

AMERICAN SOKOL

VOL. C - NO. 4

APRIL 1979

PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN SOKOL
Educational and Physical Culture Organization

"100 YEARS - PUBLICATION
SOKOL AMERICKY"



Second Class Postage Paid at Berwyn, Illinois

Office: 6426 W. Cermak Rd., Berwyn, Ill. 60402

AMERICAN SOKOL

ISSN: 0003-1259



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

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION
6426 West Cermak Road, Berwyn, Illinois 60402
Subscription: \$3.00 per year

EDITOR - JACKIE KOURIM
388 Shenstone Road Riverside, Ill. 60546

Copy for publication must be received by the
10th of the previous month

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ASO.

EllenJeanne Schnabl, Secretary
6426 W. Cermak Rd. Berwyn, Ill. 60402
Tel.: 795-6671

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President - ROY ZITNY
I Vice President - BETTY PRENER
II Vice President - RUDOLPH SVOBODA
Secretary - ELLENJEANNE SCHNABL
Financial Secretary - AGNES SOTKA
Treasurer - GEORGE BASTA
Director of Men - PAUL LEBLOCH
Director of Women - MARIE PTACEK
Educational Director - STANLEY BARCAL
Editor - JACKIE KOURIM
Public Relations -
Czech - JERRY RABAS
American - SYLVIA PISTORIUS
Organizational Director - ANN BASTA
Executive Board - EDWARD SCHNABL,
JAMES JINDRA, LORRAINE ZDENEK
Alternates - GEORGE SIMONEK,
WILLIAM MEYER, RICHARD VACHATA

Calendar of Events

- APR. 1 - SOKOL CLEVELAND-CECH HAVLICEK
Pork and Chicken Dinner
- APR. 7 - SOKOL STICKNEY
Sokol Exhibition
- APR. 8 - SOKOL MINNESOTA - CZECH
CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL - Jill Maybery, Flute
- APR. 28 - SOKOL BERWYN
Las Vegas Nite
- MAY 3 - SOKOL DETROIT
Teen Club Spaghetti Dinner
Sokol Cultural Center
- MAY 5 - CLEVELAND SOKOL DANCERS
at International Ball - University of Pittsburgh
- MAY 5 - SOKOL WEST SUBURBAN
Sokol Exhibition
- MAY 13 - SOKOL MINNESOTA - CZECH
CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL - ORCHESTRA
- MAY 18 - SOKOL MILWAUKEE
Graduation Program
- MAY 18 - SOKOL MILWAUKEE
Sokol Exhibition
- MAY 19 - CENTRAL DISTRICT AT SOKOL TABOR
Morning - 2nd Class Girls' Competitions
Evening - Special Number Competitions
- MAY 20 - SOKOL ST. LOUIS
Sokol Exhibition
- MAY 20 - SOKOLICE MILWAUKEE
80th Anniversary Banquet
- MAY 26 - CENTRAL DISTRICT AT
SOKOL WEST SUBURBAN
1st Class Girls' Competitions
- MAY - SOKOL DETROIT
Annual Rummage Sale
At Sokol Cultural Center
- JUNE 2 - CENTRAL DISTRICT AT
SOKOL TABOR
Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics
Competitions for Jr. Girls and Women
- JUNE 3 - NORTHEASTERN District Slet
AMLA - Cleveland
- JUNE 7 and 9 - CENTRAL DISTRICT AT
SOKOL TABOR
Junior Girls' and Womens' Competitions
- JUNE 9 - CENTRAL DISTRICT AT
SOKOL BROOKFIELD
Junior Boys' and Men's Competitions - Morning
Evening - Awards Nite
- JUNE 10 - CENTRAL DISTRICT SLET
Riverside-Brookfield Stadium
- JUNE 15 - SOKOL BERWYN
Junior Boys' and Men's Invitational
Tag Team Apparatus Competitions
- JUNE 24 - SOKOL DETROIT
Summer Exhibition - Sokol Camp
- JUNE 28, 29 and 30, JULY 1, 1979 - SOKOL U.S.A.
XVIII Slet and Competitions at Lehigh
University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
- JULY 13, 14, 15 - SOKOL DETROIT
2nd Annual Ethnic Festival Yack Arena
in Wyandotte, Michigan
- NOV. 16, 17 and 18 - SOKOL MILWAUKEE
Holiday Folk Fair

AMERICAN SOKOL

VĚSTNÍK AMERICKÉ OBCE SOKOLSKÉ

Ročník - Vol. C

April - 1979 - Duben

Číslo - No. 4

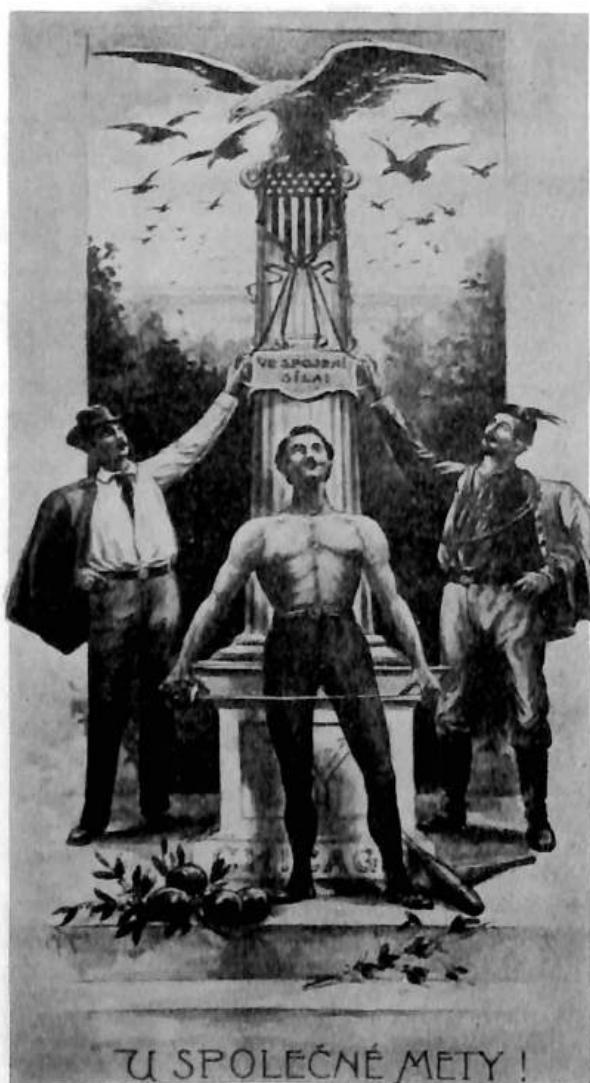
SOKOL AMERICKÝ

ČÍSLO 3.

