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# SOKOL *TIMES*

JANUARY 13, 2011

PUBLICATION FOSTERING FRATERNAL, CULTURAL &  
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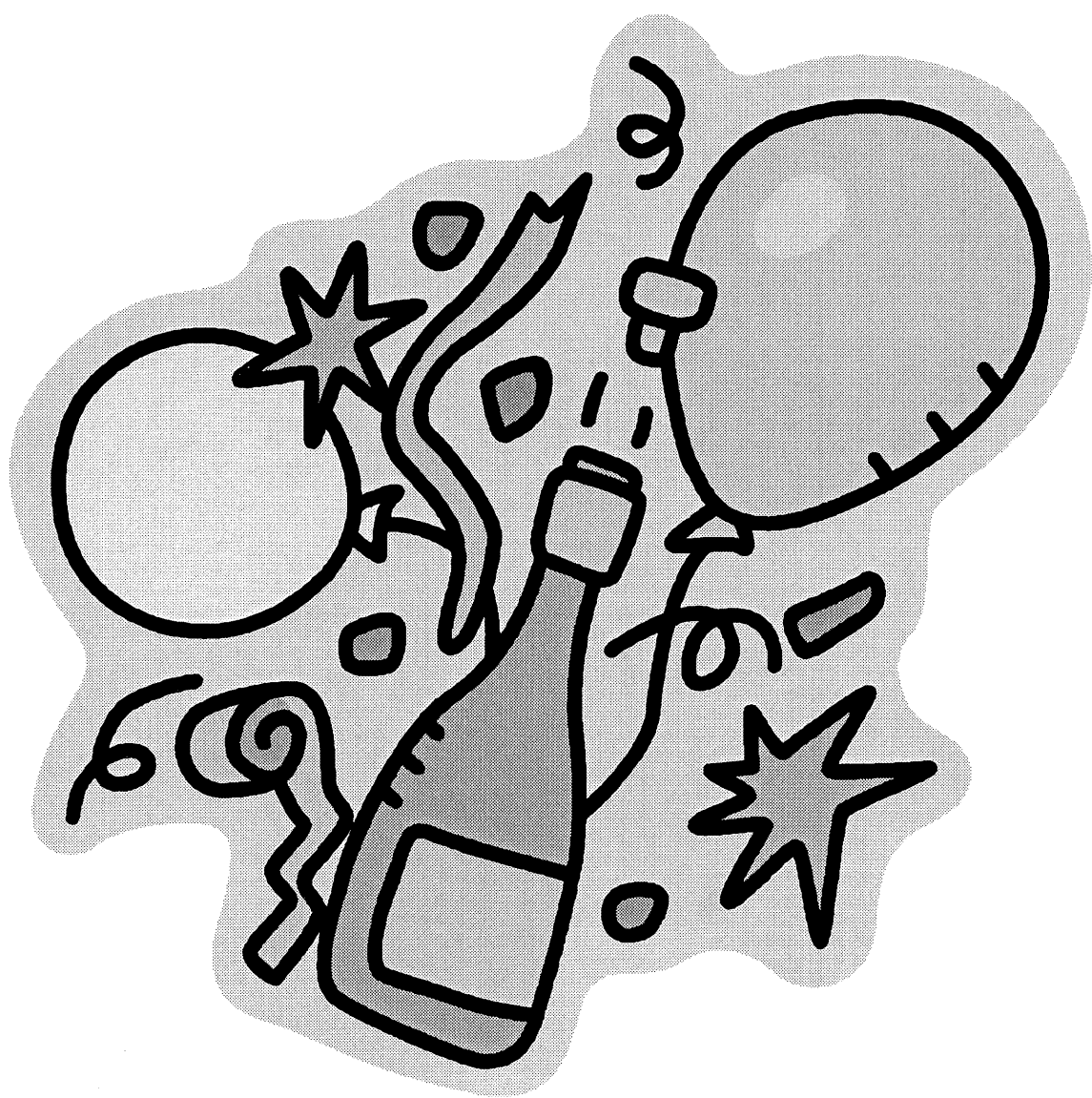
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*To All Our Members:*

*Have A  
Happy,  
Healthy  
And Safe  
New Year!*

*From The  
Supreme Lodge  
Officers of Sokol USA*



# SOKOL TIMES

official organ of the  
SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL  
OF THE USA

Published monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.

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## Holiday Cheer



Members of Lodge 39/40W shared an afternoon of holiday cheer at their annual Christmas Luncheon on December 5<sup>th</sup> at McCook's Bohemian Restaurant in McCook. Each member brought a couple of canned or dry food items to be donated to a local food pantry. Following a delicious meal of their choice, members exchanged Christmas cards and baked goodies. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the festivities and took home a beautiful poinsettia plant. Brother Gerald von Schwedler delivered poinsettia plants to shut-in lodge members later that week. At the celebration were (seated from left) Millie Melka, Millie Mihalek and Emily Brower; and (standing) Anne Marie Brinley, Paul Brinley, Jan Sopoci, Bob Mihalek, Arlene von Schwedler, Debbie Golden and Gerald von Schwedler.

## HOLIDAY DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

### To the Sokol USA Gymnastic Fund

From Sokol Lodge 244, Westfield, Mass. \$100.00  
*May We All Have a Very Merry Christmas  
And a Happy and Healthy New Year!*

From Sokol Lodge 273, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. \$200.00  
*In Memory of Deceased members*

From Sokol Lodge 79, Mahanoy City, Pa. \$500.00  
*Best Wishes for the Holidays and the Coming Year!*

From Sokol Lodge 63, Homestead, Pa. \$50.00  
*May your Holidays Shine Bright with Peace and Love.  
Have Wonderful New Year! Nazdar!*

From Hasko Girls from Lodge 276, Pittsburgh, Pa. \$10.00  
*In memory of Joe Berczel, husband of Irene Berczel*

From Sokol Lodge 26, Guttenberg, N.J. \$50.00  
*Wonderful New Year! Nazdar*

### To the Milan Getting Scholarship Fund

From Lance Kovac \$25.00  
*Wishing All a Very Merry Christmas!*

From Sokol Lodge 273, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. \$200.00  
*In memory of George A. Pastirchak*

