

CZECH AND SLOVAK



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

# SLOVO

September 2022  
vol. 45 no. 7

## UPCOMING EVENTS

October *Slovo* articles  
due September 1

Online Virtual Auction  
Friday, September 16-23  
(more info on page 12)

33rd Czech & Slovak  
Festival  
Sunday, September 25  
11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Czech and Slovak  
Language Lessons  
Start in September  
(info on page 3)

Sokol Gymnasts  
Starting now

Sokol Gift Shop  
open during events  
and by appointment

Kolo Sokol Bike Group  
Every second Saturday  
of the month: 9 a.m.  
C.S.P.S. Hall  
[sokolmn.org/bike](http://sokolmn.org/bike)

Friday Evening Social  
Events will begin on  
October 14

Czech Roast Pork  
Dinner  
Sunday, October 16

Use our new QR code  
to [sokolmn.org](http://sokolmn.org) to follow  
all of our activities,  
events, and classes!



# 33<sup>rd</sup> annual CZECH & SLOVAK FESTIVAL

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

**FREE Admission • Public Welcome • Accessible Facility**



# Sunday, September 25 20 22 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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

Ethnic Food • Czech Beer • Live Music • Dance Performances  
Children's Games • Sokol Gift Shop • Street Vendors  
Exhibits • Special Guests

Online Auction, September 16 - 23  
[www.32auctions.com/sokolminnesota2022](http://www.32auctions.com/sokolminnesota2022)  
Auction winning bids pick up on September 25

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

I always look for inspiration prior to writing the presidents' letter, rather than wandering off aimlessly. Spending three months this past spring in the Czech Republic re-fueled my interest in Sokol, the Czech Republic, and the Slovak Republic, while creating new friendships and reacquainting with old friends. Now, as I wind down my second term as president, my goal will be to keep that enthusiasm and continue those connections. Americans are fortunate to live in a time of great freedom and wealth compared to those that emigrated from what my Czech grandfather called the "Old Country." The number of United States citizens who currently travel abroad shows that there are many among us, who are privileged. According to the World Bank, in 2019 over 37 million people traveled to the Czech Republic, more than triple the number of Czech citizens, and Slovakia had over six million visitors that same year. I do hope that each and every one of you have the opportunity to return, or go to, the Czech and/or Slovak Republics to experience the culture and share your story with them.

We are all in different phases of life, some young, some old, others single, and some married. You might have children or grandchildren. Some are renting apartments and others own (or are buying) a home. Is there a common bond that binds us Sokols together? Especially the newer members, those that did not 'grow up' in Sokol. Who and what brought you to Sokol? Was Sokol a family tradition and you recently re-connected with your 'roots', or perhaps membership in another organization, such as the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International or the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center? I am guessing there are multiple reasons, but I believe a thick thread is we all have interest in the Czech or Slovak heritage or culture. Personally, I believe no matter what stage of life you are at, it helps to know where you are from in order to learn who you are. My Czech grandfather married a German, as a child, I learned about both my German and Czech sides of "the family" from picture albums.

As summer comes to a close and fall starts with new gym classes, dance practices, and festivals and dinners, our adult language courses are restarting. We are in need of Czech Language teacher(s) for this fall. We will be piloting a Czech language project with teachers from Palacký University for a small number of students, but are in need of an additional teacher. If you know of a qualified and interested Czech language instructor, please contact [education@sokolmn.org](mailto:education@sokolmn.org)

An effort to digitize and share Sokol Minnesota archives began with the initial visit of Dr. Lukáš Perutka in August. We will share more as this work advances.

Our Czech & Slovak Festival will be a great event, so please mark your calendar for September 25.

