

american **SOKOL**

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JULY/AUGUST 2002

2002-2003 MERIT AWARD RECIPIENTS



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Sokol Greater Cleveland



Angeli DeCarlo
Sokol ChicagoLand



Stacey Domzalski
Sokol ChicagoLand



Michael Dropka
Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky



David Ehrenberger
Sokol Baltimore



Kristen Ann Ehrenberger
Sokol Baltimore



Kevin Fitzpatrick
Sokol Greater Cleveland



Brooke Masok
Sokol Omaha



Christine Maskill
Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky



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From Your Editor...

It is a pleasure to announce to you and to congratulate the recipients of this year's American Sokol Merit Award. We are happy to have so many deserving young Sokols from across the country and we wish you success in your scholastic endeavors. Keep Sokol in your hearts!

NA ZDAR!

Sis. Patricia Satek

46 Northgate Road ~ Riverside, IL 60546-1639

CALENDAR of EVENTS

JULY

14 Cesky Den - Taborville, OH
15-28 American Sokol Instructors'
School at Sokol Corpus Christi
19 Sokol Greater Cleveland Fish Fry
20 Sokol Ceska Sin Annual Golf
Outing & Cookout
20-21 Czech & Slovak American Festival,
Yack Arena - Wyandotte, MI

AUGUST

2-4 Wilber, Nebraska Czech Festival
10 Sokol Ceska Sin Bike Hike
10 Sokol USA Clambake
11 Sokol Ceska Sin Unit Picnic
12-19 DA Sokol Camp Program
13 Sokol Minnesota Camp Booya
Picnic, Pine City, MN
17 Sokol Greater Cleveland Cookout
18 Sokol Orel Annual Picnic, Sokol
Orel Park, Throgs Neck, NY

SEPTEMBER

5 Sokol New York Class Registration
6 Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky Class
Registration & Barbecue
8 13th Annual Czech & Slovak
Festival, Highland Park, St. Paul,
MN sponsored by Sokol Minnesota

SEPTEMBER

8 Sokol Detroit Vino Brani
19 Masaryk Statue Commemoration,
Washington, D.C.
23 Sokol Milwaukee Class
Registration
28 Eastern District Annual Meeting
28 Lanzhotcanka Concert at
Sokol Detroit

OCTOBER

5 Sokol Stickney 75th Anniversary
6 Sokol Omaha 125th Anniversary
12 Sokol Minnesota Harvest Dance
13 Sokol Milwaukee Recognition
Luncheon
18-20 District Directors' Conference at
Sokol Greater Cleveland
27 Sokol Minnesota Pork Dinner

NOVEMBER

10 DA Sokol 110th Anniversary
10 Sokol Minnesota Pancake
Breakfast/Bake & Craft Sale

XXIV SOKOL USA SOKOLFEST

July 2-6, 2003 • Valparaiso, Indiana

THOUGHT STARTERS

from Sis. Joan Sedlacek, A.S.O. Educational Director

"Love is blind; friendship tries not to notice."

~ OTTO VON BISMARCK

Our Sokol Credo

To build a healthy and beautiful human body; to cultivate a harmonious and total person; to develop firm character, a well-rounded disposition and a love of truth and justice; to produce strong, lovely and honorable people; that is the goal of a Sokol education.

NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT EXPANDS TO SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



Pictured is the unofficial Southwest Florida unit of the Northeastern District of the American Sokol. Members, from left to right, are:

Elsie Kralik, Carolyn Sabados, Jackie Eisenstein, George Eisenstein, Maryann Fiordelis, Jim Kalivoda, Mary Hrcir and Jerri Kalivoda.

Members have been meeting weekly for approximately six or seven years from November through April, whenever they are

wintering in Florida. Most of the calisthenics practices have been held in the Eisenstein garage in Estero, which is most central, although this year we practiced at the Hrcir's in North Ft. Myers, at the Kalivoda complex in Ft. Myers and down at the Kralik's garage in Naples.

Under the expert tutelage of instructor Jerri Kalivoda, we learned our cal and have been able to return to our units in Cleveland and Detroit and join our sister and brother Sokols

without missing a beat.

In addition to "gymming," we enjoy a social evening of eating and drinking and card playing to accommodate our non-gymming spouses. Another excursion we all look forward to is the German farm picnic held on Pine Island. This reminds us of our Czech picnics up north.

All Sokols, when visiting southwest Florida, are welcome to join us!

NA ZDAR! Sis. Elsie Kralik

GUEST SPEAKER

Sis. Lynda Filipello, Central District Education Chair

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Today I witnessed our members and our youth at their best! We are standing in line in field uniforms waiting for the rain, the temperature a northeast windy COLD (well below 40): which means the wind chill factor enters in here in the "windy city" neighborhood. There are 400+ on the field, at attention, parents and spectators in warm cozy winter coats. What are we doing? We are patiently listening to our leadership knowing full well that after we march off the grassy forest preserve field, we will have to reenter to perform our calisthenics! A collective mentality sets in. We are one. No one dares to chicken out now! Even the littlest ones know they will have a story to share for the future. This sure beats watching television or playing computer games. Perhaps it is true, oh mighty Dr. Tyrs; we are at our best when the situation seems at it's worse. NA ZDAR! to all the parents for your patience with the determined Sokols. See you in September.

