



October | Październik 2021 No 10 – Vol. CXXXVI

NARÓD POLSKI Polish Nation

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PRCUA PRESIDENT JAMES ROBACZEWSKI HONORED WITH THE 2021 VISION OF HOPE AWARD

Congratulations to President James Robaczewski, who was awarded the 2021 Vision of Hope Award at the 24th Annual Resurrectionist Gala held at Café LaCave in Des Plaines, IL on September 26.

During this event, the Congregation of the Resurrection recognizes those who share in their mission and honor a lay person and parishioners from Resurrectionist parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago and the Dioceses of Joliet, Rockford and San Bernardino, CA. There are three types of awards given: the Vision of Hope Award, the Veritas et Caritas Award and the Resurrection Merit Award.

The awards were presented by Very Reverend Steven Bartzyszyn, CR, Provincial Superior of the USA Province. The dinner benefited the Congregation's men in formation and their senior religious who have labored for many years in the Church.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Robaczewski remarked on his close connection with the Congregation of the Resurrection Fathers. Like his parents before him, Jim attended grammar school at St. Hedwig Parish in the Bucktown neighborhood of



President Robaczewski (l) receiving the award
from Rev. Steven Bartzyszyn, CR

Chicago, where he also served as an altar boy and sang in the church choir. He attended Gordon Tech High School, a school administered by the Resurrectionist Fathers, and continued to be an active member of St. Hedwig's Parish, serving on the finance council and as the business manager for the parish. In marrying his wife Elaine, Jim became the fourth of five generations of Robaczewskis to be wedded at St. Hedwig's.

Today, Jim continues his service to the community as the chair of the Finance Council and past Parish Pastoral Council Chair and retired Cubmaster at St. Monica's Parish on the northwest side of Chicago. Jim is also

active at Notre Dame College Prep, where his sons Tommy and Joey attend school, as the president of the father's club.

His bond to the CR Fathers continues through the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, where Rev. Vincent Barzynski, CR was one of the founders of the organization.

Concluding his address, Mr. Robaczewski thanked the CR Fathers and Brothers for being honored as a recipient of the Vision of Hope Award. (Continued on page 20)

October is Polish American Heritage Month



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OCTOBER

**OCTOBER IS POLISH AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH**

3 WYANDOTTE, MI – OCTOBERFEST SILENT AUCTION on Sat., Oct. 2, at 6 p.m., PRCU Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. Proceeds will benefit Soc. #162. See pg. 11 for more details.

3 148TH PRCUA ANNIVERSARY – ESTABLISHED IN 1873.

8 CHICAGO, IL – 41ST PMA GALA (VIRTUAL) on Friday, October 8 at 6:30 p.m. See the invitation below.

11 COLUMBUS DAY OBSERVANCE – PRCUA OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

24 DEARBORN HTS., MI – ST. STAN'S #718 CORPORATE COMMUNION/ELECTION MEETING on Sunday Oct. 24, at St. Linus Catholic Church, 6466 N. Evangeline, Dearborn Hts., MI. Mass at 11:00 a.m., in memory of our deceased members. Following Mass a complimentary meal will be served at Stith Post #232, 23850 Military Rd., Dearborn Hts., followed by a short meeting and election of officers for the year 2022. Members who haven't attended in the last few years, please contact Len & Eileen Nasiatka at 313-278-5219.

For updates on any of the PRCUA events, please contact your local PRCUA districts, societies and schools, and check *Naród Polski*, PRCUA social media platforms and www.prcua.org.

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6:30 p.m.

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NOVEMBER

1 ALL SOULS DAY

2 ALL SAINTS DAY

5-6 ROMEOVILLE, IL – PRCUA NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT on Fri.-Sat., Nov. 5-6 at Romeo-ville Athletic & Community Center, 55 Phelps Ave., Romeoville, IL. Hosted by District 8. For details, see page 19.

11 VETERANS DAY (U.S.) | ŚWIĘTO NIEPODLEGŁOŚCI (POLAND) – PRCUA OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

20 PALOS HILLS, IL – 49TH CINDERELLA AND PRINCE CHARMING BALL - on Sat. Nov. 20 at Belvedere Chateau, 8055 W. 103rd St., Palos Hills, IL. See pg. 4 for contact information.

25-26 THANKSGIVING DAY – PRCUA OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

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49th Cinderella Prince Charming Ball

November 20, 2021

PRESENTED BY THE PRCUA ADULT CULTURE GROUP
AT THE BELVEDERE CHATEAU IN PALOS HILLS, IL



Save the Date

For reservations: Vickie Kroplewski
vickiekroplewski@gmail.com or (708) 698-1505

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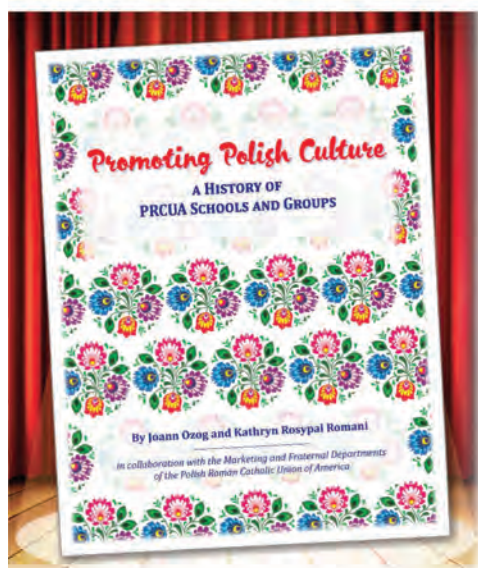
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For reservations, please call Krystyna Lech (708) 341-6781



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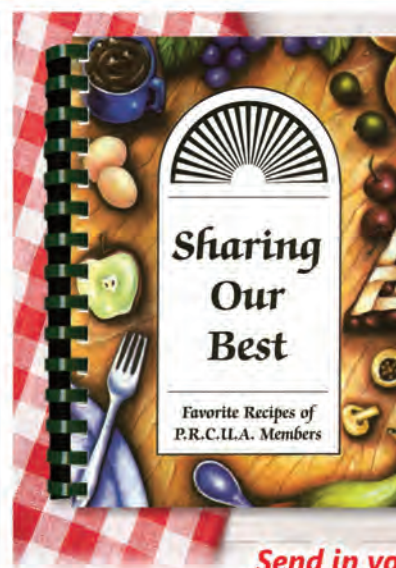


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PRCUA Marketing Dept., 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642

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PRCUALife FOLK COSTUMES OF POLAND - VOL. II COLORING BOOK	FREE			\$3 FOR FIRST BOOK \$1 EACH ADD'L BOOK	
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5	\$728.42	\$1,231.83	\$2,742.08	\$5,259.15	5	\$792.77	\$1,360.53	\$3,063.83	\$5,902.65
10	\$806.63	\$1,388.25	\$3,133.13	\$6,041.25	10	\$881.06	\$1,537.11	\$3,505.28	\$6,785.55
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202110-EN-CS-NP

THE TATRY DANCERS HAVE HAD A BUSY FEW MONTHS!

By Joelle Schade

On May 15, Tatry was very proud that our 2021 graduate Elise Marie Lubiartz was recognized at the Shirley Ann Galanty Michigan State Ball. It was a lovely evening and after a very unconventional year, was even more appreciated and enjoyable than ever before! Congratulations, Elise—we are all so proud of you!

The Tatry Dancers held their recital at the Plymouth Park Pavilion in Plymouth, MI on Sunday, May 23rd. Due to Michigan Covid restrictions, Tatry performed at this outdoor venue. The weather did not cooperate, bringing in chilly temperatures and heavy rains. As we all know, though, the show must go on! Fortunately, the covered pavilion provided plenty of dance space and many of the guests were able to sit under the covered area as well. The



2021 graduate Elise Marie Lubiartz with her escort Brenden Lubiartz at the Shirley Ann Galanty Michigan State Ball

2020 recital theme was to be “Under the Big Top” with all circus-related songs and costumes for the novelty portion of the recital. Since all of the dancers had costumes and had learned dances they did not have the opportunity to perform, this year’s recital was “STILL Under the Big Top!” One of the biggest highlights and unexpected moments of the recital was a few 2020 graduates who never got the chance to perform Tatry’s signature dance, *Polish Soul*, due to the pandemic, being called out of the crowd to perform an impromptu version! Polish Pride of Michigan, a local Polish merchantiser, set up a display and generously donated a portion of their proceeds that day to the Tatry Dancers. The Tatry Dancers also took the opportunity to celebrate our 2021 graduate Elise Lubiartz, who with her escort, brother and 2019 Tatry graduate Brenden Lubiartz, stunned the crowd with a show stopping graduate waltz!

On Saturday, July 10, the Tatry Dancers descended upon the St. Albertus (Detroit) parish grounds to assist with their monthly work day. The dancers and parents helped trim trees and bushes, pull weeds, clean various areas, and help set up for the parish picnic that was to be held the following day. The St. Albertus parishioners and staff greatly appreciated Tatry’s assistance.

Since Tatry was not able to hold many traditional group events during 2020, including our recital where the group receives their trophies, and the awards Mass where the group receives their medals every year, the



Tatry dance recital

group held a picnic during the summer instead. It was such a success that the group decided to repeat the event again this year! The picnic was on Sunday, August 1, and included not only the distribution of trophies and medals, but also individual paper plate awards, food, and lots of games. Everyone had a

great time!

The Tatry Dancers returned to classes the week after Labor Day, preparing for Tatry’s big 50th anniversary recital in 2022! Stay tuned for more events that will be held to celebrate this major milestone!

See more photos in the digital version of the *Naród Polski*



Tatry dancers receiving trophies at the summer picnic



Tatry dancers and parents spending a day working at the St. Albertus parish grounds

66th PRCUA NATIONAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

By Daniel Gdowski,
Tournament Chair

The 66th PRCUA Softball Tournament took place on August 20 and 21, 2021. The event was hosted by St. Stan's #718 with nine teams. The weekend started with coed games on Friday evening with four teams participating. The championship game was played under the lights, with St. Rita #2 winning the championship. St. Stan's hosted a hospitality room at the Best Western after the games were completed. The players and fans were treated to pizza and beverages and some fun company.

Opening ceremonies took place on the field Saturday morning. In attendance were VP Micheline Jaminski, Secretary-Treasurer Agnieszka Bastryk, past National Vice President Bob Bielenda, National Director (D-10) Colleen Bonkowski, former National Director (D-10) Thomas Lisiecki and St. Stan's President Jerry Nasiatka. Jerry threw out the ceremonial first pitch and Micheline was in the batter's box. After a few attempts and Jerry finally throwing a strike, Micheline hit a screaming line drive that no doubt was the best hit of the weekend. The Men's and Women's Divisions began with a morning schedule of games.

A fantastic lunch consisting of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, pasta salad, chips and drinks was served by the committee at the outside pavilion within walking distance of the fields.

Valerie Brumm, the newly elected National Director from District 10, greeted everyone before the players geared up for the afternoon slate of games. St. Stan's defeated St. Rita's for the Men's Division championship and St. Rita Dziewczyny won the Women's Division championship.

The Awards Banquet took place at the Best Western Saturday evening and was very well attended. Players and families were treated to a terrific Polish-style dinner and complimentary drinks. Bob Bielenda began with a blessing of the meal. Awards were distributed after dinner, beginning with Micheline Jaminski saying a

few words, thanking the players and the St. Stan's committee for hosting the tournament. Champion, All Star and MVP awards were announced and given out to the deserving teams and players. Special thanks to Director Valerie Brumm, who won the 50-50 raffle and donated her winnings back to #718!

Thank you to the Volunteer Committee members for their hard work in helping make this event a great success: Donna Gdowski, Ron and Barbara Bak, Ed and Janet Rys, John Gdowski, Rich McBride, Mike Halberstadt, Denny Churchvara, Frank Nasiatka, Bob Bielenda and Jerry Nasiatka.

Winning Teams

Men – St. Stan's

Women – St. Rita's Dziewczyny

Coed - St. Rita

Men's All Stars

St. Stan's – Dennis Butka, Nate Butka, Justin Butka, Kyle Harvey, Drake Orlikowski

St. Rita – Mike Rocheleau, Dan Rocheleau, Erik Johansen, Kevin Daly, Jim Clark

Men's MVP – Travis Harvey, St. Stan's

Women's All Stars

St. Rita #1 – Theresa Baker, Emma Delcotto, Tabetha Hubbar St. Rita's Dziewczyny – Krista Mihalic, Mary Skurnit, Angelina Sittaro, Ashley Roberts

Wyandotte #162 – Amelia Czarnota, Alisha Thompson, Heather Tabor

Women's MVP – Joe Mihalic, St. Rita's Dziewczyny







The Open Door Otwarte Drzwi

Micheline "Misia" Jaminski

Vice President | wiceprezes
micheline-jaminski@prcu.org

Goodbye September Welcome October!



