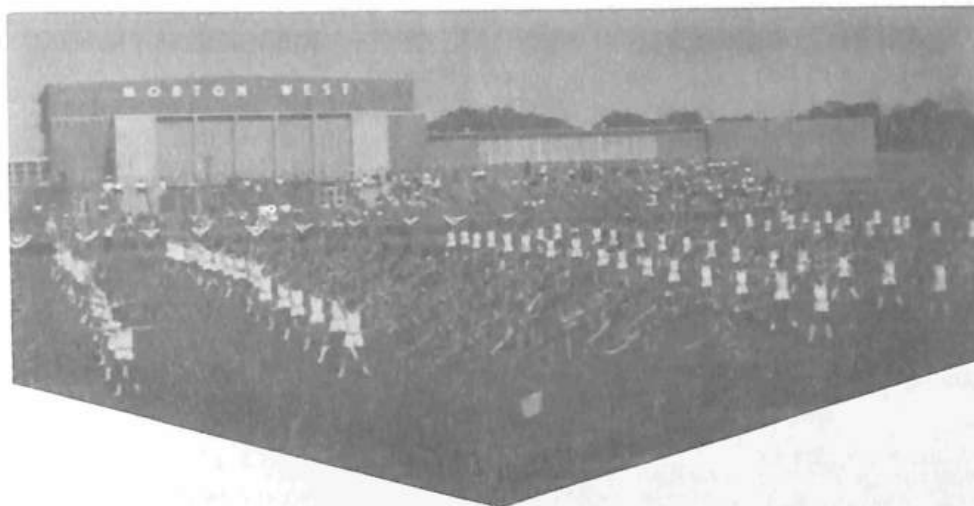


AMERICAN SOKOL

VOL. CXVIII - NO. 9

SEPTEMBER 1977

PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN SOKOL
Educational and Physical Culture Organization



This narration was written by bro. Walter Hosek of Sokol Zizka, Dallas, Texas for the XIV. American Sokol Slet Junior calisthenics, which were composed by bro. Jerry Milan and sis. Mary Jane Stoeppleman of Sokol Fort Worth, Texas. The narration was delivered by bro. J. Milan while the calisthenics were performed.

This performance was one of the highlights of the Slet! It was a moving - emotional experience for both participants and spectators. The Juniors were rewarded with a standing ovation!

Under suppression came on the horizon, Miroslav Tyrs, Founder of Sokol
Who instilled into the people an undying wish
To reawaken their pride, to take their rightful place among nations
With Patriotism, Democratic Ideals, and strength molding the Sokol Organization.

The Czech Sokols came across the sea
To America, the Land of the Free
From all walks of life inspired
To help build a strong and healthy nation desired.

Forever forward, they will always be remembered as bold
Their enduring courage can now be told
That their valorous labors
Made a nation of wonderful neighbors
Our destiny - yours to fulfill - you can, you must, we ask
For this monumental task . . .

We, the Youth of America, pledge ourselves to this illustrious history
of Sokol idealism, and to its new horizons
That this nation shall be healthy and strong
That there shall be justice, liberty, and dignity
Our fervent hope is - that America shall always be free and the Home of the Brave . . .

AMERICAN SOKOL

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EDITORIAL STAFF

6426 West Cermak Rd. Berwyn, Illinois 60402

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ASO.

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Tel.: 795-6671

Meetings: 4th Tuesday, except July and August,
at ASO Office.

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Calendar of Events

SEPT. 10 - A.S.I.
Beer Festival

SEPT. 11 - SOKOL DETROIT
Grape Festival
Sokol Camp

SEPT. 17 - SOKOL OMAHA
Centennial Dance
8:45 P.M. - Al Grebnick Orchestra.

SEPT. 17 - SOKOL STICKNEY
Las Vegas Nite

SEPT. 18 - SOKOL OMAHA CENTENNIAL
BANQUET
12:00 noon

SEPT. 24 - POLISH FALCONS
90th Anniversary Banquet-Dance
Pittsburgh Hyatt House
Pittsburgh, Pa.

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. 1 - SOKOL STICKNEY
Farmers Dance

OCT. 8 - SOKOL DETROIT
Hayride

OCT. 9th - SOUTH OMAHA SOKOLICE
Diamond Jubilee Celebration
South Omaha Sokol Hall

OCT. 15-16 - CENTRAL DISTRICT
Educational Dir. Conference
Sokol Stickney

OCT. 22 - SOKOL HAVLICEK-TYRS
Dinner Dance at
Sokol Brookfield

OCT. 22 - SOKOL BELCAMP
Harvest Festival
"Vinobraní"

OCT. 23 - SOKOL WOMEN OF LITTLE FERRY
"Pork 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

LOST and FOUND

Attention! All participants and those who attended
the XIV. ASO Slet, who left or lost articles while in
Chicago: Write the ASO Office. Identify the articles
and we will send them to you, you pay shipping costs. -
All unclaimed articles will be disposed of after Sept. 30.

AMERICAN SOKOL

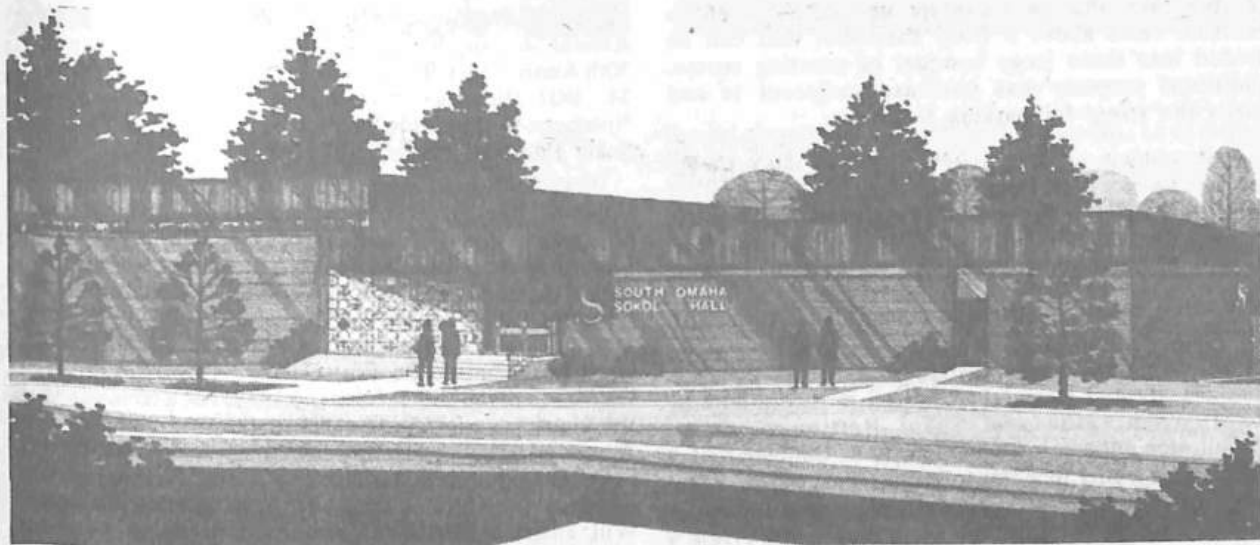
VĚSTNÍK AMERICKÉ OBCE SOKOLSKÉ

Ročník - VOL. XCVIII

September - 1977 - Zář

NO. 9

South Omaha Sokol



This artist's rendering shows the new Sokol Hall now officially opened in South Omaha.

The newest gymnasium in our Sokol family is not a new unit, but one that is 89 years in our organization, — Sokol Fuegner-Tyrs or better known as Sokol South Omaha.

The tragic fire of December 22, 1975 that totally destroyed their building, records, and archives, will be remembered as the end of an era and the beginning of a new one.

The weekend of August 12, 13 and 14 was one of celebration, of reflection, and dedication. A weekend that — after a little more than a year and a half of planning, building, and fund raising — the dedication of their new home was accomplished. It was a gala time for all!

Friday evening saw some 800 members and friends partake of a chicken dinner, and dance until the wee hours. Saturday was set with a more elegant note. A banquet where 250 Sokols and distinguished guests celebrated this special event. Governor J. James Exon, Senator and Mrs. Edward Zorinsky, Congressman John J. Cavanaugh, and a host of City and County officials were in attendance.

The theme of this night was the culmination of the efforts and dedication of the members of Sokol South Omaha in the rebuilding of their Unit. Entertainment was provided by the International Cultural and Folk

Dance Club of Sokol St. Paul, who exhibited various Czech and Slovak dances and some history of their costumes.

