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SOKOL TIMES

JANUARY 14, 2010

PUBLICATION FOSTERING FRATERNAL, CULTURAL & PHYSICAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES SINCE JULY 14, 1905

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Joe Bielecki

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S VIEW

During the holidays I received many cards and good wishes. One of the cards which arrived was a bit mysterious. It came from Europe and I did not recognize the last name and return address.

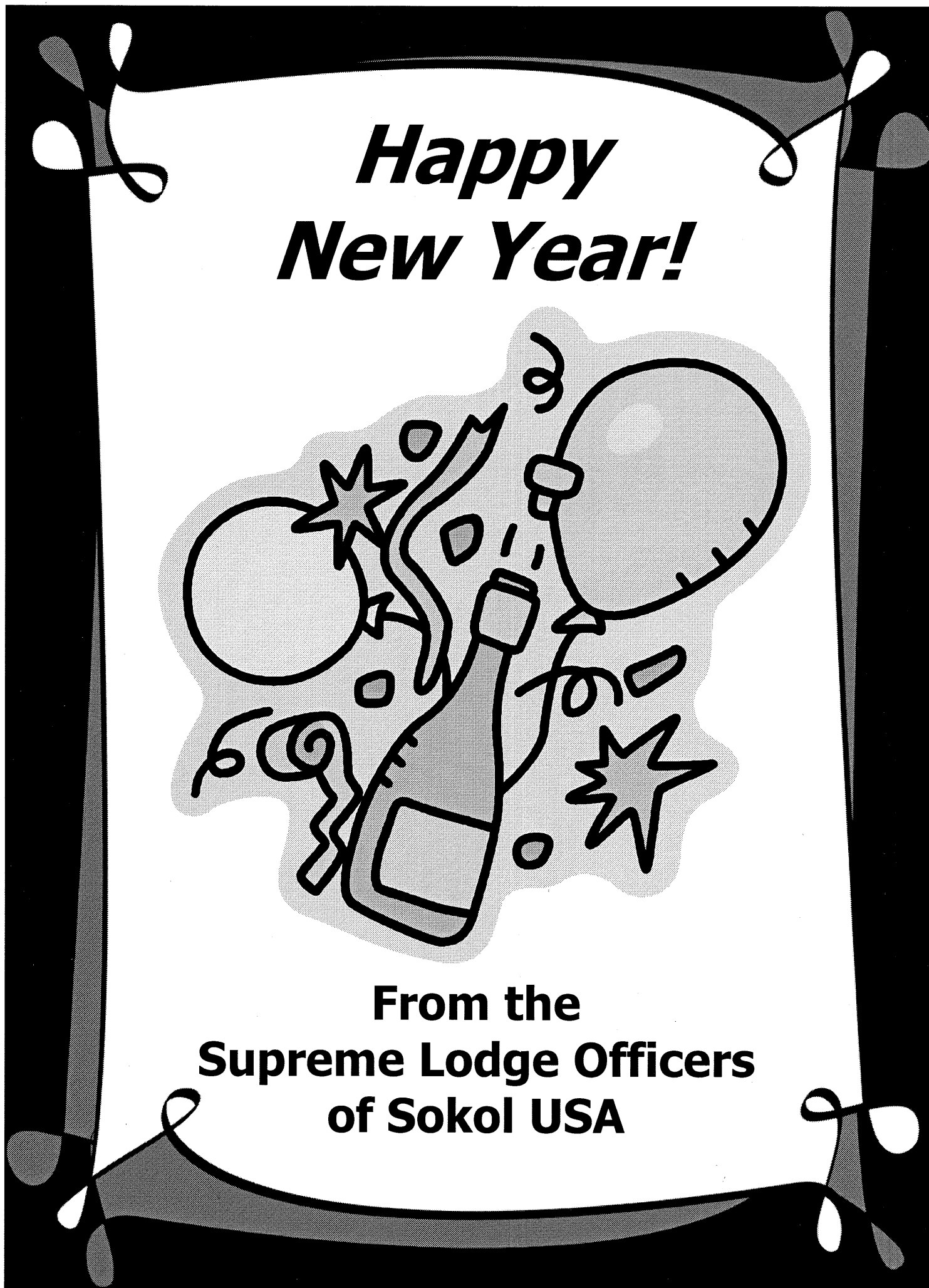
When I opened the card, it was from a very old friend who had just remarried. The card read new name, new address, the same person.

So it is with Sokol. The first of the year has brought several new people to the Supreme Lodge and has seen several people retire from the Supreme Lodge. The change in leadership, however, does not change Sokol USA and its mission. Nor does it change Sokol USA's values and the challenges that it faces.

I am proud to serve as the new President of Sokol USA and am humbled to think of the years of dedicated and devoted service that our President Emeritus, Bea Walko, and the other departing members of the Supreme Lodge have provided.

The tasks ahead with the Supreme Lodge are to keep the organization financially strong in these uncertain economic times, to increase Sokol membership, and to strengthen the bonds of fraternalism in our organization.

In this New Year, just like the Christmas card from Europe, we have several new officers, new names, new faces and some new programs such as the Sokol Healthy Heart Walking Club. However just like the Christmas card from Europe, it is still Sokol



From the Supreme Lodge Officers of Sokol USA

USA.

I strongly encourage our membership to participate in the Sokol Healthy Heart Walking Club. This new activity is a result of a collaboration between Sister Brandi Kovac and our new Cultural Activities Director Jennifer Moulton. This is a fan-

tastic way for all members to participate. One does not need to belong to a Lodge with an active gym membership to belong to the Sokol Healthy Heart Club. It is an athletic activity which all can do. There will be prizes and I encourage as many of our members as possible to partici-

pate in this new activity in the New Year.

I ask your patience for myself and the new Supreme Lodge members. Bear with us, communicate with us and share your thoughts, encouragement, and your criticism. We thank our predecessors for making Sokol

such a strong and wonderful organization.

Please communicate with us and help us work together to keep Sokol thriving and vibrant in this new decade.

NAZDAR!
Joe Bielecki

SOKOL TIMES

official organ of the
SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL
OF THE USA

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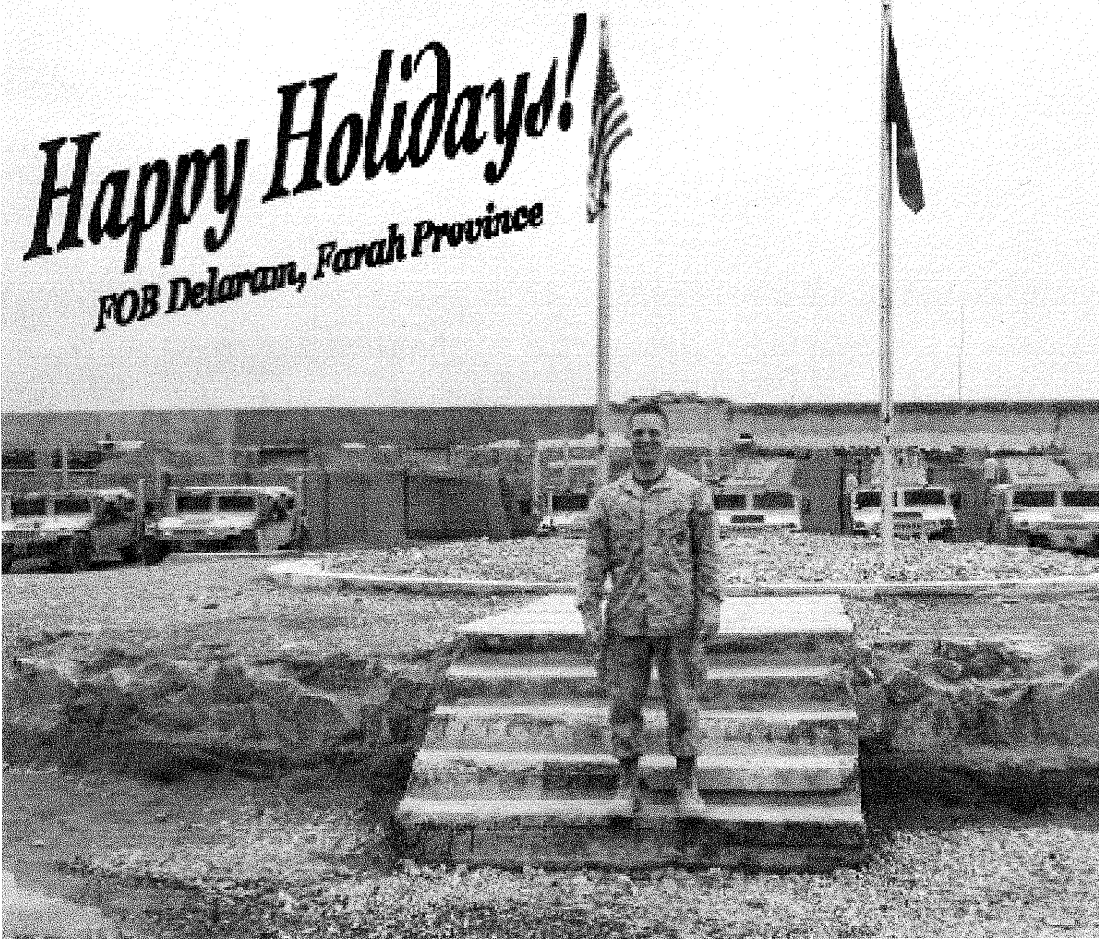
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HOLIDAY DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

To the Sokol USA Gymnastic Fund	
From Lodge 63, Homestead, Pa. <i>Wishing everyone "Merry Christmas And Happy New Year</i>	\$250.00
From Lodge 260, Cleveland, Ohio <i>Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!</i>	\$101.25
From Lodge 244, Westfield, Mass. <i>We want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas And a Happy New Year</i>	\$100.00
From Lodge 114, North Tarrytown, N.Y. <i>May your Holidays Shine Bright with Peace and Love</i>	\$200.00
From Anthony Puglisi, Sokol Times Editor <i>May all your Christmas wishes come true</i>	\$50.00
From Lodge 276, Pittsburgh, Pa. <i>Warmest wishes for the holiday and the coming year</i>	\$250.00
To the Milan Getting Scholarship Fund	
From Lodge 63, Homestead, Pa. <i>Wishing everyone Merry Christmas And Happy New Year</i>	\$250.00
From Lodge 260, Cleveland, Ohio <i>Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!</i>	\$101.25
From Lodge 79, Mahanoy City, Pa. <i>Christmas Blessings to All Our Sokol Friends</i>	\$250.00
From Lodge 63, Homestead, Pa. <i>Best Wishes for the Holidays and the coming Year</i>	\$250.00
From District Matus Cak Trenciansky <i>In memory of Pat & Steve Tomko</i>	\$100.00
From Lodge 42, Tarrytown, N.Y. <i>Wishing Happy Holidays to all</i>	\$100.00
From Lodge 114, North Tarrytown, N.Y. <i>May your Holidays Shine Bright with Peace and Love</i>	\$200.00
From Anthony Puglisi, Sokol Times Editor <i>Merry Christmas Wishes to the Supreme Lodge Officers</i>	\$50.00
From Lodge 276, Pittsburgh, Pa. <i>May this wonderful holiday bring you joy and peace throughout the New Year</i>	\$250.00





