VĚSTNÍK

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

WINTER
2017-18





Libuše Bauerová

Roman Bauer

Czech Marionettes and Bay Area children enjoying a fairytale afternoon with Sultan Soliman, the toothy princess Zubejda and the Jester who performed in the hands of Libuše and Jaromír Bauer from Jaroměř Bodi Theater.


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pepsi
The Matrix
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Texts to figures on Page 2

1 Great afternoon for Sokol children. In November, they enjoyed Czech Marionette Theater performance in Orinda.

2 Sokol members got in Christmas mood while singing Czech Christmas carols at Jana and Roman Wicha's house on December 16.

3 Christmas cookies baking is a serious business. This is how the art of baking traditional Czech Christmas cookies was presented at the Sokol class at the Orinda community Center on December 17.

4 It is never too early to learn how to bake vanilla pretzels and the kids were all eager to try.

5 All Czech love ice hockey and the Czech Ice Hockey Heritage Nights are extremely popular among Sokols and Sokol friends, who would not like to have a picture with Tomas Hertl?

6 Sokol Dinner and Dance evening on January 6 opened the year of 2018 with a lot of music, dance and laughter.

7 Česká Beseda dance was a big success at the Dinner/Dance evening.

8 Tired of dancing? There was plenty of good food to restore you strength at the Dinner/Dance evening.

President's Note

Happy New Year 2018!

I can declare with full confidence that our Unit accomplished all its goals set for the past year.

Apart from our regular activities, such as Walks for Health, picnics, and Dinner-Dances, we organized several new activities. On February 15th we participated in organizing the First Czech Hockey Heritage Night. The event was very popular and exceeded all expectations. Tomas Hertl of San Jose Sharks played against Jaromir Jagr of Florida Panthers. It happened to take place on Jagr's 45thbirthday. Out of a total of 480 tickets – 291 were sold by Sokol SF.

Shortly after this event, 7 Sokols and 3 friends attended a three day trip to Malin, a small village at the border of CA and Oregon, founded by a group of Czech settlers in 1909.
In March, we offered to our members and friends a popular presentation Art of the Czech Easter Eggs decoration by Lenka Glassner. Also in March, a group of 7 members started to practice calisthenics for seniors to be ready for the XXIV. American Sokol Slet and Festival in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on June 22th -25th. While in Iowa, we visited Museum of Antonín Dvořák in Spillville. Our September picnic was enriched by live music of Muzicka, a group of young and enthusiastic Prague-based musicians with their wide repertoire of folklore songs.

The Orinda/Tabor Sister City Foundations proclaimed the year 2017 as "The year of the Czechs". The culmination of yearlong activities was a wonderful and a very successful three day Festival in Orinda's Quarry House, Community Center, Library and Community Park. The event organized by Orinda city, in cooperation with Sokol SF. The Festival was amazingly well attended with folks from all over the SF Bay Area (an estimate of about 500 people).

The stage in the middle of the park turned into a center of various Czech and Slovak talents – singers, dancers, musicians as folk music group Muzicka from Prague, dancers and singers Karicka and Podkovicka from San Diego, children's dancing group from Orinda, and Ceska Beseda - a group of adult dancers from Sokol SF. In November, the Second Annual Czech Heritage Night took place in San Jose – and this time Sharks won. Later in November we held an unexpected performance by a Marionette duo: Libuse and Roman Bauer, so called Bodi Jaromer Theater.
In December, a new event was organized - Czech Christmas Cookie Baking Demonstration, which turned out to be quite popular and well attended – we couldn't admit all interested and ended up having a waiting list. Our last event of the year was a gathering of enthusiastic Sokol -singers to sing Czech, Moravian, and international Christmas Carols.

During the year 2018, we will be celebrating a lot of significant anniversaries and events. Our main event of the year will be XVI. All-Sokol Slet (Všesokolský Slet) in Prague. Slets have a long tradition, stretching across three centuries and it has continued to the present day despite various adverse historical periods such as two World Wars and totalitarian regimes. XVI. All-Sokol Slet is taking place in Prague from July 1st to 7th, 2018. We have 10 participants from our unit in two calisthenics groups: Princezna Republika for seniors and Cesta for young women. Slet will be a part of celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I, as well as celebrating the foundation of Czechoslovakia in 1918, which will be commemorated across the world.

