



3909 S. Prairie Avenue
Brookfield, IL 60513-2143

March 2018

Moving?
Please let us know your new address!

Contact: Dorothy Becker
340 Lake Shore Drive North,
Barrington, IL 60010-3425

BeckerD9749@SBCglobal.net

Check out our website:

www.sokolspirit.org

CZECH



US OUT!

Celebrating Our Czech and Slovak

14th Annual Exhibition

heritage

March 24, 2018 5:00 p.m. Riverside-Brookfield High School

Kathe Heetel, Editor, 1233 Woodside, LaGrange Park, IL 60526 Email news to: SpiritNews@hotmail.com

From our President,
Howie Maskill

Our most exciting time of the year is almost upon us...it's Exhibition Season! Our annual show will be held at Riverside Brookfield High School on Saturday, March 24th at 5pm. Our classes have been working hard to put on a great show and I hope to see you there. The last few weeks have been very hectic at Sokol Spirit for other reasons besides Exhibition preparations. On February 20th our morning Senior Co-ed class walked into the building on what they thought would be just another day. Instead they discovered standing water in the lower hall of our building. About 3 inches of water covered every room of our basement from wall to wall. This may not sound like much, but that equates to approximately 11,500 gallons of water. To put it into perspective, imagine four cement mixer trucks, filled with water, unloading into our building. For all of you Pilsner Urquell lovers, imagine pouring out 750 kegs of beer with nowhere for it to drain (I do not condone wasting that much beer).



A flood like this has never happened before in our building's 89 years of existence. Sewer issues combined with a few days of heavy rain, and the sudden melting of all the snow proved too much for the building to handle. After having work done on the sewers the water did recede. We brought a company in to clean, sanitize, and dry the floors and walls. The carpeting has been removed. We even resisted the temptation to freeze the lower hall and turn it into a curling rink, despite the fact the Winter Olympics were airing at the time! Although the initial clean-up is completed we still have a long way to go. Planning for the recovery and renovation is currently underway. For Sokol Spirit this space is more than just a basement. The meeting room and office are where most of our Unit's business is conducted. The clubroom serves as a place for our members to gather and socialize after their weeknight classes. We host most of our major fundraisers here. Our members and their family and friends utilize the space for holidays, birthdays, reunions, anniversaries, graduation parties, and more. Our building plays host to many of American Sokol's National and Central District Events. For many of us, it is a home away from home. We appreciate your support and know that with your help our building will recover and be better than ever. Keep a look out for more updates, including ways that you can help with the recovery efforts. Unfortunately, due to the current condition of the lower hall we will not be holding an Exhibition After Party back at our gym.

Like many, the Exhibition After Party is one of my favorite nights of the Sokol year. We are currently exploring other options for a post-Exhibition social and will communicate that as soon as the details are finalized. At times like this I remind myself of a lyric from the popular Sokol song, *Fly you Sokol* – "Forward let us go together. In sunshine and stormy weather!" Nazdar!

We've been busy, and this newsletter is PACKED! Not even room for jokes, quotes or my usual funnies! There are some exciting events that took place over the last few months but there is just not enough room to share them in this edition. We didn't forget about the Winter Slet (December 2017 – January 2018), the Central District Skills Clinic (January 2018), or the "Best of the Best" World Beer Club (February 2018). You'll be able to read all about those events and more in the next newsletter, slated for June 2018.

Riverside Township Community Grant



Sokol Spirit recently applied for a grant from Riverside Township for the rental of Riverside Brookfield High School for our annual Exhibition. The local high school is a great venue for our Exhibition but certainly does not come without a cost. Riverside Township covers most of Riverside, about 3/4 of North Riverside, the Hollywood section of Brookfield and a small part of Lyons. Many of our members live in the Township, and the Exhibition event itself will provide potential entertainment to even more residents. I am happy to announce that Sokol Spirit is the recipient of the Riverside Township community grant. This \$1,000 grant, which is given to non-profit community organizations, will help offset the rental costs of the facility. Thank you to Riverside Township for your support! Sokol Spirit is very grateful for the support of the Township.

Youth Class Holiday Party – December 18

All kids' classes performed for an audience of parents and friends in the Youth Class Holiday Party. Every number was unique and put us in a holiday mood. Among those participating were penguins, elves and even Santas! Everyone worked hard to perfect their routines and sprinkle some holiday spirit. Judging by the smiles in these pictures, everyone had a great time. Thank you to all the class instructors and the Board of Instructors for coordinating this fun event.



Thank you to Carolyn Morriss for most of the photos in this section.



Pancake & Egg Breakfast / Flapjack Open Volleyball Tournament – January 28

Thank you to all who volunteered, attended and supported our Annual Pancake & Egg Breakfast. Also, congrats to the winners of the Flapjack Tournament pictured at right.



