



JANUARY 2018

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[Happy New Year - Message from Starosta](#)

Dear Sokol members and dear friends of Sokol Washington,

I would like to wish you a healthy and prosperous 2018. We are one year older and perhaps a little bit wiser. ASW (American Sokol Washington) has had a very successful year. We organized the winter 2016-2017 ski camp, Sibrinky, the Masquerade ball on ice, the volleyball tournament, and the tennis tournament. In the summer, instead of West Virginia camp, we organized a hiking trip through the mountains in the Czech Republic. We had our annual membership appreciation picnic in the fall which was dedicated to our 70th anniversary celebration, then we had the Libora Kozaka biking memorial, the walking marathon, several hiking trips, and as usual at the end of the year, we organized our traditional Mikulasska party. The highlight of the 2017 year was the 70th anniversary celebration along with the

appear in the booklet. We still have a few copies, so let us know and we would be happy to mail a copy to you. They aren't free, but for a small price you would have the good feeling of supporting our organization.

In my 2015 New Year wish I wrote about volunteering work connected with the expression “za dobrotu na zobrotu.” In 2016 I put together a quiz to help us learn and remember the names of Sokol members who affected the history of ASW. Last year I chose to write about similarities between our community and chicken's ‘pecking’. When I was thinking about what to make this year's topic, “What Sokol means to me” came to mind. I wrote an essay with same topic about 22 years ago (in 1995), at the end of a two-week training program to become a certified Sokol instructor. The instructor training camp took place under the Sokol USA umbrella in Berwin, NY. I learned valuable gymnastics instructor skills which I could then apply during our weekly Friday gym classes. Everybody who attended the camp had to write an essay “What Sokol means to me.” I don't remember what I wrote; however, I do remember that I was proud of it. This was mainly because in about two months after the camp ended, I found that my essay was published in the National Sokol monthly newsletter. My essay could be read by all readers of National Sokol monthly newsletter within the USA. Well... about three months later; when browsing the newsletter (which is delivered to my home address every month); I realized they published almost everybody's essay....but I told myself that at least mine was published first!

So, that story aside, here is what Sokol means to me today: Sokol means community, sacrifices, willingness to help each other, love, and understanding. What more? What other nice words could we use? There is a plethora of words that could accurately be connected to Sokol. However, if you don't put meaning behind them, then they merely become insignificant dancing words.

Sokol means community; it is what glues our tiny Czech and Slovak community together here in the DC area. We share similar values, we speak the same languages, we like to gather and enjoy company of each other, and we want to pass that community value on to our children. We want to do that naturally without forcing our kids to attend the weekly Friday Sokol activities. We want them to discover the beauty of our Czech-Slovak culture, to find out how we differ from other cultures and why our culture is the one that we love and we value. This is our long-term goal; we know that it can't happen within one Sokol Friday night. One Czech-Slovak language class or a single Czech-Slovak folk dance rehearsal won't do it. But eventually it happens, and that is what keeps our community thriving.

Sokol means sacrifices; our organization wouldn't exist without our Sokol member sacrifices. We offer our free time, our skills and our talents to our Sokol organization for free. We do that often without thinking that we do something special. From time to time a thought comes to our mind “ok this would be my last year and then somebody else should pick up and do what I have done”. I hope that this not your case, I hope that you continue your valuable work for our organization for many, many more years. Nevertheless, we appreciate all and any sacrifice that our members have made for us.

Sokol means willingness to help each other. It's not easy for me to write about this meaning since I can see that this is not always, what we do. Most of the time we are helping each other; however, there are moments when I am not so convinced that we all are trying to do so. Perhaps it's because we are just humans and sometimes we fail to understand each other or we simply don't want to try to understand each other.

Expression: ‘kto do teba kamenom ty donho chleboť’ came to my mind. If someone throws a stone at you, you throw bread back at them. You might think I am either crazy or naive or expecting too much. I believe though that this is how families survive. Go into your memories: how many times has your own

understand why mom was not throwing a stone back at you. Maybe if this extreme situation happens and we don't know how it could be overcome, perhaps applying this expression might work.

Dear Sokol members, dear friends of ASW, on behalf of our Sokol organization I would like to express gratitude to SVU (Svaz Vedy a Umeni) for their ongoing support of our organization, mainly the grant which is designated for our Sokol Czech/Slovak language school. I would also like to thank Czech and Slovak embassies that graciously support not only our Sokol School program but also our children group Sokolik and our winter and summer camps. And I would like to thank all of you for your support of our organization.

Wishing you happy and prosperous 2018!

Milos

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[Monthly Meeting - January 3, 2018](#)



This is remainder for our monthly meeting which will be held this Wednesday 1/3/18.

