

(USPS 500-660)

# SOKOL TIMES

NOVEMBER 11, 2010

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## Sokol USA Participates in Development Conference

Sokol USA directors, instructors and gymnasts participated in the American Sokol Development Conference held at the Sokol Greater Cleveland facility on October 16 and 17. The two-day conference featured a wide array of sessions including informational lectures, hands-on sessions in the gymnasium and Sokolfest XXVI calisthenics sessions in the ballroom. Supreme Lodge members, also in Cleveland for the semi-annual meeting, were able to observe the conference on Saturday afternoon and several participated in the senior calisthenics session.

The Development Conference was well organized and attended by over 130 participants. Following orientation, the conference opened with a session on Sokol Leadership. It was motivational and provided encouragement, tips and interactive activities to help participants develop leadership qualities.

Other lecture sessions offered instruction on topics such as conflict resolution, standardization, accountability, fundraising, first-aid and evaluations. Sokol USA Directors Todd and Chris Yatchyshyn presented a promotional session on Sokolfest 2011. There were also information sessions about Festival Gymnastics and the 2011 Gymnaestrada.

Sessions in the gym included instruction on tots classes, adult classes, spotting and progressions, functional fitness

and Turbo Kick. In addition, there were demonstrations of the American Sokol Fitness Program, Wheels Gymnastics and practice sessions for the American Sokol special number that will be performed at Sokolfest XXVI.

Sokol USA was invited to teach all levels of calisthenics that will be performed at the 2011 Slet. Fourteen members of the Farrell gym gave a demonstration of the Tots and Parents Cal as Stephen Banjak taught the various sections that are performed to Slovak songs. Brandi Kovac, co-author of the Children's Cal, taught a group of nearly 30 instructors in the Saturday morning session and another half dozen in the evening session.

The groups enjoyed the lively cal that is performed to "I Want Candy" and "Cleveland Rocks."

Over 40 participants were eager to learn the Junior/Young Adult Calisthenics that was written by Monessen members Charity Ruhl, Stacy Hoffman, Stacy Thieret, Chara Wise and Bethany Moffit. This unique calisthenics features everything from traditional calisthenics to cheerleader-style lifts. There are dance moves, exercises, marching, a fight scene and even a light-hearted section where the performers play games. The music will catch your attention; the movements are equally striking.

In honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Sokol Canada in 2011, permission was asked to



The largest contingent of Sokol USA participants at the American Sokol Development Conference came from Sokol Farrell. The gymnasts demonstrated the Tots and Parents Calisthenics for participants in the conference session.

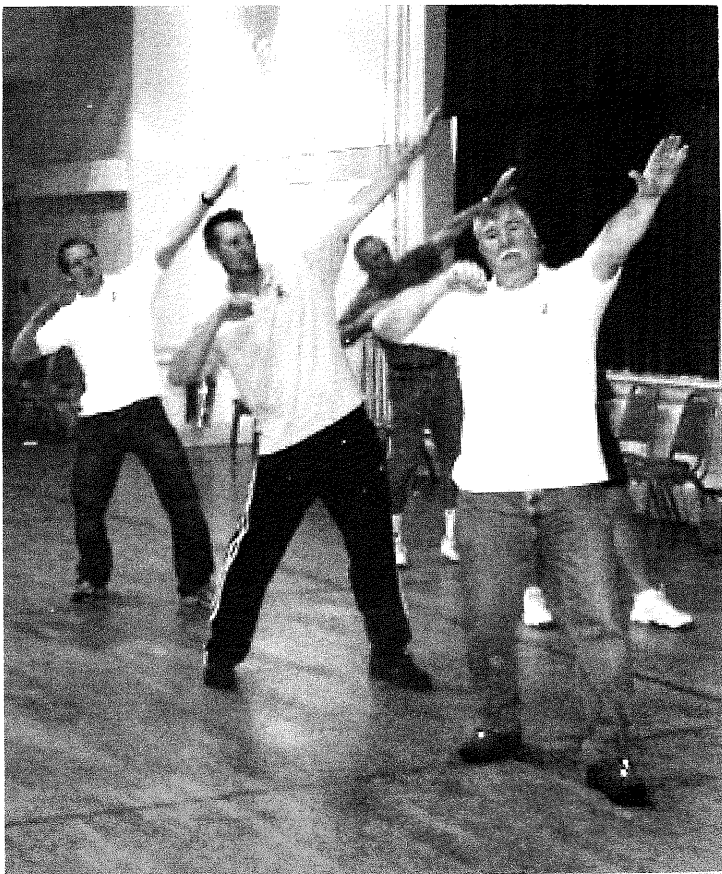
use Sister Anna Janous' senior calisthenics that was performed in Toronto in 2004. The music has a good rhythm and the performers enjoy clever movements such as shooting bows and arrows.

Sunday morning began with a presentation of the new Sokol uniforms and ordering process. The uniforms will be introduced at Sokolfest XXVI, so watch the Sokol Times for further details on