Lastly, if any of you would be interested in listening in on our monthly Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors meetings via Zoom, please contact me at [president@sokolmn.org](mailto:president@sokolmn.org). We have room on Zoom for up to 100 individuals. You can hear what we have been doing or are planning to do. *Nazdar!*



### Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota 2022 BOD (Board of Directors)

#### President

Dave Stepan

#### Vice President

Cinnamon Whaley

#### Recording Secretary

Denise Stibal

#### Corresponding Secretary

Glynis Grostephan

#### Treasurer

Don Haselbauer

#### Financial Secretary

Steve Ernest

#### Sergeant at Arms

Blanka Brichta

#### Members at Large

Markéta Pálková

Fred Simon

#### Membership Director

-

#### Budget and Finance Committee

Joyce Tesarek, Chair

#### Activities Director

Jean Draheim

#### Educational Director

Patricia Slaber

#### Publicity Director

Brittany Stepan

#### Board of Instructors

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

#### Building and Property Trustees Committee

Bob Kotek, Chair

#### Gaming Manager

Ed Hamernik, Chair

Telephone: 651-290-0542

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

### Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Volunteers Wanted

#### • Volunteer for the Czech & Slovak Festival

at the C.S.P.S. Hall on September 25

email: [festival@sokolmn.org](mailto:festival@sokolmn.org)

#### • Do you know Quickbooks and want to assist the Treasurer?

#### • Do you want to help fundraise?

To apply, email [Finance@sokolmn.org](mailto:Finance@sokolmn.org)

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)

## Sokol Minnesota Members and Volunteers Picnic was a Great Success By Jean Draheim

More than 45 members, volunteers, their families, and guests gathered for Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's annual Members and Volunteers Picnic at the Lakewood Hills Pavilion in White Bear Lake on the warm, breezy Sunday afternoon of July 17.

President Dave Stepan brought a variety of tasty sausages, from Kramarczuk's Deli in Minneapolis, as Sokol Minnesota's contribution and they were expertly grilled by Chuck Draheim. Everyone brought something to share. As usually happens at our gatherings, we had a wonderful variety of foods: appetizers, salads, sides, and desserts. There was so much food, Chuck had to go home to get more tables!



Language students congratulate Blanka Brichta on her retirement from teaching the Czech language at Sokol Minnesota. L-R: Richard Sargent, Pam Langworthy, Tricia Bergh, Blanka Brichta, Denise Stibal, Cynthia McArthur, Sandy-Fritz Prochaska, and Honorary Czech Consul M. L. Kucera.

Pat Slaber presented Blanka Brichta a Thank You card in appreciation of her many years as one of our Czech language instructors. Several of her former students were in attendance to help her celebrate.

We raised over a thousand dollars for Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, but primarily we created an event that brought back many Sokol Minnesota

supporters after COVID-related restrictions reduced the indoor dinners, dances, and Band Blasts at the Hall. Thank you all for your help and thank you for coming. Enjoy your good memories of an afternoon full of great music!

Many thanks to those who came early to help set up or who stayed late to help clean up after the picnic ended. We are looking forward to a great year with our many members and volunteers. We hope to see everyone again soon at our upcoming events!

### CZECH & SLOVAK FESTIVAL

The Czech & Slovak Festival offers businesses, programs, organizations, and well wishers space to place an ad each year in the program handout.

If interested contact:  
ads4sokolmn@earthlink.net

Place your \$20 camera ready ad here.

1" x 3"

Place your \$20 camera ready ad here.

2" x 1.5"

Place your \$10 well wisher ad here.

1" x 1.125"

# Czech Roast Pork Dinner

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

**Sunday, October 16** 20  
22

**12:30 p.m.** ( doors open 12N )

**C.S.P.S. Hall, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, MN**

**MENU**

Roast pork, raised bread dumplings, gravy, sauerkraut, caraway rye bread, applesauce, and dessert \$20 per person. Cash beer, wine, and pop bar.

Prepaid orders must be received by Thursday, October 13  
Prepay by: credit/debit card or PayPal at [www.sokolmn.org/cc/](http://www.sokolmn.org/cc/)  
If prepaying by check call/text 952-941-0426 before mailing in your payment. Checks mailed to the Hall without calling in a reservation cannot be guaranteed a dinner.

