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The Glockenspiel and the Ziegler family

By Joe Landsberger



Marty and Joyce Ziegler

The C.S.P.S. Hall, sometimes known as the “Czech Hall,” is home to a tasty German restaurant, The Glockenspiel. We’d like to introduce you to Martin (Marty) Ziegler, the new owner of The Glockenspiel.

In 1989, Ziegler found himself as a legal immigrant in Minnesota with a desire to work and not much else. He took odd jobs, but it wasn’t long before he found work in the food industry. In his native town of Haslach Im Kinzigtal, in the Black Forest of Germany, he was trained as a butcher. He was continuing a family tradition as his grandfather was a chef, and his father was a *Metzger Meister*, or master butcher.

So, in 1990, he came St. Paul to manage a deli and meat department in *Buon Giorno*, an Italian grocery on University Avenue near the capital. He moved on to Ambassador Foods in 1991, and through them he also contracted with Basset Meats in Sanborn County, Minnesota.

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Upcoming Events

- May 4-6 Festival of Nations
- May 12 Literary Ventures Book Club
- May 19 Tea Party Social
- June 18-22 Culture Camp

Tea Party Social

Bring your favorite TEACUP

Saturday, May 19th
1-3pm
\$10 Adult

Serving TEA sandwich & dessert

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Afternoon presentation by Rae Lundquist
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President Komentář/President's Note

By Joe Landsberger

Pozdrav bratři a sestry/Greetings brothers and sisters!

Over the years Sokol Minnesota has changed as its membership has changed, and new opportunities have presented themselves. I believe that this is reflected in the mission of American Sokol: "to provide fitness and community for individuals and families through physical, educational, cultural and social programs."

This mission drives our organization structure at Sokol Minnesota. So how does our committee structure reflect what our local unit is up to, and the gist of the national mission? In future issues, I am going to feature one committee in my President's Note in hopes it will attract your interest, either as a committee member or as a participant in the programs the committee plans and organizes.

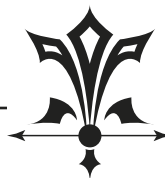
The first featured committee is our very active Education Committee! Louise Wessinger is chair, with members Doreen McKenney, Joyce Tesarek, Norm Petrik, Jean Verner, and Kay Edquist. The committee has expanded its programs in the past seven years, and now offers quite a diversity of classes related to Czech and Slovak heritage. Their program is self-supporting, makes a "profit" of about \$1,000 toward supporting our building, and has brought in many new members.

This year, we have four Czech language classes with 45 students in beginning and intermediate level classes. Native speakers with teaching experience use a college level text. In addition, cooking classes of about 15 each have created delicious perníčky, vánočka, zázvorníky, and koláče. I know from personal experience, because my family and I now have a new holiday tradition. Also part of our education program this year have been genealogy classes and a beer-brewing class, as well as classes on making corn husk dolls, using feather brushes to glaze pastry, and kroj-making classes. The future may bring classes in beading and other crafts. The classes are exciting opportunities to get to know both traditional crafts and each other.

Related activities to the mission of education include the Board of Instructors (gymnastics), summer Culture Camp, and joint programs with the Czech-Slovak Culture Center, including the Literary Ventures book club. These activities will be featured in future issues of Slovo.

Our education chair, Louise, strongly believes in individuals developing classes and programs and presenting ideas to the committee. Join the fun; join this committee!

Nazdar,
Joe Landsberger



*Deepest sympathy is sent to the families of Sokol members
Don Factor and Tom Bulera.*

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota SLOVO

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Membership Report

By Nancy Imbrone, Financial Secretary

Sokol Membership tops 300

At the Membership meeting April 27, it was announced that our membership numbers have grown and now exceed 300, to be exact - 302 members! This consists of 131 men, and 171 women. This is the highest our membership numbers have been in quite awhile.

Remember there's still time to get your copy of the Membership Directory which will be ready for distribution on or around May 15. There's a small charge of \$2 to cover the cost of printing and postage (if necessary). If you would like a directory, send a check payable to Sokol Minnesota, to the attention of N Imbrone/Directory, Czech and Slovak Sokol MN 383 Michigan St., St. Paul, MN 55102.

Also at the April Membership meeting, one new membership application was accepted. Please welcome our newest member, John Palka. John resides in Freeland, Washington, and was a long-time professor of Biology at UW. John is of Slovak heritage and is presently researching his genealogy. He also expressed interest in receiving our Slovo. I hope you're reading this now, John! Welcome to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota. When you're in the neighborhood stop on in! You're always welcome here!