In March, we will be organizing a violin concert of Miroslav and Zuzana Ambros, then an Easter Egg Decoration session, and probably another Ice Hockey Heritage Night.
The American Sokol XXI. Convention in Cleveland, Ohio will take place on April 26th through 29th, 2018. Five members of our Unit will be attending.
We will continue to hold our regular activities - Walks for Health, picnics, Spring Dinner-Dance, Dinkey Creek Family Camp, Christmas Cookie demo, Czech movie for children before Christmas, and Christmas carol singing.

It is my pleasure to announce, that last year we grew our Unit by 8 new young Sokol members.

I strongly believe that with our rejuvenated Sokol San Francisco Board we will keep our unit prosperous, we will continue to grow and thrive, and play an important and respected role in the Czech Community in the whole San Francisco Bay Area.

NAZDAR!

Jara Dusatko
President

SOKOLS SINGING CAROLS

On December 16, Jana and Roman Wichovi hosted an afternoon of singing koledy (Czech Christmas Carols) in their beautiful home. Jara Dusatko led us, a group of nearly 20 people , in singing *Štědrej večer nastal, Pásli ovce Valaši* and other traditional holiday favorites, and Blanka Pasternak accompanied us on the guitar. *Vánoční cukroví* and *svařák* (Christmas cookies and mulled wine) were plentiful as we sung together next to the Christmas tree. A highlight of the afternoon was when the Jansa boys delighted us with a few songs on the ukulele. Thanks so much to Jana and Roman for hosting, and to everyone who celebrated with us.
Teresa O'Donnell.

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SOKOL SAN FRANCISCO INC.
Educational-Social and
Cultural Non-profit Organization
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Meetings is held every second
Tuesday or Saturday
of the month
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VĚSTNÍK
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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.

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Everything you say speaks about you. Especially when you talk about someone else.
Bruno Ferrero, Salesian priest ...

SOKOL UNIT CORNER

In 2017

Passed away: Hela & Zdenek Vernak

New members: Adela Bardosova, Lea Bronec, Ivana Dwulet, Iva Gubisova , Renata B. Komarek Pavel Simek, Marcela Simkova, Roman Wicha

74 Members ***43 females, 31 males***

Donations 2017:

J. Wichova- $64; J. Prosr-$4; Z. & H. Vernak $20; Ch. Rousset $14; V. Machacek $30; P. Burda $ 18; Z. Zivny $13.97; H. Sredl $50

Total: $ 213.97

Dear Sokol members, donations are truly appreciated

The dates are tentative and might be changed.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

DATE	EVENT	PLACE
February 15, Thursday	Walk for Health	Marina San Leandro, CA
March **	Walk for Health, To Masaryk's bust	Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
March **	Easter Egg Decoration Class	Orinda, CA
March 20, Tuesday	Violin Concert, Miroslav Ambroz	**
April 14, Saturday	Spring Dinner and Dance	Crowne Plaza hotel, Foster City, CA
April 26 to 29	ASO Convention	Cleveland , OH
May 12, Saturday	Walk for Health – Edgewood Park	San Mateo, CA
June 2, Saturday	Spring Picnic and Children's Day	Lake Chabot, Castro Valley, CA
July 1 to 7, 2018	XVI. Sokol Slet in Prague	Czech Republic, Praha
July 29 to Aug 5,	Family camp, one week	Dinkey Creek
September 8, Saturday	Fall Picnic	Lake Chabot, Castro Valley, CA
October 27, Saturday	100 years of Czechoslovakia	**
November 10	Walk for Health	Jewel Lake, Tilden Park
December	Events to be announced	**

** The Entertainment Committee needs to make a decision

Cut here_____

Dear Sisters and Brothers, membership of Sokol San Francisco is due by January 31, 2018

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2017	$36
Late fee (after 01/31/2017)	$5
Membership reinstatement fee	$5
New member processing fee	$5
Donation/Contribution	
Total	
Check #	
Date	

Your name_____
Address_____
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cut and fill it, make a check payable to Sokol San Francisco and send both to:
Sokol San Francisco,
P.O. BOX 5252,
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Cut here_____

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORD Check No_____ Amount_____Date_____

Czech Marionettes in Orinda

Did you hear that a sultan Sulejman and a princezna Zubejda were in Orinda this fall? It is true.
They both made their appearances in November, when Libuše and Roman Bauer,
of the Bodi Jaroměř Theater in the Czech Republic, and some of their most beloved marionettes made their debut at the Orinda Community Center. The Bay Area Czech Community was fortunate to have them visit as part of their North American tour, and put on two shows. "The Toothy Princess of Soliman" and
"The Princess and the Jester". The shows were in the Czech Language, but that didn't stop a large turn-out of local children and students from UC Berkeley's Slavic Language Department, who came out to see these beloved fairytales.
The Bauers sang, and the marionettes danced and interacted with the children.
It was a lovely afternoon and we look forward to another visit by these delightful performers.