Most of us are pretty familiar with the Polish song, "Jak szybko mijają chwile, jak szybko płynie czas." (How quickly moments are passing, how quickly time goes by...). Here we are in October and as beautiful as the autumn season is, "Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall." F. Scott Fitzgerald.

October is synonymous with Polish American Heritage Month so WELCOME TO POLISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH! A concept initiated by Michael Blichasz (president of the Polish American Cultural Center) in Philadelphia, Polish American Heritage Month was first celebrated in August of 1981 because of the numerous Polish cultural events held throughout the U.S. during this summer month. In 1984, lobbying efforts by the Polish American Cultural Center, together with the Polish American Congress, resulted in House Joint Resolution 577, which designated August as Polish American Heritage Month. In 1986, the month was changed to October in order to encourage U.S. schools to celebrate Polish American heritage during the school year. October is also the month in which the first Polish settlers arrived in Jamestown, VA and the time that many Polish American organizations honor Casimir Pułaski, who died in October of 1779.

In 2016, my friend Staś Kmiec authored a piece for the 100th Anniversary of the Pol-Am Journal entitled, "100 Things Every Polish

American Should Do." I love the ideas and grouping them together for reference. With permission from the author and PAJ Editor Mark Kohan, I direct you to the prcu.org website for the full list. And don't forget to add:

#101 – sign up a new member to the PRCUA – best thing you can do for Polish Heritage Month, the future PRCUA, and the success of Polonia! How? Through PRCUA whole and term life insurance and annuity products!

#102 – Ages 3-18 can enter the PRCUA 2021 October Polish American Heritage Month Coloring Contest. See page 14 and 15.

#103 – PLEASE ATTEND THE UPCOMING 41ST PMA GALA – IT WILL BE VIRTUALLY AMAZING. Check the Polish Museum of America Facebook and website (polishmuseumofamerica.org) for the link. It's your ticket to this spectacular event! *Serdecznie zapraszamy!*

In any event, celebrate being a proud Polish American in October and throughout the year!

August and September were busy months for weddings. On August 15, National Director (D-5) Mitchell Bienia and his wife Krystyna celebrated the wedding of their daughter Krystyna to Eliezer Morales Santiago at St. Stanislaus Church in Cleveland, OH. A social *Polonaise* was performed, beginning with the bride and her father, then the groom, members of the family and guests joined in. The peacock-themed wedding added another element of the Bienia's rich Polish heritage. Best wishes to Krys and Eli!



Krystyna and Eliezer Santiago
with Mitchell and Krystyna Bienia

On August 28, Richard and I attended two weddings. Victoria Gavanaghan and Mateusz Bomba were married at St. Hedwig Church on Chicago's north side and as alumni of Wesoły Lud Dance Company and Polonia Ensemble, respectively, there was a "cast of thousands," with both dance groups paying tribute to the newlyweds at the church as well as at the reception. Sparks flew when Vicky and Mateusz performed a lovely first dance as wife and husband. As the poem goes, "Marriage is a dance between two people, to a song they hold in their hearts, whose melody may at times be a whisper, yet never fades away." (Lara Harris) Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Bomba! (FYI: Mateusz is one of our PRCUA New Business associates).



Victoria and Mateusz Bomba

The intimate setting of wedding #2 was in the town of Marengo, IL. There, Christina Wisniewski and Sandro Palomares exchanged vows in the presence of their nearest and dearest. Christina is the daughter of Wesoły Lud alumnus Richard Wisniewski and his wife Jane. We wish the lovely couple a long and prosperous marriage!



Christina (Wisniewski)
and Sandro Palomares

On September 4, the lovely Natalia Kowalewicz wed Petar Pesic at St. Thomas Beckett Parish in Mount Prospect, IL. Natalia is the daughter of PRCUA *Naród Polski* Editor Lidia Kowalewicz, and her husband Dariusz. Best wishes to the new Mr. and Mrs.!



Natalia and Petar Pesic
with Lidia and Dariusz Kowalewicz

September 18 was another popular wedding date, as Wesoły Lud alumna and former Cinderella Elizabeth Kopinski (daughter of alumnus Albert Kopinski and his wife Mary) married Rafał Długo-polski at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Lemont, IL. A unique blend of the music and singing of a *górska kapela* and the exquisite talents of singer and musician Mirosława Sojka-Topór added a lovely accent to the wedding. The newlyweds invited the Wesoły Lud to perform Liz's favorite suites – *Spisz* and Country Western Polka – and four of her bridesmaids, including her matron-of-honor as well as four former dance partners (all WL alumni) surprised the bride by performing a waltz. May you live happily ever after!



Albert Kopinski, Mr. and Mrs. Długopolski
and the Jaminskis



Rogala family with Dr. and Mrs. Stoklosa

On the same day and in another part of the city, (another WL alumna) Veronica Rogala (daughter of Teresa and Edward Rogala) married Dr. Jason Stoklosa at St. Hedwig Parish in Chicago, IL. The reception was at the prestigious Hyatt Regency Chicago. *Poprawiny* – day #2 of the Polish wedding continued in Lemont, IL. Best wishes to Dr. and Mrs. Stoklosa!

Another WL alumnus and former Prince Charming Robert Bukowski married Cristen Kendrick at the Oak Brook Hills Resort and Conference Center. PMA President Richard Owsiany and his plus-one Anna Wytrzymalski, attended the wedding and reception. Congratulations to the newlyweds!

On September 14, Brenda Bruce and Mark Fontaine, two avid supporters of the Polish Museum of America, graced us with their presence. They brought with them four original historical maps of Poland - dating between 1656 and 1799 - from historian Tadeusz Gromada's personal collection and a substantial donation to the PMA together with an ad for the upcoming 41st Virtual PMA Gala.

It was my pleasure to share my

birthday celebration with President Jim Robaczewski (his birthday was August 30, but he was recuperating from surgery) at a joint luncheon with both PRCUA and PMA employees. Special thanks to my Chief-of-Staff Conrad Wiecek and the President's Executive Assistant Anna Grabowski for organizing the delicious food, scrumptious dessert and decorating (also Natalia Hofmann and Agnieszka Dobrzycki). I am humbled and grateful for all the beautiful flowers, gifts, cards and wishes. Thank you and Bóg zapłać!

The Adult Culture Group hosted its Candidate Luncheon for the upcoming Cinderella-Prince Charming Ball on Sunday, September 19. With 25 candidates, the 49th ball is sure to be a success. Save the date for November 20, 2021!

On the same date but all the way in Sterling Heights, MI, PRCUA Sales Coordinator Michael Dziadkowiec participated in a "Meet and Greet" with the PRCUA Michigan school directors, sales agents and National Directors Colleen Bonkowski and Valerie Brumm. It's nice to put a face with a name!

PRCUA President Robaczewski was honored by the Congregation of the Resurrection at the annual CR benefit dinner on September 26 at Café La Cave in Des Plaines, IL with the "Vision of Hope Award." With both his family and PRCUA family in attendance, Jim humbly accepted this award, which "embodies the



A beautiful gift from Mała Polska Dancers

spirit of the Resurrection of Society Partner(s) in the work of the Resurrection Fathers and Brothers; provides service to the Catholic Church, and offers years of faithful dedication to the many apostolates of the Congregation of the Resurrection." On behalf of all the officers, directors, and members of the PRCUA, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations to Jim Robaczewski on receiving this award! We are all so proud of you! (And what a nice birthday gift to your wife! Happy birthday, Elaine). For photos and details, please see pages 1 and 20.

I would like to acknowledge the generous contribution of the late Irene Dewicki, whose obituary was in the September issue of the *Naród Polski*. Irene passed away on August 5 and in lieu of flowers, her family suggested memorial donations to, among others, the PRCUA. In communications with her daughter, Nancy Dewicki-Campbell, all such donations would be distributed at the upcoming Shirley Ann Galanty Michigan State Ball in the form of scholarships in memory of Mrs. Dewicki for the graduates. Rest in peace, Irene, and may God bless the Dewicki family!

Our sincere condolences to the family of Krystyna Chciuk, a pillar of the Polish American community in San Francisco, CA, who passed away at age 95 on September 4. Pani Chciuk was instrumental in establishing a Polish folk dance group (Łowiczanie), a Polish school, the Polish scouts, as well as Polonian organizations in the San Francisco Bay area. She was decorated by the Republic of Poland on several occasions for serving in the Polish and Allied armed forces during World War II. One of her three daughters, Gosia Niemiec, is my forever friend – we met at Alliance College when in our

mid-teens and our friendship grows stronger. Pani Chciuk and her family will be in our prayers!

As this article comes to a close, it will be on a bitter-sweet note. We mourn the passing of another great lady of Polish folk dance in America, Władysława "Pani Ada" Dziewanowska, in July of this year, at the beautiful age of 104. Until a few years ago when she moved to California to live with her son Jaś and his family, Pani Ada spent many happy years in Milwaukee as the artistic director and choreographer of the Syrena Polish Folk Dance Ensemble. During her life, Ada conducted folk dance workshops throughout the United States and Canada, leaving her imprint on the heart and soul of many dancers. She had a twinkle in her eyes and a smile that would inspire you to be better, do better and never give up.

On September 24, a Celebration of Life Mass was held at the magnificent historic Basilica of St. Josaphat in Milwaukee, WI, concelebrated by the Most Reverend Jerome Listecki, the first Polish Archbishop of Milwaukee, and Reverend Mike Hammer. The reception that followed was held at the Polish Center of Wisconsin and, according to her wishes, there was food, drink, music and dancing. Cheers to Pani Ada, may she live long in our memories!



Ada Dziewanowska



With PMA supporters Brenda Bruce and Mark Fontaine



Adult Culture Group



Most Reverend Jerome Listecki, the first Polish Archbishop of Milwaukee

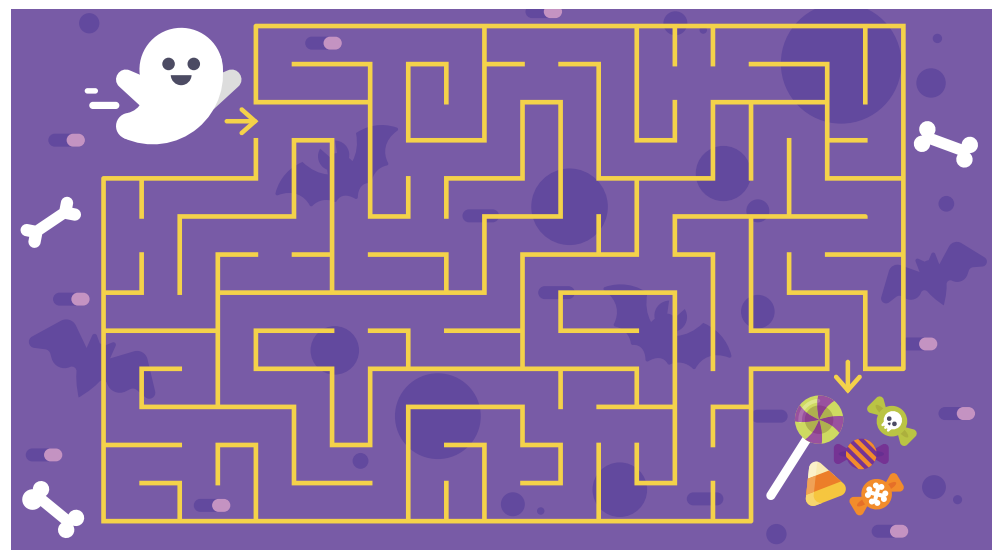
Kids

Activity Page!

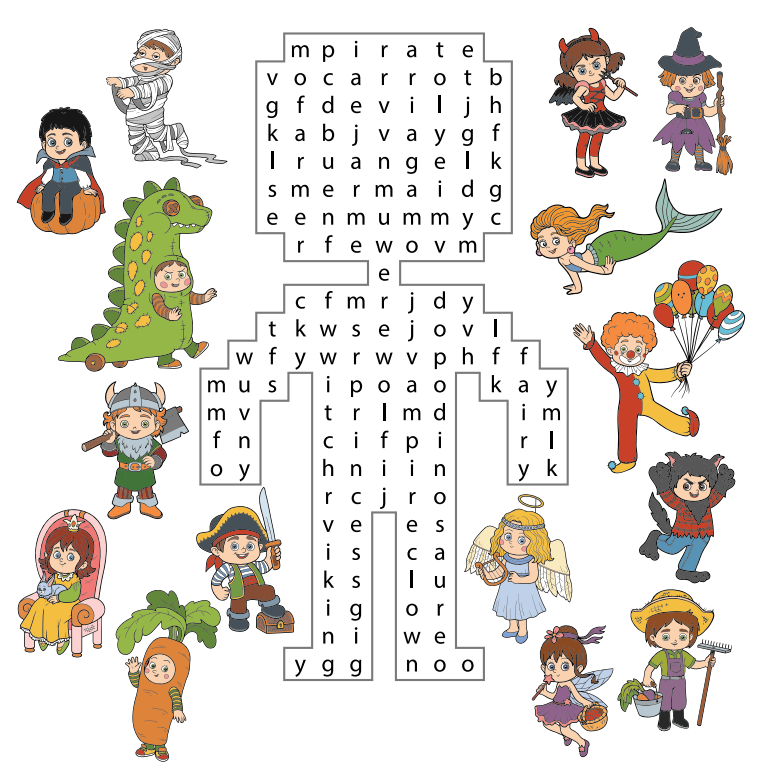
1. Color the wycinanka using the picture below as a color guide.



