American Sokol

Sokol San Francisco

SOKOL SAN FRANCISCO INC.
GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION
EDUCATIONAL-SOCIAL AND
CHARITY NON-PROFIT CULTURAL
ORGANIZATION

P.O. Box 4006, Menlo Park, CA 94026-4006
E-mail: sokolsf@gmail.com



VĚSTNÍK

SPRING 2008



SOKOL OFFICERS: FOR THE YEAR 2008:

E-mail: sokolsf@gmail.com

President:	Frank Dlask
First Vice President:	Georgina Teyrovsky
Second Vice President:	Zdenek Vernak
Vice President Emeritus:	George Spanek
Secretary:	Zelmira Zivny
Financial Secretary:	Paul Burda
Treasurer:	Jarmila Dlask
Men's Director:	Peter Linhart, Paul Burda
Women's Directors:	Ivanka Linhart, Jarka Dusatko
Educational Director:	Peter Linhart
Membership Directors and Committee for New Members:	Milan Dusatko, Paul Burda
Board member at Large:	Edmund Teyrovsky
Editors, Vestnik:	Milan Dusatko, Paul Burda
Budget & Finance Committee:	Edmund Teyrovsky , Paul Burda, Zdenek Vernak, Frank Dlask (ex-officio) Milos Zivny
Public Relations Director:	Peter Linhart, Zdenek Vernak
Film Committee:	Milan Dusatko, Jarka Dusatko, Paul Burda,
Committee to Correct some Czech Wrongs:	Edmund Teyrovsky, Zdenek Vernak, Georgina Teyrovsky, Frank Picha, Frank Dlask (ex-officio), Milos Zivny
Reconciliation Committee:	Edmund Teyrovsky, Zdenek Vernak, Milos Zivny
Entertainment Committee:	Georgina Teyrovsky, Paul Burda, Jarka Dusatko, Zdenek Vernak
Pac. District Representative:	Paul Burda, Frank Dlask (District VP), Peter Linhart, Ivanka Linhart Jara Dusatko
Auditing Committe:	Dagmar Rus, Marta Sehnal, Jara Dusatko
Legal Advisors:	James Frolik Jr., Atorney

Phone & E-mail List:

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Linhart Peter & Ivanka	home	209.588.9259	ivankalinhart@sbcglobal.net
Picha Frank	home	925.935.4203	afpicha@pacbell.net
George Spanek, VP Emeritus	home	650.340.8737	georgespanek@comcast.net
Teyrovsky Edmund & Georgina	home fax	510.327.8656 510.583.0562	teyrovsky@gmail.com
Vernak Zdenek	home	650.341.8117	z.denak@sbcglobal.net
Zivny Zelmira	home	510.638.4723	zelkaz@aol.com

„ The mission of the American Sokol is to provide fitness and community for individuals and families through physical, educational, cultural and social programs"

Calendar of Events and Sokol Dues 2008

Dinner-Dance	October 11th , 2008, Saturday	Tarragon, Sunnyvale, CA
End of the Year Dinner/Dance	December 27, 2008 Saturday	Tarragon, Sunnyvale, CA
Picnics	June 7th, 2008	Chabot Lake Park, Castro Valley
	September , 2008	Chabot Lake Park, Castro Valley
Annual Meeting	December 6, 2008, Saturday 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.	Unity Building Recreation Area, 20121 Santa Maria, Castro Valley, CA
Lunch for all present Sokol members	12:30 P.M. to 1:30 P.M.	Unity Building Recreation Area, 20121 Santa Maria, Castro Valley, CA
St. Nicolas Childern's Party	2:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.	20121 Santa Maria, Castro Valley, CA

Welcome New Members: Jiri & Jarmila Jancarik, Debra Jacob reinstated.

Sokol dues and donation 2007

Your thoughtful contribution to the American Sokol San Francisco Unit is most appreciated. We are sincerely pleased to acknowledge your $520 individual plus $535 from film donations. We are thankful to our all of you for **Total of $1064.**

L. Mikes $25.00, G. Teyrovsky $50.00, F & M.Miksa $75.00, K&M. Snajberk $50.00,V. Horn $25.00, H. Sredl $5.00, D. Chrichton $10.00, H. Husak $20.00, V. Machacek $25.00, P& I. Linhart $10.00, K.A. Skapa $25.00, V. Kucera $25.00. M.& Z. Zivny $10.00, , M. Forsythe $15.00, Jana Janku $15.00, Z.Rashkin $25.00. K&M. Snajberk in memory of Mirka Miksa $100, **Total $520**

For your information, American Sokol San Francisco is a Non-profit Organization; your donation is tax deductible. Keep your bank check as your receipt.I had been advised that Membership dues are not tax deductible. Donation for Sokol Non-profit organization however, is deductible.
Paul A Burda, Sokol Financial Secretary

BROTHERS AND SISTERS: 2008 DUES ARE TO BE PAID NOW!!! See Pages 18 & 19
Please send your check or Money Order to the address below with the stub below. Cut the end of this stub for your records. Your kind attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated.
We believe this form is self-explanatory. Please, discard it if your dues are already paid.

Sokol Gymnastics Association Sokol San Francisco, P.O. Box 4006, Menlo Park, CA 94026-4006

SEND WITH YOUR PAYYMENT: **2008 Dues are $25** **Membership Dues $.....** **New members add $5 processing fee to American Sokol Headquarters in Chicago.** **Donation/Contribution.....** **Name:.....** **sent:.....** **Address:.....** **City:.....State:....Zip:.....**	**KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS:** **Sokol San Francisco Dues 2008** **Date** **Check No:.....**

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

ASO registration fee is $5.
Membership fee is $25 per year, should be paid on the end of each year for the next year.

The Pledge of Allegiance:
"I pledge allegiance to the Flag
Of the United States of America
And to the Republic for which it stands.
One nation under God, indivisible,
With liberty and justice for all."

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P.O.BOX 4006, MENLO PARK, CA 94026-4006
E-mail: sokolsf@gmail.com

NAME:_____ DATE:_____

Address:_____City:_____ State:____ Zip:_____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2:_____

E-Mail:_____

Date of Birth: :____/_____/ _____ Place of Birth:_____

US Citizen: Yes ☐ No ☐ If No, legal resident? Yes ☐ No ☐

Marital Status : Married ☐ Single:☐ Other:☐

Please, list other clubs, organizations to which you belong_____

_____

Sponsor:_____

MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE:

I,_____(new members name) as a condition of membership in Sokol Unit of San Francisco Inc. in San Francisco CA, agree to abide by the Bylaws of the American Sokol of the Pacific District and this Unit, Sokol San Francisco.I promise that in my speech and actions I will endeavor to strengthen The Sokol Organization. Further, when participating in Sokol activities, I will conduct myself in manner which honors Sokol goals.

STATEMENT: I affirm that I am loyal to the government of the United States of America and that I am not a member of any subversiv organization. If admitted to membership of the American Sokol, I promise to be governed by the by-laws in all my activities on behalf of sai organization. I represent that to the best of my knowledge and belief the answers to the statements contained in this application are full, complet and correctly recorded. I understand that this application shall be the basis for and a part of any insurance contract issued.

New member signature:_____

UNIT SOKOL CORNER

Sokol Dinner –Dance at Tarragon restaurant March 15th, T.G. Masaryk Birthday Dance.

Again, we have encountered familiar atmosphere, music and faces, at the Tarragon Restaurant where we held our annual spring dance on March 15, 2008.

Yet subtle changes were evident during this celebration of 158th birthday anniversary of T.G. Masaryk, the first president of Czechoslovakia, (*3.7.1850). Our popular music band - Joe Domitrowich's, melody boys" had a different guitarist and some Sokol members complimented him for adjusting the tempo and selections of music more closely to our senior Czechs & Slovaks' liking. Complimentary comments about the music were heard more frequently on this sun-brightened spring eve, than ever before.

