

SOKOLSKÝ VĚSTNÍK

Bulletin of
Gymnastic Association
Sokol San Francisco

P.O. BOX 4006
MENLO PARK, CA. 94026-4006

1998

JUNE - JULY **** ČERVEN - ČERVENEC

Issue # 4

CZECH IMMIGRATION TO CALIFORNIA

Jan Kucera

Very little information is available on the first wave of Czech immigration to California. The discovery of gold was noted in Czech newspapers and immigration agents were present in Bohemia and Moravia to handle the requests for passage to California. The first available records for Czechs in California show, that in 1853, - 3419 Czechs came to California: 1311 from the Plzen(Pilsen) district and 1009 from Budejovice district. In 1854, the number increased to 6,128, but by 1855 had dropped to 3021. In 1859 only 842 new immigrants arrived. In his book "The Czechs (Bohemians) in America" Thomas Capek states that immigration from Bohemia to the United States during the Gold Rush period was about 25,000. If one refers to the above figures, obviously not all of the 25,000 could have come to California, but sizable number did make it and formed the basis for a Czech community.

After the Gold Rush the Czech immigrants moved to the cities or set up small agricultural (especially fruit) concerns in the Central Valley - around the towns Fresno and Clovis. In the 1860s a Bohemian by the name of Frank Korbelt came to California. He had worked in Panama and had made some money operating a canteen during the Canal project. He settled in the Russian river region near the wine-growing areas of the Napa and Sonoma valleys and claimed some land on a bend in the river, about two miles upstream from the town of Rio Nido. First he cleared the land of its redwoods and sold the lumber, then he tried to grow the wheat, but without success. Eventually he planted a vineyard, working around the huge stumps that were too difficult to remove and thereby creating one of the most picturesque vineyards in the state. At first he manufactured dry champagne, "Grand Pacific", which later was known as Korbelt Brut. As of 1949, the vineyard was still owned by the Korbelt family, but since then it has passed into other hands and is noted for its fine brandies.

In 1876 a Czech organization in Chicago, "The Ceska Osada" (meaning Czech Colony) was considering a move to a warmer climate. "Onward to Texas, Arizona and California" read their address, - "let the Czechs feel joy of resting in the shade of orange trees after daily toil!" They sent a committee to Shasta County, California, to report on conditions. Some of the members opposed a move there because they felt the land prices were too high. Oklahoma, Kansas or Nebraska seemed to offer better opportunities. In addition a member of the committee and a supporter of the California move, Frank Petrovec, was killed in the train crash during the investigation and this discouraged many of the members of Ceska Osada.

The Czechs who did come to California were described as "splendid pioneers, industrious and law-abiding." One of their number, Frank Lastufka, was the Czech vice-consul in San Francisco from 1886. He was also one of the founding members of Sokol San Francisco. His interest and helpfulness earned him the affectionate title of "Father Lastufka".

This was the first beginning of immigration to California. Later another mighty waves of immigrants came to the shores of the Pacific ocean, but this could be entirely new chapter.

April 1998

Dear Camper:

Enclosed is the registration package for the 1998 Sokol Family Camp at Dinkey Creek. The date this year is the week of **July 19-26, 1998**. Please note the changes that are being implemented this year for the first time:

To attend, you must pre-register and pre-pay.

There are new forms to sign and mail in along with your registration. A new set of "Camp Rules and Guidelines" is included for your review as well. Please note that only **complete** registrations will be processed. Incomplete registrations will be held and you will be contacted to supply the missing items. Depending on the interest in the camp, the delay could mean that you may not be able to get the accommodations of your choice or be able to attend camp at all.

The deadline for sending in your registration is June 15, 1998 if you are paying with a personal check. Registrations mailed in later will be accepted but payment must be made in the form of a cashier's check or money order. The final deadline for accepting applications is July 15, 1998. Make checks payable to "Pacific District of ASO".

