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AMERICAN  
SOKOL  
WASHINGTON, DC



December 31, 2019

**Dear Sokol members and dear friends of Sokol Washington,**

*I would like to wish you a healthy and prosperous 2020. We are one year older and perhaps a little bit wiser. Another year is behind us. We have been providing our regular weekly activities such as Czech and Slovak language classes for children and adults; folk classes for children (Sokolik group); and sports activities for children. Those activities are taking place at the Carderock ES. Finding a conveniently-located (for our Sokol families) school to host us is not easy and on top of that, maintaining a good relationship with school leadership can prove to be challenging. We try hard to obey all Carderock ES's rules, yet, it still happens that some of our children do something that school considers crossing the line. It's a never-ending struggle. I am glad that our Sokol school leadership is willing to cope with these challenges and I am grateful that parents understand the situation and are helping as much as they can.*

*Our other regular weekly activity --volleyball for adults-- has been held, in McLean Virginia for the second year now. We were able to organize each of our annual activities and add a couple more. Many of you came to our Sibrinky party in February 2019 and perhaps you are looking forward to the next one in 2020. We had Masquerade ball on ice, we had the tennis tournament, the Shenandoah hiking trip, and the Shenandoah canoeing trip. Our volleyball team participated in the ED volleyball tournament which was held by Sokol NYC. Our annual summer camp (a canoeing trip) was held in Slovakia on the river Hron. In the fall we had our Sokol member's appreciation picnic, the outdoor volleyball tournament, LKM bicycling day, and several hiking trips. Our beloved Mikulasska nadielka was at a new location, it was as successful (if not more) as those in previous years. And we again had our winter ski camp in Vermont.*

## PAST EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

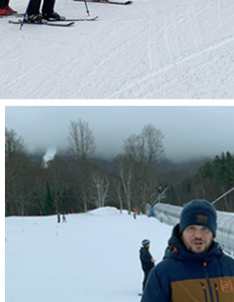
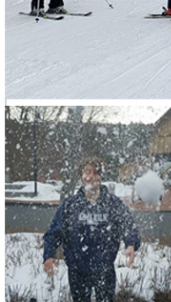
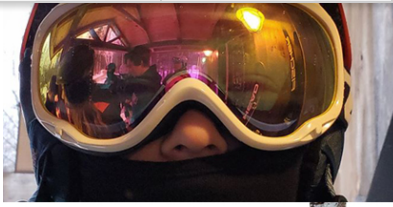
### MIKULASSKA NADILKA/ST NICHOLAS FEAST



American Sokol Washington D.C. families enjoyed a visit from St. Nicholas at our annual Mikulasska Nadilka party. Joining St. Nicholas was, of course, Cert, the little devil, and an angel. The kids received their gift of chocolates, nuts, and fruits for singing to St. Nicholas. Of course, Sokolik, our children's folklore group, earned their gifts by performing to get St. Nicholas to show up. If you weren't able to make it this year to our new, and much improved, location in Bethesda, then make plans to join us next year for traditional Czech/Slovak sausages and dinner, mulled wine, Pilsner, baked goods, entertainment, and, of course, St. Nicholas.

### WINTER CAMP IN BURKE VERMONT





The Sokol headed up to Burke Mountain in Vermont over the holidays for our annual Sokol ski trip. There was great food, great entertainment, great accommodation, great friends and of course, great skiing.

*From a kid's point of view:*

## A Day at Winter Camp

*By Dominik Honzak*

*It's morning at Burke Mountain, cloudy, cold, and snowing a mix of ice and snow-- which is pretty normal for a day of Sokol winter camp here in Vermont. I have been invited to write this article instead of skiing today because yesterday I sprained my ankle while skiing on this wet icy stuff. A typical day...We get up at 7:30 to 8:00 am, put on our ski gear and eat breakfast quickly, so that we can get outside to morning warm-up on time. After the warm-up, our ski passes are distributed to us, and we then join the other kids in our respective groups (we are each assigned to a ski group for the week, organized by skill level and age). Then, we put on our ski boots or snowboard shoes and walk up the steep hill with our skis or snowboards to the lift that goes to the top of the mountain. These are some of the boring/hard parts to every morning. As you go up the ski lift the weather and temperature drastically change. We ski rain or shine. On some mornings the lift that goes up to the top of the mountain (there is another one at the bottom) is closed because of weird things, such as that it's -50 degrees at the top of all the slopes are not groomed yet. The instructors teach us proper techniques-- how to carve, and various other things. As you get better, you are placed into more advanced groups. To see how much you have progressed each year, we have a race at the end of each camp. In the evenings we eat dinner together in one cabin, and afterward, the kids (including teens like me) go to the games which are different each day. Everyone is in a group and we compete in the games. The winners at the end of the camp get a prize, like lots of candy. At the end of each day, we all go to bed exhausted from a long day. At the end of the camp each year, we are sad that it is over, but we look forward to the next year!*