Lest we forget the reason for timing of our first dance this year, Sister Jara Dusatko gave us a short speech, remembering our best president. As Sokols and emigrants we should be flattered by T.G. Masaryk's acknowledgment of the important role Sokols played in the West: "I was underestimating the activities of Sokols abroad, but during my travel in the foreign countries during the WWI, I found that, frequently, the only thing they new about us was that we have Sokol Organization and Sokol Slets".

Teyrovsky clan was well represented; we especially appreciate the youngest generation, too bad that their proud grandfather, Edmund, was too indisposed to attend. Sister Georgina demonstrated her cheerful disposition by frequent presence on the dancing floor and by organizing, while assisted by her daughter Helenka, the popular 'snake dance' - it pulled into the swirl everyone with a pair of walking legs.

With a goal of increasing the membership, Sokol invited three members of a Czech hockey team, playing the Bronze League in Oakland. The schedule of their matches can be found in Sokol Vestnik and is periodically announced by E-mails. They were well received, instantly popular, and we are looking forward to our ongoing cooperation benefiting both sides.

While we were having fun, Brothers Paul Burda and Milan Dusatko were taking care of all the chores that come with organizing an evening of entertainment, this time it also included a well-supplied raffle, compliment of San Francisco Sokol Organization. Thanks for a job well done.

Till the next event shall bring us together, again, Zdenek Vernak.

Our enthusiastic member Lida O'Donnell participated in Portland, Oregon marathon:

The City of Portland is proud of its annual Marathon, open to runners as well as walkers.
The 36th Portland Marathon took place on October 7, 2007. And I was one of those
7766 finishers: it took me 7 hours and 7 minutes to walk it.

Six months before the marathon, I started training with a group called Portland Fit, part national organization USA Fit. The training consisted of 30 - 40 minute walks three times per week, and a long walk every Saturday morning. These walks started at 3 miles and were gradually increasing to 21 miles. And then, after two weeks of easy training, came the 26.2 miles.

The training was easy and the long walk, to my surprise, was not bad at all. They tell me that I walked with a smile on my face. I had to discover for myself whatothers have known about disciplining the body as well as the mind:

"Ve zdravém těle zdravý duch!" Lida O'Donnell

We have started cooperation with the Czech hockey team Cross-Czechs

Sokol San Francisco
P.O.Box 4006
Menlo Park, CA 94026-4006

Věc: Odpověď na první dopis o spolupráci
Vážení přátelé,

v prvé řadě bych Vám chtěl jménem našeho hokejového klubu poděkovat za Váš dopis a vyjádřit potěšení nad tím, že máte o naši sportovní innost zájem.

Rádi přijímáme Vaši nabídku k eventuální spolupráci s Vaší organizací. Naši zástupci se mohou dostavit na Vaši příští výborovou schůzi a seznámit Vás podrobněji s Činností našeho sportovního oddílu.
Pokud vám to bude více vyhovovat, můžeme napříště komunikovat telefonem nebo přes e-mail.
S pozdravem
Petr Hančí k (kapitan hokejoveho klubu Cross-Czechs) e-mail: eurodesign3@comcast.net
Camelback Road, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523, phone: 510-612-4121509.
David Folke, asistent kapitána, e-mail: oneczechdavid@yahoo.com, phone :925.548.5535.

P.S. Ještě hrajeme i jiné sporty, např. nohejbal, tenis, ale tyto už nejsou tak organizované jako lední hokej.

Cross-Czechs Ice-Hockey Team
2. března 2008

2008 SUMMER LEAGUE

The Oakland Adult Summer League will start Sunday April 27th, 2008
There will be 16 regular season games that will conclude mid August.
The last two weeks of August will be playoffs.
This is an amateur league, therefore there's no fee for tickets. However, we agreed to collect $5 per person donation to cover their team expenses (Summer league fees, repair of equipment etc.).

Sokol is encouraging to support this action. All plays will be issued by E-mail to all addresses available to Sokol.



AMERICAN SOKOL CORNER:

Fun and Interesting

SEATED TEN MINUTE STRESS RELEASE
by Howie and Jane Wise

These exercises can be done sitting in a chair. Sit on the edge of the chair with your spine erect. Feet flat on the floor, hip width apart.

1. ***BREATHING*** — Become aware of your breathing. Count your breaths backward from 27.

2. ***SHOULDER SHRUGS*** — Place your hands in your lap. Draw your shoulders up toward your ears. Exhale. Let your shoulders drop. Do this 3-5 times to release shoulder tension.

3. ***ELBOW CIRCLES*** — Put your fingers to your shoulders. Make a circle with your elbows by taking them forward, up, back and around. Do this 3-5 times. Reverse directions.

4. ***NECK RELEASE—*** Hands in your lap, drop your chin to your chest. Keep your chest lifted. Gently roll your head to the right, tipping your right ear to your right shoulder. Roll back to center and over to the left shoulder. Do 3-5 times.
5. ***SEATED SIDE BEND*** — Place your right hand on the chair. Inhale. Extend left arm toward the ceiling next to your ear. Exhale and bend to the right. Reverse directions. 3-5 times on each side.
6. ***FLEX AND BEND*** — Clasp your hands together and cup behind your head. Inhale. Widen your elbows and arch your upper back. Exhale and draw elbows together as you drop your head to your chest. Repeat 3-5 times.

7. ***ANKLE AND HIP*** **OPENER —** Sit straight on the edge of the chair. Cross the right ankle over the left thigh. Grip your left shin with your hands to maintain extension of your spine. Rotate ankle in a circle clockwise 3-5 times, then counterclockwise. Lean forward from the hips over your legs and breathe deeply for 5 deep breaths. Change sides and repeat.

8. ***CHAIR TWIST***— Sit with erect spine. Put your left hand on your right thing and your nght hand on the chair next to your right hip. Inhale and lift spine. Exhale. Rotate to the right. Use your hands to help you twist. Remain in the twist for five deep breaths. Return to center and twist in the opposite direction.

9. ***ALTERNATE KNEE SQUEEZE*** — Sit straight. Lift your right knee up and clasp your hands around your knee. As you exhale, bring your knee toward your chest. Hold and breathe for five deep breaths. Repeat with left knee to chest.

10. ***LION POSE*** — Place hands palm down on your thighs. Exhale completely. Inhale deeply through your nose. As you exhale, open your mouth, stick your tongue out toward your chin. Open your eyes wide and bok upward. The exhalation is a long, sustained breath. Relax and repeat several times.

11. ***FORWARD BEND*** — Put your feet at least a foot apart. Fold your arms onto a desk or the back or another chair in front of you. Hinge at the hips. Relax and breathe. You may also fold all the way over and let your head and arms hang between your knees.

American Sokol Directors Newsletter January, 2008

K archivu bývalého Ústředí čs. sokolstva v zahraničí

V sokolském i jiném tisku byty uveřejněny zprávy, že na schůzi Zahraniční obce sokolské (ZOS) konané ve dnech 26.-28. května 2007 v Oetzu bylo rozhodnuto, že archiv bývalého Ustředí čs. sokolstva v zahraničí bude převezen z Kanady do České republiky k uložení do Českého národního archivu v Praze. Jelikož tyto zprávy, které náš věstník citoval, neodpovídaly skutečnosti, požádal bratr Jiří Bystrický, starosta Sokola Paříž a bývalý starosta Zahraniční obce sokolské, o uveřejnění opravy v tom smyslu, že ZOS předání archivu do Prahy doporučilo a nikoliv o něm rozhodlo." Uvedl dále, že Věstník Sokolské župy Svýcarské ani časopis Sokol vydávaný COS nejsou oficiální tiskoviny ZOS, závazný je jedině zápis ze schůze ZOS.

