



3909 S. Prairie Avenue  
Brookfield, IL 60513-2143

**December 2017**

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

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our Sokol Spirit members!

The holiday season is a great time to reflect on our blessings and make life better for those around us. At Sokol Spirit we strive to accomplish this every day through our mission which is to provide fitness and community for individuals and families through physical, educational, cultural and social programming. A community is a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals. Sokol offers something for everyone and provides many different communities to our members. I feel blessed to be part of such a great organization and hope we can continue to offer great programming for all.

If you have been in our gym lately you may have noticed the Sokol Spirit "Giving Tree" on the stage decorated with winter gloves, scarves, earmuffs and hats. Donations go towards the Community Nurse Health Association's "Secret Santa" program to give gifts to low-income families in the area. Our Sokol has been collecting for this program for almost 18 years. Thank you to all who contributed to this great cause!

We have been very busy this Fall. In the month of November alone we held our annual Spaghetti Dinner, Vendor Fair, a Trivia Night, Wreath Sale, and housed the Central District Junior Girls/Women Volleyball Tournament in our gym. All of this in addition to our regularly scheduled classes and events. Even though we try to slow down a bit around the holidays, we still have plenty of exciting events forthcoming. We hope you had the opportunity to enjoy the Winter Exhibition show put on by our classes. On January 28th we will host our annual Pancake Breakfast followed by the blind draw "Flapjack Open" volleyball tournament.

This month American Sokol is putting on a weekend of events as party of the Winter Slet. You may be planning to participate in all or some of these events. The highlight of the weekend will be the New Years Eve party which will be held at Sokol Spirit in the lower hall. I am looking forward to ringing in the new year with my Sokol brothers and sisters and hope to see you there. Tickets for the party are available online at [american-sokol.org](http://american-sokol.org).

Finally, I would like to congratulate Adam Wilt who was recently honored with the Central District President's Award (pictured right). This award is given annually to one man and one woman in recognition of their dedication to our organization. Thank you Adam for all that you do for Sokol. He is very deserving of this distinction and we are lucky to have his service.

Nazdar, Howie Maskill



## Children's Halloween Party - October 30



Characters of all kinds showed up at Sokol Spirit on October 30 for the annual Children's Halloween party. Activity stations were set up and games were organized for the kids to enjoy, including the mummy wrap (see first photo) and, of course, the haunted house created by the Junior Boys and Girls. Thank you to everyone who brought sweets and treats, to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class girls and boys instructors for their help, and to the Juniors for the 'tricks'. Everyone had a great time!

## Trim-A-Tree - November 18 - Brookfield Zoo



A cold and rainy day didn't stop several dedicated Spirit folks from decorating Sokol Spirit's tree at the Brookfield Zoo for the annual Holiday Magic lights festival. Sokols have had a long history of participating in this event. Often, participants from our classes make the ornaments every year. Thanks to everyone for decorating, especially Jenny Braun, Lauren Wilt, Lilly Smith, Brianna Hull and Brittney Hull (left to right, pictured left), and Adam Wilt who took the photo.

Didn't they do a good job decorating our tree? Can't tell? Well, then, you can go to see it live. You can find Spirit's tree, #270, behind the carousel.

## Women's Volleyball Tournament – November 19 – Sokol Spirit



The Spirit Women and Junior Girls participated in the day-long Central District Volleyball tournament on November 19. Spirit 1 Women took 2nd place and Spirit 2 Women took 3rd place. Spirit Junior Girls joined forces with the Naperville Juniors for the volleyball tournament. This was the first time the girls all played together and did a wonderful job coming in third place. We are so proud of their hard work this year and learning to play with a different gym!

We are proud of all of you!

*When it snows you have two choices: shovel or make snow angels.*

Congratulations to Emily Temmer who took first place in U.S. Open Wheel meet on October 14th in Chicago.

The team posed with Isaac Hou from Chase Bank commercials.

We are proud of all competitors.



