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NARÓD POLSKI *Polish Nation*

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WELCOME DELEGATES OF THE PRCUA 63RD NATIONAL QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION

The Executive Board of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America extends a heartfelt welcome to the delegates and guests attending the 63rd PRCUA Quadrennial Convention, which will deliberate from August 12 to 14, 2022. The business sessions of the convention will be held at the Hilton Chicago/Oak Brook Hills Resort & Conference Center in Oak Brook, IL, which is conveniently located near both O'Hare and Midway International Airports.

The delegates will come together to discuss budgets, constitutional changes and long-range plans that will affect the future of the PRCUA. The Convention will also be charged with electing the administration and board members for the next four years. PRCUA conventions date back to the nineteenth century and to date, continue the tradition of selecting the leadership of the organization and setting our future course of action.

The Arrangement Committee, led by co-chairs, District 8 National Directors Elizabeth Dynowski and Myron Cislo prepared the schedule of the convention, made arrangements for the events accompanying the convention and accommodations for the delegates who will be present.

We wish the delegates constructive deliberations!

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

12-8 p.m. DELEGATE REGISTRATION, Hilton Oak Brook Lobby
6-10 p.m. HOSPITALITY RECEPTION, Hilton Medina Room

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

7-9 a.m. DELEGATE REGISTRATION, Hilton Oak Brook Lobby
8-9 a.m. BREAKFAST BUFFET, Hilton Oak Brook - Monarch Room
9:30 a.m. BUS AND INDIVIDUAL DEPARTURE, Front of the Hilton Hotel
10 a.m. OPENING MASS, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish
605 Ledochowski St., Lemont, IL
Following Mass LUNCHEON, Crystal Grand Banquets
12416 S. Archer Ave., Lemont, IL
Following Luncheon 1ST OFFICIAL BUSINESS SESSION of the 63rd PRCUA
Quadrennial Convention, Hilton Oak Brook Grand Ballroom

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

7:30 a.m. DELEGATE REGISTRATION, Hilton Oak Brook Lobby
7-8:45 a.m. BREAKFAST BUFFET, Hilton Oak Brook - Monarch Room
9 a.m. 2ND OFFICIAL BUSINESS SESSION, Hilton Oak Brook Grand Ballroom
12-1 p.m. BOXED LUNCH, Hilton Oak Brook - Monarch Room
Following Lunch CONVENTION SESSION RESUMES, Hilton Oak Brook Grand Ballroom
6:30 p.m. DIAMONDS & DENIM DINNER AND DANCING, Hilton Oak Brook Ballroom

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

7-8:45 a.m. BREAKFAST BUFFET, Hilton Oak Brook - Monarch Room
9 a.m. FRATERNAL MASS, Grand Ballroom - Convention Hall
Following Mass 3RD OFFICIAL BUSINESS SESSION, Hilton Oak Brook Grand Ballroom
1-2 p.m. LUNCH, Hilton Oak Brook - Monarch Room
Following Lunch CONVENTION SESSION RESUMES, Hilton Oak Brook Grand Ballroom

All times for business sessions are subject to change



...protecting *Life* through all its stages!

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Due to COVID-19,
the PRCUA Home Office will operate
on a modified schedule
until further notice.
Appointments are preferred
for in-person visits.

Temporary Hours of Operation:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday,
and Friday – 8:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
Closed on Wednesdays.

Telephone: 773-782-2600
Toll-Free: 1-800-772-8632
Fax: 773-278-4595

prcua.org



AUGUST

12-14 OAK BROOK, IL – 63RD PRCUA NATIONAL CONVENTION at the Hilton Chicago/Oak Brook Hills Resort & Conference Center in Oak Brook, IL

19-20 WARREN, MI – 67TH PRCUA NATIONAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT at Halmich Park, 3001 E. Thirteen Mile Rd., Warren, MI. See details on pg. 7.

27 TOLEDO, OH – PRCUA MEMORIAL ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE at Detwiller Golf Course, 4001 N. Summit St., Toledo, OH. Shotgun start at 1 p.m. See details on pg. 11.

27 DETROIT, MI – 51ST ANNUAL DETROIT TIGERS POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT - Rescheduled from May 27. See more info on pg. 17.

SEPTEMBER

LIFE INSURANCE AWARENESS MONTH

5 LABOR DAY – PRCUA OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

11 CHICAGO – PRCUA INAUGURAL MASS AND BANQUET - SAVE THE DATE (details will be forthcoming on the website and in the September issue of the *Naród Polski*).

PRCUA ST. STAN'S #718 SIX PERSON GOLF SCRAMBLE, location tbd. For additional information, contact Dan Gdowski at 734-497-2681.

11 GRANDPARENTS' DAY (U.S.)

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.

CONVENTION OPENING MASS TO BE CELEBRATED AT HISTORIC STS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS CHURCH



St. Cyril and Methodius Church in Lemont, IL

Lemont is a picturesque hill town about 27 miles southwest of Chicago.