**Joe Check of Lodge 93, Bethlehem Pa., sends
holiday greetings from Afghanistan.**

Boonton Upcoming Events



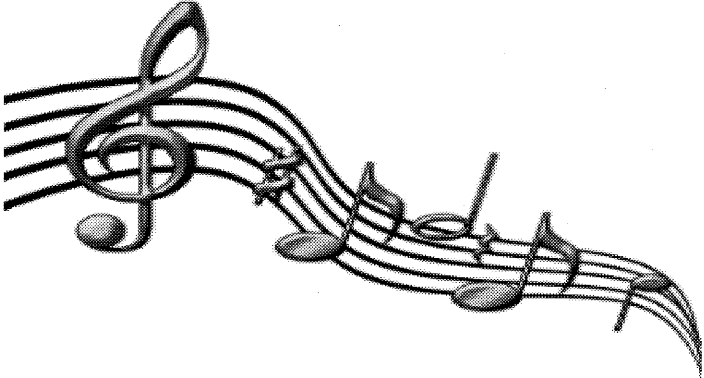
Feb 7 – Super Bowl Pancake Breakfast
8:30 a.m. to 12 noon
Adults \$6 Children \$3
Featuring regular and blueberry pancakes, bacon
and sausage, home fries, scrambled eggs, coffee,
tea and juice. Take-out available.
For reservations or information, call 973-263-9831

March 5 – Fish & Chips Dinner
4:30 to 7 p.m.
Adults \$8 Children \$5
Featuring batter fried fish or chicken tenders, French
fries, coleslaw, hush puppies, coffee, tea and dessert.
Take-out available. Snow date: March 6.
For reservations or information, call 973-263-9831



SACC 18th Annual Ball

Saturday, February 13, 2010
New York Athletic Club



Special Performance by Guest of Honor Eva Virsik
Entertainment by Express
Tickets: \$160 per person / \$90 for students
For more information, contact:
Irena Sebo at 914-484-2602 or isebo@optonline.net

American Sokol Extends Invitations

By Chris Yatchyshyn

In October, Director of Men Todd Yatchyshyn and I attended the America Sokol Board of Instructors Meeting in Detroit. This was a comprehensive three-day meeting that reviewed all aspects of their extensive physical fitness program, including a review of the Texas Slet, Instructors' School, National Camp, the organization's Strategic Plan, and much more. It was a very informative meeting that only reinforced my belief that it would be most beneficial for Sokol USA to work more closely with American Sokol, especially by taking part in activities where invitations have been extended.

Presently, there are several activities that Sokol USA lodges might be interested in taking part. They are the American Sokol Winter Slet, the Youth Program, and the Skills Program. In the spring, American Sokol will again sponsor a Fitness Test and this summer they will host the National Camp and an Instructors' School. Sokol USA has been invited to participate in all these programs, so please consider joining the ones that could supplement your present activities or offer an exciting opportunity to a young person in your lodge.

Details about the American Sokol Winter Slet and the Youth Program appeared in the December issues of the Sokol Times, or you can go to the American Sokol website at www.american-sokol.org.

Over the years, Sokol USA children have asked about the passports and other opportunities offered through the ASO Youth Program, such as the Pen Pal program. For \$5.00 per child, they can take part in these activities and they are also encouraged to visit the Sokol Kids website. More information about the Youth Program can be obtained by contacting Bob Kucera via e-mail at daffybob@comcast.net.

The skills program is also detailed on the American Sokol website. Click on the BOI website in the top right-hand corner of the homepage. Achievement ribbons are also available for purchase by

contacting the BOI Secretary Juanita Logiudice via e-mail at juanita@american-sokol.org or calling the office at 708-255-5397.

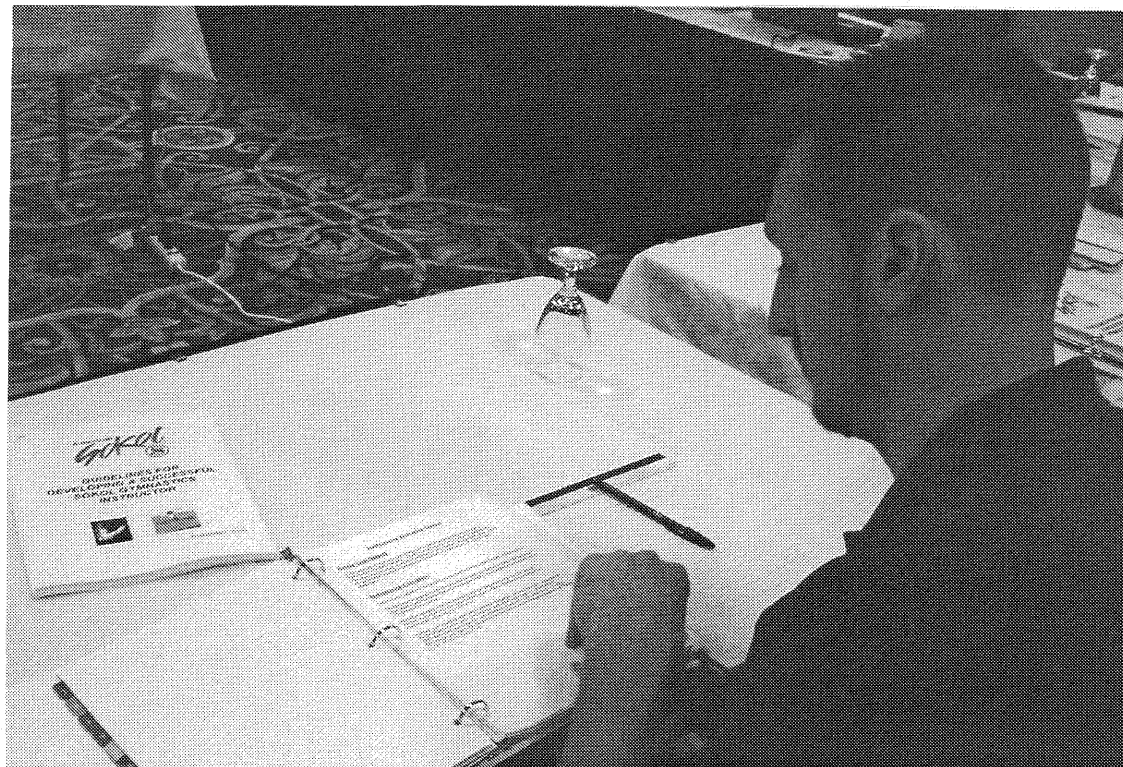
The American Sokol BOI consists of their six-member national staff and the Directors of Men and Women from each of their six districts. Within the districts, there are over 30 active units. They meet annually, but also conduct monthly conference calls. In addition to providing written reports highlighting district activities, many other committee reports were prepared for the annual meeting on topics such as Tournament Rules, Youth Membership, the New Wing Program and Uniforms. Most reports were available on their website prior to the meeting, enabling participants to read them in advance and bring a printed copy to the meeting for further discussion.

Another interesting agenda item, Probortunity Suggestions, covered areas of concern like fundraising and activities for specific age groups – looking at them not as a “problem” but instead as an “opportunity.” Discussions covered topics such as holding a family or adult camp, a golf or dodge ball tournament, an “a-thon” activity such as cartwheel, headstand or volleyball, and a “dancing” activity, which could possibly be modeled after “Dancing with the Stars.”

Uniforms are certainly an area of interest to Sokol USA since we obtain them from American Sokol, so it is important to know that at the BOI meeting the following recommendation was passed:

A new more appropriate and general purpose American Sokol uniform will replace the existing uniforms for all classes. The design will be consistent across all required and optional items. Colors of the background and design will change between the 4 age levels (Tots, Children, Juniors, Seniors).

Required – Each American Sokol participant is required to purchase these uniform parts. Possible uses include but are not limited to Calisthenics, parades, meetings, gatherings, PR



Director of Men Todd Yatchyshyn reviews the American Sokol publication “Guidelines for Developing Successful Sokol Gymnastics Instructors.”

performances, etc...

- Tots: T-shirt and shorts
- Children (Boys and Girls): T-shirt and shorts
- Juniors: T-shirt and shorts
- Seniors: (There would be no special uniform for the Senior COED II group) Polo shirt and shorts or pants

Samples of possible shirts and shorts were available at the meeting. All were tasteful and should meet with the approval of most everyone. Before the new uniforms are finalized, Sokol USA and other sister organizations will be taken into consideration, especially concerning a Sokol logo. For this year, the present uniforms will remain in effect. The Uniform Division will not order any additional inventory, but they will continue to sell the existing uniforms on hand. The new uniforms will not be available for ordering until August 2010. The intent is to have the formal, national introduction at the 2011 Sokol USA Slet.

Reasons for the uniform changes include difficulty in obtaining a uniform supplier for

the present style uniforms and the expense of maintaining an inventory of new uniforms. According to the proposal, ordering will be done by individuals or units directly from the supplier. The new uniform styles were chosen with the intent to demonstrate and exhibit a professional nature, which will help market American's Sokol's strength as a national organization.

Other efforts to market the organization are underway through the Strategic Plan, which aims to increase public awareness of Sokol and grow membership. Many elements of the American Sokol Strategic Plan are similar to what we had hoped to do for Sokol USA through Project Second Century. To learn more about the Strategic Plan, there is a link on the home page of the American Sokol web site. There you will find a wealth of information on all four of the core programs – physical, educational, cultural and social. Also there are helpful resources on Instructor Standards and Volunteer Management.

Standardizing at least a portion of the activities within all units is another way American Sokol is hoping to market the Sokol program. The Sokol Fitness Program described in the Strategic Plan is a general fitness program for people of all ages to improve their health, fitness level, and overall well being. Details on how to implement the program are

provided and all units are urged to incorporate this core program into their existing programs.

On an individual unit basis, other additions or changes are also under consideration, such as increasing programming to run throughout the day and evening under the direction of a program manager. In at least one unit, short-term programs are being planned that will be offered at one fee for members and another fee for non-members. Through this they hope to reach out to the local community by exposing them to Sokol programs before they actually become members.

This is just a brief overview of the information that was covered at the 2009 BOI meeting. Todd and I were overwhelmed by the many committees and programs but extremely impressed with the oversight provided by the national leadership and the dedication of everyone involved. It was encouraging to see their efforts to keep the Sokol ideals alive and their focus on increasing membership. I encourage you to visit the American Sokol website and consider participating in one or more of the programs offered to Sokol USA by our sister organization.

Nazdar,

Chris Yatchyshyn
Director of Women



Attending the American Sokol BOI Meeting held in Detroit in October are (from left) Sokol USA Director of Women Chris Yatchyshyn, American Sokol Director of Women Barb Vondra, Sokol USA Director of Men Todd Yatchyshyn and American Sokol Director of Men Chuck Kalat.

