

SOKOL TIMES

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SLOVAK GYMNASTIC UNION SOKOL
OF THE USA

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PAS SLOVAK FOLK ENSEMBLE PERFORMS AT EMBASSY

The Pittsburgh Area Slovak (PAS) Folk Ensemble was honored to accept an invitation to perform at the Embassy of the Slovak Republic on Saturday May 11, 2013, in Washington D.C. The Embassy opened its doors to the Washington public that day, together with all of the embassies of the European Union countries and the Delegation of the EU to the United States, as a part of the EU Open House Event. The embassies offered to the public a rare look inside their premises and provided a unique opportunity to experience the heritage, traditions and tourist attractions of the EU member countries. The event is popular among the public and promotes both individual EU states along with the European Union itself.

PAS performed four half-hour programs representing the Eastern and Horehron regions of Slovakia. The program from the Eastern region had dances full of temperament with the Krucena – a couples twirling dance; Verbunk – a men's military dance; Cardas – a two-step dance, plus songs of a lonely heart, and a fiery girls circular dance called a Karicka. Concluding the set was a romantic suite of dances from Zemplin. The Horehron program featured the precision and beauty of the dancers stamping and rhythmic movements. It included the Horehronsky Dupak, in which the young men and women impress each other with unique stamping and dancing skills. The conclusion of the program was the Odzemok men's axe dance. Each of the performances received thunderous applause. For the lines of people waiting to get in to see the next presentation, the PAS orchestra and men went outside and entertained the audience with music and singing.

A highlight of the day was a private audience with the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic, Peter Kmec. He praised the group for the exceeding everyone's expectations and attracting so many visitors, which was estimated to be about 3,000.

PAS was truly a part of the splendor of Slovakia with diverse performances of music, songs and dances to proudly display our cultural heritage at the Slovak Embassy. For more information about PAS, please visit www.pasfolkensemble.com.

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

To the Milan Getting Scholarship

From Sokol Lodge 164, Detroit, Mich. \$100.00
In memory of deceased Sokol members

From Sokol Lodge 258, Campbell, Ohio \$50.00
In memory of deceased Sokol members

From Barbara Fronko-Froehlich, Lexington, Ky. \$1,000.00
*In memory of my beloved parents
Emma Radakovich Fronko & Stephen Francis Fronko*

To the Sokol USA Gymnastic Fund

From Sokol Lodge 164, Detroit, Mich. \$100.00
In memory of deceased Sokol members

From Sokol Lodge 258, Campbell, Ohio \$50.00
In memory of deceased Sokol members

From Sokol District Pavel Mudron \$90.00
In memory of deceased members



Members of the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble pose in front of the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington, DC. The group performed there on May 11th as part of a European Union Open House Event.

