

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

### Upcoming Events

- May Slovo Deadline  
April 1
- Frank Trnka Concert  
April 9 (page 5)
- Board of Trustees  
April 13
- Board of Directors  
April 14, 7 p.m.
- Garage Sale  
April 14-15  
Setup: April 13
- Membership Meeting  
April 15, 7 p.m.  
Singing. 6:30-7 p.m.
- Membership Workday  
April 16, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
- Pancake Breakfast  
Bake & Craft Sales  
April 17, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Urban Expedition  
April 17, 1 - 3 p.m.
- Family Sunday  
on Easter Saturday  
April 23, noon - 3 p.m.
- Sokol Camp Open-up  
April 30
- Senior Singers  
Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

**Thursday**      **Friday**  
**April 14**      **April 15**  
**12p.m. - 7p.m.**      **10a.m. - 3p.m.**

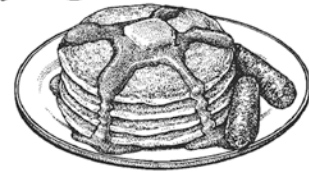


**Drop Off Donations**  
**at Sokol Hall after March 25**  
**Setup: April 13, 10 a.m. - 6**

Event Chairs: Marit Lee Kucera  
Doreen McKenney

383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul  
Public Welcome

## Spring Breakfast...



### with Craft and Bake Sales

buy spring crafts as well as koláče  
cakes, and pastries for your Easter table

featuring French toast  
all-you-can eat pancakes  
with fruit cup, sausage  
juice, milk, and coffee

**Sunday, April 17, 2011**  
**9:00a.m. - 1:00pm.**

**\$6.50 adult; \$4.50 children under 9**  
**\$20.00 family - friendly - for - four**

Event Chairs: Ed Hamernik - breakfast; Doreen McKenney - bake sale  
Louise Wessinger - vendor table reservations, call: 651-452-6240

383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul  
Public Welcome

**Also April 17 Landmark Honors the Czech Republic and Slovakia** By Louise Wessinger  
After your yummy breakfast at our Sokol Hall, you are invited on an *Urban Expedition: Czech Republic/Slovakia* at Landmark Center by Rice Park in downtown Saint Paul. Landmark presents the last of this year's free *Urban Expedition* series with a trip to the Czech and Slovak Republics. Enjoy music, food, dance, craft activities, and shopping from 1 - 3 p.m. Guests are asked to bring a food-shelf donation.

This free event includes a stage program with Sokol member pianist Frank Trnka, soprano Jody Ouradnik, and guitarist Stu Anderson offering selections from Dvorak. The *Tanecni Mladez* and Teens will dance along with the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers. The dancers and Sokol members will present a style show of *kroje* (folk dress) under the direction of Sue Martin (952-985-7284).

The Czech "Mom's Club" will have small *perniky* cookies for children to decorate, plus a short puppet show. Joyce Tesarek and her Sokol crew will sell Slovak and Czech foods. There also will be representatives of other local Czech and Slovak organizations. On-street parking is free in downtown Saint Paul on Sundays including in the Macy's ramp. Please join us for this wonderful celebration of our culture and heritage. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, please call Louise at 651-452-6240.

**Czech and Slovak  
Sokol Minnesota  
2011  
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**Telephone: 651-290-0542**

Past issues of *Slovo* and  
Sokol Minnesota's calendar  
of events are available online  
at <[www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)>

**President Komentář/President's Notes** By Ed Hamernik

*Pozdrav/Greetings!* The winter of 2011 has indications of being a record-setting season, especially in snowfall terms. Some folks say we are having an "old-fashioned winter" when compared to the mild aberrations we have had the past few years. But given the way our homes are built and heated today, the snow-removal equipment we have at our disposal, the reliability of the vehicles we drive, and the system of streets and freeways we use (except for the potholes), even an "old-fashioned winter" is quite bearable and even enjoyable when compared to the winters we endured growing up, especially on the farm. No more roads blocked with snow for days or even a week, curbing mail and other services for days at a time.

