



*Providing fitness and community
for individuals and families
through physical, educational,
cultural, and social programs*

September 2025
vol. 48 no. 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

**October 2025 Slovo
articles due September 1**

Sokol Singers
Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-noon

First and
Third
Tuesdays
**September
2, 16**

**Friendly Friday
Evening Social**
Friday, September 12,
7 p.m.

Kolo Bike Club
Sunday, September 21,
10 a.m.

**Language Classes
Adult and Children**
See page 3

Sokol Gift Shop
open during events
and by appointment
giftshop@sokolmn.org

Use this QR code
to sokolmn.org to follow
all of our activities,
events, and classes!

- Dinners
- Czech and Slovak
Language Lessons
- Folk Dancing
- Sokol Gymnasts



36th annual CZECH & SLOVAK FESTIVAL

Hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

Sunday, September 28 **2025**
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

C.S.P.S. Hall, 383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota

Ethnic Food • Czech-style Beer • Music • Sokol Gift Shop
Dance and Gymnastic Performances • Children's Games
Silent Auction • Street Vendors • Exhibits • Special Guests
FREE Admission • Public Welcome • Accessible Facility



Become a Volunteer: festival@sokolmn.org



36th Annual Czech & Slovak Festival



**HAND-OUT CARDS
ARE AVAILABLE**

**for you to distribute
to your friends, neighbors,
and choice bulletin boards.**

Pick some up at the Hall
to help promote our favorite
festival of the year!

Find them in a box, inside left door of the blue
bureau by the elevator. Thank you!



Children and Teen Folk Dancing Saturdays 9:45 a.m. - noon

Dance practice is held each Saturday
morning through the school year,
at the historic C.S.P.S. Hall,
383 Michigan St., St. Paul, MN 55102
Practices are subject to change.
Contact Louise: 651-271-3601
folkdance@sokolmn.org

Prezidentův komentář / President's Notes by Bob Kotek



Dobré den! (Moravian). *Dobry den!* (Czech). *Dobry deň!* (Slovak).

It is September already, and I hope everyone is having a great summer.

There are still more Czech and Slovak festivals to enjoy, with *Dožínky Days* in New Prague, September 18–20, and our very own *Sokol Minnesota Czech & Slovak Festival* on Sunday, September 28 from 11 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Teams of Sokol volunteers are already hard at work preparing for the big day, but we can always use more! If interested, send an email to: festival@sokolmn.org

For the last six years or so, my primary focus at Sokol Minnesota has been working to maintain our historic C.S.P.S. Hall. With this in mind, I would like to report that in August, two of the last original windows were replaced. The windows are on the Western Avenue (east) side of the building on the ground level of the Pajarito restaurant.

This effort began some four years ago as we talked to a number of firms to find someone who could build the windows to meet the design requirements specified by the Saint Paul Historic Preservation Commission. Once we found the contractor, the next requirement was to fund the project. With the help of Joyce Tesarek, a Neighborhood STAR grant request was written and delivered to the city of St. Paul last year. Joyce and I met in person with the grant administrators to answer questions regarding the project. We are most grateful to report our request was funded at nearly 50% of the project. Next, we informed the contractor we were ready to proceed with the project, and here we are, nearly 10 months later, finally completing it! It was quite a project and quite a process to make this happen. *Nazdar!*

Fall Festival Silent Auction

by Denise Stibal, Chair

Thank you to all who have responded already to the call for donations for the Fall Festival Silent Auction. Special thanks to Roger Green, who volunteered to ask local businesses, plus sports and entertainment venues for donations.

Donations are stored in the classroom, but they can be left in the entryway (off the parking lot). Please mark them: Fall Festival Silent Auction, with your name and address, along with the value of the items. We request a minimum value of \$25. Our festival guests like to bid on fall-themed items and crafts, gift cards, tasty treats, and quality gift items.

The Hall will be open Tuesdays, September 2 and 16 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and all Saturdays in September, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Please contact Denise with questions: neecr75@gmail.com

Festival Volunteers!