MEMORIAM 🕊 Bro. John Stribny

Bro. Stribny was born and raised in Chicago's "Back of the Yards." As a child, he began a lifelong participation in American Sokol and the Czechoslovak Society of America. He studied art at the Art Institute of Chicago and the University of Chicago. Over a period of years, representations of his work have been shown in various galleries - Sternberg, Long Grove Studio, Prince, Nyman, Merrill Chase, The Clipper Ship, Wyman's, Vogt and others. His work is in various collections, both private and corporate, and as far away as Japan. His primary discipline was in oil painting, but he also engaged in cast sculpture, the largest works being commissioned by Sherwin Williams. He spent almost 40 years in art instruction, part of that time at Moraine Valley Community College and the Blue Island Art League. He served in the Army and was awarded the Bronze Star for his meritorious achievement during the Battle of the Bulge. He is survived by his wife, Vlasta, son, John Scott, daughter, Lynne Marie, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Rest in Peace, Bro. Stribny, NA ZDAR!

MEMORIAM 🕊 Bro. Edwin J. Jirousek

Bro. Jirousek was a 72-year member of Sokol Tyrs and Sokol Greater Cleveland. He was a gymnast and taught gymnastics for over 47 years and served as President and Men's Director of the Northeastern District ASO. He also served on both the Board of Directors and Board of Instructors of the District, as well as his own unit. In 1986, he was inducted as a charter member of the Greater Cleveland Spot Hall of Fame as a tribute to his leadership achievements and contributions in the field of gymnastics. During WWII he had served as a physical training instructor in the Army Air Corps.

Ed was married for 24 years to the former Evelyn Stupka, who passed away in 1964, and for 32 years to the former Geraldine Kolar Cech, who passed away in 2000. He is survived by two sons, Edwin W. and Raymond, four grand sons and four great-grandchildren.

Bro. Ed, we give you our final Sokol salute - NA ZDAR! - and rest in peace.

Submitted by Bro. John Dusek, Sokol Greater Cleveland

Ethnic Language Schools Lauded



Illinois Governor George H. Ryan sponsored a Tribute to the Ethnic Language Schools of Illinois. The Governor commended the dedication of the parents, teachers and ethnic organizations who support the Ethnic Language Schools. Pictured: **State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka** presents the Governor's award to **Bro. Robert Baumruk** from T.G. Masaryk Czech School. Bro. Baumruk is a member of Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky, Berwyn, Illinois.



AMERICAN SOKOL GYMNAST

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“What Sokol Means To Me”

2002-2003 American Sokol Merit Award Recipients

Matthew Carlozzi Sokol Greater Cleveland

What does Sokol mean to me? Well, I had never really pondered the question, but upon further reflection, I realized that Sokol was my life. There are three things that consume my time: school, work and Sokol. Seven hours a day, five days a week, nine months a year with no pay is a drag. Punching keys and listening to ancient women complain about how there is no skim milk left as they count out \$4.67 in pennies is worth more than \$6.00 per hour. However, the aspect of my life that is not mandatory, the aspect that demands nothing of me except my mere presence and volunteerism, is the aspect that I love best. Without Sokol, I could've had a higher grade point average, a more sizeable bank account, and quite possibly a few more friends from school. But honestly, I'm glad I have Sokol instead. Pains-in-the-neck as they may be, I know my little boys enjoy their time on Friday nights. Whether they are having fun because of me or not, it makes me smile to see the youth of Sokol being kids like they are supposed to be. At little boys' class, there exists the perfect balance of fun and (slow) gymnastic progress. Friday nights allow me to release all stress that I've had all week and enjoy an hour and a half with my boys. This year, I started to assist at Junior Boys' class. There, the atmosphere is a little more mature and a little more gymnastic orientated. There, my joy doesn't come from fun, but rather from seeing the kids complete skills that they have been working at. These kids also make me realize that I need to start working hard again because if I don't, they will soon surpass me. While teaching gives me joy through seeing the boys have fun and improve, there is another part of Sokol that I love even more. Had I not known that *Sokol* means *falcon*, I would have thought it to mean *family*. I have yet to meet a fellow Sokol brother or sister who has not greeted me with joy and immediate friendship. Through the organization, I have adopted mothers in two different states. I have attended classes in other units. I chose a phone plan to meet my Sokol needs so that I can call any one of my Sokol friends for free. Sokol means driving to Chicago on Christmas day just to say “hey”. Sokol means dozens of beds awaiting me when I get into town. When I joined four years ago, I never thought that my family of four would have increased to hundreds in such a short period, if ever. Now, I don't see where my life would be without these people. Sokol is not just having fun with little boys, or coaching the Juniors or traveling all over the country whenever I want. Sokol is LIFE!

