

AMERICAN SOKOL

VOL. XCVI - NO. 10

OCTOBER 1975

PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN SOKOL
Educational and Physical Culture Organization

SOKOL TYRS ON THE MOVE AGAIN!

With the purchase of the Bohemian National Hall in Cleveland, Ohio, by the American Sokol, Inc., on July 1st. and the decision of Sokol Tyrs to move all its cultural and gymnastic activities to this location, immediate steps were taken to make the hall suitable for its needs. Priority efforts have been concentrated in getting the two large rooms on the 3rd floor ready for use as permanent apparatus rooms. These rooms originally had been used as meeting rooms for various lodges but had to be closed off in recent years. Metal lockers were purchased and moved into the proposed locker room on the balcony level. A 2nd floor schoolroom has been cleaned and prepared for painting and furnishings as a Northeastern District Library.

As soon as the necessary papers are received the hall will be acquired by the Sokol Tyrs Organization. The Board of Directors of Sokol Tyrs have allocated a renovating fund and work in this area has been going on since the first week in July. The greatest portion of the work has been on a voluntary basis and the response by Sokol members has been very encouraging. The visions and plans in order to become a reality will require not only hard and dedicated work but must be augmented with adequate funds. Monetary donations at this particular time would greatly help in accomplishing the goal of making the Bohemian National Hall a center that we can all enjoy and of which be justifiably proud. A fund-raising project is being tentatively organized and is planned to begin operations sometime in October.

R.E.J.

Anyone driving around 49th and Broadway in the last months could not help but notice a lot of activity around the Bohemian National Hall - sounds of crashing walls, furious hammering, buzzing saws, clouds of plaster dust and barrels full of rubble. Anyone coming into the kitchen at noon would wonder if he'd stumbled onto a group of exhausted coal miners at their lunch break. What one would be witnessing instead is the mammoth effort of the men and women of Sokols Tyrs and Nová Vlast remodeling the 4th floor for the deadline for class opening.

You've read about castles with their hidden rooms and secret stairways - until you come to our new hall you "ain't seen nuthin yet". There are rooms leading to rooms leading to rooms. There are stairways leading to everywhere and dumbwaiters that lead to - who knows where? Even a hidden swimming pool! A real treasure-house for the explorer and a real bonanza of space for activities: a library, sewing room, meeting rooms, theatre, band room - you think of it, it COULD be done.

On July 5th the wrecking crew began the tremendous task of removing partitions, reinforcing beams and preparing the 3rd floor rooms for permanent apparatus rooms. Every week-end since the work has moved along. Ask about the 92 steps up to "Heaven", and you'll get a groan. Everybody is pitching and digging in, all working for the common goal of a Sokol center for Greater Cleveland. Nowhere in this country can you find a group of people so willing to give freely of their time and talents as our own Sokols - for neither profit or glory.

This cannot go further without mention of some members vital to this work - and these are the women. Although at this writing the work has been primarily for the men; without the women in the kitchen serving lunches, the whole of the project could not be done.

(Continued on Page 116)

AMERICAN SOKOL



Published Monthly
(Except Bi-Monthly July and August)
by the

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION

6426 West Cermak Road, Berwyn, Illinois 60402

Subscription: \$3.00 per year

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Editor must receive copy for publication by the
3rd of the month.

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ATTENTION

Please notify the A.S.O. Office immediately
upon change of address.

Calendar of Events

- OCT. 25th - SOKOL BELCAMP, MD.
Vinoobráni (Harvest Dance)
OCT. 28th - SOKOL SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
Commemorative Program, Dinner and Dance
NOV. 1st - SOKOL DETROIT, MICH.
100th Anniversary Celebration
NOV. 8th - SOKOL HAVLICEK TYRS,
BERWYN, ILL.
Fall Sokol Social - Sokol Brookfield

NOV. 8th - SOKOL WEST SUBURBAN, ILL.

Czech Polka Party - Laborer's Hall - Westmont, Ill.

NOV. 13th - SOKOL ST. LOUIS, MO.

Sokolice Chicken Dinner

NOV. 16th - SOKOL ST. LOUIS, MO.

110th Anniversary and Celebration

NOV. 21-23rd - SOKOL MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Holiday Folk Fair

NOV. 22nd - SOKOL MIAMI, FLA.

6th Anniversary Dinner and Dance

NOV. 22nd - SOKOL TABOR, BERWYN, ILL.

Recognition Dinner for Sis. Mildred Prchal

DEC. 6th - SOKOL NOVA VLAST, CLEVELAND,
OHIO

St. Nickolas Day Dance

DEC. 7th - SOKOL CLEVELAND - CECH -
HAVLICEK, CLEVELAND, OHIO

Christmas Mart and Bake Sale

DEC. 7th - SOKOL DETROIT, MICH.

Czechoslovak Afternoon Dinner Party.

Sokol Miami

Activity amongst the Sokol Miami members started up anew following a long summer's vacation. Sis. Emilie Ruzicka in their news-letter summed it up thus: "Our thoughts turn to the months ahead - what will they bring? We hope to see harmony among all our people - good health enjoyed by all - and to those who have taken upon themselves various committee work we wish them a lot of energy and patience. We can make every Monday an afternoon of fun, meeting friends, good food, enjoying social and physical cultural activities."

Yes, every Monday is the day when all the Sokol people gather at the Biscayne Gardens Civic Center, 150th St. and North Miami Ave. - Games parties at 2 p.m. - supper at 4 p.m. - dancing - exercises - programs - and singing. Then there are the special Card Parties and monthly meetings at the First Federal Bldg., N.E. 125th St. and 9th Ave. in North Miami.

On October 27th, a program will be held marking Czechoslovakia's Independence Day - Oct. 18, 1918. Sokol Miami will be celebrating its 6th Anniversary, Saturday, Nov. 22nd, with the theme "Thanksgiving in USA". Visitors from all parts of the U.S. are invited to participate.

The Sokol members contribute towards their building fund in a most generous fashion - money, baked goods, gifts, etc., not to mention their hard-working committees. Their library is beginning to take shape, with contributions of all types of reading material. Especially welcome are books pertaining to the history of Czechoslovakia.

All 4 clubs in Miami in the Czechoslovak group will participate in the big Cancer Bazaar, Dec. 6-7th, in Bayfront Park Auditorium to raise funds for the University of Miami Cancer Research Fund.

A good number of the members of Sokol are avidly awaiting the tour to the Zurich Slet in 1976.

AMERICAN SOKOL

VĚSTNÍK AMERICKÉ OBCE SOKOLSKÉ

Ročník - Vol. XCVI

October - 1975 - Rijer

Číslo - No. 10

History of Sokol Detroit on its 100th Anniversary

In the year 1870, about 50 Czechoslovak families were established in the Detroit area. It was in the fall of 1875 there appeared a notice in the local newspaper calling upon all interested persons to meet November 6, 1875, to discuss the forming of a Sokol Unit. On this date 12 enthusiastic new Americans founded Sokol Detroit. In the minutes of early meetings, the newly formed organization was referred to as the Gymnastic Unit Sokol in Detroit.

In 1876, the first hall of the Unit was built on the corner of St. Antoine and Erskine Streets. The Unit then merged with a fraternal organization called Budivoy and changed its name to Sokol Budivoy. Sokol Budivoy was active in its home until 1917, when it merged with 2 other Sokol Units in Detroit to again become Sokol Detroit.

Sokol Podlipny was founded September 22, 1889, near Michigan Avenue and 18th Street when residents on the West Side of Detroit filled a need for their own local organization. In 1893, Sokol Podlipny built its first home on Ash and Tillman Avenues. The Unit grew and progressed, taking part in the Sokol Slets in Prague and independently of Sokol Budivoy. Both Units developed outstanding gymnasts.

Sokol Palacky was founded December 18, 1909. Its membership composed of many young immigrants who already had the love of Sokol instilled within them. The Unit was based more on the Sokol national idea in Europe, used the Czech Sokol uniform, different from that of the American Sokol. This Unit had no hall of its own but rented various building space on the West Side. It was very active and cooperated with the other Units in Detroit.