Our Festival is, September 28, Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There are lots of ways to volunteer, from publicity to setup and teardown, serving food, and more. Volunteers work one shift of 3½ hours and have the rest of the day to enjoy the festival.

Donations for the silent auction are welcome!

For questions, information, or to volunteer, contact Joyce Tesarek: 612-232-2993 or email: festival@sokolmn.org

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota 2025 BOD (Board of Directors)

President

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Telephone: 651-290-0542

Past issues of *Slovo* and
Hall Calendar of Events:
www.sokolmn.org

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota provides fitness and community for individuals and families through physical, educational, cultural, and social programs for children, teens, and adults.

Information on our programs, calendar of events, membership, C.S.P.S. Hall rentals, and gift shop, plus e-addresses for our board, program directors, volunteer staff, and the Czech Honorary Consul, as well as *Slovo* past issues, are available at
www.sokolmn.org or www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota



Use this
QR code
to go to
sokolmn.org

Smisek Czech Pottery is the Special Exhibit at our 36th C&S Festival by Alenka Jans



John and Suzie Smisek started collecting Czechoslovak pottery in 1999 when their daughter Anne became the Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota Queen. They expanded their collection to approximately 2,000 pieces of pottery.

These pieces in the photograph, along with several more, will be in a small display in their memory during the *Czech & Slovak Festival* on the third floor in the C.S.P.S. Hall on Sunday, September 28.

Summer Mushroom Hunt a Success by Sally Lieberman

Twelve intrepid foragers joined our expert, Dan, on July 27 to hunt for summer mushrooms on a very hot afternoon. Our focus was on chanterelles, and we found lots! Chanterelles are delicious when sauteed in butter until they release, then reabsorb, their liquid. Sokol Minnesota is pleased to have a way to participate in this beloved Czech and Slovak pastime and, at the same time, find fresh and delicious ingredients for Czech and Slovak recipes!



L to R: Jay Lieberman, Quint Larson, Doreen McKenney, Bea Flaming, Bob Kotek, Míša Kotek, Georgina Yates, Michelle Shaw, Dan Kirkpatrick, Chloe Rizzo, Chad Holliday, Ken Mowll.
Not pictured: Sally Lieberman

GYMNASTICS

• **Session I starting**
September 15 to November 21
sokolmn.org/sokol-fitness/

Language Program News by Sally Lieberman

Adult Language Classes: As we begin this year's Czech and Slovak adult language classes, we say farewell to one Czech



Tess Dajc

teacher and welcome a new one! Tess Dajc is taking a break after teaching at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota for more than a decade. Tess's most recent group of students, some of whom have been studying with her for many years, have completed the equivalent of a year of college-level Czech.

Our new Czech teacher for adults, Jana Kalinová Zmrzliková, will take over where Tess left off with online Intermediate Czech. Jana, who has been teaching Czech as a foreign language for almost 20 years, has experience teaching students in all age groups. She holds a degree in Czech language pedagogy from Masaryk University in Brno. Jana is one of the founders of StudyCzech, a Brno-based language school. She is also an editor of *AHOJ*, a magazine for Czech language learners. Jana now lives in Washington, D.C., with her family. In her free time, she enjoys walking in the forest, swimming, and practicing yoga.



Jana Kalinová
Zmrzliková

Language courses for adults at Sokol Minnesota in 2025-2026 (some online, some in person) include Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Czech, plus Beginning Slovak. Classes start the week of September 28. Find full information and registration links under "Classes" at sokolmn.org

New! Beginning Czech Class for Children: we are launching a Czech class for children ages 10-14 on Saturday, October 4. This class is for children who have had little or no prior exposure to the Czech language.



Luboš Mareš

Children can register by themselves or with an adult who wants to learn alongside them. Instructor is Luboš Mareš, who also teaches kung fu, tai chi, and adult Czech language classes. Find full information and registration links under "Classes" at sokolmn.org.

