

UPCOMING EVENTS August 2015

September Slovo Deadline
August 1

Sokol Minnesota Singers
August 4 & 18, 10 a.m.

Sokal Camp Booya Picnic
August 9, Noon - 5 p.m.

Board of Trustees
August 8, 7 p.m.

Board of Directors
August 20, 7 p.m.

Wine Tasting
August 21, 6 p.m.

Czech and Slovak Festival
September 27, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Volunteer Opportunities

Czech and Slovak Fall Festival September 27

- gather silent auction items
- bake *koláče*
- put out signs
- help set up and take down tents and tables
- sell tickets
- cover a shift in a booth
- and much more.

Contact Joyce: 612-822-6147

Booya Picnic is August 9 By Kari and Scott Muyres, Sokol Booya Co-Chairs

Summer is finally here! Now is the time to start imagining how that first zesty spoonful of Booya will taste in your mouth, the gentle summer breeze flowing in your hair, and the catchy rhythm of the concertina forcing a tap in your toe. August 9 is fast approaching for the 85th annual Booya Picnic hosted at the historic Sokol Camp in Pine City, Minnesota. This year we will have an additional kettle of Booya, along with a pre-sale to guarantee your order. If you happened to miss out on the pre-order, please contact either Kari or Scott at <skdmlmuyres@yahoo.com> or call 763-226-0313.

The day will be fun-filled and promises something for everyone! Come rain or shine. We look forward to seeing you! The schedule of festivities:

12:00 noon: welcome/opening address.
Food and beverage sales, pull tabs, and General Store are open to the public.

12:30: Live Bingo

2:00: Children's field games and adult /teen bag toss tournament

3:30: Live performance of the St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers

3:30: Bulk booya on sale to public

4:15: Adult relay races

4:45: Raffle drawing/silent auction ends

If you have new, unused prizes for bingo or gently used household items for the Country Store, please contact Pat Andrlé: 651-484-6360.

Interested in sharing your elbow grease to help with set-up or tear down?

Contact Scott Muyres: 612-387-9274,
Kari Muyres: 763-226-0313, or
Don Andrlé: 651-484-6360. *Thank you!*



Vintage Sokol Camp picture

Wine Tasting at C.S.P.S. Hall August 21 By Cheryl Nelson

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota and the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center (C.S.C.C.) of Minnesota co-host a Wine Tasting event on Friday, August 21, at 6 p.m. at C.S.P.S. Hall. The wine tasting highlights wines of Central Europe. This is the first in a series of wine tastings focused on different countries in Central Europe. Our kick-off wine tasting discussion begins with wines of Austria and why they are a great starting point for our discussion on Central European wines. We will also have some wines from Moravia, Hungary, and Croatia, along with suggested food and wine pairings for all of the wines tasted. There will be two flights of wine with three samples each along with appetizers. Cost is \$30 per person.

Our host Jason Kallsen is a well-known Twin Cities area wine expert and lecturer. His wine tastings are fun, educational, and entertaining. Jason has been educating the Twin Cities about wine since 1998 through his business Twin Cities Wine Education. Learn more about him at <www.twincitieswine.com>.

Reservations and \$30 per person payment must be made by August 15.

C.S.C.C. is taking reservations online through its website: <www.cs-center.org>.

Joyce Tesarek, Renata Ticha, and Cheryl Nelson, all members of both Sokol Minnesota and C.S.C.C., are coordinating the Wine Tasting.

Please join us for this unique and fun event.

**Czech and Slovak
Sokol Minnesota
2015 BOD
(Board of Directors)**

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

Prezidentův komentář/President's Notes
Pozdrav, bratři a sestry/Greetings, Brothers and Sisters

By Judy Aubrecht

Our Summertime offers us a chance to do some different things, including, for me, leading others and meeting a movie director.

Louise Wessinger and I were fortunate to have the assistance of four young women and four young men as volunteer junior leaders at the 18th annual Czech and Slovak Children's Cultural Day Camp at the C.S.P.S. Hall, June 15-19. The junior leaders were ages 15 to 18. Some had been campers themselves for a number of years, some were encouraged by their families to volunteer, and others perhaps saw an opportunity to assist while accumulating volunteer hours for school or other programs. All eight junior leaders were enthusiastic and helpful, even when, for some, a request was outside their past experiences. "I have never danced in my life. Do I have to?" The campers enjoyed having these older students to guide them. One day, all of the young men had to be gone; the campers noticed and inquired, "Where are the boys today?"

Before the camp started, Louise and I made a list of regular and extra jobs that the junior leaders could do during the week, which included organizing camp materials, leading an afternoon small group, developing a treasure hunt for the campers, and weeding garden areas outside the Hall. By the middle of the first morning, most of the jobs were already completed. Louise and I were challenged to add to the list. During the week there was time for an in-depth conversation about how to apply to colleges, how to cross stitch, and quick advice for the best way to wash dishes and sharpen knives, for junior leaders with little experience in those areas.

Camp is a place for all of us to connect with the Czech and Slovak heritage, as well as an opportunity for people of all ages to make friends, share common interests, and expand ourselves with new opportunities. When Louise and I hear campers, junior leaders, and adult volunteers say "I'll be back next year," we know that the camp has been a success.

Five Czech films were screened at the Film Society of Minneapolis/St. Paul, June 24-28. I saw the film *Pojedeme k moři (To See the Sea)* which included a special appearance by Jiří Mádl, the film's screenwriter and director. The film followed two inquisitive eleven-year-old boys as they discovered more about their lives through making a film with new cameras. There was a lively question and answer session after the show with the director. Later some of us enjoyed a fine summer evening on a lovely nearby St. Antony Main restaurant patio, where we were fortunate to meet Jiří Mádl, who is just as engaging in a small group as he was in front of a large audience.

Please mark your calendars for Sokol Minnesota's Camp Association Booya Picnic in Pine City, Minnesota, on August 9 from noon to 5 p.m. A new feature this year is that you can pre-order booya, to ensure that you will be able to take some home.