*Winter was made for warm blankets and large books.*

*“When this is snow on the ground, I like to pretend I’m walking on clouds” – Tagayuki Ikkaku*

## Rhythmics Competition-December 10-Elite Sports Complex (Downers Grove)

Sokol Spirit was well-represented at Rhythmics competition last weekend. As a recap, 3 girls competed in level 4 clubs and 6 girls competed in the skills clinic. (Places are not awarded at the skills clinic but the competitors are judged and scored). 2 Spirit women competed, too. Sis. Kuckie Roberts competed level 5 ball and clubs, and Sis. Jenny Braun competed level 5 clubs. Great job, girls and ladies!



### Super Sellers for the Annual Wreath Sale!

Thank you to all members and friends that purchased holiday wreaths this year during our annual sale. We had a tremendous sale and I want to acknowledge our top sellers this year! Thanks goes out to you and your families' support in this fundraiser. Happy Holidays! ~Cassie Croft

**Alex Loulousis \*Top Seller!!\***

**Diana Rhoades**

**Zahrobsky family**

**Elaina Markus**

**GIJO Gymnastics Class:** Calling all 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class girls: Join us for GIJO Gymnastics-only class in the Spring. It will be held Thursdays from 6:30-8pm at Sokol Spirit from January 11th through May 17<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$125 which includes meet fees and a competition leotard. This class will focus strictly on gymnastics and participants will compete in several local meets throughout the Spring. Sis. Tricia Rini and Sis. Jenny Braun will be the instructors. Sign up online through Sokol Spirit's website, click the "sign up now" button that will take you to Active.com, choose "Girls GIJO Program", and then just follow the steps to sign up.

**Choose "Smile":** As you do your online holiday shopping and all year 'round, 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](https://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. *P.S. I just tried it. It's easy, and I supported Sokol Spirit (with 19 cents, but every little bit helps)! For the good of the cause, I guess I need to do more shopping. . .or 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. After the new year there will be 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!

**Membership:** 2018 Membership Dues are due by January 1. Membership 2018 dues for regular members are still \$70 per year (\$47 of that is sent to the American Sokol Organization and the Central District) so we really need your financial support by January 1. Membership dues request letters will be out soon.

Payments can be made by check (preferable) or by credit card sending the information when you receive your letter. If you want to pay on the Sokol Spirit website, please go to <http://www.sokolspirit.org/> and select Sign Up Now. From the options, please select the Membership only option. You may have to fill in some information or check some boxes, but your payment will be recorded into our new online registration software. Eventually we will have all members recorded into our new software. If you registered for a class, you have probably already paid your dues, and you will not receive a letter. We appreciate your paying along with your class fees.

And, don't forget to mark your calendars for the Membership dinner being held at the gym on April 22, 2018. This is a fun event where we break bread together and reconnect with friends. Membership longevity awards are also presented. We hope you can attend.

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.

**Delegate position:** We are looking for someone to serve as a Sokol Spirit delegate for the Bohemian Home for the Aged (Tabor Hills). As a delegate you attend Tabor Hills' monthly meetings and submit or give a brief report at each monthly Spirit Unit meeting. If you are interested in serving in this delegate role, please contact Sis. Angie Bultas.

**Did you know?** 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).

### Central District Juniors' and Men's Volleyball League- Sokol Spirit and Sokol Tabor

The men's tournament takes a break for the holidays and continues in early January. Come out a support our Juniors' and Men's Spirit volleyball teams! Games are played on Friday nights at Sokol Spirit or Sokol Tabor. Good luck, guys!

Team #5: Spirit 1 (Men)      Team #6: Spirit 2 (Men and Juniors)

January 5      Team 6 @ Spirit 8:15      Team 5 vs Team 6 @ Spirit 9:00  
January 12      Team 5 @ Spirit 8:15      Team 6 @ Spirit 9:00      Semi-finals January 19, Finals January 26

### World Beer Club – Third Friday of each month - 8:00 p.m. Spring 2018 dates: January 19, February 16, 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. [info@sokolspirit.org](mailto:info@sokolspirit.org)



*“People are so worried about what they eat between Christmas and the New Year, but they really should be worried about what they eat between the New Year and Christmas.” - Unknown*

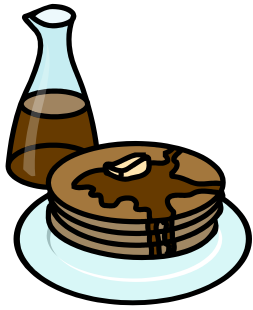
Bring your family, friends and neighbors!

