



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

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

June Slovo articles  
due May 1

Sokol Gift Shop  
open by appointment

Outdoor  
Craft and Flea Market  
Saturday, May 1  
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
(info adjacent)

Mushroom Hunt  
Sunday, May 23, 1-4 p.m.  
(registration is full)

Members/Volunteers Picnic  
Saturday, June 6  
1 - 4 p.m.  
(info on page 6)

Children's Cultural Day  
Camp  
June 14 - 18  
(info on page 12)

Saturday  
**MAY 1** 2021  
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

OUTDOOR  
**CRAFT AND FLEA  
MARKET**

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

If you are looking for handmade goods, new and previously-owned items, collectibles, or tasty treats, this is the event for you.

Join us rain or shine at the C.S.P.S. Hall parking lot for an outdoor fundraiser, hosted by Sokol Minnesota.

Vendors and guests will be required to comply to the most updated COVID requirements while on the grounds.

Sokol will be selling *koláče* in the morning.

From 11 a.m.-2 p.m., hot dogs with a slice of caraway rye bread, pickle on a stick, and *langoše* (Czech fried bread) with or without the savory sauce and toppings.

Think you might want to be a vendor? Call/text 651-210-0401 for more info.

For status of events scheduled for the C.S.P.S. Hall, check our calendar at [www.sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/hall-calendar/](http://www.sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/hall-calendar/)

## Prezidentův komentář/President's Notes by Dave Stepan

By time you read this, I will be back in Minnesota after a retirement trip of over 5,000 miles while visiting nine states. I am currently seeing light at the end of the tunnel and I am hopeful it is not a train heading my direction because I had my first Covid shot in Arizona. By the time I get back to Minnesota at the end of April, I am optimistic I will locate a second vaccine shot. While I have some family that do not believe in the vaccines, I just hope they do not get infected. The science of the vaccine shows it should keep you from dying or going to the hospital. Again, staying socially distant, wearing a face covering, and getting vaccinated are the best way we beat this virus.

While we have been traveling, we work on staying in shape by hiking, biking, walking, and going to the gym when there is one in the vicinity. The location we are currently staying at in Tucson has its own workout room and that is a plus. We have no TV to watch so we are reliant on the internet for news.



As we travelled from the Twin Cities, we stopped in Omaha, where I was reminded the challenges are huge to keep Sokol thriving, including its buildings. Sokol Omaha sold their beautiful building. We are fortunate we have our historic 1887 building and we have numerous members and friends willing to support our efforts. Although it is "only" a building, you should be proud of it. Keep it in mind for your next family gathering.



Darnell's and my travels have been an eye-opening experience as well as a challenge to stay connected to events and activities happening at our C.S.P.S. Hall. As I mentioned last month, the volunteers at the Hall continue to hold events and activities continue. I missed the *koláče* sale, but saw there were lots of orders. Committees continue to meet via Zoom and work continues at the Hall. I try and do my part as best I can while away from a computer and sometimes from Wi-Fi.

Getting back to normalcy will take our continued time and effort. For example, our May 23 *Houby* (mushroom) hunt is sold out at the time of this publication. Another example is the annual Czech and Slovak Children's Cultural Day Camp scheduled for June 14 to 18, but with a limited number of campers. If you have a son, daughter, or grandchild, think about signing them up at [www.sokolmn.org/culture-camp-2021/](http://www.sokolmn.org/culture-camp-2021/)

We are forming a youth committee, as well as presenting Youth Leadership Awards to high school juniors or seniors and giving a small grant. See [www.sokolmn.org/youth-leadership-award/](http://www.sokolmn.org/youth-leadership-award/) We are working to endow these awards, so if you have the financial ability to help, please do. I am constantly reminded life is short and we need to do what we can to improve this world. One way to stay optimistic about the future is through supporting our youth. *Nazdar!*

**Correction:** April Slovo article "Sokol Minnesota Gymnastics Staff Thanks Donors" on page 3: Many thanks to Sokol Omaha for its donation of gymnastic equipment.