On Sunday an Open House and Gymnastic program was presented. All the gymnasts performed. First the children's classes showed their skills and then the Juniors and Seniors exhibited their prowess. The St. Paul Dancers again performed their steps, and intricate marching maneuvers were performed by Sokol South Omaha. The program was short and exceptionally well-performed.

Now came the ceremony of cutting the ribbon — which symbolized the opening and dedication of their new home. Senator Zorinsky, bro. Ed Pavoucek, President Western District, and myself were honored to cut the ribbon. Officially, Sokol South Omaha was born again!

Though the accent was on the new and the future, it is heartening to know and see that the Sokols of South Omaha took time in their Sunday program to reflect upon the past and to honor those Sokols who attained 50 or more years of Sokol service. It was a feeling of warmth to see these individuals receive that recognition of their devotion to our Sokol ideals. Congratulations to bro. Bud Benak, Chairman of Grand Opening Committee, and bro. George Buglewicz, Toastmaster on an exemplary performance and a fine week-end.

It was my privilege, on behalf of the Executive Board and our entire Sokol family, to convey the greetings and warm wishes of success to their future. It is times such as these that make us even more proud of our Czech ancestry and Sokol heritage — it is a time such as this that with even more pride we stand and declare — We are Sokols! Nazdar!

Roy Zitny, Pres. ASO

Editors note: The gymnasium is 110 ft. long and 60 ft. wide. The floor is cement and tiled. The gym is attached to a 90 ft. by 90 ft. section that is a hall, stage, kitchen, wardrobe, bar, and washroom facilities. The gym and hall are separated by folding doors so that the entire facility (gym and hall) can be utilized. The entire structure rests above a deep basement that can be divided into three large banquet or meeting rooms. Additional property was purchased adjacent to and across the street for parking facilities.

Eastern District

JUNE, 1977

Meeting called to order and presided by Bro. D. Otenasek, President.

Public Relations: Bro. Hesoun placed articles in New Yorske Listy and Hlasatel. Referred to exhibitions by Sokol Washington and Sokol Baltimore. Sokol Washington sponsoring an Operetta in October. Sokol Little Ferry plans to hold a Bazaar in October. Sokol Belcamp will hold a Spring Dance. Sent letter to Lawrence Welk attempting to correct Mr. Welk's statement that the Polka originated in Poland.

Correspondence: From ASO details of Assessment Fund reimbursement. — From Sis. Zraly requesting us to advise Units to send financial reports to Bro. Friedrich. This was done, however, some Units have new officers and transition was not made properly. — Sokol Miami Newsletter. — Sis. Elsie Novak, Sokol Philadelphia, stating they would not be represented at the Slet. Also received their List of Delegates to Annual Meeting.

Bro. Otenasek sent letter to Bro. R. Zitny expressing regrets on not being able to attend the Slet. Bro. Neuman, Vice Pres. appointed District representative during Slet proceedings.

Bro. Frank Novak reported on his recent trip to Florida and his visit to Sokol Miami and joining in their activities.

Bro. Otenasek asked Sis. L. Sain for report regarding request of Sokol Miami for monies from the assessment fund covering Junior Class Czech Dance instruction. Sis. Sain reported her three letters had gone unanswered. She informed Sis. E. Ruzicka by phone of the necessary information to be submitted.

Bro. M. Neumann advised Sokol Washington had not received District's share of the wreath for the Tomb of the Unknowns. Bro. Otenasek stated we had not received an invoice.

B. O. I. Report: Sis. L. Sain, Sis. A. Benda, on behalf of Sokol Little Ferry had written a letter to the ASO

regarding sponsorship of Sis. E. Garlicki at the World Games in Sacramento in Sept.

Slet: Sis. Sain reported plans were made for paper streamer to be waved by our District participants, (127), Miami 15, Baltimore 37, Belcamp 2, New York 22, Little Ferry 31, Fuegner 20.

Letter from ASO urging that all participants leave good impression at Slet with proper deportment at all times. — 5 Junior Girls will attend Course after Slet. Little Ferry 1, and Baltimore 4. Sis. Sain requested District approve \$100.00 reimbursement to the Unit for each student. Approved. Request forms from the Assessment Fund will be prepared. — No plans for Beginners Instructors course in our District. — District Annual Meeting hosted by Sokol Washington, Sept. 25. 30th Anniversary Banquet of Sokol Washington on Sept. 24. BOI Directors meeting on Sept. 24. — Special Numbers Competition hosted by Sokol New York and Sokol Fuegner in the Fall.

Discussion held concerning use of Sokol Camp for Courses. Biggest drawback, lack of a high shelter for apparatus. Also discussion of the possibility of an Eastern District Slet to be held in Baltimore. — Sis. Sain asked that Sis. E. Garlicki's scores be entered in the minutes. Placed 2nd in Hoop event; 3rd in Rope event; 4th All-around. Congratulations extended to Sis. Garlicki on being the first Sokolka from the Eastern District to reach this level since 1948. Motion made that the District support Sis. Garlicki in her future endeavors. Approved. It is hoped Sis. Garlicki will be able to display Sokol Emblem on her uniform. — Bro. Neuman asked whether Sis. Garlicki could perform at their Banquet. Will advise. — Sis. Sain presented expenses incurred by Directors and 1st Assistant Director during instruction class in New York and Fuegner. Approved. — Sis. Sain informed Bro. Neuman that Sokol Baltimore will be represented at their Exhibition by 4 women, some junior boys and girls, and 6 men.

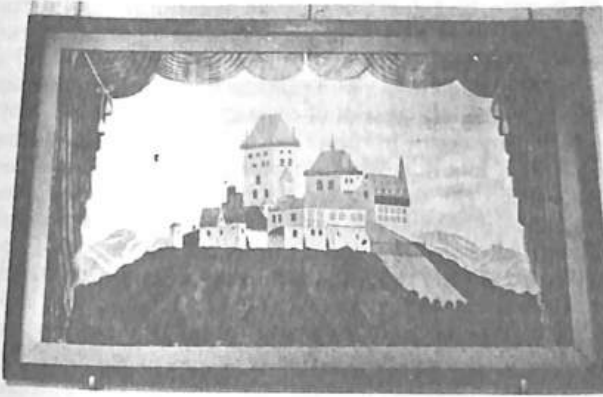
Bro. Friedrich, Treas., reported income of \$344.90, expenses \$494.89. Checking account \$2,220.08, balance \$7,604.07. — Sis. Friedrich, Fin. Secy., stated all Units have sent in their 1st quarter reports. Hopes all Units will send 2nd quarter reports before Sept.

Bro. Novak attended wreath-laying ceremony. Hopes for larger attendance next year.

Slet - Reminiscing

The Slet Exhibition Sunday afternoon was the GRAND FINALE, the culmination of efforts and preparations by so many individuals and groups that made the Slet possible. Participants came from all over the United States, Canada, and other countries. It was a hot sunny day, and the attendance was good. The various numbers beautifully performed in the 95 degree weather brought tears to the eyes of many a spectator, and will long linger in memory. Nazdar!

Don Pulkrab, Pres.
Sokol Cedar Rapids



Karlštejn Castle

Not far from Prague, Czechoslovakia, erected on a rock above the Berounka River, is Karlštejn Castle. It was founded in 1348 by Charles IV, king of Bohemia, Germany and Emperor of Rome. The architect was Matthias of Arras. The castle was intended as a treasury for both the Imperial coronation jewels and the collection of ritual objects. The interior decorations were made by Italian masters of the ending Gothic period. In 1422 the castle was besieged by the Hussites for seven months, however, they did not succeed in capturing it by force. The castle was rebuilt several times with the greatest restoration carried out in the 16th and 19th centuries.

This famous castle, a symbol of strength and endurance, has long been a favorite subject for many paintings in the Czech communities of America.

Frequently used on stage curtains in the early halls throughout the country, we have been indeed fortunate to secure one for our new home.

After reading an interesting article by Brother Nick Morris, the Supreme Lodge president, in the *Vestník*, telling of a stage curtain painting of Karlštejn Castle in



the old abandoned hall of SPJST Lodge No. 11 at Praha, Texas, Sister Henrietta Milan and the membership of SPJST Lodge 154 decided it should be preserved and that our new SPJST Lodge No. 154 building would be a fitting place for it. Approximately one and one-half years of correspondence with Brother Nick Morris and Brother August Jalufka, secretary of Lodge No. 11, took place.

Finally, a meeting was arranged to view the curtain which was painted in 1904 by F. S--sta. Surprisingly, the curtain was in very good condition. The curtain was purchased and Brother Jerry Milan, with sons Rome and Tal, carefully disassembled the curtain and loaded it for the trip to Fort Worth. It was a sad occasion to see it come down from the place where it had hung for 71 years, but knowing it would be restored and preserved for years to come seemed to justify the move.

