

# ASW ZPRAVODAJ

December 2009

## NEXT MEETING



Wednesday  
December 2, 2009  
8:00 PM  
Little Falls Library  
5501 Massachusetts Avenue  
Bethesda, MD 20816

## DON'T MISS

### Mikulasska (St. Nicholas) Party

Sunday, December 6  
3:30 PM

See p. 2 for details

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## MESSAGE FROM STAROSTKA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Welcome to our third revamped issue of Zpravodaj/Spravodaj. We hope that the calendar on the first page has proven to be user-friendly. Thank you to Helenka Hodjatzadeh for taking on the task of first redesigning the newsletter and then preparing it each month. For those of you wondering why Zpravodaj/Spravodaj is spelled two different ways, one is Czech and the other Slovak, and Helenka has chosen to alternate the two.

This past month we enjoyed yet another Sokol tradition, the Katarinska Zabava...

*Continued on p. 3*

## CALENDAR

December 2009

For details, locations and future events see p. 2




Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		Indoor Soccer League	8 PM ASW Monthly Meeting @ Little Falls Library (see side banner)		7 - 8 PM Czech/ Slovak School 7 - 8 PM Czech/Slovak Preeschool 8 - 10 PM Children's Gymnastics 8:30 - 9:30 PM Adult Zumba	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3:30 PM Mikulasska (St. Nicholas) Party	8 - 10 PM Volleyball	Indoor Soccer League			7 - 8 PM Czech/ Slovak School 7 - 8 PM Czech/Slovak Preeschool 8 - 10 PM Children's Gymnastics 8:30 - 9:30 PM Adult Yoga	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	8 - 10 PM Volleyball	Indoor Soccer League			7 - 8 PM Czech/ Slovak School 7 - 8 PM Czech/Slovak Preeschool 8 - 10 PM Children's Gymnastics 8:30 - 9:30 PM Adult Yoga	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	8 - 10 PM Volleyball	Indoor Soccer League		Merry Christmas! 	NO ACTIVITIES - Schools are closed	
27	28	29	30	31		
	8 - 10 PM Volleyball			Happy New Year's Eve! 		

## EVENT DETAILS

What	When	Details
<b>Volleyball</b>	Mondays, December 7, 14, 21, and 28 8:00 – 10:00 PM	At Wood Acres Elementary School 5800 Cromwell Dr., Bethesda, MD 20816  Please remember to bring appropriate clothing and shoes (rubber sole sturdy shoes) for your children so that they may safely participate in gymnastics.
<b>Czech and Slovak School</b>	Fridays, December 4, 11, and 18 7:00 – 8:00 PM	
<b>Children's Gymnastics</b>	Fridays, December 4, 11, and 18 8:00 – 10:00 PM	
<b>Gymnastics for the Little Ones*</b>	Fridays, December 4, 11, and 18 8:00 – 9:30 PM	
<b>Adult Yoga/Zumba</b>	Fridays, December 4, 11, and 18 8:30 – 9:30 PM	
<b>Czech and Slovak Preschool</b>	Fridays, December 4, 11, and 18 7:00 – 8:00 PM	

**\*Gymnastics for the Little Ones are being offered during the same time as the gymnastics for the older children. Parent participation is crucial so please make sure you are available to help few times a month. The class is led by Olga Simakova and runs from approximately 8 to 9:30 pm.**

**ASW is still looking for volunteers willing to help with children gymnastics and the aerobics/yoga classes. Those interested, please leave a message for Br. Miroslav Honzák or Sis. Olga Simakova at (703) 759-1500 or send them an email at [sokol@sokolwashington.org](mailto:sokol@sokolwashington.org).**

<b>Indoor Soccer League</b> 	Tuesdays	Sokol Washington soccer players continue to enjoy an indoor soccer season. Fans or prospective participants can come and watch or play at the Fairfax Sportsplex in Springfield, VA. Those interested should contact Br. Josef Cerny at (703) 861-7039 or <a href="mailto:bobescerny@msn.com">bobescerny@msn.com</a> for exact playing times.
<b>Mikulasska Party</b> 	Sunday, December 6, 2009 3:30 – 6:30 PM	Party for children and adults allowing you to enjoy great food (jitrnice, jelita, klobasy), meet St. Nick, the angel, the devil, and giving you and your children ample opportunity to tell if you have been “naughty or nice...” <b>If you would like to help, please send us an email at <a href="mailto:sokol@sokolwashington.org">sokol@sokolwashington.org</a> or leave a message at (703) 759-1500.</b> For more information, see our website <a href="http://www.sokolwashington.org">www.sokolwashington.org</a> , click on the Events, then Mikulasska Party.
<b>Ski Trip to Vermont</b> 	December 27, 2009 - January 3, 2010	A week-long ski trip to Burke Mountain, Vermont. For children with or without parents. (Children under the age of 11 must be accompanied by at least one adult.) For more information or to sign up, contact Br. Pavel Klein at: (301) 424.1658 or at <a href="mailto:kleinp@epilepsydc.com">kleinp@epilepsydc.com</a>

