

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

SLOVO

**January 2013
vol. 36 no. 1**

UPCOMING JANUARY 2013 EVENTS

February Slovo
Deadline: January 1

Board of Trustees
January 9, 7 p.m.

Family Night
January 13,
3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Board of Directors
January 17, 7 p.m.

Membership Meeting
January 25, 7 p.m.

Roast Duck Dinner
January 26, 5 p.m.

Senior Singers
Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Gymnastics
Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

10th Annual
Roast Duck Dinner

Saturday
January 26, 2013
5:00 p.m.

\$22.00 per person

Dinner includes:
Soup,
1/2 roast duck,
potato dumplings,
gravy, sweet and sour red cabbage,
applesauce, caraway rye bread,
coffee, and dessert.

Beer and pop will be available for sale.

Prepaid reservations are required by January 21: 952-941-0426
Send your check payable to: Sokol Minnesota
C.S.P.S. Hall
383 Michigan Street
St. Paul, Minnesota
55102

Hosted by
Czech and Slovak
Sokol Minnesota




**Czech and Slovak
Sokol Minnesota
2013
Board of Directors**

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First Vice President

Ed Hamernik

Second Vice President

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open

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Board of Trustees

Chuck Draheim, Chair

Publicity Director

Jyni Koschak

Telephone: 651-290-0542

Past issues of *Slovo* and Sokol Minnesota's calendar of events are available online at

www.sokolmn.org

Prezidentův komentář/President's Notes By Denis Novak

Pozdrav a šťastný nový rok! Greetings and Happy New Year

When you receive this issue of *Slovo*, we will be into the New Year of 2013 with a new Board of Directors elected and installed at the past November membership meeting. A listing of the new board members and their positions is shown in the box to the left of this column. I have become the new President, changing places with Ed Hamernik, who will remain on the board as First Vice President. My special thanks go to Ed and the others who convinced me to accept the position. I have seen the hard work and extensive hours that Ed, and Joe Landsberger before him, put into this office of president and only hope to follow their example. I will call on both of them for help in many areas where my skills are lacking.

This is my first column as President. Since I am not a long-time member of Sokol, many of you may not know much about me. I'll give you a short history. Born in the Czech community of New Prague, Minnesota, I was raised on a small farm just east of town. City limits have expanded, and the farm is now part of a new shopping area in town. I attended St. Wenceslaus Elementary, New Prague High, and graduated from Saint John's University with a degree in chemistry. Most of my work years were spent with 3M. After college, Mary and I were married, and we have five children and eight grandchildren. All of my great-grand parents—Novak, Sticha, Trnka, and Sirek—came from Bohemia and settled on farms in the Veseli area about seven miles east of New Prague.

Our little family farm was a very diversified operation. The crops went to feed our animals, and the animals, in one way or another, went to feed us. We raised many flocks of birds. Geese, chickens, and ducks were common, and I was a duck herder. As a boy, I had to move the pens of baby ducks from one plot of fresh grass to another. Even young ducks can turn grass into vast amounts of duck droppings. "Clean your shoes!" my mother would say. It's what we had to pay for very tasty duck dinners. This leads me to my current point. You do not need to herd ducks to enjoy our first big event of 2013. Our annual Roast Duck Dinner will be held at our historic C.S.P.S. Hall on January 26. An ad for the dinner appears on page 1 in this issue of *Slovo*. Call soon to reserve your tickets: 952-941-0426. I expect it will be a grand candlelight affair.

Other traditional Sokol events are already on our planning calendar. They include a Mardi Gras Tea Dance, the *Šibřinky* Costume Ball, and the Flavors of Slovakia Dinner. I am very pleased that the Czech and Slovak Culture Camp, a day camp for children, will return to the C.S.P.S. Hall in June this year. These events present great opportunities for you to volunteer and help our organization to function. Please join us. We are all volunteers and welcome your help. *Nazdar!*

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

Honorary Slovak Consul: Donald Pafko Honorary Czech Consul: Bob Vanasek

Past Honorary Czech Consul: Josef Mestenhauser

Product Donations: Open

Gift Shop: Doreen McKenney

Housekeeping: BOT member

Kitchen Coordinator: Jean Hall

Sunshine Committee: Marlene Hinshaw

Website: Craig Johnson

Hall Contacts: Chuck Draheim, Ed Hamernik, Joe Landsberger

Slovo: Marit Lee Kucera, Christy Banks, Jeanette Pafko

Email addresses: President: president@sokolmn.org | Events:

events@sokolmn.org | Education & language programs: education@sokolmn.org |

Fitness programming: fitness@sokolmn.org | *Slovo* (our newsletter):

slovo@sokolmn.org | Publications: publications@sokolmn.org | Membership:

membership@sokolmn.org | Trustees: trustees@sokolmn.org | Planning:

planning@sokolmn.org | Finance and fund raising: finance@sokolmn.org |

Webmaster: webmaster@sokolmn.org

Education News

By Jean Draheim, Education Director

LANGUAGE: January starts the winter session of both the Czech and Slovak language classes. The Slovak class is held Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. under the instruction of Barborka Carlsonova. The classes start on January 10 and continue for a full eight weeks through February 28.

The Czech classes, led by Jakub Dajc, start the week of January 7 and continue for a full eight weeks through the week of February 25. The classes meet from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The beginning class is on Monday, the conversational class meets on Tuesdays, and the intermediate class meets on Wednesdays.