To order, call Scott at 763-226-0313. Nazdar!

Central European Wine Tasting

August 21, 6 p.m. • \$30 includes wine and appetizers
Reservations: www.cs-center.org

Honorary Consuls, plus Sokol Minnesota Committee Chairs (not seated on the BOD)

Honorary Slovak Consul: Donald Pafko Honorary Czech Consul Designate: Marit Lee Kucera

Past Honorary Czech Consul: Robert Vanasek

Gift Shop: Doreen McKenney

Kitchen Coordinator: open

Housekeeping: Robert J. (Jake) Jacobson

Sunshine Committee: open

Website: Joe Landsberger

Volunteer Coordinator: open

Taneční Mládež Školka, and Teen Folk Dancers: Louise Wessinger

Hall Contacts: Ed Hamernik

Slovo newsletter: Marit Lee Kucera, Christy Banks, Deb Ziskovsky, Mary Kucera

E-Addresses: President: president@sokolmn.org | Board of Directors: board@sokolmn.org |

Education/Language Programs: education@sokolmn.org | Events: events@sokolmn.org |

Czech/Slovak Festival: festival@sokolmn.org | Finance/Fund Raising/Legacy Fund:

finance@sokolmn.org | Fitness Programming: fitness@sokolmn.org | Folk Dancing:

folkdancing@sokolmn.org | Gaming: gaming@sokolmn.org | Gift Shop: giftshop@sokolmn.org |

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Board of Trustees: trustees@sokolmn.org | Webmaster: webmaster@sokolmn.org

Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors

By Arlene Hamernik, Corresponding Secretary

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

General Fund

Up to \$99: **Don and Katie Haselbauer** in memory of **Jim Hillier**.

Legacy Fund

Up to \$99: **Kathryn S. Lorence, Joan Sedlacek**.

\$100 - \$499: **Darlene Sitko, Rose Vessely**.

\$3,000: **Minnesota Sokol Camp Association** (check presented by Ron Andriele at May Members Meeting).

\$10,000: **Paul Imbrone's** donation was matched by **Macy's/Bloomingtondale's**.

In-Kind Donations

Joan Sedlacek, kitchen insert pans, plants for outside planter.

• **Legacy Fund total: \$13,280** • **General Fund Total: \$25**

Membership Updates

By Norm Petrik, Membership Director

At the May 15 membership meeting, Elizabeth Kaliska from Saint Paul was accepted as a member in Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota. She was present at the meeting and was installed by Membership Director Norm Petrik. She has interests in cooking, history, language, dances, dinners, festivals, films, music, and theater. She is the newly-crowned Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota Queen, and at our membership meeting she played both the *pišťalka* and a *fujara* (Slovak shepherd's flutes).

At the June 18 Board of Directors meeting, Theresa Schousek

C.S.P.S. LEGACY FUND

We ask for your support of renovations to C.S.P.S. Hall as we celebrate the Hall's 128th year in 2015.

Contact Joyce Tesarek to discuss your tax-deductible donation: 612-822-6147 or <finance@sokolmn.org>
Thank you!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

To help Restore, Renovate, and Refurbish the C.S.P.S. Hall, I make a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

I would like my gift designated: in memory or in honor of: _____

Make checks payable to **Sokol MN**
Write **Legacy Fund** in the memo line
Mail to **C.S.P.S. Hall Legacy Fund**
383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102
Or donate online **www.sokolmn.org** *Thank You!*



from Houlton, Wisconsin, was accepted as a member in Sokol Minnesota. She has two children who attended the children's Cultural Day Camp this summer, and she expressed interest in cooking, genealogy, history, dinners, festivals, films, literature, music, and theater. Her children have interests in gymnastics and language. Welcome to Sokol Minnesota!

Sokol Minnesota Annual Memberships

Renewals: Individual \$50; Couple \$90.
Senior \$40 (over age 65); Senior couple \$80.

New memberships: Individual \$55; Couple \$95.

This includes a one-time \$5 registration fee with our national organization, American Sokol Organization. Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's annual membership runs from January 1 to December 31. Dues are reduced for members joining after June 30.

Membership applications: <www.sokolmn.org> or by request from Norm Petrik (612-822-6147). Please send your completed membership application and check to

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, Attn: Membership
383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

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 *Slovo* Advisory Committee welcomes submissions. Send news, articles, and pictures digitally to <slovo@sokolmn.org>.

The deadline for the September 2015 issue is August 1.

This August 2015 issue of *Slovo* will be archived on the Sokol Minnesota website by mid-August: <www.sokolmn.org>

Slovo 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 6 weeks before publication (August 15 for October issue), with ad and payment due by copy deadline (September 1 for October issue).

Slovo gift subscriptions and non-member renewals are \$15/year (10 issues). (Rate is good through May 2016.) Please include name, address, phone number, and email address with your new/renewing non-member subscription.

Make your check to: **Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota**. Send to: Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *Slovo* Subscriptions, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102. Extra copies of *Slovo* are \$2 each, plus postage, while supply lasts.

Please contact us for a **change of address**, for problems with *Slovo* subscriptions, if you missed an issue, or if you received notice of payment due when a payment has already 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 this newsletter suspended during this time or if you wish to have it sent to your out-of-town residence, please let us know. After one returned issue, we hold all future issues until you notify us. We pay 49¢ for each returned issue.

Email us: <slovo@sokolmn.org>, phone us: 651-290-0542, or write us: Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102. *Thank you!*

Member Volunteer *Slovo* staff: Christy Banks, copy editor; M. L. Kucera, managing editor; Mary Kucera, production assistant; Deb Ziskovsky, labels; Joyce Tesarek and Martina Gurgel, photographers; Doreen McKenney, ad designer; Mary Cahill, mailing production; Joan Sedlacek, mailing; with Jean Draheim, Arlene Hamernik, Norm Petrik, Jitka Sebek, Pam Snopl, advisors. Photographs: Martina Gurgel, M.L. Kucera, Don Pafko, Joyce Tesarek, and Deb Ziskovsky.

