VĚSTNÍK

A newsletter of
Sokol San Francisco
http://www.sokolsf.org

SPRING
2016



American Sokol
Sokol San Francisco





700TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF KING CHARLES IV, HOLY ROMAN EMPEROR, CZECH AND GERMAN KING


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OFFICERS 2016

GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION

SOKOL SAN FRANCISCO INC.

Educational-Social and
Non-profit Cultural Organization

P.O. Box 5252,
Walnut Creek, CA 94596-9998

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President	Jara Dusatko
1st Vice-president	Zdenek Vernak
Recording Secretary	Zelmira Zivny
Financial Secretary	Paul Burda
Treasurer	Jarmila Jancarik
Vestnik Editors	Milan Dusatko, Paul Burda
Membership	Milan Dusatko
Public Relations	Helenka Livingston
Men's Director	Milos Zivny
Women's Director	Jana Santens

Auditing Committee	Zdenek Vernak, Milos Zivny, Eva Kryska
Budget and Finance Committee	Paul Burda, George Goupille, Jiri Jancarik, Zdenek Vernak
Entertainment Committee	Helenka Livingston, Daniel Botcha
Reconciliation Committee	Zdenek Vernak, Milos Zivny,
Zupa Representatives	Jara Dusatko, Jiri & Jarmila Jancarik, Milos Zivny

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Sokol Board and Members Meetings
is held every second Tuesday each month at 1:30 PM
(except July & August)
Address to be announced

Please pay attention to Sokol news and information on our unit website: http://www.sokolsf.org/

"A group becomes a team when each member is sure enough of himself and his contribution to praise the skills of the others".

Norman Shidle

Věstník is published by Sokol San Francisco, four issues per year.
Send your typed contributions to our Unit's address or editor's e-mails.
Contributions after deadline will be published in the next Vestnik issue.

Věstník Schedule: Published quarterly
Deadline for contributions WINTER January 10 with a publication date January 31,
Deadline for contributions SPRING February 28 with a publication date March 31,
Deadline for contributions SUMMER May 31 with a publication date June 30,
Deadline for contributions FALL September 30 with a publication date October 31.

SOKOL UNIT CORNER

New Members: 2016
Narcissa Rajspic, David Sampson, Petr Jansa, Kamila Burns, Petr Nejedly,

Members resigned: 2016
Jana Chalouhi; Dana Chapman; Gabriela Cerna; Vera Horn; Barbora Soltys;
John Cambus from-health reason.

Members did not cover dues yet: 2016
Zdena D. Rashkin

Donations 2016:
D. Rus $4; J. Kucera $50; K. Snajberk $64;
M.& R. Prejda $ 100; Ch. Rouset $14;
F. & J. Dlask $28; H. Sredl $25; D. Chricton $24;
L. Sikl $ 14; V. Machacek $20; B. Nejedly $9.

J. Cambus $50 in memory G.Teyrovsky;

Total: $ 402

TOTAL 65 MEMBERS 32 females, 33 males

Dear Sokol members, your 2016 dues payments and donations sent are truly appreciated.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2016

the dates of Walks for Health are approximate, might be changed.

DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
April 14, Thursday	Walk for Health	Carson Park in Fairfax
May 14, Saturday	Walk for Health	Grass Valley, Castro Valley
June 4, Saturday	Picnic at Lake Chabot Park	Castro Valley
July 17-24	Sokol Family Camp	Dinkey Creek
September 24, Saturday	Picnic at Lake Chabot Park	Castro Valley
October 15 and 16	Trip	Malin or Lassen Volcano Park
November 17 or 30	Walk for Health	Mushroom Hunting
December 3, Saturday	Annual meeting	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Foster City
December 30, Friday	End of the Year Dinner - Dance	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Foster City

2016 DINKEY CREEK SOKOL FAMILY CAMP JULY 17 -24 More information in April 2016

SEND WITH YOUR PAYMENT	Keep for your record
2016 Dues are $36, late fee $5 after 1-31-16. **Membership reinstatement fee $5.** **Membership Dues sent $.....** **New members add $5 processing fee to American Sokol Headquarters in Brookfield, Illinois** **Donation/Contribution.....** **Name:.....** **Sent amount.....** **Address.....** **City.....State....Zip.....**	**Sokol San Francisco Dues 2016** **Date: .....** **Check No:.....**

Dear Friends,

The San Francisco Public library currently offers about four hundred titles of classic and contemporary Czech literature including fiction as well as nonfiction. Come to visit us and borrow books in Czech. The collection of Czech Books is available on the third floor of the Main Library on Larkin Street. We would like to find out what titles you are most interested in. Please talk to Jana. Your suggestions and feedback would be greatly appreciated. Please check the library catalog for the newest titles.