All language classes are held in the first-floor classroom of the C.S.P.S. Hall, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul.

Check the *Slovo* and our website (<www.sokolmn.org>) for information on upcoming cooking classes (*koláče*, *ovocné knedlíky* - fruit dumplings) as well as *kroje* preservation, craft classes, and our continuing Family History Project.

For more information about these classes or to have your contact information included on the interest lists, please contact our Education Director Jean Draheim: 651-426-2826, or email: <education@sokolmn.org>

The **Registration Form** is available online: <www.sokolmn.org> Send the form and your payment (check made out to Sokol Minnesota) to Jean Draheim, 4044 Cranbrook Drive, White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110 or call 651-426-2826.

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 memberships: Individual \$50; Couple \$85. 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.
Year 2013 dues for members joining after June 30 are reduced.

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 suggestions, articles, and pictures digitally to <slovo@sokolmn.org>.

The deadline for the February 2013 issue is January 1.

Volunteer *Slovo* staff: Christy Banks, copy editor; M. L. Kucera, managing editor and layout editor; Jeanette Pafko, labels; Joyce Tesarek, photographer; Doreen McKenney, ad designer; Mary Cahill, Jean Draheim, Arlene Hamernik, Doreen McKenney, Jeanette Pafko, Norm Petrik, and Jitka Sebek, advisors. Photographs for this issue were provided by Martina Gurgel, M. L. Kucera, Joe Landsberger, Doreen McKenney, Jitka Sebek, and Joyce Tesarek. This January 2013 issue of *Slovo* will be archived on the Sokol Minnesota website after January 31.

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 (November 15 for January issue), with ad and payment due by copy deadline (December 1 for January issue).

***Slovo* gift subscriptions and non-member renewals** are \$15/year (10 issues). Please include name, address, phone number, and email address with your new or renewing non-member subscription. Make your check to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota; send to: Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *Slovo* Subscriptions/Renewals, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102

For problems with subscriptions, please contact us if you missed an issue or 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 will hold all future issues until you notify us. We pay 46¢ 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!*

Cookbook Committee Seeks Desktop Publishing Advisor

For the past several months, a committee of dedicated Sokol Minnesota cooks has been developing a new version of the now-out-of-print cookbook *Favorite Recipes of Sokol Minnesota*.

The committee has come to the challenging task of making page format/layout and printing/binding decisions. The committee is seeking a Sokol member who has expertise in desktop publishing and printing and who would be willing to advise and work with the committee as it moves forward.

If that person might be *YOU*, please contact the cookbook chair Pamela Kotval, 952-944-0745 or <pakotval@msn.com>.

Stage Scenery Training Session

On Saturday, January 19 at 1 p.m., there will be a training session at C.S.P.S. Hall on the safe and proper use of our stage's roll drops and free-standing scenery. The session will last about 1½ hours.

All members who need to operate the roll drops or move scenery must attend this session.

After the training session, the roll drop operating lines will be secured, at the direction of the BOD, to prevent unauthorized use.

Contact Chuck Draheim at 651-426-2826 or email <cmdraheim@aol.com> to sign up for this class.

News from the Board of Trustees (BOT) By Chuck Draheim

As we start a new year, the BOT would like to say thank you to retiring members Scott Hinshaw and Don Haselbauer. Both men have been assets to the BOT and Sokol Minnesota during their tenure.

At this time, we would like to welcome new BOT members Dan Bednar and Robert "Jake" Jacobson, who were elected at the November annual meeting. We are certain that both men will bring new talents and insights to the BOT, and we look forward to working with them for the good of our unit.

The Year In Review

The BOT conducted four workdays in 2012. In May, we cleaned the parking lot, repaired many damaged tables and chair carts, and cleaned and inventoried under the stage.

July brought tree trimming and removal around the parking lot and cleaning years of accumulated debris from the drain trenches along the west and center walls of the basement. Removal of trench debris has contributed to a marked reduction in the odor in the basement.

During October, we again cleaned the parking lot and continued the ongoing work of trench cleaning. The contents of the pull-tab storage room were sorted and organized, the trenches cleaned out, and raised platforms installed to provide increased protection to the pull-tabs in storage. (State gambling regulations require that winning and unsold pull-tabs from closed games be kept for three and one-half years after a game is closed, during which time the games are subject to audit by the state. As you might imagine, this results in a lot of material being stored.) Under the direction of President Ed Hamernik, steel covers were installed over a portion of drain trench traversing the east side of the basement, thereby removing a serious safety hazard that had existed since the building was constructed.

Our final workday for the year, conducted on November 24, involved repositioning the downstage border and legs on the stage. The border had been hung so that it rubbed on a portion of the front roll drop, and all three curtains had been hung with stovepipe wire. All of these curtains are now hung on sturdy aircraft cable and no longer rub on the main roll drop.

In addition to our work days, the BOT oversaw the replacement of several broken windows, repair of one damaged roll drop, the installation of a new sump basket on the east side of the basement to remove a safety hazard created during the steam pipe replacement project, and the patching of a hole in the blacktop on the north end of the building.

Looking Forward

Along with our regular workdays, the BOT has plans to conduct several BOD approved projects in 2013. Among these are the re-keying of all exterior doors, installation of a baby changing station in the first floor restroom, replacement of the barricade on the north end of the parking lot, repair of the walls in the main stairway, and the securing of the roll drop operating lines to prevent unauthorized use of the curtains.