On November 23, 1882, the Archbishop of Chicago

Rev. Patrick Augustine Feehan, commissioned Father Leopold Moczygemba (the founder of the first Polish parish in the United States, in Miss Maria, TX in 1854), the pastor of St. Alphonsus Church in Lemont, to organize a new parish to serve the spiritual and cultural needs of Lemont's increasing Polish community.

There were two Catholic churches in the town - Irish Church of St. Patrick (est. 1840) and the German St. Alphonsus (est. 1867). Most Polish emigrants, who worked in nearby quarries and at the construction of water channels, came from the Prussian partition; they knew German well, and therefore they quickly became actively involved in the life of the German parish. Soon, they established St. Joseph Society, focusing on Poles whose desire was to have their own Polish parish.

Fr. Moczygemba selected the site for the new parish and called the grounds "Jasna Góra," in honor of Our Lady of Częstochowa, the patroness of his native Poland. The cornerstone on August 12, 1883. The new wooden church was named Sts.. Cyril & Methodius. The church (with 775 seats) and parish school were completed (*cont. on pg. 22*)

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35	\$127.50	\$205.00	\$428.00	\$786.50
45	\$171.75	\$293.50	\$643.50	\$1,206.50
55	\$277.10	\$504.20	\$1,157.25	\$2,207.50
65	\$791.15	\$1,532.30	\$3,663.25	\$7,091.00

Sample Rates for Males

Age	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
25	\$108.60	\$167.20	\$335.50	\$606.50
35	\$135.35	\$220.70	\$466.00	\$861.00
45	\$183.60	\$317.20	\$701.25	\$1,319.00
55	\$296.80	\$543.60	\$1,253.25	\$2,395.00
65	\$848.35	\$1,646.70	\$3,942.00	\$7,634.50

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Back-to-School 2022 Life Insurance Special!

Become a member of the oldest Polish fraternal organization in the United States! Students registering to attend a PRCUA-subsidized Polish language or dance school can purchase a **5-Year Limited Pay Whole Life Insurance** certificate with a **10% DISCOUNT**.

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- School tuition discounts available (inquire at school)
- Additional cultural and educational benefits
- Available until October 31, 2022

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with purchase!**

Rates for 5-Year Limited Pay Whole Life Insurance

\$10,000 Coverage Annual Premium			\$20,000 Coverage Annual Premium			\$30,000 Coverage Annual Premium		
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

All applications subject to underwriting and must be postmarked by October 31, 2022.
*Standard non-tobacco rates, include 10% discount.

For more information, please contact your local PRCUA Sales Representative
or the Home Office: Marge Grzeszczuk
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You are cordially invited to the
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November 19, 2022

Belvedere Chateau, 8055 W. 103rd St., Palos Hills, IL

For more information: adultculturegroup@gmail.com
For reservations and tickets: Jola Stanek (708) 227-3580
To become a candidate: Gabriela Zuk (708) 989-2408

Still Available!

PRCUA CALENDAR

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ITEM DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QUANTITY	SHIPPING COST <small>CALL FOR ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES</small>	TOTAL COST <small>PRICE x QTY + SHIPPING</small>
2022 PRCUA CALENDAR POLISH AND AMERICAN TREASURES OF NATURE	FREE		FREE SHIPPING UP TO 5 COPIES (OVER 5 COPIES CALL FOR SHIPPING COST)	FREE
PROMOTING POLISH CULTURE A HISTORY OF PRCUA SCHOOLS AND GROUPS	FREE		FREE SHIPPING FOR FIRST BOOK (ADD'L COPIES CALL FOR SHIPPING COST)	FREE
PRCUALife FOLK COSTUMES OF POLAND - VOL. II COLORING BOOK	FREE		<div>+</div> <div>\$3 SHIPPING FOR FIRST BOOK</div> <div>\$1 SHIPPING FOR EACH ADD'L BOOK</div> <div>=</div>	
SHARING OUR BEST - FAVORITE RECIPES OF PRCUA MEMBERS 130 TH PRCUA ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK	\$15 EACH	X	<div>+</div> <div>\$2 SHIPPING EACH BOOK</div> <div>=</div>	
PRCUALife FACE MASKS BLUE OR RED, WHITE & BLUE	\$10 EACH	<div>X</div> <div>BLUE</div> <div>RED WHITE & BLUE</div>	<div>FREE SHIPPING UP TO 5 MASKS</div> <div>(OVER 5 MASKS CALL FOR SHIPPING COST)</div> <div>=</div>	
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67th PRCUA NATIONAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

Hosted by Zajaczk Dance Ensemble
August 19-20, 2022 | Warren, MI

LOCATION The 67th PRCUA National Softball Tournament will be held Friday and Saturday, August 19-20, at Halmich Park

LODGING

Out-of-town players and guest accommodations will be at Holiday Inn Express, 8515 Fifteen Mile Rd., Sterling Heights. Room rates per night are: King Standard, \$109.99/night plus taxes; King Suite or 2 Queen Double, \$129.99/night plus taxes. Make your room reservation by calling (582) 272-2300 and mentioning PRCUA.