Opravu rádi uveřejňujeme současně s dopisem bratra starosty Bystrického z 1. října 2007, adresovaného redaktoru věstníku, jehož kopii zaslal také starostům organizačních složek bývalého Ústředí čs. sokolstva v zahraničí: *„Milý bratře, Tvůj dopis z 23. července o archivu Ustředí československého sokolstva v zahraničí jsem*

dostal během léta, které jsem strávil na různých cestách a ty se mi protáhly až do září. Posílám Ti tedy až teď svou poznámku k jeho obsahu. Jsem rád, že ses přiklonil k rozhodnutí uložit archiv Ústředí v Národním archivu v Praze. Protože jsem ale jako odstupující starosta ZOS vedl na schůzi v květnu letošního roku diskusi na toto téma, chtěl bych zdůraznit, že ZOS o uložení archivu nerozhodovala, neměla k tomu ani oprávnění. Zahraniční obec sokolská pouze zaujala stanovisko, které je formulováno v zápisu schůze, z něhož cituji: „Br. Waldaufovi bude napsán dopis se stanoviskem ZOS, že archiv Ústředí by měl být uložen v českém Národním archivu." Jedná se *tedy pouze o doporučení. Zahraniční obec sokolská jistě může nabídnout svou pomoc při jednání* o *uložení archivu v Praze, to je ale otázka dohody se současným starostou ZOS bratrem Trunčíkem.*
Jednání o uložení archivu v České republice se nyní iniciativně ujal starosta Zahraniční obce sokolské bratr Jan Trunčík, který o své činnosti podal zprávu z 10. prosince 2007, v níž uvedl mj., že ve věci uložení archivu Československého sokolstva v zahraničí jednal s příslušnými činovníky Českého národního archivu a podnikl další kroky k opatření finančních prostředků pro převoz archivu z Kanady do České republiky. Vedoucí archivních sbírek Ph. Dr. Jiří Křesťan jej také informoval, že archivování v Českém národním archivu je bezplatné a předaný materiál je možné archivovat dvěma způsoby: (1) k materiálům má přístup široká veřejnost bez omezení, nebo (2) do materiálů lze nahlédnout jenom s povolením osoby nebo organizace, která dala archivní materiál k dispozici. Na základě této zprávy se dá tedy očekávat, že první část archivu Ústředí čs. sokolstva v zahraničí bude v dohledné době převezena z Kanady do České republiky a uložena v Českém národním archivu v Praze.

INFORMATION CORNER

Obituary:
We announce with sadness that our long time member Henrietta Chromy, mother of our long time Unit secretary Shirley Gangelhoff, suddenly passed away. Henrietta was an enthusiastic supporter of Sokol activities. In Sokol, she enjoyed the company of her family, friends, and relatives. Our prayers go out to her. God bless her soul. Our condolences to Shirley and her family.

Editors

New Czech Restaurant in Folsom : Heart of Europe
http://heartofeuropefolsom.com/
Open daily 11:00am to 2:pm, 194 Blue Ravine Rd. Ste 130, Folsom, CA, phone 916.985.3555
Directions:
From Highway 50: 1. Take Folsom Boulevard exit east , 2. Turn left at the light onto the Folsom Boulevard 3. Turn right on Blue Ravine Road 4. Turn left on Natomas Station Drive 5. Turn immediatelly into the little strip mall on the right.

POLITICAL CORNER

T. G. Masaryk o demokracii

V letošním roce „osmiček", kdy uplynulo již 18 let od sametové revoluce" a od obnovy Sokola v zemi jeho zrodu, si připomínáme rok 1918 a v něm vznik samostatné demokratické Československé republiky spolu s jejím prvním prezidentem T. G. Mesarykem. Při té příležitosti bude pro nás užitečné si připomenout několik myšlenek o demokracii z jeho knihy „Světová revoluce".

Demokracie, říkají její odpůrcové s pohrdáním, je samý kompromis; její zastánci to připouštějí, ale vidí v tom plus. I v této věci jsem dávno pronesl své mínění; v politické praxi, jako ve vší činnosti a v životě všude, kompromisy, ne zásad, nýbrž právě praxe, jsou nutné; největší radikálové je v praxi dělají. Avšak politika státníků vzdělaných a uvědomělých - a to platí i o vzdělaných a uvědomělých stranách - nebude kompromisem mezi protivami a krajnostmi, nýbrž v hlavní věci prováděním programu, vytvořeného poznáním a pochopením dějin a celkové situace státu, národa, Evropy, světa. To znamená ten stálý požadavek politiky světové. Ne zlatá střední cesta, nýbrž jasný cíl a jeho cílevědomé stálé dosahování. A je kompromis a kompromis! Slušný člověk se vyhne

kompromisu zásad, ale udělá kompromisy v prostředích, zejména ve věcech vedlejších a méně důležitých. Stát i ve věcech malých, podružných, lhostejných, na svém a jen na svém, to se zdá sice být důsledné a pevné, ale je jen malé a malicherné. V tom smysle se právem odsuzuje doktrinarism. Demokracie se udržuje a vyvíjí myšlením a součinností všech; a protože nikdo nejsme neomylný, demokracie jako součinnost značí toleranci a přijímání dobrého od každého. Avšak šeredná je kompromisnost lidí bez určitého cíle a bez přesvědčení, lidí politicky krátkozrakých, nevzdělaných, malých - jejich činnost není než potácení od mínění k mínění, nejisté hledání té zlaté cesty prostřední, jež ve skutečnosti znamená často cestu ode zdi ke zdi - politikaření, slabost, nesoudnost, polovzdělanost, bezcharakternost a strach.

Lze říci, že na posavadním stupni vzdělanosti státy se vyvíjely revolucí a radikalismem shora a zdola; tornu boji revoluce nazad s revolucí vpřed, tomu kolísání mezi reakcí a radikalismem učiní konec demokracie - demokracie ovšem pravá.

Hájim demokracii také proti absolutismu diktaturovému, ať si právo na diktaturu osobuje církev, stát, proletariát - kdokoliv. Znám ovšem argumenty, že svědomí a právo jsou absolutní, že je absolutní rozum a věda a proto že je diktatura oprávněna; znám argument o diktatuře „srdceu a podobné výmluvy.
Jistěže logika, matematika, mravní a snad i jiné maximy jsou absolutní, tj. že nejsou relativní v tom smysle, že by každá země, každá strana a nakonec každý jednotlivec měli svoi vlastní mravnost a svou matematiku a logiku; ale je rozdíl mez touto noetickou absolutností v teorii a mezi absolutismem prak. tickým, politickým. Politika sebevědečtější je, lak všecky vědy závislá na skutečnosti, indukci, a nemůže, to je v pojmu vědy, reklamovat neomylnost. Politika sebevědečtější není neomylná, nepodává věčné pravdy, nemůže být důvodem politickéhc absolutismu.

Proti absolutismu duchovnímu a politickému vzpírají SE právem všichni národové od počátku nové doby, a odsud všecky ty revoluce náboženské, literární, sociální a politické; odpor a boj proti absolutismu dal ráz nové době, pokroku, de. mokracii.

Diktatura již v římské době byla správně omezena na válku; ve válce a v praxi vůbec vůdce jeden je lepší než vůdců tucet. Diktatura vzniká také v dobách revolučních, pokud revoluce je také válkou; ale diktatura nemůže být institucí pro doby normální. Politicti vůdcové nejsou neomylní. Čtyři oči vidí víc než dvě - to je poučení, k němuž jsem se dostal politickou zku. šeností a studiem historickým. Odsud také důvod režimu par lamentámího a demokratického vůbec.

Na ruském bolševismu vidíme nedostatečnost diktatury; bolševism se prohlásil za non plus ultra vývoje a prohlásil se neomylným - odsud jeho inkvisice a ze stejných příčin a důvodů, jak inkvisice španělská.
Neomylnictví je projevem nevzdělanosti a polovzdělanosti; a právě demokracie musí být na stráži proti politickému parvenuovství.