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

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

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

### President

Dave Stepan

### Vice President

Ed Hamernik

### Recording Secretary

Denise Stibal

### Corresponding Secretary

Glynis Grostephan

### Treasurer

Don Haselbauer

### Financial Secretary

Steve Ernest

### Sergeant at Arms

Tom Aubrecht

### Members at Large

Markéta Pálková

Blanka Brichta

### Membership Director

Norm Petrik

### Board of Budget and Finance

Joyce Tesarek, Chair

### Activities Director

Jean Draheim

### Educational Director

Patricia Slaber

### Publicity Director

Austin Palma

### Board of Instructors

Mary Cahill,  
Women's Physical Director

Jason Brozovich,  
Men's Physical Director

### Building and Property Trustees Committee

Bob Kotek, Chair

### Gaming Manager

Ed Hamernik, Chair

Telephone: 651-290-0542

Past issues of *Slovo* and  
Hall Calendar of Events:  
[www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)



H  
A  
P  
P  
Y



R  
E  
S  
T  
E  
R  
E  
A  
S  
E

(Above) Easter 2021 art by Sally Sebek

### *Do roka a do dne*

by Jitka Sebek

The Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities (*Škola*) and Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota event Easter 2021 on Saturday, April 3, put on a new, creatively colorful coat thanks to rich online tools and our friendly desire to socialize distantly over displays of shared Easter traditions.

As the citation says, "...*Do roka a do dne*...!" (In a year and a day!), from the historical novel *Psohlavci* by Alois Jirásek, the original plan for the Easter 2021 celebration was to have the event complete the year of online gatherings and then resume, to the extent possible, in person outdoor activities in the summer. The speed of COVID vaccinations, the sunny weather forecast, and the tradition of being outdoors during Easter happily modified the planned Zoom meeting into two walks in local parks instead.

As is by now well-known and accepted, the Easter traditions for *Škola* families and other Sokol Minnesota families differ in some ways. Although we share the history of religious struggles in the lands that are now the Czech Republic, such as the Jan Hus movement that led to the Hussite Wars and the Hapsburg's 300 years of religious oppression after the Thirty Years War, the *Škola* families experience of religious restrictions during communism steered our Easter celebration more toward welcoming springtime, building onto pagan customs, and welcoming visitors with abundance.

I remember Easter as the time when my father worked busily in the vegetable garden tending radishes and lettuce while my mom and I would wash and shine twenty large double-pane windows. Winter comforters were replaced by lighter bed covers, carpets were cleaned, and starched curtains were set out to wave in the fresh air on the clotheslines. For Easter, we dyed eggs, made lots of open-face sandwiches, put tulips into vases, and welcomed male neighbors while surrounding them with bright colors. It was a time to gather, laugh, and embrace spring, which felt more natural than welcoming the new year amid cold winter with the accompanying dreaded custom of new year's resolutions!

No matter how far we are from our homelands or when we or our ancestors left them, we carry on by bringing spring into our homes: some of us bake Easter lamb sweet bread, some dye eggs, some start a vegetable garden, and some cut fresh twigs either for a table display or for an Easter whip. Also this Easter, we are thankful to meet in person again, to celebrate the awakening of nature, while hoping for everyone's good health.



Spring planting

## Spring Koláče Bake Sale

Co-Chairs Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, and Joyce Tesarek

Saturday, April 3, was an ideal spring day with much-appreciated warm weather for customers picking up their orders curbside during the Spring *Koláče* Bake Sale fundraiser. Although many of us are fully vaccinated, we continue to stay safe as we bake and greet customers during pickup.

These volunteers made calls, took reservations, baked, bagged, and handed out the 236 dozen (2,832!) *koláče*: Jean Draheim, Roger Green, Glynis Grostephan, Jeanie Hall, Arlene Hamernik, Don and Katie Haselbauer, Doreen McKenney, Richard Sargent, Joan Sedlacek, Joyce Tesarek, Penny Tesarek, and Louise Wessinger.

Additional baked good donations were made by: Bob Kostichka, Doreen McKenney, Katie Haselbauer, Joan Sedlacek, and Joyce Tesarek.

(Left) Three decorative family-style *koláče* by Doreen McKenney and four *koláče*.

(Right) Don Haselbauer and Roger Green added streusel to *koláče*.



Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, Joyce Tesarek, and Louise Wessinger at the outdoor bake sale pick-up table.

## Youth Leadership Award for 2021

The Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Youth Leadership Award was started last year as a way to recognize and encourage outstanding participation of youth members of Sokol Minnesota and to foster a future generation of leaders and members for our organization.

