

Slovak Sokol Minnesota



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

SLOVO

March 2010 vol. 33 no. 3

Upcoming Events

- Slovo Deadline:**
March 1
- Flavors of Slovakia Dinner:**
March 14,
12:30 p.m.
- Genealogy Class:**
March 16&30
7:00 p.m.
- Membership Meeting:**
March 26,
7:00 p.m.
- Baking Day:**
March 27,
9 a.m.
- Spring Bkfst & Bake/Craft Sale:**
March 28 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Prostna Practice:**
1st & 3rd Mondays
6 p.m.
- Senior Folk Singing:**
Tuesdays,
11 a.m.

Flavors of Slovakia Dinner Launches Sokol MN Spring Events 2010

Springtime brings warm sunshine to Minnesota and a burst of activity to C.S.P.S. Sokol Hall. Our Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota spring season begins with the annual Flavors of Slovakia sit-down dinner Sunday, March 14, at 12:30 p.m.

Our traditional Slovakian dinner includes holubky (cabbage rolls), zelená fazulka s kôprom (dilled green beans), zaváraná cvikla (pickled beets), pirohy (filled dumplings), halušky s kapustou (dumplings and cabbage), caraway rye bread, dessert, and coffee. The cash bar will have plenty of good beer on tap.

Invite your family and friends to a Slovak Sunday dinner. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$7 for children under 9. Seating is limited; prepaid reservations are required. Call or e-mail to make your reservation: Jeanette Pafko at Pafkova@aol.com, or 952-831-1440. Calls will be taken until seating is full, or until March 9. Send your check payable to Sokol Minnesota no later than March 9, to: Jeanette Pafko, attn: Slovak Dinner, 5232 West 96th Street, Bloomington, MN 55437. Please include your phone number or e-mail address. Your tickets will be waiting for you at the door. Prepaid take-out is available.

Dinner team leaders are Mary Cahill, Doreen McKenney, Jeanette Pafko, and Joyce Tesarek. They need volunteer helpers.

If you would like to assist, call Joyce at 612-822-6147.

FLAVORS of SLOVAKIA **Sunday** **March 14**



Reserved Seating
12:30 p.m.

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

- holubky/cabbage rolls • pirohy/filled dumplings • zelená fazulka s kôprom/dilled green beans zaváraná
- cvikla/pickled beets • halušky s kapustou/dumplings and cabbage • caraway rye bread • dessert • coffee • cash bar

\$15 Adult \$7 child under 9

Reservations by March 9:
Jeanette: 952-831-1440
Checks to: Sokol Minnesota
Mail by March 9 to:
Jeanette Pafko, 5232 W. 96th St.
Bloomington, MN 55437
www.sokolmn.org



EASTER BREAKFAST

French toast, all-you-can-eat pancakes plus sausage, juice, milk, coffee

- \$6.50** adult •**\$4.50** child under 9
- \$18** family of four

Bake Sale with lamb cakes, kolache, paska, and more

Craft and Collectibles Sale

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

C.S.P.S. Sokol Hall
383 Michigan at W 7th, St. Paul

www.sokolmn.org



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

President Komentář/President's Note

By Joe Landsberger

Pozdrav bratři a sestry/Greetings brothers and sisters

In the last issue, we covered Sokol's digital world! Some might consider this digital access to information impersonal, but there are also many real-life opportunities to interact with your brothers and sisters at Sokol Minnesota! This issue will feature several. Each enables us to 1) partake in the offerings, whether March's Slovak Dinner and Pancake Breakfast/Bake Sale, April's Garage Sale, or May's Festival of Nations; 2) share in the fun with dedicated members who work these events, and get to know what interesting people they are, and 3) have an occasion to learn about the state of Sokol Minnesota.

This last is important. We can write and send emails, trying our best to inform you, but unless you take the initiative to come to these events or our 4th Friday membership meetings at the C.S.P.S. Hall and talk with "us," you won't get the full flavor of what is going on, and what challenges we are meeting.

Who do we mean by "us?"

Good question. Actually, "us" is everyone present. It does not matter to me whether the person is a seasoned member with a long family history, or someone relatively new to Sokol. What matters is what Sokol should be in order to thrive in these current times. That hopefully will be reflected by conversations among our membership. The leadership of Sokol takes responsibility for empowering all within Sokol's ranks to express their priorities, and tries to balance all the various interests.

I look forward to seeing and listening to you in the few months ahead before the hiatus of summer arrives!

Sokol at the Festival of Nations - April 30-May 3

It is time to start thinking about Sokol Minnesota's participation in the 2010 Festival of Nations, April 30 to May 3. The Festival at the St. Paul River Center has been a favorite springtime tradition in St. Paul since its beginning in 1932. It is a lively, fun-filled 4-day weekend for everyone.