## Sokol Minnesota Represented at International Festival of Burnsville



Blanka Brichta, Doreen McKenney, Glynis Grostephan, and M.L. Kucera represented Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota at the International Festival in Burnsville on July 16. The Sokol Minnesota table in the Ames Center featured Czech bobbin lace.

## Sokol Singers Donate Sheet Music to National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library

The Sokol Singers on July 18 sorted through seven boxes of Czech sheet music from the 1900s to the present from the Sokol Minnesota archives. Much of the music will be donated to the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Sheet music connected with Sokol Minnesota was retained.



Clockwise around table: Don Haselbauer, Pam Langworthy, Marlene Hinshaw, Louise Wessinger, Bob Kostichka, Richard Sargent, Ann Janda. Not pictured: Doreen McKenney.

## Czech and Slovak Language Lessons at Sokol Minnesota

Come join us to learn more.  
Classes start in September.

Schedule and registration: [sokolmn.org](mailto:sokolmn.org)  
Questions: [education@sokolmn.org](mailto:education@sokolmn.org)

## An International Symposium: What Would Comenius Say?

Comenius, or Jan Ámos Komenský, (1592-1670) has shaped thinking in various spheres in the Bohemian lands and beyond, including in education, philosophy, and international diplomacy.

This year is the 430th anniversary of Comenius' birth.



To honor the legacy of Comenius and highlight its relevance for the 21st century, the Czech & Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Chicago, the Office of the Honorary Consul for Minnesota, Iowa, North and South Dakota, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, the University of Minnesota, and the University of St. Thomas are staging a two-day celebration on September 23-24, 2022. Most events will be at the University of Minnesota. The series of events will start with the exhibiting of an 18-panel display depicting the life and legacy of Comenius. Among the events scheduled are an international reception, a presentation on the Czech Republic's presidency of the European Union, a panel of Fulbright scholars from various disciplines, a lecture on the legacy of Comenius, and a film about his life. This will be the first event of its kind in Minnesota. We hope to not only bring awareness about the actions and writing of Comenius in Europe in the 17th century, but to also emphasize the importance of his thinking in our daily lives.

We hope you will join us! More details to follow.

Please contact Renáta Tichá at [tich0018@umn.edu](mailto:tich0018@umn.edu) with any questions.

# Trunks with Treats Harvest Fest

Hosted by

SOKOL MINNESOTA



Youth Link

Saturday

October 15 20  
22

Outdoors at the C.S.P.S. Hall

383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, MN

Second annual Trunks with Treats family friendly Harvest Fest.  
Parking lot walk-through with games, treats,  
and a photo op for Sokol kids 12 and under!

## Highlights of the July 2022 Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors Meeting By Denise Stibal

The Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors online meeting was called to order on July 21 at 7 p.m. by President Dave Stepan.

Education Chair Pat Slaber noted that Dr. Lukáš Perutka from Palacký University will visit the Hall in August and will help us digitize the records. Perutka instructors will teach one class in the fall online. Materials include fluency and literacy and will be limited to 10 students, with Sokol Minnesota members given priority for registration. We are also seeking a replacement for Blanka Brichta, who submitted her resignation as Czech language class instructor.

President Dave Stepan requested permission for the adult dance group to use the puppets Jarda and Jitka for the Slavic Experience in Minneapolis on August 21. Motion approved.

Treasurer Don Haselbauer reported on account balances.

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Joyce Tesarek reported that the committee will transfer funds from checking into the Vanguard Short Duration Inflation Protected Account. The amount will be spread out over eight months. Motion approved to spend up to \$250 for the Education and Youth Link programs for miscellaneous expenses. We received a Czech Government grant of approximately \$6,000 which will be used for classroom furniture. We received two grants from the American Sokol Foundation: \$2,495 for virtual classes and \$1,080 for purchase of tents for the Czech & Slovak Festival.