ROČNÍK XXVII.



Ke dni 30. dubna 1905



Jak v hnízda svá na strmých skalinách
se bystří sokolové slétají,
by ukázali rozmach perutí
a zostřili své spáry v další boj - -
tak snesli jejich zemští druhové
svou lásku bratrskou a nadšení
do české metropole západu,
a odhodlanost' pevná zračí se
v radostné tváři bratří, sester všech
Vari, z cesty!
Slyš ten hlas:
"Chci!" - žít bude
národ zas.

Jsou vznešené to věru ideje,
jež nepsali jsme na své prapory,
však v sílu vlastní třeba spolehat.
Kdo v nebe zří, ztad pomoc čekaje
za humny svými dole zabloudí,
kdo odhodlaně v před se ubírá,
na pravo nehledí, ni na levo,
za pravdy stále zárnou pochodní,
ten s očí nikdy neztratí svůj cíl.

Vari, z cesty!
Slyš ten hlas:
"Chci!" - - a ze tmy
bude jas.

My dobro k vůli dobru konali,
ni zisk, ni slávu necheem pro sebe
a služba naše, věru poctivá,
už čačíná nést sladké ovoce;
však mnoho práce ještě před námi,
k níž Herkulových sil je potřeba
a šiky naše dosud každý zvlášť'.
Nuž spojme se! a jako lavina
překážky všechny hravě smeteme.

Vari, z cesty!
Slyš ten hlas;
"Chci!" - - nuž chtějme,
bude Svaz!!

ASO Executive Board Meeting

February 27, 1979

Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, February 27, 1979 at 7:35 p.m. by the President, Bro. Roy Zitny. Minutes of the following Districts were received and copies were distributed to the Board members: Pacific, January 3; Eastern, January 14 and February 11; Western BOI - February 12; Southern - January 25, 1979.

Correspondence: Request from Sis. A. Sula, Secretary of Sokol Karel Jonas for information on the initiation dates of all their members. She was sent the roster and information available. Bro. C. Rendla, Western District by-laws committee chairman returned the 1970 copy of our own constitution and by-laws. Reservations made for Bro. and Sis. Zitny to attend the Pacific District and Sokol Los Angeles 70th Anniversary and District exhibition at the end of May. We are taking advantage of the 30-day advance reservation super-saver policy. Sokol St. Louis was sent 100 membership application blanks. Text for the ad and check sent to the Western Fraternal Life Association for their souvenir program book at their XIX National Convention to be held in August, in Oklahoma City. Letter received from the Pacific District inviting the Executive Board members to their banquet and District Slet scheduled for Sat., May 26th and Sunday, May 27th. Made reservations for Bros. Zitny, Basta and Lebloch, again to go to Dallas, which was cancelled once more due to bad weather. Received copy of the February 15, 1979, Congressional Record from Mr. Frank Annunzio, U.S. House of Representatives, 11th District of Illinois, which was in commemoration of the 115th Anniversary of the founding of the first American Sokol Unit. Southern District will have an exhibition at Sokol Karel Havlicek, Yukon, April 8th. They are also requesting information from the Organizational Committee. Copy given to Sis. A. Basta, chairman for answering.

Director of Women: Sis. M. Ptacek: The Southern District will hold a volleyball tournament August 11 and 12 at Corpus Christi. Will hold an advanced instructors' course after that. Will have the District library at Sokol Karel Havlicek-Borovsky, Ennis. Information regarding the Sokol USA Slet will be in the Gymnast. Thanked Sis. Basta for translating "How to Teach Calisthenics" which will be published in the Gymnast. Final report forms: Eastern District for gymnastic clinic held Nov. 24-25, 1978, at Springfield, Mass., eight students - \$648.43. Western District for USGF Congress held in Oklahoma City, Sept. 29 thru Oct. 1, 1978, with 4 students - \$730.78; Cedar Rapids Unit Director who attended the District Directors' Conference in Omaha, Oct. 20 and 21, 1978, - \$134.00; Sokol Judges' Clinic held April 22, 1978 in St. Paul, 2 instructors, 22 students - \$241.74; U.S. Gymnastics Safety Association Certification Course held May 13, 1978 at U. of Nebraska, Lincoln, 4 students - \$266.00. Sis. Basta moved that these be paid from the Special Assessment; seconded, passed. Through various conversations with officers and members of Sokolice Renata Tyrsova, possible date of the XIII ASO Convention could be June 15th thru the

18th and the BOI would convene on Friday, June 13th. After some discussion, Sis. Basta moved that it be held these days; seconded, passed. \$3.02 postage due to Sis. Pistorius. Sis. Schnabl moved that it be paid, seconded, passed.

Director of Men - Bro. P. Lebloch: Report was read by Sis. M. Ptacek, which was generally the same as shown above. Request from Sokol Detroit that a Masters Division be held in both the Men's and Women's Divisions. Spoke at the graduation ceremonies of the Central District Beginners' Course. Bro. J. Vrzalik, Director of Men, Eastern District visited the February meeting and then Sokol Berwyn's Men's class. Sis. Emilie Ruzicka, Sokol Miami called the office twice - sending greetings to all and stating that they have about 60 people every Monday for exercises; they have a choral group; a minuet group which performs for various functions and a group that conducts educational activity at significant times during the calendar year.

Editorial - Sis. J. Kourim: Report read by Sis. Schnabl. The March issue is in the final proof-reading. Presentation was made of the proposed Sokol seal to be used as a fund-raiser. It is difficult to obtain someone to do the printing and more difficult for someone to do the perforating. Sis. Ptacek moved that it be a red seal on white background; seconded, passed. The Sokol monogram is one of the old-fashioned, beautifully etched ones with "100 Years - Publication Sokol Americky" curved in two lines over the top. We will ask Sis. Kourim to get prices for 5,000 sheets and 7,500 sheets and then the officers will discuss the matter before going ahead.

