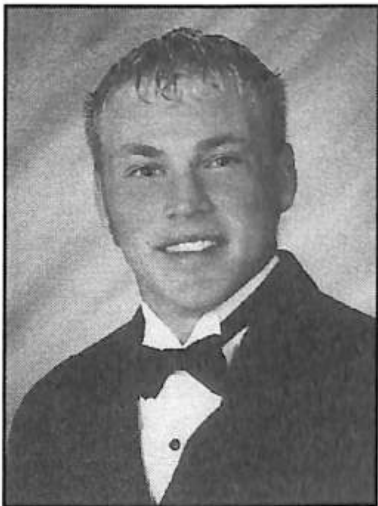
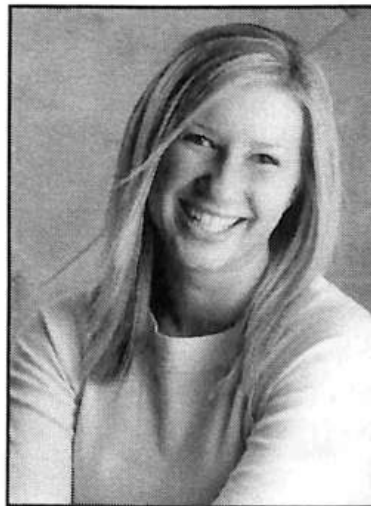


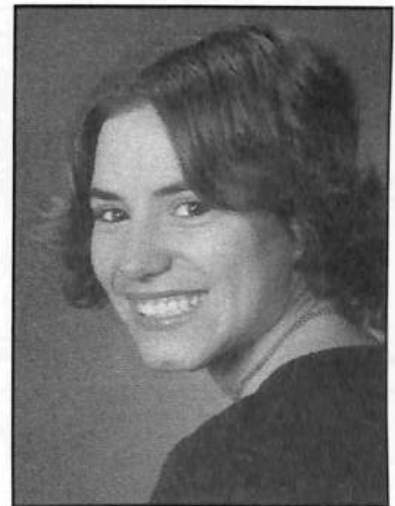
CONGRATULATIONS
to the 2004 American Sokol
Merit Award Recipients!



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Sokol West



EVIE CUTSHAW
Sokol Ceska Sin



VIRGINIA KOCEK
Sokol Chicagoland



HEATHER BEASLEY
Sokol St. Louis



SKYE WAKEFIELD
Sokol South Omaha



VERONICA KOOL
Sokol Omaha

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A.S.O. Board of Instructors meets every 2nd
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From Your Editor...

Congratulations to our 2004 Merit Award Winners! By the looks of our calendar, units are gearing up for another exciting Sokol year. The National BOI will be concentrating efforts on our June 2005 XXI Slet and the Executive Board will put their efforts into our Convention coming in April.

NA ZDAR!

Sis. Patricia Satek

46 Northgate Road ~ Riverside, IL 60546-1639

Editor@American-Sokol.org

CALENDAR of EVENTS

AUGUST

15 Sokol Minnesota Booya Picnic
15 Sokol San Francisco Picnic
20 Sokol Greater Cleveland Fish Fry

SEPTEMBER

2 Sokol Brookfield-Berwyn/Slavsky
Class Registration
7-9 Sokol New York Class
Registration
10 Sokol Tabor Class Registration
11 Sokol Detroit Grape Festival
17 Sokol Greater Cleveland Fish Fry
19 Sokol Greater Cleveland
Fashion Show
19 Northeastern Dist. Annual Mtg.
25 Eastern District Annual Meeting

OCTOBER

3 Sokol Grtr. Cleveland Card Party
8-10 ASO 18-30-yr.-old Conference
at Sokol Greater Cleveland
9 Sokol New York Night
at the Races
10 Sokol Town of Lake
Camp Reunion

OCTOBER

15 Sokol Greater Cleveland Fish Fry
22 Sokol San Francisco
Independence Dinner/Dance
24 Sokol Los Angeles Annual
October Festival
24 Sokol Grtr. ClvInd.—Cleveland
Women's Orchestra Concert
30 Sokol Little Ferry Cabbage Night

NOVEMBER

6 Sokol Little Ferry Pirogi Sale
6 Sokol Greater Cleveland
Holiday Fair
7 Sokol Detroit Czech and Slovak
Dinner Party
13 Sokol Detroit Holiday Extravaganza
19 Sokol Greater Cleveland Fish Fry

AMERICAN SOKOL CONVENTION

April 19-24, 2005 • Cleveland, OH

XXI AMERICAN SOKOL SLET

June 21-25, 2005 • Chicago, IL

THOUGHT STARTERS

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

*"Always do right. This will gratify some people
and astonish the rest."*

~ MARK TWAIN

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.

The 1938 Slet in Prague: Memoirs of Stanley Barcal

(Submitted by his daughter, Sis. Julie Barcal)

We are going to land at 5 a.m. tomorrow so I will try to tell you of our trip while I have a chance and get it to go back on the same boat.

