



PROUDLY SERVING THE ENNIS COMMUNITY SINCE 1908

Financial Secretary Report by Ray Elleven

I started tracking the decline of Gold Membership since 2014. We grew once in 2017 and that was only a 1% growth. Over the past six years our Gold Membership has dropped 36%

Membership Decline

Year	Total Members	Percent Change
2014	348	NA
2015	317	-9%
2016	288	-9%
2017	291	1%
2018	278	-4%
2019	276	-1%
2020	255	-8%

While we gained 29 new members in 2020, it was enough to make for the 45 that resigned in January and the eight members who passed away.

2020 Membership

Gold Members as of January 1, 2020	279
New Members This Year	29
Members Resigned	-45
Deceased Members	-8
Gold Members	255
Silver Members	3
Bronze Members	50
Total Members as of December 31, 2020	308

2020 Deceased Members

Gregory Navarro, Jeanie Liska, Edwin Bouska, Father Henry Drozd, John Bain, Thomas Larson, Wayne Sylvester, Marie Vrla.

Our TJ Sokol checking account looks healthy but this will change in 2021. American Sokol did decrease their dues for 2020 and waived convention dues because of Covie-19. Likewise, Southern District waived their dues for 2020. Had they not discounted and waived dues, we would have kicked up an additional \$9,000 or more.

**“It’s Hard to Assign Blame or Carry a Grudge,
When You Are In It Together.”**

February, 2021

Dues are OVER Due

It's time to pay your Sokol KHB dues. We sent a dues renewal notice to our member last November and a second notice to 86 Gold Members and 24 Bronze Members on January 9, 2021.

Members who have not paid their dues by February 28, 2021 will be dropped from our membership. If they choose to pay dues after that date, there will be a \$15.00 reinstatement fee that goes to American Sokol.

Members that have children in our gymnastics program will unfortunately be turned away from their next class.

So, if you haven't paid your dues, please do so as soon as possible. You can mail your dues to the Sokol (P.O.Box 205, Ennis, TX 75120), drop off your dues at the hall on Monday evenings, or pay with PayPal.

Treasurer Report By Ray Elleven

I reported on our Gloom and Dome in the August 2020 edition of the Sokol KHB Newsletter. Covid-19 has caused the Club Room to close three times in 2020 hurting our rentals. No Bar. No Rentals. The result is a devastating checking account. It cost us an estimated \$3,600 a month just to be closed!

By August we were shopping for the cheapest plywood to board up the building when we received an anonymous \$50,000 donation! Then a month later, we received an additional \$10,000 from the same donor! We were asked to match the donation and we are trying. We started Monday night dinners and several members have donated cash to the cause. I'm proud to say we've raised a little over \$15,000 towards that goal.

We were getting back on our feet in December when the last shut down occurred. We think this shutdown will continue until April or May.

The Czech Music Festival, normally held in February, has been cancelled for this year and our 10k, normally held in March, has been postponed to an undetermined date. So again, we're looking at spending \$3,600 plus a month to be closed.

Thanks to our anonymous donor, member donations, and Monday night dinners, we are surviving.

February Red Letter Days

February 16, 1862 -- February 14, 1865

Sokol was founded on February 16, 1862 in Prague by Dr. Miroslav Tyrš and Jindrich Fügner. The name Sokol was chosen as it is the Czech word for falcon, a courageous, agile bird, fast and high flying.

Dr. Miroslav Tyrš was a Czech art historian and educator. His poor physical condition in his youth gave him an interest in sports to strengthen himself, and he came to create a system of physical training based on the Greek ideal of “kalokagathia” (in ancient Greece, an ideal physical and moral beauty) applying those principles of harmony of body and mind in this new organization. Hence Sokol’s motto, “A Sound Mind in a Sound Body.” The Sokol Tyrš System offered physical training utilizing gymnastics apparatus and other athletic strength and agility training techniques that required discipline of body and mind.

