

american **SOKOL**

Volume CXXVI, Number VIII

OCTOBER 2004



Coming Soon to Your Gym!

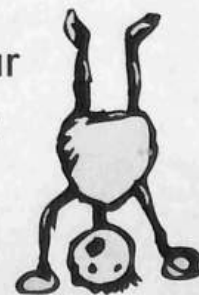
BRING A FRIEND TO SOKOL WEEK



October 18th – October 29th

With the new Sokol season in full swing, we want to encourage all kids to bring their friends in to class to introduce them to our great Sokol program. Each gym has its own unique way of participating in this program. Please contact your gym's directors or your teachers for information on dates and activities and help by

BRINGING A FRIEND TO SOKOL!



American Sokol

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A.S.O. Executive Board meets every 4th Tuesday (except July/August), 7:30 P.M.

A.S.O. Board of Instructors meets every 2nd Wednesday (except July/August), 7:30 P.M.

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Annette Schabowski

From Your Editor...

Good luck to Sokol Spirit, the newly merged Unit formed by Sokol Brookfield and Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky (see pg.4). FYI, my supply of information to publish is dangerously low. **Send me some news!**

NA ZDAR!

Sis. Patricia Satek

46 Northgate Road ~ Riverside, IL 60546-1639

Editor@American-Sokol.org

CALENDAR of EVENTS

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
- 10 Sokol Milwaukee Recognition Dinner
- 15 Sokol Greater Cleveland Fish Fry
- 16 Central District Track & Field
- 17 Sokol Greater Cleveland Sauerbraten and Pork Dinner
- 17 Sokol West Chicken Dinner
- 22 Sokol San Francisco Independence Dinner/Dance
- 24 Sokol Minnesota Pork Dinner
- 24 Sokol Los Angeles Czech-Slovak-Moravian Heritage Celebration
- 24 Sokol Grtr. Clvnd.—Cleveland Women's Orchestra Concert
- 28 Sokol Spirit Halloween Party
- 29 Sokol Tabor Halloween Party
- 29-30 Sokol Spirit Rummage Sale
- 29-30 Sokol West Halloween Lock-In

OCTOBER

- 30 Sokol New York Adult Halloween Party

NOVEMBER

- 6 Sokol Little Ferry Pirogi Sale
- 6 Sokol Greater Cleveland Holiday Fair
- 7 Sokol Detroit Czech and Slovak Dinner Party
- 12-14 Board of Governor's Meeting & Presidents' Conference
- 13 Sokol Minnesota Pancake Breakfast, Bake & Craft Sale
- 13 Sokol Detroit Holiday Extravaganza
- 14 Sokol Chicagoland Open House
- 19 Sokol Greater Cleveland Fish Fry
- 19-21 Sokol Milwaukee Holiday Folk Fair
- 21 Central District Wos./Jr. Girls Volleyball

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

"Swallowing angry words is much easier than having to eat them."

~ AL M. SCHAEFER

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)

June 17th, 1938

It is now 10 o'clock and all of us are supposed to be in bed, but you know how it is—a few moments here or there. All the rest of the kids were invited out to dinner tonite, but the teens had to stay in because they got back too late and we have to get up at 6:45 a.m. and they at 9 a.m.

First of all, I must tell you of this place where we sleep. The beds are new and clean, but they are so hard that it is like sleeping on a bench in a park. The pillows are also like that. They are packed with straw or hay, but now we are getting used to it and when we get through a tough day we could sleep standing up. There are 27 boys in one larger room and 13 in one smaller one, but in all it's great fun.

The teams drill from 8 to 11:45 then eat till 2:00. From 2 to 4 we work again and boy were we stiff!

The weather here has been rather rainy so far, but we are hoping that the sun will shine again. Most of us have very nasty colds. Today I caught one on my left shoulder so that I can hardly lift my arm. I probably will take it easy tomorrow. The food is very good and we eat enough, but I lost 4 lbs.

We haven't seen much around Praha yet, but expect to next week. My sister is sure enjoying every day. She only drills 2 hrs. per day, and the rest is all fun. She is with the gang tonite.

