

ASW SPRÁVODAJ

November 2009

NEXT MEETING



Wednesday
November 4, 2009
8:00 PM
Little Falls Library
5501 Massachusetts Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20816

DON'T MISS

Katerinska Party

Saturday, November 7
7:30 PM

See p. 2 for details

ASW BOARD

President

Lucia Maruska Levendis

Vice President Vaclav Slovak

Vice President Pavel Klein

Treasurer Milos Toth

Financial, Membership and
Correspondence Secretary
Tibor Bartalos

Director of Education
Andrea Kohlmayer

Director of Women
Olga Simakova

Director of Men Miroslav Honzák

PR Director & Recording Secretary
Darina Tomkova

Editor & Administrator
Helena Hodjatzadeh

Sporting Activities Coordinator
Josef Cerny

Bylaws Chairman George Levendis

Auditors

Milan Blaha, George Levendis

Board of Trustees

Jan Kocvara, Vaclav Slovak,
Darina Tomkova

Reconciliation Committee

Vaclav Slovak, George Levendis,
Martin Novotny

MESSAGE FROM STAROSTKA

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As we approach the holiday season of the year, American Sokol Washington DC (ASW) is delighted to offer yet again two of our traditional winter celebrations – Katerinska Party and Mikulaska/ St. Nicholas Party. For those of you not familiar with these events, they are steeped in the traditions and folklore of our cultures and ASW members and friends always look forward to them. Katerinska provides an opportunity for adults of all ages to enjoy traditional goulash, Czech beer, and traditional (early in the evening) and contemporary (later on in the evening) music from...

Continued on p. 3



CALENDAR




November 2009

For details, locations and future events see p. 2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			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 Yoga	7:30 PM Katerinska Party
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	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 Zumba	<i>non-Sokol event:</i> 12 - 4 PM Christmas Bazaar
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	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	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	8 - 10 PM Volleyball	Indoor Soccer League		Happy Thanksgiving! 	NO ACTIVITIES – Schools are closed	
29	30					
	8 - 10 PM Volleyball					

EVENT DETAILS

What	When	Details
Volleyball	Mondays, November 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 8:00 – 10:00 PM	<p>At Wood Acres Elementary School 5800 Cromwell Dr., Bethesda, MD 20816</p> <p>Please remember to bring appropriate clothing and shoes (rubber sole sturdy shoes) for your children so that they may safely participate in gymnastics.</p>
Czech and Slovak School	Fridays, November 6, 13, and 20 7:00 – 8:00 PM	
Children's Gymnastics	Fridays, November 6, 13, and 20 8:00 – 10:00 PM	
Gymnastics for the Little Ones*	Fridays, November 6, 13, and 20 8:00 – 9:30 PM	
Adult Yoga	Fridays, November 6, 13, and 20 8:30 – 9:30 PM	
Czech and Slovak Preschool	Fridays, November 6, 13, and 20 7:00 – 8:00 PM	
<p>*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.</p> <p>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</p>		
Indoor Soccer League 	Tuesdays	<p>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 bobescerny@msn.com for exact playing times.</p>
Katerinska Party 	<p>Saturday, November 7, 2009 7:30 PM</p> <p>Admission: - Sokol Members \$7.00 - Others \$14.00</p> <p>Cash or checks only.</p>	<p>A traditional Autumn's dancing celebration for people of all ages. It is a great opportunity to meet new friends and get together with old buddies. For the hungry ones we will serve the "Kotlikovy" beef goulash and in addition to the goulash we will serve German sausages "first come first serve". For refreshment you can enjoy the Pilsner Urquell from Bohemia, one of the world's finest beers with the intense taste of the Saaz hops, which blends with the malty sweetness of the barley and produces a harmonious bitterness and creamy body; and a great selection of world wines.</p> <p>The Katerinska Party will be held at the VFW Club (the Veterans of Foreign Wars) McLean Post No. 82, 1051 Spring Hill Rd., McLean, VA 22102.</p>