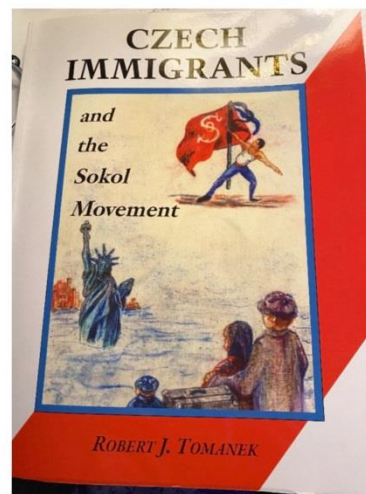
Jindrich Fügner, born in Prague, was a businessman of German ethnic origin, but cast aside the social and economic benefits that his German ethnic heritage would have brought him. Instead, he chose to adopt the growing nationalist movement of the Czechs and combined efforts with Tyrš. His business sense for organization proved important for the new organization. He introduced the members' habit of calling each other brother and sister. Fügner died in 1865, only three years after the founding of Sokol. But the group of outstanding men that he assembled to lead Sokol enabled the young organization to flourish after his death.

The early to mid 1800s was a time in Central Europe when a fervor of nationalism was growing. This desire for an independent state based on ethnicity, separate from the Austro-Hungarian Empire, was strong in the Czech regions of Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia. Sokol members’ patriotism and dedication to the creation of an independent Czech state was evident from the very beginning. Sokol quickly became a Czech nationalist gathering point, attracting thousands of participants. Sokol units made trips in national costumes (Kroj) to national ceremonies, public exercises, etc, to show their patriotism.

Bohemian and Moravian immigrants to the USA brought Sokol with them. On February 14, 1865, the first Sokol in the USA was organized in St. Louis, Missouri. Sokol continues to provide gymnastics training, cultural awareness and family oriented activities. At the close of every gymnastics class, the instructor calls out, “Na Zdar!” which is the Czech word for, “To Success!” The students then answer, “Zdar!” which replies simply, “Success!”

Na Zdar!

Sister Liz Moucka Krajca --- Education Director, Sokol KHB Ennis



A current history of Sokol in America including a list of active and past units in the USA. Robert Tomanek, a lifelong Sokol, has compiled an accurate history based on historical documents from many sources. A must have for every Sokol member and supporter. You will be proud of the history of the Czech immigrants that expanded the Sokol idea of physical fitness in the USA since 1865.

Today we continue to bring these principles of A Sound Mind in a Sound Body as a worthy Goal.

To order from American Sokol:

Checks payable to: AMERICAN SOKOL, 9126 Ogden Av, Brookfield, IL 60513

Please accept my donation in the amount of \$ _____ in support of American Sokol.

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Payment Method (please select): Check or Credit card* Visa MasterCard Discover

Name (on the card): _____

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date ____/____

3 or 4 digit Security Code: _____ Signature: _____

*A 5% fee will be charged for credit card purchases, plus shipping \$4. \$27.05 total

BACK PATIO



We now have part of the back patio covered!!!! This will be a big benefit for those who like to sit outside and enjoy a refreshment, converse, or listen to music. During the winter months, we are now working on heating it somehow. Larry Trojacek has donated a gas heater but may need more if the weather turns really cold. This portable enclosure could not have been possible without the generosity of the donors: Benny & Laura Trojacek, Larry Trojacek, David & Michelle Slovak, Ray Elleven and Thomas & Deanna Betik who covered the whole cost of the project.

A huge THANK YOU goes out to Benny Trojacek and Larry Trojacek for their time and effort for the installation.

SAVE THE POOL

The current pool was built in 1972. There has not been any major renovation done to the pool except for maintenance and in recent years, painting, patching, and replacement of pumps and motors. Sad to say, but the pool is in dire need of repair!!!! We solicited quotes from four reputable pool companies to bid on resurfacing the inside of the pool, repair the coping around the pool, and to replace the underwater lights. As you can imagine, the cost is not cheap. Since COVID, we have not had the cash flow for this kind of renovation project. This project is needing a minimum of \$75,000 in order to restore the pool.

