to network and to be ambassadors of our heritage. I can honestly say that we would not be doing what we do today, if it were not for both Don and Jeanette.

*Deb and Arnie Ziskovsky, Directors,
Domáci Czech Folk Dancers*

Don Pafko was the Honorary Consul for the Slovak Republic and was on the Board of Directors for the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota. Don brought his passion for Slovak culture to our work by bringing cultural events to the Twin Cities. The Board will miss him and will find ways to honor his passion in our future activities.

*Czech and Slovak Cultural Center
(CSCC), Board of Directors*

I first met Don in late 1980s as part of a Slovak language class, when my mother was relearning her first language. Don and I quickly realized that our grandparents came from the same town in Slovakia, that we each had a parent who was born and lived on the Bohemian River Flats in Minneapolis, and that our families had been friends for generations. Don suggested that I get involved in the Slovak community. Even all those years ago, he was a proud advocate for Slovaks, Slovak Americans, and the Slovak culture. That passion grew stronger throughout his life. I am involved in the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center and Sokol Minnesota because of Don and his lovely wife Jeanette. I will treasure those memories forever.

*Cheryl Nelson Theuninck,
CSCC colleague with Slovak heritage*

Don Pafko was a friend of mine and a stalwart colleague in the Slovak Diplomatic Corps in the United States. I first met Don through his work with the Lipa Dancers, but it was not until 2008 when he was appointed Honorary Consul for Slovakia in Minnesota that I really shared common experiences with Don. He and I had common roots. His family was from the north central part of Slovakia, near the village of Važec, about 35 kilometers from one of my ancestral villages, Bobrovec. I also have Minnesota roots. I recall a good-spirited debate with Don, comparing the rugged weather of Duluth to the tropical climate of the Twin Cities. Don was a Green Beret and a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne; my father was a World War II paratrooper in the 11th Airborne.

Don and Jeanette were inseparable. Together, they connected all things Slovak with Minnesotans of all ethnic origins. Don's enduring legacy is his popular and successful (and indefatigable) work with the Lipa Dancers, his real pride and joy. He also spent years working with his many friends at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, promoting friendship and culture from Slovakia, Moravia, and Bohemia. His proud and successful work on behalf of the Slovak people, and the memories he made, as well as his loyalty and good humor, will live on. We express our heartfelt condolences to his son, Mark and bid a bittersweet farewell to a real friend. *Do videnia, Don.*

*Greg Fasing, Honorary Consul
for Slovakia to Colorado,
New Mexico, and Wyoming*



Jeanette and Don Pafko in Slovak kroje for a folk dancers' performance at the Duluth Folk Fair in 1998.

I first met Don Pafko and his son Mark when Don attended his first annual meeting in 2010 of the United States Slovak Honorary Consuls in Washington, D.C. They were a great father and son team. Don was excited to assume the role of Slovak Honorary Consul to the state of Minnesota.

Another fond memory of Don, Jeanette, and Mark was at the installation of Rosemary Wisnosky, the Slovak Honorary Consul to the State of Illinois in May 2012. Then President of the Slovak Republic, Ivan Gašparovič, who was in Chicago for a NATO Summit, participated in the installation ceremony. The day before, my wife Barbara and I had a great time with the Pafkos at a Czech and Slovak museum, enjoying lunch, evening cocktails, and a few good laughs.

Then in July 2012, Barbara and I participated with Don and Jeanette in the rededication ceremonies of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids. Don, Cecilia Rokusek (Slovak Honorary Consul to the State of Florida), and I had the privilege to raise the Slovak Republic national flag. Don and Jeanette performed with their Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers. Jeanette was a true partner and supporter of Don in all things Slovak.

Ross P. Marine, Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic to the Midwest USA (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska)

Despite often presenting as gruff and resolute, Don Pafko was steadfast and generous in his support of Slovaks and the Slovak culture. He joined the hands of over 45 Slovak-Americans, Slovaks, Americans of various ethnic backgrounds, plus international students, who otherwise never would have met and shared with them Slovak dance. Both inside and outside of his Slovak representative and consulate positions, he was an equally loyal American patriot. Don helped secure visas and citizenship recommendations for many Slovaks eager to share and contribute to our culture. On behalf of current Lipa Slovak Dancers and alumni, we thank you, Don Pafko, for your service to the United States and to the Slovak community here and abroad. You will be missed.

Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers

Three things come immediately to mind when I reminisce about Don. The first is that Don would often end one of his wonderful stories with "What do ya do?" The thing is, Don didn't stop with the question, he did "do." However, he was strategic about what he undertook. Whatever he did, it was always done well. He had high standards, willingly took a leadership role, and gave generously of his time and talents to the things he championed.