SFPL is an amazing oasis of culture and education. Besides books in many languages we offer variety of programs for children, teens, adults and other population segments every day. I would be happy to give a library tour to anybody who is interested.

Jana De Brauwere, Phone: 415.557.4425
Czech librarian at San Francisco Public Library

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Speech of Ing. Hana Moučková,

President of Česká Obec Sokolská and President of the World Sokol Federation on the occasion of a celebration of the 150th Anniversary of American Sokol on November 14th, 2015, in Chicago.

Milé sestry, milí bratři!

Mám upřímnou radost, že Vás mohu jako představitelka bratrské sokolské organizace – České obce sokolské - pozdravit a pogratulovat Vám u příležitosti tak významné události jakou je letošní jubileum – 150. výročí od založení první sokolské organizace na Americkém kontinentě. Zároveň si dovoluji Vás všechny s úctou pozdravit jako starostka Světového svazu sokolstva, který sdružuje nejvýznamnější sokolské organizace z celého světa - a Americká obec sokolská je jedním z nejvýznamnějších členů.
Všichni jsme seznámeni s tím, co Americká obec sokolská v historii znamenala pro Vaše předky a mnohdy i pro Vás – současníky - duchovní kontakt se starou vlastí, s ideály a filozofií sokolského hnutí vycházející od jeho zakladatelů Miroslava Tyrše a Jindřicha Fügnera.
Vím také z korespondence i z osobních setkání s některými z Vás, že Sokol pro Vás všechny znamená nejen cvičení a sportování, ale je i neodmyslitelnou součástí životního stylu, životní filozofie a je také centrem krajanského života.
Dojímá mě, když Vás slyším zpívat české či slovenské národní písně mnohdy lépe, než svedou mnozí naši současníci v České republice.
Proto se na Vás obracím s prosbou: uchovávejte a stále šiřte sokolské myšlenky i historii pro budoucí generace; propagujte sokol, jakožto životní styl - cvičení, sporty, kulturu i spolkový život.
K tomu Vám, vážené sestry a bratři přeji mnoho energie a odhodlání a hlavně radosti a potěšení z toho , co pro Sokol v Sokole děláte.
Těším se již nyní na setkání s Vámi mnohými na XVI. všesokolském sletě v Praze v r. 2018 – v roce významném pro naši Republiku, 100 let od jejího vzniku, od vzniku společného státu Čechů a Slováků (i když dnes jsou podmínky jiné).
Pro mnohé z nás toto společenství přetrvává, byť v rovině spolupráce v činnosti, tedy i naší sokolské spolkové činnosti – v našem spolkovém životě.
Sokolství spojuje svými idejemi, společně vyznávanými hodnotami; sokolství je nad hranicemi jednotlivých států.
Mnoho zdaru do dalších desetiletí !

Hana Moučková
starostka ČOS a Světového svazu sokolstva
Chicago 14. 11. 2015

Morton Arboretum

(visited by members of Pacific District during the celebration of 150th Anniversary of ASO, November 2015)

Table salt with the slogan "When It Rains It Pours" is part of American culture, and the Morton Salt Umbrella Girl has been around since 1914. But there is more than the table salt: to mention just a few products, there is Morton curing salt, Morton lite salt, Morton canning & pickling salt, Morton ice cream salt, Morton ice melt rock salt, Morton kosher salt, Morton Epsom salt.
And then there is Morton Arboretum.
Sokols from San Francisco and Los Angeles had the opportunity to visit the Morton Arboretum during a short pause during the celebration of 150 years of American Sokol. It is located in Lisle, Illinois, a small town 26 miles west of downtown Chicago, and just a few minutes from the hotel where some of the Sokol activities took place.