While visiting with guests at Sokol functions, as well as with folks outside of our organization, I sense a number of people have a new or renewed interest in their heritage. Guests at the Duck Dinner in January expressed appreciation for our events that feature Czech food and recipes, especially those who drove 40 to 50 miles to attend. Three members of the King Boreas Court (Saint Paul Winter Carnival) told me at *Šibřinky* in March that they have Czech ancestors and how pleased they were to find Sokol Minnesota keeping some of the Czech/Slovak traditions alive and available to the public. This ties in very well with the opportunity Sokol has been given to co-host the *Urban Expedition Czech Republic/Slovakia* program on April 17 at the Landmark Center. It is an excellent venue to demonstrate and share the ethnic traditions that we are working to preserve, such as the dance groups, Czech/Slovak music, and ethnic foods. Mark this date on your calendar and invite friends and neighbors to attend. Admission is free; the program runs from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Remember our other April events: Garage Sale on April 14-15; membership workday at the hall on April 16, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Spring Pancake/French Toast Breakfast with Bake and Craft Sale, April 17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Family Night at the Sokol Hall on April 23 from noon to 3 p.m. *Nazdar!*

**Publications Committee** The *Slovo* is published ten times per year by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, a non-profit organization, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102. Sokol Minnesota members receive the *Slovo* with their membership.

**The deadline for the May 2011 issue is April 1.** *Slovo* staff: Christy Banks, copy editor; **seeking volunteer** for layout editor; J. H. Fonkert and M. L. Kucera, interim co-managing editors; Joyce Tesarek, photographer; Norm Petrik, Mary Cahill, Jeanette Pafko, Jean Draheim, Cinnamon Whaley, Arlene Hamernik, Doreen McKenney, advisors. Special thanks to Mary Kucera, Victoria, British Columbia, who has helped her sister Marit Lee Kucera with layouts for the March and April issues. Photographs for this issue were provided by Joy Orcutt and Sokol members Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, and Joyce Tesarek. This April 2011 issue of *Slovo* will be archived on the Sokol Minnesota website after April 30.

The *Slovo* Advisory Committee welcomes submissions. Send suggestions, articles, and pictures digitally to: <[slovo@sokolmn.org](mailto:slovo@sokolmn.org)>. *Slovo* now accepts business card size ads (3.5"x2"), paid in advance: one-time insertion \$25; 3 consecutive issues: \$65; 10 consecutive issues: \$175. Ad reservation deadline is six weeks before publication (April 15 for June issue), with ad and payment due by copy deadline (May 1 for June issue).

For problems with subscriptions, please contact us via e-mail: <[slovo@sokolmn.org](mailto:slovo@sokolmn.org)>; phone: 651-290-0542; or write to *Slovo*. We apologize to any subscriber who missed an issue or who received notice of payment due, when a payment had already been made. Please let us hear from you if you think a mistake has been made.

If you are temporarily out of town for an extended stay, the post office will not forward your *Slovo* because we use bulk mail. If you wish to have the newsletter suspended during this time or if you wish to have it sent to your out-of-town residence, please call, write, or e-mail us. Please e-mail: <[slovo@sokolmn.org](mailto:slovo@sokolmn.org)> or phone: 651-290-0542 or write: Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102.

*Slovo* gift subscriptions and non-membership renewals are \$15/year (10 issues). Please include name, address, phone number, and e-mail address with your new or renewing non-member subscription.

Make your check to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota; send to Sokol Minnesota *Slovo* Subscriptions/Renewals, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102.

Volunteer Positions available at Sokol Minnesota:

Webmaster

Publicity Director (Board of Directors position)

*Slovo* Layout Editor

For more information on these positions, contact:  
Jay Fonkert: 651-735-8630 or <[jfonkert@aol.com](mailto:jfonkert@aol.com)>

Visit us at  
[www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)

## CSPS Hall Legacy Building Campaign: New Cabinets for The Hall By Joyce Tesarek

As a contribution to the Legacy Building Campaign, Jim and Mary Jo Chlebeczek donated funds to build new cabinets to store large pots, pans, bowls, and other kitchen and pantry items. What a gift this is to all the Sokol cooks to have an organized place for everything! The cabinets were designed, built, and installed by Brian and Jodi Mondor (son-in-law and daughter of Jim and Mary Jo) of Out of the Woods Precision Woodworking.



*Studying the cabinet plans are Jim Chlebeczek, Katie Haselbauer, Brian Mondor, Jean Hall, Jodi Mondor, Doreen McKenney, Louise Wessinger, and Chuck Draheim*

Sokol welcomes all contributions to the tax-deductible CSPPS Hall Legacy Building Campaign. Send checks to Sokol MN, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102.