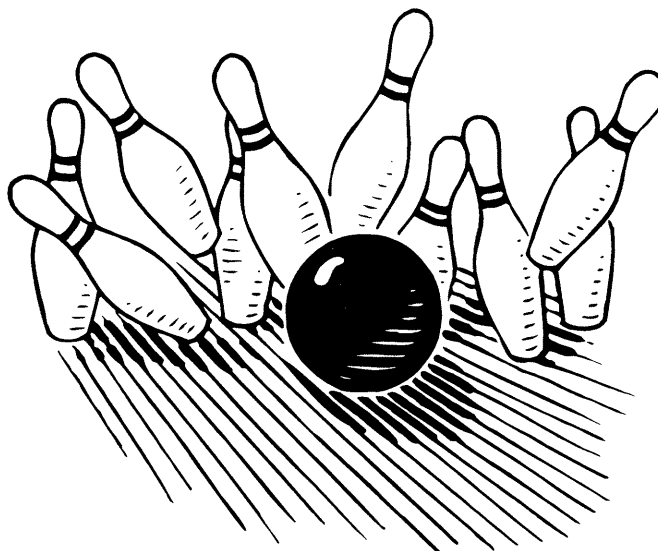
From Sokol USA Lodge 59, Trenton, N.J. \$100.00  
*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

From Sokol Lodge 79, Mahanoy City, Pa. \$500.00  
*Happy Holidays and a Peaceful New Year!*

From Sokol Lodge 63, Homestead, Pa. \$150.00  
*Wishing Everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year*

From Sokol Lodge 26, Guttenberg, N.J. \$50.00  
*Good Health, Prosperity and Joy in the New Year*

## ATTENTION BOWLERS & GOLFERS



The National Directors would like to better communicate with our Sokol Bowlers and Golfers. We would like a contact person from each lodge with whom we can communicate. Individuals who would like to share ideas and brainstorm about how to increase participation in our national tournaments are also encouraged to forward their contact information. We hope to communicate by e-mail and schedule a conference call discussion in the future.

Please send your name, address, phone number and e-mail address to:

Todd Yatchyshyn  
341 Old Allentown Road  
Wind Gap, PA 18091  
[yatch18@aol.com](mailto:yatch18@aol.com)

## Happy New Year!

It is time to start looking to the future. As an organization, we need to determine: Where we want to be in a year, five years and 10 years.

The Supreme Lodge has already taken the first step to determine our future. We have put together two committees to help map our future. The Succession Planning Committee has been working on defining our Society structure and reviewing current operations as well as options for possible changes. The Future Committee has been working on the direction our organization is going to be heading in the years to come.

In doing so, the Supreme Lodge has determined that all the lodges need to create new habits to encourage growth. It has also come to the conclusion that Sokol is only as strong as its current membership and their involvement within their lodges.

New Year's is the time of year that individuals/organizations make a commitment to a project that will create a new habit. It is often a "lifestyle" change. So the question is: What can your lodge do to help create the future we are all looking for? The answer is we need to get involved with ourselves and within our communities.

The future is ours!

Nazdar!  
Jennifer Moulton

## 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.

Visit us online at  
**[www.SokolUSA.org](http://www.SokolUSA.org)**



## ***Sokol USA Farrell, Pa. Celebrates Mikulas Holiday***



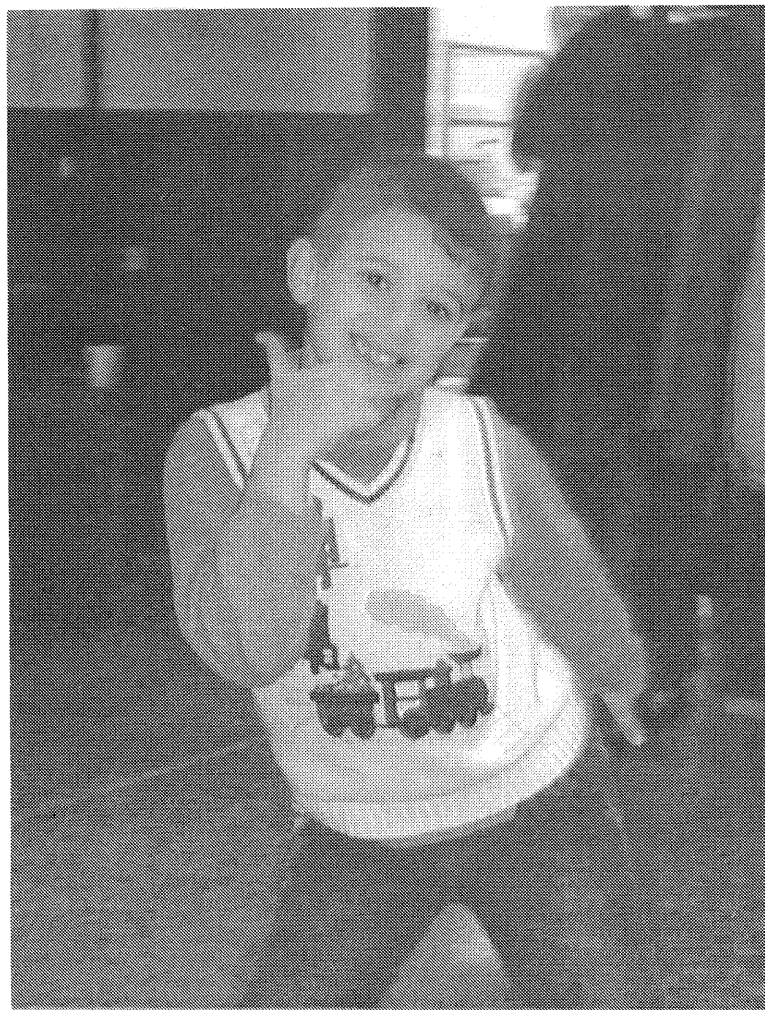
Our Youngstown contingent – Louise Botsko, Helen Botsko and Dottie Poppineau



Our newest member – Debbie Madura and Betty Frye, Judy Banjak and Stephanie Banjak



A Sokol Family – Kayci, grandma Ernestine Matvey, Ciera, mother and lodge Financial Secretary Melissa, and son Blaze Flickinger



Entertaining the crowd is Alexej Banjak.

Approximately 75 Sokol members, friends and family gathered at the Slovak Home on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> for Sokol USA Farrell's (Pa.) annual celebration of the Slovak holiday, Sväty Mikulaš. The date to which all children in Slovakia look forward as the beginning of the Christmas season is actually celebrated on December 6<sup>th</sup>. On that evening of this very special day, known as "Sväty Mikulas" (St. Nicolas), children in Slovakia set out their shoes with the expectation that they will be full of chocolate, candies and other "goodies" when they wake the next morning.