Sokol work teams are already in place and making plans. Jean Hall is general Festival Chair for Sokol Minnesota. Other team leaders include Doreen McKenney (952-941-0426), Bazaar; Jakub Dajc (612-703-1240), Culture Exhibit; Louise Wessinger (651-452-6240), Children's Dance Program; Diane Bell, Adult Program; and Joyce Tesarek (612-822-6147) and Mary Cahill (651-738-9470), Cafe Committee.

Baking days are slated for Friday and Saturday, April 9 and 10, starting at 9 a.m. at C.S.P.S. Sokol Hall. This is a great opportunity to help make the hundreds of dozen koláče we sell in the cafe. In charge of baking prep are Doreen McKenney and Joyce Tesarek. Join the fun! If you would like to participate, call one of the team chairs.

Slovo

The *Slovo* is published by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, a non-profit organization, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102. Cinnamon Whaley, copy editor; Julie Tomáška, layout editor; J.H. Fonkert and Marit Lee Kucera, interim managing editors; Joyce Tesarek, photographer; Sharon Wyberg, production manager; Ken Wyberg, business manager. The Slovo Publications Committee welcomes submissions. *The deadline for the April issue is March 1.* Send suggestions, articles, and pictures digitally to: slovo@sokolmn.org. Slovo gift subscriptions and non-membership renewals: \$12.

Sokol MN Slovo
5604 Morgan Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419

Visit us at: www.sokolmn.org

Spring Breakfast with Bake Sale and Craft/Collectible Sale

Palm Sunday, March 28, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The March 28 Spring Breakfast with Bake and Craft/Collectible Sale will fill the C.S.P.S. Hall with the warm aroma of hotcakes, French toast and sausage, and the tempting allure of beautiful baked goods, crafts and collectibles. Food service and sales will open at 9:30 a.m. and run through 1:30 p.m. The menu features French toast and all-you-can-eat pancakes, fruit cup, sausage, juice, milk and coffee. Breakfast is \$6.50 for adults, \$4.50 for children under 9, or \$18 for a family of four.

Lamb cakes and Paska, the traditional Czech Easter bread, will highlight the Bake Sale. A variety of other favorite breads, cakes, and pastries are sure to bring compliments at your Easter table. You can also choose from a delightful array of filled Easter baskets for children and adults. Chairs Louise Wessinger, Doreen McKenney, and Ed Hamernik invite Sokol members and friends to help bake and decorate lamb cakes and other Easter treats starting at 9 a.m., Saturday, March 27, the day before the breakfast and bake sale.

Sokol members who would like to donate baked goods, filled baskets, or potted plants for the Bake Sale can bring them to the Hall Saturday morning, between 9 a.m. and noon. Your help is also welcomed on Palm Sunday to make and serve the breakfast, or assist in the sales booths. Please call Louise (651-452-6240), Doreen (952-941-0426), or Ed (763-571-6091) to volunteer. Join the fun! All proceeds help our wonderful Sokol unit and our historic old building.

For the second year, the Spring Breakfast also will feature a Craft and Collectible Sale offering beaded jewelry, hand-knit children's sweaters, turned-wood bowls, tea towels, cat toys, and more. The selection of collectibles will range from Czech and other old world glass to vintage toys. Venders can reserve a craft table for \$25 by contacting: events@sokolmn.org or by calling Louise (651-452-6240).

The Sokol Gift Shop, Krásné Dárky (Beautiful Gifts), will be open during both the Slovak Dinner and the Spring Breakfast. The shop is filled with Czech and Slovak jewelry, cards, ribbons, books, music tapes and CDs, plus dolls, t-shirts, glassware, fine Czech crystal, and the ever-popular Sokol Minnesota Cookbook. Plan to stop by Krásné Dárky on the first floor.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join you for food and fun on Palm Sunday.

Czech and Slovak Language Classes - At Sokol Minnesota, Spring 2010

Czech and Sokol Minnesota proudly announces its Spring 2010 program of language classes. All classes are at the C.S.P.S. Hall at 383 Michigan St., St. Paul. For information, call Jean at 651-426-2826 or send an email to education@sokolmn.org. Pre-registration is required for all classes. Use the registration form at www.sokolmn.org. Maximum class size: 10; classes with fewer than six registered students will be canceled.

Slovak Language Class-Beginner Level (Session 3)

Instructor: Barborka Carlsonova

Thursday Evenings, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

8 weeks: March 4 through April 29 (no class on April 1).

Class fee: Sokol members, \$60; non-members, \$75.

Textbooks: *Slovak (Slovak for You)* text, workbook & phrase book (approximately \$60).