Linda Janourova-Tang

Vánoční cukroví - Christmas Czech Cookie Baking Class

One of the most popular Christmas traditions that allows us as Sokol members to connect with our Czech heritage during the holidays is the baking of Vánoční cukroví or Christmas cookies. As a long time Sokol member I was elated to hear that the Woman's Activity co-Directors (Jana Wichova & Vera Teyrovsky) decided to host a cooking demonstration teaching many of us who have lived mostly in the US the wonderful art of making Christmas cookies and sweets. Czech cookies are frequently made early in the season to allow the different favors to set. The goal is to make larger batches to allow the baker to share them with friends and family members. And to be truthful, cookie baking can even become a little competitive seeing who can make the best tasting delights.

The cooking demonstration took place on December 17thin the Orinda Community Center (Orinda is the sister city to Tabor in the Czech Republic). Forty Sokol members and friends showed up to indulge in this wonderful tradition. There were multiple stations where Denisa Feddersen, Jana Wichova, Slávka Růžička, Linda Janourova-Tang, and Lucas Feddersen taught us the intricate details of making various delicious Czech treats. Kids and adults alike got their hands involved in kneading, stuffing, spreading, cutting and sprinkling yummy delights. The featured cookies included the sweet and aromatic vanilla crescents made from almond meal and dusted with powdered sugar called Vanilkové rohlíčky and the Linecké těsto or Linzer cookies which were filled with tantalizing jams. Using cookie cutters we made handsome Perníks, the famous Czech Christmas gingerbread cookies. I must admit, these were far superior in flavor to the Gingerbread we usually taste in the US. We left not only with the recipes and knowledge of how to make these delicacies but also with the "fruits" of our labor, or actually the sweet treats we made ourselves. I am already looking forward to what exciting classes Sokol will offer in 2018; hope you come and join us.

By Helenka Livingston

DANCING in the NEW YEAR

How to open the incoming year, how to walk into the 2018. We tried to do it with fun and dance and it seemed to work for all of us in a crowded Drake Room at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City. Many Sokol members and friends are gathering at the same place for the popular dinner and dances but we never tried to have such an evening at the year's beginning. After the long holiday season with all the shopping, cooking and baking, done with love, but tiresome anyway, didn't we all deserve that evening with no bothers, with old friends around us and with Joe Domitrowich and his band playing the good old Czech Skoda Lasky tunes. Some of us for sure know the melody as a Roll Out the Barrel Polka but the old timers remember it still as the Jaromir Vejvoda's song about the love wasted. Whatever the song name was, the swift Polka and all the melodies the Alpiners played fitted the evening's mood perfectly. This year, so many guests came to celebrate the new year that we could have even used a larger space for dance. The music was too tempting and everybody who wasn't just chatting or enjoying the good buffet style dinner, wanted to move with the rhythm.

Helenka Teyrovsky-Livingston, the charming Sokol hostess, had raffle prices ready for second part of the evening and with two pretty helpers, made many winners if not rich, then for sure happy.
The real treat of the evening was, of course, the Česká Beseda dance. This collection of folk dances, created in the 19th century was always more than entertainment. The Beseda stressed the Czech identity and elevated typical Czech folk dances to a complicated ballroom performance. It was as popular in the time of our great-great grandparents as it is today. Sokol dancers performed the Beseda when President Masaryk bust was unveiled in the Golden Gate Park in the year of 1960. And then Jara Dusatko and a group of young Sokol members and friends brought us the dance again at the last year Czech Festival in Orinda. Now we could enjoy it at our dinner/dance evening and the music and dance was welcome and loved and enjoyed by everybody. Thank you, Sokol dancers and thank you, Jara, you made the first Dinner and Dance of the year 2018 special.

Zelmira Zivny

2017 Sokol Annual Meeting

For the first time, Sokol San Francisco members met for the Annual Meeting after the year was already closed. We met at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Foster City on January 20 only. Why was it organized this way? The season between Thanksgiving and the end of the year is too busy and full of family gatherings, travel, and social events and we wanted our members to enjoy their holiday time and give them the opportunity to engage in the Sokol life a little later, in a quieter time. Also, our financial officers were able to close the 2017 books and present more exact report than it would have been done at the beginning of December.
The Meeting has approved the Sokol budget for the new year and elected a new Sokol San Francisco Board of Officers. More young people are now working at the Board and more young families are taking part in Sokol activities. To keep Sokol attractive to these younger people as well as to our longtime members is our goal for this new year. We are sure we can succeed.

