

SOKOLSKÝ VĚSTNÍK

Bulletin of
Gymnastic Association
Sokol San Francisco

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



1998

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Osmdesát Let od Česke a Slovenske Samostatnosti

Mnozí z nás si dnes kladou otázku mají-li vzpomínati výročí ustavení Československé republiky dne 28. října 1918. Odpověď na tuto otázku je pro nás jasná: Byl to a stále ještě je nejšťastnější den našeho národního života. Dodnes mezi námi žije řada těch, kteří pamatují na den osvobození - na den 28. října 1918.

Po tragické porážce na Bílé Hoře, bylo naše osvobození dlouho a neúnavně připravováno buďteli, bez jejichž obětavé práce by byl český národ zkomíral, ne-li zahynul. Na troskách rakousko-uherské monarchie, která neměla porozumění pro zájmy slovanských národů, se zrodila Československá republika. Nikdy nebudou zapomenuta jména těch národních velíkanů, kteří se o to nejvíce zasloužili, ať se o to komuniste sebe více pokoušeli: Masaryk, Beneš, Štefánek, Švehla, Rašín, Kratochvíl, Scheiner, slavné československé legie a početné řady sokolské. Nebyl mezi nimi ani jeden komunist. Proto také komuniste tento náš národní svátek neoslavovali a uskočně jeho historii zastřeli, nazývajíce jej po únoru 1948 dnem "Znárodnění průmyslu".

28. říjen byl nade všechno výsledkem dlouhého a vědomého usilování všeho českého a slovenského lidu o národní svébytnost, občanská práva a svobodu národa být panem svého vlastního osudu. Pravda zvítězila, boj byl dobojován. Z trosk rozbitého Rakousko-Uherska vyrostlo několik nových svobodných států a mezi nimi i svobodné Československo, které bylo založeno na stejných demokratických zásadách jako jeho vzor - Spojené Státy americké.

Bohužel mu bylo dopřáno jen dvacet let, aby se svobodně rozvíjelo. Po smrti T. G. Masaryka, přišel rok 1938 a s ním zrada a klamání. Svobodný, demokratický a plodný život Československa byl násilím přerван Mnichovem a nacistickou okupací a pak po malém oddechu v únoru 1948 československá demokracie podlehla v nerovném boji se zradou a v zápase se sovětským imperialismem.

V cizině si také připomínáme, že by nebylo 28. října bez podpory a obětí českých a slovenských menšin v zahraničí a že náš exil má v jejich úsilí příklad vhodný jak obdivu, tak následování. I my můžeme krátce říci, proč jsme zde v cizině - protože jsme zustali věrni ideám 28. října. Nam ze všech lidských práv doma zbylo jediné: uprchnout. Těm co zustali doma, zbyvalo jediné právo: přetvářovat se.

My zde nechceme tvrdit, že Československý stát se zrodil v Americe. Zůstává však historickou skutečností, že vláda Spojených států a Američané československého původu hráli důležitou roli při zrodu československé samostatnosti. I my, Američané českého a slovenského původu, kteří zde udržujeme československé tradice, které oni zde na americké půdě rozsevali, máme jako vykonavatele jejich odkazu nejen právo, ale také morální povinnost zaujímat stanovisko k událostem v České republice, nebo na Slovensku.

Proto i my vzkazujeme svým spoluobčanům v České republice, aby si vážili 28. října a ideálu, na kterém spočívá naše samostatnost.

Happy THANKSGIVING !

On this year Thanksgiving Day, take a few minutes to think about what you have to be thankful for.

How's your health? Not so good? Well, thank God you've lived this long. A lot of people haven't. You are hurting? Thousands - maybe millions - are hurting more.

If you awakened this morning and were able to hear the birds sing, use your vocal cords to utter human sounds, walk to the breakfast table on two good legs and read the newspaper with two good eyes, praise the Lord! A lot of people couldn't.

How is your pocketbook? Thin? Well, most of the world is a lot poorer. No pensions. No welfare. No food stamps. No Social Security. In fact, one third of the people in the world will go to bed hungry tonight.

