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“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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SPECIAL NOTICE: Due to the increasing cost of postage and duplication, **as of January 1, 2025, Sokol KHB will no longer distribute the bi-monthly Sokol KHB Newsletter via US Mail.** Distribution to the membership will only be via email.

Those members currently receiving the Newsletter via US mail, should submit their email address to the Newsletter Editor, Chuck Kalat ASAP.

NOTE: For those members who do not have or do not wish to share an email address, hard copies will be available for pickup in the clubroom. The Newsletter can also be viewed on the Sokol KHB website at **www.sokolennis.com/newsletter.**

Members who absolutely must have a hardcopy of the Newsletter sent to them via US Mail, should contact Chuck Kalat – KHB Newsletter Editor to discuss special consideration.

We appreciate your understanding,

Chuck Kalat – Sokol KHB Newsletter Editor

EMAIL: ckalat@aol.com -- Please indicate “KHB Newsletter” on the subject line

TEXT: 972-672-9520 PHONE: 972-672-9520

TO DATE – ONLY A FEW OF THE 40+ US MAIL RECIPIENTS HAVE CONTACTED THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR.

Message from the Our President

We have made it another year! Sokol KHB had exciting things happen this year - the installation of our new digital marquee and the remodeling of all our restrooms. We will keep working towards to the revitalization of the whole hall.

I would like to thank all who donated/volunteered this year. Whether it was for an event/fundraiser or maintenance/cleanup, it is truly appreciated.

A big THANK YOU to the executive board. This facility takes a lot of personal time (which is all volunteered) from each of them to keep it running. We're like a big family and truly appreciate all their efforts.

Looking forward to what 2025 has instore for us. Keep watching our website, marquee, and social media pages for all of our upcoming events/fundraisers.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Michelle Slovak
Sokol KHB Ennis President

Sokol KHB Ennis Officers Elected for 2025

- Michelle Slovak - President
- Benny Trojacek – Vice President
- Randy Owen - 2nd Vice President
- Laura Trojacek - Secretary
- Mike Liska - Treasurer
- Nannette Liska - Financial Secretary/Membership Director
- Elizabeth Moucka - Educational Director
- Joanna Wilson - Physical Director/Youth Ambassador
- Jennifer Wilson - Public Relations Director
- Rusty Liska - Bylaws Chairman
- Chuck Kalat - Editor
- Debbie Macik, Debbie Slovak - Auditing/Budget & Finance Committees
- John Marek Jr, David Liska, Harold Corey - Reconciliation Committee

5 Year Increment Membership Awards

The members listed below have earned a 5-year increment membership award and may receive a certificate and/or pin for their loyalty and years of service with our organization at the November 20th Annual Members Meeting **OR** they may wait until the Christmas party on Monday, Dec. 16th.

Last	First	Date Joined	Years	Last	First	Date Joined	Years
Kalat	Janet	10/2/1964	60	Jakubik	Sara	9/1/2009	15
Kudrna	Dorothy	7/1/1964	60	Valek	Matt	3/1/2009	15
Benton	Elayna	12/1/1973	50	Elleven	Raymond	8/1/2014	10
Knapp	Shirley	10/1/1974	50	Mikel	Stanley	2/1/2014	10
Snodgrass	Becky	12/1/1974	50	Ojeda	Adamarisse	8/1/2014	10
Falkenbach	James	6/1/1979	45	Trickett	Benjamin	3/1/2014	10
Liska	Rhonda	7/1/1979	45	Trojacek	Laura	8/1/2014	10
Liska	Michael	7/1/1979	45	Trojacek	Benny	8/1/2014	10
Liska	Tommy	7/1/1979	45	Andrle	Paula	5/15/2019	5
Matous	Joseph	7/19/1984	40	Browning	Julia	9/18/2019	5
Stout	Ellene	7/1/1979	45	Corey	Harold	11/13/2019	5
Valek	Glenda	7/1/1984	40	Frossard	Dianne	10/16/2019	5
Houdek	David	2/16/1989	35	Marshall	Katherine	9/18/2019	5
Liska	David	10/19/1989	35	Slovak	Josef	4/24/2019	5
Trull	Shirley	2/16/1989	35	Slovak	Anna	5/15/2019	5
Vyers	Lisa	8/17/1989	35				
Davis	Cindy	8/20/1994	30				
Belew	David	4/15/1999	25				
Boyd	Jonathan	3/18/1999	25				
Hutyra	Matt	10/1/1999	25				
Ozomy	Patricia	9/16/1999	25				
Slovak	Michelle	9/1/1999	25				
Slovak	David	9/1/1999	25				
Wester	Elizabeth	9/16/1999	25				
Zajic	Lewis	9/16/1999	25				