## News from the Board of Trustees By Chuck Draheim

**A Generous Contribution:** The BOT hopes that you have noticed the wonderful new cabinets in the second-floor dining room at the CSPPS Hall. They were installed on February 27 and 28. Thanks to the Chlebeczeks, the Mondors, and all who helped plan and finish the project including Dennis Cahill, Terry Shima,



Lloyd Krocak, Jean Hall, and Chuck Draheim for the hard work in removing the old cabinets and to Katie Haselbauer for arranging the disposal of the debris. Thanks also go to Jean Hall, Louise Wessinger, Doreen and Doris McKenney, and Katie Haselbauer for cleaning out the old cabinets and filling the new cabinets after installation. This was a great team effort by all.

The display cases previously in the dining room have been relocated to the first-floor classroom.

**Steam Pipe Update:** Last month the BOT reported on the aging steam pipes. Thankfully, no new leaks have occurred! This photo shows another dramatic example of what Sokol is dealing with and further emphasizes the urgency of replacing and upgrading the steam distribution system. With your financial assistance in the form of donations and the matching grant from the federal government, we can make this happen!

The radiator in the northwest corner of the main hall has been turned off to prevent further damage to the floor. This unit is fed by one of the leaking pipes and is scheduled for replacement as part of the floor repair/refinishing project in May. Please do not open the valve to this unit.



**Window Reminder:** Please make sure that all Hall windows are closed and locked after any meeting or event. On February 9, several windows in the Hall were found unlocked and open. Leaving windows open in winter costs Sokol money that could well be spent in more productive ways.

**Membership Workday:** Saturday, April 16, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

## Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors By J. H. Fonkert, Corresponding Secretary

Sokol Minnesota thanks generous donors who support Sokol programs and rehabilitation of the CSPPS Hall.

Recent donations to the **CSPPS Hall Legacy Fund** include:

Mary Jo and James Chlebeczek, \$5,000, kitchen cabinets

Ruth Chovancek, \$100

Georgiana Dolejsi, in memory of Marty Kohout

Mary M. Halbert, \$250, in memory of Bill Lee

Joan Sedlacek, amount held confidential, in honor of

Lorene Sedlacek's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday

Frank Trnka, in memory of Amy Trnka

**Other donations** include:

Joseph A. Kocab, *Slovo*

Frank Loss, general fund

Minnesota Sokol Camp Association, *Slovo*

The *Slovo* withholds names or amount of donations when requested, and does not print amounts less than \$100.

## Sokol Minnesota Annual Memberships

**Renewals:** Individual **\$45**; Couple **\$80**; Senior **\$35** (*over age 65 and member of Sokol for 5 years*); Senior couple **\$70**.

**New membership** dues Individual **\$50**; Couple **\$85**.

This includes a one-time \$5 registration fee for registration with our national organization, American Sokol. Annual membership runs from January 1 to December 31

Make check payable to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, Attn: Membership, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102.

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## The Feathers Flew in February

By Jean Draheim

It was a snowy, cold, Saturday morning on February 26 that found six students ready to make their own *štětíčka* (feather brush) under the guidance of Sokol member Doreen McKenney.

Each student received several feathers and a length of colored cotton string to weave their magic and create a colorful, useful brush. (Color photos of the finished *štětíčka* are on the education bulletin board by the stairs leading to the third floor at Sokol Hall.)

Several of the students already have plans for their brushes; they are going to come to baking classes!



L-R: Roz Ferguson, Pamela Kotval, and Ann Seifert.



L-R: David and Judy Rivera, and Jeanette Hulet.

## CSCC April Lecture

By Allyn Johnson, Secretary CSCC

The Czech and Slovak Culture Center of Minnesota lecture series continues April 23 at 9 a.m. to noon. Dr. Eva Janebová, Charles University, and Tomáš Janeba, human rights expert, will present a talk "The Czech Republic after Twenty Years" from Prague via SKYPE. Location: Room 1-149, Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota, 321 - 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis. Parking is available at the 21st Avenue and the 19th Avenue ramps. For further details, please visit the CCSI website at <<http://www.cs-center.org>>

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## Education Updates

By Jean Draheim, Education Director

**Genealogy Class:** Sokol Minnesota will offer a class for anyone who wishes to learn how to write all of the wonderful family lore and stories that you have been collecting while doing genealogical research. Linda Coffin, of *HistoryCrafters*, will lead us in setting pen to paper or fingers to keyboard. Linda specializes in helping families get their photos and stories out of the boxes and onto the page.