Angeli Del Carlo Sokol Chicagoland

With the 15 years that I have been involved in Sokol, I must admit that I discovered some concepts regardless of whether I wanted to or not. Besides learning countless calisthenics and routines I learned some unexpected life lessons as well. I can't help but think how I would have turned out as a person if it had not been a part of my life. Sokol taught me how to watch the person in front of me in “cal” and when waiting in line for a turn. On the other hand if I was in front of everyone else then I better know what to do. Not only does that apply to Sokol class, but it also applies to everyday life. If I am going to be a leader in front and in charge then I have to know what I am doing, not just wing it because then someone could get hurt emotionally and physically. From that I also discovered that I always want to be in front. I learned how to deal with people, good or bad. As much as I hate to admit it, there were a few confrontations in my past. However, if it had not been for those conflicts, I would have never lasted the four years of high school gymnastics with my coach. In reflection though, I think that I have grown and learned the most in the past four years when I started coaching at Sokol. Not only did I become a new member of the Sokol family, but I acquired characteristics that are priceless. It took a while, but I learned patience from my students, a quality that is always helpful in every situation. I learned how to be an authority figure and a friend at the same time. I learned responsibility, creativity, and time management. (The girls don't learn “cal” or a special number in a matter of two practices.) Most importantly though, I learned what I want to do for the rest of my life. If it weren't for Sokol I would have never realized that I want to dedicate my life to teaching children. Sokol has shaped me as a person and I will always be grateful. I am who I am today because of the friends I made, the things I learned, and the time I spent in Sokol.

Christine L. Maskill Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky

Growing up in Sokol has brought many wonderful things into my life: great friends, unforgettable memories, people I call family, and a place I call my home. But for me, Sokol means more than all of these things. Almost every October since I was four I participated in the annual Houby Day parade, marching down Cermak Road singing “Fly You Sokol”. This past fall, I took a completely different

**Northeastern District, Detroit, Michigan
Men and Boys Artistic Results
June 8, 2002**

Class 8 Boys

1	Eric Ravenscroft	Detroit
2	Michael Hirsch	Gr. Cleveland
3	Matt Miller	Gr. Cleveland

Class 7 Boys

1	Kyle Stepnicka	Gr. Cleveland
2	Aaron Shutway	Gr. Cleveland

Class 6 Boys

1	Collin Conrad	Detroit
2	Caleb Conrad	Detroit

Class 8 Junior Boys

1	Michael Burns	Gr. Cleveland
2	Jensen Mrozinski	Gr. Cleveland

Class 7 Junior Boys

1	Michael Broida	Gr. Cleveland
2	Keith Martincic	Gr. Cleveland
3	David Pirovolos	Gr. Cleveland

Class 7 Men

1	Matt Carozzi	Gr. Cleveland
2	Todd Dusek	Gr. Cleveland

Class 6 Men

1	Mike Wise	Gr. Cleveland
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**Northeastern District, Detroit, Michigan
Girls and Women Artistic Results
June 8, 2002**

Girls Level 1, ages 6&7

1	Sara Forystek	Detroit
2	Catherine Baldner	Gr. Cleveland
2	Michelle Mason	Gr. Cleveland
3	Taylor Baranski	Gr. Cleveland
4	Jordan Franklin	Detroit

Girls, Level 1 ages 8 & up

1	Nicole Meyer	Gr. Cleveland
2	Jinan Allan	Detroit
3	Lilly Zeleny	Gr. Cleveland

Girls, Level 2

1	Melissa Gazdag	Detroit
2	Valerie Fletcher	Gr. Cleveland
3	Callie Wyatt	Detroit

Girls, Level 3

1	Emily Scott	Detroit
2	Elizabeth Purcell	Detroit
3	Hannah Conley	Detroit

Girls, Level 4

1	Alyssa Carozzi	Gr. Cleveland
2	Stephanie Gazdag	Detroit
3	Roxanne Sanfilippo	Detroit

Junior Girls, Level 1

1	Katie Broida	Gr. Cleveland
2	Hallie Rybka	Gr. Cleveland

Junior Girls, Level 2

1	Emma Eisenstein	Detroit
2	Katherine Fortuna	Gr. Cleveland
3	Crissy Osbach	Detroit

Junior Girls, Level 4

1	Leia Mason	Gr. Cleveland
2	Annette Bartik	Gr. Cleveland
3	Karla Pinizzotto	Gr. Cleveland
4	Courtney Curran	Detroit

Junior Girls, Level 5

1	Laura Borovsky	Detroit
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Junior Girls, Level 6

1	Elizabeth Mason	Gr. Cleveland
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Women, Level 2

1	Chyral Becka	Gr. Cleveland
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Women, Level 4

1 Linda Lash Gr. Cleveland

Women, Level 5

1 Maria Pinizzotto Gr. Cleveland

Women, Level 6

1 Suzy Bures Gr. Cleveland

**Western District Slet Results
Crete, Nebraska
June 8 - 9, 2002**

Jr. Boys, Low

1 Mo Wilson Omaha

Jr. Boys, Novice

1 John Bennett South Omaha

Jr. Boys, Class 5

1 Luke Gabriel South Omaha
2 Jason Barber South Omaha
3 Steven Kowalski South Omaha

1 Team One South Omaha
Luke, Jason, Steven

Jr. Boys, Class 6

1 Michael Lee Omaha
2 Ryan Ferretti Crete
3 Andrew Dalton South Omaha
4 Greg Meyers Crete

Jr. Boys, Championship

1 Bo Benak South Omaha

Sr. Men, Novice

1 Bud Benak South Omaha

Sr. Men, Class 6

1 Buddy Benak South Omaha

Sr. Men, Class 7

1 Philip Young Omaha

Sr. Men, Championship

1 Max Muller South Omaha

Rhythmics

Jr. Girls, Level 5

1 Carly Vincentini South Omaha
2 Elizabeth Rolfson South Omaha
3 Kelsey Rhoades South Omaha
4 Ashleigh Miller South Omaha