Are you lonely? The way to have a friend is to be one. If nobody calls you, call someone. Go out of your way to do something nice for somebody. It's a sure cure for the blues.

Are you concerned about your country's future? Hooray! Our system has been saved by such concern. Concern for fair play under the law. Your country may not be a rose garden, but it also is not a patch of weeds.

Freedom rings! Look and listen. You can still worship at the church of your choice, cast a secret ballot and even criticize your government without fearing a knock on the head or knock on the door at midnight. And if you want to live under a different system, you are free to go. There are no walls or fences - nothing to keep you here.

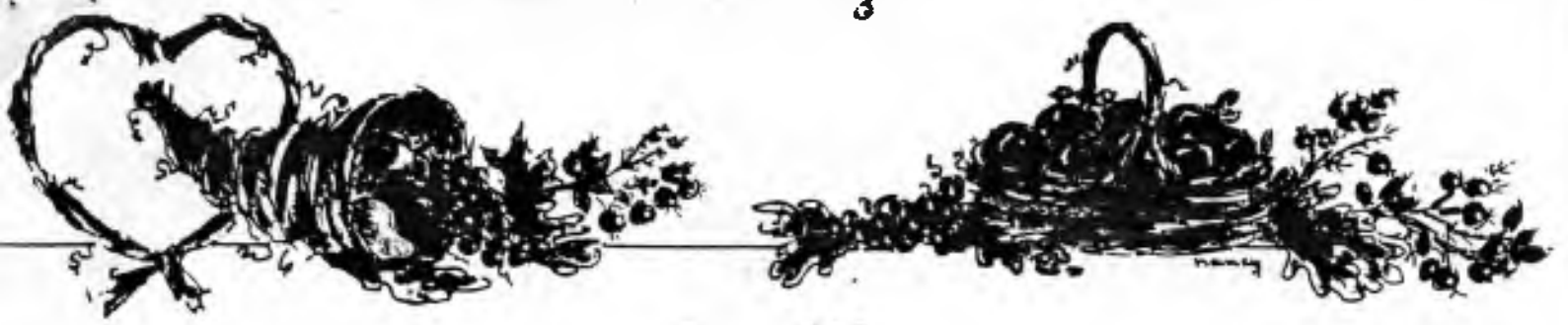
As a final thought, here is Thanksgiving Prayer; perhaps you will want to use it at your table today :

*O, heavenly Father: We thank thee for food and remember the hungry.
We thank thee for health and remember the sick.
We thank thee for friends and remember the friendless.
We thank thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.
May these remembrances stir us to service,
That thy gifts to us may be used for others. Amen.*



HAPPINESS IS
LIKE A BUTTERFLY—
THE MORE YOU CHASE
IT, THE MORE IT WILL
ELUDE YOU. BUT YOU
TURN YOUR ATTENTION
TO OTHER THINGS, IT
COMES AND SOFTLY
SITS ON YOUR
SHOULDER."





THANKSGIVING POEM

- T** *is for turkey, thanks, and being together,
Family talks, and cool weather.*
- H** *is for happiness, "hellos" and lot of hugs,
The heat of the fireplace, and hot chocolate in mugs.*
- A** *is for aunts and uncles, and apple pie,
Asking your neighbors to stop by and by.*
- N** *is for nuts in the centerpiece, nice things to eat,
Finish it all off with a pumpkin pie treat.*
- K** *is for kindness, kisses, and the kitchen's good smells,
Early church service, and lots of church bells.*
- S** *is for smoke in the chimney, the candles' warm glow,
the swift autumn breeze blows the leaves to and fro.*

**So have a happy Thanksgiving full of joy and cheer,
And keep the Thanksgiving spirit until next year.**

Lara Kucera - November 1991

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

To become perfect just follow the advice you give to others !

Instead of pointing a critical finger, try holding out a helping hand .



GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION "SOKOL" SAN FRANCISCO, INC.