Proposals are also pending on several major maintenance and repair projects, including the painting of all interior walls, repair and restoration of our roll drops and free standing scenery, diversion of basement drainage water to the storm sewer system, and replacement of the stairs from the first floor to the basement. Numerous smaller projects are also pending.

Reminder

The heating season is in full swing, so please remember to close and lock all windows at the conclusion of each event or meeting. Not only does this prolong the life and proper operation of the windows, but it keeps our expensive heated air from escaping to the great outdoors.

Mardi Gras Tea Dance II: a C.S.P.S. Special Event

By Joe Landsberger

Following on the success of last year's Mardi Gras, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota presents Mardi Gras II on Sunday afternoon, February 10, from 1- 6 p.m., at our C.S.P.S. Hall. Happy New Year!

This year, our tea dance spotlights Tony Balluff, clarinetist and leader of the Southside Aces band (<http://www.southsideaces.com/>). Southside Aces perform traditional New Orleans jazz.

The band first began as the brainchild of clarinetist Tony Balluff and sousaphone player Erik Jacobson. Their whispers and rumors materialized in Tony's foyer near Pillsbury and 27th in South Minneapolis, in late August 2003. Tony and the six members of the band play frequently around the region including sets with Butch Thompson of last year's band. They have released several CDs including a Christmas album in December 2012.

Our second annual bash features a traditional New Orleans-style tea dance as well as a traditional Cajun menu. Get your costume ready and wear your beads. Add to the sparkle and fun of the afternoon.

Go to our website for more details and complete information:
<www.sokolmn.org>.

All proceeds benefit the C.S.P.S. Hall Legacy Fund and its special projects, which this year is to complete air conditioning the Hall so that we can use and rent the Hall even in the hot summer months.

Last year the event sold out, so reserve and buy your tickets early! Only \$15!

For reservations and information:
<mardigras@sokolmn.org>
(preferred) or call 651-297-9000.



Gaming Manager Retires

Ken Wyberg accepts a plaque from President Ed Hamernik at the C.S.P.S. Hall Anniversary Dinner on December 9, 2012, to recognize his 19 years as Sokol Minnesota's gaming manager. Under Ken's direction, Sokol received income that allowed major C.S.P.S. Hall renovation and improvements, including the remodeled kitchen. Although retiring as gaming manager, Ken will continue as assistant gaming manager, and he will work closely with our new Gaming Manager Steve Shimer.

State Historical Preservation Office Retreat at C.S.P.S. Hall



A planning retreat for the State Historical Preservation Office of the Minnesota Historical Society was held at C.S.P.S. Hall on Wednesday, October 24, 2012. Society members expressed appreciation not only for Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota's hospitality, but also the opportunity to see "the wonderful work you've accomplished" in caring for Sokol Minnesota's historical resources, including the C.S.P.S. Hall on its 125th anniversary. On Tuesday, October 23, several members of its staff extensively documented the Hall for its records, both through photography and notations of the building's historical features.

FLAVORS of SLOVAKIA DINNER

Sunday, March 3, 12:30p.m.

\$16.00 adults, \$8.00 child under 9



This year our traditional Slovakian dinner includes:
holubky/cabbage rolls, zelená fazuška s kôprom/dilled green beans, zavařaná cvikla/pickled beets,
pirohy/filled dumplings, halušky s kapustou/dumplings and cabbage, caraway rye bread,
dessert, and coffee. The cash bar has plenty of good beer on tap.

**PUBLIC
WELCOME**

Prepaid reservations are required by **February 26.**

**LIMITED
SEATING**

For reservations call: 952-941-0426

Mail your check to: 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102
payable to Sokol Minnesota. Also accepting credit card payment.

Prepaid takeout is available by reservation.

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota - C.S.P.S. Hall 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

C.S.P.S. Hall Celebrates its 125th

By Joan Sedlacek

A sign of age is looking back and reflecting on the past. At 125 years old, the C.S.P.S. Hall in Saint Paul, Minnesota, is the oldest building in the United States built by Czechs and Slovaks that is still in use today as an ethnic hall, as well as the oldest Sokol Hall in this country and the oldest theatre in Minnesota. After so many years, the Hall has much to look back on, and the past is reflected in the present.

The 100th anniversary celebration doesn't seem so long ago. How wonderfully comforting to see many of the same people here now, people whose memories stretch back to the 75th anniversary, and even back to the 50th. Even better are all the new faces, with new ideas and vitality that will ensure a 150th anniversary and beyond.

Members of the C.S.P.S. Lodge Čech #12 of 1887 would recognize many of their own pictures and the furniture in the mezzanine meeting room. The gymnast of the Saint Paul Sokol Society of 1917 could fall in on the lines in the gym and march to the old songs that still inspire us.

Warm and hearty welcomes (and a shot of *becherovka*) greeted each attendee on the very snowy, blustery Sunday afternoon on December 9 for our 125th Anniversary Dinner. Over 50 members and friends braved Father Winter to come to our beloved Hall. Unfortunately, the blizzard kept many others from attending.

