



SEPTEMBER 2018

LETTER FROM THE BOARD: Welcome to another year of Sokol

Every September brings a new beginning, especially for our children. As we all get back into our routines after our summer breaks, our kids go back to school for a new year. With September, our Sokol begins anew as Sokol Washington, D.C. presents our Czech/Slovak school every Friday evening for our families to participate in Czech and Slovak culture, language, social activities and athletics. We welcome all to come and see the positive impact that our school director Misa Kiss, the teachers and family volunteers of the Czech/Slovak community offer both children and adults alike.

In addition, please join us on Wednesday, September 12 as we elect the leadership of our Sokol.

Details for both the school and elections are in this newsletter. If you have information you would like to be included in this newsletter, please email: events@sokolwashington.org and kd2231@gmail.com

IN THIS ISSUE

2018 Annual Membership Meeting and Board Elections – Wednesday, September 12

Summer Camp in the Czech Republic-Vltava

Jiri Parma Fletcher

Czech/Slovak School Open House – Friday, September 7

Sokol School/Preschool – Friday, September 14

Hike-a-Thon – Saturday, September 15

12th Annual Kozak Memorial Bike Event – Saturday, October 6

Sokol Membership Appreciation Picnic - Saturday, October 20

My Slet Experience -letter from 14 year-old-girl from Baltimore

Annual Potomac Walking Marathon - Saturday, October 27

2018 Vermont Ski Camp - December 26, 2018 - January 2, 2019

ONGOING

Volleyball Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays

Orienteering - Saturday, September 8, 2018

Make a Difference - Support Sokol Washington, D.C.

Shop with Amazon, earn money for Sokol Washington, D.C.

American Sokol Library and Archival Museum

2018 Annual Membership Meeting and Board Elections

[Read it on Facebook](#)

You are cordially invited to our Monthly Membership Meeting and Annual Officer Elections for our 2018-2019 Officers. This is your opportunity to participate in shaping the future of our Sokol! After a brief administrative session, refreshments will be served.

If you are interested in participating on the Executive Board or would like to offer your time and talents to assist with one or more of our many activities, please contact Br. Levendis, or Br. Labuda with your nomination - we can always find a place for you in some aspect of Sokol Washington, D.C. life!

Nomination Committee Contact Information:

Br. George Levendis at glevendis@kozlaw.com • Br. Igor Labuda at islabuda@msn.com

NEW LOCATION for our ASW monthly meetings for Fall 2018 has been reserved.

WHERE: [Little Falls Community Library](#) • 5501 Massachusetts Ave • Bethesda, MD 20818

WHEN: Wednesday, September 12 at 8 PM - 10 PM

We hope to see you there - all are welcome, member or not!

Sokol Summer Camp Vltava 2018

Each summer, we give the families of our Sokol the opportunity to experience the best of the Czech Republic and Slovakia. This year's summer camp took us on a great adventure to the Vltava river. We canoed 70 km down the stream from Vyšší Brod to Boršov and Vltavou through the most spectacular scenery to be seen in Southern Bohemia. We enjoyed the famed castle of Rožmberk, and toured the UNESCO protected city of Český Krumlov and pitched our tents on the ancient Celtic settlement below the castle Dívčí Kámen. The charming Vltava river, its surrounding wilderness and steep rugged cliffs often reminded us of our beloved Potomac River that runs through our very own community throughout the Washington D.C. area. See below for a letter from a special guest from the Czech Republic who joined us on this great adventure. Please look for details of Summer 2019's adventure in upcoming newsletters and join in the fun.



LETTER FROM A HAPPY CAMPER

Dear Chief

On behalf of all the members of Sokol who participated in the camp on the Vltava, allow me to thank you for the hard work and dedication that went into the planning and execution of this year's summer camp. It was appreciated by all of us. It was as if the memories of previous camps at the Blue Rock and spirit of our friendship followed us from the U.S. to Bohemia. We also offer our heartfelt thanks to the Steen family. They were not only responsible for the financial contribution to this endeavor but also helped in reducing the looming logistical challenges (long live Grandma! J).