3. Which way to the candy?



2. Find 15 Halloween costumes in the puzzle.



viking

farmer

pirate

devil

princess

fairy

carrot

mummy

witch

clown

vampire

angel

mermaid

werewolf

dinosaur

4. Can you find all 17 objects in the picture?



LEADERS OF THE POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA

TEODOR OSTROWSKI

Compiled by Lidia Kowalewicz
Editor



Teodor Ostrowski was born on January 8, 1852 in Kościerzyna in the Pomeranian Voivodeship (the town was annexed by the Kingdom of Prussia in the First Partition of Po-

land, a later province of West Prussia).

On November 24, 1877, he married Rozalia Troka. They had eight children: Wanda, Franciszek, Franciszka, Joanna, Floryan, Rozalia, Klara and Teodor. His daughter Wanda became a nun and his son Franciszek became a priest.

The Ostrowskis came to America in 1881. He worked as a contractor and was the builder of many Polish churches and presbyteries in the Chicago area.

He was elected PRCUA Vice President at the 23rd PRCUA convention in Philadelphia in 1896 and served until 1898.

At the 25th PRCUA convention in Chicago in 1898, Ostrowski was elected the ninth president of the Union.

When Tsar Nicholas II convened the peace conference in Hauge in 1899, Ostrowski was one of the signatories of the petition against cal-

ling the conference "a peace conference" (a copy of the petition was delivered personally to President McKinley in Washington by Piotr Kiołbassa and J. F. Smulski.)

He served as the chairman of the 26th PRCUA convention held in 1899 in Buffalo, NY.

From 1899 until December 1911, Ostrowski served as PRCUA Treasurer. He was suspended from office when a deficit was detected in the PRCUA finances.

Ostrowski turned over all his personal assets (in the amount of \$51,805.00) to cover part of the deficit.

Teodor Ostrowski was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Foresters, St. Stanislaw Kostka Society, Polish Cavalry, Tadeusz Kościuszko Club and St. Stanislaw Kostka Parish Committee.

Ostrowski died of pneumonia on November 5, 1911. His funeral was held on November 9, 1911 and was attended by thousands who believed that despite all the accusations, Ostrowski was an honest citizen and had been framed. Such a large crowd at the funeral had not been seen since the funeral of Fr. Barzynski. The procession from the funeral home to St.

Stanislaus Kostka Church was led by his son Rev. Franciszek Ostrowski, assisted by ten priests, followed by the Polish cavalry and the delegations of the societies to which Ostrowski belonged. Rev. Ostrowski celebrated the funeral mass together with three other priests. The eulogy was delivered by the PRCUA chaplain, Fr. Franciszek Wojtawicz. When the funeral procession passed the churches on the way to the cemetery, all the church bells tolled.

The case of the PRCUA deficit was in court for over 7 years. There were six trials. Even attorney Nikodem L. Piotrowski (later president of the PRCUA), who led the case against Ostrowski, was "convinced of the righteousness of his character" and believed that Ostrowski was "a victim of unfortunate circumstances."

Sources: *Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko-Katolickie w Ameryce 1873-1948* by M. Haiman; *Naród Polski*, Nov. 8, 1911; *Naród Polski*, Nov. 10, 1911.

The biographies of the earliest PRCUA Presidents are presented in order the information becomes available instead of the chronological order.

3Papal envoy beatifies Polish cardinal and blind nun in WARSAW PRIMATE WYSZYŃSKI AND MOTHER ELŻBIETA – NOW "BLESSED"

By Robert Strybel
Warsaw Correspondent

WARSAW—Polish Primate Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński, who defied communism but refused to hate communists, was beatified on September 12, by Papal Legate Cardinal Marcello Semeraro. Co-beatified at the same ceremony was Róża Czacka who, as blind nun Mother Elżbieta, devoted her life to aiding the sightless. Beatification is the penultimate step leading to Catholic sainthood.

The beatification, originally planned for 2020 in central Warsaw's Piłsudski Square, was postponed until now over pandemic concerns. The ceremony was held at the city's huge, still incomplete, modernistic Sanctuary of Divine Providence. The congregation was limited to 7,000 including some 600 priests and 80 bishops, 45 from other countries. Ten times as many faithful had been expected at capacious Piłsudski Square. Poland's President Andrzej Duda, Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki and Deputy Prime Minister Jarosław Kaczyński were also present.

The ceremony recalled the numerous achievements of "the uncrowned King of Poland" and "the Primate of the Millennium," as Wyszyński was often called. He is best remembered for shepherding the Polish Church and nation through 33 years of Soviet oppression until the peaceful Solidarity revolution of 1981. He died of cancer at 79 in May of that year. Subjected by the communists to three years of total isolation, Wyszyński was publicly slandered by the red regime as a "lackey" of Western imperialism and German "revanchists." In the notes he made while in detention he wrote: "They (the communists) will not make me hate them. He who hates has already been defeated."

It was no coincidence that the Primate was co-beatified with Róża Czacka, a Polish noblewoman who had lost her sight in a riding accident at the age of 22. But she saw her disability as a sign from God and dedicated her life to helping the blind. She founded the Franciscan Sisters Servants of the Cross, an order of nuns devoted to the care and education of the blind and vision impaired. It was based in the forested Laski area outside Warsaw,



Blessed Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński



Blessed Mother Elżbieta Róża Maria Czacka,

which eventually became a unique, self-contained "city of the blind."

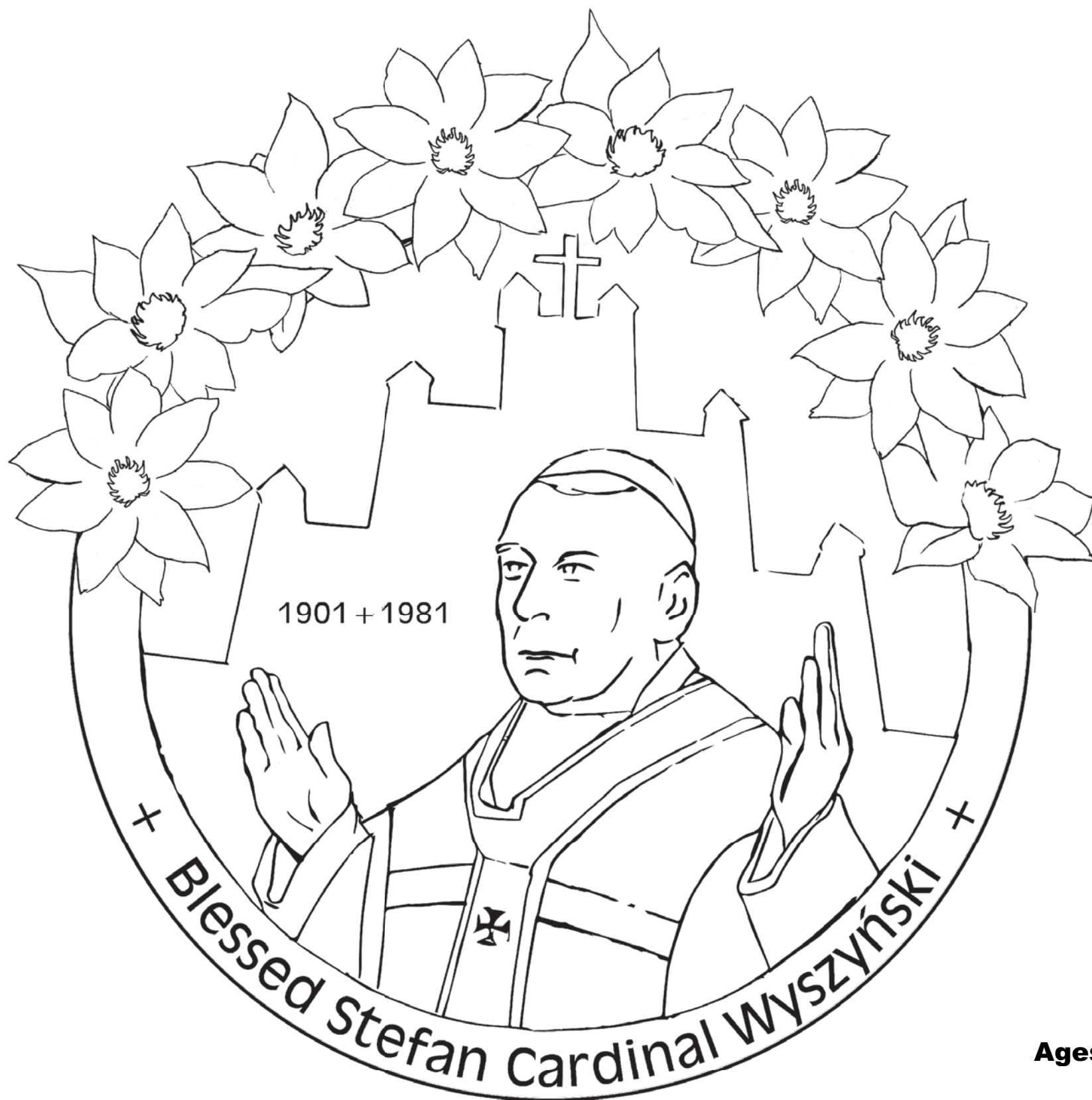
Father Wyszyński first met Mother Elżbieta in the late 1930s and was greatly inspired by her total service to God and fellow man as well as her deep devotion to the Blessed Mother. During World War II, the future primate convinced the nun to set up a clandestine hospital in her sylvan retreat for Polish insurgents wounded in the 1944 Warsaw Uprising. He would aid and support her Laski facility until the day he died. Those two saintly friends and allies in the faith have now joined the more than 260-strong heavenly legion of Polish blessed and saints.

2021 PRCUA Coloring Contest

For the Polish American Heritage Month Coloring Contest this October, we are celebrating the beatification of Poland's Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński. Cardinal Wyszyński was a priest, professor, social activist, patriot and great statesman who dedicated his whole life to God and his homeland. As the leader of the Polish Church for nearly 30 years, he fought against communism and was a defender of freedom of conscience and the holiness of the Church. He oversaw a nine-year program of preparation culminating in a nationwide celebration of the millennium of Poland's baptism in 1966, thus earning the title, "Primate of the Millennium."

This year's image is based on a commemorative coin issued in Poland in 2001 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Cardinal Wyszyński's birth. In the background we see the outline of the Saint John's Archcathedral in Warsaw. Embellishing the top of the image are a variety of clematis flowers named after the cardinal that are notable for their dark magenta color, often referred to as cardinal red.

Please see the following page for contest rules. We await your entries - prizes and gifts will be awarded to winners in multiple age categories!



Ages 3-9

COLORING CONTEST RULES

This coloring contest, the annual PRCUA tradition celebrating October as Polish American Heritage Month, is open to all PRCUA members from 3 to 18 years. Use crayons, pencils, markers or paint (*no fabric, sequins, or glitter, etc.*). The first, simpler picture is designed for children ages 3-9 and the more detailed image for ages 10-18. Prizes will be awarded in multiple age categories and winning submissions featured in the December edition of the *Naród Polski*. All prizes will include a certificate of achievement.

DEADLINE: Entries must be received by the Home Office no later than Monday, November 1, 2021. **Mail to:** PRCUA Coloring Contest, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Age: _____ Grade: _____ Society Number: _____
School: _____

Include the name of your language or dance school if you are a current student: _____

*Sponsored by the Fraternal Department of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America.
See our website for printable pages: www.prcua.org/2021-prcua-coloring-contest/*



Ages 10-18



There are 908 cities in Poland.

Poland is the ninth largest country in Europe.

For over 300 years (from 1600 to 1945) multiple battles were fought continuously in Poland. Poland was occupied or engaged in a fight for freedom 43 times.

About 20% of the Polish population died in World War II, the highest percentage among all countries.

As much as 90% of the population has completed at least high school. This is one of the highest percentages in the world.

Poland has the largest number of farms in Europe.

The village of Piątek (Friday), 33 km from Łódź, is the exact center of Poland.

Piwnica Świdnicka in Wrocław is the third oldest Polish company in existence, as well as the oldest restaurant in Poland. It is also one of the oldest in Europe. It was established in 1273.

The wooden radio station in Gliwice (111 meters high) is the tallest all-timber structure in the world.

Almost 35% of Poles live outside the country.

Poland is one of the eight most populous countries in Europe.

The salt mine in Wieliczka is the only mining plant in the world that has been operating continuously from the Middle Ages to the present.

The average age of a person living in Poland is 39.9 years.

Poland is the largest amber exporter in the world - it is estimated that the share of Polish products on the world market may even reach 70%.

The cinema *Pionier* in Szczecin, operating since 1909, is the second longest operating cinema in the world.

The Błędów Desert is the largest natural desert in Europe.

ETHNIC PRIDE DURING POLISH HERITAGE MONTH WHAT'S THERE TO BE PROUD OF?

By Robert Strybel, Polish/Polonian Affairs Writer

Are Polish Americans proud of their heritage? Do they even know their heritage? Some do, many don't, so with Polish American Heritage Month celebrated in October, let's take a closer look at potential things, events and concepts to be proud of.

PROTECTOR OF EUROPE: Over the centuries, Poland has protected Europe against foreign threats, starting with the 1241 Battle of Legnica, when the army of Poland's Duke Henryk the Pious joined European forces united against invading Mongolian hordes. Henryk himself fell in battle, but the clash put an end to Mongolian attempts to conquer Europe. In 1683 allied forces commanded by Poland's King Jan III Sobieski halted the Turkish thrust into the heart of Europe. A similar situation occurred in 1920, when Polish forces defeated the invading Bolshevik hordes, thwarting Lenin's attempt to spread communism across the continent. And the peaceful Solidarity revolution of the 1980s led to the end of the Iron Curtain, arms race, the Cold War and the Soviet Union itself.

GOLDEN AGE: In 1492, the year Columbus arrived in America, the dual Polish-Lithuanian monarchy was the largest European kingdom, covering an area of 1,115,000 square kilometers (app. 429,000 square miles) – three times the territory of today's Poland and Lithuania combined. During Poland's Golden Age, Polish began eclipsing Latin as the literary language, a renewed interest in the culture of ancient Greece and Rome emerged and Polish astronomer Mikołaj Kopernik (1473-1543) revolutionized the way people viewed the universe.

LAND OF TOLERANCE: Although a devoutly Catholic country, it was not in Poland but in the West that heretics were burned at the stake and devastating religious wars were waged. Poland meanwhile, passed the Warsaw Confederation Act of 1573 that granted religious freedom to all denominations. Jews, who had been thrown out of one Western country after another, found a safe haven in Poland in which their religious, cultural and economic life could develop and prosper. That is why pre-World War II Poland had the world's single largest concentration of Jewry.

AHEAD OF ITS TIME: The 1505 Constitution known as *Nihil novi* ("nothing about us without us") stated that the king could not issue any new laws without the consent of parliament. That was centuries before the American independence struggle would proclaim a similar slogan: "No taxation without representation." The 1430 law known as *Neminem captivabimus* prevented impris-

onment without a court verdict, more than two centuries before England's much-vaunted *Habeas corpus* Act of 1679. The ideas of good governance advanced in the books of Polish thinker Wawrzyniec Goślicki, which appeared in the 16th century, were espoused nearly two centuries later by Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Paine. Andrzej Frycz Modrzewski, the secretary of Poland's King Zygmunt the Old, called for equality of nobles, burghers and peasants 200 years before the American and French Revolutions. A major milestone in Polish history was the promulgation of Europe's first modern, written constitution on May 3rd, 1791, second only to that of the United States (1787).

FOR YOUR FREEDOM AND OURS: This motto, personified by Kazimierz Pułaski and Tadeusz Kościuszko, first appeared on a banner during Poland's 1831 insurrection to express solidarity with Russia's Decembrists rebelling against tsarist oppression. Over the generations, Poles have fought for the freedom of Haiti, Hungary, Britain, Belgium and Holland. In World War II, they created Europe's largest underground army, which saved Allied lives by keeping numerous German troops tied up on Polish soil. Poles opened the Allies' march on Rome by defeating the Germans at Monte Cassino. In more recent times, Poland was among the first countries to join U.S. forces in anti-terrorist campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan.

NATURAL HERITAGE: Poland, 27% of whose territory is forested, boasts 23 national parks, 120 scenic parks and 1,345 nature reserves. Foremost among them is Białowieża Primeval Forest (*Puszcza Białowieska*) on the Polish-Belarusian border, Europe's largest surviving virgin forest, populated by bison, wolves, lynx and tarpans (back-bred wild ponies) roaming at liberty in their natural habitat. Other nature resources include the Biebrza Wetlands, the rugged Bieszczady and Alpine-like Tatra Mountains, the lakes and rivers of Mazuria and shifting sand dunes along the Baltic Coast.

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE: True architectural gems are Poland's Old Town districts, many rebuilt brick by brick from war-time rubble. Old Kraków evaded the destruction and is the country's largest historic district. The nearby Wieliczka salt-mine is a subterranean wonderland of chambers, chapels and statuary carved out of solid rock salt. Also in the south are the Shrine of Our Lady of Częstochowa and the steep-roofed highlander chalets and rustic country churches of the Tatra Mountains. Warsaw boasts the rebuilt Royal Castle and the palaces of Łazienki and Wilanów, and Toruń, Gdańsk and Zamość are among the many historic sites that should not be overlooked.

(Continued on pg. 17)

VIBRANT FOLK CULTURE: Colorful Corpus Christi processions in Łowicz and elsewhere, Palm Sunday palm-making contests in the Łomża area, and the lively folk culture of the Góral highlanders are but a few examples of Poland's vibrant folk culture. Folk crafts include *wycinanki* (paper cut-outs), reverse paintings on glass, wood carvings and colorful, folk costumes. Folk musicians perform at the country inns which many Polish tourists visit during their guided tours. And folk culture in concentrated form can be admired at the various *skansens* (outdoor museums), where genuine old peasant log cottages, outbuildings and even churches have been brought together.

HOSPITALITY: Polish *gościnność* (hospitality) is proverbial. Many Polish Americans who first visited Poland were overwhelmed by the high-powered, never-take-no-for-an-answer hospitality they were treated to by Polish relatives they were often meeting for the first time. Besides unending food and drink, it often includes a place to stay, being shown around and generous gifts upon departure. It's all in line with the well-known Polish proverb: *Gość w dom, Bóg w dom* (When a guest enters the home, God enters the home).

TRADITIONAL FOOD: Traditional food – breads, sausages and cured meats, soups, pickles, cheeses, cakes, etc., produced the time-honored way using natural ingredients is a pleasant change from the pre-packaged, chemically treated fake food that abounds nowadays. Over the past two decades over-processed fare has also made considerable inroads in Poland, especially among the younger snack and fast-food generation, but there are still plenty of Poles who attach importance to eating tasty, healthy, natural, traditional foods.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Vice President Micheline Jaminski and President James Robaczewski invited the PRCUA and PMA staff for lunch on the occasion of their combined birthdays - Mrs. Jaminski on Sept. 17 and Mr. Robaczewski on Aug. 30. The celebration was held in the Social Hall on Friday, September 17.



Happy Birthday and Sto Lat to Mrs. Jaminski and Mr. Robaczewski! We wish them both an abundance of health and all the best in their professional and personal lives!

412TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST POLISH SETTLERS IN AMERICA ON OCTOBER 1, 1608

On October 1, 1608, the English ship Mary and Margaret arrived at Jamestown, Virginia. Aboard the ship were several persons of Polish descent who had been hired by the Virginia Company of London at the request of Captain John Smith, leader of the Jamestown Colony. Captain Smith, who had first learned of the Polish craftsmen's work while traveling in Eastern Europe, invited them to Jamestown for the specific purpose of helping to establish a glass industry in the colony. Upon their arrival, the Poles made a vital contribution to the survival of the colony by digging a well to provide fresh drinking water, which was seriously lacking in the colony.

The next accomplishment was the building of a furnace to produce glass products, which became the first factory in America. In addition to producing glass products, the Polish settlers also produced pitch and tar, vital building materials for expanding the new colony. Despite many hardships due to the climate and living conditions, the Poles and their fellow settlers persevered and eventually were able to produce enough glass, pitch and tar for export to England. These products became the first commercial items to be exported from America to Europe.

The arrival of the first Polish settlers in America marked a humble, yet significant event in American history. Over the years, people from Po-

land continued to immigrate to America. Poles are the sixth largest ethnic group in the United States today, residing in all fifty states and participating in every aspect of American life. Poles comprise a significant portion of the tens of millions of immigrants who have come to America from all over the world and now proudly call this nation their home. The 412th anniversary of the first arrival of the Poles in America provides an excellent opportunity for persons of all national origins to reflect on the journey of their immigrant ancestors who continue to add shape and color to the American mosaic.

On July 30, 1619, the Polish settlers accomplished another noteworthy achievement in the Jamestown colony by staging the first labor strike in America. After being denied participation in the first Virginia assembly, the Polish settlers conducted a labor walkout, not for wages or better working conditions, but for democratic rights. The newly formed House of Burgesses quickly acknowledged the vital role of the Poles in the settlement's well-being and granted them the same voting privileges as those enjoyed by the English.

For more information, visit the Polish American Cultural Center Museum, 308 Walnut Street in Historic Philadelphia, and the Museum's internet website at: PolishAmericanCenter.com.

VALUABLE DONATION TO THE POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA

On September 14, 2021, the Polish Museum of America received four original historical maps of Poland dating between 1656 and 1799 from historian Thaddeus V. (Tadeusz) Gromada's personal collection.

Professor Gromada, past president of PIASA, the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences, received the maps from Oskar Halecki, renowned Polish historian and founder of PIASA. The maps were presented to the PMA on behalf of Professor Gromada by long time PMA supporters Dr. Alvin M. Fountain II, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland and his wife, Brenda Bruce of North Carolina.

In addition to the

presentation of the maps, Dr. Fountain and his wife presented a check for \$10,000 in the Red Poppy Category for the 41st Annual PMA Virtual Gala to be held on October 8th.



Brenda Bruce and Dr. Alvin M. Fountain II presenting the collection of four historical maps to the PMA

Thank You Notes From the PRCUA Scholarship Recipients

Dear Scholarship Committee,

Words cannot express how truly honored and blessed I am to be a recipient of the 2021 Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Scholarship. Upon hearing this exciting news, I was incredibly surprised and elated. Thanks to your generosity and support, this award will assist with tuition costs as I begin the fall semester of my graduate studies in the Doctorate Program for Occupational Therapy at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas.

As I concentrate on my studies, please know that my Polish heritage and Catholic faith shine through me from all of those that came before me. Inspired by my baby brother who entered our world for a short time, I am dedicated to empowering children to embrace their gifts while realizing their full potential.

Once again, please accept my sincere appreciation for investing in me as a proud Polish Texan and my future to assist the medical needs of children. I will be forever grateful.

Sincerely,
Madison R. Dziuk

Dear PRCUA Executive Officers,

I have received the exciting news that I have been selected to receive a PRCUA Fraternal Scholarship for 2021. I want to sincerely thank you and all those at PRCUA for selecting me for this scholarship and award. I am very honored and blessed to have been selected! I am so grateful for the amazing work that this organization and scholarship fund does to support and help students. Again, thank you for selecting me as a recipient of this scholarship. It means a great deal to me to have been recognized for my work! Dziękuję!

Sincerely,
Monika Dziuba

Dear PRCUA Scholarship Committee,

Thank you very much for the generous scholarship award this year! I am always amazed by the great care that this organization shows for its younger members and its desire to help them achieve their dreams. The support of the PRCUA has greatly aided my college career, and for that I will be forever grateful.

Fraternally yours,
Michael Kapanowski

Dear Members of the Scholarship and Educational Committee,

It is with my sincere gratitude and appreciation that I write this card of thanks, as I, Alec Westphal, am one of your PRCUA Educational Scholarship recipients. This award enables me to financially continue my educational journey at Oakland University, where I am a student in the School of Education. It is my goal to earn my Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education and teach at the middle school level. Ever since I was little, my parents have always encouraged me to be proud of my heritage to promote it, and to embrace the foundation it so strongly built long ago. Thank you for helping me to accomplish my dreams and supporting another generation of PRCUA members. I am forever grateful.

Sincerely,
Alex Westphal

Dear PRCUA,

Thank you so much in your generosity in awarding me a PRCUA scholarship. I am beyond humbled and grateful.

Because of this scholarship, I am able to focus on my academics to the fullest degree while attending a top-notch university. For this gift of peace of mind, I thank you greatly. College tuition is at an all-time high and your generosity has allowed me to continue with my dreams. Dziękuję bardzo!

Sincerely,
Amelia Wróblewski

GWIAZDA DANCERS' LATEST HAPPENINGS

By Nicholas J. Nowakowski
Gwiazda Secretary & 1997 Alumnus

It is hard to believe that this article will appear in the October 2021 issue of *Naród Polski*. We don't know about you, but for us, summer flew by.

On July 24, the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers were represented at the Eastern European night for the annual ethnic novena held at the Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit in Detroit, MI. Also representing metro-Detroit's Polonia were members of the Polish American Congress – Michigan Division, the Polish Scouting Organization (ZHP), and members of Koło Górali "Morskie Oko" Nr. 4. The Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit is the oldest church in the Archdiocese of Detroit and the second oldest church in the United States.