News from the Board of Trustees

By Chuck Draheim

In spite of a rainy start, the Board of Trustees (BOT) conducted a successful work day on June 13. BOT and Sokol members included Tom Aubrecht, Dan Bednar, Jason Brozovich, Dennis Cahill, Chuck Draheim, Jake Jacobson, Lloyd Krocak, and Terry Shima.

Jean Draheim prepared a delicious batch of venison Sloppy Joes, or "Untidy Josephs" as the late Karleen Shepard used to call them, for our lunch. Others contributed salads and additional items to round out the menu. Our lunches are a great time to visit and get to know each other better.

Good progress was made on repairing and repainting the woodwork on the south and east sides of the building and painting the three entry doors on the south and west sides. This area had been neglected for many years; there is a lot of peeling paint and rotting wood to be replaced. Much remains to be done.

Sokol received its semi-annual fire safety inspection in May. We were cited for a number of minor items and one major item. For the most part, the minor items have been resolved. The major citation was for our aging and decrepit fire escape on the north side of the building. The BOT will work diligently to resolve this major issue as quickly as possible. The lean-to shed on the north side is also in dire need of replacement. The roof is caving in and the interior of the structure is covered in black mold. Preliminary discussions have started with a local general contractor to correct both of these problems. These are expensive projects; however, they are both necessary for Sokol to retain its certificate of occupancy. Please consider making a donation to Sokol to help fund these projects.

This is my last article as chair of the Board of Trustees. After much deliberation I have resigned from the BOT. I need to focus my energies on running my business, taking care of my family, and completing the remodeling of our new home in Marine-On-St. Croix. I intend to remain active in Sokol and help out on events and projects as time allows.

It has been a pleasure to serve Sokol on the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors for the last six years. I wish the new BOT chair the best of luck in this challenging position.

Slovo Seeks New Copy and Managing Editors

Christy Banks and Marit Lee Kucera want to pass on their red pens to a new *Slovo* Team.

We have committed ourselves for more than five years to making the Slovo the best Sokol newsletter possible.

Now it is time for a new Slovo Team.

Please volunteer for these challenging, but highly rewarding Sokol Minnesota positions.

Contact: slovo@sokolmn.org

Consular Corps College Chancellor Meeting in Chicago

By Don Pafko

In April, the chancellors of the Consular Corps College met in Chicago, Illinois, to plan the curriculum for the next Consular Corps College in Washington, D.C. The Chancellors spent two days putting together an educational curriculum that will benefit attendees of the Consular Corps College in mid-November. Don Pafko, Honorary Slovak Consul and Sokol Minnesota member, is a chancellor of the Consular Corps



College and was instrumental in planning for the November training session. All of the Consuls General from various countries, who are stationed in Chicago, were invited to a luncheon hosted by the chancellors. Over 35 Consuls General and chancellors attended this reception and luncheon. Don Pafko (on right) had the honor of being seated with the Czech Consul General Bořek Lizék (on left).

SOKOL MEMBER NEWS

Sokol Minnesota members **Judy (Neil) Metcalf**, Oakdale, and **Joe (Tamara Amon) Stodola**, St. Paul, lost their father **Joseph J. Stodola**, age 86, on June 2. Joseph Stodola was very proud of his Czech heritage. He loved going to the Sokol camp picnic for the booya and to watch the dancing. Joseph J. and his wife Beverley, who survives him, were Sokol members for several years. Three other children, 13 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren survive him.

Sokol Members **Bea Flaming**, **Hana Matousek**, and **Marit Lee Kucera** went to Chicago for Prague Days in mid-June to help Chicago and Prague celebrate 25 years as sister cities. Special events included concerts, gallery openings, films, a Gala dinner with Czech diplomats and Czech-American celebrities, and the chance to see Chicago-land Sokols. Hana and Marit also toured the Bohemian National Cemetery, founded in 1877, on the northside of Chicago.

My Ten Minutes of Fame in a Documentary Film

By Denise Stibal As the Food Editor of the German Bohemian Heritage Society (GBHS) newsletter, I was selected to prepare the "Food" section for the Documentary of the German-Bohemians filmed this past spring. The "German Bohemians" are German-speaking natives whose homeland was in the present-day Czech Republic and part of Germany. Many of the villages were destroyed and many of the citizens were relocated after WWII. With my ancestry being half "true Czech" and half "German-Bohemian," I can attest to the fact that the food of both countries is very similar. We both enjoy sauerkraut, pork, and dumplings. The main difference is in pastries and desserts. You won't find *koláče* or much made with poppy seeds in Germany. German desserts have more spice cookies and tortes, plus cheesecakes made in the old days with homemade cottage cheese.

Dan Hoisinger, the creator and filmmaker, asked me for three dishes. I chose pork hocks and sauerkraut, bread dumplings with horseradish gravy, and *Smearkuchen* (German Cheesecake). The first two dishes can be found in both Czech and German cookbooks, but the latter is truly German. *Smearkuchen* has a soft dough crust and is filled with cottage cheese, cream, eggs, and prunes sprinkled with cinnamon and sugar. As Dan told me, "It brought tears to the eyes" of many he interviewed when asked about their favorite foods from childhood.

Our documentary premiered on May 16 at the GBHS Spring Dinner in New Ulm, Minnesota. The nearly two-hour video featured music, farming, crafts, religion, and memories of "growing up." Many fascinating stories were told. Of course, I was anxious for the "Food" section to appear. I didn't know what would be included. Six hours of cooking and preparation was condensed into ten minutes with only the *Smearkuchen* demonstration featured. Everyone's favorite memories of family usually include huge dinners and "special" dishes. I was honored to be part of a piece of our Bohemian-German history being recorded for posterity. For more information, visit the website <www.germanbohemianheritagesociety.com>

The Best Ways to See Prague By Vanda Kofroňová, Columnist from Prague

“Could you rent a car for us?” Mary asked me one week before she came to visit Prague. Mary is a friend of mine from the Twin Cities. Her question was understandable. Public transport does not really work well in Minnesota, does it? And it is very easy to park a car in parking garages that are all over the place. This is far from true in Prague.