The Arboretum is huge, 1,700 acres. It is one of the most comprehensive collections of trees and shrubs in North America; it contains some 220,000 catalogued plants from around the world. The grounds are well described and mapped, with paved one-way roads, and many miles of nature trails providing access to specific natural areas, lakes, a small river (the DuPage), groves of trees, a restored tall grass prairie and beautifully landscaped special gardens. There is a large visitors' center with a store and a café; plant research facilities; classrooms; buildings for education of
School children; a maze; a Children's Garden; and an attractive building used for weddings.
We learned about the Arboretum and about Arbor Day: Joy Morton (1855 – 1934), who started out as a salt salesman, incorporated the Morton Salt Company 1910 and founded the Arboretum in 1922. His father, Julius Sterling Morton, a leading Nebraska politician, was instrumental to the founding of Arbor Day, on April 10, 1872, in Nebraska City, Nebraska, when - according to Wikipedia - an estimated million trees were planted in that state.
The Arboretum is open every day of the year. It is never the same, depending on the season and on the weather, and everyone's desires and interests. It offers a magnificently rich and varied program for enjoyment and education of individuals, and improving and conserving of the environment.
Our visit was short but well worth it.

See page 2, fig. 1 Members of Pacific District with Lake Marmo in the background. Photo by Jara Dusatko
See page 2, fig. 2 This oak tree, estimated to be more than 250 years old, the oldest tree in the Arboretum, is designated the Illinois Millennium Landmark Tree. White oak (Quercus alba) and other oaks were the dominant trees in the upland forest of the original landscape. Photos by Zdenka Svitek

Lida 'O'Donnell

Adventures at Crissy Field and the Invisible Waterfall

Where did people in San Francisco go to see something really adventurous? If the year was 1915 or around, probably to the part of San Francisco Presidio, we call today Crissy Field. This was where the early pilots were starting and landing their planes and where they performed their acrobatics. Later on, the place was named Crissy Field to honor Major Dana Crissy, a pilot who died participating in the first transcontinental flight from San Francisco to Long Island in the year of 1919.
Today, you could see the original Crissy Airfield from a path in San Francisco Presidio as we did during our January Walk for Health. We looked at a small grassy place and some restored old hangars on one side on our way to anchor of the Golden Gate Bridge, an impressive piece of technical history. You can take walk through a forest at the Presidio, overlook the ocean, look at the beautifully renovated old military houses and even enjoy some bowling in one of them.

We did not go for bowling on our walk, we just walked in cold January wind and admired the new paths and views.

Next walk took us to Pacifica and beyond the city border to San Pedro Valley Park, surprisingly wild and hilly. In a clear weather you could see Farallon Islands from tops of some hills in San Pedro Park but we were

not that lucky. What we wanted to see was Brooks Falls, a waterfall which drops 175 feet down from Montara Mountain. The rains just started and there was water enough so we could hear it falling while walking up a steep trail. But the waterfall was hidden in bushes and plants and we did not get the chance to see it. Instead a view has opened toward the ocean from top of the trail with the Pacifica deep under. So we enjoyed what was offered, with the sound of falling water in the background. See Page 2, fig 3 & 4, photo by Milos Zivny

Zelmira Zivny

Violin Concert

On Friday, March 4, Czech violin soloist Miroslav Ambroš, accompanied by pianist Zuzana Ambrošová, performed at the Lucie Stern Community Center in Palo Alto. The concert featured a selection including Oscar-winning composer Erich Wolfgang Korngold, Buhuslav Martinů's rhythmically challenging Madrigal Stanzas dedicated to Albert Einstein, music by Antonín Dvořák and Josef Suk, and concert masterpieces by Pablo Sarasate and Antonio Bazzini. The audience was fortunate to have this opportunity to meet the duo and to hear the young virtuoso, who was one of famous Czech violinist Josef Suk Jr.'s favorite students and to whom Suk left, among other things, his study. The interspersed insights and anecdotes about the music were also much appreciated. See Page 2 fig 5 & 6, photo by Milos Zivny

Adela Bardos

"A NOTE FROM THE LATEST VISITING ARTISTS":