Gaming Chair Ed Hamernik submitted his monthly report. The budget for the coming month was approved. Marlene Hinshaw has agreed to join the Gaming Committee, and President Dave Stepan appointed her as a member.

Mary Cahill reported for the Board of Instructors. We had one student, Mitchell Gillman, attend the National Instructor School in Detroit. He enjoyed his time and hopes to attend the next level of instruction in 2023. COVID protocol will continue to be monitored in order to provide safety for fall classes.

Building and Properties Trustee Committee Chair Bob Kotek was unable to attend this month's meeting, however, Dave Stepan noted the committee met and projects pending include repaving of the parking lot and new doors on the Michigan

Street side of the building. The fire and alarm system is completed.

Corresponding Secretary Glynis Grostephan reported total contributions in June totaled \$4,473.75.

Activities Director Jean Draheim asked to establish the date for the Sokol (1862) and Sokol Minnesota (1882) Anniversaries Celebration. The Celebration will take place November 12. The Sokol Minnesota Annual Meeting will be November 18. We still need chairpersons for the Fall Breakfast. Discussion on resuming Friday evening social events; it was decided we will begin on October 14. The Member and Volunteer Picnic on July 17 was a success, with 45 people attending.

Denise Stibal reported for Rental Committee. The Eventective lead-generation service was renewed in June, this has been a valuable resource for rental inquiries. Rentals in June were highly successful.

New Business:

Bob Kotek has obtained a bid for installation of a new sign on the outside of the Hall.

Fred Simon reported that the Czech Heritage Club has various activities scheduled and stated Slovaks are welcome as members of the club.

Joe Landsberger is writing a book about the West 7th Street area and will include Sokol Minnesota in his material.

Czech Deputy Consul General in Chicago, Ondřej Pometlo, has been invited to attend the Czech & Slovak Festival and the Czech Roast Pork Dinner.

Jean Draheim expressed the need for more crafters, artists, etc., to display at booths at the Czech & Slovak Festival.

### 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.

**In-kind donations: Supplies for the 2022 Sokol Minnesota Children's Cultural Day Camp: Jyni Koschak.**

#### *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, Dave Stepan, and Denise Stibal.

Photographer: Joyce Tesarek.

Sokol Minnesota Ad Designer: Doreen McKenney (pages 1, 3, 4).

Mailing and email Lists: Penny and Tom Tesarek.

Mailing: Mary Cahill and Joan Sedlacek.

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

Additional contributors to this issue: Jean Draheim, Doreen McKenney, Kari Muyres, Pat Slaber, Joyce Tesarek, Renáta Tichá, and Gwen Willems.

Additional photographs, ads, or illustrations in this issue (not already noted) provided by: Glynis Grostephan, and Pat Slaber.

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

*Hell and Other Destinations: A 21st Century Memoir*  
by Madeleine Albright. Harper Collins: New York, 2021,  
416 pages. Available at libraries and bookstores.

Former US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright died from cancer at the age of 84 on March 23 of this year, but continues to teach us through her seven books. The latest, *Hell and Other Destinations: A 21st Century Memoir*, came out in 2021 and is a fascinating exploration of what she chose to do during the two decades after she left the US State Department. I find her writing in this book to be informative, articulate, and surprisingly humorous. Her earlier memoirs were *Madam Secretary* (2003), which focused on her tenure as secretary of state, and *Prague Winter* (2012), which delved into her Czech heritage.

She was born in Prague in 1937, and she and her parents fled to London when the Nazis invaded. After Germany surrendered in 1945, they returned to Czechoslovakia and her father, Joseph Korbel, served as ambassador to Yugoslavia. Three years later, when communists took over, the family took refuge in the United States. Her Jewish family converted to Catholicism when she was five, and she and her siblings didn't know about their Jewish past until much later. Three of her grandparents and other relatives died in concentration camps.