Start planning now . . .
American Sokol
Instructors' School
Hosted by Sokol Cleveland
July 11-25, 2010

Early Registration (prior to May 15)	\$325
Register between May 15-June 15	\$375
Late Registration (after June 15)	\$425

More information to come.

Goda is Sokol USA Farrell's National Gymnast of the Month

Dedication, perseverance, likeability. These are just a few of the qualities that describe Sokol Farrell, Pa.'s choice for National Gymnast of the month Sarah Goda. Sarah rarely misses practice at the Sokol gym and really buys into the Sokol motto of "a sound mind in a sound body" by working hard in all phases of her gymnastic training. She lives in Hermitage, Pa., a city adjacent to Farrell, and attends Hickory High School. Both of her parents, Dave and Debra, as well as her sister, Amanda, a 2007 Gymnast of the Month, are members of Sokol. Her father Dave is a former recording secretary of our club and her mother Debra is involved in all of our fundraisers and is active in the Senior Class in the gym.

Sarah, as well as the rest of her family, came to Sokol by way of a long time member of ours, Brother Cyril Wasko, who told Sarah's father about Sokol. Since that time, for the past five years, Sarah and her family have been very active members of Sokol. In her five years in Sokol, Sarah has already attended three national slets: the American Sokol Slet in Chicago in 2005, the XXV Sokol USA Slet in Pittsburgh in 2007 and, most recently, the American Sokol Slet in Fort Worth, Texas, this past summer. Her best result in



Sarah Goda of Sokol USA Farrell has been chosen as the National Gymnast of the Month.

national gymnastic competition was in Pittsburgh where she placed first in Level 2 Girls Ages 9 to 11 with 35.0 points (an average of 8.75 points per event). In Fort Worth, she competed in Level 3 Junior Girls and performed exceptionally

well, but fell short of placing in the top three. Also in Texas, Sarah performed in Finale and the Junior/Senior aerobic number, which she taught, with the help of her sister Amanda, to our group of nine gymnasts who performed that number. Her one

Sokol camping experience was at Star Camp at Sokol Woodlands in 2007.

This year, Sarah is working on Level 4 skills and preparing for competition at Sokol Greater Cleveland in February. She has accomplished both a front and

back walkover on the floor and is really close to doing a back handspring by herself. But her favorite event is the balance beam where she is doing a handstand dismount.

In addition to coming to Sokol twice a week, Sarah enjoys playing softball, taking dance, listening to music and "just hanging with friends." Sarah says, "I recommend Sokol to everyone. It is for all ages and levels. Gymnastics is a good sport for anyone who loves a challenge; it takes a lot of hard work and effort," Sarah said. "If you participate in gymnastics and dance, both combined will help a lot in preparation for life over the years. Gymnastics at Sokol has taught me life skills like teamwork, dedication, self reliance and the value of friendships. Over the past five years, I have made many friends, not only in the gym, but also at camp and at Slets and competitions. Of all the sports I've participated in, gymnastics is the one I love the most. I hope to have many more years in Sokol."

Sarah's instructor Steve Banjak adds, "We wish that we would have a lot more like Sarah in our gym."

Nazdar!

WORLD SOKOL FEDERATION ANNOUNCES FITNESS TESTS AND SPECIAL NUMBER VIDEO COMPETITIONS FOR 2010

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As you certainly remember, the WSF Board, at its meeting in Fort Worth in June, decided to continue our common activities (with small changes) that we successfully practiced in previous years: motor tests and video show of stage motion compositions.

The tests can be done in a short term and "one-shot" way but, of course, we recommend fulfilling them in a long term way with the possibility of further training and gradual improvement. We do believe that you will parentally take charge of them and will gain as many enthusiastic gymnasts as possible.

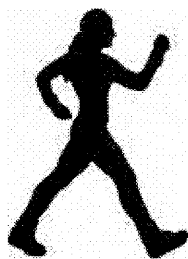
Your best results should be sent to us by **June 12, 2010** (the same date for sending us your evaluation of video show). Please, send the results only in our standard tables!

Let us wish one another many successful participants from many Sokol units and districts. Nazdar.

Miroslav Vrana, Director of Men
Lenka Kocmichova, Director of Women
Vladimir Dostal, Secretary

Note from the Sokol USA Directors:

Please be advised that American Sokol has offered to include Sokol USA gymnasts in their fitness tests competition and then forward the results to the WSF. Jane and Howie Wise will be organizing this competition in the coming year. There is a \$2.00 fee per gymnast entered; all gymnasts receive participation ribbons and winners receive medals. We will share all information as it is received. We will also post the rules for the WSF fitness tests, the point tables, the blank evaluation point table and the rules for the video special number competition on the Sokol USA website at www.sokolusa.org.



**Looking for a fun way to burn off
the extra 2009 holiday calories?
What about those extra calories
from 2008? Announcing Sokol's
newest club!**

Healthy Heart Walking Club

Reduce your stress level

Control your weight

Lower your risk of heart disease

Control your blood pressure

Sign up for Sokol's Healthy Heart Walking Club
by sending your name, mailing address and
home lodge to:



Brandi Kovac
188 Norfolk St., Apt. 1H
New York, NY 10002
OR email: BKKovac@aol.com



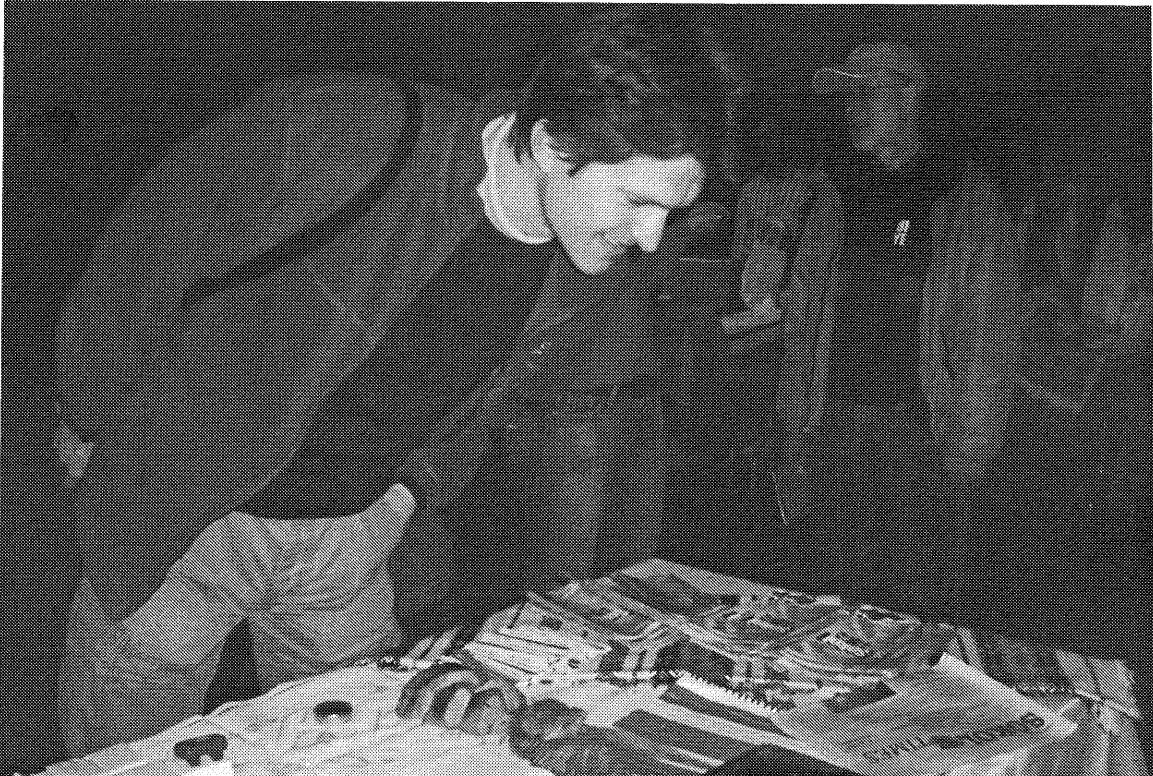
*You will receive a free Sokol pedometer and a Healthy Heart
mileage chart. You are responsible for recording your mileage – walk
with fellow Sokol members, or on your own. Contact Brandi
when you reach a milestone and get a reward!*

IS YOUR FAMILY COVERED?

Insurance coverage for all family members is an essential part of personal financial planning. Don't put off taking care of this responsibility.

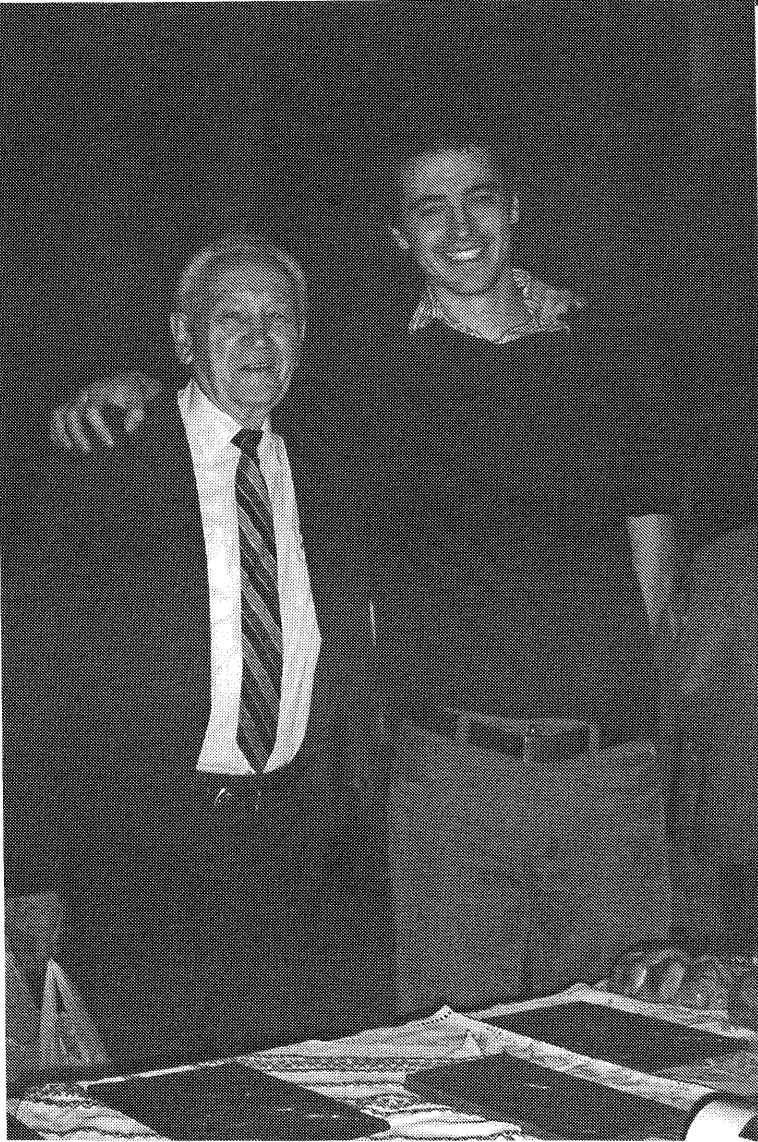
See your lodge Financial Secretary or call Sokol Headquarters toll free at 1-888-253-0362 for additional information or membership applications.





