



3909 S. Prairie Avenue  
Brookfield, IL 60513-2143

**August 2016**

Moving? Please let us know your new address!  
Contact:

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Check out our website:

[www.sokolspirit.org](http://www.sokolspirit.org)

From our  
President,  
Vera Wilt

Dear Sokol Spirit Brothers and Sisters,

Sokol Summer has been very busy, so if you thought your executive team takes the summer off, you would be mistaken. Your officers and directors have been preparing new and improved classes and schedules, activities, and programs, and are ready to kick off a new activities year.

Since our last newsletter, our athletes participated in competitions, Sokol Day, the Pet Parade, and the Brookfield 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. We had the best representation of the Central District at the Sokol USA Slet in Pittsburgh in late June/early August. You'll find these events and more featured in this newsletter.

Our promotional team, which includes officers, instructors and willing volunteers, have been telling people about our programs on Saturday mornings at the Brookfield Farmers' Market.

Information is being distributed to area schools to invite participants to our fall classes. We also had a presence at State Representative Mike Zalewski's back to school picnic. Anywhere we can spread the word about our Family Friendly Physical Fitness organization, we are there!

Registration will be done the first 2 weeks of class instead of a specific evening. **Please take a good look at the schedule of classes in this newsletter, as we have changed things up a little bit.** The new class schedule will retain our traditional class format, but add some gymnastics-only options for those seeking more intense instruction in that area.

**Physical as well as Czech language classes get started the week of September 12.**

Summer wheels drew regular participants and even some people just sampling the class. It's nice to offer an introduction to this program right after people see the wheels in parades.

We also participated in the Czechoslovak American Congress Picnic, serving the beer and helping elsewhere, while promoting our events and classes. John Bazata brought the gymnastic wheel, and as usual, that drew the kids to try it out.

We took advantage of Olympics Fever to host a free Olympics viewing party and gym open house on August 11. Free food and free beverages were available, and we promoted this family friendly event throughout the summer. We had a great time cheering on our Olympic athletes!

Coming up: The Oktoberfest is in full planning mode, so we hope to see you there on September 10. World Beer club is September 16<sup>th</sup> at 8pm, and the next Quiz Night will be held on Saturday, October 22 at 7pm. Don't worry – all of these events are conveniently listed in the Calendar section of the newsletter so you can add them to your calendars.

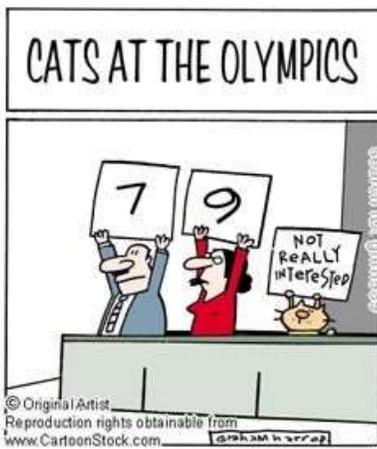
As you can see, we plan all summer and hit the ground running in September. Stay cool the rest of this summer, and we look forward to seeing you around the gym soon.

-- Na Zdar. Vera Wilt, President

# Special Number Competition – April 23



Congrats to Special Number competition winners 1<sup>st</sup> class girls, 2<sup>nd</sup> class combined girls and boys, and Women. The Spirit Juniors came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Great job, too, to the instructors who wrote, taught and fine-tuned the numbers. We are proud of you all!



(pinterest.com)

Did you know? Women participated for the first time at the 1900 Paris Games with the inclusion of women's events in lawn tennis and golf. (topendsports.com)

# Sokol Spirit Membership Dinner – May 1

Approximately 85 people (members and guests) came together at Sokol Spirit to celebrate the members who passed away this past year and to celebrate those members who achieved membership longevity awards. The following members who passed away since our last membership dinner were:

Sis. Sylvia Martello—34 year member

Sis. Rita Pavlas—12 year member

They will be missed by family, friends, and all our Sokol members. Nazdar

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Membership awards are presented for every five years of Sokol membership. The following members received awards at the dinner or by mail if they were unable to join us.

