



ASW Flyer November 2008

AMERICAN SOKOL, WASHINGTON, D.C.

MONTHLY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, November 5th, 2008, 8:00 P.M.

at

**St. Luke Orthodox Church,
6801 Old Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA**

After a short business meeting, join us for conversation during a traditional social hour with soft drinks, coffee and snacks. Looking forward to seeing you there!

MESSAGE FROM THE STAROSTA

Many thanks to all that participated in commemorating the 90th Anniversary of Czechoslovakia's independence on October 25th. The space available here makes it impossible for me to name all those who helped organize the event, perform in it, or helped to make it a success in other ways. Nevertheless, I believe it would be a great injustice not to mention Br. Anthony Bartos who was the driving force behind the whole thing, Sister Lucia Levendis who made sure that the kids performed well, and in beautiful costumes, and Mrs. Dana Sablik, who showed great patience and understanding preparing the children for the event. I would also like to thank the Czech and Slovak School parents and children themselves for making such an effort in such a short time. We also very much appreciate the participation from the Czech and Slovak Embassies. Finally, I thank our co-sponsors of this effort, from SVU Washington, for their contribution. Considering how bad the weather was that day, all 120+ of you that showed up, also deserve a big thank you.

Every year, Sokol Washington lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, at Arlington National Cemetery, typically inviting some noteworthy guest to actually lay the wreath. This being the 90th anniversary of the October 28th Liberation, we invited General Emil Papis and Colonel Jaroslav Gofjar, who are the Czech and Slovak Military representatives in Washington, DC; and so, on October 26th, 12:15 pm, Colonel Gofjar and General Papis, in the company of Czech and Slovak Military officers and Sokols, laid the wreath, thanking the United States of America for its very important role in the liberation of the Czechs and Slovaks from Austria-Hungary ninety years ago. To close, on Tuesday, October 28th, Czech and Slovak diplomatic and military representatives, in the presence of a Sokol color guard, laid a wreath at the Thomas Garrigue Masaryk statue in Washington, DC.

Nazdar!

Br. Jan Kocvara,
President, American Sokol Washington, DC

E-mail Address – Our E-mail address is sokol@sokolwashington.org Please let us know your E-mail address. If you don't have E-mail or can't access our web site then send us a written request and we will keep sending you a paper copy of our flyer.

www.sokolwashington.org



Regular NOVEMBER EVENTS



Mondays, Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24
Junior and Senior Volleyball: 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Fridays, Nov. 7, 14, 21
Czech/Slovak School for Children: 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Gymnastics for Children 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.
Adult Aerobics 8:15 to 9:30 p.m.

Saturdays, Nov. 8, 15, 22
Czech/Slovak pre-School for tots: 10:00 to 12:00 a.m.



Volleyball, Gymnastics, Adult Aerobics and the Czech and Slovak School is held at the Wood Acres Elementary School, 5800 Cromwell DR, Bethesda, MD. The Pre-School is held at St. Luke Orthodox Church Hall, 6801 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA.

For more information call Br. Tony Bartos – (703) 395.1071, Br. Pavel Klein – (301) 424.1658 or Br. Milos Toth – (301) 585.8534

Additional NOVEMBER EVENTS

Saturday November 8th	KATERINSKA PARTY	Traditional Party for the young at heart. The party will take place at Veterans of Foreign Wars Club (VFW) McLean, Post No. 82, 1051 Spring Hill Road, McLean, VA 22102. Br. Tibor Bartalos is looking for volunteers to help organize the event – you may contact him at tbartalos@sokolwashington.org . <i>The event will only materialize if we get enough volunteers!</i>
Indoor Soccer League	– Indoor Soccer Season started again. Fans or prospective participants can come to watch or play at the Fairfax Sportsplex in Springfield, VA. Those interested should contact Br. Josef Cerny at 703-861-7039 or: jcerny@sokolwashington.org	

Future - PLANNED EVENTS

December 6th	St. Nicholas Party for Children	Party for children and adults allowing you to enjoy great food, meet St. Nick, the angel, the devil, and giving you and your children ample opportunity to tell if you have been “naughty or nice...”
December 27th - January 3rd	Skiing	Week-long skiing trip to Burke Mountain, Vt. For children +/- parents. – contact Br. Pavel Klein at: 301-424.1658



PAST EVENTS

The second Libor Kozak Memorial Bicycling Century took place on October 26.08. 51 cycling enthusiasts aged 5-57 set out on 100 mile, 100 km, 100 ½ mile, 100 ½ km and 100 ¼ km (for the littlest ones) segments along the Virginia WOD trail and Maryland and Virginia country roads. The combined distance covered by all the cyclists stretched from the Czech Embassy in Washington to the Las Vegas Strip. The day was sunny, the mood also, and refreshments prepared by devoted non-cyclist family members (a.k.a., without political correctness, wives and mothers) outstanding. Set your dates for repetition next year: 10.05.09!