Sokol Minnesota is partnering with Synnøve-Nordkap, Sons of Norway Lodge #1-008 for this project. The fee for the class is \$18 for Sokol or Synnøve-Nordkap members and \$23 for non-members. If a second member of Sokol or Synnøve-Nordkap, from the same household, would like to register, their fee is \$12. The class, open to anyone age 14 or older, will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday, May 9, at the CSPS Hall. Registration is required. You can download the form at <[www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org)>. Send the form and payment to Education Director Jean Draheim by May 5. If you do not have access to the website, please register by calling Jean at 651-426-2826.

**Singing:** We sing with Georgiana Dolejsi one-half hour (6:30 p.m.) before our membership meetings. Come and make your voice heard in Sokol, Slovak, and Czech song!

**Language Classes:** Session 3, Spring 2011

The Czech language classes started the week of March 14 and continue through May 4. The Slovak language classes will start April 7 and continue through May 26. We have several extra sets of both the Slovak and Czech language texts available for purchase. If you are interested, contact Jean at 651-426-2826.

## Velikonoce/Vel'ká noc

By Lenka Bragg

The Czech/Slovak Mom's Club will host a *Traditional Czech/Slovak Family Easter Celebration* at CSPS Sokol Hall on Saturday, April 23. From noon to 1 p.m., enjoy potluck (bring items to share). From 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., take part in the Czech/Slovak Easter activities (bring blown-out, unpainted eggs). From 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., see the puppet show.

The most significant tradition of Czech/Slovak Easter is painted eggs. At our Sokol Easter celebration: decorate eggs with hot wax or simpler egg coloring for younger children; purchase *perníková vajíčka* (gingerbread cookies) to decorate with Czech/Slovak motifs; make a special Easter stick from willow branches, and decorate with ribbons of different colors. The stick is called *pomlázka* in Czech; *korbač* in Slovak. On Easter Monday morning, boys and men legally can spank Czech/Slovak girls and women; they are even rewarded for it! This Easter custom often seems cruel to foreign visitors when they see it for the first time. According to tradition, young men (gently!) use *pomlázka/korbač* to whip the girls to bring them good health and keep them young.

The puppet show is about a boy who spends *velikonoce* at grandma's house in a Moravian village. Puppets are a great way to teach language as well as culture. We hope the puppets bring to life customs that we enjoyed as children in our home country.

Information/registration: <[www.cs-center.org](http://www.cs-center.org)> or Louise at 651-452-6240.

## Recent Visit with The President of the Czech Republic,

Vaclav Klaus

By Robert Vanasek, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic

The president of the Czech Republic, Vaclav Klaus, visited Chicago February 11 and 12. He was a keynote speaker at a conference organized by the Milton Friedman Institute at the University of Chicago in honor of the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Professor G.S. Becker, Nobel Prize winner in economics. President Klaus' speech took place at an all-day conference organized by the President of the University of Chicago, R.J. Zimmer. Former Secretary of State George Shultz was also in attendance as a guest speaker.

Honorary Consul Robert Vanasek and his wife, Mary, attended a reception in honor of President Klaus that was hosted by Dana Hunatova, Consul General of the Czech Republic in Chicago. Vanasek had an opportunity to visit personally with President Klaus, and invited him to come to Saint Paul and New Prague next September to attend festivals honoring our Czech and Slovak heritage.

## Member News Update By Marlene Hinshaw

On January 12, 2011, **Arnie and Debbie Ziskovsky**, founders of the *Domaci* Dancers, received the Cernin Palace Memorial Medal from the Czech Republic for promoting relations between the Czech Republic and the United States.

Not ones to rest on their laurels, they recently worked for two weeks in an artists-in-residency program at Le Center Elementary. For five hours each day, during physical education classes, they taught twelve Czech dances to 225 kids in grades K-4. A much anticipated recital was held the last day for grades K-6 and parents. Arnie and Debbie, in *kroje*, performed with the children. The music teacher taught the children to sing in Czech the refrain from *Pisnicka Ceska*. During the verses, the children waved Czech flags they had made. They also sang *Eating Kolace* in English. A teacher evaluator stated, "This is the best residency that we have had."

Arnie and Debbie, you are so deserving of your award. We thank you for the time and energy you spend promoting our precious Czech and Slovak heritage.

Many will remember **Linda and Rich Nicoli**, former members of the Saint Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers. Linda, Louise Wessinger's sister, also taught dance classes at the Hall. Linda and Rich moved to Florida in 2005. Can it really be that long ago? After visiting them recently, Louise reports that the Nicolis now have five grandchildren; three of whom are girls (very rare in their family).