When

Wednesday 1/3/2018 @ 8:00pm -10:00pm

Where

Potomac Community Library
[10101 Glenolden Dr.](#)
[Potomac, MD 20854](#)

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[Sokol School/Preschool - January 5, 2018](#)



School Calendar:

Jan. 5 (no APR), 12, 19, 26
 Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23
 Mar. 2, 9, 16 (no APR)
 Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27
 May 4, 11, 18
 June 1, 8

Save the Date:

January 12, All-school project: "Odkud pochazi ma rodina/Where does my family come from?"

Every child (siblings can work together or separate) should create a presentation on the Czech or Slovak town his/her parents come from. Use a tri-fold, a paper board, cardboard or just a large piece of paper. The presentation should include a small map to show us where the town is located and a few interesting details about the town including photos and pictures. We will have an all-school exhibit where kids will present their work.

Preschool is located on the main floor, school is located a floor above. Wait and supervise your children in front classrooms until their teachers let them in at 6:45pm. Nobody is allowed into classrooms without

Children attending school will need to bring: a folder, a composition book, a pencil case filled with pencils, pens & crayons.

New this year, **the children's classes will start at 6:45pm, and will be 75 minutes long.**

Schedule:

Czech and Slovak School - Youth	Fridays	6:45 – 8:00 pm
Czech and Slovak Preschool	Fridays	6:45 – 8:00 pm
Music and Folklore - Youth	Fridays	8:15 – 9:00 pm
Adult Czech and Slovak Classes	Fridays	8:00 – 9:00 pm
Youth Gymnastics	Fridays	9:00 – 10:00 pm
Adult Yoga	Fridays	7:00 – 8:00 pm

Room #25: Radka Herndon, Czech Preschool Teacher

Room #109: Andrea Kletetschka, Czech Younger Children & Czech Adult Teacher

Room #111: Olga O'Hagan, Czech Older Children Teacher

Room #136: Radmila Percy, Czech Native Speaking Children Teacher

Room #24: Martin Cullen, Slovak Preschool Teacher

Room #140: Michaela Hamiary Janotova, Slovak Children Teacher

Gym: Lucia Steiner, Folk Dancing Instructor

Gym: Miroslav Honzak, Director of Men

Please make sure to arrive on time, late arrivals are very disruptive. Parents should NOT be in classrooms during class unless necessary and approved by teacher. No parents should be in the gym while Lucia leads folklore. Parents' presence is too distracting.

School Fees: \$80/1 child, \$120/2 children, \$160/3 children, \$200/4 children per Semester. Checks or cash accepted. Checks are payable to "ASW DC School Fund".

Sokol Annual Family Membership: \$50 (all) +\$15 Administrative Fee (new members only). Checks or cash accepted. Checks are payable to "ASW DC".

When


January 5, 2018 - 6:45 PM

Where

[Carderock Springs Elementary School,](#)
[7401 Persimmon Tree Ln,](#)
[Bethesda, MD 20817](#)

Contact

Sis. Michaela Kiss at school@sokolwashington.org

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[Save the Date - 40th Annual Bača Cup International Ski Race - February 17, 2018](#)

You are cordially invited to participate at [40th Bača Cup](#), the annual international alpine ski race for all ages and nationalities, on February 17, 2018.



Representatives from Germany, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, and the United States take part in this annual event that highlights the relationship between all countries and their shared love of the Nordic experience.

Truly, the Bača's vision of cooperation, competition, and good fun is realized through all who choose to be involved.

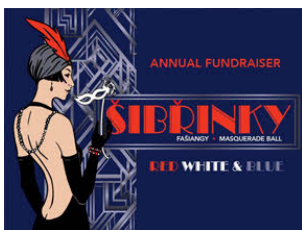
WHEN: Saturday, February 17, 2018 - Time TBD

WHERE: Blue Knob Ski Resort, Blue Knob, PA www.blueknob.com

The organizer reserves the right to reschedule or cancel the event in case of inclement weather or a force nature.

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[Save the Date - Šibrinky/Fašiangy/Masquerade Ball - February 24, 2018](#)



Commemorating Czechoslovakia's Centenary

Our Annual Fundraiser inspired by **Red White and Blue theme**, the elegance of the Art Deco period, history of young Czechoslovakia (1918-1939), and be ready to enjoy the rhythm of the swing and waltz.

A Fun Evening of Activities:
Dancing and Live Music
Delicious Full Course Dinner
Best Costume Prizes
Silent Auction
Raffle Drawing
Adults Only

Saturday, February 24, 2018
5:30 - 11:30 PM

The Embassy of the Czech Republic
3900 Spring of Freedom Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

SEATING IS LIMITED!

NON-TRANSFERABLE TICKETS are selling on a first come, first served basis.
RSVP: sibrinky.eventbrite.com by February 20, 2018

Gift Certificate tickets are available for purchase on events@sokolwashington.org
Sponsorship options are still available: [Sponsorship information](#)

Black tie optional

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[ASW Membership Dues for 2018](#)



Please DO NOT FORGET that the DEADLINE to submit [ASW membership dues](#) is March 1, 2018.