GIJO meet - February 4

Eight girls from Sokol Spirit competed in levels bronze, silver and gold at the GIJO (Gymnastics of Illinois Junior Organization) competition in February at Naperville Central High School. The girls helped the Central District bring home the 2nd place silver team award and the 1st place bronze team award.

Great job, girls!
Thanks for representing Spirit so well!

Around the gym. . .



Giving Tree: Around the holidays, you may have seen the Sokol Spirit “Giving Tree” on the stage decorated with winter gloves, scarves, earmuffs and hats. Donations went towards the Community Nurse Health Association’s “Secret Santa” program to give gifts to low-income families in the area. Spirit has collected for this program annually for almost 18 years. This year, our Spirit family donated 178 cans of food and donated \$32.78 for St. Barbara’s food pantry. Thank you to our Spirit family who contributed to this great cause!

Central District Men’s Volleyball tournament:

The Spirit 1 Men’s team placed third in the Fall/Winter tournament. Pictured at right are Bros. Mike Drobick, Andy Lutha, Howie Maskill, Adam Rini, Dave Kakareka and Ken Nagel. Not pictured: Eddie Zempich and Adam Wilt. Congrats, guys!



Calisthenics and Marching Competition: Congratulations to Junior Boy Jake Heetel on his (tied-for) first place win at the Cal and Marching Competition held in February at Sokol Lodge 306 in Chicago. Jake was the only competitor from Sokol Spirit. He did a great job! Thank you to Coach Bazata and BOI Director Adam Wilt for helping Jake prepare for the competition and being there for him, and to Bro. Tom Pajer for his long-distance marching calls from Tennessee so Jake could practice for this event.



Czech Language Class: This photo was taken as members of the Czech language classes enjoyed an outing at a Czech restaurant over the recent holidays. Although I wish the saying read “Hey Newsletter Editor, we brought you leftovers!”, I’m pretty sure it says “Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2018”. (Maybe I need to enroll in the basic conversation and grammar class ☺). You can join these folks in Czech language classes. The next session starts in April for both the basic and intermediate classes. See page 9 to “Czech it out”!.



OK, so there’s room for one quote:
Adults are always asking little kids what they want to be when they grow up because they’re looking for ideas. ~Paula Poundstone

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

Spring 2018 dates: March 16, April 20, May 18

Mark your calendar now and 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 or with a unique theme. Beers will be rated by all tasters. Receive a punch card to earn a free month. Light snacks or food item tasters will be provided.



NOTE: MARCH WBC will be held upstairs in the gym with live entertainment provided by the Szurko Trio! St. Patrick's Day/Irish beers will be featured.



Quilt Raffle: The Spirit Women's class is raffling off two Sokol quilts – made of many Sokol T-shirts - at Exhibition. Winners will be drawn after Exhibition. Winner need not be present. Tickets will be \$5/ticket or 5 for \$20. Anyone can win! Tickets will be sold by members of the women's class but specifically Kathy Barcal, Carol Shrofe and Mary Novak. Be a part of preserving Sokol history and memories. Buy your tickets on March 24th!



From the Membership Chair: I want to thank those of you who have paid their 2018 dues promptly as I have to pay the ASO and Central District 1st Quarter dues this week. The ASO is having a convention this coming April and rumor has it that they are going to increase our dues to them. I sure hope they do not, but...

On a brighter note, we are looking forward to our annual membership dinner which will be held on April 22, 2018 at the Spirit building. Come at 2:30 for appetizers, dinner served at 3:30. We will be honoring over 30 members who have reached membership longevity. We have yet to determine whether we will be downstairs or upstairs in the gym because of the flood damage that we had recently. The water affected every part of the downstairs hall, the office, the club room, the kitchen, the boiler room, the bathrooms, and the shower area. Our Building Management Committee and Executive Board have been working very hard to clean the mess, but it was determined that the entire downstairs floor will have to be replaced. This will affect our Exhibition after party, but I am hoping the floor will be done by the date of our membership dinner. The invitations will be mailed soon, so please watch for them and plan to join us for an afternoon of fun.

If you have any questions about your membership, please feel free to contact me, Dorothy Becker, at beckerd9749@sbcglobal.net or at 847-842-0390.



Have you heard...?

