

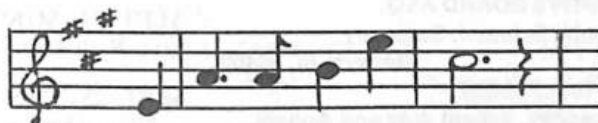
AMERICAN SOKOL

VOL. XCVIII - NO. 6

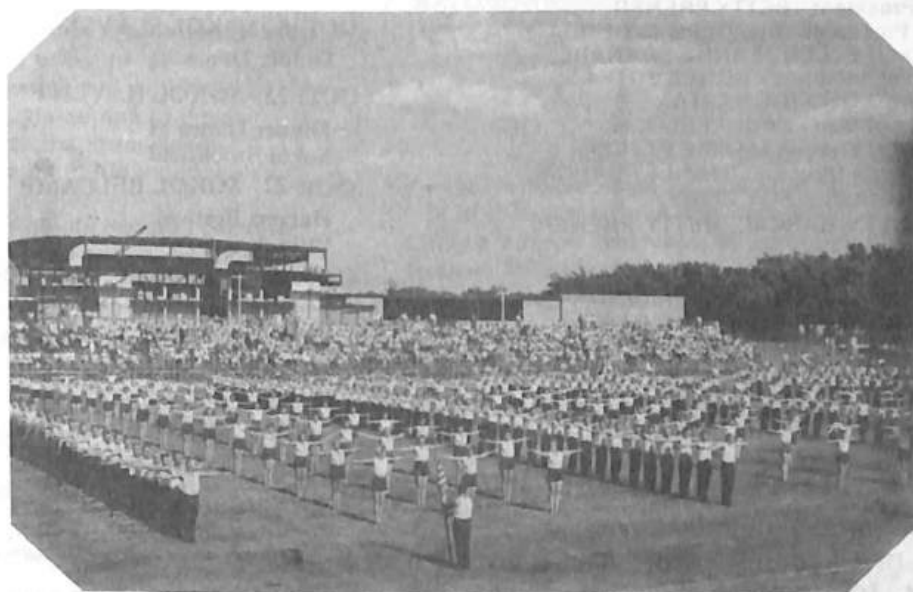
JUNE 1977

PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN SOKOL
Educational and Physical Culture Organization

Hoj, Vzhůru Pestrý Sokole



hoj vzhůru na svou stráž



Sletu Zdar!

AMERICAN SOKOL

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XIV. ASO Slet Banquet

Attention all members! Have you made
your reservations? **No reservations or
money transactions** will be made that
evening. - Take care of your reservations
NOW!

Calendar of Events

JUNE 19 - SOKOL DETROIT

Summer Exhibition
Sokol Camp

JUNE 19 - SOKOL WASHINGTON, D.C.

Gymnastic Exhibition at Bethesda

JUNE 26 - SOKOL BERWYN

Farewell Barbecue

AUG. 6-7 - WILBER CZECH FESTIVAL

Wilber, Ne.

AUG. 12-14 - GRAND OPENING

So. Omaha Sokol Hall

AUG. 14 - SOKOL DETROIT

Accordion Jamboree
Sokol Camp

SEPT. 3-4 - EASTERN DISTRICT PARTICIPATING

Sports Festival
Belcamp, Md.

SEPT. 11 - SOKOL DETROIT

Grape Festival
Sokol Camp

SEPT. 24 - SOKOL WASHINGTON, D.C.

30th Anniversary Banquet

SEPT. 25 - EASTERN DISTRICT

Annual Meeting
Sokol Washington, D.C.

SEPT. 25 - SOKOL SO. OMAHA

Czech Festival

OCT. 8 - SOKOL SLAVSKY

Dinner Dance

OCT. 22 - SOKOL HAVLICEK-TYRS

Dinner Dance at
Sokol Brookfield

OCT. 22 - SOKOL BELCAMP

Harvest Festival
"Vinobraní"

OCT. 23 - SOKOL LITTLE FERRY, N.J.

Annual Fund Raising
Cake Sale, Raffle, Port Dinner

OCT. 29 - 30 - HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

So. Omaha Sokol Hall

OCT. 30 - SOKOL WASHINGTON, D.C.

Opera "The Stubborn Heads"
(Tvrdé Palice) from Ant. Dvořák

IMPORTANT XIV AMERICAN SOKOL SLET DAYS

THURS., JUNE 23 - PRESIDENTS DINNER AND
MEETING

FRI., JUNE 24 - XIV ASO SLET BANQUET

Grand Ballroom
Sheraton Oak Brook
Oak Brook, IL.

SUN., JUNE 26 - XIV ASO SLET

Morton West
Berwyn, IL.

AMERICAN SOKOL

VĚSTNÍK AMERICKÉ OBCE SOKOLSKÉ

Ročník - VOL. XCVIII

June - 1977 - Červen

NO. 6

A SOKOL'S SOUL

by

JAMES L. CIHAK

I read the tomes of English bards,
Searching for verse that would reveal
The nature of a Sokol's soul
His purpose high and lofty goal.

The magnificent thoughts are therein expressed,
Inspired visions held by gossamer threads,
Ballads, sonnets to love, and of wonders rare,
Forming a ladder from the depths of despair,
But nowhere in all these immortal verses,
The nature of a Sokol's soul, his purpose - - -

Nowhere the rhyme, that in its metered cadence
Captured the spirit of a new man's radiance.
Neither Milton nor Keats, Browning nor Johnson,
Longfellow nor Poe, Holmes, Shelley nor Byron,
(Renowned all and rightly by mankind loved),
Have listed ere in their immortal verses
The nature of a Sokol's soul, his purpose.

By intuition rare, the "Bard of Avon"
and Walt Whitman in his "Leaves of Grass,"
Foretell that when it shall serve nature best
A race will be born, nobler than the rest,
Who then in new immortal verses
Will live the nature of a Sokol's soul, his purpose - -

Compounded of the aged ancient Greece,
Aristotle and Plato and Socrates,
Pericles and sculpture wond'rous depicted
Heroic natures, perfect bodies builded
By training, Olympics, - men given, free souls.
"In a healthy body, a sound mind," their goal.

These formed the basis for a new mankind's mold,
The bodies were beautiful, the soul still cold.
Into this cauldron there then was added
Christ's noblest teachings by centuries proved,
Respect for each man, to cherish all women,
Love for the children, a faith pure and simple.

(A new day is born, - liberty, justice, fraternity)
Proclaimed by men, who on a virgin soil
Carved out a nation with herculean foil.
Composed of men from every land and clime
Forever to choose what is best and fine.
Here was planted a seed long before our time
That grew into a legend, for all mankind.
A goal to seek, to become a part of thee,
Land of Washington, Lincoln, home of the free.

To it and its glorious shore each wanderer
Seeking a refuge in a world of turmoil,
Brings the treasurers stored in a searching mind.
The best from whence he came, to lay at thy shrine.
(Treasures untold have come in this way).
Brought by our fathers, - the nature of a Sokol's soul,
His purpose high and lofty goal.

The Promethean role was for him decreed,
By Tyrš' noble teaching, to learn, to help, to lead,
To guard with the eagle o'er they realm
'Gainst those who would crush the hearted men.
Physical perfection joined with a noble mind,
That is his lofty goal, his purpose high.

Sokol - - Culture - - Heritage



Check presented by Fred Stankovsky, Chairman of Czech Culture of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan to Mrs. Jean Lindemann, Executive Director of the Friends of The Museum, Emily Stankovsky, committee member, Ruth Ondracek, Josef Ondracek, Co-Chairman. Pictured is a replica of the European Village to be completed at the Milwaukee Public Museum by the end of 1978. This is a permanent exhibit and will contain a Czechoslovak Hospoda with a living room and kitchen.

Beside being active culturally, Fred was elected State President of Western Fraternal Life Ass'n. for Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. He holds the office of Secretary of Sokol Milwaukee, plus being the Director of Men, and Instructor of Boys classes.

Congratulations to a busy "Sokol."

SLET DAYS . . . Attractions of Interest

Sokol and Czechoslovak Cultural Exhibit - Sheraton Oak-Brook Hotel.

During our pre-Slet days, there is much of interest to visit and see while in the Chicagoland area. The **Sokol Exhibit**, at the Sheraton - Oak Brook Hotel will have on display many historic and interesting items pertaining to the Sokol Organization. Educational, yes - and informative, so that you can take back to your units the information gleaned from your visit.

Our beautiful **Cultural display** will contain memorabilia you will find fascinating. Items, which

today are unavailable to purchase - (all articles are privately owned), bring out the tremendous culture of our Czechoslovak people. You will be amazed at what an exhibit like this can bring forth. You will leave enraptured with the beauty of the display, and will proudly proclaim your ethnic background.

Committee members will be happy to comment on items displayed and answer your questions.