Normally, the annual Polish Day Parade in Hamtramck, MI kicks off the Gwiazda Dancers new dance year. Unfortunately, the Polish Day Parade Committee opted to not host the parade in Hamtramck on Labor Day in 2021. We have heard that the parade will return, though it may be held in Warren, MI going forward.

On Monday, September 13, the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers returned to their regular dance practices in Hamtramck. It was great to meet the groups' new families and members, see the returning dancers, and have visits with recent alums.

The PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers are on social media. You can like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter (@PRCUA_Gwiazda).

26th Annual Polish-American Heritage Month Celebration in Calumet City

Sunday, October 3, 2021

All of the events listed below will take place outside under cover from the elements, on street level (no stairs), and in compliance with CDC guidelines

10:30 a.m. - wreath laying ceremony at Pulaski Park
across from City Hall, 204 Pulaski Rd., Calumet City, IL
(ample seating will be available)

Presenting the Calumet City Library with new books
to enhance the Polish American collection

Singing of the national anthems

Proclaiming Polish American Heritage Month
in Calumet City for the 26th consecutive year!

Optional attendance: Mass in Polish language
at 12:00 noon at the Carmelite Shrine in Munster, IN

For more information call Calumet City Treasurer Gerry Tarka at 708-891-8130 or email gtarka@calumetcity.org

ZAJĄCZEK DANCE ENSEMBLE NEWS

By Barb Ozog, Secretary
Zajączyk Dance Ensemble

Summer... where did it go? Over the last month, some of our dance families enjoyed showing off their t-shirts at different places. Our director and PRCUA District 10 National Director Colleen Bonkowski and family showed their Zajączyk pride in Myrtle Beach, SC. Jonathan Dennis, along with his cousins Quinn and Harper Hoelscher, were also in South Carolina enjoying the beach and sun. Donna Jaczkowski, Zajączyk's costume director, showed off her t-shirt in Michigan's Upper



Natalya, Brian and Colleen Bonkowski



Jonathan Dennis with Quinn and Harper Hoelscher

Peninsula. The Ross and Swoszowski families shared pictures from Universal Studios in Orlando. The Lucas and Frederick families spent time in Holland, MI checking out the windmill.

The new dance season is beginning in mid-September. Zajączyk Dance enrolls children ages 2.5 to 18. Colleen, Donna, Rachel, and Tricia are busy with preparations for welcoming new and returning students. For more information on how to join this group, contact Colleen Bonkowski, Director, at zajaczekdance@yahoo.com.



Ross and Swoszowski families



The Lucas and Frederick families



Donna Jaczkowski in Michigan's Upper Peninsula



4th PRCUA NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

Hosted by District 8
NOVEMBER 5-6, 2021 • ROMEOVILLE, IL

SPORTS VENUE

Romeoville Athletic & Community Center
55 Phelps Ave., Romeoville, IL 64046
www.romeovilleathleticcenter.com

LODGING

Fairfield Inn & Suites
165 Fernwood Dr., Bolingbrook, IL 60440
Reservations: (630) 378-0380 by Oct. 1st
Special PRCUA rate: \$123 plus taxes per night (2 queen beds or 1 king)

HOSPITALITY GATHERING

Friday, November 5, 7-10 pm
Details to follow

AWARDS BANQUET

Saturday, November 6, 2021, 6-11 pm
Details to follow

TOURNAMENT HOSTS

PRCUA District 8
Chairpersons: Elizabeth Dynowski and Myron Cislo, Directors – District 8
Contact: elizabeth-dynowski@prcu.org or myron-cislo@prcu.org

Not a PRCUA member?

Call (800) 772-8632 or visit PRCUA.org for membership information.

GAME DIVISIONS

Friday, November 5

Co-ed (6 vs 6)
Games start 6 pm

Saturday, November 6

Men's (6 vs. 6)
Women's Open (6 vs. 6)

Opening ceremony and games on Saturday begin at 9 am

TOURNAMENT ENTRY

Entry forms are available with this notice or online at prcu.org/sports. All entries and applications for new members must be completed and returned to the Home Office, together with a \$50.00 entry fee per team, by **Friday, October 22, 2021**. No entries will be accepted after the deadline.

All players must be PRCUA members in good standing. Each player may only sign one roster and must submit a Waiver of Liability form for 2021. Players must agree to abide by the PRCUA rules and regulations of good sportsmanship and fair play on and off the playing fields. MHSAA Volleyball Rules apply, no libero.

Make your check payable to PRCUA Volleyball and mail to PRCUA Fraternal Department, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642 or enter online at www.prcua.org/volleyball and pay online at www.prcua.org/payonline. Additional info: fraternal-department@prcu.org or (773) 782-2601.

www.prcua.org/sports

OCTOBERFEST SILENT AUCTION

Proceeds will benefit PRCUA #162

\$20 ticket includes 2 drink tickets and food

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021

PRCU Hall

1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI

Doors open at 6 p.m.

For more information: www.prcu-wyandotte.org



Higher Perspectives



By Rev. Canon
Walter J. Ptak
National Chaplain,
PRCUA

OCTOBER – THE MONTH OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

The leaves are changing and there is a crispness to the air. October is upon us once again and it's time to celebrate Our Lady under the title of Our Lady of the Rosary.

This feast is celebrated every year on October 7th as we honor Mary, who has given us this wonderful devotion to help us grow in holiness. The history of the day goes back to the 16th century, the year 1571, when Pope St. Pius V established it in thanksgiving for the victory at Lepanto. This day reminds us to meditate upon the mysteries of the life of Christ as we pray each decade and the four sets of mysteries: The Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous.

Speaking of these four mysteries, St. John Paul the Great added the fourth set of mysteries, called the Luminous Mysteries, in the year 2002 in his apostolic letter *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*. These mysteries are the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, beginning his earthly ministry, the wedding at Cana, the first of Jesus' miracles, proclamation of the Kingdom of God, Jesus's call to repentance, the Transfiguration, a glimpse of His true glory and the institution of the Eucharist, the great gift of himself, body, blood, soul and divinity.

This set of mysteries help us walk with Jesus through His earthly ministry, meditating on these key aspects of His ministry among us some 2,000 years ago.

In praying the rosary, countless Catholics have found this prayer to be very powerful and comforting as they unite themselves to Our Lady in meditative prayer.

If you haven't prayed the rosary in a while or attended rosary devotions, now might be the time to rekindle your love for Our Lady under this title. She never disappoints us and always leads us closer to her divine son! Mary, Queen of the most holy rosary, pray for us!

Another important feast day this month is that of St. John Paul the Great whose feast day is on October 22nd, the day he was elevated to Supreme Pontiff back in 1978. He is a true son of the Blessed Virgin Mary! He changed the world as we knew it and his impact is still being felt today. I was so privileged to meet him many times from 1984 until five months before his death in November of 2004. At that last meeting, it was pretty clear that he would not be with us much longer, as his suffering was great, but he still took the time to meet with us, showing us the way to suffer with dignity for a greater glory!

Those dozen or so meetings with him, especially the last one in November 2004, are forever etched into my heart and mind and I have truly been blessed to have been in the presence of a saint! On the occasion of his canonization, the Vatican released an official prayer which I pray often. I like to share it with you and hope you will pray it often as well.

"Oh, St. John Paul, from the window of heaven, grant us your blessing! Bless the church that you loved and served and guided, courageously leading it along the paths of the world in order to bring Jesus to everyone and everyone to Jesus. Bless the young, who were your great passion. Help them dream again, help them to look up high again to find the light that illuminates the path of life here on earth.

May you bless families, bless each family! You warned of Satan's assault against the precious and indispensable divine spark that God lit on earth. St. John Paul, with your prayer, may you protect the family and every life that blossoms from the family.

Pray for the whole world, which is still marked by tensions, wars and in-

justice. You tackled war by invoking dialogue and planting the seed of love: pray for us so that we may be tireless sowers of peace.

Oh, St. John Paul, from heaven's window, where we see you next to Mary, send God's blessing down upon us all, Amen."

Until next time, may Our Lady and St. John Paul the Great intercede for us daily that we may grow in genuine holiness!

PRCUA PRESIDENT (Continued from page 1)

PRCUA was represented by Vice President Micheline Jaminski with husband Richard, Secretary-Treasurer Agnieszka Bastrzyk, District 7 National Directors Joanna Cholewinski and Anna Krysinski, District 8 National Directors Elizabeth Dynowski and Myron Cislo with wife Elizabeth, IT Director Kevin Ryba, Editor of *Naród Polski* Lidia Kowalewicz with husband Dariusz, Assistant to the President Anna Grabowski with husband Greg, Assistant to VP Conrad Wiecek, Assistant to the Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jane Robles. Present were also Deacon Kevin Kucik, past District 7 National Director, who led an opening prayer, and Mieczysław Dzis, music director of the Polonia Polish Folk Song & Dance Ensemble.

The Vision of Hope Award appropriately reflects President Robaczewski's dedication to the Congregation of the Resurrection, his service to the St. Hedwig and St. Monica parishes communities, and the Polish American diaspora. We wish President Robaczewski unlimited success in the future.



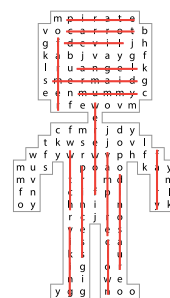
Agnieszka Bastrzyk, PAC and PNA President
Frank Spula, James Robaczewski,
Micheline Jaminski



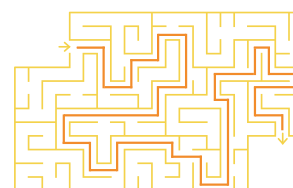
James Robaczewski with family, PRCUA officers and employees and their spouses

ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLES ON PAGE 12:

2. Find 15 Halloween costumes:



3. Which way
to the candy?:



4. Can you find all 17 objects?:





JUST MARRIED - MATEUSZ AND VICTORIA BOMBA

Heartfelt congratulations to Victoria Gavaghan and Mateusz Bomba, who were married on Saturday, August 28, at St. Hedwig Catholic Church in Chicago.

Victoria is the daughter of Brian and Irena Gavaghan, long-time members of the PRCUA. She graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a doctorate of pharmacy and is currently a PGY2 infectious diseases pharmacy resident at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

Mateusz is the son of Marek and Bogumiła Bomba. He has worked at the PRCUA Home Office for the past 5 years, first as Fraternal Department Coordinator and now as a New Business Associate.

Victoria and Mateusz are both PRCUA members and share a love of dancing. Both of them belonged to PRCUA dance schools - Victoria to Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Co. and Mateusz to Polonia Polish Folk Song & Dance Ensemble.



Best wishes for a happy life together, Victoria and Mateusz!

CONGRATULATIONS TO NATALIA AND PETAR PESIC



Congratulations to Natalia (née Kowalewicz) and Petar Pesic, who exchanged marriage vows at St. Thomas Becket Parish in Mt. Prospect, IL on Saturday, September 4. Natalia and Petar were married in a civil ceremony in 2018.

Natalia is the daughter of *Naród Polski* Executive Editor Lidia Kowalewicz and Dariusz Kowalewicz, both long-time members of the PRCUA.

Natalia is a graduate of Loyola University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in human resources. During her time at the university, she worked at the PRCUA Home Office as a summer intern. On weekends, she worked at the Polish Museum of America as a tour guide.

Petar is the owner of a general construction company.

Natalia is a member of PRCUA Society #800. She was a delegate to PRCUA conventions in 2014 and 2018, and served on the Youth Committee in 2014.



We wish Natalia and Petar a lifetime of love and happiness!

DEARLY DEPARTED PRCUA BROTHERS AND SISTERS



Member	Society	State	Member	Society	State
Adaszczyk, Anna	572	NV	Magnuson, Walter	1612	IL
Andrews, Kenneth	2109	AZ	Malczak, James S.	237	PA
Azzi, Theresa	213	WV	Marek, Michael J.	29	PA
Bieniecki, Stanley	2100	OH	Matuszynski, Jean	2206	OH
Brzegowy, John	308	IL	Mikowski, Edward	907	Nj
Cerna, Lenka	1219	IL	Nothnagel, Sharon	162	MI
Clatterbuck, Ron	213	WV	Pacocha, Wanda	471	IL
Dewicki, Irene E.	1585	MI	Poprawa, Conrad	718	MI
Holleman, Treatha	435	TX	Potocki, Richard	139	IL
Jarzynka Henry	240	PA	Sanok, Irene	540	NY
Jasien, Edmund	139	IL	Schicht, Eleonor	823	IL
Jastrzebowski, Florence	509	IL	Shingledecker, Heather	227	OH
Kapuscinski, Edmund F.	389	CT	Sikorski, Chester	1486	IL
Kokoszka, Mary	658	MA	Speck Jr., William	593	IL
Kornely, Dolores	1000	IL	Strickler, Carol	861	NC
Kostrzewa, Janus	463	CT	Troska, Ludgarda	893	MN
Kuc, Helen M	20	NJ	Urbaniec, Eugene	413	IL
Kulpa, Barbarea M.	896	MA	Walkosz, Vivian	308	IL
Kurczyk, Mieczyslaw	2303	VA	Wandrei, Helen M.	359	MA
Kurzynski, Joseph	2291	PA	Wisnieski, Paul	283	MI
Kwasnik, Maria	120	FL	Witkowski, Eva	479	PA
Lesnicki, Christopher	1605	IL	Wozniak, Virginia	1593	MI
Lizak, Genevieve A.	1000	IL	Wright, Donna	907	NJ
Lukasik, Joseph	840	Ny	Zuba, Helen M	1615	PA
Madziarczyk, Patricia A.	994	IL			

May they rest in eternal peace.

SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US!

Did you become proud parents or grandparents? Did anyone in your family graduate, get engaged or married, receive an award, or accomplish something significant? Share your story with our PRCUA family.

Submit your news and photos to: lidia-kowalewicz@prcu.org and we will publish them in the *Naród Polski*.

GREGORY W. STEPANEK



Gregory W. Stepanek of Berwyn, IL passed away at the age of 67, on August 28, 2021.

Gregory was predeceased by his parents, Edward Jona-thon Stepanek "Szczepanik" and Dorothy Matilda (née Bajor) and his cousin Dennis Ptasynski. He is survived by his cousins, Bruce (Stephanie), John Bajor (Maureen), Donna Myrda (Mark), Timothy Bajor, Denise Lubawski and Gary;

great nieces and nephews, and many cousins. Greg was a Publications Rep with the Chicago Transit Authority, previously spent 23 years as an elementary school band director with the Archdiocese of Chicago, co-founder of the Notre Dame Community Youth Band Program in Niles, past member of the National Catholic Band Assn., and voting member of the IL Railway Museum in Union, IL. He was also a member of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (Soc. #15) and the Polish National Alliance.

The funeral Mass was held on Saturday, September 4 at St. Edmund Church in Oak Park, IL, followed by interment at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside, IL.

In lieu of flowers monetary donations to the Polish Museum of America, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101. May he rest in peace!



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Więcej informacji:

(800) 772-8632 | PRCUA.ORG

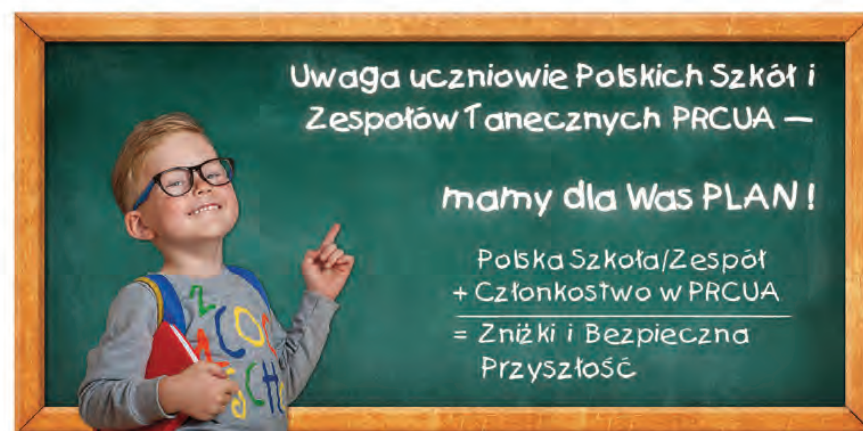
Michał Dziadkowiec
(773) 782-2642

Koordinator Działu Sprzedaży
michael-dziadkowiec@prcu.org

Marge Grzeszczuk
(773) 782-2644

Rep. Działu Sprzedaży
marge-grzeszczuk@prcu.org

202108-EXT-WEA-PL-NP-AD



Oferta specjalna ubezpieczenia na życie

Witaj Szkoło 2021!

Zostań członkiem najstarszej organizacji braterskiej w USA. Obecni i przyszli uczniowie szkół i grup tanecznych pod patronatem PRCUA rejestrując się na zajęcia mogą wykupić bezterminowe ubezpieczenie na całe życie, z pięcioletnim okresem spłat: **5-Year Pay Whole Life Insurance i 10% ZNIŻKĄ.**

- ✓ Oferta dostępna dla uczniów do 18 roku życia
- ✓ Certyfikat buduje wartość gotówkową
- ✓ Certyfikat uczestniczy w wypłatach dywidend
- ✓ Minimalna suma ubezpieczenia \$10.000
- ✓ Zniżka w opłatach za naukę (informacje w szkole)
- ✓ Dodatkowe edukacyjne i kulturalne korzyści członkowskie
- ✓ Zautomatyzowany system wpłat
- ✓ Oferta ważna do 31 października 2021

*Przy zakupie
ubezpieczenia
PREZENT!*

TABELA OPŁAT ZA UBEZPIECZENIE
5-YEAR LIMITED PAY WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE*

\$10.000 Suma Ubezpieczenia Składka Roczna			\$20.000 Suma Ubezpieczenia Składka Roczna			\$30.000 Suma Ubezpieczenia Składka Roczna		
Age	Male	Female	Age	Male	Female	Age	Male	Female
0	\$296.64	\$269.28	0	\$548.28	\$493.56	0	\$781.02	\$701.10
1	\$303.48	\$275.31	1	\$561.96	\$505.62	1	\$801.00	\$718.65
2	\$310.59	\$281.61	2	\$576.18	\$518.22	2	\$821.79	\$737.01
3	\$317.97	\$288.18	3	\$590.94	\$531.36	3	\$843.39	\$756.45
4	\$325.62	\$295.02	4	\$606.24	\$545.04	4	\$865.80	\$776.16
5	\$333.45	\$301.95	5	\$621.90	\$558.90	5	\$888.75	\$796.68
6	\$341.55	\$309.15	6	\$638.10	\$573.30	6	\$912.51	\$817.74
7	\$349.92	\$316.62	7	\$654.84	\$588.24	7	\$937.08	\$839.34
8	\$358.56	\$324.27	8	\$672.12	\$603.54	8	\$962.19	\$861.75
9	\$367.47	\$332.10	9	\$689.94	\$619.20	9	\$988.38	\$884.70
10	\$376.65	\$340.20	10	\$708.30	\$635.40	10	\$1,015.11	\$908.46
11	\$386.10	\$348.57	11	\$727.20	\$652.14	11	\$1,042.65	\$933.03
12	\$395.73	\$357.21	12	\$746.46	\$669.42	12	\$1,071.00	\$958.14
13	\$405.63	\$366.03	13	\$766.26	\$687.06	13	\$1,099.89	\$984.06
14	\$415.71	\$375.12	14	\$786.42	\$705.24	14	\$1,129.32	\$1,010.79
15	\$425.88	\$384.39	15	\$806.76	\$723.78	15	\$1,159.02	\$1,037.52
16	\$436.05	\$393.66	16	\$827.10	\$742.32	16	\$1,188.72	\$1,064.79
17	\$446.04	\$403.20	17	\$847.08	\$761.40	17	\$1,218.15	\$1,092.60
18	\$456.21	\$412.92	18	\$867.42	\$780.84	18	\$1,247.85	\$1,121.22

Wszystkie aplikacje podlegają analizie i ocenie Działu Weryfikacji tzw. Underwriting i muszą być wysłane do 31 października 2021 roku.

*Standardowe składki dla osoby niepalącej uwzględniające 10% zniżki.

Po więcej informacji dzwoni do lokalnego agenta sprzedaży

PRCUALife lub skontaktuj się z Biurem Głównym PRCUA:

Michał Dziadkowiec (773) 782-2642

lub **Marge Grzeszczuk** (773) 782-2644

email: sales@prcu.org



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* Więcej informacji: **(800) 772-8632** | **PRCUA.ORG**

UBEZPIECZENIA BEZ TAJEMNIC

Robert Sobczak
Specjalista ds. ubezpieczeń

Opcje ubezpieczeń po 65 roku życia

Sytuacja ubezpieczeniowa zmienia się drastycznie po przekroczeniu magicznej granicy wieku 65 urodzin. Do tej pory przyzwyczajeni byliśmy do planów typu ACA zwanych potocznie Obamacare, planów grupowych z pracy, planów krótkoterminowych i szpitalnych wiodących prym w zabezpieczeniach przed kosztami leczenia w USA. Większość z Państwa doświadczyła gwałtownych podwyżek cen tych ubezpieczeń w miarę zwiększania się wieku. Miało to miejsce szczególnie po przekroczeniu 50 lat życia. W wielu przypadkach koszty osób niekwalifikujących się na pomoc rządowa przekraczały granice \$1000 na osobę miesięcznie. Działo się tak mimo faktu, że nadal miały one do czynienia z trudnościami w dostępie do opieki zdrowotnej ze względu na ograniczenia networkowe lub problemy z tzw. przebyłą lub trwającą chorobą (pre-existing condition).

W momencie zbliżania się do 65 urodzin zaczynacie Państwo być bombardowani informacjami o potrzebie rejestracji w system Medicare. Większość z Was przebywająca legalnie na terenie Stanów Zjednoczo-

nych, a szczególnie Ci, którzy mają rozliczone podatkowo co najmniej 40 kwartałów mogą przez ten proces przejść relatywnie bezstresowo i mieć możliwość zakwalifikowania się na co najmniej jeden z programów oryginalnego Medicare bez żadnych dodatkowych kosztów. Ale czy każdy z nas jest w stanie zakwalifikować się na Medicare? Czy zawsze możemy wykupić dodatki w postaci suplementów, Medicare Advantage, planów zniżkowych na leki na receptę? Jakie warunki musimy spełniać?

Niestety podstawą otrzymania świadczeń z Medicare jest legalny pobyt. Bez tego, przekroczenie magicznego wieku 65 lat zamiast polepszyć naszą zdolność ubezpieczeniową wywołaną wejściem w federalny program Medicare, znacznie ją ogranicza, choć jeszcze parę tygodni temu powiedziałbym, że wręcz pozbawia nas tej możliwości.

W momencie, gdy nie jesteśmy zdolni do otrzymania choćby jednego z elementów oryginalnego Medicare, to niestety wykupienie jakiegokolwiek planu uzupełniającego do Medicare staje się niemożliwe. Jedyną tak naprawdę opcją posiadania ubezpieczenia w tym wieku, w tej sytuacji była do niedawna kontynuacja ubezpieczenia grupowego z pracy, tak długo jak pracodawca nie zweryfikował legalności naszego pobytu i możliwości pracy. To rozwiązanie niestety pozostawiało wiele do życzenia. Nie

tylko narażało wielu na stres i konsekwencje prawne związane z wyjściem na jaw naszego statusu emigracyjnego, ale i również na ograniczenia związane z obowiązkiem fizycznej kontynuacji pracy.

Wiele osób w powyższej sytuacji kontaktowało się z nami by dowiedzieć się co tak naprawdę mogą zrobić, czy mają jakiegokolwiek inne opcje? Czy w momencie, gdy przekroczenia 65 roku życia, osoba normalnie czynna zawodowo ma jakiegokolwiek wybór?

Niestety jeszcze do niedawna musiałem informować takie osoby o ewidentnym braku jakichkolwiek rozwiązań ubezpieczeniowych w tym przedziale wiekowym. Większość firm ubezpieczeniowych nie brała w ogóle pod uwagę rzeszy ludzi, którzy z różnorodnych powodów nie są w stanie zakwalifikować się na Medicare. Dla większości osób podejmujących decyzje o kreowaniu planów ubezpieczeniowych ten problem po prostu nie istnieje. Nie mają oni pojęcia jak obszerne jest ta grupa ludzi, która pomimo wieku nie była w stanie zalegalizować swojego statusu.

Na szczęście, niektóre z tych osób, mimo powagi swego stanowiska nadal są otwarte na sygnały z rynku, nadal słuchają agentów i szukają nowych, niestandardowych rozwiązań. Dosłownie parę tygodni temu dostałem sygnał, że w końcu jeden z produktów odpowiadających na potrzeby powyżej opisanej grupy

klientów został nie tylko przelany na papier, ale jest już zatwierdzony przez Ministerstwa ds. Ubezpieczeń w takich stanach jak Alabama, Arizona, Floryda, Georgia, Illinois, Luizjana, Michigan, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Karolina Północna i Południowa, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia.

Z dumą mogę przyznać, że nasze biuro miało poważny wkład w stworzenie tego produktu.

Rozwiązanie, o którym mowa to plan typu indemnity (potocznie znany w środowisku polonijnym jako plan szpitalny). Polisy te płać w z góry ustalony sposób za zaprezentowane w polisie usługi. Polisy te pokrywają w powyższy sposób wizyty lekarskie, badania prewencyjne, zabiegi chirurgiczne, pobyt w szpitalu, koszty ambulansu i pobytu w skilled nursing home.

Nie jest to na pewno rozwiązanie perfekcyjne, ale przynajmniej otwiera ono możliwość częściowego zabezpieczenia się przed abstrakcyjnymi w USA kosztami usług medycznych.