Tell us about Sokol Spirit member news:
SPIRITNEWS@HOTMAIL.COM ~ 708.370.7335

Bro. Jerry Chvatal, a "young" 94, passed away. Bro. Jerry died on December 18 of bone cancer, which was diagnosed about 6 months prior to his death. He is survived by his widow, Rita, daughter Janice (Bill), son Gerald (LouAnn), and 6 grandchildren. Three weeks later, **Sis. Slavia Sula**, Jerry's sister, passed away on Monday, January 8, of congestive heart failure. She was 99 years, 9 months old. She started classes at Sokol Slavsky in 1926, at the age of 8, and was an active member until just a few years ago. She had a lot of friends at Sokol and CSA. Physical fitness was always very important to her -- she was a wonderful role-model to her family and we will miss her dearly. She is survived by her daughter, Dorothy (Jack), son Terry (Kim), and daughter Linda, 6 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren (one more is on the way). We have lost two good people and dedicated Sokols. We are very fortunate to have had them in our lives for all these years.

Sis. Marie and Bro. Richard Ptacek have moved to The Birches assisted living facility, in Clarendon Hills. On December 17th, Richard fell and fractured a bone in the hip he had his hip replacement on eight years ago. He had nearly eight weeks of therapy at ManorCare in Hinsdale...it must be the facility Sokol members choose to use, because **Sis. Blanche Wostratzky** was there too!

Speaking of Sis. Blanche, good news for her, too: she is back at her home.

Well wishes go to **Sis. Helen Caldwell** as she recovers at Plymouth Place from a fall and hip surgery. Hope you feel better soon.

Well wishes also go to Junior Girl **Amanda Suvaylor** who suffered a concussion during a high school gymnastics meet. Hope you're feeling better, Amanda, and hope to see you back at the gym soon!

Please continue to send member news to Sis. Ellie Babka (babka@att.net) or 708-442-8810 – especially you long-timers we don't hear from very often. Love to keep in touch. Na Zdar!

~ MEMORIAL FUND ~

In memory of Slavia Sula

from Vlasta Stribrny. . . . \$10.00 from MaryAnn Satek. . . . \$25.00 from Kay Goldstein. . . . \$25.00
from Lauris Halladay. . . . \$50.00 from Linda Sula. . . . \$50.00

In memory of Jerry Chvatal from Helen Sevcu. . . . \$10.00

In memory of Slavia Sula and Jerry Chvatal from the Ptaceks. . . . \$25.00

~ NEWSLETTER FUND ~

In memory of Slavia Sula

from Karen Veselsky. . . . \$10.00 from Mildred Pultorak. . . . \$25.00 from Helen Sevcu. . . . \$25.00

Please send any Memorial Fund and Newsletter Fund donations to the address in the footer on the front page.

Quiz Nite – Adult team trivia – April 14, 7:00 p.m.



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

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? Contact Adam at programs@sokolspirit.org. See you there!!



Sokol Spirit's 1st Friday of the Month CZECH FILMS
(with subtitles) 2017-18 Season continues.....

At 3909 S. Prairie Avenue, Brookfield Upstairs in the Czech Language 2nd Floor Classroom Donation \$5/person 7-9:30pm with discussions lead by Czech language teacher. Pop/Water or first pilsner beer free!

April 6 Empties/Vratné lahve, 2007, 100 minutes, PG-Comedy/Drama

A comic love story about a man who refuses to accept that old age is empty of love, meaning and value to society. Last of the trilogy of The Elementary Teacher and Kolya. Award winners! ...shown at 1st Friday Czech Films September 5, 2014 and September 6, 2013.

May 4 If a Thousand Clarinets/Kdyby tisíc klarinetů, 1965, Black/White, 136 minutes, PG- Comedy/Fantasy Military base. An awkward soldier. A statue of Bach. And suddenly all guns in the area change into music instruments. Great mystery is immediately found by TV station. And soon the military base becomes a stage for huge TV show.

June 1 The Joke/Žert, 1968, Black/White, 81 minutes, PG

In the 1950's, Ludvik Jahn was expelled from the Communist Party and the University by his fellow students, because of a politically incorrect note he sent to his girlfriend. Fifteen years later, he tries to get his revenge by seducing Helena, the wife of one of his accusers. Based on the book by Milan Kundera who also wrote The Unbearable Lightness of Being.

Starting this Fall, 2018 the 1st Friday Czech Movie Series will change to the 3rd Friday of the month to coordinate with Sokol Spirit's "World Beer Club" which is hosted in the lower level of the building.

During the 2018-19 film series, we recognize the 50th anniversary of "the Prague Spring" (1968) a brief period of political liberalization in Czechoslovakia during the era of its domination by the Soviet Union after World War II; the Warsaw Pact invasion; and the phenomenon of the "Czech New Wave" or "Golden Era of Film". The Czechoslovak **New Wave** was a movement in cinema beginning in 1963 and lasting until the end of the Prague Spring reforms of 1968. We will feature key films from the period by the most prominent film makers of the era.