This Sokol-Cultural Exhibit will be open on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, June 23, 24, 25, 1977 from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Czechoslovak Society of America

Many of us are proud of our Czechoslovak heritage, and are interested in ethnic activity. To this extent the Czechoslovak Society of America will make available to visitors of the XIV. American Sokol Slet their

Museum, located at 2701 S. Harlem Avenue, Berwyn, Illinois. A visit to this museum will prove most interesting. A guide will be on hand to inform you of the historic contents displayed. The CSA Museum is open Monday through Saturday, June 20 - 25, 1977 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

First Czechoslovak Philatelic Club of America

The Philatelic exhibit will be held at **Lincoln Federal Savings and Loan of Berwyn**, 6655 W. Cermak Road, Berwyn, IL on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday - June 23, 24, 25, 1977 - from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

This exhibit will contain many interesting items to philatelists and others just getting started in this fascinating hobby.

On Thursday, June 23, 1977 at 10:00 a.m. postal dignitaries will officially open the show.

From 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday - June 23-25, at the Exhibit - Lincoln Federal Savings and Loan, cancellation of Sokol stamps will take place. You can bring your own Masaryk stamps, Centennial Sokol stamps, and the Czechoslovak Flag stamp, and these will be cancelled at the same time. Also purchase of stamps can be made at the Exhibit.

Visitors are most welcome to all three exhibits - no admission.

50 Years Ago . . .

The Central District of Chicago, Illinois had arranged for a special train to transport several hundred members to the Competitions and Slet in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in June, 1927. A barrel of beer was in the baggage car - those were the days of prohibition. As you can guess, the car was filled most of the time and the supply was exhausted during the 250 mile trip.

The train rolled Westward with teams of gymnasts and officers of units, judges, and guests, and every Sokol and Folk song on record must have been sung. At that time there were more gymnastic units than we have now in the Central District.

My unit, Sokol Havlíček-Tyrš on Lawndale Ave., was sending 4 teams in Low, Intermediate and High Divisions, with "yours truly" as "vedoucí." Tillie Kadlec (now Prince in L.A.), was District Director, and we had instructors Jarka Jelinek, Pepik Kos, Frank Prihoda, and Joe Regner. In Cedar Rapids we were met by the Machovsky's and taken to Coe College for registration and housing information. It was a beautiful day and we sat outside on a terrace waiting. As the rooms in the dormitory were filling up, we were told of the strict rules regarding closing house, and our mood was dampened somewhat.

However, one Cedar Rapids member arrived and said that there was housing for about 25 in a Fraternity House. We accepted with alacrity, happy to get away from the College dorm to a "place of our own." We unpacked our gymnastic outfits - the long pleated bloomers of serge (woolen) with elastic, came down to our ankles, and long black lisle hosiery. To the dance

that evening we brought fancy dresses for the occasion. Those of us who had been in Praha the year before for our first Slet there, stopped in Paris on the way to Cherbourg. I bought a pretty light green material, which I had made up with chiffon, and was wearing it for the first time in Cedar Rapids.

As evening approached we were faced with our first problem - we had no electric light, the lights had been turned off, - also that there were no blankets. No one knew of the existence of fuse boxes, and for warmth we used our warm clothing and sweaters. We were not given a key to lock up and were glad when two of the girls decided to stay in. On our way to the dance we stopped in a restaurant and ordered waffles. As luck would have it my plate with waffles and syrup slid off the tile table, and overturned in my lap. - With help the incident was cleaned up and by the time I reached the hall the dress had dried.

The night spent in the Frat house was hilarious. I tried hard to keep the girls quiet, to get some rest for the competitions. There were some who had other ideas, I remember Vlasta Hovorka (Kouba), Lil Sramek, and that Vlasta volunteered to make pancakes on Sunday morning to save us time and money getting breakfast before the rehearsal. We also found out that in that vast house we had had a young man living in the basement recreation room, the only student left in the building for the summer. We never did get the details on this!

At the competitions one of our teams won a trophy, and some judged. The exhibition on Sunday was a success. Early Sunday evening we boarded our train returning to Chicago Monday morning in time to go to work.

Since then I have been in Cedar Rapids several times, am happy that our Sokol unit there is progressing steadily, and am wondering how many of the Committee of 1927 are in Cedar Rapids this time reminiscing as I am? They are publishing a fine Bulletin, where I read familiar names and assume these are children whose dads and grandfathers were in Sokol before them. Cedar Rapids is the seat of the strong Western Fraternal Life Association; also has lodges of Czechoslovak Society of America located there; and one group named "Unity of Czech Lodges and Clubs" which works for the Czech community in the City and State many years. The Sokol unit is thinking of building a new Sokol home. Reminiscing - fifty years is a long time and it seems as though - "bylo to jako včera." . . . Thanks for the memory.

Emilie Welcl-Ruzicka

Trophy Contributions

All contributors to our Trophy Fund will be listed in our XIV. Slet Souvenir Program Book. Please send your contributions to the XIV. American Sokol Slet Committee, thus helping to make our Slet a success. Your contributions are appreciated.

XIV. American Sokol Slet Committee

A.S.O. Executive Board Meeting

APRIL 26, 1977

Meeting called to order by bro. Roy Zitny, Pres. Members present: Sis. B. Prener, E.J. Schnabl, A. Sotka, M. Ptacek, A. Basta, L. Zdenek; bros. R. Svoboda, G. Basta, P. Lebloch, S. Barcal, J. Rabas, E. Schnabl, J. Jindra, R. Vachata. Excused: sis. S. Pistorius, G. Simonek, W. Meyer. Guest: bro. J. Kobida, Management Committee XIV. Slet.

District minutes - Southern District, Feb. 24, Mar. 24. Eastern District March 11. Central District March 23. Western District April 11.

Correspondence: Received, answered and referred to respective Boards and Committees.

Reports: Slet Committee. Bro. J. Kobida reported Mayor Hett of Berwyn will send us a proclamation. Home Avenue from Riverside Drive to 24th Street has been approved to be blocked off Sunday, June 26. Talked to Alderman Mencetti - a Fire Dept. ambulance will be available Sunday at the Field. - Received quotations on catering during competition days, P.A. systems for the Field on Sunday. Still awaiting further bids. Sis. Prener moved the officers be authorized to finalize arrangements. Bro. Schnabl volunteered to study P.A. proposals. Seconded, passed.

Bro. Barcal mentioned that bro. Kala suggested contacting Cermak Plaza Merchants Assoc. for hanging banners during week of Slet. Also a street banner across Cermak Road near Riverside Drive will be checked. Sis. A. Basta mentioned the Word "Slet" be Anglicized so all nationalities would understand our gymnastic festival. - Bro. Kala has arranged 7 slogans be printed on smaller type posters to be distributed in various stores and gymnasiums by the Management Committee. - Bro. Barcal received approval for lightweight cardboard poster - 300 for \$100.00.

Information on shuttle buses referred to B.O.I. for decision and scheduling.

Acknowledgement of participation received from Association of Free Czechoslovak Sportsmen.

Bro. G. Basta reported tickets are ready for distribution through the Units. He and sis. Sotka sorted and counted them, and made some "special package" kits.

Letter from sis. E. Ruzicka - copy referred to B.O.I. and sis. V. Zitny, Banquet Chairman.

Bro. P. Lebloch mentioned Chicago's Channel 2, a group, the Arts Council and Folk Arts Center, is studying ethnic groups. Sis. Schnabl will write them explaining our organization and invite them to our Slet. - Decided that "A.S.O." be spelled out in the Slet Program Book. Eight center pages will be in a different color. - Bro. J. Rabas quoted a price of \$24.50 per thousand for a special issue of Denni Hlasatel on Sunday, June 26th. Copies will be distributed to interested members, 100 copies will be kept in the Office. - Bro. Jindra reported the trophies are in process

of being made. Cost may run approximately \$15.00 each.

Director of Women, Sis. M. Ptacek. Final Report forms: 1) Eastern Dist. partial expenses for sis. Ellen Garlicki, entered in U.S.G.F. National Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships, University of Iowa, April 27-30 - \$100.00. 2) Eastern Dist. rental of Conference room for District B.O.I. meeting Nov. 6, 1976 - \$26.25. 3) Eastern Dist. films of Men's and Women's calisthenics - \$61.00. 4) Eastern Dist. workshop at Little Ferry January 22-23 - 30 students, 4 instructors - \$185.65. 5) Western Dist. F.I.G. Judging clinic Feb. 20th, 27th and March 6th at University of Nebraska, for 4 students - \$96.80. 6) Northeastern Dist., film of Women's calisthenics - \$30.50. 7) Central District - calisthenic and apparatus workshop at Sokol St. Louis for 1st, 2nd Class Boys, Jr. Boys and Men - \$82.45. Bro. S. Barcal moved all be paid since they meet all basic criteria and supporting papers are attached. Passed.

Approved bro. Hardy be reimbursed \$3.75 for AAU Junior Handbook and Junior Olympics Gymnastics Supplement.