The 7th annual geriatric-pediatric marathon took place on Saturday 11.01.08 along the C&O canal between Potomac and Harper's ferry. 19 participants propelled their young or creaking joints along the canal and the Potomac in the best of weather, sunshine, colored leaves, and an air of serenity. In discussions during the walk we managed to solve the world's problems, political, social, physical, chemical and psychological, and more. By the end of the walk, it was clear that this year's election was a superfluous meddling by the society in our enlightened oligarchy.

Br. Pavel Klein

The White Oak Canyon Hike took place on sunny Sunday 11.02.08 in the heart of the Shenandoah National Park. Over twenty hiking enthusiasts enjoyed this hike offering some of the most spectacular waterfalls (five major falls, numerous smaller cascades and pools) in the Shenandoah National Park.

The celebration of fourth B-day anniversary of the youngest hiker concluded the hike at the Sharp Rocks winery.

Br. Tibor Bartalos

DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE ABOVE PLANNED EVENTS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THIS FLYER AND ON THE SOKOL WEBSITE.

MEMBERSHIP ISSUES

Thanks to all Sokol Washington members who already submitted their 2008 dues. The membership dues are **\$29.00** per member and the **deadline** to submit Sokol Washington, D.C. membership dues was **March 31, 2008**.

You can also enroll for a Sokol Washington, D.C. **family membership** of **\$40.00** (the family membership includes all children age to 18).

New members also pay a one-time administrative fee **\$5.00**

Members, who did not pay the 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

Your contributions to Sokol Washington, D.C. (501c3) are tax deductible.
Please give us your consideration when you are deciding on your end-of-year contributions.
*The **United Way CFC designation code** for our unit is **5043**.*



Czech and Slovak School Update

Now that the children had successfully prepared a program commemorating the 90th anniversary of Czech and Slovak Independence Day presented on October 25th, regular Czech and Slovak language classes will begin Friday, November 7th. Classes are held from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, and afterwards, most of the children move on to the Gymnasium for Sokol Gymnastics classes.

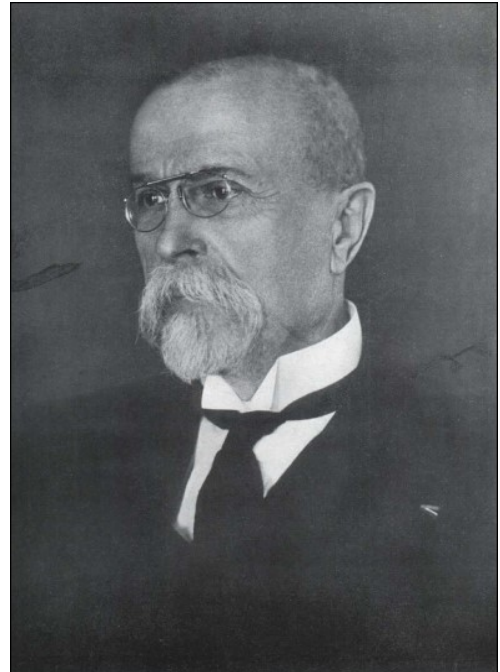
On Saturdays, the "Skolka," or Czech and Slovak play groups for children in the under 4 year-old age group, continues to function, with new families being added.

Anyone interested in the school (Skola) or the play group (Skolka) should contact Br. Tony Bartos at 703-395-1071.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDUCATOR – Czechoslovak Liberators: Masaryk

On October 28, we commemorated the 90th anniversary of the establishment of an independent Czechoslovak state. As we mentioned in the October issue of the ASW newsletter, this anniversary deserves to remember those brave and determined individuals who worked tirelessly for the Czechoslovak cause, and shaped the future of both nations. Thomas Garrigue Masaryk, the leader of the Czechoslovak independence movement and the first president of independent Czechoslovakia, righteously deserves the honor of being remembered first.