Now the 12x15-foot framed painting hangs on the west wall of the main ballroom of the new home of Lodge No. 154, Fort Worth. It will be viewed by all as a tribute to those Czech pioneers who stood strong and endured the years so that we might live protected in Brotherhood and enjoy a wholesome and free democratic way of life.

Henrietta Milan
Sokol Fort Worth

An Active Senior Citizen

Rose Sramek, a senior citizen, has spent 13 years as a volunteer at Loretto Hospital, and, solely because life has been so good to her she wants to spread some goodwill in return. She has given the hospital 2,500 hours of her time, and fully expects to double the total before "calling it a day."

Rose retired in 1964 as a payroll supervisor, but immediately began looking for alternative non-paying work because she did not want the hours of leisure to hang too heavily on her hands. She delights attending to customers at the Gift Shoppe, and in doing little chores helping visitors pick "the right present for a particular patient." She explains her interest in volunteer work like this: "I have had a very happy and full career. I regret

nothing, and I have no complaint. Volunteering gives me the chance to say 'Thank you, life, for being so good,' and this is my way of expressing my appreciation."

Volunteering has its therapeutic side, she says, because it keeps the mind alert.

Among Rose's other activities, is her love for Sokol. She is a longtime member of Sokolice Havlicek-Tyrs, and it is this gymnastic activity "physical fitness through gymnastics" which has kept her going.

Every two years, Rose takes a short holiday in Europe. An American-Czech, she has relatives in the old country, and they are always eager for news of the United States. She enjoys the cultural differences of Europe, but admits that at the end of each trip she can hardly wait to get home and thank God for being an American. You don't realize what a privilege this is until you see the frustration of people without our passport.

ASO District Presidents'

JUNE 23, 1977

Meeting called to order by bro. Roy Zitny, Pres.

Present: Bros. E. Halik, Central Dist., E. Pavoucek, Western Dist., H. Srsen, Northeastern Dist., M. Neumann, V. P. Eastern Dist., and sis. L. Nekuda, Pacific Dist., B. Prener, I. Vice Pres. ASO., E. J. Schnabl, Secy. ASO. Guests: Sis. B. Pavoucek, Sokolice South Omaha, bro. E. Nekuda, Sokol Los Angeles, bro. F. Kalivoda, Pres. Sokol Detroit, bro. E. Stetka, Sokol Baltimore, bro. J. Hesoun, Pres. Sokol Belcamp.

Pledge of Allegiance given, — a moment of silence observed in memory of our departed Sisters and Brothers. Bro. Zitny welcomed all to the XIV. American Sokol Slet.

Bro. Hesoun presented bro. Zitny with a medallion from Sokol Belcamp, in appreciation for his leadership. Also presented sis. Prener and Schnabl with secretarial planning portfolios.

Bro. Zitny asked sis. Nekuda for brief report of activities in Pacific District. Most active unit is Sokol Los Angeles, some activity in Fresno and some reorganization necessary at San Francisco. Perhaps an Instructors Course could be planned with teachers from the ASO. Have had no correspondence from Seattle after many futile attempts.

Bro. Zitny read mail-gram from bro. Ralph Perk, Mayor of Cleveland, and member of Sokol Greater Cleveland, extending greetings and best wishes for successful XIV. American Sokol Slet. — Letter from Yugoslav Sokol in the Free World expressing wishes for successful XIV. Slet. Letter from bro. Jan Waldauf, Czechoslovak Sokol Abroad, advising the charter flight from Europe was cancelled due to economic reasons. Delegation from Canada will be present to celebrate our Slet. — Proclamation by Hon. Henry J. Hyde, Illinois, to House of Representatives, appears in the Congressional Record. Copies given to members present.

Bro. Pavoucek reported on Western Dist. They have no problems, only opportunities to improve themselves. Sokol Minneapolis is a social group, as is Sokol Karel Jonas. Sokol Wilson has very few young people. Both units at Cedar Rapids are very active gymnastically and socially. — The building of Sokol St. Paul has been proclaimed a National Monument. Sokol Omaha is doing very well and graciously allowed Sokol South Omaha to use its facilities after their tragedy. Bros. Jim Hartung and Phil Cahoy performed as Sokol gymnasts in South Africa. Will appear on "Wide World of Sports." Sokols Crete and Wilber are quite active. Sis. J. Hamann and bro. B. Benak have held instructors courses. Sokol South Omaha was able to work out at a local High School gym at no charge. Meetings were held in an old church. Grand Opening festivities scheduled for Aug. 12-14, 1977. Hope to start a unit in Lincoln, Nebr. Tried to get something going in Denver, but was unsuccessful. District has conducted courses to have qualified people for the ASO Course.

Bro. M. Neumann reported for Eastern Dist. Have 11 units, only 4 are active: Sokol Little Ferry, Belcamp,

Baltimore, and New York. Sokol Washington, D. C. not as active gymnastically, but conduct operas and are active politically. Request Editorial Staff be careful of articles printed in our publication. Bro. Neumann made special note of "Rostoucí Zájem o Rodinné Kořeny" which appeared in June issue. It was noted that members look for different points of view. Bro. Zitny mentioned the resurgence of ethnic pride among our young people and cited bro. Jim Hantak's proud words about his heritage which appeared in the Chicago Tribune. He is a member of Sokol Brookfield. — There has been correspondence regarding a proposed new Unit in New York. Plans being formulated for Eastern Dist. Slet.

Bro. H. Srsen, Northeastern Dist. Have 4 areas: Detroit, Toledo, Cleveland and Pittsburgh. Toledo and Pittsburgh inactive, but pay their dues. Bro. F. Kalivoda, Pres. Sokol Detroit, stated they have strong leaders in their Units and were happy to have hosted the last Convention. Cleveland area — 2 units merged to form Sokol Greater Cleveland, and Bohemian National Hall is being renovated. It has been declared an historical landmark. The value of A.S.I. property has risen. Cultural groups are active and Czech speaking lessons are being offered. Sokol Cleveland Cech-Havlicek voted against merging with other two units. The Cleveland Civic orchestra played and practiced at Bohemian National Hall due to its fine acoustics.

Bro. E. Halik, Central Dist. Six active units in area, also Sokol Milwaukee, Wis., and Sokol St. Louis, Mo. Some inactive units do work within the District. The Chicagoland Sokols, composed of Sokol Havlicek-Tyrs, Chicago, Slavsky, and West Suburban, are trying to purchase property. Extensive remodeling is being done by units who own their own buildings: Sokol Berwyn, Tabor, Stickney, and Brookfield. St. Louis has a new building and has added to it.

Membership Drive: Bro. Zitny reported statistics of gains and losses of membership in each District. We have lost members since the Convention (107). Many potential members are hidden in the associate memberships. We should try to get them as full-fledged members. Try harder to get qualified and active members. Should diversify and have things of interest for everyone. Educational Directors and Membership Chairmen should work together.

By-Laws: Bro. Zitny. How well were the new By-Laws received by members? Printing and mailing cost \$4,843.00. Everyone felt it was worthwhile. Districts should conduct sessions discussing By-Laws with Units in preparation for District Presidents Conference. Bro. Zitny suggested having qualified persons working for the organization, some positions should be appointive rather than elective, such as Treasurer and Financial Secy.

Sis. Schnabl reported correspondence and phone inquiries show a new awareness of Sokol rules and regulations. Finer interpretations requested. Bro. Zitny felt the Presidents Conference should have more authority and the Executive Board should be looked at in a new light. This authority should reach down to District and Unit Presidents. This should be studied and recommendations given to the next Convention.

Publication: Sis. B. Prener reported our two-color format started in honor of the Bicentennial. September 1977 issue will be one-color, blue. About 6,000 copies are printed. We are over-budget allowed by Convention. Question brought up — should District minutes be published. Consensus was they should be, and recommendation they be sent to the ASO Office as soon as possible to keep current. Suggestion, the September issue contain changes in Unit and District Officers.

Luncheon served at 1:30 p.m. with guests sis. V. Zitny, G. Srsen, and bro. J. Babinec in attendance.

Meeting reconvened at 3:10 p.m.

Discussion: Bro. Zitny — the matter of ASO Budget. Our deficit spending as authorized by last Convention, is not good for any organization. We deplete our reserves over the years, and will, undoubtedly, have to increase dues to the ASO inasmuch as costs have already increased.