Pictured on page 4 are those members who chose to receive their membership award at the annual member meeting.



David Houdek received 35 Year Membership Award at Sokol Ennis Annual Meeting Nov. 20, 2024



David Slovak received 25 Year Membership Award at Sokol Ennis Annual Meeting Nov. 20, 2024



Jan Kalat received 60 Year Membership Award at Sokol Ennis Annual Meeting Nov. 20, 2024



Matt Hutyra received 25 Year Membership Award at Sokol Ennis Annual Meeting Nov. 20, 2024



Michelle Slovak received 25 Year Membership Award at Sokol Ennis Annual Meeting Nov. 20, 2024



Mike Liska received 45 Year Membership Award at Sokol Ennis Annual Meeting Nov. 20, 2024



We should try to hold on to the Christmas spirit, not just one day a year, but all 365.

Mary Martin

theviennablog.com

GYMNASTICS REPORT

Our gymnasts are in the Parade of Lights on Dec. 5. Float was decorated by parents and staff.

We are doing a Quilt Raffle \$1 a ticket. We are also doing a kolache fundraiser to send some of our gymnastics team to National Slet in Chicago next Summer. We will have Apricot, Cherry, Poppy Seed, and Cream Cheese flavors. We will start selling those pre orders in January for February 8, 2025 pick-up day.

VOLLEYBALL REPORT

Adult Volleyball free play is Wednesday 7:30 till around 10. 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 are due of \$65

If interested in Registering, New membership to Sokol, and Raffle tickets, you can email me at jnoplis80@gmail.com, come to the gym Monday 5pm to 8:30pm , Wednesday 5 to 7, and Thursday 5 to 6:30...or come by the clubroom Monday and Wednesday!

Monthly Members' Meeting Jan 15

Our next monthly members' meeting is Wednesday, Jan 15th 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 normally occur every 3rd Wednesday of the month.

CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 8 Ellis County Toy Run - Main Hall 12pm
 - Dec 16 Clubroom Christmas Social - Clubroom 5pm
 - Dec 18 CANCELED Monthly Members Meeting - Dining Room 7pm
 - Dec 19 CHS Christmas Social & Czech Movie: "Seclusion Near a Forest" 7pm - Clubroom 6pm
 - Dec 29 Dallas Cowboys Watch Party - Clubroom 2pm / Game 3:25pm
 - Jan 2 Czech Heritage Society Social & Czech Movie: TBA 7pm - Clubroom 5pm
 - Jan 15 Monthly Members Meeting - Dining Room 7pm
 - Feb 6 Czech Heritage Society Social & Czech Movie: TBA 7pm - Clubroom 5pm
 - Feb 11 Super Bowl Party - Clubroom 12pm
 - Feb 14 Polka Pre-Party - Clubroom 5pm
 - Feb 15 Ennis Czech Music Festival - Main Hall 1pm
 - Feb 19 Monthly Members Meeting - Dining Room 7pm
 - Mar 1 \$10K Building Fund Benefit - Main Hall 6pm (Doors open 5:30pm)
- Email any ideas for fundraisers & social events to the Ways & Means Committee at fundraising@sokolennis.com**

Mikuláš / St. Nicholas Day Educational Director's Report

Saint Nicholas (Svatý Mikuláš in Czech) is one of the most popular minor saints commemorated in the Eastern and Western Catholic churches and now traditionally associated with Christmas.

