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www.sokolbaltimore.org

UNIT MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2007

Meeting at 6:30 pm

White Marsh Library
8133 Sandpiper Circle

December 8th – Marmie Aupperley
 December 10th – Brigita Krompholz
 December 10th – George Peroutka
 December 16th – Mark Watkins
 December 22th – Susan Wolff
 December 23rd – Michalina Daszkiewicz
 December 26th – George Bata
 December 28th – Frank Huber
 December 30th – Joseph Watkins

What's Inside

President's Report.....2
 Highlights from Unit Meeting.....2
 Board of Instructors2
 Education.....3
 USA Pittsburg Slet Recap.....3
 Member News.....3

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS:

Saturday, December 8, 2007 – Annual St. Nicholas Dinner Party. 3:00 pm at St. Luke Orthodox Church, 6801 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101. For information call (703) 759-1500 or email : Sokol@sokolwashington.org

Saturday, December 8, 2007 - CSHA SV. Mikulas Party for children. 1:00-5:00 pm at the Belvedere Christian Church, 1301 Cheverly Rd., Towson, MD 21286.

Sunday, December 9, 2007 – CSHA Singers present their annual Christmas concert at 3:00 pm, St. Wenceslaus Church, 2111 Ashland Ave. Baltimore, MD 21205

Tuesday, December 11, 2007 – Sokol Baltimore Unit Meeting – 6:30 pm @ White Marsh Library.

Donations to Sokol Baltimore

Rose Cervin
 Rose Marie Krajca
 Roberta Price

Additional Donations to Sokol Baltimore supporting Will Kool's Marathon Run

Michael Rokos Lois Hybl
 Marie Pokorny

Happy December Birthday!

December 1st – Ann Huber
 December 2nd – Harry Hessenauer



Charitable Giving

If you're in a giving mood, the end of the year is a great time to consider donating appreciated stock to a qualified charity. By doing so, you avoid having to pay capital gains on the investment. And since the charity won't have to pay taxes when it sells the security, it will enjoy the full value of the stock sale. Meanwhile, you're allowed to deduct the value of the appreciated stock up to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, NOVEMBER 6, 2006

President's Report

Attended **American Sokol Board of Governors meeting** held in Chicago Area November 17th-18th. The two main topics for consideration were:

1- Claim of the Eastern District that the vote adding a requirement that all class and competition participants must have at least one parent a Sokol member was added at the last convention by a procedure that violates the American Sokol Constitution and By-Laws, and therefore should be voided. After a short discussion it was agreed that this indeed was the case. However, when my motion to delete this requirement from the by-laws was presented, it was defeated. The reason was, that President Bro. Laznovsky made a short statement, in which he stated that sometimes for a cause that could be considered beneficial to the organization, the By-laws should be considered only a general guide, and not a legal requirement. This statement not only violates the By-laws but also the Roberts Rules of Order, which are to be used in absence of properly defined situations.

I am greatly disappointed on the vote of the Board, as it shows a lack of respect for the primary document governing the activities of American Sokol. However, from a practical viewpoint, inasmuch as the constitution was considered only a guide, Eastern district will likewise consider it only a guide, and will continue to disregard the requirement as its option.

2- The Board was to select an executive director from the finalists of an extensive search of candidates. From the four finalists selected by the committee, only two showed up. A candidate was selected, however, he declined next day, and accepted another offer with better benefits. The Board decided that a new search is to be done. It is expected to be started after January 1st, with new postings.

Attended **Sokol Baltimore Board of Directors** meeting, hosted by Bro. Michael Rokos at his house on November 11th. The main purpose of this meeting was to decide on the approach to starting the capital campaign for our new building. The discussions that followed defined several tasks that need to be completed before initiating this effort, and several members were tasked to make presentations at the next meeting scheduled for January 13th at 4:00 pm, hosted again by bro. Michael Rokos.