Congratulations are in order for **Marit Lee Kucera**. Yes, she really does have a life outside of Sokol. Since 1985 she has been dyeing fabrics for quilters all over the world. Her hand-dyed fabrics, in four Hawaiian-style quilts, are featured in the *Powerful Quilt Calendar 2011*, designed by Kathy Nakajima, in Japan. Ask Marit to show you her colorful tees and lush colored scarves. Sometimes she sells them at our events. I'm the proud owner of a few pieces of her work.

Arriving early for our general February Sokol meeting, I found **Doreen McKenney, Katie Haselbauer, Jean Hall, and Louise Wessinger** hurriedly hauling everything out of our ancient, malfunctioning cupboards. I'm not sure how old the cupboards are, but Doreen showed me a box containing the salt/pepper shakers that was dated 1940. When I asked the ladies what was happening, they told me Mary Jo and Jim Chlebeczek donated money to replace the old cupboards and that their daughter Jodi, and son-in-law Brian Mondor, custom-built the new cupboards. Whoa!

On March 1, when I arrived at our Senior Singing class, I was blown away by the beautiful, tall (nearly touching the ceiling) cupboards. They even enclosed the piano. I love the rollout drawers. No more kneeling on the floor (too old) to get at things. Also, the cupboards blend in so well, it seems they've been there forever. Thank you, Mary Jo, Jim, Jodi, and Brian. And thanks also to several members who helped with the removal and installation. The new cupboards will be much loved and appreciated for many, many years.

*Please send news! Call: 651-222-4073 or e-mail: <marle5421@aol.com>. Our news deadline is the first of each month for the next month's Slovo. Send your news to me five days before the first of the next month (March 25 for May issue). Thank you.*

## Membership Updates By Norm Petrik, Membership Director

At its February 25 membership meeting, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota accepted Helen Cool as a new member. Helen, who is from Saint Paul, expressed interest in cooking, language, genealogy, history classes, and a variety of events including dances and dinners. She is currently taking the Slovak language class. She was present at the meeting, was installed, and received the welcome hug from Georgiana Dolejsi. Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!

The April membership meeting will be Friday, April 15, at 7 p.m. We hope to see you there.



## Spotlight on Sokol Volunteer Julie Tomáška

Julie Tomáška had been a member of Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota for only a month in early 2010 when she read in the *Slovo* that we needed a layout editor. She immediately volunteered. For a year, Julie skillfully, with style, lent her graphic expertise to laying out copy for the *Slovo*.



Photo by Joy Orcutt Photography

Julie is married to Milan, who was born and raised in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia; they have two sons, Milan (7) and Elias (2). Julie is a 13-year member of the Minnesota Air National Guard, works in geriatric research at the V.A. Medical Center in Minneapolis, is an independent researcher working on military combat reintegration issues within the Minnesota Air National Guard, as well as completing her Ph.D. in Public Health/Epidemiology. The Tomáška family looks forward to spending a month in Banska Bystrica this summer to visit their family and enjoy all the food and fun Slovakia has to offer!

We thank Julie for her dedication as a Sokol Minnesota volunteer. She gave great service as our newsletter's graphic artist. Thank you, Julie! We hope you have time in the future to join our *Slovo* staff again.

## April 9 Czech Music Concert

Frank Trnka, piano and *dudy* (Czech bagpipe) will be joined by Jody Ouradnik, soprano and folk harp, and Stu Anderson, sax and guitar, for a concert of A. Dvořák, Czech folk tunes, and '60s Pop in Czech, at the Prospect Park United Methodist Church, Orlin and Malcolm, Prospect Park, Southeast Minneapolis. 7 p.m. concert time. \$20 free-will donation suggested. CSPA Hall Legacy Fund will benefit from the proceeds.

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## Cooking with Cinnamon: Two Recipes for Stuffed Tomatoes By Cinnamon Whaley

Many of the recipes in the *Bohemian-American Cookbook* (first published in 1949) depend on recipes listed prior. I debated including only the Stuffed Tomato recipe I tried and editing in the relevant piece of the first recipe (Stuffed Tomato # 1), but that wouldn't be the complete picture. In the past I've made stuffed peppers but not stuffed tomatoes. I like stuffed peppers and make them with some regularity. I found some larger tomatoes at the grocery store and I had extra stew meat. I thought I'd use the second recipe as it seemed a little more exciting. The only issue I ran into was: should I have used the seeds and pulp? The recipe says to simmer the mixture, but there is no liquid to simmer. After frying the dry ingredients, I took them off the heat, added the egg yolk, and into the tomato they went. The recipe did not give an exact temperature to bake. I used 350° for 20 minutes.