EDUCATIONAL AND PHYSICAL CULTURE ORGANIZATION

P.O. BOX 4006

MENLO PARK, CA 94026-4006

SOKOL SAN FRANCISCO INC. ANNUAL MEETING

DEAR MEMBER:

An annual 1998 ELECTION MEETING of SOKOL San Francisco Inc., will be held on Sunday, December 13, 1998 in San Francisco at 10:00 A.M.

LOCATION: CAFE PRAGUE

584 Pacific AV.

San Francisco, CA

Tel.: (415)-433-3811

The lunch and the coffee will be served and paid by the Sokol Unit.

This is important meeting!

PROGRAM: 1. REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS.

2. FINANCIAL STATUS.

3. MEMBERSHIP SITUATION.

4. ACTIVITIES.

5. ELECTION OF THE OFFICERS FOR YEAR 1999.

6. LUNCH.

We need your input vote and your support of the Unit. We believe, we can count on you and we would like TO SEE YOU THERE!

Please, attend this important ANNUAL meeting.

NAZDAR!

Board Directors of Sokol San Francisco Unit

Frank Dlask, President

NAZDAR !

Nazdar, Bratri a Sestry !

Toward Success, Brothers and Sisters !

I have greeted you with the traditional Sokol salutation. This greeting was adopted very quickly after the founding of the first Sokol Unit in Prague and became the by-word with all Sokols throughout the world..

It is a simple phrase - yet one of great meaning. The founders of Sokol realized that a uniform greeting was needed to place every member in the organization on the same level. During this period the class distinction divided the people into definite groups. There were the working people, the large farmers and ordinary property owners, craftsmen, professionals and nobility. Each group considered itself apart from the other.

In the Sokol organization every member was considered equal regardless of his status outside of the organization. Therefore all members would be addressed as brothers and saluted with "Nazdar!"

Nazdar to every member must have a specific meaning. When we meet a person on the street and greet him with a "Hi" or "Hello" or "Good day" this may be only a gesture of good manners, not necessarily of friendliness. But when greeted with "Nazdar" and the response is also a "Nazdar" then immediately a feeling of comradeship, equality and mutual interest is implied. It puts them on a basis for better understanding of a mutual interest.

Let us have a better understanding of our brothers and sisters. For a good beginning, be the first to say "Nazdar" when you meet. It will work a little magic for you.

May "Nazdar" forever ring in Sokol Organization !



Nazdar!

L.B. Teichman

Quoted from Sokol Detroit NEWS

EDUCATIONAL CORNER

Our Sokol organization has lasted for well over 130 years. In that time, life has changed. Still the need for an organization like Sokol has remained. There have been terrible wars, there have been economic depressions, there have been assassinations of presidents and other great leaders. Still our Sokol has endured.

Life has changed greatly for us all, mostly for the better. We have a standard of living that is beyond the dreams of those who lived at the time of Sokol's founding. The convenience of our cars and homes have grown to very high level. Still the need to be a part of Sokol is an important thing in our lives.

The direction of our lives is guided by three things. The happenings in the world, the state of our health and the people and organizations we associate ourselves with. We have some degree of control of the first two. The people and groups that we and our children spend time with are completely at our control.

If you look around at what is offered as entertainment, at what passes as music today, at what images and games are put before very young minds, you will be very concerned. Try to support Sokol any way you can. It has benefits for people of all ages. Sokol has survived all those years because it is needed and you care!

Nazdar

Bro. Lou Matustik - Sokol St.Louis

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

November 5, 1998

Subject: Reminder of dues

Sokol Unit roster and records show we have 50 registered men and 49 women.

Unfortunately not all members paid they dues \$ 25 per year. Obviously, our Organization can not pay your dues for you. We would appreciate your cooperation and support the Unit by paying these dues on time. You will get personal letter of dues reminder in few days, please respond and- **Kindly send your dues to the above address as soon as possible.**

Obviously your tax deductible donations in any amount are welcome anytime.

Only \$ 6 goes to our Unit, rest of it goes to our Pacific Zupa and to American SOKOL in Chicago. We need these dues to keep our Unit active and not to lose our capital gain from the sale of our building, which will go to Chicago if we will not support our Unit here.

We are looking forward to see you at our activities as an active member with dues fully paid!