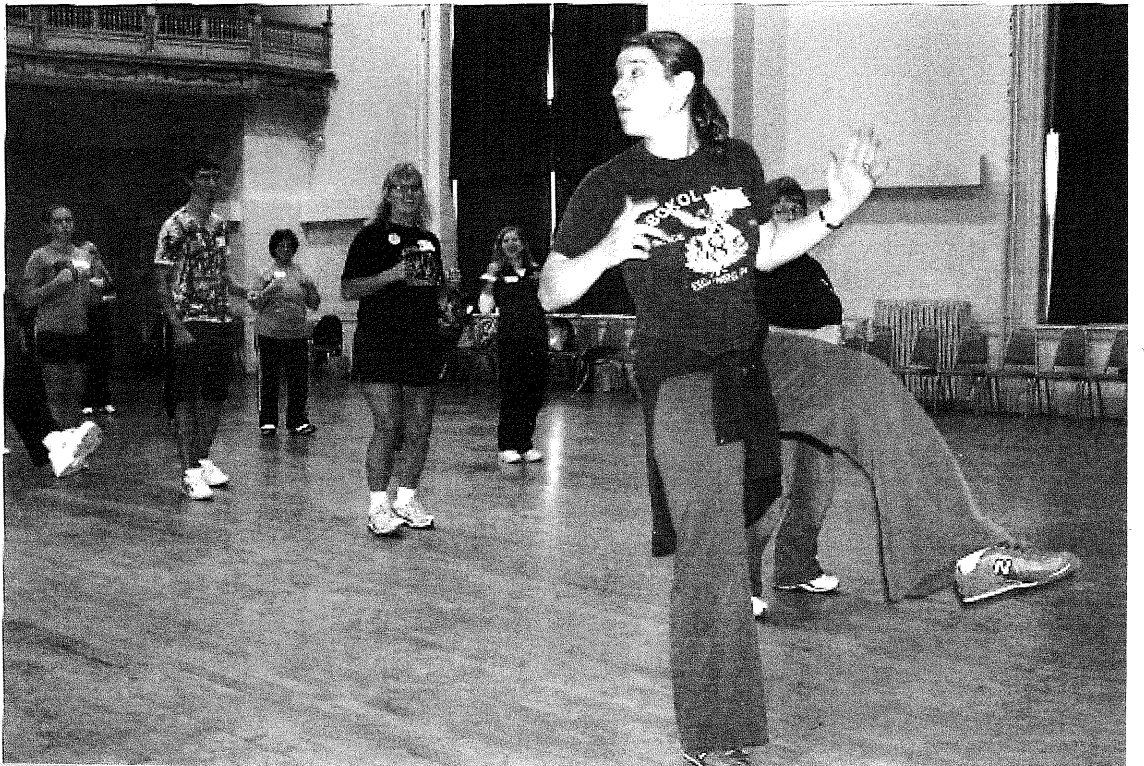
how to order your new uniform.

Throughout the conference participants were reminded to acknowledge the dedication and efforts of other Sokols. Colorful paper hands were given to each one to write the names of deserving Sokols and post them on the "High Five" bulletin board. Before the end of the two-day conference, hundreds of hands recognizing dedicated Sokols filled every inch of the board.

The entire conference was energizing and enlightening. One lecture, "The Disney Experience" presented by America Sokol President Tom Pager, really set the tone by emphasizing and teaching how Sokol gyms can be part of the "magic" and a special place for our gymnasts. Congratulations to American Sokol for the excellent sessions, great instructors and the forward thinking they are embracing!



The senior men also practiced their calisthenics at the American Sokol Development Conference.



Sokolfest XXVI Children's Calisthenics co-author Brandi Kovac demonstrates as instructors learn the new calisthenics written for the 2011 Slet.

# SOKOL TIMES

official organ of the  
SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL  
OF THE USA

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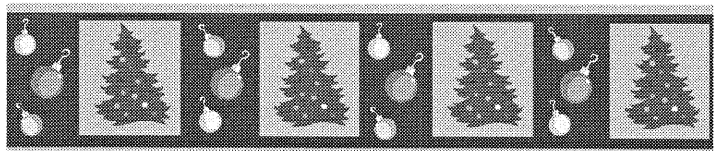
## Looking to the Future

It is time to start looking at the future and where our organization is going. The Supreme Lodge has formed two committees to help determine which direction our organization will take. The committees are the Future Committee and the Succession Committee.

We need to be proactive and take steps to secure our future. The main reason that this has become an issue is because of our declining membership. Plus there are not enough insurance policies being sold. This means we do not have the new, younger (under 50 years of age) membership base to maintain the current ways of the organization.

For us to become more successful, we need to get involved with each other within our lodge and within our communities. By doing this, we will make our lodges stronger and increase the membership. It is all about communication, developing a vision and selling insurance policies. Remember it all starts with you.

Nazdar!  
Jennifer Moulton



## HOLIDAY DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

### To the Sokol USA Gymnastic Fund

From the Polacek Family \$100.00  
of Sokol Lodge 12, Newark, N.J.  
*Wishing all our Sokol Friends  
a Very Merry Christmas*

From Sokol Lodge 16, Braddock, Pa. \$100.00  
*Happy Holidays to All!*

From Sokol Lodge 1, New York, N.Y. \$300.00  
*Wishing all Joy and Peace in the Coming Year*

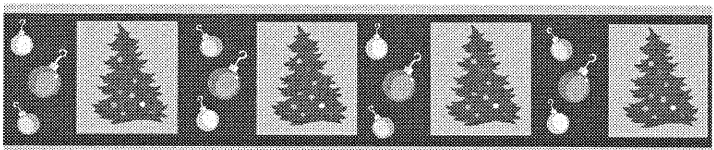
From Frank Kudlac \$50.00  
*In memory of my Dad*

### To the Milan Getting Scholarship Fund

From Polacek Family \$100.00  
of Sokol Lodge 12, Newark, N.J.  
*Have a Healthy and Happy New Year!*

From Sokol Lodge 16, Braddock, Pa. \$100.00  
*Merry Christmas to All!*

From Sokol Lodge 1, New York, N.Y. \$300.00  
*Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow!  
Happy Holidays to everyone*



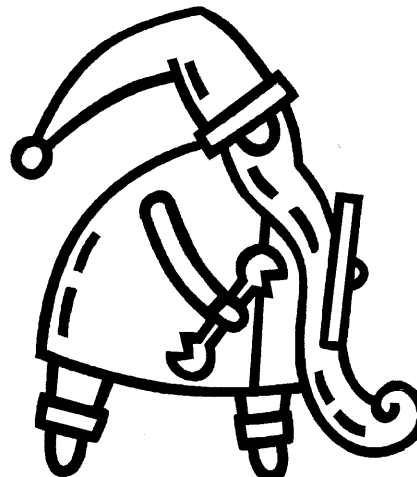
## BOONTON SOKOL UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 29** Thanksgiving Pancake Breakfast  
from 8:30 a.m. to 12 Noon

**December** Christmas Giving Tree. Sokol will adopt two  
needy families from Boonton.

## Support Our SOKOL FARRELL GYMNASTIC PROGRAM By Bringing Your Family And Friends To Our St. NICHOLAS PARTY (sv. Mikulaš)

JOHN LAPINSKI ORCHESTRA  
FOR LISTENING & DANCING



**Farrell Slovak Home  
Saturday, Dec. 4, 2010  
800 Spearman Ave.  
Farrell, Pa**

### TRADITIONAL SLOVAK HOME MADE FOOD MENU:

Appetizer: Kapusnica (sauerkraut and kolbasy soup)  
Main Course: Holubky (stuffed cabbage), Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable,  
Homemade Dessert and Coffee included. Free Hot Dogs for the children.