**American Sokol Washington, DC Chapter, Inc. (ASW) is a non-profit organization and all of its officers are volunteers. That's why it's important that all members and friends, at least from time to time, offer their contribution to help our Sokol Unit thrive.**

**Our Unit can be only as good as our members' participation in its activities.**

Detailed information about the above planned events will be published in this flyer and on the ASW website.

## MESSAGE FROM STAROSTKA (*Continued*)

...(Party). I can only speak from what I observed, but I am pretty certain that all those attending had great fun. Thank you to Tibor Bartalos and his crew of many volunteers, and to our 'DJ Grandpa' Vlado Kovac, for organizing this event and assuring its success.

The Sokol School has been operating superbly, with four very qualified Czech and Slovak language instructors and over forty students, and still growing! The same is true of our gymnastics program for the children, which is conducted by a large number of enthusiastic instructors. You may visit the School and gymnastics program and see our students and instructors in action most Friday evenings at Wood Acres Elementary School in Bethesda (please refer to the school/gymnastics calendar). And, we hope that you will come to enjoy our students' performance at ASW's annual Mikulášska/St. Nicholas Party on December 6.

These activities, as well as all other ASW operations, are conducted to the best of our ability in accord with the principles, traditions and stated rules of American Sokol Organization. Further, the Unit's records, including minutes, tax returns, school accounts and other financial records, are public and those who wish to do so may examine them. We invite you to join us at our monthly membership meetings, the next one of which will be held this coming Wednesday, December 2, at Little Falls Library. We welcome your input and, of course, the helping hands of additional volunteers!

The same as most non-profit organizations, ASW survives on the good will and hard work of many volunteers – these individuals deserve appreciation, especially at these holiday times. As we enter the last month of 2009, I hope that we are all thankful for the friends and community we have in Sokol, and that we can concentrate our energies on building stronger bonds between us, passing on our traditions to our children and helping our friends who are in need.

Join us at Mikulášska Party on Sunday, December 6 at 3:30 for a traditional zabijačka, Czech beer and, of course, a surprise visitor (with gifts!) for all the children.

We wish you a wonderful holiday season and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year! Šťestí, zdraví, pokoj, lásku vinšujeme Vám, veselé vánoční hody vašim rodinám! A na ten Nový Rok, aby ste mali šťastný krok, doma lásku, svornosť a všetkého hojnosť!

Nazdar,

*Lucia*

Lucia Maruska Levendis

## ASW MEMBERSHIP FEES CHANGE

Sokol Washington, D.C. members please be advised the ASW 2010 annual dues were proposed to be changed as follows:

- *Individual Membership (adult / voting)*.....\$35.00
- *Two Adults Membership (both voting)* .....\$65.00
- *Family Membership I. (one adult voting / all children up to 18 years and other non-voting adults)* .....\$45.00
- *Family Membership II. (both adults voting / all children up to 18 years)* .....\$70.00
- *New Member One-time Administrative Fee* .....\$5.00

**This proposal will be a subject to voting at the ASW monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 2, 2009!**

Thank you to all Sokol Washington members who already submitted their 2009 dues. Members, who have not paid their dues to date, please make your check payable to Sokol Washington, D.C., and mail it at your earliest convenience to our Financial Secretary:

Br. Tibor Bartalos  
1001 3rd St., S.W., Apt. 705  
Washington, D.C. 20024

Of course, in return, you do receive a discount at all of our activities. Also, please note, if you do have any children attending the gymnastics classes it is required that you are a member in good standing so that the children are covered by the insurance provided for this activity.

**Please remember, you are not a full Sokol member with voting privileges until you participate in a monthly meeting(s) and consent to take the Sokol oath.**

*All your contributions to Sokol Washington, D.C., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, are tax deductible. Please give us your consideration when you are deciding on your end-of-year contributions. If you are contributing through the United Way, our CFC designation code is 5043.*

Your support will directly benefit all our activities and is greatly appreciated!

