



**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.”**



**It’s Just Around the Corner**

In about 70 days, representatives of all American Sokol units will be converging on Ennis, Texas by airplane and automobile to participate in the American Sokol’s quadrennial National Convention. The Convention is the supreme governing body of the organization and is responsible for charting the organization’s future for the next 4 years -- national officers are elected, a financial budget is established, bylaws are revised as needed, and the direction of the organization moving forward is established.

Given the current COVID situation, the Executive Board has put convention COVID protocols and masking policies in place to provide as safe an environment as possible for attending delegates. Social distancing is also a consideration. The officers and members of Sokol Karel Havlicek Borovsky (KHB) are working hard to prepare and welcome the delegates with some real Texas hospitality. Their best meal planners and cooks are ready to provide superb meal service. There are many volunteer opportunities available. Contact KHB leadership.

Pre-convention committees have also already been at work. These committees have met virtually, made plans for the next 4 years, and provided their financial needs to the Convention Budget & Finance Committee, which has crunched the numbers and compiled a preliminary budget. This preliminary budget proposal has been distributed to all unit presidents and convention delegates for review and additional input.

The Convention Bylaws Committee has worked through all the suggested revisions and prepared a preliminary set of Bylaws with recommended changes. This preliminary set of recommended, revised bylaws with rationale has also been distributed to all unit presidents and convention delegates. If you are interested in either the Budget Proposal or the revised Bylaws, contact your unit delegate(s) – Thomas Betik and Laura Trojacek - and make your thoughts known.

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**“The heart is like a garden. It can grow compassion or fear, resentment or love. What seeds will you plant there?” — Jack Kornfield**

## Educational Director's Report Two Czech Easter Traditions

Easter in the Czech Republic is a fun time. One of the traditions that the Czechs brought with them to the USA are the ornately decorated eggs – *kraslice*. Painting and decorating eggs for Easter is a worldwide tradition, but the Slavs take it to a whole other level. Their intricate designs used to decorate eggs have made Czech *kraslice* famous around the world.



Decorated eggs (*kraslice*) are one of the best-known and most widely practiced Czech Easter traditions. Girls typically decorate the eggs to be hung in windows, put in baskets or given to the boys who whip them on Easter Monday. (*That's another tradition. See below.*)

There are many Easter egg decorating techniques and the more elaborate ones require a certain level of skill. Different materials can be used, such as bee's wax, straw, watercolors, onion peels, picture stickers. The most common designs are geometrical patterns, but you can also see flowers, leaves or snowflake patterns in a whole range of colors. There are no limitations to creating pretty, colorful eggs. A nationwide Easter egg contest is held in Prague and other Czech cities around Easter time.

In the past, Sokol has had *kraslice* classes here in Ennis and at Sokol Dallas. Hopefully, we will be able to start those again next year.



*About the whips:* Boys make an Easter whip (*pomlázka*) by braiding young pussy willow twigs together and tying colorful ribbons on the end. They go carolling around town on Easter Monday, looking to (softly) whip girls on their backsides. This gesture is a “blessing” for fertility. Then the girl gives the boy a decorated egg in thanks. Getting whipped is a sign of popularity, like seeing who gets the most Valentine cards. The whipping is supposed to be a “love pat,” not an audition for the home run hall of fame, although some young boys get carried away with their swing. Now-a-days, very “interesting” *pomlázky* can be purchased, and make a good souvenir. This tradition didn't catch on well here in the USA.

**Happy Easter! - Veselé Velikonoce!**

**Na Zdar!**

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

## GYMNASTICS / VOLLEYBALL REPORT

### GYMNASTICS / VOLLEYBALL REPORT

- We are doing a Lawn, Tool, and Garden Raffle, 8 Prizes, \$25 a ticket or 5 for \$100 to raise money for the gymnastic program. Started in October!
- We are getting ready for Slet.
- We have also started a quilt raffle for \$1 a ticket.
- We added a new coach, April Dvorak, to the tots and novice classes.