In the meantime Sokol Podlipny found its home too small for its growing membership and increasing activities. In 1904, land was purchased at the corner of Tillman Avenue and Butternut Street. In 1910, a Building Committee was elected. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held March 21, 1914. The new home was opened with a 2-day festival, December 12-13, 1914. The dedication was very impressive. The new home proudly carried the name Czech National Hall, and was the center of all the Czech activities in Detroit for almost 50 years.

In 1917, during the grave period of World War I., the 3 Sokol Units in Detroit merged into one Unit - Sokol Detroit as we know it today. Centered in the

National Hall, and led by able and enthusiastic leaders from the former 3 Units, Sokol Detroit was able to sponsor and support many public, patriotic and charitable activities during World Wars I and II. The National Hall was the home of many Czech, Slovak and other nationality groups in Detroit.

The women also took active part in the Detroit Units. First they worked in support of their individual Units. Since 1920, in close operation, they formed their own Unit - Sokolice Detroit.

Sokol Detroit purchased 20 acres of land at Sandy Bottom Lake in 1934 for a summer camp. After many years of improvements this has become one of the best summer recreation camps in the state. It is the center for outings, picnics, gymnastic events and many other activities. It also offers winter recreation such as skating, sledding, etc.

Eventually, due to the deterioration of the neighborhood surrounding the National Hall, the majority of members attending special meetings voted in favor of selling the Hall and relocating in another area. After several years of searching for a buyer the Czech National Hall was sold in 1962.

A Building Committee was formed, composed of Sokol and Sokolice members. Property was purchased in Dearborn Heights. The design of the building was completed in 1965. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held in April, 1966. The formal dedication of the Sokol Cultural Center in Dearborn Heights, Mich., was held January 28-29, 1967.

Sokol and Sokolice Detroit hosted the XII. A.S.O. Convention, June 16-18th, of this year - the year of its Centennial - which will be formally celebrated November 1, 1975. For a full century Sokol Detroit has fulfilled its duties and obligations to its members, community and the nation. It had cooperated with other organizations in all worthwhile activities, has sent its members to gymnastic exhibitions, competitions and Slets throughout the United States, to Canada and to Czechoslovakia. It is impossible to name or count all the dedicated members who had worked to keep Sokol Detroit strong throughout these many years.

As Sokol Detroit looks ahead, the future holds promise of even more achievement. The ideals of Dr. Miroslav Tyrs and Jindrich Fuegner will continue to live for generations to come.

SOKOL TYRS ON THE MOVE AGAIN -

(Cont. from Front Page)

There is a group of members not seen at the work parties - who are not hammering or sweating, but are giving of their knowledge of business and finance instead. Without these brothers and sisters to expedite the technicalities of the rebuilding, all the labor would be in vain.

M.V.

A group of interested Sokols is formulating plans for a Sokol library to house the archives as well as practical teaching materials for Sokol instructors. The Committee presently consists of about ten women from the three Cleveland Units.

They are seeking donations of furnishings such as file cabinets, bookcases, glass-front display cases, old aquariums (to be used as protective cases for exhibits), typewriter, book racks, etc. Also, old Slet programs, Sokol pamphlets, copies of the Vestnik, American Sokol, Sokol Tyrs Newsletter, snapshots from Sokol exhibitions, or any other Sokol memorabilia packed in boxes in your attic waiting for a proper home. Do you have Czech books someone might like to read? How about postcards, duplicate slides and travel information on Czechoslovakia? If so, please contact the committee.

M.J.K.

A LITTLE TOUCH OF HISTORY

The land for Bohemian National Hall was purchased in 1889 and the cornerstone for the building was laid in December of 1896. On October 26, 1897, the hall was dedicated with a large celebration.

The front entrance then was open. There were no heavy front doors - just pillars on either side. On the first floor a large vestibule, or foyer, led to the club room which had a fireplace on the left side. On the right side a room with grill-work across the front became the library, where later many books on Czech history and culture were housed. Straight ahead was the gallery which ran all around the lower hall, or Besidky, the children's area, which had two rows of benches. On these benches the youngsters sat while the older children entertained them with songs, recitations, music and skits, while fond mamas and grandmas sat on the gallery above. There was a small stage across the front of the Besidky where the bar now stands.

On one side of the gallery were two or three steps leading to the schoolrooms. Several of these schoolrooms stretched across the rear of the building and were entered by the pupils from Meade Avenue. When the new school addition was built in 1911 these old schoolrooms were remodeled into custodian's quarters.

In the clubroom is a small stairway which led to the shower and the pool. The pool has since been covered with flooring and had become another meeting room.

On the 2nd floor is the main hall of ballroom. It has a large stage on which have been seen countless operas, plays, etc., by various dramatic and singing societies. The stage and dressing rooms were enlarged in 1911,

when the custodian's quarters were moved from the third level to the first. There is a gallery above the main hall.

On the top floor were two large meeting rooms with small anterooms and a small kitchen off the hall. Many of the mothers and grandmothers took part in these meetings and lodge anniversaries which often ended with the aroma of good coffee and pastry from neighborhood Czech bakeries.

Minutes of the Executive Board of the A.S.O.

September 23, 1975

Pres., Bro. Roy Zitny presided. Present: Bros. Paul Lebloch, Stanley Barcal, Jerry Rabas, Edward Schnabl, James Jindra, George Simonek, Richard Vachata. Sisters Betty Prener, EllenJeanne Schnabl, Marie Ptacek, Ann Basta, Sylvia Pistorius and Lorraine Zdenek.

Bills: Sokol USA for 150 gymnastic manuals, \$975.00 plus UPS charges, \$41.10; ASO office refrigerator, \$136.49; U.S.G.F. dues, \$100.00; Miscellaneous office supplies, \$7.87. All approved for payment.

Correspondence: Requests for diplomas from the Southern and Eastern Districts. Mailed. - Letters from Sokols Los Angeles and San Francisco, discussed and answered. - Western District's inquiry on Binghamton Slet results. Answered and referred to BOI. - Newspaper article from Bro. Edwin Jirousek of Cleveland, Ohio. - Newspaper clippings about the Swoboda family and the 3 fires in the Sokol South Omaha building. - Citations of Merit for Sisters Emily Falarsh, Gladys Light, Jarmila Richter, Vlasta Vojta and Bro. Anton Sanders sent to Sokol and Sokolice Milwaukee and presented to them by Bro. Joseph Drnec who represented the ASO at their special Membership and Recognition Dinner, Sept. 20th. - Letter from Sokol Nova Vlast regarding this Unit's merger with Sokol Tyrs. After lengthy discussion an answer will be sent. - Receipt of Sokol Fort Worth's grand opening publicity. - Request from Sokolice Renata Tyrs for ASO speaker at their 75th Anniversary Banquet, Oct. 18th. Sis. Prener will attend. - Northeastern District's request for information on the Unit identification ribbons. Uniform Division has this under advisement. - Senator, Bro. Hruska's inquiry for source of obtaining a falcon for the top of a flag staff to be placed at the Omaha Sokol Camp. Several inquiries will be made. - Invitation for ASO speaker to Sokol Detroit's 100th Anniversary Celebration, Nov. 1st. Bro. Zitny and his wife will attend. - Receipt of By-Laws from Sokolice South Omaha and Sokol Fuegner of South Chicago. These will be reviewed. - Request for payment of AAU dues, \$50.00. - Renewal of USGF Newsletter subscriptions. Payment made. - As per request, list of ASO officers mailed the Western Fraternal Life Ass'n. - Questionnaire from President's Commission on Olympic Sports answered. - Receipt of Central District's tour information to Zurich, Switzerland in 1976.