Czech Publicity - Bro. J. Rabas: Articles regarding local unit exhibitions and the annual meeting of the Central District as well as the Chicagoland Sokol Building Assoc. installation of officers put into the Hlasatel.

English Publicity - Sis. S. Pistorius: Had an article appear in the Suburban Trib section of the Chicago Tribune which resulted in many calls. Long-awaited article in the Venture Section of the Chicago Tribune should appear shortly. Sent thank you letters to the Life Newspapers and Chicago Tribune for past articles and pictures and future cooperation. Will send articles to the papers regarding the 100th Anniversary of our Sokol Americky publication. It was suggested that she try to get it into the Tribune as well.

Organization - Sis. A. Basta: Will contact the Northeastern District requesting results of their ads in the Pittsburgh newspapers to revitalize Sokol Rip.

Financial Secretary - Sis. A. Sotka: Prepared the January, 1979, Financial Report, copies of which were distributed to the Board members. Ran across a problem with the affixed labels of our publication. The matter will be rectified with the Cicero-Berwyn Press. Reinvested a Certificate of Deposit in a 6-month certificate. Discussion was held regarding the subscription rate of our American Sokol publication. It was decided to let it stand, as there are not that many; however, any Canadian subscriptions will be asked for in United States currency.

Treasurer - Bro. G. Basta: Presented a budget comparison through December 1978 which is 42 months of the 5-year term to the next Convention or 70 percent of

the way thru the original budget. It shows quite graphically that the surplus funds are greatly depleted because of the way the budget was set up for deficit spending as well as because of the increase in prices of many items, such as postage, printing and other supplies.

Uniform Division - Sis. B. Prener: Orders are increasing due to exhibitions; still searching for new sources of supply for gymnastic slippers. Mailed the new 1979 price list to units, Sokol USA and the DA Sokol - still subject to change without notice. Having trouble keeping an ample supply of women's blouses on hand, primarily due to personal problems of our seamstress. Rental of office space for February and salaries for January paid.

Secretary - Sis. E.J. Schnabl: Prepared January minutes, distributed same and handled all correspondence. Acknowledged Future Sokol Leaders' Fund donations. Ceiling has been "fenced off" with a piece of plastic stapled there with one hole to funnel all drips into one container. Thanks Bro. Schnabl for fixing a faucet. Talked to Sis. Dagmar Fiala, Educational Director of the Eastern District and a member of Sokol Washington, DC., regarding Associate members and rights and duties of all members. Am researching material for the Northeastern District which is trying to track down a US Savings Bond the District received in 1962 or 1963 as a prize from a membership drive. Was reminded that we sell none of our goods, such as chalk, handguards, slippers and leotards to anyone but Sokol members, a policy set by our CPA. Still having trouble with our copier and still trying to get the problem solved. Prepared and proof read two sets of the Officer's Rosters which are due to appear in the March issue of our publication.

President - Bro. R. Zitny: Has been in contact with Sis. Petrzalek, Sokolice Renata Tyrsova regarding the convention dates. Has been in touch with Bro. Maca, President of the Southern District regarding the next ASO Slet in 1981. Installed the officers at the Chicagoland Building Association.

Old Business: Pitney Bowes and the United States Leasing Co., have both been informed that we wish to terminate our lease for the mailing machine as of May 30th, 1979, per our original contract. Amendments to the Sokolice South Omaha's by-laws. Review made by Sis. Prener - she states that they incorporated the changes suggested by Bro. Schnabl and now finds everything in order and recommends approval. They will therefore be signed and returned. Answer received from the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences in America, Inc., that they would welcome the American Sokol Organization as members. We will write them for details.

New Business: Bro. Basta reported that Mr. Robert Seldon, CPA will be in the office within the next week to audit our 1978 books and hopes to have a full report to present in the March meeting.

There being no further business, Bro. Zitny thanked those attending and all for their reports. Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Nazdar!

E.J. Schnabl, Secretary

Czechoslovak Radio Program in New York - 45 Years

The American-Czechoslovak people in the states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts, with their patriotic American-Czechoslovak organizations which are in all parts of the above mentioned states are very proud to have the pleasure to enjoy listening to their own radio program. This program has many hundreds of thousands of other listeners of Slavic origin. The Poles, Ukrainians, Yugoslavians, Bulgarians and Russians also are regular listeners. And large numbers of Americans, Germans, Austrians, Hungarians, and many others listen to this program. They don't understand the Czech or Slovak language but the melodic, lively music is pleasant to listen to.

The regular broadcast is on every Tuesday and Wednesday from 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. The station is WPOW AM 1339 KC on radio dial. Address: Czechoslovak Radio Program, 305 East 40th Street - 15M, New York, NY 10016. Telephone (212) 426-1879. It is the only program in the western world which broadcasts in Czech, Slovak and English languages.

The program has a long tradition. For 45 years it has been on the air. It is the oldest ethnic radio program in the United States of America. This occasion will be remembered on Sunday, April 1st, 1979 at the "Astorian Manor", 25-22 Astoria Blvd., Astoria, L.I., N.Y. starting at noon. The Czechoslovak Radio Program is a lively program which serves the community life by announcing the organizational affairs, news, public announcements, interesting family announcements with beautiful music.

The director of this program is Mr. Jan Petlicka, who is known as an official in many American-Czechoslovak clubs, well known gymnastic organization Sokol, a local sport club and official of the Czechoslovak Sportsmen in the Western World. He came to this country in the year 1951. He left his homeland in 1948 and lived in England, Holland and Germany. During the Second World War he was for 4 years detained as a political prisoner in the Nazi concentration camps. Mr. Jan Petlicka is a Czech announcer on the program. The Slovak announcer at the present time is Bohus Rapos.

The Czechoslovak Radio Program will live so long as the sponsors, listeners and friends will give it full support. All the Czechoslovak people are proud that their languages and songs are on the air in this wonderful city and other states.

