

CZECH AND SLOVAK

SOKOL



MINNESOTA

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

SLOVO

September 2020
vol. 43 no. 8

SATURDAY

September 26 20
20

10a-1p

C.S.P.S. Hall

383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, MN

Send your food order by SEPTEMBER 7
food@sokolmn.org

Curbside
CUISINE

HOSTED by CZECH and SLOVAK SOKOL MINNESOTA
651 - 290 - 0542

CurbsideCuisine

MENU

Segedínský guláš (pork sauerkraut gulas) \$12. quart
Kuřecí paprikáš (creamy paprika sauce with chicken) \$12. quart
Buřtguláš (kettle sausage and potato gulas) \$8. quart
Halušky (cabbage bacon with mini dumplings) \$10. quart
Houskový knedlík (raised bread dumpling) \$5. loaf
Bublanina (fruit coffee cake either blueberries or strawberries) \$10.
Koláč (poppy, apricot, prune, cream cheese, or raspberry) \$1 each

Prezidentův komentář/President's Notes by Dave Stepan

Postponed. Rescheduled. Cancelled. Have these actions appeared in your usually organized life and schedule because of COVID-19 restrictions? August 7 and 8 WAS to be my 40th high school reunion. I was looking forward to renewing old friendships and attempting to wear a 40-year old t-shirt that had all my classmates' names on it. Those connections and that embarrassment are delayed for at least another year. Instead of the reunion, I enjoyed mountain biking with my youngest daughter, Nicole.



Sokol Minnesota has also had to postpone or work to re-envision our events. Our 31st Annual Czech and Slovak Festival has been cancelled and replaced with a Curbside Cuisine. By the time you get this *Slovo*, you will have just about a week to put in your order. I'm certain the dishes will be just as good as at our drive-up food sale in May; my mouth is watering just thinking about it. Do not miss out...

Here is the status of some of our other upcoming events:

- The silent auction we normally would have at our Czech and Slovak Festival will be online.
- Our annual Czech Roast Pork Dinner has also transformed into a Curbside Cuisine event.
- The one-person play *The Accidental Hero* by Patrick Dewane is postponed to next year.
- Our Member and Volunteers Holiday Party may or may not be held. Stay tuned...

The American Sokol Organization has postponed the 2021 *Slet* scheduled for Chicago. The status will be reviewed in January.

Our volunteers have created a Virtual Open House video highlighting our activities, events, and traditions. Many thanks to Judy Aubrecht for promoting the video and arranging for the contributions, and to Richard Sargent for his outstanding assistance in producing the video. See the video on our website at www.sokolmn.org/virtual-open-house-for-sokol-minnesota/ or on Instagram at @sokolminnesota. I hope you enjoy it.

Sokol Minnesota works to stay in communication with all of you to keep you aware of our activities, events, and programs. In addition to the *Slovo*, we use email blasts, Instagram (@sokolminnesota, celebrating its one-year anniversary), Facebook <www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota>, and our website <www.sokolmn.org>. I hope you use social media to keep in touch with our organization.

This issue highlights Sokol Minnesota's first annual Youth Leadership Award competition. Congratulations to the three Award winners: Isabelle Callanan, Anna Hester, and Thomas Sebek, and to Ella Pratt for Best Essay! Each Award winner received \$300 and Ella received \$100. Thank you to our Honorary Czech Consul Marit Lee Kucera and to Louise Wessinger, who joined Sokol Minnesota in contributing to fund the awards.

Our neighbor across from the C.S.P.S. Hall, Keenan's Bar and Grill, is working to get back on its feet. Their burgers are great and their beer is cold. They are our host for charitable gaming and we hope they are successful. Our valued tenant, the Pajarito restaurant, is working hard to stay in business. They have returned to take-out only. Please consider ordering from them. Sokol has waived several months' rent for Pajarito. Small businesses like Keenan's and Pajarito need our support. Please do what you can, when you can. We too have less income while our building expenses continue.

Maintenance projects around the Hall are ongoing. Our go-to man who always seems willing to help out is Robert 'Jake' Jacobson. Thanks, Jake. He along with John Topic, Rick Palma, Lucy Rose, and Gary Zweber scraped, repaired, and painted the front of the Hall and washed windows. We fixed the planters and, with Rick Palma's help, will be working on the front awning.