Not only are there traffic jams in the city center every day, but finding a place to park often is a very difficult task. Narrow streets just do not offer enough room, and centuries-old houses do not have spaces very suitable for parking. Therefore it is much better to use trams, buses, or the underground. You can even use a little boat to cross the river Vltava in the center or take the funicular that goes up the Petřín hill (these two means of transport are, of course, used most often by tourists).

Prices of tickets are higher than in some other European cities; for a one-hour journey you will pay almost two dollars. Still, it is cheaper than gas, which is more than two dollars per liter these days. Public transportation stations are clean and the

time plan is also quite convenient. Night trams can take you home from almost any party no matter how late or early it is.

There are a few disadvantages, of course. Most of the people who rarely use public transport in Prague say that some of their fellow travelers do not use deodorants in the summer. That can really make your trip unpleasant.

During the winter months, homeless people sometimes use the heating in the trams to get some sleep. And public transportation is also a favorite working place of Prague pickpockets, so do not forget to watch your belongings. I know that sound terrible, but most of the time you will not have any troubles in public transport.

As I do not want to end this article on a pessimistic note, I will underline one more great thing about Prague public transport.

As it goes through the old part of the city, you can use it as a sightseeing tour. I sometimes take a longer route than necessary, just to see how beautiful this city is.

Have a great summer!

Two Czech Glass Artists Make Midwest Connection By Marcia Hamernik Oltrogge

Petr Novotný and Jiří Pačinek, famous glass artists in the Czech Republic, are now using locally-made American torches in their work. They attended the International Art Glass show in San Jose, California, in early June and visited the Premier Industries booth staffed by Craig Hamernik, son of Sokol members Ed and Arlene Hamernik. (Ed and Craig are part-owners of Premier Industries.) Before the artists left the booth, they each purchased a torch and tips to use as they teach glass art classes.



(L-R) Craig Hamernik, Petr Novotný, and Jiří Pačinek

Mr. Novotný is a world-famous designer and glass artist. He is in demand for training master glass makers from the United States, Japan, and other countries. He is one of two owners of Ajetto, an art school established in 1993 at Lindava in the Czech Republic. Experts list him among the top three world-

class personalities in the field of glass. Mr. Novotný has collaborated with well-known glass artist Dale Chihuly. Visit ajetoglass.com/en/ to see his fascinating designs. Jiří Pačinek teaches glass art classes in Czech Republic, Turkey, and other countries. In his studio in Lindava, he has created glass for many world-known artists and designers and pieces for museums around the world. He is most known for his intricate and imaginative human and animal-inspired

sculptures as well as vases, plates, and bowls.

It has been said that Mr. Pačinek is one of the best glass artists in the world. See pacinekglass.com to see his unique and interesting work.

UPCOMING EVENTS. . .

Czech Heritage Festival, August 9, Bechyn, Minnesota, (10 miles north of Redwood Falls). Polka Mass at 10 a.m. Roast Pork Dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Afternoon outdoor entertainment and music by the Wendinger Band, Malek Fishermen Band, Bechyn Czech Folk Dancers, and Sleepy Eye Area Concertina Club. Plenty of activities for young and old alike. Free admission. Info: www.CzechFest.com

Rusalka, Dvořák's Lyrical Opera, January 31, 2016. Buy your group-priced tickets by September 15. The Minnesota Opera last performed Antonín Dvořák's opera *Rusalka* in 2008 at the Ordway Center. A Sokol Minnesota group attended and enjoyed a wonderful evening. Sokol Minnesota is again making arrangements for group-priced tickets to see *Rusalka* on Sunday, January 31, 2016, 2 p.m. (Sports fans will be relieved that the opera takes place one week before the Super Bowl.)

Plan to attend the pre-opera program at 1 p.m. on the second floor of the Ordway Center; learn details about the opera and hear musical highlights, sung by very skilled opera students. *Rusalka* is sung in Czech, with English translations projected above the stage. The price for a group ticket in the balcony: \$63, gallery: \$43, and partial view gallery: \$23. See www.mnopera.org for the seating chart. The group-priced tickets can be at any price, as long as we sell at least ten tickets.

Rusalka was a beautiful Czech water nymph who fell in love with a prince. She agreed to sacrifice her voice in return for the chance to enter into his human world. But betrayal condemned her to eternal solitude. Dvořák mixed the mortal and the mythical with beautiful folk melodies and luminous arias, including *Rusalka's* heartbreaking *Song to the Moon*.

To reserve your group-priced ticket for *Rusalka*, please send your check, made out to Sokol MN, *Rusalka* Group Tickets, Sokol MN, 383 Michigan Street, St. Paul, MN 55102, no later than September 15, 2015.

**Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's
Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camp, June 15-19, 2015
*Česko-slovenský tábor Sokola Minnesota, 15-19 červen 2015***



Exploring Heritage and Folklore: Our 18th Annual Czech and Slovak Cultural Day Camp

By Louise Wessinger and Judy Aubrecht, Co-Directors

"I had so much fun!" was the comment made by many at the end of camp party on Friday, June 19. After a week of learning about Czech and Slovak folklore, including stories, folk dress (*kroje*), songs, dance, cooking, language, crafts and gymnastics, campers were packing up their binders and saying, "See you next year" to many new friends. Seventeen campers ages 9 through 14 were part of the 18th annual Sokol Culture Camp week. Among the group were many familiar faces, but also seven new faces. Three campers from Appleton, Wisconsin, stayed with their grandmother in a Bloomington hotel so they could attend camp together. One of our returning campers told his Mom, "I wish Czech and Slovak camp was two weeks instead of just one!"

