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It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.....OK, maybe not quite yet, but as the cold winter approaches, American Sokol Washington D.C. heats up. First, whew...take a breath....because October was a wild ride, literally, with our annual Kozak Memorial Bike Ride. Most riders enjoyed a 26-kilometer ride, but a couple of hearty souls went for 200 kilometers. If that wasn't enough, many enjoyed our first 5k Run celebrating "Sokolsky Beh Republiky" or Sokol Run of the Republic celebrating the one hundredth anniversary Sokol run held in 1919 for the founding of Czechoslovakia. In between all that activity, Sokolik, our children's folklore troupe, performed at the SVU Fall Festival (Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences, Washington Chapter,) and in Richmond at the Virginia Czech & Slovak Folklife Festival. To cap it all off, we broke bread at our Annual Membership picnic....WHEW!!!! See below for the highlights and take a look at all the upcoming November & December events ahead.

## **OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS**

**ANNUAL KOZAK MEMORIAL BIKERIDE** 







What a turnout for our Annual Bike ride. Young and old rode along the beautiful WO&D trail for up to 120 miles. Of course, we ended the day with a well-earned picnic.

#### **SVU FALL FESTIVAL**







It's always a treat to watch Sokolik perform. Many thanks to the families and especially our teenage volunteers who pass along their knowledge to the younger children by working with them before and during the performances. Your efforts are noticed and appreciated by all in attendance.

#### VIRGINIA CZECH AND SLOVAK FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL







How about another show stopping performance by Sokolik as well as our teenagers and adults singing traditional campfire songs. A number of families drove to Richmond to participate in the Virginia Czech and Slovak Folklife Festival. This is Prince William County's signature event of the year and American Sokol Washington D.C. didn't disappoint. With a guest speaking spot, the Sokolik performance, campfire songs and a well-staffed booth where we added many names to our rolls and sold t-shirts. Thanks to all in making the effort to get to Richmond for this fabulous cultural event.







One hundred years ago, Sokol members organized the first anniversary run for the young republic of Czechoslovakia (the year was 1919, October 28th). It was a similar idea to the relaying of the Olympic torch, only instead of a torch, they were relaying greetings to the first president of the republic, T. G. Masaryk. This year, Sokol organizations in the Czech Republic rejuvenated this and organized runs in many locations in the Czech Republic. It rained. Hard. Still, more than half of the registered people came to celebrate the 101st anniversary and the run! We got wet, but we were glad we did it! Everybody was a winner!

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

#### UPCOMING

November Monthly Membership Meeting - Wedensday, November 6, 2019

Annual Czech Christmas Market/Sokolik Performance - Saturday, November 9, 2019

Potomac Walking Marathon - Saturday, November 16, 2019

Teen Dance Meet-Up - Sunday, November 17, 2019

Steel Strings and Iron Curtains Album Launch - Saturday, November 23, 2019

St Nicholas Feast - Saturday, December 7, 2019

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

Sibrinky - Casino Night Fundraiser Gala - February 22, 2020 - SAVE THE DATE

#### ONGOING

Sokol School/Preschool - November 1, 8, 15 & 22

Fall Volleyball Season - November 12

Around the Embassies

Orienteering - November 3, 10, 17 & 24

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

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, November 6 • 8 PM - 10 PM

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

#### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9th**

Singing and Dancing at Annual Czech Christmas Market at the Embassy of the Czech Republic

#### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**

Mikulášska is December 7th Singing at Sokol St. Nicholas Party, Bethesda, MD Please save the date. Volunteers are welcome for the Bake Sale, Book Sale, and other activities.

# ANNUAL CZECH CHRISTMAS MARKET and Sokolik performance

The Embassy of the Czech Republic invites all from near and far to its annual Czech Christmas Market on November 9, 2019, from 10 am to 4 pm. This year, we bring you a newly designed market, more vendors, a larger variety and the spirit of the season. Browse stands filled with beautiful handcrafted ornaments, Bohemian crystal, exquisite bead and glass jewelry, fine art, etchings & lithographs, decadent Prague chocolates, and Moravian wines & traditional liquors.

With the help of the *Harddecore* Creative Studio flying in from Prague, the Czech Embassy and its grounds will be turned into a magical Czech Christmas market. Enjoy the taste and smell of mulled wine as well as an assortment of delicious Czech pastries & gingerbread, and savory cuisine.

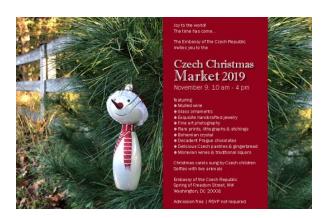
Families will adore the array of live animals from the Nativity scene for selfies and cuddles. The children of American Sokol Washington DC and Slavic American Sokol will perform Czech Christmas carols.

WHEN: November 9, 2019, 10 am - 4 pm

WHERE: Embassy of the Czech Republic 3900 Spring of Freedom St., NW,

Washington, DC 20008

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9



Admission is free | Reservations are not required.

# The first 100 guests at the market will receive a FREE gingerbread cookie!

Some of the vendors cannot accept credit cards, so please bring cash as well.

**CLICK HERE** For more event details

#### POTOMAC WALKING MARATHON

Enjoy the rustle of golden leaves, warm sun, and great conversations with friends.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16
Rain Date November 17, 2019

miles) for children, young and old, takes you along C&O Canal's tree alleys and Potomac river in Harpers Ferry direction and back.