## CZECH AND SLOVAK SCHOOL

Our Czech and Slovak School continues teaching our young students ages 5 – 12. We have two Czech and two Slovak classes, with total of 32 students in all four classes. Classes are held every Friday from 7:00 – 8:00 PM at Wood Acres Elementary School on 5800 Cromwell Dr., Bethesda, MD 20816.

During and after the school, majority of the children are actively participating in traditional singing and dancing, getting ready for the upcoming performance at the Mikulasska (St. Nicolas) Party on December 6.

After the school and folklor, children move into the gymnasium for optional Sokol gymnastics from 8:15 – 10:00 PM.

Operation of skolka/play group will continue on the same schedule as before, from 7:00 – 8:00 PM.

If you are interested in registering your child in any of the above mentioned activities, you're welcome to do so. Please e-mail Andrea Kohlmayer at [andreakohlmayer@gmail.com](mailto:andreakohlmayer@gmail.com) with any questions or concerns, or come in person to the school any Friday.

Our adult Slovak class for parents or anyone interested in learning the Slovak language continues, meeting at the above location from 8:00 – 9:00 PM.

We have a teacher willing to start the adult Czech class, so if you are interested or know anyone who would like to take this opportunity to learn the Czech language and associate with our Czech and Slovak community, please feel free to contact me for more information at the above mentioned email address or in person at the school any Friday.

## FRIDAY EVENING SKOLKA/PLAYGROUP

Skolka/playgroup for two to four year olds is meeting during the 7:00 to 8:00 PM time slot at the Wood Acres Elementary school, at the same time as the older children are attending classes. **We encourage parents to use mostly Czech/ Slovak language to their kids during Skolka, if they can.** For further information on participating in this playgroup please speak to Olga Simakova on Friday evening; leave her a voicemail at (703) 759-1500 or send her an email at [sokol@sokolwashington.org](mailto:sokol@sokolwashington.org)

## OF INTEREST

**2010 Group Study exchange with District 2240, The Czech Republic and Slovakia, GSE Team Members Sought** - The Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for businesspeople and professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 who are in the early stages of their careers. The Czech Team will visit District 7620 from April 10 – May 10, 2010 and the District 7620 team will travel to the Czech Republic from May 1- May 29, 2010. For four weeks, team members experience the host country's culture and institutions, observe how their vocations are practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas.

For more information on the program and its requirements for applicants, see the following documents:

- [Group Study Exchange brochure](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/160en.pdf) ([http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/160en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/160en.pdf)),
- [GSE team handbook](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/164en.pdf) ([http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/164en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/164en.pdf)), and
- [GSE team member application](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_doc/161en.doc) ([http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_doc/161en.doc](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_doc/161en.doc))

All interested applicants must first have their candidacy endorsed by a Rotary club in District 7620, the district where the applicant works or lives. From there, endorsed applications are sent on for consideration at the district level.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE ENDORSED BY A CLUB IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED AND ARE NOT COMPLETE WITHOUT A CLUB ENDORSEMENT. All applications are due by December 9, 2009. They should be e-mailed to: Barbara Bellack, GSE Coordinator, [bbbellack8@yahoo.com](mailto:bbbellack8@yahoo.com). Questions? Call Barbara at 443-370-4830 (mobile) or send her an e-mail.

**The 2009 National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2009, at 5:00p.m., on the Ellipse in Washington, D.C. Learn about the history of the National Christmas Trees go to <http://www.nps.gov/whho/historyculture/history-of-the-national-christmas-trees.htm>

**Who is Affraid of the Wolf (Kdopak by se vlka bal?)** - December 9, 2009 at 8:00pm at the Avalon Theatre [www.theavalon.org](http://www.theavalon.org), 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015 Little Terezka loves the fairy tale about Little Red Riding Hood, and lives happily with her mother and father. As is often the case both in fairy tales and in real life, one day something changes: Terezka doesn't know why her mother has suddenly started acting differently. She doesn't know who that new strange man is, and why he is suddenly in her life. She only knows that something is wrong. She asks, but the adults are speaking in a different language, all their own. This visually original film combines elements of a family film and a children's fairy tale, speaking about love and divorce of parents from a child's perspective. (2008, 90 min., in Czech with English subtitles, DIR: Maria Procházková) Won the Golden Kingfisher Award at the Pilsen Film Festival (2009).