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota 2024-2025 Queen Sarah Langridge who brought home three awards from the 2025 Miss Czech-Slovak US Pageant, held in Wilber, Nebraska, August 1-3. She was voted Miss Congeniality, her first award, by her peers. She also received the Kroj-Poise Award and the Grand Talent Runner-Up Award. Langridge competed against eight other state queens. She is a dual citizen of both the United States and the Czech Republic. Her parents, Brian and Diana Langridge of Prior Lake, are Sokol Minnesota members.



Madelyn Karstedt, Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Texas 2024-2025, was crowned the 2025-2026 Miss Czech-Slovak US. Iowa's Isabel Sherman was awarded First Runner-Up and Wisconsin's Megan Moucha was awarded Second Runner-Up. Sokol Minnesota member Heather Vikla Dobias, Miss Czech-Slovak Minnesota 2018-2019, was one of the three judges this year in Wilber.

July 2025 Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Board Highlights by Lucy Rose

The July 17, 2025, Board of Directors' meeting was called to order by President Bob Kotek at 7:05 p.m., all participants attended virtually. BOD members: Jean Draheim, Steve Ernest, Ed Hamernik, Don Haselbauer, Sally Lieberman, Markéta Pálková, Bob Kotek, Silvia Magana, Lucy Rose, Fred Simon, Denise Stibal, Joyce Tesarek, Tereza Treanor. Guest: Marit Kucera.

The board reviewed and approved the minutes of the June 2025 meeting with minor revisions. The board voted to grant limited access to the digitized Sokol Minnesota historical records to a small group of Czech researchers.

Education Director: Sally Lieberman described the visit to C.S.P.S. Hall by the host of the popular *Cook Like Czechs* website (<https://www.cooklikeczechs.com/>) on July 25. The event was an informal get-together with Petra Kupská, her son Honza Kupský, her local website subscribers, and interested Sokol Minnesota members.

Sally also updated information on the upcoming fall language classes. Not able to recruit a fourth Czech teacher locally, she is negotiating for a remote language class with a professional instructor for the intermediate level. We currently have local teachers for two levels of Beginning Czech, Advanced Czech, and Beginning Slovak. Registration for all classes should be open by mid-August and classes start the week of September 29.

Building and Property Trustee Committee (BPTC): Bob Kotek updated the status of the upcoming boiler replacement, with discussion

about incorporating the building chimney into the repair plan. New windows are scheduled to be installed on either July 28-29 or August 4-5, and new window shades will be installed as time allows.

Finance Committee: Chair Joyce Tesarek reviewed the account balances for the various bank accounts. The board was also informed about the progress in selecting a new tax accountant; the Finance Committee is following up with a few candidates. The deadline for the Czech government grant is due the end of July; board members discussed several ideas for funding requests to make improvements to the C.S.P.S. Hall and its programs.

Gaming Committee: Chair Ed Hamernik reported on the monthly gaming proceeds and moved to approve the July gaming budget. Motion approved. Ed offered a second motion to approve the total actual expenditure for June 2025. Motion approved. Finally, Ed reviewed the profits and expenditures for June at both the 620 Club and Falling Knife Brewing Company. He moved to approve the statement of operations for June. Motion approved.

Membership Director: Steve Ernest moved to approve the membership of one new member, Sheila Simon, to Sokol Minnesota. Denise Stibal seconded. Motion approved.

Steve raised the idea of organizing a "European Friendship Ride" bicycling event in May 2026 with other Twin Cities European heritage organizations. This event is proposed to be held on Europe Day, May 9, 2026. The

board was generally supportive of the idea. Steve plans to contact other European cultural groups to gauge interest.

Rental Committee: Chair Markéta Pálková updated the board on the activities of the Rental Committee, including ongoing revisions to the rental agreement, employee payroll, outside advertising and social media efforts, rental pricing, and protocols for dealing with the stage backdrops during rental events at the C.S.P.S. Hall.