Copy for Publication

**MUST BE RECEIVED
BY THE 10th OF
THE PREVIOUS MONTH**

AMERICAN SOKOL

SOKOL GYMNAST

APRIL 1979

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

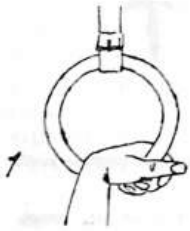
CENTRAL DISTRICT INSTRUCTORS' COURSE



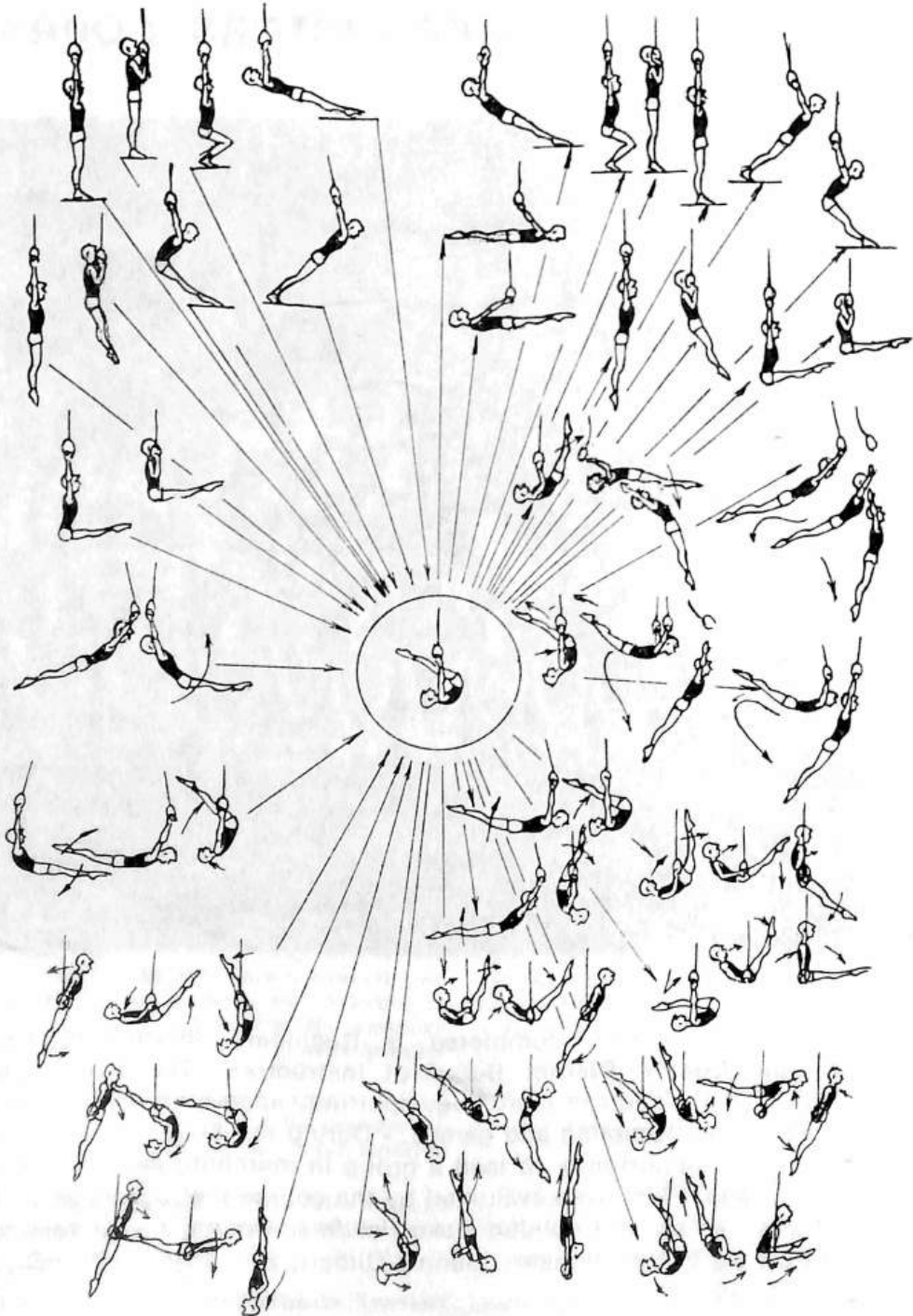
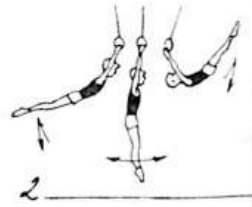
Forty-two gymnasts recently completed a Beginners Instructors Course sponsored by the Central District Board of Instructors. The two sessions consisted of basic instruction in marching, spotting, apparatus and calisthenic terminology, warm-ups, tumbling and games. - During the second session, each student was given an opportunity to lead a group in marching and conducted a regulation Sokol class. They were evaluated by the course instructors as to their various capabilities as up and coming Sokol leaders. Course instructors were: Bros. Edward Linhart, Frank Michalek, Dennis Gilbert, Sis. JoMarie Zeman, Kim Pros, Sylvia Pistorius.

S.P.

Rings - Bent Hip Hang



Illustrated are ring exercises that commence from a hang, hang standing, Hang lying, support, (left half of page), and move into a **bent hip hang** (circle insert). Proceeding from this position into various moves are exercises (shown on the right side of page) such as holds, turns, uprisers, dislocates, and dismounts. For beginners: note placement of wrist for hangs and body swings.



SOKOL U.S.A. SLET NOTES

JUNE 28, 29, 30, - JULY 1, 1979.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA

COMPETITION SCHEDULE:

- Thursday, June 28, 7:00 p.m.** Judges Meeting
- Friday, June 29, 8:00 a.m.** Junior Girls Low B Division - Gym 1
Junior Girls Low A Division - Gym 2
- Friday, June 29, 6:00 p.m.** Junior Girls and Senior Women
a) High Division
b) Championship Compulsory
- Saturday, June 30, 8:00 a.m.** Senior Women Low B Division - Gym 1
Senior Women Low A Division - Gym 1
Junior Girls Intermediate Division - Gym 2
Senior Women Intermediate Division - Gym 2
- Friday, June 29, 8:00 a.m.** Junior Boys and Senior Men Low Division
- Friday, June 29, 1:00 p.m.** Junior Boys and Senior Men - Gym 3
a) High Division
b) Championship Compulsory
- Friday, June 29, 6:00 p.m.** Junior Boys and Senior Men Intermediate
Division - Gym 3
- Saturday, June 30, 2:00 p.m.** Championship Optional - All Divisions

We have learned from the Housing Committee that lodging will cost \$5.00 per person per night and a ticket for seven meals will cost \$15.50 per person. - The facilities at Lehigh University will be used to house and feed all gymnasts. - Exact information will be forthcoming with the entry blanks.