Bo Bata

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE UNIT MEETING November 12, 2007

After the pledge of Allegiance a moment of silence was held in remembrance of all the veterans. A discussion followed about the bill from Whiteford,

Taylor & Preston and a previous outstanding bill. I.W.I.F. forms to be completed by 11/5/07. At a prior meeting Br. Ehrenberger offered to take care of forms. Sokol N.Y. sent raffle tickets for Paradise Island. Raffle stubs to be returned to N.Y. by Nov. 15, unable to return stubs on time; request tabled. Information concerning CSHA upcoming events: Mikulaš Party on 12/8 and CSHA Christmas Concert on 12/9; see Upcoming Dates & Events. Free Symposium for non-profits to be held on 11/13 at B.W.I. Airport.

Board of Governors' Meeting to be held this Saturday and Pres. Bata to attend and discuss:

- 1) Requirement of parent of gymnast to become a Sokol member.
- 2) Executive Director's function, salary, and to be chosen without reviewing and meeting.

President Bata has called the Priest at St. Patrick's requesting a meeting and no one has returned his call. Recent problems with an individual has prompted a meeting to put in writing any restrictions in the facility.

Discussed place to hold unit meeting in 2008:

1. White Marsh Library at cost of \$30 / month.
2. Meeting room at a local restaurant where members can order their dinner and space is free. Sis. & Br. Huber will report on availability of either place at the December meeting.

Received a donation from Carol Bierwagen in memory of Rose Friedrich and received donations of records from Charles and Helen Uzel. Does anyone have a dry and temperature safe place to store 2 boxes of records?

Ways & Means need to meet and plan fundraisers.

Suggestions:

- 1-Rent Essex Moose or another facility
- 2-Cost of music - "Joy" \$680
- 3-Dance: Dozvuky or Spring Dance
- 4-Dinner-Jaternice dinner or just a Sunday dinner-dance on 3/30
- 5-Dates that band is available: 2/9-2/10, 2/16, 2/23, 3/9, 3/15, 3/30

Board of Directors met, minutes pending; to meet again 1/13/08.

Alexander Vondra, Deputy Prime Minister from the Czech Republic, to speak at a conference on Nov. 16 at 12:30 pm. His Honorable A. Vondra will discuss Transatlantic Relations. Peter Rafaeli is encouraging members to contact their congress representative in Washington to support and join the Czech Caucus.

Education: due to time restraints; education article in newsletter discussed.

No other reports – meeting concluded.

BOARD OF INSTRUCTORS' REPORT

First Session of gymnastics will end 12/10/07 and Second Session starts in January 2008. An article in the Guide about the four story building owned by the United Evangelical Church of Christ that is going to be used for community groups such as gymnastics, children's activities, performing arts, and dance



groups. In the article it was mentioned that the church has invited Sokol Baltimore to relocate in their building. Sis. Baker received a call from another group inviting Sokol to rent their huge building in Essex. It is nice to be wanted.

Our gym is regularly utilized on Saturday mornings, Monday 4 to 10 pm, Tuesday 3:30 to 10 pm, Wednesday Sis. Damario, Dir. of Men, is in charge. There are other coaches helping during these times. Other times may be used for special practices for competition and exhibitions.

Verbal Report to Editor from Sis. Carrie Baker, Director

EDUCATION ARTICLE

It would not be December and Christmas without reminiscing of the customs and memories of all of our past family traditions. The first Christmas in the New World was in 1492, east of Haiti, when Columbus and his crew celebrated Christmas on the ship, Nina. The earliest recorded Christmas celebration is that of the Germans and Moravians in 1741. Did you know that puritans outlawed Christmas from 1659-1681? It was not officially recognized until 1856. Our Christmas tree was bought here by the Germans. Midnight mass is a Slavic tradition originating in Central European countries. The burning of the Yule log and candlelight caroling derived from England. An American Christmas is difficult to define because of the various customs derived from our cherished roots. We remember all our ethnic and family traditions at this time and in closing we would like to wish you:

Veselé Vánoce a Šťastný Nový Rok
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

President Bo Bata is so pleased and wanted to acknowledge our gymnasts' participation at the USA Pittsburg Slet



XXV. Read the American Sokol Publication from the National Organization and look for Baltimore gymnasts on pages 8 and 10. All of us should be proud of those gymnasts and families who participated and gave up their time and expenses to attend. **THANK YOU!**