Director of Women, Sis. Ptacek: New members of the Women's BOI are Sisters Sylvia Pistorius and Mary

Ann Satek, Assistants; May Simonek, Sec'y.; Mildred Prchal, USGF representative; Lillian Jindra, Central District Director; and Ann Halik. - Combined BOI meetings to be held the 2nd Wednesday of the month. - Final report forms approved for payment from the Special Assessment Fund: Eastern District for one competitor at the Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics to California, May 10th, \$275.00; Western District for one-day workshop in Crete, Nebr., May 18th, \$55.00, also 2-Day workshop, April 12-13th, at Sokol Omaha, \$536.66; Central District for 14 students attending 3-week course at Binghamton, \$5,021.60; Sis. Zabka's expense representing the ASO at Olympic Committee meeting in Miami, Fla. was approved for payment. - Bro. Frank Kubina will be contacted for the composition of the 1977 Senior Slet calisthenics. - Request for reproduction of various forms approved. - Recommendation that a National School Board be set up was approved. - Plans for the 1977 Slet being formulated. Sis. Prchal and Bro. Ptacek will compose the Senior calisthenics; Sis. M. J. Stoeppelman and Bro. Jerry Milan the Jr. calisthenics; Sis. and Bro. Edwin Halik the Tots' calisthenics. Four classes of children will drill together.

Director of Men, Bro. Lebloch: New members of the Men's BOI are Bros. Richard Ptacek and Frank Michalek, Assistants; Gymnast Editor, Bro. Edward Linhart; USGF representative, Bro. Paul Fina; Games Director and Central District Director, Bro. Dennis Gilbert; and Bros. Roy Zitny and Stanley Barcal. Bro. Jerry Milan will be the USOC representative and Bro. Balance in charge of the Men's Gymnastic Skills Program. - Participated in the Sokol USA Slet. - Bros.

President, Bro. Zitny: Represented ASO at the Western Fraternal Life Ass'n. convention in St. Paul, Minn. Stated the Association approved a grant of \$8,000.00 over a 4-yr. period to the ASO, and also \$500.00 to Sokol St. Paul.

Financial Sec'y., Sis. Sotka: June, July and August reports and tax forms prepared. - Burglary insurance paid. - Contract on the Gestetner machine renewed. - Salaries need to be ratified as suggested by the Convention. A committee will make a study. The BOI is to come up with its recommendations. - Gymnastic manuals on hand will be sold at \$7.00 each.

Secretary, Sis. Schnabl: Worked closely with Sisters Prener, Sotka and Basta in reorganizing the office. Instructed Sisters Ptacek and Simonek on office procedure and operation of office machines. - Urged the cataloging of Sokol music, calisthenics and books.

No reports were made by Treasurer, Bro. Basta; Membership, Bro. Svoboda; Educational, Bro. Barcal; Organizational, Sis. Basta; and Editor, Bro. Herink.

Publicity, Sis. Pistorius and Bro. Rabas: Convention Czech articles appeared in the Hlasatel, also other news articles. - Both chairmen were made aware of the importance of contacting all types of news media.

Uniform Division, Sis. Prener: Number of leotards not selling. Permission given to sell them at reduced cost. - Inventory taken in August. - Purchases made within budget. - New price list shortly. Current markup not sufficient with rising costs. A markup of 35 percent approved. - Audit will be soon made.

Old Business: Additional pictures of the Board members will be taken. - There was no financial obligation with the cancellation of the ASO Gymnast Camp. - Several Units have still not paid for the Song Book they received.

New Business: New refrigerator purchased for office. - Plans for the office library must be formulated. - After lengthy discussion it was approved the rental of the ASO office be renewed. A 3-yr lease at \$275.00 per month with the option for an additional 2 years at \$290.00 per month providing there is a 60-day cancellation clause in the contract should larger facilities be needed was approved. - A final decision will be made next month on the printing of the ASO Constitution and By-Laws. - New letterheads will be ordered, less the names of the officers. - The Educational Committee was directed to arrange for some sort of Bicentennial exhibits for the Sokol Office. - A recognition dinner for Sis. Mildred Prchal will be held at Sokol Tabor, Nov. 22nd. - Approval given Central District for use of addressograph in the mailing of their Slet seals. - The ASO will sanction any member participating in the Zurich Slet. All will go under the ASO banner. - Regarding 1977 Slet, members are to consider the general format, theme, and recommendations for heads of committees.

Central District

June 26, 1975

Bro. Joseph Drnec presided. - The District's 2nd Class Banquet was well attended with 169 adults and 110 children in attendance. Profit was \$52.00. - Report on the District's Special Number Competition was given along with comments of judges to be considered. - The District Slet had 72 Folk Dancers participating. This included outside groups. A total of 125 trophies were purchased for \$1,200. The Chicago-land Sokols realized about \$200. at the refreshment stand. The Victory Dance had a \$65.00. deficit since no admission was charged. - All the key rings were sold. A sum of \$205. was to be received for this fund-raising project. - Sokol Stickney announced its August bus tour to the Wilber, Nebr., Czech Days. - Women's 1976 BOI officers are: Director, Sis. Lillian Jindra; Assistants, Sisters Carole Strejc, Ruth Reise, JoMarie Zeman and Kim Rus.

July 30, 1975

This special meeting was called by Pres., Bro. Drnec to discuss the proposed seal fund-raising project and the selection of a committee for this purpose.

August 18, 1975

This special meeting was called by Pres., Bro. Drnec. The District Slet's financial report was reviewed. A profit of \$2,426.43 was realized. - Final approval for the Fund Drive of Sokol seals was made, 10,000 sheets will be ordered. It was agreed 2 sheets will be sent each District member and 4 sheets to each Unit or organization solicited. Sisters Kmen and Hajek will be the mailing address for return donations. - Bro. Joseph Sotka will be the new delegate from Sokol Tabor. - As approved at the last Annual Meeting, the District will sponsor a tour to the 1976 Slet of Sokols Abroad in Zurich, Switzerland. All paperwork will be handled by

the Weber Travel Agency. Departure would be June 20, 1976 via Pan American Airlines 707 with 178 seats and return July 6th. Two plans were presented. Final itinerary will be worked out for the District's approval. More details at September meeting.

September 24, 1975

Vice-Pres., Bro. Edwin Halik presided with 21 delegates present.

Correspondence: Sokol Brookfield request for reimbursement for 4 students sent to the Course. Distribution will be sent all students attending the Course upon receipt of ASO Special Assessment Fund payment. - Receipt of several rental statements for Folk Dance rehearsals. Suggestion made various Sokol halls be used instead, thus eliminating the rental. - Sis. Sotka's request for verification of Course and also travel expense. This will be done.

Women's B.O.I.: Gymnastic competition routines and calisthenics for all classes being prepared. - Volleyball tournament, Nov. 15th, at George Williams College. Rental of \$125.00 approved subject to entry fees. Hiring of professional referees disapproved. - Volleyball clinic also disapproved. - Purchase of 10 USGF handbooks for women's routines accepted. - Request for USGF workshop details. - Director of Women, Sis. Jindra, in her travels is to keep the Board abreast of any Unit problems. - Sokols to participate at the Ford City shopping center, Oct. 15th. - Sokol Fuegner hopes to start children's classes in the very near future. - Bros. Pavek, Linhart and Sis. Piani performed very well on the Wilber trip. The feeling is that the Western District should also participate. - Girls track meet was approved.

Men's B.O.I.: Bro. Dennis Gilbert, the new Director was introduced. He then announced the members of his BOI Board. His request for 10 USGF handbooks was also approved. - Zurich Slet dormitory housing was discussed. Time is important in making housing plans for 1976.

Discussions: Sokol St. Louis' request to host the 1976 District Slet was not accepted. Date conflicts with the Zurich Slet and Bi-Centennial participation of the local Units. - Audit of the St. Louis and Milwaukee tours and 1975 Slet reports will be made upon receipt of substantiating papers and bills to complete the audit. - Samples of the District seals were presented. They're ready to be delivered. A sum of \$250.00 was allotted for the mailing. - Bro. James Trestik donated movie films of the District Slet. - Pres., Bro. Joseph Drnec and wife attended Milwaukee Sokol's Recognition Dinner. Bro. Drnec awarded 50-yr. pins along with Merit Citations to the members. About 125 persons were in attendance. Gym classes in Milwaukee will be held once a week. - All Units are to submit information about classes and other events to the ASO office. - Sokol West Suburban enrollment is 422 gymnasts.

Coming events: Sokol Stickney's Farmer's Dance, Oct. 4th; Sokol Berwyn's Picnic, Oct. 5th; Sokol Slavsky's Dinner and Dance, Oct. 18th; Sokol Havlicek Tyrs' Social Nite, Nov. 8th; Sokol West Suburban's Polka Dance, Nov. 8th.