The criteria for this award are as follows. Applicants must be in their junior or senior year of high school and applicants and their parent(s) need to be paid members of Sokol Minnesota for at least the current and preceding calendar years. The applicants must actively participate in one or more Sokol Minnesota youth activities, such as *Taneční Teens* dancers, gymnastics, Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities, or Czech and Slovak Children's Cultural Day Camp as a junior leader or teacher, and be a regular volunteer at Sokol Minnesota events. Of course, because of COVID, these activities have not been possible, but prior involvement and help with curbside events will be credited.

**Additional information and application forms are at [www.sokolmn.org/youth-leadership-award/](http://www.sokolmn.org/youth-leadership-award/)**

Applications are due July 1, 2021.

Award recipients will be announced by September 1. Awards will be presented at the annual Czech and Slovak Festival on September 26.

For questions, contact:

Louise Wessinger at [louisewessinger@msn.com](mailto:louisewessinger@msn.com)  
or Blanka Brichta at [brichta.blanka@gmail.com](mailto:brichta.blanka@gmail.com)

## 91st Annual Sokol Camp Booya Picnic Sunday, August 15, 2021 Noon until 5 p.m. Rain or Shine!

### SAVE THE DATE!

### 91st Annual Sokol Camp Booya Picnic

We are set to host this highly anticipated event and fundraiser once again.

**Where:** Historic Sokol Camp (built in 1926)  
19201 Woodland Acres South  
Pine City, Minnesota 55063

**When:** Sunday, August 15, 2021 Noon - 5 p.m.  
(rain or shine)

**Who:** All Sokol Brothers and Sisters are invited to attend and/or volunteer!  
General public is also welcome.

**Why:** To raise funds for Sokol Camp's upkeep and structural maintenance projects.

**How:** COVID-19 Safety protocols will be followed whenever possible!

#### Questions?

Please contact co-chairpersons Scott and Kari Muyres:  
[skdlmuyres@yahoo.com](mailto:skdlmuyres@yahoo.com) or 763-226-0313

## MEMBER NEWS

### Sokol Minnesota Welcomes New Members

By Steve Ernest and Norm Petrik

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

**Lora Oberle** of Fridley, with interests in genealogy/history, literature, and crafting.

**Dylan Muyres** of Blaine, with interest in events.

**Cecilia Rokusek** of Marion, Iowa, with interests in Czech and Slovak history and culture. Cecilia is President of the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids.

**Kelly Rynda** of Minneapolis, with interest in language classes.

**Pavlina and Michael Tesch** of Minneapolis, with interests in films, theater, youth culture camp, and communications.

**Gretchen and Marshall Toman** of River Falls, Wisconsin, with interests in films/theater and the literature group.

Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!

### Georgiana Sobola Obituary

Long-time Sokol Minnesota member Georgiana Sobola, 94, died peacefully on September 24, 2020, while in hospice care at The Estates at Roseville

Georgiana was valedictorian of both her high school class at Cadott, Wisconsin, and at the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. She also received a Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of Minnesota. Her career in education included teaching English at several high schools in Wisconsin and serving as librarian at Saint Anthony Village High School.

Georgiana was active in the League of Women Voters Roseville Area, the DFL North Metro Senior Caucus, and served as an election judge. She was a member of the local quilt group, passionate about opera and gardening, and dogs were her companions. Her mastery of the English language was amazing and she was fluent in the Czech language. She and her sister visited the Czech Republic twice and translated while on the tour.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Oscar and Mary Sobola, and nephew Brian Bednar. She is survived by sister Lillian Bednar (George) and nieces Marjorie Norling, Susan Brostrom (David), and Wendy Bednar.



# Members/Volunteers Picnic 1-4 PM

Lakewood Hills Park, White Bear, MN

**Bring an appetizer, salad,  
or dessert to share.**

**Sokol is providing lemonade, root beer,  
hot dogs, kielbasa, paper products,  
and family friendly games.**

**RSVP by May 30 to [president@sokolmn.org](mailto:president@sokolmn.org)**



## Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Historical Articles

The following two articles from *Sokol Americky* were submitted by Joan Sedlacek.

### Saint Paul Sokol News June 1957

"I believe it pays to advertise, because the past month our Sokols have been busy preparing. First Saint Catherine's College sent their future physical education teachers to watch the way we conduct our classes. They were very interested and surprised that we do so much more in apparatus work.