If you know of anyone wishing to become a member of our organization, please direct them to our Membership Director Norm Petrik at email normpetrik@aol.com or phone 612-822-6147.

Board of Trustees Report

By Terry Shima, BOT Secretary

The heavily used CSPS Hall parking lot is scheduled for resurfacing. We are at the top of the work list for the asphalt company this spring. The company needs three weeks of warm weather before starting the job, making a mid-May completion likely. The BOT will remove leaves and other debris from the lot before work begins.

Several other building projects are underway. A plaque will be installed in the hall recognizing major donors for the new windows that were installed in 2006. A contractor has been selected to repair the leaky roof over the storage area on the second floor. The Glockenspiel Restaurant is installing central air conditioning in its leased space and will remove the unsightly window air conditioners. New windows will be installed matching the new windows installed on the second and third floors.

West End Arts Council in Formation

The Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors voted to participate in planning for a West End Arts Council. The proposed Council is a project of the West 7th/Fort Road Federation-District 9 Community Council. The council is envisioned as supporting a wide variety of arts including studio, performance, graphics, culture, etc. If you are interested in representing Sokol and its arts activities within this task force, please contact Joe Landsberger, jfl@studygs.net, or 651-297-9000. Sokol could use several representatives on this task force, and the neighbors would welcome getting to know us better.

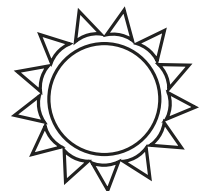
Snow Bird News: it's a Small World

By Libby Imbrone

Al, our son Paul and I had a nice surprise when dining with Milada (Mildred) at the American Czech and Slovak Culture Center in North Miami, Florida, in March.

Mildred, a lifelong Sokol from Chicago, commented on Joyce Tesarek's recent Cernin Palace award for her outstanding service to the Czech community. Mildred told us how impressed they were by this honor for Joyce. I gave them a copy of our new-look Slovo which I had in hand for the Florida members to read. Mr. Petrik, who is an officer and also very involved with Czech and Slovak genealogy was there, but he was tending to business and we didn't get to talk with him.

The North Miami group hosts music programs through the year. The sunny Florida location draws many Czech and Slovak groups and entertainers from Europe. The building is very interesting. The gabled front has interesting paintings by a noted artist in Florida. The building is set off from the road and has a great front and back area of grass for picnicking. The Center is open on Sundays with an ethnic dinner menu. On Saturday evenings the Hospoda is open for beer (Pilsner Urquell and Staropramen), wine and fellowship. For more information, check out their fine web site www.acscc.org It includes a picture of the front of the hall, including the paintings.



Minnesota Gymnasts Shine in Crete

By Sokol Minnesota Gymnastics Instructors

Sixteen Sokol Minnesota youth gymnasts won plaudits at the Sokol Western District Exhibition hosted in April by Sokolice Crete in Crete, Nebraska.

The girls competed hard and were good ambassadors for Sokol Minnesota. Several won medals and ribbons. Ten families traveled with the girls and assisted with transportation.



Our gymnasts performed a special number to the song “Walking on Sunshine” that was exceptionally well received. It was a series of pyramids that was very well executed and simply awesome!

Seven girls were competing for the first time at a Western District event. As is typical in a meet, some competitors “completed” a trick for the first time during the competition and others “missed” on a trick they had consistently made during practices. All the girls enjoyed

the competition, and the coaches believe they gained a lot from their participation. The gymnasts improved individual skills from performing publicly and developed and cemented friendships with their teammates.

Parents and competitors alike had a great time at Saturday’s “group” dinner. In an impromptu move, parent Tom Schroeder arranged with the staff at the Wilber Hotel where he and daughter Siri were staying to have their dining room opened for the entire Minnesota group. We had tours of this charming, historic hotel, some good food, and great camaraderie between the parents and the gymnasts.

Although it is a long trek to Crete and back, the trip was well worth the time and effort. We especially thank all who participated – competitors, parents, coaches (who gave up a weekend of uncompensated time) and Sokol MN for its support of the gym program and covering the travel expenses of the coaches.

The 2008 Western District Exhibition will be held at Sokol South Omaha.

Great Garage Sale!

By Doreen McKenney

The Annual Sokol Minnesota Garage Sale netted \$1,500 for Sokol’s general fund and the upkeep of our grand building.

Co-chairs Doris McKenney and Dorothy Sladek send a warm “Thank you” to everyone who donated merchandise and baked goods for the Sokol Garage Sale. They also thank the many volunteers who set up, priced, cashiered, bagged, and worked the floor during the sale.

It is always a pleasure to visit with neighborhood customers who came up to see what kind of treasures we have for sale and to share a memory or two about their past experiences at the Hall.

