



3909 S. Prairie Avenue  
Brookfield, IL 60513-2143

**June 2018**

Moving?  
Please let us know your new address!

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

[BeckerD9749@SBCglobal.net](mailto:BeckerD9749@SBCglobal.net)

Check out our website:

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

**From our President,  
Howie Maskill**

As always, the warm summer nights mean a break from our regular Sokol classes. The summer break gives us an opportunity to not only recharge but also look back at all that we have accomplished in the past year. Sokol Spirit continues to be one of the busiest units around. Whether it's fitness classes, performance shows, social events, fundraisers, language classes, cultural events or community functions, we keep a VERY busy calendar. I credit the many dedicated volunteers for their high energy, commitment and hard work. I am grateful to be part of a Unit with a willingness to try new things. We have a membership that empowers our leaders to grow, and leaders who are committed to doing just that.

Don't worry, we won't completely check out this summer. Sokol Spirit will continue to have a strong presence in the community to promote our programs. Earlier this month we had a nice group march (and wheel) in the LaGrange Pet Parade. I encourage all members to join us in the Brookfield Independence Day Parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We will also have a booth at the Brookfield Farmers Market on various Saturday mornings. If you are in the area shopping for a cucumber, feel free to stop by and say Hi! Many of our men will be playing on the American Sokol Softball Team at Janura Park in Berwyn. Come cheer them on and even witness a pulled hamstring or two! The Farmers Market, Softball and World Beer Club schedules are included in this newsletter.

This Summer is a special one as many of our members will travel to Prague for the Czech Sokol Slet. Sokol Spirit will be well represented with at least 30 members traveling to Europe for this week-long festival. It's a special experience to be a part of the Sokol traditions in the place where it began 156 years ago!

The biggest challenge of the past year came from the recent flood in our lower hall. Thankfully, we were able to act quickly to clean and dry the basement to avoid further damage. We then took the necessary steps to properly remove the damaged asbestos flooring. An alternate venue was successfully secured for the Exhibition after-party on very short notice. The special fundraising campaign was started to off-set the unexpected costs that were incurred. A plan was then put in place to renovate the lower hall. Work will begin this summer and will hopefully be completed for classes in the fall. Kudos to all who chipped in to get through this difficult time. I also want to give a special thanks to all who have donated towards the Building Recovery and Restoration Fund. To date we have raised over \$21,000! On June 16<sup>th</sup> we hosted a bowling social and fundraiser at Suburbanite Bowl in Westmont. It was a nice way to take a break from the heat. All participants had a great time and raised money for the gym too! The "Beach Party" on July 27<sup>th</sup> is another opportunity to help us raise funds (more event details can be seen later in this issue). We hope to see you there!

NA ZDAR! Bro. Howie Maskill, President

We've been busy, and this newsletter is PACKED, too! Even bigger than the last one! Not even room for many of my usual funnies (but I made room for some *Czech* trivia)! There are some exciting events that took place but I couldn't find enough room to share them in the March or this edition. As promised, here is some of it. We didn't forget about the Winter Slet (December 2017 – January 2018), or the ASO convention (April 2018) or the LaGrange Pet Parade and Bowling event in June. Read all about those events and more in the next newsletter, slated for August 2018. (*Czech Trivia in this newsletter comes from: <http://www.myczechrepublic.com/basics/trivia/didyouknow.html>*)

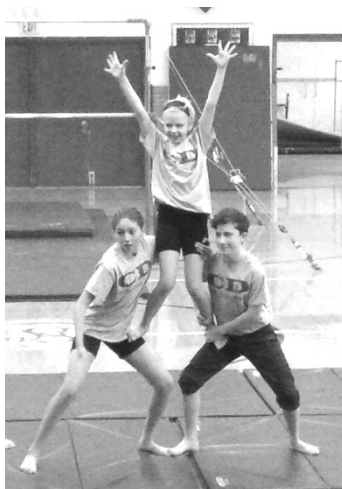
*Czech this out: The Sokol organization was first founded in Prague in 1862.*