Vážená a milá paní Dusatko, děkujeme za milá slova, která jako ocenění naší práce vždy potěší. Také se omlouváme, že píšeme se zpožděním, ale hned po návratu do Prahy 12.3. jsme vpadli do koncertních povinností a chvilku nám trvalo , než jsme se opět aklimatizovali. Zážitků z turné po Západním pobřeží máme opravdu hodně, koncerty se všude velmi líbily a tak jsme dostali další koncertní pozvání do Ameriky a Kanady. San Francisco nás okouzlilo, i když počasí nám v ten den prohlídky moc nepřálo, ale všichni nám říkali, že jsme vám dovezli vodu, na kterou jste dlouho čekali a tak jsme z toho měli radost i my. Dokonce se nám povedlo udělat i pár zajímavých fotografií u atraktivního Golden Gate. Naši průvodci manželé Želka a Miloš nás obětavě vozili po San Franciscu a přes proudy vody nám ukazovali zajímavá místa a architektonické pozoruhodnosti města. Již v den příletu ve čtvrtek 3. března jsme obdivovali jak bylo vše zorganizované. Na letišti nás čekal s českou vlajkou nepřehlédnutelný a milý Zdeněk Vrňák, který nás dovezl k Evě Kryškové do jejího domu v Palo Alto, kde jsme byl i ubytovaní tři dny až do našeho odletu do Los Angeles. U Evy jsme se cítili velmi dobře, nejen že bylo o nás mimořádně postaráno , ale i pohoda, jakou ve svém domě vytvořila, přispěla ke zdárnému výsledku našeho koncertu. Na naše vystoupení jsme se vysloveně těšili a stejnou reakci jsme cítili i od velmi vstřícného obecenstva Klavír, akustika i atmosféra v sále byly vynikající. Moc děkujeme!!

Rádi bychom poděkovali zejména Vám , která jste nás jako představitelka Sokola na koncert pozvala, všechno na dálku přes mail perfektně domluvila a zorganizovala. Bylo nám potěšením i ctí pro tak milé a vstřícné publikum zahrát a vždy se budeme k vám rádi vracet. Už nyní se těšíme na případné další pozvání.

Srdečně Miroslav a Zuzana Ambrošovi

A Spring Dance to Remember.

While the grey skies were dumping rain in buckets on our thirsty Bay Area, Marco Polo room in Crowne Plaza Hotel was full of sunshine. In a smaller room, closer together, our get-together resembled more a family reunion than a formal meeting of an organization. Amazingly, some of the participants have known each other for sixty plus years. A number of old timers personally remember the first president of Czechoslovakia, T.G, Masaryk, whose 166th birthday we celebrate on March 7.

Our President, Jara Dusatko, welcomed more than fifty guests, announced the activities our Unit is planning for this year. Last years' events proved to be attractive enough to inspire nine new members to join Sokol.

Challenge brings out talents – we have found a great MC in Helenka Teyrovska – Livingston . Her joyful enthusiasm lifted our spirit and otherwise boring of raffle tickets drawing became a good natured fun, when the winners told us a few words about themselves. We could not overlooked Tomas, since he won repeatedly. And he generously shared his winnings.

As we could see, the age could not keep eager dancers from the dancing floor, traditional Chicken dance and the "snake" got most of us off our comfortable chairs. Brothers Zivny & Jancarik, Sister Dusatko presented a video, depicting „Ceska beseda", a compilation of traditional folk dances for four pairs. Authored by Czech writer Jan Neruda and dance instructor Karel Link, performed for the first time in 1863. Sokol will try to bring this elegant, 14 minutes long dance back to life and volunteer are welcome, information is forthcoming.

Another pleasant evening came to its end, too soon for us, we parted with a promise to meet again.

Zdenek Vernak

Česká beseda

Česká beseda (Czech National Dance) is an entirely **Czech saloon dance** created at the initiation of Jan Neruda, a 19th century Czech poet, writer, journalist, and also an outstanding dancer. Karel Link, a Royal Bohemian dance teacher along with Ferdinand Heller, a music teacher and composer, arranged this special quadrille for four couples, based on Czech folk songs and dances such as polka, rejdovák, obkročák, ...
The premiere took place in Prague on November 1863 by 24 couples; among them were Jan Neruda and Bedrich Smetana. Within the next two months the Beseda was danced by as many as 140 couples and after short time the whole Bohemia knew and danced it.
At that time Czechs created their own Czech associations and clubs (Hlahol, Umělecká beseda, Sokol, ...) to assist in the struggle for national self- awareness (consciousness). The Ceska Beseda dance played the same role. It endured through all the good and bad times in the Czech history (both World Wars, communism, ..), and is still alive today.
Our Unit is ready to start practicing this famous historical Czech saloon dance in its original conception, including the costumes typical at the time.

Submitted by ***Jara Dusatko***

INTRODUCING AND WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kamila Burns



Kamila Burns was born and raised in the Domažlice region of the Czech Republic. Her beginnings were modest, raised by a humble but loving family in a small town of 5,000 neighbors, Horšovský Týn.
At 20 years old, Kamila manifested extraordinary courage and independence by taking on the world. She began traveling and working abroad, sampling various cultures in an effort to experience and learn what the world has to offer. She did this for the next 5 years of her life. She travelled and worked in most European countries, Japan, Mexico, Egypt, Tunisia, and finally, in 2005 she moved to the United States, where she 'put down roots' and ended her travels.

She arrived on a temporary student Visa. Although Kamila was fluent in Czech, German and Italian, she had not learned much English. In 2006, Kamila enrolled at Cabrillo College, where she quickly grasped the English language and graduated, with honors, in 2008 with an Associate of Arts degree in Business. During her schooling she worked part time at Cabrillo College in the Nursing, Radiologic Technology, and Dentistry departments.
Kamila transferred to San Jose State University in the Fall of 2011 as a Junior and new mother of 1-year old twin daughters. While juggling books, a heavy course load, a family with twin daughters, and a part-time job, Kamila proceeded to excel to the highest academic levels, earning a perfect 4.0 GPA over 5 continuous semesters. As a result of her hard work and dedication to excellence, Kamila received 5 business excellence awards.
In 2013 Kamila became a U.S. citizen and graduated from San Jose State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business, Management Information Systems. She is now a happy and successful mother and IT Program Manager with a high-tech company in Silicon Valley. Kamila continues to pursue her passions and dreams. She is dedicated to learning, growing, and staying active and engaged in her community and with fine organizations such as Sokol San Francisco.

Blanka Nejedla a Petr Nejedlý

My name is Petr Nejedlý. I was born in Roudnice nad Labem and spent my childhood in the town of Štětí, where most of my family still lives and where we visit almost yearly.
While studying at Czech Technical University in Prague, I have met my wife Blanka.
After the studies, I worked 11 years for an American company in Prague, visiting California frequently, but it took another job offer to get us move here before Christmas 2010.



My name is Blanka Nejedlá and I come from the beautiful wine-region village Prušánky. After graduating from the gymnasium of Hodonín, I have studied architecture and civil engineering at Czech Technical University, but I also have a bachelor degree in pedagogy. I like art and crafts and teach at the Czech School of California.

We have 3 kids, Jakub, Eliška and Noemi, which are all fluent in Czech language.
Living in the Redwood Shores, we are happy to have found such a strong Czech community around.
We like the events Sokol organizes and have also been to the Dinky Creek campout last year.



Narcissa Rajspic

I was born in Trencin, quite a few years ago – but a lady never tells how many. My father was a student of Tomas Masaryk. I saw President Masaryk when he visited Trencin. When the Russians liberated Czechoslovakia from democracy, I left. I eventually immigrated to Australia in the 1950's. About ten years later I came to the US, so my sons, Tomas and Richard could attend schools. Both sons later went on to UC Berkeley. Richard earned a Masters degree in Business (MBA) and Tomas is an attorney. I have attached a recent photo from the 3/19/2016 celebration for President Masaryk, for which, sadly, I arrived too late.

Narcissa

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AMERICAN SOKOL CORNER

SOKOL SLET

A very busy time for all calisthenics lovers is ahead. There is not one but two **SOKOL SLETS** on the horizon. The first one is the **American Sokol XXIV National Slet and Festival in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.**

AMERICAN SOKOL XXIV SLET and FESTIVAL
June 22-25, 2017
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

The devastating flood of 2008 took away the Sokol 100 year old hall but not the Sokol spirit in this Iowa town. "The tradition continues", our Brothers and Sisters from Cedar Rapids say.
Cedar Rapids is a City where the Czech and Slovak National Museum and Library is located. The museum was badly damaged by the 2008 flood. The building was then moved and beautifully restored. You might remember the trip Sokol San Francisco organized almost three years ago to visit the Museum and enjoy the Czech Village in Cedar Rapids. Many Czechs have resettled in Cedar Rapids and their descendants keep the tradition alive.
Part of the program is a Volleyball Competition, Fitness Competition and Gymnastics Competition. The program and calisthenics instructions will be ready and coming soon. We will keep you informed.

2017 Slet Souvenir Survey
Calling all Sokols from sea to shining sea, from the fruited plains, from across the mighty oceans!! Join together as we celebrate our traditions and establish new ones for the future.
Each Slet has its own unique souvenirs. The XXIV Slet committee would like to know your favorites to choose from. We have already selected t-shirts and golf shirts for you to purchase but want your input on the rest. Please complete our survey and help us provide your favorites! Deadline is March 30th!
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LQ9W6LN

The year of **2018** will bring another big Sokol event:

XVI VŠESOKOLSKÝ SLET
June 2018, Praha

Sokol members from many countries will meet at the All Sokol Slet in Prague. We are very proud that Sokol San Francisco members performed at the XIV and XV Slets in years of 2006 and 2012. The first information about the 2018 Slet are just coming. American Sokol is organizing trips around Czech Republic, Slovakia and Austria for the Slet participants, especially welcomed by Sokols who do not speak Czech or Slovak and might not be oriented well in the ciountry.
We are lucky enough to have a very good friend in Prague. Brother Oto Notzl, until recently Pacific District Mens Director, lives in Prague now and keeps a close contact with the Los Angeles and San Francisco Sokol as well as with the Czech Sokol. Brother Oto already let us know that there will be two different calisthenics for women, one more on the athletic, the other on the dance side. Our old friend Sister Lenka Kocmichova, is writing calisthenics for seniors. As well as with the American Sokol Slet, we will keep you informed.
Do you want to know more? Do you want to participate at the American Sokol Slet in Cedar Rapids? Do you plan to perform at the All Sokol Slet in Prague? Let us know via Sokol e-mail: sokolsf@gmail.com
Are you interested in attending the 2018 All Sokol Slet in Prague and sightseeing of Czech Republic, (planned tentatively at the end of June 2018)? Contact ASO Headquarters for travel arrangement filling tentative interest below: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QRN5VDL

INFORMATION CORNER

Karel IV, King of Bohemia, King of Germany, Holy Roman emperor

He was born in May 1316, son of the Czech king Jan of Luxembourg and Eliška, the daughter of Czech king Vaclav II. She was the last of the Premyslids dynasty on the Czech throne. Taken away from his mother, young Vaclav, as was his original name, grew up at the French court where he was given the king's name, Charles, Karel in Czech. From France, Karel traveled to Italy where he fought under command of his father and in the year of 1332, he came back to the country of his birth.

He described his return in his biography Vita Caroli.

Potom dorazili jsme do Čech, kde jsme nebyli již jedenáct let. I zvěděli jsme, že před několika lety matka naše Eliška zemřela.
....A tak přišedše do Čech jsme nenalezli ani otce, ani matky, ani bratra ani sester, ani nikoho známého. Také řeč českou jsme úplně zapomněli, již však jsme se znovu naučili, takže jsme jí mluvili i rozuměli jako každý jiný Čech. Z Boží milosti pak jsme znali psáti i mluviti nejen česky, ale i francouzsky, italsky, německy a latinsky, a to tak, že jedním jazykem jako druhým jsme dovedli čísti, psáti i mluviti. Toho času otec náš odejel do hrabství lucemburského pro válku, kterou vedl proti vévodovi brabantskému....i odevzdal nám vladařství v Čechách na dobu své nepřítomnosti.

Království toto jsme nalezli tak spustošené, že jsme nenašli ani jediného hradu, který by nebyl zastaven se všemi příslušnými statky královskými, takže jsme neměli kde bydliti, leč v domech městských jako jiný měšťan. Hrad pražský byl opuštěn, pobořen a zničen, neboť od doby krále Přemysla II. ležel v sutinách. Na tom místě jsme dali vystavět nový a krásný palác s velikým nákladem, jak jej dnes možno spatřiti.

There is no appropriate English translation of the beautiful old Czech text. This is the content of the part above:
After being absent for eleven years, Karel is learning that is Mother Eliška died some time ago. So he did not find a family member or a friend in the country and he has completely forgotten the language, too. Karel thanks God that he was able to learn Czech again and that he can write and speak not only Czech but also French, Italian, German and Latin. Karel's Father has left for Luxembourgh to fight in a war against Duke of Brabant and for the time of his absence, gave the power of ruling the country to Karel. As Karel desribes it, the kingdom was devastated, the royal castles pawned and the Castle of Prague destroyed and abandoned since the time of King Přemysl II. Karel speaks with pride when describing the beautiful new Castle he built over the ruins.....(End of Vita Caroli text.)