# Sokol Spirit's Pancake & Egg Breakfast

January 28, 2017

7:00 a.m. until Noon

<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children Under 12</u>
<b>\$7.00</b>	<b>\$4.00</b>



Come enjoy a delicious breakfast with good friends!!

### **Breakfast Includes:**

*Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs,  
Sausage, Coffee and Juice*

Tickets will be mailed to you soon. We hope you'll join us!

If you have any news to share, want to wish someone well or brag about a special occasion, please contact Sis. Kathe Heetel at [spiritnews@hotmail.com](mailto:spiritnews@hotmail.com). If you would like to add something to the newsletter, please send the text and any photos to me. We've had well-wishes - 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? There is no donation required to post an announcement, so please email me at [spiritnews@hotmail.com](mailto:spiritnews@hotmail.com) with your well-wishes or news. The next newsletter is coming out in December, so I would ask that you submit it by the end of November.

If you'd like to view color photos from this newsletter that are usually colorful and pretty awesome, go to the website and scroll all the way to the bottom to find the newsletter link to the most current and past newsletters.

### ~ MEMORIAL FUND ~

*In memory of Charles Schultz from Julie Barcal. . . . . \$20.00*

Please send any Memorial Fund and Newsletter Fund items for inclusion in the newsletter to the address in the footer on the front page.



*"One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas Day. Don't clean it up too quickly." - Andy Rooney*

*It's all fun and games until Santa checks the Naughty list.*



# Have you heard...?

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



Wedding news! Sokol Spirit President **Bro. Howie Maskill** and wife, **Sis. Alex (Zahrobsky) Maskill**, were married on November 24 (hence, the 11 & 24 on the Hawks jerseys in the first photo). Many Sokol Spirit brothers and sisters stood up in the wedding party: **Sis. Becky (Maskill) Maloney, Sis. Alix Wilt, Sis. Christina Maskill, Bro. Mike Maloney, Bro. Adam Wilt** served as one of the two best men. Many Sokol brothers and sisters from all around attended to wedding and reception. Best wishes to the happy couple, the Maskills!

We're unhappy to report that **Bro. Jerry Chvatal**, aged 94, and long-ago one of Sokol Slavsky's best gymnasts, is undergoing treatment for a leg disease. He's spending time in a wheelchair, but we're sending good wishes for a full recovery.

Our continued good wishes to **Sis. Blanche Wostratzky**, who is now at Hinsdale's Manor Care receiving intense therapy for the stroke that hit her. She is making slow progress and hoping to be able to return to home (Bethlehem Woods) in about a month. Visitors are encouraged, so give a call – 630-325-9630.

**Sis. Elaine Zitko** is enduring physical therapy for the new shoulder she had implanted. It was called a new "reverse" shoulder, so that should make cal a little more interesting when she can return to our Sr. II Class (only kidding). This year's Czech calisthenics are very arm intense, so guess she'll have to sit this one out, but we're looking forward to her return nevertheless.

Speaking of sitting out cal, **Sis. Ellie Babka**, who is teaching the cal this year as a one-armed instructor, has a torn rotator cuff and hoping the 3<sup>rd</sup> shot and PT will help it to better mobility.

Good Physical Therapists are worth their weight in gold, since **Bro. Bernie Babka** is also undergoing regular therapy for the Parkinson's that he has to deal with. Not fun, but necessary and he's holding his own, we're glad to report.

**Bro. Roy and Sis. Val Zitny** are also continuing with many doctor trips. Roy's hip is enabling him to move well w/his cane and Val is also managing to keep a smile on her face despite a few ailments. Neither can drive at night any longer, so they're sending all Spirit members their good wishes in their absence.