Besides the simplicity of the recipe, I also enjoyed the fact that it easily made a single serving. However, February tomatoes could likely be improved upon! I'd like to make this again when nice heirlooms can be found. I'm glad I made the second recipe, with the yolk. I was tempted to add cheese, but the yolk and breadcrumbs created texture similar to melted cheese, almost chewy. Using stew meat also gave an extra kick of flavor and texture over using hamburger, which I usually use in stuffed peppers. I couldn't help but add a clove of garlic to the fry mixture; while the onion dominates, the garlic is a nice touch. I think the stuffing mixture easily could be transplanted into peppers, as well!

### \*Stuffed Tomatoes No. 1\* *Nadíváná rajská jablíčka*

Cut off the tops to form a lid or cover. Take out the seeds and pulp, mix it with fried breadcrumbs, minced parsley, salt, pepper, and stuff the tomatoes with this, then cover each with the lid and arrange in a buttered pan or baking dish, which you have sprinkled over with breadcrumbs. Dot with butter, cover with thick paper, and bake for 20 or 25 minutes in a medium oven.

### \*Stuffed Tomatoes No. 2\*

#### *Nadíváná rajská jablíčka na jiný způsob*

Prepare the tomatoes as directed in the foregoing recipe. Mince fine left-over meat or poultry add a minced fried onion, two tablespoons of breadcrumbs, salt and pepper, and simmer a moment or two, then add a beaten yolk, mix well and stuff the tomatoes with the mixture. Arrange them in a buttered baking pan, sprinkle with breadcrumbs, dot with butter, and bake.

## Find your Village and its Correct Present-Day Spelling

By Ginger Simek, President of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International <[www.cgsi.org](http://www.cgsi.org)>

If you know some family history about the name of your family's village, but have challenges with spelling and the language in which it is written, *Ortslexikon Sudetenland* by Professor Ernst Pfohl may be a good resource for you to start your search. The book title suggests it covers only the border area of Bohemia and Moravia, sometimes referred to as the "Sudetenland." This is not

the case; the book covers the entire country of Czechoslovakia as created after World War II.

Some areas had large German or Hungarian populations amongst the Czechs and Slovaks. In these areas, possibly German or Hungarian was the dominant language; and the location was better known by its German or Hungarian name. In this book locations are listed by their former German or Hungarian name, giving their present day Czech and Slovak name, and vice versa. The book, first published in 1931, now includes information on every location, even places that changed their names or no longer existed after World War II.

This valuable resource can help sort out the many locations with the same name, the majority ethnic group residing there, and the closest post office, among other things. A key to major abbreviations also is provided.

The June 2007 issue of *Naše Rodina* has an article with more detail on how this book is useful. A copy may be purchased on the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International website <[www.cgsi.org](http://www.cgsi.org)> or by contacting us at CGSI, P.O. Box 16225, Saint Paul, MN 55116-0225. The cost is \$5 (postage included) to U.S. addresses. The book is part of the CGSI collection at the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library, 1185 Concord Street North, South Saint Paul, Minnesota 55075

## SONG OF THE MONTH By Georgiana Dolejsi

*Ach, Synku, Synku* is published in *The American Sokol Sings*, American Sokol Cultural and Physical Organization, Berwyn, Illinois, 1974. This song was a favorite of Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk (1850-1937), founder and first president of Czechoslovakia.

### 12. ACH SYNKU, SYNKU

Česká z Berounska  
Erben 434 (M 12)

Ach synku, syu-ku, do-ma-li jsi? Ach synku,  
syn-ku, du-ma-li jsi, ta-tí-ček se ptá,  
o-ral-li jsi, ta-tí-ček se ptá, o-ral-li jsi.

[ : Ach synku, synku, doma-li jsi, :] [ : Což je ta cesta ušlapaná, :]  
[ : tatíček se ptá, oral-li jsi. :] [ : což je má milá uplakaná. :]  
[ : „Oral jsem, oral, ale málo, :] [ : Což je ta cesta tvrdá orat, :]  
[ : kolečko se mně polámalo. :] [ : už se nedáme spolu oddat. :]  
[ : Oral jsem, oral cestu bílou, :]  
[ : kudy jsem chodil za svou milou. :]

My dear son, you are home? Did you finish your work?  
Yes, I plowed but very little because a wheel broke.  
If you broke the wheel, then have it mended.  
Remember that a farm must be tended.