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PRCUALife Single Pay Whole Life Insurance

Ubezpieczenie dostępne dla dzieci w wieku od 2 tygodni do 15 lat i 5 miesięcy. Każdy aplikant zostanie nagrodzony prezentem i losem na loterię, w której do wygrania jest jedna z trzech nagród głównych. Aplikacje na sumy 25,000 dolarów lub więcej otrzymają dwa losy na loterię! Losowanie odbędzie się w dniu 15 lutego 2022. Zwycięzcy ogłoszeni będą w marcowym wydaniu *Narodu Polskiego* i na www.PRCUA.org.

Po więcej informacji zadzwoń lub odwiedź PRCUA.org

(773) 782-2642

Michał Dziadkowiec
Koordynator Działu Sprzedaży

(773) 782-2644

Marge Grzeszczuk
Rep. Działu Sprzedaży

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- ♥ Przyrost wartości gotówkowej
- ♥ Dywidendy dla ubezpieczonego
- ♥ Dodatkowe korzyści członkowskie jak: stypendia czy turnieje sportowe

Przykładowe składki dla dziewcząt

Wiek	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
0	\$661.95	\$1,098.90	\$2,409.75	\$4,594.50
5	\$728.42	\$1,231.83	\$2,742.08	\$5,259.15
10	\$806.63	\$1,388.25	\$3,133.13	\$6,041.25
15	\$896.99	\$1,568.97	\$3,584.93	\$6,944.85

Przykładowe składki dla chłopców

Wiek	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
0	\$717.84	\$1,210.68	\$2,689.20	\$5,153.40
5	\$792.77	\$1,360.53	\$3,063.83	\$5,902.65
10	\$881.06	\$1,537.11	\$3,505.28	\$6,785.55
15	\$981.86	\$1,738.71	\$4,009.28	\$7,793.55

Wszystkie wnioski w *Ofercie Świątecznej PRCUALife 2021* podlegają szczegółowej weryfikacji i muszą być wysłane pocztą do **31 stycznia 2022 r.**

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KONTAKT Z AZBESTEM MOŻE NARAZIĆ WIELU POLSKICH PRACOWNIKÓW NA RYZYKO CIĘŻKIEJ CHOROBY

Adwokat Peter Wachowski
Bellas & Wachowski



Każdego roku, blisko 3500 osób w Stanach Zjednoczonych zostaje zdiagnozowanych z międzybłoniakiem. Prawie wszystkie przypadki międzybłoniaka złośliwego są powiązane z kontaktem z azbestem.

W tym ostatnim artykule z naszej trzyczęściowej serii przedstawimy ogólny przegląd rodzajów spraw sądowych dotyczących międzybłoniaka oraz sposobów dochodzenia odszkodowania za szkody powstałe w wyniku narażenia na działanie azbestu.

Pozwy sądowe dotyczące międzybłoniaka

Diagnoza złośliwego międzybłoniaka może być druzgocąca. Jeśli u Ciebie lub bliskiej Ci osoby rozpoznano międzybłoniaka lub inną chorobę związaną ze stycznością z azbestem z powodu zaniedbania Twojego pracodawcy, masz prawo do odszkodowania. Sprawy dotyczące międzybłoniaka lub chorób wynikających z kontaktu z azbestem, zapewniają potrzebne odszkodowanie ofiarom i ich rodzinom.

Chociaż każdy przypadek międzybłoniaka jest inny, to średnia kwota odszkodowania (polubowna) wynosi ponad 1 milion dolarów, a średnia suma - jeśli dochodzi do procesu to 2,4 miliona dolarów. W niektórych przypadkach werdykt może być znacznie wyższy, co skutkuje wielomilionowymi odszkodo-

waniami.

Jeśli zostałeś zdiagnozowany lub straciłeś członka rodziny w wyniku kontaktu z azbestem, istnieją dwa rodzaje pozwów, które ofiary międzybłoniaka mogą wnieść przeciwko producentowi azbestu lub firmie, która zaniedbała ochronę swoich pracowników:

- Pozew o odszkodowanie za obrażenia ciała: sąd może przyznać odszkodowanie za koszty leczenia, utracone dochody, utratę konsorcjum* oraz doznane emocjonalne i fizyczne cierpienie. W niektórych przypadkach sędziowie mogą również orzec odszkodowanie karne.

- * Utrata konsorcjum - zwana również utratą towarzystwa lub utratą uczuć - odnosi się do roszczeń za szkody poniesione przez małżonka ofiary wypadku, która odniosła obrażenia lub poniosła śmierć. Jeśli wypadek został spowodowany przez czyjeś zaniedbanie, czy to przez działanie czy zaniechanie, twoja strata może być zaliczona do tej kategorii

- Pozew o niesłuszną śmierć: Rodzina, która straciła ukochaną osobę z powodu chorób wynikających z pracy przy wyrobach azbestowych wnosi pozew o bezprawną śmierć. Sąd może przyznać rekompensatę za koszty pogrzebu oraz innych wydatków związanych z rakiem.

Fundusze powiernicze firm, które produkowały wyroby związane z azbestem

Wiele producentów i firm, które świadomie narażały pracowników i ich rodziny na działanie azbestu, złożyło wnioski o ochronę przed upadłością na podstawie rozdziału 11, w wyniku czego musieli odłożyć znaczne sumy pieniędzy w funduszu powierniczym, aby pomóc zrehabilitować szkody ofiarom międzybłoniaka. Istnieje ponad 50 funduszy powierniczych, które przeznaczyły ponad 30 miliardów dolarów na wsparcie finansowe ofiar i ich rodzin, które były narażone na dzia-

łanie azbestu, w celu pokrycia rachunków medycznych, kosztów pogrzebu i innych wydatków.

Ugody pozasądowe

W wielu przypadkach osoby dochodzące odszkodowania, które przez szkodliwy wpływ azbestu doznały uszczerbku na zdrowiu, bądź utraciły bliską im osobę, mogą zdecydować się na ugody poza sądem lub rozprawą przed ławą przysięgłych. Wiele czynników może mieć znaczenie przy podejmowaniu tego rodzaju decyzji, ale niektórzy pozwani rozważają koszty opłat prawnych i ryzyko przegrania sprawy w procesie. W innych przypadkach oskarżeni ryzykują proces, ponieważ mają możliwość wynegocjowania ugody w dowolnym momencie - zwłaszcza jeśli uważają, że sprawa jest na ich korzyść. Ważne jest, aby pamiętać, że ugody pozasądowe orzekają mniejsze odszkodowania niż rozprawy z ławą przysięgłych, ale zazwyczaj zapewniają odszkodowanie szybciej.

Kwalifikacja odszkodowań z tytułu choroby (Międzybłoniaka)

Współpraca z prawnikiem specjalizującym się w sprawie międzybłoniaka ma kluczowe znaczenie, ponieważ procesy te są czasochłonne i niezwykle złożone. Doświadczony prawnik specjalizujący się w odszkodowaniach pomoże Ci zbudować sprawę i złożyć pozew przeciwko firmie odpowiedzialnej za Twoje obrażenia i straty. Odszkodowanie za chorobę międzybłoniaka może pomóc ofiarom i ich rodzinom w następujących kwestiach:

- Utracony dochód
- Leczenie raka
- Leki
- Cierpienie fizyczne i emocjonalne
- Opieka pod koniec życia
- Koszty postępowania sądowego

Pierwszym krokiem do uzyskania odszkodowania z tytułu narażenia na azbest jest określenie, czy się

dana osoba kwalifikuje

- Dowód narażenia na działanie azbestu poprzez produkty i/lub lokalizację zakładu
- Dokumentacja medyczna i wyniki badań potwierdzające chorobę azbestową
- Oświadczenie wykwalifikowanego lekarza potwierdzające diagnozę
- Terminowe roszczenie (zwykle w ciągu dwóch lat od diagnozy, ale osoby składające roszczenia powinny sprawdzić, czy istnieje przedawnienie)

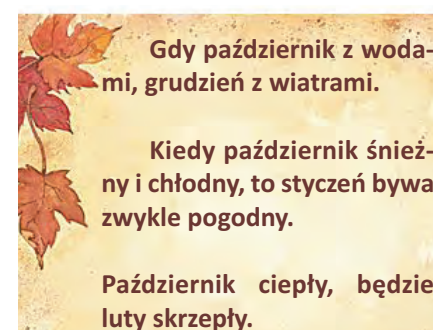
Jeśli straciłeś członka rodziny z powodu kontaktu z azbestem, w przypadku bezprawnego roszczenia z tytułu śmierci należy przedstawić następujące informacje.

Potencjalne orzeczenie z tytułu bezprawnego powództwa o śmierć trafi do spadku, a nie do pełnomocnika spadkowego:

- Historia zaniedbań i narażenia firmy (rejstry pracy, świadkowie)
- Dokumentacja wpływu finansowego na członków rodziny (wydatki na leczenie, koszty pogrzebu, utracone dochody)
- Dokumentacja wpływu emocjonalnego na członków rodziny (dokumentacja medyczna, dokumentacja pracy, dziennik osobisty itp.)

Trudności związane z międzybłoniakiem są zarówno finansowo, jak i emocjonalnie druzgocące dla tych, którzy bezpośrednio cierpią lub stracili ukochaną osobę na działanie azbestu. Dostępne są zasoby, które pomogą ci finansowo i emocjonalnie.

O autorze: Peter Wachowski jest doświadczonym prawnikiem w Chicago obsługującym polskich klientów w powiatach Cook i DuPage. Aby uzyskać więcej informacji odwiedź www.piotrwachowski.com lub skontaktuj się bezpośrednio z Piotrem peter@bellaswachowski.com lub zadzwoń pod numer (866) 739-4679.



LIST OTWARTY KONGRESU POLONII AMERYKAŃSKIEJ DO POLAKÓW W POLSCE I POZA JEJ GRANICAMI

Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej powstał w 1944 roku i dziś reprezentuje interesy 10 milionów Amerykanów polskiego pochodzenia. Członkami KPA są osoby indywidualne oraz organizacje.

Kongres posiada strukturę określoną statutem, gdzie Rada Dyrektorów Krajowych jest istotnym organem.

Na 16 października zaplanowano doroczne posiedzenie Rady Dyrektorów Krajowych, które z powodu pandemii koronawirusa odbędzie się w przestrzeni wirtualnej. Temat tegorocznej konferencji to: „Ameryka i Polska: Partnerzy w Wolności”. Spotkanie poświęcone będzie wypracowaniu strategii nowego, skutecznego przekazu i przekonania wszystkich naszych rodaków, niezależnie od tego, czy są polskiego pochodzenia, czy nie, że silna i prawdziwie suwerenna Polska pomaga chronić bezpieczeństwo narodowe Stanów Zjednoczonych w Europie Środkowo-Wschodniej.

Naszym celem jest wzmocnienie zarówno dwustronnych relacji między Stanami Zjednoczonymi a Polską, jak i relacji międzyludzkich między Amerykanami a Polakami. Sposobem na to jest przekonanie naszych rodaków, że w ich własnym interesie jest wspieranie silnej i wolnej Polski.

NATO jest rdzeniem dwustronnych relacji między Polską a Stanami Zjednoczonymi. Kwestie NATO dotyczą nie tylko Polski, ale całego regionu Europy Środkowo-Wschodniej. Dlatego Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej pracuje nad kwestiami NATO z naszymi partnerami, skupionymi w Koalicji Środkowo-Wschodnio Europejskiej. Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej jako największa organizacja członkowska Koalicji (CEEC), która reprezentuje interesy 20 milionów obywateli Stanów Zjednoczonych, których kraje przodków znajdują się między Bałtykiem a Morzem Czarnym, podejmuje działania na rzecz przekonania Kongresu USA do wzmocnienia wschodniej flanki NATO, w obliczu rosyjskiej agresji.

CEEC przygotowało dla członków Kongresu Stanów Zjednoczonych i ich pracowników, ważną konferencję, która odbyła się 22 kwietnia 2021 roku. Uczestniczył emerytowany generał Frederic Benjamin „Ben” Hodges, były dowódca sił NATO, obecnie pracujący w Centrum Analiz Polityki Europejskiej. Tematem spotkania była analiza wrześniowych manewrów wojskowych ZAPAD. W spotkaniu brał także udział Ian Brzeziński, który wypowiadał się na temat tego, jak najlepiej posunąć naprzód Inicjatywę Trójmorza, w kontekście wsparcia administracji Bidena dla Nord Stream 2.

Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej podejmuje konkretne działania w kwestii obrony dobrego imienia Polski i jej interesów, opowiadając się za Polską w sprawach, takich jak kontrowersje związane z odszkodowaniami z tytułu własności prywatnej, z czasów II wojny światowej. Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej był zaproszony przez Departament Stanu na dwa niezwykle ważne spotkania w celu omówienia Raportu tegoż departamentu na temat Ustawy 447. Było to w 2017 roku i żadna inna polonijno-amerykańska organizacja polityczna nie została przez Departament Stanu poproszona o udział w tych obradach na wysokim szczeblu.