5-year members

Jennifer Baran  
Tricia Leja  
Jane Malina  
Kimberly Temmer

10-year members

Linda Bedner  
Pam Ferris  
Caroline Johnston  
Cynthia Johnston  
Anthony Lemont  
Jessica Rus

15-year members

Cassandra Croft  
Andrew Lutha  
Vera Wilt

20-year member

Jacqueline Ravnicek

25-year members

John Becker  
Meribeth Kovar-Tooke  
John Tooke

30-year members

Debbie Milas  
Emily Polacek

35-year members

Irene Balas  
Denise Conway  
Susan D'Andrea  
Nancy Michalek  
Mary Novak

40-year members

Kathy Carr  
Julianne Hume  
Barbara Lamb  
Diana Rhoades

45-year members

Doris Barda  
Wayne Shrofe  
Cynthia Hokr  
Lisa Kotynek  
Ray Lutha

50-year members

JoAnne Bazata  
Susan Kozelka  
Sandra Michelin

55-year member

Cheryl Zrostlik

60-year members

Charles Dvorak  
Charles Ptacek  
Elaine Zitko

65-year member

Ed Schnabl

70-year member

Richard Ptacek

75-year member

Jerry Chvatal

## Memorial Day parade – Bohemian National Cemetery – May 30



Did you know? 111 American gymnasts competed in the 1904 Olympics (facts.net)

Did you know? The last series of Olympic medals to be made of solid gold were awarded at the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm, Sweden. (topendsports.com)

District Competitions and Sokol Day - May 14, 21 and 22



## SokolFest XXVII – Pittsburg, PA – June 29 – July 2



## Brookfield Fourth of July Parade – July 4



**Members:** As a member you can use our hall for personal parties? The asking donation for use of the hall has been lowered to \$100. The only stipulation is that you clean up after your event and leave the hall in the same, or better, shape than when you found it. Call Bro. Mark Shrofe for more information at 708-485-9663 and leave a message, or visit our website [sokolspirit.org](http://sokolspirit.org).

Did you know? *Men's gymnastics have been a part of the Olympics since the inaugural games in 1896. Women's gymnastics were later added in the 1928 Olympic games in Amsterdam. (facts.net)*

Thank you to everyone who supported the juniors during the 2015-2016 Sokol year! The juniors put all your help to work when they went to Pittsburgh to compete in gymnastics, the fitness challenge and complete a 5K. Before they made their way to Pittsburgh, the juniors rounded out the regular year with our Memorial Day sleepover where five future juniors joined the activities throughout the night at the gym before heading to the Bohemian National Cemetery for a Memorial Day ceremony.



← Over the summer, four juniors headed to Texas to attend Instructor School. Congratulations to Lily Smith, Isabella Smith and Rachel Lemont for their video submissions which earned them each a \$50 tuition credit to Instructors Course this year. The material they learned will be put to use this upcoming year as they help with the younger classes.

We will be starting this year with our annual Car Wash which will be held Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-12:00pm. Cars will be \$5 and vans/trucks will be \$10 to wash. After picking up some fresh food from the Brookfield Farmers' Markets, head on over to Spirit and get your car cleaned!

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### From the Youth Ambassador: Linda Baran

We all finished the year with a flurry. From those who performed so wonderfully at Special Number Competition or at Apparatus Competition or Sokol Day or just came to class and enjoyed yourself: it was a great year!!! For those who went to Pittsburgh, you all did amazing. If you didn't get to Slet, don't worry, there is another in Cedar Rapids, IA next year and we'd love to see you there. It's a wonderful experience for everyone and there is something to do for everyone in your family. As we begin our 2nd Sesquicentennial period of our organization, be sure to keep your eyes open and check the website for the dates to register for classes. It will be here before you know it. It has been a pleasure serving as your Youth Ambassador for these past years. I will be passing the baton onto Sister Alix Wilt who I know you will enjoy spending time with and learning about Sokol with. Thank you for allowing me to work with you. NAZDAR!!

**Junior News:** In the 'POSE" contest, Spirit Juniors Chris Kurgan & Amanda Suveytor placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and Andy Corrigan placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Rachel Lemont was the \*POEM" contest winner with her "Ode to Sokol".

*Ode to Sokol flying high  
and mighty  
your togetherness and  
unity  
songs of one two and  
threes*

*Falcons forever are we  
summer and KURZs  
rising onward we climb  
tried and true*

*From our colors red, white  
and blue  
many countries  
150 years to today  
always members*

*Family away and at home  
sorry not, never alone  
nasha anishika  
singing our Czech cultural  
songs.*

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**Sokol Spirit goes high tech:** Do you need to pay membership dues or class fees? Do you want to make a donation? Or pay for your pancake tickets? Good news for some of our members! It is now possible to pay Sokol Spirit for certain things online. You can access it from our home page at Sokolspirit.org which will take you to the payment page: <https://squareup.com/store/sokolspirit>. Currently we have four options on there: Membership Dues, Class Fees, Pancake Breakfast and Donations.

Did you know? At the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896, silver medals were awarded to the winners, bronze to second place. (topendsports.com)

Did you know? British Equestrian, Lorna Johnstone was 70 years (and 5 days) old when she rode at the 1972 Olympic Games, thus being the oldest woman ever to compete at an Olympic Games. (topendsports.com)

Oktoberfest – September 10 3:00-10:00 p.m.