Sister náčelnice (director) Georgiana Buzicky had a group of girls do our prostrná (calisthenics drill) at the Y.W.C.A. Open House and again at Hopkins, Minnesota for the ZCJB 50th Anniversary program.

Veřejné and Ham Dinner on May 18, was a success. All classes participated.

Our last event, a Carnival Spring Social, was a huge success due to our competent chairman Millie Bowie. The proceeds will go towards sending participants to Chicago for the Slet.

After the Slet, we are looking forward to one of our biggest Sokol picnics at Pine City on August 4. Three big prizes will be given away: a Presto electric fry pan, a Westinghouse radio, and a South Bend rod and reel. Anyone interested in tickets may write to me, Lucille Pavlicek, 1245 Edgumbe Road, Saint Paul.

Also don't forget, for a relaxing vacation, come to Sokol Camp this summer. For reservations write: Georgiana Buzicky, 1709 Rome Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota. "'Til we meet again!"

Lucille Pavlicek

### Saint Paul Sokol News June 1958

You have not heard from us in the last two issues, but that does not mean we were lagging by the wayside. On the contrary, Saint Paul Sokols were busy getting ready for the Festival of Nations, which was held for one week at the Saint Paul Auditorium. On Saturday evening, May 10, Saint Paul Sokol men and women along with six women and two men from the Cedar Rapids, Iowa Sokol executed the Slovak Slet Drill. They received tremendous applause from 13,000 people. Our part of the program was an outstanding number, as no other nationality had a gymnastic program. We received so many compliments, and once more Sokol has been noted as outstanding in Minnesota. We constituted a colorful picture inasmuch that leading the group was a colorful Maypole with streamers led by Junior boys and girls in gym attire. Immediately following were the small children in Czech costumes. Up the sides came men and women in Czech costume which formed a huge ring around the gymnasts. It indeed presented a pretty picture. We were happy to have Cedar Rapids Sokol with us; come to see us again.

This past week a group of Beseda Dancers danced at the Nations Industrial Fair which is at the Auditorium. This fair is travelling to each state.

Saturday, May 17, was the Saint Paul Sokol Dinner and Annual Exhibition, which means the ending of our season's gym classes. The Dinner and program were well attended and we want to thank Sisters Albina Kunz and Helen Kalash for the wonderful dinner that they prepared.

Preparations are being made for Children's Week, which will be at Sokol Camp, Pine City, Minnesota, July 6-13.

Sokol Picnic chairman, Sister Lucille Pavlicek, says plans are under way and tickets are being distributed. Here's hoping everybody buys them. This is our only way of maintaining Sokol Camp, through proceeds of Sokol picnic, so please help and do your part. Do not forget Sunday, July 27, Sokol picnic at Pine City, Minnesota. Sisters Marie Svanhauser and Josephine Buzicky are the cooks for the delicious Chicken Booya.

We hope that we will have many visitors at our Sokol Camp this year. You are all welcome and it is a delightful place to spend a restful vacation. Please write to Georgiana Buzicky, 1709 Rome Avenue, Saint Paul 16, Minnesota, for information and reservations.

Hello to Saint Paul Sokol members living out of the state and here is hoping you come to Minnesota to visit us this summer.

Nazdar!

Lucille Pavlicek

## Three Czech and Slovak Films at MSPIFF40 May 13 - 23

From May 13 to 23, the Minneapolis Saint Paul Film Society presents the 40th Minneapolis Saint Paul International Film Festival. MSPIFF40 is Minnesota's largest film festival and among the longest-running film festivals in the country. MSPIFF40 will showcase 150+ bold and intriguing new films by both veteran and emerging filmmakers, representing more than 100 cultures from around the globe. MSPIFF40 is a hybrid festival this year. Films, filmmaker conversations, and panels will be presented primarily virtually, complemented by several exciting outdoor events and screenings to ease us back into a more "normal" world. Three Czech and Slovak films are highlights of the festival. More information can be found at [mspfilm.org](http://mspfilm.org)



**Havel:** Director Slávek Horák.

Categories: Historical Drama, Biography, Czech Republic.  
Language: Czech. Subtitles.