The kids of our Czech and Slovak School went into the Christmas break with a bang as we held our annual School Christmas Party. With music, singing, dancing, gingerbread house making, the kids did it all. School starts back up soon. Please see inside the newsletter for details on the Czech and Slovak School.

### UNVEILING THE BUST OF GENERAL ŠTEFÁNIK

On November 21, 2019 Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the United States Ivan Korcok unveiled the bust of General Milan Rastislav Štefánik at the event organized in the National Czech and Slovak Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The bust was created by Slovak sculptor Klára Sever, who lives in Falls Church, Va.

*Milan Rastislav Štefánik (21 July 1880 – 4 May 1919) was a Slovak politician, diplomat, aviator, and astronomer. During World War I, he served as a general of the French Army and later as the first Minister of War of Czechoslovakia. As one of the leading members of the Czechoslovak National Council (the resistance government), he contributed decisively to the cause of Czechoslovak sovereignty. He is considered to be one of the founders of Czechoslovakia.*



ASW is one of the participating donors.



## IN THIS ISSUE:

## UPCOMING

January Monthly Membership Meeting - Wednesday, January 8, 2020

ASW Membership Dues - Friday, January 31

Sibrinky - Casino Night Fundraiser Gala - February 22, 2020

42nd Annual Baca Cup International Alpine Ski Race - February 15, 2020

Sokol School/Preschool Highlights

ASW Membership Dues for 2020

Masquerade Ball on Ice at the Cabin John Ice Rink - **TBD**

## ONGOING

Sokol School/Preschool - January 10, 17, 24 & 31

Around the Embassies

Orienteering - January 5 & 26

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

Thank you

Keep in Touch

## JANUARY MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

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, January 8 • 8 PM - 10 PM

**reminder**

**ASW MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2020**

**JANUARY 31**

**DO NOT FORGET!** The DEADLINE to submit [ASW membership dues](#) is **January 31, 2020**.

**\$40.00** Individual Membership (adult /voting)

**\$75.00** Two Adults Membership (both voting)

**\$50.00** Family Membership I. (one adult voting all dependent children up to 26 years and other non-voting adults)

**\$80.00** Family Membership II. (both adults voting / all dependent children up to 26 years)

**\$15.00** New Member One-time Administrative Fee



American Sokol Washington, D.C.  
c/o Br. Tibor Bartalos  
1101 3rd Street, SW, Apt. 704,  
Washington, DC, 20024

You may also submit your annual membership payment through [ASW WEB](#) PayPal **"DONATE NOW"** button in the upper-right corner, and enter the "2020 ASW Membership Payment" under special instructions.

[https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=5MVRJ9MPP4L6G](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=5MVRJ9MPP4L6G)

### Your membership in good standing guarantees you:

- Discounted tickets to Sokol activities;
- Insurance coverage at Sokol activities;
- Monthly Newsletters;
- Knowing that you enable all the wonderful programs you and your family enjoy;

*Please remember, you are not a full Sokol member with voting privileges until you participate in a monthly meeting(s) and take the Sokol oath.*

## 42nd ANNUAL BACA CUP SKI RACE

The Annual "BACA CUP" International Invitational alpine ski race for all ages and nationalities! Please mark

**Saturday, February 15, 2020**, on your calendar with race time yet to be determined.

The Bača Cup, for all ages and skill levels, is an international invitational alpine ski racing event dating back to 1979. Racers of all ages, nationalities, and skill levels are invited to participate as representatives from Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Germany, 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.

The invitation to participate is coming soon. We wish everyone a safe and happy ski season and can't wait to, "Ski Ya Soon!"