### VOLLEYBALL REPORT

- We have a coed youth volleyball free play night on Wednesday at 630 to 730.
- Per Participant will pay \$25 quarterly months. Jan-March, Apr-June, July- Sept, Oct-Dec!
- Parent has to be a gold member.
- Adult Volleyball free play is Wednesday 730 till around 10. Must be 17 for these teams! A one time \$15 insurance fee per season and adult has to have a gold membership with Sokol and that is \$65 and then every January dues are do of \$65

### GET FIT WITH SARA REPORT

Sara Jakubik still has open spaces.

If interested in Registering, New membership to Sokol, and Raffle tickets you can email Joanna at [jnoplis80@gmail.com](mailto:jnoplis80@gmail.com), come to the gym Monday 5pm to 830pm , Wednesday 5 to 7, and Thursday 5 to 630...or come by the clubroom Monday and Wednesday!

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April, 2022

## NCAA Championship Watch Party - April 4

Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> we are having a get-together to watch the NCAA Basketball Championship Game. Doors open at 5pm. Game time at 8pm.

## Czech Movie & Social - April 7

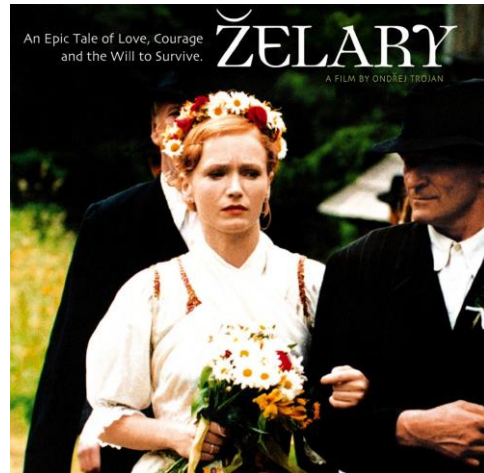
Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> will be the monthly Czech Movie & Social in the Clubroom. Doors open at 5pm. Accordion music by David Slovak 6pm. Featured film "Želary" 7pm. No Cover Charge.

Film is in Czech w/ English subtitles, and is about two lovers, a nurse named Eliska (Anna Geislerová) and a surgeon, Richard (Ivan Trojan) that join the resistance in Czechoslovakia during World War II. When they are discovered, the couple must separate and hide. Joza (György Cserhalmi), one of Eliska's patients, agrees to take her to an isolated cabin in the small mountain village of Želary until she can reunite with Richard. But Eliska and Joza end up living together for two years and take on the persona of husband and wife.

No smoking event (allowed on Patio).

Bar will be open. Pizza, chicken strips, corn dogs, French fries, cheese sticks, jalapeno poppers, fried pickles, onion rings & snacks also available at bar.

The next Czech Movie & Social will be May 5<sup>th</sup>. Check sokolennis.com and your email for details later.



## Monthly Members Meetings – April 20 & May 18

Our upcoming Monthly Members Meetings will be Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> & May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Dining Room. All members encouraged to attend & provide feedback & offer ideas on Sokol's educational, physical, cultural, & social programs & activities. Clubroom will also be open at 5pm.

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!

## Česká Beseda Lessons – May 2, 9, 16 & 23

Česká Beseda lessons (Czech folk dance) will take place Mondays, May 2, 9, 16 & 23, 7pm to 8:30pm in the Dining Room. Ages 10 and up at this time beginners or just to refresh your memory. The group will perform downtown Ennis on Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> for the National Polka Festival after the parade.

We think it is important to preserve our Czech heritage and we hope you agree. Call or text with any questions or to express interest: David Liska 972-268-0509, Diane Liska 214-205-7610 or [dldoherty30@hotmail.com](mailto:dldoherty30@hotmail.com).

## National Polka Festival – May 27-29

Friday Opening Night will be at the Sokol Activity Center. Doors open 5pm. Music by the Ennis Czech Boys and Pardubická Muzika (Czech Republic) 6pm-11pm. King & Queen Dance Contest at 9pm.