Czech Language Class-Beginner Level (Session 3)

Instructor: Jakub Dajc

Monday Evenings, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

8 weeks: March 8 through May 3 (no class April 26).

Class fee: Sokol members, \$60; non-members, \$75.

Textbooks: *Cestina Hrou*, plus cassettes and workbook (approximately \$115).

Czech Language Class-Advanced Beginner (Session 3)

Instructor: Jakub Dajc

Wednesday Evenings, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

8 weeks: March 10 through May 5 (no class April 28).

Class fee: Sokol members, \$60; non-members, \$75.

Textbook: *Cestina Hrou*, plus workbook (continues as before).

Czech Language Class-Conversational Level (Session 3)

Instructor: Jakub Dajc, Norm Petrik, coordinator

Tuesday Evenings, 7:00-8:30 pm.

8 weeks: March 9 through May 4 (no class April 27).

Class fee: Sokol members, \$60; non-members, \$75.

Textbooks: Czech Language Text/Workbook (continues as before).

Board of Trustees News and Notes

By Chuck Draheim, BOT Chair

The Minnesota Historical Society has awarded a \$7,000 Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota for an engineering assessment of Sokol's historic C.S.P.S. Hall.

The Board of Trustees will use the funds to investigate an upgrade of our heating and cooling (HVAC) system. Over the past three years, we have spent nearly \$60,000 on repairs to the 90-plus year-old steam pipes, and this expense has severely cut into our cash reserves. Upon completion of the initial study, a grant application will be submitted to fund the HVAC upgrade project. We have retained Rebecca Ellis of Questions & Solutions Engineering, Inc., to perform the study.

As a follow-on to the HVAC study, we plan to apply for an additional grant for funds to study the entire plumbing system.

Mark your calendars and reserve Saturday, April 10, for the spring BOT work day. We will be working outside to clean up a winter's worth of debris in the parking lot area, perhaps planting some hardy spring flowers in the flower boxes, and generally sprucing up our beloved C.S.P.S. Hall. The event begins at 8:30 a.m., and we plan to wrap up around noon. This day is not just for BOT members; all Sokol members and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know some of your fellow Sokols a little better and make the facility nicer for us all.

Road construction is coming this spring! The City of St. Paul has informed us that Michigan St., between Richmond and Western, will undergo major work starting in the spring and ending about November 2010. Access to the C.S.P.S. Hall parking lot will be affected. The BOT will monitor the project and keep the BOD and the general membership informed as to how and when the Hall will be affected.

The BOT would like to remind all Sokol members that any maintenance and repair needs must be reported to the BOT. We can't fix something that we don't know is broken. It is essential that the chair of the BOT, Chuck Draheim (651-426-2826 or 612-414-5283), be contacted before any repair or maintenance is done and before anyone is contacted to make any repairs. We have a list of preferred contractors that will be contacted to perform all necessary work.

Meet the Folders



February *Slovo* Folders were (L to R) Don Pafko, Jean Verner, Norm Petrik, Jeanette Pafko, and Chuck Draheim. Collating and folding the *Slovo*s is one of the many steps in the production of our Sokol Minnesota newsletter. By the smiles, you can see that everyone has a good time. The Folders meet for a couple hours at the beginning of the fourth week of the month. For specific dates and times, and to sign up to help, call 651-290-0542. Your help is welcome and appreciated... you'll have a Sokol good time too.

What do you know? What do you want to know about the Czech and Slovak Republics?

By Josef Mestenhauser



Josef Mestenhauser

Last December your editor, Cinnamon Whaley, asked me an interesting question. The question: *“What can be done by every day people such as myself to foster the relationship with the Slovak and Czech Republics?”*

She asked the question in response to my previous article, in which it was suggested that we need to know about each other much

more than we do. But indeed, as Cinnamon implies, there is so much to know that we cannot expect people to turn themselves into amateur historians, anthropologists, or political scientists – all at the same time.

The trouble is that such knowledge comes mostly from academic and special interest literature in such great detail that the average person simply does not have time to follow it. There is, of course, the Google internet search engine, but that requires a computer, and then a lot of time to search for exactly the kind of information people need or want. There are also several very fine web pages, including those of the Czech and Slovak governments or Embassies, and several English language weeklies, such as *Prague Post* that provide high quality information about mostly current events.

I read every day a special Czech language daily news summary that is excellent and often tells me more – and earlier (because of time difference) about events even in the United States. It usually arrives late in the evening, so I catch it just before I retire for the night, and recommend it to anyone who has a computer and reads Czech. It is free and can be subscribed to at info@ekomail.cz.