The people here are very nice to us. The welcome we got was very nice. I didn't think that there were that many people in Praha. Nobody here is talking war much, but they sure talk against Hitler. Every day you can see soldiers marching up the streets going somewhere and others coming in. The place where the Slet will be held is pretty well protected by hidden machine gun nests and anti-aircraft guns. Every family here must own a gas mask by the 15th of the month. The building where we sleep has a gun mounted on the roof and on the way the railroad stations had guns on the roofs and soldiers there day and nite. Along

the roads you see what you think is a haystack with soldiers around it, but it is one of those long-range guns. So you see, nothing can happen to us (maybe).

My sis went on one of those bus trips here and the darn thing upset with them, but nobody was hurt, thank goodness (never a dull moment).

Things out here are rather expensive, about like in the States and some even more, except the gym pants. We bought a pair of parallel bars here for \$125.00 and they cost \$250.00 in Chicago. Now the thing is to get them back.

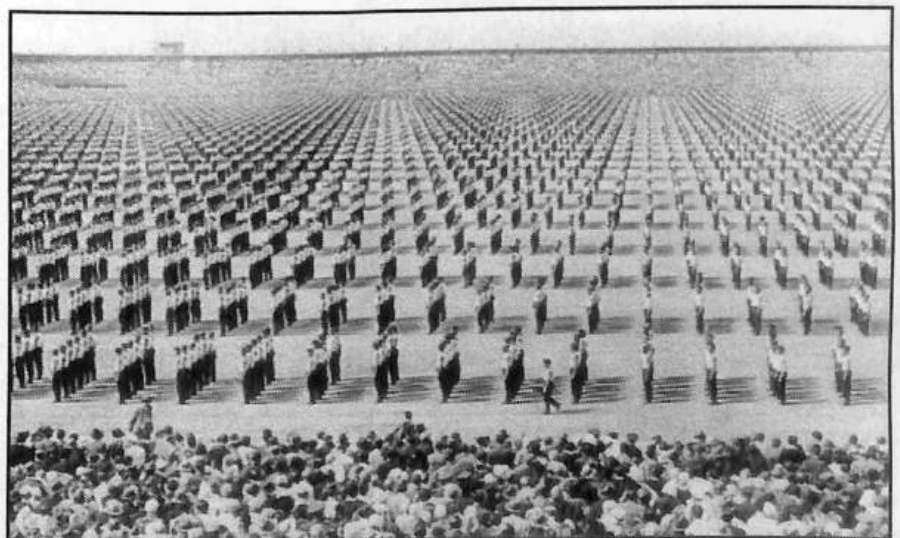
Hardly anyone here has had any news from home yet and I guess some of them are getting a little homesick, but most of us have no time for that. They say that that is a very bad feeling.

I guess I must close and hit the hay.

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series. Sis. Julie Barcal will share more memories of her father in coming issues.



Bro. Stan Barcal's sister, Mil, outside their lodging in Prague



At the 1938 Sokol Slet, a phenomenal 32,000 men drilled on Strahov's field. The women were 17,000 in number.

Merger Forms New Unit:

Sokol Spirit

A meeting of the joint memberships of Sokol Brookfield and Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky was held on Wednesday, September 1 to consider the direction of the newly combined unit. The following officers were elected for the coming year: President – Bro. Roy Zitny, IVP – Bro. Bernie Babka, IIVP – Sis. Anne Svec, Recording Secretary – Sis. Diana Rhoades, Corresponding Secretary – Sis. Doris Barda, Treasurer – Bro. Robert Barcal, Financial Secretary – Sis. Karen Frank, Women's Director – Sis. Diane Barda-Rus, Men's Director – Bro. Jim Hedderman. The unit will follow a fiscal year of January 1 through December 31, with a working year of June – June. The Annual Meeting will be held in June.

In the spirit of harmony and remembrance of our individual past histories, it was the decision of the membership to build upon that Sokol spirit and name our newly combined energies, in the spirit of camaraderie and cooperation, SOKOL SPIRIT.

It is in that spirit that we pledge ourselves to continue the Sokol work that is preceded by the members, past and present, of Sokol Berwyn, Sokol Brookfield and Sokol Slavsky.

NA ZDAR! Bro. Roy Zitny



Pictured: Seated L to R: Anne Svec, Doris Barda. Middle Row Standing L to R: Diane Barda-Rus, Diana Rhoades, Karen Frank, Robert Barcal, Bernie Babka. Back Row L to R: Jim Hedderman, Frank Ludicky, Roy Zitny.