Even though the first 3 places were included in the American Sokol Publication; we would like to list all participants and include a three times **NAZDAR!**

Girls Age Range 9 and under in Level Four

Abbie Baker 5th Place

Jordyn Miller 6th Place

Jordyn McKeldin 7th Place

Girls Juniors in Level Seven

Brittany Wright 7th Place

Boys age 9 and under Level Five

Drew Baker First Place

Boys Juniors in Level Five

Jeremiah Jurkiewicz First Place

All participants participated in a Sokol event,

competition, calisthenics and fitness. In the Fitness Challenge – within their age group and only 3 places printed in the American Sokol:

Drew Baker – First Place

Brittany Wright – First Place

Read the Sokol Baltimore September 2007 newsletter for the names of all the participants.

The members appreciate the gymnasts' effort and hope that 2008 will be a safe and productive year.

The Board of Instructors & Gymnasts Wish all the Members and their Families a joyous, healthy, and an active Christmas and New Year!

Remember the importance of physical and mental activities to remain positive and well.....

News about our Members

Stacy Smith and Amy Lukas have visited the gym and hope to become active again. They both along with their families were very active in Sokol Baltimore.



Hope to see them again at the gym and other functions.

Sis. Libbie Vrzalik celebrated her birthday with family and daughter, Ruth V. Robbins, who came from Florida to spend time with her Mom. Libbie visits Ruth in Daytona, FL around

May each year. **Happy Birthday Libbie.**

I received an E-mail from **Sis. Kate Ehrenberger** that **Nathan** is stationed North of Baghdad and his address is:

PRC Nathan Ehrenberger

4th Plt (Platoon)

Bandit 1/3 ACR

APO AE09351

He has his laptop and uses:

privateburger@yahoo.com

I received an email response from Nathan and he wrote, "Tell everyone I said Hi and to send me as much mail as they want. I don't suppose it would be too much trouble for you to send me the newsletter do you: It would really mean a lot. Thank you and I hope to hear from Sokol soon.

Nathan Ehrenberger." *The newsletter will be mailed.*

Kate shared any packages cannot be more than 130" in combined length and girth and not more than 70 lbs. Contact Kate for more information at 410-426-7989.

In Memory of Br. Albert Pokorny

We miss you at the meetings and your valuable input. We hope you are enjoying playing golf and enjoying your Armed Forces buddies and other family members in Heaven but you come to mind and are remembered fondly. (Br. Albert left us a year ago on December 14, 2006).

Remember all of our members who are alone, those suffering loss and illness at this time of the year. All our members far and near remember that we care and





SOKOL BALTIMORE
 P.O. Box 448
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DATED MATERIAL



our friendship is a phone call away. Keep in touch; you are part of our Sokol family. Nazdar

Your dedicated Officers Extend a Hearty Christmas Greeting to ALL our Sokol Members in Baltimore and Everywhere.

Does anyone have a little space for Sokol memorabilia? I hesitate telling individuals that we are not interested in their items because I am afraid they will be tossed resulting in the loss of wonderful archival material. We hope one day to have a building and a place for these items. Bo and I have filled up the basement area in the Madison Bohemian Bank. Our homes are loaded with boxes and Ron Jaros, President of Philadelphia has allowed us to store items at his home. Please consider and respond to help us. The area only needs to be free from water and at room temperature (not the attic).

Sokol Baltimore had an ethnic display at the Essex Library from Nov. 8 to Dec. 8. The librarians and

patrons loved it. Many of the items from Sisters Huber and Pokorny included textiles, crocheting, embroidery, crystal, porcelains, decorated eggs, garnets, and children's toys.



The Sokoletter is published monthly by Sokol Baltimore Inc. All articles, news and contributions can be forwarded to Ann or Frank Huber, 514 Sellrus Court, Fallston, MD 21047-2421, (410) 877-0534. Email: frankh1228@aol.com or ann12141@aol.com. Material to be published is due by the 20th of the preceding month. Please also advise of address changes, etc. to ensure continued delivery. Annual subscription is \$ 10.00 for all non-members. Send check, payable to "Sokol Baltimore" to P.O. Box 448, Perry Hall, MD 21128.