Zelmira Zivny

SOKOL CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Jara:

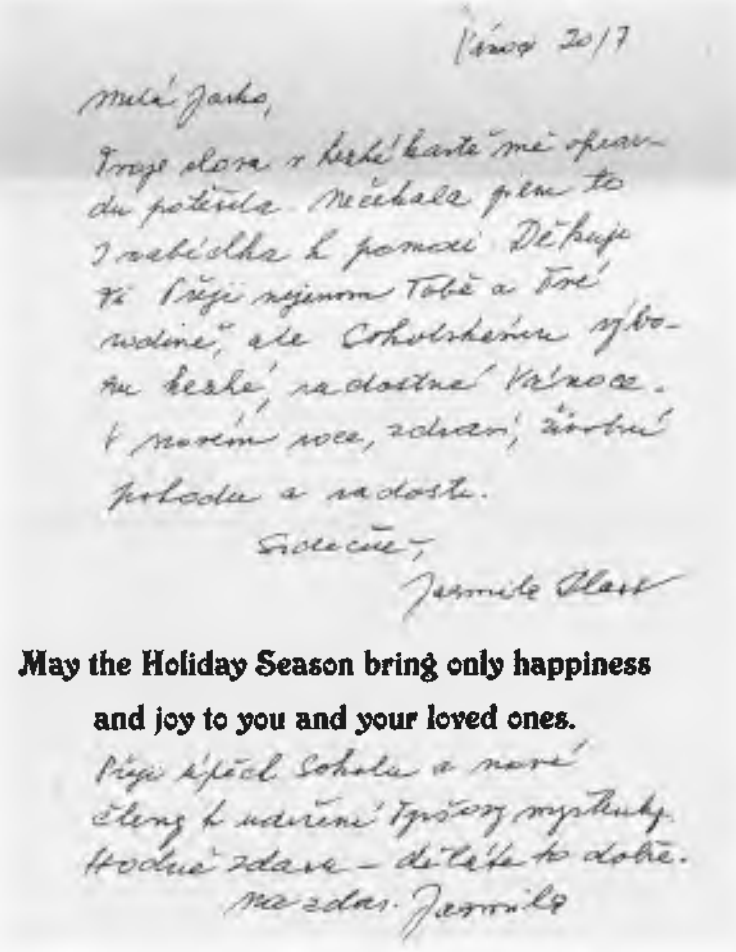
In offering my thanks to the many folks who helped make The Year of the Czechs in Orinda, and especially the Festival in September, such a success, I cannot thank you and your Board and members of SOKOL enough! SOKOL & You, especially, brought so much to our goal of exposing not only Orinda, but the entire Bay Area, to the wonderful history of Czech people, their culture and influence on the world. It is always my hope that getting to know each other is what one day will bring Peace to our world. And, in the end, isn't that the ultimate goal of all of us?!

So, thank you, Jara and Linda. SOKOL & O/TSCF has taken a step together. For that we will always be eternally grateful. Please extend our thanks to your Board and to the individual members of SOKOL who stepped up and volunteered to help make our efforts such a success.

DEKUJI! DEKUJI!!

THE ORINDA/TABOR SISTER CITY FOUNDATION

Bobbie Landers, Chair



Vánoce 2017

Milá Jarko,

Tvoje slova v české kartě mě opravdu potěšila. Nečekala jsem to a rozhodla se pomoci. Děkuji ti. Přeji nejenom Tobě a Tvé rodině, ale Sokolskému sboru české, radostné Vánoce. A mnoho zdraví, štěstí, hojnost a radosti.

Srdečně,

Jarmila Dlask

May the Holiday Season bring only happiness and joy to you and your loved ones.

Přeji úspěch Sokolu a mně! Čeng k uzdravení. Zpěvný myslivky. Hodně zdaru - držíte to dobře.

Na zdar. Jarmila

The letter from Jarmila Dlask, Sokol SF former treasurer.

I think women are foolish to pretend they are equal to men.

They are far superior and always have been.
Whatever you give a woman, she will make grater.
If you give her sperm, she will give you baby.
If you give her a house, she will give you home.
If you give her groceries, she will give you a meal.
If you give her a smile, she will give you her heart.
She multiplies and enlarges what is given her.
So, if you give her any crap, be ready to receive a ton of shit!

Sir William Gerald Golding, a Nobel Prize winner

AMERICAN SOKOL CORNER

XVITH ALL-SOKOL SLET 2018 - XVI. VŠESOKOLSKÝ SLET Prague, 1 – 7 July, 2018

From the Invitation of Czech Sokol President Sister Hana Moučková

Every All-Sokol Slet also includes the involvement of international guests – both active participants in gymnastics and sports performances, and also guests and spectators. Representatives of three continents - Europe, America and Australia – have taken part in recent All-Sokol Slets. Their performances have always provided great enrichment to the Slet programme. It would give us enormous pleasure if you would come to Prague and help us maintain this tradition. I look forward, along with the whole Czech Sokol Organization, to being able to welcome you in July 2018 to the heart of Europe and the XVIth All-Sokol Slet in Prague, to which you are warmly invited.

Ing. Hana Moučková
Starostka České obce sokolské

Getting ready for Slet in Prague

This year All-Sokol Slet in Prague offers more than one way to perform Sokol calisthenics. At several past Slets, we from Sokol San Francisco were performing the calisthenics for seniors. This year, younger members of our Unit prefer to learn another routine, called **Cesta**. It is only logic that our young Sisters are not interested in seniors' performance. The Cesta is a dynamic and swift composition with a popular American country music.

More mature members of our Unit will still enjoy learning and performing classic seniors' routine called Princezna Republika. Karel Hasler composed the music soon after the first Czechoslovak Republic was born.

We are very proud of all of our Slet participants and their effort. None of these calisthenics is easy to learn, complicated patterns are created and will be beautiful to watch but challenging to learn and drill.

These Brothers and Sister will perform **Princezna Republika**: Pavel Burda, Jara Dusatko, Lida O'Donnell, Teresa O'Donnell, Jana Wichova and Milos Zivny. The Sisters learning **Cesta** are Lea Bronec, Teresa O'Donnell, Karin Sargis, Jana Wichova and Zelda Zivny. You can see that two our courageous Sisters, Teresa O'Donnell and Jana Wichova will learn and perform both of these calisthenics. Good luck, to you, Jana and Teresa, you keep the real Sokol spirit alive.

Milos Zivny

Message from Jean Hruby – ASO President

"Around here we don't look backwards for very long... we keep moving forward, opening new door sand doing new things because we are curious...and curiosity keeps landing us down new paths."
Walt Disney

As a year comes to an end we find ourselves reflecting on the year that has past, the good and the bad, what we did really well, what we could have done better, and what we look forward to in the coming year. So much has happened this year. We accomplish so many things with many moving parts. One of the best things about having so many great leaders is that we are always coming up with new ideas. Just as Walt Disney stated in the quote above, we do keep moving forward and our curiosity does open new doors – with our new ideas. Everything we try may not work, but if we keep opening new doors we will certainly find new paths. .....

It isn't always easy and the path may have some twists and turns but it is important that we always continue to move forward, be curious and we will continue to open new doors land on a new path.

Thank you all for your dedication and hard work in 2017. You are the reason the paths are formed.

Ať žije Sokol! ~ Long Live Sokol!

Nazdar!

FROM SOKOL SAN FRANCISCO HISTORY

PORTRAIT of a PATRIOT

VILEM BURSIK escaped from Nazi occupied Czechoslovakia whose western part was renamed "Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia", in 1939. He managed to get to Poland and from there he made his way via Slovakia, Hungary and Jugoslavia to the Middle East and from there to France. Because at that time it was quiet at the Czech – German border, Vilem as well as other Czechs and Slovaks had to join the Foreign Legion with a promise that if and when the war starts, they will be able to establish a Czechoslovak armed force in France. When the Nazis started attacking France, Belgium, Netherlands and Denmark, the Czechoslovak soldiers were released from the Foreign Legion and went to France to form a Czechoslovak unit. They fought gallantly but had to be evacuated via Dunkirk to Great Britain. There they were training. In one of the training camps Vilem met Jozef Gabcik, Jan Kubis and Josef Valcik, three parachutists who later killed the Acting Protector of Bohemia and Moravia, Reinhard Heydrich.

Within the Czechoslovak forces in Great Britain, there were also about two hundred Communists who were earlier fighting in Spain with the Republicans against Fascists led by General Franco. When in 1939, the Nazi Germany and Soviet Union made a Non-aggression Pact, these Communists in the Czechoslovak forces said they could not fight against Nazi Germany, a Soviet Union ally. One of these communists was also Pavel Tigrid who immediately broke away
and became an anticommunist. Much later, after the War, Tigrid was in charge of the Czechoslovak section of Radio Free Europe in Germany and after 1994 became Minister for Culture in the Czech Republic. When these two hundred communists made their statement, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill called Czechoslovak President in exile Dr. Edvard Benes and told him if these men were in the British Army he would have them executed. Dr. Benes gave them non-combat assignments.