His Feast Day is December 6, so in many countries that is the day when children receive gifts. Children leave a shoe or sock by their door the night of December 5, and hope it is filled with goodies when they wake up the next morning. The traditional goodies are fruits, nuts, candy and gingerbread cookies. Naughty children instead find pieces of coal, onions, or potatoes in their shoe.

Saint Nicholas (Svatý Mikuláš) lived during the 300s A.D. in the Mediterranean area. He was the archbishop of Myra in what is modern day Turkey. He lost his parents at an early age, but they left him great wealth when they died. The good bishop died on December 6, 343; thus this day is now St. Nicholas Day. After his death, the legend of his gift-giving grew. Many stories have been handed down about Nicholas, all testifying to a life spent in service to the weak, the small, and the defenseless, and his legendary habit of secret gift-giving. Saint Nicholas (Svatý Mikuláš) was always very generous to poor children. Because of this, he is known as the patron saint of children.



Traditionally, the Czech Christmas season begins on December 5, the eve of St. Nicholas' Day, or as it is known to Czechs, "Mikuláš." Great anticipation awaits the arrival of Mikuláš by the children. Mikuláš is usually pictured as a bishop clothed in white, with a gold cape, the mitre hat of a bishop, and the traditional bishop's staff. He is accompanied by an angel carrying a large book with the names of the children, and marks indicating if they have been bad or good during the year. When Mikuláš asks the children what they want for Christmas, the angel also writes it in the book. A devil also accompanies Mikuláš. He carries a switch and a chain, trying to get the children to be naughty so that they will not receive their gifts from Mikuláš.

Today, many Americans of Czechoslovak descent hang their stockings up on the evening of December 5 – Mikuláš eve. Mikuláš comes with the devil and angel during the night and fills the stockings according to the marks in the angel's book. The name of St. Nicholas has been altered by different languages, such as Santa Nickalous in Latin and Sinterklaas in Dutch. Here he has been Americanized and he is dressed very differently, plus he visits on the night of December 24/25 as Santa Claus.

**Veselé Vánoce a Šťastný Nový Rok
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

Membership Drive 2025

It's that time again for our annual membership drive going into 2025. 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 www.sokolennis.com/membership or in the Sokol clubroom. For more information regarding membership, please email membership@sokolennis.com.

Seeking Sponsors for 2025

Sokol Ennis is now seeking sponsors for 2025. Only \$150 per yearly sponsorship. Business ads will be publicized as follows:

1. Sokol Ennis Newsletter (bi-monthly Feb/Apr/Jun/Aug/Oct/Dec)
2. Sokol Ennis Website at sokolennis.com (all year)
3. Sokol Ennis Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages (monthly)
4. Sokol Ennis Sponsor Banners in the Sokol Activity Center (all year)

Email business ads to fundraising@sokolennis.com. Send check to Sokol KHB Ennis / P.O. Box 205 / Ennis, TX 75120-0205 or purchase online at www.sokolennis.com (homepage). Sponsorships and ad designs must be submitted no later than Jan 25, 2025.

Clubroom Christmas Party Dec 16

Our annual Clubroom Christmas Party will be Monday, December 16th starting at 5pm. Please bring a covered dish or snack. Main dish provided. Music by David Slovak & Friends at 7pm. Drink Specials!

Czech Movie & Social Dec 19

Monthly Czech Movie & Social is Thursday, December 19th in the Clubroom. Doors open 6pm. Accordion Music by David Slovak 6:30pm. Featured Film: "Seclusion Near a Forest" 7pm. This will be a Christmas social, so bring a covered dish or snack if you like. For questions or comments: Victor Havel 817-714-8323 or Kyle Stuckly 817-925-1673, Ellis County Czech Heritage Society.