The train ride was terrible from Chicago. Leaving Chicago was pretty tough. Everyone shed a couple of tears or had a lump in their throat. There were a lot of people there, too. We went by way of Canada and one of the wheels had a hot-box so they had to crowd us in the car behind for about 60 miles before they could pick up another coach. Then riding was a little better again. Then, about 3 a.m., it got so cold that nobody could sleep, so we didn't get any rest.

We left New York at noon and sailing was very fine until yesterday and today. The waves are pounding the sides of this ship so that it rocks from side to side like a canoe on a stormy lake. Sitting here in the library one moment you seem to be looking right down into the water and the next moment you are looking into a cloudy sky, but the old scow just shivers and plugs full speed ahead about 28 knots per hour.

The first three days we drilled on deck, but yesterday and today we couldn't get out there at all. We get up at 6 A.M. and go to bed at 11 p.m. The whole party is getting along pretty good. Yesterday we put on a program, so my sis and I were in a waltz with 3 other couples. Much fun, a few of them have been sea sick, but we that drilled and move around a little took it very well. I still have my fingers crossed.

There was a bunch of us kids that got together here and started the big apple (a dance for couples). Now at night the people from first class come here to join us and it is said to be the first time that a good Englishman has taken his coat off at a danced on this boat, and we did it. You should see some of those old battle wagons with those long gowns. Oh boy. That Englishman was an old fellow with gray hair and a swallow tail coat. When we finished he said, "That was jolly fun old chap."

The meals here are wonderful, only that right now I'm not a bit hungry.

We have a nice bunch of fellows on the team and there has been no monkey business as yet. I wish I wasn't leader, then I'd show them how to start it.



Bro. Stanley Barcal



Bro. Stan Barcal (L) with his
parents, Louis and Anna



With friends on the Aquitania.
(Bro. Barcal is center left.)

Editor's Note: Sis. Julie Barcal will share more memories of her father in coming issues.

EXECUTIVE BOARD NOTES

Submitted by Sis. Jean Hruby – National Office Manager

As summer winds down, American Sokol units are winding up. It is time to crank up the "ENERGY" and get ready for a GREAT year with American Sokol. Our enthusiastic 2005 Slet Committee, headed by Sis. Barb Kucera (Sokol Naperville, Central District President,) and Sis. Irena Polashek (Sokolice Tabor) has been busy getting plans made for "ALL ABOARD CHICAGO" to be held June 21–25, 2005. Everyone is looking forward to "sharing the ride" and having a memorable event. To start the "Slet Engines" running, we have planned a "Night Under the Stars" at Chicago's Ravinia Festival to hear the Chicago Symphony perform Antonin Dvorak's New World Symphony (do you remember the cal?). A buffet dinner reception will be shared with the Chicago Prague Sister Cities Committee. Then it is time to fine-tune the engines and make sure all is ready for the crowds to hop on board to Chicago. We would appreciate your assistance in obtaining financial donations, corporate funding, and/or any companies that could donate supplies (bottled water, trophies, t-shirts, etc.), to help defer costs of the Slet. If you work for a corporation that could sponsor a complete event or could participate in donating to the slet, or even if you know of someone who can, please call the American Sokol office at 630/368-0771 to make arrangements.

The American Sokol XVIII Convention Committee, headed by Bro. Roger Martinovic, Sokol Greater Cleveland, has set plans in motion as well for the 2005 Convention to be held in Independence, Ohio, April 21–24, 2005. All letters to the Units and Districts regarding the XVIII AS Convention will be sent out by August 15, 2004. Until the letters arrive, please refer to the American Sokol Organization

Constitution and By-laws if you are preparing to submit any recommended changes. If you have any questions regarding the XVIII Convention, please don't hesitate to contact the American Sokol office.

We had many participants represent American Sokol at the XI Canada Slet this past June in the Toronto area, and captured many medals and awards. The American Sokol Team dominated winning in Track & Field, Tug of War and Relay. All had a great time! The American Sokol and DA Sokol campers (20 of them) traveled on to Barryville, New York along with DA Sokol members to have some fun in the sun, while our American Sokol School Board and Staff prepare for the 2 week Instructor's School training July 19–August 2 at Sokol South Omaha, which is partially funded by the Future Sokol Leader's Fund.

The Executive Board has approved the BOI to run a Special Conference for 18–30-year-olds, to be held October 8–10, 2005 hosted by Sokol Greater Cleveland; Bro. Howie and Sis. Jane Wise chairpersons. There will be no Director's Conference this year, however, all annual BOI reports are still to be submitted no later than September 15, 2004.

The past year we have lost many dedicated Sokol members, yet their spirits live on in our organization as we continually strive to maintain the American Sokol mission. We are grateful for all those who have contributed to our organization and our Future Sokol Leader's Fund in their names. Thank you!