Sis. E.J. Schnabl moved a \$500.00 deposit be sent to North Central College for Instructors' School, with the signed contract. Passed. - Recommend a bus be hired for two round trips from the Sheraton to North Central College for the students for the Course at \$150.00. Sis. Schnabl moved this be secured. - Passed. - Recommend that students be charged a total of \$230.00 for the Instructors' School - the amount covering room and board, busing to the School, manuals, songbooks and salaries. Bro. Barcal moved we charge this price. Passed.

Bro. R. Zitny's authorization that sis. Simonek and Babka visit bro. Milan and sis. Stoeppelman regarding the Junior calisthenics, ratified.

Survey sheets sent - sis. Schnabl keeping a running chart.

With bro. Halik and Instructors of Units, attended special meeting on Tot's calisthenics.

Postage for \$5.84 due sis. Simonek, bill for reel of tape \$2.30 due sis. Pistorius, imprinting of contestant's cards with consecutive numbers - lower bid selected. All approved.

Director of Men, bro. P. Lebloch. Received AAU Convention report from bro. Hardy. Received U.S.O.C. material, bro. Milan will represent us at Quadrennial meeting in Colorado Springs, April 28-30. - Permission granted two Sokol Stickney 2nd Class Boys to compete in Intermediate Junior Boys. Revised schedule of events being prepared and will be sent to the Gymnast. Bro. Kala will have various types of signs printed for Parade. - Vaulting tape and corrected folk dance music sent to Districts. Our thanks to bro. and sis. Pistorius. Children's music being redone by bro. Kubina. - Meeting scheduled with Mr. G. Brecht, Nissen apparatus representative. - Position of Coordinator, National School, is still open. Bro. Milan working on applications and various other forms needed. - Attended various meetings and local exhibitions.

Membership. Bro. R. Svoboda, II Vice Pres. Waiting for all units to send in their first quarterly 1977 report so that tabulations can start to determine the winners of the Membership Drive.

Educational Committee. Bro. S. Barcal. Excerpts from minutes read. Remarks of Rep. F. Annunzio on the anniversary of the Sokol movement appear in the Congressional Record. Many books, pieces of music, received for the Library. A number of articles have been received and will appear in the Sokol Educator. - Material from bro. O. Kudrnovsky received recently will be edited by sis. Zdenek for use at the National School. - Requests A.S.O. pictures, uniforms, etc. for the Exhibit at the Slet. Preparing article for the Slet Program Book.

American Sokol Publication. Sis. B. Prener. May issue ready; Gymnast expanded to 8 pages; working on June issue. Answered correspondence. - Permission given to enlarge the June issue by 4 pages. Decided to print July-August issue in two-color; September through December issues one-color blue.

Publicity - Czech, bro. J. Rabas. Submitting material regularly to newspapers in the United States and Canada. Pace is increasing due to the Slet.

Publicity - English, sis. S. Pistorius. Sis. Schnabl read report. Many letters sent fraternal organizations, some of which have already been printed. Received very nice reply from the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry and the President's Council on Physical Fitness.

Financial Secretary, sis. A. Sotka. Distributed March financial report to members. Filed first quarter Federal and State tax reports. With sis. Irene Ruzicka recording Slet receipts. Attended Financial Committee meeting and Slet Committee meeting. With bro. G. Basta allocated Slet tickets to Units of Central District.

Treasurer, bro. G. Basta. Agrees with sis. Sotka's report. First quarter statement presented for comparison to the 1976 statement. Audit by C.P.A. will be made after May 1st. Form 990 must be filed by May 15th. Uniform Division will be included in this report.

Uniform Div., sis. B. Prener. Sales good; accounts receivable not too large. Swiss balance collected. Additional I.D. ribbons printed for A.S.O. B.O.I. - Seeking source of supply for white gym slippers.

Secretary, sis. E.J. Schnabl. Executive Board minutes written and correspondence answered. Acknowledged Future Sokol Leader's Fund donations; helped type lists of Well Wishers for Slet Program Book. - Set up survey charts for B.O.I., - met Miss C. Baranowski of Morton Annual Staff regarding Slet Souvenir picture book. Went to St. Louis with bro. Schnabl to conduct a girls' and womens' clinic for the Central District.

President, bro. R. Zitny. Kept in touch with Office, attended meetings as necessary. - Wreaths will be ordered from Bohemian National Cemetery for our participation in annual Memorial Day Ceremonies. Bro. R. Zitny is guest English speaker. - Exhibit Committee along with the Educational Committee will set hours for the two rooms of displays at Sheraton-Oak Brook Motor Hotel.

Southern District

March 24, 1977

Meeting held in Fort Worth and presided by bro. George Prevatil, Pres. Present: bros. D. Steinman, O. Parma, L. Laznovsky, J. Milan, F. Cechan, D. Williams, S. Hamilton, M. Jurcik and H. Hamilton. Sis. B. Hamilton, S. Iaznovsky, H. Parma and V. Laznovsky. Guests: sis. R. Steinman, and bro. D. Toberny, Pres. Sokol Zizka.

Pledge of allegiance to the Flag was given. A minute of silence observed in memory of deceased members.

Correspondence: American Sokol Organization membership committee. Unit reports from Sokol Houston and Corpus Christi.

Reports of Units: **Corpus Christi.** Ondrusek Polka Band contracted for monthly dances. - will donate their services at Grand Opening - 8x10 ft. walk-in cooler donated - purchased one half page in Slet Souvenir Book - plant sale for traveling fund - have project in progress for building fund benefit. **Ennis.** Ordered National Slet decals and bumper stickers. April bake sale to benefit traveling fund. **Fort Worth.** Hosted USVB tournament - hosted District and Unit Presidents and Educational Directors meeting March 12 - 16 girls entered Bedford School invitational meet - dual meets with local schools and gym clubs - will participate in City's May-Fest celebration - Unit exhibition May 22 - Easter picnic jointly with SPJST Lodge April 10. **Houston.** German dinner and dance March 20 - Easter dance April 10. Planning Slet trips (National and District). Gymnasts participating in Czech celebration in Rosenberg. On agenda Mother's and Father's Day dances.

Reports. Educational Director, bro. Parma. Attended Presidents and Educational Directors meeting March 13 - distributed educational material to those present. Activity at **Sokol Zizka** report by sis. Parma - March 4 practice singing of Kde domov muj, lecture on taking care of equipment on gym floor - March 10, bro. and sis. Parma lecture on their purpose for holding educational sessions, and lecture on Czech heritage by bro. Ehrenberger - March 17 a gymnast gave report on "Our Czech Ancestors" and the gym class were taught counting to ten in Czech and practiced singing Czech songs. **Sokol Ennis.** Educational Director, bro. Laznovsky welcomes new members to membership and briefs them on the purpose of Sokol and obligations of members. Asst. Director, bro. Hamilton attended Educational Directors meeting. **Fort Worth.** After membership meeting 8 new words in Czech were taught and previous ones reviewed. **Corpus Christi.** Prof. Kubala held two classes on Sokol history at gym class, attended meeting concerning associate members entrants, will confer with new applicants concerning Sokol Ideals and obligations. Bro. Parma requests Educational Directors mail reports to him by the 15th of each month.

Board of Instructors. Dir. of Men, bro. L. Laznovsky. Mailed to Unit Directors entry blanks for National Slet. Stresses deadline date May 15. Men's calisthenics film has been used by Ennis, Dallas,

presently in Fort Worth. Second correction on men's calisthenics and additional Slet information forwarded to Units. Conferred with Assist. Director, bro. Johnson. Class I and II Boy's calisthenics will be modified for District Slet. However little boys participating in National Slet must learn complete calisthenics. Consent given two gymnasts to remain in Intermediate Division. District Directors scheduled to teach Calisthenics and Apparatus routines in Houston April 8 - in Corpus Christi April 8. A Slet calisthenics clinic will be held Sunday April 17 in Ennis; also a judges clinic. Encourages Units to attend. Sis. Stoeppleman requested to assist in teaching Junior Girls calisthenics. - USVB Tournament successful. 36 teams participated in 6 divisions, using 9 courts. Commends bro. Milan for excellent chairmanship of the tournament, in securing facilities in the area, and Sokol Fort Worth for hosting evening banquet. Report of tournament sent to American Sokol.

Dir. of. Women, sis. S. Laznovsky. Feb. 26 held workshop with Sokol Houston group teaching calisthenics and apparatus routines - Mar. 12 worked with sis. Milan and Stoeppleman on Women and Junior Girls calisthenics - Mar. 16 conferred with Women's BOI Sokol Zizka regarding District Slet and reviewed calisthenics. Mailed letters to Directors on Slet information, corrections, rules, - stressed they read all information sent by National and District BOI. Received rules for special number and modern rhythmic competition, and forwarded to units. Sent survey sheets for approximate number of competitors, and divisions for District Slet (replies by April 15). Requested women Unit Directors submit names of judges by May 1, and plans to assign judges prior to Slet. Directors sent copies of guidelines for assistance by the District to participate in the American Sokol Slet, replies to be in by June 5. Advised Units obtain identification ribbons which are required at Slet Day program in Chicago.