Canoeing the Vltava River was a pleasant experience for us all. We expected the weir passes on the river to be as crowded as Wenceslas Square. In the end, even the passages past Český Krumlov were really beautiful with very few other people around us. Furthermore, canoeing without the extra weight was a breeze. Rachelka and Seneca only wished for more weir passes :)

Many greetings to everyone and best wishes for a beautiful rest of the summer.

Robert

Dr. Robert Rehak served as the Cultural Attaché at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Washington, DC from 2012-2016. He and his children participated in Sokol Summer camps at the Blue Rock in Monongahela National Forest in WV.



It is with great sadness that we announce the untimely death of Jiri Parma Fletcher. Jiri, son of Dasha Parma Fletcher and Karl Fletcher, lost his battle to the Opioid Epidemic on August 6, 2018. Jiri had been happy and thriving in the Cherry Hill, New Jersey area for the last year and was just three days short of being two years sober before he overdosed.

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of Jiri Parma Fletcher.

In lieu of flowers if you wish you may send contributions to the following:

Steps to Recovery – 1400 Veterans Highway, Levittown, Pennsylvania 19056 1-866-488-8349
<https://www.stepstorecovery.com/>

OR

The Fletcher Family (Dasha Fletcher) - all donations to our family on behalf of Jiri will be distributed to the Addiction Recovery Community in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

Czech/Slovak School Open House

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

[Read it on Facebook](#)

Please join us to meet our teachers, volunteers and other families involved in the Czech/Slovak School. We will be accepting registration of your family for the Czech/Slovak school and American Sokol, Washington D.C.

School Fees per Semester:

\$90/1 child, \$140/2 children, \$180/3 children, \$210/4 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: Friday, September 7, 2017 - 6:45 PM - 8:00 PM

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

Contact: Sis. Michaela Kiss at school@sokolwashington.org



Sokol School/Preschool

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

languages and cultural heritage. Plus, the children will have plenty of opportunities to perform what they learn at Sokol events throughout the year. For the adults there are opportunities for those looking to learn or advance their Czech/Slovak language skills.

We've found that the children do best without parents staying in the classroom. There will be activity, conversation and volunteer opportunities in the multi-purpose room for the adults while we actively wait on the children and their lessons. In addition, following school, there will be Music/Culture/Folklore and athletics/gymnastics.

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

Please enter through the door facing the parking lot. School begins at **6:45**. All children will be escorted to the class by their teachers. If you are late, please escort your children to the class. If you are new to the school, there will be plenty of parent volunteers to assist you.

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	8:15/9:00 – 10:00 pm
Adult Yoga	Fridays	7:00 – 8:00 pm

Michaela Kiss, Director of Education

Lucie Berankova, Deputy Director of Education

Radka Herndon, Czech Preschool Teacher

Andrea Kletetschka, Czech Younger Children & Czech Adult Teacher

Olga O'Hagan, Czech Older Children Teacher

Radmila Percy, Czech Native Speaking Children Teacher

Janka Haire, Slovak Preschool Teacher

Michaela Hamiary Janotova, Slovak Children Teacher

Miroslav Honzak, Director of Men - Gymnastics

When: Friday, September 14, 2017 - 6:45 PM

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

Contact: Sis. Michaela Kiss at school@sokolwashington.org

SCHOOL CALENDAR

2018

2019

JANUARY 4 • 11 • 18 • 25

FEBRUARY 1 • 8 • 15 • 22

MARCH 1 • 8 • 15

Mark your calendars for folklore events:

Saturday, December 9

Singing at Sokol St. Nicholas Party, McLean, VA



Shenandoah Hike-a-Thon

[Read it on Facebook](#)

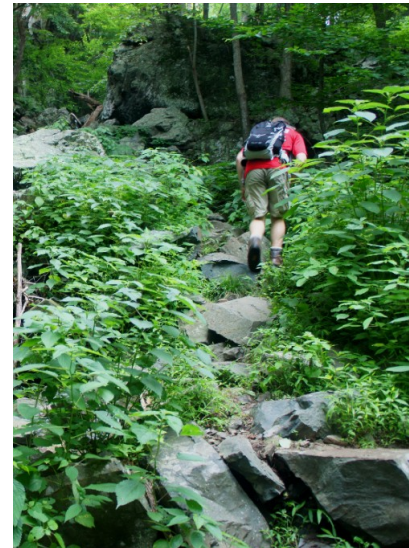
Please join us for a day of hiking. We'll start our 26.2 miles (42.2km) trail hike at Little Devils Stairs on the Appalachian Trail . The Hiking Marathon ("Horsky Chodecky Marathon - Memorial Olgy Hudlicke") in Shenandoah National Park will include Little Devils stairs, Appalachian trail, Hog back Mountain, Marshal Mountain. We'll return the same way, back to the top of Little Devils Stairs, Keyser Run Fire Road with total elevation gain of 4,921 feet (1,500 m).

WHEN: Saturday, September 15. Meet at 7:20 at the parking lot of Little Devils Stairs trail-head (end of VA670/Keyser Run Rd.)

WHERE: [Little Devils Stairs Trail-head](#)

CONTACT: Br. Pavel Klein at KleinP@epilepsydc.com

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15



Annual Kozak Biking

[Read it on Facebook](#)

In 2007, our Unit held the first of what has become an annual bike ride held in memory of our member, Brother Libor Kozák, who tragically lost his life while descending Mt. Everest. Libor was a great sports enthusiast; thus this event fittingly honors his memory.

The bike ride leads through the beautiful landscapes of Northern Virginia and/or southern Maryland. Routes vary in length to accommodate bikers of all ages and abilities. There is always a good, hearty dinner waiting at the end of the ride. We hope you can join us!

Please register by September 30, 2018, to Michal Jarnick at mjarnik@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6



Start and finish points are at the

Sokol Membership Appreciation Picnic

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

[Read it on Facebook](#)



The Annual Sokol Membership Appreciation Picnic will be held at Fletcher's Boathouse, just minutes from downtown Washington, DC. Enjoy playing volleyball and soccer, leisurely boat or canoe on the Potomac River. Great food, numerous kids' fun activities. Bike along the C & O canal, and, of course, enjoy pleasant company. This is a free event for all Sokol and family members. Guests are welcome! Donations to Sokol Washington are greatly appreciated!

WHEN: Sunday, October 20 at 11:00 am

WHERE: [Fletcher's Boat House](#) • 4940 Canal Road, N.W. • Washington, DC 20007

CONTACT: Bro. Vladimir Kovac at tysesty@gmail.com

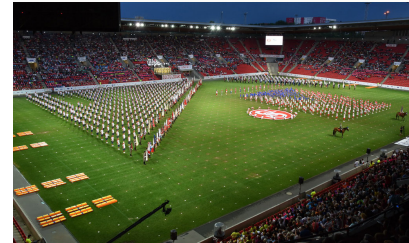
My Slet Experience

By Mia Mendel AUGUST 2018

[Read the entire letter on Facebook](#)

Following are reflections about the 2018 Všesokolský slet from Mia Mendel, age 14, who has been a member of TJ Sokol Hanspaulka (in Prague) since the age of two. For her entire life Mia has lived part-time in the Czech Republic, and part time in Baltimore, Maryland.

"I have always loved how I can come back after spending 8 months in Maryland and feel like no time has passed," she says. "Until now I didn't imagine that the feeling of family could extend beyond our local Sokol group. But wow was I wrong. On the first day of mass rehearsals, I was overwhelmed with the atmosphere of friendship and community. Everyone greeted me with a friendly 'Nazdar!' or 'Ahoy!', rather than a formal "dobry den." Many of us were getting annoyed sometimes that we had to stand outside in the burning hot sun for hours. But at least we were annoyed together, finding a common enemy – in this case, the weather."



Annual Potomac Walking Marathon

[Read it on Facebook](#)

Please join us for the 17th Annual Potomac Walking Marathon for young and old alike. This will be a 42 km and 195 m light pace walk along C&O Canal's tree-lined paths and the Potomacriver. Enjoy the rustle of multi-colored leaves, the warmth of the sun's ray and chatting with friends all while walking at a comfortable pace.

When: Saturday, October 27, 2018 at 8:45 AM

Where: [Violettes Lock NO. 23](#)

Starting at Violettes Lock and walk toward Harper's Ferry

PLEASE NOTE:

Violettes Lock (No.23) Coordinates: N39.06705 & W77.32887

Contact: Bro. Pavel Klein at KleinP@epilepsydc.com
301-704-4925 (cell) or 301-424-1658

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27



The walking starts at 9:00 AM
Meet at 8:45 AM at Violettes Lock,
mile 22, C&O Canal

Rain day is October 28, 2018

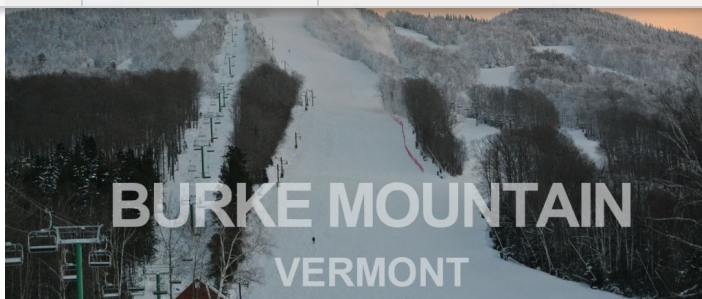
2018 Vermont Ski Camp

[Ski resort: Burke Mountain](#)

DECEMBER 26 - JANUARY 2, 2019

Accommodations: [High Meadows Condominiums](#)

The camp is for Sokol
members only. If you would like
to become a Sokol member
please visit our

**When:**

December 26, 2018 -

January 2, 2019

Where:

Burke, Vermont

Contact:events@sokolwashington.org

Start planning for Winter 2018 Vermont Ski Camp. This year's date is set for **December 26, 2018 – January 2, 2019**. The ski camp will be held in the Burke Mountain. The accommodations are in the same townhouses as past years.

VOLLEYBALL TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

[Read it on Facebook](#)

We encourage new volleyball players to check out our competitive volleyball Monday group. Due to the group's large size and skill level, player's will be evaluated for their level and properly placed in the correct group.

When: TUESDAYS, between 8 pm - 10 pm

September: 9/11 • 9/18 • 9/25

October: 10/2 • 10/9 • 10/16 • 10/23 • 10/30

November: 11/6 • 11/20 • 11/27

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

When: WEDNESDAYS, between 8 pm - 10 pm

December: 12/5 • 12/12 • 12/19

January: 1/2 • 1/9 • 1/16 • 1/23 • 1/30

February: 2/6 • 2/13 • 2/20 • 2/27

March: 3/6 • 3/13

Where: [Bannockburn Elementary School](#) • 6520 Dalroy Ln • Bethesda, MD 20817

When: TUESDAYS, between 8 pm - 10 pm

March: 3/19 • 3/26

April: 4/2 • 4/9 • 4/16 • 4/23

May: 5/7 • 5/14 • 5/28

Jun: 6/4 • 6/11

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

Contact: Bro. Pavel Tojsl at ptojsl@iie.org

Orienteering

[Quantico Orienteering Club](#)

...ly Orienteering starts September 8th! The first event is a great introduction to the sport of 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.

Saturday, September 8th [Mason Neck SP, Mason Neck SP, Lorton, VA](#)

Beginner. _____

Sunday, September 16th [Occoquan Regional Park, Main parking area, Lorton, VA](#)

Classic _____

Sunday, September 23rd [Lake Accotink Park, McLaren-Sargent Pavilion, Springfield, VA](#)

Classic. _____

Feel free to check the website of the organizer and even try it on your own. Please, also check website for changes due to the weather. <http://qoc.us.orienteering.org>

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

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

Contact: Br. Tibor Bartalos at tbartalos@sokolwashington.org

Make a Difference - Support Sokol Washington

Please give us your consideration when you are deciding on your charitable contributions.

All your contributions to the American Sokol Washington, D.C., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, are tax deductible.



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

Sokol Washington, DC Facebook

Sokol Washington, D.C. offers additional ways for members to communicate and stay informed about additional events we may not include in our monthly newsletters.

Please check our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/SokolWashingtonDC/>

If you have a cultural, folk, educational or sporting/athletic event you would like to share with our members, then please contact Br. Tibor Bartalos at tbartalos@sokolwashington.org.



We would not be able to flourish as an organization without the constant help of our many volunteers. American Sokol. 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.

Washington, D.C. Chapter, is a 501(c)(3) a non-profit organization and all of its officers are volunteers.



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