As you can see from the successful completion of the structural repairs this summer and the above maintenance projects, the members of the Board of Trustees under Bob Kotek continue to be superb caretakers of your building. Please support us financially if you are able. We try our best to be stewards of our organization. *Nazdar!*

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

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

Sokol Camp in the 1950s

By Louise Wessinger

Sokol Camp was built in 1926 at Cross Lake near Pine City, Minnesota. Recently, my sister Linda and I were going through some of our parents' slides and we found some pictures of Sokol during our childhood. The pictures shown here were taken in the early fifties during Sokol Camp Kid's Week. Campers were children from Sokol Saint Paul and Sokol Minneapolis; the two organizations later merged to become Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota. Camp counselors at that time were usually our dad, Henry Jansen, and Georgiana Buzicky (later Dolejsi), among others.

Our main activities at camp were always centered around the Sokol ideals of fitness. We had active sessions of swimming, marching, calisthenics, and active games, as well as long hikes to Norway Point and to the bridge crossing the Snake River. Craft lessons were held every afternoon. The girls had sewing lessons, including huck towel embroidery, which is still taught at our Czech and Slovak Children's Cultural Day Camp at the C.S.P.S. Hall. We had fun scavenger hunts and made ice cream. Campers wrote and put on plays and, of course, we sang Czechoslovak and Sokol songs; plus we danced simple folk dances. A special program was prepared to close out the week.

At the time, camp was more primitive than it is today. We had water from a pump and there was a row of basins hanging between two trees near the pump. So, you would pump water into your basin and wash up. Boys and girls had their own latrines. There were no showers, so bath time was in the lake. The bathhouse had a boys' side and a girls' side, so we dressed and undressed into and out of our swimsuits in the bathhouse to eliminate bringing wet or sandy clothes and feet into the main lodge.

Great food was prepared by our cooks, who spent the week living in the nearby Suk cabin. Everything was homemade and terrific! I have fond memories of Sokol Camp in those days. We always had a lot of fun and made lifelong friends.



A hike to Norway Point. My dad, Henry Jansen, is on the right side of the photo. This was a long hike, so only the older campers were along.



All-camp swim. The leader standing on the left is Marie Dolejsi.



Louise (Jansen) Wessinger, Linda (Jansen) Nicolli, and Connie Fischback.

The photos are from about 1953, I am guessing by my sister's and my ages. I wish I could say who all of the campers are in each photo, but these are the ones I remember: Don and Ron Andrl, Betsy and Beverly Bowie, Babe and Tom Bulera, Bobbie Buzicky, George Chlebecek, Jan and Alan Dolejsi, Sandy and Connie Fischback, Milan and Judy Kalash, Jacquie and Allen Lander, Nancy and Gary Pavlicek, Dennis Saliny, Nancy Smolik, Pat and Kit Tudora, Lorraine and Pauline Vanyo, Jim, Barbara, and Louise Wotzka. Maybe some of you can add names and memories or make corrections.



The big guys.

First Annual Youth Leadership Award Ceremony

by Judy Aubrecht

To recognize our youth members, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota organized its first annual Youth Leadership Award competition this spring. The competition was spearheaded by Board of Directors member Blanka Brichta, assisted by other members of our organization. Current high school juniors and seniors were invited to submit an application telling how involvement with Sokol Minnesota had positively impacted them and to describe how their leadership skills were developed and used over the years.



Anna Hester, Ella Pratt, Isabelle Callanan, Women's Physical Director Mary Cahill, and Dance Director Louise Wessinger. Not pictured: Thomas Sebek.

After careful review of the applications by a team composed of Dave Stepan, president, Louise Wessinger, dance director, and Judy Aubrecht, publicity director, three Youth Leadership Awards were made.

The 2020 Award winners are Isabelle Callanan, Anna Hester, and Thomas Sebek. Ella Pratt won the Best Essay award.



Youth Leadership Award plaque

To honor the Youth Leadership award winners and their families, an award ceremony was held at the C.S.P.S. Hall on August 3. The award winners received certificates and monetary awards. Contributors to the awards included Sokol Minnesota, Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic, and Louise Wessinger, Dance Director. A reception followed the award ceremony. Health safety procedures were used throughout the event.