REGISTER BY RETURNING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- 1) **A completed registration form**
- 2) **A signed Release of Liability/Agreement to Comply**
Please note that each adult camper must sign and initial where indicated before the registration can be processed. You may copy the form and have each adult sign individually on separate sheets if that is more convenient. However, no registration will be processed until all of the adults included on that registration have signed the liability release and agreed to comply with the Camp Rules.
- 3) **Payment IN FULL** in the form of a check (if being mailed prior to June 15) or cashier's check or money order (if being mailed after June 15). Your reservation will be confirmed by mail. Please note you must have a confirmed reservation to attend camp.
- 4) **Permission to Attend/Minor Registration Form** signed and completed by the child's parent or legal guardian, applicable only if you will be bringing with you and chaperoning at camp a minor child whose parent or legal guardian is someone other than yourself (for example, your own child's friend or the child of a friend or relative for whom you will be responsible.) We must have a separate signed and completed form for each minor child attending without his/her own parent/guardian.

Mail registration and direct inquiries to:

Cheri Riddle
113 2nd Street
Clovis, CA 93612
(209) 299-5807

Thank you for your interest. We are looking forward to seeing you in camp!

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May 10, 1998

To: American Sokol
San Francisco Chapter

From: The San Francisco Turners & Swiss Gymnastic Club

Re: Letter of Resignation

Dear Sokol's

This letter is to advise you of our decision to resign from the American Sokol's, San Francisco Chapter.

When we were first invited to join your organization, it was as fellow gymnasts. The general feeling was that joining with the Sokol's would be mutually beneficial, and this would be a wonderful way to continue with our ongoing gymnastics, exercises and meetings. We were also excited to belong to a group that felt as we do about gymnastics.

After the Sokol building was sold, it was felt by all of our members, that there was no longer any support for us in our gymnastic endeavors. We have noticed that in your monthly meetings, as well as in your newsletter, no effort is being made to locate a hall where we can all get together and be able to do our exercises each week as we have been doing in the past.

Whenever this concern is brought up by us, we are told that the most important thing at this time, is to find a place to hold Sokol dinner dances.

In regards to the direction that the Sokol's are going, we feel that it would be in the best interest of both of our organizations to resign.

Thank you very much for your support in past years.

Sincerely,

Wayne J. Walden

Wayne J. Walden , President of the San Francisco Turners

CC: Chicago Sokols

CC: Sokol District Office

P.S. Please see attached list for names of resigning members.

Karl Bode
John Ivantcho
Al Cunningham
Ernest Gentner
Jules Matula
Paul Scherrer
John Reynolds
Richard Ruppel
Jerry Topolos
Clifford Tucker
Karl Wuttke


Patricia Drechsler
Sudy Haderle
Patricia Bressler
Sandra Madrid
Virginia Ruppel
Erna Matula
Frances Ossman
Susan Walden
Christine Topolos
Marion Wuttke



GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION "SOKOL" SAN FRANCISCO, INC.
EDUCATIONAL AND PHYSICAL CULTURE ORGANIZATION
P.O. BOX 4006 MENLO PARK, CA 94026-4006

San Francisco Turners & Swiss Gymnastic Club
San Francisco Chapter

June 5, 1998

Dear Turners:

We thank you for your letter dated Mays 10, 1998 you informed us that all members of Turners Organization, named on your list, resigning from Sokol Organization. Sister Blanche Duffey delivered your letter to BR. President at our membership meeting on May 12, 1998, and Br. President Dlask read it to the present members.

In the past times your Organization was actively participating in our Sokol Unit activities. You were exercising and socializing in our Hall in San Mateo for long time. Unfortunately both of our Organizations were aging and could not use all of the Sokol equipment and the hall fully. Equipment was stored in our spare hall room for years and building need of maintenance and high insurance which Sokol Organization could not afford any longer.

At our meetings we always discussed Sokol Unit efforts for rent and dinner dances as Sokol's only source of income. Without it, our Sokol Unit hall would not exist long time ago.

After Sokol building was sold, several members of Sokol approached Br. President with idea to rent a space for their special interest use, such as dancing, singing, socializing and in your case, exercising and socializing. Sokol leadership considered all request.

Now, Board of Sokol San Francisco accepts your resignation. We all here at Sokol Unit would like to thank you and Br. Walden especially, for all help you tried to give to Sokol. In that case it was a good show of Turners/Sokol spirit that our Organization always pursued. We, at Sokol believe that will be fondly and with appreciation remembered by all of us.

We hope that the Turners, being historically an older and stronger Organization, will be able to give your members all the things you enjoyed at our Sokol San Francisco Unit.

With best wishes to the future of your group!