**Enhancing Children's Lives in the Communities Where They Live** - in this fast paced world the Slovakia Playground Foundation [www.slovakiaplaygrounds.org](http://www.slovakiaplaygrounds.org) would like smiling kids networking the old fashion way. Face to face - On the playgrounds – Being active! Slovakia Playground Foundation is a Virginia-based 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing quality playgrounds for the children of Slovakia.

**Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences 25th World Congress** – Central Theme: Contributions of Czechs and Slovaks to Science and Technology of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, June 27 – July 3, 2010 in Tabor, Czech Republic. For more information, visit [www.svu2000.org](http://www.svu2000.org).

**Slovakcooking.com** - Check out this website dedicated to traditional Slovak recipes at [www.slovakcooking.com](http://www.slovakcooking.com). They come with step-by-step photo illustrations. The website creator is looking for more contributors, especially those who know how to bake delicious Slovak sweets (kolace, torty, etc...). If you'd like to share your recipes, contact Lubos Brieda at [lubos@slovakcooking.com](mailto:lubos@slovakcooking.com)

**Memories of Slovakia: Slovak Paintings in American Collections** – November 17, 2009 until mid January 2010 - The Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington D.C. and the Friends of Slovakia have the honor to present the exhibition Memories of Slovakia: Slovak Paintings in American Collections, which will showcase works of established Slovak artists held by Slovak and American collectors within US.

For further information, please call the Embassy of the Slovak Republic at 202-237-1054.

**2010 Miss Czech Slovak US Scholarship Pageant** is searching for candidates to represent states from the East Coast. This is a wonderful opportunity for a young woman to be able to represent her passion for her heritage, meet other young women with similar interests, and possibly win scholarship money or other prizes - over \$10,000 in cash and prizes will be awarded. The national pageant reaches over 40,000 Czechs and Slovaks.

General requirements:

- Contestant must be age 16-26 of Czech or Slovak decent
- Contestant must be a US Citizen (or have a valid Social Security Number)
- Contestant must be able to travel to Wilber, Nebraska August 7, 8, and 9, 2010
- Contestant must either live in or attend school in the state she represents

There are 4 competition categories: Private Interview; On-stage Interview; Kroj Modeling; Talent Presentation

Interested? MaryElizabeth Lackey would love to hear from you, please contact her at (785) 317-5010 or [mary\\_eliza@yahoo.com](mailto:mary_eliza@yahoo.com), and visit [www.missczechslovakus.com](http://www.missczechslovakus.com).

**Czechoslovak Happy Hour** – a social gathering of Czech and Slovak community and friends. Feel free to obtain more info at <http://cshappyhour.net/index.html>

**The Washington Czech Language and Slovak Language Meetup Groups at**

<http://czech.meetup.com/126/> and <http://slovak.meetup.com/34/> and Northern Virginia Meetup Group

<http://czech.meetup.com/154/>

**The Museum of Czech and Slovak Exiles from the 20th Century**, located in Brno, wishes to inform all exiles of Czech and Slovak origin around the world of its founding, and is asking them for their collaboration and support. In addition to serving as a permanent exhibition center, the Exile Museum will also accept, store and collate archives of exiles, it will also support production of documentary films and more. The Museum requests that exiles and their families send it all documents, papers, data and other source materials to support our work.

For more information or if you have materials to donate, contact Jan Kratochvil, OCM, Director, Museum of Czech and Slovak Exiles – 20th century, Stefanikova 22, 602 00 Brno, Czech Republic, Europe, tel. no.: 011-420-603-552-351, email: [muzeumexil@muzeumexil.cz](mailto:muzeumexil@muzeumexil.cz)

NOTE: If you are planning to visit the Museum of Czech and Slovak Exiles, please arrange your visit in advance via e-mail or the phone number listed above.

**Czech and Slovak Theatre Abroad** edited by Vera Borkovec - the book is a historical document dealing with Czech and Slovak theatre in the USA, Canada, Australia and England. The book can be ordered from the editor-distributor Vera Borkovec at 12013 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902-1515

([aborkovec@comcast.net](mailto:aborkovec@comcast.net)). Payment must be by check in U.S. dollars and made payable to SVU. The price of each book is \$20. For shipment by airmail (the ground shipment is no longer available), you must add: \$5 for USA = \$25; \$6 for Canada = \$26; \$10 for all other countries = \$30.