



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

UPCOMING EVENTS

April Slovo articles
due March 2

Sokol Gift Shop
open by appointment

Sokol Gymnasts
Ongoing. See website:
sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/sokol_fitness

Curbside
Flavors of Slovakia
Dinner
Saturday, March 12
(See adjacent)

Bake Sale
April 9
(See back page)

Easter celebration
April 16
(See page 5)

Craft and Flea Market
May 14

Mushroom Hunt
May 22

Annual Members
and Volunteers
Potluck Picnic
June 26

Flavors of Slovakia Dinner

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota



Saturday

March 12 **2022**

Curbside

383 Michigan St., Saint Paul, MN

C.S.P.S. Hall parking lot

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Please place your Curbside order by contacting:
food@sokolmn.org or call/text: 952-941-0426

MENU

Cabbage roll
(*plnená kapusta*),
dilled green beans
(*kôprová zelená fazuľka*),
pickled beets (*nakladaná repa*),
filled dumplings (*pirohy*),
dumplings w/cabbage
(*halušky s kapustou*),
caraway rye bread
(*rascový ražný chlieb*),
and dessert. **\$20**

PAYMENT

Prepaid dinner orders must
be received by March 10, 2022 via:
PayPal: www.sokolmn.org/cc/
or *check: payable and mailed to
Sokol Minnesota (*attn: Slovak Dinner*)
383 Michigan St.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
*Call/text to reserve your dinner first
before mailing in your check.
Allow 2 weeks for check delivery.

Prezidentův komentář/President's Notes by Dave Stepan

My wife Darnell and I will be living in Europe by the time you read this. Opportunity does not knock twice, thus we are taking March, April, and May to enjoy the city life of Prague, as well as the surrounding countryside. Originally, I had planned to get Czech citizenship and live the entire year in Europe, but without dual citizenship (which I am still working on) we are limited to 90 days. With retirement, no grandchildren (yet!), and both of us healthy and active, we are taking advantage of this window of time. Thanks to those of you who have assisted us with connections and encouragement as we take on this adventure. Through use of my computer and phone while there, I will be as close to you as I am now, albeit not physically. Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota will be in the good hands of Vice President Cinnamon Whaley and the entire Board of Directors while I am away. Most likely you won't notice my absence.



As we ramp up 2022, many of our normal Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota activities are coming back. Hopefully, all of you have the Spring 2022 Postcard detailing our events and you will be able to join some of the activities. If you were able to enjoy the Roast Duck Dinner in January, I hope you didn't eat all of your meal in one sitting, as I did. I know I could have saved half of it for a second meal, had it not been so good!

Although we replaced one cooler and a freezer in November, the kitchen refrigerator also stopped working. A replacement is pending, but strike three is in the books. The C.S.P.S. Hall is now home to two large-screen TV monitors that I hope can be used by all for our educational and cultural purposes.

Our meeting with Palacký University representatives was a success and now is the important time where we need to keep the relationship going.

We are looking at improving our Sokol Minnesota website (sokolmn.org) and would welcome suggestions from you as members about what you would like to see on the website. I am hopeful a 'Members Page' would be of interest to you. The historical records that are stored in the Hall need further organizing and archiving to be of more use. For example, I have had a few inquiries from members whose parents, grandparents, or great grandparents may have been members in years past and were hoping to gain information on them. We have ample room for improvement and I welcome you to lend a hand or offer suggestions to help us move forward on these two projects. Please contact me at president@sokolmn.org

I extend my condolences on the passing of Don Andrlle to Pat Andrlle and to their children, Mark and Renae. Don was a past president of Sokol Minnesota, as well as past treasurer of Sokol Camp. Don danced over 50 years with the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers; over 40 years of that was with Pat. Don's obituary will be in the April Slovo.

Nazdar!

Returning from warmer areas? Forwarding your mail?

