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Welcome back!

Summer is over and fall is upon us and fall is when American Sokol Washington D.C. (ASW) starts to heat up. Whether you stayed put or traveled to the Czech Republic or Slovakia or another great spot this summer, we hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. ASW is hard at work planning for the fall and beyond. Check inside the September newsletter for more information.

For all in-person events, we will follow the state and local guidelines for health and safety. However, you must make the best decision for yourself and your family. Please bring masks (the wearing of masks may not be mandatory according to state and local guidelines, but please bring one just in case) and maintain social distance. Please, if you are not feeling well or have any cause for concern please do not attend and seek medical care. In addition, please let us know that you are coming. It helps our planning and we can let you know if an event has to be canceled at the last minute. Contacts for each event are listed in the event listing below.

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UPCOMING

Annual Membership Meeting and 2021/22 Board Elections - Tuesday, September 14

In Memoriam - Oliver Peter Gunovsky (1944 - 2021) Service held Wednesday September 8th

Czech/Slovak School Information

Life with Sokol - Ongoing for 3 - 6 Year-Old Children (register now)

Movie Nights - Embassy of Slovakia and Embassy of the Czech Republic

Olympic Village at the Embassy of the Czech Republic - Saturday, September 18

15th Annual Kozak Memorial Century Cycling Event - Saturday, October 2

Membership Picnick - Saturday, October 16

Walking Memorial - Saturday, October 23

Annual Sokol Run - Sunday, October 24 - (registration by September 31)

ONGOING

[Make a Difference - Support Sokol Washington, D.C.](#)

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

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

[Join American Sokol Washington D.C. and Become a Member](#)

Thank you

Annual Membership Meeting and 2020/21 Board Elections

Please join us at our [Annual Membership Meeting](#), which includes elections of 2021-22 Officers.

This is your opportunity to participate in shaping the future of our unit!

Tuesday, September 14, 8:00 PM

[Little Falls Community Library](#)

[5501 Massachusetts Ave.](#)

[Bethesda, MD 20816](#)

In accordance with Montgomery County rules, masking and social distancing will be required.

If you are interested in participating on the Board or would like to offer your time and talents to assist with one or more of our many activities, please contact the ASW Nomination committee at nomination@sokolwashington.org - we can always find a place for you in some aspect of Washington D.C. Sokol Life!

Please respond if you plan to attend to sokol@sokolwashington.org.

In Loving Memory

He came to the United States in 1982 and became a US Citizen in the mid-nineties. ***He loved America*** and, at the same time, never forgot his homeland. When the iron curtain fell in 1989, he was relentless in helping people from Czechoslovakia that came to the US any way that he could. It came to be his true calling. Oliver worked as a civilian serving the DOD/US Navy in the DC Metropolitan area for 30 years. He loved his work with the Navy and was a huge supporter of the military. He was also a freelance interpreter and translator from Slovak-English and English-Slovak. He was a longtime member of American Sokol, Washington, DC.



oldest son Oliver, Jr., his stepchildren Christopher, Annie, and Katie, his adored Grandson Thor, daughter-in-law Stacy, half brothers Paul and Christopher, and many, many friends.

**A service will be held on
September 8, 2021, at 3 pm**

at DeVol Funeral Home -
Washington

2222 Wisconsin Ave. NW,
Washington, DC.

Free Valet parking

OLIVER was born in Svidnik, Czechoslovakia on June 20, 1944. He was the only son of Peter and Maria Gunovsky and the beloved grandson to the well-known folk art producer or wooden sculptures, Gregor Malec. He spent his childhood days in Trencianke Teplice, where he enjoyed the outdoors and sports prior to proudly serving his military obligation.

In 1968 at the age of 24, Oliver traveled to England to join his father, who years before had made the difficult decision to emigrate to England to seek a better life for his family away from the totalitarian regime in Czechoslovakia. In his two years there, he helped operate his father's restaurant until he and his family emigrated to Ontario, Canada, where he continued in the hospitality business.

<https://www.devolfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Oliver-Peter-Gunovsky?obId=22189476#/celebrationWall>

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to [The American Heart Association](#) in Oliver Gunovsky's honor



CZECH AND SLOVAK SOKOL SCHOOL 2021

We are very excited to announce that we will be back to having lessons and activities at Carderock Spring Elementary School in Bethesda. Once things settle down, the format will remain a bit like last year's – a limited number of classes, a limited number of students, and a drop-off format.