CLEVELAND
XVIII AMERICAN SOKOL
CONVENTION
APRIL 21-24 2005 OHIO

XXI AMERICAN SOKOL SLET 2005
June 21-25, 2005

LODGING INFORMATION

For best rates, book your stay now.

Slet Headquarters Hotel: HYATT REGENCY OAK BROOK
Reserve Lodging: HYATT MCDONALD'S LODGE

RATE: \$85/night + tax
Single Guestroom, King or
Double/Double
UP to 4 person occupancy

CONTACT: Hyatt Regency Oak Brook Reservations ~ 630-573-1234
Hyatt McDonald's Lodge ~ 630-990-5800
Hyatt Reservation Center ~ 1-800-233-1234



Room availability is limited. Book your rooms now to guarantee yourself the best spot in town. The Hyatt Regency Oak Brook is conveniently located across from the Oak Brook Mall where you will find great food and high-end shopping! Just walk out the door and cross the street! Hyatt Regency Oak Brook also offers a 4,000 square foot fitness center, indoor pool, whirlpool and two sundecks, barber shop, gift shop, coffee shop, two restaurants and car rental. Minutes from Brookfield Zoo. Business services are also available.

For more information, contact: Bro. Ted Polashek ~ 708-670-2172
Or: American Sokol National Office ~ 630-368-0771

AMERICAN SOKOL FOUNDATION

Thank you for your past support. Can we count on you again?

I / We would like to support the American Sokol Foundation with a gift of:

\$30 \$60 \$90 other _____

Check for total is attached

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Call for information on stock donation

Phone: _____

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to AS Foundation and mail to

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122 West 22nd Street,
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523-1557

Please include your name, address and daytime phone. **THANK YOU!**

EXECUTIVE BOARD NOTES

Submitted by Sis. Jean Hruby – National Office Manager

By the time you read this, your nearest American Sokol unit will have received the official XXI Slet packet with all the information you need to “Hop on Board.” The package includes the Slet manual on a CD that can be viewed on a computer (originally this was distributed in loose leaf binder), and a DVD of the Slet routines (this used to viewed on VHS). This updated form of technology allows for units to print out and view only the routines that they will be using. Also, on the DVD you will hear the new XXI Slet “Jingle”/Song, which was submitted to us by Sis. Lynne Goodridge. It is very “catchy” and once you hear it, you will start humming the tune all day long.

In the Slet packet is a brochure which includes information on lodging, trolley tour, tentative schedules, venue addresses, maps, etc. We have some **important information regarding lodging** for the XXI Slet—please note that the hotel will be changing ownership this month. We do not have any details on the new owner’s “name” however, our reservations and contracts are still in place. Please do not worry. You should continue to call the Hyatt Reservation phone number and they will direct you to the new owner’s phone after the change. We will continue to keep you informed about this. We are still looking for Sponsors for each event. Please call the national office if you know of someone or a business that would like to help us out. XXI Slet information will soon be available on the Web site.

Two of our Sokol units have merged, Sokol Berwyn-Slavsky and Sokol Brookfield; their new name is “Sokol Spirit.” This name was one of several voted upon by a combined committee. The ASO Board of Instructors is reorganizing the Skills Program to continue to align with USAG routines

and change the awards. They also will be replacing the skills patches with ribbons.

The Foundation Fund will be implementing a raffle project, with artwork donated by Sis. Henrietta Milan. Raffle tickets will soon be available and the drawing will take place either at the 2005 Convention or the XXI Slet. More information about this will be forthcoming.

The Sokol Detroit Weekend Course “Pilot” project was a success. The 18–30 yr. old conference at Sokol Greater Cleveland is October 8–10 and we currently have 22 people signed up. More on the results of these two events will be available next issue.



November 12–14, 2004, we will be holding the Board of Governor’s meeting at the National Office along with a Presidents’ Conference. 31 of our Unit and District Presidents will be meeting together to discuss issues in preparation for the coming 2005 Convention.

In the office: We have ordered a scanner for the computer

system, new stock of membership pins have been ordered and we will soon have brand new Memorial/Donation envelopes and acknowledgements. If you are interested in these Memorial/Donation envelopes, please contact the National Office.

The new Sokol warm-up suits look GREAT. Contact your unit if you wish to order one. If anyone is interested in ordering Sokol T-shirts or Sokol caps, please contact the National Office.