Saturday at Sokol the doors open 11am. Music by Praha Brothers 11:30am-3pm and Jodie Mikula Orch. 4pm-7pm. The Country Concert will be 9pm-12:30am.

Sunday at Sokol begins with the KBEC Polka Party live broadcast featuring Leo Lonnie Orch. (Nebraska) 10am-12pm. Music to follow by Mark Halata & Texavia 1:30pm-4:30pm.

Volunteers will be needed to work the kitchen, front door & other areas. Call 972-875-7959 or email [facilities@sokolennis.com](mailto:facilities@sokolennis.com) if you can help. Thank you in advance.

For more info about the fest visit [www.nationalpolkafestival.com](http://www.nationalpolkafestival.com).

## 10K was a lot of fun!

Staff Writer

The theme this year's 10K Fund Raiser was *The Roaring 20s* and about 700 Sokol members and friends came out to ROAR! Your \$150 ticket included an opportunity to win one of 20 cash prizes from \$150 to \$10,000 and dinner for two which was a New York steak prepared by Mike Liska, Rusty Liska and a few helpers then cooked by Benny Trojacek and his crew. Of course, no steak would be complete without a baked potato, salad, and dessert. Thank you, Form Meats, for the good deal on the steaks. Suzie Betik did a wonderful job of decorating the hall with black backdrop curtains, table covers, and decorations on all the tables.

The evening kicked off with Brad Ackland entertaining the dinner crowd singing songs by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tony Bennett, and similar artist while he worked the room.

In addition to Brad Ackland, we had three bands for everyone's dancing pleasure. The BarFlies are a six-piece band lead by DJ Don. They played everything from 70s, 80, and 90s pop to recent Red Dirt Country. The PBR Band plays mostly country but they threw in a little pop and blues. Then we had David Slovak and Friends playing polkas and waltzes that everyone enjoyed. David Slovak's friends were Zeke Martinez on guitar, Chris Trojacek, Mike Snapka, and Danny Zapletal on trumpet, David Slovak accordion, John Marek base, and Andy Mikula on Drums. The \$150 raffle ticket include an open bar to help improve everyone's dancing ability.



Brad Ackland impressed Sally Valek with his singing.



Traci Land won the 50/50.

In addition to the \$16,450 Sokol we gave away, we had a 50/50 raffle. For those not familiar with a 50/50, we sell tickets for a dollar each or five for five dollars. A ticket is drawn and the winner splits the pot. This year's winner was Traci Land who walked away with her \$1,727 share of the pot!

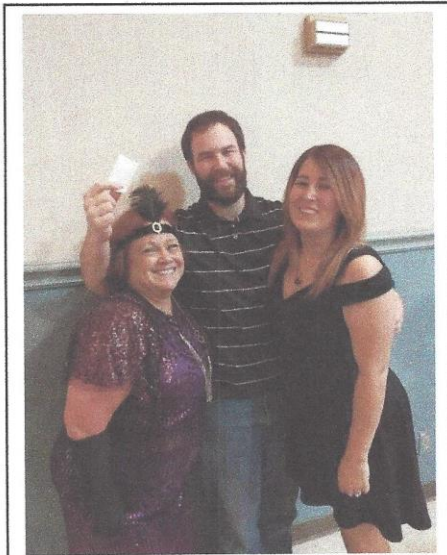
City Real Estate agent Shellie Smiley-York sponsored a playing card raffle and gave away decorated steel fire pit made by Mike

Jaramillo. The way the game is played, you buy a playing card for \$20 and an identical card from a second deck is placed in the hopper. Once all the cards are sold, a card is pulled from the hopper and whoever has the matching card wins. There are two winners thanks to Shellie. Karen Puentes had the matching card and won the firepit. The \$2,040 raised by the raffle was donated to Sokol. As we say in Czech, Děkuji Shellie!



Shellie Smiley-York and Mike Jaramillo strike a pose with Karen Puentes

The 10K raised \$57,250 in ticket sales of which \$16,450 was given back to the winners. We always like to recognize our top sellers of the 10K tickets. Darren Slovak sold the most tickets this year and three of his tickets sold were \$150 winners. While Darren sold the most tickets, JoAnn Wester sold the most winning tickets. She sold the \$1,000 winning ticket to Daniel Valek, a \$250 winning ticket to Ray Monelongo, and two \$150 winning tickets.



Winning Ticket Seller Sandra Mikula with 10K winners Patrick & Megan Snodgrass.

Sandra Mikula only sold three winning tickets but one of those tickets was the 10K winner sold to Patrick Snodgrass. This was an emotional win for his family. Patrick is a fifth generation Sokol member. His parents, Bill & Becky Snodgrass and his Grandmother Bernice Hamilton, are past officers and long time Sokol volunteers. Patrick's father, Bill, and his Grandmother Bernice, passed away last year.

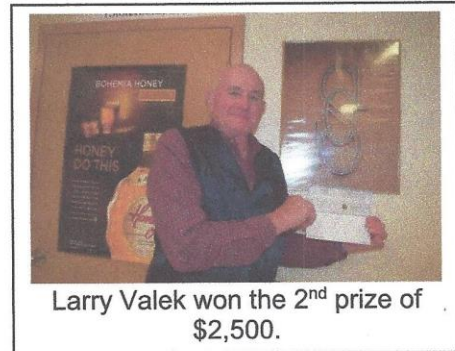
His Great Grandfather, Charlie A. Jurcik, is a past president and his Great Great Grandfather, Alois Jurcik, is not only one of the founders of Sokol KHB but our first President when the hall was chartered in 1908. Sokol KHB is the first Sokol in Texas.

When the kitchen closed we discounted the 40 unsold tickets for \$100 each. For those of you who question why they should buy a ticket when they are already at the event, consider this. The 2020 10K winner was won by a \$100 ticket sold at the door. This year, three \$150 tickets were sold at the door. A list of all the winners are in this news letter.

On behalf of President Thomas Betik and all the officers, a BIG Texas THANK YOU to all the volunteers from ticket sellers, front door keepers, kitchen help, cooks, the bartenders that worked for tips, our two security officers Charles Walker and Nick Flores, and everyone else who chipped in and helped. All of you made this event a success!



Constables Nick Flores and Charles Walker volunteered their time to provide security.



Larry Valek won the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of \$2,500.

If you are on FaceBook, Czech out one of our two pages at *Sokol Ennis* or *Sokol Ennis Gold Members* for a bunch of this year's pictures.

Save the date for next year's 10K – March 3, 2023.

### 2022 10K Winners

Amount	Name	Seller
\$ 10,000.00	Patrick Snodgrass	Sandra Mikula
\$ 2,500.00	Larry T. Valek	Adell Valek
\$ 1,000.00	Daniel Valek	JoAnn Wester
\$ 250.00	Katen Kolar	John Marek Jr
\$ 250.00	Jason Hodgson	Lance Hawkins
\$ 250.00	Ray Monelongo	JoAnn Wester
\$ 250.00	Bruce Burlett	Door
\$ 150.00	Kim Brazier	Sandra Mikula
\$ 150.00	Richard Hornick	Door
\$ 150.00	James Novey	Darren Slovak
\$ 150.00	Andrew Betik	Darren Slovak
\$ 150.00	Scott Pechal	Door
\$ 150.00	Kirby Crow	John Marek Jr
\$ 150.00	Bryon Honza	Rusty Liska
\$ 150.00	Gary Trojacek	Darren Slovak
\$ 150.00	Johnny Slovak	Michelle Slovak
\$ 150.00	Jason Slovak	Sandra Mikula
\$ 150.00	James Valek	Lance Hawkins
\$ 150.00	Bradly Young	JoAnn Wester
\$ 150.00	Shawn Mounts	JoAnn Wester