Do not forget about the *Slovo*!

or you can change your subscription to receive the *Slovo* in color via email;

Contact: slovo@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 or www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota 2021 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

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Fred Simon

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Joyce Tesarek, Chair

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Patricia Slaber

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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

19th Annual Roast Duck Dinner

By Co-chairs Doreen McKenney and Joan Sedlacek

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota volunteers distributed Roast Duck Dinners curbside safely for the second year on Saturday, January 22, 2022. Thank you to our cooks, behind the scenes volunteers, and distributors: Roger Green, Ed Hamernik, Don and Katie Haselbauer, Marit Lee Kucera, Doreen McKenney, Richard Sargent, Joan Sedlacek, and Joyce Tesarek.



Surplus dumplings, sweet and sour red cabbage, caraway rye bread, cakes, and *koláče* were available for sale to those picking up their dinners.

L-R: Roger Green, Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, and Marit Lee Kucera braved the cold temperatures. Not pictured: Joyce Tesarek.



The Czech Baker

By Joyce Tesarek

The Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota organization is comprised of many talented individuals.

Michaela (Míša) Giancarlo Kotek, one of our members, has had her business, The Czech Baker, regularly earn recognition from local food critics, including articles in the *Star Tribune* in December 2020 as well as in the January 2022 edition of the *Minneapolis/Saint Paul Magazine*.

Míša was born in the Czech Republic and has lived in the USA for more than 20 years. She grew up learning to cook traditional Czech dishes and over time has developed an affinity for baking *koláče*, *vánočka* (braided bread), *bublanina* (coffee cake with fruit topping), poppy seed rolls, Czech Christmas cookies, sourdough rye caraway bread, and other traditional treats.

We are thankful that Míša lends her talents to various Sokol Minnesota events by preparing dishes for our annual Czech and Slovak Festival in the fall and for our Holiday Bake Sale.

You can find The Czech Baker on Facebook, contact Míša by email at: theczechbaker@gmail.com or submit orders on her website: theczechbaker.square.site

All orders have to be picked up at her residence in Savage.

During June to September, you can find Míša each Thursday afternoon at The Little Market That Could in Prior Lake, Minnesota: <https://minnesotagrown.com/member/the-little-market-that-could/>

Hi,
Just wanted to say "Thank You" for your duck dinner. I can't imagine the time it must take, but if you offered this as a fundraiser every other month or several times each year, I'm sure you would sell out.
Thanks again,
Susan

Just finished my duck dinner. It is phenomenal. Just loved it! Congratulations on another incredible meal fundraiser.
Roger

Thank you again for being so easy to communicate with and for being so accommodating and personal in making this a most successful dinner for our elderly parents! It was a big treat and put a smile on their faces!
Joseph

Just wanted to let you know my roast duck dinner was excellent. So good. Thanks!
Robin

Compliments on the Roast Duck Dinner received from customers from here to Texas.



Having the new double wide cooler made it very convenient to store the dinners all in one place.

Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities Continues to be Inspired by Komenský: A Letter

In Minnesota, 2022

Dear Jan Ámos Komenský,

You lived and worked in many European countries, so corresponding by letter was most likely a common part of your life and hopefully still welcomed. With the approaching 430th anniversary of your birth, I would like to greet you and assure you that you are still regarded as the greatest Czech pedagogue and the father of modern education.

Knowing languages was important during your times and always after. You will be pleased to know we recognize how beneficial it is to support and improve all languages that connect us with our heritage or assist our knowledge-acquisition efforts. Translanguaging is the term we have for the process of using the entire language repertoire of a speaker in making sense of their lives. We have one world of knowledge that we describe with any and all words we have, no matter to what language they belong. Of course, you know that, given that your *Orbis Pictus* (*World in Pictures*), recognized as the first children's instruction book with pictures, was re-published in 1666 as a quadrilingual edition.



A Multi-lingual Edition of *Orbis Pictus*. Photo credit: pedagogicke.info; search for *Orbis Pictus*

The Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities continues to feel motivated by your work, including your support for children's education and multilingualism. Despite COVID limitations, a new group of Czech and Slovak preschoolers joined this school year for our Saturday morning

classes, while our teenagers appreciate late evening instructions online. All of our groups of children learn from new textbooks and keep in close contact with the countries of their family roots.

Our school continues collaborating with the Minnesota Department of Education and with other Czech and Slovak schools around the country by sharing our preparations for the nationally-recognized Seal of Biliteracy, which is a key goal for K-12 education.