This refreshing, humorous, warts-and-all creative biopic does not let pesky facts get in the way of a good story. Director Slávek Horák (*Home Care*) takes artistic license with certain details of history to stress the irony and absurdity of Václav Havel's metamorphosis from celebrated playwright to banned and jailed human rights activist to eventual President of Czechoslovakia.

Concentrating more on Havel's personal evolution (here prodded by the many women in his life) and various emotional truths, this vibrant dramedy does not shy from depicting the great man's weaknesses, but it also shows him as generous and modest, an entertaining, talented writer who ultimately steps out of his comfort zone to become politically engaged.

**Charlatan:** Director Agnieszka Holland.

Categories: Historical Drama, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic.  
Languages: Czech and German. Subtitles.

Few true stories tread the thin line between good and evil as precariously as that of Jan Mikolášek, a 20th century Czech herbal healer whose great success masked the grimmest of secrets. Mikolášek won fame and fortune treating celebrities of the interwar, Nazi, and Communist eras with his uncanny knack for "urinary diagnosis." As a show trial threatens to pry open these secrets and undo him, Jan's dichotomies are put to a final test, with the fate of his life's only love in the balance. Academy Award-nominated director Agnieszka Holland enjoyed a long professional relationship with MSP Film and its founding director Al Milgrom, visiting the Twin Cities many times over the years to present several of her films.



**Shadow Country:** Director Bohdan Sláma.

Categories: Historical Drama, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic.  
Language: Czech. Subtitles.

With this film about the lethal effects of nationalism, Czech director Bohdan Sláma once again proves himself a cinematic master. Filmed in starkly beautiful, black-and-white 35mm, his seventh feature encompasses the years 1930 - 1950 and follows life in the fictitious Czech village of Schwarzwald, located on the border of Austria. The population of Czechs, German-speakers, and Jews is torn between conflicting identities and nationalities at the best of times, but with the advance of the Nazis, the inhabitants must choose, either

allegiance to the Reich and the promise of farming subsidies or to Czech nationality and poverty. Jews in the community are targeted, their businesses vandalized. Neighbors turn against neighbors and petty grudges wreak deadly consequences.

Again this year, several local Czech and Slovak organizations and individuals are generously supporting MSPIFF40: Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota (CSCC), Czechoslovak Genealogy Society International (CGSI), Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities, the Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic M. L. Kucera, plus several individuals, including Sokol Minnesota members Blanka Brichta, John Palka, and Marshall Toman.

8 May 2021 *Slovo*

In appreciation of this support, the Film Society is offering a special discount on ticket prices.

Enter **CZESKMSPIFF40** upon checkout to save \$2 off regularly priced tickets of virtual screenings.

*Information for this article was provided by Jesse Bishop, programming director; MSP Film Society at St. Anthony Main Theater, Minneapolis, with commentary from nationally-known film critic Alissa Simon.*  
MSPIFF: [mspfilm.org/festivals/mspiff/](http://mspfilm.org/festivals/mspiff/)



## Highlights of the Sokol Minnesota March Board Meeting

By Denise Stibal

The online meeting was called to order on March 16, 2021, at 7 p.m. by First Vice President Ed Hamernik.

Member at Large Blanka Brichta proposed and it was approved that we reserve the exhibit Famous Czech- and Slovak-Americans from the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for our Czech and Slovak Festival in September. The steering committee working to create the Youth Group had its first meeting and will meet monthly.

Activities Director Jean Draheim noted several activities are planned in the near future, including the May 1 Craft and Flea Market, the Spring Mushroom Hunt on May 23, and the Members and Volunteers Picnic June 1 at Lakewood Park. Chef Dave Stepan will be at the grill; other food and games will be provided. Please notify Jean of any activities to be scheduled at the C.S.P.S. Hall. Jean also reported on the Stage Committee, which will re-activate soon. Stage drapes and frames have been purchased, and more projects are planned for 2021.

The Rental Committee reported Judy Metcalf will join the committee and a meeting will be held with Dawn Bulera to get an update on rentals and discuss procedures for this year.

Corresponding Secretary Glynis Grostephan reported on donations for February: Legacy Fund: \$200, General Fund: \$655. Arlene Hamernik noted for the Sunshine Committee that a card was sent to M. L. Kucera to congratulate her on the fifth anniversary of her position as Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis.

Education Chair Pat Slaber informed the board that we are working on adding the separate general Zoom account recommended by Blanka Brichta for meetings and classes.