So keep us in mind the next time you want to pass on some article you may no longer want around the house, and we will gladly find a new home for it. Sokol is already collecting items for next year, so give us a call to arrange a drop-off. Sorry, we cannot take computers, stereos, large furniture, skies or bikes. Call co-chairs Doris (952.881.6715) or Dorothy (507.645.4793).



Sharon Wyberg Retires as Festival of Nations Café Chairperson After 19 Years

Sokol Minnesota has been a participant in the Festival of Nations since its inception, said to be around 1929. Sharon began

chairing the café booth in 1987. Looking through some of the records of those days, the food sales comprised of 300 dozen kolacky, 500 jaternice, 51 gallons of Czech booya, coffee, as many cream horns as the good ladies of Sokol were willing to bake, and gallons of lemonade, to give the 10,000 kids

on school days a sugar rush we did not need! Time and customers have changed. Sharon looks back at 19 years of 5 in a row- 15 hour (6am-11pm) days. Along with many days of food preparation. All with the aim of keeping it authentic, and like home-made. Preparation made possible only with the help of our Sokol Cooking Crews. Remembering doing dumb things like making several quarts of halusky and kapusta at 1:30 am to see how it would go the next day. It went well, the customers loved it! Nineteen years of much hard work, much fun, and the privilege of working with our willing and faithful group of Sokol volunteers: of which there are too many to enumerate.



Mark Your Calendar for Children's Culture Camp

Sokol Minnesota has a unique summer experience in store for children aged 7-14. The 11th annual Czech and Slovak Culture Camp is June 18-22 at the C.S.P.S. Hall in St. Paul.

The theme of this year's camp is "Happy Times in Czechoslovakia" based on the 1940 book of the same title by Libushka Bartusek. The book tells about a year in the life of the Horak Family in a small village in Moravia in the 1930s. It is a wonderful telling of the traditions of the Czechoslovak culture of the era.

In a forward to Happy Times in Czechoslovakia, Eleanor Roosevelt wrote that "in Czechoslovakia, a small, young democracy, was taken over by a totalitarian government. The new government may obliterate some of the little things which have existed in this little country for some time, such as the background of national culture. Nothing is ever lost, however, as long as it lives in books and pictures and

in the hearts of children."

"We have lots of new projects and activities planned to enrich this year's camp, said Judy Aubrecht," and we are hoping for a large crowd of children to share the adventure with us."

Daily camp sessions run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A lunch break and morning and afternoon nutrition breaks are scheduled each day. Snacks often have a cultural focus.

Tuition is \$85 for children or grandchildren of Sokol Minnesota members and \$115 for non-Sokol children. An additional play hour of activities will be offered from 3:00 to 4:00 for an additional fee of \$5.

Adult volunteers are needed to help with the Camp. An adult volunteer may bring one child may attend Camp for a reduced tuition fee of \$30. Older youth, aged are invited to help with Camp as "Junior Leaders." They will assist the group leaders, directors or special guests with activities during the week.

Camp information, including downloadable registration forms, is available at www.sokolmn.org/culturalcamp.shtml. For further information, contact Louise at 651-452-6240.

Sokol Camp Booya and Picnic

Minnesota Sokol Camp on beautiful Cross Lake in Pine City will be hosting its Annual Booya & Picnic on Sunday August 12, 2007 from noon to 5:00 pm.

The reigns of the event have been handed over to Ray Vanyo after Don Andrlé chaired the event for the last 40 years. Don and his wife Pat have done an excellent job of maintaining the tradition and set the example for passion and dedication toward an event that has a long history and has been celebrated by many generations of families.

The opportunity for keeping the spirit alive in this celebration of our heritage and culture is one that must be embraced and shared. There will still be many of the same people helping to organize and execute the festivities of the day, and that is a tribute to the very special nature of Sokol Camp Booya & Picnic.

We are planning an incredibly beautiful and sunny day filled with fun activities and great foods. There will

be delicious chicken booya for sale by the bowl or in bulk. Bring a jar or pot to fill to take home and enjoy or share with friends. There will also be meatloaf sandwiches, cabbage rolls, kolace, hot dogs and candy. A cold pivo or refreshing soda pop will satisfy any thirst. Old time music, dancing, bingo, a cash prize raffle, kiddy games, a country store and performance by the St. Paul Czech and Slovak Dancers and Taneční Mládež (Dancing Youth) will take you back in time.

Our Country Store is always in need of white elephant donations. Please call Pat Andrlé at 651-484-6360 for pick-up coordination or bring your donation to the Sokol Camp on the day of the picnic. For any other questions, please call Ray Vanyo at 651-222-6448.