Treasurer: Balance on hand - \$605.28.

Southern District

July 25, 1975

Pres., Bro. George Prevratil presided with 15 members present. A moment of silence in memory of departed Bros. Joseph Hanak of Sokol Zizka and James Cihak. Past Educational Director of the ASO.

UNIT REPORT

Sokol Zizka: June meeting, 42 present. Gained one regular member. - Membership picnic and program held, July 4th. - Held 2 dances. - Summer gym camp successful.

Sokol Karel Havlicek Borovsky: Gained 10 regular and 11 associate members. - Held 2 dances. - Held swimming pool party for gymnasts. - Landscaping started on newly added property.

Sokol Fort Worth: Preparing for Grand Opening of new building, July 25-27th.

Sokol Houston: June meeting, 38 present. Gained one regular and one associate member. - Had a one-day tour of Brownsville and Mexico following District slet at Corpus Christi. - Held Father's Day dance. - Czech films shown, June 25th. - Held Czech Days celebration, July 4-6th. Gymnasts performed at Sam Houston Park and participated in the downtown parade, dinner and program. On July 6th, the choral society, folklore dancers and gymnasts performed at the Sokol Hall.

* * *

Public Relations, Bro. Jerry Milan: Commented favorably on the slide presentation by Bro. Laznovsky of the District's Unit buildings and activities at the ASO Convention.

Director of Men, Bro. Larry Laznovsky: District Slet successful despite rain-shortened program. Approximately 350 participated. Victory Dance well attended. - One-week District course to be held at Sokol in Ennis beginning, July 28th. Bros. Jerry Milan and Joseph Vrzalik of Sokol Baltimore and Sis. Norma Zabka of Sokol New York to be the instructors.

Discussions: Bro. Prevratil commented upon the ASO Convention. Bro. Laznovsky was in charge of the hospitality room. - Bro. H. B. Smith reported upon participation for the coming Czech Day at the Fair. Float entries and intentions must be submitted by August 13th. - Approved, the slides shown at the Convention be reproduced for public relations material. - Several miscellaneous travel expenses were approved for payment.

August 28, 1975

Pres., Bro. Prevratil presided with 13 members in attendance. Guests: Sisters Helen Parma, Vlasta Jurcik, Mary Laznovsky. Bros. Richard Toberny, Frank Laznovsky, Don York and David Houdek. A moment of silence in memory of departed Bro. Phillip Cresap of Sokol Houston.

Correspondence: Annual donation of \$100.00 from the Slavonic Mutual Fire Insurance Ass'n to the District. - Slet financial report from Sokol Corpus Christi.

UNIT REPORT

Sokol Zizka: August meeting, 42 present. Gained 2 regular and one associate members. - Held Labor Day

SOKOL GYMNAST

OCTOBER 1975

Editor - Edward Linhart - 1820 Ridgeland Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402

1975-76

AMERICAN SOKOL BOARD OF INSTRUCTORS

With the election of new National Directors of the American Sokol Organization at the XIII American Sokol Convention in Detroit, 1975, a new B.O.I. has been formed. The following Sisters and Brothers now serve as members of the new board:

MARIE PTACEK Director
SYLVIA PISTORIUS 1st Assistant
MARY ANN SATEK 2nd Assistant
MAE SIMONEK Secretary
MILDRED PRCHAL ANNE HALIK
LILLIAN JINDRA

PAUL LEBLOCH Director
DICK PTACEK 1st Assistant
FRANK MICHALEK 2nd Assistant
DENNIS GILBERT Games Director
STANLEY BARCAL Director of Education
ED LINHART Editor, Sokol Gymnast
PAUL FINA U.S.G.F.
ROY ZITNY President ASO.

CZECHOSLOVAK SOKOL ABROAD SLET

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

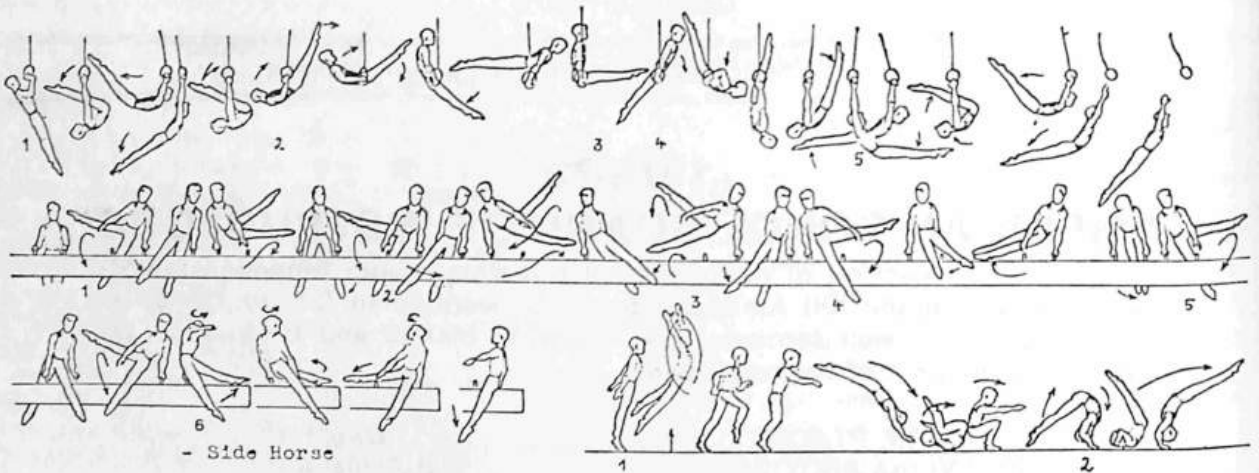
We wish to extend to the AMERICAN SOKOL our most sincere invitation to our Slet and hope that we will have the pleasure of meeting with our Sokol Brothers and Sisters from the AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION in Zurich, Switzerland in July 1976.

NA ZDAR,

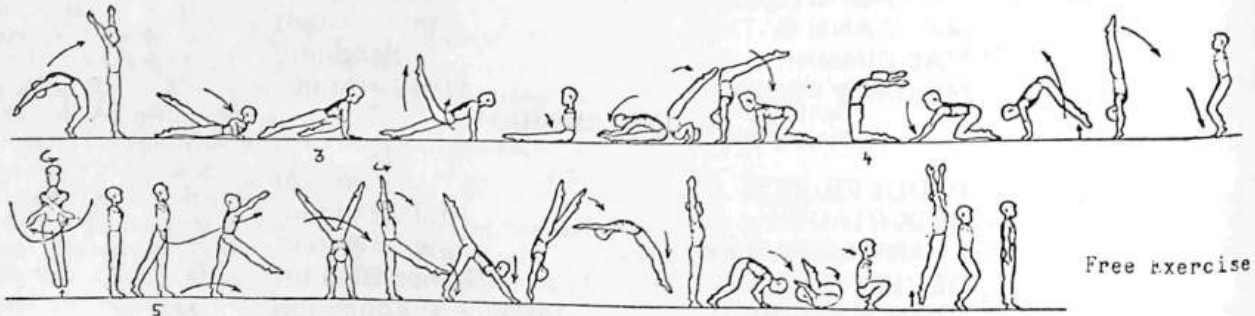
for the Czechoslovak Sokol Abroad
Jan Waldauf and Vlasta Waldauf, Directors