I will get a similar reference for Slovak news. These kinds of sources are useful mostly for keeping up with events and current conditions, but would not provide basic knowledge about the whole context, that includes knowing something more about these countries than most of us know. I have two ideas that I would like to float before the members of Sokol Minnesota and the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center, and I would appreciate it if people would react and comment on these ideas.

The first one is to organize a small group of “look-outs,” people who know some community sources and activities, such as those organized by the Minnesota International Center or various theaters or musical groups. These “look-outs” would monitor regularly what other groups are doing that might be of interest to our members. This information could then be turned into the web pages and circulated quickly by e-mail to our entire memberships.

An example is the play produced recently by the Park Square Theater in St. Paul, entitled *Rock and Roll*. It was an outstanding performance of an exceptionally thoughtful situation that faced common people in the former Czechoslovakia during the communist era. Such insights are difficult for us to obtain because we Americans are not accustomed to living in conditions of fear and totalitarianism.

The second idea is to invite carefully selected speakers who would address only the most important information on selected topics. We tried to do this several years ago, but the sessions were too frequent, and the attendance was too small to cover costs, even though the speakers were outstanding.

These and other speakers are still around, so that we could put together an excellent series of, let’s say, monthly breakfast meetings (would we have enough volunteers to serve breakfast at the Hall?) and cover the entire spectrum of topics. The best way to do that would be to require pre-registration and charge a small fee to defray the cost of modest honorariums for the speakers. We could close the registration at some manageable number to assure real meaningful discussions following the presentations. Speakers could include people I know personally who can address topics on history (with emphasis on recent history), politics, literature, music, religion, national character, economics, international relations, relations with the U. S., youth culture, education, current issues and controversies, and social and political trends. The members who would pre-register could express their interests in the topics, and I guarantee that we will not run out of them.

How about doing one or both of these in answer to Cinnamon’s question? I ask you: who wants to know?



CGSI Quarterly Meeting Features Naturalization Records for Family History

By Ginger Simek, President, Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International



Tom Rice

Naturalization is the process through which a non-citizen becomes an American citizen. It is a basic genealogy topic of interest to all ethnic groups.

What is the process? Was my family naturalized? What records were created? What will those records tell me? Where can I find those records? Come to the March Quarterly Meeting of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International and learn the answers to those questions. Tom Rice will speak on "Becoming an American: Immigration – the process, the law, and the records."

The meeting will be held in the main floor auditorium at 1185 Concord Street N., South St. Paul, Minnesota, on Saturday, March 27, 2010. Registration starts at 12:30 p.m. The program will begin at 1 p.m. and end about 3:15 p.m. There will be a refreshment break, and the CGSI Sales Table will be open. The CGSI library is co-located with the Minnesota Genealogical Society Library on the 2nd floor of the building.

Ample parking is available in lots on the north and south sides of the building, as well as across the street. The location is on the 71B bus line. Suggested donation: \$5 for members, \$8 for non-members.

Tom Rice is a Certified Genealogist. He is a member of the National Genealogy Society and the Association of Professional Genealogists. He is actively involved in the Minnesota Genealogical Society and is a Help Desk volunteer for the Minnesota Historical Society.

CGSI Lincoln Symposium. Registration is still open for the CGSI Lincoln Symposium, April 30-May 1 at the Nebraska Union on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus. In addition to personal research opportunities, the symposium will offer presentations on homestead records, Czech-American freethinkers, Czech language for genealogists, and more. Special lodging rates are available at the Holiday Inn Lincoln-Downtown. For information contact Wayne Sisel, sisel001@umn.edu, visit the CGSI website at www.cgsi.org, or write CGSI, PO Box 16225, Saint Paul, MN 55116.

Notes from the Education Chair

By Jean Verner

The Sokol Education Committee is serving up a full slate of learning this spring, both at our regular membership meetings and in Sokol-sponsored classes.

Come early to the March 26 membership meeting (7 p.m. at C.S.P.S. Hall) and enjoy a new activity! Sister Georgiana Dolejsi will lead a half-hour singing session at 6:30 p.m.. Over the course of the next few months we will be learning Czech and Slovak songs, along with some songs composed specifically for Sokol.

You do not have to speak Czech or Slovak and no singing experience is necessary. The session is free and open to anyone interested. Just bring yourself and a desire to learn a new song or two.

Spring classes include our ongoing Czech and Slovak language classes and a special two-part beginning genealogy class to help you discover your family history. The timing is perfect, because NBC-TV is launching its "Who do You Think You Are" program March 5. This program, inspired by a wildly successful British program, lets you share the experiences of entertainment celebrities as they learn about their ancestors. You don't have to be a celebrity to join in the

fun – just join our class in March and learn the tricks of the trade.