We are soliciting donations, sponsors, ideas for fundraisers, and anyone willing to help with this endeavor. Due to the current condition of the pool and the uncertainty of COVID this year, we are unsure the pool will be able to open this summer. This does provide us with an excellent opportunity to make the necessary renovations if funds are raised within the next couple of months. Please contact any Executive Board member if you are willing to help.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Feb 1	Street Tacos Feast Fundraiser - Dining Room 5pm
Feb 4	Ellis County CHS Social & Czech Movie
Feb 8	Gumbo Feast Fundraiser - Dining Room 5pm
Feb 12-13	Ennis Czech Music Festival (CANCELED)
Feb 15	Burgers & Fries Feast Fundraiser - Dining Room 5pm
Feb 17	Monthly Members Meeting - Dining Room 7pm
Feb 19	Fish Fry Fundraiser - Dining Room 5pm
Feb 26	Fish Fry Fundraiser - Dining Room 5pm
Mar 5	Fish Fry Fundraiser - Dining Room 5pm
Mar 6	\$10K Building Fund Benefit - Hall 6pm-11:30pm (POSTPONED TBD)
Mar 12	Fish Fry Fundraiser - Dining Room 5pm
Mar 17	Monthly Members Meeting - Dining Room 7pm
Apr 23	Steak Dinner Fundraiser - Dining Room 5pm
May 28-30	National Polka Festival
Dec 4	Annual Members Day / Christmas Celebration 10am-5pm
Dec 12	Annual Ellis County Toy Run - Hall 12pm

February, 2021

A BIG SPECIAL THANK YOU!!!!

Sister Georgie Morales has served as our Museum Curator for many years. During her tenure, she has donated many hours in keeping it organized, clean and ready for guests. Georgie is proud of the museum, which holds many artifacts not only about Sokol history but the Czech Culture as well. She would open the museum to special requests or dignitaries and during events like the National Polka Festival, Czech Fest, Mollie B, Sokol Slets, etc. For the health and safety of Georgie, she has decided not to continue in the role of museum curator. Liz Moucka-Krajca will now be taking over these duties. So, a big THANK YOU and much appreciation goes out to Georgie Morales for years of service and the dedication she has shown. She truly exemplifies the Sokol Spirit.

MORE THANKS

We would like to thank the following members for their donation to our Monday night Fundraisers

Food Donations:

Frankie Svehlak	BBQ
Darren & Debbie Slovak	BBQ
Rusty Liska	Hamburgers & Other

Meats:

Mike Liska	Pulled Pork
Mike Liska	Spaghetti
Thomas Bartee	Hamburgers
Tommy Liska	Chili

Misc Contributions:

Randy Owen
Thomas Betik

ADDITIONAL THANK YOU'S

I would like to recognize two people of the community who are not members, but support Sokol KHB.

- The first THANK YOU goes out to Jerold Jenkins for his time and equipment to help us clear the tree line on the West side of the building that the electrical lines were going through.
- The second THANK YOU goes out to Canen Scott with Disingerm INC. He sprayed and disinfected the whole hall after the Ellis County Toy Run.

It is so wonderful that our members reach out to these people to support our organization. Neither of these gentlemen asked for payment or reimbursement of any kind. Both donated their time and resources to assist us. Once again, THANK YOU.

**“TOUGH TIMES DON'T LAST
TOUGH TEAMS DO!”**

February, 2021



LOVES TO Get Fit w/ Sara Jakubik

Mon 2/1 5:00pm	Wed 2/3 6:00pm
Mon 2/8 5:00pm	Wed 2/10 6:00pm
Mon 2/15 5:00pm	Wed 2/17 6:00pm
Mon 2/22 5:00pm	Wed 2/24 6:00pm

TUES & THURS WORKOUTS ON YOUR OWN:

Run 1 mile OR build to it by adding 5 min run to the beginning of your 15 minute walk and add a jog to the end for 5 minutes.

25 jumping jacks, 25 push-ups, 25 crunches, 25 squats. Repeat 3 times.