VIII. Sokol USA Slet: We have no information on Slet to be held in 1979. They have no site as yet. Sokol USA expects ASO to live up to its obligations and support them. After considerable discussion, bro. Halik moved that Sokol U.S.A. release us from our commitment, as we must go along with our own plans: seconded and passed. The Southern District had offered to hold a Mid-Slet at our last Convention. Bro. Pavoucek stated Sokol South Omaha is interested and has offered to host the Mid-Slet as well. Any financial aspects to be worked out later. A firm commitment cannot be made at this time.

The District Presidents Conference will be held January 27, 28, 29, 1978 in Chicago area. Bro. Pavoucek moved invitation be sent Unit Presidents to attend at their own or Unit's expense. They may take part in discussions, but only District Presidents have right to vote; seconded, passed — one opposing vote.

Schools: There seems to be too much emphasis on self-improvement rather than teaching "how to teach." Some students come to courses with wrong attitude. Suggested each unit start training its people and adhere to Sokol system of teaching.

Special Assessment Fund: Allocations were read. This fund can be used for Organizational Work. It is necessary to have all substantiating papers attached to Tentative Report form (yellow), and the Final Report form (green). Forms obtainable from A.S.O. B.O.I.

Bro. Zitny thanked all present for attending these profitable and useful discussions, and adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Championship Winner

Our men's championship winner, Chuck Graham, was presented with a special award, and Olympic Wreath, placed on his head. This by special permission, with the wreath flown in from Washington, D.C. The presentation was made by ASO President, bro. Roy Zitny. We are very proud of bro. Graham, who also was the Iowa State High School Champion for 1976.

Don Pulkrab, Pres.
Sokol Cedar Rapids

ASO Executive Board Meeting

JULY 26, 1977

Meeting called to order by bro. R. Zitny, Pres. Present: sis. B. Prener, E.J. Schnabl, A. Sotka, S. Pistorius, bro. R. Svoboda, G. Basta, F. Lebloch, S. Barcal, E. Schnabl, J. Jindra. Excused: sis. M. Ptacek, L. Zdenek, bro. G. Simonek and J. Rabas.

Minutes received from Northeastern, Southern, Eastern, Central, Pacific, and Western Districts.

Correspondence received was answered or referred to proper personnel.

Reports: Bro. Zitny thanked Dir. of Women and Dir. of Men for very fine Slet. Complimented them and their committees for excellent work accomplished.

B.O.I. Dir. of Women sis. M. Ptacek. Thanked everyone for cooperation, confidence and encouragement. Recommends Championship Div. be held at Morton West to avoid spectators on gym floor. Attended Course graduation. Tentative date District Directors Conference set Oct. 28, 29, and 30, 1977 at Ft. Worth, Texas. - Presented complete list of competitors Junior Girls and Womens events; also list of participants in Sunday afternoon program. Presented bill for 4 Women's Volley Ball referees at \$27.50 each. Approved.

B.O.I. Dir. of Men bro. P. Lebloch. Expressed appreciation for cooperation rendered by everyone for the Slet. Received very thorough report from bro. C. Kalat regarding Tabulating Dept. Advanced Instructors' School had 37 students; conducted class on structure and functions of National B.O.I. - Final Report form: Central District for Folk Dance instruction \$1,200.00, substantiating papers included. Sis. A. Basta moved it be paid. Presented bill for \$120.00 for Volley Ball referees for Men and Junior Boys. Approved. Bill for \$22.32 for poles used at Slet Folk Dance. Sis. Basta moved this be paid from Slet Account. Approved.

Membership: bro. R. Svoboda. Report was presented at Slet Banquet. Total membership showed decrease of about 50 members since the beginning of latest Membership Drive. About 150 (decrease) since last Convention. Discussion followed on how to gain and keep new members.

Educational: bro. S. Barcal. No meeting, no report. Meeting with new members scheduled shortly. Central District will be conducting Educational Directors (Unit) Conference October 15-16.

Publication: sis. B. Prener. July-August issue at printers and a number of pictures from Slet included. Sept. through Dec. 1977 issues will be printed in blue ink. A number of articles and correspondence received.

Publicity: sis. S. Pistorius. Handled much material for Slet. Copy given A.S.O. was excellent. The Pictorial Section or Magazine Section of the Chicago Tribune will carry extensive section on Sokols, to be

issued August 28th. Recommended that we obtain 100 copies to distribute to Units, Districts, and participating organizations. Sent "thank you" letters for publicity given. Has folders with all articles, - will make similar one for Czech publicity articles. Thanks members for cooperation and privilege.

Organizational: sis. A. Basta. Wrote gentleman in Pierre, S. Dak., no answer received as yet.

Financial Secy.: sis. A. Sotka. May and June Financial reports prepared. Filed 2nd quarter Federal and State Tax reports, annual report with Illinois Attorney General. Attended A.S.O. Instructors Course graduation and luncheon with bro. Sotka. - Slet receipts and disbursements are not all in, therefore, financial reports not compiled yet. Awaiting final billing from North Central College for the Course, and from Morton High Schools for Slet. - Maintenance agreement Pitney-Bowes postage meter due. Bro. Barcal moved rental was for duration of Slet, and that it be cancelled. Passed. - Sis. Sotka will write "Hlas Naroda" regarding their bill. Bro. Jindra presented bills for film, car rental for a photographer, and a wide angle lens rental. Approved.

Treasurer: bro. G. Basta. Agreed with sis. Sotka's figures. Presented second quarterly report comparison, currently working on a two-year financial statement. Stated their were fewer spectators than at previous Slet.

Uniform Division: sis. B. Prener. Working on inventory. Sales good, but now slow after Slet; accounts payable fully paid. Sis. Basta added many sales were handled in days before Slet - persons getting things last minute. Also that Canadians save about 30 percent duty this way.

Vice President, Office: sis. B. Prener. The Bohemian National Cemetery advised letter regarding Box Seats for Slet arrived late, but they donated \$100.00 to the A.S.O. Worked at the Slet Exhibit. Expressed appreciation to all who helped in setting up and in taking down the Exhibit. Has arranged for office floor to be cleaned.

Secretary: sis. E.J. Schnabl. Appeared on T.V. program with sis. Pistorius and a number of local youngsters. Worked closely with B.O.I. - Office machines serviced - helped at Instructors School for 2 days - with sis. Ptacek and Simonek sorted B.O.I. material. - Acknowledged donations to Future Sokol Leaders Fund. With bro. Schnabl attended Instructors School graduation and luncheon.

Sis. Zabka's and Provaznikova's book. Decided that sis. Schnabl handle in same manner as Sokol Song Books. Cost \$6.00 each, plus postage or U.P.S. charges. Bro. Barcal moved sis. Zabka be paid quarterly. Passed. Sis. Schnabl will write sis. Zabka for approval.

President, bro. R. Zitny. In close touch with office. Handled many Slet matters. Was at Instructors School almost daily. Attended graduation and luncheon with sis. Zitny. Was guest speaker at Bohemian National Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremonies. Attended wake of Slovak brother who passed away suddenly during

our Slet. Appreciates all work done by everyone to make this XIV. American Sokol Slet the best ever.

Discussion: District Presidents Conference held during the Slet. The official Presidents Conference will be held January 27-29, 1978 in Chicagoland area. Decided that Unit Presidents will be invited to attend and partake in discussions, but not be allowed to vote, - attendance at their own or Unit expense.

Bro. E. Schnabl thanked everyone on behalf of Sokol Berwyn for sanctioning the Farewell Bar-B-Q and for their cooperation and attendance. - A special meeting to view Slet pictures scheduled for Wed., August 10th, 7:30 p.m. Final Slet meeting will be held pending bro. Basta's completion of Financial report. - Next regular meeting to be held Tuesday, Sept. 27.

Attention, All Shutterbugs!

We are in the process of gathering pictures of various Slet events to put into a pictorial album of our XIV. ASO Slet. Pictures can be in black and white, or color, any size - taken of the Competitions, parade, calisthenics performed at the Sunday afternoon program, banquet, exhibit, interesting groups of people, action pictures, Awards Night.

Your help with this project will be appreciated. Send pictures to Mr. James Jindra, American Sokol Organization, 6426 W. Cermak Road, Berwyn, IL 60402. Pictures will be returned upon request.

SOKOL EDUCATOR

The Battle of White Mountain

The story of the great Czech tragedy brought on by the Battle of White Mountain can well be told at this time. On November 8, 1620, on a hill about three miles from the city of Prague, the Catholic forces led by Maximilian of Bavaria, defeated the Protestant forces of Bohemia and Moravia, led by King Frederick of the Palatinate, son-in-law of the English King. Frederick was newly crowned king and his Protestant sympathies, which brought him to the throne of Bohemia, also dethroned him. His short reign brought him the title of the "Winter King." After the disastrous battle of White Mountain he was forced to flee Bohemia.

