



3909 S. Prairie Avenue
Brookfield, IL 60513-2143

March 2019

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

Spirit of the Seasons

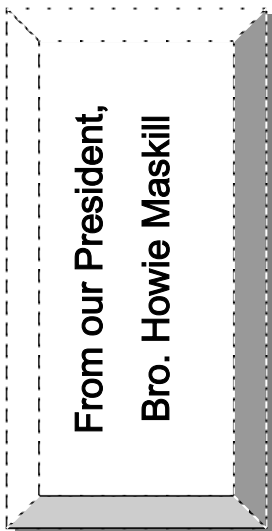


MARCH 23, 2019
5:00 PM

RIVERSIDE BROOKFIELD
HIGH SCHOOL

Celebrating Spirit's 15th Annual Exhibition

(cover design by Bro. Andy Lutha)



Did you make a new year's resolution this year? Statistics show that approximately half of all Americans make one or more resolutions each year. As you probably know, the most common resolutions include eating healthier, exercising more, losing weight, and saving money. Other common goals include spending more time with friends and family, starting a new hobby, and finding love. One could argue that all of these resolutions can be accomplished right here at Sokol! Unfortunately, more than 50% drop their goals within the first few months of the year. Like Mark Twain said, "New Year's Day... now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual." Although we have the best intentions in the beginning, they can be difficult to achieve. A few keys to a successful resolution are making the goal extremely specific, personally meaningful, and positive. If your resolution is still going strong by the time this newsletter reaches you, congratulations and keep it going!

Since our last issue our youth classes performed at the Winter Show, we held a successful Pancake Breakfast in January, and last month a great time was had by all at the annual Membership Brunch. Sokol Spirit's 15th Annual Exhibition is coming up on Saturday, March 23rd. The show will start at 5pm at Riverside-Brookfield High School and the after-party will be back at the Sokol Hall immediately following the program. We hope to see you there!

This past November, I was humbled to receive the Central District President's award. This award is given annually to one man and one woman, recognizing volunteerism in Sokol. I would like to take this time to recognize all of the past recipients from our Sokol Unit since the award's inception in 1986. This list accounts for half of the recipients in the Central District! We are lucky to be surrounded by so many dedicated leaders, both past and present.

<i>Ann Halik – 1986</i>	<i>Ann Basta - 1992</i>	<i>Bernie Babka – 1999</i>	<i>Rudy Ondrovic – 2009</i>
<i>Edwin Halik – 1987</i>	<i>Roy Zitny – 1993</i>	<i>Thomas Pajer – 2000</i>	<i>Meribeth Tooke – 2010</i>
<i>Marie Ptacek – 1987</i>	<i>Patricia Satek – 1993</i>	<i>Mildred Pinc – 2000</i>	<i>Robert Barcal – 2012</i>
<i>Betty Presner – 1988</i>	<i>Paul Lebloch – 1994</i>	<i>Chuck Kalat – 2001</i>	<i>Kathy Barcal – 2013</i>
<i>George Basta - 1989</i>	<i>Richard Ptacek – 1996</i>	<i>Blanche Wostratzky – 2003</i>	<i>Kandi Pajer – 2016</i>
<i>John Satek – 1990</i>	<i>Ellie Babka – 1996</i>	<i>Lynda Bazata – 2004</i>	<i>Adam Wilt – 2017</i>
<i>EllenJeanne Schnabl – 1990</i>	<i>Edward Schnabl – 1997</i>	<i>John Bazata – 2006</i>	<i>Nancy Pajeau – 2018</i>
<i>Fred Kala – 1991</i>	<i>Anci Dusek – 1997</i>	<i>Mildred Mentzer - 2006</i>	<i>Howie Maskill - 2018</i>
	<i>Frank Michalek – 1998</i>		



A BIG thank you to the Riverside Township for your support! We are happy to announce that Sokol Spirit is the recipient of the Riverside Township community grant! Riverside Township provides valuable services to our community and its residents. This grant, which is given to non-profit community organizations, goes a long way to ensure we can continue to offer affordable programs for the community.