#### Read it on Facebook

**START:** 8:45 AM from the Violett's Lock ((No.23, coordinates are N39.06705 & W77.32887) <a href="https://www.canaltrust.org/pyv/lock-23-violettes-lock-dam-no-2/">https://www.canaltrust.org/pyv/lock-23-violettes-lock-dam-no-2/</a>

**CONTACT:** Br. Pavel Klein, MD at (301) 424-1658 or <u>KleinP@epilepsydc.com</u>

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



#### **TEEN DANCE MEET-UP**



RSVP only by Friday, November 115: events@sokolwashington.org

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Looking for peers to learn the polka, waltz or other dances. Please join our teen (14+) dance meet-up. Get familiar with the basic steps of classical and/or folklore dances. Get comfortable on the dance floor.

WHERE: Carderock Tennis and Swim Club 8200 Hamilton Spring Ct, Bethesda, MD 20817

**WHEN:** Sunday, November 17, 2019. 3:00 – 5:00 pm

# STEEL STRINGS AND IRON CURTAINS ALBUM LAUNCH

#### by Plamen Press

Celebrate the launching of our album Steel Strings and Iron Curtains featuring the songs of Karel Kryl and Jaroslav Nohavica, Poetbards from the Czech Republic, sung in English!

WHERE: Writer Center

4508 Walsh Street • Chevy Chase, MD 20815

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23



#### Tickets:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/steel-strings-and-iron-curtains-album-

## **NEW LOCATION!!!**

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7



# ST. NICHOLAS DINNER FEAST MIKULÁŠSKÁ NADÍLKA AT A NEW LOCATION IN BETHESDA:

Koledy/Christmas Carols will be performed by our youth folk group Sokolik students of the Czech and Slovak School, and afterward, Mikuláš will arrive with his entourage!

#### ADMISSION:

Adult Sokol Member	\$12.00*	Adult Non-Member	\$20.00*	Children under 1 Year Free
Child Sokol Member	\$ 6.00*	Child Non-Member	\$10.00*	

<sup>\*</sup> In exchange for this contribution adults will receive \$12 and children \$6 in Sokol spend money ("Sokol Dollars") that can be used to buy a Dinner Dessert Drinks Bake Sale (homemade Slovak, Moravian and Czech koláce, strudels and Christmas cookies) Jitrnice/Jaternice (hash-and-crumbs sausages) Jelita/Krvavnicky (black-pudding sausages) Books etc. Complimentary coffee and tea will be available.

### Each child will receive a traditional gift from St. Nicholas "Mikuláš"!

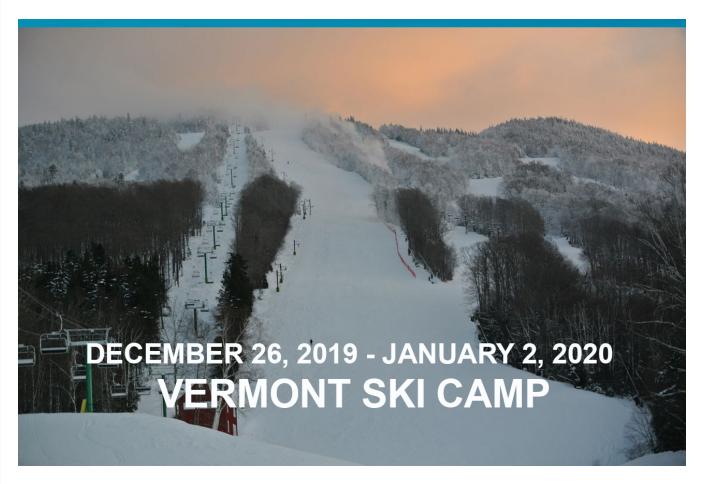
**CONTACT:** Ondrej Schneider at events@sokolwashington.org **WHEN:** Saturday, December 7th, 2019 • 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Volunteers are welcome for various tasks.

Donation to support this event and American Sokol Washington D.C. Organization are greatly appreciated.

#### **VERMONT SKI CAMP**

**DECEMBER 26, 2019 - JANUARY 2, 2020** 



This year's annual 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 <u>schneider.ondrej@gmail.com</u> as soon as possible. Space is limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis.

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

Subscribe



WHEN: Saturday, February 22, 2020

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

#### More information to come



November 1, 8, 15 & 22

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.

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, November 1, 8, 15 & 22 • 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:**

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

WHEN: Tuesdays: 9-10:15 pm

Nov. 12

WHERE: <u>Luther Jackson Middle School</u> 3020 Gallows Road • Falls Church, VA 22042

## **TUESDAYS**



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#### **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

#### **ORIENTEERING**

**Quantico Orienteering Club** 

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	
Nov. 3	Pine Grove Furnace State Park, Fuller Lake Day Use	Mid-Atlantic Champs	
Sun.	Area, Gardners, PA		
Nov.10	Balls Bluff Regional Park, Edwards Landing Pavilion,	Classic	
Sun.	Leesburg, VA		
Nov. 17	Patuxent River Park, Barn parking area, Upper	Stumble, Recreational Courses, Stumble,	
Sun.	Marlboro, MD	Recreational Courses	
Nov. 24	Hemlock Overlook Regional Park, Hemlock Pavilion,	Classic	
Sun.	Clifton, VA		

Check the website of the organizer and even try it on your own. Please, also check the website for changes due to the weather. <a href="https://www.qocweb.org">www.qocweb.org</a>

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 <a href="mailto:tbartalos@sokolwashington.org">tbartalos@sokolwashington.org</a>

#### 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 charitabletax deductible contributions.

RSS

#### Shop with Amazon Smile, earn money for Sokol Washington

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.

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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 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



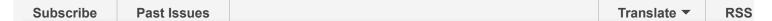
#### **KEEP IN TOUCH**

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 <a href="mailto:sokol@sokolwashington.org">sokol@sokolwashington.org</a> 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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