Activities Director and Stage Committee

Representative: Jean Draheim reported that the fall postcard is currently out for its second proof reading.

The stage backdrops have all been rigged so they're easier to handle now. Plans for cleaning the stage backdrops are moving forward on schedule.

Publicity Committee: Chair Tereza Treanor moved to approve a publicity budget item for the Czech & Slovak Festival. Motion approved.

Sunshine Committee and Corresponding

Secretary: Denise Stibal reported on her activities during July. She listed the donations from the last month to the General and Legacy funds.

Vice President: Fred Simon reminded the board about the 91st annual Kolacky Days in Montgomery on July 24-26.

Slovo Interim Managing Editor: Marit Kucera stated that the August *Slovo* issue is on schedule for printing the last week of July.

The board meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Cook Like Czechs Visited the C.S.P.S. Hall and also Kolačky Days in Montgomery by Sally Lieberman

Sokol Minnesota members and friends may be familiar with the *Cook Like Czechs* website (cooklikeczechs.com), an online source for recipes and a wealth of cultural information about Czech and Central European cuisines. Host Petra Kupská and her adult son Honza Kupský, who handles the technical production of the program and helps with English translations, included Minnesota in their summer travel plans. They wanted to meet in person some of Petra's newsletter subscribers in the Twin Cities area and to experience Kolačky Days in Montgomery. A meet-and-greet was hosted by Sokol Minnesota at the C.S.P.S.



Honza Kupský, Petra Kupská, Míša Giancarlo Kotek, and Sandy Prochaska at Kolačky Days.

Hall on Friday, July 25; those in attendance enjoyed a lively conversation about Czech cuisine and how Czech-American traditions evolved from the original 19th and early 20th century immigrant Czech versions.

On Saturday, July 26, Sokol Minnesota members Sandy Prochaska, Míša Giancarlo Kotek, and Bob Kotek helped introduce Petra and Honza to Kolačky Days and other Czech towns in Czech Country Minnesota. Petra was interviewed by the *Montgomery Messenger* and featured on the front page of the July 31 edition. They also had a tour of the well-known Franke's Bakery in Montgomery.



Honza Kupský and Petra Kupská at the C.S.P.S. Hall.

Upcoming Events Co-Sponsored with Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Partners

Friday, September 19, 7 p.m., C.S.P.S. Hall: In-person presentation by **Julie Sedivy: *What It Means to Love a Heritage Language***. American society holds deeply ambivalent attitudes toward foreign languages. Other languages are recognized as valuable skills in a global economy, but often they are seen as potential threats to national identity and unity. Drawing on her academic research, as well as her own experiences as a heritage speaker of Czech, Julie Sedivy outlines some of the joys and challenges of maintaining a connection to an ancestral language. A Calgary-based writer and language scientist whose work ranges from the scientific to the literary and includes everything in between, Julie Sedivy's textbook on the rapidly growing field of psycholinguistics, *Language in Mind*, is in its second edition.

This is a free event supported by a grant from the Czech Republic to Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota (CSCC) and also sponsored by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota and the Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis. Light refreshments will be provided.

Saturday, September 20, 10 a.m.-noon, Classroom, C.S.P.S. Hall: **Dr. Julie Sedivy joins Literary Ventures to discuss her most recent book, *Linguaphile: A Life of Language Love***, an embodiment of her relationship to language, both scientific and aesthetic. (See also page 6.)

The Sokol Minnesota Gift Shop had a Booth at the 34th Czech Heritage Festival in Bechyn, Minnesota, on August 10



Doreen McKenney, gift shop manager, filled the booth with flags, crystal glass, ribbon, feather brushes, jewelry, CDs, and other Czech gift items. Sokol member Tim Kojetin, who grew up in Bechyn and is now one of the Bechyn festival organizers, took a moment to pose in the Sokol booth, with one of the 2025 Bechyn t-shirt designs: *My DNA Results: 40% Kolache, 25% Pivo, 15% Dumpling 15% Music, 5% Jitnice, 100% Czech*.