To get to the campground, follow the signs that will be posted on the day of the event once you take the first Pine City exit off Interstate 35. Get away for a day and enjoy life at the Sokol Camp Booya & Picnic on Cross Lake in Pine City, Minnesota.



National Folk Dance Festival features Lipa Folk Dancers

The Slovak Lipa Folk Dancers from Minneapolis will be participating in the National Bohemian, Moravian, and Slovak Folk Dance Festival May 18-20 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa which will conclude with the 30th Annual Houby Day Festival in the Czech Village. The troupe will participate in and lead May Pole Dances, be part of the Houby Days parade, and give an authentic folk dance performance.

Readers Write

Czech heritage is very important to me. Thank you for the 25 year Certificate of Membership. It will be framed to hang on my wall. Thank you no less for the Sokol lapel pin. I wear it proudly.

Thank you again.
Olga (Ollie) Wiegel
Yuma, Arizona

I would like you to know how impressed I am with the last two issues of *Slovo*. The sharp black print on white is so much easier to read with the old eyes. The February and March issues contain most interesting articles and pictures.

In the February issue, readers were informed of plans to bring the old “jeviste” back to life. To again have Czech plays reminded me of the middle 1930s when my brother Tony and I took parts in the Czech plays on that same “jeviste.” Those were directed by Charlie Kocian, the barber of W. 7th St. We took the plays to towns around, and I remember how well we were treated by the Czechs in those towns.

Comments about Sibrinky in your President’s letter brought back memories. In my old scrapbook, I found an article from the 1938 Sibřinky. I believe the band was Artman’s Merrymakers, in which my brother Tony played.

The upcoming Festival of Nations also brings memories from 1934, if memory serves right. It was only one day at the YWCA. It was a small event, but some of us Czech took part.

I would like to give Doreen McKenney a thank you for her interesting article on her trip to the Czech Republic. What a wonderful experience, and so well written! And thanks to Louise Wessinger for her good work with Taneční Mládež. I enjoyed the write up and the pictures of the young people. The Czech and Slovak geography article by Jay Fonkert was also so interesting to me. In 1938, Emily Cikanek and I traveled all the way to Uzhorod, Podkarpatska Rus – no longer on the map.

With Sokol Nazdar,
Anna Delastrada O’Neill

Keep up the good work! I look forward always to Slovo.

Bohumil “Bob” Ptacek
San Antonio, Texas

Dear Friends,

My wife and I visited you at the C.S. P.S. Hall in January and left our contact information. You have been generously sending us Slovo ever since. I’m not sure how much membership costs, but here is a check for \$50 that I hope will cover it.

I wanted to take this opportunity to give you two reflections on what I have been reading in Slovo.

In the March issue you printed two songs, “Moravo!” and “Hej Slované...” It was the second one that caught my attention, because I grew up with it as “Hej, Slováci...” It was consider the greatest Slovak patriotic song, perhaps even more popular than the national anthem, and the words were, naturally, in Slovak, The text you printed was in Czech, the first time I have ever seen this. In the recent past, when the Czech Republic and Slovakia separated, there was a period of heightened nationalism, perhaps especially so in Slovakia. Later, people who had struggled for maintaining a united country sometimes referred to this hypernationalism as “Hejslováčenie” (Hejslovakism), another indication of how much the song is associated with the Slovak identity. Al in all, then, it was surprising and illuminating to see a Czech version, I would be very interested in finding more about the origin of this Czech version.

In the April issue you have a lead article on the Anton Yurka/Blanche Yurka house. This brought a smile to my heart because I actually met Blanche Yurka in New York when I was in my early teens. She was a good friend of my aunt Aglaia Hodza and her companion Maria Michal. They took me to a play in which Blanche Yurka was performing (I’m sorry that I don’t remember which play it was), and afterward introduced me to her. This encounter must have made quite an impression on me, since it happened about 50 years ago but I recalled it immediately when I saw the headline in Slovo!

Thanks for the great work you do in keeping Sokol Minnesota going and in publishing Slovo.

Johnny Palka
Freeland, Washington

Donations

To Sokol Camp from Rad Cesky Lev No. 10 - \$2000.00.

Sokol Minnesota thanks you for this generous donation!

Thank You!



Sokol Martin Kubik Makes Mark on Wilderness Trails

By Tim Curtis

Sokol member Martin Kubik is as at home clamboring over a remote wilderness trail as he is eating vepřové, knedlíky and kyselý zelí with us at the ČSPS Hall.