Second, Don thought the world of his wife, Jeanette, and their son, Mark. In every conversation, my husband, Dennis, and I had with Don, he spoke proudly and lovingly of both. He touted Jeanette's top-notch organizational skills, Mark's writing and literary talents, and their mutual appreciation of Slovak friends, culture, and travel.

Last, Don loved dessert! I could always count on Don to be up for dessert and coffee, which meant (as someone with a sweet tooth) I, too, could indulge. Then the stories and laughs would continue just a bit longer over that last cup of coffee.

His presence will be missed; however, his legacy lives on in the work he did for the many things he believed in.

Mary Cahill, Board of Instructors, Sokol Minnesota

As an active member of the Minnesota Consular Corps, Donald Pafko supported and attended many activities planned for its members. He served as Secretary/Treasurer, and again later as part of the executive team, when he assumed the position of Vice

President in 2016. As Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic to Minnesota, Don worked to strengthen the ties between the Slovak Republic and the United States, while also increasing the partnership in trade, business, and travel between the two countries.

He was the founder and director of the Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers, which actively represent the culture and heritage of the Slovak Republic. His dedication and commitment toward his country, colleagues, and friends will be deeply missed.

Britt Ardikani and Teresa Palacios Olson, Minnesota Consular Corps Executive Board

I often had the opportunity to introduce Don as a guest of honor at some Sokol Minnesota event or other. As we spoke, I found him to be a person with a sharp mind and a quick wit. He loved Slovak customs, food, and dance; he worked very hard to preserve them. We have lost a friend, and we will miss him.

Denis Novak, First Vice President, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

The Consular Corps College lost a colleague, great friend, and supporter on September 9. Stalwart, earnest, generous, and committed, the honorable Donald Pafko was devoted to his two countries and peoples. He was an exemplary Honorary Consul and a valued Consular Corps College Chancellor. He believed strongly in the CCC, its mission, and the training it provides.

Don joined the Consular Corps College and attended his first CCC Symposium in 2012. What struck so many of the CCC attendees was his passion for his sending nation and the Slovak people, plus his deep commitment to his duties as an Honorary Consul. Don understood the value of networking and sharing information and best practices. Within a year of joining the CCC, the Board of Chancellors elected him a Chancellor. Over the next five years, he spread the word, got many of the Minnesota Consular Corps members to join the CCC, and helped to realize the CCC's growth and evolution. As one of the original Leadership Circle Donors, he was also a great financial supporter.

In ways large and small, behind the scenes and as a leader, Don Pafko gave so much of himself to the Slovak Republic, to the people he loved and represented, and also to the Consular Corps College he valued and served. Knowing and working with Don Pafko was a privilege and a pleasure. The CCC is grateful for all he did as an esteemed member and Chancellor. Don will be greatly missed by all.

Katherine H. Moss, Director General, The Consular Corps College, Washington, D.C.

continued on page 14

Remembering continued from page 13

When I had family from Slovakia visiting the United States in 2015, I contacted Don to find out what they should know if they ran into problems entering or traveling through the country. Don was very helpful over the phone, so I invited him to dinner to meet the group of six. He arrived with gifts for everybody, and made them feel welcome, especially my great-aunt, who up until that trip, had never been on a vacation. He arranged a private performance of the Lipa Folk Dancers the following day, where again everyone felt welcome and had a memorable time. After three weeks of visiting the U.S., I asked my family what had surprised them most. Their answer was easy: they figured they would not see, hear, or taste things familiar to them, but Don made sure for the first couple of days in this country, that was not the case. He helped make their trip truly unforgettable.

*Kevin Hurbanis,
Czechoslovak Genealogical Society
International (CGSI) First Vice-President*

Don Pafko was a true gentleman who generously gave his time and considerable talents toward serving others. His love for all things Slovak permeated his life. He was held in high esteem by his peers in the Minnesota Consular Corps community. He will be missed by all who knew him.

*Bob Vanasek, Honorary Consul
of the Czech Republic, Minnesota, Iowa,
North Dakota, South Dakota, 2009-2013*

Don Pafko set very high standards with his dedication, leadership skills, creativity, discipline, and love of his Slovak heritage.

My connection as Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic to Don as Honorary Consul of Slovakia for Minnesota was unique and in many ways extraordinary. He took me under his wings of diplomatic experience. We consulted and supported each other. He was looking forward to helping Slovaks and Czechs worldwide celebrate a century of independence in 2018. He will be with us in spirit. I honor and remember him for all he accomplished.

*Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Consul
of the Czech Republic for Minnesota, Iowa,
North Dakota, and South Dakota
since 2015*

I met Don and Jeanette Pafko in the late 1980s and we became instant friends. Both were outgoing and energetic people, as well as active volunteers. Jeanette's death was a great loss to our Sokol family. Now Don too will be missed, not just by his Sokol brothers and sisters, but also by the greater Slovak and Czech community.