Don Haselbauer provided live music at the piano before dinner. The Saint Paul South Bohemian Bagpipe Ensemble, a



newly organized group of Sokol Minnesota members, (L-R) Frank Trnka on *dudy* (bagpipes), Dawn Bulera on violin, Judy Aubrecht and Sue Martin on clarinets, treated us to a selection of traditional Bohemian and Moravian songs.

Ed Hamernik, Sokol Minnesota's immediate past president, gave the opening remarks that began this historic event's festivities.

A dinner of *vianočná kapustnica* (Slovak Christmas sauerkraut soup), oven fried whitefish (cod) and chicken, *kuba* (barley and mushroom side dish), *bramborový salát* (Czech Christmas potato salad) was topped off with *vianočné cukrovinky* (Czech and Slovak Christmas pastries) including *makové záviny* (poppy seed strudel) and *vánočka* (Christmas bread). The meal included a poinsettia or mimosa cocktail.

Louise Wessinger and Megan Cahill explained Czech Christmas customs, which include a carp that is brought home alive from the market and put in the bathtub to swim around, until the Christmas Eve family feast.

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Three generations of Sokols from one family enjoyed the dinner:

Val Kuisle with her daughters: Joanne Sipe (far left) and Mary Cahill (far right), plus grand-daughter: Megan Cahill (second left).



Georgiana Dolejsi reminisced about her lifetime at the Hall. Marlene Hinshaw remembered her early years and her family's activities in the nearby Czech neighborhood. Jean Hall, Norm Petrik, and Pamela Kotval offered their memories of the Hall.

Joyce Tesarek and Joe Landsberger talked about future plans for the Hall. They thanked donors and encouraged everyone to continue to donate to the Legacy Fund.

Ed Hamernik and Doreen McKenney co-chaired the event. Jean Hall and Pamela Kotval planned the menu, researched the recipes, and made the soup. Jean baked the holiday cookies and truffles. Czech/Slovak Moms, led by Jitka Sebek, baked the poppy seed strudel and Czech Christmas bread. Dawn Bulera catered; her crew made the other food. Also helping with program, reservations, Legacy Table, and food sales: Katie Cuffey, Arlene Hamernik, Louise Wessinger, and Joyce Tesarek. "Everybody" helped clean up. Great Sokol teamwork!

Everyone is invited to the 150th Anniversary in 2037.

Get your Sparkle
and join the fun
in New Orleans Style
**Sunday
February 10**

**Tickets
\$15.00**
Beads, masks, and
your alter ego welcome!

Mardi Gras II Tea Dance

Featuring Tony Balluff, clarinetist and
leader of the Southside Aces Band

Traditional New Orleans Jazz and
Cajun food for sale. Cash Bar.

Buy your ticket and reserve early
as last year's Tea Dance sold out!

Contact: 651 - 297 - 9000
mardigras@sokolmn.org

PUBLIC
WELCOME

Hosted by
Czech and Slovak
Sokol Minnesota
C.S.P.S. Hall
383 Michigan Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102
www.sokolmn.org

Sokol Minnesota Thanks our Generous Donors

By Arlene Hamernik, Corresponding Secretary

Sokol Minnesota greatly appreciates your donations supporting Sokol programs and the refurbishing of our C.S.P.S. Hall. *Donations are listed under the following categories: under \$100, \$100-\$499, \$500-\$999, \$1000-\$4999, \$5000+, and undisclosed.*

Legacy Fund: Under \$100: **Wendy Bednar** in memory of **Brian Bednar**; **Arlene Drabek** in memory of **Mr. & Mrs. Albert Drabek**; **Michaela Makairanova Wentz**; **Sharon Shonka**, in memory of **Dennis Shonka**; **Gary Wentz**.

\$100-\$499: **Dennis Cahill** completes his pledge given in memory of **Ed Cahill**; **Roger & Nancy Green**; **Donovan Johnson**; **Penny Zastra**, part of a 5-year pledge in memory of **Adelaide Aubrecht Adams**; **Lillian M. Bednar** in memory of **Oscar & Mary Sobola**; **Tom Pallo** in memory of **Gloria Pallo**; **Norm Petrik & Joyce Tesarek**.

\$1000-\$4999: **George Chlebeck**

Undisclosed: **Helen Andreason** in honor of **Mary Morgal**; **Sharon Liska**; **Pat & Barbara O'Leary** in honor of **Dr. Norm Petrik & Dr. Joyce Tesarek & families**; **Terrence Pulkrabek**; **Ray Vanyo**; **Daniel Washick**.

In memory of **Victor Hubal**: **Air Conditioning Fund:** Under \$100: **James & Mary Jo Chlebeck**, **Ed & Arlene Hamernik**, **Kent & Marlene Hinshaw**, **Doris & Doreen McKenney**, **Joan Sedlacek**, **Miro & Shirley Verner**, **Kenneth & Sharon Wyberg**. \$100-\$499: **Betty Hubal & Heather Ruggero**. **Elevator Fund:** Under \$100: **Elsie Roepke**. **Senior Singers:** \$100-\$499: **Betty Hubal & Heather Ruggero**. **Legacy Fund:** Under \$100: **Georgiana Dolejsi**, **Mildred Grealish**.