The award plaque will be spotlighted in a trophy case on the second floor of the C.S.P.S. Hall.

Congratulations to our 2020 Sokol Minnesota Youth Leadership Award and Best Essay winners!

Sokol Minnesota Youth Award Winners



Isabelle Callanan

Hi, I am Isabelle Callanan. I am a rising senior at Visitation School in Mendota Heights. I have been very fortunate to be involved in Sokol Minnesota for seven years. I have been a part of the gymnastics program and a gymnastics instructor.

I attended the American Sokol Instructors School in 2016 and for the past four years I have coached the four- to six-year old gymnastics class twice a week. My favorite part about coaching is I get to connect with young gymnasts and use my creativity to help them improve their skills. I love creating a fun atmosphere and helping girls and boys to grow in their abilities and confidence. I have also been a gymnastics instructor for the Sokol Minnesota Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camps. I am also a member and co-captain of the competition gymnastics team. As a co-captain, I plan fundraisers, choreograph routines, and write special numbers for our competitions. I love to compete and to share my passion for gymnastics with my Sokol teammates.

Outside of Sokol, I am involved in varsity tennis, quiz bowl team, and the leadership team at my school. I also volunteer at United Hospital in Saint Paul and I hope to use my experience with coaching children as a pediatrician someday. My 95-year-old great-grandmother, who is 100% Czech, is so happy I have been a part of Sokol. I am most grateful for all Sokol Minnesota has given me and I am truly lucky to be a part of this amazing organization.

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Anna Hester

Anna Hester, a recent graduate with honors from Thomas Jefferson High School in Bloomington, is looking forward to attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison this fall to study chemistry. Throughout high school, Anna took honors and Advanced Placement classes, was a member of French club and a saxophone-playing member of the marching band

and the pep band, and participated in the Science Olympiad.

Anna has danced with O'Shea Irish Dance since the age of five. Her favorite memories include traveling around the country and the world with O'Shea to eight regional championships, seven national championships, and one world championship.

In her free time, Anna has worked as a lifeguard for the Bloomington Family Aquatic Center, a server for Friendship Village of Bloomington, and a pharmacy technician for CVS Pharmacy.

This past spring, Anna won the 2020 National Merit Award from the American Sokol Organization. Anna has been a part *Taneční Mládež* and *Taneční* Teens dance groups at Sokol for the past fourteen years and has enjoyed performances at the Festival of Nations, Czech and Slovak Festival, Saint Nicholas Party, and *Šibřinky*. She volunteered at multiple events, including Duck Dinner, Pork Dinner, Pancake Breakfast, Band Blast, Membership Appreciation Dinner, Czech and Slovak Festival, and Festival of Nations. One of Anna's fondest memories is volunteering as a junior leader and participating in the Czech and Slovak Children's Cultural Day Camp since the age of five.

As Anna moves on to the next chapter of her life, she both looks back with great pride on her involvement with Sokol Minnesota, which has allowed her to experience her Czech heritage, and she looks forward to continuing to be involved.



Best Youth Award Essay

Ella Pratt

Hi! My name is Ella Pratt and I am a rising senior at Open World Learning Community. I have been a member of Sokol Minnesota since 2014 and I have been competing for the Sokol Minnesota gymnastics competition team since 2014. In 2017, I attended the national *Slet* in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. After the 2017 *Slet*, I attended the American Sokol Instructors School in Cedar Rapids. After graduating from the Instructors School, I started teaching various gymnastics classes, including coaching at the Children's Cultural Day Camp during the summer of 2019. Being able to coach a variety of students has taught me just as much as it's taught the gymnasts. I have learned to adapt and work with different ages, genders, and skill levels. I take these lessons and opportunities I have gained and apply them to my life outside of Sokol, where I'm a camp counselor, nanny, and the captain of my school's ultimate frisbee team.

Our Sokol Minnesota gym team recognized my various leadership roles and therefore they elected me to be the co-captain of the Sokol Minnesota competition team in 2018. I plan on continuing to be a leader for my Sokol community this upcoming season. After I graduate, I plan on going out of state in order to further my studies towards becoming an occupational therapist who specializes in children. In these unprecedented times, one thing I do know is, wherever I end up in fall 2021, I hope to find a Sokol nearby in order to continue my involvement in the program.