He is a founder and former President of the Kekekabic Trail Club, which rallied volunteers to maintain the famous Kekekabic Trail in northern Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Martin's love of hiking goes back to his youth in Czechoslovakia. Hiking was a common activity for his family and friends. His parents got Martin hiking when he was young. "I actually didn't like it," he says. "I remember trying to get out of it, saying things like: 'I don't want to,' 'My legs hurt,' or 'I can't do it'. I actually got a crown once to go, but only once. My parents wouldn't give in. Now I'm thankful."

"Hiking develops a person who keeps going. It's a lifelong avocation. I can remember how we hiked in the Krkonose Mountains and in the mountains in Slovakia, in particular, hiking up a dried streambed of stones that rose up steeply on both sides, large trees downed across the streambed. It was a dramatic landscape that kept going. It created a sense or taste for adventure."

Martin first saw the BWCA as a young University of Minnesota student on a canoe trip in the summer of 1971. For four days, he took in the beauty and expanse of the lake country and at night watched the stars in their sweep across the sky from horizon to horizon. He came home already thinking about the next trip.

He and a friend planned to return the following March, not sure if the snow and ice would require cross country skiing or hiking, but preparing for both. The lakes were frozen and a good snow cover provided for good skiing during the winter camping trip. With compass, map and reckoning they explored the forests, hills and lakes, beyond the usual summertime canoe routes.

It was the beginning of three decades of dedication to protect historic trails and preserve the BWCAW for future generations. Martin's trips became more frequent--whenever he could muster the means to get to the northland. In 1974, a pair of events drew him further into the BWCA.

"I was studying electrical engineering at the university, and there was a guy who worked in the shop, where students would work on projects. We talked about the BWCA and the North Shore. He had bought 18 acres somewhere around the North Shore with the idea of going up there when he retired. He

retired, and unfortunately he died a few months later. It was shortly after that, I was snow camping in 1974 on a particularly good trip, and I was thinking that you never know what to expect of life. I left school and became a guide for a camp at the end of the Gunflint Trail. It was one of the best experiences of my life."

Kubik spent 15 months guiding all types of trips—hiking, canoeing, snowshowing, cross country skiing—in all seasons. In his off time, he explored further reaches of the BWCA, and Canada's adjacent Quetico Park. For his work, he received food and lodging. To make money, he would work a short stint for the United States Forest Service (USFS) planting pines along Lake Superior, and with the money, he would buy a pair of hiking boots, or a shirt and some camping gear and return to the lakes.

"I couldn't grip or make a fist for three weeks after planting trees. You'd drive the planting bar into the ground and hit rock all day long," says Kubik.

After years of hiking, Kubik says the BWCAW trails are more challenging than the well-marked and maintained trails in the Czech Republic. "They're much longer. You may hike half a day between identifiable features. The Kekekabic Trail is forty miles long—forty miles without a McDonald's or hospoda."

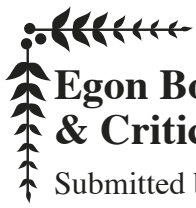
In the early Eighties, Kubik inquired with the Forest Service about hiking the Kekekabic Trail, which had disappeared from their maps. He was told not to hike it. Kubik, well conditioned from his early hiking experiences, hiked the length of the trail. He noted tree falls and that brush had almost erased the trail and reported that game trails were actually more passable than the trail itself.

He founded the Kekekabic Trail Club in 1990. By 1995 the "Kek" Trail Club had 140 members and the trail was cleared. A few thousand people hike the trail each year, although after the July 4th 1999 blowdown, it once again required maintenance on a large scale to keep the trail passable.

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...hiking up a dried streambed of stones that rose up steeply on both sides, large trees downed across the streambed. It was a dramatic landscape that kept going. It created a sense or taste for adventure."





Egon Bondy Czech Writer & Critic Dies

Submitted by Donna Henningsen,
info from a New York Times article

Egon Bondy, a poet and philosopher whose idiosyncratic cocktail of whimsically demented verse and profoundly subversive metaphysics lubricated the underground movement that helped topple Communism in Czechoslovakia died April 9th in Bratislava, Slovakia. He was 71. Mr. Bondy wrote some 60 books, most printed secretly and few published in the West. But his greatest fame came when the Czech underground band the Plastic People of the Universe used his morbidly funny poems as song lyrics. In 1976 the police raided one of their

concerts and arrested the band on charges of “organized disturbance of the peace.” The raid angered Czech dissidents, including Vaclav Havel; they issued a manifesto, Charter 77, which kick-started the chain of events that led, 12 years later, to the Velvet Revolution.

