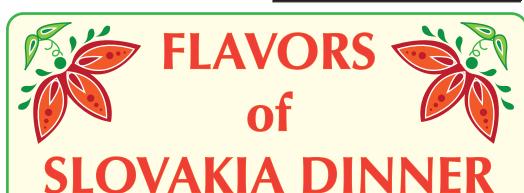
CZECH AND SLOVAK



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



SLO'

February 2019 vol. 42 no. 2

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

Sunday, March 31



\$16 adult, \$8 child under 9

Prepaid reservations are requiredby **March 23 Limited seating** To reserve call: **651-290-0542**

Prepaid takeout is also available by reservation

Dinner includes:

Cabbage roll (plnená kapusta), dilled green beans (kôprová zelená fazuľka), pickled beets (nakladaná repa), filled dumplings (pirohy), dumplings with cabbage (halušky s kapustou), caraway rye bread (rascový ražný chlieb), dessert, and coffee.

Plenty of good beer and wine at the bar, by donation.

Public welcome

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

March SLOVO Deadline February 1.

Board of Director's Retreat

February 2, 8:45 a.m.

Century Committee Meeting

February 7, 7 p.m.

Literary Ventures

February 9, 10 a.m.

Board of Trustees

February 13, 7 p.m.

Family Night

February 17, 4 p.m.

Senior Singers

1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE - BAND BLAST Sokol Fundraiser

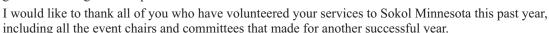
Saturday, April 27 at 7 p.m. New bands, silent auction, door prizes, homemade guláš.

Pozdrav a šťastný nový rok! Greetings and Happy New Year!

By Dave Stepan

Thank you to those that believe in me to lead Sokol Minnesota in 2019. I definitely will be asking for your support throughout the year, as I learn my way. I look forward to meeting you all sometime this year.

I was awestruck to read that a few members are donating \$21,202 for a special match of new donations for the tuck-pointing and parapet repairs. This means that your contribution will triple by way of the Saint Paul STAR grant and their generous special match.



For the past five years, we have had the steady hand of leadership by outgoing President Judy Aubrecht. My words won't do justice to describe Judy's character and effort that she has put into your Sokol. My children, now adults, learned firsthand about Czech and Slovak culture in their early years by attending the week-long culture camps that Judy and Louise Wessinger organize with help from a multitude of volunteers. I am fortunate that Judy will continue on the board in her new role as Publicity Director.

Ed Hamernik will be changing positions from Second Vice President to First Vice President and will continue as our Charitable Gaming Manager. Thanks Ed!

Jean Draheim is switching from Education Director to Second Vice President. Steve Ernest will begin the year as the new Financial Secretary (membership records) after having served as Member at Large in 2018. My friend Tom Aubrecht will be moving from Financial Secretary to Sargeant at Arms to keep us all in order.

Continuing in last year's roles are Jason Brozovich as Men's Physical Director, Mary Cahill as Women's Physical Director, Glynis Grostephan as Corresponding Secretary, Don Haselbauer as Treasurer, Norm Petrik as Membership Director, Markéta Resong as Member at Large, Denise Stibal as Recording Secretary, and Joyce Tesarek as Board of Budget and Finance Chair. My Buckman brother Dan Bednar will continue on as Board of Trustees chair.

New on the Board of Directors this year (besides myself) are Blanka Brichta as Member at Large and Patricia Slaber as Educational Director. Thank you both for sharing your time and talents.

Moving on to new adventures are Elizabeth Kaliska, thank you for your service as Sargeant at Arms, and Denis Novak, thank you for your service as First Vice President.

This year's activities are numerous. See the enclosed spring postcard on page 16 for all the 2019 spring events.

This year also marks the 30th anniversary of the fall of communism in Czechoslovakia by way of the Velvet Revolution, which made the way for the Velvet Divorce (1993) creating the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic.

It was 15 years ago that our talented and industrious Czech and Slovak moms started the *Česká a Slovenská Škola* (Czech and Slovak School Twin Cities). Happy Birthday!

And lastly a little about me. I am 'that' guy at our annual Czech & Slovak Festival attempting to be the Master of Ceremonies and keep the event lively and on time. I am from Duluth and have been in the Twin Cities since graduating from Saint John's University in 1984, when I came to the Cities and was invited by my dear friend Vlasta Hanover to join Sokol. That year I joined the dance group and I joined Sokol the following year. I am a founding member of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International. I have three, beautiful, adult children in college: Brittany, age 23, a senior at Metro State (and who has recently joined our adult dance group); Michelle, 21, a senior at North Dakota State University, Fargo; and Nicole, 20, a sophomore at Minnesota State Moorhead. I am lucky to be married to my beautiful and recently retired wife, Darnell. We keep busy with activities including folk dance, biking, inline skating, working out, and travel. We both participated in the *Dobruška* language program in 2018.

I am a quarter Czech, quarter German, and half Belgian. I look forward to the upcoming year and I am excited to meet all of you. My hope is that this organization provides you with what you want or need, whether its dance, gymnastics, language, education, culture, or community. I will strive to have something for everyone so that we can keep you involved. There is always room to participate. Please let me know how I can help. I can be contacted at president@sokolmn.org

Nazdar!



Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota 2019 BOD (Board of Directors)

PresidentDave Stepan

First Vice President
Ed Hamernik

Second Vice PresidentJean Draheim

Recording Secretary
Denise Stibal

Corresponding Secretary

Glynis Grostephan

TreasurerDon Haselbauer

Financial Secretary
Steve Ernest

Sergeant at Arms
Tom Aubrecht

Members at Large Markéta Resong Blanka Brichta

Membership Director Norm Petrik

Board of Budget and Finance Joyce Tesarek, Chair

Educational DirectorPatricia Slaber

Publicity Director
Judy Aubrecht

Board of Instructors

Mary Cahill, Women's Physical Director Jason Brozovich, Men's Physical Director

Board of TrusteesDan Bednar

Gaming Manager Ed Hamernik, Chair

Telephone: 651-290-0542

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

2019 SOKOL MINNESOTA MEMBERSHIP

Current Members:

The December 31, 2018, Due Date for renewing your membership for 2019 has passed. If you have not already done so, please renew your membership by February 28 in order to continue receiving your copy of the Slovo newsletter and to maintain your membership.

If you have changed any of your contact information, please email membership@sokolmn.org.

New Members:

Please print the membership application at sokolmn.org and send it to the address below.

2019 Dues Rates:

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's annual membership runs from January 1 to December 31.

Individual \$50.00 Couple \$90.00

___ Senior * \$40.00 ___ Senior Couple * \$80.00 (*one over 65)

There is a \$5 one-time fee for new member.

You may pay your membership dues via PayPal through sokolmn.org.

Or, you may send a check payable to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota to:

Membership

Czech and Ślovak Sokol Minnesota

383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102.

Thank you to all current and prospective Sokol Minnesota members. Your support of the activities of Sokol Minnesota is vital. Our website has up-to-date information on our planned activities: Sokolmn.org

We hope you will join us!



Sokol Minnesota 2019 Board of Directors present at the January 6 Holiday Party

Left to right:

Front Row: Ed Hamernik, Mary Cahill, Judy Aubrecht, Joyce Tesarek, Dave Stepan, Glynis Grostephan, Jean Verner.

Back Row: Norm Petrik, Tom Aubrecht, Don Haselbauer, Steven Ernst, Marketa Resong, Blanka Brichta

Triple your contribution to Sokol Minnesota's C.S.P.S. Hall!

Sokol Minnesota has raised approximately 60% (\$50,787 as of December 31, 2018) of the \$85,979 needed to match the City of Saint Paul STAR grant of that amount. We were awarded this grant for essential building maintenance and repair projects. The grant will expire in 2019, so time is running short to raise the remaining portion of the match for the grant. To inspire additional donations, a small group of Sokol members has pledged half of the remaining amount (\$42,404 at the time of their pledge), or \$21,202, to use to match any new donations. So, now your donation is matched by the STAR grant, and again by the special Sokol Minnesota internal matching fund. This means that every \$100 you give now is worth \$300 for our hall restoration. The special internal matching fund will only be made available if \$21,202 is raised by May 1.

Our first project on this grant was to replace the restaurant and basement access shed that had to be removed when the required new fire escape stairs were installed. In December, extensive roof repairs were completed. In May, if we have the funding, we will begin the final project of parapet and masonry repairs.

Thank you for all your past support, and please also consider a contribution to the C.S.P.S. Hall's Legacy Building Fund Triple Match. Every dollar is 100% tax-deductible and goes 100% to support the building projects. Together we make things happen!

Donate at our website at www.sokolmn.org or send a check made out to Sokol Minnesota to 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102.

Email: finance@sokolmn.org or call Joyce at 612-822-6147 with questions, for information on monthly gifting, or to add Sokol Minnesota to your estate plan.



Sokol Minnesota's Children's Holiday Party, December 7, 2018.

1 & 2: Sokol Singers with Taneční Mládež and Taneční Teens. 3: Glynis Grostephan reading Tom's Christmas Fish. 4: Director Louise Wessinger and granddaughter Riley. 5: Taneční Mládež. 6: The Famous Candy Cane Medley. 7-12: Svatý Mikuláš, anděl (angel), and čert (devil) interacting with children.

Sokol Children and Teen Dancers Celebrate the Holidays

By Louise Wessinger

The Taneční Mládež and Taneční Teen Dancers of Sokol Minnesota opened the holiday season with their annual party on Friday, December 7. Sokol President Judy Aubrecht welcomed the guests and introduced the Sokol Singers, directed by Don Haselbauer. The singers began the program with the Czech and English versions of "Silent Night" and then the young dancers came to the stage to sing "Oh Come Little Children" in Czech. Thank you to Richard Sargent, who put all the words to our koledy (carols) on a flash drive so they could be shown on the wall for all to join in the singing.

The children's group and the teen group then showed off the dances they have learned this fall. We are very proud of both groups and all they have learned. There are 56 dancers in the combined group, including 34 children and 22 teen dancers. This is the largest number of dancers since the group was started in 1990. In our 29th year, we are very happy that we have not only grown in number, but also have expanded the repertoire of songs and dances performed.

After the performances, the dancers changed into their 1918 red and blue tee shirts honoring the 100th anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia. While they were changing, Glynis Grostephan read Tom and the Christmas Fish to the children. When the dancers returned, they performed the ever-popular Candy Cane Medley, which has become an annual tradition.

Our special guests Svatý Mikuláš (Saint Nicholas), anděl (angel), and čert (devil) appeared to visit with the children and all were given a bag of treats as a reward for good behavior. The evening ended with an array of treats. Special thanks to Dawn Bulera for handling the reception and preparing the beautiful table for us. Also special thanks to all

of our performers and helpers for the evening: the Sokol Minnesota Singers, Jason Brozovich, Glynis Grostephan, Martina Gurgel, Don Haselbauer, Katie Haselbauer, Lenka Hester, Doreen McKenney, Romana Pulkrabek, Lucy Rose, Richard Sargent, Joan Sedlacek, Darnell Stepan, Dave Stepan, Elisa Swartz, John Topic, Michael Topic, Matthew Weathers, and Michaela Wentz. Also thank you to the Czech and Slovak bakers who offered vánočka and makovníky for sale to benefit our Sokol Hall.

Sokol Children and Teen Dancers Perform at American Swedish Institute By Louise Wessinger

On December 16 the Sokol Children and Teen Dancers had the honor of performing at the American Swedish Institute (ASI) in honor of the specially-invited Czech Christmas exhibit. The Czech exhibit was in the music room of the mansion from November 10th to January 13th. The 30 children and teens performed in the third floor ballroom for one hour. The standing room only audience was treated to 14 Czech, Moravian, and Slovak dances. The dancers did a great job dancing in about one-fourth of their usual floor space. They also presented Czech and Slovak Holiday Traditions on large posters while the traditions were read by Anna Bracknell, Adela Bragg, and Elsa Youngberg.

A huge thank you to all of the parents and others who brought the children to the ASI Museum on a Sunday before Christmas and to helpers Lenka Hester, Teresa Pojar, Romana Pulkrabek, John Topic, and Michaela Wentz.

Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers had a Busy Year

By Louise Wessinger

The year of 2018 was an extremely busy year for the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers. The increase in activity was due, in part, to the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia. The group traveled to Chicago and Cedar Rapids Iowa to perform, as well as, to many places in Minnesota. The group has grown in size, with several new dancers. We start 2019 with 17 women and 15 men (so as you see we could use a few more men). We are very grateful to Sokol Minnesota for supplying our "home base" ever since the group was founded in 1962. We are very honored to dance for many Sokol events throughout the year, help with events, and give financially to the support of the Hall. This year also saw the weddings of dancer Emma Martin and Eric LaPlant and dancers Megan Cahill and Jason Brozovich, plus the 50th Wedding Anniversary of retired members Don and Pat Andrle. This was truly a year of celebration! Here are the adult dance group's performances of 2018 (in Minnesota unless noted):

2/11 Masopust, Montgomery

2/18 Carpathian Festival, Landmark Center, Saint Paul

3/17 Sons of Norway, Rochester

4/7 Šibřinky Dance, C.S.P.S. Hall, Saint Paul

4/21 Taste of Nations, Austin

5/4-5 Festival of Nations (four performances), Saint Paul

5/19 Houby Days (two performances), Cedar Rapids, Iowa

5/20 Marie Krikava Memorial, Hayward, Minnesota

7/29 Kolacky Days, (parade and performance) Montgomery

8/12 Sokol Camp Booya, Pine City

9/16 Czech & Slovak Festival, C.S.P.S. Hall, Saint Paul

9/22 Dožinky Festival (two performances) New Prague 9/30 Moravian Days, Chicago, Illinois area 10/30 Slavnost, Sokol, C.S.P.S. Hall, Saint Paul

10/21 Roast Pork Dinner, C.S.P.S. Hall, Saint Paul

11/11 Kroje Style Show, C.S.P.S. Hall, Saint Paul 11/25 Christmas Around the World, Ukrainian Hall,

Minneapolis
12/1 American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis

12/9 The Landing (two performances), Shakopee



Performance of Sokol Minnesota's Taneční Mládež and Taneční Teen Dancers on December 16 and "Year of the Handmade" Czech Christmas Exhibit at the American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, Minnesota, December 10, 2018 to January 13, 2019

1: American Swedish Institute. 2: Izabela and Nora. 3: Tanah and Zephyr. 4: front row: Isabella, Elisa, and Elsa. 5: Callista and Keely. 6: Director Louise Wessinger and Czech Honorary Consul Marit Lee Kucera. 7: St. Lucia crown. 8: Christmas Eve table. 9: Dancers presenting Christmas customs. 10: Carp fishmonger and customer. 11: Czech exhibit poster. 12: Svatý Mikuláš, anděl (angel), and čert (devil).

Domácí Inc. Ending with Last Dance at Hometown Holidays

Article submitted by Deb Ziskovsky, courtesy of Wade Young/Montgomery Messenger & Patrick Fisher/New Prague Times Folk dancing, singing, smiles, group hugs, shared memories, and a few tears were the order of the day on Sunday, December 2, 2018, during the last Hometown Holidays celebration at the Park Ballroom in New Prague as Arnie and Deb Ziskovsky, founders of Domácí Inc. ("Domácí" means hometown in Czech), made their final bow. Nineteen years ago the couple began the Domácí Czech Folk Dancers to promote Czech Folk dancing. Subsequently, they started the parallel group Czech Heritage Junior Royalty for youth to represent their Czech heritage at area events and at an assortment of Czech and Slovak celebrations in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Nebraska.

At the December event, the Domácí Czech Folk Dancers were the featured group as they made their final performance. Deb Ziskovsky said the girls currently in the group chose some of their favorite dances to perform. She noted the dances were some the group learned from visiting teachers and others she and Arnie learned at dance camps in the Czech Republic. The girls, along with some alumni members, even sang a few songs. "These have been some exceptional years," said Deb, noting that the average time in the group for dancers was seven years, although some participated for 10 years.

Nearly continuous stage entertainment included the Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers, the Rince Nua Irish Dancers, and the New Prague Czech Singers, directed by Jan Rezac.

The final group of the Czech Heritage Junior Royalty were honored. They presented gifts to Arnie and Deb, including a fire pit that was decorated with the Czech flag. During a slide presentation, they and alumni members listed their favorite memories. The Ziskovskys said they are grateful for creating the Czech Heritage Junior Royalty, and for being able to have given more than 30 youth the opportunity to learn and explore their heritage by being a royalty ambassador. Arnie credited his wife in being the backbone of the program.

"We didn't know it would turn into this," Deb Ziskovsky told the crowd gathered for the event.

Approximately 25 vendors displayed their handcrafted articles at the celebration, including artwork made from wood, jewelry, embroidered and quilted items, and holiday decoration, plus some kitchen tools. Storytellers performed and there was a children's craft area.

The Ziskovskys have taken their Domácí dancers and Czech Heritage Junior Royalty ambassadors everywhere. They have performed at ethnic events, celebrations in general, and nursing homes. Representative highlights include performances at Kolacky Days in Montgomery, Dožínky in New Prague, Sokol Minnesota in Saint Paul, Sokol Camp in Pine City, the Czech Slovak Festival in Phillips, and another in Kewaunee, Wisconsin.



Domaci Czech Folk Dancers

Front row (l-r): Jr. Director Kailey Mach, Megan Marek

2nd row (l-r): Mikayla Marek, Caitlyn Gare, Grace Tumasmith

3rd row (l-r): Kristin Siebsen, Hailey Dunkel, Kayla Kubinski, Natalie Novak

Back row (l-r): Director Arnie Ziskovsky, Jr. Director Lizzie Trnka, Anna Novak, Marissa Gare, Director Deb Ziskovsky

Not pictured: Bella Matchinski

They have been to the communities of Bechyn, Myrtle, Albert Lea, and Watertown in Minnesota, Protivin, Iowa for their annual Masopust Celebration, and the National Czech Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids for their Houby (Mushroom) Days festival. They visited schools in all of the cities in Minnesota Czech Country and they were recently at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis.

Because the Ziskovskys are all about culture, they have educated their audiences at each event about their heritage and the Czech Country.

The Ziskovskys said multiple factors went into ending Domácí, Inc. One of the reasons is the declining numbers of dancers coming from Minnesota Czech Country. They have never had sponsorship from any town or organization and they have relied on each other to make it work and attract participants.

They agree they have a fantastic group of dancers this year, but, like everything, numbers rise and fall depending on the dancers and their other extra-curricular activities, which often take precedence over practicing Czech dances.

"I just love watching them dance. We have a great core group this year, but in the spring three are graduating and another is leaving due to other commitments," Arnie said.

The Ziskovskys said they also want to travel more to Czech festivals in the United States and the Czech Republic. "We want to take some time for ourselves", they said. "We are proud to have had the opportunity to share the tradition of Czech folk

dancing for 19 years. Our dance group has achieved great heights, with more than 100 dancers participating over the years, and hundreds of performances. We were able to establish a unique look, importing coordinated national costumes (kroje), and featuring choreography with music directly from the Czech Republic."

Deb said they talked about someone else taking over the responsibilities of leading the group, but right now there isn't anyone. However, they are leaving the door open for alumni to take it on if they want. That's why they are keeping the authentic costumes, music, choreography, and floats if any former dancers want to continue the Domácí Czech Folk Dance legacy.

The loss of the dance group and the junior royalty will be a cultural loss for Minnesota Czech Country. Not only are the Ziskovskys experts in Czech kroje, they have performed as dance partners with the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers, and have been members of the New Prague Czech Singers for years. For more than a decade, they were consultants to Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota candidates and they are current members of Sokol Minnesota and the Czech Heritage Club of New Prague.

In 2011, the Ziskovskys were awarded the Černín Palace Memorial Bronze Medal and Diploma from the Czech Republic for their significant contributions in preserving and promoting relations between that country and the United States

"It's bittersweet, we've had great times, we'll miss the dancing and seeing all the people, but we're looking forward to having a freer schedule," said Deb.

I Served the King of England

by Bohumil Hrabal, translated by Paul Wilson.

Vintage Books: London. 1989; originally published in typewritten Czech samizdat and in book form by the Chech Musicians' Union in 1983. 256 pages. Available at libraries and bookstores.

BOOK REVIEW

The Antics of a Wanna-be Millionaire By Gwen Willems, Ph.D.

I Served the King of England is considered one of the best books, along with *Too Loud a Solitude* (1976) and *Closely Watched Trains* (1964), written by Bohumil Hrabal. It is a complex, funny, satiric, thoughtful look at Ditie, a rather simple and innocent man whose main goal is life is to become a millionaire. Ditie's name means "child." He's a Švejk character, like the good soldier created by author Jaroslav Hašek, a diminutive man who seeks pleasure and standing, never quite realizing how small every individual is in the grand scheme of things.

He begins as a meagerly paid waiter and moves from one hotel dining room to another, ascending the ladder of prestige and pay, but never quite getting the acceptance of the industrialists with whom he seeks to hobnob. Ditie seems to not be so focused on money as on the trappings of money and reactions to it. He delights in throwing coins and seeing people scramble to pick them up.

Ditie falls in love with a beautiful, blonde, German woman, marries her, and serves Nazis in various hotels. He finally is able to buy a hotel of his own after Lise's death in an air raid, using money from the sale of rare stamps she had stolen from Polish Jews.

Hrabal's comic simpleton is outraged to find out that the communists eventually arrested all the Czech millionaires, but



Czech Heritage Junior Royalty
2018 Junior Royalty from left to right: Jr. Ambassador
Hailey Dunkel, Ambassador Kelly Korbitz, Jr.
Ambassadors Marissa Gare and Kayla Kubinski

missed him, so he goes to the police and insists that he be jailed. At the end of the book, Ditie is a solitary man, mending roads in a remote village and dreaming of a grandiose, hilltop burial site for himself.

My attempt to summarize Hrabal's storyline is not giving spoilers to your enjoyment of reading the book. He wrote in an open, flowing style. Hrabal's early days as a poet come through in his novel writing, leaving the reader to either love his stringing together of lyrical stories in magical realism, or be frustrated and exhausted with that and his extremely long sentences and paragraphs.

The stories in *I Served the King of England* combine comedy and gravity, such as the arduous and embarrassing physical inspection by the Nazis that Ditie endured to determine his eligibility to father an Aryan child. The child that he and Lise eventually conceived was a boy with mental disabilities. In another story, we learn it was actually his mentor who served the King of England; Ditie was proud to have served the diminutive, exiled Emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie. The emperor awarded Ditie a medal on a big blue sash that he wore on occasion to remind himself and others how distinguished he was.

Considered one of the best Czech writers of the 20th century, Hrabal was born in Brno in 1914. He wrote this book of social commentary in the summer of 1971, in the period of repression after the Russian invasion of Czech lands in 1968. First published as samizdat, in 1983 the Jazz Section of the Czech Musicians' Union released a private edition of 5,000 copies for members.

continued on page 9

continued from page 8

According to local movie expert Al Milgrom, who met the author at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, about ten of Hrabal's books have been made into movies, but a couple were not allowed to be released under communism. The famous Czech director Jiří Menzel filmed several, including *I Served the King of England* (2006), *Cutting It Short* (1976), *Larks on a String* (1969, not released until 1990), and the Academy-Award-winning *Closely Watched Trains* (1966).

Gwen is coordinator of the Literary Ventures: Czech and Slovak book discussion group. Literary Ventures is cosponsored by the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, Czech & Slovak Sokol Minnesota, and the Office of the Honorary Consul for the Czech Republic. For more information, go to www.cs-center.org or contact gwen@cs-center.org.

Join Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures members to discuss *We Shall Live Again* by Maurice Hindus on Saturday, February 9, 10 a.m. to noon, in the first-floor classroom at the C.S.P.S. Hall.

Slovo Newsletter Revisited... with your Feedback or Participation!

As you have read in this issue, several long-term key volunteer Slovo staff completed their final issue with the December-January issue. Sokol Minnesota was fortunate to have volunteers with professional backgrounds in journalism, graphic design, and copywriting producing the well-received Slovo for many years.

Until we secure longer-term volunteers for the outgoing staff's positions (please let us know if you are interested in a position!), several members have taken on the tasks on an interim basis to produce the Slovo. Our interim volunteers come with a lot of enthusiasm, but with different skill sets; because of this, the Slovo may have a different look.

We would like to invite our readers

to provide us feedback on what you really like about the Slovo, what the Slovo must contain, what the Slovo might be missing, or could do without. Please send your feedback to slovo@sokolmn.org or write us at Slovo, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55102.

NOTE: The woodcut above labeled "early Czech printing" appeared in an article on 15th century Czech printing in Svobodna Skola, Sep 1919, p. 122.





SOKOLFEST 2019: XXVIII Sokol USA Slet, June 26-30, 2019, Buffalo, NY

by Sokol Minnesota Board of Instructors

Looking for an affordable, fun, and memorable summer vacation opportunity? Consider joining members of Sokol Minnesota who will be attending and participating in Sokol USA's Slet (gymnastics festival) this coming June. We may have a group of competitors, but for sure we will have a group of adults learning the Senior Calisthenic 2 for the Saturday, June 29 Slet performance.

Check out the Slet's website, www.sokolusa.org/Sokolfest_2019_m enu.html for more information.

If you are interested in attending the Slet as an observer or participant, learning the calisthenics number, or more information about a Sokol Slet, please email fitness@sokolmn.org by March 1.

Sokol Minnesota Annual Memberships

Renewals: Individual \$50; Couple \$90. Senior \$40 (over age 65); Senior couple \$80. New memberships: add a one-time \$5 fee for registering 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

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NOVEMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Denise Stibal, Recording Secretary

The Sokol MN Board of Directors held their monthly meeting at 6:00 pm on November 16, 2018. Our new President for 2019 is Dave Stepan. Ed Hamernik reported that roof repair is a possibility yet this year and tuckpointing and parapet repair will be done in the spring. Corresponding Secretary Glynis Grostephan reported that \$4,475 was received in donations to the General Fund; along with Give to the Max Day, our total donations for the month came to \$10,535. Treasurer Don Haselbauer reported on current balances and distributed the annual tax return for review. Jean Draheim reported the three members participated in the Introductory Bobbin Lace Class. Motion was approved to move the annual Slovak Dinner to March 31. Sibrinky was discussed and agreed to not be held in Spring, but sometime later on in 2019. Joyce Tesarek reported on Budget and Finance, we still have Grant funds available and a motion was approved to purchase additional security cameras. The Fall Festival date will be 9/15/2019. Dan Bednar reported for the Board of Trustees with a suggestion to purchase a Post Office Box at a cost of \$80 per year.

Ed Hamernik reported on the Gaming Committee Budget, motion approved. Electronic gaming, which has proved to be very popular, will begin at Keenan's in December. Next Meeting: January 17, 2019 at 7:00 pm. *Denise Stibal, Recording Secretary*

SOKOL ANNUAL MEETING 11/16/2018 7:00 P.M.

By Denise Stibal, Recording Secretary

The National Anthems were led by Norm Petrik. A moment of silence was held for members who passed away in 2018: George Chlebecek, Albert Imbrone, Marie Krikava, Valeria Kuisle, Terry Pulkrabek and other friends of Sokol MN.

Approval of candidates for open positions.

New Committee for 2019: "Theater and Performing Arts" A new team will be needed for the Slovo newsletter, the publicity team will assist.

Fundraising: Our goal for 2019 is \$6,000/month for the Legacy Fund.

Don Haselbauer presented the Treasurer's Report with our total balance at \$179,605. Don clarified that Vanguard is an emergency fund for Hall expenses.

Norm Petrik reported that we had 25 new members in 2018 with a total current membership of 287.

Longevity Awards were presented to the following members in attendance:

Chuck Draheim 10 years
Arlene Hamernik 10 years
Tom Aubrecht and Judy Aubrecht 25 years
Don Haselbauer 50 years
Bobbi Jo Chandler 45 years
Also noteworthy: Mary Jo Chelbecek 65 years (not in attendance)

Joyce Tesarek reported for the Budget and Finance Committee. We had 3 grants:

Biz Recycling: \$9,332.

Czech Republic Grant: \$4,260. The Czech Grant was used to purchase office equipment including a desktop and laptop computers, printer, projector and cart and sound equipment.

STAR matching grant from City of Saint Paul for maintenance: \$85,979. \$39,464 donations raised to date.

Joyce also distributed the annual profit and loss statement for review for the fiscal year Oct 2017 to 2018.

January 6 2019 is the annual membership and volunteer luncheon, starting at 12:30.

Ed Hamernik reported for the Board of Trustees. Many projects were completed this year, most notably the new fire escape. Also thank you to Dennis Cahill for taking care of our mail this year.

Mary Cahill reported for the Board of Instructors. Many classes are at or near capacity with over a 60% retention rate and a waiting list for the boys classes. Joan Sedlacek was recognized for time volunteered for set up of equipment. Also Thanks to Mary Cahill for running the gymnastics program. We have applied for an equipment grant. June 26-30 is the annual ASO Slet in Buffalo, NY.

Ed Hamernik reported for the Gaming Committee. Keenans is our Gaming Site with Electronic Gaming and Bingo beginning January 1. The Fiscal Year for Gaming is June 30 to July 1. Thank you to Ed for a great job in running and growing the gaming program.

Looking Ahead:

Membership/ Holiday Party Jan 6—Bring a "White Elephant" gift.

16th Annual Roast Duck Dinner January 26 at 5 pm. Thank you to Arlene for taking reservations.

The Czech Exhibit at the American Swedish Institute is open until Jan 13—please visit!

Thank you to Judy Aubrecht for an outstanding job as Sokol President.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

10 February 2019 Slovo

Spring Breakfast

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

Sunday, April 14 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

\$8.00 adult, \$6.00 children under 9, \$26.00 family of four (two adults and two children).

Variety
of exquisite
hand-crafted
items for sale.
To reserve
a vendor
table rental call
651-433-2008.
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for your
Easter table.
To pre-order
koláče call
651-290-0542.



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

2019

Public Welcome.

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

Extender Wall Research Extender Wall Research Saturday April 27 Tp.m. Tp.m. Paul Min Band Nor lazz bands Rodrabilly and Nor lazz bands Extender Wall Research Extender Paul Min Bands St., Saint Paul Min Rodrabilly and Nor lazz bands Extender Paul Min Bands St., Saint Paul Mi

Al Milgrom's Film The Czech Heritage Project video request

Well-known Minneapolis film authority and videographer Al Milgrom is working on a grant-funded film called The Czech Heritage Project. The project completion date is June 30, 2019.

Al is looking for video or still pictures from our October 13, 2018 Slavnost party that show the singing of the Czech national anthem: Kde domov můj, Where is My Home. To share your information, please contact Al at: almilgrom@yahoo.com or 612-331-4714.

89th Annual Sokol Camp Booya Picnic

Mark your calendars now for the 89th Annual Sokol Camp Booya Picnic! The date is set for Sunday, August 11, 2019, from noon until 5 p.m. The historic Sokol camp on Cross Lake in Pine City will once again host this memorable event. We will feature live entertainment, including the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers, bingo, and a raffle as you enjoy a piping hot bowl of booya, jiternice, or home-made meatloaf sandwich or cabbage roll. Come early! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kari or Scott Muyres at 763-226-0313 / 612-387-9274.

Slovak-Speaking Nanny Inquiry

A Slovak-American family would like to welcome a Slovak-speaking full-time live-in nanny to take care of their three-month-old baby from April 1, 2019, for up to two years. The family resides in Edina, Minnesota. Please contact (612)518-9432.





So far this year our Minnesota winter hasn't been too bad, has it?! At least not compared to 1892 when this drawing appeared in *Kvety Magazine* in Bohemia.

Key Slovo Volunteer Staff Pass on the Baton in 2019

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota extends its heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to several key Slovo volunteers who decided to pass on the baton in 2019 in order to pursue their many other volunteer commitments.

Marit Lee Kucera served as co-managing editor, managing editor, and/or production manager since March 2010 (88 issues). Her sister Mary, who lives and works professionally in graphics production in Victoria, British Columbia, handled the layout and production of Slovo since September 2014 (51 issues). They worked together via online screen sharing. This dynamic duo produced a first-rate publication each and every issue. From securing content to ensuring its accuracy, Marit and Mary shared their professional skills and gave many hundreds of hours to provide readers with an informative newsletter. Sokol Minnesota has received numerous compliments about the breadth of content and the professional appearance of the Slovo. They also produced several of the recent Sokol Minnesota biannual events postcards. Marit, who is the Czech Honorary Consul for Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota, will now devote more of her time to that volunteer position.

Copy editor Madison Jerde donated her time and talents to the Slovo since August 2016 (25 issues). A graphic designer by profession, Madison edited submitted articles and prepared them for review by our eagle-eyed proofing team. Many of our readers may recognize Madison's name because she is a former Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Princess and she spent many hours promoting Czech heritage as a goodwill ambassador.

Slovo mailing list keeper and label maker Deb Ziskovsky managed address information for current and new members and subscribers since October 2013 (52 issues) and maintained over 1,000 names on the postcard list. In addition to keeping the lists up to date, Deb printed mailing labels and assisted with tabbing and labeling the Slovo for mailing as well. Readers may recognize Deb's name and that of her husband, Arnie Ziskovsky, from their involvement with the Czech community in Montgomery, Minnesota, where Deb and Arnie started and directed for 19 years the Domáci Czech Folk Dancers children's group and were heavily involved with the Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota pageants.

We will miss the outstanding contributions that all of these women have made to the Slovo. Through their professionalism and hard work, they have made their mark on the Slovo and they leave behind big shoes to fill. Thank you all for sharing your time and talents so willingly.

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

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

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

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

Member volunteer Slovo staff: Co-Managing Editors (interim): Judy Aubrecht, Mary Cahill, and Joyce Tesarek; Copy Editor: Tom Aubrecht (interim); Production Layout Manager: Larry Hlavsa (interim); Photographers: Martina Gurgel and Joyce Tesarek; Sokol Minnesota Ad Designer: Doreen McKenney; Mailing Lists: Penny Tesarek; Mailing: Mary Cahill and Joan Sedlacek; Advisors: Christy Banks, Arlene Hamernik, Marit Kucera, Norm Petrik, and Jitka Sebek. Collages: Martina Gurgel.

Additional contributors this issue: Member volunteer Slovo staff: Co-Managing Editors (interim): Judy Aubrecht, Mary Cahill, and Joyce Tesarek; Copy Editor: Tom Aubrecht (interim); Production Layout Manager: Larry Hlaysa (interim); Photographers: Martina Gurgel and Joyce Tesarek; Sokol Minnesota Ad Designer: Doreen McKenney;

Regular Contributors: Arlene Hamernik, Glynis Grostephan, Dave Stepan, Denise Stibal, and Norm Petrik; Mailing Lists: Penny Tesarek; Mailing: Mary Cahill and Joan Sedlacek; Advisors: Christy Banks, Arlene Hamernik, Marit Kucera, Norm Petrik, and Jitka Sebek. Additional contributors this issue: Marit Kucera, Jitka Sebek, Sokol Minnesota Board of Instructors, Louise Wessinger, and Deb Ziskovsky.

CZECH HONORARY CONSUL NEWS

The annual conference of Honorary Consuls of the Czech Republic in the United States and in Jamaica, held in



Miami in early December, included 16 Honorary Consuls, the Ambassador, three Consulate Generals (Chicago, New York, Los Angeles), plus several Foreign Ministry Staff from Prague and Washington, D.C.

Marit Lee Kucera (dark suit), serving Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota, is in the center to the left of Czech Ambassador Hynek Kmoníček. Sharon Valasek, serving Kansas and Missouri, is fourth from the left (dark jacket). Consul General/Chicago Bořek Lizec (top row left) returns to Prague in 2019.

The Czech Honorary Consuls were instrumental in organizing events in their regions all around the country to celebrate the Czechoslovak Centennial with lectures, symposiums, concerts, festivals, and galas. Minnesota produced unique events, which received many compliments. Sokol Minnesota produced *Slavnost* on October 13 with entertainment, music, dancing, and great food. On October 28-29, Consul General Bořek Lizec and his wife Kateřina attended the *Czech 100 Celebration*

in Czech Country Minnesota where 1,700 Czech flags were placed on Czech immigrant graves in 12 local cemeteries, a Czech Bishop celebrated mass in Czech, and the Battle of the Polka Bands had great music, dancing, and food. At the invitation of the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis, Czechs created the highly acclaimed Czech Christmas display, which also included several Czech folk dance and music performances from November 10 to January 13.

For 2019, the Ambassador encouraged the Honorary Consuls to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, the fall of communism.



651-238-0447 minneapolis@honorary.mzv.cz or mlkucera@outlook.com

Contestants Sought for 2019-2020 Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant

The Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant is looking for young women of Czech, Slovak, or Moravian heritage to compete for the 2019-2020 state title. The 30th annual Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant will be held on April 13 at the American Legion Club in Montgomery, Minnesota.

The competition is for women between the ages of 16 and 26. The pageant winners receive cash awards and crowns, plus they have a year of memorable appearances throughout the State of Minnesota. This unique pageant focuses on the Czech, Slovak, or Moravian heritages of the candidates. The new Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota queen competes in the National Miss Czech Slovak US Pageant in Wilber, Nebraska, in early August 2019.

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's Board of Directors voted last spring to endorse the pageant and to help sponsor a candidate in 2019. Sokol Minnesota encourages eligible members or member's daughters or granddaughters to become a candidate. M. L. Kucera, the Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic, sponsored the 2019 Sokol membership of the 2018-2019 royalty. She also supports the pageant itself.

The reigning Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Queen is Heather Vikla of Lonsdale; First Princess is Mary Carson of Lonsdale; and Second Princess and Miss Congeniality is Michelle Vlasak of Montgomery.

The application deadline is March 1, 2019. For information and a registration form, call Lorraine David at 507-364-9370 or 507-364-5384, or Ashley Zimanske at 952-201-4107. Send email inquiries to davidsdiner@hotmail.com or missczechslovakmn@hotmail.com The pageant website is www.missczechslovakmnpageant.org

The Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant on April 13 will feature ethnic foods served at 5 p.m., with the pageant beginning at 7 p.m. A reception and dance will follow the coronation. Dinner and pageant tickets are available from Jerry or Lorraine David at 507-364-9370, or at Montgomery Oil Company in Montgomery.

Three Gifts ... for All of Us

by Jitka Sebek

The Czech film version of Cinderella surprisingly happens entirely in winter with ice and snow (some made of Styrofoam[™]). Among other uncommon features and peculiar skills are Cinderella's fine art of shooting at pinecones with a crossbow, swift tree climbing, and getting all her extraordinary pieces of hunting and dancing attire from three petite, mysterious hazelnuts.

What is, however, kept fully as a true film classic are her three granted wishes and the audience's hope for a happy ending; both representing a timeless magic. Fast forward to winter 2019 when we don't need to put up with stepsisters' unreasonable orders, nor do we have to seek a sanctuary among only the helpful animals: we all still might have three winter wishes and our hopes for their happy fulfillment.

The first wish is to repair the outside walls and parapets of the C.S.P.S. Hall, for which we need a strong finish of the fundraising efforts to ensure fully receiving the City of Saint Paul STAR grant. We need an additional \$35,000 match; donations can be made at www.sokolmn.org

The next wish is for C.S.P.S. Hall's one classroom to have adequate furniture for language classes, Literary Venture discussions, members' meetings, and much more. Let's help create a modern place; contact please Blanka Brichta with inquiries.

The last wish is to help one of our Czech friends who lives with her family in Minneapolis. Besides battling cancer, she also battles piles of medical bills. More information is at www.gofundme.com with the title Let's kick cancer's ass!!!(Karol). We can be proud of so much remarkable, generous support. Just look at how much money was already donated to the two efforts linked to the two web pages. There is still a chance for more Sokol Minnesota members to be included. Thank you!

Three Gifts for Cinderella with English narration is available on YouTube. Take some time to sit back and celebrate some magic.

Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors

by Glynis Grostephan, Corresponding Secretary

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

LEGACY FUND (includes matching Saint Paul Star Grant donations):

Under \$99: Geneva Adams, Ruth Ahrens, Judy and Tom Aubrecht, Jana Castillon, James Chlebecek, Diane Cina, Arlene Drabek in memory of her parents Albert and Florence Drabek, Joyce Ehmke, Stephen Ernest, Joseph Gall, James Gerlach, Marie and Alton Krikava, Susan and Robert Marabella, Gary Novak, Karolina and Lewis Peterson, Kris Pich, Jan Roers, Charles Rusnacko in honor of Megan Cahill and Jason Brozovich's wedding, Richard Sargent, Nancy and Wayne Siewert, Juliane Slavik, Philothea Sweet, Margaret Taylor, Thomas Tesarek, Robert Vanasek, Heather Vikla, Louise and Chuck Wessinger, Agnes Zeman.

\$100 - \$499: Lillian Bednar, Dawn Bulera, Kay Edquist, Roger Green, Glynis Grostephan, Anne Hayek and Francois Misiak in memory of Nettie Kovarik-Hayek, Julie and Kevin Hurbanis, Vince Jirik, Andrew Johnson, Charles Kalvoda, Robert Kostichka, Sally and Jay Lieberman, Kenneth Mowll, Richard Rieck, Elsie Roepke, Frank Trnka, Rose Vesely, Stephen J. Wafler, Michael Wolesky, Brian Wyberg.

\$500 - \$999: Judy and Tom Aubrecht, St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers, a grant from the

Denise Stibal Charitable fund of the Catholic Community Foundation.

\$1000 - \$4999: Megan and Jason Brozovich, Arlene and Ed Hamernik, Katie and Don Haselbauer.

GENERAL FUND:

Under \$99: Mark Dillon for replacement plaque for Linden Tree memorial, Olga Espinosa, Linda Havir, Darla Kolb, Anonymous (3).

\$100 - \$499: Betty S. Andrews in honor of Marit L. Kucera, Geraldine Dooley, Marit Lee Kucera to cover dues for members of 2018-2019 Miss Czech and Slovak Minnesota Royalty.

TOTALS: Legacy Fund: \$8460

General Fund: \$ 542 Overall Total: \$ 9002

Rusin Association Duchnovich Day Celebration

Saturday, February 2, 2019 St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral Parish Center 1701 5th St. NE, Mpls., MN



3:30 to 4 pm Registration

4:00 pm (sharp) Presentation

5:30—6:00 dinner registration

6:00 pm—6:15 opening remarks with Dinner immediately following

> 7:30 Annual Meeting

> > Dinner Adults—\$30

Students/Young Adults 13 to 25—\$15

Children 12 and under—\$5.00

Andy Warhol's Mother: The Carpatho-Rusyn Immigrant behind the American Artist

"My mother had shown up one night at the apartment where I was living with a few suitcases and shopping bags, and she announced that she had left Pennsylvania for good 'to come live with my Andy.' Thus began the public face of a life-long mother-son relationship that was at once loving, collaborative, inspirational, codependent, and dysfunctional. Julia Warhola, then about fifty years old, lived with her famous artist-son for the next twenty-two years, collaborating on his commercial art work, signing his canvases, entertaining his friends, and praying for his soul. While Carpatho-Rusyns in America and the homeland have celebrated Andy Warhol's Rusyn ancestry, his mother Julia Warhola the crucial link to Warhol's Rusyn roots has received virtually no scholarly attention. Based on new research conducted at The Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, Elaine Rusinko will argue in this presentation that Julia Warhola is an object of study in her own right.

Annual Duchnovich Dinner

Featuring Carpatho-Rusyn cuisine: Holupbei - Cabbage Rolls, Pirohy - filled dumplings, Kolbasa, Creamy Cucumber Salad and a variety of Desserts.

Tickets available through Brown Paper Tickets at https://duchnovichdinner.bpt.me

or make checks payable to the Rusin Association and send to: Polly Walker, 8926 Pine Bluff Ct., Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Payment must be received by January 20 to reserve your spot reservations received after this date are not guaranteed

For further information visit our website at rusinmn.org, email us at rusinmn@aol.com or call Karen Varian at 763 242 4898.

EVENTS AT C.S.P.S. HALL Sokol Minnesota Events

April Slovo Deadline

March 1

Literary Ventures

March 9, 10 a.m.

Family Night

March 10, 4 p.m.

Board of Trustees

March 13, 7 p.m.

Inter Squad Gym Meet

March 24, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Flavors of Slovakia

March 31, 12:30 seating

Reservation required

Check for event updates: www.sokolmn.org



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Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota SLOVO February 2019





Spring 2019 Events at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102 | 651-290-0542

Family Events

Sundays, 4-7 p.m.: February 17 and March 10 Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: April 20

Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: April 20

Potluck supper, Czech and Ślovak speaking family activities for children of all ages.

Flavors of Slovakia Dinner

Sunday, March 31, 12:30 p.m.

Cabbage rolls, *pirohy*, cabbage and dumplings. \$16 adult, \$8 child under 9. Cash bar. Prepaid reservations by March 23: 651–290–0542

Pancake Breakfast with Koláče and Craft Sales

Sunday, April 14, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

\$8 adult, \$6 child under 9, \$26/family of four. No reservations needed.

Pre-order *koláče*: 651-290-0542 Reserve a craft table: 651-433-2008

Band Blast Saturday, April 27, 7 p.m.

Local rockabilly and hot jazz bands. Humorous piano act, dance, trivia, silent auction. Fundraiser for C.S.P.S. Hall exterior wall repairs. Cash bar, goulash, and refreshments.

\$10 suggested admission.

Reservations: bandblast2019@gmail.com

87th Annual Festival of Nations

May 2-May 5, Saint Paul RiverCentre

Enjoy Czech and Slovak food and culture, as well as children, teen, and adult folk dancers. Over 100 ethnic groups participating.

Info: www.festivalofnations.com

22nd Annual Children's Cultural Day Camp June 17-June 21

For boys and girls ages 6 to 14 years. Ethnic crafts and cooking, Czech language, gymnastics, and more.

Register by May 31: www.sokolmn.org

30th Czech and Slovak Festival

Sunday, September 15, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Music, folk dancers, vendors, ethnic food, Czech beer, booths, games, silent auction. Free admission. Accessible facilities. Volunteer to help: 612-822-6147 or events@sokolmn.org

Latest information: www.sokolmn.org

Questions: eventsesokolmn.org

Sokol gift shop open during Sokol Minnesota events

In 2019, Czechs and Slovaks celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution (the fall of communism).

In 2018, Sokol Minnesota proudly commemorated the centennial of the birth of Czechoslovakia (1918), as well as the 25th anniversary of the formation of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic (1993).

www.CzechSlovakCentury.org