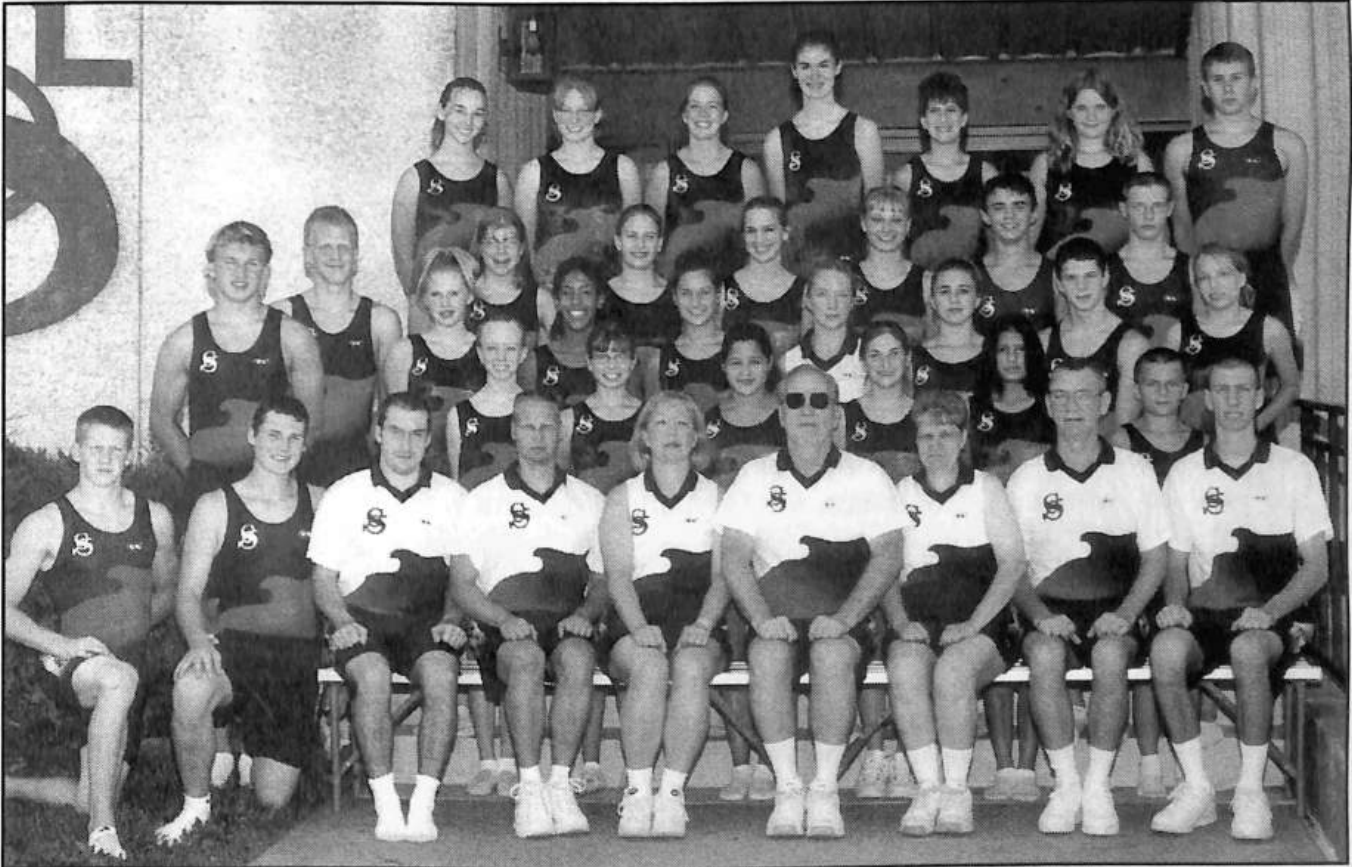
Enjoy your month—and remember, “The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having NEW eyes!” ~ Marcel Proust.