His troops went into battle with empty stomachs and were therefore hardly a match for the well-fed Catholic troops exhorted into action by the zealous Jesuit monks. The Protestant soldiers fought bravely for freedom of their faith, but they did not long hold out against the mighty Catholic army. They were overwhelmed and forced to flee for their lives. The Czechs lost their

AMERICAN SOKOL

SOKOL GYMNAST

SEPTEMBER 1977

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

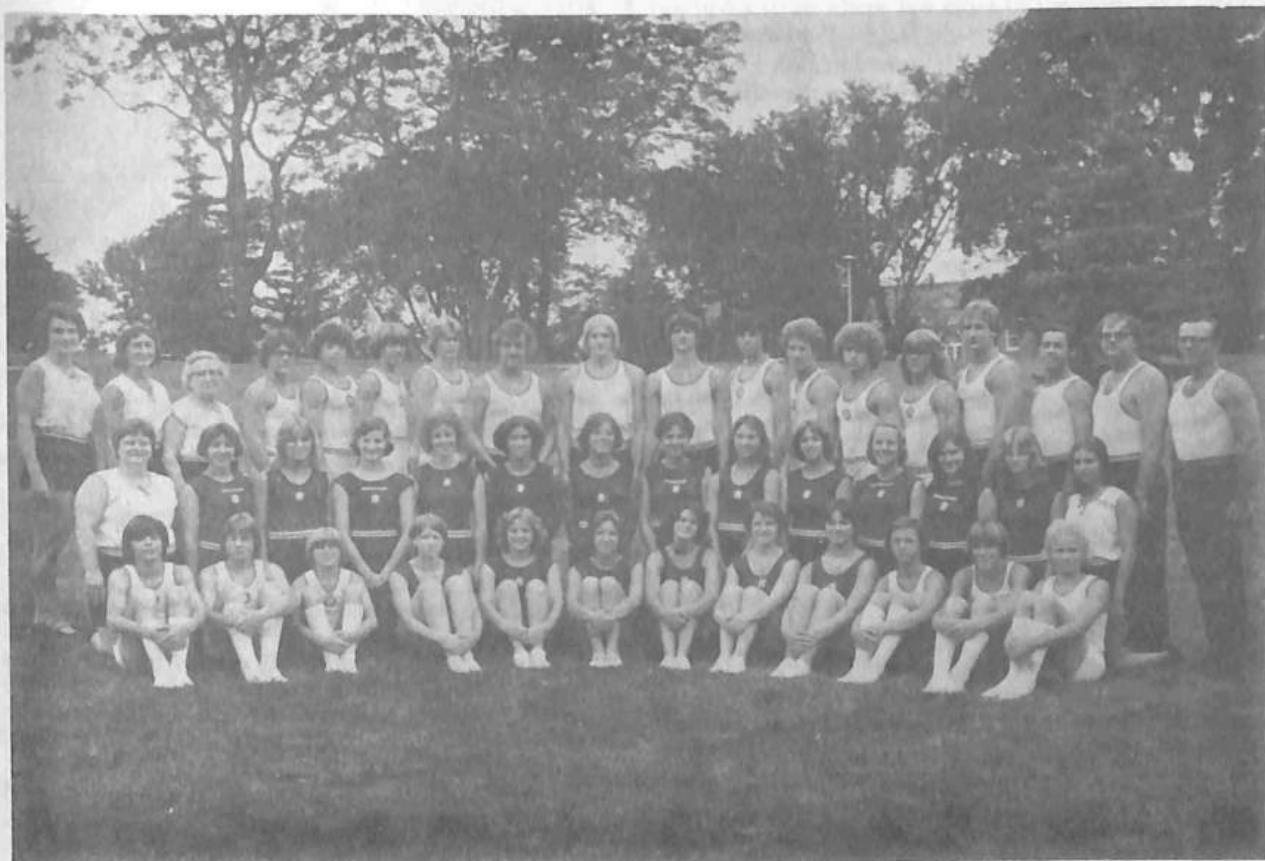
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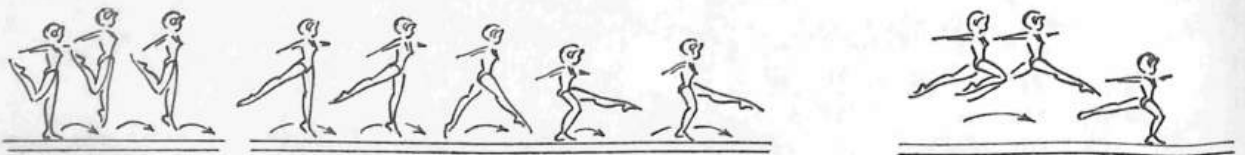
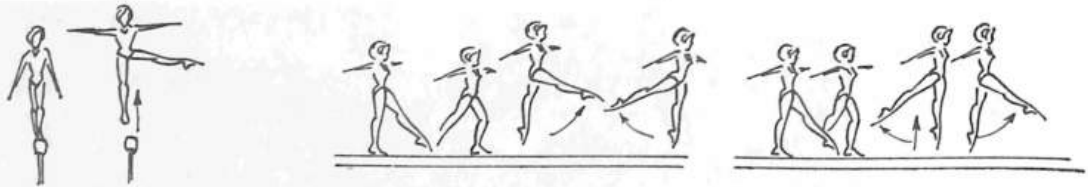
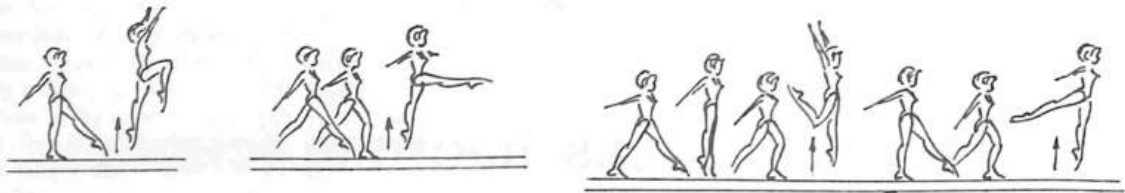
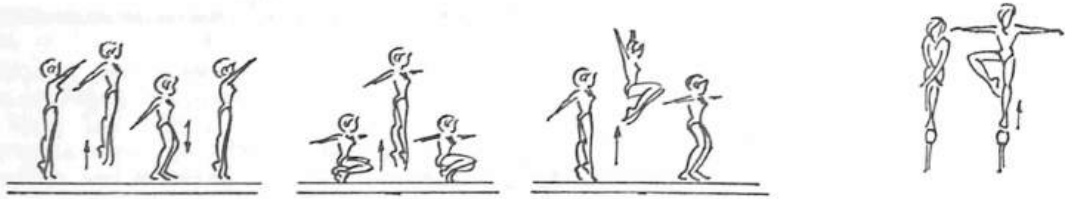
NATIONAL SOKOL INSTRUCTORS SCHOOL

North Central College - Naperville, Illinois



Instructors (ext. left) last row: Sisters Jolene Hamann, Norma Zabka, Marie Provaznik. (Ext. right): Brothers Frank Michalek, Jerry Milan (School Director), Bud Benak.

Leaps, Jumps, Turns for Balance Beam



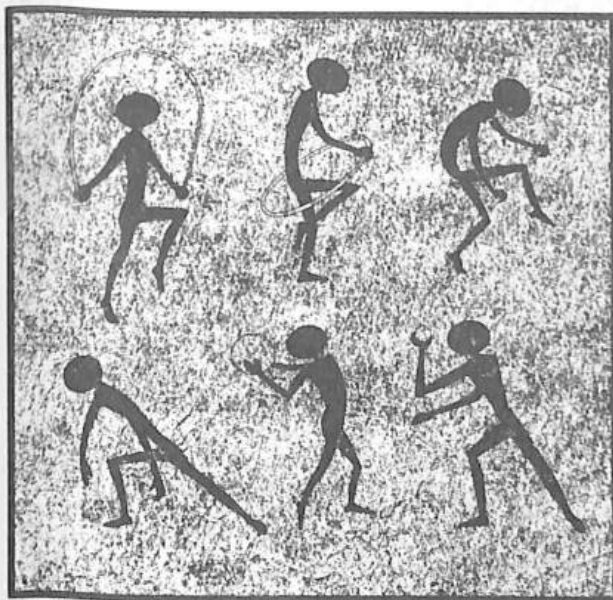
Illustrated on this page are various leaps, jumps and turns that can be used for beginners and advanced gymnasts on the Balance Beam.