With successful dinners in their recent past, our cooks have been gaining quite a reputation in our area. With a Holubky Dinner and beautiful homemade European tortes as the main fare, the pots were soon empty and everyone in attendance was full and satisfied.

Music was provided for everyone's dancing and listening pleasure by the John Lupinski Orchestra. Our Gymnastic Men's Director, Stephen Banjak, led the singing of both Slovak and English Christmas carols.

As usual, none of the good times and good food would be possible without our excellent cooks, servers and clean up crew. They included Sisters and Brothers Zuska Murcko, Sasha Banjak, Debbie and Sarah Goda, Melissa Flickinger, Dorothy Slezak, Tim and Sherry Brandt, and Stephen Banjak. Thanks to all who worked hard to make this a very successful and fun affair.

**More photos on Page 8**

## The Slovak-American Cultural Center

***Invites you to attend***

# The Slovak Ball

## 19<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Honoring

# Nina Holy

**Secretary-Treasurer  
Slovak League of America**

**Saturday, February 26, 2011  
6 PM Cocktails; 7 PM Dinner  
New York Athletic Club  
180 Central Park South  
New York, New York**

***Music by Express  
Black Tie Preferred***



NEW UNIFORMS!!!  
NEW UNIFORMS!!!

The American Sokol has introduced new uniforms. These will be the uniforms we will perform in at Sokolfest XXVI. Below are the descriptions and prices.

Uniforms can only be ordered in groups; individuals cannot place an order. Each lodge must register a uniform administrator with Juanita LoGiudice, Secretary for the American Sokol Board of Instructors, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

For inactive lodges, National Assistant Amy Pracko has agreed be the uniform administrator. Individuals who need to place an order will have an opportunity to do so after the New Year. Amy will place the first order in mid-February for the March 1 deadline. Uniforms will be received approximately three weeks later. There will be an additional shipping fee since the order must be sent to a central location (Amy's home) and then re-shipped to the individuals who ordered them. We encourage everyone to order in February. There will only be two opportunities to order before Sokolfest XXVI.

Descriptions

Tots: Blue Shirt, Red Shorts  
Children: Red Shirt, Blue Shorts  
Juniors: White Shirt, Blue Shorts  
Adults: White Polo Shirt, option of Blue Shorts or Blue Pants

**SHIRTS:** The Tots, Children and Junior Shirts will feature the word "Sokol" across the chest. The Adult Polo Shirt (men's cut and women's cut available) will feature the word "Sokol" embroidered on the upper left chest and the Sokol emblem embroidered on the right sleeve.



**SHORTS/PANTS:** The shorts will feature the word "Sokol" at the hemline on the front right leg. The pants will feature the word "Sokol" below the pocket on the front right leg.

**FOOTWEAR:** White socks and white gym shoes. Not available for purchase. Each participant needs to purchase on their own. Note: Competition white slippers are available from the National Office until stock runs out.

Prices

Prices are excluding Tax and Shipping\*

<b>TOTS T-SHIRT</b> (Blue crew neck, large white Sokol swish)	
Youth Sizes: XS(2/4), S(6/8), M (10), L (12).....	\$7.00
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, XL.....	\$9.00
Adult Sizes: 2XL.....	\$10.50
<b>TOTS SHORT</b> (Red shorts)	
Toddler Sizes: (rabbit skins) 2T, 4T, 6T, .....	\$ 8.00
Youth Sizes: (badger) S(6/8), M (10), L (12), XL (14/16)....	\$11.00
<b>BOYS &amp; GIRLS T-SHIRT</b> (Red crew neck, large white Sokol swish)	
Youth Sizes: S, M, L .....	\$12.00
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, .....	\$12.00
<b>BOYS &amp; GIRLS SHORT</b> (Blue shorts)	
Youth Sizes, YS, YM, YL, AXS, AS, AM, AL.....	\$13.00
<b>JUNIORS T-SHIRT</b> (White Crew, large white Sokol swish)	
Youth Sizes: L .....	\$12.00
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, XL.....	\$12.00
Adult Sizes: 2XL.....	\$13.50
<b>JUNIORS SHORT</b> (Blue Shorts)	
Youth Sizes: L .....	\$13.00
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, XL. ....	\$13.00
Adult Sizes: 2XL.....	\$14.50
<b>WOMEN'S SHIRT</b> (White Golf Shirt)	
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, XL.....	\$31.00
Adult Sizes: 2XL.....	\$32.50
Adult Sizes: 3XL.....	\$33.00
<b>WOMEN'S SHORT</b> (Blue)	
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, XL.....	\$14.00
Adult Sizes: 2XL.....	\$15.50
Adult Sizes: 3XL.....	\$16.00
<b>WOMEN'S LONG PANTS</b> (Blue)	
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, XL.....	\$28.00
Adult Sizes: 2XL.....	\$29.50
Adult Sizes: 3XL.....	\$30.00
<b>MEN'S SHIRT</b> (White Golf Shirt)	
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, XL.....	\$31.00
Adult Sizes: 2XL.....	\$32.50
Adult Sizes: 3XL.....	\$33.00
<b>MEN'S SHORT</b> (Blue)	
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, XL.....	\$14.00
Adult Sizes: 2XL.....	\$15.50
Adult Sizes: 3XL.....	\$16.00
<b>MEN'S LONG PANTS</b> (Blue)	
Adult Sizes: S, M, L, XL.....	\$28.00
Adult Sizes: 2XL.....	\$29.50
Adult Sizes: 3XL.....	\$30.00

“Operation Purple”

Donations and Matching Funds  
For  
National Military Family Association

Sokol USA Lodge 114, Tarrytown, N.Y.	\$200.00
Sokol USA Lodge 306, Chicago, Ill.	\$100.00
Sokol USA Lodge 39/40W, Berwyn, Ill.	\$100.00
Milan S. Kovac, Supreme Secretary	\$25.00
November Donation Total	\$425.00
S.G.U. SOKOL U.S.A Matching Funds	\$425.00
GRAND TOTAL (November)	\$850.00

Donations received in December 2010

Sokol USA Lodge 26, Guttenburg, NJ	\$50.00
Sokol USA Lodge 273, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	\$200.00
Sokol USA Lodge 2, Bridgeport, Conn.	\$50.00
Sokol USA Lodge 7, Byram, Conn.	\$100.00
December Donation Total	\$400.00
S.G.U. SOKOL U.S.A. Matching Funds	\$400.00
GRAND TOTAL (December)	\$800.00

The total support given to the NMFA  
by Lodges and matching funds  
of the Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol  
of the U.S.A amount to **\$1,650.00.**

We thank all donors for their generous contribution  
and remind everyone that it's not too late to contribute.  
Remember our men and women who serve our nation.