General English translation by Georgiana Dolejsi

## Jan Masaryk: Caught Between Two Worlds By Josef A. Mestenhauer

*Editor's note: This article is a continuation from previous issues and is an abbreviated version of an article appearing on the CSCC website <cs-center.org>.*

Now I will present the evidence supporting the argument that Jan Masaryk was indeed a victim of murder.

The first support for the murder theory arises from the denials of the Russian government to open its archives from that period. The Russians have released a great deal of other archival material, and still more records have become available through defectors who have smuggled important evidence about the Soviet system abroad. The question becomes: what are the Russians hiding in regards to Masaryk's death? Even though there is no firm evidence that the archives contain an answer, the implication seems obvious that such is indeed the case.

The only hard evidence that Masaryk was murdered comes from the results of the second autopsy, which found a type of foam in his mouth which would have been produced if his death was caused by asphyxiation.

The fact that all four inquiries into Masaryk's violent death, which I discussed in the previous article in this series, were superficial also suggests the likelihood of his murder. First of all, had Masaryk committed suicide, he surely would have left a note explaining his action. Leaving an explanation of his decision would have been consistent both with his "public" and "private" personalities, since it certainly would have condemned the communist takeover as well as the severe treatment to which the communists subjected all their opponents. Had such a note have



existed, the Soviets would without a doubt have suppressed its release and possibly locked it away in the Russian archives. The lack of a suicide note, though, coupled with our knowledge that Jan may not have had sufficient personal courage to take his own life, would support the theory that he was murdered for political reasons.

There are private admissions of at least the four persons said to have confessed separately and independently to the murder. Three of the confessions were by NKVD agents Vavra-Starik, August Schramm, and Colonel Vojtech Kohout (the one who claimed to have saved Masaryk's signature facsimile metal stamp as a "souvenir"), as well as by a Soviet general Michael Belkin. The disappearances of each of these people under strange circumstances certainly would support the possibility that they were participants in Masaryk's murder. There is no reason to believe that there was a single murderer; all four may have been involved.

My own belief is that Masaryk was indeed assassinated by the Soviets. Furthermore, I am certain (although I know of no one else who has suggested this likelihood publicly) that both Masaryk's office and his private quarters would have been subject to electronic surveillance. By means of this electronic spying, the Soviet and Czech secret services would have been aware that the "private" side of Masaryk's personality opposed the communist coup. They would also have been aware from listening to his conversations that he intended to escape from Czechoslovakia soon.

The death of Jan Masaryk was tragic in itself, but the lingering uncertainty about precisely how it happened, who was responsible, and what motivated his death makes his loss doubly tragic. We may never know its circumstances, yet the evidence is clear that he was murdered, despite all his efforts to accommodate the new communist system. It was, after all, his "private self" that did him in.

## Czech Films Coming to Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival in April

At least two Czech films will be screened by the Film Society of Minneapolis/St. Paul in its upcoming 2011 Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival. The final schedule has not been determined, so be sure to watch for more information on dates and possible additional Czech and also Slovak films on the festival's website at <www.mspfilmfestival.org>. The festival runs from April 14 through May 5 at the St. Anthony Main Theatre, 115 Southeast Main Street, Minneapolis 55414.

### *Czech Peace* - 2010 - Filip Remunda

Mastermind Czech mischief-makers Vít Klusák and Filip Remunda ("Czech Dream," TCFF '05) are back with the story of Star Wars, the Cold War, and the War on Terror converging on the small Czech village of Trokavec. The U.S. military has set its sights on building a radar base in a former hiding place for Soviet rockets, in spite of overwhelming protest from Czech locals who fear they'll once again fall victim to the foreign policies of an international superpower. Featuring a uniquely Central European brand of absurdist humor, this rollicking documentary offers an

incisive portrait of the Czech Republic twenty years after the fall of communism.