What are our school's news and plans for the future, you might want to ask? We have had visits recently by representatives of two Czech universities that both see a potential in our interactions: their students, aspiring teachers, will experience teaching Czech in an immersion setting and our children will be enriched by additional educational lessons. All the effort is aimed toward an acknowledgement of our teaching using the Czech rubrics for foreign speakers. What if our children decide to study abroad?

We appreciate the financial support of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education. We are thankful that Sokol Minnesota's C.S.P.S. Hall is our place to gather.

Thank you, Jan, for all your varied expertise and timeless inspiration. Our best regards to you on your birthday, March 28, the Teacher's Day in the Czech Republic.

Sincerely,
Jitka Sebek for the *Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities*

4 March 2022 *Slovo*



A Page from *Orbis Pictus*

"Come on, boy, and learn to be wise." Above the text we see the teacher and the student in dialogue. The student asks, "What does it mean to be wise?" His teacher replies, "Understand, act, and speak properly what is necessary." for "*Orbis Pictus*"

Photo credit: anthrowiki.at; search for "*Orbis Pictus*"

In his *Didactica Magna* he (Komenský) promoted, already in the 17th century, equal educational opportunities for all: boys and girls, rich and poor, urban and rural. This equalizes for the first time the right to education for all.

Source for both quotes: Pedagogcke.info; search for "*Orbis Pictus*."

Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities



Lilliana and Adéla, *Škola* students, admire the monitor in the classroom on the third floor after first updating Netflix. "Budeme koukat na české pohádky! / We will watch Czech children stories!" They are viewing Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night*. The *Škola* thanks Sokol Minnesota for the enhancement to classroom learning, lecture viewing, and virtual connecting.

Sokol Minnesota Zooming with CZ University



Meeting at the Sparrow Cafe in Minneapolis with representatives of Czech universities to discuss potential collaboration between the Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities and schools in the Czech Republic. L-R: Jan Šiška, faculty from Charles University in Prague (now a Fulbright-Masaryk Scholar at the University of Minnesota for a year); Jitka Sebek, Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities; Renáta Ticha, Czech and Slovak Cultural Center; and Šárka Káňová, faculty from Western Bohemian University who was a visiting Erasmus scholar at the University of Minnesota.

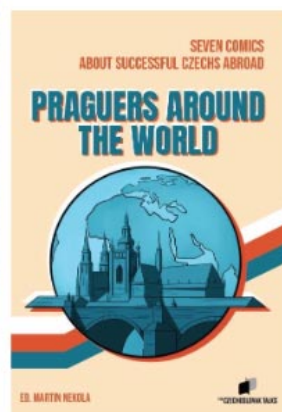
Left: Zoom meeting on January 14 with representatives from Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic, and several Minnesota Czech organizations to initiate cooperative projects.



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On Saturday, April 16th, 2022, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. please join us for hands-on Easter traditions, puppet play, potluck lunch, and a presentation about Czech immigrants in the U.S.



Czech-Slovak Family Event Velikonoce/ Vel'ká noc (Easter)

Saturday, April 16,
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Celebrate *Velikonoce/
Vel'ká noc* (Easter)

- several hands-on spring traditions (10-11 a.m.)
 - puppet play (11 a.m.-noon)
 - potluck lunch (12-1 p.m.)
 - Czech immigrants presentation (1-2 p.m.)

*Presentations funded by
Czech and Slovak
Cultural Center.*

All are welcome!
Presentations will
be in English.

Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant and Junior Ambassador Programs Seek Candidates

The Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota program is seeking participants for its 2022 pageant and younger girls for its Junior Ambassador Program.

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 state title at the

32nd Annual Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota Pageant on April 9. The application deadline is March 5.

The unique pageant focuses on the heritage of the candidates and is open to women between the ages of 16 and 26. Winners receive cash awards, crowns, and will have a year of memorable appearances throughout the state of Minnesota.

The new Minnesota Queen will also travel to compete in the national pageant in Wilber, Nebraska, in early August.