What I found most special about Don was how he would greet me with a warm smile and big hug. He had gentle humor and great interest in other people. Over lunch he always would ask how mutual friends and I were doing and fill me in on his family and friends. He was passionate about his Slovak heritage and was a tireless volunteer. As a Sokol member, he was past president, he served on many boards and committees, and he volunteered at our events. He especially loved to greet guests and play folk tunes on his accordion at our Slovak dinners. He was

a founding member of the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center. As Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic, he was proud to represent Slovakia and to travel and work with important dignitaries. He preserved and promoted culture as past president of the Friends of the Immigration History Research Center and Ethnic Dance Theater. Don was founder and dancer with his beloved Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers. He will be sorely missed by many.

*Joyce Tesarek, Chair,
Sokol Board of Budget and Finance*

Don Pafko was a proud man, as witnessed by his straight back, squared shoulders, and head held high. At the core of his pride was his Slovak heritage. His wife Jeanette said she knew he was Slovak after their first couple of dates. Don was proud of his service in the U.S. Army Special Forces, although he did not talk about it.

After attending numerous dance camps, Don and Jeanette started the Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers in 2000.

Don continued leading, teaching, and dancing until the end. He and Jeanette were very proud of the dance group and their performances. The dance group also gave them the opportunity to mentor the members, most of whom came from Slovakia. Don and Jeanette laughed with them, cried with them, and gave unending love and support. Jeanette embraced Don's pride and interest wholeheartedly. They worked together tirelessly to promote Slovak heritage. After a lifetime of hard work and accomplishments, their greatest love and pride was always their son, Mark.

Joan Sedlacek, Sokol Minnesota

Sokol Minnesota Annual Memberships

Renewals: Individual \$50; Couple \$90. Senior \$40 (over age 65); Senior couple \$80. **New memberships:** Individual \$55; Couple \$95.

This includes a one-time \$5 registration fee with our national organization, American Sokol Organization. Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's annual membership runs from January 1 to December 31. Dues are reduced for members joining after June 30.

Membership applications: <www.sokolmn.org> or by request from Norm Petrik (612-822-6147).

Please send your completed membership application and check to

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, Attn: Membership, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

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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: Arlene Hamernik

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

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The Gág Family: German-Bohemian Artists in America by Julie L'Enfant. Afton, MN: Afton Historical Society Press, 2002, 204 pages, 200 color and b/w illustrations. Available in libraries, book stores, and the Gág House in New Ulm. The Gág Family:

Julie L'Enfant's book, *The Gág Family: German-Bohemian Artists in America*, focuses on the Anton Gág family, with special attention to Anton and his daughter Wanda. Settling in New Ulm in 1879, the family blended European and American traditions of family and artistry.

The book is a treasure house of information, thanks to Flavia's unpublished diaries and other family papers, new genealogical findings, Wanda's autobiography, *Growing Pains: Diaries and Drawings for the Years 1908-1917*, and 200 reproductions of paintings, drawings, and photographs. The well-documented book includes a Gág family chronology, endnotes, bibliography, and index.

Wanda Gág (1893-1946) is best known today for writing and illustrating children's books, including *Millions of Cats*, the oldest American picture book still in print. She is considered a pioneer in the development of the picture book form; she integrated text with pictures while stretching them across a double page. *Millions of Cats* and *The ABC Bunny* were awarded Newbery Honors for distinguished children's books; *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* and *Nothing at All* received Caldecott Honors for children's book illustration. Many of Wanda Gág's original manuscripts and illustrations are housed in the Kerlan Collection of Children's Literature at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. She was also acclaimed for her prints, drawings, watercolors, and oil paintings, many of which can be viewed in museums. Her style of illustration was uniquely dense and complex, using contrasts of light and dark and curved and exaggerated bold lines with expressionistic feelings.

Wanda Gág grew up as the oldest of seven children in an exceptionally creative Bohemian-American family. Less well-known today, but at least as well-accomplished, was her father, Anton Gág, born in Walk (Valcha) in the county of Tachau (Tachov), Bohemia, in 1858, and immigrated with his

family in 1873 to the United States, settling first in Saint Paul. Anton, who attended art schools in Chicago and Milwaukee, became an accomplished painter, church decorator, and innovative photographer with his own studio.

Anton shared his love of art, nature, and the countryside with his children, especially Wanda. After studying art in Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and New York, Wanda earned her living as a commercial illustrator in her late 20s, selling lithographs, linoleum block prints, watercolors, and drawings in New York. Her Weyhe Gallery shows, published writing, and magazine art gave her an international reputation.