Food service begins at 5:00 pm

Carry out service at 6:00 pm

Dancing is from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

### Donation:

**Sit down service with live music, dancing and singing \$12  
Carry out service \$9**

SLOVAK AND ENGLISH CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG (words provided).

Get your tickets from a Sokol gymnast or call the SOKOL USA FARRELL  
HOTLINE at 724-342-1129 to reserve your place. (Leave a message.)

A limited amount of tickets will be available at the door.

Come early, stay late.



## Sokol USA Participates in Development Conference



The Tots and Parents Cal performed in 2007 will again be used at Sokolfest XXVI. The composition was used with permission from Sokol na Slovensku and was translated to English by Brother Stephen Banjak. The Farrell gymnasts are pictured holding the final pose when the tots or small children wave goodbye to the audience

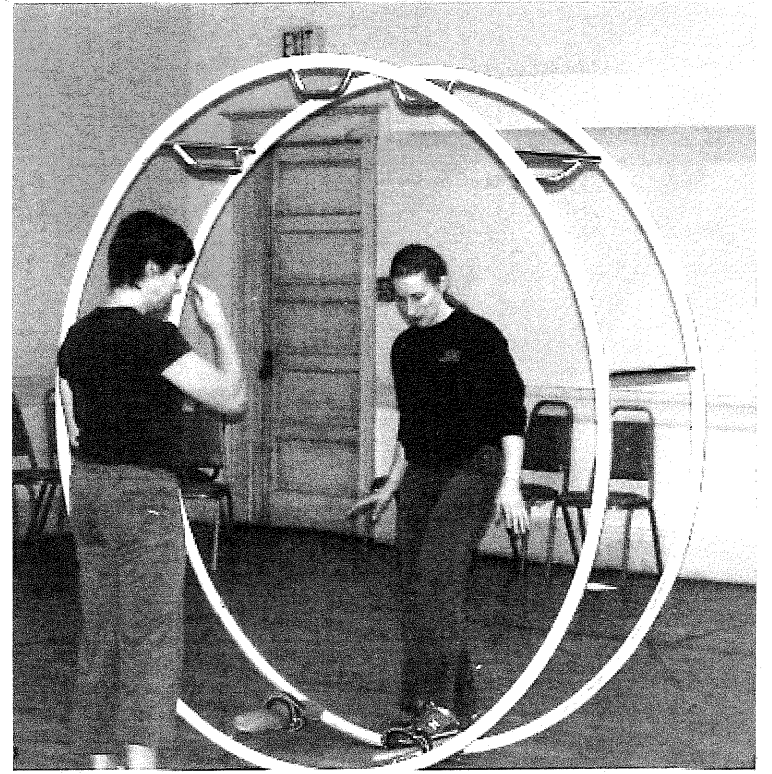


Anna Janous of Sokol Canada teaches the women's version of the senior calisthenics at the Development Conference. Sister Janous' cal was selected as the senior calisthenics for Sokolfest XXVI in honor of Sokol Canada's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2011.



From left: Charra Wise, Charity Ruhl, Katie Thieret and Stacy Hoffman, all members of Monessen Sokol, demonstrate the Junior/Young Adult Cal they co-authored for Sokolfest XXVI.

One of the sessions offered at the America Sokol Development Conference was Wheels Gymnastics presented by Lori Laznovsky and Paula Lord. The wheel was invented by Otto Feick and exhibited throughout the U.S starting in the late 1920s. Although having a long-standing existence in Europe as a competitive sport, wheels gymnastics has only recently made a comeback and is now a competitive sport in the United States.



Brandi Kovac of Central Jersey is intrigued by the gymnastics wheel.



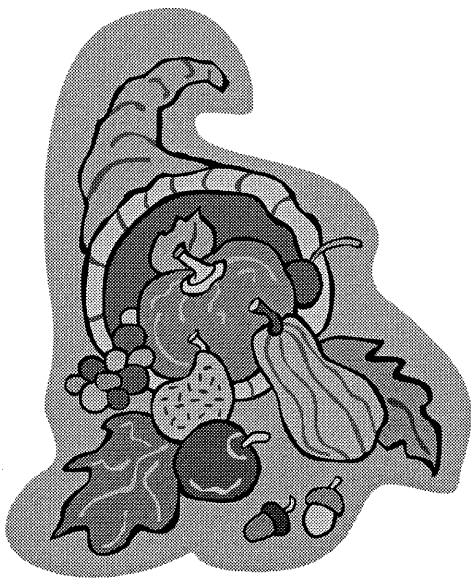
Brandi decides to give the wheel a try. Instructor Paula Lord helps secure her feet to the apparatus.



Brandi just might have a future as a wheels gymnastics competitor!



# Happy Thanksgiving!



**From the Supreme Lodge Officers  
of Sokol USA**

## From the President's View

The Supreme Lodge met in Cleveland in mid-October to view the Sokol Fest facilities, to discuss the plans for the upcoming Sokol Fest and to have its regular semi-annual meeting to discuss Sokol's affairs.

Sister Beatrice Walko, our Sokol Fest Chair, the Gymnastic Department, and Sister Walko's various committees have done a tremendous job planning the various Sokol Fest events. The hotel and the various sports facilities look great. The sporting and social events promise to be great fun for all.

Sponsorships for various sporting and social events as well as donations for the Trophy Fund will be sought in the near future. I encourage our members and lodges to consider sponsorships and donations to help make the Sokol Fest events successful.