Junior Ambassador Program:

Girls between the ages of 11 and 15 who are of Czech, Slovak, or Moravian descent and interested in the Junior Ambassador Program are encouraged to apply.

For more information, call 507-364-9370

or email: davidsdiner@hotmail.com

Additional information can be found

on Facebook:

“Miss Czech Slovak MN Pageant”

Zoom Presentation and Discussion on March 5



Join the Czech And Slovak Cultural Center on Saturday, March 5 at 10 a.m. for a presentation and discussion on *A Chance Encounter on a Rainy Night* by Cynthia McArthur.

A chance encounter on a rainy night over 40 years ago in a youth hostel in Austria brought two people together for a conversation that has continued through the decades. During this three-month trip, a one-night stay in Salzburg, Austria, brought Karla Urbanov and Cynthia McArthur together.

Another six-week bike trip in 1978 on the heels of letter writing, phone calls, and obtaining a travel visa to Czechoslovakia included a visit to Karla and her family. Then in 1989, the Velvet Revolution happened. It was a magical time to see the beginning of this cultural, economic, political, and social change with her friend Karla.

Cynthia McArthur lives in Saint Paul. Besides her trips, Cynthia started taking Český language lessons at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota many years ago. While a hard language to learn and no family connection to rely on, it continues to be a delightful learning experience for her, along with many trips to see all the friends she has made along the way.

This March 5 Zoom presentation can be joined with this link: <https://tinyurl.com/CSCCEncounter>

Festivals, Celebrations

**24th Annual Children's
Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camp**

Sponsored by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

*Folklore
through the
Seasons*

June 13-17 **2022**

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

Ages: 6 to 14 years old

Singing, Cooking, Dancing,

Legends, Fairy Tales, Folk Tales,

Crafts, Gymnastics, Language,

The 24th annual Children's Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camp is scheduled for June 13-17, 2022

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

Full refund if camp needs to be postponed.

Questions? Contact Louise Wessinger 651-452-6240

The 91st Annual Sokol Camp Booya Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 14



View of Sokol Camp from the dock on Cross Lake

Dear Sokol Minnesota Brothers and Sisters,

The winter months have become long and cold, let's face it. It's time to turn our thoughts to much needed warmth and summer fun! Please mark your calendars now for summer 2022, when we host the 91st Annual Booya Picnic at historic Sokol Camp in Pine City, Minnesota. The Camp has been a part of our beloved organization for nearly 100 years! The proceeds from the Booya Picnic go directly back to the maintenance and upkeep of the camp buildings. Perhaps you have stayed at the Camp or participated in a cultural event or retreat there in the past? Please consider assisting with the preparation and/or the serving of Booya, table or tent set-up, or other intriguing and tasks. Feel free to contact us to be a part of this festive event. You won't want to miss it!

What: Sokol Camp Booya Picnic

When: Sunday, August 14, 2022. Noon until 5 p.m.

Where: Sokol Camp, 19201 Woodland Acres South, Pine City, Minnesota 55063

Why: Fraternize with Sokol Minnesota friends and neighbors while raising money for Sokol Camp!

Nazdar!

Kari and Scott Muyres, Sokol Camp Booya Picnic Co-chairpersons

763-226-0313

Correction to the October, 2021 Slovo article on the 90th Annual Sokol Camp Booya Picnic:
The \$100 raffle winner was Jim Kohout.

Sokol Camp Seeking Skilled Woodcarver

The Minnesota Sokol Camp is looking for a woodcarver for a project at the Sokol Camp in Pine City, Minnesota. We would like to have a Sokol falcon carved into the ash tree which stands alongside the main entrance to the camp lodge building. The tree is two feet in diameter with a workable height of six to seven feet. While working on the project, sleeping in a lodge room can be scheduled.

If you or someone you know would like to discuss this project in further detail, please contact:

Raymond Vanyo, President Minnesota Sokol Camp Association:
651-253-2531 or rayrayvanyo@msn.com



The tree (in front of lodge) in its earlier days

Highlights of the January 2022 Sokol Minnesota Board Meeting

By Denise Stibal

The Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors online meeting was called to order by President Dave Stepan on January 20, 2022, at 7 p.m.