As of now, all spots for Czech in-person learning for children have been filled.
We regret the inconvenience but due to Covid-19, our capacity is smaller than usual.

As soon as we can safely open both our Czech and Slovak schools in full, we plan to do so. In the meantime, please follow this monthly newsletter and communications.

To increase capacity and accommodate more preschool and kindergarten kids from the Czech and Slovak communities we are starting a new program With Sokol for life, read more about it in this newsletter. Regular meetings will be held on Mondays and capacity is limited.



With Sokol for Life - Register Now!

Physical activity for kids of age 3 to 6

"The world doesn't end outside the door we learn from animals to run jump climb and more ..."

In addition to our regular Friday school program and gymnastics for preschool and kindergarten kids, we will start a new program this year. This project is intended for children from 3 to 6 years of age. It was developed by the Sokol in the Czech Republic and every year more groups and schools have been joining.

All tasks in the project will help to develop and practice physical skills, play games with balls, learn about an environment, use Czech and Slovak language, and enjoy other non-traditional activities. Falcon Pepik will follow all their activities.

[Watch this Czech promotional video.](#)

Program is based on the Sokol exercise and many years of practice of trainers for preschoolers and parents and children. Currently, the methodological material that teachers receive within the project is one of the best elaborated curriculum materials for physical education, which we have in the country and which supports the framework educational program of preschool education.

The project is divided into three categories according to difficulty to suit the growth and development of preschool children. Specifically, these are the following age groups: the youngest category 3-4 years, the middle category 4-5 years and the oldest children aged 5 to 6 years. Each age category has a certain number of assigned tasks and their complexity increases according to age. Once the children have learned the skill and managed to complete the assigned task, they stick a sticker in their workbook and can observe the achievements. Children are accompanied by various animals through individual tasks, which open the door to the world for them.

In addition to regular weekly meetings on Mondays we will organize family trips suitable for this age group.

Sign up for each child by September 10!

WHEN: Monday, September 13, 2021, at 6 pm

WHERE: Carderock Park, MD

Contact: Veronika Clewner events@sokolwashington.org

Movie Nights sponsored by the Embassies

Slovak Film Screening:

The Auschwitz Report

Invitation to a Slovak film screening in partnership with the Embassy of Slovakia. Slovakia's official entry to the 2021 Academy Awards The Auschwitz Report will be shown in person at Cafritz Hall located within the Edlavitch DC Jewish Community Center

Proof of vaccination and masks will be required. To learn more about the film visit: [The Auschwitz Report](#)
50% discount for Sokol members - at \$7.50/person. The promocode is : JXJ21HALF

Event Details:

When: Thursday, September 9 at 7:30 PM.

Where: [Cafritz Hall in DC](#)

Czech Film Screening:**[Czech Ice Hockey Heritage Night](#)**

Come celebrate the Czech Republic ice hockey and one of the most defining moments of modern Czech history: the victory at the 1998 Winter Olympic Games' Ice Hockey Tournament. Enjoy the acclaimed documentary The Nagano Tapes practice your ice hockey skills in our "arena" brought to you by Sense Arena and test your knowledge during the Czech Ice Hockey Heritage Night.

The documentary follows the inspiring story of how the Czech Republic won gold at the first Olympics to include professionals from the NHL. The film features legendary Czech athletes Jaromír Jágr and Dominik Hašek. (Directed by: Ondřej Hudeček, 2018, 73 min., Czech with English subtitles)

Check out the film trailer at: <https://olympics.com/en/films/watch/the-nagano-tapes-five-rings-films>

The screening is brought to you by the Czech Embassy in partnership with the Olympic Channel.

A part of the Mutual Inspirations Festival 2021 - Věra Čáslavská the event celebrates all great Czech athletes.

Event Details:

When: September 14, 2021 at 7 pm

RSVP required: <https://naganotapes.eventbrite.com>

Where: [Embassy of the Czech Republic](#)

3900 Spring of Freedom Street NW

Washington DC 20008

Childrens from Sokol will perform at Olympic Village at the Embassy of the Czech Republic



Saturday, September 18, 2021, from 10 am – 2 pm.

[Eventbrite Tickets](#)

American Sokol Washington D.C. Czech and Slovak School will be performing.

Share the excitement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics with us by learning about the Czech Olympic Team and its individual athletes' medals. In the true spirit of games, participate in sports activities such as soccer darts, basketball shootouts, racket battles, moon bounce, and more on the Embassy's grounds.