• Individual Membership (adult /voting)	\$40.00
• Two Adults Membership (both voting)	\$75.00
• Family Membership I. (one adult voting / all children up to 18 years and other non-voting adults)	\$50.00
• Family Membership II. (both adults voting / all children up to 18 years)	\$80.00
• New Member One-time Administrative Fee	\$15.00

Please make your check payable to "American Sokol Washington, DC" and mail it at your earliest convenience to:

American Sokol Washington, D.C., Inc.

c/o Br. Tibor Bartalos

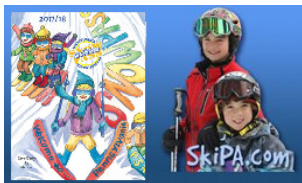
[1101 3rd Street, SW, Apt. 704](#)

Washington, DC, 20024

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.

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[Ski Free in PA - 4th/5th Grade Snow-pass](#)



How about skiing or boarding for FREE this winter? Well here's your chance! Your Pennsylvania 4th & 5th Grade Snowpass booklet offers you the privilege of skiing and boarding at 20 Pennsylvania Ski Resorts for FREE this winter - Take mom or dad with you for the thrill of a lifetime - an experience you will never forget.

This season we hope that you and your family have an opportunity to enjoy as many of Pennsylvania's ski resorts as possible. Your Snowpass will provide you with over 64 days of FREE skiing and boarding.

This program has just opened and has limited capacity, so please order your passes now:

<https://skipa.com/deals/4th5th-grade-program>

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[Volleyball Wednesdays](#)

Please note that starting in December we will be playing on Wednesdays in a new location.



players might get limited volleyball play time.

<http://www.sokolwashington.org/activities/sports-activities/volleyball/>

When

WEDNESDAYS, between 8 pm - 10 pm

January: 1/3, 1/10, 1/17 1/24, 1/31

February: 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28

March: 3/7, 3/14

Where

[Bannockburn ES,](#)
[6520 Dalroy Ln.,](#)
[Bethesda, MD 20817](#)

=====

When

TUESDAYS, between 8 pm - 10 pm

March: 3/20, 3/27

April: 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24

May: 5/8, 5/15, 5/29

Jun: 6/5, 6/12

Where

[Wood Acres Elementary School](#)
[5800 Cromwell Dr.,](#)
[Bethesda, MD 20816](#)

Contact

Bro. Pavel Tojzl at ptojsl@iie.org

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[Orienteering](#)



Come and enjoy this family friendly sport. Events are organized by the local orienteering clubs and offer great fun for the whole family. This is a great skill for kids to master.

Try something new! Ski-orienteering organized by [WPOC](#).

Jan. 7 Laurel Ridge, PA (Check [local snow conditions](#) before going)

contact Dagmar Merkova at dgmerkova@gmail.com

January 7 - [Greenbelt National Park, Sweetgum Parking, Greenbelt, MD](#)

January 21 - [Patapsco Valley State Park, McKeldin Area, Shelter 501, Marriottsville, MD](#)

January 28 - [Fountainhead Regional Park, Main parking area, Clifton, VA](#)

<http://qoc.us.orienteeing.org>

All are welcome and for those interested, please contact brother Miroslav Honzák at sports@sokolwashington.org, Radka Herndon at Rradunka@aol.com.

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[Sokol Washington, D.C. Facebook](#)



Sokol Washington, D.C. offers additional way for the members to communicate and stay informed about additional events we may not include in our monthly newsletters. Bro. **Tibor Bartalos** has been exceptional at leading this effort.

Please bookmark and check our unit's Facebook page on regular basis at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sokol-Washington-DC/191155580916592>

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[Shop with Amazon, earn money for Sokol Washington, D.C.](#)



Please support us every time you shop at Amazon, at no cost to you. [AmazonSmile](#) is a simple and automatic way for you to support us! You only need to select (Search) - American Sokol Washington, DC - before you begin shopping on your first visit to [AmazonSmile](#).

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

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[American Sokol Library and Archival Museum](#)

Would you like to get rid of documents, photos, art, books, collections, merchandise, technical material and articles that are inherently valuable and significant to Sokol movement, its founders, members, culture, philosophy, 150 years of history in America and 70 years of history in Washington, D.C. metropolitan area?

Please contact Br. Tibor Bartalos at tbartalos@sokolwashington.org

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[Thank you notes](#)



We would not be able to flourish as an organization without the constant help of our many volunteers. We can't thank enough each and every member of our community.

If you have any suggestion or would like to add users to thank you notes, do not hesitate to contact us at sokol@sokolwashington.org.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our events

Sokol Washington DC

[Forward to Friend](#)

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