American Sokol GYMNAST

Kandi Pajer • 117 Oakland Grove Elmhurst, Il. 60126

Sokol Kurz 2004

Sokol South Omaha



Front Row (L to R): Kenneth Fron, Seamus Mullarkey, Instructors Joe Vorlicek, Buddy Benak, Mary Cushing, Bud Benak, Sandra Benak, Robert Liptak, Michael Dropka
2nd Row (L to R): Steven Kowalski, Kristin Merker, Carrie Stom, Annette Garza, Jennifer Kurland, Magdalene Alva, Michael Lee
3rd Row (L to R): Andrew Dalton, Mahala McGee, Lexy Millett, Carly Vincentini, Alisa Hollibush, Megan Rosenow, James Finn, Mary Kubat
4th Row (L to R): Dayona Barrett, Emily Leahy, Emily Rawdon, Tina Valentine, Jonathan Rus, Bo Benak
Back Row (L to R): Beth Wipf, Stephanie Valentine, Victoria Schoepke, Erin Flaherty, Allison Schoepke, Jennifer Jacobsen, Greg Weyers

Sokol Kurz 2004

By Kenneth Fron, Sokol Tabor, Central District

Sokol Instructor School, or Kurz, is a two-week course to help anyone from the ages of 12+ to learn how to become a Sokol Instructor or how to become a better Instructor. It has 5 Levels, or "Schools" is what we call them. There is Beginner, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, and Advanced II.

Sokol Kurz has five main classes: Calisthenics Terminology, Apparatus Terminology, Marching, Games, and Spotting and Progressions. Each one of these is specially designed to help train and educate the students on that particular subject. Some classes are all notes, some are all hands-on training. There are at least 15 smaller classes that you may only have once or twice in the two weeks. Those include: first aid, dancing, judging, rhythmic, self-improvement, Sokol History, Sokol Method, pyramids, and much more.

As a student, you work from sunrise to about 10:30 p.m. You start your day off with a warm-up and breakfast, and then your classes begin. The class schedule changes from day to day, but the main subjects are usually there. You have three meals a day: breakfast, lunch, and dinner. You have an hour study hall at night where you may purchase snacks or drinks.

The second to last day is graduation. The graduation ceremony is about an hour to two hours. It is composed of the Marching Number written by the Advanced students. A Pyramids Number, all the Advanced Calisthenics, the Rhythmic Numbers which the girls write themselves, a Tumbling demonstration, The Advanced II Calisthenics, and the actual Graduation Ceremony. All the diplomas are passed out. Before Graduation Ceremony all of the instructors decide upon who will be receiving the Leadership Awards. The Leadership Award is awarded to one student in every class. A total of five awards are given and they are based upon the student's ability to lead, cooperate, and work with their team.

The last day is probably the worst. It is the day everyone must say good-bye and head back home to your family. It is very sad because after eating, working, relaxing, and studying with these people for two weeks, you have built a unique bond. But the best part of all is that you know you will most likely see them at Slet or the next Kurz.

Most students who have ever been or graduated from Kurz, would never trade it for anything in the world.

Thank you Kenny! KP:)

CENTRAL DISTRICT COMPETITION RESULTS

2004 Central District Slet

Name	Gym	Place	NAME	GYM	Place
Girls			Boys		
1st Class (6-7) Level-Novice			1st Class (6-7) Level-Class 9		
Vanessa Fron	Tabor	1	Michael Otwirk	Naperville	1
Alyssa Lunn	Tabor	2	Tom Nelson	Brookfield	2
1st Class (8-9) Level-Novice			1st Class (8-9) Level-Class 9		
Clair Fron	Tabor	1	Ari Runyan-Randruut	Brookfield	1
Noelle Fajardo	Tabor	2	David Swon	Brookfield	2
1st Class (6-7) Level 1			1st Class (6-7) Level-Class 8		
Kaitlyn Barcal	Berwyn/Slavsky	1	Isai Marquez	USA-Lodge 306	1
1st Class (8-9) Level 1			1st Class (8-9) Level-Class 8		
Erin Murray	Berwyn/Slavsky	1	Danny Fron	Tabor	1
Kristen Carrasquilla	Naperville	2	Benjamin DeMaso	Naperville	2
1st Class (6-7) Level 2			1st Class (8-9) Level-Class 7		
Katie Vondra	Stickney	1	Jacob Breit	Tabor	1
Samantha Meyer	Naperville	2	2nd Class (10-11) Level-Class 9		
1st Class (8-9) Level 2			Corey Kuchynka	Brookfield	1
Natasha Bauers	Stickney	1	2nd Class (10-11) Level-Class 8		
Sarah O'Heron	Chicagoland	2	Matt Sanders	Brookfield	1
1st Class (8-9) Level 3			Josh Cohen	Naperville	2
Hailey Vachata	Stickney	1	2nd Class (12-13) Level-Class 8		
Samantha Miller	Stickney	2	Gregory Saltz	Naperville	1
2nd Class (10-11) Level-Novice			2nd Class (10-11) Level-Class 7		
Mary Frances Harris	Berwyn/Slavsky	1	John Fron	Tabor	1
Fallon McVey	Berwyn/Slavsky	2	2nd Class (12-13) Level-Class 7		
2nd Class (12-13) Level-Novice			Christian Stanko	Tabor	1
Victoria Malina	Tabor	1	Philip Soulides	Tabor	2
2nd Class (10-11) Level 1			2nd Class (10-11) Level-Class 6		
Lauren Visco	Tabor	1	Jake Cmkovich	Stickney	1
Tanya Cardenas	Tabor	2	2nd Class (12-13) Level-Class 6		
2nd Class (10-11) Level 2			Billy Ritzenthaler	Tabor	1
Alix Wilt	Berwyn/Slavsky	1	Juniors (13-18) Level-Class 7		
Gina Marie Correra	USA-Lodge 306	2	Chris Gerber	Stickney	1
2nd Class (12-13) Level 2			Matt Petkus	Tabor	2
Jennifer Baran	Berwyn/Slavsky	1	Juniors (13-18) Level-Class 6		
Louise Feiwell	Berwyn/Slavsky	2	Louis Bajek	Naperville	1
2nd Class (12-13) Level 3			Jeremy Pros	Tabor	2
Alex Zharobsky	Berwyn/Slavsky	1	Juniors (13-18) Level-Class 5		
2nd Class (10-11) Level 3			Kenny Fron	Tabor	1
Maggie Sladek	Stickney	1	Men (18+) Level-Class 7		
Heather Conway	Berwyn/Slavsky	2	Ken Nagel	Berwyn/Slavsky	1
2nd Class (10-11) Level 4			Men (18+) Level-Class 6		
Kaitlan Fron	Tabor	1	Mike Michalek	Chicagoland	1
2nd Class (10-11) Level 5					
Adrienne Schertz	Naperville	1			

CENTRAL DISTRICT COMPETITION RESULTS

(continued)

Name	Gym	Place
Juniors (12-14) Level-Novice		
Deana Murphy	Brookfield	1
Juniors (15-18) Level-Novice		
Jasmine Stephens	Tabor	1
Juniors (12-14) Level 2		
Rebecca MacKenzie	Brookfield	1
Erika Macias	USA-Lodge 306	2
Juniors (12-14) Level 4		
Samantha Porretta	USA-Lodge 306	1
Elizabeth Rivera	USA-Lodge 306	2
Juniors (15-18) Level 4		
Melyssa Petkus	Tabor	1
Juniors (12-14) Level 5		
Taylor Vachata	Stickney	1
Juniors (15-18) Level 5		
Kristin Merker	USA-Lodge 306	1
Juniors (15-18) Level 6		
Bernadetter Mangialardi	Tabor	1
Juniors (15-18) Championship		
Alex Lanzel	Berwyn/Slavsky	1
Women (18-24) Level 4		
Beth Kocek	Chicagoland	1
Women (25-34) Level 2		
Irene Polashek	Tabor	1
Women (25-34) Level 4		
Christina Curran	Tabor	1
Master I (35-49) Level-Novice		
Maureen Stanko	Tabor	1
Master I (35-49) Level 1		
Andrea Scheirer	Chicagoland	1
Master I (35-49) Level Master I		
Laura Kilma	Brookfield	1
Master II (50+) Level-Novice		
Florence DelCarlo	Chicagoland	1

Congratulations to all competitors
an a job well done!

Sokol Detroit Endowment Fund Golf Outing

What a grand day it was for the second golf outing sponsored by the Sokol Detroit Endowment Fund Committee. The weather was perfect and members and non-members waited patiently for the hour to arrive for the game to begin. The starters led the train of golf carts dropping each off at their respective starting tee. At 1:30 sharp, teams began to play.

