

NARÓD



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HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL!

A HEARTFELT TRIBUTE TO DAD

When I was young, you helped me grow,
You taught me all I had to know...
Of love and trust and faith and hope,
And everything it takes to cope.

Dad, you may have thought I didn't hear,
Or maybe that you weren't quite clear;
But all the things you taught to me
Were heeded very carefully.

On Father's Day, I want to thank you for
Your love, your care, and so much more!
Dad, you mean the world to me...
May God always Bless you abundantly.



2008 POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY IN CHICAGO

Chicago, IL - Poland's May 3rd Constitution Day has been celebrated in Chicago for decades. Events take place over several days. The 2008 celebration began on Friday, May 2nd with a morning meeting at the Office of Illinois Lt. Governor Pat Quinn. A special guest at this event was Deputy Prime Minister of Poland, Waldemar Pawlak, who welcomed the Economic Investment Programs between the USA and Poland and vice-versa. He also stated that companies like Boeing, Microsoft, Cisco and United Technologies are investing in Poland and that computer equipment is being developed with good results.

Other speakers included Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn; R.P. Consul General Zygmunt Matynia; Frank Spula, Pres. of Polish National Alliance (PNA) and the Polish American Congress and members of the Illinois National Guard, who fought alongside the Polish Army in Iraq.

In the afternoon, a meeting was held at the PNA Home Office between Poland's Deputy P.M. Waldemar Pawlak; R.P. Consul General

Zygmunt Matynia; PRCUA Pres. Wallace Ozog; PNA Pres. Frank Spula and his Executive Officers; PWA Pres. Virginia Sikora; PAC IL Div. Pres. Camille Kopielski; Polish Highlanders (Cont. on page 10)



(L-r) M. Nowak, W. Ozog, T. Maksymowicz, M. Gajda, A. Wolan, A. Robaczewski, G. Cwiak and F. Avila with the PMA parade float

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
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2008 CHICAGO POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY PARADE



PRCUA First Lady Joann Ozog with PRCUA St. Rafal Kalinowski Polish Language School of Munster, IN



PRCUA Pope John Paul II Polish Language School and its Polanie Dancers of Lemont, IL passing Buckingham Fountain



PRCUA Polonia Dancers of the Northwest Center of Traditional Polish Dancing with Music Director Mieczyslaw Dzis serenading the crowd at the parade

(Cont. from page 1) Pres. Stanley Zagata and representatives of the Polish Government.

Deputy Prime Minister Pawlak spoke briefly and then presented a medal of recognition to *Dziennik Zwiazkowy* newspaper for its century of service to Polonia. As a remembrance of Chicago, PRCUA President and Chairman of the Polish Museum Board Wallace Ozog,

presented to the Deputy Minister a copy of "Polish Chicago: Our History, Our Recipes" as well as the Museum Guidebook. Mr. Ozog also invited him to the Polish Museum of America on his next visit.

Friday's celebration ended with the 44th Annual Polish American Police Association's (PAPA) Awards Dinner held at Przybylo's White Eagle Banquet Hall. This was an evening of recognizing police officers of Polish ancestry for their heroic deeds and a local person of Polish ancestry, for his or her contribution to Polonia. This year's distinguished honoree was Paul Konrad, one of the TV Weathermen for Channel 9.

Adding to the festivities, the PRCUA Polonia Dance Ensemble demonstrated their Polish pride through their dancing. Their beautiful costumes and superb performance wowed the audience. Hats off to the dancers, their Director Anna Kryszynski and their Choreographer Celina Roznowska.

Saturday, May 3 began as a beautiful, sunny day in Chicago. The Polish National Alliance (PNA) Chicago Society sponsored a Pre-parade Breakfast at the Congress Hotel, under the Chairmanship of Romuald Matuszczak. The program began an invocation by Most Reverend Thomas Paprocki, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago, followed by speeches given by dignitaries. After enjoying a hearty breakfast, guests proceeded to take their positions in the Polish Constitution Day parade.

As the day progressed, the sun disappeared, temperatures dropped, the wind got stronger and raindrops were felt. But the changing weather could not dampen the spirits of participants. In fact, the PRCUA Polonia Dance Ensemble entertained the waiting crowd with beautiful Polish songs. Indeed, the PRCUA was very well represented with students dressed in folk attire from various regions, others dressed in red and white and still others in their school uniforms. The PRCUA appreciates the school directors, choreographers, teachers, students and parents from the following schools who took part in this great parade: Maria Konopnicka Polish Language School, Pope John Paul II Polish Language School and Polanie Dance Ensemble, Southwest Center of Polish Dancing, St. Raphael Kalinowski Polish Language School, Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Ensemble, Northwest Center of Traditional Polish Dancing, and Polonia Dance Ensemble. PRCUA's Cinderella Elizabeth Kopinski, Prince Charming Joshua Mielcarek, and First Runner-Ups Camilla Chorzepa and David Lyzbicki rode in a horse-drawn carriage, sponsored by the M. Konopnicka Adult Culture Group, represented by Edward Muszalski.