Thomas Sebek

Thomas Sebek, a recent graduate of Edina High School, is looking forward to attending the University of Pittsburgh business school this fall.

Throughout high school, Thomas's favorite sports were cross country, track and field, and alpine skiing.

He also enjoyed six years of playing the trombone.

Last summer, Thomas became a recipient of the Minnesota Seal of Multiliteracy in both Czech and French. He earned the Eagle Scout rank in 2019.

In his spare time, Thomas teaches swim lessons at his city's pool and is a summer staff member at YMCA Camp Warren.

Participating in Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities allowed him to have good times in nine Czech theater plays, the annual St. Nicholas band concert, monthly Family Nights, and volunteering at the Festival of Nations and the Sokol Minnesota Czech and Slovak Festival.

Thomas is thankful for his summers spent in the Czech Republic, conversations with his grandpa Milan Sebek, Sokol Minnesota events, and the *Czech ABC* and *Čtyřlístek* (four leaf clover) magazines, which all advanced his linguistic abilities and thus allowed him to further appreciate his Czech heritage and cultural upbringing.



Youth Award Ceremony Family Photos



Lenka, Colin, Anna, and Eric Hester



Larry, Lily, Isabelle, and Stephanie Callanan



Shawn Murphy, Melissa Pratt, Ella Pratt

Member News

Welcomes New Member

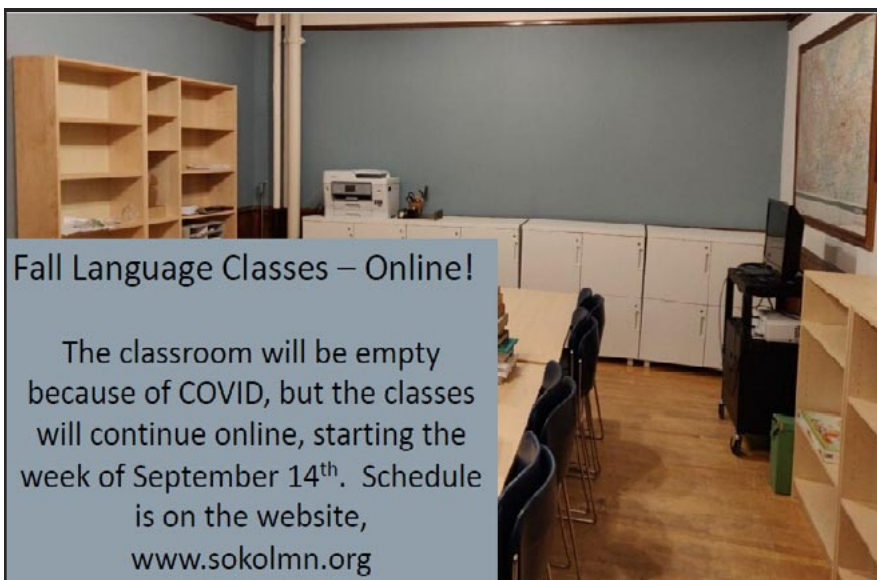
By Norm Petrik

At the July Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors meeting, one new member was accepted: Timothy Kojetin of Eden Prairie, with interests in cooking classes and genealogy/history. Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!

Sunshine News

By Arlene Hamernik

Sokol Minnesota member Lloyd Krocak had heart valve replacement surgery in mid-July and is now recovering at home. Lloyd is a long-time member of our Board of Trustees. He shares his extensive knowledge of heating, ventilating, and cooling (HVAC) systems to help keep the complicated boiler and air conditioning systems at the C.S.P.S. Hall running smoothly. Lloyd has a unique collection of antique tractors, which he enjoys restoring.



Fall Language Classes – Online!

The classroom will be empty because of COVID, but the classes will continue online, starting the week of September 14th. Schedule is on the website, www.sokolmn.org

Annual Language Course Scholarship Established

By Renáta Tichá



The Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota (CSCC) has established an annual scholarship program to enable a person with a clearly defined interest in Czech or Slovak language and culture to complete a Czech or Slovak language course offered through Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota. This new CSCC Mestenhauer-Pafko Memorial Scholarship will commence with the spring semester, starting in January 2021. For more information, look in the October issue of *Slovo*.