Dallas Cowboys Watch Party Dec 29

Sokol Ennis Clubroom will be open Sunday December 29th for the Dallas Cowboys game. Doors open 2pm. Game at 3:25pm. Spin-the Wheel drink specials. No smoking (allowed on patio). Flat screens & sound system in Clubroom & on patio. The Clubroom has a full bar with a large variety of beverages. Pizza, chicken strips, corn dogs, French fries, tater tots, cheese sticks, jalapeno poppers, bread pretzels & snacks also available for purchase at bar.

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

December / January Birthdays

Dec.				Jan.		
1	Skrivanek	Glenn		1	Henning	Jack
2	Trull	Shirley		1	Ojeda	Adamarisse
3	Levario	Valerie		1	Sosa	Karla
4	Ibanez	Joe		1	Wilder	Sara
5	LaScala	Frank		2	Jakubik	Sara
8	Benton	Elayna		7	Steele	Marlene
8	Krajca	Jeanette		8	Morales	Cathie
10	Markgraf	Magan		9	Dodson	Billy
11	Davis	Shelley		9	Lane	Rosemarie
13	Oates	Mary		11	Martinek	Bernard
19	Webster	Jacqueline		14	Dlabaj	Leonard
20	Lofgreen	Barbara		14	Gadberry	Amanda
20	Valek	Adele		20	Novy	Theresa
20	Vrla	Frank		21	Mitchell	Gary
20	Wester	Jo Ann		23	Payne	Cassie
21	Lopez	Alma		24	Amos	Rebecca
21	Perkey	Barbara		25	Belew	David
21	Sanders	Kaleb		25	Marek	Varvara
22	Lambert	Annette		26	Morales	Lazaro
23	Rutherford	Kathy		27	Thomason	Eric
24	Corral	Jaqueline		28	Cooke	Rosemarie
25	Boggan	Dusty		30	Knize	Evelyn
26	Cryer	Thomas				
26	Snodgrass	Becky				
27	Barnes	Zorisha				
27	Cobian	Gabriela				
27	Marek	John				
27	Slovak	Michelle				
28	Marshall	Katherine				
28	Vitovsky	William				
28	Zapletal	Danny				
29	Matous	Stanley				
29	Valek	Glenda				
30	Liska	Diane				
30	Owen	Randy				
31	McElroy	Sally				
31	Davis JR	James				

March 1

Annual 10K TO THE DERBY

Tickets are \$150

Includes live music, steak dinner and open bar

Visit www.sokolennis.com for more information



TO THE DERBY
ANNUAL 10K

COME JOIN US!!!

TO ALL
SOKOL KAREL HAVLICEK BOROVSKY MEMBERS:

MERRY CHRISTMAS -- VESCLÉ VÁNOCEL

&

HAPPY NEW YEAR -- ŠTASTNÝ NOVÝ ROK!

FROM

THE SOKOL KHB EXECUTIVE BOARD

MAY EVERYONE HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!!

FROM

BENNY & LAURA TROJACEK

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FROM

THE ELLEVEN FAMILY

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM

THE MIKE & NANNETTE LISKA FAMILY

“CHRISTMAS IS A TONIC FOR OUR SOULS.
IT MOVES US TO THINK OF OTHERS
RATHER THAN OF OURSELVES.”
– B.C. FORBES



*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year
from
David, Michelle,
Josef & Isabella Slovak*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND BEST WISHES
FOR A SAFE AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

FROM

**THE KALATS – JAN, CHUCK,
PATTI,
CHARLES, CHRISTINE, & TAG**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!
STAY BLESSED**

FROM

JOANNA, WES, AND MADELINE WILSON

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!

FROM

DIANE AND DAVID LISKA

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
AND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

FROM

BARBARA AND RHONDA LISKA

2024 Sokol Ennis Sponsors - Thank you for your support!

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