Gymnastic Activities With Hand Apparatus

MARIE PROVAZNIK
NORMA B. ZABKA

GYMNASTIC ACTIVITIES WITH HAND APPARATUS

for Girls and Boys



A textbook, *Gymnastic Activities with Hand Apparatus*, based on the principle of the Sokol System, is being offered to our Sokol Instructors for assistance in teaching classes. The authors, Sisters Marie Provaznik and Norma B. Zabka, have collaborated on the book and is an outgrowth of a lecture-demonstration prepared for the Association of Women in Physical Education in New York State at a New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Annual Convention. - The subject of the lecture demonstration was "Calisthenics" with and without hand apparatus. The pages have full illustrations and are an elaboration of the use of hand apparatus for young girls and boys. This text is available from the American Sokol office for the sum of \$6.00 plus postage.

Olympic Games Spreading Out

The International Olympic Committee took the first step toward spreading the Olympic Games around instead of concentrating them in one city.

It agreed in principle to the Games, from 1988 onwards, being awarded to a country rather than a city. This changes one of the fundamental principles on which Baron Pierre de Coubertin founded the modern Olympic Games 80 years ago.

But the country playing host to the Games can still be expected to name one city as a base for the Games.

Lord Killanin, president of the IOC, said in an interview: "This opens the door to spreading the Games. But we will consider each application individually and on its merits. We don't want to spread the events too much."

"A city that hosts the Olympic Games could possibly have the boxing in another city nearby, for example. But we aim to have the final events in all sports in the host city itself."

Spreading the Games has been widely suggested as a solution to the problem of growing costs, which have reached a stage where few cities in the world can afford to put them on.

In other developments, the 50-kilometre walk, one of the traditional events of the Olympic Games until it was omitted at Montreal last year, is to be restored to the program.

In deciding this, the IOC over-ruled its program commission, which had recommended against restoring the long walking race.

It also turned down the commission's proposal for the addition of modern or rhythmic gymnastics to the schedule, an event that would have meant an additional 100 or 120 competitors in the Olympic Village.

The IOC, however, agreed to some increases in the number of athletes. It approved the addition of two extra weight categories in judo and one extra category in weightlifting.

A new 10-kilometre event in biathlon was approved for the Winter Games.

But the IOC was firm in rejecting other proposals for enlarging the Games. Among suggestions turned down were:

Archery - three competitors instead of two from each country in each event.

Volleyball - 20 teams instead of 18.

Cycling - restoration of the tandem event.

Speed Skating - four competitors instead of three from each country in each event.

Skiing - a 20-kilometre cross-country race for women.

**AMERICAN SOKOL SINGS!
GET YOUR COPY NOW**

CENTRAL DISTRICT COMPETITIONS

1st CLASS BOYS COMPETITION

JUNE 4, 1977

Place	Name	Team	Score
1.	Slavsky 1		240.45
2.	Stickney		212.75
3.	Tabor		209.50
4.	Slavsky 2		207.25
5.	Berwyn 1		198.15
6.	West Suburban 1		198.00
7.	West Suburban 2		174.35
8.	Berwyn 2		173.55
9.	West Suburban 4		157.00

Individual		Unit	Score
1.	Michael Mongello	Slavsky 1	51.40
2.	Larry Wirack	Salvsky 1	49.75
3.	John Quinn	Salvsky 1	48.80
4.	David Sojka	Slavsky 1	47.30
5.	John Kmet	Tabor	46.10
6.	Andrew Janopoulos	Stickney	45.60
7.	Dino Vitalo	Salvsky 2	44.60
8.	John Janopoulos	Stickney	44.35
9.	Charlie Laka	Slavsky 1	43.20
10.	James Vondra	Stickney	42.85
11.	Steve Winslow	Tabor	42.20

9 teams - 59 individuals

Chuck Borvansky - Meet Director

SECOND CLASS BOYS COMPETITION

Place	Team	Score
1.	Slavsky	578.9
2.	West Suburban	569.1
3.	Stickney	563.4
4.	Tabor	522.9
5.	Berwyn	513.6

Individual		Unit	Score
1.	J. Koniewicz	Slavsky	123.7
2.	J. Russell	West Sub.	122.2
3.	F. Koniewicz	Slavsky	122.1
4.	L. Klepek	Stickney	121.0
5.	Sc. Jindra	West Sub.	119.3
6.	J. Cannan	Stickney	119.1
7.	W. Zimmerman	Stickney	118.3
8.	D. Jenkins	Tabor	117.1
9T	M. Heltmach	West Sub.	115.8
9T	M. Kotynek	Slavsky	115.8
10.	F. Hanzlik	Berwyn	114.4

5 teams - 34 individuals

HIGH DIVISION

Place	Team	Score
1.	Stickney	244.3

Individual		Unit	Score
1.	R. Nasti	Stickney	126.6
2.	R. Vachata	Stickney	117.7
3.	Dale Vladic	Berwyn	96.3

1 team - 3 individuals

Dan Vladic - Meet Director

FIRST CLASS GIRLS - LOW DIVISION

Place	Unit	Score
1.	West Suburban 1	782.4
2.	Slavsky 1	753.7
3.	West Suburban 2	751.8
4.	Tabor 1	737.0
5.	Berwyn 1	731.5
6.	Stickney - 1-P	731.0
7.	Stickney 2-S	730.5
8.	West Suburban 3	687.4
9.	Berwyn 2	684.0

Individuals		Unit	Score
1.	Becky Blamer	West Sub. 1	153.2
2.	Stefanie Kubik	West Sub. 1	152.9
3.	Lisa Jenkover	West Sub. 1	152.4
4.	Cindy Kalal	Tabor 1	151.0
5.	Debbie Johnson	West Sub. 1	150.9
6T	Carolyn Payne	West Sub.	149.9
6T	Diana Bartkovicz	Salvsky 1	149.9
6T	Nicki Evangelist	Slavsky 1	149.9
7.	Kim Lesmeister	West Sub. 2	149.8
8T	Diane Kral	West Sub.	148.4
8T	Kim Vrba	Stickney 2	148.4
9T	Kristie Smoger	West Sub. 2	147.6
9T	Kathy Pajer	Slavsky 1	147.6
9T	Laura Kucera	West Sub. 1	147.6
10.	Kathi Kostilancik	Stickney	147.4

68 competitors - 9 teams

FIRST CLASS GIRLS - HIGH DIVISION

Teams		Score
1.	Slavsky 1	493.3
2.	West Suburban 1	481.0
3.	Tabor 1	472.7
4.	Slavsky 2	468.6
5.	Tabor 2	459.6
6.	Berwyn 1	456.1
7.	Tabor 3	450.0

Individuals		Unit	Score
1.	Maria Mongello	Slavsky 1	156.5
2.	Leigh Willenborg	West Sub. 1	155.0
3.	Laura Tuggle	Slavsky 1	154.4
4.	Amy Strauss	Slavsky 1	154.1
5.	Suzy Wirack	Slavsky 2	151.5
6.	Leann Speta	West Sub. 1	151.4
7.	Joyce Zitnik	Tabor 1	151.3
8.	Monika Remec	West Sub 1	149.1
9.	Colleen Schroeder	Tabor 1	147.7
10.	Karen Klinder	Berwyn 1	147.0

28 individuals - 7 teams

EllenJeanne Schnabl - Meet Director

freedom and Protestantism perished in Bohemia, and from it also started the Thirty Years' War, which turned central Europe into three decades of carnage and plunder. One third of the entire population of central Europe perished.

This "ideological" war had its beginning two centuries earlier, when Jan Huss, the leading Czech professor at the University of Prague, and also in charge of the Bethlehem Chapel, adopted the doctrines of the English theologian John Wycliffe, and began an unrelenting fight against the immorality of the clergy and the people, and against the parasitical corruption of the Catholic Church.

Because of his religious views, Jan Huss was confirmed a heretic and condemned to death. He was burnt at the stake on July 6, 1415, just outside the town of Constance, on the banks of the River Rhine. His spirit lived on and the Czech Hussites, who did not hold strictly to a complete uniformity of views, but, nevertheless, united as "Warriors of God," took up his cause, and fought for church reform.

Following the death of Jan Huss the country was ruled by an autonomous government, composed of Bohemian nobles and burgesses. Then followed a long period during which the country was in the hands of royalty. Though most of the kings selected to rule were from Catholic German, Polish and Austrian royal families, and constantly clashing with the governing Bohemian and Moravian nobility, still, Bohemia managed to hold a fairly large measure of religious freedom.