He was born Zbynek Fiser (later adopting Egon Bondy as a pen name.) In the late 1940s he was active in a surrealist group, and in the late ‘50s studied philosophy and psychology at Charles University. Beginning in the 1960s, he published prose and poetry as samizdat literature. In 1993 Mr. Vondy moved to Slovakia to protest the division of Czechoslovakia. He said the motivation of the split was to benefit the new capitalists of Prague at the expense of poorer Slovakia.

The Spirit Lives

By Paula Pojar Vukonich

The Czech and Slovak people have long been known for their stoicism, perseverance, pride and unfailing human spirit, sweetened by a touch of humor. They endured decades of oppression, always clinging to their culture, traditions, language and values. Even when these were forbidden, they were not forgotten. Powerless to protect their country, and at the mercy of politics during most of the 20th century, the people fought in their own way, quietly undermining attempts to break their spirit. In small, often humorous ways, they were a constant irritation. These are some memorable examples.

During the Soviet regime a Czech worker describing the Communist economy and his work ethic said, “they pretend to pay us and we pretend to work.” It was a Czechmate (checkmate) in the game of socialism.

On May Day 1955, a gigantic marble statue of Stalin was unveiled high atop a hill overlooking Prague. Huge and incredibly ugly, it was a sculpture of the Soviet leader with a line of workers standing behind him. The monstrosity was 150 ft. tall, weighed 17,000 tons, and loomed above the city as a symbol of Communist power. The Czechs jokingly called it the “bread line”, or the “meat queue”, something they knew very well. Although it defiled the skyline of Prague, the people ignored it. Eventually it was blown up, and the chunks were hauled through the streets of Old Town to cheering crowds.

When it was learned that the Soviet tanks were heading for Prague in 1968, people in the country began switching around road and highway signs to confuse the troops. In Prague all the street signs and

house numbers were taken down to confuse them even more.

The Smichovâ sign was a small wooden sign with SMICHOV written on it in Russian meant to direct the tanks enroute from Russia to liberate Prague in 1945. The Soviets had the sign framed and set into a wall in a Mala Strana square as a symbol of their good deed. After the 1968 reoccupation of Prague it became a target of hatred. The sign was defaced, painted black, torn from the wall, chopped up and stolen, and always a new sign would appear on the wall. The Soviets were not amused, and tried more and more complex ways to protect their sign and their pride. They installed a high tech video camera in order to catch the culprit. Soon both the sign and the camera disappeared. Then the sign was enclosed in glass which was broken and replaced regularly. In a desperate measure an armed guard was ordered. However, one night the sign was stolen again. Finally the sign was covered with tempered glass with electronic sensors, only to have them painted over again. Today the frame is still on the wall, but the sign is gone forever.

In another attempt to demoralize the people, the Soviets changed the Czech money. A portrait of the Czechoslovak Communist Party president replaced the former Czechoslovak President on the bills. Every new bill that was put into circulation was defaced. The face was blacked out, graffiti, scribbles, punctures, etc., were persistently added to each new bill. Communist officials were angered and soon withdrew all the new money.

Prague’s Lennon Wall started as a place where young people wrote love poems on a wall and it grew into a sort of tradition.

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Farmer's Fields in the Czech Republic and Minnesota

By Jay Fonkert

Last month we talked about the weather. Czech and Slovak summers are not quite as warm as Minnesota, while winters aren't as cold. The somewhat milder Czech-Slovak means that Czech and Slovak farmers grow different crops than Minnesota farmers.

When you travel across southern Minnesota, you see field after field of corn and soybeans, and little else. As you move north toward the Red River Valley, the corn and soybeans give way to wheat and beets.

While no place in the Czech Republic or Slovakia is as flat (and monotonous) as the Red River Valley, the leading crops are similar. Wheat is the most important crop in the Czech Republic, followed by barley, rapeseed and sugar beets. Maize (corn) is well down the list behind potatoes and apples.

Wheat and barley are "small grains," which don't need as much summer heat as corn and soybeans. Moravia is the Czech Republic's leading agricultural zone. Wheat is commonly planted in autumn and harvested in July or early August. Barley is, of course, an important ingredient in beer, and the popularity



of barley with farmers may be tied to the fact that the Czech Republic has the highest per capita consumption of beer in the world.

The leading farming area of Slovakia is the western part of the country, close to Hungary and Austria. Much of rest of the country is too mountainous for large scale agriculture. The Danube basin of Slovakia is a bit warmer than the Czech Republic,

and accordingly, maize is somewhat more important in Slovakia. However, the leading crop is still wheat. Warm weather crops such as grapes and peppers are also of some importance.

Slovakia is less industrialized than the Czech Republic and somewhat more dependent on agriculture. Still, only about one-third of the country is cultivated.