Spring Language Classes. Czech and Slovak Language Classes (Session 3) will be offered evenings March through the beginning of May. They will be held in the C.S.P.S. Hall, first floor classroom. Each class has openings for ten students. Send in your registration and payment soon. See the complete schedule elsewhere in this issue.

Beginning Genealogy. Remember to register for our March genealogy classes. Taught by Sokol member J. Fonkert, a board certified genealogist and President of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, classes will be held Tuesdays, March 16 and 30, 2010, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the 2nd floor dining room at the C.S.P.S. Hall. The first session will focus on learning about your ancestors' American lives. With the assistance of Ginger Simek, President of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society, the second session will give you tips for finding your Czech, Slovak or other European roots.

For more information, or to register, go to the Sokol Minnesota web site (www.sokolmn.org) or call Jean at 651-426-2826.

Band Concert Filled the Hall and the Hearts of the Audience

By Marit Lee Kucera with translation assistance from Milan Sebek



[Left] Josef Šedivý, band singer, and Georgiana Dolejsi, enjoyed post-concert music. [Center] Podkrkonošský Band on stage at C.S.P.S. Hall on February 5. [Right] Ed Hamernik introduced wild rice to members of the Czech city band.

A lot of toe tapping and hand clapping added extra rhythm as three bands performed February 5 at the C.S.P.S. Hall, bringing wide smiles to more than 225 faces. Several Sokol members commented after the concert that they were having such a good time, they wished the evening would never end. To accommodate the capacity crowd, every chair in the building was hauled out and used.

The concert began with The Minnesota State Band and the Star of the North Band playing the “Star Spangled Banner,” under the direction of Sandy Merry, associate conductor of the Star of the North Band. When the Czech City Band took to the stage with 14 brass pieces and two singers, under the direction of Josef Ulrich, Sokol members joined in the singing of the national anthem of the Czech Republic. Ranging in age from 17-71 (the drummer), the Czech Band members played their hearts out for Sokol members and guests.

After their national anthems, both sets of bands played a variety of favorite, well-known tunes. The three bands played the final two pieces of the concert together: “The Beer Barrel Polka” and “The Thunderer.” Each director conducted one piece. Musicians shared music stands and crowded in huddles to perform together to a very appreciative crowd that gave both pieces standing ovations. Music was certainly the universal language.

The seed for the concert was sown in 1992, when the Minnesota State Band performed with the Podkrkonošský Band in Jablonec nad Jizerou, in what is now northeast Czech Republic. The Minnesotans extended an invitation to the Czechs to play in Minnesota. Gordon Backlund, trumpet player and a founding member of the Star of the North Band, was president of the Minnesota State Band when it played in Czechoslovakia. He contacted his long-time friend Ed

Hamernik, Sokol Minnesota vice-president, to arrange the February concert.

It took 18 years for them to return the music, but it was worth the wait. For the Czech band members, this trip fulfilled their lifelong ambition to visit America, according to the director, Mr. Ulrich. Podkrkonošský Band members stayed in the homes of Minnesota State Band members.

Before the concert, Sokol Minnesota members treated the Czech musicians to a Minnesota wild rice salad, along with more traditional Czech fare. Arlene Hamernik provided the recipe, which several Sokol members prepared as a special treat for the Czech guests. Ed Hamernik, who speaks Czech, went to each table of Czech band members to tell them about our famous, delicious, native-to-Minnesota wild rice. Despite a few quizzical looks, everyone enthusiastically enjoyed the wild rice.

After the concert, Sokol Minnesota President Joe Landberger fetched his father’s button accordion, which Czech singer Josef Šedivý played to the delight of the many guests who gathered around him at the front of the hall. Mr. Šedivý told that, in his small village of 300, very near to the city of Jablonec nad Jizerou, it is Sokol members or the firemen who plan and carry out many of the community events and activities. The band director reported that in the bigger towns, Sokol organizations are primarily oriented to team sports.

Czech-speaking Minnesotans had great fun talking to their Czech counterparts. One Minnesotan recalled that, when he asked three of the band members how would it be possible for them to play the concert after having five beers with dinner, he was told that they actually needed six before they could play!

Warm and Sunny Times at Sokol Camp

By "Pine City Petunia, II"

Even though it's still cold and snowy, it's nice to know that spring is just around the corner. Thoughts are turning to vacations, long walks outdoors, and water-sports. Where to indulge in these rites of spring and summer? How about coming up to Sokol Camp?

Being able to rent rooms and spend time at Camp is just one of the perks of being a Sokol member. Come up for the day, the weekend, or a week.