APPARATUS EXERCISES FOR LOW DIVISION MEN

Rings



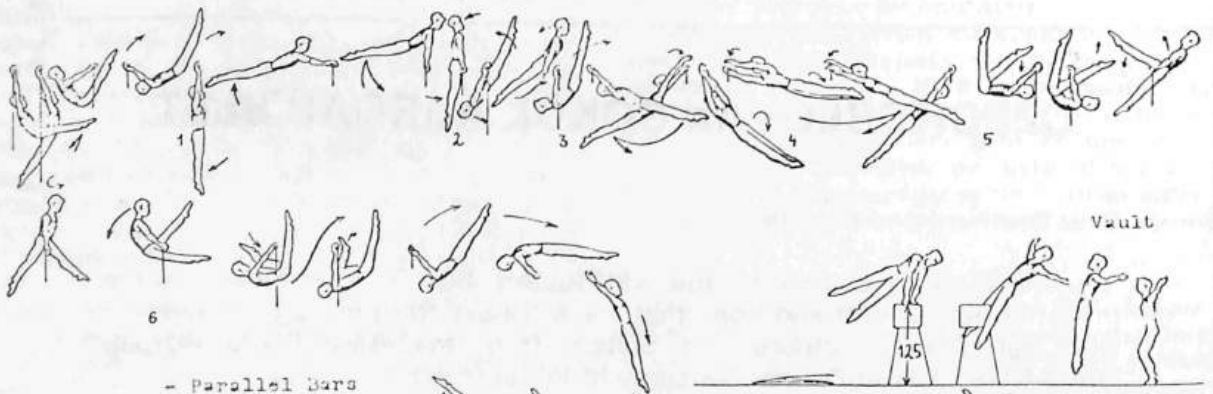
- Side Horse



Free exercise

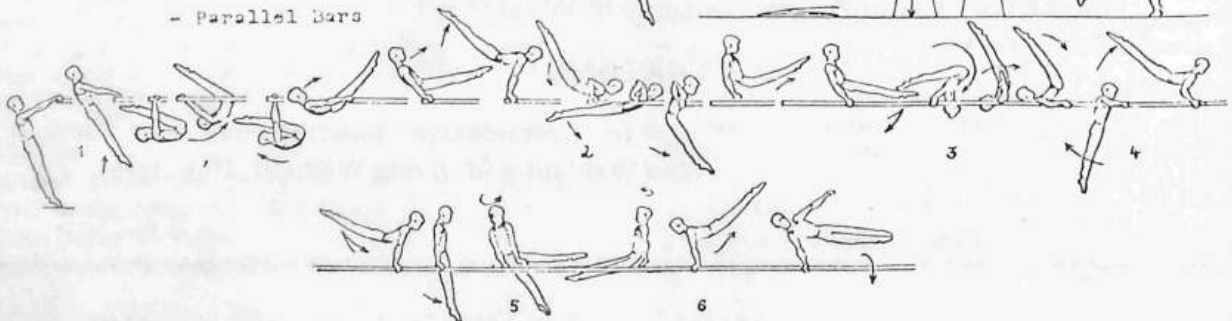
- MEN

- Horizontal Bar



Vault

- Parallel Bars



Basic Steps for Polka

The polka step originated in Czechoslovakia in 1833 when a servant girl composed what she called the "pulka" or half-step. It became the social or ballroom rage during the next few years in Paris, Dresden, Vienna and Prague and has since been one of the most popular steps in ballroom and professional dancing. It is done to 2-4 time and often to 4-4 or schottische music. Polka dancing is most adapted to children's classes because of its lively and gay tempo. Although the following is compiled for beginners or children, it can be taught in Junior and Adult classes with benefit.

Start teaching in staggered lines - then circle "and one and two". Backs of hands at waist.

FIRST STEP - 3-stamp step

- I 1. Stamp right - &, stamp left - 2. stamp right & Hold
- II 1. stamp left - &, stamp right - 2. stamp left & Hold
- III-IV = I-II
- V-VI = I-II
- VII = I
- VIII 1. stamp left - &, hold - 2. hold

SECOND STEP - 2-stamp step

- I 1. Stamp right - &, hold - 2. stamp left & Hold
- II-VII = I
- VIII 1. Stamp right - &, hold - 2. hold

THIRD STEP - Combination 3-stamp and 2-stamp steps

- I 1. Stamp right - &, stamp left - 2. stamp right & Hold
- II 1. Stamp left - &, hold - 2. stamp right & Hold
- III 1. Stamp left - &, stamp right - 2. stamp left & Hold
- IV 1. Stamp right - &, hold - stamp left & Hold
- V = I
- VI = II
- VII = III
- VIII 1. Stamp right - &, hold - 2. hold.

FOURTH STEP

Have even lines do THIRD STEP once while odd lines clap hands in same rhythm. Then reverse. Be sure clapping of hands coincides with stamps.

FIFTH STEP

Same as THIRD STEP but add arm movements: Bring arms forward and halfway out to side, palm up, on I-III-V-VII measures - hands back on waist on II-IV-VI-VIII measures.

TWO-STEP Preparation for Polka Step

& Bend knees slightly

- I 1. Step forward right foot, head turned slightly to right & Close left foot back of right
- 2. Step forward with right & raise left foot in back and bring forward with slight raising of knee
- II 1. Step forward left foot, head turned slightly to left & Close right foot back of left
- 2. Step forward with left & Hold
- III 1. Stamp right - &, stamp left - 2, stamp right & Hold
- IV 1. Stamp left - &, hold - 2. hold
- V-VIII 7 walking steps starting with right doing small individual circle to right
- 8. close left foot to right
- IX-XVI = I-VIII but do two-steps backward.

CHASING STEPS (Cvalovy krok) to side &, Bend knees slightly

- I 1. Step to side with right, close left to right, rise and slight lift off floor & Lower and bend knees slightly
- 2. Repeat 1.
- II = I (makes 4 chasing steps)
- III 1. Stamp right - &, stamp left - 2. stamp right - arms forward and out to side & Hold
- IV 1. Stamp left - &, hold - 2. stamp right - arms back to waist
- V-VIII = I-IV Reverse

CHASING STEP FRONT WITH WALK

- I-II 4 chasing steps beginning right - open arms forward and to side
- III-IV 4 chasing steps forward beginning right - hands on waist
- V-VI 4 chasing steps forward with right - open arms to side
- VIII 3 stamps beginning right with whole turn to right - open arms (cely obrat)
- VIII 1. Stamp left - &, hold - 2. hold - hands on waist
- IX-XVI = I-VIII
- Repeat above 16 measures leaving out turns and do IX-XVI backward.

POLKA STEP

Preparation on "&": Raise right foot back and hop on left

- I 1. Draw right foot through to front on hop and step forward right & Close left back to right
- 2. Step forward right - &, raise left foot back
- II = I Reverse
- III 1. & 2. 3 stamps beginning right
- IV 1. Stamp left - &, hold - 2. hold
- V-VIII = I-IV Backward

1975 SOUTHERN DISTRICT SLET RESULTS

JUNIOR GIRLS - HIGH DIVISION

Teams	Points
1. Dallas	386.6
2. Fort Worth	361.3
1. Deanna Gillian Dallas	132.7
2. Paula Stansbury Dallas	131.7
3. Pam Smith Ft Worth	125.2
4. Gerry Moore Dallas	122.2
5. Cynthia Hardee Ft Worth	121.7
6. Debbie Kratz Ft Worth	114.4
7. Paula Smith Ft Worth	112.5
8. Ellen Poston Ft Worth	107.3
8 Participants	

3. Gayle Champion Dallas	121.3
4. Becky Hamilton Ennis	118.1
5. Rosie Mikus Houston	114.2
6. Ellen Petty Ennis	113.5
7. Mary Steinman Ft Worth	110.2
8. Brenda Bozek Ennis	105.4
8. Caren Carmen Ft Worth	105.4

WOMEN - LOW B

1. Frances Curry Ennis	106.9
2. Mary Ann Langer Ennis	103.4
3. Nita Oates Ennis	100.7
4. Betty Trlica Ennis	92.2

JUNIOR GIRLS - INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Teams	Points
1. Fort Worth I	369.6
2. Ennis	358.3
3. Fort Worth III	357.2
4. Dallas I	348.5
5. Fort Worth II	318.3
6. Dallas II	310.2
1. Teresa Sabastian Ft Worth	129.5
2. Cindy Whittington Ennis	122.3
3. Connie Mays Ft Worth	122.1
4. Kathy Romanchek Ft Worth	121.3
5. Celeta Strahan Ft Worth	120.4
22 Participants	

WOMEN - INTERMEDIATE

1. Anita Neff Ennis	120.1
2. Vickie Elsberg Dallas	103.5
3. Robin Bailey Ennis	93.7

JUNIOR BOYS - INTERMEDIATE

1. Brad Durham Ft Worth	174.5
2. Rome Milan Ft Worth	155.9
3. Henry Hallio Houston	141.3
4. Louis Valas Houston	141.1
5. Mike Lane Ft Worth	137.6
6. Lanny Orman Ennis	137.3
7. Gary Martin Ft Worth	130.0