Membership Director Norm Petrik and Financial Secretary Steve Ernest presented applications for eight new members; the applications were approved. If no one else renews by March 31, the 34 pending members will become resignations and our total membership will be 268.

Treasurer Don Haselbauer reported our total balance. All information for tax filing has been submitted to our tax preparation service.

Finance Committee Chair Joyce Tesarek noted Don will add an additional Vanguard account for the Youth Leadership Award Endowment Fund in order to keep track of interest for disbursements. The grant from the Czech Foreign Ministry for \$5,454 was received. Joyce is working on ASO grants.

Building and Property Trustee Committee Chair Bob Kotek stated the cleaning contract with Marsden has been terminated. The new employee will begin April 5, with (1) two-hour shift per week currently, which will be increased to (2) two-hour shifts when activities return to normal. Bob is procuring bids for a new Fire Control System. Gary Novak has purchased the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) unit to be installed on the second floor.

## Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors

By Glynis Grostephan

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

### LEGACY FUND

**Under \$99: Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities**

**\$100 - \$499: Louise Cameron to Heat the Hall,  
Anthony Kaczor, Dolores Kokes Speidel.**

### GENERAL FUND

**Under \$99: Abra Gillman, Susan Lindoo and  
Mike Wolesky, Michaela Makarianova-Wentz,  
Jean Hall Sykora, Joyce Tesarek,  
Mary Ann Tumasmith,  
Susan and Steven Vnoucek in memory of  
Jaroslav Edeltraud Vnoucek.**

**\$500 - \$999: 3M Foundation Volunteer Match in  
recognition of Darnell Stepan's volunteer work  
for Sokol Minnesota.**

**\$1000 - \$9999: Anonymous (couple).**

### IN-KIND DONATIONS:

**Ruth Krinhop: Two 100-year-old pictures  
from Czechoslovakia.**

### TOTALS:

**Legacy Fund: \$ 380**

**General Fund: \$ 1749**

**TOTAL: \$ 2129**

Planning Committee Chair Mary Cahill reported the committee met on March 17.

Gaming Chair Ed Hamernik requested the Assistant Manager position rate be increased by \$2.00/hour, retroactive to January 1. Motion carried. Motion also carried to transfer \$10,000 from Gaming to the General Fund.

President Dave Stepan officially retired from his position at Hennepin County as of March 19. Congratulations to Dave! Dave challenged each board member to contribute \$300 as a result of the CARES ACT legislation being extended into 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



For Sokol's Latest News!

**Join the E-blast List**

Send your email address to  
[publicity@sokolmn.org](mailto:publicity@sokolmn.org)

*In Poems* by Milan Rúfus, translated by Allan Stevo, 52 Weeks in Slovakia: Chicago, Bratislava, New York, 2015, 100 pages. Originally published in Slovak, 2009. Available at libraries and bookstores.

Milan Rúfus was the unofficial poet laureate of Slovakia, as well as an essayist, translator, children's writer, and academic. Strong sales of his work in Slovak attest to his popularity. There are now two books and a website available in English. *And That's the Truth*, a collection of fifty-four Rúfus poems translated by Edward Osers and Viera and James Sutherland-Smith, was published in 2005, and *In Poems*, a selection from Rúfus' last book, *Ako Stopy v Sneho* (Like Footprints in the Snow), was published in Slovak in 2009.

Although Rúfus' rhymes and some of his atmosphere, sensitivity, tenderness, metaphors, and images won't come through translation, his work is still an enjoyable read in English. This short poem, printed in *And That's the Truth*, gives a taste of how moving and packed with meaning Rúfus' writing can be:

Forgive me,  
joy,  
if I blasphemed you  
before I learned to love.

I especially related to this *In Poem* excerpt from "Dad," which reminded me of my late father's expressive hands:

He understood pain and love,  
those two creatures,  
to which he offered his hands,  
to hard work  
In his hands, you could find redemption.

Translating Slovak into English is difficult, as is translating poetry. In addition, translation of Rúfus' work is complicated by the particular rural dialect in which he wrote. One Slovak word can be highly complex. The concept of *chlebobodarka* is prominent in *In Poems*. It can literally be translated as "the giver of bread," and has connotations of "breadwinner," "putting bread on the table," and "the companion with whom one shares bread." According to Stevo, "Bread is so significant in Slovak culture that bread is given along with salt to a visitor in Slavic lands, as a symbolic gesture of giving the visitor 'the best the land has to offer.'"