Discussions. National Course. Bro. Milan. Definite site for course has not been settled, but course will take place June 27 through July 11.

Czech Cultural Society. Bro. Prevratil reports he learned bro. Maca was appointed program chairman and bro. Prevratil parade chairman of Czech Day. Neither had been notified of these appointments. Further discussion arose regarding lack of communication. Bro. Toberny proposed the Czech Culture Society be requested to communicate to delegates notice of meetings and activities. Approved.

Associate membership cards. Design submitted by Sis. Milan was presented for final approval with minor changes as suggested. Bro. Hamilton moved District adopt design as submitted with changes. Carried. Sis. Milan is to obtain cost of printing 5000 cards, and report results at next meeting.

District Slet. bro. Laznovsky inquired on progress of preparation for District Slet by host Unit Sokol Zizka. Bro. Toberny informs facilities of Richland College of Richardson are under consideration. The facilities are sufficient and possibly competitions and Slet program will be held here.

Bro Laznovsky suggests posters be printed and distributed to Units for display.

Mutual Cooperation



Southern District, American Sokol Organization is the recipient of a gift of \$1,000 from the SPJST Supreme Lodge. Making the presentation is bro. Johnnie Hrabina of Ennis, SPJST District III, Assistant Director - accepting for the Southern District is bro. George Prevratil, President.

Cleveland

On Sunday, May 22nd, the new home of Sokol Greater Cleveland of the Northeastern District teemed with Sokols gathered for a workshop for Slet calisthenics. About 34 women, 20 men and a good number of Junior Boys and girls were present. The sight of the men and women upon lineup in their neat Sokol Gym uniforms, was very impressive. After a welcome by bro. Richard Rejna, District Director of en, and introductions by sis. Helen Samec, District Director of Women, the women and men were assigned to the ballroom while the juniors occupied the gymnasium for about an hour after which the groups changed rooms for the balance of the work.

The men and women executed the calisthenics together to begin the workshop period. One of our well known gymnasts, bro. Peter Dusek, was in charge of the men. Sis. Betty Stribrny, the women's calisthenics instructor, did a fine job of teaching; it was evident that both the instructor and the women in the class had worked conscientiously and enthusiastically. Any slight corrections necessary were due to error of insufficient explanation in the text; it was inspiring to see the care and precision with which this exercise was taught and learned.

I was happy to see the Indian Club exercise that will be presented by the Northeastern District women during the Slet program. It was taught by another excellent and experienced Sokol instructor, sis. Bertha Cerny. This "number" is a study in marching, precision, fine technique, constantly changing striking formations and patterns.

Later the women finished the checking of the calisthenics in a smaller room. A true Sokol atmosphere prevailed during the whole workshop period.

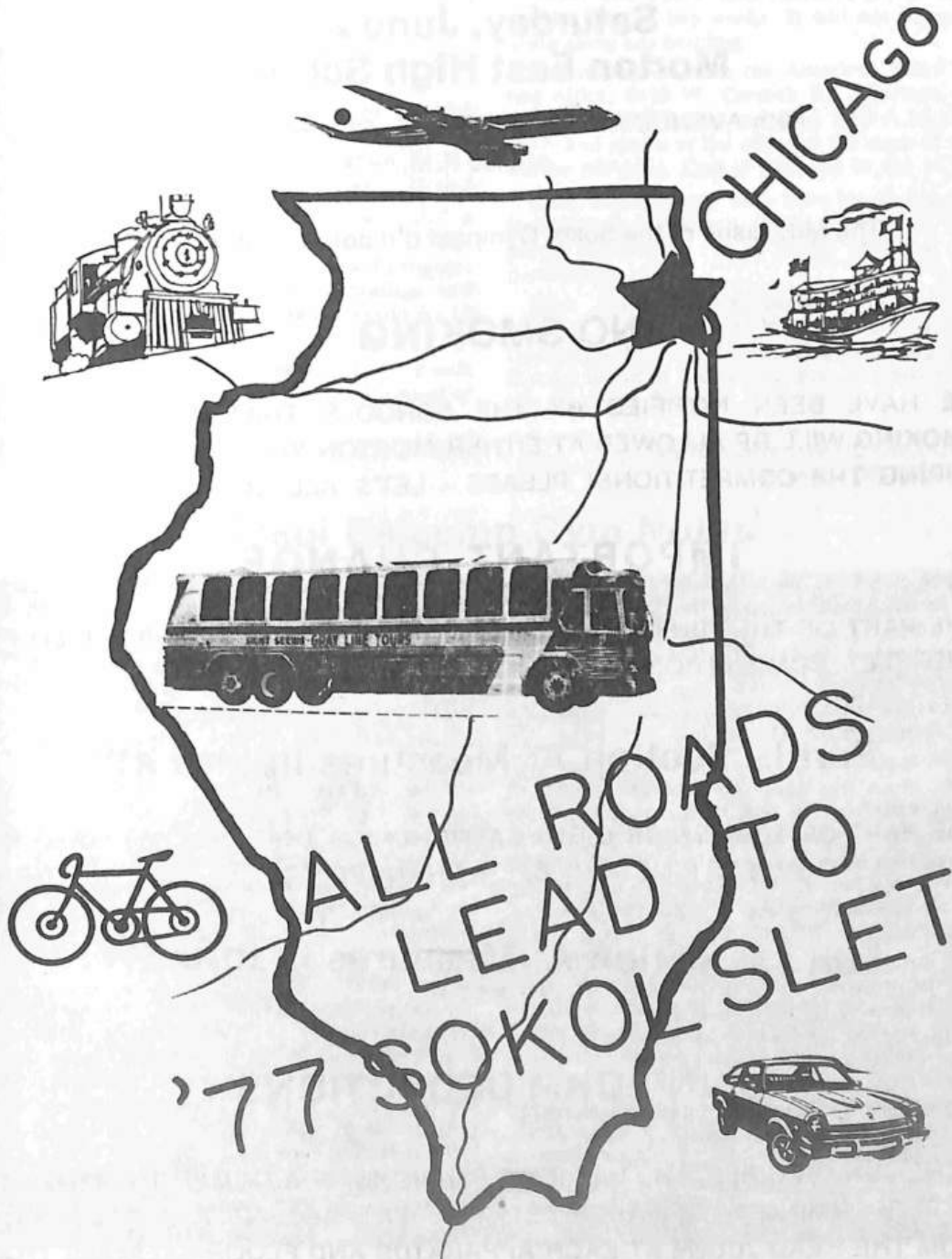
Mildred Prchal. ASO
Honorary Dir. of Women

AMERICAN SOKOL

SOKOL GYMNAST

JUNE, 1977

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



CHANGE IN THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

JUNIOR GIRLS' AND WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS
JUNIOR BOYS' AND MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP OPTIONALS
will be held

Saturday, June 25
Morton East High School

59th AVENUE AND 25th STREET - CICERO, ILLINOIS
at 1:00 P.M.

The May issue of the Sokol Gymnast did not publish this change.

NO SMOKING

WE HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED BY THE SCHOOLS THAT **ABSOLUTELY NO SMOKING** WILL BE ALLOWED AT EITHER MORTON WEST OR MORTON EAST DURING THE COMPETITIONS! PLEASE - LET'S ALL COOPERATE.

IMPORTANT CHANGE

THE PART OF THE **JUNIOR BOYS CALISTHENICS** THAT WILL BE USED FOR THE SLET COMPETITIONS HAS BEEN CAHNGED TO:

Part I - Section A: Measures III thru XIV.

THE PART OF THE **JUNIOR GIRLS CALISTHENICS** THAT WILL BE USED FOR THE SLET COMPETITIONS HAS BEEN CHANGED TO:

Part I - Section A: Measures III thru XIV.

UNIFORM DEDUCTIONS

IN THE JUNIOR GIRLS' AND WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: IF A COMPETITOR **INSISTS** ON PERFORMING WITH BARE FEET, SHE WILL RECEIVE A .3 DEDUCTION FROM THE HEAD JUDGE AT EACH APPARATUS AND FLOOR EXERCISE THAT SHE IS BAREFOOTED.

American Sokol Instructors School

The American Sokol Organization will conduct a two-week training school for instructors at North Central College, Naperville, Illinois, June 27, ending Saturday, July 9, 1977. The plans are to conduct a two-week **ADVANCED** course, with a review of material from the Sokol Manual, advanced techniques and theory, lectures, games and recreation work used in the Sokol System. This will include all day sessions and evening classes.

The American Sokol Organization will accept applicants who have the following qualifications:

1. Those who have attended a Unit or District School, or have shown qualities of leadership, ability and the desire to serve in the Sokol program.