Curbside Cuisine

By Judy Aubrecht

Several events that celebrate Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's heritage, in part by selling ethnic foods, have transitioned to "Curbside Cuisine" to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Cooks and bakers will safely prepare your favorite foods in our C.S.P.S. Hall's commercial kitchen. Please be sure to study the menu in the ad for the event. **To place your order, email to <food@sokolmn.org>. Prepayment is preferred via PayPal at <sokolmn.org/curbside-cuisine> or by check. If paying at the time of pickup, only a check or exact cash can be used.**

Our first full Curbside Cuisine event is Saturday, September 26, (see page 1) near the date of our traditional Czech and Slovak Festival. Pickup is between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Place your prepaid order by September 7: email <food@sokolmn.org>.7

Our Curbside Czech Roast Pork Dinner is October 24, (see ad below) with pickup between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Place your prepaid order by October 18: <food@sokolmn.org>.

Ordering and Pickup Directions

- ◆ Orders will be prepared and packaged prior to pickup.
- ◆ Pickup will be outside the C.S.P.S. Hall (383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul). Please do not carpool with anyone outside of your household.
- ◆ Staff should not prepare food or bring food out, and patrons should not do the pickup, if they or someone in their household are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
- ◆ All staff and patrons must wear masks.
- ◆ All patrons need to stay in their cars.
- ◆ When paying, use hand sanitizer if possible, and bring exact change or a check made out to Sokol Minnesota.
- ◆ Practice social distancing (stay at least 6 feet from people from other households).

October 24 ²⁰/₂₀
10a-2p
C.S.P.S. Hall
383 Michigan St., Saint Paul, MN
PLACE YOUR PRE-PAID ORDER
by OCTOBER 18
952-941-0426 or food@sokolmn.org
Curbside
CZECH ROAST PORK DINNER
Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

Watch
upcoming
Slovo
or the
sokolmn.org/
calendar
for information
about
these
Curbside
Cuisine
events:

Saturday,
November 21,
2020
**Curbside
Holiday
Bake Sale**

Saturday,
January 23,
2021
**Curbside
Roast Duck
Dinner**

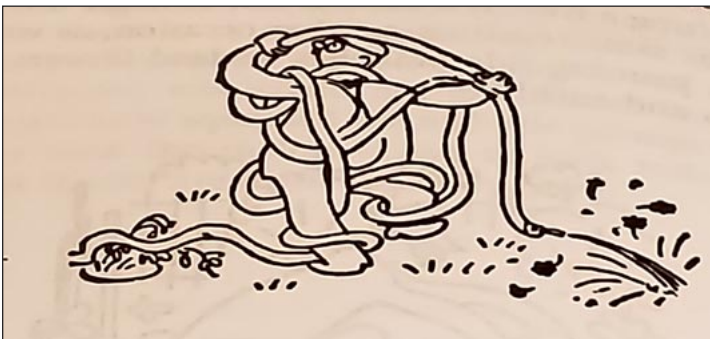
MENU

Roast pork, raised bread dumplings, sauerkraut, rye bread, applesauce, and dessert \$20

The Gardener's Year by Karel Čapek with illustrations by Josef Čapek, translated from the Czech by M. and R. Weatherall. Dover: Mineola, New York, 2017, 1963, 1931. First Czech edition published in Prague in 1929. 112 pages. Available at libraries and bookstores.

If you would like to take a reprieve from weeding during Minnesota's too short gardening season, grab a beverage and sit down in a comfy chair outdoors for a quick and pleasant read. Karel Čapek's *The Gardener's Year* fits the bill perfectly. You have to love a book that opens with "There are several different ways to lay out a little garden; the best way is to get a gardener." Do not let the slimness of this book mislead you; Čapek crammed multitudes into 112 pages. Plus 60 delightful line drawings by Josef Čapek accompany his brother's essays.

This witty classic takes the reader through every month of the gardener's life, as well as focuses some chapters on special topics such as seeds, rain, rock gardens, market (vegetable) gardeners, soil, bulbs, and watering hoses. As Čapek wrote of the latter, until at least three men manage to tame it, a "... hose is an extraordinarily evasive and dangerous beast, for it contorts itself, it jumps, it wriggles, it makes puddles of water, and dives with delight into the mess it has made; then it goes for the man who is going to use it and coils itself round his legs..."



Wrestling with a watering hose. Illustration by Josef Čapek.

