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Wow!!! What a September we had at American Sokol Washington D.C. The new year at our Czech/Slovak School kicked off with the Open House on September 6. Of course, every Friday in September featured the school, Sokolik (children's traditional song, dance and folklore troupe) and gymnastics. We saw many new faces this year and hope to see you (there are adult classes as well) and your children on Fridays. Details below. In case you missed it, we had an awesome weekend of hiking, camping and canoeing. In addition, we held our annual Outdoor Volleyball Tournament. Check out the photos below of all the action from September. Plus, details of upcoming events are inside. See you in October.

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE



Children and their parents are brought up to speed on the upcoming Czech/Slovak school year by Lucie Berankova, Deputy Director of Education. Many returning and new families joined the Open House.



Our popular annual [One Day Canoe Trip](#) took place on the South Fork of "Daughter of the Stars River" with [#DownriverCanoeCompany](#) on Sunday Sept. 15th. Native American legend describes the creation of the Shenandoah River and Valley as the place where "the morning stars placed the brightest jewels from their crowns in the river." It is priceless getting closer to nature while paddling gently with thirty cheery paddlers off all ages. We truly enjoyed a gorgeous sunny Sunday. [#SokolWashingtonDC](#)

HIKING, CAMPING



Once again, American Sokol Washington enjoyed the beautiful mountains of West Virginia and then headed off to an evening alongside the Shenandoah River in Virginia before nestling into their tents. Songs were sung, marshmallows were roasted and maybe one or two pilsners were consumed as everyone enjoyed a star-filled night by the fire.

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Upcoming Holiday Sokolik Performances

Czech and Slovak Fall Festival SVU - Saturday, October 5

Jaroslav Vondrich: A Celebration of Life Memorial - RSVP Required - Saturday, October 12

13th Annual Kozak Memorial Century Cycling Event - Sunday, October 13

2019 Virginia Czech & Slovak Folklife Festival - Saturday, October 19

Membership Appreciation Picnic - Sunday, October 20

Sokolsky Beh Republiky - Sunday, October 27

2019 Vermont Ski Camp - December 26, 2019 - January 2, 2020

Local Area Ski Swaps - Various locations and Dates

ONGOING

Sokol School/Preschool - October 4, 11, 18 & 25

Fall Volleyball Season - October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

Around the Embassies

Orienteering - October 13 & 27

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

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

American Sokol Library and Archival Museum

Sokol Washington, D.C. Facebook

Keep in Touch

Thank you

OCTOBER MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

We hope to see you there. All are welcome to attend. Member and non-members included

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

WHEN: Wednesday, October 2 • 8 PM - 10 PM

[Read it on Facebook](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

For Upcoming Sokolik (Children's Singing, Dancing and Folklore) Performances:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5th

Singing at Czech and Slovak Festival in McLean, VA (Details below)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19th

Singing and Dancing at the 2019 Virginia Czech and Slovak Folklife Festival in Richmond, VA (Details below)

MIKULASSKA - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

Mikulasska is December 7th (Saturday) Singing at Sokol St. Nicholas Party, Bethesda, MD

Please save the date. Volunteers are welcome for the Bake Sale, Book Sale, and other activities.

FALL FESTIVAL



Sponsored by the
Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences,
Washington, D.C. Chapter

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019
11AM – 4PM

Food • Pilsner beer • traditional ceramics
crafts • books for sale

Early sale of traditional Christmas cookies and pastries
—Freeze them!

Entertainment for children:
balloon twisting • face painting • ice cream

Children from Sokol organizations
performing in folk costumes

Sing and Dance to the tunes
of the Slovanka Band!

ADMISSION: \$10 per family, \$5 per individual

St. Luke Orthodox Church
6801 Georgetown Pike, McLean, Virginia

WHEN: Saturday, October 5, 2019 • 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sokolik Performance at 11:30 am

WHERE: [St. Luke Orthodox Church 6801 Georgetown Pike, McLean, Virginia](#)



Memorial Celebrating Jaroslav's Life will be held on Saturday, October 12, 2019
at the Vondrich residence starting at 2 PM

Please RSVP by October 3:

Olga Vomdrich ovondrich@ttrsir.com or Clara Vondrich cvondrich@gmail.com

WHEN: Saturday, October 12, 2019 • 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

WHERE: [812 Towlston Rd • McLean, VA 22102](#)

ANNUAL KOZAK MEMORIAL CYCLING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

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.

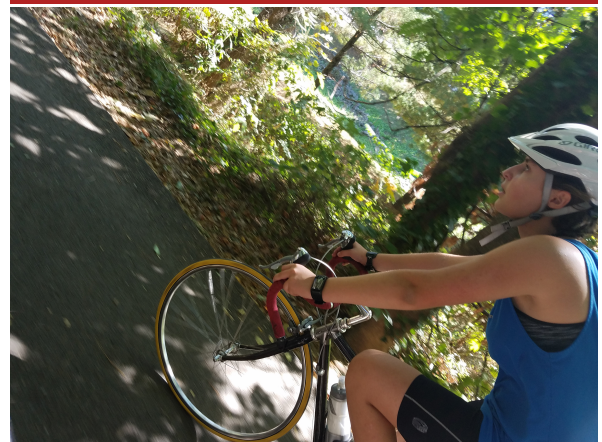
The bike ride leads through the beautiful landscapes of Northern Virginia and southern Maryland. Routes vary in length to accommodate bikers of all ages and abilities. There is always a good, hearty potluck picnic at Hamilton Park, VA waiting at the end of the ride. We hope you can join us!

Please register by **September 31, 2019**
to Michal Jarnick at mjarnik@gmail.com.

WHEN: Sunday, October 13, 2019

WHERE: [Northern Virginia/Southern Maryland](#)

[Read it on Facebook](#)



FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19**

Seventh Annual Virginia Czech & Slovak Folklife Festival, Featuring the Sokolik Children's Dancers from American Sokol Washington DC, The Village Musicians, The Chesterfield Concert Band, That Dance Place Dancers, The Czech Singers, Traditional Food and Bakery, Czech & Slovak Beers, Display from the National Czech & Slovak Museum, Special Artist display, History and Heritage, Farm Equipment, Animals, Games and more! You can visit the Czech & Slovak gallery.

Sokolik performance times are 12:30 & 2 pm.

Free Admission!

Rain or Shine.

Please let us know if you can help volunteer for this event at events@sokolwashington.org

CONTACT: Bro. Tibor tbartalos@sokolwashington.org

WHEN: Saturday, October 19, 2019

11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sokolik Performances at 12:30 pm and 2:00 pm.

WHERE: [The Prince George Regional Heritage Center](#)
6406 Courthouse Road
Prince George, VA 23875

**MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION PICNIC****SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20**

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!

Please let us know if you can help volunteer for this event at events@sokolwashington.org

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

WHEN: Sunday, October 20, 2019. 11:00AM - 5:00PM
(rain-day Sunday 10/27)

Washington, DC 20007

[Read it on Facebook](#)



SOKOLSKY BEH REPUBLIKY "SOKOL RUN OF THE REPUBLIC"

One hundred years ago, Sokol members organized an anniversary run for the young republic of Czechoslovakia (the year 1919). It was a similar idea to the relaying of the Olympic torch, only instead of a flame, they were conveying greetings to the first president of the republic, T. G. Masaryk. This year, Sokol organizations rejuvenated this idea and are organizing runs in many locations. The American Sokol Washington D.C. would like you to join us on Sunday, October 27th, 2019, at 9 am. More information to come.

sokolrun.eventbrite.com

WHEN: Sunday, October 27, 2019. 9:00 am

CONTACT: Dasa Merkova
events@sokolwashington.org.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27



[Register on Eventbrite](#)

The Czech and Slovak Heritage Association Presents

THE THIRTY-THIRD CZECH AND SLOVAK FESTIVAL

TRADITIONAL MEALS, PASTRIES, COFFEE, HOT DOGS,

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

MUSIC BY PAJTASI

WHEN: Sunday, October 27, 2019. 12:00

Noon - 6:00PM

WHERE: [The American Legion Hall](#)
[125 York Road Towson, MD 21204](#)



[For More Information](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)

SAVE *the* DATE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH



NEW LOCATION:

Sokol St. Nicholas Feast, held at the
[River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation,](#)
[Bethesda, MD](#)

CONTACT: events@sokolwashington.org.

VERMONT SKI CAMP

DECEMBER 26, 2019 - JANUARY 2, 2020



Join us for our annual week-long family ski trip to Burke Mountain, Vermont. This year's ski camp will take place between December 26, 2019, and January 2, 2020. The goal of the ski trip is for children ages 6 to 18 to enjoy outdoors in the mountains, to participate in sports, and to have an opportunity to socialize with Czech and Slovak peers in an environment that fosters their Czech and Slovak language skills and appreciation for their heritage. Children participate in structured skiing instruction with Czech or Slovak ski instructors and in organized indoor games in the evenings. Children under six-years are welcome. However, children under 6 need to be supervised by their parents, as we do not offer specific activities for this age group.

If you are interested, please contact Ondrej Schneider at schneider.ondrej@gmail.com as soon as possible. Space is limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The deadline to sign up is October 15, 2019.

CONTACT: Ondrej Schneider at schneider.ondrej@gmail.com



If you are interested in getting a different ski or snowboard equipment for up to 1/2 the price this winter season, please check out these ski swaps

There are plenty of choices to satisfy even the most advanced skier.

STERLING, VA - October 5 & 6, 2019 and November 2 & 3: [Alpine Ski Shop](#)

CZECH AND SLOVAK SCHOOL

OCTOBER 4, 11, 18 & 25

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

There will be an activity, conversation and volunteer opportunities in the multi-purpose room for the adults while we actively wait for 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.

WHEN: Friday, October 4, 11, 18 & 25 2019 • 6:45 PM - 8:00 PM

WHERE: [Carderock Springs Elementary School](#)

7401 Persimmon Tree Ln • Bethesda, MD 20817

CONTACT: Sis. Michaela Kiss or Lucie Berankova
at school@sokolwashington.org



FRIDAYS - SCHEDULE:

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

More information about our school [CLICK HERE](#)

FALL VOLLEYBALL SEASON:

TUESDAYS

For dates and times, please refer to our website as dates, times and locations change.

WHEN: Tuesdays: 9-10:15 pm

Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Nov. 12

WHERE: [Luther Jackson Middle School](#)

3020 Gallows Road • Falls Church, VA 22042

CONTACT:

Radovan Kohlmayer sports@sokolwashington.org

[Read it on Facebook](#)



Events Around the Czech and Slovak Embassies

Check out these Czech & Slovak events sponsored by the Embassies of the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Please check the location. Not all events are at the Embassies:

Czech Embassy

https://www.mzv.cz/washington/en/culture_events/culture/index.html

Slovak Embassy

<http://www.mzv.sk/web/en/news>



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.

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
Oct. 13 Sun.	Gunston Hall, Main parking area, Lorton, VA	Classic
Oct. 27 Sun.	C&O NHP (Great Falls MD), Great Falls Tavern, Potomac, MD	Classic

Check the website of the organizer and even try it on your own. Please, also check the website for changes due to the weather. www.qocweb.org

All are welcome and for those interested, please contact brother Miroslav Honzák at sports@sokolwashington.org

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

All your contributions to the American Sokol Washington, D.C., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, are Please give us your consideration when you are deciding on your charitable tax deductible contributions.



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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 out American Sokol, Washington D.C. on Facebook: [See us here](#)

If you have a cultural, folk, educational or sporting/athletic event you would like to share with our members, please

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



KEEP IN TOUCH

We value you as our audience! Stay engaged and informed about our oncoming an educational, cultural, folk or sporting events and do not miss our MailChimp campaigns. Please make sure that our e-mail sokol@sokolwashington.org is included in your Contacts/Mailing list and does not end up in your Spam or Trash box.



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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