JUNIOR GIRLS - LOW A DIVISION

Teams	Points
1. Ennis I	366.4
2. Fort Worth I	360.9
3. Dallas I	355.2
4. Fort Worth II	347.2
5. Ennis II	337.6
6. Houston	326.4
7. Dallas II	313.7
8. Fort Worth III	296.6
9. Ennis III	277.7
1. Rosemary Toth Ennis	129.9
2. Karen Patton Ft Worth	125.4
3. Renee Toth Ennis	123.2
4. Dana Calhoun Ennis	121.9
5. Christi Henry Ennis	121.3
34 Participants	

JUNIOR BOYS - HIGH

1. Gary Archer Dallas	134.0
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JUNIOR BOYS - LOW B

Teams	Points
1. Dallas	515.1
2. Ennis	483.9
1. Bo Sills Dallas	178.5
2. Eric Blake Dallas	171.8
3. Steve Petty Ennis	168.7
4. Butch Vrla Dallas	164.8
5. Mike Liska Ennis	161.6
8 Participants	

JUNIOR BOYS - LOW A

Teams	Points
1. Ennis	479.7
2. Fort Worth	461.6
1. Bruce Gilley Ft Worth	167.1
2. Stephen Chudej Ennis	166.0
3. Mark Hamilton Ennis	162.0
4. Wayne Sijansky Corpus Christi	154.7
5. Brett Jetton Ft Worth	152.0
9 Participants	

MEN - HIGH

1. Gary Johnson Dallas	163.8
2. David Houdek Ennis	159.0
3. Randy Soukup Houston	155.1

MEN - INTERMEDIATE

1. Curtis Epperson Ft Worth	160.5
2. Martin Brazil Ennis	156.7
3. Ricky Pitts Ft Worth	130.9

MEN - LOW A

1. Marvin Patak Ennis	174.5
2. Randy Syjansky Corpus Christi	167.0

WOMEN - LOW A DIVISION

Teams	Points
1. Ennis	358.1
2. Fort Worth	338.7
1. Teri Wilson Ennis	126.5
2. Donna Normand Ft Worth	123.1

picnic for membership. - Preparing for Czech Day at the Fair. - Director of Women resigned.

Sokol Karel Havlicek Borovsky: August meeting, 36. Gained 3 regular and 28 associate members. - Held one dance. - Hosted District course. - Swimming pool opened for weekends. - Presented special number at Sokol Fort Worth's grand opening.

Sokol Fort Worth: August meeting, 26. - Unit was represented with 114 gymnasts at the District Slet, winning 20 team and 34 individual trophies. - Three gymnasts attended District course. - Held special number gym classes for 5 weeks. - Grand opening of SPJST Lodge and Sokol Fort Worth facilities very successful. Work continuing on building. - Will host volleyball tourney, Sept. 27th. - Dances to be held Aug. 30th and Sept. 6th.

Sokol Houston: August meeting, 30. Gained 2 associate members. - Czech Day very successful. - Hawaiian Dance held, Aug. 2nd.

* * *

Director of Women, Sis. Sylvia Laznovsky: Received additional information about the special number at the Czech Day at the Fair. - Sokol Houston participating in various Bi-Centennial activities. - District course was attended by 26 students.

Director of Men, Bro. Larry Laznovsky: District course very successful. Appreciation was given the instructors: Bros. Jerry Milan and Joseph Vrzalik and Sis. Norma Zabka. - Volleyball tournament at Sokol Fort Worth, Sept. 27th. - Introduced Bro. David Houdek, recipient of the Merit Award.

Educational Director, Bro. Oldrich Parma: Attended Sokol Fort Worth's grand opening. - Will start educational sessions at Sokol Zizka as the class attendance is established. - Other of the District's educational directors will be contacted.

Public Relations, Bro. Jerry Milan: Reported upon the District course. Students attentive, the 1948 Prague Slet films and District course films were shown, also slide presentations and educational lectures were given. - Thanked everyone for their attendance at Sokol Fort Worth's grand opening.

Treasurer, Sis. Bernice Hamilton: Gave report for July and August.

District Slet: Slet results were received from Bro. Foster, President of Sokol Corpus Christi. Total net profit was \$899.84. District was to receive \$357.14 and \$535.70 to Sokol Corpus Christi. Bill for \$189.04 for ribbons was not forwarded by the District. Sokol Corpus Christi was so advised.

Czech Day at the Fair: Sokol time at the coliseum is 20 minutes for the program; the first portion of the program on the Texas stage; and 3 p.m. at the Hall of State building.

Discussions: It was approved that the District dispose of the property bequeathed the District and Sokol Zizka by Sis. Rendel. - The matter of District assistance to adults attending a course who may be involved in some degree of instructing in their Units and do not come under the District rules will be referred to the District's BOI Annual Meeting. - Approved, a cabinet to keep District records and materials be purchased.

Northeastern District

June 25, 1975

Pres., Bro. Edwin Jirousek presided. - Bro. Emil Pekar was thanked for hosting ASO Pres., Bro. Stanley Barcal during his visit to Cleveland. - Bro. Frank Kavan reported on representing the District at the Bi-Centennial Committee meeting. - Pres. Jirousek was very involved with the District's Slet, and also attended Sokol Detroit's Summer exhibition and the ASO Convention.

Treasurer, Bro. John Galik: Checking Account, \$709.38.

B.O.I., Bro. John Balance: Cleveland Units participated in Sokol Detroit's Summer Exhibition and were also to take great part in the Binghamton Slet. - Some Cleveland Sokols were to travel to Toronto the July 4th week-end when Canada celebrates Dominion Day. - The Folk Dancers were to perform at Cedar Point Park on July 4th. - The Sokolice are practicing the Indian Club number under the direction of Sis. Bertha Cerny. - Invitation received to participate in D.T.J. Obzinky, Aug. 10th. - District Folk Dance Clinic and Social will be held, Oct. 11th.

Unit Reports: Sokol Rip's dues are up to date. Were represented at the Convention. - No report from Sokol Moravan. - Sokol and Sokolice Detroit did an outstanding job in hosting the ASO Convention. - Sokol Cleveland-Cech-Havlicek held a Trustee's meeting. - No report from Sokol Nova Vlast. - Sokol Tyrs preparing its move to the Bohemian National Hall. During September its volleyball team was to sell raffle tickets and its Hobby Club involved in the sale of candy. The Unit was to participate in the Buckeye Road Festival and the All Nations Festival.

Public Relations, Sis. Elsie Khol: District Slet advertising was done exceptionally well by Bro. Joseph Kocab.

A.S.I.: The deal for the Bohemian National Hall is in escrow. Hopefully Sokol Tyrs will occupy the Hall by July 1st. Plans call for converting the 3rd floor for gymnastic purposes; and also additional parking space. - Beer Festival is Sept. 6th.

ASO Convention: Bro. Edwin Jirousek gave a detailed report on the participation of the delegates from the N.E. District. - Bro. Balance reported upon the BOI meetings. - Both commented this was one of the best organized conventions.

Eastern District

June 23, 1975

Pres., Bro. Charles Zraly presided with 12 members present.

Correspondence: Invitations received for Sokol Little Ferry's picnic, D.A. Sokol's exhibition, and Long Island Sokol Ass'n picnic, all during the month of June. - Czechoslovak Sokol Abroad Slet particulars to be held July 2-5th in Ontario, Canada.

Director of Men, Bro. Frank Capek: Attempting to obtain Rutgers College for District's course. - Preparing for Binghamton Slet. Buses to stop at Sokols New York and Little Ferry.

Director of Women, Sis. Audrey Benda: States only qualified delegates be sent to conventions and annual meetings.

* * *

Discussions: The ASO Convention was thoroughly discussed. - Units are responsible for the expenses of their delegates attending Annual Meeting. - Monies and chance book stubs are to be mailed to Sis. Blanche Zraly at her home address.

Treasurer, Bro. Anton Chaloupka: Receipts, \$66.60. Disbursements, \$21.20.

September 8, 1975

Pres., Bro. Zraly presided with 14 members present.

Correspondence: Invitation to Czechoslovak Sokol Abroad Slet, July 5, 1976, at Zurich, Switzerland. - Reminder the District owes half the cost of the wreath during the ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, June 1st. - Due to a previous rental, the Annual Meeting will be held Sept. 20-21st at Sokol Little Ferry. - Receipt of the following bills: \$199.54 for 30 SGUS manuals; \$108.60 for 30 American Sokol song-books, 30 Sokol Ideas booklets and 50 Sokol decals. - Tournament Rules and 50 Brochures were received free of charge. - All bills were approved for payment.

Director of Women, Sis. Audrey Benda: Stated several directors of the District have not submitted a report of their activities to the ASO in the past 5 years. These omissions should be corrected. - Reported on Sokol School held at Rutgers University. Classes were held outdoors due to lack of air-conditioning. Stated the students should be prepared for their duties when the sessions start. - Received letter of appreciation from the parents of Sis. Amrhein on the knowledge their daughter, Sis. Jodie Amrhein of Sokol Baltimore, received at the School.

Director of Men, Bro. Frank Capek: Stated the only suitable place to conduct a Sokol School is at Sokol Camp, East Haddam, Conn. Suggested a bubble be used to store the apparatus and conduct gym classes when it rains. Otherwise a small building would have to be erected.

Annual Meeting: BOI meeting will be held in the afternoon of Sept. 20th. Sokol School graduation ceremonies that evening, followed by a dinner and dance. A dinner will be served at noon the following day, Sept. 21st. - There is no limit on the number of delegates attending the meeting, but the Units are limited to one vote for every 50 members.

Appreciation was given Bro. William Zabransky, Jr. upon his \$25.00 donation to the District.

Treasurer, Bro. Anton Chaloupka: Receipts - \$218.00. Disbursements - \$322.94.

110th Anniversary of Sokol St. Louis

On Sunday, November 16th, Sokol St. Louis will be celebrating its 110th Anniversary at the American Czech Cultural Center, 4690 Lansdowne. The day will be dedicated to the founders who had planted the seed of Sokol ideology in St. Louis, Mo., February 14, 1865; and also to all the Sokol brothers and sisters who

through their entire lives remained true to the Sokol tradition.

During all these many, many years Sokol St. Louis has remained respectful of the Sokol ideals and has been a leader in the St. Louis Czech community, marking the path for all to follow. Its membership in the past, as of now, has consisted of the finest men and women our country could offer; and that is the reason we remain strong, healthy and active at such a ripe old age.

We are inviting not only St. Louisians to this celebration, but Sokols and Sokolice from all across the nation to be with us on this special day, for we all belong together. A Sokol program will begin at 3 p.m. followed by a dinner. For reservations contact Bro. Frank Ulrich, 4225 Gannett St., St. Louis, Mo. 63116.

John Reiner

Sokol Slavsky's Juniors

The young people of Sokol Slavsky of Cicero, Ill., in addition to their regular gymnastic endeavors, participate in a great deal of extracurricular activity. October is a typical month. The Cicero-Berwyn Houby Festival, Oct. 10-12th, is a great event in this area - selection of a Houby Queen - a Queen Pageant - a Houby Bi-Centennial Ball - and a giant Houby Parade. The young gymnasts will again have their refreshment stand on Cermak Rd., Cicero and Berwyn's main thoroughfare, raising funds for their various programs. On Oct. 18th the Jr. Board had planned a day of horseback riding. Later that evening attending the Sokol's annual dinner and dance. Then come the Halloween parties. A paper collection drive will be held Nov. 1st.

The youngsters have some great instructors in: Pam Satek, Cynthia Hokr, Jan Babka, Terry Gilbert, Ann Halik, Edward Kasper, Art Placek and Zdenek Ulrich.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

(Act of October 23, 1962: Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)

- Title of publication: American Sokol.
- Date of filing: September 15, 1975.
- Frequency of issue: Monthly - except bi-monthly July-August issue.
- Location of known office of publication: 6426 W. Cermak Road, Berwyn, Illinois 60402.
- Location of the headquarters or general business offices of the publishers: 6426 W. Cermak Road, Berwyn, Illinois 60402.
- Names and addresses of publisher, editor, and managing editor: Publisher - American Sokol Educational and Physical Culture Organization; Editor - George Herink, 1823 S. Scoville Avenue, Berwyn, Illinois 60402; Managing Editor - Executive Board American Sokol Organization, 6426 West Cermak Road, Berwyn, Illinois 60402.
- Owner (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given.) Roy Zitny, President, 4332 Arthur Ave., Brookfield, Ill. 60513; Betty Prener, 1st Vice-Pres., 4102 Roslyn Rd., Downers Grove, Ill. 60515; Rudolph Svoboda, 2nd Vice-Pres., 2343 S. 14th Ave., North Riverside, Ill. 60546; EllenJeanne Schnabl, Secretary, 2503 S. Harvey Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402; Agnes Sotka, Financial Sec'y., 1516 S. Cuyler Ave., Berwyn, Ill. 60402; George Basta, Treasurer, 2629 S. Maple Ave., Brookfield, Ill. 60513.
- Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders, owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities. None.

9. For optional completion by publishers mailing at the regular rates (Section 132.121, Postal Service Manual). 39 U.S.C. 3626 provides in pertinent part: "No person who would have been entitled to mail matter under former Section 4359 of this title shall mail such matter at the rates provided under this subsection unless he files annually with the Postal Service a written request for permission to mail matter at such rates."

In accordance with the provisions of this statute, I hereby request permission to mail the publication named in Item 1 at the reduced postage rates presently authorized by 39 U.S.C. 3626.

George Herink, Editor

10. For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates (Section 132.122, Postal Manual).

Have not changed during preceding 12 months.

11. Extent and nature of circulation:

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Single Issue of Copies of Actual No. Published Nearest to Filing Date
A. Total No. copies printed (Net Press run)	6025	6025
B. Paid circulation		
1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales.	None	None
2. Mail subscriptions.	5925	5925
C. Total paid circulation	5925	5925
D. Free distribution by mail, carrier or other means.		
1. Samples, complimentary, and other free copies.	None	None
2. Copies distributed to news agents, but not sold.	None	None
E. Total distribution (Sum of C and D)	5925	5925
F. Office use, left-over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing	100	100
G. Total (Sum of E and F - Should equal net press run shown in A)	6025	6025

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

GEORGE HERINK, Editor

(Signature of editor, publisher, business manager, or owner)

Set Your Goals

"In each of the areas of success, define your own personal and practical goals . . . Area by area, write these goals down. Have a purpose — plan for the future. Kindle within yourself a sense of enthusiasm, drive and anticipation of achieving your worthwhile goals. Then begin to work toward these goals systematically and continually . . . You will have to define your goals — absolutely determined to succeed — and drive toward achieving your goals with relentless zeal and enthusiasm!"

— Roderick C. Meredith, Author

True Even Then

"The budget should be balanced, the treasury should be refilled, the public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled. Assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed lest we become bankrupt. The mob should be forced to work and not depend on government for sustenance."

- Marcus Tullius Cicero,
Roman political leader, speaking in
Rome between 106 and 43 B.C.

Letter from Senator Roman L. Hruska

September 9, 1975

Mr. Roy Zitny, President
American Sokol Organization
Berwyn, Illinois 60402

Dear Brother Zitny:

In Sokol Camp in Omaha there is being erected a 30 foot flagpole which will be atop of a dike overlooking the meadow and athletic field below. My question of you is whether you know of a place where you can refer this request to ascertain whether there would be available someplace a true "Sokol" that is a "falcon" that will mount atop that flagpole instead of an eagle which is so commonly found. The wingspread should be at least 16 inches, and preferably of a metal material that will take a gold leaf.

Any information on this would be very happily received.

It was enthusiastically inspirational to have you and your very fine wife present at the Western Fraternal Life Association national convention. The rapport between Sokol and Western Fraternal has always been excellent. Your appearance helped a lot to force even added momentum.

Good luck to you in your work ahead. It was with great interest that we read the account of the American Sokol Organization convention in Detroit.

With affectionate greetings from Vicki and myself,

Fraternally yours,

Roman L. Hruska, U. S. S.
209 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Sokol Tyrš

Ve středu 16. července se konala první členská schůze jednoty Sokol Tyrš v České národní síni na Broadway. Je vroucím přáním každého, kdo ji byl přítomen, aby všechny příští schůze naší jednoty byly tak početně navštíveny! Myslím, že mluvím za všechny starší členy jednoty když řeknu, že jsme tam přišli jako domů . . . Byl to pro nás velmi příjemný pocit, být znovu v té budově, která byla v minulosti svědkem dějin naší krajanské obce a přirostla nám proto tak všem k srdci. V této budově jsme se radovali z úspěchů Masarykovy republiky a ve této budově jsme truchlili a žalovali světu nad nešťastným osudem našeho národa. Nikdy - a také dnes neztrácíme víru v heslo této Republiky, že Pravda vítězí!

Po zprávách všech výborů jsme pozorně vyslechli zprávu o pokračující práci na úpravě Národní síně v tělocvičnu, aby všechny třídy mohly začít cvičit už v září. Pracovní oddíly se scházejí v sobotu a v neděli. Mají až 40 pracovníků-dobrovolníků, jak tomu Sokole ani jinak být nemůže.

Rozvinula se debata o plánech do budoucnosti a jak jednotě pomoci finančně, když na sebe nyní vzala tak těžké závazky. Mimo jiné bude obnoven i divadelní

odbor jednoty - Theatrical Guild - který se před lety tak dobře uvedl řadou časových her i muzikálů. Jeviště i sál jsou v Národní síni ohromné!

Staré přísloví říká, že "Rím nebyl postaven za rok", tak také naše Národní síň nebude přestavena podle našeho přání za rok. Bude to trvat déle než jednota Sokol Tyrš udělá z Národní síně domov, na který bude moci být hrdá a mu všichni v Clevelandě. Hodně zdaru všem bratrům a sestrám v Clevelandu, kteří chápou současnou sokolskou povinnost a pomáhají o sobotách v Národní síni.

K.Z.

Jan Špička, starší

Zemřel bratr Jan Špička, byl dobrý spolkový pracovník, za kterého je těžko získat náhradu. Je to veliká ztráta v krajanském spolkovém životě.

Bratr Špička byl narozen 27. prosince 1886 v Československu. Zemřel 22. srpna 1975. Do této země přišel v roce 1903 a to do Omahy, kde se zapojil do Sokola a dalších krajanských spolků. Byl vyučen truhlářem, byl to umělec ve svém povolání a měl zvláštní smysl pro krásu, kterou přenášel na divadelní kulisy, přičemž měl vždy na mysli také jeho rodnou vlast. Dobře se uplatnil v Dramatickém kroužku v Cedar Rapids, kam přesídlil z Omahy. Hrdě se hlásil k svému původu a tak nezištně pracoval pro krajanský spolkový život. Byl starostou Sokola a redaktor věstníku přes 16 let.

V roce 1934 se oženil s bývalou Libbie Barvínkovou a začal farmařit u obce Blairstown. Tam byl až do posledních let života, kdy nemoc ho donutila, aby odešel do výslužby a odstěhoval se do Cedar Rapids. Zanechává zde manželku, dceru a dva syny a vnuče.

Práci, kterou vykonal bude zde jako památka po dobrém krajanovi, člověku, manželu, otci a dědečkovi Janu Špičkovi. Budíž mu země lehkou!

Josef F. Králík

Dne 1. září zemřel známý sokolský pracovník a za mladších let přeborník, bratr Josef Králík. Rozlučné obřady vykonal dlouholetý a bývalý starosta Sokola Cedar Rapids, br. T. B. Hlubuček.

Záplava květin potvrzovala láska jeho rodiny a přčetných přátel, stejně jako jeho Jednoty Sokol, ku které přináležel přes 60 let a řádu Mladočech ZČBJ. Co zvláště upoutalo byla zde ručně vyřezávaná krabice s hrstkou hlíny z jeho rodné vesničky Cerékvice v Československu, kde se narodil dne 28. prosince 1891. Když jeho neteř jela na návštěvu do Československa, tázala se strýce, co by si přál, aby mu přivezla na památku. "Nic" odpověděl, "jen snad hrstku hlíny mé rodné vlasti". A tak se stalo.

Ačkoliv přijel do této země roku 1909 a pracoval mnoho let jako strojník, po celý svůj život cítil a byl věrným Čechem. Jeho vstup do Sokola byl pro br. Králíka velmi důležitým, protože ideály a principy sokolství staly mu vůdčí silou po celý život.

Dne 3. července 1913 pojal za manželku Martu Vondráčkovou, dceru prominentní sokolské pionýrské rodiny. Oběma byl Sokol druhým domovem. Sestra

Králíková sloužila několik lhůt co starostka sboru Sokolic Renata Tyršová a zastávala řadu jiných funkcí. Ve svém 62-letém manželství byli obdařeni třemi dcerami, 5 vnuků a 5 pravnuků. Mimo těch zanechal dva bratry.

V br. Králíkovi sokolská rodina ztratila jednoho ze svých "nejvěrnějších" a bude naň dlouho a s vděčností vzpomínat.

T. B. Hlubuček

Sokol Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Nejlepší americká sokolka Milada Prchalová



Dne 21. srpna byla sestra Milada Prchalová jmenovaná do "Citizens Savings Gymnastics Hall of Fame", dříve "Helms Athletic Foundation", který byl založen v roce 1936.

Sestra Milada Prchalová svůj celý život zasvětila práci v tělocvičně a v sokolovně. Její baletní škola, kterou v letech 1926 až 1938 měla v Berwynu, dala ty nejlepší základy, četným tanečnicím a tanečnickům, kteří si pak na mezinárodních jevištích dobyli světových jmen. Dnes, kdy sestra Prchalová školu již nemá, stále ještě učí v tomto oboru, zdokonaluje, píše, skládá, vede odborné kursy, semináře a t.zv. clinics na campusech universit po celých Spojených státech. Její zásluhou se umělecká gymnastika ve Spojených státech stala tím, čím dnes je, a vstoupila na mezinárodní forum. (Representace USA v Bulharsku, uvedení USA přebornice na mezinárodní závody v moderní gymnastice v Holandsku atd. Nyní se již připravuje na světový podnik do Španělska atd. atd.)

Sestra Prchalová je autorkou a ilustrátorkou mnoha tělovýchovných odborných knih, pojednávající o gymnastice, moderní gymnastice, baletu, atd., napsala četné články z tohoto oboru pro "DGWS Guide for Women" a do jiných četných odborných časopisů.



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To err is human. It just takes a better excuse the second time.

Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

A man begins cutting his wisdom teeth the first time he bites off more than he can chew.

If you don't listen to the little things, they will never tell you the big things.

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Za její tak plodnou a velkou práci se jí dostalo již hodně vyznamenání a uznání. Chci vyjmenovat jen ty nejhlavnější, protože je jich tolik, že si je ani nepamatuji a vím určitě, že i ona - skromná, nenáročná, pracovitá, tichá žena, kterou sestra Prchalová je - si svá vyznamenání také nepamatuje, protože je ani nevede v patrnosti.

V roce 1920 bylo sestře M. Prchalové jako Čecho-Američance uděleno čestné uznání ČOS.

V roce 1959 vyznamenána na "Third Pan American Games" v Chicagu.

V roce 1965 - Honorary A.S.O. Women's Director.

V roce 1974 Nejvyšší americké vyznamenání jmenování "Master of Sports" (Award by U.S. Gymnastics Federation - 1974 Congress of Coaches).

V roce 1975 jmenování čestným členem Americké Obce Sokolské na sjezdě AOS v Detroitu 1975.

Jmenování do "Gymnastics Hall of Fame" v srpnu 1975.

Poslední uznání, jmenování do sbírky nejlepších atletů světa, se jí dostalo právě v podvečer jejich narozenin.

Je to její dárek k narozeninám, z kterého má jistě radost. Radost z něj máme, ale i my všichni, celá naše krajská veřejnost a ke kterému jí co nejsrdčněji blahopřejeme a do její pilné, svědomité a neustávající práce ji přejeme hodně, hodně zdaru.

Vlasta Matelová

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