The outing was sold out with 109 golfers, 19 hole sponsors and 11 non-golfer dinner guests. We had Sokol members from near and far coming to participate. The farthest were Major David and Laura Bares, Sokol Detroit members from Minot AFB, North Dakota and, from Naperville, IL, Sokol Naperville members Bob and Barba Kucera. We'd like to thank Sokol member and owner of the Barnstormer, Rob Cortis,

for bringing some celebrities to play along with us: Sergei Federov – former Red Wing Hockey player; Jim McMahon, formerly of the Chicago Bears and Minnesota Vikings; Kato Kaelin – actor; Dan Goodale – professional bull rider; Robert Levey – executive producer of Tapestry films; Dylan Haggerty – actor and son of Dan Haggerty known as grizzly bear; Jeff Davis – from the TV show Happy Family; and Jazzmine Huttington – from the TV show BayWatch. There was a social hour after the outing which included many door prizes and a delicious meal.

Along with the many prizes, we also gave out the following trophies: First Place Trophy was won by the Goodale team; Longest Drive for Men – Jim McMahon; Longest Drive for

Women – Kirsten Conely; Closest to Pin for Men – Jim McMahon; Closest to the Pin for Women – Carolyn Sabados. New this year was a Marshmallow Driving Contest which was won by Terry Gould—with a winning drive of 40 yards!

The Golf Committee would like to thank Dorothy Mily, Lisa and Laura Bares, and Barb Kucera for their help at the registration table, organizing the door prizes and manning the Marshmallow Driving Contest.

At this time plans are under way to hold the third golf outing which will be held on Saturday, August 13, 2005. Mark your calendars.

*Submitted by Bro. Ed Sabados,
Sokol Detroit*

*Photos provided by Bro. Mike Cortis,
Sokol Detroit*



American Sokol TRAVELING SUMMER CAMP

The American Sokol "Keeping Our Kids" committee is considering implementing a program to keep more of our kids active in Sokol activities over the summer. This program is a traveling summer camp. This camp will be open to interested Units and Districts. The camp will be a combination of physical, artistic, social and fun activities organized to really give participants a great time to remember while simultaneously keeping up Sokol interest over the summer.

While the details of the program are not in place yet, we are hoping that Units and Districts will provide housing either at their gym or with local members and that the American Sokol will fund all program materials, food and salary for the traveling staff members.

To begin our work in planning for this camp, we need to discover if we can find a staff of counselors to travel to interested Districts and Units and run weekend camps all throughout the summer. In order to achieve this, we obviously need staff members that are interested in committing to a Friday-Sunday obligation on certain weekend during July and August.

We understand that staff members will be unavailable to work at summer jobs during these camps. Therefore, the position that we are trying to fill is a paid position. You will not have to commit to all eight weekends in July and August to be considered for this opportunity.

Staff members will be expected to be leaders and comfortable working with groups of kids. Organizational skills are a must. The staff will be responsible for organizing the program and implementing it for the weekend. They will need to keep the motivation of the participants high and achieve our goal of keeping kids interested in Sokol over the summer.

In order for this program to proceed, we need a list of individuals that are interested in this excellent opportunity. This in no way is a commitment. It is simply a way for us to see if we have enough people to work from to continue with this idea.

If you may be interested in this opportunity, please e-mail or call at tompajer@american-sokol.org or **630-833-6916**. Please send us your interest by **November 15, 2004!**

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.

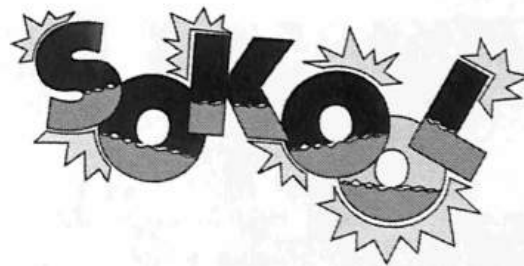
In Memory of Charles Dvorsky from Sokol Havlicek Tyrs	\$25.00
In Memory of Tony Jirousek	
From Tony & Janet Kirch	\$100.00
From Eric Kirch	\$35.00
From Debbie Kirch	\$50.00

MUSEUM, LIBRARY & ARCHIVES FUND

In Memory of Jerry Carnot from Laddie & Martha Lizak	\$20.00
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ATTENTION Sokol Town of Lake Members: Do you know the whereabouts of the Sokol Town of Lake flag? The Sokolice flag is accounted for, but the Sokol flag is currently missing. If you have any information, contact Bro. Curt or Sis. Mil Mentzer at 773-779-1272. **NA ZDAR!**

American Sokol YOUTH PROGRAM Activities and Information



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

PASSPORTS - DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT THEM!

