Sokol Spirit Membership meeting October 2, 2013

This meeting was called to order at 7:40pm.

The group participated in a trivia activity in which all members were told to stand at their seat. Then trivia questions were asked to the group, and if you got the question wrong you had to sit down. The last person standing is the winner.

Correspondence:

* Only received the typical monthly bills of the unit.
* Sis. V. Wilt motioned to approve September’s meeting minutes, Sis. Barcal seconded that motion and the unit approved.

Mary Cushing from American Sokol membership meeting visit

* Sis Cushing addressed the unit in an open forum. She began by formally introducing herself and her role for the ASO. The goal of her position is to make the units stronger. She will be meeting with all units doing facility checks, talking with membership and hopes to function as the liaison to help units improve and provide feedback on the units’ programming.
* The facility checks will help her gain a sense of the day-to-day operations of the units and ascertain the cost of running it.
* Each unit runs things a little differently, however there are common threads amongst all of us that we can use help with. Mary has done a SWOT analysis with the Spirit Exec, has started to assess what Spirit’s needs are from the ASO, and is working on a needs assessment for our unit.
* After Mary meets with the membership and does a facility walk through- the unit will receive a comprehensive report in an effort to help. If you have any questions, ideas-Mary intends to keep the lines of communication open-so feel free to contact her-email is best: marycushing@american-sokol.org
* What can ASO do for Sokol Spirit? Questions and comments were entertained at this time by Mary.

Educational Director Updates: A new Czech culture class was promoted, that focuses in on Czech architecture. There is also a Czech Juke box class starting that focuses on Czech music and popular songs. The Educational committee is still creating new classes based on interest. They also turned in their enrollment papers at this meeting.

Presentation of Bills: Newsletter bills: $105 for printing of latest issue, $25 for labels. Educational: $71.73 for frames for Czech maps and Czech song books. ~$18 for charts for the classroom.

Junior Board Report: A junior representative (I. Smith) provided the following update:

* Finances: Checking-$833.91, Savings-$2,316.83, the Jr’s still owe $75 to the unit to pay for the cotton candy machine that was used at Oktoberfest
* At the last Jr. Board meeting, the group reviewed their calendar of upcoming events
* The Jr’s will be running a haunted house during the children’s Halloween parties on Oct 29. They will be available to help bus tables at the spaghetti dinner, and will be present at the annual trim-a-tree.
* The Jr’s would like to sell snacks at the women’s volleyball tournament, hold their annual rake-a-thon, and conduct a babysitting night during the adult trivia night.

BOI Report:

* Presentation of several bills: to pay for pizza ordered during the mat washing event, youth ambassador supplies, the new USAG womens’ artistic gymnastics routines, and the trim-a-tree.
* The BOI will be reimbursing class fees for one parent from 1st class girls for personal reasons
* The BOI discussed the nature of registration and perhaps returning to having it on a separate night from Oktoberfest. The numbers from registration were lower than in years past
* We can expect uniform orders to be placed mid-October, and the BOI is looking into raising class prices to accommodate uniform purchases.
* The annual exhibition has been scheduled for Saturday April 15, 2014, 4:30pm at George Washington MS
* ACTION: The BOI will provide a list of enrollment numbers at November’s meeting
* Sis. Babka motioned to approve BOI (and Jr board) reports. Bro. Bazata seconded it and the motion passed

BMC Report:

* No major updates-but go check out our new gym floor!
* The last of the major projects is the front of the bar

PR/Marketing Report: The newsletters are ready! The deadline for the next newsletter is **NOVEMBER 20** with a December mailing date.

* It was suggested to place a call to the membership to ask them if they want the newsletter through email. Ramifications on the cost of mailing without the bulk rate were discussed.

Urgent Exec Board Announcements:

* President: there is a tentative meeting with an architect to see how to make our building more accessible. This consult is free of charge.

Important Delegate Announcements:

* Central District: held recent meeting on 9/18. The Annual BOI meeting will be held on Saturday Nov 2 in the CD office, and all are welcome to attend the forum afterwards (about 3pm) to discuss how to retain our youth members. The annual meeting will be on Sunday Nov 3, at Sokol Stickney with the doors open at 8:30am. The ASO convention is in April, and units must update their membership rosters to determine delegates. A reminder was sent out to RSVP for the CD bowling event being held on Oct 27 to help support the College Bound Merit award
	+ At this time, the President asked for volunteers to sit in as subs for those officers that have CD duties in 11/3. Bros. Lebloch, Bazata, Pajer, Tooke and Sis V. Wilt volunteered to attend the CD annual meeting.
* Czech American Congress: Meeting is Oct 3, had the largest profit from their picnic in 10 years!
* Masaryk Czech School: construction is underway on the building
* Bohemian National Cemetery: The services for Bro. Baumruk were announced. Visitation is being held on 10/6 from 2pm-9pm @ Svec & Sons, the funeral will be held on Monday.
* Tabor Hills: they currently has 6 available assisted living units, and the NH is full.

New Business: The annual Houby Parade and festival is going on Oct 5th and 6th!

Treasurer’s Report:

* General Operating Account: Beginning balance-$1748.21, we had an income of $62,980.07 and expenses of $42,052.91 with an ending balance of $22,675.37
* BOD account: Beginning balance-$8,524.98, we had an income of $1,500 and no expenses, with an ending balance of $10,024.98
* No changes to the Memorial Fund this month
* $40,000 was liquidated from the investment account for major repairs to the building
* The finance committee has suggested to hald the $1500 per month liquidation until further notice or need determined by the committee.
	+ Bro. Babka motioned to approve the finance committee’s recommendation, Sis. V. Wilt seconded the motion and the unit approved.

Unfinished Business:

* Spaghetti dinner is approaching-and we need help! Be on the lookout for the sign up poster, and be aware that we’ve changed the time this year, the event starts at 4pm and ends at 8pm.
* The projected yearly calendar was sent to all of the classes
* We still haven’t launched the new website
* Sis. V. Wilt announced that the Czechs in Chicago filmmakers are looking for resources on the “free-thinkers” movement and would like to interview folks who were involved in this-which Sokol members were.

For the good of the order:

* The Oktoberfest looks to have turned a $84 profit!
* The next Unit meeting is on Wednesday November 6 at 7:30pm

The unit meeting adjourned at 9:04pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Croft