The war for religious freedom also had its roots in the teachings of Martin Luther of Germany. This movement which swept over central Europe reached and affected the Czechs. It broadened and developed them intellectually and helped to bring about a better religious understanding between the Hussite Czechs and neighboring nations.

The religious leniency of the Catholic kings was not lasting. When Ferdinand I, in the early part of the 16th century came into power, he became a stern opponent of all non-Catholic movements. At this time the Reformation was sweeping Europe and Ferdinand I fought fiercely against it. This caused bad feelings between him and the Protestant nobles. The feeling was intensified during the reign of the two succeeding kings, who were under the influence of the Pope of Rome. The break between the Catholic ruler and Protestants came in the year of 1610. The Bohemian people not able to regain the religious liberty of which they had been gradually deprived, arose in open revolt against Emperor Matthias.

On May 23, 1618, William Slavata and George Martinic, two of the Emperor's lieutenants, during the session of a dramatic council, were seized by the Protestant nobles and hurled from windows of the castle of Prague. It was the traditional Bohemian treatment given traitors. They met tragic deaths for having advised Emperor Matthias to defy the Protestant nobles and resist all attempts at a compromise.

The day after this act, which is known in history as the "Defenestration of Prague," a revolutionary government was organized which consisted of thirty Directors

selected from the Bohemian Estates. A large army was formed to protect this government, and it fought consistently against the forces of Emperor Matthias, until his death in the year of 1619. The Directorate of Czech nobles then selected as their king the luckless Frederick of Palatinate, who ruled for barely a year and was forced to flee Bohemia, after his defeat at the Battle of White Mountain.

The battle of White Mountain brought about the downfall of the Czechs and their complete subjugation to Hapsburg rule. Ferdinand II, who was elected Emperor of Germany in the year of 1620, was also acknowledged as the reigning King of Bohemia. The defeated Czech nobles were severely punished by him. A year after the tragedy of White Mountain, twenty-six nobles and burghers, participants in the rebellion, were led forth from their imprisonment and executed in front of the Old Town Hall at Prague.

King Ferdinand II, destroyed the manifest of King Rudolph II, son of Maximilian, which gave religious freedom to the people in the year of 1609. He drove out all the Protestant and Lutheran ministers and burnt their churches. He then told the Protestant people to accept the Catholic faith or leave also. All Bohemian books and literature were confiscated and burnt. Any Czech unlucky enough to be found in possession of a Bohemian book was declared a heretic and consequently met death by hanging. "Better a deserter than a country full of heretics," stated King Ferdinand as his reason for persecuting the Czechs. The Bohemian tongue grew speechless from disuse and the culture of the people declined.

In the year of 1627, a degree was issued by the Hapsburg Emperor which forbade non-Catholics to live in Bohemia. This inclusive act forced 36,000 families of Czechs to abandon their homeland.

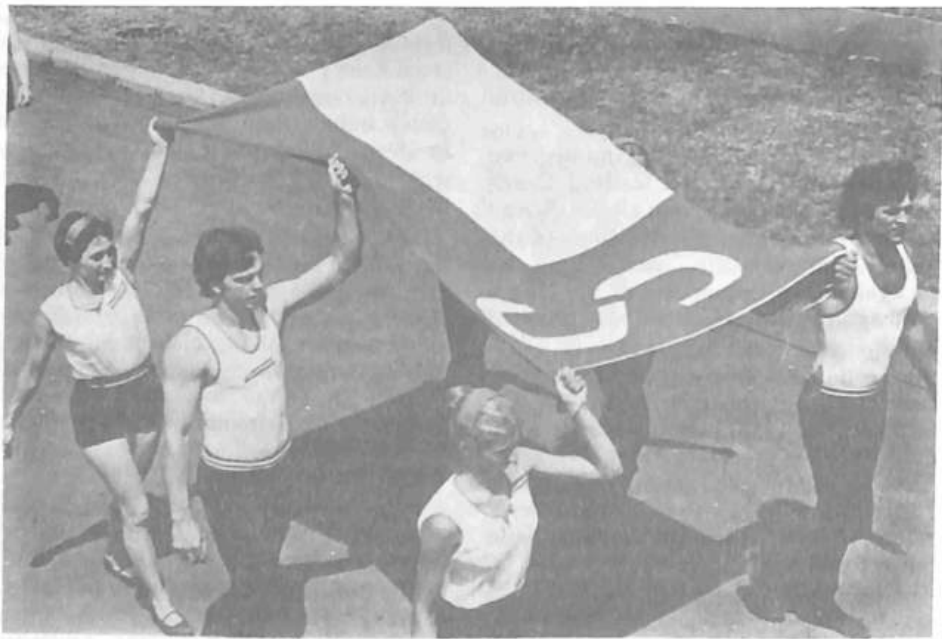
The war ended in the year of 1648, and by that time the despoiled Czechs had become completely re-Catholicized. They were completely debased. The Czech language was no longer taught in the schools, and it disappeared from public life. The peasants used it in their homes and preserved it. The national pride of the people was broken, and they stopped wearing their colorful native dresses.

The realization that it could happen again was the reason why the Czech people cried, "The Battle of White Mountain" shall not be repeated in the days the Nazi war machine was growing strong. It was the reason they submitted to a take-over by the Nazis, when no help came from France and Britain. Then the Russians came to liberate them in 1945. They came as liberators and stayed as conquerors.

Today, government, church and movement of the people is controlled by the Communists. Czechoslovak borders are surrounded by electrically charged wire fences and under police surveillance. The word Sokol has disappeared from the Czechoslovak vocabulary, replaced by the word Spartakiad.

Stella Tichy
Sokol Cechie

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XIV. ASO Slet...



XIV. ASO Slet . . . An Observation

She was aged and gray, just a bit of a thing slowly making her way to the local bus stop . . . alone, on the way to the Slet.

Her folded umbrella served a dual role on this festive day for her. It supported her feeble frame and later would protect her from the sun or possible rain.

As she neared the admission gate bedecked in flag bunting, the sign read: "WELCOME SOKOLS." She fumbled in her old and worn coin purse and purchased her ticket with crumpled bills.

With careful gait she wended her ways into the stands . . . her simple straw hat protecting her from the sun's rays. The crowd gathered and grew as she made her way through the assemblage and found a place to sit.

Settling herself, she waited in eager anticipation for the Slet program to begin . . . perhaps the last one for her. Would she meet any oldtime friends? It could be they were too infirm to make the trip, or maybe . . .

She proudly stood to the strains of the Star Spangled Banner and moved her lips in song, "Oh, say can you see . . ." Tears rolled down her cheeks as the haunting Czech anthem "Kde Domov Muj?" reminded her of the heritage of her distant homeland.

Tiny in stature, but proud in heart and determined in spirit . . . remembering years gone by . . . when she, too, donned her serge "bloomers" with red-trimmed blouse . . . she marched, competed, and sang "Lvi Silou" in jubilant mood amidst stirring Sokol activity. Now she dwelled on precious memories.

She envied the youthful formations in the field, their lives ahead of them, their memories "to be."

The program progressed with precision drills, colorful dances and exciting exhibitions.

Then, it was over.

It was a glorious day for her. Homeward bound after a tiring day, she reminisced about her younger days . . . the fun-filled bus trips to and from the Slet, the thrill of Soldier Field, the Czech costumes and songs, the youthful joy and warmth of being among Sokol brothers and sisters, and yes . . . the fleeting romances of "once upon a time." Treasured memories.

Dear little lady, your loyalty is what gives true meaning to our avowed declaration: "UPWARD AND ONWARD." Long may you bask in your memories. We salute you, NAZDAR!

M. M. Bruno
Sokol West Suburban

Unit Financial Secretaries

Reminder - Have you sent in your quarterly reports to your respective District, and to the American Sokol Organization? Please check your records. All second quarter reports should be filed.

Nebraska Czech Queen



Sis. Diane Maryska of Wilber, Nebraska, has been selected to reign as Miss Nebraska Czech Queen for 1977 at the Miss Nebraska Czech Queen Contest held at the Wilber Czech Festival, Saturday, August 7th. Seven queens competed for the title, each representing a chapter of the Nebraska Czech, Inc.

Sis. Diane is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willard L. Maryska, and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lumir Maryska, all of Wilber. All three generations of the Maryska family are active in T.J. Sokol Wilber. Sis. Diane is an active member of the Sokol Gym.

For her talent she read a Czech poem and played a Czech selection on her piano accordion. She styled and made her own Czech dress.

In the above picture, Diane is being crowned by last year's queen, Lynn Satorie of South Omaha Sokol.