What	When	Details
<i>non-Sokol event:</i> Christmas Bazaar 	Saturday, November 14, 2009 12:00 – 4:00 PM With an auction at 1:30 PM	Enjoy a lunch of typical Czechoslovak dishes, and pastries. Shop for holiday gifts at the booths for crafts and ceramics, Christmas decorations and cards, books, paintings, and prints, collectibles at the Treasure Chest Boutique and famous Czechoslovak Christmas cookies. Takes place at the River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Rd., Bethesda, MD 20817
Mikulasska Party 	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...” If you would like to help, please send us an email at sokol@sokolwashington.org or leave a message at (703) 759-1500.
Ski Trip to Vermont 	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 kleinp@epilepsydc.com

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)*

... Czechy, Morava, and Slovakia. Mikulasska/ St. Nicholas Party, on the other hand, is a family affair enjoyed by all, but especially by the children – obviously because Mikulas always makes his appearance and rewards all children with goodies stuffed in a traditional stocking. We hope to see you at these wonderful events!

On the business side, ASW has weathered some challenges over the past two months and emerged stronger and more confident. Thank you to Tibor Bartalos for spearheading the reconciliation of membership records between ASW and ASO (Sokol National Headquarters). At our November membership meeting, we will be discussing possible changes in membership guidelines, so please do stop by and let us hear your opinion.

The Czech and Slovak ASW School has had changes in its administration over the past few weeks. Our new Director of Education, Andrea Kohlmayer, who was elected at our October meeting, has stepped in ably to assure a smooth transition, with the new management team consisting of her, as administrator of the school, and Milos Toth, ASW Treasurer, as the school’s financial secretary. Thank you to both of them, and to Pavla Toth. Pavla along with Andrea has handled the hiring of three very competent Czech language teachers, who along with our very competent Slovak teachers form the new staff team. Aside from the language classes, children continue to enjoy traditional singing and dancing. Olga Simakova has added a preschool class to our Friday evening menu for the youngest siblings of our students. This class is gaining popularity fast. Of course, the gymnastics class, which follows the language and folklore activities, is still the highlight of the evening for most of our students. Thank you to Olga Simakova, ASW Director of Women, and Miro Honzak, ASW Director of Men, for managing these programs, and to their many helpers, especially Milos Toth, and many parents and friends, including Petra Tojslova, Ondrej Schneider, Radovan Kohlmayer, Vladimir Kovac, Tibor Bartalos, just to name a few, all of whom seem to be enjoying the gymnastics program as much as do the kids.

Our adult sports activities continue to thrive, with volleyball on Monday nights, soccer on Tuesdays, and on Friday nights, yoga, with the recent addition of zumba – if you do not know what zumba is, come and check it out and be ready to zumba! Thank you to Olga Simakova, Josef Cerny, and others who have assisted with adult sports.

In the past month we have had some wonderful outdoor activities, including the Libor Kozak Memorial Bike Ride through the Virginia countryside, which was enjoyed by many, both children and adults – including at the end of a long ride at the award ceremony and dinner at Lenka and Rados Goldmans'. On Halloween, Sokol members and friends of all ages will be testing their endurance in the Pediatric/Geriatric Marathon. Thank you to Pavel Klein, Eva Majerova and Vilma Anyzova for all these events. And, thanks to the efforts of Vlado Kovac, ASW members and friends, including many new friends, enjoyed the Membership Appreciation Picnic on a beautiful early October Sunday afternoon at Fletcher Boathouse, which culminated with a children's canoe ride on the canal.

Even though it has been a challenge on occasion during the past two months, all of us are enjoying working with our Sokol friends. After all, that is what counts – to enjoy all that our organization has to offer and to better ourselves by lending a helping hand and by pursuing activities that benefit our fellow members and friends.

Please come and chat with us at our upcoming membership meeting on Wednesday, November 4, at Little Falls Library in Bethesda. We want to hear your ideas and suggestions, and, of course, we would love to have you volunteer to help at our many activities.

Nazdar,

Lucia

Lucia Maruska Levendis

ASW MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to all Sokol Washington members who already submitted their 2009 dues. Information about 2010 dues will be published in December 2009 Zpravodaj's issue. 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 our activities. Also, please note, if you do have any children attending the gymnastics classes it is necessary that you are a member in good standing so that the children are covered by the insurance provided 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

Classes are held on Fridays from 7:00 – 8:00 PM at Wood Acres Elementary School on 5800 Cromwell Dr., Bethesda, MD 20816.