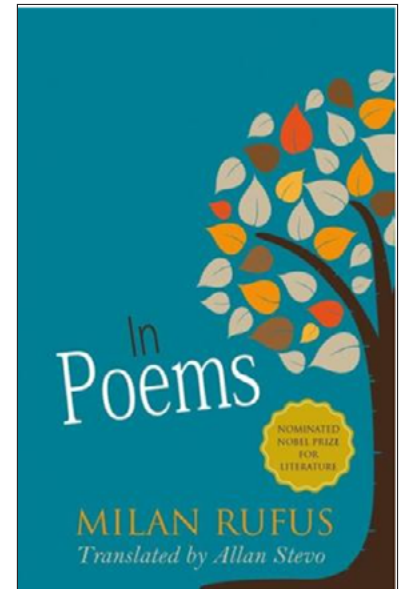
Prominent themes of *In Poems* are childhood and coming-of-age, with poetry about the author's mother, father, and childhood classmate Olenka. The sixteen poems in the collection were translated by Allan Stevo, who Slovak-American colleagues tell me does finer translations than Osers and the Sutherland-Smiths. Another advantage of Stevo's translations is that if you prefer to not buy a hard copy of *In Poems*, you can read the same poems in both languages with brief commentary by doing a search for "Rufus" on Stevo's blog at <http://www.52insk.com> Stevo, who is from Chicago and spends most of his time traveling

10 May 2021 *Slovo*

in Europe and writing, also comments on Slovak culture through his blog.

Milan Rúfus was born into a family of bricklayers in Závažná Poruba in the Žilina region of today's Slovakia on December 10, 1928, and died January 11, 2009. The house in which he and his film-director sister Olga grew up became village property after the death of their mother. A graduate of Comenius University in Bratislava, Rúfus went on to lecture there on the history of Slovak and Czech literature from 1952 to 1989. He was nominated for the Nobel Prize for Literature several times and won the International Crane Summit Award for Poetry in 2008. His works have been translated into twenty languages.

Gwen is coordinator of the Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures book discussion group which is cosponsored by the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, and the Office of the Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic.  
Info: [cs-center.org](http://cs-center.org) or contact [gwen@cs-center.org](mailto:gwen@cs-center.org)



Cover design  
by Danijela Mijailovic

Join us for a discussion of  
*Fleeting Snow* by Pavel Vilikovský  
at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 22.

Check [cs-center.org](http://cs-center.org) for scheduling updates.

**Have you renewed your  
Sokol Minnesota membership?**

If you have not yet renewed, please do so **now** to stay connected to all our activities and to keep receiving the *Slovo* newsletter. We hope 2021 will be an exciting year of getting back to normal activities.

Membership payments can be made at  
[www.sokolmn.org/membership](http://www.sokolmn.org/membership) using PayPal  
or mailed to **Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota,  
4716 17th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407**

## Czech Honorary Consul News

May 2021

As Honorary Consul, I am proud to join Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, plus several of our other local Czech and Slovak organizations and individuals, to support the **40th Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival (MSPIFF40), May 13-23**, with generous donations. This year's Czech films are *Havel*, *Charlatan*, and *Shadow Country*. The latter two films are produced in cooperation with Slovakia. These excellent films will be screened virtually. See the MSPIFF40 article on page 8.

On Friday, March 26, the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, University of Minnesota, announced

the three recipients of the **2021 Mestenhauser Student Award for Excellence in Campus Internationalization**. This annual award is named in honor of Dr. Josef Mestenhauser (1925–2015), who was a University of Minnesota Distinguished International Emeritus Professor in the Department of Organizational Leadership, Policy and Development at the University of Minnesota in its College of Education and Human Development.

**Alyssa Dougherty**, School of Public Health; **Sumitra Madhuri Ramachandran**, College of Education and Human Development; and **María Paz Ramírez López**, College of Biological Sciences. All three attend the University of Minnesota Twin Cities.