Demokracie se opírá o vědu a všestranné a všeobecně vzdělání, demokracie je stálým úsilím o politickou výchovu a výchovu občanstva vůbec. Výchova však je do značné míry sebevýchovou - obtíže výchovy nemáme s dětmi, nýbrž s dorostlými, se sebou.

Thoughts from the Frontline Weekly Newsletter
What Are They Thinking?
By John Mauldin
January 11, 2008

In the past week, I have been in the car coming home late from work, with the presidential debates are on the radio. It is very discouraging to listen to what passes for economic literacy among the candidates. In reality, many candidates are espousing policies that are quite dangerous at worst, or simply misleading at best. Far too many in both parties tell a frustrated America what it wants to hear, rather than the economic reality. The Republicans have some of the worst offenders. So, today we will look at some economic reality. We tackle trade deficits, the dollar, taxes, (the "Fair Tax"), how should we stimulate the economy as we slip into recession, and global trade. I think we will cover enough that I can just about guarantee to offend most of my readers at some point.

But the main point I want you to take away from all this is that the simple one-line answers given at these debates might work to fool most of the voters and tell them what they want to hear, but they are not based in economic reality. While this is of more interest to US citizens, the principles apply across borders. So, let's jump right in.

The Reality of Trade Deficits: The trade deficit jumped this month by almost 10%, to $63 billion. To hear the candidates talk, we can lower the deficit by forcing China to allow its currency to rise, increase our exports because of a lower dollar, stop our dependence on high-priced foreign oil, etc. Whatever the problems are, they are not of our making. Let's look at the reality. I asked my friends at Plexus to create a few charts for me. First, let's see if a lower dollar will have a major impact on the deficit. The deficit is in red, and the numbers for the dollar index are on the right. Notice that from 1992 until 2002 the dollar got stronger and the trade deficit rose. Of course, there was the period from the end of '93 until '95 where the dollar dropped almost 20% and had seemingly very little effect on the trade deficit. Now notice that from 2002 until the present the dollar has gone down and the trade deficit has exploded. If a weaker dollar were the answer, then one would expect the trade deficit to improve. Yet, the deficit has roughly doubled since 2002 while the dollar has dropped by more than a third. Using a trade-weighted dollar index would produce the same visual results, although the trade-weighted dollar has dropped by "only" 25%.

As I have maintained for years, I expect the Chinese to allow their currency to rise slowly. By the time the next president can have a foreign policy team in place to focus on the issue, the Chinese will have allowed the yuan to rise another 15% or so. This will bring it very close to the 30% increase in valuation that the China hawks in Congress have been wanting. The reality will be that the Chinese will have done almost all the heavy lifting within 18 months.

What will be the result? It means that the $325 billion in goods and services that we buy from China will cost us 10-15% more than it does now. Will we buy 15% less? Not if that is how we want to spend our money. And that brings us to the next chart. While there is not an exact correlation, the trade deficit rises as consumer spending rises, which makes sense if you think about it.

Want to see the real problem at the root cause of the trade deficit? The one that candidates absolutely cannot mention from the debate podiums?

No, the simple answer is that the trade deficit is not going to come down until the US starts to save more and spend less. In 1992, consumer spending was a little over 65% of GDP. It is now closer to 72%. Savings are down from 8% in that time, to barely above zero. If US consumers simply saved 5%, as we did 10 years ago, the trade deficit would come down by a lot. But it would not go away, because we, like all developed countries, are addicted to energy consumption, and for now that means oil. We imported $34 billion in petroleum products in November, a jump of 10% over the next highest month on record. (By the way, you can get 47 pages of small-print numbers on all aspects of trade at the main web site at the US Census Bureau at http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/Press-Release/current_press_release/press.html. The data I cite is from there.)

In large part, that is because of soaring oil prices. But it may get worse. We actually imported less oil in November in terms of barrels of oil than the average for the last year, but the price was up from an average of $72 in October to almost $80 in November. Oil at $95 has not yet made it into the actual price. Another $15 a barrel could add as much as $50 billion to the annual trade deficit.

That means oil alone will soon be more than 60% of our trade deficit, if oil stays above $90 a barrel. Hard to cut the deficit with a lower dollar if we keep buying expensive oil.

Some random items from pages 21-22 of the report. We imported $193 billion in autos for the first 11 months of the year. $618 million in sugar. $118 billion in TV's, VCR's and other electronic gadgets. We imported $219 billion just in crude oil.

Quick: who's our biggest trading partner? Canada, by a wide margin. We import almost the same from Canada as we do from China ($289 billion to $295 billion), but we also send them $229 billion. Yes, we ran a trade deficit with Canada of $59 billion for the first 11 months of the year. ($67 billion with Mexico.) The rapidly rising Canadian dollar has barely made a dent in the deficit. Yet Senators Schumer and Graham (bipartisan economic illiterates) think a rising Chinese currency will lower the trade deficit with China when it has done no such thing with Canada, and dropped the $112 billion deficit with Europe by just 10%, almost entirely composed of lower imports and only a little by increased exports.

And yes, our deficit with China is going to be in the $260 billion (annualized) range. Dropping that by 10% would not change the deficit that much. You reduce the trade deficit by spending less and exporting more.

However, we would have to grow exports by 90% to balance the trade deficit. Exports are up by 12% over a year ago, and most categories are up, but it is simply not realistic to think we can grow our way out of the trade deficit. The heavy lifting on reducing the deficit is going to be by a reduction in spending. And that is only going to happen when people realize they have not saved enough for retirement and their homes are not a piggy bank that can be cashed out for retirement. And reduced consumer spending will not happen on just imports. It will be across the board and a drag on the economy. Wishing for a lower trade deficit may bring along problems that are not mentioned in the debates.

Yes, if we can develop coal-to-natural-gas technologies (there is considerable hope on that front), bio-fuels (not ethanol, which is a really bad idea, unless you grow corn) and a conversion to electric-based cars, the developed world can rid itself of oil addiction. But that is going to be at least 10 years down the road, if not a lot longer.

So, the next time some candidate says we have to lower the trade deficit, ask him how he plans to do that. Exactly what policy is going to make a difference, unless we erect trade barriers? See if the candidate says we need to spend less.

Fair Tax Nonsense: The only candidate I will specifically mention is Mike Huckabee. His espousal of the Fair Tax demonstrates his lack of understanding of reality and economics. Basically, Fair Tax proponents want a 23% sales tax to replace every type of government tax. No more income, corporate, social security, or Medicare taxes. And everyone gets a $5,000 or so "prebates" which covers the taxes up to the poverty level. What could be simpler or fairer?

No one would like to get rid of the IRS more than I. I spend way too much on accounting for taxes and such. But this is not the way to do it.

First of all, the 23% they talk about is really 30%. Under the proposal, if an item sells for $100, then $23 of that would go to the government (said to be tax-inclusive). That means the item really costs $77 and the tax is an additional $23 or about 30% (said to be the tax-exclusive rate). Add an average 7% for state sales tax and we are now up to 37%. But wait, it gets worse. That 23% number simply won't produce the revenues they suggest. That assumes the government will pay the tax, so the budget has to go up. It also assumes that there is 100% compliance and everyone pays that 37% (yeah, right - just like they do the income tax).

Bruce Bartlett writes this week in the Wall Street Journal:

"A 2000 estimate by Congress's Joint Committee on Taxation found the tax-inclusive rate would have to be 36% and the tax-exclusive rate would be 57%. In 2005, the U.S. Treasury Department calculated that a tax-exclusive rate of 34% would be needed just to replace the income tax, leaving the payroll tax in place. But if evasion were high then the rate might have to rise to 49%. If the Fair Tax were only able to cover the limited sales tax base of a typical state, then a rate of 64% would be required (89% with high evasion)."