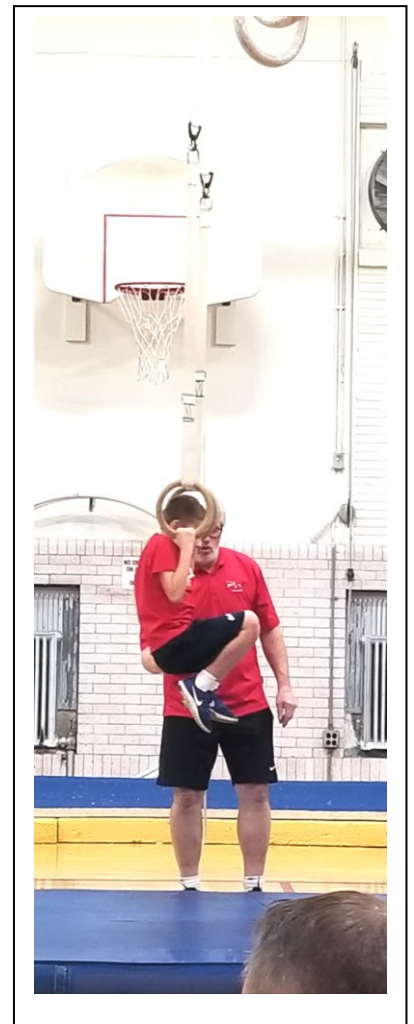
"Childhood is a short season." – Helen Hayes

Enjoy some quotes about seasons:

"Winter is much like unrequited love; cold and merciless." – Kellie Elmore

"Spring is nature's way of saying 'Let's party!'" – Robin Williams

Winter Show - December 14, 2018



We enjoyed another successful Winter Show. All childrens' and the Juniors' classes participated and entertained the crowd. Thank you to all instructors and participants – your hard work paid off! Everyone had a great time!

"Spring is the time of year when it is summer in the sun and winter in the shade." Charles Dickens, Great Expectations

Central District Skills Clinic – January 18-20 – Sokol Tabor



Everyone had a great time at the 2019 Central District Skills Clinic held January 18-20, 2019 at Sokol Tabor. So many kids participated in the Clinic I couldn't fit them all in my camera shot! Spirit was represented by Klara Cicha from the Girls' class, and Josie Mensik, Cole Heetel and Jake Heetel from the Juniors' Class. Spirit instructors Alix Wilt and Alex Maskill participated as coaches/instructors at the weekend Clinic. At left is a photo of most participants; below are a few photos of our Spirit gang.



Secret Santa Program – 19 years of giving!

We wish to thank our membership for donating warm items to the stage tree for the Secret Santa Program, a social service arm of the Pillars Community Health (renamed after the merger of Community Nurse Health Association and Pillars) which takes care of local residents through health center services; behavioral health, and support services; early childhood educational services; domestic and sexual violence services; and, prevention and health education outreach. There are over 1,000 children who attend and are served by the pediatric, well baby, and dental clinics on a documented need basis, and these are for whom the Secret Santa program is targeted. Find more information at www.pillarscommunityhealth.org about services, volunteering, or becoming involved.

A whopping 85 individual items including scarves, caps, socks, mittens, gloves, baby blankets, etc. were delivered to the "north pole" (LaGrange Park District Building, East Avenue, LaGrange) to assist the LaGrange Rotary "elves" with the Pillars Secret Santa Program. This is Spirit's 19th year of collecting warm items for this program. Spirit is one of the top 10 donors to this program consistently each year.

It is nice to see a not-for-profit like Sokol Spirit giving to another not-for-profit during these economic times when government funding is cut back for community health programs. A special thank you to Meribeth and John Tooke, Secret Santa coordinators for 19 years!

THANK YOU. NA ZDAR!

"Spring passes and one remembers one's innocence. Summer passes and one remembers one's exuberance. Autumn passes and one remembers one's reverence. Winter passes and one remembers one's perseverance."
— Yoko Ono

"There are two seasons – winter and baseball." – Bill Veeck

Membership Brunch – February 23



Welcome to Sokol Spirit's Mardi Gras! Decorations included everything green, yellow and purple, including centerpieces, masks and, of course, Mardi Gras beads! The brunch honored a few new and many long-time members. Bro. Adam Wilt, Membership Chair, hosted the event. Nearly 80 people attended. It was great to see everyone and share stories. A list of members with milestone anniversaries is on the next page.