(Insert) Sokol Minnesota donated a basket of mushroom-themed items (book, note cards, ornaments, recipe book, cookie cutter, playing cards) for one of the many drawings during the afternoon. St. Mary's Preservation Association sponsors the annual Czech Heritage Festival. <http://www.bechynczechfest.org>

October 2, Thursday, 5 p.m. Giesenbräu Bier Company, 1306 First Street NE, New Prague, *Bohemian Serfdom: Myth or Reality?* In-person presentation by **Ivo Cerman**.

Current debates on American slavery have revived the interest in Bohemian serfdom. This peculiar form of bondage existed in Czechlands from the end of the Thirty Years' War (1648) until 1781, when it was abolished by Emperor Joseph II. Some current Czech historiography tends to believe that serfdom actually did not exist and that it was only the result of Communist exaggerations. Research by Ivo Cerman shows that serfdom was real and explains how it originated.

Affiliated with the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Dr. Cerman, a Czech historian of the Age of Enlightenment and of Bohemian serfdom, has also worked on aristocratic culture and human rights.

Sponsored by Czech Heritage Club, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, and the Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis.

Sokol Minnesota Welcomes a New Member

The Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota Board of Directors approved one new member in July: **Sheila Simon** of Saint Paul, with interest in language classes, cooking classes, films and theater, history and genealogy, and the literature group.

Welcome to Sokol Minnesota! We are now 317 members strong!
<https://sokolmn.org/membership/>

Sokol Minnesota Thanks Donors

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota greatly appreciates your donations supporting Sokol programs and the maintenance of our historic C.S.P.S. Hall.

GENERAL FUND

\$3,895

Under \$99: In Memory of Phyllis Vosejpka: **Amy and Marek Mino, Elizabeth Pauly.**

Wayne Zbytovsky.

\$100-\$499: In Memory of Phyllis Vosejpka: **Thomas Carin, Jim Kohout, Rita Kriha, Sally Lieberman, Joyce Tesarek.**

In Memory of Arlene Hamernik: **Marlene Hinshaw.**

\$1,000: In Memory of Marcy Vasko Bigaouette: **Central Europe Heritage.**

\$2,000: **Donald Haselbauer.**

LEGACY

\$300

Under \$99: Blackbaud Giving Fund.

\$100-\$499: In Memory of Phyllis Vosejpka: **Brad and Marcia Balling Fund.**

GRANTS

\$2,353.20

- Special thanks to **American Sokol** and to **Western District** for Youth Financial Support by Sokol Minnesota Board of Instructors. Our Unit is very appreciative of this financial support; it significantly assists us in being able to send our gymnasts to be well trained and prepared to teach in our gymnastics classes and ensure the future of Sokol Minnesota gymnastics.

- Sokol Minnesota thanks American Sokol for its grant award from the **Sister Carol Crosson Endowment Fund**. The grant is reimbursement for toll costs and seventy cents per mile for two Sokol Minnesota's youth who attended the American Sokol 2025 Instructor School in Chicago, Illinois, June 29-July 7.

- Sokol Minnesota also thanks the **Western District** for its decision to reimburse up to three students per Western District Unit to attend the 2025 Instructor School. Sokol Minnesota will receive reimbursement from Western District for the three students who attended this year's School.

A Bohemian Girl in America by Emily M. K. Polášek. Rollins Press, 120 pages, 1982. Available at libraries.

A Bohemian Girl in America is a charming memoir written by Emily M. K. Polášek about moving from Bohemia and settling in the United States with her parents and five brothers in 1910, when Emily was thirteen years old. To avoid conscription of their sons, Teresa and Josef Muska left their homeland, comfortable lives, loved ones, and the bakery they owned and ran. The entire family comes across in the book as extremely likeable, hard-working, friendly, and generous. The descriptions of their escapades in *A Bohemian Girl in America* made a quick and enjoyable read for me.