44 states have income taxes. They would have to repeal their income taxes and raise their sales taxes in order for individuals not to have to file annual income tax returns.

Do you really want to add 30% to the cost of a new home? And pay an extra 30% in interest on the borrowing price? 30-40% more for your legal services? Do you want your rents to go up 30%? Do you really think that massive evasion would not follow? We would move back to a black market cash economy so fast it would take all of Ben Bernanke's printing presses working overtime to create enough cash for the black market economy.

Yes, in theory it would mean that exports would be priced more competitively, as corporate taxes are removed. The idea as theory is not entirely without merit, but every independent study I have read suggests the number for the tax when combined with state taxes would be north of 40% and maybe more like 50%.

>Further, this is a tax hike on the middle class. If you make less than $15,000 you win. If you make more than $200,000 you win, because you actually save more and spend less of your income. This is a nice populist proposal, which sounds good but is economically challenged. It only works on someone who has not read about the problems.

Let me give you two links if you want to read more. One is to Bartlett's article and the other is to the people at Fact Check (a very good site for lots of facts on a lot of things) http://opinionjournal.com/extra/?id=110010523 and http://www.factcheck.org/taxes/unspinning_the_fairtax.html.

What would I do about tax reform? Dick Armey had it right: flat and low and simple. It seems like every ex-communist country has it figured out. It is just we capitalists that can't get it right.

How to Create an Immigration Depression

the call by Huckabee and others to deport 12,000,000 illegal immigrants is simply economic suicide. It would create a depression (not just a minor recession) in short order. Let's reduce productivity by 10-15%. Let's reduce consumer spending by 7-8%. Shut down hundreds of thousands of businesses who could not get workers they need. Who will pick the crops? Or do any of a hundred jobs that Americans don't want to do? It would drive up labor costs and create inflation. It would be a disaster of Biblical proportions.

Now, I am all for controlling the border. I want to know who is coming in. But we have to deal with reality, and the reality is that we need those workers who are here. The economy simply will not function without them. You can't send them home and then tell them to apply and hope they can get back in, and then expect business to function as usual. It will take years for a bureaucracy to handle the paperwork.

Go ahead. Close the borders. Find out who is here illegally and make sure they do not have a criminal record. If so, they go. The rest need to get documented, and we need to radically increase the number of immigrants we allow (after we control the borders!), especially educated workers who can help us build our knowledge economy.

And yes, this is amnesty. That is the cost of not controlling the border all these years. Nothing we can do about it, unless we want to shoot ourselves in both feet just to prove a point. Sounds rather dumb to me.

The great irony is that within ten years we are going to need even more immigrants to replace retiring boomers, as well as to pay into social security and Medicare programs. We are going to be competing with Europe for those immigrants. We need to get a head start.

And yes, it is a lot more complex than this quick analysis. But pandering to voters who for whatever reason want to stop illegal immigration by throwing out everyone who is here illegally is not the answer. Establish fines require documents, whatever. But recognize reality and stop telling voters what they want to hear when your policies simply cannot work and will be destructive.

Stimulate the Economy by Cutting Spending?

In the Republican debate in South Carolina last night, the candidates were asked what they would do to stimulate the economy if it is rolling into recession. Nearly every candidate said, "I would cut spending" as an answer.

I guess they skipped that class in Economics 101. Deficit spending is a stimulus in the short term. Cutting spending in the short term would be the opposite. I am a huge proponent of cutting spending, smaller government, balanced budgets, etc. But you don't stimulate an economy that is rolling into recession by cutting spending. Dumb answer, and those who are doing the questioning should call them on their economic garbage.

Tax Hikes to Help Us Grow?

The Democratic candidates agree that the Bush tax cuts needs to be repealed. So, in 2010 we face the largest tax increase in history if that is to be the case. Want to double the dividend and capital gain taxes? Vote for Hillary or Obama. Watch your stocks tank.

They want to "tax the rich" and make more for middle class tax cuts. Sounds nice, but let's look at the facts. The bottom half of taxpayers only pay 3% of the total income taxes collected, which is 1% less than before the Bush tax cuts. 44% of the US population, or 122 million people, pays no income tax at all.

The richest 1% of the country pay 39% of all taxes ($365,000 income and up), which is 3% more than before the Bush tax cuts, under the Clinton tax policy. The top 5% ($145,000) pay 60% of all taxes (up 5% from 1999); and the top 25%, with income over $62,000, pays paid 86% of all taxes. It seems to me that the rich are paying their fair share. Every category is paying more now than under Clinton, except the bottom 75%.

Under any Democratic plan, they would want more than 50% of US citizens to pay no income taxes. If you pay no taxes, why do you care if we run deficits? Polls clearly show that those who pay no taxes are overwhelmingly against tax cuts, as they think it will cut their entitlements and benefits. The plan is clearly to build a constituency of voters who will vote Democrat to increase taxes on someone else and spend the money on programs for them.

Any increase in taxes at the levels proposed by Democrats is by definition anti-growth. Government spending is not as efficient or productive as private spending. It will also be a large drag on the stock market. 2010 is now less than two years away. Congress is going to have to deal with tax policy in 2009 or risk a major economic setback. See how safe your job or business will be in a second recession within a few years, like we saw in 1980-82.

A repeal of the Bush tax cuts would raise taxes on the bottom 75% of the country, and cut taxes for the rich, as a percentage of total taxes paid.

I can go on, but I have probably offended enough readers for one weekend.

La Raza Wants Pat Buchanan Off the Air

Leftists Target Immigration Critics

As part of a strategie initiative by leftwing groups to control public debate on mass immigration, a major Jewish organization is demanding that cable television news networks identify immigration critics as hatemongers whenever those spokesfnen appear in news programs.

In letters sent to the heads of CNN, FOX and MSNBC, the influential American Jewish Committee demanded that advocates of immigration law enforcement such as Jim Gilchrest and Chris Simcox of the Minuteman Project and restrictionist Dan Stein of the Federation for Immigration Reform should be identified. as "promoting hate."

AJC General Counsel Jeffrey Sinensky who signed the letter said the appearance of those spokesmen on television news program was "inappropriate and offensive." He said the men had appeared on cable news shows such as Lou Dobbs Tonight, The O'Reilly Factor, and MSNBC News Live.

The AJC letter is part of a larger strategy being implimented by allied left-wing groups throughout the country. AJC is partnering with the openly racist National Council of La Raza and its "We Can Stop the Hate" campaign to drive the spokesmen for immigration restriction off the airways.

In February last year, Middle American News reported on the efforts by the corporate-sponsored Hispanic group La Raza to force syndicated columnist Patrick Buchanan off the air because he sharply disagrees with open borders immigration policy. Janet Murguia, president and CEO of La Raza, sent letters nationwide urging supporters to pressure television networks to bar Buchanan and other open borders critics from network programs. Buchanan is author of two bestselling books that strongly criticize America's open border immigration policy. Murguia said Buchanan's appearance on CNN to plug his books illustrates "how the immigration debate has led to inhumane and degrading treatment of immigrants, including millions of Hispanic Americans."
She said Buchanan's views are "unacceptable in a democratic society."

AJC and La Raza's campaign against TV appearances by immigration critics has been joined in recent montbs by the left-wing Southern Poverty Law Center. Spokesman for the group Mark Potok told the Philadelphia Inquirer that CNN's Lou Dobbs and other immigration critics appearing on television are spreading "hate."

The strategy to kick immigration critics off the•air is the Left's apparent response to the major defeat it incurred last year on immigration legislation.