Sis. Kristen Kempson- 5 yrs



Sis. Alex Maskill – 10 yrs



Sis. Ashley Croft – 10 yrs



Bro. Mark Novak – 25 yrs



Sis. Debbie Russell– 30 yrs



Bro. Mark Shrofe – 30 years



Sis. Pat Satek – 45 years



Bro. Jerry Michalek Jr.- 50 years



Bro. George Lacina – 50 years



Sis. Nancy Pajeau – 55 years



Bro. Vladimir Vanek - 70 years



Sis. Vlasta Zitny - 70 years

Membership Brunch – February 23 (continued)



It's not unusual to find two or even three generations of Sokol membership among families. At the Membership brunch, we couldn't pass up the opportunity to show off a few awardees and their families.

(Top left) Two generations: The Maskill family: Sis. Terry Maskill and Bro. Dan Maskill (both with 25 years of membership), with their son (our president) Bro. Howie Maskill (and Bro. Adam Wilt)

(Top right) Three generations: The Mentzer family: Sis. Mildred Mentzer (80 years of membership! – WOW!), Sis. Missy Dropka (25 years of membership) and Bro. Cary Mentzer, and Bro. Michael Dropka. Sis. Millie received a standing ovation at the Membership brunch for her 80 years of dedication to Sokol.

(Left) Three generations of membership, four generations of Bazatas: Sis. Joanne Bazata, Bro. John Bazata (45 years of membership), Sis. Amy Bazata, and twins Amberlynn and Dylan Bazata (eligible for Sokol Spirit membership in 17.5 years).

Members with milestones this year are listed below. Anyone wishing a printed copy of the Membership Directory, please contact Adam Wilt at adam.wilt4@gmail.com (708-804-4400) or beckerd9749@sbcglobal.net (847-842-0390).

Margaret Amlie - 45 years
Jennifer Baran - 10 years
John Bazata - 45 years
Matthew Corradino - 5 years
Ashley Croft - 10 years
Milissa Dropka - 25 years
Ellen Duvall - 10 years
Lynn Goodridge - 45 years
Heidi Hankey - 15 years
Jarmila Hruban - 25 years

Michelle Humowiecki – 25yrs
Lorraine Hynek - 50 years
Kristen Kempson - 5 years
George Lacina - 50 years
Alexandra Maskill - 10 years
Daniel Maskill - 30 years
Terry Maskill - 30 years
Mildred Mentzer - 80 years
Jerry Michalek Jr. - 50 years
Mark Novak - 25 years

Nancy Pajeau - 55 years
Thomas Pajer - 30 years
Elmer Pavlas - 15 years
Pavlina Reichlova - 10 years
Debbie Russell - 30 years
Pat Satek - 45 years
Ellen Jeanne Schnabl – 70yrs
Mark Shrofe - 30 years
Justin Simik-Valadez – 10yrs
Anita Skotnicki - 40 years

Jan Sowinski - 40 years
Simon Stolarik - 60 years
Ruth Svestka - 50 years
Geri Umlauf - 35 years
Vladimir Vanek - 70 years
Karen Veselsky - 30 years
Kathy Zitny - 45 years
Vlasta Zitny - 70 years



"I think that to one in sympathy with nature, each season, in turn, seems the loveliest." – Mark Twain

"All seasons are beautiful for the person who carries the happiness within." – Horace Friess

*"When the weather is hot, keep a cool mind.
When the weather is cold, keep a warm heart."*



Have you heard...?

Tell us about Sokol Spirit member news:

SPRITNEWS@HOTMAIL.COM or Sis. Ellie Babka: 708.442.8810



← In January, Junior Boy Cole Heetel played a lead role in the LaGrange Park District's performances of *Madagascar Jr.* Cole played Marty the Zebra. He is pictured here with one of his biggest fans, Annie Becker (daughter of Bro. John Becker, granddaughter of Sis. Dorothy Becker). His family and friends are very proud of him. *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* is his next play in April. Break a leg, Cole!
→ Sis. Dorothy Becker was honored at a family party to celebrate her special birthday (Feb 19). Pictured are Dorothy and husband Henry Becker. I have been advised not to say how many years she celebrated under near threat of death. Let's just say she's fabulous at any age! Happy birthday!