Sister Anna Janous from Sokol Canada met with Sister Walko and myself during our time in Cleveland. 2011 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year for Sokol Canada. Our Sokol Fest will include recognition of this historic anniversary and there will be small focuses during some of the events on Sokol Canada's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

There will be a banquet, history display, silent auction, and a finale evening following the Slet performance. At the finale evening, there will be events for the youth as well as a Finale cocktail party and dancing for the adults. The events promise to be great fun for all.

The Supreme Lodge reviewed and discussed the society's finances. Despite the present sluggish economic environment, Sokol continues to perform well thanks to the vigilance of our Supreme Secretary, Brother Milan Kovac, the Finance Committee and the Supreme Lodge. A sound financial basis is important to ensuring Sokol's future.

Additionally, the Succession Planning as well as the Future Committees met and continued

their ongoing deliberations. The Succession Planning committee made great headway since its last meeting. At its last meeting, its members were tasked with individually listing and considering the duties of Brother Kovac's job. At the Cleveland meeting, all of the members shared their thoughts and their lists. It was a very enlightening view for all when they realized the many diverse functions that Brother Kovac performs. With this discussion, they were able to move forward and analyze the categories of tasks Brother Kovac performs and begin to plan how these will be addressed in the event of Brother Kovac's disability or retirement. The committee also concluded that it will be necessary to have a backup officer with a New Jersey producer's license so that the insurance aspect of Sokol may continue to function smoothly in the event of an unanticipated disability of the Supreme Secretary.

The Future Committee continued its ongoing discussions regarding the fundamental direction of Sokol. Many societies are engaging in the same discussions as Sokol USA. The fraternal world sees a general decline in membership and sales of new insurance certificates. This is not a phenomenon unique to Sokol. All fraternal societies are sharing this experience. The Future Committee has begun a period of Sokol self examination and is discussing such basic questions as whether its insurance products and fraternal and sporting aspects are relevant in 2010 America and what may be done to increase future membership.

It is important to remember that membership is based upon participation via the purchase of a life insurance certificate. Ideally, at a minimum, there should be enough new members joining each year to replace the number of members passing away and to replace the amounts of insurance being paid out on



Joseph Bielecki

death claims. The committee noted that in 2009 only 90 new insurance certificates were sold and that only 11 lodges sold these certificates.

One of the outcomes of this committee meeting is that some committee members will visit the Sokol district meetings to discuss this important point. It is hoped that the districts will also share their thoughts regarding these issues with the committee representatives. The work of the Future Committee will certainly continue over the longer term and its feedback will be very important.

Our society is financial sound and will continue to be vigilant regarding the society's investments. The Supreme Lodge meeting was productive and the upcoming Sokol Fest promises to be a wonderful event for our members. I encourage all of our lodges to meet, to engage in activities whether they be social, charitable or sporting, and to promote the Sokol USA experience. I also encourage our members to share the good news of Sokol and to attempt to recruit new members as this is a way of insuring our society's future.

Nazdar!  
Joe Bielecki  
President

## "OPERATION PURPLE"

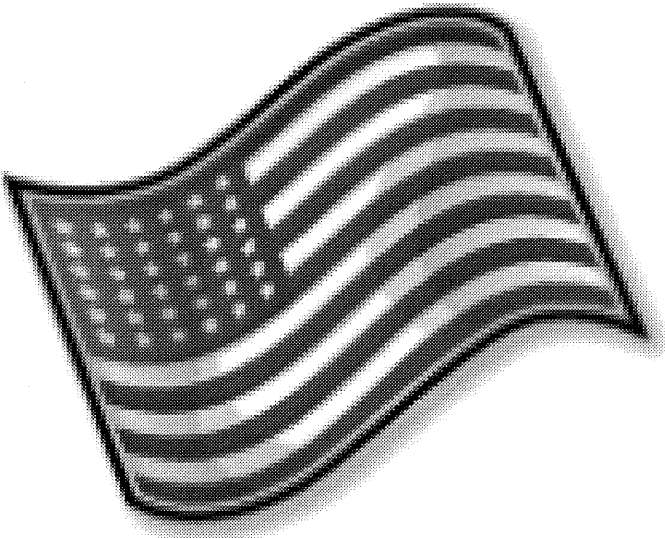
Operation Purple is a summer camping program for children of active military personnel. The National Military Family Association, a not for profit organization, has 70 camps throughout the United States. The camp programs are designed specifically for children who are separated from their deployed parents. In other words, Operation Purple Camp allows military kids the same opportunity to get together and hopefully have an enjoyable summer camp experience. It helps them through stressful times and honors their parents for their service and sacrifice. It gives them a break from war worries. Additionally, the program provides "family" camps for both the children and parents together. Besides the usual summer camp of arts and crafts and summer fun, special counselors are available for children and parents to assist in returning to a "normal" family life. The web site for the NMFA is [www.MilitaryFamily.org](http://www.MilitaryFamily.org).

National Military Family Association was brought to the attention of fraternal benefit societies through the National Fraternal Congress of America at its recent convention. At the October 15, 2010, meeting of the Supreme Lodge, it was decided that Sokol USA will match, dollar for dollar, all donations by lodges and members to this cause. We encourage every lodge to make a donation to the National Military Family Association. Please send your donations to: SOKOL USA, P.O. BOX 189, East Orange, NJ 07019-0189 by December 15, 2010. All donations received by that date will be matched with a check from Sokol USA and forwarded to the NMFA, and an acknowledgement will be published in the January 2011 issue of the Sokol Times.

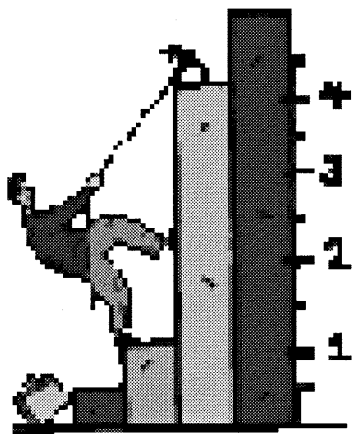
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PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)			

*Remember the contributions  
of those who served in the Military.*

**Celebrate Veterans' Day  
on November 11<sup>th</sup>!**



**From the Supreme Lodge  
Officers of Sokol USA**



**PLEASE HELP US MEET  
THE \$5,000 CHALLENGE!**

In anticipation of the 105th Anniversary of Sokol Farrell Lodge 103, an anonymous donor has come forward who will match up to \$5,000 of all the contributions received by the "Steve Banjak (Sr.) Memorial Scholarship Fund." This "challenge" includes those contributions collected from this date until the Anniversary Banquet, tentatively set for the spring or early summer of 2011.

We are inviting all Sokol members who remember Brother Steve Banjak to help us reach our goal of \$5,000. Doing so would give us a net gain of \$10,000 to the scholarship fund. Since Sokol Farrell's 100th anniversary celebration in 2006, the lodge has given five scholarships to deserving and qualified members of Sokol Farrell: in 2006 and 2007, Oleksandra Banjak who graduated "cum laude" from Slippery Rock University; in 2008 to Katie Shebeck who is attending Lock Haven University; in 2009 to Lucia Murcko who is attending Penn State University, Shenango Campus; and to our most recent recipient, Robin Platte who will be attending College of Charleston in Charleston, S.C.

Brother Steve Banjak (1913-2006) lived his whole life believing in and supporting the ideals of the Sokol movement founded by Dr. Miroslav Tyrš in the Czech Republic and established by Ivan Branislav Zoch in Slovakia. Brother Banjak was active in the gymnasium since he was introduced to Sokol when he was 14 years old, stopping only when his advanced age and health did not permit it. As President, he led Sokol Farrell for a period of 50 years to become among the most successful lodges in the Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol, USA. Brother Banjak also held almost every office in District Svätopluk, including President. In 1958 he was President of the Committee responsible for the very successful XIII Slet held in Cleveland, Ohio.

All contributions to the scholarship can be sent to Brother Melvin Slezak, Scholarship Chairman, 6850 Seneca Road, Sharpsville, PA 16150-8418. Checks should be made payable to "Steve Banjak Memorial Scholarship Fund." Donations are Federal tax deductible.

**Introducing Sokol USA's NEW  
Single Premium Insurance Coverage**

*Affordable Rates                      Excellent Coverage  
Different Rates for Men and Women  
Simplified Application Process  
You will not be turned down because of age  
Pay Once, Have Coverage for Life*

**Minimum Policy is \$3,000**

<b><u>\$3,000 Policy</u></b>		<b><u>\$5,000 Policy</u></b>	
Newborns:	\$213 for males \$180 for females	Newborns:	\$355 for males \$300 for females
Age 5:	\$252 for males \$213 for females	Age 5:	\$420 for males \$355 for females
Age 18:	\$399 for males \$342 for females	Age 18:	\$665 for males \$570 for females
Age 21:	\$432 for males \$372 for females	Age 21:	\$720 for males \$620 for females
Age 30:	\$567 for males \$504 for females	Age 30:	\$945 for males \$840 for females
Age 40:	\$792 for males \$705 for females	Age 40:	\$1,320 for males \$1,175 for females
Age 65:	\$1,695 for males \$1,512 for females	Age 65:	\$2,825 for males \$2,520 for females

<b><u>\$10,000 Policy</u></b>	
Newborns:	\$710 for males \$600 for females
Age 5:	\$840 for males \$710 for females
Age 18:	\$1,330 for males \$1,140 for females
Age 21:	\$1,440 for males \$1,240 for females
Age 30:	\$1,890 for males \$1,680 for females
Age 40:	\$2,640 for males \$2,350 for females
Age 65:	\$5,650 for males \$5,040 for females

*For a complete list  
of rates by age,  
please contact your  
local Lodge  
or Sokol USA  
Headquarters  
at 888-253-0362 or  
[SOKOLUSAHQs@aol.com](mailto:SOKOLUSAHQs@aol.com)*



**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**

**Benefits include:**  
Reducing your stress level  
Controlling your weight  
Lowering your risk of heart disease  
Controlling your blood pressure

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



Brandi Kovac  
280 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Apt. 9A  
New York, NY 10009  
OR email: [BKKovac@aol.com](mailto: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!

Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol Of USA  
Profit & Loss  
January-September 2010

Jan – Sep 10

<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
SCHOLARSHIP-MILAN GETTING	3,827.50
ACCIDENT & HEALTH PREMIUM	62.75
AMORTIZATION-IMR	57,708.75
ANNUITY	101,000.00
ASSESSMENTS-GYMNASTICS	934.50
ASSESSMENTS-INDIGENT	188.38
ASSESSMENTS-LIFE	21,944.48
DIVIDEND ON STOCK	49,002.65
GAINS/LOSSES – BONDS	
LOSS ON SALE OF BONDS	-42,830.00
GAINS/LOSSES – BONDS – Other	42,916.44
Total GAINS/LOSSES – BONDS	86.44
GAINS/LOSSES – STOCKS	
GAIN ON SALE OF STOCK-PREFER	16.29
Total GAINS/LOSSES - STOCKS	16.29
GYMNASTIC INCOME	
GYM FUND DONATIONS	4,621.10
GYMNASTIC INCOME-Other	2,227.20
Total GYMNASITC INCOME	6,848.30
INCREASE/DECREASE BONDS	14,273.23
INTEREST INCOME	
ACCRUED INT. PURCH OF BONDS	-12,543.26
BONDS – INDUSTRIAL	448,662.32
CAPITAL RESERVE	0.23
CERTIFICATE LOANS	101.04
COLLATERAL LOANS	1,491.41
GYM DEPT.-INVESTORS SVS BK	104.14
MORTGAGE LOANS	26,884.87
PNC CHECKING	57.38
Total INTEREST INCOME	464,758.13
RENTAL REAL ESTATE INCOME	
Total RENTAL REAL ESTATE INCOME	33,150.00
Total Income	753,867.40
<b>Expense</b>	
PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS	
CASH SURRENDER	17,527.16
DEATH CLAIMS	76,570.68
INTEREST – ANNUITY	4,931.13
Total PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS	99,028.97
ACTUARIAL & ACCOUNTING FEE	60,137.78
BANK CHARGES	553.33
BOOKS & PERIODICALS	291.88
BUREAU & ASSOCIATION FEES	259.00
DECREASE-LIFE RESERVE	154,476.00
DIVIDENDS	1,133.13
EXPENSE OF SUP. LDG. MTG.	16,987.04
FRATERNAL EXPENSE	9,951.15
GYMNASTIC EXPENSES	
SLET 2011	1,104.75
USAG PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP	449.50
SCHOOL – EXPENSE (KURZ)	600.00
GYMNASTIC BOWLING	1,311.00
GYMNASTIC INSURANCE	2,619.00
GYMNASTIC MISCELLANEOUS	2,144.11
GYMNASTIC TRAINING SESSION	322.00
GYMNASTIC TRAVEL EXPENSES	2,038.75
GYMNASTIC VIDEO & MISC	50.00
Total GYMNASITC EXPENSES	10,639.11
HOSPITALIZATION	20,895.15
INSURANCE (EXCEPT REAL ESTATE)	13,530.00
INVESTMENT EXPENSES	8,784.19
NJ EXAMINERS FEES	0.00
OFFICE EXPENSES	9,168.93
OFFICERS' TRAVELING EXPENSE	11,069.41
OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS	14,811.10
PAYROLL TAX EXPENSE	8,740.13
POSTAGE, EXPRESS, TEL & TEL	2,996.61
RENT EXPENSE (Rent)	33,150.00
RENTAL REAL ESTATE EXPENSES	
Total RENTAL REAL ESTATE EXPENSES	33,147.08
SALARIES	
SALARIES-SUPREME OFFICERS	3,375.00
SUPREME LODGE SALARY	1,237.50
OFFICE	46,272.14
OFFICER	60,507.80
Total SALARIES	111,392.44
SCHOLARSHIP	
MILAN GETTING SCHOLARSHIP	6,000.00
Total SCHOLARSHIP	6,000.00
STATE LICENSE FEES	3,598.50
TELEPHONE EXP	2,915.77
Total Expense	635,198.69
Net Ordinary Income	118,668.71
Net Income	118,668.71

CASH BASIS

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.

Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol Of USA  
Balance Sheet  
As of September 30, 2010

Sep 30, 2010

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
CASH – PNC CHECKING	129,588.03
CASH – CANADIAN BK OF COM	3,780.96
CASH – M/M GYMNASITC	24,544.52
PETTY CASH	500.00
Total Checking/Savings	158,413.51
Other Current Assets	
BONDS	
BONDS	8,687,799.29
Total BONDS	8,687,799.29
STOCK	
PREFERRED STOCK	755,450.00
COMMON STOCK	235,290.00
Total STOCK	990,740.00
MORTGAGES RECEIVABLE	
Total MORTGAGES RECEIVABLE	1,160,638.53
COLLATERAL LOANS	
Total COLLATERAL LOANS	452,024.37
CERTIFICATE LOANS	
BENEFICIARY TRUST FUND	
RESERVE FOR TRUST FUND	-16,942.33
TRUST FUND FOR BENEFICIARY	16,942.33
Total BENEFICIARY TRUST FUND	0.00
BOND INTEREST DUE	
EXCHANGE	153,000.00
MORTGAGE INTEREST DUE	3,633.01
PREMIUMS DUE	2,185.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,223.00
Total Current Assets	11,454,397.88
Fixed Assets	
AUTOMOBILE	
ACCUM DEPREC – AUTO	-21,063.00
AUTOMOBILE – OTHER	30,095.95
Total AUTOMOBILE	9,032.95
REAL ESTATE - BUILDING	
ACCUM DEPREC - BUILDING	-52,543.26
REAL ESTATE – BUILDING – OTHER	67,898.25
Total REAL ESTATE – BUILDING	15,354.99
Total Fixed Assets	24,387.94
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>11,637,199.33</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
NON-ADMITTED COLL. LOAN	90,608.00
A&H RESERVE	1,290.00
ADVANCE PREMIUMS	25.00
AVR	29,783.00
CLAIMS – LIFE	20,000.00
DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS	230.10
DIVIDEND ACCUMULATION	101,957.00
EXPENSES PAYABLE	26,749.61
FOREIGN EXCHANGE	169.50
IMR	536,619.25
LIFE RESERVE	4,673,378.00
MORTGAGE LOAN ESCROW	
Total MORTGAGE LN ESCROW	-15,788.93
NON-ADMITTED – MORTGAGE	358,000.00
NON-ADMITTED – AUTO	9,032.95
RES. FOR UNPRES. CHECKS	2,251.79
TAXES DUE	9,140.12
Total Other Current Liabilities	5,843,445.39
Total Current Liabilities	5,843,445.39
Long Term Liabilities	
ANNUITIES – LEFT WITH SOCIETY	109,609.28
MATURED ENDOW. – LEFT W/SOC	199,448.60
Total Long Term Liabilities	309,057.88
Total Liabilities	6,152,503.27
Equity	
EQUITY-GAIN ON FOREIGN EXCH.	
EQUITY FOREIGN EXC-2008	-1,750.50
EQUITY-GAIN ON FRGN EXC-Other	1,750.50
Total EQUITY-GAIN ON FOREIGN EXC	0.00
UNASSIGNED FUNDS	
UNREALIZED PREFERRED-2009	-36,060.00
INDIGENT FUND	8,974.41
ACCIDENT AND HEALTH FUND	53,610.29
Total UNASSIGNED FUNDS	26,524.70
CONSOLIDATED FUND	
(Retained Earnings)	5,339,502.65
Net Income	118,668.71
Total Equity	5,484,696.06
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>11,637,199.33</b>

CASH BASIS

Visit us on the Web at:  
**www.SokolUSA.org**



# Sokol USA National Gymnastics

## Department Conference Call Meeting

### Sunday, August 29, 2010 – 7:00 PM

**Attendance:** Todd Yatchyshyn – Dir. of Men, Chris Yatchyshyn – Dir. of Women, Eric Skovronec – Asst. Dir. of Men & Boonton Dir. of Men, , Amy Pracko – Asst. Director of Women, Charity Ruhl – Asst. Dir. of Women & Monessen Dir, Karen Ondira – Hon. Dir. Of Women, Ellen Kovac –Central Jersey Co-Dir., Norah Kaplan – Central Jersey Co-Dir., Pat Ritz – Boonton Dir. of Woman, Matthew Reynolds – Boonton, Bibiana Murko – Farrell instructor, Dallas McClosky – Leechburg Director, Scott Pracko – Chicago, Joanne Check – Bethlehem, Brandi Kovac –Dist. M. M. Hodza Co-Dir., Rich Yatchyshyn, Dist. Tatra Dir..

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Todd Yatchyshyn. Chris Yatchyshyn agreed to be the secretary. Todd asked each of the 15 participants to state his/her name and the lodge or district he/she was representing.

The agenda was presented and participants were asked if there were any additional topics to be discussed. Chris asked to add National Sports Tournaments before the recommendations and National SMART Goals after the recommendations in Old Business. The agenda was revised as follows:

- Agenda**
- I. Call Meeting to Order - Welcome
  - II. Self Introductions
  - III. National Staff Reports
  - IV. Questions or comments regarding the lodge and district reports send via e-mail
  - V. Old Business
    - A. World Federation Meeting – see remarks by Joe Bielecki - *Sokol Times*
    - B. Code of Conduct
    - C. Training Sessions
    - D. Public Relations/Website
    - E. 2011 Slet Update
    - F. National Sports Tournaments
    - H. Recommendations from National Directors & Budget
    - I. Recommendations from Lodges, Districts, Representatives
    - J. National SMART Goals
  - VI. Date and Site of the 2011 Meeting – tabled to the OCT 16-17 Director’s Conference.
  - VII. Adjournment of phone conference

Todd asked if everyone received the reports of the National Staff and if there were any comments or questions. Ellen Kovac said she appreciated the thorough reports and others agreed. It was explained that the reports are generally given verbally but in an effort to move the conference call along the National Staff provided more details in advance.

**Summaries of the National Staff Reports**  
Amy Pracko continues to be active at Lode 306 Chicago by serving as the head Tots

instructor and assisting with all fundraisers . On the national level she attends the annual meeting and coordinates information from the lodges for the Sokol Times. Eric Skovronec continues to be active at Lodge 32 Boonton as director and vice president, and in the United Sokols of the East. On the national level he attended a recent Slet committee meeting. Eric also highly recommended the USAG Safety Certification course, which is now available online, thought it requires a considerable time commitment – a minimum of four hours. Charity Ruhl continues to run all aspects of Falcon Gymnastics, Monessen Sokol’s Gymnastic program and competitive team. On the national level she and three of her gymnasts are creating the junior/senior cal. Charity also served on the Slet search committee with her sister Katrina Coleman. She added that she is very proud of her sister, who is now serving in the US Navy.

Chris Yatchyshyn thanked the directors and instructors for their hard work and dedication. She congratulated Sarah Goda of Farrell for graduating first and Hannah Kreinik of Chicago for graduating sixth out of 20 Beginner Level students at the ASO Instructor’s School and reported that Bonnie Valentin attended National Camp for the fourth time. Chris said the Slet plans were coming along well, encouraged all to attend the American Sokol Director’s Conference in October and reminded the group about the SMART goals that were set on the national level.

Todd Yatchyshyn said he was motivated during his first year to continue to work toward improving our organization, but was disappointed that the Sponsor a Gymnast program suggested at the fall Supreme Lodge Meeting did not materialize. He stated that he found the American Sokol Director’s meeting in October 2009 very informative and was impressed by the activity he saw at a training session in Boonton and a summer gym session in Monessen. He offered to share his power point of ideas that he presented at the March Supreme Lodge meeting with those interested. The ideas aim to modernize the marketing and billing of insurance in an effort to attract new members. Todd reported that he is confident we have chosen great facilities for the Slet and is grateful for the help and support of Sokol Greater Cleveland. He also shared that President Bielecki has a formed Future Planning Committee and a Supreme Secretary Succession Committee to discuss the future course of the organization. He asked the participants to share any thoughts they may have on either of these topics so they can be included in future discussions.

**Discussion of National Staff Reports**  
Karen Ondira asked what happened to the Sponsor a Gymnast concept, which she thought was a good idea. It was reported that there was concern about the concept from the Finance Committee and when it did not materialize before the end of 2009, it was not reintroduced at the next Supreme Lodge meeting. The original intent of the idea was to be used with the \$1000 single premium policies, to encourage an increase in new members before the minimum insurance requirement would be raised to \$3,000. The participants felt that it should be brought up again. They felt it would be helpful in encouraging new members, perhaps with some modifications. Ellen Kovac suggested gearing the promotion of the concept toward the wealthier lodges and especially districts with funds but no active programs, since those funds are meant to support gymnastics. It was also suggested that it be made clearer how it would help the gyms by paying the additional gym fees, not the insurance premium. Everyone agreed that donations to offset gym fees during the year that a policy is purchased would be a big help to families signing up new gymnasts.