Čapek had both a serious and fun outlook on gardening. "Let no one think that real gardening is a bucolic and meditative occupation," he wrote. "It is an insatiable passion, like everything else to which man gives his heart." He went on, "Gardeners have certainly arisen by culture and not by natural selection. If they had developed naturally they would look differently; they would have legs like beetles, so that they need not sit on their heels, and they would have wings, in the first place for their beauty, and, secondly, so that they might float over the beds.... If only one could hang in a belt and swim over the beds or have at least four hands, with only a head and a cap, and nothing else; or have limbs telescoping like a photographic stand!"



The gardener's ideal body. Illustration by Josef Čapek.

The Weatheralls' deft translation and the author's references to many plants familiar to Minnesota gardeners make the book feel contemporary, rather than almost a century old. We have similar attitudes toward the weather: always too warm, or too cool, or too dry, or too wet. Čapek imagined gardeners praying daily: "O Lord, grant that in some way it may rain every day, say from about midnight until three o'clock in the morning, but you see, it must be gentle and warm so that it can soak in; grant that at the same time it would not rain on campion, alyssum, helianthemum, lavender, and the others which you in your infinite wisdom know are drought-loving plants—I will write their names on a bit of paper if you like—and grant that the sun may shine the whole day long, but not everywhere (not, for instance, on spirea, or on gentian, plantain lily, or rhododendron) and not too much...." Plants shooting forward and seeds germinating made Čapek optimistic. He concluded that "... the best thing of all is to be a living man—that is, a man who grows."

The more I read by Karel Čapek, the more I admire his breadth in writing styles and topics. Probably most known for science fiction, coining the term "robot," he was just as much at home writing fascinating fiction stories such as *Tales from Two Pockets*, political and philosophical explorations such as *Talks with T. G. Masaryk*, and light and witty pieces such as *Letters from England* and *The Gardener's Year*. Čapek surely deserves his ongoing popularity and reputation as an outstanding Czechoslovakian writer.

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The author died at 47 in 1938 from pneumonia complicated by a lifelong medical condition, and his brother succumbed a few years later in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, but Čapek's garden lives on. His half of a villa shared with Josef's family at Bratří Čapků 1854/30, 101 00 Vinohrady now belongs to the Praha 10 district which is working to establish it as a museum.

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

Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures is on summer break.
Check our website, www.cs-center.org,
for updates to scheduling and the impact of COVID-19.



A man who grows

Škola Families at Sokol Camp

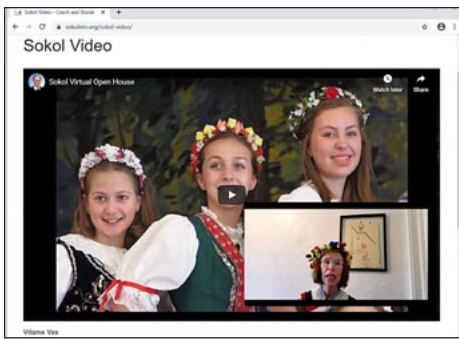
By Jitka Sebek



The Pine City children's camp tradition lives on with a growing number of *Česká a slovenská škola* Twin Cities (Czech & Slovak School Twin Cities) families who begin their summer by enjoying the lake, camping, bonfire, and continuous camaraderie. The COVID-19 containment procedures not only led to postponing the *Škola's* camp weekend until August 8 and 9, but also prevented the campers from taking a group photo. This photo shows the *Škola* camp group in 2019.

From these pictures of delicious home-made food prepared from sourdough by Míša Kotek, you can be certain that a good number of children made sure not to miss the opportunity to see each other at Sokol Camp. As a bonus, through a fundraiser, enough delicious *langoše* (a Hungarian food speciality, a deep-fried dough with various toppings) were devoured so \$150 was donated to Sokol Minnesota. See you all next summer at Sokol Camp again!

Sokol Minnesota Virtual Open House By Judy Aubrecht



The opening scene



To help members and friends of Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota stay in touch with our organization, an online “Virtual Open House” video has been developed. The video highlights activities, events, and traditions that are important to us. Sokol Minnesota members volunteered to prepare video presentations, with related photos, spotlighting the special features of our organization. Richard Sargent edited the individual videos and sets of background photos into the Virtual Open House video. You can access the video at www.sokolmn.org/sokol-video

Online Virtual Auction Items Needed

Extraordinary items are needed for Sokol Minnesota's Online Virtual Auction to be held November 14-19.