Thomas Garrigue Masaryk was born on March 7, 1850, in the city of Hodonin located in Southern Moravia. He studied in Brno and Vienna where he obtained his doctorate in 1876. One year later, he continued his studies in Leipzig where he met an American student of music, Charlotte Garrigue, whom he married in 1878. Masaryk became professor of philosophy at the Czech University of Prague and wrote a number of important publications on the subjects of philosophy, history, sociology, and literature. He became a prominent philosopher and sociologist known for his admiration for moral righteousness which paradoxically brought him negative popularity among his countrymen after his rejection of the authenticity of manuscripts of Zelena Hora and Dvur Kralove, and denunciation of anti-Semitic prejudice.



Masaryk was also actively involved in the political life. After his initial involvement with the Old Czech Party, he joined more liberal Young Czech Party, for which he was elected to the Austrian Imperial Council (Reichsrat) in 1891. In March 1900 he founded his own Realist Party and served in the Austrian Imperial Council from 1907 to 1914. As a member of the Council, he strongly criticized Austria-Hungary's alliance with Germany and its imperialistic politics in the Balkans. He defended the rights of Slavs and fought for their greater independence within the



ASW Flyer November 2008

Habsburg Empire. Masaryk also rejected pan-Slavism and did not share the pro-Russian views of many of his contemporaries. He believed that the future of Bohemia lay with the Western democracies.

Shortly after the outbreak of World War I, Masaryk left for exile and began to organize an independence movement. He believed that the future of his countrymen depended on the defeat of the Central Powers and Allied support for the Czechoslovak cause. Together with Milan R. Stefanik and Edvard Benes, he created the liberation movement, organized the Czechoslovak Legions and launched a propaganda campaign aimed against Austria-Hungary and Germany. He gradually convinced the Allies about the necessity of disbanding the Habsburg Empire after World War I and establishing independent Czechoslovakia. In the spring of 1918, he arrived in Washington, D.C., and in following months finalized the independence efforts. The liberation movement was recognized as the Czechoslovak provisional government and Czechoslovakia officially became an Allied power. In October 1918, the provisional government adopted the Declaration of Independence written by Masaryk and an independent Czechoslovakia became a reality. On November 14, Masaryk was elected president of Czechoslovakia and returned to Prague on December 1918 as the head of a new independent state built on democratic principles. He won reelection in 1920, 1927 and 1934. After 17 years in the office, he resigned his post due to bad health and died two years later.

Br. Vaclav Vlcek

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASW is still looking for volunteers willing to help with children gymnastics. Those interested, please contact Br. Pavel Klein at 301.424.1658, kleinp@epilepsydc.com or Br. Milos Toth at (301) 585.8534, mtoth@aderasolutions.com

Sokol Washington, D.C. Libor Kozak Fund www.liborkozak.com - a special "Thank you!" to all who already contributed.

The Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences, Wash. DC chapter is having their Czechoslovak Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 15th, 2008 from 12:00 to 4:00 at the River Road Unitarian Church, on 6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD.

The St Luke Sisterhood is having their Christmas bake sale on Saturday, 13th of December, from 10:00AM to 4:00PM. All items are homemade by the ladies and include Serbian, Russian, Greek, and Italian pastries, cakes, cookies, strudels, pies, and other delights to tempt the pallet. (Maybe even a few Czech and Bulgarian goodies as well). There will be homemade dough nuts and coffee in the morning.

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/>

Moravian and Slovak Folksongs – For those of you who enjoy Moravian and Slovak Folklore, Radio Jih, in southern Moravia, has added 24/7 cimbalom music to its online broadcast; available at: <http://www.play.cz/radio-jih-cimbalka>

Museum of Czech and Slovak Exiles (see below) – organized an exhibition at the EU in Brussels, commemorating the 90th anniversary of the Czech and Slovak



ASW Flyer November 2008

liberation. Miroslav Neovesky and Vaclav Vlcek, two Sokol Washington members, both of whom spoke at the commemoration held on October 25th, contributed research material towards this effort. We are in the process of bringing this exhibition to the United States after it concludes its stay in Brussels.

Museum of Czech and Slovak Exiles – 20th century

The Museum of Czech and Slovak Exiles from the 20th Century, located in Brno at 22 Štefánik Street, 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.