Do a plank and keep good form and record how long you held it

Punch cards \$35 for 8 classes or \$5 per class

****SOKOL Members ONLY \$30 for punch cards or \$3 per class****

Join our free Remind 101 by texting 81010 and @jaksxumva for more info or
FB GetFit with Sara Jakubik

**Classes led by Sara Jakubik~
instructor for 10 years & SOKOL member**



Gymnastics

American Sokol Organization Ennis, TX
A non-profit membership organization - 501c3

Czech & Slovak Culture

SOKOL KHB ENNIS

SOKOL KHB ENNIS

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5pm to 7:30pm

FEASTS in the DINING ROOM

**FRIDAYS FEB 19, FEB 26,
MAR 5, MAR 12, 2021**

SOKOL ACTIVITY CENTER - 2622 E Hwy 34, Ennis TX
972-875-7959 fundraising@sokolennis.com sokolennis.com

SMOKE FREE EVENT
NO SMOKING PLEASE

Clubroom

Swimming Pool

Facility Rentals

sokolennis.com

Fitness

Museum & Library

Volleyball

Gymnastics

American Sokol Organization Ennis, TX
A non-profit membership organization - 501c3

Czech & Slovak Culture

SUPER BOWL

CHIEFS PARTY

TAMPA BAY
BUCCANEERS

FEB 7, 2021 - 5PM

SOKOL ENNIS DINING ROOM
2622 E Hwy 34, Ennis TX

All Sokol members & guests welcome

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BRING COVERED DISH

DONATIONS WELCOME & APPRECIATED

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Clubroom

Swimming Pool

Facility Rentals

sokolennis.com

Fitness

Museum & Library

Volleyball

February, 2021

Ellis County Czech Heritage Society Czech Movie & Social

Thurs. Feb 4, 2021 in Dining Room (back east entrance)

Sokol Activity Center

2622 E Hwy 34 - Ennis TX

Featured film: **"To the Woods" at 7pm**

Old members, new members, friends and neighbors are all invited to the showing of the 2012 Czech movie:

"To the Woods" ("Cesta do lesa")

The film will be shown in the Dining Room (back entrance) which offers sufficient space for social distancing for all and no smoking.

No cover charge

Doors open 6:30

Clubroom closed



To the Woods is a sequel to Vorel's successful Out of the City (2000). Having abandoned city life long ago, the Marak's live in a quaint cottage on the outskirts of a small rural village. Honza earns a very modest living as a forest laborer, while his wife Marketa works as a masseuse and alternative healer. Anyna, their nymph-like, pubescent daughter, explores the verdant landscape by night, communicating with the stags that still make the endangered woodland their home. It is in these wanderings that Anyina makes the acquaintance of locally born-and-bred forest ranger and hunter, Ludva.

Film in Czech w/ English subtitles.

Questions or comments: Victor Havel 817-714-8323 or Kyle Stuckly 817-925-1673

SOKOL ENNIS \$10K GIVEAWAY

ANNUAL BUILDING FUND BENEFIT

DATE TBD

Sokol Activity Center - 2622 East HWY 34 - Ennis, TX

20 CASH PRIZES!!!

1ST PRIZE - \$10,000 • 2ND PRIZE \$2,500 • 3RD PRIZE \$1,000 • PRIZES 4-7 \$250 • PRIZES 8-20 \$150

\$150 donation - Ticket admits two, includes steak dinner, drinks and dance

LIVE MUSIC!!!

This year's theme – "The Roaring 20's"

Event will not be March 6th. Due to COVID concerns, it has been postponed. Date to be determined. Stay tuned!

972-875-7959

sokolennis.com

fundraising@sokolennis.com

February, 2021

Message from the Membership Committee

Sokol KHB Ennis is continuing its annual membership drive for 2021. All members are needed to help with this endeavor. Please encourage your family, friends, and relatives to join. The membership application can be found on the membership page at sokolennis.com or in the Sokol clubroom. For more information regarding membership, please contact Membership Director David Slovak 214-906-0891 or membership@sokolennis.com.

David Slovák
Membership Director - Sokol KHB Ennis
membership@sokolennis.com
972-875-7959
<https://sokolennis.com/>

PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND RELATIVES TO JOIN.



Consider joining Sokol KHB Ennis for 2021!

Sokol KHB Ennis is entering its 113th year and there have been many changes since the organization was formed back in 1908. Its core foundations have remained solid, however, in that the organization is there to serve its members and to provide them not only with the finest gymnastics, volleyball, swimming, music and dancing facilities in the district but also to act as a professional host to many special social and cultural occasions we put on each year.

It is certainly true that while the sport of gymnastics – the coaching and the competition – is at the heart of what we provide, we are also keen to ensure that the social and cultural element meets the expectations of all our members. With that being an important focus, we always welcome our members' input.

For membership info & application form, visit
sokolennis.com/membership

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**“Either We Are Pulling Together or
We’re Pulling Apart.
There is No In-Between!”**

Kobi Yamada

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Month	Date	Last	First	MI	Suffix	Month	Date	Last	First	MI	Suffix
January	1	Henning Sr	Jackie Don			February	9	Haigler	Jenna		
January	1	Ojeda	Adamaris			February	9	Dvorak	Danny		
January	2	Jakubik	Sara			February	10	Bain	Freida		
January	8	Morales	Cathie			February	12	Liska	Debbie		
January	9	Lane	Rosemarie			February	13	Benton	James W.		
January	9	Dodson	Billy	A.		February	13	Hajek	Kim		
January	11	Martinek	Bernard			February	15	Hamilton	Pamela		
January	11	Reeve	Joyce			February	15	Mokry	Phyllis		
January	12	Piedras-Jimenez	Erik			February	16	Soderquist	Bethany		
January	14	Dlabaj	Leonard			February	18	Matous	Joseph		Sr
January	15	Patak	Charlie			February	20	Anderson	Angie		
January	16	McManus	Janith			February	21	Rowland	Christy		
January	18	Slovak	Gary	M		February	22	Zapletal	Joshua		
January	20	Novy	Theresa			February	24	Kalat	Christine		
January	20	Crow	Greg			February	25	White	Jeramie	D	
January	21	Mitchel	Gary			February	27	Dlabaj	Dolores		
January	22	Guthrie	Stacy								
January	22	Owen	Debbye			March	4	Thomisee	Gregory A.		
January	25	Belew	David			March	7	Boyd	Jonathan		
January	27	Lemmond	Annie			March	8	Zajic	Lewis		
January	28	Cooke	Rosemarie			March	8	Anderson	John		
January	28	Roth	Bernard	L	Jr	March	10	Taylor	Liz		
January	30	Knize	Evelyn			March	12	Sanders	Mark		
February	1	Rayford	Sandra			March	12	Mach	John Wesley		Jr
February	1	Vyers	Nathan			March	13	Gamon	Oscar		
February	3	Svehlak	Frankie			March	15	Kalat	Janet		
February	4	Rogala	Martin			March	15	Cruz	Emily		
February	5	Macon	Chris			March	17	Kasowski	Elaine		
February	5	Sylvester	Wayne		Jr	March	18	Mokry	Benjamin		
February	6	Corey	Harold			March	20	Trojacek	Jessica		
February	6	Keeton	Calvin			March	21	Hamilton	Bernice		
February	8	Walker	Charles			March	25	Slovak	John	J.	
February	8	Vavra	Hannah			March	26	Pleiner	Ned		
February	8	Moctezuma	Nidia			March	28	Slovak	Josef	F	
February	9	Zhanel	Kacie			March	31	Bohanon	Stacey		

**“THE ABILITY FOR A GROUP OF PEOPLE
TO DO REMARKABLE THINGS
HINGES ON HOW WELL
THOSE PEOPLE CAN PULL TOGETHER AS A TEAM.”**

SIMON SINEK

2021 Sokol KHB Sponsors - Thank you for your support!

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Ann Barnes
Owner/Accounts Payable

February, 2021



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.”

Donations and news worthy items to support the Sokol KHB Newsletter should be sent to Sokol KHB Newsletter, P.O. Box 205, Ennis, TX 75120

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