Sincerely "NAZDAR."

Frank Dlask
Frank Dlask, President

Paul A. Burda
Paul A. Burda, Financial Secretary

cc) ASO Chicago
Sokol "Zupa" Los Angeles
Sokol Fresno

Georgina Teyrovsky
Georgina Teyrovsky, First Vice-president

Edmund Teyrovsky
Edmund Teyrovsky, Chairman Financial Committee

Unfortunately this column is being written on a solemn note.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Sis. Helen and Mr. Livingston. Sister Helen's mother in law, Mr. Livingston's mother passed away last month. Their three sons also lost the Grandmother. She was buried in the mausoleum of Teyrovsky family in Hayward. May she rest in peace.

We wish a speedy recovery to **Bro. Vaclav Havlik**. We missed you and hope you will soon be with us.

Sister Anna Nečas also spent a few days in the hospital and is recovering now from the stroke. We wouldn't expect those two active members, who always worked together on our dances also to join each other in the sickness. We want to see you again.

PLANNED DANCES FOR AUTUMN:



Apparently the Dinner Dance on May 15, 1998 at Schroeder's Restaurant in San Francisco was very successful judging from the attendance, good food and whole surroundings. Sister Georgina Teyrovsky informed me, that for the autumn season Sokol San Francisco would like to make a further improvements so it would be more convenient to our members and their guests. The planned dances at Schroeders Restaurant will be in the future always on Saturday. Further, we are negotiating with our former music band of Van Neck, who used to play on our dances in the Sokol Hall. His music is closer to our liking.

Put following dates on your calendar:

Saturday - September 26, 1998 - Dance
 Saturday - October 24, 1998 - Dance
 Saturday - December 26, 1998 - New Year's Dance

Our Sokol Unit will not hold monthly meetings during the months of June - July and August. Most of our members will be apparently out of town on vacation or perhaps traveling overseas. The first monthly meeting after vacations will be held in the home of Bro. Andrej Kojnok 1690 Morton Ave. Los Altos, Ca. 94024 - on September 8, 1998 at 7.30 PM.

WE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED DONATIONS FOR VESTNIK

4/14/98 E.G. Teyrovsky \$ 73.37
 4/22/98 E.G. Teyrovsky \$ 100.51

Any help toward the expenses of printing and postage of Bulletin (Vestnik) is appreciated. All other work is free !!

Incidentally, we welcome the articles in English or Czech, so send in your contribution.

WORD OF WISDOM"

If you have tried to do something and failed, you are vastly better off than if you had tried to do nothing and succeeded.

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San Francisco Bay Area Chamber Choir

18020 Reamer Road
Castro Valley, CA 94546
Phone: 510-581-5714

581-5714

May 1998

Dear Friends,

The San Francisco Bay Area Chamber Choir, an independent, non-profit organization, has agreed to sponsor a visit to the Bay Area for the 40-voice Charles University Choir from Prague from July 5-11, 1998. We are seeking host families who would provide sleeping accommodations, dinner, breakfast and transportation to and from a centrally located bus loading area in the morning and late afternoon.

On the three nights of July 5, 6 and 7 they will be staying in the Peninsula/South Bay area with the loading point in Palo Alto. They will perform on Tuesday evening, July 7, at the First Methodist Church of Palo Alto.

On the three nights of July 8, 9 and 10 they will be staying in the East Bay with the loading point in Hayward. They will perform in the late afternoon of July 9 at the Commonwealth Club of California, and on the evening of Friday, July 10 at All Saints Catholic Church in Hayward.

General admission for the Palo Alto and Hayward concerts will be \$10, \$8 for seniors and students. Host families will receive complimentary tickets.

If you are able to host one or more singers, please complete the attached form and mail it to the appropriate person by Monday, June 1. If you are unable to host, but would like to help financially support the choir's visit, you may send a tax deductible donation to SFBACC, indicating Charles University Choir on the bottom of the check. We are setting up a fund to underwrite the costs of a chartered bus, entry fees, lunches and other miscellaneous expenses. Please send your donation to:

SFBACC
c/o Cartwright Associates
3209 Castro Valley Blvd.
Castro Valley, CA 94546

The Charles University Choir is a truly wonderful group, and our choir is honored to be of assistance in enabling them to make an historic first visit to the West Coast. We deeply appreciate any level of support that you will be able to provide. Hoping to meet you at one of the concerts, I remain

Cordially yours,


Harry Carter, Director
San Francisco Bay Area Chamber Choir

HOW WAS IT THEN.....???