STEVE BANJAK,
Chief Physical Director

IN MEMORIAM



Word has reached us of the passing of

DR. MIROSLAV KLINGER

former Director of Men of the Československá Obec Sokolská. He lead two teams of gymnasts to the United States, the first being in 1921. He was Chairman of the Olympic Committee when the Olympics were held in London, England. He participated in various competitions in Europe. He passed away February 11, 1979, after a long illness at the age of 86.

Minutes of the District Directors' Conference

ON OCTOBER 20 AND 21, 1978, OMAHA, NEBRASKA

(Continued from last month)

(Editor's Note): We wish to add to the report of the Western District, February issue Gymnast, that Sokol Minneapolis, Minnesota, is included in the units of the Western District. - Although they have no Sokol classes, they meet in members' homes and conduct regular business sessions and contribute to the Sokol work. (e.c.1.).

* * *

The Educational Department held an essay contest after our XIV Slet. Bro. Vrzalik won 1st place and Sis. Sain won 2nd in the Senior entries. Copies of the essays will be published.

Bro. Lebloch and Sis. Ptacek were also very proud to present beautiful Special Recognition Awards to three District Directors for their many years of devoted service: Sis. Drozda (18 years), Sis. Laznovsky (18 years) and Bro. Laznovsky (11 years).

On behalf of the Central District, Sis. Pistorius presented stamp cancellations, cancelled right at the site of the Central District Slet, to all District Directors. She also presented all the Directors with a patch from the Central District Slet.

TOURNAMENT RULES. On the supplement pages (Dir. Conf. 10-77) under jewelry: Motion made and passed to read NO jewelry (religious medals, if taped down, and wedding rings are accepted with no deduction).

Bro. Vavra spoke on the rule regarding age groups - says a child should stay in his or her own age group. Our main interest is in the child and we should not push them to further themselves past their capabilities. Bro. Cahoy says **capable** is the key word in this rule and we must rely on the instructor's judgment.

Bro. Ptacek questioned rule 9 regarding percentage. The supplement pages issued after the 1977 Director's Conference state team, as well as individual, will receive an award with a score of 80 percent. - 1977 Director's Conference minutes did not state the individual clause; however, that should have been included.

Discussion followed on including a Maters' Division for women. However, this was already acted on at the 1977 Conference, where it was decided to hold a Master's Division for women 29 years old and over - it is not necessary to move up to a higher division after placing in the Masters'.

Motion made to include a Low B division for Jr. boys. Motion passed.

USGF routines will change in 1980 (men and women). Western District will put it into Sokol terminology. Bro. Milan says there is a possibility that the women's USGF will just give skills and we will have to develop them into routines ourselves. It was felt that the 1980 routines should be used at our 1981 Slet.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS: Sis. Pistorius read the rules pertaining to the Special Assessment Fund. The purpose of this fund was to replace the traveling instructor which we no longer have.

Under No. 12. a motion, to include the words, "Extra ordinary" organizational activity, i.e., activating, reactivating, remediating unusual problems in units. Motion passed.

Under No. 6, a motion, made to read: Travel expenses for qualified, approved gymnasts to compete in National AAU and USGF meets, and if necessary, an approved Sokol instructor. Motion passed.

Bro. Cahoy asked if rule No. 6 covers the Jr. AAU and Sr? Bro. Lebloch feels it is only for the more advanced and not for all age groups. Sis. Sain says this fund has helped Sis. Ellen Garlicki quite a lot.

A motion made that there be a three-month time limit after the event for filing Final Report Forms, including all supporting papers. Motion passed.

MERIT AWARD REPORT. Winners and renewals appeared in the August 30 ASO BOI minutes. (April 30).

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT: The Educational Department report was read, listing the various educational material that has been mailed.

A motion made to repeat the Essay Contest after our next Slet; and to give prior notice of it. Motion passed.

The Educational Department has plans of issuing an English version of Sis. Provaznikova's "100 Years of Sokol".

Each District was called upon to say a few words on their Educational Dept. Pacific District purchased 100 Czech copies of "100 Years of Sokol" and presented to their gymnasts at their Exhibition.

Southern District has a Slet film available for the units. Their Educational Director is working on a song book for class use . . . will have music to go along with it. Some units use the Educational period as one of their stations during the rotation of teams.

Bro. Laznovsky says an Educational Conference is held annually and ideas are exchanged.

Central District held an Educational workshop which brought forth many new ideas. Educational Directors put articles in their unit's Newsletters. Old Christmas customs, as well as other holiday customs, are being introduced.

Eastern District says theirs is more on a unit level, rather than on a District level.

Northeastern District - also more on a unit level. Their District library has much material to help all ages.

Western District - also more on the unit level. The District is trying to secure copies of books and films and make them available for units' use.

(Continued next month)

Help Our Sokol Grow

SOKOL EDUCATOR

Comenius . . . Czech Educational Reformer

The foundation of children's books with pictures was laid in the seventeenth century by Comenius, (Bohemian name, Jan Amos Komenský), when he wrote in Czech, "Orbis Sensualism Pictus" for children. Later he rewrote it in Latin, the language in which it was first published. He believed that children could learn much faster if worlds were described and illustrated. The picture would attract their attention, and they would look again and again, until they could identify what they were looking at. The picture book would do service by preparing children for studies of greater depth. They would begin learning at home, years before they went to school.

Children of the aristocracy and boys aiming to enter the priesthood received higher education. Boys went to Preparatory Schools to learn Latin in order to understand the university lectures which were given only in Latin. There was only ancient literature to read and that was written in Greek and Latin. This slowed the process of education, and Komensky attempted to break away from this austere system.

Jan Amos Komensky was born in Nivnitz, Moravia, March 28, 1592. His father and mother belonged to the Moravian Brethren, a church whose members were known for their loyalty to their faith, and their humble ways of life. Komensky was orphaned at an early age and his education neglected. However, when he did begin going to school, he learned quickly as he was a studious boy of a curious nature. He went to an elementary school which served the community since the Hussite movement. At age sixteen, he enrolled in a Latin school and at twenty, he studied theology at Herborn College in the Duchy of Nassau. After traveling from place to place for several years, he went to Heidelberg to further his education, returning to Moravia where he became rector of the school at Prerau, near Olmutz. He was twenty-two years old, too young to be ordained a minister. He had been observing how teachers taught in the schools, and thought it was time for improvements to be made.