The nation's entire network of left-wing organizations and their multi-billion dollar, funding apparatus in corporate America suffered a setback of historic proportions in 2007 when the House of Representatives, in response to widespread public outrage over mass immigration, refused to pass legislation granting amnesty to an estimated 10 million to 20 million illegal aliens. The House refused to even consider the bill, despite support for it from the president, the Senate, and every major power center in the U.S., including the national Chamber of Commerce, every major daily newspaper, university presidents, immigration advocacy groups and assorted radicáls and leflists.

Rarely has the establisbment, working in concert with its advance guard on the far left, ever sustained such a defeat. Arnnesty for illegal aliens is a long sought goal of both left-wing organizations and the big business groups that back them. For leftwingers, millions of newly legalized immigrants represent a large pool of potential political recruitsto use as a battering ram against the white, middle-class society theyhave longed to destroy At the same time, those millions of newly legalized immigrants represent new sources of cheap labor for major corporations.

Not surprisingly, some of America's largest corporations are the main sponors of at least one of the groups trying to kick immigration critics off the airways. In 1982, the National Council of La Raza established a national "corporate board of advisors" made up of senior executives from 26 major wellknown corporations La Raza says the board meets twice yearly for decision-making about issues and programs of common concern."

The 26 corporations helping La Raza advance its agenda are the foliowing:

Allstate Insurance Company, American Airlines, AT&T, Bank ofAmerica, Chevron Corporation, Citi, The Coca-Cola Company, Comcast Corporation, ConAgra Foods, Inc., Coors Brewing Company, Ford Motor Company, General Mills, Inc.,General Motors Corporation, J.C. Penney Company, Inc., Johnson & Johnson, Kraft Foods, Inc.,McDonald's Corporation, The McGraw-Hill Companies, Miller Brewing Company, PepsiCo, Inc., Prudential Financial, Rockwell Automation, State Farm Insurance Companies, Time Warner Inc., United Parcel Service (UPS), Verizon Communications, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

According to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, another influential Jewish group, the AntiDefamation League, will address whether to join the campaign against immigration critics at an upcoming meeting of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, a public policy umbrela organization that represents several major national Jewish groups.
On its Web site, the American Jewish Council said its mission is to protect the welfare and security of Jews "throughout the world." It believes that promoting "pluralism" is the best way to "ensure Jewish continuity."

Border Security Deleyed Again

In another display of government mismanagement and outright incompetence, the U.S. government admitted last month that it cannot even build nine towers with radar and cameras along the porous and madequately guarded border with Mexico.

The Bush administration announced in March that it has scaled back plans to build what it hailed as a "virtual fence" along the Mexican border, delaying the project for at least another three years. The virtual fence, announced by President George Bush two years ago, was to be constructed in place of a real fence, consisting only of towermounted sensors and electronic surveillance gear.

The announcement was yet another setback for border security, following close on the heels of a decision by Congress in December to scale back and reduce the physical border fencing called for in earlier legislation adopted before the 2006 elections.

The virtual fence, which in reality is not a fence at all, was intended to complement a planned 300 miles of physical fencing. The Government Accountability Office warned that even the physical fence may be delayed too. President Bush did not request any money to complete the construction in his 2009 budget sent to Congress. The project will be delayed for at least three years.

Middle American Institute Inc.
P.O. Box 20608
Raleigh, North Carolina 27619

MIDDLE AMERICAN NEWS
APRIL 2008

CZECH CORNER

Vnitro navrhuje dvojí občanství pro bývalé občany ČR

Praha - Bývali občané České republiky i jejich děti žijící v zahraničí, žádající o české občanství, by se podle návrhu ministerstva vnitra už nemuseli vzdávat dosavadního občanství. Předpokládá to návrh věcného záměru zákona o státním občanství, který v pondělí předloží vládě ministr vnitra Ivan Langer.
Žadatel o udělení státního občanství České republiky tak už nebude povinen předkládat doklad o pozbytí dosavadního občanství. Odpadnou mu tak finanční náklady, časové problémy a další administrativní překážky spojené s obstaráním dokladu o pozbytí starého občanství.
"Správní řízení k žádosti o udělení státního občanství České republiky se pro žadatele o udělení státního občanství České republiky současně zkrátí o dobu, na niž je toto řízení přerušováno právě za účelem obstarání dokladu o pozbytí dosavadního státního občanství," konstatuje ministerstvo.
Vnitro při formulaci zákona přihlíželo ke skutečnosti, že tito lidé většinou neztratili vazby k Česku a jejímu společenskému dění a v její prospěch by také mohli využít svých zkušeností a vzdělání.
Současně vnitro navrhuje, aby lidé, kteří získali občanství podvodem, tedy například když do své žádosti uvedli nepravdivé údaje nebo předložili falešné doklady, mohli o občanství přijít. Rozhodnutí v oblasti státního občanství České republiky by měla být také soudně přezkoumatelná. Ze soudního přezkumu budou vyloučena pouze rozhodnutí, kterými nebylo vyhověno žádosti o udělení občanství kvůli možnému ohrožení svrchovanosti, bezpečnosti nebo demokratických základů České republiky.
Autor: ČTK

Zemřel herec Radovan Lukavský (dne10. března 2008, ve věku 88 let).
Radovan Lukavský byl jedním z posledních žijících herců slavné generace, která vstoupila na jeviště ve 40. letech 20. století. Generace Rudolfa Hrušínského, Stelly Zázvorkové či Vlastimila Brodského.

Na veřejnosti se Radovan Lukavský objevil naposled při nominačním večeru Českých lvů 9. února v pražském kině Lucerna.

Na dvě himalajské osmitisícovky by měl vystoupit žďárský horolezec Jaroš během dubna a května. Na adrese www.rozhlas.cz/vysocina/expedice budou záznamy telefonátů i psané informace.

Posádka historického letounu L-200 Morava v sobotu večer dosáhla svého cíle a doletěla na severní pól.
Řekla to mluvčí expedice Gabriela Převrátilová. Piloti Petr Bold a Richard Santus v sobotu v 19:05 SELČ dosáhli nejsevernějšího bodu zeměkoule. Poté přeletěli nad všemi poledníky a po dvouminutové otočce odletěli na základnu Barneo, které se nachází přibližně 150 kilometrů od pólu. Tam přistáli, aby doplnili palivo.

"Byly to opravdu bojové podmínky. Museli jsme dotankovat za chodu motoru v mrazu minus 25 stupňů Celsia a za prudkého větru, posilovaného točícími se vrtulemi. Tankování trvalo téměř hodinu," uvedl Bold. Letci odstartovali na poslední fázi cesty směrem k severnímu pólu v sobotu ve 13:40 SELČ z letiště Longyearbyen. Protože měli dostatek paliva, cestou k severní točně vynechali jedno plánované přistání a ledovou kru s ruskou základnou Barneo pouze přeletěli. Zastavili se na ní až na cestě zpět. Po doplnění paliva piloti se strojem odletěli na Špicberky.

O naší písni písní —české státní hymně
V měsících červnu a červenci si v krajanském kalendáři připomínáme dvě významné osobnosti našeho národa: dne 3. června 1801 - před 205 lety - se narodil hudební skladatel František ŠKROUP a dne 11. července 1856 — před 150 lety - zemřel básník a dramatik Josef Kajetán TYL. Tyl byl sice mladší než Škroup, narodil se 4. února 1808, ale zemřel o šest let dříve než Škroup, který zemřel až 7. února 1862. Pojilo je přátelství a jejich společným počinem byla „národní zpěvohra" s názvem „FIDLOVAČKA" aneb „Žádný hněv a žádná rvačka". V ní při její premiéře dne 21. prosince 1834 zaznělá poprvé píseň „KDE DOMOV MŮJ" , jež se v dalším století stala naší národní hymnou a nakonec i součástí naší státní hymny.
„V podmanivém přednesu blatenského rodáka basisty Karla Strakatého, v úloze slepého houslisty Mareše, rozšířila se ta píseň z jeviště mezi český lid a stala se mu novodobou hymnou národní a po osvobození v roce 1918 hymnou státní".