Today, we are complaining that we live in the times of social, moral and patriotic decline and nobody is willing to help. We believe, that our ancestors had it much easier because there everybody was willing voluntarily to work for common causes. Older generation always remember "the good old days," but hardly they know what problems their leaders must overcome. In the old times, just as today, there were only a few dedicated officers and members who carried all responsibility.

It was not easy even in 1904 to establish Sokol organization in San Francisco. There were a few enthusiastic individuals who had high dreams and bright ideas and only with their perseverance they succeeded.

Recently I had the opportunity to look in some of the old records and minutes of past meetings of Sokol San Francisco. I found a lot of interesting things which I would also share with our members. I plan occasionally to publish in our Vestnik some extracts from the old records and look deeper into the history of Sokol San Francisco. For June - July Vestnik I decided to publish the story of sale of Sokol Hall on Page Str. in San Francisco, which happened just 30 years ago and is very similar to the sale of our Sokol Hall in San Mateo. It went like this.....:

During the Annual meeting in 1968 Bro. Jan Kucera presented the detailed report of activities of our Sokol unit for 1967. He reminded that the last year we had lot of problems. The year before we lost our President Bro. Ant. Kohoutek, who was for many, many years the strong pillar of our unit. We could not solve the problem with our music band and for that reason the celebration of 28th October was canceled. For many years Sokol Vestnik was very popular, but because for disobedience of editors and the doubtful articles recently printed, it has to be closed. Also, the display of pictures of "topless girls" in our Club-room provoked very critical discussion, many protests and the pictures were consequently removed.

In the closing debate Bro. Karel Slajer made a motion, that we should consider the sale of building on Page Str. in S.F. because it is in the hostile surroundings, the attendance on our dances is falling and renting is very difficult for the same reason. After rather lively discussion it was decided to postpone this subject until next meeting.

In the following meeting early in May 1968 Bro. President Jiri Spanek opened the debate about the possibility of selling the Sokol Hall. This discussion brought very diverse opinion among the present members. There were many voices supporting the sale and also against the sale. Bro. Karel Slajer brought to the meeting the real estate agent, who presented the offer from the Baptist Church. They offered \$ 70.000.- for the building with \$ 35.000.- in cash and the rest would be in the installments if the offer would be accepted. It was further decided to send a special questionnaire to all members with the letters explaining the reasons for the sale and against the sale. Bro. Karel Slajer will compose the letter with the reasons for sale and Sister Bizek against. Because this offer has the time-limit, we must call a special meeting on May 28, 1968.

Special meeting was held on May 28, 1968 and 63 members were present. During the heated debate some members complained that the meeting was not properly called. This should be done by recommended letters. It was proposed to call the new meeting also with the possibility to vote by Proxy.

This meeting was finally called on June 14, 1968 and there were 48 members present. The decision was also made that our "Sokolky" sisters can vote. Prior to the voting Bro. President J. Spanek challenged the members to make promise, that our unit will buy another building within one year. The members agreed to this promise. Bro. James Frolik, our legal advisor was present on this meeting and he read the resolution, which will be presented to the Sokol Directors and which authorized them the full power to sell the building.

Now the moment of truth was here and serious moment of voting by the present members and by proxies came.

The results : For the sale 103 votes Against : 9 Invalid : 4

With this act the sale of Sokol Hall on Page Str. in San Francisco was decided. Nevertheless the defeated minority provoked many arguments and threatened that they will quit the membership in Sokol San Francisco. Very few did.....

Jan Kucera



Sokolovna na Page Street

← 1912



1997 →



Sokolovna u Sv. Matěje

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DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES

Brothers and Sisters the time for payment of Sokol dues is **N O W**.
You can use the below preprinted card.

1998 Dues --Pay Now
Send Your Dues - \$ 25.00
per Member to.
Jenifer NOVAK
1759 Cape Coral Dr.
San Jose, Ca 95133-1109
Tel: (408) 259-7454

Enclosed check - Money order in the amount of \$.....
My membership dues for the year 199.....\$.....
Donation - Contribution (if any).....\$.....
Name.....
Address.....
City.....State.....Zip.....