Air Conditioning Fund: \$1000-\$4999: **Ed & Arlene Hamernik**

General Fund: Under \$100: **Ruth Ahrens**, **Helen Andreasen**, **Harold Davidson**, **Joyce Ehmke**, **Richard Gilson**, **Darla Kolb**, **Pam Langworthy** and **Richard Sargent**, **Wallace Oliva**, **Edward Machacek**, **Bessie O'Neill**, **Ginger Simek**, **Richard Pavlicek**, **Frank Petruska**, **Philothea Sweet**. \$100-\$499: **George Hoffman**, **Susan Lindoo & Michael Wolesky**, **Daniel Washick**.

MN Give to the Max Day: Under \$100: **Margaret Anderson**. \$100-\$499: **Diane Bell**, **Roger Green**. **Legacy Fund:** **Frank Trnka** in memory of **Finley Christine Thielen**

In honor of 125th Anniversary: \$100-\$499: **Al & Libby Imbrone**.

In-Kind donations: **Nels & Paula Knutzen**, commercial Kitchen Aid mixer; **Gary Novak**, multiple building items; **Jitka & Michael Sebek** and the **Czech/Slovak Moms' Club**, for having the upholstered chairs and carpeting on the second floor stairs professionally cleaned

Scholarships: **Allina Health System**, \$500 for scholarships for teens and pre-teens to attend Sokol "Teen Boot Camp."

We are happy to announce that donations can now be made online to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota and to our Legacy Fund. Visit our website at <www.sokolmn.org>, push the Donate button, and you will be directed to a secure page where you can make your tax-deductible donation with a Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express card. You may also click to see a copy of the Legacy Campaign brochure to read a history of the C.S.P.S. Hall and our goals for the 125th Anniversary Campaign. You can print and mail the donation form, in the brochure, to the Hall with your check. Please specify if you would like your donation in honor or in memory of a special person. All donations will be acknowledged by mail and, unless you request otherwise, in the *Slovo*. Our current project is to install central air conditioning to make the Hall usable year around. Please consider a generous donation to make this happen. **Thank you!**

Support C.S.P.S. Legacy Fund

Grants have funded several of the renovations of our C.S.P.S. Hall, but many of these grants also must be matched. We ask for your support to insure that upcoming projects can be completed as C.S.P.S. Hall's begins its 126th year in 2013. Please consider a tax-deductible donation. *Thank you!* Contact Joyce Tesarek at 612-822-6147 or <Joyce@sokolmn.org> to discuss volunteer or donation opportunities.



LEGACY FUND DONATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State, _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

To help Restore, Renovate, and Refurbish the C.S.P.S. Hall, I make a tax deductible

single donation of \$ _____

5-year pledge of \$ _____

per year for total of \$ _____

Please send me information about ways to include the Legacy Fund in my/our will/estate plans.

I would like my gift designated:

in memory or in honor of:

List my name in the *Slovo* newsletter

List amount Don't list amount

Don't list name or amount

Make checks payable to **Sokol MN**.

Write **Legacy Fund** in the memo line.

Please charge my gift to

Visa Discover Mastercard

AmericanExpress

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Mail to:

C.S.P.S. Hall Legacy Fund

383 Michigan Street

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

CZ-SL Festival Silent Auction Donors

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota extends its appreciation to the many members and friends who donated items for our successful silent auction at the Czech/Slovak Festival, September 16, at the International Institute, Como Avenue, Saint Paul. Money raised went to the Legacy Fund.

Donated items came from Judy Aubrecht, Mark Bigaouette, CGSI, Katherine Eckstrom, Joseph Gindele, Jim Hanzel, Marlene Hinshaw, Betty Kotval, Pam Kotval, Marit Lee Kucera, Sue Martin, Jitka Sebek, Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, Sharon Shonka, Joyce Tesarek, and Louise Wessinger.

Sokol Minnesota Thanks our Many Fall 2012 Volunteers By Doreen McKenney

Volunteers for Pork Dinner, October 28:

Co-chairs Doreen McKenney and Joyce Tesarek

Kitchen: Katie and Don Haselbauer

Workers: Don Andrle, Pat Andrle, Mary Kaye Armstrong, Judy Aubrecht, Tom Aubrecht, Mary Cahill, Roberta Chandler, George Chlebecek, Jim Chlebecek, Mary Jo Chlebecek, Shannon Duffy, Betty Erlandsen, Joel Gonsowski, Kelly Gonsowski, Jean Hall, Arlene Hamernik, Ed Hamernik, Darla Kolb, Pam Kotval, Joe Landsberger, Jacob Linscheid, Therese Linscheid, Denis Novak, Norm Petrik, Teresa Pojar, Terry Pulkrabek, Joan Sedlacek, Steve Shimer, Richard Vanyo, Rose Vanyo, Louise Wessinger

Fall Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale, November 18:

Bakers of 120 dozen delicious koláče: Judy Aubrecht, Mary Jo Chlebecek, Barb Douvier, Jean Draheim, Don Haselbauer, Danita Larson, Sharon Liska, Sue Martin, Doreen McKenney, Doris McKenney, Norm Petrik and Joyce Tesarek, Joan Sedlacek.