**Join us for Sokol Spirit's Annual Event! Free Admission!**

**Join us at Sokol Spirit for Live Music, Beer, Brats, Potato Pancakes, Raffles, Kids' activities and great fun!**

World Beer Club – Third Friday of each month - 8:00 p.m.



**September 16**

**October 21**

**November 18**

Join Sokol Spirit once a month as we enjoy the vast variety of the Beers from around the World. \$10 Cover Charge Per Participant (must be 21 or older) includes a Flight of 6 Beers. Each month will feature beers/tasters from a different region. Beers will be rated by all tasters. Receive Punch card to earn a free month. Food item tasters will be coordinated with the featured region. **RSVP Appreciated 3 Days Prior to Each Event** 708-692-8350

[info@sokolspirit.org](mailto:info@sokolspirit.org)

**Quiz Nite – Adult team trivia – October 22**

Like trivia? Think you have a team that can't be beat? Come join us at Sokol Spirit for our Quiz Nite night!

**When: Saturday October 22 7:00pm Where: Sokol Spirit's lower hall**

Details: Bring a friend, bring a team, or just bring yourself! This event is BYOB and BYOS (snacks!) The cost is \$10 per person. Teams (of no more than 10 people) are encouraged! We will also have split the pot raffles.

Questions? Call Kathy at 708-485-3269. See you there!!

Did you know? *St. Louis was the first American city to host the Olympics. (abcnews.go.com)*

Did you know? *Rope climbing was once an Olympic gymnastics event. Competitors started in a seated position and used only their hands and arms to race to the top of the approx. 25 foot rope in the shortest time possible. (topendsports.com)*

Did you know? *Trampolining became an Olympic event in 2000. Points are awarded for difficulty, execution and flight time. (facts.net, topendsports.com)*

*"The goal of the Olympics is to inspire us about what humans can achieve, and the goal of the closing ceremony is to return us to reality." - Andy Borowitz*



# SUNSHINE REPORT from Sis. Blanche Wostratzky

BWOSTRATZKY@SBCGLOBAL.NET or 708-788-4644



← Congratulations to Bernie and Ellie Babka (with their Rascal) on their 60th wedding anniversary June 9, 2016.

→ Congratulations to Ed and Ellen Jeanne Schnabl on their 60th wedding anniversary July 21, 2016.

Ed Schnabl went on his Honor Flight on April 18 from central Wisconsin airport. There were 11 WWII veterans, 39 Korean War veterans and 39 Vietnam War veterans in attendance. He had a fabulous day and according to the guardian assigned to him, logged in 11,000 steps! Hearty Nazdar and thank you all for your kind letters. It was very much appreciated!



← Congratulations to Meribeth and John Tooke on their 50th Anniversary June 4, 2016.

→ Two long-time friends and life-long Sokolky at Spirit's recent membership dinner. Sis. Emily Polacek and Sis. Slavia Sula



← Congratulations to Greg Baran from his family on his graduation from high school!!! On to his next challenge at the College of DuPage. . .(and hopefully Spirit's men's class??) Great job, Greg, and best wishes to you!

→ Uber thanks to Carolyn Morriss for many of the photos in this and every newsletter. Glad I could snap a photo of you for a change. ☺



Hi to all my Sokol Spirit friends. I just had my 10th great-grandchild recently (yes: 10!). I have 7 grandchildren and now those grandchildren have a family of their own. Lots of fun when the family gets together. All the children get along very well. I'm fortunate that all are healthy and happy. - Blanche Wostratzky

## ~ MEMORIAL FUND ~

In memory of Rita Pavlas from *Ellie and Bernie Babka*. . . . . \$10.00

Honoring Blanche Wostratzky on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday from *Ellie and Bernie Babka*. . . . \$25.00

Donation to Sokol Spirit's ADA (Americans With Disabilities Act) fund in honor of Meribeth and John Tooke's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary from *Ellie and Bernie Babka*. . . . \$25.00

Please send any Memorial Fund and Newsletter Fund items to the attention of Kathe Heetel, 1233 Woodside, La Grange Park, IL 60526 for inclusion in the newsletter.



## Sokol Spirit's 1<sup>st</sup> Friday (of the Month) Films 2016-17 Season Czech Film Series (English subtitles)

(3909 S. Prairie Avenue, Brookfield, Upstairs in the Czech Language 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

Donation: \$5/person. 7:00 -9:30 pm with discussions lead by Pavlina Reichlova, Czech language head teacher and on operas with Marvin Lanzel. Pop/Water or first pilsner beer free!