GYMNASTIC APPARATUS TO BE DISPOSED:

When we sold the Sokol Hall we were left with the excess of gymnastic equipment ,which is now in the rented storage room and apparently will never be used again. Our unit would like to dispose of this equipment . We would accept any reasonable bid preferably from any active Sokol unit in United States. If there will be no interest from Sokol units ,we would offer this equipment to local gymnastic clubs or local schools.

What is available:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Parallel Bars | 1 Spring Board |
| 1 Uneven Bars | 1 Mattress - Thick |
| 1 Low Bars (Hand stand bars) | 9 Mattresses Regular |
| 1 High Beam | 3 Mattresses (Old) |
| 1 Low Beam | 1 Box of Indian Clubs |
| 1 Horse | |

The Kitchen Equipment:

- 1 Meat Grinder (Electric)
- 1 Sausage Stuffer
- 1 Dumpling Mixer

There is a whole library of mostly Czech and some English books.
the list of books is not available, but could be provided later.

We čtvrtěk 30. dubna t.r. schválil Senát Parlamentu České Republiky vstup země do NATO. Pro bylo 64 senatoru, proti se vyslovili pouze dva komuniste a jeden socialistický demokrat. Dva senátoři se hlasování zdrželi, zbývajících 12 zákonodarců bylo buď na zahraniční cestě, nebo se jednání záměrně neúčastnili.

Drtivou většinou 80 hlasů proti 19 se americký Senát v noci na pátek 1. května vyslovil pro rozšíření NATO o Českou republiku, Polsko a Maďarsko. USA jsou po Kanadě, Dánsku, Norsku a Německu patou zemí, která souhlasí s rozšířením Severoatlantické aliance. Zbývajících 11 zemí čeka ratifikace v průběhu roku.

Budoucími členy NATO by se ČR, Polsko a Maďarsko měly stát na summitu aliance ve Washingtonu 4. dubna 1999 - v den 50. založení NATO - možná ale i letos v prosinci.

President Vaclav Havel se ve středu 6 května, po třech týdnech pobytu v innsbrucké nemocnici, vrátil do Prahy a je hospitalizován v Ústřední vojenské nemocnici. Vaclava Havla s manželkou přepravilo speciální letadlo společnosti Tyrolean Air Ambulance. Krátce před odletem z Innsbrucku navštívil Havla rakouský prezident Thomas Klestil.

Další operaci, při níž má být Vaclavu Havlovi odstraněn umělý vyvod tlustého střeva (kolostomie), odložilo lékařské konzilium až na polovinu července. Rozhodnutí padlo v úterý 19. května s odůvodněním, že je třeba zvýšit pacientovu imunitu a pokračovat v rehabilitaci.

SOMETHING FOR LAUGHTER:

WHAT ARE SENIORS WORTH?

(Original author unknown, but obviously female)

Remember, old folks are worth a fortune ; with silver in their hair, gold in their teeth , stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet and gas in their stomachs.

A LOT OF BOYFRIENDS :

I am seeing five gentlemen every day. As soon as I wake , Will Power helps me get out of bed. Then I go to see John. Next, Charlie Horse comes along and when he is here he takes a lot of my time and attention. When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn't like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint yo joint. After such a busy day, I'm really tired and glad to go to bed with Ben Gay. What a life?
Oh yes, I'm also flirting with Al Zymer.

P.S. The preacher came to call the other day. He said that at my age I should be thinking about the hereafter. I told him: " Oh I do, all the time. No matter where I am, in the parlor upstairs , in the kitchen or down in the basement, I ask myself: ' Now what am I here after ?' "

Kočka našich sousedu byla přejeta na ulici autem. Matka rodiny rychle uklidila zbytky s ulice, hlavně aby se jejich čtyřletý synek o nehodě nedozvěděl. Za několik dní se jejich synek začal poptávat po kočce. " Synáčku, tvoje kočka zemřela," vysvětlovala jeho matka - "ale vše je v pořádku . Ona je teď v nebi s Panem Bohem."
Chlapec se matky překvapeně zeptal: " K čemu je dobrá mrtvá kočka Panu Bohu?"



GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION "SOKOL"
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED