



SOKOLETTER

P.O. Box 448
Perry Hall, MD 21128
Phone: 410-276-9798

OCTOBER 2009

www.sokolbaltimore.org

online issues @ www.sokolbaltimore.org/1872/sokoletter.html

UNIT MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2009

at 6:30 pm

St. Margaret's
Episcopal Church
1834A E. Joppa Road



UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS:

Sunday, October 4, 2009 - Twelfth Annual Membership Appreciation Picnic, American Sokol Washington, D.C. 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Fletcher's Boat House picnic area.
(www.fletchersboathouse.com) e-mail: sokol@sokolwashington.org

Monday, October 19, 2009 – Sokol Baltimore Unit Meeting – 6:30 pm @ St. Margaret's Episcopal Church.

Sunday, October 25, 2009 – CSHA Festival 12:00 – 6:00 pm @ Putty Hill Ave. and Old Harford Road. For information see page 4 or call (410) 662-6094

Donations to Sokol Baltimore Newsletter

Frank & Ann Huber

Building Fund Donations

Rosemarie Krajca
Irene Vincent in memory of Donald Otenasek

Happy October Birthday!

- October 1st – Mildred Vrzalik
- October 1st – Robert Romadka
- October 3rd – Edward Makowski
- October 4th – Sarah Pokorny
- October 12th – Helen Pelz
- October 14th – Kimberley Huff
- October 25th – Dorothy Delp

What's Inside

Annual Meeting Highlights.....	2
Tribute gift & NC&SML Raffle.....	3

GYM FUNDRAISER

The fall session has begun for the gymnastics program. 50-50 tickets have been distributed to the gym participants and to members with the September Sokoletter. Thanks to all who have already purchased tickets. The drawing will be held at the Gym on **November 18, 2009**. Any support that you can provide to the gymnastics program is greatly appreciated.

Remember, you do not have to be present at the drawing to win. We hope you will sell/purchase all of them. Send the ticket stubs, with your check (for \$20 we hope) payable to "Sokol Baltimore", to:

**Sokol Baltimore
P.O. Box 448
Perry Hall, MD 21128**

If you need more tickets please call Frank Huber at (410) 877-0534

Eastern District Semi-annual Meeting 9/26/09

The meeting was held at American Sokol Little Ferry's hall. All current officers, with the exception of the Men's Physical Director, were re-elected. Discussion primarily

concerned the planned audit of Sokol Washington and the District's response to the SPTF *proposed* plans.

Highlights from Sokol Baltimore's September Meeting – 9/21/09

After the pledge of allegiance to the flag a moment of silence was observed in memory of Sokol members: Br. Donald O'tenasek and Sis. Kay Hessenauer. Pres. Rokos asked for a moment of silence to recognize the life of Barbara Lee Podoski, a short article about her life to follow. The minutes from the June meeting were accepted as read. The corresponding secretary reported on the bill: annual I.W.I.F. (Injured Workers' Insurance Fund) = \$342. The requests for donations from Sokol Saint Louis and monies for the 50th Year Program Book for Sokol Chicago Land had to be tabled due to limited funds. A full page ad was placed in the C.S.H.A. Festival Program book by an anonymous donor. Sis. Kilian reported on the financial needs of the Nat.Cz.& Sl. Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids and their raffle tickets. It was decided an article advertising the raffle would be placed in the newsletter and members could contribute to it. Sis. Kilian shared educational stories found in the magazine Slovo. The status of the Baltimore Post Office Box will be investigated.

Vice President, Br. Bata (Pres. Of Eastern District) gave a general report about the national and local Sokol units. He reminded members that the Eastern District Annual Meeting was to be held in Little Ferry, N.J., on 9/26 and Sokol Baltimore could send 4 delegates. Pres. Rokos volunteered to be a delegate. Oct. 24, 25, & 26, will be a Board of Governors' Meeting and also a unit presidents' meeting. The Treasurer's report was given and an unused checking account was closed. Educational Dir. Sis. Huber, reminded members of the significance of Sept. 14, as the day that the Father of Czechoslovakia and founder, Pres. Masaryk passed away. Pres. Rokos stated 9/28 is significant as the Feast of St. Wenceslaus. Sis. Huber and Sis. Kilian brought newsletters from other units and magazines from other Czech and Slovak organizations to be read and taken home by members.

B.O.I. Director, Renee Harrison, gave her gym report. There are seven classes and 49 students that have pre-registered (18 returning students and 31 new students). Two birthday parties are scheduled. The gymnasts have performed at several Federal Hill festivals and plan to perform at the Czech and Slovak Heritage Assoc. Festival Oct. 25, 2009. The response

to the raffle by the members has been very rewarding. The members' encouragement has been appreciated. Due to unknown keys and entrance by outsiders, the locks to the gym have been changed.

Pres. Rokos gave his report along with his representing Sokol at the Czech Embassy on 9/17. He also attended the memorial service for Barbara L. Podoski on 9/18 at the Cz Embassy. In 2012 Sokol Baltimore will be celebrating 140 years of activity and a celebration should be held. Vice President, Br. Will Kool reported on the International Sports and Cultural Festival-Slet. It was outstanding and six (6) Sokol Baltimore members attended. The members were the Ehrenberg family (Br. Joseph, Sisters Kate and Kristen) and Brothers Michael Rokos, Will Kool, and Joe Vrzalik. There will be more information about the New York marathon and Br. Kool's fundraiser to follow.

New officers for the year 2009-2010 were sworn in by Br. Eric Crouse (see officer's names on the last page). Following the meeting the members enjoyed socializing and eating the delicious desserts.

Barbara Lee Podoski (1914-2009)

Ms. Barbara Lee Podoski, nee Božena Hauserová, was born in Brno on April, 22, 1914. She studied in France and Czechoslovakia and received her Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Masaryk University in 1937. She immigrated to the United States in 1941 and soon thereafter was appointed by Jan Masaryk to serve in the Czechoslovak Embassy in Washington. On June 1, 1943, the day she became an American citizen, she enlisted in the U.S. Army and was assigned to the Office of Strategic Services predecessor of the CIA. She served with OSS in North Africa and Italy, where she earned the Bronze Star "for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy." After the war, she helped organize the first Salzburg Music Festival. She worked for twenty years as a research analyst at the Library of Congress and subsequently for the American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees and the Tolstoy Foundation. After the Velvet Revolution in 1989 and up until her death on August 16, 2009, she was of invaluable and often indispensable assistance to the Czech Embassy and its staff. In 1999, she received the Gratias Agit award from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On the occasion of her 95th birthday this year, she was presented with a Presidential Medal.

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.

HONOR & REMEMBER



The holidays are quickly approaching!

Are you looking for a thoughtful and meaningful gift for friends and family?

Give a special tribute gift to Sokol Baltimore in honor or in loving memory of a loved one. Mail your gift to P.O. Box 448, Perry Hall, MD 21128. Please include your name, the name of the person you would like to honor or remember, and the name and address of the person to whom you would like us to send a notification card.

RAFFLE OFFERED BY NCSML

The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library is holding a Golden Prague Getaway Raffle. Please see a copy of the flyer reproduced here -----> The drawing will be held on October 16th. Send your check as directed.

Win a magical week in the Czech Republic!

Golden Prague Getaway Raffle

RAFFLE TICKET PRICE: \$10.⁰⁰
Drawing to be held: October 16, 2009
Contact the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library at 319-447-5533 for tickets & details.

Winner receives: Round-trip airfare for two and one week lodging with breakfast at the Corinthia Towers Hotel in Prague. Subject to availability—winner is encouraged to make reservations as far in advance as possible. Must be used by May 2010. Winner to be drawn at BrewNest on October 16, 2009. Need not be present to win.

Please send me Raffle Tickets:
Number _____ · \$ 10.⁰⁰ = \$ _____
(Your raffle stub(s) will be mailed to you.)

Payment: Check Enclosed Cash Enclosed
Please make checks payable to NCSML Raffle.

Please print.

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____
Telephone _____
Email _____

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SOKOL BALTIMORE
 P.O. Box 448
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DATED MATERIAL



CSHA Proudly Presents
ANNUAL CZECH AND SLOVAK FESTIVAL
Featuring
PITTSBURGH SLOVAKIANS
DANCE ENSEMBLE

Sunday, October 25, 2009
 12:00 noon until 6:00 pm

Admission: \$5.00

Baltimore 45 Association, Inc. Hall
 (Formerly Tall Cedars Hall)
 2501 Putty Hill Avenue
 Parkville, Maryland 21234

Corner of Old Harford Road and Putty Hill Avenue

Members

Br. Joe Shimek has finished chemo and is back home in Woodstock.
 Sis. Mildred Vrzalik had surgery and we hope the outlook is good. Sis. Millie you are in our thoughts and prayers.
 Members, please let membership chair, Anci, know how you are doing. Many members are unable to attend meetings. The unit is concerned and cares about them.

Anci (410) 877-0534

Sokol Baltimore, Inc.

Officers 2009 – 2010

President Michael Rokos	1st Vice-President William Kool	2nd Vice President Joseph Ehrenberger
Corresponding Secretary Betty Joy Kilian	Recording Secretary Marie Pokorny	Treasurer Steve Askew
Financial Secretary Kristen Cahlander	Education Anci Huber	

Directors 2009 – 2010

Bohus Bata Frank Huber Robert Romadka	Joseph Ehrenberger William Kool Leilani Sain	Edward Foreman, Jr. Michael Rokos
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