If you have suitable donations, please contact Glynis Grostephan at ggrostephan@earthlink.net

Highlights of the July Sokol Board of Directors Meeting

By Judy Aubrecht

The online meeting was held on July 23 at 7 p.m.

The Czech and Slovak Festival will be take-out orders only, on Saturday, September 26.

Blanka Brichta, Member at Large, reported that after the floor refinishing, books have been placed back on the classroom shelves and painting of the walls will be completed shortly.

Rental Committee: Judy Aubrecht reported most of the September events have been rescheduled for 2021.

All Saturdays in June 2021 are booked. Masks and hand sanitizers have been purchased for the entry area and a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan will be posted in the C.S.P.S. Hall.

Corresponding Secretary Glynis Grostephan noted donations received in July totaled \$620.

Education: Pat Slaber reported a virtual mushroom hunt lecture was presented on July 10 and an outdoor hunt was held on July 19 with 35 participants.

Fall Language classes will begin online September 14.

Financial Secretary Steve Ernest reported on membership. We have 22 Honorary Members, 107 Senior Members, 60 Couples, and 92 Individual Memberships.

Finance: Joyce Tesarek noted the Czech Government grant will be submitted with a focus on education. If approved, funds will be used for a new TV and whiteboards in the classroom. Waiving the August rent for Parajito was recommended and approved in order to accommodate their business changes because of COVID-19. Pricing for our curbside takeout dinners was discussed, with agreement to raise to \$20 for the Ethnic Dinners and \$25 for the Duck Dinner.

Board of Trustees gave an update on C.S.P.S. Hall projects. The front of the building has been repainted, windows have

been washed and sealed, and the re-built basement stairs are stained. HVAC improvements, as well as other maintenance projects, are being considered.

Second Vice President Jean Draheim reported we will postpone Patrick Dewane's performance of *The Accidental Hero* until we can have a live show at the Hall.

Ed Hamernik reported Gaming opened up partially in June with a \$7,000 net profit. Ed is working with the Board of Trustees on Hall repair and maintenance projects.

President Dave Stepan proposed a fundraiser for the Hall which would ask patrons to purchase an engraved paver stone to be installed outside of the Hall. Dave will present further information at the next meeting.

The gift shop displays are back up after the structural repairs to the Hall and the addition of an office. The possibilities of opening an online gift shop and having the gift shop open by appointment were discussed.

Our next virtual meeting is August 20 at 7 p.m.

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: Arlene Drabek in memory of Albert and Florence Drabek.

\$100 - \$499: Michael Wolesky.

GENERAL FUND:

\$500 - \$999: Cynthia Coulter.

TOTAL: \$ 620

Czech Honorary Consul News

September
2020

As the Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic, I meet so many wonderful people as I promote and support Czech culture, heritage, and business. It is a real privilege to work with those who proudly carry on the traditions of the homeland, especially endearing are those who remember their immigrant ancestors; we have those who are now fifth (or more) generation Czech-Minnesota Americans.

The *Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota Pageant* has had 30 queens. The current queen, Autumn Gare, and her princess, Meghan Domonoske, are serving a second year, due to the pandemic. It is through *Slovo* that they keep current with events at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota..

This year for Montgomery's *Kolacky Days*, always the third weekend of July, the Junior Ambassadors of the Minnesota Pageant handed out Czech heritage craft kits for drive-thru pick up at Memorial Park. Pageant board member Anne Jans (11th Queen, 1999-2000) directed the assembly of these kits, which contained the makings for a golden pig ornament, Czech bead bracelet, a hedgehog ornament for Easter, an Easter egg, a clothespin mushroom decoration, a Czech flag magnet, a Czech/Slovak Flag bookmark, a Czech dough ornament, and an activity book. Each activity had a connection to Czech tradition



Junior Ambassadors with the kits: Mikayla Marek, Kristin Siebsen, and Alenka Jans
Photos: Anne Jans



and culture. Each kit contained not only the items needed to complete the craft and directions, but also the history behind each item. Anne credits Doreen McKenney and Louise Wessinger with providing ideas and information.

The Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Youth Leadership Awards were presented on August 3 to four students at a ceremony attended by an appreciative, but small (mask-wearing) assembly at C.S.P.S. Hall. (L-R) Ella Pratt, Isabelle Callanan, Anna Hester, and Honorary Consul Kucera, who was one of the donors to the award. Unable to attend: Thomas Sebek. See pages 4-6.

Photo: Blanka Brichta



On August 9, the 29th annual *Czech Heritage Festival* in Bechyn, which supports St. Mary's Preservation Association, was a wonderful evening of music, greetings, and reminiscences via Facebook. Live music by Mollie B and Ted Lange, included requests, plus cameo guests throughout the evening included Jaroslav Kantůrek, Consul General of the Czech Republic/Chicago, and myself, your Honorary Consul for Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, and South Dakota. People from far beyond Bechyn in southwest Minnesota were able to polka the night away! Tim Kojetin and Jeanne Wertish were instrumental in making 2020 a virtual celebration. <YouTube.com/MollieB>



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in Minneapolis, MN

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Slovo Publication Information and Committee

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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*.

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mailing address on record for you.

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Additional contributors this issue: Judy Aubrecht, Isabelle Callanan, Anna Hester, Ella Pratt, Thomas Sebek, Jitka Sebek, Pat Slaber, Renáta Tichá, Louise Wessinger, and Gwen Willems.

Additional photographs or illustrations this issue provided by: Rosina Bianco (page 9 top), Blanka Brichta (4 top, 6: top 3, 11), Isabelle Callanan (4), Martina Gurgel (9 bottom), Anna Hester (5), Anne Jans (11), Miša Kotek (9), M.L. Kucera (4 middle), Doreen McKenney (3, 12), Ella Pratt (5), Richard Sargent (10), Thomas Sebek (5), Pat Slaber (6 bottom), Louise Wessinger (3).

June/July mailing: Mary Cahill, M.L. Kucera, Joan Sedlacek.

More information at: 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 *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 *Thank You!*

CZECH AND SLOVAK



383 Michigan Street

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

651-290-0542

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *SLOVO* September 2020



Fall 2020 Events at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

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

2020 has been an unprecedented year for the world with Covid-19. Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota has a modified schedule to keep our members, volunteers, and guests safe. We adhere to guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Health and the U.S. Center for Disease Control.

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

2020 Curbside Cuisine

Saturday, September 26, curbside pick up: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Segedínský guláš (pork/sauerkraut goulash) \$12 quart

Kuřecí paprikáš (chicken with creamy paprika sauce) \$12 quart

Buřtůláš (kettle sausage and potato goulash) \$8 quart

Halušky (cabbage and bacon with mini dumplings) \$10 quart

Houskový knedlík (raised bread dumpling) \$5 loaf

Bublanina (fruit coffee cake: blueberries or strawberries) \$10 cake

Koláč (poppyseed, apricot, prune, cream cheese, raspberry) \$1 each

Place your pre-paid food order by September 7

food@sokolmn.org

2020 Curbside Czech Roast Pork Dinner

Saturday, October 24, curbside pick up: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Roast pork, raised-bread dumplings, sauerkraut, caraway rye bread, and dessert \$20

Place your pre-paid dinner order by October 18

text/call 952-941-0426

2020 Online Virtual Auction

Saturday, November 14, 9 a.m. to Thursday,

November 19, 9 p.m. sokol.auction@sokolmn.org

Pick up items curbside:

Saturday, November 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

2020 Curbside Holiday Bake Sale

Saturday, November 21, curbside pick up:

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Koláč (poppyseed, apricot, prune, apple, cream cheese) \$1 each

Place your pre-paid order by November 14

food@sokolmn.org or 651-290-0542

2020 Children's Holiday Activities

December 4-6 Find details on Sokol website,

Instagram, Facebook, or *Slovo* newsletter

2021 Curbside Roast Duck Dinner

Saturday, January 23, 2021, curbside pick up:

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Half-a-roast duck, potato dumplings, sweet and sour red cabbage, caraway rye bread, and dessert \$25

Place your pre-paid dinner by January 16

text/call 952-941-0426

Postponed until 2021: *The Accidental Hero*

Performance by Minnesota playwright and actor Patrick Dewane, originally scheduled for October 11, 2020