### *Kawasaki's Rose* - 2010 - Jan Hrebejk

A drama about family and politics, the role of memory in relationships, and that of jealousy, arrogance, love, loyalty, and betrayal. Pavel, a distinguished psychiatrist is about to receive an award for his life's work and his role as a dissident; his handsome wife and adoring grown daughter are pleased the honor is coming his way. But Ludek, his son-in-law, employed on a documentary crew filming Pavel, resents that his own family, rooted in Czechoslovakia's Communist past, ended up on the wrong side of history; while his wife's family is now la crème de la crème. When Ludek discovers that Pavel may have corroborated with the secret police in order to silence a romantic rival, the plot thickens immeasurably. *Kawasaki's Rose* considers the ways in which the past never stops informing the present, especially in societies where secrets were the way of life, and professional or personal success could depend upon a single well-placed piece of information, be it true or false.

## VOLUNTEER and ATTEND SPRING 2011 SOKOL EVENTS

### Czech Music Benefit Concert with Frank Trnka

Prospect Park United Methodist Church  
Orlin and Malcolm, Prospect Park, Southeast Minneapolis.

**Saturday, April 9, 7 p.m**

### Annual Sokol Garage Sale

Set-up on Wednesday, April 13, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**Sale: April 14 and 15**

Thursday noon - 7 p.m. / Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

### Pancake Breakfast with Bake & Craft Sales

**Sunday, April 17, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

Sokol Bakers: Please Donate your Finest Baked Goods

### Urban Expedition at Landmark Center

**Sunday, April 17, 1-3 p.m.** Louise: 651-452-6240

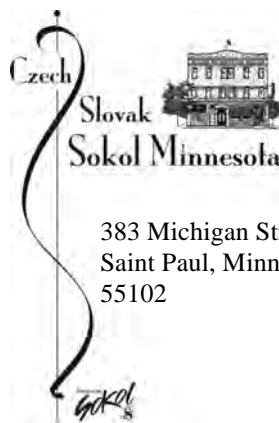
### Festival of Nations at The Saint Paul River Center

**Thursday thru Sunday, May 5 - 8**

For more information or to sign up for a shift:

Mary: 651-738-9470 (café) or Doreen: 952-941-0426 (bazaar)

visit [www.sokolmn.org](http://www.sokolmn.org) for updates



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## Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota SLOVO April 2011

*Your junk is someone else's new treasure! Bring us your gently-used surplus, lonesome dust collectors, all those unwanted gifts. We will take it all (almost\*) and gladly!*

### **Sokol Minnesota Annual Garage Sale**

Drop-off at CSPA Hall starts March 25

Set-up on Wednesday, April 13, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

**Sale: April 14 and 15 at CSPA Hall**

**Thursday noon-7 p.m./Friday 10 a.m.-3 p.m**

- ♦clothing ♦shoes/boots ♦garden/yard/shop tools ♦books
- ♦toys ♦jewelry ♦dishes/pots/pans/utensils ♦decorations
- ♦CDs/records/videos ♦antiques/collectibles ♦small furniture
- ♦towels/sheets/linens ♦crafts ♦knickknacks ♦lots more!

Have some time? **Volunteer** for set-up on Wednesday, staff the sale on Thursday or Friday, or take-down on Friday afternoon. Contact:

Doreen: 952-941-0426 [doreenlouise@aol.com](mailto:doreenlouise@aol.com)

Marit: 651-222-2483 [maritleekucera@comcast.net](mailto:maritleekucera@comcast.net)

\*Thanks, but no large furniture, mattresses, electronics, bicycles, or skis.

### **Spring Brings Palm Sunday Breakfast with Bake and Craft Sales** By Louise Wessinger

Whether you are hungry for pancakes or French toast, you can have your choice (or both) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at our traditional Spring Pancake and French Toast Breakfast with Bake, and Craft Sales at the CSPA Sokol Hall. Breakfast Chair Ed Hamernik offers French Toast or all-you-can eat pancakes with fruit cup, sausage, juice, milk, and coffee. The price is \$6.50 for adults and \$4.50 children under 9. There also is the family-friendly option of \$20 for a family of four.

Bake Sale Chair Doreen McKenney and our Sokol cooks offer *kolache* and lots of goodies for your Easter table. All Sokol members are invited to bring baked items, goodies, fun Easter baskets, and small potted plants to offer for sale. Donated items for the bake sale may be brought to the Hall on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon or Sunday morning.

Louise Wessinger, Vendor Chair, has invited a variety of vendors. If you wish to reserve a sales table, call Louise at 651-452-6240.

Hop on down for breakfast and all your Easter goodies, then join us at the Landmark Center for the *Urban Expedition*.