



PROUDLY SERVING THE ENNIS COMMUNITY SINCE 1908

“The mission of the American Sokol is to provide fitness and community for individuals and families through physical, educational, cultural, and social programs.”

.....
(Missed this from the June issue)

Polka Festival Kick Off

The Czechaholics from Hallettsville kicked off the King and Queen Dance of the 2023 National Polka Festival with a little dancing, followed by the Ennis Beseda Dancers, and the crowning of this year’s royalty.

The Ennis Beseda Dancers are led by our own David and Diane Liska. They had enough for three circles.

The winners of the 2023 King and Queen Polka Dance contest are Rick and Debra Halfmann from Millersview, Texas which is in the San Angelo area. The Halfmanns are familiar sights at various polka dances around the State as well as polka events in Ennis. Runners-Up are Tandi Schlottman and Andrew Brenek.

This year’s Polka Prince and Princess are well known to most Sokol members. Polka Prince Eli Gilbert is the son of Chris and Savannah Gilbert and Grandson of Andy and Sandra Mikula. Polka Princess Audrey Andrade is the daughter of Catelynn Trojacek and Granddaughter of Benny and Laura Trojacek.

Picture Captions:

Picture 1: Queen Debra and King Rick Halfmann with Brian Allen Vanicek, President of SPJST and sponsor of the King & Queen Dance.

Picture 2: Prince Eli Gilbert and Princess Audrey Andrade

Picture 3: The Ennis Beseda Dancers performed at this year’s event.



Grand Opening of Tyrš Swimming Pool June 3rd

The grand opening of the Sokol Ennis Tyrš Swimming Pool took place Saturday, June 3rd, Contact 972-921-1962 or swim@sokolennis.com for more pool information.

The swimming pool was named after Miroslav Tyrš (pronounced like "Teersh"), the founder of the first Sokol in Prague, CZ 1862.

Scenes from the Grand Opening of Tyrš Swimming Pool June 3rd



Door Prize Winners at the Grand Opening of Tyrš Swimming Pool June 3rd
Asha McCoy-Bello & Andy Mikula



GYMNASTICS REPORT

We are starting to register kids for gymnastics. Our Season will begin mid-September 2023.

SWIMMING POOL

We opened are pool May 23, 2023. We offer water aerobics, lap swims, and regular swims. Everyone seems to really enjoy having a pool back in town! Water aerobics will be \$5 a class or you can buy a 7-class punch card for \$30. Contact 972-921-1962 or swim@sokolennis.com for more pool information.

You must be a silver or gold sokol member to access / participate in pool activities, or to rent the pool! We have a few days left in August for pool rentals.

VOLLEYBALL

Adult Volleyball free play is Wednesday 7:30pm until around 10pm. Must be 17 for these teams! A one time \$50 insurance fee per season and adult has to have a gold membership with Sokol and that is \$65 and then every January dues of \$65 are due.

GET FIT WITH SARA REPORT

Sara Jakubik email at Jakubiksara4@gmail.com for more information.

If interested in Registering, New membership to Sokol, and swim passes you can email me at jnoplis80@gmail.com, come to the pool when open or come by the clubroom Monday and Wednesday!

Joanna Wilson, Sokol KHB Ennis Physical Director/Gymnastic Manager/Pool Manager

Local Sokol Units Supported by the American Sokol Organization and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Sokol KHB received 3 internal grants from the American Sokol Foundation this year. We are grateful for all the support that the ASO Endowment Foundation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic has provided our unit and all American Sokol units nationwide as we struggled through these Covid pandemic years. We are implementing these improvements for unit sustainment and unit growth that were partially funded by these grant funds:

- Three Point of Sale (POS) systems that will be used for the Tyrs swimming pool, the bar and kitchen, and in the gym. As our physical programs, pool usage and event rentals grow, POS systems will help expedite sales and admission transactions and improve communication from these to our accounting system.
- Floor Scrubbing Machine to replace our old, non-functioning floor scrubber. This new machine and associated sanitizing products will ensure that our facility floors are properly cleaned for our physical programs after large social events.
- Covid-related cleaning supplies to keep our gym areas, gymnastics equipment, equipment associated with other programs, and restrooms sanitized to comply with required regulations to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and its variants.

Educational Director's Report

Our Special Painting



This 3-1/2-foot X 4 x1/2-foot oil on canvas was painted by artist and Sokol Fort Worth member Henrietta Milan in 1991 and presented to our Sokol KHB Museum as it was being reorganized in the new hall. Everyone who visits our Sokol KHB Ennis library / museum sees the artwork prominently displayed on the back wall facing the entrance. While the image is patriotic and inspiring, few know the significance and symbolism behind the work.

The inspiration for Henrietta's artwork was a circa 1920 postcard commemorating the American Sokols who traveled to Prague, Czechoslovakia for the 1920 All-Sokol Slet (International gathering). This was the 7th International Slet since the founding of the Sokol

organization, but it was the first Slet following the creation of the new nation of Czechoslovakia after World War I. The Slet was attended by more than 500,000 people. Events leading up to the competition lasted three weeks, while the competitions spanned five days. More than 100,000 members actively participated in a parade, competitions and prostna (mass calisthenics).

The central figures, a man and woman in Sokol uniforms of that era, stand before the US flag with the US capital on the right side. They are looking toward a distant image of Prague Castle on the left side, anticipating the trip they were about to take. In her hand, the woman holds a cluster of Linden leaves. The Linden tree is still the national tree of both the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Its heart-shaped leaves have long been a symbol of righteousness, peace, love, prosperity, friendship, and good luck. The man holds the staff of the US flag in his left hand and a sword in the down position in his right, signifying willingness to protect the USA, just as the falcon protects its domain. Filling the sky is a flock of falcons (sokols) flying toward and around the US capitol dome. They represent all the Sokols who had immigrated to America and brought their culture with them.

Na Zdar! Sister Liz Moucka Krajca -- Educational Director, Sokol KHB Ennis

DONATIONS

Sokol Ennis always appreciates donations to our organization, whether they be "In Memory" of a deceased member, or simply because you are able to help continue the Sokol mission. We have different areas, or accounts, where your donation can be applied. Therefore, it would be helpful to let us know in a note accompanying your donation, how you wish us to apply your generosity.

- General Fund (operations, dues support, etc.)
- Building Fund (improvements, maintenance, etc.)
- Scholarship Fund
- Swimming pool
- Gymnastics
- Museum - Education

August, 2023

Monthly Czech Movie & Social September 7th

The next Monthly Czech Movie & Social is Thursday, September 7th in the Clubroom. Doors open 5pm. Accordion music by David Slovak at 6pm. The featured film is "The Cow" ("Kráva") at 7pm.

About the film: A drama about Adam, a young farmer. As a child, fleeing the bleak reality of his mother's life as a prostitute, he tumbled from a mountain and was mentally injured. Years later, his mother is dying, so Adam sells their only cow to pay for medicine. Rosa, a beautiful young maid, fleeing the sexual exploitation of a wealthy butcher, climbs up to join them on their remote farm and dares to become part of Adam's world. A cycle of life begins again, in a remote turn-of-the-century village tied to the land and its animals.

Pizza, chicken strips, corn dogs, French fries, cheese sticks, jalapeno poppers, fried pickles, onion rings, bread pretzels & snacks available for purchase at bar. Non-smoking event (smoking allowed on patio). Czech Movie & Social occurs monthly normally on the first Thursday by the Ellis County Czech Heritage Society. All Sokol members welcome.



There will be no Czech Movie & Social in August.

Monthly Members Meeting August 16th & September 20th

Our next monthly members meeting is Wednesday, Aug. 16th at 7pm in the Dining Room. All members are encouraged to attend. Sokol values your interest & welcomes your involvement in the organization. There are many opportunities for youth & adult members to be involved. Involving the entire family in volunteer activities addresses the benefits of youth volunteering while utilizing the volunteer resource of adults with children. Sokol encourages parents and their children to volunteer together! Members are also encouraged to provide feedback & offer ideas on Sokol's educational, physical, cultural, & social programs & activities. Members Meetings occur every 3rd Wednesday of the month.

CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

2023

- Aug 16 Monthly Members Meeting - Dining Room 7pm
- Sep 7 Czech Heritage Society Social & Czech Movie: "The Cow" 7pm - Clubroom 5pm
- Sep 20 Monthly Members Meeting - Dining Room 7pm
- Oct 18 Monthly Members Meeting - Dining Room 7pm
- Nov 15 Monthly Members Meeting - Dining Room 7pm
- Nov 21 Drawing for Black Friday 50/50 Raffle
- Dec 2 Annual Members Day / Christmas Celebration - Main Hall 10am
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve Dance - Main Hall 8pm (Band TBD)

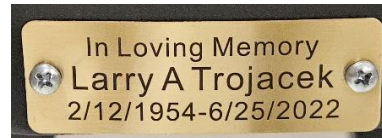
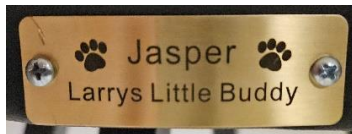
Email any ideas for fundraisers & social events to the Ways & Means Committee at fundraising@sokolennis.com

Join Sokol Ennis Members Group on Facebook to get upcoming event notices & other info

Clubroom Improvement

Sokol has purchased new bar stools for the Clubroom. We are accepting donations and sponsors to help defray the cost of the new stools. Donations can be made "in memory of" or just as a personal name or business sponsor. Small plates are being attached to the stools with the donor's name. It is a \$130 donation to get the plate.

Send checks to Sokol KHB, PO Box 205, Ennis, TX 75120; OR contact Mike Liska at 214-460-9596 for more information.



SOKOL ENNIS **BLACK FRIDAY 50/50 RAFFLE**



\$1.00 PER TICKET

**For Tickets: 972-921-1962 or
fundraising@sokolennis.com
or at Sokol Ennis Swimming Pool**

**Drawing: November 21, 2023
Just in time for Black Friday shopping!
Need not be present to win**

Proceeds benefit swimming, gymnastics & volleyball

Visit sokolennis.com & follow us on Facebook - Sokol Activity Center - 2622 E Hwy 34, Ennis TX

June / July Member Birthdays

MONTH	DATE			MONTH	DATE		
August	2	Newton	Dolores	September	1	Baker	Katey
August	4	Wester	Elizabeth	September	1	Monroy	Rosendo
August	5	McIntosh	Theresa	September	2	Kuehn	Kim
August	5	Pochobradsky	Dena	September	3	Kubin	Christie
August	6	Honza	Patricia	September	3	Zmolik	Rachel
August	7	Kalat	Charles	September	5	Dodson	Paul
August	8	Chapman	Richard	September	5	Mikel	Stanley
August	9	Toepperwein	Tammy	September	6	Mikel	Jeremiah
August	9	Wester	Chad	September	6	Sarmienta	Tiffany
August	10	Betik	Suzie	September	9	Browning	Julia
August	11	Kubin	Bruce	September	9	Frossard	Johnny "Tex"
August	12	Vyers	Lisa	September	9	Marek	Kevin
August	14	Toth	Eric	September	9	Mikula	Sandra
August	15	Cryer	Phillip	September	12	Anderson	Lou
August	15	Gilbert	Savannah	September	12	Barak	Alan
August	15	Knapp	Shirley	September	14	Harris	Keyna
August	17	Green	Sarah	September	15	Barton	Joe
August	18	Morales	Pete	September	16	Hajek	Dennis
August	18	Wiginton	Joe	September	16	Smith	Brandon
August	20	Tabb	Judi	September	16	Valek	Larry
August	21	Campos	Lizeth	September	18	Macalik	Melissa
August	21	Liska	Rhonda	September	18	Patak	J Gayle
August	21	Liska	Tommy	September	19	Martinez	Rachel
August	22	Zapletal	Patricia	September	20	Zhanel	Brian
August	23	Kudrna	Dorothy	September	21	Novak	Danielle
August	23	Phillips	Ronald	September	21	Rejcek	Denise
August	24	Mikuda	Lana	September	21	Slovak	Deborah
August	25	Salazar	Veronica	September	21	Sullivan	Lisa
August	28	Nichols	Elizabeth	September	22	Hamilton	Jay
August	29	Gill	Lorna	September	22	Smith	Tracey
August	31	Hutyra	Matt	September	23	Betik	Deanna
August	31	Pochobradsky	Victor	September	24	Liska	Barbara
				September	24	Turner	Amy
				September	24	Watson	Hannah
				September	28	Robinson	Stacey
				September	28	Trojacek	Kathy
				September	29	Vrla	Libbie
				September	30	Irvin	Rachel
				September	30	Knize	Wesley
				September	30	Perales	Lilia

2023 Sokol Ennis Sponsors - Thank you for your support!

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