We just learned that **Bro. George Simonek** passed away about one year ago. Our thoughts are with his family.

Now for happier news: **Sis. Helen Sevcu** reports that she and **Sis. Slavia Chavatal Sula** (Jerry Chvatal's sister) met for lunch recently, arranged by Slavia's daughter Dorothy. May not be world-shattering news, except that Slavia will be 100 years old next April and Helen has reached her 96<sup>th</sup> in October. These LONG-TIME Sokol sisters had much to share in memories.



And even happier news: **Bro. Marv and Sis. Chris Lanzel** are new grandparents as their **Sis. Alex Lanzel Schulz** gave birth to baby August Hans-Heinrich, 7.2 lbs. on October 23 in jolly old England. Family is fine, including gramps, who doesn't seem so grumpy anymore. ;o) ! Send congrats to the Schultzes if you wish: 5 Gillingham Terrace, Bath BA1 6LL, UK.

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

Perhaps you are thinking of going to the World Slet in Prague in July 2018. More info in future newsletters.

Czech Language classes are starting in the Spring. This year we are offering **3 options: Monday Daytime Basic, Wednesday Daytime Intermediate, 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 is \$190 and runs in a 12-week segment, 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)

**Basic Classes run from 10 AM to 11:30 AM on MONDAYS.**

Session II – January 8, 2018 – March 26

Session III – April 9, 2018 – June 25

**INTERMEDIATE CZECH CONVERSATION & GRAMMAR:** All 3 Sessions are 12 weeks, at \$190 per session or part-time \$95 for 6 classes - must identify dates of attendance at registration.

**Intermediate Classes run either: WEDNESDAYS 9 AM – 10:30 AM OR 7 PM – 8:30 PM**

Session II – January 10, 2018 – March 28

Session III – April 11, 2018 – June 27

**Register at the first class. Questions? Email [czechclass@sokolspirit.org](mailto:czechclass@sokolspirit.org)**

Translations offered following class-appointment preferred at \$25/hour

**Questions? Email [czechclass@sokolspirit.org](mailto:czechclass@sokolspirit.org)**

**Sokol Spirit is a 501(C)(3) not-for-profit Corporation**



### Sokol Spirit's 1<sup>st</sup> Friday (of the Month) 2018 Season Czech Film Series (English subtitles) 7:00 - 9:30p.m.

Sokol Spirit's Foreign Language Committee invites you as the film series continues. With a \$5 donation you'll enjoy the film and a free pilsner, water, coffee, or pop. Each film has handouts and is accompanied by our head Czech language teacher. Sokol Spirit's second floor classroom.



**February 2 Chasing Fifty/Padesátka**, 2015, 97 minutes, GP13 Set in the beautiful snowy Krkonoše Mountains, the film centers around the Three Kings 50 km Cross-Country Ski Race. The story holds the secret of one mountain family.

**March 2 Protector/Protektor**, 2011, Black/White (Film Noir), 102 minutes, R-frontal nudity A fateful love story is set in Prague during the late 1930s and subsequent Nazi occupation. It focuses on radio journalist Emil, who is deeply in love with his glamorous Jewish movie star wife Hana. When the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia is established, Hana's career is cut short and Emil's radio

station put under German control.

**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!

**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.

**WATCH FOR SPECIAL FILM FESTIVAL OF MILOS FORMAN IN 2018:** Loves of a Blonde; The Firemen's Ball; Valmont; Ragtime; Goya's Ghosts; Amadeus; The Beloved are under consideration... some in Czech with English subtitles, some American made, but filmed in Czecho and some where he is director, and/or writer and/or actor!!! A CELEBRATION. Let us know your favorite @ [czechclass@sokolspirit.org](mailto:czechclass@sokolspirit.org).