**October 7: Czech Dream/Český sen**; 2004, 88 minutes PG-Comedy Documents the largest consumer hoax and its social aspects It recorded a large-scale hoax perpetrated by Klusák and Remunda on the [Czech](#) public, culminating in the opening event of a fake [hypermarket](#) in the [Letňany](#) neighborhood of [Prague](#). The film was their graduation project for film school.

**November 4: The Country Teacher/VENKOVSKÝ UCITEL**; 2009, 100 minutes, R-Drama Life Lessons Learned in Bucolic Classrooms. A new teacher is a pensive, bespectacled Czech in his 30 's who impulsively leaves Prague to take a job teaching natural science in a rural village. Both his subject and the rustic environment play into the movie's contemplation of biological diversity as it applies to human behavior, especially sexuality.

**December 2: Men in Rut/Muzi v Riji** 2009, 120 minutes, GP13-Political Satire...Humor from clash of small and big worlds as politicians in a remote burg - so remote, in fact, that the road ends there! The mayor of a tiny Czech village hatches a plan to quite literally put his town on the map.

## Sokol Spirit's 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month Cultural Programming 2016-17 Season Theme: Czech Music Stories

(3909 S. Prairie Avenue, Brookfield, Upstairs in the Czech Language 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Classroom)

Donation \$5/person 7:00 -9:30 pm with discussions lead by Pavlina Reichlova, Czech language head teacher Pop/Water or first pilsner beer free!

**September 20 Story of Hussities (Husitska) and their Inspiration for Antonin Dvorak** At a time when [Dvorák](#) was being tempted to write opera in German for Vienna and Dresden came one of his most nationalistic works, the [Hussite Overture](#). The overture was composed at the request of the Prague National Theatre, to accompany a projected trilogy on the subject of the Hussite period. While the drama never saw completion, the Overture was premiered on November 18, 1883, in celebration of the opening of the newly-built National Theatre, two years after a disastrous fire had destroyed the original. The overture is clearly modeled on the sketches for the trilogy, expressing the "origin of the Hussite movement" in the introduction, "the Hussite wars" in the exposition and development, and the "restoration of peace after the wars" in the recapitulation and coda. NOTE: Chicago Symphony Orchestra-on October 14 & 18, 2016 the [Husitska Overture](#) will be the first number in the program.

**October 18 The folk music of the Czech Republic and its inspiration for Smetana's Work: Slovanske Tance** There were three big Czech composers, who were carried away and inspired by the Czech and Moravian folklore- Dvorak, Janacek and Smetana. It might not be the coincidence that all three are world famous musicians, whose beautiful melodies transpire and reflect beautiful folklore and traditions. Antonin Dvorak included the Slavonic dances into his Eight Symphony. The 8th Symphony was written during the summer and early autumn of 1889, mainly at his summer residence in [Vysoka](#). This environment, in which Dvorak was most at ease, seemed to be reflected in the overall atmosphere of his new symphony. NOTE: Chicago Symphony Orchestra-on November 17 & 18, 2016 Symphony No. 8 will be the last number in the program.

**November 15 Story of Czech Christmas Carols-Koledy and Ginger Cookies** Traditional Czech Christmas would not be the same without various types of Christmas cookies which are hand made by most of the Czech families. But as important are the Christmas national carols which bring us with the familiar melodies to the Christmas cheer and mood. Which carols were taken and translated from other countries and what were the inspirations to our most traditional Czech carols such as [Narodil se Kristus Pan](#). Most carols were based on Christian context, but there were carols which carried underlying Communist agenda. Listen to Christmas Melodies and decorate Czech ginger cookies. Materials may be extra for cookies.



First Wednesday	Sokol Spirit Unit Meeting 7:30pm
Third Monday	Sokol Spirit BOI Meeting 7:30pm

*(all events at Sokol Spirit unless specified)*

**August and September 2016:**

**August 20** – Juniors' Car Wash - 8:30-noon

**September 10** – Oktoberfest - 3:00-10:00pm

**Week of September 12** – Fitness Classes begin

**September 16** – World Beer Club - 8pm – Pilsners of the World

**Save the Dates:**

**October 7** – First Friday film - 7pm

**October 21** – World Beer Club - 8pm

**October 22** – Quiz Nite - 7pm

**November 4** – First Friday film - 7pm

**November 5** – Spaghetti Dinner - 4pm

**November 18** – World Beer Club - 8pm

**December 2** – First Friday film - 7pm

*See the website for more information about these and other events.*



Don't forget to check in at the gym: [www.facebook.com/sokolspirit](http://www.facebook.com/sokolspirit)



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