Dr. Patrick Stefanicka, a visiting scholar from Slovakia, views the display at the University of Pittsburgh Sokol Festival.

Sokol Display at University Slovak Festival



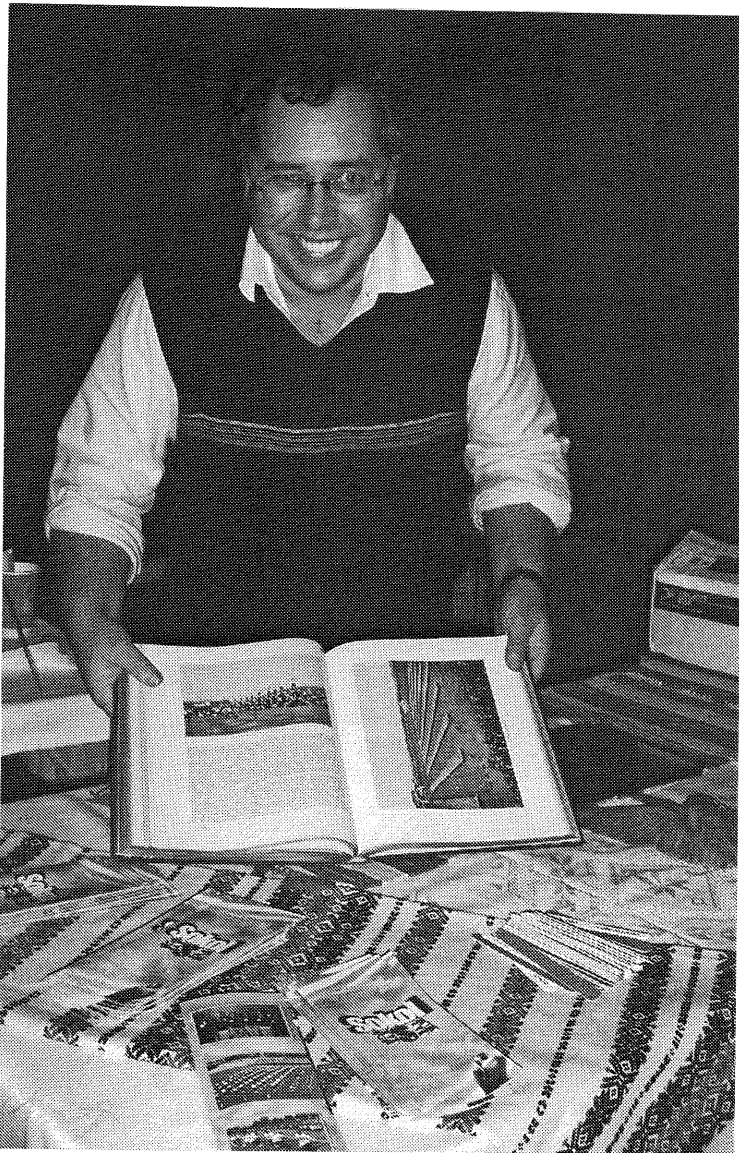
MCT District President Matt Blistan shows the display to a student from Slovakia.

Sunday, November 1st saw the Annual Slovak Festival at the University of Pittsburgh. The Festival occurred in the Cavernous Commons Area of the University's Cathedral of Learning.

The Festival featured Folk dance groups, music, lectures, Slovak food and Slovak craft vendors. There were also many displays featuring Slovak ethnic traditions and customs.

Sokol USA was the only Slovak American Fraternal Society to present a display table. The table featured historic books and pictures of Sokol Slets in Europe as well as photos from the present time showing Sokol activities in Pittsburgh and Monessen.

The Sokol USA table was manned by Brother Joe Bielecki. He explained Sokol to those who stopped at the table and handed out brochures and pedometers supplied by headquarters. Those who stopped at the table expressed considerable interest in the Sokol pedometer program.



Sokol USA President Joe Bielecki presents the display.



John and Justin West from Lodge 16 Braddock view the display at the Sokol Festival.

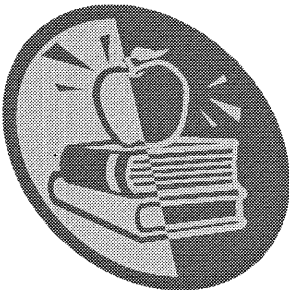
Who Needs Money for College?

High School Seniors planning to attend college or current college students, Sokol USA's **Milan Getting Scholarship** is available to Sokol USA members!

Education is never something that should take a back seat. Improve your financial ability to attend college by applying for the Milan Getting Scholarship. Each year, Sokol USA is proud to award the Milan Getting Scholarship to Sokol USA members who are furthering their education. Contact Sokol USA Headquarters by phone or e-mail (1-888-253-0362 or SOKOLUSAHQ@aol.com) and obtain an application and get ready to enjoy one of the benefits of being a Sokol USA member.

Applications for the 2010-2011 academic year must be received at Sokol USA by April 1, 2010. New scholarship recipients will be announced by June 1, 2010.

Reminder: All current Milan Getting Scholarship recipients must submit a scholarship renewal application each year by June 29th. Please contact Sokol USA headquarters with any questions.



6% ANNUITY RATE

The Single Premium and Flexible Premium Annuities offered by the Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol earn a 6.00% rate of interest. Annuities are a very sound investment for your retirement years.

For information and an application, write to the home office at 276 Prospect Street, P.O. Box 189, East Orange, NJ 07019 or call our toll free number at 1-888-253-0362.

XXXIII CONVENTION
OF THE
SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SOKOL U.S.A.

Held in Pittsburgh, PA
From August 1 through August 5, 2009

FIRST SESSION
Sunday, August 2, 2009

The first session of the XXXIII Convention convened at 1:00PM at the Wyndam Pittsburgh – University Place Hotel on Sunday, August 2, 2009 with a processional march of officers. The American and Sokol flags were carried by Supreme Lodge Officers. After the National Anthems and the Pledge of Allegiance, the colors were posted.

Sis. Beatrice Walko asked the delegation to observe a moment of silence in honor of our deceased Sokol members who have passed since the XXXII Convention, Supreme Lodge Officers: Bro. Andrew Venglarchik, former President; Bro. Stephen T. Tomko, former Vice-President and Legal Advisor; Sis. Ann Halama, former Finance Committee Member; Bro. John Bagel, former Vice-President; Sis. Helen Stolzmann, former Finance Committee Member; and Bro. Albert Walko, former Chief Physical Director.

Sis. Walko then introduced the Supreme Lodge members:
Sis. Christine Yatchyshyn, Chairperson of Fraternal Activities;
Bro. Richard Yatchyshyn, Director of Men;
Sis. Karen Ondira, Director of Women;
Sis. Deborah Golden, Finance Committee Member;
Sis. Joanne Check, Finance Committee Member;
Bro. Milan Kovac, Supreme Secretary;
Bro. Scott Pracko, Vice President;
Sis. Judith Smith, Treasurer;
Bro. John Kamenitsky, Chairperson of the Finance Committee;
Sis. Christine Coleman, Finance Committee Member;
Bro. David Walko, Finance Committee Member;
Bro. Gerald von Schwedler, Finance Committee Member,
Bro. Joseph Bielecki, Finance Committee Member;
Bro. Joseph Dubovi, President of the Supreme Court; and
Bro. Jan Sopoci, Honorary Supreme Secretary.

Sis. Walko then introduced former Supreme Lodge Officers who are now present as delegates:
Bro. Arthur Burkhardt, former Finance Committee Member;
Bro. Bud Shannon, former Finance Committee Member; and
Sis. Justine West, former Finance Committee Member.

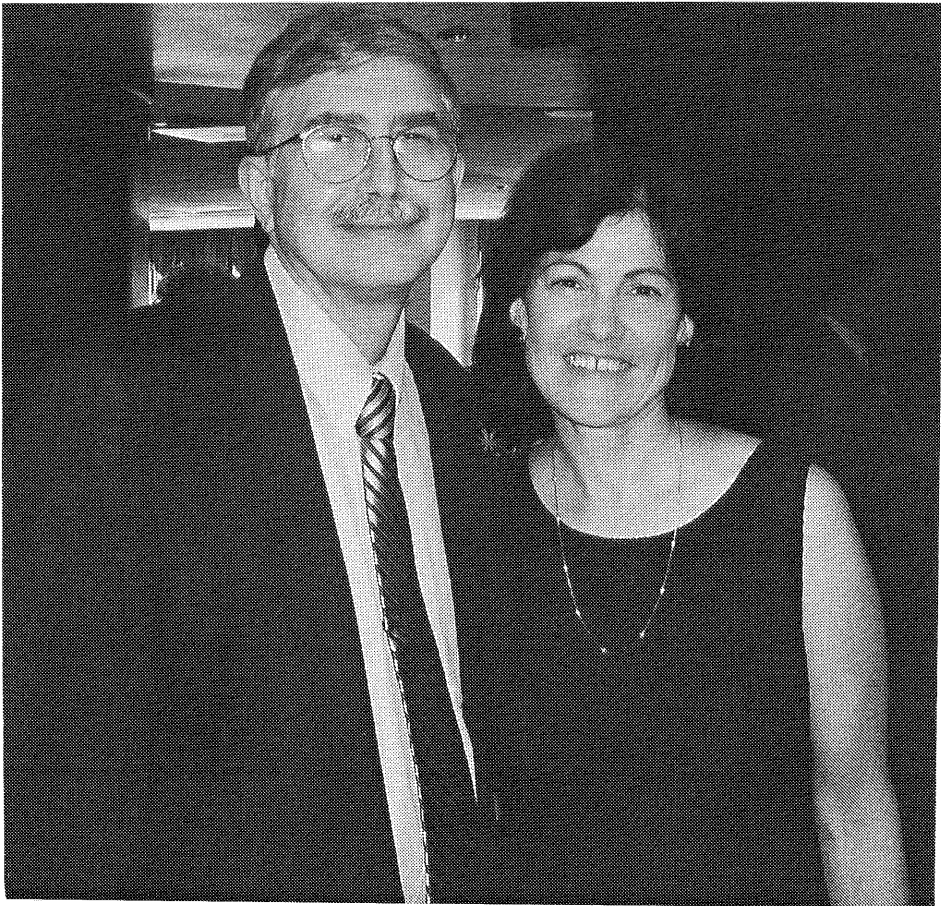
Sis. Brandi Kovac will serve as Convention Secretary; Bro. John West will serve as the Sergeant of Arms; and Sis. Justine West will serve as Hostess.