During the mornings, campers attended four activities. Sokol instructor Siri Schroeder provided gymnastic instruction. Crafts, designed by Doreen McKenney, included an ethnic cottage, a little person dressed in folk dress, and a map puzzle of the Czech and Slovak areas. Assisting with crafts were Sharon Liska, Jean Draheim, and Martina Gurgel (also camp photographer). Czech language instructor Lenka Bragg helped children learn many Czech basics. Judy Aubrecht organized daily cooking lessons with campers making sauerkraut, large *kolo koláčes*, *halušky*, *boršč* (borsch), and three kinds of *chlebičky* (open-faced sandwiches). Helpers were Katherine Pacovsky and Arlene Vonek. Despite foot surgery, Louise Wessinger, was able to teach singing and dancing, with her cousin

Don Haselbauer on piano. Joan Sedlacek, who provided the seven wall-length folklore and folk hero wall hangings, was helpful in all areas of camp.

Each day honored an area of the Czech and Slovak Republics. Special guests highlighted stories that are part of each area's history. Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Czech Consul Designate, gave several geographical facts comparing the Czech Republic and Minnesota. She paraphrased the folk tale about the water sprite that lives under the Charles Bridge in Prague. She also showed the newly published book, *This is Prague*, by Michaela Kukovičová and Olga Černá. Greta Helmel honored her Moravian background by modeling a *kroj* (folk dress) from Moravia. On Slovakia day, our guest was Elizabeth Kaliska, Miss Czech Slovak Minnesota, who played Slovak wooden folk instruments, the *fujara* and *píšťalka*. Princess Madison Jerde read several stories about Jánošík, the Slovak Robin Hood, and sang *Over the Rainbow* in English and Czech. Honorary Slovak Consul Don Pafko stopped by for a visit and to wish us well. Karen Varian, of the Carpatho-Rusyn Association, talked about the Rusyn people and read one of their most popular folk tales. We'd like to give a huge "thank you" to all our special guests.

Our junior leaders always make camp week more fun. This year we were lucky to have eight junior leaders, many of whom are former campers: Joanna Carman, Matt Duncan, Hailey Greschner, Katya Gurgel, Greta Helmel, Tyler Liska, Nolan Rohde, and Simon Wicks. Thank you for keeping camp clean, organized, and fun!

Thanks to Sokol Minnesota and all of our volunteers who provide this opportunity for our children to experience their Czech and Slovak heritage and make new friends. We hope to see you all again next year.

Darkness. Zdena Salivarová. Quarterly West, Spring/Summer 1983, No. 16, 1983, 76-111. Available in bookstores and libraries.

BOOK REVIEW: Two Young Innocents Have an Adventure By Gwen Willems, Ph.D.

The fine craftsmanship of one of my favorite expatriate Czech authors, Zdena Salivarová, shines through in *Darkness*. For the most part, little of Salivarová's writing is available in English. She devoted much of her energy to running 68 Publishers, a publishing house for Czech literature that she and her husband, the author Josef Škvorecký, started in Toronto after they left Czechoslovakia in 1969.

In this easy-to-read novella in English, Salivarová tells the story of two vulnerable young Czechoslovakian women who visit Russia to perform with a theater group. The actions and lessons are universal ones that could be set anywhere. The author opens with a Shakespearean quotation from *As You Like It*, "Here come a very strange pair of beasts which in all tongues are called fools." By the end of this story, the two main characters realize they've been real fools.

The protagonist, Vera, and her friend, Kristyna, accept the invitation of two men to visit their dacha in the countryside. Kristyna, more naïve than Vera and seeking an adventure, says, "It'll be an experience. Remember like we promised ourselves that we'd try everything here," she was wheedling again, "And not just the official rot." Vera realized, "The truth was that we were all fed up with things official. Mass excursions to museums, galleries and places of historical interest, where everybody crowds behind the guide, all the while dying for it to be over already. And group discussions about the eternal friendship between our two countries."

The two women get more than they bargained for when it is clear that the smooth-talking men are not interested in talking about Russian literature. Vera tries to get the fable-writer Sergei to explain why he writes unsuccessful satires about animals instead of stories about people, which she thinks would be easier for him to write and for readers to understand. The men are more interested in plying Vera and Kristyna with vodka and taking advantage of them. In the middle of the night, Vera hatches an escape plan and talks Kristyna into leaving with her. The two walk for miles in the snowy countryside. As Vera says, "Better to ruin your shoes than lose your virtue." Finally they catch a ride with a young woman driving a large truck to the construction site in Leningrad where she works. The driver chats with Vera and Kristyna and yearns wistfully for the "pretty things" that she's heard are for sale in Prague.

Darkness was one of three novellas chosen from a pool of 269 to win the Quarterly West Novella Competition. "The novella can be defined as a fictional narrative too long for magazines to publish, too short for publication as an individual book," wrote Gordon Weaver, then English professor at Oklahoma State University and one of the readers of the submissions.

Gwen coordinates the *Literary Ventures*, the Czech and Slovak book discussion group now on summer break until September. For more information: <www.cs-center.org> or contact <gwen@cs-center.org>.

Donate to the Czech-Slovak Fall Festival's Silent Auction

Sokol is now accepting items valued at \$10 or more for the silent auction.

Contact: ginalawyer2004@yahoo.com to arrange donations

Festival of Nations 2015

By Joyce Tesarek and Louise Wessinger



① Taneční Mládež. ② Taneční Teens. ③ Elizabeth Kaliska (Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota), Emily Vikla (Miss Congeniality), Emma Martin, Martina Gurgel, and the daughters of Zuzana Bracknell, Alena Youngberg, Jitka Sebek, and Martina Gurgel. ④ Vintage *kroj*. ⑤ Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers: Lara Ciganko and Paul Knuth. ⑥ Romana Pulkrabek wrote names in Czech. ⑦ St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers. ⑧ Beaded and embroidered *kroj* apron. ⑨ Renata Ticha in Roma *kroj*.