In 1616, he was made head of a school, became ordained and pastor of the Brethren Church at Fulneck. He met a young girl, fell in love, married and fathered a child. The following years were the only happy years that he was to know in his lifetime. The Thirty Years' War broke out and Fulneck was overrun by plundering, foreign invaders. Komensky lost his personal belongings, manuscripts and books, and his wife and child. For a time he stayed hidden in Moravia and Bohemia, but eventually he had to leave as did all the Protestant people.

He settled in Lissa, Poland, and became Bishop of the Bohemian churches, and also taught Latin. In 1630, his book on education, "Pansophiae Prodrum" was published. He had put into it all the available knowledge he could find. In 1631, "The Janua Linguarum Reserata" appeared which gave his version of how languages should be taught. The spoken language should be used and the objects illustrating the works

made clear. This book became popular, and was translated into Persian, Arabian, Mongolian and many European languages.

Komensky was widely sought after as an educator. In 1641, the Long Parliament of England asked him to reform their system of education. Civil war broke out in England, and the reforming of their educational system had to be postponed. Komensky went instead to Sweden and with the help of Count Axel Oxenstierna worked to improve their teaching methods. In 1648, he returned to Lissa, Poland and in 1650, he went to Sarospotak, Hungary, where he composed "Orbis Sensualum Pictus". He opened a school at Sarospotak, where he instructed the pupils by using a system he had organized. It was more solid and easily understood. He veered away from the abstract system to the realistic system of teaching. He ushered in a new period in which teaching was not so remote and did not take as long to grasp.

In teaching, Komensky tried first to get the full attention of his pupil, and then interest the pupil in the subject matter, regardless if it was music, economics, politics or world history. His "Didactica Magna" proved that he tried to make a science of education. He had been working on a dictionary which he called "Pansophic". He lost the dictionary when war came to Lissa, Poland and again he had to flee for his life. And again he lost all his personal possessions, books and writings. What he regretted mostly was the loss of his dictionary.

He became a wanderer, a man without a home, without a country, and Holland with its canals and windmills seemed like a peaceful haven, and he settled



Jan Komensky

there. He did not despair, he began to collect material on teaching, to write, study and teach. He believed that every man had the right to be well educated in order to live a fuller life. He was not against women going to universities. He believed that women as well as men had equal rights to be educated. His work on "Didactic" in four volumes was published in 1657.

Komensky was referred to as "The Bacon of Education". He had been deeply influenced by Bacon, the English philosopher. He thought as Bacon did that in nature one could find a great storehouse of material to be used in teaching. "Do we dwell in the Garden of Eden?" he demanded, "as well as our predecessors? Why should not we use our eyes and our ears and our noses as well as they? And why need we other teachers than these, in learning to know the works of nature? Why should we not instead of these dead books, open to the children the living book of nature?"

Komensky wrote one hundred and thirty-five books on education and theology. He was forceful in presenting his thoughts to the world. He died in 1671, and was buried in the Netherlands. His didactics may be antiquated but his spirit lives on. On the one hundredth anniversary of his birth a library, containing more than 60,000 volumes on teaching was founded in his honor at Leipsig, Germany. On the three-hundredth anniversary of his birth a monument was erected at his grave site at Naarden, Holland, the little town where Komensky lived and was buried. Scholars, teachers and learned men gathered there to do him honor.

In 1914, before Thomas G. Masaryk went into exile to start his propaganda campaign to establish the Czechoslovak republic he visited Komensky's grave. He went there to the grave of a great Czech to gain composure and collect his thoughts, "Komensky's burial in Holland has united our two countries," Masaryk wrote, "Holland is close to our hearts, in spite of differences in language and way of life."

Stella Tichy,
Sokol Cechie, Chicago

Eastern District ASO

Sunday, February 11th, Sokol Baltimore Hall, Baltimore, Md. - Meeting was called to order by President Don Otenasek at 1:10 p.m. Minutes of January meeting were read and approved; letters from ASO Chicago forwarding duties of unit officers and a refund to the District. Sis. Rose Friedrich also forwarded the financial statement for January, 1979. Bata Shoe Co., Inc., forwarded payment for an ad in the District newsletter. A letter of thanks will be forwarded for ad and payment.

Educational Director - Sis. Dagmar Fiala: Sis. Fiala wants to print Article 72 of the Sokol Constitution and by-laws about membership in the district newsletter but the applicable article is lengthy because of repetitions. Decision made to print only the required highlights of this article. Commented that unit Juniors are the most important part of Sokol since they eventually become the adult members of the units. Has the addresses of

880 members and she requested that additional copies of the newsletter be printed and bulkmailed for distribution to the Juniors of the various units. Also commented on some inexpensive booklets, which she had seen in Chicago, that would be suitable to spread the Sokol idea among the young gymnasts of the District units. Copies of each unit's 1978 Annual Meeting minutes and the names and addresses of its officers will be requested per Sis. Fiala's recommendation. She would also like to have any changes in unit by-laws and the name of each unit's educational director. Received a donation from Sokol Philadelphia to support the District newsletter. Bro. Otenasek commented that Sokol Philadelphia also contributed to the financial success of the District Slet in June. Bros. A. Kotras and F. Novak will contact members of Sokol Philadelphia to ascertain whether or not Sokol activity can be revived in that city.

Public Relations - Southern Circuit - Bro. Frank Novak: Commented that the Sokol ideology of Tyrs and Fuegner is no longer appropriate for the young gymnasts of today since they are not of Czech descent and do not understand the Czech language. He noted that discipline is an important part of the gym activity and pointed out that many Juniors do not become adult members of Sokol. Parents must gym or become otherwise involved in their children's unit to encourage the children to continue in Sokol activities. Sis. Sain stated that Sokol Baltimore has exercises for the children's mothers while the children are gyming. At Sokol Baltimore's spaghetti dinner October, 1978, Bro. Al Pokorny made a short interesting speech to the children. Similar activities could be used by other District units to increase interest and activity by adults and juveniles. Bro. Novak is preparing articles for publication; these will cover things such as Slet, exhibition, etc.