The passing of past Sokol Minnesota President Don Andrlé was recognized. Norm Petrik's birthday was noted.

Blanka Brichta reported on the Youth Leadership Award, with the Committee scheduled to meet soon and report next month.

Member at Large Fred Simon reported on the new book by Sr. Anita Smisek, *Minnesota Big Woods Musicians*.

Introductory events for the book were held in Lonsdale, Montgomery, and New Prague and over 100 copies were sold. The book is available through the Czech Heritage Club.

Masopust will be on Sunday, February 27, at Revival on Main, 213 First Street South in Montgomery, Minnesota.

Publicity Chair Brittany Stepan reported there will be a Zoom meeting on January 30 about the Study Abroad Program.

Discussion was held on advertising in the *Community Reporter*, which serves the West 7th Street area. Motion carried to purchase four ads of ¼ page each to promote Sokol Minnesota events.

Rental Committee chair Gary Zweber reported he had discussed with Dawn Bulera the possibility of purchasing new chairs for rental events. Dawn also suggested purchase of reusable electric candles to enhance the atmosphere for events. Gary will obtain further information on chair design, price, etc.

Sunshine Committee/Corresponding Secretary Glynis Grostephan noted that a sympathy card was sent to Don Andrlé's family. December donations to the General Fund totaled \$420.

Education Chair Pat Slaber noted we have 30 students enrolled in language classes, including one student from Canada, which makes it an "International" class.

Financial Secretary Steve Ernest reported on membership. We are still waiting for some renewals for 2022. Steve prepared a breakdown of membership: 19 Honor or Honorary, 84 Seniors, 48 Couples, and 53 Individuals. Please contact Steve with any ideas on increasing membership.

Activities Chair Jean Draheim reported on upcoming events, including: Bake Sale, April 9; Easter celebration, April 16; Craft and Flea Market, May 14; Mushroom Hunt, May 22; and Annual Members and Volunteers Potluck Picnic, June 26. We have three major Sokol Minnesota associated anniversaries this year: the 140th Anniversary of our Sokol Unit, the 135th anniversary of the C.S.P.S. Hall, and the 60th anniversary of the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers. Dave suggested we hold one event to celebrate all three anniversaries. Blanka suggested we celebrate at the Czech and Slovak Festival in September. No decision was made at this time. Motion carried for the Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities to use the parking lot for the bands' event on May 15.

Don Haselbauer presented the Treasurer's report and it was approved.

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Joyce Tesarek reported that a separate checking account has been opened for rental purposes in order for Dawn Bulera to pay her assistants for events. All Sokol Minnesota employees will need to fill out new tax forms for 2022. Motion carried to purchase new TVs for the third floor, plus a laptop computer for hybrid language classes. These items are funded from the Czech Government grant received in 2021.

Board of Instructors Women's Director Mary Cahill noted that parents are adhering to COVID rules to ensure student's safety. Right now we are unsure if there will be regional or national competitions because of COVID concerns. The American Sokol National School for instructors will be held in Detroit June 26-July 10, 2022; cost is \$475/student.

Building and Properties Committee Chair Bob Kotek reported the refrigerator in the kitchen also needs replacing and a bid will be obtained from Trimark. We will also request a price for a new kegerator and bar cooler. Engineering work is progressing on the new Fire and Security Control System, which should be completed by the end of March. Research was done on the cost of phone and internet service. It was determined Century Link could provide service at a lower cost than Comcast. Motion carried to move service to Century Link but keep Comcast on for 30 days to make sure the security and internet service is stable.

Ed Hamernik, Gaming Chair, presented the Gaming budget for February, Motion carried. A full audit will be completed for 2021 to meet the state requirements.

Vice President Cinnamon Whaley asked about the usual length of board meetings. Depending on the business at hand, meetings are approximately two hours in order to discuss all of the committee's reports.

President Dave Stepan talked about the idea of an annual Board Retreat. No action was taken at this time. Dave will be traveling to the Czech Republic from March through May and will not be able to lead or attend board meetings during those months.

Have You Renewed Your Sokol Minnesota Membership?