Bake sale donations: Mary Jo Chlebecek, Libby Imbrone, Arlene Hamernik, Nels Knutzen, Bob Kostichka, Pam Kotval, Sharon Liska, Hana Matousek, Miro Verner (cash donation)

Members who supplied the treats for the Friday night membership meeting in 2012: Mary Cahill, Jean and Chuck Draheim, Ed and Arlene Hamernik, Don and Katie Haselbauer, Val Kuisle, Doreen McKenney, Joan Sedlacek, Norm Petrik and Joyce Tesarek

61 Membership Milestones in 2012

Sokol Minnesota recognized members at the annual meeting on November 16 for their years of membership. **Total: 1,135 years. Congratulations! Thanks!**

5 Years (joined in 2007) 28 total: Cynthia Coulter, Vernon J. Dworshak, Diane Gerth, Becca Hine, Andrew Hine, Pamela Kotval, Daniel Kueny, John Kuzma, Ann Kuzma, Debora J. LaChapelle, Edita Mansfield, Maxine McCormick, Ken McCormick, Judy Metcalf, Scott Miller, Ann Vanyo Miller, Cheryl Nelson, Denis Novak, John Palka, Marlene Pechmann,

8 January 2013 Slovo

Richard Sargent, Thomas Stefan Schroeder, Tom Tesarek, Penny Tesarek, Mike Theuninck, Paula Vukonich, James Yanta, JoAnn Wanous.

10 Years (joined in 2002) 7 total: Diane Cina, Romelle Vanek Ferris, Pamela J. Langworthy, Roger Meihak, Lois Meihak, Gary G. Novak, Grace Ann Sharp.

15 Years (joined in 1997) 3 total: Greg Andrle, Molly Chandler, Rosanne Kostecky.

20 Years (joined in 1992) 3 total: Albert Imbrone, Norman Petrik, Ted Skluzacek.

25 Years (joined in 1987) 2 total: Mark Bigaouette, David Stepan.

30 Years (joined in 1982) 6 total: Ralph MacHolda, Tom Pallo, Elsie M. Roepke, Richard F. Skrivanek, Sharon Wyberg, Kenneth Wyberg.

35 Years (joined in 1977) 4 total: Mildred Grealish, A. Keith Hanzel, Lorraine Olson, Joyce Tesarek.

45 Years (joined in 1967) 1 total: Susan Marabella.

50 Years (joined in 1962) 2 total: Dorothy Kucera, Gary Albert Pavlicek.

55 Years (joined in 1957) 1 total: Shirley Verner - honorary member.

60 Years (joined in 1952) 3 total: James Chlebecek – honorary, Verna Hawkinson – honorary, Evelyn Holman – honorary.

70 Years (joined in 1942) 1 total: Ann Neubauer – honorary.

Membership Updates By Norm Petrik, Membership Director

At the November 16 membership meeting, two new members were accepted into Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota: Chuck Hamer, Woodbury, with interests in language, genealogy, gymnastics, films, music, dinners, and festivals; and Emilie Slaby, Minneapolis, with interests in cooking, language, genealogy, history, films, music, dances, dinners, and festivals. Neither new member was at the meeting. Welcome to Sokol Minnesota! **Watch Slovo and our Sokol Minnesota website for the next membership meeting.**



Sokol Minnesota Events in Pictures



Vánočka Class, December 1, with Mary Jo Chlebecek as the instructor, assisted by Doreen McKenney. The weather outside was gloomy, but the mood in the kitchen for the class was bright and full of laughter. Everyone agreed that the final product was worth the labor of love to make *Vánočka*, the traditional Czech Christmas bread. Back (L-R): Danna Harris, Ruth Ahrens, Cindy Coulter, Todd Fortune. Front (L-R): Ken Kadlec, Arianna Butterfield, Marcea Dowdy, Cindy Fortune.

Czech Roast Pork Dinner,

October 28.

Kitchen helpers cutting parsley: (L-R) Therese Linscheid, Rose Vanyo, and Mary Armstrong, daughter and granddaughters of Bob and Babe Vanyo.



Jake Linscheid and Rose Vanyo (cousins) with a hot batch of raised-bread dumplings.

Darla Kolb and Shannon Duffy (yes, they are sisters!) minded the store for the ever-popular after-sales table which sold dumplings, bread, and sauerkraut after the dinner.



Czech and Slovak Moms, lead by Jitka Sebek, baked 30 loaves of *vánočka* and 30 loaves of *makový závin* (poppy seed strudel) all in one day, December 6, from 7 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Many, many Moms helped throughout the day with baking or with buying and donating ingredients, and even bringing lunch for everyone.

This project was a fundraiser for Sokol Minnesota, but for the Moms, the team-



work also created great memories! (L-R) Alena Youngberg, Marketa Resong, Martina Gurgel, and Romana Pulkrabek.

For the second year **Krásné dárky**, the Sokol gift shop sold merchandise on December 2 at New Prague's European Market. Doris McKenney and daughter Danita Larson,



holding newly imported Czech mouth-blown glass treetop ornaments, assisted Doreen McKenney, Sokol gift shop volunteer manager. There were demonstrators, from Polish

egg decorating to loom rug weaving, as well as European vendors, artisans, and crafters, plus dance performances by Lipa Slovak Folk Dancers, Domáci Czech Folk Dancers, New Prague Czech Singers, Saint Paul Irish Youth Dancers, and the Junior Royalty Coronation. Mark your calendar for the next European Market on December 8, 2013. **Reminder: Krásné dárky**, which means beautiful gifts, is open during all our dinners and special events at our C.S.P.S. Hall.

Czech and Slovak Family Events celebrated *Mikuláš*



on December 8, including a performance of *Čarovné housle* (Magic Violin). Thirty families enjoyed a potluck dinner, theatre, crafts, and singing with SloVCzech band.