Both countries have large forest resources, but acid

rain has significantly damaged forests, especially in the north. Poultry and hogs are important livestock products in both countries, much as in Minnesota.

Corn grown for grain and soybeans are Minnesota's biggest crops, whether measured by either acreage or value. Minnesota farmers plant 6.8 million acres of corn and another 6.8 million acres of soybeans. Minnesota has about 3.5 million acres of wheat, mostly in the cooler Red River Valley, where corn and soybeans don't grow as well.

Martin Kubik continued from page 7

Kubik stepped down as president of the Kekekabic Trail Club in 1990, and turned his attention to broader efforts to preserve hiking trails in the BWCA and developing a greater participation in hiking in the area. He formed the 3M Club Outdoor Club and became a charter member of the Boundary Waters Advisory Committee (BWAC). As a member of the advisory committee, Kubik has been organizing the National Trails Day event for the Minnesota chapter of the American Hiking Society for the last three years. This event will take place at "Smitty's on Snowbank" near Ely, the first Saturday in June, the 2nd.

Martin Kubik welcomes people who want to learn more about hiking in the BWCA and upcoming events.

Check out the Boundary Waters

Advisory Committee web site, [www.](http://www.bwac.homestead.com)

[bwac.homestead.com](http://www.bwac.homestead.com) You may even

wish to join a trail clearing crew for a long weekend and learn a Czech

word or two. Martin welcomes

inquiries at wtrails@yahoo.com

Song of the Month

Submitted by
Georgiana Dolejsi
From songbook
Pejme Pisen Dokola
Praha 1972 #2



SKŘI - VÁ - NEK ZPÍ - VAL. *K. Paček*
dí - val. nad
pod

mou hla - vou, když
o - blo - hou, jak

jsem cho - dí - val. za
rád jsem mí - val. pa -

1. svou ml - lou, na nás se

2. nen - ku svou. Slu - ně - ko

C F f f C f f F f f
F f f' B b b F b b B b b
B b b G gm gm C o' o' G o' o'
C o' o' F f f E F D C C
C o' o' F f f B b bm F f F

Skřivánek Zpíval

hřá - lo - ju - nom pro nás
F f f B b b B b b B bm bm F f f

a nám do - přá - lo. pře -
C f f F f f F dm dm G g' g' G gm gm G g' g'

krás - ný - čas. Skří - ván - ku,
G g' g' C o o G c o C C

zpí - vej. pí - seň ji - nou,
F f f C f f F f f F f f' B b b

se mnou vzpo - mí - nej. na
B b b B b b. B b b G gm gm C o' o' G o' o'

láš - ku mou.
C o' o' F f f B b b F f f F

Czech and Slovak Sports

The Czechs and Slovaks have always been involved in sports. They held massive competition with athletes from around the world.

The competitions included all the track and field events, equestrian, aquatic and gymnastic. The winter festivals had all types of skiing and gymnastics.

Dr. Jiri Jarkovsky assisted in reviving the Olympic Game and became a founding member of the International Olympic Committee. He founded the Czech committee for the Olympic Game in 1896 the Committee sent athletes to the 1900, 1908 and 1912 Olympic Games. The Olympic body recognized the independence of the Czech nation before World War I. The Czech athletes were counted separately from those of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. The Austrian government tried to dissolve the Czech Committee and demanded it leave the 1914 Paris Congress of National Olympic Committees. As one of the oldest national committees it was allowed to remain. The Czechoslovak women raised the low balance beam and widened it to 4 inches. The uneven bars were also re-invented by the women. Both apparatus were introduced in Budapest in 1934 in the first international meet organized by the Federation International de Gymnastics.

Some Notable Czech Slovak-American athletes:

Gymnastics:

Frank Kriz - 1st American to win a gold medal in gymnastics (long horse)

Hockey:

Stanley Mikita - Chicago Blackhawks
Dominik Hasek
Marion Gaborik - Minnesota Wild

Football:

Chuck Bednarik - Philadelphia Eagles
George Halas - owner & coach Chicago Bears
George Blanda

Baseball:

Kent Hrbek - Minnesota Twins
Stan Musial - St. Louis Cardinals
Andrew Pafko - Chicago Cubs, Brooklyn Dodgers, Milwaukee Braves

Basketball:

John Havlicek - Boston Celtics

Boxing:

Jack Root - World Champion light-heavyweight

Soccer:

Miro Rys - Chicago Sting

Tennis:

Martina Navratilova
Ivan Lendl
Hana Mandlikova
Helena Sukova

The Glockenspiel and the Zeigler Family continued from page 1

He met Joyce, his future wife, at a Winter Carnival event in 1991. She was playing softball on ice with a team of friends, and soon they joined forces to create not only a family, but also Zeigler Enterprises. They have two daughters, Alexandra and Andrea, and live in Sanborn.