The Czech-Slovak Café Booth at the 2015 Festival of Nations, April 30 - May 3, in downtown St. Paul was a great success, giving many opportunities for community, fun, and profit.

We made triple our usual batches of *halušky* (dumplings, cabbage, and bacon); 200 dozen prune, apricot, poppy seed, raspberry, and cream cheese *koláče*; many dozen *chlebičky* (open-faced sandwiches); and sold lots of *jitrnice*, pork patties, fried cheese, and more. Our chefs, cooks, and servers alike had great fun. We raised almost \$3,000!

Co-chairs were Jason Brozovich, Dawn Bulera, Mary Cahill, and Joyce Tesarek. Food prep and event volunteers included Don Andrie, Judy Aubrecht, Kate Aubrecht, Tom Aubrecht, Darlene Baker, Jim Baker, Julie Bohn, Colleen Cahill, Megan Cahill, Barbara Carlson, Jim Chlebeck, Mary Jo Chlebeck, Cynthia Coulter, Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Shannon Duffy, Peg Endres, Mary Kate Gross, Martina Gurgel, Jean Hall, Kari Jean Hall, Arlene Hamernik, Ed Hamernik, Gretchen Haselbauer, Katie Haselbauer, Don Haselbauer, Megan Haselbauer, Jackie Hawes, Carol Horak, Genna Howie, Jake Jacobson, Ann Janda, Ken Janda, Elizabeth Kaliska,

Darla Kolb, Jyni Koschak, Bob Kostichka, Ivana Kovar, Kathy Krisko, Lloyd Krocak, Al Kugler, Joe Landsberger, Pam Langworthy, John Liemandt, Sharon Liska, Lucie Mannheimová, Courtney Marek, Dave Martin, Sue Martin, Hana Matousek, Doreen McKenney, Doris McKenney, April Murphy and Jasmine, Kari Muyres, James Narr, Pat Nau, Norm Petrik, Teresa Pojar, Markéta Resong, Gina Roers Liemandt, Richard Sargent, Jitka Sebek and Thomas, Joan Sedlacek, Terry Shima, Ted Skluzacek, Dave Stepan, Penny Tesarek, Tom Tesarek, John Topic, Claudia Tuma, Dave Wanless, Louise Wessinger, Mary Yanta, Alena Youngberg, Arnie Ziskovsky, and Deb Ziskovsky.

This year the St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dancers presented the *Furiant*, which was choreographed for their group by František Bonuš, a folk dance expert teacher, on a visit to St. Paul in 1987. At one time, the *Furiant* was the national dance of Bohemia. The group learned the second dance, from the Valasskian area of Moravia, from Jan Pumpř and Jitka Bonušová in 2012. The last dance was a revival of an energetic dance from Slovakia that was last performed by the group in 2001.

continued on next page...



❶ Mary Kate Gross, Sue Martin, Al Kugler, and Markéta Resong. ❷ Jim and Darlene Baker. ❸ Don Haselbauer filling a creamhorn.
 ❹ Plate with koláče and a creamhorn. ❺ Penny Tesarek with the granddaughter and daughter Kari Jean Hall of Jean Hall (far right).
 ❻ Baking koláče: Don Haselbauer, Joan Sedlacek, Joyce Tesarek, Dawn Bulera, Cynthia Coulter, Mary Cahill. ❼ Jason Brozovich and Joan Sedlacek frying cheese sticks. ❸ Dawn Bulera, Kate Aubrecht, Alena Youngberg, Jason Brozovich, Jitka Sebek and Thomas, April Murphy, Lucie Mannheimová, with daughters of Alena and Jitka. ❹ Teresa Pojar, Richard Sargent, Pam Langworthy.
 ❿ Markéta Resong, Dawn Bulera, Martina Gurgel with Czech Heritage Junior Royalty: Korey Mach, Kailey Mach, and Connor Raduenz.

Performers this year were Don and Pat Andrle, Tom and Judy Aubrecht, Diane Bell and Scott Hinshaw, Dawn Bulera and Chuck Draheim, Jason Brozovich and Megan Cahill, Dave Cammack and Lenka Hester, Bobbie Jo Chandler, Don and Katie Haselbauer, Robert Jacobson and Jyni Koschak, Al Kugler and Judy Metcalf, Pam Langworthy and Richard Sargent, Dave and Sue Martin, Emma Martin and James Metcalf, Teresa Pojar and John Topic, Dave Stepan and Louise Wessinger.

The Sokol Minnesota *Taneční Mládež* Folk Dancers made their 25th appearance at the Festival of Nations. They performed two dances, *Boleslav*, *Boleslav* and *Tancuj*, which were choreographed for the group by director Louise Wessinger. Dancing this year were Faith Atcheson, Andrea Atcheson, Elise Black, Anna Bracknell, Izzy Bracknell, Adela Bragg, Petra Bragg, Isabella Carlson, Isabel Espinosa, Kristina Gurgel, Marius Morse, Everett Paylor, Adela Peterson, Sylvia Pulkrabek, Sally Sebek, Isabella Spiess, Everett Swarz, Eva Swartz, Elizabeth Wentz, and Elsa Youngberg.

On Friday, Student Day at the Festival of Nations, the *Taneční* Teens performed two of their favorite dances, a Slovak woman's dance from the Hron Valley and then a Czech dance

called *The Butcher's Dance*. On Saturday during the teen hour, they presented three other dances that honored our beautiful Slovak and Czech heritage. Dancing with the teen group were Andrea Atcheson, Faith Atcheson, Ellen Ferry, Anna Hester, Lenka Hester, Chloe Morse, Michelle Stepan, Emma Stodola, Maddie Stodola, Elisa Swartz, Isabella Spiess, and helping to fill our group were alums Jessica Metcalf and Brittany Stepan.

Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers, led by Don Pafko, director, included Lynn Barnes, Amanda Chmiel, Lara Ciganko, Emily Fiam, Roman Fiam, Paul Knuth, Sylvia Magana, David Schader, and Baska Schaderova.

International Arts was the theme for the 2015 festival. Cheryl Nelson and Renata Ticha created and designed the Czech-Slovak Cultural Booth. As volunteer co-chairs, they had help from Stephanie Black, Blanka Brichta, Barbara Carlson, Martina Gurgel, Jake Jacobson, Lydia Jaros Akradi, Marit Lee Kucera, Pam Langworthy, Romana Pulkrabek, Richard Sargent, Michael Sebek, Jim Sturm, and Deb Ziskovsky, plus the daughters of Czech and Slovak School Twin Cities members Zuzana Bracknell, Martina Gurgel, Romana Pulkrabek, Jitka Sebek, and Alena Youngberg.

Sokol Garage Sale 2015: A Great Success By Doreen McKenney

Many years ago Doris McKenney and Dorothy Sladek came up with a great idea to take discarded treasures and turn them into money for the upkeep of the C.S.P.S. Hall. This was the beginning of the annual Sokol garage sales. The goal was to keep the prices low enough for the neighborhood friends and make a profit at the same time.

Several years ago, Doris and Dorothy gave up the reins to Marit Lee Kucera and Doreen McKenney. During Marit and Doreen's run as co-chairs, many faithful, loyal volunteers have returned every year to help sort and set up the donated items, sell, and then pack-up while having a great time doing it.

The small dining room was set up with collectibles, much like an antique shop. In the main hall, tables were neatly filled with everything from housewares, jewelry, linens, clothes, toys, and books: a typical garage sale, but indoors.

On opening day dealers took a number as they lined up outdoors before the noon start time. The hall then filled with shoppers looking for that perfect find. Many treasures found new homes! It was also a great social time for neighborhood locals and long-time Sokol members who shared a story or two about their grandparents' or their

own wedding reception at the Hall or their favorite band that they would dance to "up at the Hall."

The morning half-off sale and the afternoon \$5 bag sale brought customers back again on the second day. *Koláče* and coffee were for sale to eat and drink while they shopped.

When the two-day sale came to an end, we found other great charity groups to help pack up and take away the remaining items that had not sold. Every item was given a second and third chance to find a purpose at a new home. Saint Mark Lutheran Church and St. Vincent DePaul in the neighborhood, plus the Bloomington Police Department received this year's unsold items.

Marit will soon be involved with her new position as Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic and Doreen has a personal commitment, so the two are unable to chair the 2016 Sokol Garage Sale. However, they both are more than willing to help. Please consider co-chairing next year's garage sale. You too can have as much fun as Marit and Doreen have had organizing this fundraiser for Sokol Minnesota. Contact a board member or the Hall to carry on this Sokol tradition: 651-290-0542.

St. Paul Czech and Slovak Folk Dance group members set up the tables and hauled the many boxes filed with donations and stored in the basement for the garage sale. During the three-day event, from unpacking

and marking the merchandise, to selling and take down, we had a great crew with Karen Bauer, Jim Chelbeczek, MaryJo Chlebeczek, Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Jeannie Hall, Arlene Hamernik, Don Haselbauer, Katie Haselbauer, Marlene Hinshaw, Mary Kucera, Sharon Liska, Linda Makinen, Joy Peterson, Nancy Redlin, Ted Schieffer, Joan Sedlacek, Ann Seifert, Steve Shimer, Joyce Tesarek, Shirley Verner, Dan Washick, and Louise Wessinger.

Donations came from members and friends: Betty and Jack Anfinson, Barb and John Armour, Karen Bauer, Lillian Bednar, Lenka Bragg, Roxann Brennan, Denis Cahill, Mary Jo Chlebeczek, Blanka Danecek, Barb and Harry Davidson, Jean and Chuck Draheim, Eva Giese, Karen Grimstad, Arlene and Ed Hamernik, Marlene Hinshaw, Dave Hutchins, Jyni Koschak, M.L. Kucera, C.J. Kundshier, Chuck Kundshier, Sr., Danita Larson, Linda Makinen, Doris McKenney, Elise McKenney, Sue and Dave Martin, Doris Moravetz, James Rocco, Georgiana Sabola, Lacie and Jeremy Sammons, Renata Scholz, Joan Sedlacek, Ann Seifert, Jitka Sebek, Steve Shimer, Lucia Sobiech, Denise Stibal, Colleen and Ron Tabaika, Joyce Tesarek, Ellen and Eileen Vavrina, Shirley Verner, Inga Weberg, Jane Wright, Alena Youngberg, and many others who did not sign the Donor's Sheet. Sokol thanks all of you for making this year's sale one of the most successful ever! Sokol Minnesota had a profit of over \$2,100! We are so proud. All the hard work was worth it!



The sign features a drawing of the Sokol building at the top. Below it, the text reads "Sokol Minnesota GARAGE SALE". In the center, a black sign with white text says "\$2,100.+ Profit!!!!". To the right of the sign is a cartoon illustration of a man in a suit. At the bottom, a banner says "Volunteers like you made it happen!". Below the banner, it says "Thank you for volunteering at the 2015 Sokol garage sale fundraiser! This successful event could not have happened without YOU!". At the very bottom, there are handwritten signatures of Marit Lee Kucera and Doreen McKenney.

SEEKING SINGERS

The Sokol Minnesota Singers need additional voices to carry on an important part of our Czech and Slovak culture: singing and remembering our folk songs.

Don Haselbauer is our director. We meet at the Hall at 10 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of most months. Come, join us! 651-290-0542 Your heart will rejoice.