By Steve Ernest

Thank You, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota members, for being part of our community! Your membership dollars not only support our activities and the maintenance of our historic C.S.P.S. Hall, but also connect us with national and international programs. Your participation in our events and activities, in person or in spirit, is invaluable.

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

Sokol Minnesota Membership renewal/update letters were sent in December for the 2022 calendar year.

If you did not receive yours, please contact us at membership@sokolmn.org or the address below.

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 plan for 2022 to be another exciting year of activities in a variety of formats!

Member renewal rates for 2022 remain at \$50 per individual or \$90 per couple.

Renewal rates for members over age 65: \$40 per individual or \$80 per couple.

Membership renewal, as well as updating your contact or interest information, can be done easily online at www.sokolmn.org/mysokolmembership or send membership renewal checks made out to **Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota.**

Mail to **Membership, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, 4716 17th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407**

New Welcome Mat at C.S.P.S. Hall



New welcome mat inside the west entrance of the C.S.P.S. Hall

Sokol Minnesota Welcomes New Members By Steve Ernest

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

Colleen Kluzak, Shakopee, with interests in youth dance, films and theater, music and dances.

Chad Holliday and **Chloe Rizzo**, Saint Paul, with interests in youth dance, history and genealogy, event help, and cooking and language classes.

Theresa Vrabel Sonier, Minneapolis, with interests in films and theater, history and genealogy, language, cooking, and crafting classes.

Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!

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:

\$500 - \$999: Campaign for Refrigerator/Freezer: **Tom Aubrecht**. Youth Leadership Award: **Blanka Brichta**.

GENERAL FUND:

Under \$99: **Glynis Grostephan**, **Judy Metcalf**, and **Denis Novak**. In memory of her beloved husband **Matthew H. Thayer: Irene Vondrasek Thayer**.

\$100 - \$499: **Vince Jirik**, **Michaela (Miša) Giancarlo Kotek** and **Robert Kotek**. In memory of **Don Andrie: M. L. Kucera**.

In-Kind Donations: **Maryanna Harstad: Slovak Flag**.

Legacy Fund: \$ 1,100

General Fund: \$ 750

TOTAL: \$ 1,850

In the February *Slovo* article thanking donors, James Kohout's name was misspelled.



Kolo Sokol Bike Club

Kolo means bike in Czech and Slovak. The goal of Kolo Sokol is to organize safe, family-friendly outings that help strengthen the physical and social health of our community.

sokolmn.org/bike



MARCH 12, 2022
DANIEL FREEMAN

Join us on **Saturday, March 12, 2022**, at 10:00 a.m. for a presentation and discussion on Zoom:

<https://ummn.zoom.us/j/92681472691?pwd=N3NmcXVhcGkreZV2V29Gc2ZlZ0JlZz09>

**Mozart in Prague:
New Edition, New Insights**

This talk will summarize Daniel Freeman's research, especially why residents of Prague comprehended Mozart's genius when he was still alive and offered him the fullest recognition possible. It will present new theories about the composition of the "Prague Symphony" as a work carefully tailored to tastes of the Prague musical public and new insights into the distressing political affairs of the kingdom of Bohemia that brought Mozart to Prague in 1791.

About the Presenter: Daniel E. Freeman is an American musicologist and teacher best known for his research on the musical culture of eighteenth-century Prague and the Bohemian lands. Besides *Mozart in Prague*, he is the author of a biography of the Czech composer Josef Mysliveček that provided the factual basis for the preparation of the art film *Il Boemo*, premiering in Prague in July 2022. He produced research on eighteenth-century Italian opera and instrumental music, and the music of Antonio Vivaldi, J. S. Bach, and the Bach sons.



Presentation & Discussion

On Zoom

Saturday,
March 12, 2022
10:00 a.m.

CONTACT @
INFO@CS-CENTER.ORG
651-587-9621

**CZECH AND SLOVAK
CULTURAL CENTER OF
MINNESOTA**
WWW.CS-CENTER.ORG

Join Daniel Freeman's *Mozart in Prague* presentation on March 12 at 10 a.m. on Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/DFMozart>.