Sokol Camp is just 1 ½ hours north of the Twin Cities on the north-eastern shore of Cross Lake in Pine City, Minnesota. With a main lodge that has ten bedrooms, a large common room with a fireplace, a large kitchen, two baths, and hot and cold running water, Sokol Camp is a convenient and affordable destination.

When you rent time at Sokol Camp you also have access to the docks, rowboats, and some of the best fishing spots on the lake. Launch your watercraft at the public access in Pine City and spend the weekend on the water.

Calling all photos! Calling all photos!

Mark Sunday, August 15, 2010, on your calendar as the day to celebrate good food, good friends, and the Sokol Camp Booya Picnic!

This year is the 80th anniversary of the Sokol Camp Booya picnic, held in Pine City, Minnesota. Co-chairs Ray Vanyo and BobbyJo Chandler are looking forward to making it a very special occasion.

Ray and BobbyJo are asking that anyone who has visited or worked at the picnic look through their photos and share some of those wonderful memories with this year's attendees.

You aren't the shutterbug in your family? Ask around, family and friends may have photos or look through those boxes of old photos that you inherited from grandparents or great aunts and uncles. There may be some real gems that will bring the past 80 years of Booya Picnics to life.

Please send copies of your photos to: BobbyJo Chandler, 1012 Woodbridge St., St. Paul, Minnesota 55117.

Sokol Camp is also a great jumping-off point for day excursions. The Northwest Company Fur Post historical reconstruction is just west of Pine City. Several golf courses are also nearby. Hinckley, with its casino and fire museum, is 15 minutes north, and Duluth is less than two hours away.

Along with the water activities and the day trips, another favorite thing to do is...nothing. Relaxation just happens when you spend some time looking at the lake, listening to loons, or reading on the front porch.

The Sokol Camp season opens April 24, with our annual Camp Open-up. Come spend the day sweeping the cobwebs from the Camp and the winter from your mind.

The camp season ends September 26, when the shutters go up and screens come down, dishes are put into storage, the docks are pulled from the lake, and the water pump is turned off. For more information about using Sokol Camp, please call Jean at 651-426-2826 or 651-210-0401.

Sokol Says "Thank You" to Donors

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota thanks members and friends who have made contributions to support our programs and our historic C.S.P.S. Hall. All donations are credited to the general fund, unless otherwise noted.

Ann and Kenneth Janda

JoAnn Wanous Parvey
\$100, Building Fund

Katherine Jorgenson
In-kind gift of a commercial gas grill

Patricia Wolesky
Building Fund

Elsie Roepke
In memory of George Svoboda, Elevator Fund

Cheryl Nelson and Mike Theuninck
Building Fund

Membership Report

By Norm Petrik, Membership Director

Sokol Minnesota accepted 12 new members, including eight individuals and two couples, at its February Membership Meeting.

The new individual members are:

Kathy Stewart of St Louis Park, who is interested in language, genealogy, history and Sokol dinners;
Rose Vesely of Bemidji, with interests in genealogy, dances, dinners and festivals;
Jim Sturm of St. Paul, who is interested in learning Czech and attending other Sokol events;
Lynn Sedivy of Minneapolis, who is interested in learning Czech;
Patricia Slaber of Shoreview, with interests in language, cooking, history and genealogy;
Ruth Ahrens of Richfield, with interests in language, cooking, dinners and dances;
Eileen Flint of Brooklyn Park, who is interested in language, genealogy and dinners, and
Bonna Scherer of White Bear Lake, with interests in language and genealogy.

The new couple members are:

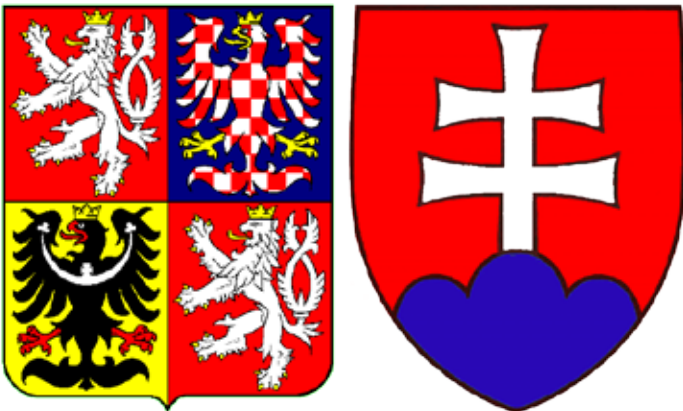
Joan and Tim Lasser of Eagan, and
Milan and Julie Tomáška of Woodbury, with interests in language and culture camp.

Welcome all of you to Sokol Minnesota. As Sokol members, you will receive our newsletter, the *Slovo*, and you are invited to our monthly membership meetings the 4th Friday of each month at 7 p.m., as well as our many cultural, educational and recreational events through the year.