**WHERE:** Blue Knob All Season Resort1  
424 Overland Pass • Claysburg, Pennsylvania 16625

**FEBRUARY 15, 2020**



<https://blueknob.com>

More information to come



*American Sokol Washington, D.C. and the Embassy of the Czech Republic*

*Cordially invite you to*

## Annual Fundraiser SIBRINKY

CASINO NIGHT



**SATURDAY, 2-22-20**

**5:00 - 11:30 pm**

*Please arrive on time. Doors will close at 6:30 pm*

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Bring your poker face and get ready for a night of:

- Dancing with live Music
- Roulette, Black Jack...play them all at your casino night event!
- Delicious Full Course Dinner
  - Best Costume Prizes
  - Silent Auction
  - Raffle Drawing

.....

**ONLINE TICKET SALES:** [sibrinky.eventbrite.com](https://sibrinky.eventbrite.com)

*For discounted tickets, use code PF2020. Discount code expires on January 15, 2020.*

**GIFT CERTIFICATES SALE:** [events@sokolwashington.org](mailto:events@sokolwashington.org)

\$80 American Sokol Members | \$90 Non-Members | Adults Only

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**NO TICKET SALES AT THE DOOR!**

**SEATING IS VERY LIMITED!**

**TICKETS ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE** selling fast on a first-come, first-served basis.

RSVP: [sibrinky.eventbrite.com](https://sibrinky.eventbrite.com)  
by **FEBRUARY 15, 2020**

.....

Event is Formal / Black tie optional

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 22, 2020

**WHERE:** [The Embassy of the Czech Republic • 3900 Spring of Freedom Street NW Washington D.C. 20008](#)



**SUPPORT SOKOL**  
through a tax-deductible donation

For more information: [sibrinky.eventbrite.com](https://sibrinky.eventbrite.com)



**JANUARY 10, 17, 24 and 31**

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.

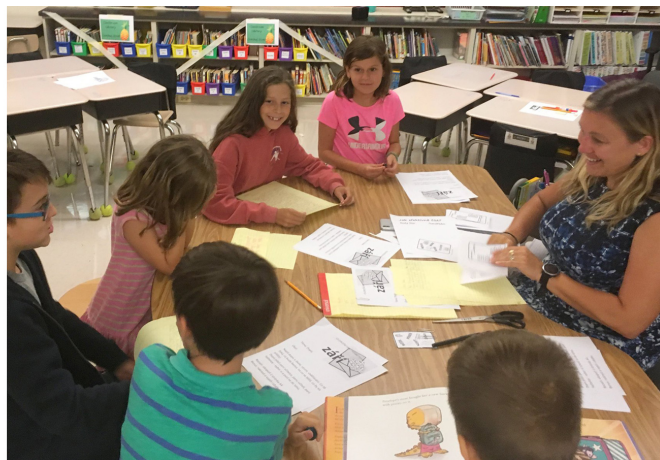
Children attending school will need to **bring**: a folder, a composition book, a pencil case filled with pencils, pens & crayons.

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, January 10, 17, 24, 31 • 6:45 PM - 8:00 PM

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





### 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 Gym Activities

8:15/9:00 – 10:00 pm

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

Coming  
Soon



Masquerade Ball on Ice. There will be games on ice to practice your skills and have a parade of goblins, bunnies, princesses and other creatures to that special award. There will be a **creative costume** competition you can participate in that best incorporate their safety helmet into the costume.

MORE INFORMATION TO COME

## 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](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.

|                 |  |         |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| Jan. 5<br>Sun.  | <a href="#">Prince William Forest Park, Turkey Run</a>                     | Classic |
| Jan. 26<br>Sun. | <a href="#">Fountainhead Regional Park, Main parking area, Clifton, VA</a> | 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](http://www.qocweb.org)

All are welcome and for those interested, please contact brother Miroslav Honzák at [sports@sokolwashington.org](mailto:sports@sokolwashington.org)



in America and 70 years of history in Washington, D.C. metropolitan area

**CONTACT:** Br. Tibor Bartalos at [tbartalos@sokolwashington.org](mailto:tbartalos@sokolwashington.org)

### Make a Difference - Support Sokol Washington

Please give us your consideration when you are deciding on your donations.

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



**SUPPORT SOKOL**  
through a tax-deductible donation

### 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.

For a limited time, 0.5% from your shopping through Amazon Smile will go to support your American Sokol Washington, DC



*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](mailto: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.

**Special Thanks to Antonin Svehla a Jana H. Svehlova** for their generous donation to the Czech and Slovak School.

## 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](mailto:sokol@sokolwashington.org) is included in your Contacts/Mailing list and does not end up in your Spam or Trash box.

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



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