Our thoughts are with Sis. Suzanne Mazgay as her family of five was left homeless after a fire tore through their home in Brookfield on January 16. Luckily, everyone who had been inside all safely exited the house. They are still displaced. Donations to support the family can be made to: <https://www.gofundme.com/our-amazing-neighbor>.

Get well wishes to Sis. Helen Sevcu. She fell, broke her hip and is in Manor Care in Hinsdale. Helen is a "young" 95 and I know would appreciate receiving cards from our members – especially those who were part of our Sr. II Class with her. ManorCare Health Services – 600 Ogden Avenue, Hinsdale, IL 60521 – Room 260. She's discouraging visits only because she never knows when she'll be scheduled for her "hamster wheel" exercise, so call the Care Center first (630)325-9630.

Get well wishes also to Sis. Ellen Jeanne Schnabl who also suffered a fall recently. Get better soon!

Have news to share? Want to wish someone well or brag about a special occasion? Please contact Sis. Kathe Heetel at spiritnews@hotmail.com or Sis. Ellie Babka at 708.442.8810. Please send the text and any photos. We've had well-wishes in the Sunshine Report - announcements about graduations, engagements, marriages, births, and anniversaries. Did your kid do something great at school? Did he/she/you participate in a contest or sporting event? How about something that made you proud of someone? Kids love to see their pictures in the newsletter! There is no donation required to post an announcement, so contact either one of us with your well-wishes or news. The next newsletter hits mailboxes in June, so please submit content by the end of May.

Did you know? As a member you can use our hall for personal parties? Now that the lower hall is completed (and looks great!), reservations are being taken. The asking donation for use of the hall is \$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 sokolsprit.org.

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

Mark your calendars now: March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21



Join Sokol Spirit once a month as we enjoy the vast variety of beers from around the world. Each month features beers/tasters from a different region or with a unique theme. Beers will be rated by all tasters. \$10 cover charge per participant (must be 21 or older) includes a flight of 6 beers. Receive a punch card to earn a free month.

This is the place to be if you like trying new beers, or enjoy hanging out with many Sokol friends. Hope to see you!

March Theme: St. Patrick's Day/Irish Beers! Wear your green!

And, yes, there will be World Beer Club in April on Good Friday. Religious-themed beers



Quiz Nite – Adult team trivia – April 6, 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!!

Gettin' in the Spirit of Sokol!



Wearing ugly sweaters and making ugly sweater cookies at the December World Beer Club (it's not only about the beer ☺), hanging out with Santa, gettin' in the 'swing'! Our friendly bartenders (Did we mention bloody marys and mimosas?) and the very tempting (and guarded) dessert table at the Membership dinner. Below, see the winners of the Flapjack tournament (held after the Pancake Breakfast on January 27), and our Men's Spirit 1 team that came in 3rd place in the Men's tournament in the Fall. There's always a lot going on at Spirit. There's something for everyone!



~ MEMORIAL FUND ~

In memory of Carl Dropka from Paul Lebloch. . . . \$50.00

In memory of Slavia & Frank Sula and Jerry Chvatal from Terry & Kim Sula. . . . \$50.00

In Honor of Sokol Slavsky from Ellen Komarek Duvall \$325.00

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

Learn Czech with Sokol Spirit

All classes use: "Basic Czech I" by Ana Adamovicova and Darina Ivanovova (Available on Amazon \$18) plus handouts

Basic Conversational Czech - Monday Mornings from 10 AM to 11:30 - 10 weeks, March 18 to May 20, 2019 - \$160

Intermediate Conversational Czech – Wednesday Evenings 7PM to 8:30 - 10 weeks, March 20 to May 22, 2019 - \$160

Questions: czechclass@sokolspirirt.org or call 708-442-4444

(Call for part-time options)

3909 Prairie Ave., Brookfield, IL

Register at first class of each session

Czech Movie Nights at Sokol Spirit – NOW - 3rd Friday of the Month

Movies start at 7PM and \$5 includes a Czech beer, water or soft drink. Discussion of the movie follows. Enjoy the movie and then join us downstairs for World Beer Club – Each month features themes, beer types or regions.

SPECIAL THEME for 2018-2019: 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. Every showing is introduced by our head Czech language instructor, Pavlina Reicholova with questions at the conclusion! Film analysis available at each performance.