Sis. Walko called upon Bro. David Kruger, Lodge 12, to give the invocation. Bro. Kruger advised the membership to listen to each other as they strive for the betterment and welfare of the organization. Sis. Walko thanked Bro. Kruger and called upon the Verification Committee.

REPORT OF THE VERIFICATION COMMITTEE:

Advisor – Sis. Christine Coleman, Finance Committee Member
Chairperson – Sis. Cindy Merker, Lodge 306, Chicago
Member – Sis. Marge Stangl, Jan Kollar
Member – Sis. Mary Kamenitsky, Lodge 2, Bridgeport

Lodge Delegates:		
Lodge	Delegate	Votes
2 – Bridgeport, CT	Mary Kamenitsky	2
7 – Byram, CT	Anita Valenti	8
12 – Central Jersey, NJ	David Kruger	6
	Emil Trgala	
16 – Braddock, PA	Jennifer Moulton	2
	Justine West	
26 – Guttenberg, NJ	Arthur Burkhardt	4
	Nikolina Hluchan	
32 – Boonton, NJ	Helen Kobryn	14
39/40W – Berwyn, IL	Arlene von Schwedler	6
	Anne Marie Brinley	
	Paul Brinley	
46 – McKeesport, PA	Stephen V. Tomko	1
47 – Monessen, PA	Charity Ruhl	2
68 – Blairsville, PA	Nancy Shurina	3
	Frank Shurina	
93 – Bethlehem, PA	Stephen Barron	7
	John Szy	
255 – Leechburg, PA	Jeff Clever	7
	Bud Shannon	
276 – Pittsburgh, PA	Matthew Blistan, Sr.	5
	Carolyn Coleman	



Paul and Ann Marie Brinley of Lodge 39/40W in Chicago.

306 – Chicago, IL	Cindy Merker	7
	Kristin Merker	
401 – Tampa, FL	Dareen Kruger	1
66W – Bethlehem, PA	Judith Stangl	3
District Delegates:		
District	Delegate	Votes
Jan Kollar	Margaret Stangl	1
Ludovit Stur	Bryan Pracko	1
M.C.T.	Patricia Blistan	1
Tatra	Todd Yatchyshyn	1

Supreme Lodge Officers:		
Office	Officer	Votes
President	Bea Walko	1
Vice President	Scott Pracko	1
Honorary Supreme Secretary	Jan Sopoci	1
Treasurer	Judith Smith	1
Supreme Secretary	Milan Kovac	1
Finance Committee Member	Deborah Golden	1
Finance Committee Member	David Walko	1
Finance Committee Member	Joseph Bielecki	1
Finance Committee Member	Christine Coleman	1
Finance Committee Member	Gerald von Schwedler	1
Finance Committee Member	Joanne Check	1
Finance Comm. Chairperson	John Kamenitsky	1
Fraternal Activities Chair	Chris Yatchyshyn	1
Director of Men	Rich Yatchyshyn	1
Director of Women	Karen Ondira	1
President of Sup. Court	Joseph Dubovi	1

The registered Alternates to the Convention are: Bro. Gerald Blistan, Lodge 276; and Bro. William Barron, Lodge 93.

The total number of votes is 100. The total number of Lodges represented is 16. There are 26 Lodge delegates, 4 District delegates, and 16 Supreme Lodge Officers. Sis. Walko asked Bro. Milan Kovac, Supreme Secretary, to confirm that the convention has a quorum in order to conduct business. Bro. Kovac confirmed that we do.

Sis. Walko excused the Verification Committee and asked the delegation to review the Agenda and Operating Procedures for the XXXIII Sokol USA Convention.

OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR THE XXXIII SOKOL USA CONVENTION
AUGUST 1-5, 2009

A. GENERAL ARRANGEMENT OF CONVENTION		
1. Saturday	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM	Gymnastic Dept. Meeting
8-1-09	12 noon to 5:00 PM	Registration Committee Meetings
	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM	Supreme Lodge Meeting
2. Sunday	10:00 AM to 11:00 AM	Registration
8-2-09	12 noon to 1:00 PM	Lunch

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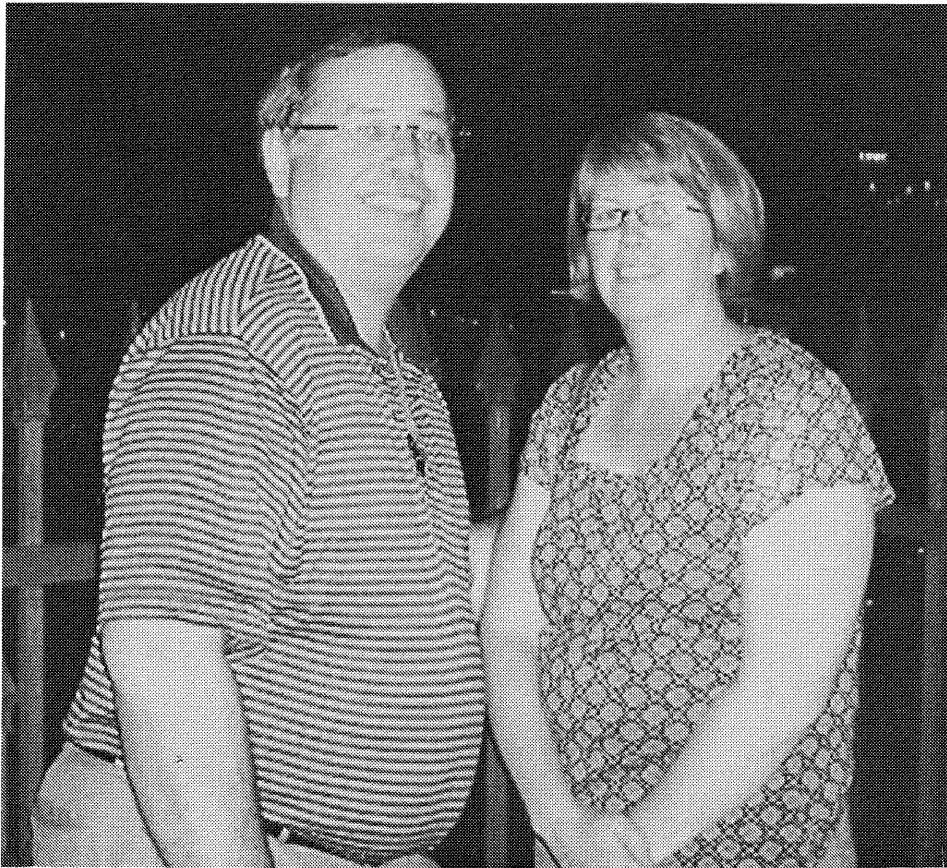
XXXIII CONVENTION
OF THE
SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
SOKOL U.S.A.

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	1:00 PM	Convene Session #1 Opening Formalities: President Presiding Introduction of Guests Order of Business Committee Reports A. Verification B. Convention Order & Program C. Convention Expense & Salary D. Ballot & Election – Nominating Process
	6:30 PM	Banquet
3. Monday 8-3-09	7:00 AM to 8:00 AM	Breakfast
	9:00 AM to 12 noon	Convention Session #2 E. Verification F. New Motions G. Nominations H. Cultural Activities & Publicity I. Officers' Reports
	12 noon to 1:00 PM	Lunch
	1:30 PM	Convention Session #3 J. Verification K. Petitions & Appeals L. Gymnastic Department M. New Jersey State Dept. Report N. By – Laws
	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Cocktail Reception at Cathedral of Learning – University of Pittsburgh
4. Tuesday 8-4-09	7:00 AM to 8:30 AM	Breakfast
	9:00AM	Convention Session #4 O. Verification P. Elections & Ballot Q. Elections R. Resolutions
	12 noon to 1:00 PM	Lunch
	1:30 PM	Convention Session #5 S. Verification T. Unfinished Committee Reports U. Oath of Office

B. AGENDA FOR THE CONVENTION

- Opening of the Convention:
March of Supreme Lodge Officers
National Anthems
Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence
Invocation
President's Greeting
Formal Introduction:
Supreme Lodge Officers
Honorary Supreme Lodge Officer
President of the Supreme Court
Former Supreme Lodge Officers
 - Arthur Burkhardt
 - Bud Shannon
 - Justine West
 - To be named upon arrivalRecording Secretaries
Appointment of Sergeant at Arms and Hostess
- Initial report of the Verification Committee
- Confirmation Report of the Verification Committee
- Report on Convention Order and Program
- Election of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson the Convention
- Report of Convention Expense & Salaries
- Ballot & Elections – Nominating Process
- Report on New Motions Committee
- Report on Cultural & Fraternal Activities
- Report on Officer Reports
- Nominations
- Petitions & Appeals



Joe Bielecki and Jennifer Moulton

- Gymnastic Department
- New Jersey State Insurance Report
- By-Laws
- Election & Ballot
- Resolutions
- Unfinished Business
- Oath of Office
- Designation of the XXXIV Sokol USA Convention
- Adjournment

C. GENERAL OPERATION

- The Convention of the Sokol USA is the highest legislative body and judicial tribunal for the entire Sokol USA, for all its components, and all its membership.
- The Convention will be open for registration on Saturday, August 1, 2009 from 10:00 AM to 5:00PM and on Sunday, August 2, from 10:00 to 12:00 PM.
- Committee's will meet on Saturday, August 1, 2009. Advisors will notify Committee members of time and place.
- The first session will convene on Sunday, August 2, 2009 at 1:00PM. It is anticipated that all committee reports will be prepared.
- Further sessions will be held Monday through Tuesday, August 4, 2009. Morning sessions from 9:00 AM and afternoon sessions from 1:30 PM.
- All convention sessions shall be called to order on time.
- Badges will be provided for delegates, alternates, district representatives, Supreme Lodge Officers, Legal Advisor, and Guest Delegates. All the foregoing shall be required to wear their identification badges at all Convention sessions.
- Delegates and District representative shall sit in the section reserved for them and shall be in their seats before the opening of each session.
- Alternates and guests shall sit in the section reserved for them.
- Guests will be introduced at the end of each session. Messages will be read at the morning sessions.
- The Convention Hostess shall deliver all communications. He/She shall escort all guest speakers to the podium.
- The Convention Sergeant-At-Arms shall see to it that the sessions are not disturbed by anyone. S/he shall sign in all guests. S/he shall announce all guest speakers and permit them to enter upon consent of the convention Chairperson.
- Two permanent microphones will be set up.
- The Convention Secretaries selected by the Supreme Lodge will take minutes. The minutes of the preceding sessions will be read each morning immediately after the roll call. Copies of the minutes will be prepared for each delegate. Minutes will be published in the Sokol Times within 90 days after the Convention.
- One set of tape recording of the Convention proceedings is made.
- Robert's Rules of Order are to be used as per article XXVII, Section 7 of the By-Laws.
- The formal opening of the XXXIII Sokol USA Convention will be 1:00 PM on Sunday, August 2, 2009 with our customary opening ceremonies, welcoming address, roll call and introductions.
- The Verification Committee will give its report to the convention as to who are bona-fide delegates, alternates, district representatives, Supreme Lodge officers, and guest delegates, and the Committee's determination of the number of votes accorded to each delegate.
- The Committee on the order and Program of the Convention will give its report for acceptance.
- There will now be the election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Convention.

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Ladies from the Pittsburgh Lodge joined the convention members for the Sunday evening banquet.

XXXIII CONVENTION OF THE SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA SOKOL U.S.A.

(Continued from Page 7)

21. All Convention committees are to meet Saturday, August 1, 2009 to complete their deliberations and be prepared for their presentation on Sunday, August 2, 2009. They shall be ready to report to the Convention or until they are formally dissolved by the Convention Committee.
22. All recommendations will be given in writing to the proper Convention Committee.
23. The Committee on Elections and Ballots shall have supervision of the arrangements for the distribution and casting of ballots and their preservation until placed in the hands of the Supreme Secretary, who shall seal and file them.
24. Changes in the structure of the Supreme Lodge, district, or subordinate lodge, or in the duties or responsibilities of any officer, committee, or department must be recommended by the New Motions Committee. Only then, after being passed by the Convention, may a vote be taken in order to request the By-Law Committee to recommend the necessary By-Law changes.
25. All proposed changes to the By-Laws must be submitted to the Convention By-Laws Committee before these changes are presented to the convention for consideration.
26. The By-Law Committee will come forward and state "In accordance with the New Motions Committee recommendation No. _____, we move that Article _____, section _____, of the By-Laws be changed to read from _____ to _____ for the following reason _____."
27. All Motions, resolutions and recommendations shall be written, signed by the mover and presented to the Convention Secretary.
28. When a Committee is initially called to report, the Advisor introduces the Committee Chairperson who then introduces the other members of the Committee. The Committee Secretary reads a proposal. A majority Committee member moves for either adoption or rejection, and explains the majority rational. If there is a minority position, a minority Committee Member moves to amend, reject or adopt, and explain the minority rational. The majority Committee member may accept the amendment or withdraw the original motion. After a reasonable time for discussion, the Convention Chairperson states the question and opens the floor for discussion, the Convention Chairperson asks "Are you ready for the question." Upon a delegate answering "Question." the Convention Vice-Chairperson again states the question and calls for a vote.
29. The Convention Vice Chairperson or designated member will record the names of those ask to be recognized for debate, or to amend or second motion.
30. Delegates shall be entitled to the floor only if they rise, come to the micro-phone, address the Chair, give their name and that of the lodge or district they represent.
31. A delegate may speak not more than twice or longer than five minutes each time on any one question on the same day.
32. No delegate may speak a second time to the same question if one who has not spoken requests the floor.
33. The Convention, by a two third vote may limit equally the time and the number of speakers for each side of a question and the total time for the debate on a particular question.

34. The Convention Vice Chairperson or designated member will signal when the allotted time has expired.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. A Committee shall meet as necessary during the Convention, or until it shall dismissed upon completion of its duties by the Convention Chairperson.
2. The advisor shall call, chair, and open the first meeting of the Convention Committee. The first item of business will be the election of the Committee Chairperson and Secretary.
3. The Convention Committee will be supplied with a packet containing a synopsis of items to be considered, the synopsis will be based upon recommendations, petitions and grievances, or appeals received in Headquarters.
4. It will be the Chairperson's responsibility to determine which recommendations should be made to the Convention using Minutes of the XXXII Convention as a guide if no items are provided.

Bro. Stephen Barron, Lodge 93, moved that the Convention Operations and Procedures be adopted. Bro. Matt Blistan seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE XXXIII CONVENTION

Nominations from the floor were opened. Sis. Judy Smith, Treasurer, nominated Sis. Walko to be Chairperson of the Convention. Sis. Christine Coleman, Finance Committee Member, seconded. As there were no other nominations for Convention Chair, Sis. Joanne Check, Finance Committee Member, moved to close the nominations. Bro. Bryan Pracko, Ludevit Stur, seconded. Sis. Walko accepted the nomination. The nominations were closed and... **MOTION CARRIED.**

Bro. Gerald von Schwedler, Finance Committee Member, nominated Bro. John Kamenitsky to be Vice-Chairperson of the Convention. Sis. Arlene von Schwedler, Lodge 39/40W, seconded. Bro. Kamenitsky accepted the nomination. Bro. Bryan Pracko moved to close nominations; Bro. David Walko, Finance Committee, seconded. There were no further nominations for Convention Vice-Chairperson and ... **MOTION CARRIED.**

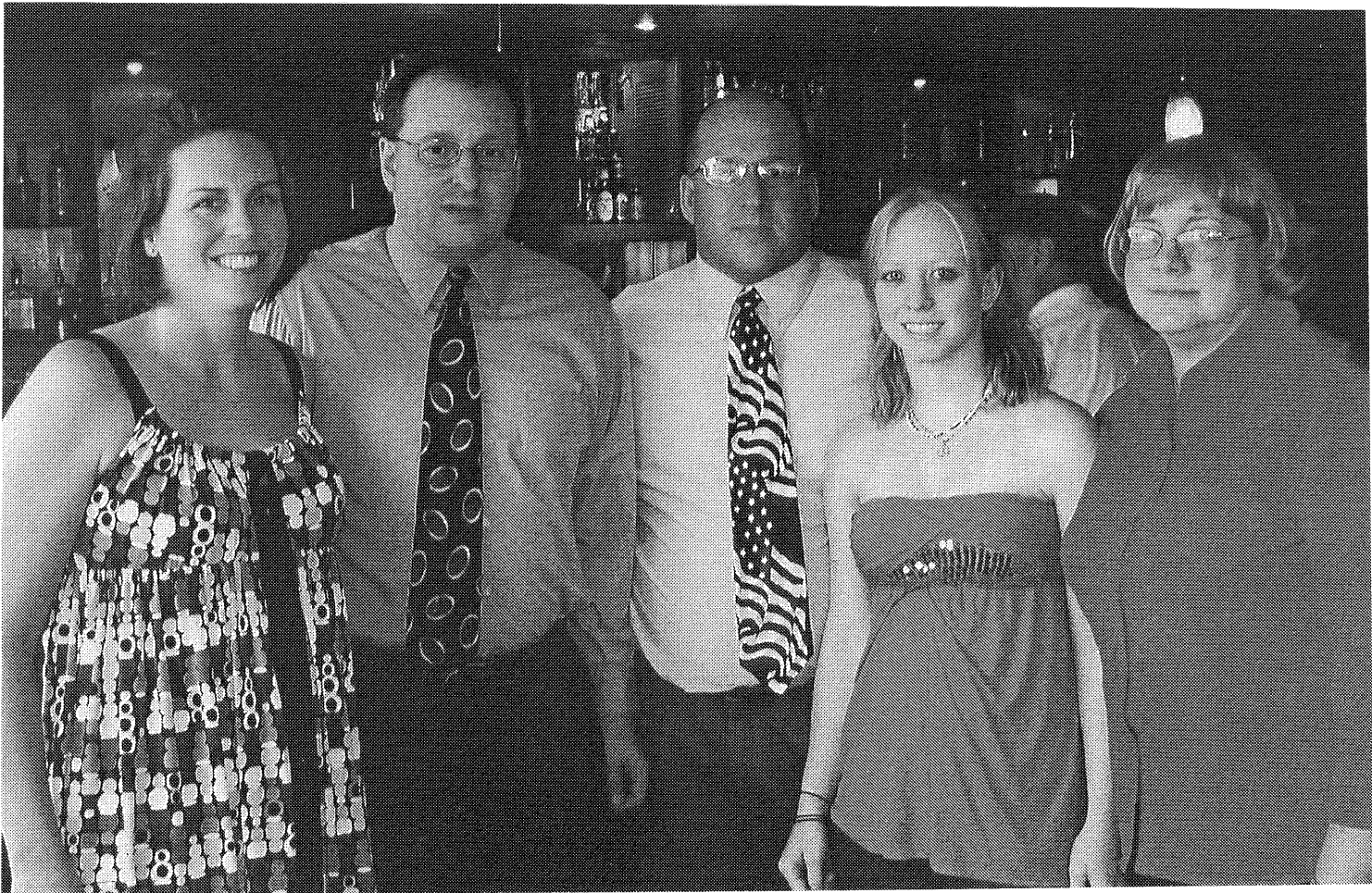
Sis. Walko introduced MaryAnn Johaneck, President of First Catholic Sokol Ladies Association, and Irene Drotleff, Secretary of First Catholic Sokol Ladies Association. Ms. Johaneck greeted the delegation and admired Sokol's forward-thinking motto "A Sound Mind in a Sound Body" which is still applicable today. She spoke of our programs and scholarships, and reminded the delegation that our members' goals are worth the effort. Ms. Drotleff is proud of the fraternal system, and hoped that the wisdom of this convention will support the future of our organization. She wished the delegation insight and success in their deliberations.

Sis. Walko introduced Timothy Kuzma, President of the Polish Falcons. Mr. Kuzma welcomed the delegation to Pittsburgh, as it has been the home of Polish Falcons since 1912. He discussed the challenges of fraternal organizations. He stated his belief that fraternal organizations benefit not only its members but all of our society.

Sis. Walko introduced Bro. Matthew Blistan, Jr., Vice-President of Greater Beneficial Union of Pittsburgh. Bro. Blistan offered his assistance and wished the delegation beneficial deliberations. Bro. Blistan began his fraternal experience as a member of Sokol USA Lodge 276, where he participated in lodge activities as a member of a long time Sokol family.

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Members of Chicago Lodge 306: Amy Pracko, Scott Pracko, Bryan Pracko, Kristen Merker and Cindy Merker



**XXXIII CONVENTION
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SOKOL U.S.A.**

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Sis. Walko read greetings from Barbara A. Cheaney of the National Fraternal Congress, which is one of the largest volunteer networks. She read greetings from the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic and Croatian Fraternal Union of America.

Sis. Walko then invited Bro. Scott Pracko and Sis. Amy Pracko to speak regarding a charity effort. Bro. Scott Pracko and Sis. Amy Pracko described a fund-raising effort they will participate in for their son, Matthew, to benefit a liver disease foundation. Sis. Walko encouraged the delegates to bring this information back to their Lodges and members.

REPORT OF THE CONVENTION EXPENSES & SALARIES COMMITTEE
Advisors – Bro. David Walko, Finance Committee Member
Chairperson – Sis. Nancy Shurina, Lodge 68, Blairsville
Member – Bro. Stephen V. Tomko, Lodge 46, McKeesport
Member – Bro. Arthur Burkhardt, Lodge 26, Guttenberg

- Sis. Shurina read the recommendations of the Committee for Convention Expenses, all of which were unanimously decided.
1. The committee recommends that the Convention Chairman and Vice Chairman receive \$50.00 per diem. There shall be no “double dipping” of per diems. If the Chair or Vice Chair receives 2 or more per diems due to other offices or positions he or she would be allowed to take the higher amount.
 2. The Committee recommends that the Sergeant(s)-at-Arms receive \$25.00 per diem (each).
 3. The Committee recommends that the Supreme Lodge pay transportation to each bona fide delegate as per section Article IV, Section 7 of the By-Laws including District representation, Supreme Lodge officer, appointed officer and guest delegates.
 4. a) The Committee recommends air travel to be reimbursed at Coach Air fare plus local cab fare. A duplicate copy of the airline ticket must be attached to your expense voucher.
b) The Committee recommends car travel to be reimbursed to the driver of the car, not to additional delegates in the car, at the rate of \$0.55 per mile and parking expense. Reimbursement is not to exceed coach air fare.
 5. The Committee recommends that the Supreme Lodge reimburse the travel expenses of not more than two delegates per lodge as per Article IV, Section 2 of the By-Laws.
 6. The Committee recommends that the lodging expenses be paid for the Delegates, Officers and District representatives.
 7. The Committee recommends that the following meals be provided to the Delegates, Guest Delegates, Convention Chairpersons, Legal Advisor, Supreme Lodge Officers, Honorary Officers, Editor, Convention Hostesses, Sergeant at Arms, and officially invited guests:
Cocktail Reception – Sunday, 8/2/09
Banquet – Sunday, 8/2/09
Breakfast & Lunch – Monday, 8/3/09 (Lunch will be provided to those individuals listed above.)
Cocktail Reception at the Cathedral of Learning – Monday, 8/3/09
Breakfast & Lunch – Tuesday, 8/4/09

The Committee moved that these 7 recommendations, all involving the Convention Expenses, be voted on as one. Bro. Bryan Pracko asked whether the Secretary should be included in the recommendation. Sis. Walko confirmed that provisions will be provided. MOTION CARRIED.

Sis. Shurina read the recommendations for the Salaries. The Committee recommends the following annual salaries for the Supreme Lodge Officers as follows:		
President	\$ 4,500.00	
Vice President	\$ 550.00	
Secretary:		Annuity Benefits:
2010	\$ 78, 660	4,000 plus Medical, Rx, car
2011	\$ 81, 413	4,000 plus Medical, Rx, car
2012	\$ 84, 262	4,000 plus Medical, Rx, car
2013	\$ 87, 212	4,000 plus Medical, Rx, car

<i>Approximate value of Benefits:</i>	
Medical/Rx	\$ 7,000.00 to increase annually
Car	\$ 5,000.00

Treasurer	\$ 1,650.00
Chairperson of Finance Comm.	\$ 1,650.00
Member of Finance Comm.	\$ 1,100.00 (each)
Chairperson of Fraternal Activities	\$ 880.00
Director of Men	\$ 2,750.00
Director of Women	\$ 2,750.00
National Gymnastics Assistants	\$ 330.00 (each)
National Sports Coordinator	\$ 220.00
President of Supreme Court	\$ 230.00
-	Per Diem of Supreme Lodge Officers during meetings, traveling to meetings and special work shall be \$100.00. Full-time Officers are to receive per diem only during the performance of official duties on Saturdays, Sundays and during Supreme Lodge meetings and Conventions.
-	Per Diem for the Sports Director and Assistants to the Director of Men and Women shall be \$100.00. Authorization shall be by the Supreme Lodge prior to expenditures.

The Committee made a motion that the salaries and per diem expenses be accepted and voted on as one. Sis. Anne Marie Brinley asked if salaries should be raised in light of the economic conditions, and decline in membership. Bro. Tomko stated Sokol USA’s salaries are lower compared to other fraternal societies. Bro. Tomko reiterated that these salaries are fixed for four years; there are not annual increases. The Committee thought that the small increases were appropriate. Sis. Walko called for a vote. Two delegates opposed. MOTION CARRIED.

Sis. Walko dismissed, thanked and dissolved the Convention Salaries and Expenses Committee.

Sis. Walko called upon the Ballot and Election Committee.

REPORT OF THE ELECTION AND BALLOT COMMITTEE
Advisor – Sis. Joanne Check, Finance Committee Member
Chairperson – Sis. Anne Marie Brinley, Lodge 39/40W, Berwyn
Secretary – Sis. Debby Kruger, Lodge 401, Tampa
Member – Sis. Pat Blistan, District MCT
Member – Bro. John West, Lodge 16, Braddock

All the Committee’s recommendations will be read and made as one motion.

- 1) Out of courtesy, current Supreme Lodge Officers should be nominated first; and then given the opportunity to decline if they so choose.
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XXXIII CONVENTION OF THE SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA SOKOL U.S.A.

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- 2) In conjunction with item #1, the Election and Ballot Committee will nominate and second all current Supreme Lodge Officers. As nominations are opened on the floor the current Supreme Lodge Officer will be nominated first and asked whether or not they accept the nomination, then the floor will open for other nominations.

The Election and Ballot Committee will nominate the following:

President –	Sister Bea Walko
Vice President –	Brother Scott Pracko
Treasurer –	Sister Judy Smith
Financial Secretary –	Brother Milan Kovac
Finance Committee –	Brother Joseph Bielecki Sister Joanne Check Sister Christine Coleman Sister Debbie Golden Brother John Kamenitsky Brother Gerald vonSchwedler Brother David Walko

Chairperson of Cultural Activities – Sister Christine Yatchyshyn

The Gymnastic Department shall nominate the candidates for the Office of Director of Men and Director of Women, and shall recommend to the convention that the nominees be elected by the convention to their respective offices.

- 3) All member delegates seeking office shall be properly nominated; seconded; duly elected by secret ballot by the officers and delegates present at the convention; as provided by the By-Laws of the Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol.
- 4) Each delegate shall be eligible to run for one office only.
- 5) As soon as the nominations are completed, the Committee will prepare ballots on which names of candidates for each office shall appear in alphabetical order and shall show the number to be elected.
- 6) A delegate nominated for office who has been appointed previously to the Committee shall be replaced by a non-candidate delegate Supreme Lodge Officer.
- 7) The Committee on Ballots shall have complete charge of the election; and after voting is completed shall count and preserve the ballots and promptly after tabulation announce the results to the Convention.
- 8) Every candidate shall have the right to be present during the tallying of the ballots, or shall have the right to have a delegate present to represent him or her.
- 9) Only one ballot shall be taken at the election. When more than one (1) officer is to be elected for the same office, votes must be cast for the total number to be elected, otherwise the ballot shall be deemed void. All candidates to be elected must receive a simple majority of the votes of the Convention.
- 10) In the event of a tie for any office, another ballot shall be taken only for those affected by the tie vote and the candidate receiving the highest number of votes on the run off shall be elected.
- 11) Any person nominated for more than one office will be listed for only the one nomination which he or she accepted.
- 12) The nominator must submit in writing to the Secretary of the Ballot Committee the name of the nominees as soon as he or she makes the nomination.
- 13) Any lodge with less than 10 votes may have up to three (3) ballots; lodges with 11 or more votes may have up to five (5) ballots. The sum of these votes will equal the allotted votes as presented by the By-Laws. Ballots will be color coded in case delegates would like to split their votes.
- 14) Each lodge shall have one (1) vote for every twenty-five members or fraction there of for his or her lodge, according to the statement of membership for the last month preceding the convention.
- 15) Delegates representing lodges which have fewer than twenty-five members, Supreme Lodge Officers, Guest Delegates and District Delegate shall have one (1) vote each.
- 16) The election shall take place no sooner than the next day or two sessions after the nominations are completed.
- 17) No write-in votes shall be accepted.
- 18) Article V, Section 1, of the By-Laws provides for the election of the following officers: President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Seven Members of the Finance Committee, Chairperson of the Cultural Activities, Director of Men and Director of Women.
- 19) The Ballot Committee shall have the right to set aside all questionable tallies and only count correct votes and consider questionable ones after all others are tallied. Delegates not answering to the first call have to wait for the second call before voting, and if the second call is not answered the delegates shall lose his right to vote. As soon as the Committee closes the election no further ballots will be accepted. In the



Jennier Moutlon modeling Dr. Rydze's "Super Bowl Ring"

event of a dispute as to number of votes that a lodge is entitled to, the amount of votes certified by the Verification Committee shall be binding.

Sis. Check moved for adoption of the Committee's report. There was no discussion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Sis. Walko dismissed the Election and Ballot Committee.

Bro. Kovac addressed the concern of the compensation of the Convention Secretary. The compensation will be covered under general convention expenses, as there was and will be pre and post convention time to prepare and format the computer. No further discussion.

Sis. Walko asked Bro. Kovac to report on the New Jersey Department of Insurance. Bro. Kovac informed the delegation that there is not a report as the last examination ended in the period of December 31, 2003 and that report was discussed at the XXXII Convention in 2005. Presently the Society is undergoing an examination by the New Jersey Department of the Banking Industry (NJDOBI) for the period of January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2008. That examination will not be concluded until August 31, 2009 at the earliest. Thus, the next report will be provided at the next Convention.

Sis. Walko announced a 20 minute break.

The meeting reconvened at 3:05 PM. Sis. Walko introduced David Blazek, National President of the National Slovak Society who stated that over 25 years ago, there was discussion between the two Societies concerning a merger. Though it never came to fruition the door is still open. He wished the delegates and officers much success in the deliberations of this convention.

Sis. Walko announced a slight change in the order of reports, as our Actuaries are not present due to flight delays. Sis. Walko called upon the Cultural Activities Report.

REPORT ON CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICITY

Advisor – Sis. Christine Yatchyshyn

Secretary – Bro. Bryan Pracko, District Ludevit Stur

Member – Bro. Stephen Barron, Lodge 93, Bethlehem

Bro. Pracko read the following recommendations from their Committee:

1. That Sokol USA update the brochure to include current information and links to all Lodge websites
2. That the website be updated / maintained and include an email link for more information and interactive activities for children (ie blogs, games)
3. Re-instate National Golf Tournament and additional physical activities

Bro. Pracko asked that the report be accepted by the delegation. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Sis. Yatchyshyn invited the representatives from the visiting fraternal organizations to share information on their Societies' activities so we can all benefit from each other's best practices.

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Sokol Social News

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Stephen Horecky of Elmsford, N.Y., celebrated his 68th birthday on December 25, 2009. He is a member of Sokol Lodge 114.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ed Cusack of LaGrange, N.Y., celebrated his 39th birthday in December 2009. He is a member of Sokol Lodge 114.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Martin Kavicky of Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., celebrated his 84th birthday in November 2009. He is a member of Sokol Lodge 114.



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Mr. Timothy Kuzma, Polish Falcons, stated that they allow non-members to join activities once (sometimes at a slightly higher participation fee) so they can experience the benefits of membership. They are currently organizing an Inter-Polish bowling tournament, to which all other Polish organizations will be invited. This summer, they sent 10 children to Poland for 2 weeks. They equipped each child with a travel journal and a memory disk (to be used in digital cameras) with the stipulation that the memory disks be returned to the Polish Falcons. The pictures will be posted on their website. He suggests trying new ideas – even if the event doesn’t result in an increase in immediate membership – it increases awareness in the community. They’re having a youth festival in Washington DC next year.

Ms. MaryAnn JohaneK FCSLA explained how they organize Join Hands Day activities, Red Cross Blood Drives, Clean the Highway, Adopt-a-Family (through the Salvation Army), volunteering at the Joseph House (to support homeless), the Light of Heart and holding a Flea Market. They also recently helped to start a Slovak school. She’s found that kids love to work and get involved if you feed them! She encouraged us to let kids help with the planning to get them excited and involved in the work. The internet has been a great tool for them. They have a rudimentary calculator to help potential customers see how much a life insurance will cost depending on their age, etc. The home office helps subsidize activities and has a matching funds program, up to \$500.

Mr. David Blazek, NSS, explained that they also invite people to join their activities once at no additional cost. They have annual art and poetry contests for children. There is a Christmas ornament contest for children and adults; the ornaments are donated to a nursing home. At their conventions, they subsidize non-members to attend and have a youth convention running simultaneously. They recently opened a Slovak Museum at their Headquarters and extended an open invitation to visit the site.

Bro. Matt Blistan, GBU, noted that this brain-storming and idea sharing is what occurs at National Fraternal Congress of America. One idea is to have a blood drive on the same day all

throughout the nation. A blood drive would be great for generating positive Public Relations for all fraternal. Two years ago, they supported troops with Operation Reach Out. They collect items to send to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. So far, they’ve sent out over 1,000 boxes.

Sis. Yatchyshyn thanked the guests for speaking and encouraged the delegation to check out the website of the other fraternal.

Sis. Walko thanked Sis. Yatchyshyn and the guests for the report and their suggestions. She reminded the delegation that some Sokol USA members have served, or are currently serving in the military.

Sis. Walko adjourned for the day with the next session to commence tomorrow morning at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Brandi Kovac.

WE WANT YOUR NEWS!

Share news about your Lodge, District or personal achievements and milestones with The Sokol Times. Send information and pictures to:

Sokol USA
Attn: Sokol Times
276 Prospect St., P.O. Box 189
East Orange, NJ 07019
or SOKOLUSAHQS@aol.com.

Deadlines are as follows:

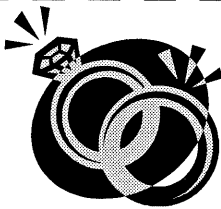
ISSUE	DATE
February	Friday, January 22
March	Monday, February 22
April	Monday, March 22
May	Thursday, April 22
June	Friday, May 21
July	Tuesday, June 22
August	Thursday, July 22
September	Friday, August 20
October	Wednesday, September 22
November	Friday, October 22
December	Monday, November 22
January 2011	Wednesday, December 22

SHARE YOUR FAMILY EVENTS WITH YOUR "SOKOL FAMILY"

The Sokol Times Social Page is a new way to keep up with your old and new friends! Share your families' events with your Sokol family. We want to hear from you. Only news regarding members of our lodges will be printed.

Complete one of the attached forms and mail the information and a photograph of clear quality to Sokol USA, 276 Prospect Street, P.O. Box 189, East Orange, NJ 07109-0189. Information and photographs also may be e-mailed to: SOKOLUSAHQS@aol.com

ENGAGEMENTS, WEDDINGS & ANNIVERSARIES



NAMES: _____

PHONE #: _____
HOMETOWN: _____
SOKOL LODGE: _____
YEARS MARRIED (IF APPLICABLE): _____

BIRTHDAYS



NAME: _____
BIRTH DATE: _____
AGE: _____
PHONE #: _____
HOMETOWN: _____
SOKOL LODGE: _____

PROMOTIONS, HONOR ROLLS & OTHER EVENTS



NAME: _____
PHONE #: _____
HOMETOWN: _____
SOKOL LODGE: _____
EVENT: _____

Photographs are not required, but they do add to the presentation.
Please include a self addressed, stamped envelope if you would like your photograph returned.

Sokol Gymnastic Festival

Trencin, Slovakia
June 24-27, 2010

Below is an invitation from Sokol in Slovakia to their 3rd Sokol Gymnastic Festival. More information can be found on their website at www.sokolnaslovensku.sk. In addition, Brother Stephen Banjak, who regularly communicates with the Slovak Sokols, will share information that he receives regarding the upcoming event.

Participation by Sokol USA members is encouraged and the Supreme Lodge has approved a total of \$3,000 to be divided equally among Sokol USA participants, with a maximum amount of \$300 per Slet participant. Members seeking financial subsidy must make their requests through the National Directors.

Sisters and brothers,

Let me convey by this mail the invitation of Sokol in Slovakia to the 3rd Sokol Gymnastic Festival (Sokolske telovychovne slavnosti) to be held in Trencin, June 24 - 27, 2010.

The competitions in table tennis, volleyball, artistic gymnastic, judo, bowling and "tug of war" will be prepared for the athletes. There will be possibility to participate in various cultural and social events and to get familiar with the history and present of Trencin region. At the end, there will be mass movement compositions show performed by individual Slovak Sokol districts and by Czech Sokols.

Accept, please, this mail as the first announcement. More detailed information will be provided in "Spravodaj III. STS" published also on web sites of Sokol na Slovensku: www.sokolnaslovensku.sk

At the same time it is the invitation to the Meeting of the World Sokol Federation Board. Nazdar!

Vladimir Dostal
WSF Secretary

NOTICE

ANNUAL MEETING SUPREME LODGE SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL USA

March 11, 12, 13, 2010

Finance Committee will meet
Thursday, March 11, 2010
at Headquarters at 9:30 AM

March 12, 2010 at site
to be determined

The Supreme Lodge will meet
on Saturday, March 13, 2010
beginning at 9:00AM

*All requests, recommendation and grievances
from Members, Lodges and Districts
must be received at Headquarters no later
than March 5, 2010*

Milan S. Kovac
Supreme Secretary

Joseph S. Bielecki
Supreme President

American Sokol Winter Slet

January 15 to 17, 2010

Chicago, Ill

Come join the fun at the 2010 American Sokol Winter Slet.
The Winter Slet returns in 2010 with some of the same competition
and some new events that everyone is encourage to attend.

For more information contact:

Ted Polashek 708-670-2172, teddyp1228@hotmail.com
Barb Vondra 630-327-8202, topinky1@aol.com

Tentative Schedule of Events

Friday, Jan. 15	9 a.m.	Dodgeball
Saturday, Jan. 16	11 a.m.	Bowling
	3 p.m.	Laser Tag
	5 p.m.	Bags Tourney
	6 p.m.	Pig Roast (with a second Bags Tourney)
Sunday, Jan. 17	1-8 p.m.	Volleyball
	1:30-3 p.m.	3 rd Bags Tourney
	3-5 p.m.	Ladder Golf
	1-8 p.m.	Ping Pong Tourney

Locations

Hotel

Hampton Inn, 2222 Enterprise Drive, Westchester, IL 60154, 708-409-1000
Mention Sokol for the special group rate of \$79 per night. Includes breakfast

Bowling

Eden Lanes, 10159 W. Cermak Road, Westchester, IL 60154, 708-865-0515
Register in advance. All skill levels welcome. Includes shoe rental and three games.

Laser Tag

Laser Quest, 1524-C Butterfield Road, Downers Grove, IL 60515, 630-705-0500
One game of tag. Register in advance. Open to the first 30 to register. All ages and skill levels welcome.

Volleyball

Sokol Tabor, 1602 S. Clarence Avenue, Berwyn, IL 60402
18 years and older only. Includes dinner buffet, wine, soda, 7 hours of volleyball.
Add-on games pay at the door.

Pay at the door events

Pig Roast & 2nd Bags Tourney

Sokol Tabor, 1602 S. Clarence Avenue, Berwyn, IL 60402
1st Bags Tourney will precede the pig roast. Pig Roast is separate event run by Sokol Tabor. \$12 meal (includes \$6 cover). Cover will be paid by ASO for volleyball and bowling participants.

Dodgeball

Sokol Stickney, 4131 S. Home Avenue, Stickney, IL 60402
Sokol Stickney has invited everyone to play dodgeball on Friday night. \$10 at the door includes pizza and soda, cash bar, karaoke, raffles and prizes.

IN MEMORY

*Of our deceased Brother and Sister Sokols with a
sincere expression of sympathy to their families
from the Supreme Officers of Sokol U.S.A.*

MICHAEL A. HORNICK SR. – (1918-2009) A member of Lodge 32, Boonton, N.J. He is survived by his children.

HELEN JASENSKY – (1920-2009) A member of Lodge 7, Byram, Conn. She is survived by her sons, Michael and George.

STEVE JANDA – (1930-2009) A member of Lodge 39/40W, Chicago, Ill. He is survived by his wife, Frances.

AGNES ZAK – (1922-2009) A member of Lodge 115W, Gary, Ind. She is survived by her daughter, Brenda Bondor.

MILDRED HOLKO – (1925-2009) A member of Lodge 7, Byram, Conn. She is survived by her children.

HELEN SANTORO – (1915-2009) A member of Lodge 66W, Bethlehem, Pa. She is survived by he husband, Vincent.

ETHEL NESTAK – (1914-2009) A member of Lodge 248, Rossford, Ohio. She is survived by her nieces.

DOROTHY TRAINA – (1944-2009) A member of Lodge 66, Travis, Staten Island, N.Y. She is survived by her husband and her children.

EMIL BLAHO – (1929-2009) A member of Lodge 2/500, Newark, N.J. He is survived by his wife, Ellen.

STEPHEN KOHUT – (1919-2009) A member of Lodge 77, Allentown, Pa. He is survived by his children.

MARGARET DORINSKY – (1915-2009) A member of Lodge 276, Pittsburgh, Pa. She is survived by her brother and her nephew.

MARY ANN CONNELL – (1911-2009) A member of Lodge 248, Rossford, Ohio. She is survived by her son and daughter.

GEORGE LICKO – (1926-2009) A member of Lodge 39/40W, Chicago, Ill. He is survived by his daughter.

MARGARET JESIONOWSKI – (1920-2009) A member of Lodge 51W, Danbury, Conn. She is survived by her husband.

THOMAS SVEC – (1923-2009) A member of Lodge 20, Ford City, Pa. He is survived by his wife, Marian.

IRENE GIAMO – (1918-2009) A member of Lodge 248, Rossford, Ohio. She is survived by her son.

VIRGINIA ERO – (1918-2009) A member of Lodge 46, McKeesport, Pa. She is survived by her grandchildren.

ANNA BARAN – (1925-2009) A member of Lodge 66W, Bethlehem, Pa. She is survived by her daughter, Francine Hancz.

MARY JASON – (1929-2009) A member of Lodge 164, Detroit, Mich. She is survived by her children.

OLGA TRANDEL – (1926-2009) A member of Lodge 306, Chicago, Ill. She is survived by her children.

MARY BODNAR – (1923-2009) A member of Lodge 255, Leechburg, Pa. She is survived by her husband and her son.

HELEN SPEVAK – (1919-2009) A member of Lodge 66W, Bethlehem, Pa. She is survived by her husband and children.