"Hop on Board" the American Sokol this year! Get active with your Sokol! We will transport your Energy from sitting to fitting!

SOKOL TOWN OF LAKE CAMP REUNION REMINDER...

This year's date is Sunday, October 10, 2004, 11:00 a.m. at the old camp grounds at 103rd & Willow Springs Road. Bring liquid refreshments, family, snapshots, memories, insect repellent, a lunch dish or dessert to share. Chicken is provided. RSVP to Mil Mentzer, 773-779-1272. We'll be looking for you!



The Sokol Educator

Sis. Joan Sedlacek, American School Educational Director

Education in the Czech and Slovak Republics

The school day may begin as early as 7:30 a.m. and, depending on the student's age, last until 5:00 p.m. or later. The teaching hour is 45 minutes.

The school year begins on the Monday closest to September 1 and ends on June 30. Children have a winter break between Christmas and New Year and a week in late March. Holidays are Easter Monday, May 1, July 5 and October 28. The year is divided into two semesters.

Children start in pre-school at age 3, kindergarten at age 5 and regular school at age 6. There are no school buses. Children ride public transportation, with special passes, or walk. Walking a mile or more to school is not uncommon.

Children begin to learn a foreign language study in 3rd grade. Many learn English. German and French are also popular. German is the first language, followed by English. Thirty five percent of Czechs speak English fluently to fairly well. The 18-39 year age group has the highest percentage. Twenty five percent speak no foreign language, about the same percentage as the rest of Europe.

School lunches are available for purchase. A typical lunch is soup, meat with potato, rice or pasta, gravy and fruits or vegetables.

The children do not wear school uniforms. Field trips are very popular. City children go to the

country and country children go to the city. They all enjoy going to castles, lakes and hiking in the mountains.

There are few private schools and most are primary and secondary. Only a very few are universities. Fees for private schools are approximately equal to one to three months of the current national average monthly salary. Some fees may be double that.

Graduation from Basic School at age 15 (grade 9) is 100 percent. Ninety five percent of the students pass the secondary school (gymnasium) final examination (Maturita) at the first sitting and 3-4 percent at the second. Entrance to the gymnasiums is very selective and only one applicant in 3 to 4 is accepted. Students in the gymnasias have a "Maturity Ball." They dress very formally in tuxedos and long gowns and attend a large formal dancing ball.

Entrance to the universities is even harder. Only 1 in 2 is admitted. Students must buy their own books.

Charles University was founded in 1348, the first university north of the Alps. It was modeled on the Sorbonne, "so that the Czechs did not need to beg for the crumbs of learning abroad, but found at home a laden table."

Jan Amos Komensky is known as the Father of Mordent Education.

Born about 1592, he was forced to leave his home in 1620 when the Czechs were defeated in the Battle of the White Mountain. He went to England and was honored by Parliament. He was invited to France to begin an Academy of Science and to Harvard to become its first president. Rather, he went to Sweden to reorganize education.

Komensky said: All children should be educated. Education should be free. Children should be treated kindly. School should be interesting. Children should be taught in their own language-not Latin.

He planned graduated textbooks so that each age would have a book according to their ability and he wrote the first book with illustrations.

Teachers work 42.5 hours each week. The week is divided into teaching time and hours for educational related activities. While money spent on education has risen, teachers' salaries have remained stable at 95.5 percent of the average salary in the Czech Republic. Language teachers, computer specialists, economics and mathematics graduates move to the private sector. Teachers do not receive compensations such as allowances for housing, transport, clothing, etc. They do not have tenure or a salary related to the cost of living in different areas of the country. Class size is a maximum of 30 students. Most classes are smaller. Teacher commitment is very high.

Information kindly supplied by Dr. Josef Mestenhauser, Katarina Vilimova, Ladislav Pust

MEMORIAM 🕯️ Sis. Betty Šmrcek Petrzalek

Betty was born into a Sokol family. Her maternal grandfather was a charter member of the Cedar Rapids unit. Both of her parents were active on the gym floor, as well as playing in the unit orchestra. With that type of lineage, Betty naturally became involved in Sokol at a tender age.

She was fortunate to have been under the tutelage of Frank Machovsky from childhood to young adulthood. With Machovsky's passing, she was to continue her gymnastics under Karl Vavra. She attended two instructor's camps in Omaha, Nebraska and Potters Lake Wisconsin under the instruction of Richard Molcar, J. Jelinek, Joe Kos and O.J. Kudrnovsky. Helping with classes was mandatory after instructor's camp during those years. Because of the depth of the program, she was particularly drawn to prostna, rhythmic gymnastics and dance.

As she matured, she was to meet her husband on the gym floor. Working, marriage, and family made many demands on her time, but her interest never wavered. She was to continue her involvement all her life. Betty helped with classes, was a BOI member for many years, served as camp director, and other gymnastic activities too numerous to mention.

As she became older, her efforts became more administrative. She held the office of President of the women's unit before the merger and also served as a delegate to several national conventions. The myriad of diverse tasks that challenged Betty included helping in the kitchen during bake sales, chairing ticket sales for fund raising suppers, and even working in the tabulating room at competition time. She served as Sokol secretary and in later years became the organizations perennial treasurer.

Like many people in Sokol and other organizations, her loyalty and dedication were generally shown behind the scenes, as self-aggrandizement was not her style. Betty's contemporaries regarded her as a cheerful, vigorous, "get things done" person. Her obituary highlighted her fierce pride in her Czech heritage. With her business acumen and computer background, she pushed to keep Sokol up to date while preserving its traditions.

Her passing came quietly and rather rapidly. Those of us who maintained that lonely vigil at her bedside were not thinking of her Sokol accolades or community achievements. We were grieving the passing of lovely wife, mother and friend. She will be missed.

Submitted by Bro. Richard F. Petrzalek

A Story of the Two-Tailed Lion

I believe this story bears repeating in our Sokol bulletin. My grandfather and uncles all had different stories to tell about the lion's tail. I've heard others too, but this is the best one.

Sis. Lillian F. Prihoda

*Reprinted from the
CSA Journal-April 2004*

Once there was a knight named Bruncvik. He set out with his fellow knights to win for himself and his country a great prize, which he could then bear on his coat of arms as an emblem, like many other knights of that time. They traveled day and night until they reached the sea, where they boarded their ship.

They sailed through all kinds of weather, until they reached the Jade Mountain, where they found many a shipwreck and many a skeleton. They realized that the Jade Mountain does not let anyone leave its shores. One knight perished and then another. Those who were left were losing hope, when Bruncvik noticed Noh, the giant bird, carrying off the carcasses of the knights; dead horses. Bruncvik disguised himself as a horse, and Noh carried him away.

The bird was feeding his young ones on a faraway shore. There, Bruncvik jumped out of his disguise and left the nest. He was heading toward the horizon when he heard a thundering roar. He followed the sound and came upon a fierce fight between a dragon and a lion. The lion was near defeat. Bruncvik did not hesitate for a second, and rushed to help the lion. When the dragon was dead, Bruncvik attended to the lion's wounds.

The lion refused to leave his friend and followed him from then on. Bruncvik was fortunate to have a lion friend,

Continued on Page 7.

AMERICAN SOKOL GYMNAST

Kandi Pajer – 117 Oakland Grove Elmhurst, Il. 60126
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2004/2005 Merit Award Winner Essays

Sokol means so much to them, see if it means the same to you.

What Sokol Means To Me

Veronica Kool, Sokol Omaha

Sokol is known as a non-profit, family organization that is dedicated to the physical advancement of its members. Children as young as three can be involved in games, songs, basic activities, sports, clinics, and camps. Although gymnastics is the most popular sport strengthening all parts of the body, Sokol also offers volleyball, basketball, swimming, bowling, golf, and track and field events. Parents and other adults also enjoy taking part in the sports, being physically fit, and spending quality time with their children in a healthy environment. Even the senior citizens are valued members of the Sokol tradition. They are both the past and the inspiration of the future. They enjoy being involved and staying fit by participating in such events as aerobics, calisthenics, marching, folk dancing, senior fitness programs, and for some even gymnastics. Now into its second century, Sokol is still dedicated to the physical fitness of its members throughout all stages of life.

Although Sokol is all of the above, to me it is so much more. To me Sokol is family and Sokol Slets are family reunions. It is knowing that I am welcome wherever I go. Wherever there is a Sokol family there is a Sokol home. Sokol is the life we live, not the activity we join and like family there is no moving away. It will forever be a part of us.

What Sokol Means To Me

Heather Beasley, Sokol St. Louis

What a powerful question! To me it means helping a young child to grow up in a strong environment. To teach them and guide them through our ever changing society. To protect them and give them role models that they can look up to. Someone they can talk to about anything. That is the friendship part of Sokol.

To me there is another part of Sokol and that is the family. Without the family element, Sokol would not be as strong as it is today. Through family, heritage begins. My heritage includes that fact that I am a 5th generation Sokol member with 3 generations alive and active in our unit. This shows that Sokol is a family tradition.

So what Sokol means to me is family and friends and between these two I get the greatest memories I will never forget.

What Sokol Means To Me

Britt Craig, Sokol West

I was three years old when I began to take classes at the Sokol gym in West. Sokol has played a very important role in my life. I guess you could say Sokol has been like part of my family. My grandmother is who introduced me to Sokol. She has been a member of Sokol since she was just a kid and she continues to help out there today. We always know if we can't find her at home she is at the Sokol gym. She kind of gives it that home feeling.

Sokol represents leadership, unity, strength, and friendship which help to develop the mind, body and soul. It has given me courage and that if you want to be successful, you must take risk. Sokol has taught me to persevere and to never give up on those goals I have set for myself.

Furthermore, by being a Sokol member I have had the opportunity to make many new friends. Sokol is more than just some gymnasium, it is important to the young and to the old. I am amazed at the older people who still participate calisthenics' can only hope that I will be able to participate when I am their age.

Never the less, Sokol means to me giving your time, experience, knowledge and love, not just within the unit but to all of Sokol and to your community. As I grew older and did not take class any longer I became the boys coach. As a coach you not only have to teach the skills needed, but also organization, self control and cooperation. Sometimes this can be very difficult, because we all know boys will be boys, but in the end when you see the results you see what all the hard work was for.

In my opinion I feel Sokol should be a must for everyone. I know it has played a very important role in my life and I am very thankful I have had the opportunity to participate. Thanks Sokol for making my life a better one!

What Sokol Means To Me

Skye Wakefield, Sokol South Omaha

Many people have asked me what this Sokol business I am constantly taking of is about or why Sokol is such a big part of my life. As most Sokol members know it is nearly impossible to explain what Sokol is or why it makes such big impacts in people's lives. They find it hard to understand how one organization can involve so many people and allow a person to experience so many new places, the chance to meet so many different people, and the ability to have a home away from home and a family away from family is what Sokol means to me.

I can remember my first ASO National Slet like it was just yesterday. I was so nervous to leave home so far away for a whole week and compete against people from across the country. It was before that slet that I believed Sokol was just about gymnastics, but I soon learned otherwise. The minute we entered the gym there were hugs and laughs from across the room from people I had never seen before but soon learned were the friends of the older junior girls. The week went on and I wasn't homesick even one night. My friends and I met our first New Yorkers and Clevelanders and saw a city we

Continued on next page-

had never seen. We made tons of friends from all over the country and had the experience of a lifetime. It was at this slet that I realized I could meet even more people and become closer friends with those I had met at the National Instructors School. Once again I met more wonderful Sokol people and made some of the best friends of my life. I loved Instructors School so much I went on to complete two more, one at home at Sokol South Omaha and then one at Sokol Corpus Christi in Texas.

Sokol also gives a person the opportunity to get away from your house when you're about to go crazy. I cannot count the number of times I came to the hall in a horrible mood and left with a big mile on my face. I can always count on Sokol being there and count on the people being warm and welcoming. It's a place to go not just for gymnastics but for other things like homework, festivals, or just hanging out. I have learned numerous things about the Czech culture and history and simply about life. I'm sure that as life goes on I will learn of other ways that Sokol affects my life, but for now the meanings of Sokol are the chances of a lifetime to see new places and meet new people and to get away from all the stresses in life when I need a place to go.

What Does Sokol Mean To Me

Evie Cutshaw, Sokol Ceska Sin

The first Sokol class I went to I thought "ok this is just a temporary place for me to go to get back into the swing of gymnastics." Little did I know the impact that Sokol would have on my life in the years to come. Looking back at the past seven years Sokol has exposed me to so many different aspects of life that I may not have encountered if I was not involved. Whether it was at a Slet or at Ceska Sin's Winter Exhibition I will always treasure the experiences and take with me the memories.

The best part of Sokol is the people. Each and every time I was at a Sokol event I could always see the dedication and pride people had for Sokol. They have a desire to make Sokol even better than it already is, but sharing what they have to as many people as possible. How many national organizations can say they have such devoted people? Everyone in Sokol is welcoming. Immediately you feel like a member of a huge family that is always there for you no matter what. That is the most substantial thing I have learned through the friendships I have made in Sokol. Sokol friends are truly one of a kind. Over the years I have lost touch with people that I don't encounter on a yearly basis. With Sokol friends that is never the case. Being part of Sokol enables you to pick right back up with friends you have not talked to or have seen in over a year. Whenever I was having a rough day and felt I couldn't go to my friends about it, I would talk to someone in Sokol because I genuinely knew they cared about my well being and wanted to help fix the situation, that they weren't even involved in, from over 600 miles away. To me that is an unbelievable type of friendship that I am so lucky to have.

Sokol has taught me so much. From developing my own skills as a gymnast to becoming a leader and instructing 20 tots how to do a proper forward roll, but most importantly Sokol has taught me many things about myself. I've learned that I am a hard working athlete that always strives for perfection. It has also showed me that through hard work and dedication you can achieve your goals. Sokol has shown me that there can

Continued on next page-
be a balance between discipline and fun. Sokol has given me the confidence I need in order to be a leader. Along with dealing with relationships between different generations and treasuring long distance friendships Sokol has always allowed me to be myself and have fun. My life without Sokol would be completely different. Being in Sokol has helped shape who I am and staying with Sokol will help me become who I want to be.