Ważne jest, aby pamiętać, że tylko Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej jako polsko-amerykańska organizacja polityczna, posiada członkostwo we wpływowej Koalicji Środkowo-Wschodnio Europejskiej.

Ponadto KPA jest jedyną polsko-amerykańską organizacją polityczną, która ma biuro w Waszyngtonie. Nasze biuro mieści się na prestiżowej ulicy K, tuż za rogiem Białego Domu, w pobliżu najlepszych instytutów badawczych, nazywanych think tankami. Pracownicy KPA jako jedyni pośród organizacji polonijnych, uczestniczą w wydarzeniach think tanków. K Street to miejsce, gdzie wszystkie znaczące instytucje mają swoje siedziby, dlatego też Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej jest czołową i jedyną poważną organizacją wspierającą interesy Polski w Ameryce.

Przedstawiciele KPA zostają zapraszani do Białego Domu – podczas

wizyty prezydenta Andrzeja Dudy w Waszyngtonie, w czerwcu 2019 tylko członkowie KPA zostali zaproszeni przez administrację prezydenta Donalda Trumpa, ponieważ tylko Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej jest przez amerykański rząd uznawany za znaczącą organizację reprezentującą polską diasporę w USA.

KPA jest także jedyną organizacją polonijną, w której siedzibie osobiście, na spotkaniu gościł Donald Trump.

Zanim fundusze z Polski trafiają do innych polonijnych organizacji, jak Koalicja Polskich Amerykanów czy Polsko-Amerykańska Inicjatywa Strategiczna, które twierdzą, że walczą o dobre imię Polski i bronią jej interesów, warto to porównać do działalności KPA.

Z wyrazami szacunku,

Frank J. Spula

Prezes Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej

MUZEUM POLSKIE W AMERYCE OTRZYMAŁO DONACJĘ CZTERECH CENNYCH MAP

14 września 2021 r., MPA otrzymało donację w postaci 4 map Polski z lat 1656, 1719, 1730, 1799, które wzbogacą istniejącą już kolekcję map w Archiwum MPA. Dar pochodzi od emerytowanego profesora historii europejskiej, New Jersey City University, Tadeusza Gromady [Thaddeus V. Gromada, Ph.D.], byłego prezydenta i wieloletniego członka zarządu PIASA.

Profesor Gromada zdecydował się przekazać kolekcję map, które otrzymał w latach siedemdziesiątych XX wieku od swego mentora, profesora Oskara Haleckiego, założyciela PIASA, który współpracował z pierwszym kustoszem MPA

Mieczysławem Haimanem (zachowała się korespondencja w Archiwum MPA).

Mapy dotarły do Muzeum dzięki zaangażowaniu Dr. Alvina M. Fountain II, honorowego Konsula RP w North Carolina oraz prezydenta Festiwalu Paderewskiego w Raleigh [President, Paderewski Piano Festival of Raleigh] oraz jego żony, pianistki Brendy Bruce.

Przy okazji wizyty, w której uczestniczył zarząd i pracownicy Muzeum i ZPRKA, państwo Alvin M. Fountain i Brenda Bruce, w odpowiedzi na 2021 PMA Gala Appeal, złożyli cegiełkę w najwyższej kategorii Red Poppy, w kwocie \$10,000.



Zarząd i dyrekcja ZPRKA i PMA (l-p: Agnieszka Bastrzyk, Micheline Jaminski, Ryszard Owsiany, Małgorzata Kot, James Robaczewski) z dr. Alvinem M. Fountainem II i jego żoną Brendą Bruce (w środku)

POLSKA. JEJ DRUGIE IMIĘ TO HISTORIA

Karol Nawrocki

Prezes Instytutu Pamięci Narodowej

Chcemy, abyście poznali niezwykłą historię Polski, bo Polska jest nie tylko jednym z najbardziej doświadczonych państw na świecie, ale czerpie z tego siłę do walki o najbardziej uniwersalną ludzką wartość – wolność – pisze Karol NAWROCKI

II wojna światowa zaczęła się w Polsce. To wiedzą niemal wszyscy, ale dla wielu ludzi na świecie zaskoczeniem może być fakt, że nie tylko Niemcy zaatakowali Polskę. 17 września 1939 r. polską granicę przekroczyły również wojska Związku Sowieckiego, zagarniając niemal połowę naszego państwa. Była to realizacja tajnego porozumienia podpisanego 23 sierpnia 1939 r. między nazistowskimi Niemcami i bolszewicką Rosją. Ten dzień właśnie został przez Parlament Europejski ogłoszony Europejskim Dniem Pamięci Ofiar Reżimów Totalitarnych.

Polska była kiedyś jednym z najpotężniejszych państw Europy. Wypracowała niezwykle w tamtych czasach zasady demokracji ograniczającej władzę królów. Przedstawiciele Polski jeszcze w wiekach średnich formułowali „polską szkołę prawa narodów” – wyrzekania się agresji i wojen wobec państw pogańskich. Polska praktykowała niezwykle tolerancję i to dzięki niej do polskiego królestwa przyjeżdżali lub uciekali przed prześladowaniami uczeni z całej Europy. Była ostoją diaspory żydowskiej, która od wieków średnich wypychana była z zachodniej Europy.

W XVIII wieku Polska rozdarta została między Rosję, Prusy i Austrię, straciła niepodległość na 123 lata. Zaborcy krwawo tłumili powstania, niszczyli polską kulturę, dzieci uczyły się w obcych językach. Ale po upływie życia pięciu pokoleń, w 1918 roku, zaledwie w kilka miesięcy odbudowaliśmy państwo, wystawiając przy tym ochotniczą armię, która w 1920 r. uratowała Europę przed najazdem bolszewickiej Rosji, chcąc zaprowadzić na Starym Kontynencie komunistyczny porządek. 101 lat po tej bitwie, nazwanej osiemnastą najważniejszą bitwą w dziejach świata, trzeba przypomnieć, że Polska dokonała czynu, który nie wynikał ani z jej ówczesnej mocy gospodarczej, ani militarnej. Decydujący był swoisty gen wolności, który noszą w sobie Polacy.

Po 1920 roku Polska zbudowała solidną gospodarkę i mocne państwo, ale zdołała wychować tylko jedno pokolenie Polaków urodzonych w wolnym kraju. W 1939 r. w Polsce padły pierwsze strzały II wojny światowej i dwa totalitaryzmy po raz kolejny zabrały nam wolność. Tym razem chcąc jednocześnie fizycznie unicestwić naród.

W czasie wojny zginęło około 6 000 000 Polaków, z tego ponad 3 000 000 to obywatele polscy pochodzenia żydowskiego. To na ziemiach polskich Niemcy dokonali Holokaustu. Planowo mordowano polskie elity. Spacyfikowano,

zabijając mieszkańców i niszcząc zabudowania, ponad 800 polskich wsi. To dla Polaków Niemcy budowali największą fabrykę śmierci – Auschwitz-Birkenau. Sowieckie państwo, które zajęło prawie połowę Polski, zamordowało ponad 20 000 polskich oficerów. Setki tysięcy polskich obywateli wywieziono w głąb Rosji, gdzie umierali z głodu i w następstwie niewolniczej pracy. Zniszczono doszczętnie gospodarkę, rolnictwo, podcięto biologiczny byt narodu.

Mimo to od pierwszego dnia wojny Polacy bili się na wszystkich frontach II wojny światowej, a polscy żołnierze stanowili najliczniejszą armię po armiach USA, Związku Sowieckiego, Wielkiej Brytanii i Francji. Polacy przekazali Francuzom i Anglikom rozpracowane maszyny szyfrujące Enigma, które zmieniały przebieg wojny na korzyść aliantów, polscy inżynierowie wynaleźli dla aliantów wykrywacz min i radiotelefon walkie-talkie.

W Polakach wciąż tkwił gen wolności, każący bić się z Niemcami w Afryce, we Włoszech, Francji, Anglii. Na ziemi, w powietrzu i na morzu. Polacy dokonywali niezwykłych czynów pod okupacją niemiecką – w Polsce jako jedynym państwie zajętym przez Niemców groziła kara śmierci za pomoc Żydom. Pracownica społeczna Irena Sendlerowa przyczyniła się do uratowania prawie 2000 żydowskich dzieci. Siostra Matylda Getter w zakonnych sierocińcach ukrywała kilkadziesiąt dzieci wyprowadzonych z gett.

I na progu wolności Polska została oddana przez wielkie mocarstwa we władanie Związkowi Sowieckiemu i ustanowionemu przez niego komunistycznemu rządowi. Wraz z frontem do naszego kraju wchodziły sowieckie jednostki specjalne, dokonując aresztowań i masowych mordów na ludziach, którzy przez pięć lat walczyli o wolność. Kiedy Zachód świętował odzyskaną wolność, Polakom po raz kolejny zabierała ją Sowiecka Rosja.

Znamienny jest przykład Witolda Pileckiego, jednego z największych polskich bohaterów czasów wojny, człowieka, który jest światowym symbolem walki z totalitaryzmami. Jako młody człowiek walczył przeciwko Sowietom w wojnie 1920 roku. Po 1939 roku został uczestnikiem konspiracji. Przedostał się do piekła na ziemi – Auschwitz – gdzie zorganizował obozową konspirację i sporządził dla aliantów raport o tym, jak Niemcy mordują tam ludzi. Po wojnie aresztowały go komunistyczne władze i po okrutnym śledztwie, kiedy torturami chciano wymusić na nim zeznania, w sfigowanym procesie został skazany na śmierć. Tuż po usłyszeniu wyroku powiedział: „Oświęcim [Auschwitz] to była igraszka”.

Polacy nigdy nie wyrzekli się wolności. W czasach, gdy połowa Europy pozostawała pod wpływem Związku Sowieckiego, Polska się buntowała. Nie było dekady bez protestu, najczęściej krwawo stłumionego, a o skali odrzucenia komunistycznej władzy świadczy fakt, że do

powstałego w 1980 roku związku zawodowego „Solidarność” zapisało się 10 milionów Polaków.

Od powstania „Solidarności” zaczęła się erozja sowieckiego komunizmu. Po dziesięciu latach od jej narodzin cała Europa znów mogła cieszyć się wolnością. Rozpadło się imperium sowieckie, państwa Europy Środkowej znów stały się demokracjami, a ludzie w nich odzyskali wolność. Europa stała się jednością – to również zasługa polskiego genu wolności.

Polski Instytut Pamięci Narodowej chce opowiadać światu o Polsce i Polakach, abyśmy z historii czerpali doświadczenie, mądrość i odpowiedzialność. Także w polityce globalnej.

Tekst publikowany równocześnie z polskim miesięcznikiem opinii Wszystko Co Najważniejsze w ramach projektu realizowanego z Instytutem Pamięci Narodowej.

BŁOGOSŁAWIONA ELŻBIETA RÓŻA CZACKA

W niedzielę, 12 września 2021 r. w Świątyni Opatrzności Bożej w Warszawie odbyła się uroczysta beatyfikacja kardynała Stefana Wyszyńskiego i Matki Elżbiety Róży Czackiej.

Róża Czacka urodziła się 22 października 1876 r. w Białej Cerkwi (obecnie Ukraina) w ziemiańskiej rodzinie. Była szóstym z siedmiorga dzieci Zofii z domu Ledóchowskiej i Feliksa Czackiego.

W wieku 22 lat straciła wzrok. Podjęła wówczas decyzję o ofiarowaniu swojego życia innemu niewidomym. W 1911 roku założyła Towarzystwo Opieki nad Ociemniałymi.

Lata I wojny światowej spędziła w Żyto-mierzu. W tym okresie podjęła decyzję o wstąpieniu do zakonu i powołaniu nowego zgromadzenia zakonnego, które służyłoby niewidomym. W 1917 roku Róża złożyła śluby wieczyste w III Zakonie św. Franciszka i przyjęła imię Elżbieta.

1 grudnia 1918 r. założyła w Warszawie Zgromadzenie Sióstr Franciszkanek Służebnic Krzyża. W 1922 r., dzięki otrzymanej darowiźnie kilku mórg ziemi w Laskach, rozpoczęła budowę zakładu dla niewidomych, w których założona została szkoła i warsztaty oraz powstał dom macierzysty Zgromadzenia.

Do wybuchu II wojny światowej Matka Czacka kierowała placówką, w której wychowankowie zakładu zdobywali w Laskach wykształcenie podstawowe i zawodowe, pozwalające na samodzielne i niezależne finansowo życie.

We wrześniu 1939 roku, w czasie bombardowania Warszawy, Matka Elżbieta została ranna w głowę i straciła oko. Po powrocie do Lasek kierowała odbudową zakładu.

Od 1950 r. borykała się z problemami zdrowotnymi. Elżbieta Róża Czacka zmarła 15 maja 1961 roku w Laskach i tam została pochowana.

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