In *Hell and Other Destinations*, she writes that at the end of her time as secretary of state, a job she didn't want to end, she had to find a new line of work. She was 63, well trained in diplomacy and international relations, had a wide network of friends, and was full of energy. A number of options were possible; she even received an invitation from Václav Havel to succeed him as president of the Czech Republic.

She describes this book as a collection of stories. They vary from her wisdom about living a gratifying personal life, to particular international situations such as the Arab Spring and Merck's testing and treatment of HIV with antivirals in Botswana, to exceptional relationships (she was especially close to Hilary Rodham Clinton, several presidents, and Václav Havel). She candidly discusses her divorce. In 1982, after 23 years of marriage, her husband informed her, "Our marriage is dead, and I am in love with someone else." At first she felt nearly crushed, but eventually enjoyed the freedom. She was better prepared for the transition when upon the inauguration of the new president in January 2001, she started her life's third act.

Albright's life became extremely busy with consulting, teaching, giving commencement addresses and other talks, and spending time with her three daughters and grandchildren. At the end of every year, she did an evaluation of her life, asking if she'd done *enough*.

To start a consulting firm, she gathered state department colleagues and formed The Albright Group (TAG). It later merged with Sandy Berger's firm to become the Albright

Stonebridge Group (ASG). She also chaired the National Democratic Institute and many other groups.

Teaching at Georgetown University remained a priority for Albright. In her class on America's national security toolbox, students learned what options the president has when dealing with an international crisis or trying to convince a foreign government to act in a certain way. Her lessons were consistent with her long-held belief in diplomacy. She was asked by the US Holocaust Museum to chair a task force on governments' "responsibility to protect." In the group's final report, she stressed what she considered the wise course, "... to invest in diplomatic tools, including economic aid, the nonviolent mediation of disputes, and support for political pluralism and human rights. World leaders should engage in constant efforts to identify and ameliorate problems before they grow worse. That will not guarantee success in every instance, but it may well save thousands, even millions of lives."

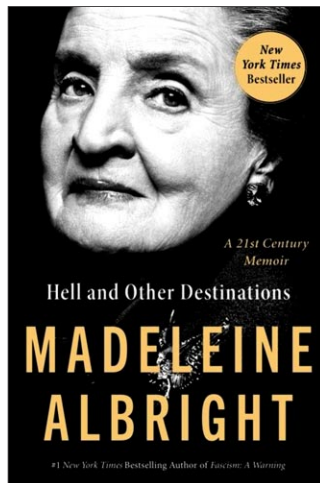
No matter what you think of her political perspectives and actions in office, Albright was an amazing woman. She was also self-effacing and self-critical, acknowledging her mistakes, such as her reply to an interview from journalist Lesley Stahl when she was US ambassador to the United Nations. Albright, too quickly and without clarity of her convictions, said that the price of economic sanctions on Iraq, which led to the deaths of many children, were worth it. The news show *60 Minutes* received an Emmy and Albright was highly criticized. Albright later

explained to reporter Amy Goodman, "The sanctions against Iraq were put on because Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait. But there never were sanctions against food and medicine... and I was responsible for getting food in there and getting Saddam Hussein to pump oil."

Although she'd seen tremendous conflict and tragedy throughout the world, Albright remained a highly optimistic person. I find her views on democracy inspiring and consoling, considering challenges in the United States in the last few years: "... democracy everywhere is not an accomplishment but a pursuit, an unending effort to make governments more responsive, effective, and fair. In this quest, the development of a democratic culture is essential. But what is a democratic culture? It's a society where people honor each other's dignity and rights not only because they will get in trouble with the law if they don't, but because it feels natural and appropriate to do so."