What Sokol Means To Me

Virginia Kocek, Sokol Chicagoland

At the age of three I started my attendance in Sokol classes as a tot and have progressed through all classes. When I began my three siblings had previously been attending. A parent of a tot, that I taught, asked my mother, "How did you get them so close?" I told the parent, "Sokol." My siblings and I grew up around Sokol together, which helped us to be so close. Our video case at home is overflowing with videos of years past and Sokol memories. I treasure the recollections of waking up at six a.m. to drive to Sokol Brookfield to stuff envelopes for mailing of annual Sokol events. My all time most passionate memories would be carrying a flag in a Slet or other Sokol events. This past National Slet in Valpraiso I carried the Western District flag that I do not belong to and filled in for my fellow Sokol Ceska Sin, of which I do not belong to either, in the volleyball tournament. I fondly remember at two past special number competitions my siblings and I carrying all 4 flags (Slovakia, Czech, Central District, and American.) Also, at my fourth and final National Instructors' School, I was the last member of my family to participate as a student. For the past ten years one of my siblings had attended the school. After my first school I assisted the tots classes for four years and this will be my first year assisting the first class girls. In my immediate family there are many people I look up to for guidance and support. The irony in this is that I look up to numerous people in Sokol. When I go to a Slet, Skills Clinic, or National Instructors' School, I look up to every Sokol brother and sister above me. Several of them have taught me ethics and values without even knowing it. During the various Sokol events attended I have met many friends around the States and even some Slovak pals and I keep in close contact with many of them. Many of these friends I have met from the National Instructors' School, I became so close that I anticipate my tears during graduation and at the airport. As I meet more and more people my family grows bigger and bigger. When I travel to a different state I can name off houses to stay at and I have a huge circle of friends in the Central District area. It has gotten to the point in which, we are so close that I plan to leave open all weekends in March to go to all the other Sokols exhibitions. Not simply to see my friends but to also see what other Sokols have achieved. Sokol friends are some of my closest friends I have encountered and I have even asked them to attend High School gymnastics meets, plays, dances, and choir concerts. Because I open heartily need and want them in my life. Within the Central District I have been to numerous events, fundraisers, exhibitions, TNT volunteering, dances, parades, and sleepovers. I have volunteered with TNT so much that in their number I know what is next. Without hesitation Sokol means families across the country and other parts of the world, surprising life lessons, opportunities, ethics and values. Which can all truly be combined into, friends and family but yet in reality friends are my family. Sokol means family to me. I am anxiously looking forward to the great experiences and memories ahead as a Sokol.

Great essays everyone! Congratulations! KP;)

Two-Tailed Lion (continued)

because there were many dangers ahead as he continued his quest. Together they fought the powers of evil. They beat them all, until one day they came to the Black Rock of Darkness. This was a mighty sorcerer with a magic sword that would crush anything.

The lion distracted the sorcerer and was struck by the power of the sword (ever since, the Bohemian Lion has had two tails), while Bruncvik used his shield as a mirror, blinding the Black Sorcerer, who dropped his magic sword. Now Bruncvik had the power to defeat the Black Rock. He turned the magic against the sorcerer, and under the power of the sword, the Black Rock of Darkness crumbled into little pieces. To this day, Bruncvik and his two-tailed lion stand guard on the bridge. —from *The Three Golden Keys*, by Peter Sis.



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.

In Memory of Libbie Smith from Sokol Zizka (Dallas)	\$25.00
In Memory of Agnes Sotka from Edward Linhart	\$25.00
In Memory of Stanley Patak from Sokol Zizka (Dallas)	\$25.00
In Memory of Stanley Mergl from Julie Pokorny-Conklin	\$50.00

In Memory of Charles Dvorsky

From Helen Dvorsky, Ken, Mike, Pam & Sons	\$100.00	From Eleanor Cecka & Son David	\$20.00
From George Moriarty & Helen Kadeck	\$25.00	From Tony & Lorraine Faikus	\$25.00
From Eva Faltus & Vera Kurka	\$10.00	From Lillian Picha	\$10.00
From Carol Braz	\$25.00	From Ethel & Joe Rus	\$10.00
From Frances & Charles Malina	\$10.00	From Antoinette Baron & Annie	\$10.00
From Gloria & Charles Schultz	\$10.00		
From George Moriarty & Helen Kadeck	\$25.00		

In Memory of Irene Ruzicka

From Gary Wojtczak	\$100.00	From Charlotte & Roger Lane & Family	\$40.00
From Vlasta Stribny	\$25.00	From Ken & Donna Stransky	\$25.00
From Sokol Town of Lake	\$25.00	From Vytlačil & DeValk Families	\$25.00
From Marlene & Bob Bollman	\$25.00	From Eleanor "Angel" Cecka	\$20.00

In Memory of Arthur O. Placek last surviving child of ASO President (1920-1927) Joseph Placek Sr.

From Joe Placek	\$50.00	From Chester Wiktorski Jr.	\$100.00
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In Memory of Blanche Kos

From Mr. & Mrs. Martin Lukes	\$100.00	From Sokolice Tabor	\$100.00
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In Memory of June Pros

From Jane Jurew & Mark Jurew	\$100.00	From Edward Linhart	\$25.00
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MUSEUM, LIBRARY & ARCHIVES FUND

In Memory of Blanche Kos from Henrietta & Jerry Milan	\$25.00
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Western District Honors Bro. Raymond Lastovica with Ed Pavoucek Outstanding Sokol Service Award

After the death seven years ago of our long-time Western District President and beloved brother, Ed Pavoucek, the Western District established the Ed Pavoucek Outstanding Sokol Service Award as a tribute to him. This award is given annually to a living Sokol member who, by his/her enthusiasm, leadership ability, and/or sustained Sokol activity, contributed to the perpetuation of the American Sokol Western District.

Annually, each Unit in the district is given the opportunity to nominate one person for the

award. Then the final recipient is chosen by an Award Committee set up by the District. Past recipients were Sis. Bea Pavoucek of Sokolice South Omaha, Sis. Bo Drozda of Sokol Omaha, Bro. Bob Vanyo of Sokol Minnesota, Bro. Mickey Dalton of Sokol South Omaha, and Sis. Blanche Masek of Sokol Omaha.

This year's recipient has been a member of Sokol since 1951 (53 years). He served as Unit President for 4 years and Unit Financial Secretary for 2 years. He was the Men's Physical Director of Sokol Omaha from

1955 to 1985 (30 years) and has served on their Hall Board of Directors for most of the past 30 years. On the District level, he served as the Men's Physical Director form 1962-1965 and 1967-1976, a total of 12 years. He and his wife, Pat, were tireless workers for the Western District.

It is the privilege and pleasure of the Western District to present the 2004 Ed Pavoucek Outstanding Sokol Service Award to Bro. Raymond Lastovica of Sokol Omaha.

*Submitted by Sis. Jolene Dalton,
Sokol South Omaha*

THE VOICE ...Reader Quips, Comments & Queries

Dear Sis. Pat:

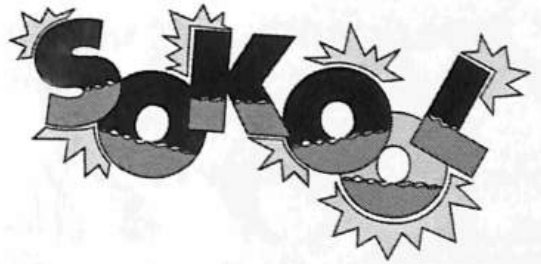
You had a good response to the inquiry **about the Sokol Slavsky building**. It was interesting that no one mentioned the sign for Cesko-Americky Sokol. They also met there. The building was a C.S.P.S. Hall built in 1879 and remodeled in 1884 after a fire. It was also the Ces-Angl Svob. Skole (Czech-English Free School). Cesko-Americky Sokol is listed at that address from 1916-1955, off and on. Sokol Slavsky is listed at that address in 1917 and 1920-1923. Each unit could have been there other years, but were not listed in the March unit listing. I have one picture (also in the Sokol Library) from about 1904. The red and white banners are hanging from the front. It is before the Slavsky sign was there. Another picture (also in the Library), looks as though it may be older, judging by the truck on the street. The top of the tower is lower with four peaks instead of one. The 45-star flag would give the earliest date, but not the latest. Once the flag is legal, it is always legal. We could fly a 45-star flag today and be lawful.

Sis. Joan Sedlacek

Regarding the Sokol Slavsky Photo ...The photo shown on the cover of the March American Sokol pictures the C.S.P.S. (Czecho-Slovanska Podporujici Spolecnost) Hall at 1126 W. 18th Street in Chicago, IL. The building was first built in 1879 with two stories and following a fire in 1882 was rebuilt to have three stories. It served as meeting rooms for lodges of C.S.P.S. (later the C.S.A.) and provided a gymnasium rented by Sokol Slavsky. The building burned down in 1957.

From Paul Nemecek, a volunteer at Czechoslovak Heritage Museum and Vice-President of Czech & Slovak American Genealogy Society of Illinois.

American Sokol YOUTH PROGRAM Activities and Information



Check out THESE youth activities and share them with the young Sokols that you know!

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS! SIGN YOUR KIDS UP FOR SOKOL!

The time of the year is here to register YOUR kids for the Sokol program in your area. Registrations are generally in late August or early September. Parents, please bring your kids in and sign them up for the exciting 2004-2005 season!

AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Youth members should have their August newsletter very shortly. Keep your eyes on the lookout for the fun activities and information.

Congratulations to the winners of the comic strip fill in contest from the May newsletter:

- Evan Savillo - Sokol New York**
- Kenny Kalynchuk - Sokol Greater Cleveland**
- Shelby Brown - Sokol Crete**
- Curtis Copeland - Sokol Milwaukee**
- Daniel Copeland - Sokol Milwaukee**

Congratulations also to the winner of the paper airplane contest from the May newsletter:

- Garrett Carlson - Sokol Cedar Rapids - 1st place**

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP

All kids between the ages of 3 and 18 have the opportunity to be part of the Sokol Youth Experience! Each gym handles their youth membership for the kids that are in their classes. This month, all Unit Directors will receive their renewal materials. It is **HIGHLY SUGGESTED** that all gyms turn in their youth member lists by **NOVEMBER 1, 2004**. This way, all youth members will receive the first newsletter of the season scheduled to go out on November 1st. The final due date for entering any youth members for the 2004-2005 season is December 31, 2004.

Youth members have many opportunities to participate in fun activities and contests for prizes. Please make sure that our youth do not miss out on this opportunity. Help out where you can in getting the youth member registrations in by November 1st.

If you want more information about Youth Activities or have ideas for programs we can do this year or in the future, you can contact your district youth ambassador or call or e-mail Tom Pajer at 630-833-6916 or tompajer@american-sokol.org.

Please encourage the SO-KOOL kids that you know to read their newsletters and participate in the contests and other programs. We give out some really cool prizes.

NA ZDAR! The American Sokol Youth Committee

American Sokol Organization Quarterly Financial Report

January, February, March 2004

RECEIPTS

Dues	\$25,101.50
Convention Funds	\$10,932.00
BOI	\$227.35
Sokol Seals	\$620.00
Youth Membership	\$1,187.00
Jewelry	\$1,908.70
Administration	\$91.44
Publication	\$24.00
WFLA Donation	\$1,000.00
Total deposit - SAVINGS	\$41,091.99

DISBURSEMENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

FICA/MED/FWT	\$2,783.56
CSA Rent	\$4,807.83
Barb Barnes, CPA	\$660.00
Earthlink	\$58.90
AT&T	\$21.97
SBC	\$494.03
Stamps & Shipping	\$214.83
IL Dept of Rev #941	\$402.39
Salaries	\$5,829.38
USPS permit #82	\$150.00
Supplies	\$214.02
WSF dues	\$100.00
CSA copies	\$360.23
Memorial Plants	\$210.00
CSA 150th banquet tickets	\$100.00
CSA Banq. Trav & gift exp	\$682.05
Reim to UNIF for Credit cards	\$217.50
Dues: Cz Congress	\$10.00
Dues: Czech Allied Org	\$50.00
Czech & Slovak Conn. Subscrip	\$12.00
Svobodna Skola Membership	\$5.00
Grant Writing Class	\$99.00
Seldon Fox	\$77.04
Unif. Dept - reim. For Credit Card	\$2,098.75
Total	\$19,658.48

BOARD OF INSTRUCTORS

FICA/MED/FWT	\$491.88
Postage/Supplies-	\$384.70
Earthlink	\$58.90
SBC	\$247.02
Salaries	\$2,538.44
Kandi Pajer Gymnast Editor	\$90.00
Kalat AAPHRED Conf Reim	\$195.00
Kalat Travel Exp	\$236.70
CSA copies	\$360.23
Total	\$4,602.87

EDUCATION

FICA/MED/FWT	\$82.08
Salary	\$510.88
Total	\$592.96

UNIFORM DEPARTMENT

FICA/MED/FWT	\$30.64
SBC	\$247.00
Rent	\$825.00
Total	\$1,102.64

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP

Supplies & Postage	
Total	\$2,156.52

PUBLICATION

eDoc Printer	\$5,805.00
USPS - Pre-Paid Postage Acct	\$2,500.00
Editor, Pat Satek	\$450.00
Postage- returns & COAs	\$33.83
Total	\$8,788.83

Balance Brought Forward (per audit)	\$2,094.21
Transfer from Savings to Checking	\$41,000.00
Credit Card Receipts	\$480.00
SubTotal	\$43,574.21
Disbursements	(\$36,902.30)
Bank Card and Service Fees	(\$165.70)
Balance in checking 03/31/04	\$6,506.21



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- "Sokol and the Sokol Ideal"
- "Our Task, Aim and Goal"
- "Dr. Josef Scheiner"
- "Highlights of Czech History"
- A.S.O. 125th Anniversary Book
- "American Sokol Sings" Songbook
- Gymnastic Activities w/Hand Apparatus
- Sokol Gymnastics Manual
- Unit ID Ribbons

BOARD OF INSTRUCTORS

- Director's Newsletter Subscription
- Instructors' Digest (Vol. I, II, III, IV, V)
- Unit Directors' Handbook
- District Directors' Handbook
- Girls'/Boys' Skills Program Materials
 - Large Packet (25 Participants)
 - Small Packet (12 Participants)
- Tots' Skills Program Materials
 - Large Packet (25 Participants)
 - Small Packet (12 Participants)
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- Birthday Ribbons

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- Year Pins (in 5-year increments: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50-Year)
- 55 Years & Over Citation of Merit

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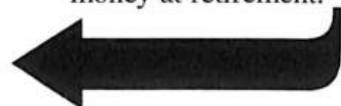
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