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Go to “The Sea” This Summer! MOVIE REVIEW by Cinnamon Whaley

To See the Sea is a film shot from the perspective of an 11-year-old Czech boy, Tomáš, and his Croatian friend Haris. Tomáš has dreams of becoming a filmmaker and sets out to use his new camera to shoot his first film. It is centered on the people in his life: his parents, grandmother, Haris, a school crush, as well as filming his experiences on his football team. The boys fill their days with football and playing outdoors, shooting film with their cameras and editing effects

into their films. Through Tomáš’s filming, he finds that his work-at-home father regularly leaves the house during the day, yet denies doing so. The film turns to solving this mystery.

To See the Sea is filled with the realities of an 11-year-old’s life, sometimes light-hearted and funny and sometimes dark. Director and screenwriter Jiří Mádl was in attendance at the screening of *To See the Sea* at the *Czech That Film!* festival on June 25, and he said that he considers this

to be a family movie, as anyone from 11 years old into old age can enjoy it. There are parts that are probably more meaningful to children closer to the age of the boys in the film and there are also parts that give adults a laugh for different reasons than children. There were many touching moments in *To See the Sea* that are unexpected and have depth that can be reflected upon long after the film is over. If you have the opportunity to see *To See the Sea*, it is not to be missed!

Czech Film Director Jiří Mádl Visited Minnesota in June By M. L. Kucera

Czech actor/director/screen writer Jiří Mádl came to Minnesota as part of the five-film *Czech that Film!* festival at the Film Society of Minneapolis-Saint Paul, June 24 to June 28. His stay was short, only 33 hours, but he received a warm welcome and had many Minnesota (better than Nice) experiences. He was surprised by how many people (besides the Sokols he met) who proudly claimed Czech heritage.



Petra Antošová Riedel, Jiří Mádl, and Markéta Resong

Petra Antošová Riedel, Markéta Resong, and Marit Lee Kucera met him at the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport just before midnight, June 24. Jiří enjoyed a two-night home-stay in the Crocus Hill neighborhood of Saint Paul, not far from C.S.P.S. Hall. He took a leisurely early morning walk along well-known Grand Avenue. Then the pace picked up.

June 25, first stop: tour of *Ordway Center of the Performing Arts* in downtown Saint Paul by James Rocco, vice president of programming/producing artistic director. Jiří and James discussed their common interests in acting, screen writing, and directing.

Second stop: Wild rice soup and walleye chowder for lunch at *Café Minnesota, Minnesota History Center, Saint Paul.*

Next: Visit to the iconic Minnehaha Falls to discuss film with two local film experts, Michael Bliss and Bob Cowgill both of whom teach film, respectively at Virginia Tech (Blacksburg, Virginia) and Augsburg College (Minneapolis). Blanka Brichta, one of



Bob Cowgill, Jiří Mádl, and Michael Bliss at Minnehaha Falls

Sokol’s Czech language instructors, also joined the group.

Then: *Walker Art Center* tour by Sheryl Mousley, senior curator of films/video programs, of the film department and museum exhibits.

Next: Special guest of the *Film Society of Minneapolis-Saint Paul*, escorted by Susan Smoluchowski, executive director,

Jesse Bishop, program director, and Eric Wilson, strategic partnership director, to attend MNFilmTV’s special fundraiser event at Aria in downtown Minneapolis.

Lastly, but most important: *St. Anthony Main Theatre* 7 p.m. screening of *Pojedeme k moři/To See the Sea* (2014), screenplay and directed by Jiří. Jesse Bishop of the Film Society introduced Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Consul Designate of the Czech Republic, who introduced Jiří.

After the film, for which the audience gave extended applause, Jiří answered questions, ranging from technical to story-line concept. Jiří joined Cinnamon Whaley, Slovo’s film reviewer, Al Milgrom, involved with independent films in Minnesota for decades, and several Sokol members for more discussion and a beer at the Aster Café, St. Anthony Main in Minneapolis.

Before the screening of each film in this festival, the logos of Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, Czech-Slovak Cultural Center (C.S.C.C.), and *Česká a slovenská škola Twin Cities/ Czech and Slovak School Twin Cities* appeared on the screen.

Several Sokol Minnesota members attended not only this film, but others in the five-movie series: *Fair Play/Fair Play, Klauni/ Clownwise, Zakázané uvolnění/the Icing, and Krásno/Krásno.*

Jiří’s brief visit to Minnesota was filled with Minnesota ideas, legends, foods, landmarks, and hospitality. We look forward to his next film and, perhaps, another visit! Jiří also attended *Czech that Film!* screenings in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Seattle, Washington, on this trip to the United States.

At the conclusion of the film series, Jesse Bishop commented, “We are very pleased with the turnout and enthusiasm behind the inaugural year of hosting the *Czech That Film!* program.

It was a privilege to present these truly extraordinary films to our Minnesota audiences. The reactions that we’ve heard have been so positive that we have already committed to bringing the next *Czech That Film!* program to our screen in 2016.

Our thanks to everyone in the Minnesota Czech and Slovak community for their attendance, to the official community partners for their support, and a special thanks to Minnesota’s Honorary Czech Consul Designate Marit Lee Kucera for hosting our guest filmmaker Jiří Mádl, and being a champion for Czech/Slovak arts and culture in our region!”



Cinnamon Whaley, Al Milgrom, Czech film fan Dan Rien, Jiří Mádl, and Jesse Bishop outside St. Anthony Main Theatre

ATTEND AND VOLUNTEER!
Sokol Minnesota 2015 Events

Minnesota Sokol Camp Booya
August 9, noon - 5 p.m. • Cross Lake, Pine City
Fun-filled day for the entire family

August Featured Friday

Wine Tasting Event • August 21 • Friday, 6 p.m.

25th Czech and Slovak Festival

September 27 • 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Music, Dancing, Singing, Silent Auction, Kids Games,
Vendors, Czech/Slovak food and beer

Sokol Minnesota on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota

Check for event updates: www.sokolmn.org



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