2. Those who have been actively teaching in the Sokol program without benefit of having attended a Sokol School and have shown sufficient interest, ability, and the desire to continue to serve in the Sokol program and who wish to acquire additional training and experience. Minimum age in this instance would be 18 years.

3. All applicants must have the approval of the unit President and Director they represent, and approval of their District.

4. All applicants must be 15 years of age or over (15th birthday by June 27, 1977).

The American Sokol Organization reserves the right to refuse acceptance of any applicant deemed not qualified and to dismiss and send home anyone found to be unable or unwilling to fulfill the requirements and discipline of the school or staff.

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS IS LIMITED.

Room and board and tuition will be \$230.00 per student for the two weeks. It will not be necessary to bring along any bedding.

Transportation from the American Sokol Organization office, 6426 W. Cermak Rd., Berwyn, Illinois to the college on Monday morning, 8:00 A.M., June 27th, 1977, and return to the office at the close of the school, will be provided. Cost is included in the \$230.00 cost.

Each student must then have his or her return trip transportation planned ahead of time in order that proper connections can be made. This is at the cost of the student.

Each Sokol Unit is expected to send qualified students to the school. With the aid of the Travel Instructors' Fund, individual Units working through the District Board of Instructors, may be provided funds for this National School.

Nazdar!

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION
BOARD OF INSTRUCTORS

Sokol Belcamp Gym Notes



From left is Bro. J. V. Hesoun, President, Sis. Rose Marie Krajca, Director of Women, and Sis. Ann Huber.

The girls of Sokol Balcamp successfully participated in Southern Circuit if Eastern District Competition at Baltimore. On Saturday, April 2nd, our small girls, ages 6 to 12 competed against Sokol Baltimore with the following results. In the beginner's class, ages 6 to 9 we sent 11 girls. Five (5) places were awarded and Sokol Balcamp took all 5.

1. Akimi Fanelli
2. Kim Sadera
3. Kim Hill
4. Denise Appleby
5. Janine Habblett

In the 10 to 12 Low Division

1. Jean Bauer
3. Isabel Ramos

In the 10 to 12 High Division

1. Lisa Cook
2. Peggy Pearson
3. Jennifer Habblett

Congratulations to all the girls and Sister Rose Marie Krajca, Director of Women and Sister Ann Huber for assisting in getting the teams ready for the meet.

J. V. Hesoun
Sokol Balcamp

1977 Central District Competition

SECOND CLASS GIRLS - LOW DIVISION

Place	Unit	Teams	Score
1.	Berwyn I		569.1
2.	Berwyn II		540.1
3.	West Suburban III		524.4
4.	West Suburban I		512.7
5.	Tabor I		506.1
6.	West Suburban II		490.8
7.	Brookfield I		462.2
8.	Stickney		443.7

INDIVIDUALS

Place	Name	Unit	Score
1.	Julie O'Connell	Berwyn I	116.5
2.	Amy Woodrow	Berwyn I	115.7
3.	Debbie Mrizek - Tie	Berwyn I	110.9
3.	Karen Dawson - Tie	Berwyn II	110.9
4.	Joyce Sandel	Berwyn I	109.0
5.	Jean Hrubby	Berwyn II	108.2
6.	Dawn Firtik	Tabor I	107.8
7.	Meg Navin	West Suburban III	107.3
8.	Marie Holecek	Berwyn II	106.7
9.	Kelly Crosson	West Suburban III	103.7
10.	Cindy Krob - Tie	Brookfield I	102.5
11.	Marianne Kaspar - Tie	Berwyn I	102.5

8 Teams - 58 Individuals

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Place	Unit	Teams	Score
1.	Berwyn I		478.8
2.	West Suburban		460.0
3.	Berwyn II		425.5
4.	Berwyn III		425.1
5.	West Suburban II		416.1
6.	Slavsky I		414.5
7.	Tabor I		396.7
8.	Slavsky II		377.7
9.	Stickney II		354.4
10.	Stickney I		341.4
11.	Brookfield		317.4

INDIVIDUALS

Place	Name	Unit	Score
1.	Karin Smithing	Berwyn I	116.1
2.	Nancy Goering	Berwyn I	116.0
3.	Susan Schieszler	Berwyn I	115.4
4.	Jodi Michalek	West Suburban I	114.4
5.	Barbara Dooley	Berwyn I	113.6
6.	Kim Heidler	West Suburban I	113.1
7.	Marianne Toy	Slavsky I	112.7
8.	Marianne Tranavskas	Berwyn I	112.0
9.	Laura Skubieh	West Suburban II	110.1
10.	Kitty Espersen	West Suburban II	107.2

11 Teams - 57 Individuals

HIGH DIVISION

Place	Unit	Teams	Score
1.	Berwyn I		351.0
2.	Slavsky I		321.8
3.	Brookfield I		313.3

Meet Directors: Diane Kobida - Jo Marie Zeman

4.	West Suburban I	287.8
5.	Slavsky II	276.2
6.	Brookfield II	220.6

INDIVIDUALS

Place	Name	Unit	Score
1.	Kristin Forsythe	Berwyn I	112.9
2.	Nancy Klindera	Berwyn I	109.6
3.	Linda Klindera	Berwyn I	109.5
4.	Karyn Cepek	Stickney	105.3
5.	Kathy Dohnal	Brookfield I	103.2
6.	Michelle Mrizek	Berwyn I	102.9
7.	Laura Kubik	Slavsky I	102.2
8.	Albina Vedral - Tie	Slavsky I	101.6
8.	Karen Koprowski - Tie	Slavsky I	101.6
9.	Janet Arndt	Slavsky I	98.7
10.	Debbie Ballarini	Brookfield I	98.0

6 Teams - 25 Individuals

JUNIOR BOYS - LOW DIVISION

Place	Name	Unit	Score
1.	Jeff Klindera	Berwyn	117.55
2.	Pete Maciejewski	Tabor	116.50
3.	Ray Fron	Tabor	112.65
4.	Bob Curran	Tabor	111.85
5.	Jim Gerhardt	Tabor	107.65
6.	Corey Sandel	Berwyn	103.10
7.	Paul Gerhardt	Tabor	101.95
8.	Jeoff Lacina	Slavsky	90.80

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

1.	John Satek	Slavsky	125.70
2.	Lou Slezak	Brookfield	125.60
3.	Steve Fargan	Brookfield	120.20
4.	Jim Hadraba	Berwyn	113.00
5.	Dan Vladic	Berwyn	105.60
6.	Dale Olson	Tabor	101.8
7.	John Palper	Berwyn	101.25

MEN - LOW DIVISION

1.	Elmer Kulosek	Berwyn	121.40
Tie	Jim Hantak	Brookfield	121.40
2.	Jim Kratochvil	Berwyn	104.70
3.	Ken Bennett	Berwyn	103.50
4.	John Sanko	Berwyn	101.80

MEN - INTERMEDIATE - Teams

1.	Berwyn	339.60
2.	Brookfield	331.10

INDIVIDUALS

1.	Rick Thompson	Slavsky	129.40
2.	Rick Linhart	Tabor	126.70
3.	Jim Wojcik	Brookfield	117.10
4.	Dennis Gilbert	Berwyn	114.90
5.	Tom Patek	Berwyn	112.60
6.	Jim Sprtle	Berwyn	112.10
7.	Dave Harlan	Brookfield	112.00
8.	Frank Bouda	Brookfield	102.00

MEN - HIGH

1.	Ed Pavek	Berwyn	127.00
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Meet Directors: Jr. - Art Placek - Men - Joe Placek

Eastern District

MARCH 11, 1977

Meeting called to order by bro. D. Otenasek, pres. Present: bros. M. Neuman, J. Hesoun, H. Vrzalik, J. Vrzalik, J. Friedrich and sis. R. Friedrich. Exused: sis. L. Sain, E. Ruzicka, and bros. F. Capek, and F. Novak.

Correspondence: Minutes of Northern Section BOI sent by bro. Capek. - From ASO, Slet Stickers and letter on Membership drive. - From Council of Higher Education. - Bro. Otenasek advised all participating Units should carry their State, Unit and District Flags. Letter of thanks from Mr. Z. Brzezinski, Special Assistant to President Carter. - Reply: Presidents' meeting before Slet will be a business meeting of District Presidents only. District Presidents' meeting (between Conventions) will be held January 1978. - Students Sokol quiz from Sokol Little Ferry.

Bro. Hesoun, Public Relations, reported on two articles in Hlasatel and New Yorske Listy. Extended congratulations to bro. Ron Zoubek, Editor of Maryland Sokoletter, the new publication of Sokol Baltimore.

Bro. Neuman - nothing new to report about Labor Day Sports Festival to be held in Belcamp.

Bro. J. Vrzalik, Dir. of Men discussed request of sis. Garlicki for sponsorship at a Regional Rhythmic

Competition. Sis. Garlicki teaches this event in the District, it would be good publicity for Sokol, the Officers feel support should be given. It is hoped sis. Garlicki's Unit will also feel this would be worthwhile use of their funds.