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

**Join Literary Ventures for a discussion of  
Ivan Lendl: The Man Who Made Murray by Mark Hodgkinson  
at 10 a.m.-noon on Saturday, September 17.**



# Czech Honorary Consul News

September 2022

**Flags from 30 countries,** celebrating the native lands of those who now call Faribault home, were on parade at the **International Festival in**



Photo: James Simon

**Faribault** on July 9. Violet Chromy wore her *kroje* and M. L. Kucera carried the Czech flag. The Czech Heritage Club booth sold over 500 *koláče*, plus Czech caps, ornaments, flag pins, and cookbooks. At festivals, the Honorary Consul promotes Czech tourism and also events of our Minnesota Czech/Slovak organizations.



At the **International Festival in Burnsville**, July 16, Teresa Olson, Honorary Consul of Chile (left), and M.L. Kucera, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic (right), stood with Blanka Brichta, who was the Festival's Flag Ceremony Coordinator and Cultural Exhibit Chair. Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota members Doreen McKenney and Glynis Grostephan

staffed a Czech/Slovak table featuring the art of bobbin lace inside the Ames Art Center. Framed pieces of contemporary bobbin lace by Dagmar Beckel-Machyckova hung on the gallery walls.

## Before the 88th Kolacky Days Parade in Montgomery

on July 24, M. L. Kucera greeted the Junior Ambassadors of the 33rd Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant Royalty. (Front) Alenka Jans, M. L. Kucera, Alexandra Kojetin. (Back) Evelyn Winget, Alexa Wentworth, Georgianna Bell, Hayden Dietz. Before the 90-



Photo: Renáta Tichá

minute parade started, their float waited in line just across the street from the 1949 Plymouth convertible, owned and driven by Lloyd Krocek, in which Honorary Consul Kucera rode with Violet Chromy and George Mikiska of the Czech Heritage Club.



Photo: Christine Kojetin

Saint Cloud, Minnesota, resident Mark Stafford worked diligently and with great patience for nearly two years to obtain both his **Czech Citizenship and Czech passport.**



Mark was eligible for Czech citizenship through his grandfather, Frank (František) Zimek, who was born in 1896 in the village of Kunovice, Moravia. Mark is the first to whom Kucera, as Honorary Czech Consul, had the privilege and honor to present a Czech passport, through his eligibility of having had a grandparent born in present-day Czech Republic. Frank emigrated to the United States at age 16 through Texas, settled in Saint Louis to start a family, and then lived many years in Berwyn outside of Chicago until the early 1960s.



This childhood photo shows Mark and his Grandfather Frank in 1963. Mark shared, "The citizenship journey was not easy, but I learned even more about my family and the result is extremely rewarding for me, as an added connection to my Czech family heritage of the past and the current family I'm close with today who live just outside Prague."

The July 25/August 1 issue of *Time* magazine featured "The World's Greatest Places." On the front cover is the **Sky Bridge 721, located in Dolní Morava, Czech Republic**, the world's longest suspension footbridge, about three hours east of Prague on the Polish border. It is 721 meters/2,365 feet, nearly a half-mile long; hangs 95m/312' above the valley below. It opened May 13, 2022. <https://www.dolnimorava.cz/sky-bridge-721>



Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic  
in Minneapolis, MN

Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Consul  
651-238-0447  
minneapolis@honorary.mzv.cz  
OR mlkucera@outlook.com



**WANTED: Online Auction Items  
for the 33rd Annual Czech & Slovak Festival!**

The Online Auction will run from September 16 to September 23.



Winning items will be available to pick up on September 25 during the Festival. This Auction is a fundraiser to ensure future Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota programs and for the on-going preservation of our C.S.P.S. Hall, which is on the National Registry of Historic Places.

A myriad of auction items are needed, including:  
 \* Gift Certificates or Gift Cards \* Event Tickets  
 \* Books (new or like-new) \* Handmade Items  
 \* Baskets of Related Items \* Extraordinary Items  
 and especially Czech or Slovak Treasures

**Items are needed by September 9.**

They can be dropped off at the Hall and placed in the classroom (please label your donation with "Online Auction" and print your name and address on the item or box).

Donors will be acknowledged in the *Slovo* and receive a tax receipt.