Pavel Sporcl chystá serii koncertu na zamku Kozel
Serii ojedinělých koncertů předního českého houslisty Pavla Sporcla nabídne letos návštěvníkům zámek Kozel na Plzeňsku. V pěti setkáních, která začnou 13. dubna, provede Sporcl posluchače různými žánry. Na programu jsou vystoupení od sólového koncertu Pocta Paganinimu až po setkání s hosty. Houslista vystoupí s plzeňskými filharmoniky jako host operního koncertu Opera viva! Zahraje si ale i jazz, pop nebo s romskou kapelou. Serii koncertu uzavře v prosinci s Talichovým komorním kvartetem při koncertu Čtvero ročních období od Antonína Vivaldiho. Velký úspěch a zájem o koncerty uznávaného interpreta předpokládá i kastelán Karel Bobek. Koncertní serie pořádá zamek Kozel už mnoho sezón. Několik let tu vystupoval například kytarista Lubomír Brabec, loni památka nabídla cyklus muzikalových vystoupení.

Otužilci oslavili Velikonoce ve studené vodě Vltavy
Pětice otužilců z Klubu Ledních medvědů oslavila letošní Velikonoce a příchod jara ve Vltavě. Do chladné vody u smíchovského nábřeží v Praze se ponořil i pokořitel kanálu La Manche Richard Blatný, který řeku přeplaval až na druhý břeh. Studené počasí přitom připomínalo spíš zimu nežli začínající jaro, teplota vzduchu se pohybovala kolem nuly a voda ve Vltavě měla jen dva až tři stupně Celsia. "Počasí je dnes pro otužování úplně ideální.. „ Otužilecké akce jsou velmi populární. Klub Ledních medvědů pořádá v lednu plavecké závody ve Vltavě. Nejznámější je Memorial Alfreda Nikodema, který se koná každoročně na svatého Štěpána u Národního divadla. Poprvé se ve Vltavě plavalo v roce 1923.

MOVIE CORNER:

Schedule for Czech Movies on Stanford University

Building 260, room 113
Fri Apr 11 2008 7:30PM10:00PM program: ***Jak dostat tatínka do polepšovny***
Fri May 9 2008 7:00PM9:30PM
Fri Jun 6 2008 7:00PM9:30PM

LAUGHING CORNER

Tips for Handling Telemarketers
Three Little Words That Work !!
(1)The three little words are: **'Hold On, Please...'**
Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging-up immediately) would make each telemarketing call so much more time-consuming that boiler room sales would grind to a halt.
Then when you eventually hear the phone company's 'beep-beep-beep' tone, you know it's time to go back and hang up your handset, which has efficiently completed its task.
These three little words will help eliminate telephone soliciting.
(2) Do you ever get those annoying phone calls with no one on the other end?
This is a telemarketing technique where a machine makes phone calls and records the time of day when a person answers the phone.
This technique is used to determine the best time of day for a 'real' sales person to call back and get someone at home.
What you can do after answering, if you notice there is no one there, is to immediately start hitting your # button on the phone, 6 or 7 times, as quickly as possible This confuses the machine that dialed the call and it kicks your number out of their system Gosh, what a shame not to have your name in their system any longer !!!
(3) Junk Mail Help:
When you get 'ads' enclosed with your phone or utility bill, return these 'ads' with your payment. Let the sending companies throw their own junk mail away.
When you get those 'pre-approved' letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, do not throw away the return envelope.
Most of these come with postage-paid return envelopes, right? It costs them more than the regular 41 cents postage 'IF' and when they receive them back.
It costs them nothing if you throw them away! The postage was 39 cents before the last increase and it is according to the weight. In that case, why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these cool little, postage-paid return envelopes.
I've been doing this a lot ..... since the similar info came to me several months ago - GOOD IDEAS!!!
One of Andy Rooney's (60 minutes) ideas.
Send an ad for your local chimney cleaner to American Express. Send a pizza coupon to Citibank. If you didn't get anything else that day, then just send them their blank application back!
If you want to remain anonymous, just make sure your name isn't on anything you send them.
You can even send the envelope back empty if you want to just to keep them guessing! It still costs them 41 cents.
The banks and credit card companies are currently getting a lot of their own junk back in the mail, but folks, we need to OVERWHELM them. Let's let them know what it's like to get lots of junk mail, and best of all they're paying for it...Twice!
Let's help keep our postal service busy since they are saying that e-mail is cutting into their business profits, and that's why they need to increase postage costs again. You get the idea!
If enough people follow these tips, it will work ---- I have been doing this for years, and I get very little junk mail anymore.
ALSO, ... I almost NEVER leave my name on the sticker of "return address" - I cut it off and write my initials ONLY. I am doing this for about TWO years, AND I get almost NO junk mail.

Information



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Sokol Committee Meeting is every second Tuesday, every month at 7:30 PM in Bay Area Executive Offices, 533 Airport Blvd. Suite 400, 4th floor Burlingame, CA 94010

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E-mail: ASO@American-Sokol.org

Sokol & Czech related WEB Pages:

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http://www.columbia.edu/~js322/czech.html
http://www.sokol-cos.cz/cos/testweb.nsf
http://www.american-sokol.org/
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Deadline for contributions FALL September 30 with a publication date October 31