Slovo readers interested in joining Sokol Minnesota are invited to call Norm at 612-822-6147.

FON – We Need You!

By Mary Cahill



Looking for a volunteer opportunity that provides Fun, Opportunity, and Novelty? Then look no further. Say “yes” to a shift at this year’s Festival of Nations (FON).

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota needs many volunteers to staff our participation in the event. This year’s FON event will be held April 29 to May 2 at The St. Paul River Center. Volunteers receive an admission ticket, *kroj* (ethnic costume) to wear while volunteering, on-the-job instructions, and the fun of working with a great group of people.

Volunteers are needed in the café, culture booth, and bazaar. For more information, or to sign up for a shift, please call Mary Cahill, 651-738-9470 (café); Jakub Dajc, 952-294-8032 (culture booth); or Doreen Mc Kenney, 952-941-0426 (bazaar).

Consider recruiting a friend to volunteer with you. Shifts are 3 to 4 hours in length. The Festival is open long hours, so there will be plenty of time to come before or stay after your shift to take in the various performances and demonstrations, as well as shop the international bazaar and to browse the food offerings at the ethnic cafes. Please consider contacting one of us to take a shift, and saying “yes” when we call you.

Duck Dinner Delights



Duck Dinner kitchen servers Marit Lee Kucera, Joan Sedlacek (hidden), Doreen McKenney, James Narr, and Judy Aubrecht filled plates with roast duck, potato dumplings, red cabbage, and gravy.

The 7th annual Candlelight Roast Duck Dinner delighted 93 Sokol members, friends, and family who braved icy rain the night of January 23.

Doreen McKenney and Joan Sedlacek chaired the dinner, with support from several dedicated members who helped with everything from peeling potatoes for the dumplings, chopping cabbages and onions for the bacon-flavored sweet-and-sour red cabbage, baking poppy seed cakes for the dessert, serving the dinner, making a second round of coffee in the two 60-cup pots, and washing all the dishes afterwards.

Many guests remained seated at their tables long after the dinner was over, visiting and enjoying each other's company. A big "thank you" is given to all volunteers and guests who came for this mid-winter feast. The Sokol-sponsored dinners provide a valuable source of revenue for the maintenance of our Hall and for our Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota programs.

In true Sokol (and Minnesota) spirit, despite the inclement weather, everyone came; all reservations were kept. Our Sokol dinners not only provide scrumptious fare, but are always too much fun to miss!

Cooking with Our "Neighbors"

By Cinnamon Whaley

On January 23, a group gathered to bake kolache at St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral for the upcoming Rusin Association Dinner. The Rusins are an ethnic group whose homeland is near the Carpathian Mountains in an area that spills into Ukraine, the Slovak Republic, and Poland. Because the Rusin geography overlaps with the Slovak Republic, Sokol shares quite a few cultural traditions and cuisines with the Rusins.

I've never made it to the C.S.P.S. hall for kolache baking, but I've tried making them myself and I've sold them at our Sokol festivals, so I thought I knew what to expect. When I arrived, a small group of women were rolling out dough into 14-inch squares on which filling was spread, and then the dough was rolled up and pinched tight into loaves!

Apricot, poppyseed, and almond fillings were used. I thought I was being too liberal with my filling, but getting a lot of filling in there sure tastes good in the end! This method results in a beautiful swirl of filling after baking. Pinching was the most difficult part, and some loaves opened while baking. Pushing them back together with two spatulas worked wonders and as they are sliced to serve, you'd never know they split open if you hadn't seen it.

It was fun to get together with another cultural group that shares similarities with Sokol. Yet, the Rusin culture is unique. Many members of the Rusin Association are members of the church I attended growing up. Interestingly enough, members of the Rusin Association who knew my grandparents tell me

that I'm ethnically Rusin, rather than Slovak. I'm not really sure where this leaves me, but I still enjoy my time at Sokol very much!

This baking opportunity has reminded me of the importance of passing down information - both important cultural information and the nuances of cooking - between neighbors. I'd like to thank the Rusins for inviting me to their baking session!

This recipe is meant to serve a large sized group. To make a serving for your household or and friends, divide it by four. As written, the recipe will make 12 to 16 rolls.

Rusin Kolache Dough Recipe

Scald and cool: 3 cups milk, 2 cups margarine
1 cup sugar, 1 tbsp. salt

Dissolve together: 1/3 cup instant yeast,
1 tbsp. sugar, 1 cup warm water

Whip: 8 eggs

When liquid is luke warm and yeast has risen, add yeast to liquid; stir; add eggs, and stir.