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### Sokol Ennis Scholarships

The Sokol Ennis scholarship is open to all high school seniors who are current members of Sokol Ennis or has a parent/legal guardian that is a current member of Sokol Ennis. Two - \$250 scholarships will be awarded. Completion of the attached application, essay and Sokol Ennis questionnaire are required to be considered for the scholarship. The scholarship deadline is May 16th with the scholarship recipient to be announced no later than June 1st. All applications should be mailed to Sokol Ennis, PO Box 205, Ennis, Texas 75120, postmarked by the 16th. No late applications will be accepted. Check out an application form at [sokolennis.com/other](http://sokolennis.com/other). Nazdar!

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**“What's done is done; What is gone is gone. One of life's lessons is keep moving. It's OK to look back and think of fond memories, but always keep moving forward. “**

## **CALENDAR – ONGOING ACTIVITY**

**Gymnastics** -- Monday -Thursday 5:30pm  
**Get Fit with Sara Jakubik** -- Mondays 5pm & Wednesdays 6pm  
**Volleyball** -- Wednesdays - Youth 6pm & Adult 7:30pm  
**Clubroom** -- regular business hours are 5pm to 11pm Mondays & Wednesdays  
**Swimming Pool** CLOSED for renovation  
**Museum & Library** -- open for special events and by appointment  
**Membership meetings** -- every 3rd Wednesday of month in Dining Room 7pm

## **CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS**

Apr 4 NCAA Chamopionship Watch Party – Clubroom 5pm  
Apr 7 Czech Heritage Society Social and Czech Movie: Zelary – Clubroom 5pm  
May 2 Czech Beseda (Folk Dance) Lessons – dining Room 7pm  
May 9 Czech Beseda (Folk Dance) Lessons – dining Room 7pm  
May 16 Czech Beseda (Folk Dance) Lessons – dining Room 7pm  
May 23 Czech Beseda (Folk Dance) Lessons – dining Room 7pm  
May 27-29 National Polka Festival – Main Hall  
June 9-12 American Sokol National Convention – Main Hall

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## **10 Quick Driving Tips To Help You Save Money At The Pump!**

1. Drive the speed limit
2. Avoid quick acceleration
3. Use your cruise control on the highway
4. Remove excess weight from your trunk
5. Use your overdrive gears whenever possible
6. Accelerate steadily before approaching hills
7. Leave plenty of time to reach your destination
8. Keep your windows rolled up while on the highway
9. Plan in advance for quickest routes and/or less traffic
10. Turn off your car if you'll be standing still for more than a few minutes





## April / May Member Birthdays

Month	Date	Last	First
April	2	Strunc	Danny
April	3	Snodgrass	Megan
April	8	Petry	Willie
April	1	Wastoskie	Jana
April	11	Slovak	John Paul
April	15	Mullican	Ryan
April	17	Washburn	Rosemary
April	18	Valencia	Dulce
April	21	Kalat	Charles
April	21	Jones	RaeAnne
April	24	Laza	Hilary
April	24	Havel	Victor
April	25	Mikula	Edwin
April	26	Macik	Debbie
April	27	Kapavik	Keith
May	2	Pelzel	Thomas
May	2	Slovak	Daniel
May	2	Wilson	Janice
May	3	Stout	Ellene
May	6	Harvell	Donna
May	10	Reno	Dennis
May	11	Gora	Tammy
May	13	Pruitt	Rowdy
May	13	Spaniel	Milton
May	16	Mullican	Mayfair
May	17	Laney	Heather
May	18	Ege	Carla
May	19	Phillips	Rebecca
May	20	Castillo	Meliton
May	26	Bray	Kaitlyn
May	27	Sylvester	Tina
May	29	Isbell	Maigen
May	31	Macik	James
May	31	White	Ricky
May	31	Smith	Amy

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

2022 Sponsors of Sokol Ennis - Thank you for your support!

**Shellie Smiley-York**  
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