(Continued on page 11)



Richard & Misia Jaminski and Wesoly Lud Dancers at the parade



Students of the Southwest Center of Polish Dancing with Director Krystyna Lech and PRCUA First Lady Joann Ozog



Students of PRCUA's Maria Konopnicka Polish Language School and its Parent's Group, Chicago, IL



(L-r) Poland's Deputy Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak shaking hands with PRCUA member Stanley Zagata, Pres. of Polish Highlanders at PNA Headquarters



Dancers from Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Ensemble performing at Millennium Park



Prince Charming Joshua Mielcarek, Cinderella Elizabeth Kopinski, Bishop Thomas Paprocki, and Runner-Ups David Lyzbicki and Camilla Chorzepa at the Pre-parade Breakfast

(Cont. from pg. 10) The Polish Museum sponsored a float displaying the winning artwork of the Polish Constitution Art Contest, with the theme of "Beautiful Poland". This year there were 83 entries from Michigan, Indiana and Illinois. The artwork showed much creativity and artistic talent. Some of the winners rode on the float, as well as members of the Museum, Board Members, PRCUA staff and their families and PMA employees and volunteers. Monika Nowak, Chairman of the PMA Art Contest, did a superb job in organizing the contest and displaying the artwork on the float. It took a lot of energy to move the framed artwork to and from the float. Thanks to the assistance of Anna Wolan, Monika Gajda and Tomasz Maksymowicz, this was possible and their help is much appreciated.

The winners are: (Grades 6-8) 1st-Kathrin Kajderowicz (IL), 2nd-Agatha Pawlikowski (MI), 3rd-Anna Nowak (IL), Hon. Mention-Alexander Panek (IL) and (Grades 9-12) 1st-Krysten Cooper-(MI), 2nd-Aleksandra Podowski (IL), 3rd-Edyta Baczek (IL), Hon. Mention-Angelica Cygan (IL) and BEST OF SHOW-Vsevolod Shchepanovskyy (IL). The PMA congratulates these young artists and thanks them for their participation. The judges were: Wanda Morgan-Wasikowski, Anna Mycek-Wodecki, Halina Misterska, Suzanne Etsch and Monika Nowak. The PMA thanks everyone who made the contest a success.

After the parade, the celebration continued at Millennium Park with "Poland in the Park" featuring live entertainment, food and booths. The Polish Museum was invited to distribute informational material and to provide crafts and face painting for children. Thanks go to the following PMA and PRCUA employees and volunteers: Krystyna Grell, Agnieszka Migiel, Maria Grzadziel, Jola Zachara, Lidia Kowalewicz and her daughter Natalia, Hank Kulesza, Halina Bieniewska, Mrs. Padowski, Jenny Crissey, Janina Stopczyk, Natalia Podstawska, Lukasz Belda, Jan Belda, Iza Gronski, Malgorzata Malik and Malgorzata Glodek.

On Sunday, May 4 the Pulaski Council of Milwaukee, WI held its Polish Constitution Day celebration with Mass, a luncheon and a program. At the luncheon the Polish Heritage Award was presented to Susan Mikos, a member of the Polish Museum of America, for her contributions to Polonia. Susan Mikos is an inspiration in the Milwaukee area, and is most deserving of this award. Susan, is very involved with cultural events, the library at the Polish Center, Polish Fest and the Polanki Woman's Organization. PRCUA Dir. of Dist. 6, Sharon Haberski said she was pleased to play a part in honoring Susan.

Congratulations are extended to Susan and may she continue to do the work that she loves for Polonia.

Indeed, Polish May 3rd Constitution Day is still a time of celebration for young and old alike. It is a time to show pride in our heritage and to instill it in our youth. May it continue to be recognized by Poles all over the world.

PRCUA Pres. Wallace Ozog, Paul Konrad, Channel 9 TV Weatherman and PRCUA VP Anna Sokolowski with Polonia Dance Ensemble, who performed at the PAPA Award Banquet



(Left) (l-r) Art Contest Chairperson Monika Nowak with winners Vsevolod Shchepanovskyy, Angelica Cygan, Alexandra Podowski, Charlie Wojciechowski, Anna Nowak, PMA Chairman Wallace Ozog and Kathrin Kajderowicz

(Right) Volunteers and PMA staff at the PMA booth in Millennium Park after the parade with PMA Chairman Wallace Ozog (far right)



Honoree Susan Mikos (with corsage) with Polanki Women's Organization members



Judge Don Konkel, Sharon Zago, PWA V.P., Susan Plewa, Jeannette Holmquist, Susan Mikos, Dir. Sharon Haberski, Joann Ozog, Hon. William Kowalkowski and Pres. Wallace Ozog