Women's Physical Director - Sis. L. Sain: The combined (2 Baltimore men and 4 Washington men) volleyball team placed 3rd in the January competition while Sokol New York was 2nd. Bro. J. Vrzalik went to New Jersey and New York to conduct the instructor's course on spotting gymnasts. He will check on the availability of the Bergen Community College for the May exhibition. Discussion of the two weeks District instructors' school to be held this summer. The East Haddam facility is available but not necessarily suitable or convenient for all. The Hartford Gymnastics Club of Bel Air, Maryland would be more desirable for the Baltimore area gymnasts and instructors. The Club will be formally contacted about a two-week reservation for July and August. Eastern District Sokol units will attend the Slovak Slet. April 22, 1979 the Southern Circuit will hold a competition at the Golden Ring Junior High School. Details will be forwarded at a later date.

New Business - Pres. Don Otenasek: A decision was made at the September Annual Meeting to hold the District Slet in the Northern Circuit during 1980. Bro. Otenasek will send each unit President a letter calling for a special meeting at the May exhibition to discuss Slet location, dates and officials. The Education Director is to be a part of the BOI discussion and will visit individual units to promote Sokol activity. Bro.

Otenasek asked Sis. Fiala to check out whether or not Sokol Washington will host the wreath-laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. If not, then it could be a District sponsored affair. Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.; the next monthly meeting will be held on Sunday, March 11, 1979 at 1 p.m. in Sokol Baltimore's Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward C. Kotras, Secretary

Pacific District ASO

Annual meeting in Los Angeles February 4, 1979. Pres. Sis. Nekuda called meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance to our American Flag given. Sis. Nekuda welcomed all the delegates and guests. Minutes of the meeting held at Huntington Lake September 3, 1978, were read and accepted. Sis. Nekuda brought up the subject of officers voting. Motion made by Bro. Salak to have the officers vote, seconded by Sis. Pelc, carried.

REPORT OF THE UNITS - Seattle - Bro. Vojta: We have the same officers, no elections since 1976. We have had 2 meetings this last year in member's home and a restaurant. Sis. Rozek and her husband have joined the unit. There is an interest among the Czech community to become involved in our Sokol social activities. They do have joint activities with Sokol Vancouver of Sokol Abroad. Bro. Salak commented that it is tragic that the unit is not active. No elections and 2 meetings per year is very sad.

San Francisco - Bro. Spanek: We have very good social activities, gymnastics are slow. Bro. Kriska and Bro. Stieber promise to attend our exhibition on Memorial weekend.

Fresno - Sis. Falls: Apologized about the late dues, we have a new treasurer. They do meet every month. They are active and have volleyball. In reference to the Sokol Americky article, Sis. Pelc explained the article referred to gymnastic activity only.

Los Angeles - Bro. Liska: All groups active. Even with the bad weather we had good attendance. We are preparing the calisthenics for the exhibition. Our membership voted to have the exhibition in our parking lot. We have good social activities. Bro. Liska and Sis. Pelc went to the District Physical Directors meeting in Omaha, also the Educational Directors meeting in Chicago. It was a good experience for Bro. Liska. Sokol Abroad will have their Slet in Vienna in 1982.

Treasurer's report was given by Sis. Haralik. It was decided to have the District Slet in Los Angeles. Sis. Falls took the chair for the election of officers. Break for a nice lunch of baked ham, assorted salads, pastries and coffee.

New Business: Sis. Nekuda stated that we are planning a banquet together with Sokol Los Angeles to celebrate our 70th anniversary. Asked the delegates from the units to help, to publicize our event. Suggestion to send invitations to the other districts for them to inform their units and other organizations.

Asked for ideas from the units for the souvenir book. Bro. Spanek wrote the history of the Zupa. Sis. Nekuda will write the history of Los Angeles. Layout of the souvenir book to be approved by the Board. It was decided to have the quarterly meeting in Fresno on April 22nd. Sis. Pelc suggested that a work shop be held at the same time. Sokol Los Angeles will take care of the accommodation for the participants. A suggestion to have a combined team of men and women for a volleyball tournament. Sis. Nekuda thanked all the delegates and guests for their attendance. Meeting adjourned at 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Louis Kis, Secretary



HAVE YOU
SENT IN YOUR
NEW ADDRESS?

Change of Address for American Sokol

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION
6426 West Cermak Road
Berwyn, IL 60402

Sokol
Name
Old address
.....Zip.....
New Address
.....Zip.....

SOKOL CLEVELAND-CECH-HAVLICEK
20110 Harvard Road
Warren Heights, Ohio 44122

**HAS PUBLISHED A CZECHOSLOVAK-
AMERICAN COOK BOOK**
Price \$3.75 plus 50c Postage

ORDER FROM THE ABOVE ADDRESS!

ASO FINANCIAL REPORT

February 1979

RECEIPTS:

Dues	\$1,634.00
T. J. Masaryk Dues	30.00
Convention Fund	1,994.00
Special Assessment	1,789.00
Dividends and Interest	83.22
Resale of Jewelry and Plaques	728.85
"Gymnastic Activities with Hand Apparatus" and Songbooks	15.00
Educational Pamphlets	3.00
UPS Charges and Postage	9.74
	<hr/>
	\$6,286.81
ASO Uniform Division - Payment toward Advances	352.72
	<hr/>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$6,639.53

DISBURSEMENTS:**Administrative**

Salaries	\$678.86
FICA & FWT for Jan. 1979	110.04
Rental, Janitor Service, Phone	346.32
Rental of Mailing Machine	69.49
Prepaid Postage	100.00
Service Contracts and Subscriptions	195.00
Office Supplies	34.50
Insurance	246.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,780.21

Board of Instructors

Salaries	\$311.88
FICA & FWT for Jan. 1979	54.76
Editor "Sokol Gymnast"	30.00
Addit'l copies "Sokol Gymnast"	29.00
Tape and Postage	3.02
	<hr/>
	428.66

Educational Department

FICA for Jan. 1979	\$ 3.04
	<hr/>
	\$ 3.04

Sokol Publication

Printing "American Sokol"	\$864.76
Postage "American Sokol"	127.02
Editor "American Sokol"	100.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,091.78

Miscellaneous

ASO Uniform Division - Salaries, FICA, FWT, Phone	\$429.79
Special Appropriations - Eastern Dist. ASO	648.43
Western Dist. ASO	1,373.22
Transfer of funds from Checking to Savings	7,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$9,451.44
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$12,755.13

Balance brought forward:

Western National Bank of Cicero - Checking Account	\$10,963.82
Receipts - February 1979	6,639.53
	<hr/>
	17,603.35
Disbursements - February 1979	12,755.13
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,848.22