NAZDAR!

Board of SOKOL San Francisco

LITTLE SCOUT

When I married, I worked in my spare time in the business of my husband in Prague. One of my tasks was to go to Usti nad Labem, some 80 miles from Prague.

I took along his pretty blonde secretary Miss Lansky of my age and we drove there by car. As soon as we left the city behind, we noticed a small scout in the uniform waving at us along the highway for a lift. Feeling safe with 13 year old scout, we stopped for him. The little scout needed a ride to his home about 10 miles further from Prague. Then we continued joyously to Usti. However, we needed some repairs done on our car which delayed us some 2 hours. With our mission accomplished, we aimed back home about 3:00 p.m.

Only about short distance behind the town Usti, we saw the same little scout in uniform waving at us frantically to stop for him. We stopped being very surprised. We wondered aloud, "How come you are here, when your home is only 10 miles from Prague, where we dropped you off."

"Boy, did I had hard time to catch you!" sighed the little scout. "I heard you saying that you are traveling to a town Usti and after lunch you will return to Prague. So, I tried to follow you on the highway to Usti. I stopped 5 different vehicles consequently, but when we did not reach you in time, I waited here for you on your return trip. You are late, but I am so glad that I caught you!"

"What so important to follow us?" we wondered. "Your home is now far back!"

"Well, I forgot a packet on the back seat of your car and I tried desperately to reach you two before you discover it and try to open it!" confessed the little scout.

"What was so precious in that packet that you did not want us to discover?" we asked simultaneously.

"That's it! Inside are three poisonous Vipers (zmije)! I was afraid that they might sting you admitted little scout.

The packet sat peacefully on the back seat without us or even car repairman noticing it. We took the little scout back to his hometown.

All three of us were glad that episode had an happy end!

G.T

Lost in America

Americans are starting to catch on to the geography and cultures of the Balkans. A native of Belgrade now living in the Bay Area reports these two episodes during travels in Middle America:

- 1) "You're from Yugoslavia? Isn't that the country that split into Yugo and Slavia?"
- 2) "You're from Yugoslavia? I love your country. Bucharest is a beautiful city, and the Czechs are wonderful people."

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 GYMNASTIC ASSOC. SOKOL SAN FRANCISCO P.O. Box 4006 MENLO PARK, CA 94026	Enclosed check - Money order in the amount of \$..... My membership dues for the year 199.....\$..... Donation - Contribution (if any).....\$..... Name..... Address..... City.....State.....Zip.....
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Dear SOKOL members:

The next regular SOKOL meeting will be held on Nov.10, 1998,
Tuesday from 7:30 p.m. sharp to 9:00 p.m. at new location:

Bay Area Executive Office, Inc.
Suite No. 106 at
ANZA Corporate Center
433 Airport Blvd.
Burlingame, CA 94010
Phone: (650) 373-2000

The directions to reach the ANZA Center building are on the
other side of this page. From Freeway 101 (Bayshore), when North
bound, exit to ANZA Blvd. When South bound, exit to Broadway.

Please, come on time. If we, the members of SOKOL will like
this conference room, it will be our permanent SOKOL meeting place
in year 1999 and on.

**BAYSIDE CORPORATE CENTER
433 AIRPORT BOULEVARD, #106
BURLINGAME, CA 94010**

DIRECTIONS

SOUTH BOUND 101(BAYSHORE):

EXIT @ BROADWAY. TAKE THE AIRPORT BLVD. OVERPASS TURNING RIGHT AT
THE BROADWAY/ROLLINS ROAD STOPLIGHT. CONTINUE OVER THE FREEWAY.
TURN RIGHT ONTO OLD BAYSHORE HIGHWAY AT THE SIGNAL. THEN TURN
LEFT ONTO AIRPORT BLVD. AT THE SIGNAL. CONTINUE ONE MILE. TO 433
(BAYSIDE CORPORATE CENTER).

NORTH BOUND 101 (BAYSHORE):

EXIT @ ANZA BLVD. TURN RIGHT AT THE SIGNAL ONTO AIRPORT BLVD.
CONTINUE ONE-HALF MILE TO 433 (BAYSIDE CORPORATE CENTER).