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).

The 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 would match, dollar for dollar, all donations by lodges and members to this cause. As of December 24, 2010, the below noted donations were received at Headquarters and have been forwarded to the National Military Family Organization with our Society's matching funds. We encourage every lodge to make a donation to the National Military Family Association.

Please send your donations to:

National Military Family  
Association  
2500 North Van Dorn  
Suite 102  
Alexandria, VA 22302-1601



Dear Sokol Members and Friends:

In June 2011, the global Sokol community will gather to participate in Sokolfest XXVI. This event sponsored by Sokol USA will be held in Independence, OH, a well-maintained suburban city, just south of downtown Cleveland.

It will be an exciting time for all Sokol members as we engage in various activities, visit with our Sokol friends and perform our Slet program. As in the past, the top achievers in various competitions will be presented with awards, specifically designed for Sokolfest 2011. I'm sure many of those reading this have sought after and even received these treasured rewards in the past.

Your assistance is requested to help make the Sokolfest 2011 awards as special as the efforts they represent. Awards may be financially sponsored for individual places & team competitions in gymnastics and for the tournaments - volleyball, golf, bowling and basketball. We gratefully accept contributions of any amount, but for contributions of \$100 or more, your name or organization's name will appear on the award as the sponsor. Please let us know if you have a particular award that you would like to sponsor. We will honor requests on a "first come first served" basis.

Checks should be made payable to: Sokol U.S.A. Slet 2011. Please send contributions to:

Awards Fund  
Judy Smith  
68 Orchard Place  
Maywood, NJ 07607

Thank you very much for your sponsorship. It is truly the support of the Sokol community that allows our Sokolfests to be so successful.

Nazdar!  
Judy Smith  
Sokolfest XXVI Treasurer

# From the President's View

A Happy New Year to all! The holidays and their attendant festivities came and provided everyone with much needed cheer at this cold and snowy time. It is my hope that all of our readers had a pleasant and enjoyable Holiday Season.

Often in conjunction with the end of the old year and the start of the new, people make New Year's resolutions. Many will resolve to take off some of the pounds put on by the rich holiday food and the sedentary winter lifestyle. Others will resolve to be more punctual or more efficient. Still others will make resolutions to smile and be nice to grumpy co-workers.

So it is with Sokol. At this time of year, we can all make a resolution to either enroll in or do better in the Healthy Heart Walking Club and take off some of the baggage that all the Christmas delights put on our waistlines.

Additionally, while many of our Lodges engage in service projects or do projects for community betterment around the time of the holidays, it is also possible to resolve to make an effort to do more fraternal events and efforts in the New Year. Many Lodges which are inactive could make a resolution to meet in the New Year. The same holds true for Districts which are either inactive or engage in very little activity. It is possible to do projects or to hold events which bring their members together.

It is the coming together, the meeting with other Sokol members, and the sharing of fraternalism that are important to keeping Sokol USA vibrant, alive and relevant in the future. I encourage all Lodges and Districts not only to meet, and perhaps meet more frequently in the New Year, but also to engage in activities that their members will enjoy and which may benefit the community.

The Supreme Lodge held its customary December Conference Call Meeting. The Succession Planning Committee made great progress since the October Supreme Lodge meeting. Brother Burkhardt is in the process of obtaining an Insurance Producers License so that there will always be two members of the Supreme Lodge with this license, which is necessary in order to provide insurance services at all times to our members.

The Succession Planning Committee also discussed the establishment of guidelines for investment policy and for real estate management in an interim period should the Supreme Secretary's position become unexpectedly vacant.

The Futures Committee has begun to explore more deeply very important issues. Among these issues are that a large



Joseph Bielecki

percentage of our membership is over age 60 and that in an ideal world there should be an equal amount of new insurance sold to replace the amount paid out on death claims and cash surrenders. The Futures Committees members were tasked with going to District Meetings and discussing these issues directly with the District representatives in order to find out how our membership views these issues.

I personally attended the MCT District Meeting at the end of October. There was a very interesting and productive discussion with the District representatives in attendance at that meeting. They understood that our Sokol membership is based on the purchase of an insurance contract and that new members must be continually added in order for Sokol's future to continue to be secure.

Sokol USA does many wonderful things. It has a great sports program. It provides ample opportunities for community service and fraternalism, and it also provides a way to meet new people and develop new friendships by coming together at Lodges and at our Sokolfests. It also offers security to its members via its insurance and annuity products.

I encourage you all to make doing something for Sokol USA one of your New Year's resolutions. Some of you can join the Healthy Heart Walking Club. Others can volunteer to help at the 2011 Sokolfest. Others can come and participate in the Sokolfest in Cleveland. Most importantly, our Lodges can meet more frequently and we can all help to enlarge Sokol by bringing in new members so that they too can share the benefits of fraternalism and of Sokol!

NAZDAR!

Joe Bielecki  
President

## SOKOLFEST SURVEY

In order to better prepare for Sokolfest XXVI we are asking all lodges to fill out and return a Sokolfest survey. The survey is available on the Sokol USA web site at [www.sokolusa.org](http://www.sokolusa.org). Individuals not affiliated with an active lodge, but who plan to attend Sokolfest XXVI are also encouraged to complete a survey. All surveys are due by Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. They can be sent to Eric Skovronek at P.O. Box 11, Mt. Tabor, NJ 07878 or e-mailed to [eskov@optonline.net](mailto:eskov@optonline.net).

We look forward to your participation in Sokolfest XXVI. Nazdar!



Looking for a fun way to burn off calories?

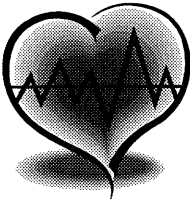
Announcing Sokol USA's

## 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!

## 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

#### \$3,000 Policy

Newborns:	\$213 for males
	\$180 for females
Age 5:	\$252 for males
	\$213 for females
Age 18:	\$399 for males
	\$342 for females
Age 21:	\$432 for males
	\$372 for females
Age 30:	\$567 for males
	\$504 for females
Age 40:	\$792 for males
	\$705 for females
Age 65:	\$1,695 for males
	\$1,512 for females

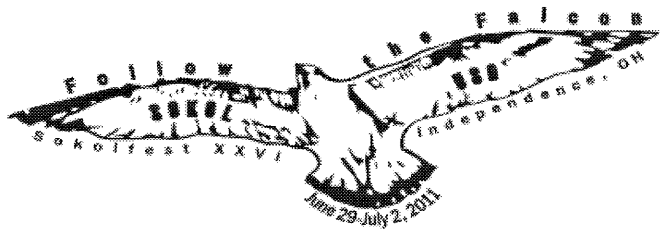
#### \$5,000 Policy

Newborns:	\$355 for males
	\$300 for females
Age 5:	\$420 for males
	\$355 for females
Age 18:	\$665 for males
	\$570 for females
Age 21:	\$720 for males
	\$620 for females
Age 30:	\$945 for males
	\$840 for females
Age 40:	\$1,320 for males
	\$1,175 for females
Age 65:	\$2,825 for males
	\$2,520 for females

#### \$10,000 Policy

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)**



**Attention Districts, Lodges and Members**  
**Here's your opportunity to help make Sokolfest XXVI a huge success!**

*Follow the Falcon* and support Sokolfest XXVI by sponsoring one or more of the events planned for June 29-July 2 in Independence, (South Cleveland) Ohio.

**SPONSORSHIP LEVELS**

**Platinum - \$5,000**

- Sponsor the Slet Performance
- Sponsor the Program Book
- Sponsor the Gymnastics Competitions
- Sponsor the Gymnastics Equipment

**Gold - \$3,000**

- Sponsor the Banquet
- Sponsor the Volleyball Tournament

**Silver - \$1,500**

- Sponsor the Opening Ceremonies
- Sponsor the Fitness Challenge
- Sponsor the Friday Evening Bowling & Billiards Social
- Sponsor the Saturday Afternoon Barbeque
- Sponsor the Saturday Celebration Dance
- Sponsor the Saturday Finale Cocktail Party

**Bronze - \$750**

- Sponsor the Golf Tournament
- Sponsor the Bowling Tournament
- Sponsor the Basketball Tournament
- Sponsor the Thursday Evening Social

**Red, White & Blue - \$500**

Sponsorship at this level will be combined to help support Sokolfest events

**Awards Sponsors**

Donations of all monetary levels are requested to help subsidize competition awards

**All Sponsorship will be acknowledged in the Sokol Times, the Slet Program Book, and at the sponsored event with signage and verbal recognition.**

For more information contact Chris Yatchyshyn, Director of Women  
Day: 215-949-4073 Evening 215-943-1258 e-mail: cyatch@verizon.net

**Nazdar!**

# Sokolfest XXVI Needs Your Support

Would you, your lodge or district like to help make Sokolfest XXVI a huge success? You can by taking advantage of one of the many sponsorship opportunities. Running a four-day Sokolfest is a large undertaking and a big expense for the organization. While entry fees cover a portion of the expenses, we like to keep the fees reasonable in order to encourage the greatest number of participants. The National Directors would like to keep the fees comparable to our last Sokolfest, but we can only do that with the help of sponsors. For the Pittsburgh Sokofest, we were fortunate to have the financial support of many lodges and districts; we hope we can count on that support again in 2011.

There are many opportunities – from sponsoring the competitions and tournaments to sponsoring social events or the Saturday Slet performance. Everything we do has a cost associated with it. There are rental fees for the venues, the gymnastics and sports equipment and the sound system for the Slet. There are fees for gymnastics, volleyball and basketball officials. There are awards to be purchased, fees for food at the various socials, and fees for entertainment and DJs. Your financial donation toward any one of these items would be greatly appreciated.

So, *Follow the Falcon* and support Sokolfest XXVI by sponsoring one or more of the events planned for June 29 to July 2 in Independence, (South Cleveland) Ohio. All sponsorships will be acknowledged in the *Sokol Times*, the Sokolfest Program Book and at the sponsored event with signage and verbal recognition. Refer to the Sponsorship Flier to see how you, your lodge or district can become a Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze or Red, White and Blue Sponsor. For more information, contact Chris Yatchyshyn, Director of Women, at 215-949-4073 during the day, 215-943-1258 in the evening or by email at cyatch@verizon.net.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT BOONTON SOKOL

**Jan 14 – Slovak Dinner**  
**Seatings at 4:00 and 6:30 PM**  
**Adults \$10, Children \$5**

Stuffed cabbage, home-made pierogies, chicken paprikas, kielbasa and kraut, salad, rolls, dessert, coffee and tea. Take-out available. Reservations required. Snow date: Jan 15. For reservations, orders or information, call 973-361-5325. Don't forget to bring a dessert. Junior girls – be here at 3:30 p.m.

**Feb 6 – Super Bowl Pancake Breakfast and Clothing Drive**  
**8:30 AM to 12:00 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 11 – Fish & Chips Dinner**  
**4:30-7:00 PM**  
**Adults \$10, Children \$7**

Featuring batter fried fish or chicken tenders, fries, coleslaw, hush puppies, coffee, tea and dessert. Take-out available. Snow date: March 12. For reservations or information, call 973-263-9831. Don't forget to bring a dessert. Junior girls – be here at 4 p.m.

**April 2**  
**District Competition**  
**Girls 12 noon to 4 PM at Boonton Sokol Hall**

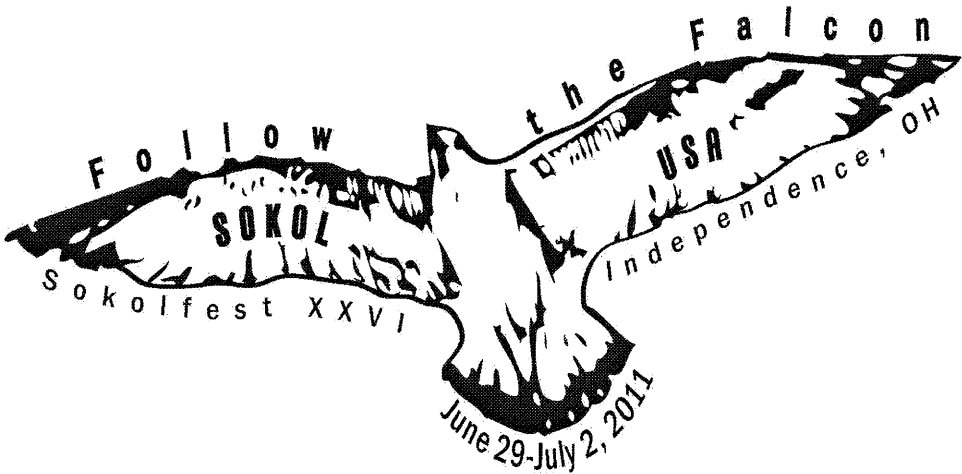
**Spring Time Food Drive and Pierogi Sale**

**Murder Mystery Event**

**April 30 – United Sokols of the East Competition**

**JUNIORS**

**Jan 29 – US of E Bowling Tournament**  
**6 PM at Boonton Bowl**



## Sokolfest XXVI Schedule of Events

Wednesday, June 29

- Basketball Tournament - Indy Fieldhouse – 2:00 PM
- Opening Ceremonies - Independence H. S. Gymnasium – 7:00 PM

Thursday, June 30

- Gymnastics Competitions - Independence H. S. Gymnasium - *all day*
- Fitness Challenge - Indy Fieldhouse - *all day*
- Golf Tournament - Sleepy Hollow Golf Course – 1:00 PM
- Dinner, Youth Social, Dancing - Sokol Greater Cleveland – *evening*

Friday, July 1

- Men's & Women's Volleyball Tournament - Indy Fieldhouse - *all day*
- Fitness Challenge - Indy Fieldhouse - *all day*
- Bowling Tournament - Cloverleaf Bowling Center - *morning*
- Banquet - Holiday Inn - *evening*
- Bowling & Billiards Social - Cloverleaf Bowling Center - *evening*
- Fireworks - Independence Civic Center Complex – 9:00 PM

Saturday, July 2

- Slet Rehearsals - Independence High School Field - *morning*
- Field Challenges - Independence High School Field – *morning, early afternoon*
- Slet Performance - Independence High School Field - 4:00 PM
- Celebration Dance - Holiday Inn – 8:00 PM
- Finale Cocktail Party - Holiday Inn – 8:00 PM



**In Memory of  
Brother Leo  
Tibensky  
1917-2010**

A dearly loved and respected member of Berwyn Lodge 39-40, Brother Leo Tibensky was called to his eternal rest on November 3, 2010. Brother Leo was born Leo Tolstoy Tibensky on July 24, 1917, to Victor and Agnes Tibensky. Both Victor and Agnes were long-time, devoted Sokol workers in what were then Chicago Lodges 39 and 40W. Sister Agnes Tibensky served as both lodge Vice President and later as lodge Treasurer. Brother Victor served as an officer as well.

Into this Sokol family, Leo and his brother were raised, and Sokol was always an important part of Leo's life. Leo was raised to value education and hard work, and after graduating from Morton High School, he went on to graduate from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, and following the war, he married his long-time sweetheart, Mildred, and together they enjoyed 66 years of marriage and raised three children, of whom he was very proud. Brother Leo enjoyed a very successful, life-long career in the insurance industry, representing Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company since April 1948.

Brother Leo had a passion for helping people, and he was very generous with his time and financial resources. Beneficiaries of his generosity were his church, Westchester Community Center, the Boy Scouts, Doctors without Borders, and Sokol USA, particularly Lodge 306. He believed in investing in youth, and he was eager to help the

*Hanson, Vogel marry on Cathedral Rock in Arizona*

The official marriage ceremony of Tara Vogel and Sokol member Aaron Hanson was held on Thursday, June 10, 2010 on Cathedral Rock in Sedona, Ariz. Sokol member and uncle of the groom, Pastor Dave Kruger, married them. A group of 15 friends and relatives climbed Cathedral Rock to witness the ceremony.

Festivities continued on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> in Scottsdale, Ariz., with a formal ceremony and reception at McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Sokol members attending included Aaron's mother and stepfather, Linda and Dennis Beach; sister, Lindsay Hanson; grandmother, Bess Babuska; aunts, Debby Kruger, Barbara Babuska, Ellen Kovac and Kathy Naccarato, and cousin, Matthew Reynolds.

Aaron and Tara Hanson reside in Phoenix, Ariz.

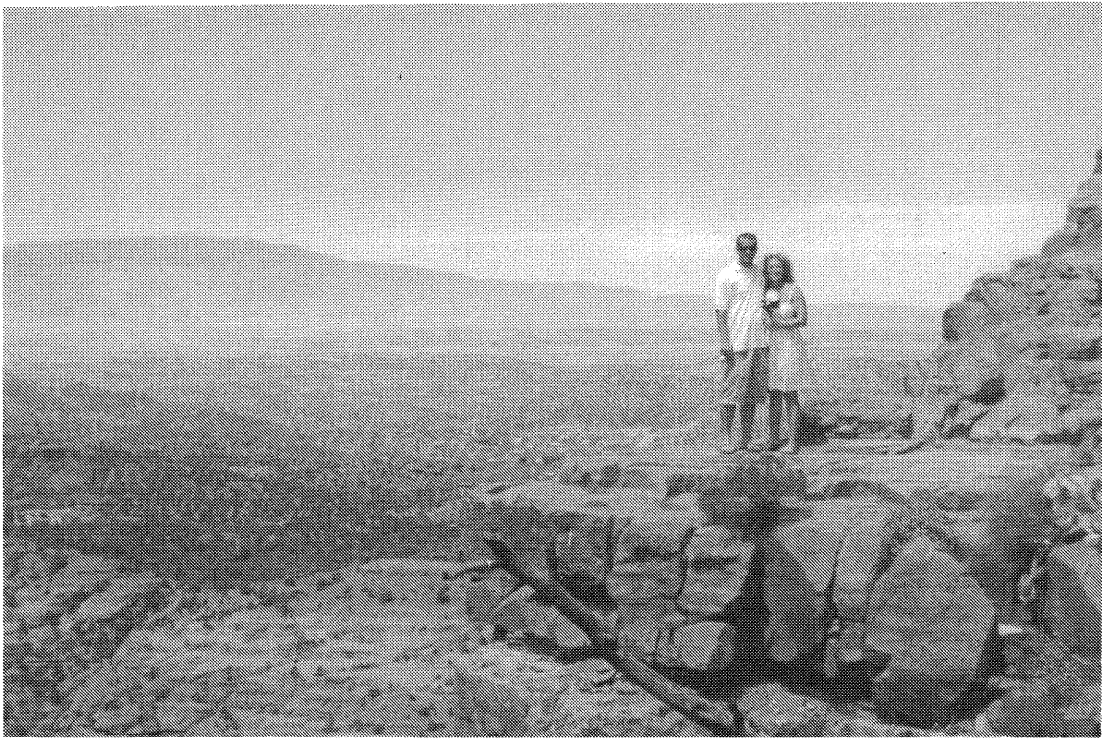
gymnastic program of Lodge 306, since they are the only remaining Sokol lodge with a gymnastic program in the Chicago area.

A service celebrating the life of Brother Tibensky was held on November 27<sup>th</sup> at the Westchester Community Church, with his pastor, the Rev. Joseph E. Mills III, officiating. Sokols from Lodge 39-40 and Lodge 306 were among those paying their respects. It was a very moving tribute to the life of a man who left a wonderful legacy to so many.

To his wife, Millie, his children John (wife Linda), Deborah (husband Jeffrey Rigby), and Corinne (husband Robert Sandberg), and grandchildren Henry, Nicolas, Marissa and Jeffrey, we extend our heartfelt condolences. Brother Leo will be missed by all whose lives he touched.



Tara Vogel and Sokol member Aaron Hanson took their wedding vows on Cathedral Rock in Arizona.



**Sokol USA National Gymnastics Department  
Conference Call Meeting  
Sunday, August 29, 2010 – 7:00 PM**

(Continued from December 2010)

**Bethlehem**

We don't have classes. The gym is rented for various affairs, non Sokol functions. Bethlehem hosted the Nat'l Bowling Tournament this past May. There were approximately 48 participants, from Bethlehem, Boonton, Palmerton, and Bridgeprt. We had 16 participate. The tournament was successful. Next year's tournament will be hosted by Palmerton.

**District M.M. Hodza**

**Co-Directors: Pat Ritz and Brandi Kovac**

Participants in competitions and events are a combination of Boonton and Central Jersey's numbers.

Fundraising was not a priority this year for the District. The District did sell kids-sized tie-string bags, but more for Sokol spirit than a fundraiser.

We work together mostly for the District and United Sokols of the East competition and Bowling tournament. Our District competition was held on March 20<sup>th</sup> at the Boonton Sokol Hall. For the first time in several years, there were male competitors from both Boonton and Central Jersey lodges. The female competition was also larger than it has been in several years. The United Sokols of the East competition was held at Sokol New York on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Also this year the District co-Directors, Pat and Brandi, met to collaborate on a children's cal for the 2011 Cleveland Slet.

**A summary chart of the participants in the active lodges is in a separate attachment.**

**Discussion of Lodge/District Reports**

Since a written report was not submitted by Leechburg, Dallas McClosky, director of DM Gymnastics at Leechburg Sokol Hall, was asked to share how that program was progressing. There are 22 competitive female gymnasts who hold Sokol membership and 60 recreational gymnasts who are not presently members of Sokol. She said the gym is very limited in space, but they are doing the best they can. Two of the Level 4 gymnasts placed first in the state. Dallas will be attending the Directors Conference in October and she is looking forward to meeting everyone.

Dallas also mentioned that a Mommy and Me class is offered. Charity stated that the Monessen Lodge also offers a similar class and other pre-school classes. Boonton, Chicago and Central Jersey all have Tots classes as well. Ellen Kovac stated that she attended her second pre-school workshop offered by USAG presenters; said it was very worthwhile. Chris reminded the group that there are funds for professional development; the directors and instructors should take advantage of them.

Amy and Scott Pracko thanked all the lodges for financially supporting the National Liver Foundation Walk in the Chicago area last October on behalf of their son Matthew. The next walk will be held in May 2011 for lodges interested in supporting Matthew's fundraising team next year. Watch the Sokol Times for more information.

Brandi Kovac congratulated Charity on the increased number of activities and fundraisers described in the Monessen Lodge 47 report. Todd thanked all the directors and instructors for their efforts this past year and encouraged them to keep up the good work. He hopes all the gyms will come to Cleveland for the Slet next June.

**Old Business**

President Joe Bielecki attended the World Sokol Federation Meeting held earlier in the summer. The participants were encouraged to read his comments in the *Sokol Times*. It was noted that the walking club concept was met with enthusiasm at the WSF meeting.

The directors were reminded to review the Code of Conduct annually and to be sure that all new instructors receive a copy,. All lodge officers should also be familiar with the document. Brandi Kovac suggested that a copy of the Code of Conduct be sent from headquarters to the directors of active lodges at the beginning of each new program year as a reminder and to emphasize the importance of the code. Chris will also request an electronic file of the latest version of the Code of Conduct from headquarters.

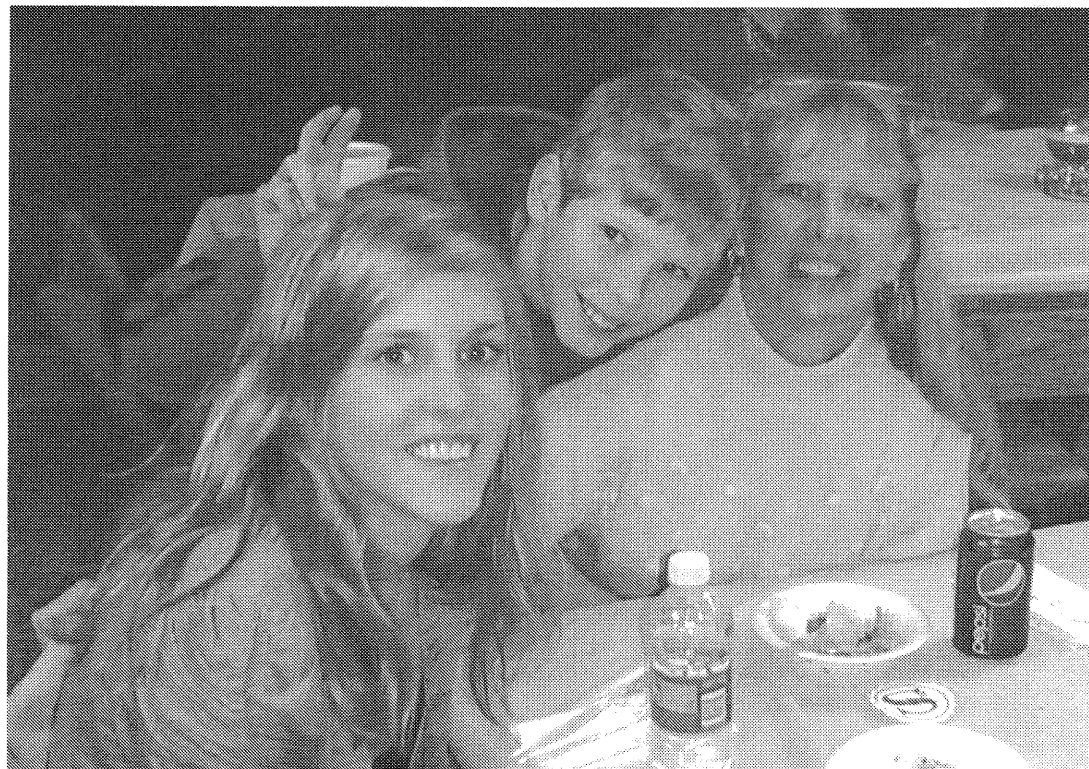
It was noted that a training session was held over the Christmas vacation at Boonton lodge, led by Ellen and Brandi Kovac with assistance from the Boonton instructors, for the gymnasts of Boonton and Central Jersey. All lodges were encouraged to hold training sessions. In order to maximize the use 2009-2010 funds, the registration fees for the October ASO Development Conference will be paid with training session funds. At this two-day conference participants will be taught the Slet calisthenics, as well as participate in a wide-variety of sessions that can help them improve their gym programs.

(To be Continued in February 2011)



## Mikulas Holiday

(From Page 3)



A Sokol Family – Carrie Blair and daughter and son, Marissa and Anthony Gibson

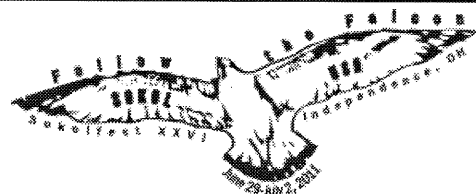


In the kitchen, working hard are Tim Brandt, Sarah Goda and Sasha Banjak.

## 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.



### SOKOLFEST XXVI EVENTS

**Wednesday, June 29**  
Basketball Tournament - Indy Fieldhouse - afternoon  
Opening Ceremonies - Independence H. S. Gymnasium - evening  
**Thursday, June 30**  
Gymnastics Competitions - Independence H. S. Gymnasium - all day  
Fitness Challenge - Indy Fieldhouse - all day  
Golf Tournament - Sleepy Hollow Golf Course - afternoon  
Dinner, Youth Social, Dancing - Sokol Greater Cleveland - evening  
**Friday, July 1**  
Men's & Women's Volleyball Tournament - Indy Fieldhouse - all day  
Fitness Challenge - Indy Fieldhouse - all day  
Bowling Tournament - Cloverleaf Bowling Center - morning  
Banquet - Holiday Inn - evening  
Bowling & Billiards Social - Cloverleaf Bowling Center - evening  
Fireworks - Independence Civic Center Complex - evening  
**Saturday, July 2**  
Slet Rehearsals - Independence High School Field - morning  
Slet Performance - Independence High School Field - 4:00 PM  
Celebration Dance & Finale Cocktail Party - Holiday Inn - evening

### Sokol USA invites you to participate in Sokolfest XXVI

You are cordially invited to "Follow the Falcon," to Sokolfest XXVI in Independence, OH (South Cleveland), Wednesday, June 29 - Saturday, July 2, 2011, sponsored by Sokol USA. Competitions and social events are scheduled for Wednesday through Friday and the outdoor Slet is scheduled for 4:00 PM on Saturday, July 2 at the Independence High School Football Field. The Holiday Inn-Independence, with easy access to the airport and highways, will serve as the Sokolfest XXVI Headquarters. Also featured will be a Sokol history room, a silent auction benefiting the Milan Getting Scholarship and special recognition of Sokol Canada's 100th Anniversary. A *Sokolfest Tour Package* will be available for non-competitors. Take advantage of this all-inclusive package offering a room, entrance to all Sokolfest social events and a day trip to some famous Cleveland attractions. Reconnect with Sokol friends. Make this Sokolfest "reunion" the biggest and best as we "Follow the Falcon" to Independence!

Watch for Sokolfest XXVI updates each month in the *Sokol Times*. Information will also be highlighted on our website at: [www.sokolusa.org](http://www.sokolusa.org)

SOKOL U.S.A.  
276 Prospect Street - P.O. Box 189  
East Orange, NJ 07019-0189  
373-676-0280 or 888-253-0362 Fax: 373-676-3348 [sokolusa@gsa@aol.com](mailto:sokolusa@gsa@aol.com)

## Notice

### ANNUAL MEETING SUPREME LODGE SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL USA

**March 31, April 1, & 2, 2011**

Finance Committee will meet  
**Thursday, March 31 at Headquarters**  
**at 9:30 AM**

**Friday, April 1 at a site to be**  
**determined at 9 AM**

The Supreme Lodge will meet  
**Saturday, April 2 at 9 AM**  
**At The Embassy Suites Hotel**  
**909 Parsippany Blvd, Parsippany, NJ**

*All requests, recommendation and grievances*  
*from Members, Lodges and Districts*  
*Must be received at Headquarters no later than*  
*March 15, 2011.*

Milan S. Kovac  
Supreme Secretary

Joseph S. Bielecki  
Supreme President

### National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library

### Czech and Slovak History and Culture Conference

*"The 20<sup>th</sup> Century in Retrospect:  
1989 to 2011: Transition to  
Democracy"*

**Friday, March 11**  
**and Saturday, March 12, 2011**  
**8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Marriott Hotel & Convention Center**  
**1200 Collins Road NE**  
**Cedar Rapids, IA 52402**  
**Reservations number: 800-396-2153**

**Visit [NCSML.org](http://NCSML.org) for more**  
**information**

## 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.*

**LEO TIBENSKY** – (1917-2010) A member of Lodge 39/40W, Chicago, Ill. He is survived by his wife.

**THERESA SIMMONS** – (1915-2010) A member of Lodge 20, Ford City, Pa. She is survived by her children.

**MARY RISNER** – (1917-2010) A member of Lodge 260, Cleveland, Ohio. She is survived by her son, David.

**JOAN OCENAS** – (1930-2010) A member of Lodge 268, Throop, Pa. She is survived by her husband, Steve.