The Museum was founded with cooperation from the daughter of General Maurice Pellé, cofounder of the Czechoslovak Republic, in addition collaboration with relatives of General Milan R. Štefánik, with Jiří Ingr – son of Czechoslovak army general Sergej Ingr, also Company "Nazdar" (former members and relatives of the WW I army unit in Paris, specifically their President General J. Flipo). This was also complemented with parts of Dr. Alice Masaryk archives, daughter of our liberator President Tomáš G. Masaryk, from inherited correspondence and papers of university professor Dr. Josef Kratochvíl, PhD., a colleague of Dr. Masaryk during the founding of Czechoslovak Schools in exile. Additional sources of information and support came from Pavel Tygrid, the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (Společností pro vědy a umění) in the USA, the Orel organization in exile, individual Sokols, Czechoslovak Legionnaires in Canada, with their Chairman Col. B. Moravec, the family of Major Antonín Bartoš – the National Social party parliamentarian and member of the WW II CLAY-EVA parachute group, journalist Stanislav Berton in Australia, hockey player Oleg Zábrodský and other Czech and Slovak exile organizations and societies. Additionally, through its association with the Society for Culture and Dialogue (K2001), the Exile Museum works in conjunction with the National Museum in Prague and the Slovak National Museum in Martin on Czechoslovak exile exhibits, the Slovak National Library in Martin, represented by Peter Cabadaj, the Bureau for the Documentation and Investigation of Communist Crimes, present day EU parliamentarians, Czech Republic Police Museum and other institutions and individuals around the world. Exhibits about the Czech and Slovak exiles were held under the auspices of Czech and Slovak Presidents, Václav Havel, now Václav Klaus, the President of the Slovak Republic, Ivan Gašparovič, and earlier President R. Schuster.

In addition to serving as a permanent exhibition center dedicated to the exiles in Brno on 22 Štefánik Street, the Exile Museum will also accept, store and collate archives of exiles, it will also support production of documentary films about exiles for Czech Television, store audio-visual records of interviews, material from previous exile exhibits from around the world and other publications concerning the exiles (there have been several publications and films made on the exile theme). The Museum leadership has put on ten's of exhibits around the world. Specifically, in Australia and Israel, the exhibits were in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, represented by the Minister of Culture and the National Library of Luxemburg, the Principality of Lichtenstein – in Prague, with the participation of his Excellency Duke Alois of Lichtenstein and her Royal Highness the Princess of Bavaria. The exile exhibits were also supported by the Foreign Ministry of the Czech Republic, as well as individual Czech diplomatic personnel from Argentina, Belgium, Poland, Hungary, Israel, France, Australia, and Germany; also the "Czech Centers" around the world, The Czech Ministry of Culture, the City of Brno, the Southern Moravian Regional District, and other institutions. Exile exhibitions in the European Parliament in Brussels were under the patronage, financial support and participation of Petr Duchoň, Jan Zahradil, Nina Škottová, Jaroslav Zvěřina, Oldřich Vlasák and other members of the European Parliament.

The Exile Museum collects and consolidates as much information as possible about the exiles for educational purposes and donates its books and publications to schools at all educational levels. The Museum requests that exiles and their families send it all documents, papers, data and other source materials to support our work. Items such as identification documents from refugee camps, correspondence and old letters, photographs and any other audio-visual material, old newspapers and magazines, exile publications, books, personal diaries and other remnants are being sought. Chronicle records detailing exile club activities



ASW Flyer November 2008

like Sokol, Orel, other sport or cultural groups and political organizations are wanted, as are all uniforms, flags, video records, including three-dimensional artifacts. All of this material is welcome and will be placed on exhibit for you to personally examine at the Exile Museum in Brno. Every item enables us to expand the existing exhibits, as well as associated activity about the exiles during this century.

On behalf of the Exile Museum in Brno, I thank you.

Jan Kratochvil OCM

Director, Museum of Czech and Slovak Exiles – 20th century

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(email: muzeumexil@muzeumexil.cz)

“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. There is a chapter by Vera Borkovec about Czech and Slovak theatre in the USA since the 19th century and about Czech Marionette theatre in America by the well-known puppeteer Vít Horejš. More comprehensive chapters about theatre in Canada are by Markéta Goetz-Stankiewicz and by Josef Cermák, respectively, and specifically about Toronto's New Theatre is the chapter by Frank Safertal and Pavel Král, while actor-director Josef Skála writes about Vancouver's Theatre Around the Corner.

Oliver Fiala has put together a chapter about Czech and Slovak theatre in Australia, with emphasis on the Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney regions. Milan Kocourek deals with the émigré theatre in London.

The book has 128 pages of text and about 70 pages of illustrations from various productions. The beautiful jacket has been designed by the Czech-American graphic artist Líba Puchmajer. The book can be ordered from the editor-distributor Vera Borkovec (aborkovec@comcast.net) at 12013 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902-1515. 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.