Invitation to Sokol San Francisco

NEW YEAR PARTY DANCE

Saturday, December 26, 1998

Live Music by "Joe Smicell's band" from 7.00 P.M. till 11.00

At Schroeder's Restaurant, 240 Front Street, San Francisco

Dinner from 6.00 PM - Dance from 7.30 to 11.30 PM.

Choice of Entrees : Svickova with dumplings - Roast Pork, cabbage, dumplings and Wiener-schnitzel, potatoes salad.

Special Dinner Price for Sokol Members and Guests is \$ 16.00

For dinner reservation call 415-421-4778 before or on 12-21-98



XOXOXOXOXOX

Can You Help ???

Sokol San Francisco is trying to improve the social and educational activities. We had many discussions, but so far very limited results. We are again our members and the whole Czech community to participate in this program. We would gladly accept any suggestions in this direction. Tell us about your ideas for improvement, about suitable places for meetings, lectures, concerts, excursions and others. Who would be willing to arrange such events. If you have any idea let us know your name and telephone number so we can stay in touch.

St. Nicholas (St. Nick) is coming to Town

He will visit our children and will bring them little presents !!!

When ? December 5, 1998 at 3.00 PM

Where ? At Schroeder's Restaurant - 240 Front Street , in San Francisco.

The Parents and Grandparents can bring own presents for there's darlings, but don't forget to put the name of the recipient on the package.

After the departure of St. Nick all parents and children can sing the Czech and English Christmas Carols.



Drama na Ruzyni

Ruzyňské letiště v Praze zažilo drama, když uprchlíci z Afghánistánu bez cestovních dokladů, kteří zcela zaplnili letadlo společnosti Moldavia Airlines, se odmítli vrátit do Kišineva, odkud stroj vzletl. Kapitan letadla ohlásil unos, když pasažéři začali demolovat letadlo a vyhodili z paluby dítě, aby si tak vynutili vstup na českou půdu.

Zatímco uprchlíci, umístění v taboře ve Vyšních Lhotách, tvrdí, že jsou Afganci, moldavská vláda uvedla, že se jedná o moldavské občany, bývalé bojovníky v Afghánistánu. Výsledek: zákaz letu Moldavian Airlines do České republiky a pravděpodobně brzké zavedení vizové povinnosti pro občany Moldavie.

Nedůvěra v Krajany z Kazachstanu:

Šest rodin, které využily nabídku českého ministerstva zahraničních věcí přestěhovat se z Kazachstanu do České republiky, mělo být původně umístěno ve Vrkošovicích u Jablonce nad Nisou. Proti tomu se však v srpnu postavila petiční akce iniciativa místních občanů, kteří se podle Lidových novin "obavali rustu kriminality, narušování pořádku a klidu, poklesu cen jejich nemovitosti v blízkosti azylového domu a dokonce vyhrožovali, že si pořídí "zbrojní pasy." Zastupitelstvo se proto raději rozhodlo Kazachy do Vrkošovic neumísťovat.

Krajane z Kazachstanu se přece jen budou moci přestěhovat:

Rodinám kazachských Čechů vysvitla naděje, že se přece jen nastěhují do Jablonce nad Nisou. Tamní zastupitelstvo pro ně vyčlenilo čtyři byty z městského bytového fondu. Jablonecká místostarostka uvedla pro Lidové noviny, že zatím není jasné, v jaké lokalitě radnice byty pro kazachské rodiny vybere, pravděpodobně se však nebudou nacházet v jednom objektu.

Průliv Uprchlíků do ČR silí:

Zatímco policie pokračuje ve vyšetřování případu moldavského letadla, jehož pasažéři si v minulých dnech vynutili vstup na českou půdu, pohraniční policie má plně ruce práce se zadržováním desítek nelegálních emigrantů z Kosova, již každodenně překračují česko-slovenskou hranici. Podle policejního prezidenta Jiřího Kolaře bylo letos v ČR evidováno 32.250 nelegálních migrantů.



GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION "SOKOL"
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED