VĚSTNÍK

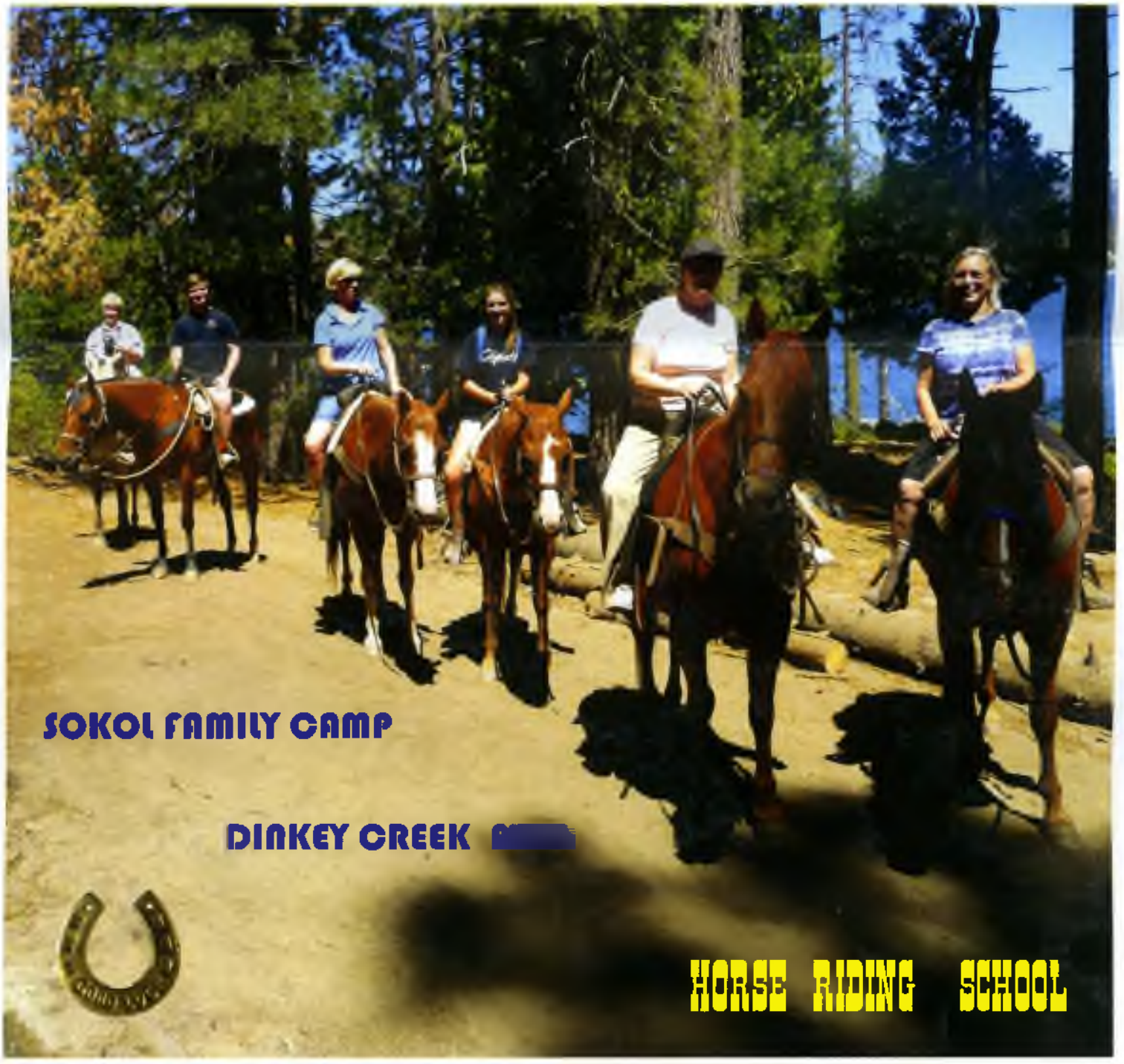
A newsletter of
Sokol San Francisco
http://www.sokolsf.org

FALL
2016



American Sokol
Sokol San Francisco





















Page 2

GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATION

SOKOL SAN FRANCISCO INC.

Educational-Social and
Cultural Non-profit Organization

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

E-mail: sokolsf@gmail.com
Web: http://www.sokolsf.org

OFFICERS 2016

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

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

Phone & E-mail List:

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Dusatko, Jara	Home Cell	925.937.1769 650.815.9327	jmdusatko@gmail.com
Zivny, Zelmira	Cell	510.219.9080	zelkaz@aol.com
SOKOL SAN FRANCISCO			sokolsf@gmail.com

Sokol Board and Members Meetings
is held every second Tuesday each month at 11:00 AM (except July & August)
Unity Church of Castro Valley
20121 Santa Maria Ave,
Castro Valley, CA 94546
Phone: (510) 538-1416

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

Happiness is a choice, not a result. Nothing will make you happy until you choose to be happy.
Ralph Marston

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

Passed away: Frank Dlask
Ivan Sturman
Frank Cuda- friend of Sokol

TOTAL 67 MEMBERS 38 females, 29 males

Dear Sokol members,
donations sent are truly appreciated.

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.
F. Cuda $40, J. Cambus $50 in memory G.Teyrovsky;
MZV of Czech Republic $2046.80

Total: $ 2488.80

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2016

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

DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
December 3, Saturday	Annual meeting	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Foster City
December 30, Friday	End of the Year Dinner - Dance	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Foster City

SEND WITH YOUR PAYMENT

2017 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.....

Keep for your record

Sokol San Francisco Dues 2016

Date: .....

Check No:.....

European-style Market in Sacramento

On Dec. 3th and 4th will take place the **Christkindlmrkt at the Sacramento Turn Verein** will take place.
This is a large European-style market that all Czechs would enjoy, with food, music and special Christmas items.
The address is 3349 J Street in Sacramento, CA 95816.
Sister Debra Jacob will be displaying and selling her homemade Czech-style Christmas ornaments and holiday cards

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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Sokol Family Camp in Dinkey Creek 2016

As every summer there is one week reserved for Sokol members and their friends in a beautiful part of the Sierra Nevada, fifty miles from Fresno. This year the Camp Fesno Jr. was open to us from July 17. - 24., and is sponsored for decades by Sokol Pacific District.
Every year this camp is well attended, even though the living conditions are simple. But all our basic needs are fulfilled: electricity, well equipped kitchen, big stove, freezer, microwave, hot shower, flushing toilets, in the dormitories kind of privacy is gained thanks to curtains.
From the certain point of view it is a "luxury" to spend the whole week in a beautiful wild nature without TV, video games, cell phones (no signal over there), no Wi-Fi, e-mails, Facebook, ... Just free time for hiking in vicinity, visiting "Ghost Town" – an abandoned and ramshackle place, once prosperous Pine Logging Company Sawmill, swimming or kayaking in nearby Shaver Lake, fishing, horse riding, (see front page) socializing, singing or telling stories and jokes at a camp fire, ... This year it was a record of camp participants, especially children - over 70 campers from Los Angeles , San Francisco and from Fresno area.
Not so far away is the McKinley Grove Giant Sequoias, really giant sequoia trees. There is possibility to learn more about an exciting history of this area in the Museum of the Central Sierra on the way to Shaver Lake, about the people who shaped this part of Sierra Nevada, for example Mr. S.B. Shaver , founder of a successful lumber Industry , the largest in Fresno County in its days.
The group of fit and enthusiastic campers started their day with morning exercises –this year also a 5 years old girl joined us! On Thursday is traditional big hike to the highest point in the area - Dinkey Dome. Two of our teenagers reached the top of that dome for the first time.
The Sokol Family Camp offers many opportunities, how to spend free time fully to everybody's satisfaction in a friendly and cheerful atmosphere. Two people deserve the credit for that: Otto Notzl, the Camp Director and Yvonne Masopust, the Pacific District President.
See page 2, Fig 1 to Fig 3.

Submitted by *Jara Dusatko*

Our September picnic.

What do you get when you cross the rolling hills of a beautiful park, mild weather, more than thirty Sokols of all ages, glowing charcoal, table full of good food and a friendly atmosphere? The easy answer is – the Sokol San Francisco 's picnic.
This fall we filled the Mallard picnic site a little late in the year. The last Saturday of September was selected to accommodate the schedule of Czech School. Their kids brighten the atmosphere and lift the spirits of our, well, not yet over the hill folks. Unfortunately not many of them joined us, but sent Katka and Petr Svec who, with their cute kids Alex & Elinka, were a welcome new addition to our group.
To repeat good time never gets boring, so we enjoyed, again, the fresh air, balmy weather and were entertained by pleasant sounds of Brother's Botcha's accordion and our voices singing Czech, Moravian and Slovak folk songs, so familiar to us, but mildly exotic to the locals.
As a broken record I am inviting you all to try just once to spend an easy Saturday, wave your worries away for a day and renew your still present Czech or Slovak spirit in some chat & song. If you have a problem negotiating the short walk from the parking lot to our site, the Ranger is ready and willing to bring you there in his truck.
See page 2, Fig 7 & 8

Till the next time,

Zdenek Vernak.

Our 2016 ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Saturday December 3, 2016

The Meeting will start at 10:30 a.m. and could last until 3 p.m. with a break for a buffet style lunch provided free for Sokol members.
Crowne Plaza Hotel , 1221 Chess Drive, Foster City, CA 94404

Looking forward to see you all. With a friendly NAZDAR, Your Sokol Board

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New Book
Jane Bzoch Cambus: "Odvaha – Courage"

Jane Cambus, member of Sokol San Francisco, wrote a book about her parents and other friends during World War II in the Philippines. The book is dedicated to the fourteen Czech men who went to Bataan Philippines. Seven perished and seven survived the war. As citizens of an AXIS country, these courageous men volunteered to fight an enemy that was not their enemy, to fight for two countries which were not their own countries, and to fight for the ultimate cause of freedom which **they believed in**. California Department of Education just adopted for 2017 a new teaching Standard for 11th grade history about the WW II Philippine War.

Jane's book "Odvaha- Courage" might be a recommended supplement to the textbook.
Sokol San Francisco owns 2 of these interesting books, which are available to borrow. J.D.

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Česká beseda
Practicing of **Česká beseda** started on Sunday, October 23, 2016 at 1.00 – 3:00pm in Palo Alto, (Episcopal Church, 555 Waverly St., MP Room), and will continue every Sunday.
More info: 650-815-9327. Everyone interested is welcome! J.D.

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HOCKEY LOVERS SAVE THE DATE
for The San Jose Sharks'
First Ever Czech Heritage Night!

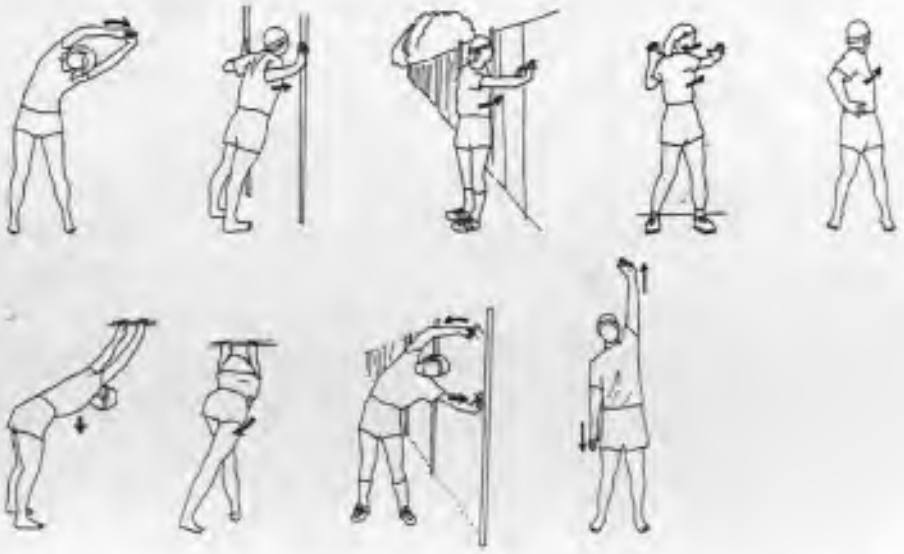
When: February 15, 2017 @7:30pm
Where: **SAP Center,** 525 W Santa Clara St, San Jose, CA 95113

Inspired by beloved centerman #48, Tomáš Hertl, the San Jose Sharks are hosting their first ever Czech Heritage Hockey Night. That means you can expect Czech accents throughout the evening, as well as an opportunity to receive an invitation to any special event the Sharks host as part of the event.
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When to Stretch

Stretching can be done any time you feel like it: at work, in a car, waiting for a bus, walking down the road, under a nice shady tree after a hike, or at the beach.

SUMMARY OF STANDING STRETCHES FOR THE UPPER BODY



You can do these stretches, in this order, as a routine for the upper body.

Stretch before and after physical activity, but aiso stretch at various times ofthe day when you can. Here are some examples:

• In the morning before the start of the day.

• At work to release nervous tension.

• After sitting or standing for a long time.

• When you feel stifT~

• At odd times during the day, as for instance, when watching TV listening to music, reading, or sitting and taiking.

Obituary



Frank Cuda, 85

A long time resident of San Mateo, born on January 29, 1931 in Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, died in his sleep on September 29, 2016 after a short serious illness. When Frank was just 17 years old, he had to escape his country, then under the communist regime, to avoid the same fade as his father and brother, who were sentenced to long prison terms for not giving up their farm and joining an agricultural cooperative. Near starving in the refugee camp, his great survival instinct helped him to persevere until he emigrated to Australia and then, in a few years of really "interesting life" in the Australian bush, landed in San Francisco.

The fifties were a tough time for finding a job. Almost desperate, Frank finally got hired as a machinist, and member of a Union, at the Heat & Control plant, where he worked until his retirement. For many years Frank volunteered for the Gymnastic Organization Sokol San Francisco. Here he found his "second family" of Czechs & Slovaks and met his Danish wife, Birgit. They did not have any children, this year they celebrated 55th wedding anniversary. Frank was very popular for his cheerful nature, we always found him with a smile on his face, always ready to help and will be sorely missed by his wife, relatives in Czech Republic and many dear friends there and here.
Frank was remembered at the Czech Holy Mass at the Star of the Sea on Sunday, October 2, 2016. There is no memorial service scheduled.

For all the relatives and friends, Birgit Cuda, wife.



Obituary Frank Dlask

In August 2016, we received the sad news from Jarmila Dlask, wife of Frank Dlask the past President of our Sokol Unit, that Frank had passed.
The news of the passing of yet another Sokol member, known best as a good person, patriot and political immigrant, left us all nostalgic as we recalled highlights from Frank's life.
Frank was expelled from Charles University and put in prison by the Communists in 1948, and considered a political enemy of the regime. Following a presidential election, he was granted amnesty and escaped from Czechoslovakia through an immigration camp in Germany to Australia, and eventually settled in the United States. He received a "honoris causa" degree in engineering from Charles University after 1989.
Frank's tenure as Unit President saw difficult times, as he was elected when the Unit was struggling financially and when Board membership was declining. Frank was instrumental in recruiting enthusiastic members back onto the Board, and besides financial correctness, established transparency of the Board's work, kept the Unit up to date, and renewed communication with Unit members. He also saw to it that the traditional Sokol Vestnik was reestablished.
Frank will also be remembered for being modest about his hard work, and for always being a team player. With the help of Br. Petr Sehnal, Ondrej Kojnok, and me, a new Sokol Partners group was organized for donations and Br. and Sister Teyrovsky and Ludva Cecil were also activated to help. Frank played a critical role in the sale of the Sokol building, with the help of of Br. Edmund Teyrovsky, and together they saw to it that the proceeds of the building's sale were distributed to Sokol Partners. Frank's wife Jarmila, a Sokol member from before the Communist era in Czechoslovakia, was elected to Treasurer and was also always willing to help Frank out.
I personally can say that he was a good "old-timer" Sokol member, a straight shooter, and always did his best in protecting the interests of the Unit. God bless his soul and our deepest condolences to his surviving wife Jarmila for the loss of a very good man.

His friend Pavel Burda (redacted by Linda Tang)



Ivan Peter Sturman, October 16, 1927- October 13, 2016 Resident of Kensington, CA

Ivan was born in 1927 in Detroit, MI. His first language was Slovak and he started school without speaking English. The family lived in Pittsburgh for most of his childhood. Some of his favorite times growing up were summers spent on his grandfather's dairy farm in Pennsylvania with his cousin Tom.
In 1943, the family moved to Washington DC where Ivan completed his last year of high school, graduating in 1944 at the age of 16. After high school he returned to Pittsburgh to enter Carnegie Tech (now Carnegie Mellon University) to study engineering. He joined Beta Theta Pi fraternity. In 1946, he enlisted in the US Navy. Returning to college after his time in the Navy, he completed his degree in electrical engineering at Carnegie Tech in 1951.
After graduation, he started his career in California working with Kaiser Aircraft, RCA, and Tracerlab on military electronics, nuclear engineering, and oceanography. His work later included the Bart system with Westinghouse and a variety of nuclear power plants through Bechtel and PG&E. His specialty was instrumentation and monitoring of radiation. During his early time in the Bay Area, he developed two new hobbies- skiing and sailing. He joined the Cal Sailing Club and the Ski Patrol at Sugar Bowl. The latter led him to working as a race official in the 1960 Winter Olympics at Squaw Valley. .
In 1976, he and son John participated in the first of many Mt. Shasta climbs. Ivan and John would later lead the trip.

Ivan would not leave anyone alone on the mountain and would hike with them until they were safely down.
In 1994, he retired from Bechtel. Ivan and Jane became grandparents to two girls who Ivan enjoyed spending time with. After retirement, Ivan became active in a number of organizations as a volunteer.
He is survived by his wife of 56 years Jane, their son John and daughter-in-law Elizabeth who live in Northern Virginia, and his granddaughters Ceciliana and Lucia.
A memorial service was held on Monday, October 24, 2016 at 11 AM at First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley 2407 Dana St., Berkeley CA. Contributions in his memory can be made to The First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley.

Sokol San Francisco lost long time active and dedicated Sokol member. Submited by Jara Dusatko

AMERICAN SOKOL CORNER

2016 ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE

Conference Location: Sokol Spirit, 3909 Prairie Ave, Brookfield, IL 60513, September 23-25, 2016

ASO (American Sokol) organized this conference for Sokol Board Officers of Districts (7) and Units (37), who are involved in administration of their organizations. Most of the sessions were attended by all participants, some according their interest:

- ***Training for Unit Financial Secretaries of the New Database***
- ***Non-Profit Insurance Information***
- ***Financial Transparency for Non-Profits***
- ***Risk Management***
- ***Membership***
- ***Bylaws***
- ***ASO Grant Opportunities***
- ***Sokol Museum & Library – Preserving our History***
- ***Effective Leadership Roles in Units and District***
- ***Direction of the Organization – Moving Forward***

Two additional events were:
"Celebration of the Czech History at the University of Chicago" on Friday, September 23, 2016 at 6:00pm.

It was the **Opening Evening of CZECH SERIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO** celebrating the unique role that the University played in the Czech history, and honoring Czechoslovak Presidents T. G. Masaryk and E. Benes, as University's visiting Professors. The guests of honor of the celebration were:

H.E. Mr. Lubomír Zaorálek, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
H.E. Mr. Petr Gandalovic, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States
Mr. Daniel Diermeier, Provost of the University of Chicago
Ms. Charlotta Kotík, President Masaryk´s Great-Granddaughter
Ms. Frances Crane Manson, Charles Crane´s Great-Granddaughter
Ms. Eva Haňková- Neugebauerová, the girl on the popular stamp with President T.G. Masaryk (see page 2, fig. 4), and many others.

"Sokol organization played an important role in formation the modern Czech nation", was mentioned during the official speech. "We have a lot to be proud of and I'm appreciative that the Czech Republic recognizes our organization and our contributions, and for keeping Sokol alive," Jean Hruby, President ASO.

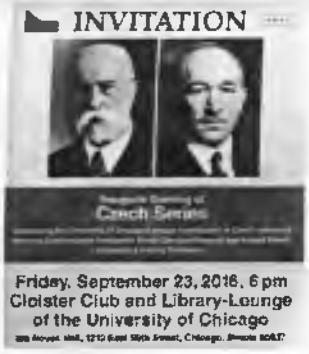
This event was attended by approximately 30 Sokols , who were conference participants, in uniforms.

"77th Moravian Day Festival" on Saturday, September 24 and 25, 2016
The largest annual Czech folklore presentation in Chicagoland
at Lithuanian World Center, 14911 E 127th St, Lemont IL 60439

The festival focused on the spirit, beauty and talents of the Czech, Slovak and Moravian regions, in their true ethnic style. Almost two hundred women, men and children were dressed in traditional costumes (kroje). The goal was to preserve traditions and show to future generations the music, dancing and culture of their ancestors. Everybody could listen or sing-along to beautiful songs of the heartland, enjoy the energetic rhythms of polkas and such from the dancers of all ages, have traditional food, baked goods and imported Czech beer, or to purchase arts & crafts from the Czech and Slovak Republics.
This festival was visited by several Sokols on both days.
Two members of Sokol San Francisco Board (Jara Dusatko and Pavel Burda) attended all three events.

Submitted by *Jara Dusatko*

CZECHS & CHICAGO



Charles Crane.
The Chicagoan who helped create the First Republic of Czechoslovakia.
Industrialist. Philantropist. Advisor to Presidents. Charles Crane of Chicago played a key role in international affairs during the early part of the 20th Century. He helped the University of Chicago establish *Slavic Studies*, bringing Professor Thomas Masaryk to Chicago.


Charles Crane, T.G.Masaryk. E. Beneš

He helped Woodrow Wilson get elected. He was Mucha's major patron. He provided Masaryk with critical start-up funding for Czechoslovak independence. During World War One, he had some of Masaryk's family stay with his family. Not only that, but Crane's son was secretary to Wilson's Secretary of State. So when Masaryk returned to the US... well the rest is history.
Professor Masaryk recalls, *„One early morning in 1901 I had a visit from an American. Until he told me what he wanted I thought he was a journalist in need of information and I was going over in my mind how much to give him. Instead, he turned out to be a Chicago industrialist by the name of Charles Crane. He had earmarkedfonds for Slavic studies at the University of Chicago and was in Prague to invite me to lecture there. I decided to go. "* T.G.M.
Crane provided funding for Masaryk's political efforts and sheltered his family members. But the most critical help in the struggle for Czechoslovak independence came during the World War I.
The success of the Czechoslovak Legions in Siberia was a strong argument of Professor Masaryk for the Czechoslovak Cause. Charles Crane provided highly important help in gaining the approval from Alexander Kerensky the Russian minister of war, for forming the Czechoslovak units from the prisoners of war who deserted the Austro-Hungarian army. Charles Crane also helped Masaryk make the critical connection with the US government. He was an important

supporter of President Woodrow Wilson. With the assistance of his son Richard, who was secretary to US Secretary of State Robert Lansing, he helped Professor Masaryk meet President Wilson. Those meetings between Masaryk and Wilson paved the way for US recognition of Czechoslovak independence, and the creation of the First Republic of Czechoslovakia.
In 1904, Professor Thomas Garrigue Masaryk came to teach at the Universítv of Chicago's new Slavic studies program. Fourteen years later, he returned to Chicago as the Future President of the brand new country of Czechoslovakia.
He was greeted by a crowd estimated at over 150,000! Chicago was the second largest Czech city on earth — and would elect a Czech mayor —Anton Cermak — a few years later. Chicago is a city that makes things happen and we had a lot to do with making Czechoslovakia happen. We are, literally, the city that helped create a country!

Chicago & The Mucha Connection.
Charles Crane was a major patron of the legendary Czech Art-Nouveau artist Alphone Mucha during the creation of his monumental Slavic Epic. Mucha also portrayed Josephine Crane-Bradley, daughter of Charles Crane, as Slavia (Slav Goddess). An edited version of the portrait appeared on the currency of the First Czechoslovak Republic — which also featured art by Mucha. This is a hundred crown note from the First Republic of Czechoslovakia. The model? Josephine Crane of Chicago.
His Great- granddaughter, was an honored guest on Celebration September 23, 2016.



Submitted by *Jara Dusatko*

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INFORMATION CORNER

Battery research and development is top priority for Department of Energy.
Its Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) has many grants going to private firms, research organizations, universities that are focused on developing low-cost, high performance batteries for cars, homes and other uses. Among research entities working with ARPA-E are: Vorbecck Materials,- which is studying lithium-sulfur batteries; Solid Power, -conducting research on solid-state lithium-ion batteries; Primus Power, -studying advanced-flow battery electrodes; and Mass. Institute of Technology, which is developing grid-scale batteries.

The Kiplinger Letters 8/16

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Tomas Halik, Czech philosopher and theologist, received Honorary Doctorate from prestigious British Oxford University (Doctor of Divinity, honoris causa).
Oxford University is World the most famous and prestigious recognized University. Only three men from former Czechoslovakia and Czech Republic received this High Honor. First President of Czechoslovakia Dr. Tomas Garrigue Masaryk, Dr. Eduard Benes for his exile work during WW II and Vaclav Havel for his work contributing toward democratic changes after fall of communism in Czech republic.
Besides of Dr. Halik there were also others World famous people recognized by this Honor at the same time. They were Nobel Price recipient Economist Paul Krugman,, Judge of British High Court Lord Jonathan Mance, famous Japanese Architect Kazujo Sedzimaova, Chief Designer from Apple Computer Co., Jonathan Ive, Estonian Composer Arvo Part, Spanish Movie Director Pedro Almodovar, Prof. Cornel Bargman Physicist from MIT and American sopranos Jessye Norman. Several centuries Historic Ceremony under name Encaenia is every year tradition of Oxford University.
Životopis Tomáše Halíka (czech) http://www.czechfreepress.cz/daniel-solis/kdo-je-vlastne-tomas-halik.html

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60 years ago Winner of Gold Medal
Olga Fikotova is Czechoslovak and later American discus thrower. She is best known for winning gold at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics and for her romance across Cold War barriers with American hammer gold medalist Hal Connolly.
A natural athlete, she represented Czechoslovakia in basketball and handball before switching to discus throw in 1954.



Two years later, she was still a medical student at the Charles University in Prague when she competed for Czechoslovakia in the 1956 Summer Olympics held in Melbourne, Australia
in the Discus. The 24-year-old became Czechoslovakia's only gold medalist at the Olympics[1] when she won the event with a throw of 53.69 m ahead of Soviet pair Irina Beglyakova (52.54 m) and Nina Ponomaryova (52.02 m).
At the Olympics she met and fell in love with an American athlete, Harold Connolly. Back home in Czechoslovakia, their romance overshadowed her stunning success, with Olga accused of being a traitor by the communist authorities. Marriage to Harold spelled the end of her career as a Czechoslovak athlete, though she went on to represent the US at four Olympic Games, even carrying the US flag at the opening ceremony at Munich in 1972. She never repeated her gold success. Today Mrs Fikotová-Connolly lives in California and is very active, with a lot of her energy going into promoting environmental awareness, an issue very close to her heart. For the past decade Olga specialized in holistic fitness studies and training. As a Certified Exercise Therapist she instructs wellness program at the University of California at Irvine.

CZECH CORNER



VĚRA ČÁSLAVSKÁ 1942—2016

The Czech Republic and the world memorialized the life of Czech sports legend, gymnast Vera Časlavska. To honor her memory the Czech Olympic Committee in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the Office of the Government prepared a last farewell on Monday, September 12 to this historically most successful Olympian in the Czech National Theatre in Prague. September 9-12 on the plaza of the National Theater, a sacred place, there was a condolence book for the general public to sign. Czech Sokols prepared similar tributes in sacred places in their towns on September 12th as well to join the public in the memorial.

In the 1968 Věra won a gold medal in the four individual and team events at the Mexico Olympic Games. She was the darling of the Mexicans. It was a time of political upheaval in Czechoslovakia and when at one competition they played the Soviet National Anthem, she looked away and lowered her head in defiance as a supporter of a political democratic reform.
Vera's story is amazing. For example, when she was banned from practicing, Vera would continue her training using bags of potatoes to keep her muscles in shape.
Her perseverance and fortitude were an example of the Sokol ideal and strength of the Czech .
MORE: https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2016/sep/01/vera-caslavska-obituary

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Doživotní trest pro Dahlgrena.
Soud uznal vinným Kevina Dahlgrena ze čtyřnásobné vraždy v Brně a odsouzen na doživotí.
O vyvraždění rodiny v Brně dne 22. května 2013 jsme informovali ve Věstníku Winter 2013/page 13 a Fall 2015/page 15.
Podezřelý z vraždy Kevin Dahlgren byl navrácen z USA do Čech.
Psychologické posudky Dahlgrena ukazují, že mladý Američan měl vážné psychické problémy a časté stavy úzkosti. Ty nakonec vygradovaly 22. 5. 2013, když podle rozsudku vyvraždil čtyřčlennou rodinu příbuzných v Brně, u nichž přebýval.
Zkráceno z článku: Jakub Zelenka Zdroj: http://www.lidovky.cz/chtel-do-afriky-zabijet-pytlaky-vybral-si-ale-brno-pise-soud-o-motivech-dahlgrena-gpr-/zpravy-domov.aspx?c=A161021_180728_ln_domov_jzl