We accommodate students ages 5 - 12 who are interested in exposure to Czech and Slovak languages. Currently we have about 35 students in three Czech and two Slovak classes.

During the last week we have had a change in administration of the school and in the teaching staff. We are excited to have hired new professional teachers for our three Czech classes (beginners, first and second grade together, third grade) who replaced our previous Czech teachers. Since the number of Slovak students' class grew, we split the class into two.

Recently, we have started with 30-minutes optional traditional dancing and singing at 8:00 PM. Younger students have the option of starting earlier, at 7:45 PM. After school and folklor, majority of the kids move into the gymnasium for optional Sokol Gymnastics classes conducted from 8:00 – 10:00 PM.

We have started Czech and Slovak classes for adults that are still in a process of forming.

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

We look forward to seeing you on Friday. Please feel free to contact Sis. Andrea Kohlmayer with any questions or concerns at andreakohlmayer@gmail.com

FRIDAY EVENING SKOLKA/PLAYGROUP

Parents who bring along their young children on Fridays while the older siblings attend the classes in the Czech and Slovak School, have expressed interest in holding a playgroup for 2 to 4 year olds during the 7:00 to 8:00 PM time slot (same time as the older children are in classes). For further information on participating in this playgroup please speak to Sis. Olga Simakova on this coming Friday evening; leave her a voicemail at (703) 759-1500 or send her an email at sokol@sokolwashington.org

OF INTEREST

Slovakcooking.com - Check out this website dedicated to traditional Slovak recipes at 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

Zemlinsky Quartet “suavely melodious and rhythmically acute” - *November 3, 2009* at 8:00pm at the Library of Congress, Coolidge Auditorium, Washington, DC. <http://www.loc.gov/rr/perform/concert/0910-schedule.html#nov03>
Steeped in the Czech string quartet tradition, this young ensemble received top prizes in the Banff, London, and Prague Spring international competitions. Admission is free.

Psi vojaci - *November 6, 2009* – concert at the Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008. The music of Psí vojáci has its roots in the underground Czech music scene. Lead by singer / songwriter Filip Topol, the group performed for the first time in 1979 at Prague Jazz Days (the band members were hardly over 13). The group drew the attention of the Czechoslovakian secret police; therefore, the group could not perform officially. The band appeared only at private underground events. After the democratic changes in Czechoslovakia in 1989, Psí vojáci became a favorite band on the local club scene and at festivals. They toured throughout Europe, and at Euro-rock in Belgium with Jesus and Mary Chain and in Belfort with the renowned Carlos Santana.

The Plastic People of the Universe - *November 11, 2009*, documentary at 8:00pm at the Avalon Theatre www.theavalon.org, 5612 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20015. This documentary traces the life and times of the Czech underground band that became a symbol of the anti-Communist struggle of the seventies and eighties. The film examines the band over three decades of activities. Although the Plastic People never defined themselves as a political ensemble, in the 1970s and 1980s, they were one of the symbols of resistance against the communist state power in Czechoslovakia. The arrest and imprisonment of the Plastics horrified the public and contributed to the origin of Charter 77 in the Czech Lands. The so-called third culture thus started to form around the band, a culture where the regime could not exercise its influence. (2001, 74 min., in Czech with English subtitles, DIR: Jana Chytilová)

Czech Glass & Christmas Decorations Exhibition - *November 12, 2009* between 3:00pm - 7:00pm at the Embassy of the Czech Republic, 3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008 Just in time for the holiday season, the European Trading Company returns to the Embassy for the third year to present their large collection of beautiful Czech handmade Christmas ornaments for sale. The ornaments come in all shapes and sizes. These handmade works of art offer humor, beauty, and surprises, revealing the intricate craftsmanship of Czech artisans. The event will be accompanied by a presentation of a glass carver, with the possibility to purchase traditional Czech glass. As a special treat, visiting Czech glass engraver Zdenek Tomecek will be available to personalize any purchases. Admission is free.

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.

The inauguration of the exhibition will be on November 17, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Slovak Embassy in Washington, D.C. under the patronage of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic, The Honorable Miroslav Lajčák.

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

Who is Affraid of the Wolf (Kdopak by se vlka bal?) - December 9, 2009 at 8:00pm at the Avalon Theatre 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).

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, and visit 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

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). 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.