Czech language classes

This year we offer **2 options for Czech language classes: Monday Daytime Basic or Wednesday Evening Intermediate** classes. **All classes** are held in the upstairs classroom, and they use the following materials: Textbook *Basic Czech I* - by Ana Adamovicova and Darina Ivanovova (on Amazon \$18) + handouts. All sessions require a minimum enrollment of 3 full-time or 6 part-time students.

BASIC CZECH CONVERSATION & GRAMMAR: Session 2, at \$190 per Session runs 12-weeks, Session 3 will be 10 weeks (reduced price of \$160). If you know you cannot commit to the full 12 weeks, there is a part-time option of \$95 for 6 classes - must identify your weeks of attendance at registration. (Session 3 part-time is 5 weeks for \$80)

Session III Basic Class: Mondays 10 AM to 11:30 AM.

Full-time: April 9 – June 25 (10 weeks, reduced price of \$160)

Part-time (must identify your weeks of attendance at registration: (5 weeks, \$80)

INTERMEDIATE CZECH CONVERSATION & GRAMMAR: All Sessions are 12 weeks, at \$190 per session or part-time \$95 for 6 classes - must identify dates of attendance at registration.

Session III Intermediate Class: Wednesdays 7 PM – 8:30 PM.

Full-time: April 11 – June 27 (12 weeks, \$190)

Part-time (must identify your weeks of attendance at registration: (6 weeks, \$95)

Register at the first class. Questions? Call Vera Wilt: 708-442-4444 or Email czechclass@sokolspirit.org



Monthly meetings:
 First Wednesday Sokol Spirit Unit Meeting 7:30 pm
 Third Monday Sokol Spirit DCU Meeting 7:30 pm

March/April:

- March 16:** World Beer Club – St. Patrick’s Day/Irish beers. 8pm
- March 23:** Exhibition Practice – RBHS (see instructors for practice times)
- March 24:** Sokol Spirit’s 14th Annual Exhibition – RBHS. 5pm
- March 26-March 30:** Youth class break
- April 2:** Classes resume
- April 4:** Special Membership Meeting 7:30pm
- April 6:** First Friday Film: Empties/Vratné lahve
- April 14:** Boys’ gymnastics competition*
- April 14:** Adult Trivia Night 7 pm
- April 20:** World Beer Club 8pm
- April 21:** Central District Special Number Comp.*
- April 22:** Membership Dinner 2:30 pm

Save the dates:

- May 4:** First Friday Film: If a Thousand Clarinets/Kdyby tisíc klarinetů 7pm
- May 18:** World Beer Club. 8pm.
- May 19:** District gymnastics competitions* (see instructors for more information)
- May 20:** Sokol Day – Ehlert Park (Brookfield)
- June 1:** First Friday Film: The Joke/Žert, 7pm
- June 2:** LaGrange Pet Parade*
- July 1-7:** 2018 Prague Slet

*(all events at Sokol Spirit unless specified (or **))*

See the website for more information about these and other events!



Don't forget to check in at the gym: www.facebook.com/sokolspirit



3909 S. Prairie Avenue
 Brookfield, IL 60513-2143

NON-PROFIT OR
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 PERMIT NO. 134
 BROOKFIELD, IL

Your Exhibition “CZECH” list:

Participants:

- ✓ Attend every class and do your best!
- ✓ Tell your friends and family about Exhibition.
- ✓ Attend Exhibition rehearsal: Friday, March 23 at Riverside-Brookfield High School – Time TBA.
 - ✓ Arrive early for your practice time.
 - ✓ Wear your RED Sokol Spirit shirt (or red T-shirt) for the All Class photo.



Everyone:

- ✓ Go to Sokol Spirit’s 14th Annual Exhibition – Riverside-Brookfield HS – 5pm (Participants will be asked to arrive early. Check with your instructor about arrival time.)
- ✓ Try your luck and support the Exhibition game, Women’s class quilt raffle, the Juniors’ candy bar sale and basket raffle.
- ✓ This is a special night. Sing the anthems! Take photos and share/post them! Enjoy the show! Cheer the participants on! Have fun! Celebrate!
- ✓ Remember: The Exhibition After Party will NOT be held at Sokol Spirit. Continue to check the website, www.sokolspirit.org, your instructor and social media for updates about relocation.
- ✓ Take a much-deserved week off after Exhibition. See you back in class in April!

IMPORTANT:

Join us **April 4, 2018 at 7:30pm** for our April
Unit meeting.

This meeting will also serve as a Specially-called meeting. The purpose of this Specially-called meeting is to discuss finances associated with the flood recovery and renovation of the lower hall.

See President Maskill's message on page 2