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Česká turistka zachráněná na Novém Zélandu se může vrátit domů 29.8.2016

Wellington - Novozélandské soudní úřady dnes provádějí pitvu českého turisty, který koncem července zahynul po pádu v horách. Jeho partnerka Pavlína Pížová, která poté strávila téměř měsíc v opuštěné horské chatě, se může vrátit domů, informoval zároveň list The New Zealand Herald.
Třiatřicetiletá Pížová čekala měsíc na záchranu v opuštěné horské chatě. Záchranářům, kteří ji objevili ve středu, řekla, že se do chaty uchýlila poté, co 27letý Petr zemřel. Jeho tělo záchranáři našli a vyzvedli v pátek. Ve čtvrtek policie Pížovou podrobila "důkladnému výslechu", a nyní může odcestovat do České republiky za

svou rodinou, dodal list. Jak uvedla česká honorární konzulka v Queenstownu Vladka Kennett, zachráněné ženě se vede dobře, ale "zoufale touží po návratu domů". "To je hlavní věc, na kterou se nyní soustředí," dodala. "Hodně komunikuje se svou rodinou, dostává spoustu podpory z ČR, spoustu e-mailů."
Pár se podle Češky vydal na cestu 26. července a muž o dva dny později upadl na strmém kopci. Pížové se podle jejích slov podařilo k němu dostat, muž však prý nedlouho poté zemřel. Ona pak vyhledala útočiště v jedné z chat, které jsou rozmístěné po 32kilometrové trase známé jako Routeburn Track.
Vzhledem k tomu, že pár nikoho neinformoval, že se na cestu vydává, nikdo Čechy dlouhou dobu nepohřešoval a nikdo po nich nepátral. Teprve když příbuzní v Česku začali být znepokojení a kontaktovali známé na Novém Zélandu, obrátil se český konzulát tento týden na policii a začalo pátrání, sdělila česká honorární konzulka.
Třiatřicetiletá Pížová připustila, že se svým sedmadvacetiletým partnerem udělali chybu, když svůj úmysl vydat se do hor nikomu neoznámili, neměli u sebe lavinový vyhledávač a celkově podcenili podmínky cesty.
Ta je oficiálně na zimu uzavřená, ačkoli zkušenější turisté po ní i v chladných měsících chodí. Jak upozornil deník The Guardian, řada lidí v průběhu července a srpna zveřejnila na facebooku z trasy Routeburn Track své fotografie.
Zdroj: http://www.denik.cz/ze_sveta/ceska-turistka-zachranena-na-novem-zelandu-se-muze-vratit-domu-20160829.html

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LAUGHING CORNER

Grandparents are a lady and a man who have no little children of their own.
They like other people's childrens.
A grandfather is a man, and grandmother is a lady!
Grandparents don't have to do anything except be there when we come to see them...They are so old they shouldn't play hard or run. It is good if they drive us to the shops and give us money.
When they take us for walks, they slow down for past things like pretty leaves and caterpillars.
They show us and talk to us about the colors of the flowers and also why we shouldn't step on 'cracks.
They don't say, 'Hurry Up.'
Usually grandmothers are fat but not too fat to tie your shoes.
They wear glasses and funny underwear. They can take their teeth and gums out.
Grandparents don't have to be smart.
They have to answer questions like 'Why isn't God married?' and 'How come dogs chase cats?'
When they read to us, they don't skip. They don't mind if we ask for the same story over again.
Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if you don't have television because they are the only grownups who like to spend time with us.
They know we should have a snack time before bed time, and they say prayers with us and kiss us even when we've acted bad.
GRANDPA IS THE SMARTEST MAN ON EARTH! HE TEACHES ME GOOD THINGS, BUT I DON'T GET TO SEE HIM ENOUGH TO GET AS SMART AS HIM
It's funny when they bend over; you hear gas leaks, and they blame their dog.
Send this to other grandparents, almost grandparents, or heck, send it to everyone. Especially to parents.
It will make their day.

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