Unable to meet the awardees in person this year, attendees of the virtual ceremony participated in break-out sessions. Tricia Mestenhauser Bergh, one of Dr. Mestenhauer's daughters, visited each break-out room; she congratulated and thanked each recipient. She told how international students were her "greater family," being part of each holiday in the Mestenhauser household. During the communist era, there were not opportunities to go to Czechoslovakia to meet her dad's relatives (her dad would have been arrested for defecting in 1948). Dr. Mestenhauser was Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis, 1999-2008.

Congratulations to the recipients of the **2021 grants from the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs** for the four states of Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota:

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, 120,000 CZK; Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, 70,000 CZK; Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International, 50,000 CZK; The Czech Heritage Club in New Prague, 25,000 CZK; Bechyn Czech Heritage Festival, 40,000 CZK; Tabor Czech Days in Tabor, South Dakota, July 18-19, 100,000 CZK; and National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 350,000 CZK.

There are approximately 22 CZK per US\$. For a list of all the grants world wide: [tinyurl.com/3v723aha](https://tinyurl.com/3v723aha)

**National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library (NCSML)**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, introduces a new month-long festival this May. **Hody**, which means feast, is not to be confused with *Houby* Days (May 16-18, Czech Village, Cedar Rapids). *Hody* includes Maypoles, a drive-up traditional meal, yard signs celebrating Czech and Slovak heritages, *kolačé* May baskets, a cooking demonstration by Slovak Ambassador Javorčík Radovan, wine tasting, and an in-person concert with Slovakian opera tenor Jozef Ivaška, Jr. For more events and complete information: <https://www.ncsml.org/events/>



Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic  
in Minneapolis, MN

Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Consul

651-238-0447

[minneapolis@honorary.mzv.cz](mailto:minneapolis@honorary.mzv.cz) OR [mlkucera@outlook.com](mailto:mlkucera@outlook.com)

### 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. Phone: 651-290-0542.

Sokol Minnesota members receive the *Slovo* with their membership.

**To receive your *Slovo* in color via email instead of the black and white mail version, contact [slovo@sokolmn.org](mailto:slovo@sokolmn.org).**

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](mailto: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](mailto: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: Tom Aubrecht, Mary Cahill, and Joyce Tesarek. Copy Editor: Tom Aubrecht.

Production Layout: Mary Kucera. Regular Contributors: Jean Draheim, Steve Ernest, Glynis Grostephan, M. L. Kucera, Norm Petrik, Dave Stepan, and Denise Stibal. Photographers: Martina Gurgel and Joyce Tesarek. Collages: Martina Gurgel.

Sokol Minnesota Ad Designer: Doreen McKenney (pages 1, 6, 9, 12).

Mailing and email Lists: Penny Tesarek and Tom Tesarek.

Mailing: Mary Cahill and Joan Sedlacek.

Advisors: Christy Banks, Arlene Hamernik, M. L. Kucera, and Jitka Sebek.

Additional contributors this issue: M.L. Kucera, Doreen McKenney, Kari Muyres, the late Lucille Pavlicek, Jitka Sebek, Joan Sedlacek, Joyce Tesarek, Gwen Willems, Louise Wessinger.

Additional photographs or illustrations this issue provided by: MSPIFF (page 8), Doreen McKenney (4), Danijela Mijailovic (9), Jitka Sebek (3), Sally Sebek (3), Dave Stepan (2), Joyce Tesarek (4).

April issue mailing: Mary Cahill and Joan Sedlacek.

**More information at [www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)**

## C.S.P.S. HALL LEGACY FUND

To keep us all safe from COVID-19, all our income-generating events are on hold.

If you can help, we would greatly appreciate a donation to Sokol.

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



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

To help refinish the C.S.P.S. Hall floors,

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) *Thank You!*

CZECH AND SLOVAK



383 Michigan Street

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

651-290-0542

## Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *SLOVO* May 2021

### 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Children's Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camp

Sponsored by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

## Medieval "Castles and Kings"

June 14-18 <sup>20</sup>/<sub>21</sub>

Ages: 6 to 14 years old



The 23rd annual Children's Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camp is scheduled for June 14-18, 2021

Register by May 1 to qualify for the Early-Bird discount.

All camp registration materials must be received by June 1.

Registration materials for campers ages 6 to 14, adult volunteers, and junior leaders ages 15 to 21 can be downloaded at

[www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)

***Full refund if camp needs to be postponed.***

Questions? Contact Louise Wessinger 651-452-6240