When in 1941 Nazi Germany attacked Soviet Union, the Czechoslovak Forces in Great Britain had more officers than soldiers and a request was made to transfer volunteer officers to the Soviet Union where there were many regular Czech and Slovak soldiers and few officers only. Vilem volunteered because he wanted to get into the real fighting. After arrival to Soviet Union the officers coming from Great Britain were first put into an internment camp and only after some time were they assigned to the Czechoslovak forces. Vilem was a tank commander and led a group of tanks via Kiev and Dukla all the way to Czechoslovak city of Ostrava. When they were to attack the Dukla pass, the Czechoslovak Force was ordered by a Soviet general to go directly thru the pass. Czechoslovak General Jan Kratochvil who was the commander of the Czechoslovak Force did not agree with him. He wanted to take the higher ground first and attack the Nazis from a better position. Vilem was present when these negotiations were proceeding and left in an armored vehicle about five minutes before general Kratochvil. When general Kratochvil was not arriving, Czechoslovak officers inquired where is their general and were told by the Soviets that general Kratochvil was killed by a land mine. Vilem told me that at that time the area was clear of Germans and he used the same road five minutes earlier*.

Vilem told me that the Soviets apparently tried to get many of our troops killed because most of them were Czechs from Volyn, an area at North-Western part of Ukraine where many Czech settlers arrived in the second half of 19th century. The inhabitants of this area were known for their anti-communist feelings. According to Vilem, Soviets apparently did not want these soldiers later to describe the "Communist Paradise" in liberated Czechoslovakia. I think that Vilem had a rank of Major and later probably Colonel. I am not sure of this because he did not talk much about himself.

After escaping from Czechoslovakia after the 1948 Communist putsch, Vilem worked for some time for Radio Free Europe. Later, the Bursiks arrived in the U.S.A. and got settled in San Francisco where the whole family was immediately involved in anti-communist movement. Vilem organized demonstrations in front of the Soviet Consulate at Green Street. Because there was not enough of us he found help with the Cuban and

Afghan refugees who joined us at the demonstrations. The whole Bursik family, including the three daughters were making the signs all previous evening and then distributed them to the demonstrators. These demonstrations were quite frequent, sometimes every second week and it drove the Soviet Consulate people crazy. But because Vilem always got a permit from the City, it was all legal. Vilem also started a radio broadcast in Czech and Slovak language. I think it was an hour a week or maybe every two weeks. He was relentless in advising the local public of the rape of all the nations behind the Iron Curtain.

Unfortunately, Vilem had a heart problem and died quite a few years ago during a heart surgery. I went to see him in the hospital the day before the surgery. He was in good mood and hoping that he would be OK soon.

So that is a very short story of a Czechoslovak Patriot and hero.
We miss him and miss his leadership.

Victor Machacek

*General Jan Kratochvil was not killed by a land mine as the Soviet officers originally told his Unit. Instead, was suddenly dismissed from his position of a commander of the 1st Czechoslovak Army Corps and replaced by General Ludvik Svoboda.

OBITUARY

Marián Labuda

Slovenský herec Marián Labuda zemřel náhle 5. ledna 2018 ve věku 73 let. Za svou hereckou kariéru ztvárnil řadu rolí, od pohádkového sultána přes vůdce slovenských fašistů Tisa. Jeho nejznámější roli snad je postava hluboce lidského řidiče Pávka z filmu Jiřího Menzla Vesničko má středisková. Kulatý laskavý Pávek je ve Vesničce tak trochu otcem svému jednoduchému parťákovi Otíkovi a i díky Labudově skvělému výkonu byl film v roce 1985 jmenován na Oscara.

Marián Labuda vytvořil na dvěstě filmových postav, mimo jiné Krále Ubu ve snímku režiséra F.A. Brabce a obchodního cestujícího ve filmové adaptaci Hrabalova románu Obsluhoval jsem anglického krále.

Marián Labuda vystudoval Divadelni fakultu Vyské školy múzických umění v Bratislavě, spoluzakládal legendární bratislavské Divadlo na korze, byl douholetým členem souboru Slovenského národního divadla a pravidelně hostoval na českých divadelních scénách. Labudův talent a jeho filozofický přístup a porozumění charakterům, které představoval, zanechávají ve slovenském a českém umění mezeru, kterou těžko kdo zaplní.