Eventually by his talent and skills, Karel became king of Germany, king of Bohemia and Holy Roman emperor and, according to Encyclopedia Britannica, "one of the most learned and diplomatically skillful sovereigns of his time. He gained more through diplomacy than others did by war".
In the second half of the 14th century, Prague became the political, economic, and cultural center of Europe and eventually the capital of Holy Roman Empire.

To remember Karel's anniversary, the Czech National Gallery in Prague will present an international exhibition of rare artefacts from Karel's time, among them a coronation crown from Aachen that will appear in the Czech country for the first time. The exhibition opens on May 14, Karel's birthday at the Valdštejnská jízdárna in

Prague. To look for other memorabilia of Karel IV, you can just walk through Prague and you cannot miss them: the Castle with the St. Vitus Cathedral, the beautiful Karlův most, Carolinum, the first building of Prague's University, all of them reminding us of the extraordinary man and king.

Prepared by Zelmira Zivny

Legal dispute leads to Yosemite park name changes

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, Calif. - Yosemite National Park is set to start showing the new names for some of park's most iconic attractions after no settlement was reached to a bitter legal dispute.
As of Tuesday, the historic Ahwahnee Hotel will become the Majestic Yosemite Hotel and Curry Village campground will be named Half Dome Village. Badger Pass Ski Resort will now be Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area.
The park service announced last year that it would change the names after failing to reach agreement with the company Delaware North, serving as park's concessionaire since 1993 until loosing contract to Aramark
The dispute prompted the Park Service to announce the name changes. Park Service employees will begin placing temporary signs over road signs directing visitors to the attractions while Aramark will be responsible for changing the names of the attractions.
An historic sign welcoming visitors to the park's Ahwahnee Hotel was stolen sometime Saturday night.
"It's part of the park's historic fabric," Gediman said. "And we are taking this seriously." Shorted from:
http://www.cbsnews.com/news/legal-dispute-leads-to-yosemite-park-name-changes/

CZECH CORNER

Na počest Karla IV. vznikla kolekce královských vín | Zdeňka Kuchyňová

K 700. výročí narození krále Karla IV. vznikla speciální kolekce vín. Pít se budou v královských městech při oslavách po celý rok. Na počest krále se bude také sázet vinná réva. Projekt Karel IV., moudrý panovník a vinař v litoměřickém hradě představil Cech českých vinařů. "Karel IV. nařídil pěstování vína v celém království českém, byl zvelebitel vinařství, který se zasloužil o jeho rozkvět," připomněl tajemník cechu Stanislav Rudolfský. Královská kolekce představuje výběr nejlepších českých vín. Důstojnost kolekci dodává kopie fragmentu svatováclavské koruny a dvou číší. Litoměřičtí budou moci víno z kolekce ochutnat 27. února na plese přátel vína, kde se uskuteční mimo jiné módní přehlídka ve stylu období vlády císaře římského.

Letošních oslav 700. výročí narození císaře a českého krále Karla IV. v České republice se zúčastní také lucemburský velkovévoda Jindřich. Po jednání s lucemburským ministrem zahraničí Jeanem Asselbornem to dnes uvedl šéf české diplomacie Lubomír Zaorálek. Karel IV. byl druhým panovníkem z dynastie Lucemburků na českém trůně. "Je to téma, které nás v tomto roce spojuje a spojuje nás pro celou řadu akcí," uvedl Zaorálek.

Lucemburkové přišli do Čech ve 14. století. Novou dynastii přivedla na český trůn svatba dcery českého krále Václava II. Elišky Přemyslovny s Janem Lucemburským. Ten je v Lucembursku stejně známou historickou osobností, jako je císař Karel v Česku. Velkovévoda Jindřich navštíví Prahu 13. a 14. května.

Život a dílo Karla IV. přibližuje **výstava**, která je při příležitosti 700. let od jeho narození k vidění v sídle Senátu. Je věnována rovněž proměnám ve vnímání tohoto českého krále a římského císaře během uplynulých staletí. Připomíná ho nejen jako Otce vlasti, ale také jako pragmatického panovníka. "Doba jeho vlády je mnohými považována za vrchol českých dějin, za pozitivní kontrapunkt k období husitských válek, nestability a rozvratu," řekla při zahájení výstavy vedoucí autorského týmu výstavy Eva Doležalová z Historického ústavu Akademie věd. K jeho odkazu patří vědomí, že i král malé země se může stát vládcem velké říše, uvedla.
K nejzajímavějším předmětům podle ní patří ukázky, jak byl Karel IV. zobrazován. K nejstarším patří jeho busta na svatovítské katedrále, kterou se svým otcem Janem Lucemburským založil, nebo jeho vyobrazení v kapli svaté Kateřiny na Karlštejně. Jako starý muž je vyobrazen během své poslední cesty do Francie na několika iluminacích Velkých francouzských kronik.