All new youth members, as they join the American Sokol, are sent a Sokol passport. Youth members will keep this passport throughout the duration of their youth membership. In this passport, they can record notes from the events that they attend as well as receive stamps or stickers specifically made for that event. Please encourage the youth members that you know to bring their passports with them to every Sokol event. Hopefully, over time, the passport will be a great memory for any youth member!

The Youth Committee Wants YOU!

The youth committee is committed to providing great activities, contests and information for the 1700 youth members in the American Sokol. The following people are on this year's committee:

Tom Pajer, Pat Satek, Bob Kucera, Kathe Heetel, Maryann Fiordelis,
Christina Curran, Beth Kocek, Nicole Marchluk, Mary Ellen Newsom,
Lynette Gilbert, Kandi Pajer

Though the members of this committee are very talented and committed, we are in need of more people to help out with the multitude of programs that we run. Please help out and volunteer to be on this VERY important committee. Please contact Tom Pajer at tompajer@american-sokol.org or 630-833-6916. Help us MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

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 Unit 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



Get Ready to *Hop On Board!* with 2005 SLET SOUVENIRS!

The souvenir committee is working diligently on getting everything set for your purchase of select 2005 Slet merchandise. The committee is currently preparing prices and order forms. Get ready to shop at the end of October!

NEWS

...from Sokol Los Angeles

Although our Sokol Hall in Los Angeles was sold, our club is still going strong. During the last two years, we have worked hard to keep the Sokol spirit high.

In our monthly meetings, which take place in a huge room in a beautiful park in Glendale, we have an attendance of 30-40 people who participate and bring new ideas to the group. Every Tuesday, participants do exercises and enjoy a little lunch and a great friendship.

We provide Czech classes for people who are interested. Our great teacher, Romana, has two groups: beginner and advanced beginner, each with about 20 people. Our Education Director, Sis. Millie Urbanski, does a great job of running this program.

The year 2004 started with a Valentine Day candlelight dinner, where participants enjoyed a Czech dinner, read Czech and Slovak poetry and love stories, and each received chocolate hearts and flowers. In March, 120 people enjoyed pork, dumplings and sauerkraut at our Spring Social. We danced to Czech music and had a sing-along of Czech and American music. There was a tombola and prizes for the most beautifully decorated Easter eggs.

In July, there was a workshop where children and adults learned about the Czech, Moravian and Slovak cultures, geography, history, music and language. Children and adults participated in Sokol exercises led by our Director Bro. Otto Notzl. There was dancing with Czech music and a Czech language lesson.

In October we will have our annual Czech, Moravian and

Slovak Heritage Celebration with great food and music. This celebration will be in conjunction with the CSA Lodge Los Angeles and participants of the Pacific District (San Francisco and Fresno). Teachers will help us learn new Czech dances and different musical games and, of course, there will be our tombola.

December brings our Mikulas celebration for children and adults. Presents will be brought by the devil or the angel, depending on one's behavior in the last year. We will provide Christmas food and sing Czech Christmas songs.

As you can see, Sokol Los Angeles is alive and well. We enjoy our meetings and the friendship that these get-togethers bring. If you ever come to Los Angeles, please let us know so we can welcome you to our lovely group.

NAZDAR! Sis. Marcella Skubna

THE VOICE

...Reader Quips, Comments & Queries

We received two responses regarding the unidentified gymnast on the cover of the September issue. We got the same first name, but different last names and home towns. If you have any more information to help out, contact the National office or the editor.

1. Hello. My name is Tonya and I work with a lady named Rose Roch. I was reading her your September newsletter with the picture of the gymnasts on the front. (She did gymnastics for the American Sokol Women's Team in 1938.) While reading Rose the names, she said she remembered all of the young ladies in the picture, but her name was not listed. We looked at the picture of the "unknown" gymnast and compared it to pictures of Rose when she was younger. We think it is her! Her name was Rose Straka and she was from Wisconsin. I hope this helps and I hope it is her!
2. Elsie Pesek Khol from Sokol Greater Cleveland called the office and identified the "unknown" gymnast as Rose Hilsky from the Eastern District. Sis. Logiudice checked with Norma Zabka who said Rose was from Sokol New York and was her teacher.

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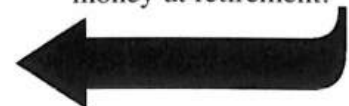
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