Future Sokol Leaders Fund

February 1979

Western Fraternal Life Association - Annual Contribution	\$2,000.00
In memory of Mary Zelenka - Fred and Emily Stankovsky	5.00
In memory of Louis Sirotek - Members of Sokol Cechie	10.00
In memory of Vlasta Kouba - Kate Danko	10.00
Bob and Vera Barcal	5.00
From the estate of Josef Kaminsky, Hopkins, Minn.	101.62
In memory of Joseph Buran of Sokol Racine - James and Helen Pilger	5.00
Sokol and Sokolice Racine	10.00
Lawrence and Lois Nikl	10.00
George Kopecky	15.00
Gordie and Bess Nelson	5.00
Steve and Dolly Mostenan	20.00
In memory of Edward Ptacek - Members of Sokol Stickney	20.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,216.62
Dividends Earned	226.65
	<hr/>
	\$2,443.27

*Donations are tax exempt***Sister Vlasta Hovorka Kouba**

Sister Vlasta Kouba, died February 1, 1979, was a 50 year member of Sokolice Havlicek Tyrs. In her younger years, Sis. Kouba was very active in the BOI; was the first Director of the Central District newly-organized Board of Instructors; was a leader of women of the first AOS Board, before a director was elected in a convention; was an instructor of junior girls in our unit and author of many of the Junior girls drills.

She is survived by her husband, Laddie, also a member of Sokol Havlicek Tyrs, two daughters and one son.

In behalf of Sokol Havlicek Tyrs we extend deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

Sis. Zdenka Tintera



WHEN YOU PURCHASE LIFE, RETIREMENT OR MORTGAGE INSURANCE FROM **CSA**, YOU RECEIVE VALUABLE INSURANCE PROTECTION. YOU ALSO ENJOY MEMBERSHIP IN A FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETY. **CSA** FRATERNAL PROGRAMS BENEFIT THE MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

For Further Information Contact

CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIETY of AMERICA

"Pioneer of Fraternal Life Insurance"

CSA PLAZA

2701 S. HARLEM AVENUE

BERWYN, IL 60402

Phones: (312) 795-5800 - (312) 242-2224

At' Jedete
kamkoliv

vlakem, lodí nebo
letadlem,

po celém světě nebo jen
po Americe,
vždy pojedete nejlépe od

HEGER
TRAVEL BUREAU

6118 W. Cermak Road
Cicero, Illinois 60650

863-3681

HAPPINESS IS . . .

Happiness is a warm puppy.

Happiness is finding someone you
like at the front door.

Happiness is getting together with
your friends.

Happiness is a bread and butter
sandwich folded over.

Happiness is walking in the grass
in your bare feet.

Happiness is finding out you're not
so dumb after all.

Happiness is some black, orange,
yellow, white and pink jelly beans,
but no green ones.

Happiness is one thing to one
person and another thing to another
person.

THE
**BOHEMIAN
NATIONAL
CEMETERY**

OF CHICAGO

FEATURES THE BEAUTIFUL
**MASARYK MEMORIAL
MAUSOLEUM**

WITH NEWLY ADDED WINGS

It offers a complete cemetery
service consisting of

**Cremation - Columbarium
Ground Interments**

**BRONZE GRAVE MARKERS
and GRANITE MEMORIALS** are
on display at the Cemetery
Office.

**5255 North Pulaski Road
Chicago, Illinois 60630**

Telephones: 539-8442 - 3
Suburban 788-8442

Listen to our radio hour every
Sunday at 9:00 A.M. on WTAQ

Northeast District Summary of Minutes

Date: 2-28-79
Start: 8:00 p.m.
Pledge

Verbal Roll Call
Attended: 20
Excused: 3

Moment of Silence - Robert Panka and Sharon Berg.
VP Report: Would like to turn over Slet records.
Requested information from ASO about flags.

Pres. Report: Attended SGC Exhibition and Cotillion Ball. NED approved payment for 2 tickets. Regret unable to attend Detroit's annual meeting.

Treas. Report: NED approved payment for bills. 2-5-79 balance on checking account given.

B.O.I.: Little boys, girls and women are competing. NED approved purchase of medals. Tape deck needed.

UNIT REPORTS

SCCH: January meeting postponed. Nice February meeting. Pot luck supper in March.

SGC: Successful exhibition and social. Masquerade Ball on 2-24-79. Rummage sale first week in March. Unit membership meeting 3-11-79. Spaghetti supper to follow. Card party in May. Participating in Český Den.

SD: Summer exhibition 6-24-79.

Old business: Slet committee to be formed in March meeting. AMLA has been secured for 6-3-79.

Announcements: A.S.I. 250 Club Dinner-Dance at BNH. Next meeting: 3-28-79. Adjourned: 8:57 p.m.

J. J. Vencl, Secretary

ADDITIONS TO THE 1979 DIRECTORY

Northeastern District, Cleveland, Ohio. - Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway, Cleveland, OH 44127. Meetings 4th Wednesday. Pres., Frank Kavan, 4800 Westbourne Rd., Lyndhurst, OH 44124. Sec'y., J. J. Vencl, 3954 East 131st St., Cleveland, OH 44105. Dir. of Men, Roger Martanovic, 42 Santin Circle, Bedford, OH 44146. Dir. of Women, Bertha Cerny, 6188 Cabrini Lane, Seven Hills, OH 44131.

Váš cestovní program Vám spolehlivě a přesně vyřídí

WEBER TRAVEL AGENCY, Inc.

- Foreign and Domestic Tours -

PI 9-1333

6805 W. Cermak Rd., Berwyn, Ill. 60402

BI 2-1512

JERRY A. RABAS, Pres.

(New Location)

TUZEX Service

81st
SUCCESSFUL
YEAR

of
Fraternal
Life Insurance
PROTECTION

**Western Fraternal
Life Association**
Západní Česko-Bratrská Jednota

LARGEST
CZECH-AMERICAN
ORGANIZATION IN U.S.A.

Organized in 1897 with 1,259 insured members in 8 states. - Now licensed in 18 states, over 60,000 certificates, has over \$143,000,000 of insurance in force. - Total assets over \$38,000,000. - Offers Legal Reserve Fraternal Life Insurance for Juveniles and Adults to age 65.

Home office

1900 1st AVENUE N.E.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52402