Oslavy 700. výročí narození Karla IV. na Pražském hradě

Sedmi hlavními **výstavními projekty** si Pražský hrad připomene 700. výročí narození českého krále a císaře Karla IV.
Význam tohoto výročí zdůrazní zcela mimořádné vystavení **Českých korunovačních klenotů** ve Vladislavském sále od **15. 5.** do **29. 5. 2016**, které se jinak koná pouze u příležitosti volby prezidenta republiky.
Svatováclavská koruna, vytvořená Karlem IV. bude zde tradičně spočívat v historické Gočárově vitríně spolu s žezlem a jablkem, dodanými do této sestavy korunovačních insignií za vlády Habsburků.

Expozice bude přístupná zdarma.

Další výstavní projekty budou na Pražském hradě otevřeny od 15. 5. až do 28. 9.:

Stěžejní výstavou bude expozice **Žezlo a koruna** v Císařské konírně, jejímž hlavním přínosem bude ozřejmění pozapomenutých souvislostí: poprvé v novodobé historii bude poukázáno na původní (gotické) složení královských insignií z doby Karla IV.: českou Svatováclavskou královskou korunu doplňovalo jablko a žezlo, jejichž umělecké repliky budou pro tuto výstavu speciálně restaurátorsky zhotoveny a budou vystaveny spolu s dalšími předměty používanými při korunovacích českých králů, které se odehrávaly podle Korunovačního řádu Karla IV. až do 19. století.

Druhým nejvýznamnějším počinem bude symbolické zpřístupnění vnitřního a vnějšího **triforia** katedrály sv. Víta, a to v podobě jejich zjednodušené prostorové rekonstrukce v Jízdárně Pražského hradu. Triforium je památkově nejstřeženější, a proto veřejnosti nepřístupný sochařsky bohatě zdobený ochoz na vnější i vnitřní straně hlavní lodi katedrály. Výpravná expozice, ve které návštěvníci najdou i pohřební roucha z královské hrobky, ponese název **Koruna království**.

S katedrálou jako první stavbou v zemi bude souviset i expozice **Koruna Matky měst** v Tereziánském křídle, kde budou vystaveny neznámé fotografie z Archivu Pražského hradu pořízené v průběhu dostavby katedrály v 19. a 20. století.

Přímo do Karlovy doby návštěvníky zavede projekt **Koruna na dlani**, který v Rožmberském sále představí korunu jako platidlo. Tehdejší architekturu pak zvláště dětem představí interaktivní výstava **Architektura pro korunu**, která vznikne v Jiřském klášteře ve spolupráci s pořadateli projektu Hravý architekt.

Do novodobé historie návštěvníky zavede expozice **Koruna bez krále**, která v prostorách, kde byly zazděny korunovační klenoty během 2. světové války, představí příběh této nejcennější národní relikvie v dramatickém 20. století.

Kromě těchto výstav, které financuje Správa Pražského hradu ze svých příjmů, se na Hradě chystá i **bohatý doprovodný program**: rok Karla IV. začne 3. dubna 2016 se slavnostním zahájením letní turistické sezóny. V duchu doby Karla IV. se ponese i druhý ročník Rytířských slavností. Po stopách Karla IV. se budou moci návštěvníci vydat i během komentovaných procházek areálem Hradu.

Všechny expozice vztahující se ke Karlovu výročí se pro veřejnost otevřou **15. května a potrvají do 28. září 2016,** kromě výstavy Architektura pro korunu zaměřené na mladé návštěvníky hradu, která potrvá až do 10.10.

https://www.hrad.cz/cs/kultura-na-hrade/program/oslavy-700.-vyroci-narozeni-karla-iv.-na-prazskem-hrade-10499
https://www.hrad.cz/cs/prazsky-hrad-pro-navstevniky/virtualni-prohlidka

virtuální prohlídka = virtual tour

LAUGHING CORNER



One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people.

He said, "My son, the battle is between two 'wolves' inside us all.

One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride superiority, and ego.

The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather:
'Which wolf wins?"

The old Cherokee simply replied,
"The one you feed"