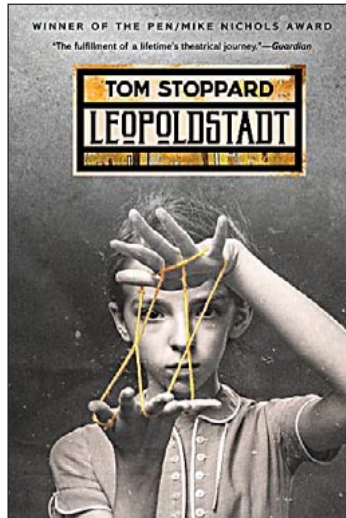
Leopoldstadt by Tom Stoppard. Grove Press: New York, 2020, 112 pages. Available at libraries and bookstores.

Leopoldstadt was Tom Stoppard's first new play in five years, highly anticipated because of his reputation as a dazzling playwright and intimations that it might be his last play. It follows the historical rise and fall of Vienna's Jewish population through the fate of a family in the first half of the twentieth century. With an ensemble cast to fill the roles of 29 characters, *Leopoldstadt* premiered to high praise at Wyndham's Theatre in London on January 25, 2020, closed after eight weeks due to the coronavirus, and reopened later in 2021. The play was considered Stoppard's new masterpiece. He received the Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Play and the PEN/Mike Nichols Award. As a book, it is an easy read and surprisingly witty in the early stages, considering the tragic ending. Stoppard was born in Zlin in 1937 and left as a child refugee. After his father died during World War II in Singapore, his family went to India, and settled in England in 1946. In 1993, a cousin visited Stoppard and revealed that the bulk of his family, his zgreat grandparent, four of his grandparents, and another relative, had been killed in Nazi death camps. Stoppard knew his family was Jewish, but not how Jewish they were. He told Christiane Amanpour (PBS, October 26, 2021), "I was perfectly well aware that we left Czechoslovakia, as it were, in flight from the Nazis. And my mother didn't really want to talk about it much. But she shrugged the whole thing off. . . . We ended up in England because my mother married a British army officer."

Is *Leopoldstadt* a personal reckoning with Stoppard's past? The celebrated playwright points to his trip to Zlin after his mother's death, when he found out more about his family history. "In the long run, that visit accounted for this play, I guess. It's not about me, but it's a play I couldn't have written if I hadn't lived the life that fate had dealt me" (Wyndham Theatre, January 2020).

The poignant scenes of *Leopoldstadt* begin in 1899 when Jews and gentiles decorate a Christmas tree and enjoy a Seder meal together. It was a heady time, as the character Hermann tells us, of diverse Austrians who pay "fealty to

Emperor-King Franz Josef, who emancipated his Jews in time for us to grow up with the same rights as everyone else. . . . We [Jews] buy the books, we look at the paintings, we go to the theatre, the restaurant, we employ music teachers for our children. . . . We literally worship culture. . . . This is the Promised Land, and not because it's some place on a map where my ancestors came from. We're Austrians now. Austrians of Jewish descent!"



The strings of the child's game Cat's Cradle can be seen as a metaphor for the fixed links that cannot be broken in a family tree and among Jewish people, and the contact points as places, recognizing "each state comes from the previous state."

In 1924, Hermann talks about the declining condition of Austria: "Well, who would want to be a capitalist in Austria now? Revenue tax doubled. Income tax doubled. A luxury tax. Eight-hour days and paid holidays. High tariffs and import restrictions all around us, new countries settling old scores with the Empire. . . . Otto, Merz and Company has been through some times, believe me. We were making cloth from nettles! . . . It's humiliating to be Austrian now. The continuance of family custom is a respite. But it doesn't help Merz and Company. . . ."

By 1938, the family's flat is requisitioned by the Reich Housing and Relocation Office, and each resident is ordered to report for transit, allowed one suitcase of personal possessions. Ownership of the Merz Company is transferred to the state, without compensation. The final scene takes place in 1955, when a few family descendants gather at the empty Merz flat. Leo looks at the family tree, and he and Rosa go through it one by one, explaining how relatives died, most at Auschwitz.

Tom Stoppard received an Academy Award, an Olivier, and four Tony Awards. The prolific writer's plays include *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, *Travesties*, *Rock 'n' Roll* (one of my favorites, produced in 2010 by Park Square Theatre, Saint Paul), and *Shakespeare in Love*.