Czech and Slovak Cultural Center's Winter 2013 Lectures

The Bolshevik Revolution and the Czech Legion

Speaker: Theofanis G. Stavrou
Thursday, January 24, 7 – 9 p.m.

Dr. Stavrou is a Professor of Russian history at the University of Minnesota, where he also directs the Modern Greek Studies Program. He is the recipient of many national and international awards, including Distinguished Teacher at the University of Minnesota. Born on the Island of Cyprus, Dr. Stavrou received his Ph.D. from Indiana University in the field of Russian and East European history. He studied at Leningrad State University (1963-64) under the auspices of the Cultural Exchange Agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union.

A strong believer in the power of cultural exchanges, Dr. Stavrou has frequently visited the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe for nearly four decades. He is the author and/or editor of books on Russian history and culture. He is currently working on two ambitious projects, one dealing with relations between Greeks and Slavs in the 19th Century, and the other on religious experiences of Russian people in the 20th Century.

The Hapsburg Empire and the Birth of Czechoslovakia

Speaker: Gary B. Cohen
Thursday, February 21, 7 – 9 p.m.

Dr. Cohen was educated at the University of Southern California and Princeton University. Between 1976 and 2001, he taught courses on modern European social and political history and East-Central Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries at the University of Oklahoma. In 2001, he joined the University of Minnesota as the director of the Center for Austrian Studies, executive editor of *The Austrian History Yearbook*, and Professor of History.

Professor Cohen's research has focused on social development, ethnic group relations, and education in modern Austria and the Czech lands. His

Song of the Month By Georgiana Dolejsi

This month Georgiana has chosen a world peace song with words and music by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, with harmony by Charles H. Webb, 1987.

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. *With God our cre - a - tor, chil - dren all are we. Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mó - ment now. With ev - ery step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow: to take each mo - ment and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly. Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

publications include *The Politics of Ethnic Survival: Germans in Prague and Education and Middle-Class Society in Imperial Austria, 1848- 1918*, and *Němci v Praze, 1861-1914*. Dr. Cohen's scholarship has earned national and international recognition. He currently serves on the advisory board for the modern history unit of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. The Collegium Carolinum in Munich elected him a full member in 2003, and the Republic of Austria awarded him its *Ehrenkreuz* (cross of honor) for Science and Arts in 2009. In 2011, members of the Austrian Academy of Sciences elected Professor Cohen a Corresponding Member of the Academy's humanities and social science sections.

Location of lectures:

City Bella, Community Room, 6600 Lyndale Avenue South, Richfield, Minnesota 55423. *Attendance is free, but contributions are welcome.*

For further information:

Dr. Allyn Johnson, 763-670-3016
Dr. Renáta Tichá, 651-587-9621
Dr. Josef Mestenhauer, 612-822-8862.

GARAGE SALE



antiques, collectibles, books, clothing, and domestic treasures

Thursday, April 11, 12 noon - 7 p.m.
Friday, April 12, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Drop off donations **Wednesday, April 10 - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota
C.S.P.S. Hall 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

PUBLIC WELCOME

Event Chairs: Marit Lee Kucera and Doreen McKenney

Special!! Inserted in this issue!!! Spring 2013 Sokol Minnesota EVENTS POSTCARD

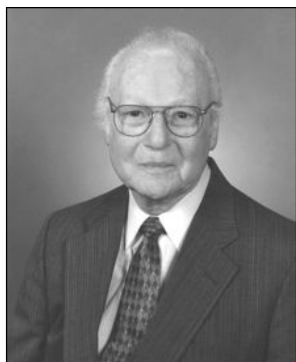
We have more at the Hall for you to give to family, friends, and co-workers. Spread the word about Sokol's many great events! *Thanks!*

An Incredible Journey of the Czechoslovak Gold Treasury

By Dr. Josef A. Mestenhauser,
Distinguished International

Professor Emeritus, University
of Minnesota Department of
Educational, Policy and
Administration, Comparative
and International Development
Education

Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic (1999-2009)



The source of information used in this article is a recent book by Stanislav Motl, Kam zmizel zlatý poklad republiky (Where Did The Gold Treasury of the Republic Disappear?). Motl is a well-known journalist who has produced several TV programs on this subject.

Part 1 of this article appeared in the November-December 2012 Slovo. Part 3 will appear in the February 2013 issue.

Let's recap the major issues involved in the recovery of the Czechoslovak gold. 1) Did the Czechoslovak Legion in Russia steal the Russian gold? 2) How did the so-called "Jewish gold" relate to the state treasure? 3) On what were claims for the post-war settlements with countries occupied by Nazi Germany based? 4) What about the so-called "Slovak gold?" 5) Finally, what happened to the small amount of gold once recovered, and where it is now? It is this point that forms the greatest irony ever known in fiscal affairs. In this segment I will cover the role of the Czechoslovak Legion and the Russian gold.

As I mentioned in the previous issue, the Bolsheviks claimed that they recovered only about one-third of the Czar's treasure. They also claimed that the Czechoslovak Legion stole the rest. The Western media widely publicized this claim as if it was proved. We will probably never know who took the gold, but there is no direct evidence that the Legion was involved. What is known is that the Legion for a time did have partial control (and later had exclusive control) over the train containing this gold. The Legion had an impossible task in withdrawing its units from various parts of Russia. The dynamics of the Russian revolution was such that the Legion had been in armed conflict with the Bolsheviks in many of the key cities through which they had to evacuate some 60,000 soldiers to Vladivostok.