Basset Meats vacated its meat packing plant in 1994, and four year Marty got financing from Riverside Bank in Minneapolis to create Deutschland Meats, a 20,00 sq ft USDA-inspected operation that includes butchering, custom processing, wholesale, and retail of a high quality line of European specialties. He capitalized on more than 1,000 recipes he brought with him from Germany. He soon expanded into Lindstrom in the Chisago Lakes area with an additional 9,500 sq ft. plant. He began selling packaged meat products in area farmers' markets, specializing in European style sausages. These differ from American sausages in that they are less sweet, with fewer binders and extenders, more natural spices, no MSG, and have a lighter color.

As meat suppliers to The Glockenspiel, Marty and Joyce got to know Mary and David Wildmo. When Mary decided to sell The Glockenspiel last year, they negotiated to take on the restaurant as the third leg of Ziegler Enterprises. They envision subtle changes in the restaurant, and appreciate the continuity in general management that Rusty Hill (Mary Wildmo's brother) brings. While 90 percent of the menu items will remain the same, the focus will be on improving the authenticity of the recipes and their preparation. Toward this end, they brought in Helga Parnell as a German food consultant, and new chef Elke Kahl.

As landlord for the restaurant, Sokol Minnesota looks forward to working with Marty and Joyce, and the opportunities their business will bring. *Welcome, Marty and Joyce!*



The Spirit Lives continued from page 8

After John Lennon's murder someone made a small shrine in his honor. Soon others began writing some of his song lyrics on the wall in amongst the love poems. However when one of the lyrics mentioned peace and was signed John Lennon, the Communists cracked down. The wall was painted over. Each night the writers got busy, and each morning Communist painters were painting the wall. Finally in disgust they covered the entire wall with billboards and Party slogans. Today the wall is covered with new writings and drawings, love poems, some more radical thoughts, all given the same freedom of speech.

These subtle subversions showed more imagination and intelligence than random violence, but was it effective? We know that many hours, much money, time, equipment and manpower were spent by the Communists to deal with these continuous rebellious acts. We also know it helped to keep the Czech and Slovak spirit alive during all those years under Communism.

In 1989 freedom finally came to the Czechoslovak people, but in their hearts they had always been free.

Did you know?

Water from the Czech Republic flows into three different seas – the North Sea, Baltic Sea and Black Sea. The country itself is landlocked, but the Czech Republic actually has a seaport! Article 363 of the Treaty of Versailles awarded a 30,000 square meter enclave in the middle of the Hamburg docks in Germany to Czechoslovakia. The territory reverts to Germany in 2018. (source: Wikipedia.com).

The photo below is an example of *sgraffito* decorative art from Slavonice in the Moravia region of the Czech Republic. Sgraffito wall decorations are created by scratching a design into a wall coated with contrasting layers of plaster. Sgraffito was used from southern Germany into Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia, and south to Italy.



photo by Jay Fonkert

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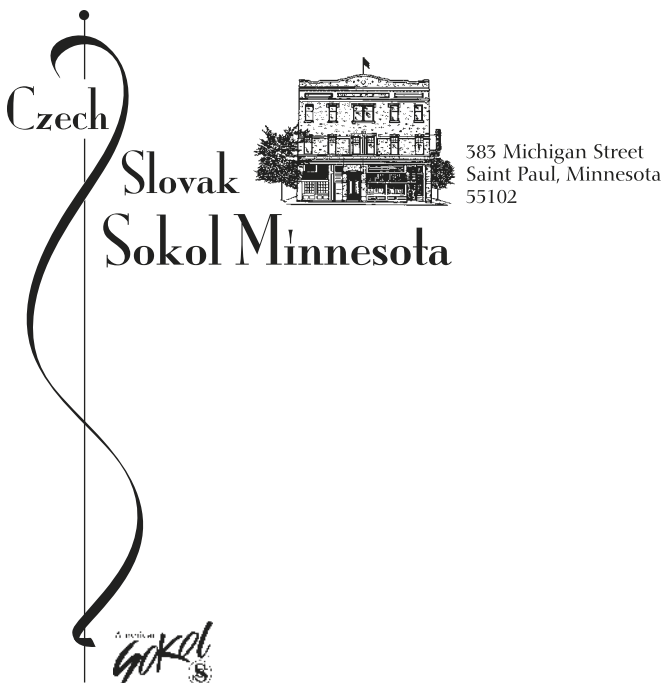
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