Join us for a fun-filled day of live music, a beer garden, and food, activities for kids and participants in the spirit of the Olympics.

During the day, the folk band Orchester Praževica will perform traditional European Czardas and Gypsy swing, influenced by jazz and blues. Children from American Sokol Washington, DC, will present their talents. Also, DC Wheels will provide tips and tricks for skateboarding, one of the newest sports of the Olympics. Enjoy the day with friends and family at the Czech Embassy!

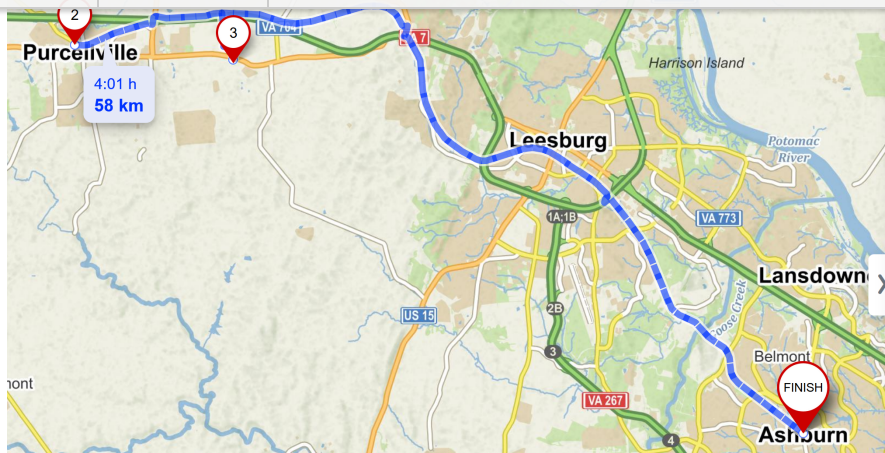
The event is part of the Embassy's annual Mutual Inspirations Festival, which celebrates the mutual inspirations between Czech and American cultures and this year celebrates the life and legacy of Czech Olympian Věra Čáslavská. For further information about the festival, please visit www.mutualinspirations.org.

15th ANNUAL KOZAK MEMORIAL CYCLE RIDE



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. As usual, we will do a potluck picnic at Hamilton Park, VA. We hope you can join us!



> MTB



Start

Washington & Old Domini...

United States of America

27.5 km in 1:56 h



Point 2

Washington & Old Domini...

United States of America

5.9 km in 24 min



Point 3

Hamilton Community Park

West Colonial Highway 31, Hamilton, Loudo...

24.7 km in 1:41 h



End

Ashburn

United States of America

Please register by September 27, 2020

to Michal Jarnik at mjarnik@gmail.com.

Younger kids or those interested in a shorter route will be led by the Director of Men (Miro Honzak). Instructions: Meet at 9:45 am on Sunday, Oct. 3, in Leesburg at the intersection of Harrison St. SE and the Washington and Old Dominion Trail ([Google map link](#)) and bike to Hamilton Community Park, Hamilton, VA (13 km) or both ways (26 km)

WHEN: Saturday, October 2, 2021 (Rain date: October 3)

WHERE: [Old Dominion rail-to-trail and other parts of Northern Virginia/Southern Maryland](#).

Membership Appreciation Picnic



Traditionally, a weekend day in October is reserved for the Membership Appreciation Picnic.

Sokol members and friends of all ages meet at Fletcher's Boat House on the C&O Canal in Washington DC to enjoy games; boat rides on the canal, and, of course, the yummy klobasy and other traditional delicacies – all complimentary. Over the years, the Membership Appreciation Picnic has become one of our most enjoyable events

Meet at Fletcher at House

WHEN: Saturday, October 16, 2021 12:00 - 5:00 pm (Rain date: October 17)

WHERE: [Fletcher Boat House](#)

CONTACT: events@sokolwashington.org

Walk along C&O Canal



Sokol Washington members and friends meet every year on a pleasant October day to walk along the C&O Canal in our Pediatric/Geriatric Marathon. As the name suggests, it is an event for all ages and skill levels, and the walking distance is self-determined.

Option for younger kids: Split marathon mileage in your family or a group. Example: a group of 10 people can each walk only 4.2195 km!

We hope you can join us!

Meet at Violette's Lock and walk towards Harper's Ferry and back, 42 km 195 m.