The Legion first fought and occupied Kazan, where the Bolsheviks actually hid about half of the Czarist gold reserve, presumably to protect it from the possibility that the Germans might seize it during the war. The Legion fought intensely for an entire month to defeat the Red Army and gain control of Kazan. (Coincidentally, the Bolsheviks did not have a strong army of their own, but recruited their soldiers from prisoners of war, most of whom were German, Austrian, Hungarian, and Lithuanian, and all of whom despised the Czechoslovak Legion.)

The newly-occupied territory was controlled by the so-called Samara government, ruled by the ruthless General Kolcak, who requested the Czechoslovak Legion provide security for the train, but this was done jointly with Kolcak's army. Since there was no inventory of this gold at this time, it is possible that some of the gold may have been stolen by individual soldiers from either of these two armies. However, there is no evidence to indicate that the Legion itself participated in or knew about such incidents. From Kazan, the "gold train" continued toward Vladivostok through key cities in which the Legion also had to fight in order to occupy them. These cities included Ufa, Celjabinska, and eventually Omsk, where the task of guarding the train was completed. The fighting over Omsk was especially severe because the city was located at the conjunction of several rail lines that the Legion needed to control in order to withdraw all of their troops from various parts of Russia before moving to Vladivostok. Witnesses claimed that General Kolcak took great liberties with this gold, partially using it to pay excessive prices for arms from unscrupulous dealers, and partially to enrich himself.

The Bolsheviks regrouped and began making advances against the Kolcak units, which they eventually defeated, capturing and immediately executing the General. It was at this point that the Western Military Liaison, representative French General Jarvin (recall that Russia fought the war initially with the Western powers, all of which had standing military missions throughout Russia), ordered the Czechoslovak Legion to take control of the train and provide security for its travel further East towards Irkutsk. There was some speculation that the Western powers for a time might have considered capturing these treasures for themselves. By 1919, the Legion was still in Russia, under constant threat that the Bolsheviks might dismantle the tracks of the railway leading to Vladivostok.

In Irkutsk, the Legion started negotiating with the Bolsheviks for the freedom to continue traveling further east, and eventually made a deal that in exchange they would turn over the train carrying the gold. Credible sources assert that at some earlier point before the Legion had control of the train, it collided with another train going at high speed. The gold train was derailed and the golden bullion strewn on the ground, where apparently anyone on the scene was able to take it. By the time the train was righted, the gold was inventoried and sealed.

Again, there is no record that the Legion stole any of it, although two bits of evidence might suggest otherwise. First, several wooden trunks of gold appeared on the market in neighboring China, sold by Czechoslovaks (not necessarily by Legion members). Second, a letter found in the Czech archives, sent by one of the legionnaires to his father, claimed that he had the gold and planned to ship it home when conditions allowed. However, the record is incomplete and will probably remain so. It should be made clear, however, that the 18 boxes of gold (including some Czarist bullion and coins) that the Legion brought home and turned over to the Czechoslovak national bank were the result of the Legion's own enterprises, among them its own "Legionnaire Bank."

**ATTEND AND VOLUNTEER!
SOKOL MINNESOTA EVENTS**

at our historic 126-year-old C.S.P.S. Hall

10th Annual Roast Duck Dinner

Saturday, January 26, 5 p.m.

\$22. Reservations by January 21: 952-941-0426

Mardi Gras II Tea Dance

Sunday, February 10, 1 – 6 p.m.

\$15. Reservations: mardigras@sokolmn.org

Flavors of Slovakia

Sunday, March 3, 12:30 p.m.

\$16. Reservations by February 15: 952-941-0426

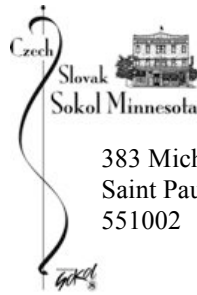
Collect-Gather-Clean Out!

Support our ***Sokol Garage Sale, April 11-12***

Drop off: Wednesday, April 10, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Check for event updates: **www.sokolmn.org**

Sokol Minnesota on Facebook: www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota



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Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *SLOVO* January 2013

Children's Holiday Party: Fun Time



Sokol Gymnasts joined *Taneční Mládež* dancers in the Cane Dance at the 2012 Children's Holiday Party on December 7, organized and directed by Louise Wessinger, with assistance from Don Andrlé (*Sv Mikuláš*), Pat Andrlé (*anděl*, angel), and Dave Stepan (*čert*, devil), plus help from Jason Brozevich, Mary Cahill, Dennis Cahill, Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Jake Jacobson, Jyni Koschak, Doreen McKenney, and the children's dance group parents who assembled the treat bags which were

given to all the children. As much as *čert* tried to tempt the kids with his wilting celery stalks and promises of late-hour bedtimes, all children willingly signed the *anděl's* Good Book and received a treat bag. Naturally, all the youngsters promised to be good in 2013.



*CZECH AND SLOVAK
FAMILY EVENTS*

Potluck Meal and Family Activities

for children of all ages

Sunday, January 13, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

C.S.P.S. Hall