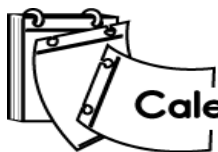
MARCH 15, THE FIFTH HORSEMAN IS FEAR, 1964, 100 minutes, B/W, PG-13-Violence. 17 minute commentary by Andrew Norton giving a film retrospect. Directed by Czech New Wave Zbynek Brynych **A nearly perfect film-Roger Ebert**. Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse written about in the Bible's, Book of Revelation. Set in [Prague](#) during the [Nazi occupation](#), the film follows Dr. Braun, a Jewish doctor forbidden to practice medicine who instead works for Nazi officials cataloging confiscated Jewish property. All Braun wants to do is survive, but his pragmatic mentality is challenged when an injured resistance fighter stumbles into his apartment building. A quest for [morphine](#) leads Dr. Braun through his tortured city, where fear eats away at the social structure. Filmed in Prague.

APRIL 19, CLOSELY WATCHED TRAINS, 1966, 93 minutes, B/W, R-Violence/Nudity. ALL Czech New Wave-Director Jiri Menzel; Written by Jiri Menzel & Bohumil Hrabal from the novel by Bohumil Hrabal (1914-1997). Filming location: Lodenice (Central Bohemia), Czechoslovakia. Germany is losing at all her fronts at the end of the World War II. Young Miloš Hirma is engaged as an unpaid employee in a small railway station. The stationmaster, an enthusiastic pigeon-breeder, has a kind wife, but is envious of the train dispatcher Hubička's success with women. Miloš holds a platonic love for young conductor Máša (woman). The experienced Hubička tries to explain to him the "matters of love" and discovers that Miloš is a virgin. The idyll of the railway station is disturbed by the arrival of the councillor, Zednicek, a Nazi supporter. Máša spends the night with Miloš, but he finds no success. The next day, he attempts suicide.

MAY 17, BLACK PETER, 1963, 86 minutes, B/W, PG13-nudity. Directed by Milos Forman This **coming-of-age story** about a shy teenager who falls in love, bears the heavy influence of Francois Truffaut, as do most other "new wave" productions of the era. Milos Forman won first prize at the Locarno film festival for his first feature film, Black Peter. Even at this early stage, however, Forman's film-making prowess enabled him to transcend any and all imitations. In some areas, the film bore the title Peter and Pavla, reflecting the fact that pretty young Pavla Martinkova played the girl. The film is based on a novel by Forman's close friend Jaroslav Papousek. Filmed in Prague.

JUNE 21, CAPRICIOUS SUMMER, 1967, 75 minutes, G. **ALL CZECH NEW WAVE**-Director Jiri Menzel; based on the novel Rozmarné Léto (Summer of Caprice) by the Czech writer Vladislav Vančura. It was listed to compete at the [1968 Cannes Film Festival](#), but the festival was cancelled due to the events of [May, 1968 in France](#). The film depicts a humorous story of three men, a colonel, a priest and a bath-keeper, during rainy summer days down at the beach house on a small river when some circus performers show up. Filmed in the Prague countryside.

FLICKS AND FLIGHTS every third Friday



Calendar of Events

March/April 2019:

March 23 – Spirit of the Seasons: Sokol Spirit's Annual Exhibition Riverside-Brookfield HS 5pm, After-Party at Sokol Spirit follows

March 25-29 – No fitness classes

April 1 – Classes resume (no foolin')

April 6 – Trivia Nite 7pm

April 14 – GiJo Meet – Naperville Central HS

April 19 – Friday Film and World Beer Club

April 27 – Special Number Competition – Lyons Township HS North Campus

See the website for more information about these and other events. All events at Sokol Spirit unless noted.



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



Monthly meetings

First Wednesday – all members welcome! Unit Meeting 7:30 pm

Third Monday Sokol Spirit BOI Meeting 7:30 pm

Save the dates:

May 11 – Central District Women's/Girls' Gymnastics Competition - location TBD

May 13-17 – Last week of classes

May 17 – Friday Film, World Beer Club and Chili Cook-Off (more info coming)

May 18 – Central District Men's/Boys' Gymnastics Competition – Sokol Spirit

May 19 – Central District Awards Day Event – location TBD

May 21 – Sokol Spirit Potluck Dinner for Youth Classes

*"Fitness isn't a seasonal hobby.
Fitness is a lifestyle."*



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