Sis. Diane was presented with a \$100.00 savings bond, entry fee to the Miss Nebraska pagenat, a crown and a bouquet of red roses. Miss Angeline Thompson of Omaha presented each of the queen contestants with a garnet necklace.

June A. Kucera, Secretary
T.J. Sokol Wilber

Congratulations, Diane! (Editorial Staff).

XIV. ASO Slet Souvenirs

If you were not able to come to the Slet, and you would like to have a fine memento of the XIV. Slet, we have souvenirs available. Attractive Sokol ceramic plates, also ceramic Sokol mug, and clear glass mug which carries our Sokol Crest. A handy gym bag to tote various articles (for men, women, juniors and children). Belt Buckles for men and junior boys. Patches and some charms. All these items make nice gifts. Do your Christmas shopping early. Write the American Sokol Organization, 6426 W. Cermak Road, Berwyn, IL 60402.

Financial Report

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION

JULY 1977

RECEIPTS:

Dues	\$3,027.75
T. J. Masaryk Dues	24.00
Dividends and Interest	476.49
Advertising in "American Sokol"	360.00
Resale of Jewelry and Plaques	32.55
Sale of Songbooks and Manuals	85.50
Membership Kits	4.00
Postage	6.21
Donations	200.00
	<u>4,216.50</u>
A.S.O. Uniform Division - Payment toward Advances	1,077.27
American Sokol Organization Instructors School	2,942.66
Total Receipts	\$8,236.43

DISBURSEMENTS:

Administrative

Salaries	\$565.76
F.I.C.A. & F.W.T. for June	147.18
I.W.T. - 2nd quarter 1977	57.47
Janitor Service, Rental, Phone, Electric	450.36
Office Supplies	20.03
Rental of Mailing Machine and Postage Meter	106.99
	<u>\$1,347.79</u>

Board of Instructors

Salaries	\$351.15
F.I.C.A. & F.W.T. for June	69.98
I.W.T. - 2nd quarter 1977	30.59
Editor "Sokol Gymnast"	30.00
Travel Expense	270.42
	<u>752.14</u>

Educational Department

I.W.T. - 2nd quarter 1977	\$ 2.49
	<u>2.49</u>

Sokol Publication

Editor "American Sokol"	\$100.00
	<u>100.00</u>

Miscellaneous

A.S.O. Uniform Division - Salaries, F.I.C.A., F.W.T., I.W.T., Phone	\$495.80
Advances to A.S.O. Slet Committee	81.56
Advances to A.S.O. Instructors Course	2,744.67
Special Appropriations - Central District A.S.O.	1,200.00
Northeastern District A.S.O.	158.76
	<u>4,680.79</u>

Total Disbursements \$6,883.21

Balance brought forward:
Western National Bank of Cicero -
Checking Account

\$8,598.12
8,236.43

16,834.55

Disbursements - July 1977

6,883.21

\$9,951.34

FUTURE SOKOL LEADERS FUND

July 1977

In memory of br. Anton Pudich - Louis and Alice Matura	\$ 10.00
Thomas and Ellen Zak	10.00
In memory of sis. Anna Zajicek - Charles and Josephine Krusina	10.00
Joseph and Ludmila Kaminsky	10.00
Sokol Hopkins	10.00
In memory of sis. Sylvia Hruza - Charles Placek Family	100.00
Frank J. and Antoinette Pelich	5.00
Edward Stetka	10.00
	<u>165.00</u>
Dividends Earned	214.44
	<u>\$379.44</u>

Donations are tax exempt



**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

Sokol Day

On Sunday, July 24th, Sokol New York held its annual "Sokol Day" at Camp Sokol. The Camp is located in the beautiful Connecticut River valley community of East Haddam. Camp Sokol was purchased in April of 1921, and is now in its 56th successful season as a gathering place for Sokol members and friends during the warm summer months.

Preparations for "Sokol Day" were in full swing for weeks before and Saturday, July 23rd, was no exception. Most of the committee were busy in the kitchen cooking and baking while others tidied up the Camp grounds.

All workers were up at an early hour on Sunday as final preparations were attended to. At 10:00, our chartered bus, filled to capacity, arrived from New York City. Other members and friends came by car. Fresh coffee and homemade houska awaited all arrivals.

With Bro. Lardy Hudecek handling the music and Bro. Walter Slavik leading the gymnasts, the formal program began at 11:00 A.M. After the flag raising, all in attendance participated in the singing of the National Anthems — Star Spangled Banner, Kde Domov Muj and Nad Tatrou Sa Blyska. Bro. Vlasten Cihak, master of ceremonies, welcomed all and spoke of our Czech heritage and traditions. A moment of silence was observed for the late Bro. William Pribil, longtime Camp Treasurer and worker, who suffered a fatal heart attack while attending the Chicago Slet in June. A short gymnastic program was presented in which the junior girls and women performed on the balance beam and the men joined them for tumbling.

Shortly after noontime a delicious dinner — liver dumpling soup, roast pork, dumplings and sauerkraut, coffee and homemade cake — was served by the kitchen staff. About 120 visitors ate their fill with many helping themselves to the ample second portions.

After dinner, many of the visitors entered the egg throwing and water balloon contests, some joined in the volleyball games while others just relaxed in a friendly atmosphere with their families and friends.

As with all good things, the day ended much too quickly. The bus departed at 6:00 P.M. with most other guests leaving shortly thereafter.

A great big thank you for a job well done goes to Camp Chairman Bro. Stanley Mergl and his committee — especially the kitchen staff — Bro. Joe Kubat and Sisters Irene Mergl, Pat Babor and Bea Cihak. Thanks are also due Sisters Mirka Jurnik, Dorothy Hudecek and Norma Zabka, who successfully handled the raffle sales. Last, but not least, our gratitude is expressed to the gymnasts of Sokol New York and Sokol Fuegner, who participated in the program and helped with the dinner serving and clean-up.

Nazdar!

Bro. Ed Babor

Help Our Sokol Grow

Congressional Record — Senate

In line with the American policy on Human Rights, the following proceedings made by Charles H. Percy, U.S. Senator (Illinois), appear in the Congressional Record of Aug. 1, 1977:

Soviet Occupation of Czechoslovakia

Mr. Percy. Mr. President, we shall soon mark the anniversary of the fateful events of August 21, 1968, when Soviet-led armies of the Warsaw Pact occupied Czechoslovakia and brought to an end the Czechoslovak experiment in liberalization. It was a sad day for the peoples of Czechoslovakia and for the cause of freedom.

Now, 9 years later, the peoples of Czechoslovakia are still deprived of the blessing of liberty. This situation is especially distressing to those of us who in our youth came to revere the names of Masaryk and Benes, and for those of us who are aware of the constructive citizenship of the Czechs and Slovaks in this country.

It is important that Members of Congress take note of this anniversary and speak out, so that the plight of Czechoslovakia will not be forgotten.

In Memoriam Mary Hrach

Our Honorary Member, sis. Mary Hrach passed away July 12, 1977 at the age of 86. Mary, or Marenka, as we called her, was a dedicated Sokol member and gymnast in Cleveland, Ohio for many years, and is remembered by the oldtimers there. She joined our unit in the early 1950's, and again became active. She also joined Stara Garda, and drilled with us until about 1970, when her arm bothered her, and she gave up calisthenics. Her cheerful disposition, her kindness to all of us, made her a favorite with young and old, as she never knowingly hurt anyone.

Five years ago she underwent two major surgeries, followed by two strokes, and a year later entered a convalescent hospital in Reseda. Mary took it all in her "stride," never complained, was satisfied with what life dealt her. Her holiday "svatek" as she called it, was when someone from the Sokol family visited her — alas — human nature being what it is — also aversion to hospitals — very, but very few visited. She asked about everyone, was interested in Sokol internal affairs till this spring, when again she underwent surgery. As if she had not gone through enough, life dealt her another blow — her only son George died. Then her spirit was broken, she became weaker, and finally her kind heart gave up. She was buried beside her husband in Inglewood cemetery.

Let us remember "our Mary" as she was in life, always smiling, always happy. And, in her memory, let us not forget our old and sick members while they are still with us, while they still can enjoy our company.

Louise Nekuda



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* * *

The straight and narrow path
would not be so narrow if more people
walked it.

* * *

Success usually comes to those who
are too busy to look for it.

* * *

It isn't necessary to blow out the
other person's light to let your own
shine.

* * *

The person who knows everything
has a lot to learn.

* * *

Courage is not the absence of fear,
it's the mastery of it.

* * *

Instead of putting others in their
place, put yourself in your place.

* * *

Today's extravagance becomes to-
morrow's necessity.

* * *

An unusual child is one who asks
questions that his parents can
answer.

* * *

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