WHEN: Saturday, October 23, 2021 at 9:00 am

WHERE: [Violettes Lock](#)

Register and contact: Pavel Klein KleinP@epilepsydc.com

Sign up for SOKOL RUN 2021

Race day is on Sunday, October 24. Register by September 31.



Register by September 31st!

One hundred and two years ago, Sokol members organized an anniversary run for the young Republic of Czechoslovakia (the year 1919). The organizers had 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. For the third year, Sokol organizations have rejuvenated this idea and are organizing runs in many locations in the Czech Republic and abroad. The American Sokol Washington D.C. would like you to join this race on **Sunday, October 24, 2021, at 8:00 am.**

Register at behrepublikyid.cz

Fee: \$10 adults, free short race for kids (up to 15-year-olds), [tshirt](#) (optional \$16)

WHEN: Sunday, October 24, 2021. 8:00 am

WHERE: [Meadowbrook Park](#)

CONTACT: events@sokolwashington.org

Winter Ski Camp - December 26 - January 2



Sokol will organize a ski camp at Hunter Mountain ([details here](#)). Hunter says it is "the closest big mountain close to NYC," which makes it the closest big mountain close to Washington DC as well. It is located in Hunter, NY, some 340 miles and 5.5 hours from Washington.

WHEN: December 26 - January 2

WHERE: [Hunter's Mountain, Hunter NY](#)

CONTACT: events@sokolwashington.org

Interested families need to contact events@sokolwashington.org with the subject line "Winter Ski Camp" before September 30, 2021. In the email, please include the name of each person who will be coming to the camp, and please include the ages of the children. We expect a deposit of between \$500-\$1000 per family will be required by the end of October at the latest. To guarantee safety, Sokol will require all participants older than 12 years to be fully vaccinated before the camp and to provide proof of vaccination by **December 1, 2021**. Once at Hunter, we will follow and implement all valid anti-pandemic recommendations. We will be happy to provide more details as we go along.

Survey of Czechs Living Abroad



(Výzkum a Dotazník o České Komunitě v Zahraničí)

Join this research and fill the survey [here](#). For more information go to www.cestikrajane.cz.

The aim of the research is to get to know your personal experience with life abroad and to map what ties Czechs living abroad have to the Czech Republic, how they communicate with the Czech authorities and what they need from the Czech state. The results of the research will serve to improve Czech expatriate policy.

Who is a suitable respondent? Especially Czechs or descendants of Czechs living continuously for a long time (more than 6 months) abroad. If you are not sure whether the questionnaire is intended for you or your surroundings, it does not matter, start filling it in and during the first few questions, suitable respondents will be filtered. If you are not a suitable respondent, we will be very happy if you send this e-mail to someone who is a suitable respondent.

Your research answers are very valuable. The more answers we get, the better and more realistic we will have of the needs of Czechs abroad. At the same time, all your answers are anonymous. All data obtained are for research purposes only and will never be associated with your specific person, nor will they be passed on to any other persons or institutions without your permission.

and the Czexpats in Science association. It is financed by the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (project number TITBMZV919: "New approaches to the coordination of expatriate issues"). The sponsor of the project is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic (which will not have access to your individual answers).

Contact: Doc. RNDr. Eva Janska, Ph.D., tel.: 221951396, e-mail: ejanska@natur.cuni.cz.

Completing the questionnaire will take about 30 minutes of your time.

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: media@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.

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

Sokol Washington and social media

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 for an upcoming events, pictures, and reports from our activities.



Follow our instagram profile "sokolwashingtondc", and tag our events in your posts, we love to share our pictures with you!

Follow us and tag us in your posts and share our events with your friends!

If you have a cultural, folk, educational or sporting/athletic event you would like to share with our members, please **CONTACT:** media@sokolwashington.org.

Join Us and Become a Member

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of Sokol Washington.

Benefits to our Unit

Your membership dues enable our Unit to continue our many programs – sports, outdoor, social, cultural and educational.

Benefit to You

Membership in our Unit has a number of benefits – discounts at all our social events; free participation in gymnastics for youth; and for adults, and free participation in pick-up volleyball.

SOKOL WASHINGTON MEMBERSHIP DUES

- Individual Membership (adult/voting) \$40.00
- Two Adults Membership (both voting) \$75.00
- Family Membership I. (one adult voting / all children up to 26 years & one non-voting adult) \$50.00

CONTACT: membership@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.



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

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

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