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 or contact gwen@cs-center.org

Join us for a discussion of
Believe in People: The Essential Karel Čapek
selected and translated by Šárka Tobrmanová-Kühnová
at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 19.

**2022 marks the 140th anniversary
of the founding of our Sokol Unit, the 135th anniversary of the C.S.P.S. Hall,
and the 60th anniversary of the founding of our sister organization,
the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers.**

**For information that celebrates these important events,
check the Slovo, Facebook, Instagram, and our E-blasts.**

**Czech
Honorary
Consul
News**

March 2022

The 2022 Josef Mestenhauser Student Awards for Excellence in Campus Internationalization on April 1, from 4 - 5:30 p.m., is a virtual ceremony again this year. It recognizes outstanding student contributions to international education within the University of Minnesota system. This award acknowledges important work being done by students to internationalize the curriculum and campus. For complete information: <https://global.umn.edu/icc/awards/#/>!

Dr. Josef Mestenhauser was Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis, 1998-2008.

For the first time, the Czech Republic had athletes in all 15 disciplines at the **2022 Winter Olympics** in Beijing, February 4 - 20. A squad of 113 athletes was confirmed for Beijing 2022. As this *Slovo* goes to press (17 February), with three days left, the Czech Republic has a gold (women's snowboarding) and a bronze (women's speed skating).



In mid-January on three consecutive days at Czech Country Minnesota libraries in New Prague, Montgomery, and Lonsdale, The Czech Heritage Club hosted book signings to announce the release of **MINNESOTA'S BIG WOODS MUSICIANS: A Narrative on the Rich Tradition of Music in the Culture and Life of the People who Emigrated from South Bohemia to the Communities in and around New Prague, Minnesota.**

Researched and authored by Sr. Anita Smisek, OP, with narrative assistance from John Chromy, the 116-page book, is filled with hundreds of pictures; it tells the inspiring story of how the immigrants who came from farming villages and towns of southern Bohemia brought with them their love of music and how playing and singing music made bearable the hard work of clearing trees, building homes, and creating farms in the "Big Woods" of south-central Minnesota in the late 19th century.

More information: <http://www.czechheritageclub.com/>

The Czech Republic will hold the Presidency of the European Union for the second half of 2022. At the invitation of Mila Šašková-Pierce, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic/Lincoln, I attended a lecture on February 2 by Monika Bokšová, Head of the Trade and Economics Section, Consulate General of the Czech Republic/Chicago, for the University of Nebraska Emeriti and Retired Persons Association. "European Integration" detailed the history and formation of what is now the European Union and the Czech Republic's preparations for holding the presidency of the EU from July through December 2022. The EU rotates its presidency; C.R. held the presidency once before, in 2009. The Czech Republic, which joined the EU in 2004, looks forward to this presidential opportunity to help the 27 EU Nations find compromise across national lines.



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in Minneapolis, MN

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Slovo Publication Information and Committee

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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.

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.

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More information at www.sokolmn.org

C.S.P.S. HALL LEGACY FUND

To keep us all safe from COVID-19, many 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 *Thank you!*

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To help refinish the C.S.P.S. Hall floors, I make a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

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For status of events scheduled for the C.S.P.S. Hall, check our calendar at
www.sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/hall-calendar/

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *SLOVO* March 2022

Saturday
April 9 ²⁰/₂₂

Spring Koláče
Bake Sale

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

Curbside
C.S.P.S. Hall parking lot

383 Michigan St., Saint Paul, MN 55102

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Place your Curbside order
by contacting: food@sokolmn.org
or call/text: 952-941-0426

Available flavors

Apricot, cream cheese,
poppy, prune,
or raspberry koláč \$1 each

Payment

Prepaid orders must
be received by March 30, 2022 via:
PayPal: www.sokolmn.org/cc/
or *check: payable and mailed to
Sokol Minnesota (*attn: Bake sale*)
383 Michigan St.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

*Call/text to reserve your order first
before mailing in your check.
Allow 2 weeks for check delivery.