Jr. Girls, Level 6

1 Veronica Kool Omaha
2 Stephanie Valentine Omaha

Sr. Women, Level 5

1 LeAnn Oldenburger Omaha
2 Yvonne Wilson Omaha

Masters I, Level 5

1 Phyllis Kool Omaha

Volleyball

1 "Old Fogies"
2 Crete

Jr. Girls, Novice

1 Candy Seiferd Omaha
2 Melanie Woldt Omaha
3 Crystal Seiferd Omaha
4 Megan Rosenburger Omaha

1 Team One Omaha
Candy, Melanie, Crystal

Jr. Girls, Level II

1 Rebecca McConnell C. Rapids
2 Micki Clark Crete
3 Kristine Filkens Crete
4 Chyanne Grady Crete

1 Team One Crete
Micki, Kristine, Chyanne

Jr. Girls, Level IV

1	Anne Rolfson	S. Omaha
2	Emily Leahy	S. Omaha
3	Hilary Foster	Crete
4	Shawna Doiel	Crete
5	Danelle Spoden	C. Rapids
6	Ashley Smetana	Omaha
7	Caitlin Rosenburg	Omaha
8	Rachel Woolard	Omaha

1	Team One	Omaha
	Ashley, Caitlin, Rachel	

Jr. Girls, Level V

1	Kristina Kurz	S Omaha
2	Kelsey Rhoades	S Omaha
3	Chelsea Petersen	S Omaha
4	Elizabeth Rolfson	S Omaha
5	Ashleigh Miller	S Omaha
6	Teresa Skrivaneck	Minnesota

1	Team One	S. Omaha
	Kristina, Kelsey, Chelsea	

Jr. Girls, Level VI

1	Aida Evre	Omaha
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Jr Girls, Championship

1	Skye Wakefield	S. Omaha
2	Carly Vincentini	S. Omaha
3	Tina Valentine	Omaha

1	Team One	S. Omaha
	Skye, Carly, Tina	

Senior Women, Novice

1	LeAnne Oldenburger	Omaha
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Senior Women, Modified Level II

1	Ann Woolord	Omaha
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Senior Women, Modified Level IV

1	Jennifer Muff	Crete
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Southern District Results June Artistic Gymnastic Competition

Boys, 6 and under, Class 8

1	Jaxson Self	Houston
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Boys, 7-9, Class 8

1	Vicente Flores	C. Christi
2	Aaron Wendling	Ft. Worth

Boys, 7-9, Class 7

1	Juan Sotelo	Houston
2	Chase Hamilton	KHB Ennis

Boys, 10-12, Class 8

1	Andrew Miner	Houston
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Boys, 10-12, Class 7

1	Tommy Macias	KHB Ennis
2	Jose Rodriguez	C. Christi
3	Ramon Morales	Ft. Worth
4	Brandon McGee	West
5	Grant Zahirniak	West
6	Kyle Marek	West

Junior Boys, 12-14, Class 7

1	Jonathan Barker	C. Christi
2		

Junior Boys, 12-14, Class 6

1	Tyler Duncan	Ft. Worth
2	Travis Silhan	Houston

Junior Boys, 15-18, Class 7

1	Brando Macias	KHB Ennis
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Men, 17 and over, Class 6

1	Jonathan Boyd	KHB Ennis
2	Jason GunSauley	Houston

Girls, 6 and under, Mod. Level 1

1	Chandler Mach	KHB Ennis
2	Andrea Davis	Ft. Worth

3	Kelly Cook	Ft. Worth
4	Bailey Slovacek	KHB Ennis
5	Shelby Pruitt	KHB Ennis
6	Alexandra Flores	C. Christi
7	Sarah Dickens	KHB Ennis

Girls, 6 and under, Level 2

1	Alondra Logerstedt	KHB Ennis
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Girls, 7-9, Mod. Level 1

1	Francesa Olivarez	Houston
2	Miranda Medrano	C. Christi
3	Emily Bennett	West
4	Katelin Richardson	Ft. Worth
4	Alina Gutierrez	Houston
6	Maridel Aldana	C. Christi
7	Amanada Pullin	KHB Ennis
8	Hayli Rose	KHB Ennis
9	Lacey Lasater	KHB Ennis
9	Laura Rios	Houston
11	Jessica Flores	C. Christi
12	Gabriella Sacky	C. Christi
13	Alexis Benavidez	C. Christi
14	Netty Paine	West
15	Mollie Slovacek	KHB Ennis
16	Letecia Guerrero	Ft. Worth
17	Megan Montes	C. Christi

Girls, 7-9, Level 2

1	Amber Blocker	KHB Ennis
2	Amber Allen	C. Christi
3	Breana Lambeth	KHB Ennis
4	Alisha Garcia	C. Christi
5	Nikki Self	Houston
6	Courtney Ragle	Ft. Worth
7	Brina Phillips	Ft. Worth
8	Gabriela Garza	Houston
9	Bailey Erwin	KHB Ennis
10	Margarita Rios	Houston
11	Kaitlin Trammel	West
12	Shelly Speck	Ft. Worth
13	Savannah Breeklove	West
14	Bracy Craig	West

Girls, 7-9, Level 3

1	Hayden Hallmark	Zizka
2	Mariah Brady	Ft. Worth
3	Kaitlyn Kelly	Ft. Worth
4	Ann Dulock	West

5	Gracie Hardin	Zizka
6	Ashley Sulak	West
7	Olivia Tobar	Zizka
8	Michelle Wren	Zizka
9	Jordan Hall	Zizka

Girls, 10-12, Mod. Level 1

1	Savannah White	C. Christi
2	Ashley Terrill	Ft. Worth
3	Maggie Coleman	Houston
4	Lauren Allen	C. Christi
5	Sara Seaman	Houston
6	Brenda Cedillo	KHB Ennis
7	Nathalie Guillory	Houston
8	Christine Cedillo	KHB Ennis

Girls, 10-12, Level 2

1	Jessica DeLaFuente	C. Christi
2	Jenny Baker	West

Girls, 10-12, Level 3

1	Jenna Phillips	Ft. Worth
2	Jeanette Garza	Houston
3	Ashley Thayer	Houston
4	Annette Garza	Houston
5	Kearsty Terrill	Ft. Worth
6	Sasha Medellin	Zizka
7	Mallory Hansen	Zizka
8	Samantha Medellin	Zizka

Junior Girls, 12-14, Mod. Level 1

1	Claudia Rodriguez	Houston
2	Rena Alvarez	Houston
3	Jamie Brown	West
4	Abilgail Rios	Houston
5	Elizabeth Moreno	Houston

Junior Girls, 12-14, Level 2

1	Angel Contreras	Houston
2	Erica Mayorga	C. Christi
3	Josephine Moreno	Houston
4	Esmeralda Sotelo	Houston

Junior Girls, 12-14, Level 3

1	Sara Ford	C. Christi
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Women, 17 and over, Mod. Level 1

1 Amber Ramirez C. Christi

Girls, 6 and under, Level 4

1 Alyssa Fincher KHB Ennis

Girls, 7-9, Level 4

1 Morgan Pyles Ft. Worth
2 Kati Horne Ft. Worth
3 Paige Slovacek KHB Ennis
4 Bailee Doherty KHB Ennis
5 Hannah Spaniel KHB Ennis
6 Alex Rider KHB Ennis
7 Patti Lynch KHB Ennis
8 Tori Henry KHB Ennis
9 Sara Griffin KHB Ennis
10 Rachelle Johns Ft. Worth
11 Victoria Seger Ft. Worth

Girls, 7-9, Level 5

1 Calleigh Morales KHB Ennis

Girls, 10-12, Level 4

1 Brandy Perhus Ft. Worth
2 Kristen Kolacek West
3 Andi Otto West

Girls, 10-12, Level 5

1 Heather Fincher KHB Ennis
2 Britanni Zhanel KHB Ennis
3 Ashley Wilson KHB Ennis
4 Kristen Keilers KHB Ennis
5 Lacy Pechacek West

Girls, 10-12, Level 6

1 Lakn Dieterich West

Junior Girls, 12-14, Level 4

1 Appa Hargiss Ft. Worth
2 Sarah Middlebrook West
3 Erika Karlik West
4 Allison Sulak West
5 Kristel Holy West
6 Jamie Vick West

Junior Girls, 12-14, Level 5

1 Hannah Slovacek KHB Ennis
2 Lindsey Keeney KHB Ennis
3 Sarah Rattan Houston

4 Brooke Craig West

Junior Girls, 12-14, Level 6

1 Cassey Young West

Junior Girls, 12-14, Level 8

1 Julie Moravec West

Junior Girls, 15-18, Level 5

1 Brynne Southwell KHB Ennis

Women, 17 and over, Level 4

1 Judy Sheridan C. Christi
2 Kristin Osman C. Christi
3 Johanna Rzya C. Christi

Women, 17 and over, Level 6

1 Kandy Cox West

Continued from page 1:

Perspective on the parade, Sokol, and my life. I represented Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky in the Houby pageant and was named Queen. This meant I led the parade on a decorated float, while wearing a fur coat, gown, and tiara rather than my usual gym shoes and sweats. It was during my exit from the float and hurried walk from the end of the parade to my Junior Class, marching several blocks behind me, that I realized it is Sokol that has brought me this far. For me, Sokol means values and experiences that will lead me to future success. Ever since I enrolled in Sokol, my teammates and instructors constantly challenge me to grow and develop into a person more mentally and physically fit. Sokol has instilled in me values that make me a better and stronger person. Through my many years of involvement in Sokol and my time spent as an officer on the Junior Board, I learned life lessons in determination, self-confidence, perseverance, teamwork, responsibility, and leadership. The things I have learned in Sokol have shaped me into an individual with a better, and more well-rounded persona. During that Houby Parade, I wore a gigantic smile as I joined my Junior class for the remainder of the parade, knowing full well that Sokol was the main reason I won a crown and that in the future my irreplaceable experiences with Sokol will help me to achieve great things.

**Stacey Domzalski
Sokol Chicagoland**

Sokol is the opportunity of a lifetime. Through Sokol, I have learned about gymnastics, calisthenics, marching, rhythms, volleyball, teaching/leadership, and the Czech culture. I have been able to travel to many places, and meet a lot of peo-

ple. Sokol is a part of my everyday life. Sokol is where I go to learn new things that I do not learn in school, a place where I can teach and be with friends. Every week, I go to Sokol knowing I will have fun there. I help teach the first class girls, and I see how much fun they have in Sokol. I love teaching them about Sokol, just as I was taught when I was their age. I hope to see many of them continue on in Sokol just as I have. Maybe one day, one of them will be teaching first class girls too. I know I never thought I would grow up to be a first class girls teacher. I have so much fun going to class every week, and seeing the little kids learning so much. I also look forward to the junior class. Some of the junior girls I met when I was four years old. Now, 14 years later we are still friends, which I think is so neat because I cannot say that about friends I have met in school. Sokol is like a big family, and we all understand and learn the same kinds of things. I have been involved in Sokol for a long time and have done many things. I have been able to travel to many different places in the United States and Canada, going to Slets, International Camp, and Instructors Courses. I have made many new friends all over the United States, and even some from Europe. I have fun keeping in touch with them through E-mail, and I look forward to seeing them at upcoming Sokol events. Traveling with Sokol has taught me a lot about being independent and responsible for myself, and my actions. I learned to be a leader and a follower. I will always have the special memories of all the places I have been with Sokol, and remember all the people I met, and friends I have made. I look forward to attending future Sokol events, traveling to more places with Sokol, and making many new friends. Sokol will always be a part of my life.

Kevin Fitzpatrick
Sokol Greater Cleveland

By no means am I the typical Sokol. Before myself, no one from my family had ever participated in the organization. I cannot claim to have been in Sokol "all my life" like most members. In fact, I don't even have an ounce of Czech or Slovak in my blood. However, if someone ever asked me who I am, I could not answer the question without the word "Sokol". As a child, Sokol was merely an extracurricular activity. Today, Sokol is a way of life for me. Between coaching and participating, I am at Sokol more days out of the week than not. Sokol has become my home away from home, and the Sokols have become my family. I have had some of my greatest experiences and made some of my greatest friends through Sokol. When I am at Sokol, I have an overwhelming feeling that there is something truly good here. While I cannot justly put that feeling into words, I can say that it keeps me coming back, and will keep me in Sokol till the day that I die.

Brooke H. Masek
Sokol Omaha

I have grown up learning and living the Sokol values, pride in who I am, physical and mental strength, and the will to achieve my goals. Sokol helped shape who I am today, and is continuing to shape who I will be tomorrow. Since 1989, I have been participating in some way, shape, or form with the Sokol organization. Before that, my father and before that my

grandfather and grandmother all participated with Sokol. Sokol has been an honored family tradition and one that we all take pride in. I remember when I became a junior member, and how excited I was to go on my first big bus ride to Philadelphia. I was nervous that I wouldn't do well, scared that I would forget my routines, and excited to be opening up my world to a whole new experience and city. That was the first of many trips I have taken with Sokol, and because of that I have gained an appreciation for travel. I was always interested to meet new people: I have met some of my best friends through Sokol and the Instructor's School that I have participated in. As a member of Sokol, I was put into situations where I knew no one and was forced to meet others. I now have an outgoing personality and an ability to make others feel comfortable when around because of this. Sokol, I feel is one of the greatest organizations because of the fact that you create strong bonds with other Brothers and Sisters in your gym, other gyms, and even other countries. Sokol strengthens the spirit, gives you a sense of well being and happiness that can come from nowhere else but from being with those that know you and care about you, and that you know know you and care about you as well. It is because of this feeling that I have when I am around other Brothers and Sisters, even Brothers and Sisters that I may not know, that I am proud to say that I am a Sister of the Sokol organization.

David Ehrenberger
Sokol Baltimore

Sokol's program has played an important role in my life with respect to self-growth. Throughout my years at Sokol, I have learned the valuable skill of leadership from watching my coaches, helping other students, and teaching. Having leadership allows me to have complete control over my students at all times, resulting in a safe and good learning environment. It also results in friendship between gymnast and coach, which is important for maintaining an active gym program. Gymnastics competitions also allowed me to travel extensively to places such as New York, Chicago, Toronto, and even the Czech Republic. This organization allows people of all ages and levels of strength to work towards the similar goal of developing a community of fitness, personal growth, and achievement. I gained knowledge of Sokol's history as well as respect for other gymnasts around the world due to my membership in this international organization. So what Sokol really means to me is opportunity. It allows for a world of possibilities that would otherwise be out of reach. To a sound mind and a sound body, NaZdar!

Kristen Ann Ehrenberger
Sokol Baltimore

Sokol, as both an organization and gymnastics program, has opened many doors in myself and in the world at large. The most important lesson Sokol has taught me, through gyming and coaching, is responsibility for myself and others. As a gymnast, it is my duty to prepare myself for workout, to know my limits and when to push them, and to ensure that my actions will not harm my fellow gymnasts. As a coach, this job is even more important as I am accountable for the safety and

well-being of my students. I have learned that my words and actions impact others in my life inside and outside the gym. Sokol also means the chance to experience new things, and to travel, whether to New York City, Toronto, or Prague. In these places I have met Sokol brothers and sisters who support the same thing I do, namely a team spirit centered on physical education for all ages. I suppose that is what Sokol's message is really about: strong minds and strong bodies in individuals lead to a healthy community. For me, Sokol means an opportunity to celebrate my Czech heritage, to be a part of a worldwide society that strives for physical prowess & esprit d' corps. NaZdar!

Michael Dropka Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky

Sokol has played a major role in my life. I have been a part of American Sokol since the age of four, thanks to my grandparents. If it wasn't for their influence, it's hard to say what I would be participating in. Sokol has taught me discipline over the years. I, just like others, went through a period of not wanting to be in Sokol anymore. This happened when I was in the middle of my years as a second class boy. I didn't like being told what to do, nor did I like calisthenics, believe it or not! My parents encouraged me to stay, and reminded me of the days I'd wish I was a junior in the Sokol program. With this in mind, I managed through the next years, following the orders which were given to me. From the Sokol program, and its teachings from right and wrong, I have never had a disciplinary problem in school. I give Sokol the credit in keeping me out of trouble. Sokol has also taught me responsibility. Teaching classes and holding offices on top of going to school is not an easy task. They require organization, self-control, and cooperation on my part. It is true that you learn from the people around you. I thank Sokol for teaching me how to manage my time and for teaching me what responsibility really is. I also would like to mention that I believe Sokol friends are the best friends one could have. National Instructors Schools really open the doors to everything Sokol has to offer. I thank Sokol for all that it has done for me. I can't wait to be able to give it all back. Nazdar!

Carissa Skrivanek Sokol Minnesota

Sokol is an organization of role models and apprentices. There is so much to share: time, knowledge, wisdom, love. The goal of Sokol is to convey these gifts, endowing youth with strong foundations for virtuous and happy lives. Sokol is all about priorities. The bonds of friendship are presented to all as we work together as a family to achieve healthy minds and bodies and to solidify the resilient ties of our relationships.

Kelly Ryan Sokol Baltimore

To most Czech's Sokol means Falcon, yet to anyone that has been involved and affected by the organization as much as I have, I can tell you it means so much more. After first learning Sokol history, I was taught the translation of the word Sokol, but to me Sokol represents unity, courage, endurance, fitness, agility, strength, friendship, leadership, and growth within the mind, body and soul. When I was younger and most of the coaches referred to everyone as sister and brother, I found it kind of unusual but as I have grown it all makes sense. In Sokol everyone treats you as you are family, even those you haven't seen before, and many of my teammates and coaches feel like my family. To me Sokol is also a teacher. After being with Sokol for over 10 years, I learned to love the sport of gymnastics, and learned to love the importance of being physically fit. I have also learned how to have confidence in myself and that all things don't come easy, many you have to work for. Even if it means doing the same skill on hundred times. Sokol taught me courage and that if you ever want to be successful, you must take risks. All of these things I have realized after going to a competition or clinic and regular classes at Sokol. As a Sokolette and junior, I also have improved my ability to concentrate, focus and be patient. Each and every quality and value I have learned from the program, has also helped me in other areas such as school. Besides a strong bird, Sokol means giving and sharing. One of the most rewarding parts of being a Sokol member is being able to give back to others what has been given to you. My coaches and members I have met throughout the years have done so

much for me by motivating and believing in me that I could never repay them. The only thing I am able to do is to help others, and hope I can make an impact on their lives and give them guidance. Over the summer I had been involved, and will be involved in a camp program in which I was actually able to work with disabled children and help them to achieve and feel good about themselves. Many other gymnastic programs may give much harsher training classes, and go to more competitions, but while those kids were being stressed out and feel like an embarrassment, I was in Sokol enjoying myself while still improving. Sokol represents so much more than on animal, and to me Sokol has changed my life in more than one way. Sokol represents strength, grace, coordination, unity, courage, perseverance, and much more. Sokol is partially responsible for molding me into the person I am today.

Blair Panackia Sokol Detroit

I was only two and a half years when I started participating in Sokol. Soon I will be 20 and with the time that has past I have experienced many things. I have learned so much, not just from the Sokol Manual but even more from the anecdotes of senior members. That is where the true Sokol wisdom and philosophies come from. The "word of mouth" history of how things used to be and what you really need to know to be a good Sokol. When I think of Sokol, the first thing that comes to mind is life-long friends. Sokol, I feel is more than just working out, I think it is really about camaraderie. What I mean by this is that going to Sokol is synonymous with having a good time. This is the reason why people are members for 50+ years. I've also built character and discipline through Sokol, for example, responsibility and leadership traits which come with teaching a class. However, I feel that the best part of Sokol is the general benevolence of its members, which is more than monetary giving. It is also giving oneself through time, experience, knowledge, and love. Through Sokol I have built a network of friends around the country that I met at the National Instructor Schools, which I attended for four years. This is what makes attending Slets so much fun because they provide a chance to see old friends and make new ones. That's what Sokol means to me, FRIENDSHIP, and yet so much more.

FUTURE SOKOL LEADERS FUND

PURPOSE: To train and education young people to assure able administrators, the best of idealistic instructors and educational directors for Sokol Units and Districts.

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 In Memory of Oldrich Drahotusky Drake from Ann Drake\$50.00

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MASARYK MEMORIAL UPDATE

The Masaryk statue will be on a triangular piece of National Park Land at 22nd Street and Massachusetts Avenue, at the beginning of Embassy Row near the first Czechoslovak Embassy and surrounded by prestigious buildings, in Washington D.C. This is a prestigious and prominent location.

This new site requires additional work that was not anticipated in the budget. Extensive paving and landscaping is required and is estimated to cost \$200,000. The Czech Republic can provide some support, but we have to look to Americans to raise the bulk of these funds, as no Federal funds are provided for the memorial.

On September 19, 2002 the memorial's formal dedication will take place. President Havel has committed himself to attend, as well as Oscar-winning actress, Sissy Spacek. We are planning a major reception and dinner, and expect President Bush to attend. More details on the event will follow.

If you have already made a contribution to the Memorial, we sincerely appreciate your support. If you have not, but would like to contribute, please visit this link: [HTTP://WWW.AFOCR.ORG/FORM.HTM](http://www.afocr.org/form.htm)

Milton Cerny, President, AFOCR

American Sokol Organization Quarterly Financial Report

January, February, March 2002

RECEIPTS

Dues	\$28,253.30
Convention Funds	13,041.00
BOI	452.25
Youth Membership	3,175.00
Jewelry	3,293.12
Lund vs AT&T - Claim	.00
Quickbooks Rebate	.00
Administration	563.65
Publication	24.00
Prague Slet Video	30.00
Slet Souvenirs	20.00
Uniform Department	2,305.18
Public Relations	108.82
2002 Camp	675.00
Additional Dep No Back Up	32.00
Total	\$51,973.32

DISBURSEMENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

FICA/Med	\$836.81
FWH	466.82
CSA Rent	2,699.96
Don W. Barnes, CPA	630.00
Earthlink	89.60
AT&T	274.37
Office Depot/ Supplies	33.62
US Postage - Non - Profit/Bulk	125.00
Cap One - Us Gymnast Subscription	156.50
Seldon Fox	358.99
IL Dept of Revenue - IL 941 4 Qtr 01	283.86
Salaries	3,470.67
Czech All. Org. Deb Ball Ad	50.00
J Tesarek - Foundation Mail	1,999.77
Sokol Brookfield - Reimbursement	60.00
Postage	140.43
CSA Copies	282.90
M. Cushing Mileage	130.00
Prepay March Rent	1,349.98
Prepay April Rent	1,349.98
CSA Ad Book	100.00
Bank Card / Service Fee	186.00
Total	\$14,889.26

BOARD OF INSTRUCTORS

FICA/Med	\$471.36
FWH	99.43
Capital One - Ribbons	86.10
Earthlink	89.60
AT&T	137.19
Chuck Kalat Reimbursement	183.90
Salary	2,432.86
Supplies	90.70
CSA Copies	282.90
Sash Dumanovic, Gymnast Editor	90.00
Total	3,954.04

EDUCATION

FICA / Med	\$66.88
FWH	15.00
Salary	366.73
Frame Warehouse	34.62
AT&T	46.50
Total	\$529.73
Publication	
Blair House Of Printing	\$2,874.30
Postage	\$228.72
Patricia Satek, Editor	\$450.00
Total	\$3,553.02

UNIFORM DEPARTMENT

FICA / Med	\$131.70
FWH	81.58
AT&T	90.68
CSA Rent/ Prepay	745.72
Salary	753.33
Total	\$1,803.01

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP

Supplies	\$2,063.54
Tidd Printing Passports	840.00
Total	\$2,903.54

ASO SLET PROFIT

Dell - Balance Of Computer	\$3,377.67
Total	\$3,377.67

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Able Printing	\$3,509.57
CSA Postage	\$220.95
Total	\$3,730.52

JEWELRY

Superior Awards	\$4,403.85
Total	\$4,403.85

Total Disbursements **\$39,330.64**

Balance Brought Forward	\$32,064.07
Receipts	\$11,308.43
Total	\$43,372.50
Disbursements	(\$39,330.64)
Total	\$4,041.86
Transfer From Savings To Checking 3/27	\$6,000.00
Balance	\$10,041.86

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