**We wish you a very happy and healthy holiday season,  
and hope 2018 is the best year yet for you and your family!**



# HOLIDAY GREETINGS!



To All our Sokol Friends: We wish all good health and happiness for the holidays and a very Happy New Year. Nazdar! - *Frank Michalek and Family: Geri & Mike McCaffery, Jodi Otwirk, Michael & Brenda Michalek*

Happy Holidays Y'all!  
*The Pajer family: Tom, Kandi, Max & Scarlet*

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.  
*MaryAnn & John Satek & family*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our friends near and far. - *The Beckers*

To our Sokol sisters and brothers!  
*Love, the Barcal family*

Happy Holidays from the Bluegrass state.  
*Jerry, Karen (Kratochvil) & Emma Veselsky*

Wishing you peace, good health and happiness this holiday season and always.  
*Jacki Ptacek-Rada*

Wishing you a holiday season filled with warm and happy moments. Nazdar!  
*Dick and Marie Ptacek*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all my Sokol Brothers and Sisters. - *Vera Wilt*

Veselé Vánoce! - *Bruce and Diana*

To All my Sokol Friends: Looking forward to seeing all of you in the new year!  
*Blanche Wostratzky*

Veselé Vánoce & All the best! - *Angeline Bultas*

Frohe Weihnachten und Glück Im Neuen Oahr.  
*Lisa Kotynek*

Ahoy Sokols! Holiday Greetings! - *Helen E. Sevcu*  
Merry Christmas & a Happy, Healthy New Year to my Sokol family and friends. - *Joanne Bazata*

To our Sokol family and friends: Wishing you a Joyous Holiday Season! - *The entire Rocush clan!!*

Veselé Vánoce, Šťastný Nový Rok!  
*Bro. Laddie and Lorraine Vanek*

Happy Holidays! - *Jill, Jacquie and James Ravnice*

Warmest wishes for a very Merry Christmas and blessed New Year! - *Paul & Lynne (Ptacek) Goodridge*

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a New Year that's filled with hope and promise! Nazdar!  
*Vlasta Stribrny*

Wishing a Merry Christmas and Happy Healthy New Year to our Sokol family!  
*The Maskills (Howie & Alex)*

Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and Wonderful New Year! - *The Zitko family*

Wishing our entire Sokol "family" happy holidays and, especially, a healthy 2018!  
*Bernie & Ellie Babka*

Happy Holidays everyone! - *Agnes Pajer*

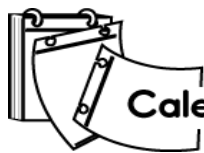
Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!  
*John, Debbie, Johnny, Jimmy & Abby Milas*

To Sokol CoEd class and everyone: Merry Christmas and Healthy & Happy New Year!  
*The Husak family*

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year! - *Marie Bultas*

Merry Christmas! - *The Bazata family*

Happy Holidays to everyone with peace, good health and happiness. - *Millie Pultorak*



## Calendar of Events

### Monthly meetings:

First Wednesday

Sokol Spirit Unit Meeting 7:30 pm

Third Monday

Sokol Spirit BOI Meeting 7:30 pm

### December/January:

**December 18:** Youth class holiday party

**December 19 – January 7:** Youth class break

**December 29 – January 1, 2018:**

Winter Slet (Lombard)

**January 5:** Men's volleyball

8:15: Spirit Team 6 vs. another Sokol team

9:00: Spirit Team 5 vs Spirit Team 6

**January 8:** Classes resume

**January 12:** Men's volleyball

8:15: Spirit Team 5 vs. another Sokol team

9:00: Spirit Team 6 vs. another Sokol team

**January 19:** World Beer Club 8 pm

**January 28:** Spirit's Annual Pancake Breakfast

### Save the dates:

**February 2:** First Friday film:

Chasing Fifty/Padesátka

**February 16:** World Beer Club 8 pm

**March 2:** First Friday film: Protector/Protektor

**March 16:** World Beer Club 8 pm

**March 24:** Sokol Spirit Exhibition - RBHS

**April 6:** First Friday film: Empties/Vratné lahve

**April 14:** Adult Trivia Night 7 pm

**April 21:** Central District Special Number Comp.

**April 22:** Membership Dinner

*(all events at Sokol Spirit unless specified)*

*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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