Add: 18 cups flour

Knead; let rise 30 minutes. Weigh out 3/4 lb. balls; let rise 5 minutes. Roll out to about 14" square and 1/8" thick. Spread two level coffee cups of filling onto dough. Roll up and seal ends. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes, or until done. Baste with melted oleo when removed from oven. Let cool completely before packing.

Children's Corner /Dětský koutek

By Joe Landsberger with translation assistance from Denis Novak and Milan Tomáška



From Sokol Minnesota's archives, here is another in a series of fables from the children's book *Svět Zvírat* (Animal's World) published in Prague by B. Koci in 1919. It is illustrated by L. Lada with verses by Petr Kricka. In this excerpt titled "Rozprávka" (A Discourse), Mr. Stork is interrupted as he goes about his usual business. We invite all Czech and Slovak learners and also native speakers to volunteer their translations. Send them to jfl@studygs.net

Rozprávka

„Kam pak, pane Čápe, kam pak?“
„Do školy, paničko, do školy. Dobří žakazníci, stálí.
Každoročně Jeden Kousek, jako houska na krame.
A Vy kam pak, s cim pak vlastne?“
„I nesu k fořtovům taky toho baculáče. Ti by mne
hnali se žábou, panečku. A zdravíčko, prosím,
slouží, slouží?“
„Až na ty nohy, děkuju za optání. To víte, stáří, stáří.
A paměť. Ta paměť! Pořád pozor dávat, kdy svatba
byla, aby nebyly z toho řeči.“
„Járku, pane Čápe. Slovíčko! Ale mezi námi, prosím.
Neprožbleptnout se nikde! Víte-li, kam letí vrána?
Prosím, mezi námi. Na faru, chichichi, na faru.“

Song of the Month

By Georgiana Dolejsi

Our Song of the Month comes from a book of folksongs entitled *Pejme Pisen Dikola*. It was composed and arranged by the famous Czech, Frantisek Kmoch and remains a very popular Sokol marching song.

2nd Verse

Muziky, Muziky, vy pěkně hrajete,
vy jste mne ze spani, probudily,
Já jsem se nevyspal, děvce jsem nedostal,
tomu jste muziky, samy viny.

Když jsem sel od mily, klekani zvonily,
Kukačka na buku, zakukala.
Kukačka kukala, ma mila plakala,
ze mne již vicekrát, neuhlida.



A musical score for the song "Muziky, Muziky". The score is written in 2/4 time and features a melody line and a bass line. The lyrics are in Czech and are written above the melody line. The score includes a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: MU - ZI - KY, MUZIKY, vy pěkně hrajete, Já jsem se nevyspal, děvce jsem nedostal, tomu jste muziky, samy viny. Když jsem sel od mily, klekani zvonily, Kukačka na buku, zakukala. Kukačka kukala, ma mila plakala, ze mne již vicekrát, neuhlida. The score includes a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: MU - ZI - KY, MUZIKY, vy pěkně hrajete, Já jsem se nevyspal, děvce jsem nedostal, tomu jste muziky, samy viny. Když jsem sel od mily, klekani zvonily, Kukačka na buku, zakukala. Kukačka kukala, ma mila plakala, ze mne již vicekrát, neuhlida. The score includes a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: MU - ZI - KY, MUZIKY, vy pěkně hrajete, Já jsem se nevyspal, děvce jsem nedostal, tomu jste muziky, samy viny. Když jsem sel od mily, klekani zvonily, Kukačka na buku, zakukala. Kukačka kukala, ma mila plakala, ze mne již vicekrát, neuhlida.

MORE FOR SPRING 2010 - *Garage Sale, April 15-16*

*The favor that rewards both you and Sokol Minnesota:
You get more closet and garage space and Sokol gets the proceeds.*

Let your spring cleaning benefit Sokol Minnesota by bringing your gently used surplus to the 2010 Garage Sale, scheduled for April 15 and 16.

Set up is Wednesday, April 14, with the sale itself Thursday, noon to 7 p.m., and Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The \$3 Bag Sale starts at noon on Friday. Drop off your contributions in boxes with lids (no bags please) at the C.S.P.S. Sokol Hall any time or bring on April 14, starting at 10 a.m.

We will accept most anything of value including your treasures, "junk," re-gifts, collectibles, antiques, clothing, jewelry, linens, books, records, CDs, videos, toys, household and shop utensils, small furniture, yard and garden tools. Regrettably, we cannot accept electronics, bicycles, skis, large furniture and mattresses. But, we can use paper grocery bags with handles.

To volunteer or ask questions, call Marit Lee Kucera (651-222-2483) or Doreen McKenney (952-941-0426). Join the fun!



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