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

Join Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures on November 18, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the first-floor classroom at the C.S.P.S. Hall, for a discussion of *Povídky: Short Stories by Czech Women*, edited by Nancy Hawker.



SAVE THE DATE
Sunday, August 12, 2018
88th Annual Sokal Camp Booya Picnic

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 Dec. 2017/Jan. 2018 issue is November 1.** This issue of *Slovo* will be archived on the Sokol Minnesota website by November 30: 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, with ad and payment due by copy deadline.

***Slovo* gift subscriptions and non-member renewals** are \$15/year (10 issues). (Rate is good through November 2018.) 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. Send to: Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *Slovo* Subscriptions, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102. Extra copies of *Slovo* are \$2 each, plus postage, while supply lasts.

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.

If you are temporarily out of town for an extended stay, the post office will not forward your *Slovo* because we use bulk mail. If you wish to have this newsletter suspended during this time or if you wish to have it sent to your out-of-town residence, please let us know.

After one returned issue, we hold all future issues until you notify us. We pay 49¢ or more 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, Minnesota 55102. *Thank you!*

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**EVENTS AT C.S.P.S. HALL
ATTEND AND VOLUNTEER!
Sokol Minnesota 2017 Events**

Sokol Annual Meeting
Friday, November 17, 7 p.m. (See page 4)

Pancake Breakfast/Holiday Craft and Bake Sale
November 19, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
\$7 adult; \$5 child under 9; \$22 family of four.
No reservations needed.

Sokol Children's Holiday Party
Friday, December 8, 7 p.m.

Škola Family Mikuláš
Sunday, December 9, 4 p.m.

Sokol Minnesota on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota
Check for event updates: www.sokolmn.org



Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *SLOVO* November 2017

**A Huge Salute to all the Great Volunteers
at the 2017 Czech and Slovak Festival on September 24.**

2017 Festival Volunteers (team leaders in bold):
Robert Acs, **Judy Aubrecht, Tom Aubrecht**,
Rosemary Whaley-Baisden, Darlene Baker, Christy
Banks, **Dan Bednar**, Wendy Bednar, Julie Bifano,
Mark Bigouette, Katarína Bilá, Zuzana Bracknell,
Lenka Bragg, **Blanka Brichta, Jason Brozovich**,
Dawn Bulera, Colleen Cahill, Dennis Cahill, Mary
Cahill, Jana Castillon with Katka and David, Bobbi Jo
Chandler, Jim Chlebeczek, Mary Jo Chlebeczek,
Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Shannon Duffy,
Steve Ernest, Olga Espinoza with Izabel, Eva Giese
with Nicole and Natalie, Roger Green, Dave
Grostephan, **Glynis Grostephan, Martina Gurgel**
with Kristina, **Arlene Hamernik, Ed Hamernik**, Don
Haselbauer, Katie Haselbauer, Marlene Hinshaw,
Scott Hinshaw, Jake Jacobson, Anne Jans, Corbin
Jerde, Madison Jerde, Darla Kolb, **Jyni Koschak**,
Bob Kosticka, Michaela Giancarlo Kotek and Robert
Kotek with Dominick and Emma, Shannon Krenik,
Lloyd Krocak, Marit Lee Kucera, Pam Langworthy,

Zuzana Májková, Martin Marko, Dave Martin, **Sue
Martin**, Dita Martinez, **Hana Matousek**, Jan Morse,
Mary Jean Mulherin, Dylan Muyres, Kari Muyres,
Leah Muyres, Scott Muyres, **Doreen McKenney**,
Brad Narr, Terry Narr, Aidan Neher, **Cheryl Nelson**,
Denis Novak, Becky Olson, Ben Olson, Nick Olson,
Rachel Olson, Āna Overbo, Diane Pavelka Palan,
Ross Peterson, **Norm Petrik**, Teresa Pojar, Romana
Pulkrabek, Mike Rasmussen, **Rad Rasmussen**,
Markéta Resong, Janice Roers, Richard Sargent,
Renata Scholtz, **Jitka Sebek**, Thomas Sebek, **Joan
Sedlacek**, Terry Shima, Steve Shimer, **Dave Stepan**,
Denise Stibal, Pavel Šulc, Kateřina Svensson, Kari
Swartz, Amanda Tesarek, **Joyce Tesarek**, Renáta
Tichá, John Topic, Alexa Turgeon, Rhondi Waldron
and Girl Scouts Caylie, Mariah, and Kiki, Dan Washick,
Adriana Wenberg, Michaela Wentz, Chuck Wessinger,
Louise Wessinger, Cinnamon Whaley, Ken Wyberg,
Alena Youngberg, Arnie Ziskovsky, Deb Ziskovsky,
Gary Zweber, and all the program participants.