*Czech this out: The American Sokol Organization was founded in St. Louis Missouri in 1865.*

## Central District Skills Clinic – January 12-14 – Sokol Tabor



Everyone had a great time at the 2018 Central District Skills Clinic held January 12-14, 2018 at Sokol Tabor. 49 children participated in the Clinic; 4 from Sokol Spirit (Cole Heetel (2B); Josie Mensik (2G); and Jake Heetel and Joe Franco (JB)). Also, Spirit instructors Alix Wilt and Alex Maskill participated as coaches/instructors at the weekend Clinic. Jake Heetel was selected as the flag bearer. Above is a photo of all participants; below are a few photos of our Spirit gang. To view more group, unit and activity photos from throughout the weekend, like the "Central District - American Sokol Organization" page on Facebook and view the album titled "CD 2018 Skills Clinic".



**Choose "Smile":** As you do your online shopping, you may be asking: How can I easily support Sokol Spirit? We've got the answer for you: *Amazon Smile*. Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), choose "Sokol Spirit" as your charity, and then shop as you normally would. Sokol Spirit gets a portion of the sale. Remember to use *Amazon Smile*, and tell your family and friends about it, too. For the good of the cause, if you're looking to do some online shopping, feel free to buy expensive gifts for your favorite newsletter editor ☺.



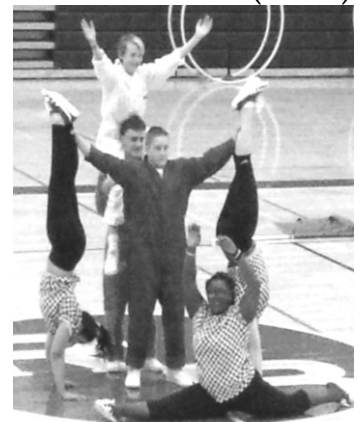
**Calling all uniforms!** If you have any Sokol uniforms that your children (or you ☺) have outgrown, please consider donating them to Sokol Spirit. There is a box on the stage for any donations you wish to make. If you're not close by, you can also mail them to your newsletter editor, Kathe Heetel, 450 Seventh Ave, LaGrange IL 60525. Your donation may help someone in need within our Sokol unit. Thank you so much!

*Czech this out: 90% of Czechs have completed at least secondary education - the highest score in the European Union (along with Poles, Slovaks, and Slovenes).*

## "Czech Us Out!" Sokol Spirit 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition- Riverside Brookfield H.S.- Mar 24



“Czech Us Out!” (cont.)



Sokol Spirit's 2018 Exhibition was one to remember. Everyone enjoyed the show: The Cals, the Special Numbers, The Wheels, gymnastics. The Moravian Cultural Society performed a traditional dance. In keeping with the Czech and Slovak theme, the Split-the-Pot featured a game involving famous Czech and Slovak people. The kids in the kids' classes learned the dance, "La Di Da", and the Exhibition ended as the audience was invited to the gym floor to join in on the dance. Lots of smiles, hugs and laughs as the Exhibition came to a close.

As Howie mentioned, the After-Party was not held at Sokol Spirit, but that didn't stop the celebration from going into the early morning (for some). A lot of work goes into making each Exhibition special. Thank you to all participants, Spirit leadership and members for their contributions to make it a great event.

## Special Number Competition – Lyons Township H.S. North – April 21



Spirit's Girls' class and Juniors competed in the Special Number Competition. There were many great numbers. Among them were the Girls' class number "I Fight, You Fight" and the Juniors' "Spirit Racing Team". It was an enjoyable night but, unfortunately, no one from Spirit came home with an award. Thanks to the instructors for their work writing and teaching the numbers, and to the kids for doing their best!

## Boys' /Men's and Girls' /Women's Artistic Competitions – May 12 and 19





## Sokol Day – Ehlert Park, Brookfield – May 20

People who came out for Sokol Day 2018 dug out and wore their Fall and Winter gear (in May!) but the cooler weather didn't stop the fun! Thank you to those who took the field for the cal's – you looked great! And congratulations to those who competed in, and received awards from, recent artistic competitions. It was great so see many Sokols there. It turned out to be a super day!