The April 23-24 weekend at Sokol New York was discussed. The Officers will attend the Exhibition to see how gymnasts have prepared for the Slet. Also attend District meeting on the 24th. Approved - Officers attending receive \$25.00 toward lodging - meals would not be reimbursed. Auto expenses were applicable. District fund raising books will be taken for distribution.

Bro Hesoun stated Sokol Belcamp is hosting dance on May 21. - Funding for the wreath for the Tomb of the Unknowns was resolved: the District to pay one half, Sokol Belcamp one quarter, and Sokol Baltimore one quarter. This ceremony has been observed for 18 years with Sokol Washington handling arrangements.

Sis. Friedrich stated mail for Sokol Curtis Bay be addressed to Mr. Henne. Received note from sis. Ruzicka inquiring status of Sokol Miami's request for assessment funds for their Czech dance classes. In sis. Sain's absence this was deferred.

Sis. Zraly forwarded dues mailed to her from Unit Fin. Secy. Requested that special letter be sent all Unit Presidents correcting this error.

Sis. Friedrich, Fin. Secy. reported income of \$94.20, expenses \$271.15 - balance \$7,793.03.

Western District

APRIL 11, 1977

Bro. E. Pavoucek, Pres., called meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Sis. B. Drozda announced dinner will be held at Marchios, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 16. Sis. B. Pavoucek will call Marchios with definite count attending. Sis. Drozda introduced her mother, Mrs. Bozena Storch, also Betty Satorie, as guests.

Correspondence, read by sis. Connie Tomes. Letter from Sokolice Omaha requesting Western District meetings be held on second Monday, instead of week-ends. Bro. Pavoucek, Pres., informed everyone why meetings were changed to week-ends, also giving suggestions what measures can be discussed in hopes of satisfying those in opposition. - Letter from American Sokol Organization announcing Membership Drive ended March 31, 1977. The winners will be announced at June 1977 Slet Banquet. - Letter requesting donations for Trophy Committee for June 1977 Slet. Bro. Bud Benak moved we donate \$25.00. Passed. - Letter regarding purchase of bumper stickers, samples enclosed. Tabled for later discussion. - Membership reports for first quarter received from Sokols Omaha, South Omaha, St. Paul, Wilber, Cedar Rapids, and Sokolice Crete.

Bills presented for payment were approved. - Sis. B. Drozda reported sis. June Kucera of Sokol Wilber inquired about South Omaha Sokol Invitational. Also sis. Jan Gaythe will attend Sokolice Crete one week-end to teach calisthenics.

Bro. Bud Benak reported publicity from the South Omaha Sokol Invitational Meet, held April 2-3, benefited not only South Omaha Sokol but all Sokol units. Seven States were represented. Plaques given for individual, team, and All-around winners.

Bro. Pavoucek, Pres., requested minutes be recorded in record book by presiding secretaries at each meeting.

Fireproof safe has not been moved into Library at Sokol Omaha. Discussion followed on cleaning locker. Bro. Benak to purchase preservatives for tapes kept on file. - Sis. Pavoucek suggested consideration be given ideas for the Grand Entrance at June Slet.

Sokol Omaha will celebrate 100th Anniversary Sept. 18, 1977.

Reservations should be sent for June 24 Slet Banquet. Bro. Ed. Pavoucek, Pres., will leave for the Presidents' meeting held during competition.

Two requests for Merit Awards have been submitted - one from South Omaha Sokol and one from Sokol Omaha.

Bro. Phil Cahoy reports USGF Congress bid was not accepted. Will be held in Louisville, Ky., this year.

Central District

MARCH 23, 1977

Bro. E. Halik, Pres. presided. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag given. Present: 177 delegates. Excused: 4 delegates.

Sis. L. Kmen, M. Hajek, and A. Halik took notes in the absence of a secretary.

Request of Merit Awards received from Geri Lynn Michalek and Diane Schnabl. After signature of District President is affixed BOI will forward to ASO

Correspondence: Bohemian National Cemetery about participation in their 100th Anniversary Memorial Day Parade, May 30. All participants to appear in Sokol dress parade uniform or Sokol gymnastic uniform. Proper attire to be worn for inclement weather. Bro. R. Zitny is the English guest speaker. - Sokol St. Louis sent list of Unit Officers. - From ASO informing of informal meeting of District Presidents at Sheraton Oak Brook June 23, 1977 at 10:00 a.m. - Minutes of Bi-Centennial Committee received. To assure representation, additional delegate will be sent. - Quarterly reports forwarded from ASO for Sokol Havlicek Tyrns (4th quarter), and Sokol Town of Lake (4th quarter and 1st quarter). - Cermak Road Business Men's Assn. regarding Houby Festival and Parade. Entries due by Sept. 20, 1977. Parade Sunday, Oct. 9. - ASO sent copy of letter sent Sokol Brookfield and Sokol Slavsky regarding reinstatement of Otto Karasek, who has been approved for full membership at Sokol Slavsky.

Sis. M. Vachata, Dir. of Women, received phone call from Oakbrook Polo Grounds requesting performance of Vaulting Group during half-time on July 31, 1977. Referred to Combined BOI. - Bro. J. Placek, Dir. of Men request to purchase State Flags for ASO Slet Parade. Sis. Schnabl moved flags be purchased. Directors to meet with bro. Halik before purchase is made. Approved.

Bro. E. Linhart questioned BOI minutes re: calisthenics. All Units to be informed this is part of our work - the Tyrns System is based on calisthenics and marching. This is part of our heritage. Must stress discipline (self discipline). - Calisthenics must be presented in an enthusiastic manner by the instructor.

Bro. F. Kala reported on conditions of Olympic Hall for Folk Dancers. Because of rental situation negotiations now being made with Sokol Berwyn to meet twice a month for Vaulting and Folk Dancing - 3 hours each session.

Educational Committee: Literature sent all Unit Educational Directors or Unit Secretaries on "Easter Customs." Bulletins prepared by bros. Pirka and Kala. These are interesting and good source of information. Bro. Kala received favorable comments from bro. Shana of Sokol St. Louis.

Bro. Glasser inquired regarding refunding of Dance Group expenses. A refund from ASO was received in 1974. Records to be checked to see if forms were presented for clinics, dance directors, vaulters.

Bro. R. Svoboda read disbursements. New balance \$336.13.

Emil Nekuda

With sincere dedication of over 36 years to the Sokol movement in the Pacific District, bro. Emil Nekuda, Honorary member of Sokol Los Angeles, has chosen to celebrate his 75th birthday in June while attending the XIV. American Sokol Slet. Bro. Nekuda's profound achievements over the years are remembered by Sokol Los Angeles, his family, and his many friends throughout the Sokol Organization.

Bro. Nekuda retired five years ago from Sokol activities, primarily because he is a firm believer of the younger generation taking over the responsibilities of continuing the Sokol ideals. His Sokol interest has not waned, for he still spends at least two evenings a week at the Hall, enjoying his friends and family. Since his retirement as an electrician, he enjoys playing golf, his accordion, electric organ, and caring for his roses and camelias.

Although a native Nebraskan, bro. Nekuda's education was obtained in Los Angeles and Pasadena during the 1920's. At that time, having attended Sokol Los Angeles' events, served as an introduction to his

later years of devotion to Sokol. His dream of returning to California became a reality in 1941, when he moved his family (wife and daughters), to become permanent residents of Southern California. Immediately Sokol became his life and that of his family, all joining and attending regularly the gym classes and all Sokol functions.

Bro. Nekuda held the Office of unit President for fourteen years, which is an outstanding record, was President of the Pacific District, and also of the 1959 Slet Committee. He held the office of secretary and financial secretary in the unit, was a member and officer of many committees. In the 1950's he devoted much time and labor as well as contributing monetarily to the construction of the main addition to the Los Angeles Sokol Hall.

In 1960 bro. Nekuda was awarded the "Honorary President" plaque for his dedication to Sokol, and in 1969 was further honored by receiving the "Honorary Membership" award.

His versatility in achievements and abilities extends to numerous aspects of life. A grandfather of six, the closeness of his family is very dear to him, and I am happy to say I am his daughter.

Arlene Wortner

FINANCIAL REPORT

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION

APRIL 1977

RECEIPTS:

Dues	\$3,521.41
Convention Fund	212.00
Special Assessment	217.00
Dividends and Interest	93.75
Advertising in "American Sokol"	400.00
Resale of Jewelry	15.90
Resale of Plaques	137.50
Song Books	3.00
Sokol Manuals	7.00
Postage and UPS charges	5.93
Miscellaneous	14.00
Educational Pamphlets and Membership Kits	48.50
<hr/>	
A.S.O. Uniform Division - Payment toward Advances	4,675.99
.....	3,459.79
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$8,135.78

DISBURSEMENTS:

Administrative

Salaries	\$676.55
F.I.C.A. & F.W.T. for March	117.96
I.W.T. - 1st quarter 1977	45.72
Rental, Janitor Service, Phone	323.29
Postage Meter Rental	37.50
Rental of Mailing Machine	69.49
Office Supplies	30.60
Postage and UPS charges	21.64
<hr/>	
	\$1,322.75

Board of Instructors

Salaries	\$380.06
F.I.C.A. & F.W.T. for March	47.42
I.W.T. - 1st quarter 1977	27.09
Editor "Sokol Gymnast"	30.00
Additional copies "Sokol Gymnast"	28.00
Office Supplies, Phone, Postage, UPS charges	37.24
AAU Junior Olympic Handbook ..	3.75
<hr/>	
	553.56

Educational Department

Salaries	\$ 38.42
F.I.C.A. for March	3.42
I.W.T. - 1st quarter 197799
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	42.83

Sokol Publication

Printing "American Sokol"	\$848.63
Editor "American Sokol"	100.00
Postage "American Sokol"	80.69
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	1,029.32

Miscellaneous

A.S.O. Uniform Division - Salaries, F.I.C.A., I.W.T., Phone	\$522.44
Special Appropriations - Eastern Dist. A.S.O. .. \$	272.90
N.E. Dist. A.S.O.	30.50
Central Dist. A.S.O. ...	82.45
Western Dist. A.S.O. ..	1,172.70
<hr/>	
	1,558.55

Advances to A.S.O. Slet Committee	95.37
Transfer of funds from Checking to Savings	8,000.00
Advance to A.S.O. Course	500.00
<hr/>	
	10,676.36

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$13,624.82

Balance Brought forward: Western National Bank of Cicero - Checking Account	\$13,664.63
Receipts - April 1977	8,135.78
<hr/>	
	21,800.41
Disbursements - April 1977	13,624.82
<hr/>	
	\$ 8,175.59



**HAVE YOU
SENT IN YOUR
NEW ADDRESS?**

Change of Address for American Sokol

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION
6426 W. Cermak Road
Berwyn, IL 60402

Sokol

Name

Old Address

..... Zip

New Address

..... Zip

FUTURE SOKOL LEADERS FUND

APRIL 1977

In memory of sis. Bessie Vorel: Anton and Anna Smunt	\$15.00
Anton and Betty Studnicka	10.00
Frank Svoboda	10.00
<hr/>	
	\$35.00
Dividends earned	6.56
<hr/>	
	\$41.56

Donations are tax exempt.

SOKOL EDUCATOR

"Beseda"

The Czechoslovak people have used the word "Beseda" for many decades. A literal meaning of the word "Beseda" is best described by our English word circle or chat.

In Chicago, a group of Czech people organized themselves, many years ago, and called their circle of members the "Česká Beseda." This group maintained a rather significant headquarters on Douglas Blvd. Though still active, the Beseda no longer has their headquarters.

European Czechoslovaks took upon themselves to make the Beseda into dances representing their various regions. Perhaps we are well acquainted with many - Česká, Moravská, Slovenská, Slezká, and Hanácká. The Sokols combined parts of the various Beseda calling it the "Czechoslovak National Beseda," and performed it at many Slets. The appropriate Beseda was performed regionally at various balls such as our Americans performed a "Reel" or as today we perform a Square Dance. In other words - during the evening the "Circle Dance" was to be performed, those attending the function would informally make up a group of four couples (all of our Besedy are written for four couples), and as many circles as possible would participate.

All of the music for the "Beseda Dance" is made up of various folk songs, set to words, and the words describe, to a degree, what steps or actions are to be taken during the dance. EXAMPLE: Česká Beseda - Nechod' Tam. - These songs are sung by the participants.

With such a large segment of our American people attempting to find out more about their heritage, we should encourage the various "Circle Dances" be studied by groups, learning both the songs and dance. Perhaps then we can rely on these groups to become the leaders in having one of our Czechoslovak customs revived by again having all our people participate at our various functions.

Lorraine Zdenek, Secy.
Educational Committee ASO

Five Generations of American Sokol

My uncle, Joseph Tichy, was one of the founders of Sokol Cechie, in Chicago, and its first president. It was founded in 1879, and now only two years away from its 100th Anniversary.

Joseph Tichy was a sturdy Bohemian youth from Vinare, near Vysoky Myto in Bohemia. He immigrated to Chicago in 1870, imbued with a deeply rooted love of freedom, and a follower of Dr. Miroslav Tyrs, founder of the mighty Sokol Organization. It was patterned

after the Greek concept of body beautiful and mind noble. Dr. Tyrs preached to his people that the physical beauty of the ancient Hellas people was not enough. Man had to strive for physical perfection, but also had to elevate himself mentally and morally. Tyrs' commandment to every Sokol was, "What by bodily training you have gained, by moral living try to preserve."

Bohemian youths, like my uncle, brought to their new country the determination to establish in every settlement a gymnasium to give Sokol training to their sons and daughters. They were brave to set out on such long journeys, leaving behind forever their fathers and mothers.

My father, Frank Tichy, born in 1866, was a boy of four when his brother left for America. When father grew up, he became a tailor, having learned his trade in Vysoky Myto, Bohemia, and Vienna, Austria. He was drafted into the Austrian army and became a "Hulan" Lancer, stationed at Rudolph's Barracks, near Vienna. His skill as a tailor became known, and after drilling hours, he began to sew uniforms for the officers who could afford them. A General in the Army heard of his tailoring skill, had him promoted and transferred to Officer's quarters in the palace near the barracks, where the General and his family lived. The General liked his new well-fitting uniforms, and my father could come and go at will through the General's living quarters on the floors above the Officer's quarters. He loved his Czech language and origin, and, not wanting to become Germanized, gave up soldiery and set sail for the new World, reaching Chicago where his brother, two sisters, cousins and friends lived.

He joined Sokol Cechie, became engaged and married an immigrant girl from his home town. They settled on the northwest side of Chicago in the neighborhood known as Ceske Albrechtice. My father's tailoring business prospered and the family grew. Soon there were four of us, three girls and one boy. We were called "greenhorns" and this angered my father. He had become naturalized in 1896, and was very proud of his American-born children.

After school, on certain days, we went to Sokol, which was two miles away to Atlas Hall on Emma Street near Milwaukee Avenue. We were so full of energy we ran and jumped hydrant pumps along the way. The girls wore blue-pleated bloomers and white middy blouses during gym classes. Drilling with wands and dumbbells was popular in those days.

Father not only went to our Sokol to exercise, but went for gallops on his own horse to Humboldt Park. The horse was kept in a shed in the backyard. Mother fed, watered and groomed it. Eventually father sold the horse.

Now mother had more time to devote to her daughters. She made beautiful Selsky dresses for us. The blouses had puffed sleeves trimmed with long lace, green beaded corsets, and wide red skirts with many white petticoats. We danced the Beseda in groups to entertain at Czech lodges as well as Sokol affairs.

We took part in Sokol Slets held in Pilsen Park, Soldier's Field and Riverview Amusement Park. We marched in straight lines, hundreds, thousands of us, well trained, doing calisthenics in perfect unison, no commands given by our teachers, performing only to music. Our teachers and leaders were strict disciplinarians, and yet considerate and kind to us young gymnasts. I loved the parades with flags, bands, marching men, women and children. The young men wore blue uniforms, and some Sokol men wore the uniforms of the Old Country, round caps with a falcon feather, gray coats and trousers, and red shirts. The red shirt in Sokol circles was a symbol of love for one's country, and indicated that the wearer would gladly give up his life defending his new country.

In the First World War my brother, Joseph Tichy, served in the navy. He was seventeen years old the day the Armistice was signed. Our mother had died at the age of fifty. My brother-in-law, Edward Bergman, was gassed in the war and died of lung failure at the age of 41. Within a period of three years we lost not only my brother-in-law, but his wife, my sister Anna, and my father. I inherited the three Bergman children, two boys and one girl. They went to Sokol. Edwin, the oldest, became an outstanding gymnast. During a Slet held in Pilsen Park, June 9, 1946, he took first place and won a gold medal. Second place, a silver medal, was won by another of our Sokol Cechie men, Joe Lizner. Roselyn Bergman's team of school-age girls came in first and won a vacation at Sokol Camp in Crystal Lake. Teacher of the group was Anne Glasser, now Educational Director of our unit. Roselyn Bergman is presently Secretary of Sokol Cechie. She had studied ballet since the age of five, so the gymnastic work came easy. Her Sokol training and her stay at Sokol Camp in New Buffalo, Mich., helped sustain her following the loss of her parents and grandfather.