How we have paid dues

Sokol San Francisco Membersip

P=Paid,
N= Not Paid

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	M
1	**First Name**	**Last Name**	**Address**	**City**	**ST**	**Zip Code**	**F**	**M**	**P 07**	**P 08**
2	Anna	Bobb	5748 Parksite Pl.	Newark,	CA	94560	1		P	P
3	Jarmila	Bochenek	755 Raymundo Ave.	Los Altos,	CA	94024-3139	1		P	P
4	Patricia	Buckley	6414 76th St. Ct. W.	Lakewood	WA	98499-3441	1			Pnew
5	Paul A.	Burda	213 Westvale Court	San Ramon,	CA	94583		1	P	P
6	John	Cambus	121 Lakewood Rd.	Walnut Creek,	CA	94598-4720		1	P	P
7	Vladka	Cambus	121 Lakewood Rd.	Walnut Creek,	CA	94598-4720	1		P	P
8	Evelyn	Cheever	37653 Glenmoor Dr.	Freemont,	CA	94536	1		P	P
9	Stanley	Cheever	37653 Glenmoor Dr.	Freemont,	CA	94536		1	P	P
10	Dagmar	Crichton	1873 Greenwitch St.	San Francisco,	CA	94123	1		P	N
11	Frank	Diask	451 Santa Margarita Ave.	Menlo Park,	CA	94025		1	P	P
12	Jarmila	Diask	451 Santa Margarita Ave.	Menlo Park,	CA	94025	1		P	P
13	Blanche	Duffey	249 W. Poplar Ave.	San Mateo,	CA	94402	1		P	P
14	Jaroslava	Dusatko	1001 Evelyn Ter. E. # 168	Sunnyvale,	CA	94086	1		P	P
15	Milan	Dusatko	1001 Evelyn Ter. E. # 168	Sunnyvale,	CA	94086		1	P	P
16	Mildred	Forsythe	1424 Sanchez Ave	Burlinghame	CA	94010	1		P	P
17	Shirley A.	Gangelhoff	1319 Speers Ave.	San Mateo,	CA	94403	1		P	P
18	Tami M.	Gangelhoff	2151 Carlmont Dr. apt 203	Belmont	CA	94002	1		P	P
19	George	Goupille	879 Partridge Ave.	MenloPark,	CA	94025-5215		1	P	P
20	Philip	Goupille	879 Partridge Ave.	Menlo Park,	CA	94025-5215		1		Pnew
21	Stephan	Goupille	879 Partridge Ave.	MenloPark,	CA	94025-5215		1	P	P
22	Vera	Goupille	879 Partridge Ave.	MenloPark,	CA	94025-5215	1		P	P
23	Arthur	Hackworth	21741 Santa Bella Pl.	Cupertino	CA	95014		1	N	N
24	Marie	Holubar	300 5th St.	Petaluma,	CA	94952	1		N	N
25	Vera	Horn	800 N. El Camino # 203	San Mateo,	CA	94401-3760	1		P	P
26	Vaclav	Hrdina	20287 John Dr.	Castro Valley,	CA	94546		1	P	N
27	Henry	Husak	19447 Victona Court	Sonoma,	CA	95476-3847		1	P	P
28	Jarmila	Jacarik	1954 Woodbury Ct.	Walnut Creek,	CA	94596	1			Pnew
29	Jiri	Jacarik	1954 Woodbury Ct.	Walnut Creek,	CA	94596		1		Pnew
30	Debra A.	Jacob	5656 Oceanview Dr.	Oakland,	CA	94618	1			Pnew
31	Bohumla	Janac	18955 Palo Oaks Ct.	Saratoga,	CA	95070	1		Pnew	N
32	Jarmila	Jancarik	1954 Woodbury Ct.	Walnut Creek,		94596				Pnew
33	Jan	Janku	10 Villanova Ln.	Oakland,	CA	94611		1	P	N
34	Joan	Kemr	476 32nd Ave.	San Francisco,	CA	94121-1724	1		P	P
35	Helena	Kozler	176 Corte Anita	Greenbrae,	CA	94904	1		P	N
36	Eva	Kryska	1120 Newell Rd.	Palo Alto,	CA	94303	1		P	P
37	Jiri	Kucera	21901 Monte Ct.	Cupertino,	CA	95014		1	P	N
38	Vlasta	Kucera	539 Hillcrest Rd.	San Carlos,	CA	94070-1920	1		P	N
39	Jan	Kucera Jr.	21917 Oakview	Cupertino,	CA	95014		1	P	N
40	Ivanka	Linhart	P.O. Box 1172	Soulsbyville,	CA	95372	1		P	P
41	Petr	Linhart	P.O. Box 1172	Soulsbyville,	CA	95372		1	P	P
42	Alexander	Livingston	19617 Forest Ave.	Castro Valley,	CA	94546		1		P
43	David	Livingston	19617 Forest Ave.	Castro Valley,	CA	94546		1	P	P
44	Helenka	Livingston	19617 Forest Ave.	Castro Valley,	CA	94546	1		P	P
45	Dan	Livinsgton	19617 Forest. Ave.	Castro Valley,	CA	94546		1	P	P
46	Victor	Machacek	1655 Funston Ave.	San Francisco,	CA	94122		1	P	P
47	Lida	Mikes	115 Los Vientos Way	San Carlos,	CA	94070	1		P	P
48	Frank	Miksa	7 Royston Walk	Pleasant Hill,	CA	94523		1	P	P
49	Blanche	Milner	1500 Held Dr. # 67	Modesto,	CA	95355	1		P	N
50	Ludvik	Mlynek	1225 Warner Ct.	Lafayette,	CA	94549		1	P	P
51	Alena H.	Navarra	5452 Jonathan Dr.	Newark,	CA	94560	1		P	N
52	Charles M.	Navarra	5452 Jonathan Dr.	Newark,	CA	94560		1	P	N
53	Jan	Nemec	1521 Saint Alphonfus Way	Alamo,	CA	94507-1570		1	P	N

How we have paid dues

Sokol San Francisco Membersip

P=Paid, N= Not Paid

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	M
54	**First Name**	**Last Name**	**Address**	**City**	**ST**	**Zip Code**	**F**	**M**	**P 07**	**P 08**
55	Rita	Nemec	1521 Saint Alphonsus Way	Alamo,	CA	94507-1570	1		P	N
56	Ludmila	O'Donell	3424 NE. 35th Ave.	Portland	OR	97212	1		P	P
57	Alena	Picha	650 Newhaven Ct.	Walnut Creek,	CA	94598	1		P	P
58	Frank	Picha	650 Newhaven Ct.	Walnut Creek,	CA	94598		1	P	P
59	Eva	Plachy	717 Best Ct.	San Carlos,	CA	94070-1544	1		P	P
60	Ivo	Plachy	717 Best Ct.	San Carlos,	CA	94070-1544		1	P	P
61	Zdena Dem	Rashkin	21780 Via Regina	Saratoga,	CA	95070	1		P	P
62	Jaroslav	Rosicky	16714 Selby Dr.	San Leandro,	CA	94578		1	P	P
63	Michelle	Ruff	324 Via La Paz	Greenbrae,	CA	94904	1		P	N
64	Dagmar	Rus	628 Newlands Ave.	San Mateo,	CA	94403	1		P	N
65	Ruda	Rus	628 Newlands Ave.	San Mateo,	CA	94403		1	P	N
66	Marta	Sehnal	7415 Alpine Road	La Honda,	CA	94020	1		P	P
67	Albert	Sieber	231 Auburn Ave.	Santa Cruz	CA	95060		1	P	P
68	Libuse	Sikl	418 Patricia Ave.	San Mateo,	CA	94401	1		P	N
69	Kamil	Skapa	894 S. Flamingo Court	Denver,	CO	80246-2323		1	P	N
70	George I.	Skoda	3400 Princeton Way	Santa Clara,	CA	95051-5526		1	P	P
71	Marcelle	Skubna	616 Eve St.	Napa,	CA	94559	1		P	P
72	Desider E.	Slavoj	22 Ord Ct.	San Francisco,	CA	94114-1417		1	P	N
73	Marcela A.	Sleep	7405 Hacienda Way	Felton	CA	95018	1		Pnew	P
74	Jirina	Smerhovska	2440 15 th St.	San Francisco,	CA	94114	1		P	N
75	Karel	Snajberk	916 Regal Road	Berkeley,	CA	94708		1	P	P
76	Milena	Snajberk	916 Regal Road	Berkeley,	CA	94708	1		P	P
77	George	Spanek	1425 Broadway Sw. # 11	Burlingame,	CA	94010		1	P	N
78	Henry J.	Sredl	P.O. Box 1029	Center Harbor,	NH	03226-1029		1	P	N
79	Karel	Stipek	22420 A Walnut Cir.N.	Cupertino,	CA	95014		1	P	P
80	Martha	Stipek	22420 A Walnut Cir.N.	Cupertino,	CA	95014	1		P	P
81	Eugenia	Sullivan	P.O.Box 9651	So. Lake Tahoe,	CA	95731	1		P	P
82	Edmund	Teyrovsky	26563 Durham Way	Hayward,	CA	94542		1	P	P
83	Georgina	Teyrovsky	26563 Durham Way	Hayward,	CA	94542	1		P	P
84	Angie	Tomanek	26612 Durham Way	Hayward,	CA	94542	1		P	N
85	Tomas	Tomanek	26612 Durham Way	Hayward,	CA	94542		1	P	N
86	Dana	Tupy	13188 La Cresta Dr.	Los Altos,	CA	94022-1941	1		P	N
87	George	Tupy	13188 La Cresta Dr.	Los Altos,	CA	94022-1941		1	P	N
88	Helena	Vernak	2724 Mason Lane	San Mateo,	CA	94403-2613	1		P	P
89	Zdenek	Vernak	2724 Mason Lane	San Mateo,	CA	94403-2613		1	P	P
90	Milos	Zivny	10815 Breed Ave.	Oakland,	CA	94603		1	P	P
91	Zelka	Zivny	10815 Breed Ave.	Oakland,	CA	94603	1		P	P
92	Ashka	Zrzavy	654 Oregon St.	Sonoma,	CA	95476	1		P	P
93	Lada	Zrzavy	654 Oregon St.	Sonoma,	CA	95476		1	P	P
94	TOTAL						48	42		



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