They bought 40 acres in Phillips, a lumber town in Wisconsin, and marveled at the deer, rabbits, and partridges. Since the land had no house, they rented adjoining land and a log cabin that came with a barn, chicken coop, and a water well.

The ramshackle rented cabin with no furniture was a big disappointment to Mrs. Muska, but Emily and her younger brothers reacted differently. As Emily wrote, "Rudy, Frank, and I awakened the next morning to the blissful sounds of birds singing and the distant tinkling of cow bells. It was a bright, clear, stunning day and the air was wonderfully fresh. The brilliantly colored leaves were dazzling. We were delighted to be surrounded by so much beauty."



Polášek writes captivatingly about the family's adventures, such as three feet of snow falling overnight, celebrating the family's first American Christmas, maple syruping, building a new house, picking wild berries, making wine, watching beavers build their houses, the chimney burning, and the family making music.

After Mr. Muska died four years later, the family moved to live with the older brother Joe in Saint Paul, where they all had opportunities for education. The boys worked in electrical engineering and lighting, founding the Muska Lighting business.

Emily had a long and happy marriage to William Kubat, a dentist she married when she was seventeen. After his death, she married their long-time friend Albin Polášek. Emily Polášek is also the author of *Albin Polášek: Man Carving His Own Destiny* (1970), which has photographs, descriptions, and accounts of many of his sculptures.

Gwen is coordinator of the Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures book discussion group. Literary Ventures is cosponsored by the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, and the Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis. For information and updates: cs-center.org or contact: gwen@cs-center.org

Join Literary Ventures at 10 a.m., Saturday, September 20, to discuss *Linguaphile: A Life of Language Love* with a visit by author Julie Sedivy.

Czech and Slovak Literary Ventures 2025-2026

Join us for small-group informal discussions of Czech and Slovak books in English translation.

Everyone is welcome. Please read the books in advance. Meetings are held both in-person and virtually.

Discussions are cosponsored by the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota, Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, and the Office of the Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic/Minneapolis.

2025 Book Discussions and Film Viewing

Saturday, September 20, 10 a.m. - noon

Linguaphile: A Life of Language Love with visit by author Julie Sedivy. Book discussion.

Saturday, October 18, 10 a.m. - noon

Milan Rastislav Štefánik: A Man of Iron Will by Jozef Banaš, Part 1. Book discussion.

Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m. - noon

Milan Rastislav Štefánik: A Man of Iron Will by Jozef Banaš, Part 2. Book discussion.

Saturday, December 20, 10 a.m. - noon

To See the Sea. Film viewing.

Questions? Contact gwen@cs-center.org

2026 Book Discussions

Saturday, January 17, 10 a.m. - noon

The Golem ... Two German Supernatural Novels edited by Gustav Meyrink, Paul Busson, and E. F. Bleiler, or other editions. Book discussion.

Saturday, February 21, 10 a.m. - noon

Beyond the World of Men: Women's Fiction of the Czech Fin de Siècle edited by Geoffrey Chew. Book discussion.

Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m. - noon

Skoda: Laurin & Klement by Ivan Margolius and Charles Meisl. Book discussion.

Saturday, April 18, 10 a.m. - noon

The Accidental Hero: A Journey of Discovery, Liberation and Legacy by Patrick Dewane. Book discussion.

Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. - noon

The Book of Prague: A City in Short Fiction edited by Ivana Myšková and Jan Zikmund. Book discussion.



NEW MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Current Sokol members are invited to join the membership committee. We will review how members join and renew, how we communicate about and participate in Sokol activities and opportunities, and how we recognize contributions and achievements. Please contact Membership Director: steve.ernest@sokolmn.org

Czech Honorary Consul News

September
2025

Czech out New Prague is held annually on the first Thursday evening of August. Organized by the Chamber of Commerce, it features organizations, businesses, churches, the favorite KCHK radio station, schools, scouts, and foundations, plus local eateries, dance performances, and music entertainment, as well as

a junior fire fighter challenge presented by the New Prague Fire Department. The Czech Heritage Club invites the Honorary Czech Consul to join its booth. This year New Prague Mayor Chuck Nickolay stopped by the Czech Heritage Club booth and posed for a picture.



(L-R) Doris Coghill, George Mikiska, Mayor Nickolay, Honorary Czech Consul Kucera, and Jim Simon. Mayor Nickolay's interim term runs until December 31, 2026. He previously served as mayor from 2011 to 2020.



Czechia unveiled a new national logo in July. It has a simplified white lion on a red background. According to Radio Prague International, "Officials hope the consistent branding will boost recognition abroad and foster a sense of pride at home." It is meant to bring confidences, clarity, and better recognition of the 30-plus central state administrative bodies within Czechia to audiences both at home and abroad.

<https://tinyurl.com/2h8rj6e8>

<https://tinyurl.com/yb2n93hh>

My Czech Honorary Consul display table at Czech and Slovak festivals around Minnesota, throughout the year, some indoors, some outdoors, contains informational and tourist brochures and maps, provided by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, for guests to take. Hand-out cards for the many programs, events, and festivals of our local Czech and Slovak organizations are also displayed and available for free pick-up.



Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic/
Minneapolis

Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Consul
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minneapolis@honorary.mzv.gov.cz
OR mlkucera@outlook.com



SLOVO PUBLICATION INFORMATION

The *Slovo* is published ten times per year by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota, a non-profit organization, 383 West Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102. Phone: 651-290-0542.

Sokol Minnesota members receive the *Slovo* with their membership.

To receive your *Slovo* in color via email instead of the black-and-white mail version, contact slovo@sokolmn.org

Non-member *Slovo* subscription: \$20 annually. Please include name, address, phone number, and email address with a \$20 check payable to Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota; mail to *Slovo* at the above address.

The *Slovo* staff welcomes submissions.

Copy deadline for each issue is the first day of the prior month. Send news, articles, and pictures (uncropped) digitally to slovo@sokolmn.org

Advertising: For information on due dates and rates, please email slovo@sokolmn.org

Moving or temporarily away: Please notify us via email or USPS mail of your change of address to make sure you continue to receive the *Slovo*.

The *Slovo* is bulk mailed; non-deliverable copies are not forwarded or held by the post office. Non-delivered copies are returned to Sokol Minnesota and billed to us at the first-class mail rate. For this reason, we will not send issues until we have a current, correct mailing address on record for you.

Member volunteer *Slovo* staff:

***Slovo* team:** Mary Cahill, M. L. Kucera, Kelly Rynda, and Joyce Tesarek.

Mailing: Mary Cahill and Joan Sedlacek.

Mailing/Email lists: Penny and Tom Tesarek.

Minnesota ad designer: Doreen McKenney.

Production layout: Mary Kucera.

September issue contributors: Mary Cahill, Steve Ernest, Alenka Jans, Sally Lieberman, Bob Kotek, M. L. Kucera, Bonnie Simon, Lucy Rose, Denise Stibal, Renáta Tichá, and Gwen Willems.

September issue photographs, ads, or illustrations: Alenka Jans, Bob Kotek, M. L. Kucera, Sarah Langridge, Sally Lieberman, Doreen McKenney, and Gwen Willems.

More information at www.sokolmn.org

C.S.P.S. HALL LEGACY FUND

We ask for your support for maintenance and renovation to C.S.P.S. Hall as we celebrate the Hall's 138th year in 2025. Contact Joyce Tesarek to discuss your tax-deductible donation: 612-232-2993 or email: finance@sokolmn.org Thank you!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I make a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

I would like my gift designated: ☐ in memory or ☐ in honor of:

Make checks payable to **Sokol Minnesota**

Write **Legacy Fund** in the memo line.

Mail to **C.S.P.S. Hall Legacy Fund. Attn: Treasurer**

Or donate online: www.sokolmn.org use the "Who We Are" tab.



For Sokol's
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sokolmn.org

events@sokolmn.org

Instagram: [@sokolminnesota](https://www.instagram.com/sokolminnesota)

facebook.com/sokolminnesota

For status of events scheduled for the C.S.P.S. Hall, check our calendar at
sokolmn.org/at-our-hall/hall-calendar/

Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota *SLOVO* September 2025



Fall 2025 Events at Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota

383 Michigan Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102 • 651-290-0542

For the most current information, go to the Sokol Minnesota website: sokolmn.org
Instagram: [@sokolminnesota](https://www.instagram.com/sokolminnesota) or Facebook: [facebook.com/sokolminnesota](https://www.facebook.com/sokolminnesota)

Sokol Minnesota Friendly Evenings

Friday: September 12, October 10, November 14,
December 12, and January 9, 2026, 7-10 p.m.**

Card and board games, fun, food, friends, and a few surprises!

36th Annual Czech & Slovak Festival

Sunday, September 28, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

• Free Admission • Public Welcome • Accessible Facility

Ethnic food, beer/beverages, live music, dance, special guests, gymnastic performances, children's games, vendors, exhibits, information, SMYL book sale, Sokol Gift Shop, and silent auction. Volunteer: 612-232-2993 or festival@sokolmn.org

Vendors: 651-210-0401 or activities@sokolmn.org

Fifth Annual Trunks with Treats Harvest Fest

Saturday, October 25, 10 a.m.-Noon. C.S.P.S. Hall parking lot.

Family-friendly games, treats, photo op. For Sokol kids 12 and under. Hosted by Sokol Minnesota Youth Link (SMYL).

Blast from the Past: Spooky Edition!

Saturday, October 18, 7 p.m.-midnight.

DJ Music: 80's, 90's, and more. Ages: 18+. Open bar.

\$15 per person, pre-pay by October 10*/\$20 at the door.

Tastes from the Czech Republic, 43rd Annual Czech Dinner

Sunday, October 26. Doors and bar open: Noon.

Sit-down dinner served: 12:30 p.m. Traditional Czech Schnitzel (řízek), Czech potato salad (bramborový salát), garlic soup (česnečka), rye bread, apple strudel, and coffee. \$35 per person. Beer, wine, soft drinks available for purchase. Pre-paid reservation by Monday, October 20.*

Annual Sokol Membership Meeting

Friday, November 21, 7 p.m.

Annual meeting, election of officers, membership anniversary recognition, and social time.

Holiday Breakfast/Craft and Koláče Sale

Sunday, November 23, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

• No Reservations Needed • Public Welcome

\$10 adult, \$6 children under 9, \$30/family of four. Pancake breakfast with all the fixings.

Pre-paid Koláče \$2 each (apricot, cream cheese, poppy seed, prune, or raspberry).

Pre-pay koláče order by Saturday, November 15.*

To reserve a craft table: activities@sokolmn.org

Children's Holiday Party

Friday, December 5, 7 p.m.

Performances by the children and teen dancers, plus Sokol Singers. Special visits from Svatý Mikuláš, (Saint Nicolas), anděl (angel), and čert (devil).

2026 Svičková Dinner/Svičková s knedlíkem

Saturday, January 24, 2026. \$35 person.*

Doors open: 4:30 p.m. Sit-down dinner served: 5 p.m.

Beef in cream sauce with bread dumplings, coffee, and dessert.

\$35 per person. Bar: beer, wine, soft drinks available.

Pre-paid reservation by Friday, January 16, 2026.*

Place your prepaid order early.

Limited number of dinners available.

* To prepay and order online: www.sokolmn.org/cc or text/call before mailing a check (2 weeks before deadline)

651-210-0401 ** Information: sokolmn.org or contact: activities@sokolmn.org or text/call: 651-210-0401