I believe that Edwin's training as a Sokol, to endure and persevere, kept him alive during World War II. He was Sergeant of Communications of a reconnaissance group sent into Germany ahead of the United States Army. Edwin and his Lieutenant were in a "pillbox." Their company had been wiped out, and they were the only two men left. Edwin knew that he would be forced to use his radio equipment to send a message that would trap following troops, and to prevent this he shot up and destroyed his radio equipment. This so enraged the German officer, who had threatened to throw flame throwers, that he hit Edwin in the mouth with his gun. His lower teeth were broken. He earned a French decoration and a bronze star. He married Geraldine Horak, whom he had met at a Sokol Slet in Chicago. Geraldine and her mother, Mary Horak, are members of Sokolice Omaha. Edwin's daughter Susan Bergman Green no longer goes to Sokol, but her daughter



Kimberly Green, Tot Class,
Sokolice Omaha.

Kimberly is in the Tot class, Kimberly is five years old and being trained to enter the Olympics.

Karla Seaman, instructor at Sokolice Omaha, gives private lessons to Kimberly. Karla also teaches at the Byron Jr. High School, where Kimberly also practices.

Kimberly's grandfather, Edwin Bergman, wrote me, "Besides Kimberly going to Sokol one night a week, she goes to the University of Omaha five afternoos a week for special tutoring in gymnastics, plus weekly ballet lessons. That is quite a regimen to inflict on a five-year-old, but she seems to enjoy it all, and she is certainly talented. If she can keep it up, she will sure give Korbut and Comaneci's future peers keen competition."

Susan Bergman Green wrote - "Grandma Stella, we are thrilled about Kimberly's progress. The Sokols are trying to change the ruling so that Kimberly can compete when she is six years old. She loves her teacher, Karla, and will do anything Karla asks of her. We are planning to build a gymnasium onto our house so Kimberly can train at home."

The Tichy and Horak families are placing hope in Kimberly becoming an Olympic star. There's her progress as a Sokolice to watch in years ahead. There's an additional incentive for me, for in two more years Sokol Cechie celebrates its 100th Anniversary. There was a Tichy at its beginning, and, hopefully, a Tichy on its membership list at the end of the 100 years.

Stella Tichy, Sokol Cechie

Help Our Sokol Grow

Rostoucí Zájem o Rodinné Kořeny

Pozoruhodně zdramatisovaný rodokmen černošského spisovatele Haleho, vydaný knižně pod názvem "Roots" získal nejen Pulitzerovu cenu ale ve filmové verzi byl prostřednictvím národní televizní sítě C.B.S. spatřen více jak 20 miliony lidmi.

Co bylo zvláště pozoruhodné, že kniha a film "Roots" zanítala zájem o rodinné kořeny i mezi druhými národnostmi z kterých jsou Spojené státy složeny. - Dalo se očekávat, že tato horečka stihne i naši česko-slovenskou národnost. Bylo by omylem domnívat se, že tento zájem je omezen jen na ty starší. Pravdou je opak. Největší zájem přichází od příslušníků mladých generací. Každoroční výpravy do Československa jsou jedním z dokladů tohoto zájmu. Tam, kde v rodině dosud žije babička nebo dědeček, mají při pátrání po rodokmenu náskok. Vydátnou pomocí jsou staré "poklady" v opuštěných kufrech na půdě nebo ve sklepech a taková jediná rodinná v kůži vázaná bible s několika listy rodinných záznamů je ohromnou pomocí.

V prvních vlnách čl. emigrace do Ameriky Čechy, Morava a Slovensko byly částí rakousko-uherské monarchie a dalo se očekávat, že průměrný emigrant při vstupu na americkou půdu na dotaz jaké je národnosti, řekl jednoduše "Austriac" a to jej provázelo zjista až do hrobu. Teprve po 28. říjnu 1918 a zrození první republiky československé národní příslušnost byla správně registrována na "českou, slovenskou neb moravskou." Pátrání po rodokmenu nebývá právě snadnou věcí. V mnoha případech schází křestní listy a o ty nutno zvláště nyní po komunistické dominanci požádati čl. velvyslanectví ve Washingtonu které je za určitý poplatek v dolarech dostane od příslušného místního národního výboru. V dřívějších letech na to stačila fara v místě narození.

Z vlastní zkušenosti vím o určitých problémech při pátrání po rodinných kořenech. Vypomáhal jsem mnohým s překlady z nichž některé byly psány nemožným "švábachem" nebo za rakouského režimu v německém jazyku. Byly mezi nimi případy, kdy rod se datoval do druhého století z dob hrabat, baronů, rytířů a hradů. Návštěva Československa byla vždy nejvýslednější. I taková návštěva starého hřbitova poskytla potřebnou nitku která vedla k dalším objevům.

V naší velké rodině sokolské je pozoruhodný zájem o kořeny a letošní zájezdy do Československa dokazují, že zájem roste.

T. B. Hlubeček

* * *

"We inherit nothing truly,
but what our actions make us worthy of."

Chapman

In Memoriam

BRO. JOSEPH C. RIPA passed away December 26, 1976 at the age of 93 years. His wife, Bessie, passed away January 31, 1974. Bro. and Sis. Ripa were members of Sokol Wilber for over 20 years. They were members of a Beseda group, for they dearly loved music, dancing and singing. They were present at Sokol meetings and other Sokol activities. Wherever work was needed they were always willing to help. Their sons - Adolph and Irvin, presented Sokol Wilber with a clock for the auditorium in memory of their parents.

BRO. LEONARD CHALOUPKA passed away December 13, 1976, at the age of 87 years. He was a long-time member of Sokol Wilber - was very active as a member, attending all meetings. In his younger years he was active as a gymnast and in the gymnastic program.

SIS. ANNA MACHACEK passed away January 24, 1977, at the age of 94 years. She was active attending meetings, and loved working in the kitchen, always helping to keep it clean. Her daughters, Anna Brydl and Matilda Kratochvil, gave a cash donation to Sokol Wilber. The ladies in the unit are planning to purchase articles for the kitchen, that being sis. Machacek's favorite place to work at the Wilber Sokol Hall.

* * *

Honoring the memory of their mother, sis. Otilie Svarc, who passed away February 28, 1976, her children, Steve of Wilber, Frank of Crete, and Mollie Hynek of Endicott, Nebr., presented Sokol Wilber with a plaque honoring all past presidents of Sokol Wilber as a memorial honoring sis. Svarc.

* * *

On behalf of all the members, sincere sympathy is extended to the bereaved families. May our departed brothers and sisters rest in peace.

June A. Kucera, Secretary

Now Is The Time . . .

This is the time of endings,
but of new beginnings, too . . .

Another hope, another chance,
another road to take . . .

Another star to follow,
another start to make . . .

New beginnings, new adventures,
new heights to attain . . .

Golden opportunities
to work and build again . . .

New and higher aspirations,
for the future days . . .

Seeking, dreaming, moving on
down bright and better ways.

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With women it's tint;
with men it's t'aint.

* * *

Television is proof that people
would rather look at anything than
each other.

* * *

There's only one way to look thin.
Hang out with fat people.

* * *

If you want a place in the sun,
you must expect to be blistered.

* * *

After 65, each birthday is alike.
You just look forward to reaching it.

* * *

Doing nothing is hard work . . .
you can't stop to rest.

* * *

An optimist may see a light where
there is none, but why must the
pessimist always run to blow it out.

* * *

Any time you think you have
influence, try ordering someone
else's dog around.

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Svaz Svobodných Čs. Sportovců

Dlouhý Labor Day weekend v září tohoto roku bude krásnou příležitostí přijetí do výletního místa do Belcampu, Maryland, kde na pozemcích firmy "Bat'a" bude se konat XI. Sjezd Čs. Svobodných Sportovců v Zahraničí, dne 3. a 4. září, za účasti Sokolské Župy Východní a pod záštitou Aji Vrzanová-Steindlerové a čestného předsedy Josefa Malečka.

Budou soutěže v tenisu, golfu, volleyballu, kopané, plavání a lehká atletika. Přihlášky přijímá Luděk Jánský, 218 West 24th Street, Deer Park, New York 11729. V sobotu večer, 3. září, bude "Slavnostní Banket" a v neděli 4. září "Tanec Vítězů." Bude vydán Sjezdový památník.

Předseda Svazu Karel Fišer volá všechny sportovce a přátele slovy: "Jenom sport nám může otužit naše"

myšlení, naší tělesnou zdatnost a pevnou víru v lepší budoucnost." XI. Sjezdu ZDAR!

Zdeněk Pražák, taj. a tisk. ref.

Wilber Gymnast Named to Girls State

Sister Diane Maryska of Wilber, Nebraska, has been chosen by the American Legion Auxiliary Louis Milan Unit No. 101, to attend the 1977 Cornhusker Girls State, which will be held June 5-11 in Lincoln, Nebr. Sis. Diane, an active Sokol Wilber member and a willing worker serving on many committees, is also active gymnastically. She is a junior at Wilber-Clatonia High School, at Wilber, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Maryska, and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lumir Maryska, all of Wilber . . . and all active Sokol members!

June A. Kucera, Secretary

Congratulations! (Editorial Staff).

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