## Sokol Spirit Membership Dinner – April 22

Approximately 60 people (members and guests) came together at Sokol Spirit to celebrate the members who passed away this past year, new members, and those members who achieved membership longevity awards.

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

Ryan Barcal  
David Kakareka  
Ryan Shields  
Frank Michalek  
Elizabeth Clark  
Ann Geisert

### 10-year members

Michael Droblick  
Josh Suvetor  
Veronica Hiltcher  
Laura Hruska

### 15-year members

Howard Maskill  
Adam Wilt  
Kyle Rhoades  
Amy Bazata  
Jennifer Keefe  
Virginia Nicklas

### 20-year members

Janet Barker  
Lisa Fallara  
Lynette Gilbert

### 25-year members

Marvin Lanzel  
Kathy Barcal

Debbie Croft

Michelle Ruska

### 35-year member

Robert Barcal

### 40-year members

Joe Dusek  
Janet Schreier

### 45-year members

Alex Marzak  
Joseph Prikazsky  
Russell Zitny  
Sue Seiffert

### 50-year members

Christopher Zitny  
Diane Mrizek

### 55-year members

Bernie Babka  
Robert Nicklas Jr.

### 75-year members

Robert Jilek  
Blanche Wostratzky

### 80-year members

Helen Caldwell  
Blanche Dunn

The following members who passed away since our last membership dinner were:

Sis. Carolee Michalek, May 2017—5 year Spirit member

Bro. Walter Uniejewski, July 2017—33 year member

Bro. Jerry Chavatal, December 2017 –75 year member

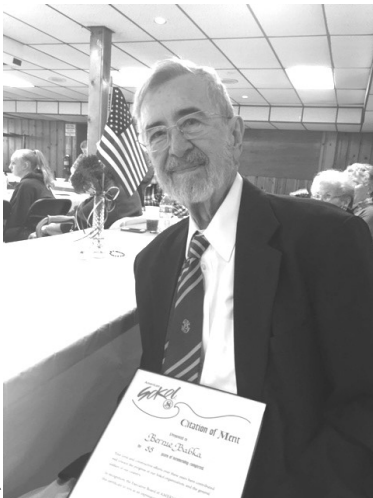
Sis. Slavia Sula, January 2018 –83 year member

Sis. Helen Caldwell, May 2018—80 year member\*\*\*\*

Bro. Ed Schnabl, May 2018—67 year member\*\*\*\*

Sis. Helen Caldwell attended the membership dinner and received her 80-year certificate.  
Bro. Ed Schnabl also attended the membership dinner and was recognized for his 67-years.

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

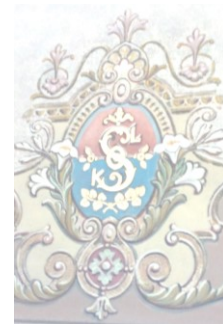


Bro. Bernie Babka receives his award acknowledging 55 years of Sokol membership, Sis. Blanche Wostratzky 75 years membership, and Sis. Helen Caldwell 80 years membership.

## Memorial Day ceremony – Bohemian National Cemetery – May 28



Sokol Spirit was represented at the annual Memorial Day ceremony at Bohemian National Cemetery in Chicago. The Junior class was asked to serve as the color guard (and served us proud), and Sis. Angie Bultas offered opening statements. It was a beautiful morning and a memorable day. We hope you'll join us next year. P.S. Look at the Sokol emblems we found inside the columbarium and on a gravesite, respectively.