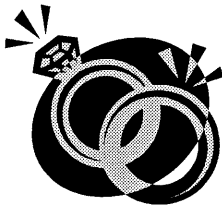
(To be Continued in December 2010)

## 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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_

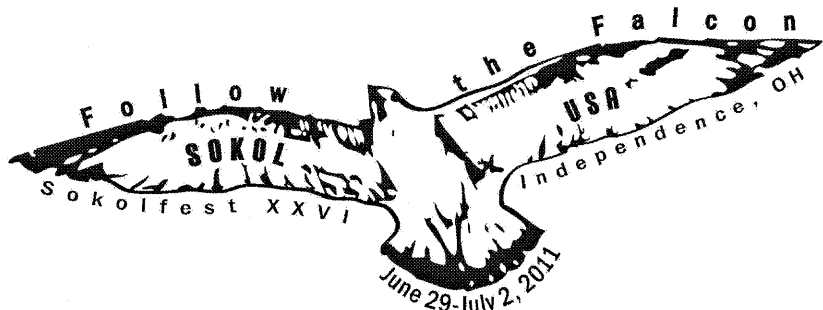
**Photographs are not required, but they do add to the presentation.  
Please include a self addressed, stamped envelope if you would like your photograph returned.**

# Follow the Falcon to Sokolfest XXVI

*Hosted by Sokol USA*

*Independence, Ohio – June 29 to July 2, 2011*

***Gather with Sokols from around the world  
as we demonstrate and promote the Sokol ideals  
through competitions, slet performances  
and fraternalism! Nazdar***



## Tentative Schedule

### Wednesday, June 29

*Afternoon:* 3 on 3 Basketball, Free Throw Challenge  
*Evening:* Opening Ceremonies

### Thursday, June 30

*Day:* Gymnastics Competitions, Fitness Challenge, Golf Tournament  
*Evening:* Dinner & Socials at Greater Cleveland Sokol

### Friday, July 1

*Day:* Volleyball Tournament, Fitness Challenge, Bowling Tournament  
*Evening:* Banquet, Bowling/Billiards Social, Fireworks

### Saturday, July 2

*Morning:* Slet Rehearsal, Field Challenges  
*Late Afternoon/Evening:* Slet  
*Evening:* Celebration Socials

## Venues

**Independence High School Gymnasium and The Indy Fieldhouse**  
(2 miles from hotel)

<http://www.independenceohio.org/CommunityLife/Fieldhouse.aspx>

At the Independence Community Complex we will host the opening ceremonies and the gymnastics competitions in the high school gymnasium; volleyball, basketball and the fitness challenge in the fieldhouse, and the Slet will be on the football field. Food will be available for sale on site Wednesday-Saturday.

**Sleepy Hollow Golf Course, Brecksville, OH**  
(7 miles from hotel)

<http://www.golfohio.com/departments/coursereviews/sleepy-hollow-golf-course.htm>

**Cloverleaf Bowling Center, Independence, OH**  
(2 miles from hotel)  
<http://www.bowlcloverleaf.com/>

**Sokol Greater Cleveland**  
(6 miles from the hotel)  
4939 Broadway Ave. - Cleveland OH 44127  
<http://www.sokolgreatercleveland.org/>

**Downtown Cleveland**  
(12 miles, 15-minute drive from the hotel)  
<http://www.positivelycleveland.com/>

***Check out the many attractions, museums, sports events and food venues  
the City of Cleveland has to offer.***

## ACCOMMODATIONS

**Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, 6001 Rockside Rd., Independence, OH**  
216-524-8050

<http://www.hiindependence.com/>

All rooms \$85.00/night - up to 4 persons per room. The Holiday Inn has 364 rooms. Rooms will be blocked until May 29, 2011. The hotel is just 12 miles from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. The hotel offers complimentary airport shuttle service from 6 AM to 11 PM. There's lots of free parking for cars or buses. The Holiday Inn also features Michael's Grille & the Impulse Lounge, which has live entertainment Tues.-Sat. There are over 30 restaurants & fast food establishments within minutes of the hotel, including a 2-story McDonald's. There are 11 other hotels in Independence; the majority across the highway from the Holiday Inn. We have reserved a large block of rooms and are urging everyone to stay at the Holiday Inn. We have been guaranteed the best rate in town!

**City of Independence, OH website:** <http://www.independenceohio.org/>

## SILENT AUCTION TO BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Plans are being made to have several events to benefit the Milan Getting Scholarship Fund during the 2011 Sokol Fest.

The cultural room will feature an on-going silent auction of prize baskets similar to the one held during our 2009 Convention. Lodges and individuals are encouraged to donate prizes for the event. Also prize baskets are being considered for the cocktail party and possibly the banquet during the Sokol Fest.

Please contact Joe Bielecki at 412-390-0900 or by e-mail at [bielecki1@earthlink.net](mailto:bielecki1@earthlink.net) if you are interested in helping with or donating to this project.

## SOME FACTS ABOUT INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

Sokol USA has selected Independence, Ohio as the site for Sokolfest XXVI. Referred to as South Cleveland, Independence is a well-maintained suburban city with just the right mix of commerce and community life for its 7,100 residents. The city offers top-notch safety forces, schools and recreational facilities, with retail and service establishments conveniently located within the business district.

This centrally located city sits at the crossroads of I-77 and I-480, just 15 miles east of Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, 10 miles south of the City of Cleveland and 20 miles north of the city of Akron. Independence offers first-class office space, presently housing over 1,300 businesses and employing approximately 25,000 people.

### Cool Facts

- Independence is the "Heart of Cuyahoga County."
- Independence has the largest open pit mine in Ohio and is one of only two places in the country where haydite is mined.
- Independence has one of the lowest real estate tax rates in all of Cuyahoga County.
- Independence has 1,337 total acres of parkland located in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Elmwood Park and the West Creek/Cuyahoga River Confluence Project.
- Independence has 4.5 million square feet of office space.
- Independence has 12 hotels with 1,884 rooms.

From <http://www.independenceohio.org/AboutIndependence.aspx>

## Sokol Social News

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Emily (Kavicky) Brower of Chicago, Ill., a member of Lodge 40W, celebrated her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 29<sup>th</sup>. She was Lodge 40W Secretary for 27 years and worked with Betty Studnecka and others until the merger.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Joseph Chambal of Yonkers, N.Y., and a member of Sokol USA Lodge 114 in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., celebrated his 79<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

## 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.

## 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.*

**JOSEPH BENJAK** – (1929-2010) A member of Lodge 46, McKeesport, Pa. He is survived by his wife.

**JOHN YURICK** – (1913-2010) A member of Lodge 30, Danbury, Conn. He is survived by wife.

**MARY J. VRABEL** – (1912-2010) A member of Lodge 146/103 Youngstown, Ohio. She is survived by her daughter.