**For more information, please contact Glynis Grostephan at 612-724-0923 or at ggrostephan@earthlink.net**

*Thank You!*

**CZECH AND SLOVAK**



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



*For Sokol's Latest News!*

**Join the E-blast List**

**Send your email address to  
 publicity@sokolmn.org**

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

**Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *SLOVO* September 2022**



**Fall 2022 Events at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota**

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

For the most current information, go to the Sokol Minnesota website: [sokolmn.org](http://sokolmn.org)  
 Instagram: [@esokolminnesota](https://www.instagram.com/esokolminnesota) or Facebook: [facebook.com/sokolminnesota](https://www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota)

**Online Virtual Auction**

Seven days: Friday, September 16, 8 a.m. to Thursday, September 23, 8 p.m.  
 Pick-up for auction winners: Sunday, September 25, at the 33rd Annual Czech & Slovak Festival, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.  
 To participate: register with your name and e-mail at [www.32auctions.com/sokolminnesota2022](http://www.32auctions.com/sokolminnesota2022)

**33rd Annual Czech & Slovak Festival**

Sunday, September 25, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.  
 • Free Admission • Public Welcome • Accessible Facility  
 Ethnic food, beer/beverages, live music, dance performances, children's games, street vendors, exhibits, information booths, SMYL book sale, Sokol Gift Shop, and special guests.

**Sokol Minnesota Friendly Friday Evenings**

October 14, November 11, and December 9, 7 p.m.  
 Card and board games, fun, food, friends, and a few surprises!

**Second Annual Trunks with Treats Harvest Fest**

Saturday, October 15, 10 a.m.-Noon. C.S.P.S. Hall parking lot  
 Family-friendly games, treats, photo op for Sokol kids 12 and under. Hosted by Sokol Minnesota Youth Link.

**Czech Roast Pork Dinner**

Sunday, October 16, Doors open: Noon  
 Sit-down dinner served: 12:30 p.m.  
 Roast pork, raised-bread dumplings, sauerkraut, caraway rye bread, coffee and dessert. Cash bar: beer, wine, soft drinks.  
 Prepaid reservation by Wednesday, October 12. \$20\*

\*To prepay your orders: credit/debit cards or PayPal at [www.sokolmn.org/cc/](http://www.sokolmn.org/cc/)  
 When prepaying by check, first call/text: 952-941-0426

**60th Anniversary Dance Party Celebration for Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers**

Saturday, November 12, 4 p.m.-10 p.m.  
 Featuring two great ethnic bands, wonderful ethnic food. Cash bar: beer, wine, soft drinks.

**Celebration of Anniversaries and Annual Sokol Membership Meeting**

Friday, November 18, 7 p.m.  
 Brief meeting with program and food to celebrate the 160th anniversary of the founding of Sokol, the 140th anniversary of our Sokol Unit, and the 135th anniversary of our C.S.P.S. Hall.

**Holiday Breakfast/Craft and Kolache Sale**

Sunday, November 20, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
 • Public Welcome • No Reservations Needed  
 \$8 adult; \$6 children under 9; \$26/family of four  
 Kolache \$1.50 each: Pre-order by Saturday, November 12\* (apricot, cream cheese, poppy seed, prune, or raspberry)  
 To reserve a craft table: [activities@sokolmn.org](mailto:activities@sokolmn.org)

**Children's Holiday Party**

Friday, December 2, 7 p.m.  
 Performances by the childrens and teen dancers, plus Sokol Singers. Special visits from Saint Nicolas, the angel, and the devil.

**2023 Roast Duck Dinner**

Saturday, January 21, 2023, Doors open: 4 p.m.  
 Sit-down dinner served: 5 p.m. Half-a-roast duck, potato dumplings, sweet and sour red cabbage, caraway rye bread, coffee and dessert. Cash bar.  
 Place your prepaid order early, limited number of Roast Duck Dinners available. \$25\*