ZZ

CONCERT

Celtic Woman Gallo Center for the Arts - Modesto, CA --- Saturday May 19, 2018

The Gallo Center for the Arts is located at **1000 I Street, Modesto, CA** http://tickets.galloarts.org/
Parking 12th Street Garage, 802 12th Street *One block east of the Center*
Gallo Center Tickets. Modesto Marketplace. Order by Phone: (209) 292-2267
or online: https://www.boxofficeticketsales.com/venue/gallo-center-for-the-arts-tickets-for-sale.aspx
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VĚSTNÍK'S PICKS

JAN THOMPSON LOVES PRAGUE

Jan Thompson, the British Ambassador to the Czech Republic, left Prague after four years of service just before Christmas. Before entering a diplomatic career, Ms. Thompson worked for the BBC. Her foreign service postings included among other, Germany, the UN Security Council in New York, Balkans during the Balkan wars, Afghanistan and Thailand where she established a temporary British office to help the tsunami victims.



As a non-traditional Ambassador in Prague, Jan Thompson bought something very, very Czech: an old Skoda1000 MB, from the year if 1968. With her "embéčko" she crisscrossed Czech Republic to know the country and the people. She has learned a very good Czech and she was speaking Czech during her last interviews in Prague. Ambassador Thompson was a big fan of everything Czech and will be missed by many friends and always welcome to the Czech Country.

Jan Thompson with her beloved Škoda 1000, "embéčko".

ZZ

CZECH REPUBLIC - SAFE COUNTRY

The Institute for Economics and Peace presented the overall score for the 2017 Global Peace Index. As it does every year, the Institute considered many factors to rate the Global Peace index in different geographical regions and countries. The research considered three domains: Ongoing Domestic and International Conflict, Societal Safety and Security and the Militarization of the domain or country. According to the research, 93 of the world countries became more peaceful and safe in the year of 2017, 68 countries became less peaceful.

Europe and Central Europe is the safest and more peaceful part of the world and among the ten safest countries, eight are in Europe with New Zealand and Canada as exceptions. We can be proud that Czech Republic belongs to this elite club.

10 Worlds' Safest Countries:

1/ Iceland
2/ New Zealand
3/ Portugal
4/ Austria
5/ Denmark
6/ Czech Republic
7/ Slovenia
8/ Canada
9/ Switzerland
10/ Ireland.

Germany is number 16, Sweden number 18 and the United States of America are at the 114th place.
At the very end of the safe countries are Afghanistan and Syria. ZZ

Konec případu Dahlgren

Podle oficiální zprávy české Vězenské síužby spáchal 11. ledna 2018 ve vězení sebevraždu americky občan Kevin Dahlgren odsouzeny za čtyřnásobnou vraždu spáchanou v Brně, k dožlvotnímu vězeni. Dahlghren zavraždil v květnu 2013 rodinu svych českých přbuznych, poté odjel do Vídně a odtud odletěl do USA.

Byl zatčen na letišti ve Washingtonu a české ministerstvo spravedlnosti požádalo v červenci 2013 o jeho vydání. V srpnu 2015 byl Dahlgren skutečně vydán do České republiky. **Byl to první případ, kdy americká justice vydala občana Spojených Státu k trestnímu stíhání do Česka.**

V roce 2016 byl Dahlgren shledán brněnskym soudem příčetnym v době činu a odsouzen k doživotnímu vězení. Trest si odpykával ve vězení Valdice na Jičínsku.
O tomto případu jsme několikrát informovali ve Věstníku
více
https://domaci.ihned.cz/c1-66015650-ctyrnasobny-vrah-dahlgren-spachal-ve-valdicich-sebevrazdu-odsouzen-byl-na-dozivoti

Diesel exhaust tests on humans and monkeys

The German government has denounced experiments funded by German carmakers in which humans and monkeys reportedly inhaled diesel exhaust fumes. The research was done by EUGT, a body funded by Volkswagen, Daimler and BMW.
The tests were done in 2014 in a lab in Albuquerque, New Mexico and later in Aachen in Germany. During a month of tests at a lab in Aachen, men and women were exposed to various concentrations of diesel fumes, which contain toxic nitrogen oxides.
At the time the carmakers were arguing that modern technology had cut pollution diesel engines to safe levels. But VW was later found to have fitted "cheat" devices that rigged the emissions data.
The EUGT was dissolved by carmakers last year. The initials stand for European Research Group in Environment and Health in the Transport Sector.
"These tests on monkeys or even humans cannot be justified ethically in any way," said Chancellor Angela Merkel's spokesman. German Environment Minister Barbara Hendricks called the experiments "abominable" and expressed shock that scientist had agreed to conduct them.
What have the carmakers said about this?
Daimler, manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz cars said "we are appalled by the extent of the studies and their implementation. We condemn the experiments in the strongest terms."
Volkswagen said: "We know that the scientific methods used by EUGT were wrong and apologise sincerely for this".
Volkswagen supervisory board says it will conduct a full investigation, calling the experiments "utterly incomprehensible".

Krajanská média Český dialog

Krajane.net je platforma, určená k získávání a výměně informací, týkajících se zahraničních Čechů.
Krajane.net is a platform where information concerning Czechs abroad can be found and exchanged.
info@krajane.net
www.cesky-dialog.net

Vážení přátelé doma i v zahraničí,

Český dialog vstupuje letos do 28. roku. Nejprve vycházel jako 14ti deník, měsíčník, dvouměsíčník a čtvrtletník. Od roku 2014 jako internetový časopis, což má tu výhodu, že tam každý den můžeme přidávat články. Chceme v tomto roce, v roce 100. výročí založení republiky rozšířit a zpestřit jeho rubriky a požádáme Vás také o spolupráci. Pište nám, co se kde ve světě děje, co Vás zajímá a jak se máte. A čtěte nás.
Také chystáme k tomuto výročí velkou knihu o historii tohoto mimořádného časopisu, kde představíme význačné autory, čtenáře, jejich příběhy i události na politické a společenské scéně Československa, později České republiky. Už při psaní prvních kapitol jsme okouzleni "perlami", které se za tu dobu téměř třiceti let v časopise vyskytly.
Budeme rádi, když k nim také přispějete svými vzpmínkami či názory a to jak na minulost tak na přítomnost..
S hezkým pozdravem do roku 2018

Eva Střížovská, šéfredaktorka
(strizovska@seznam.cz)
420 739 091 057

GOURMET CORNER

Winter Moroccan Soup

Ingredients:
4 large onions, peeled, cut in larger pieces
2 handfuls of baby carrots
1 pound of beef or chicken cut in pieces approximately 2" (5 cm)
1 tbsp salt
1 tbsp ground cinnamon
1 tbsp caraway seed, ground
2 tbsp olive oil
½ cup olives
Sour cream for serving

Heat oil in a large heavy pot, add meat, onion, salt, cinnamon and caraway seed and cook, turning occasionally until the meat turns nice brown color, a bout 10 minutes. Add hot water, bring to boil and let the soup simmer until the meat is very tender, longer for the beef than it would for chicken. Add the carrots about 15 minutes before the end and olives when the carrots are almost done. Serve with sour cream on the top and bread on the side.

Serves about six.

From the kitchen of Ms. Jaroslava Šimkovská

Appreciation.

A special appreciation to our Board members who fully embrace their roles on the board and go beyond the "call of duty":

- **Helenka Livingston** for a well-designed organization of the Winter Dinner-Dance.
- **Linda Janourova-Tang** for doing an excellent job as a Secretary of our Unit, and for her swift implementations of all new ideas and projects.
- **Milos Zivny** for providing a great technical support at various events, as well as his continued generosity in offering to rides to our members at different Sokol trips.

Jara Dusatko,
President

Do you remember old Sokol Slets? Maybe you were there, exercising and marching at the 1948 Slet. Or maybe some of us remember from our childhood performing at the last before - World War - Slet in 1938. Vestnik is preparing an overview of all Slets for the next issue and would love to mention names of all our Brothers and Sisters who had the honor and the pleasure to participate at any Slet.

Call us or e-mail to Sokol SF, we are waiting for you.

Your Vestnik Editors

LAUGHING CORNER

THE BOTTLE OF WINE

For all of you who are married, were married, wish you were married or wish you were not married, this is something to smile about the next time you see a bottle of wine:
Sally was driving home from one of her business trips, in Northern Arizona, when she saw an elderly Navajo woman walking on the side of the road.
As the trip was a long and quiet one, she stopped the car and asked the Navajo woman if she would like a ride.
With a silent nod of thanks, the woman got into the car.
Resuming the journey, Sally tried - in vain - to make a bit of small talk with the Navajo woman.
The old woman just sat silently, looking intently at everything she saw, studying every little detail, until she noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Sally.
"What in bag?" asked the old woman.

Sally looked down at the brown bag and said: "It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband."
The Navajo woman was silent for another moment or two.
Then, speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, she said:

"Good trade . . "
God bless us all..