*Czech this out: The Czech Republic is one of the countries with the **highest density of castles** in the world.*

### ~ MEMORIAL FUND ~

#### *In memory of Slavia Sula*

From Terry and Kim Sula . . . \$100.00

From Garry, Glenn and Dorothy Vesely. . . . \$30.00

From Cheryl and Phil McGee. . . . \$100.00

From June Kanta. . . . \$25.00

From Henry and Dorothy Becker. . . \$100.00

From Joe Dusek. . . . \$25.00

From John & Dorothy Barry and family. . \$100.00

From Joan and Jane Francek. . . . \$20.00

From James and Mary McKinney. . . . \$50.00

From Joanne Martinez. . . . \$20.00

From Kenneth and Phyllis Sula. . . . \$50.00

From Bob Husa. . . . \$20.00

From Carol and Everett Gaare. . . . \$30.00

From Bill and Jackie Michalson. . . . \$20.00

*In memory of Ed Schnabl from Richard and Marie Ptacek. . . . \$25.00*

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

*Czech this out: The **Prague Castle** is the largest castle area in the world. Its three courtyards and a number of magnificent buildings cover over 7 hectares (18 acres).*





# Have you heard...?

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

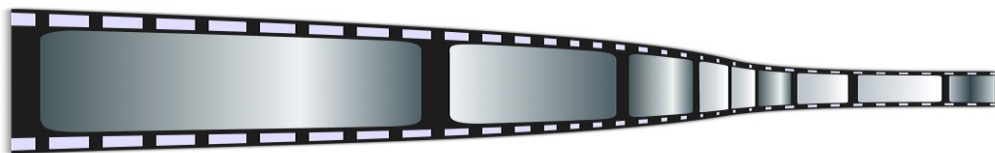
Bro. Ed Schnabl passed away on May 13, 2018. He was a 67 year member of Sokol belonging to Sokol Berwyn and then Sokol Spirit. He was married to Sis. Ellen Jeanne for 61 years. After retirement, Ed and Ellen Jeanne moved to Lac Du Flambeau, Wisconsin. Daughters Sis. Diana Rhoades and Sis. Anita Skotnicki, and son-in-law Bro. Bruce Rhoades, are Spirit members. Ed was a grandfather to Bro. Keith Rhoades, Bro. Kyle Rhoades, and had just become a great-grandfather to Logan Rhoades in April. Ed was very active in Sokol for many years, and we thank him for his hard work and support for the 67 years. Nazdar, Ed.

Sis. Helen Caldwell passed away on May 12 at the age of 97. Sis. Sue Basta Kozelka was her God-daughter and very close to her. She was recognized for her 80 years of membership at April's Membership Dinner. A private service and memorial will be held for her in the Fall. Rest in peace, Helen.

Con"grad"ulations to Sis. Kathy Barcal on her graduation from Triton College. She earned her Associates degree this Spring, and is headed to University of Illinois – Chicago this Fall. Congrats, Kathy!

Please continue to send member news to Sis. Ellie Babka ([babka@att.net](mailto: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!

News from the Education Director, Sis. Vera Wilt



## THE 2018-2019 LINE-UP OF CZECH FILMS MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

The Czech Films Series (English Subtitles) will take place on a different week...**the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month** to coincide with the Sokol Spirit World Beer Club which will be start during the film in Spirit's lower level. The Czech films start at 7pm in our Czech classroom upstairs and with donation of \$5 you get a free pilsner, pop, or water.

**SPECIAL THEME for 2018-2019:** We will 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. Every showing is introduced by our head Czech language instructor, Pavlina Reicholova with questions at the conclusion! Film analysis available at each performance. Please see our website for details: [Sokolspirit.org](http://Sokolspirit.org). The films will be listed in the August 2018, so mark your calendars.

*Czech this out: The Czech film **Kolja** ("Kolya" in English) won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film in 1996.*

*Czech this out: The soft **contact lens** was invented in Czechoslovakia by professor Otto Wichterle in 1961.  
("Eye" didn't know that ☺)*

Flood Recovery & Restoration Fundraiser -  
Sokol Spirit's "Back to the Beach" Bar Party

Summer is  
FUN!  
Mark your  
calendars  
and join us  
for Spirit  
summer  
events on  
these pages!



**Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup> 2018 7:30 p.m.**  
**Fill Up Station, 2627 S. Ridgeland, Berwyn**  
**Raffle Prizes!!**



**Dress in your best beachwear!**  
**\$25.00 fee includes drink ticket**



EVENT FOR AGES 21+ ONLY! Register online at [www.sokolspirit.org](http://www.sokolspirit.org) by July 13<sup>th</sup>

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

**Summer 2018 dates: July 20, August 17, September 21**



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.  
[info@sokolspirit.org](mailto:info@sokolspirit.org). July's theme: American/Military beers!



**Czech this out:** *The Czechs are the #1 beer drinking nation in the world, consuming the most beer per capita in the world (160 liters or 43 gallons). They have been drinking beer since at least 900 A.D.*



## 2018 Brookfield Farmer's Market

Help promote Sokol Spirit this summer in our community!

The Market is located at the Brookfield Village Hall - 8820 Brookfield Ave  
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

July 14, July 28      August 4, 11, 18, 25      September 1, 8

Many of our newer members and class participants have learned about Sokol at the Farmer's Market. If you are interested in volunteering at our booth, even for a few hours, please contact Cassie Croft at [bombage2@aol.com](mailto:bombage2@aol.com).

## Men's Softball

This year's men's softball tournament is on! Our Spirit men are playing on two teams and play on Mondays and Wednesdays. All games last about an hour and are at Janura Park in Berwyn (28<sup>th</sup> and East). I understand from a few of them that they need a lot of encouragement ;), so enjoy some evenings out and cheer them on.

Date	<u>Green team</u>		<u>Orange team</u>	
	time	field	time	field
Wednesday, June 20			6:45	B
Wednesday, June 27	8:45	A		
Monday, July 2	7:45	B	8:45	C
Monday, July 9	7:45 C, 8:45	A		
Wednesday, July 11			8:45	B
Monday, July 16	8:45	B		
Wednesday, July 18			8:45	B
Monday, July 23	7:45 and 8:45	B		
Wednesday, July 25			7:45	C
Monday, July 30			7:45 A, 8:45	C
Wednesday, August 1	7:45	A	8:45	B
Monday, August 6			7:45 and 8:45	B

And speaking of fun: **Match** the photos from "Spring at Spirit" with the captions below.



A) OK, boys, no silly faces!

B) Just give me a call!

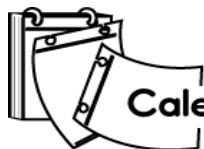
C) A pyramid of peers!

D) Newly-sworn members initiated at the membership dinner this year: Eric Kostecki, Lindsay Kostecki, and Lucy Grelle (pictured with Sis. Dorothy Becker, left). Congratulations and welcome to Sokol Spirit.

E) No joke: these girls are ready for the punchline.

F) Look mom – no hands!





## Calendar of Events

Monthly meetings resume in September!

First Wednesday

Sokol Spirit Unit Meeting 7:30 pm

Third Monday

Sokol Spirit BOI Meeting 7:30 pm

### Summer 2018:

**July 1-7:** 2018 Prague Slet

(Safe travels to our Sokol Brothers and Sisters!  
Bring back great stories, photos and memories!)

**July 4:** Brookfield 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade

(March with us! Check website and email for  
more info.)

**July 14 & 21, August 4, 11, 18, 25:**

Brookfield Farmers Market 8am - 1pm

**July 20:** World Beer Club 8pm

Theme: American/Military

**July 27:** Benefit Night Out – Beach Party!

Fill Up Station (see info in this newsletter)

**August 17:** World Beer Club 8pm

Theme: Summer Shandys (or is it “Shandies”?)

### Save the dates:

**September 1 & 8:**

Brookfield Farmers Market 8am - 1pm

**September 5:** Unit meeting (above)

**September 6:** Class Registration 7-9pm

**September 8:** Spirit's Annual Oktoberfest 3-10pm

**Week of September 10:** Classes start !!

**September 21:** Friday Film “Burning Bush” 7pm

**September 21:** World Beer Club 8 pm

**October 13:** Fall Trivia Night (tentative)

**November 3:** Spaghetti Dinner

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



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



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