CATHOLIC MASS

- St. Anne Catholic Church, 32000 Mound Rd, Warren; Saturday @ 5pm, Sunday @ 8:45 am
- St. Blase Catholic Church, 12151 Fifteen Mile Rd; Sterling Heights, Saturday @ 4 pm, Sunday @ 11 am

TOURNAMENT RULES

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 2022. Players must agree to abide by the PRCUA rules and regulations of good sportsmanship and fair play on and off the playing fields.

TOURNAMENT HOSTS

PRCUA Zajaczk Dance Ensemble
Chairperson: Colleen Bonkowski

EVENT SCHEDULE

Friday, August 19

- 6 pm – Co-ed games begin
- 7-9:30 pm – **Welcome Gathering** at Metro Bar and Grill, 30860 Ryan Rd, Warren. Complimentary nacho bar, beer and wine from 8-9:30 pm.

Saturday, August 20

- 9 am – Men's and women's games begin
- 11 am-1 pm – **Lunch** served at the fields
- 6 pm-12 am – **Awards Banquet** at Century Banquet Center, 33204 Maple Lane Dr, Sterling Heights. No cost for players; guests pay \$15/person. Everyone must confirm attendance at the banquet by August 11: Colleen Bonkowski, zajaczekschool@yahoo.com or (586) 219-1982.



www.PRCUA.org/sports



After 53 years, the PRCUA Halka Dancers Polish Folk Ensemble of Detroit, Michigan are moving to a new practice location.



Renewal Church
11174 13 Mile Rd
Warren, MI 48093



Halka Director Laura Hejza and Teacher/Choreographer Tommy Lisiecki are excited to spread the news.

Offering the same great Polish dancing experience and fun time at a new location for dancers ages 2 ½ through High School.

For more information

Director - Laura Hejza:
(586) 291-4486
lhejza@comcast.net



TOP 10 REASONS to become a PRCUA HALKA DANCER

10. Longevity – The Halka Dancers are 53 years strong in their dedication to promoting Polish culture.
9. Tradition – almost half of the group are second-generation dancers, meaning their parents were involved with Polish folk dancing as a youth.
8. Opportunity – involved in community service events and cool performances like on the field of Comerica Park for Polish American Night and traveling to Poland!
7. Cultural identity – “The more you are aware of your identity and the Christian culture out of which your ancestors grew, the more you will be able to serve your country and the common good” Saint John Paul II.
6. Extracurricular – looks great on a college application and employment resume – good grades are not everything they look at.
5. Scholarships – the Halka Dancers offer their own scholarship opportunity as well as PRCUA and organizations within Detroit's Polonia.
4. Personal growth – being a part of a dance group, you gain self-confidence, social strength, and team-building skills.
3. Physical growth – dancing improves a person's heart and muscle strength and coordination.
2. Fraternal – the PRCUA is the oldest Polish fraternal organization in the U.S. formed in 1873 to promote the spirit of brotherhood between Polish immigrants.
1. It's FUN – and of all the activities that your child does during their youth, being a PRCUA Halka Dancer will have the most positive impact on their life!

Halka practices every Saturday morning

High school students are from 9:15am-10:15am

2nd group is 10:15am-11:15am

3rd group is 11:15am-12 noon

4th group is 12 noon – 12:30pm

Classes will resume Sept 10, 2022



PRCUA Schools Registration Schedule



ENROLL
NOW

ILLINOIS

Holy Cross Polish School (*Polska Katolicka Szkoła im. Św. Krzyża*)

Classes held: 702 N. Broadway, Joliet
Registration: Friday, August 26, 5-7 p.m.
First class: September 9, 5:30 p.m.
Class Times: Fridays, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Ages: Kindergarden thru high school
Contact: Barbara Szuba, 815-630-6190
polskaszkojajoliet@gmail.com
Mailing address:
702 N. Broadway, Joliet, IL 60435

Jan Karski Polish School (*Szkoła Polska im. Jana Karskiego*)

Classes held: 7025 W. 126th St., Palos Hts.
Registration:
Wednesday, August 17, 6-8 p.m.
Saturday, August 27, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
and every Saturday when the classes are held
First class: September 10, 9 a.m.
Class Times: Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Ages: 3 years old – thru high school
Contact: Marek Adamczyk, 708-289-8640
infoszkolakarskiego@gmail.com
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 895, Worth, IL 60482

Rev. Stanisław Cholewiński Polish School (*Polska Szkoła im. ks. Stanisława Cholewińskiego*)

Classes held: 5200 S. Austin Ave., Chicago
Registration: Sunday, August 21, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
First class: September 9, 5 p.m.
Class Times: Fridays, 5-9 p.m.
Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Ages: 3 years old – thru high school
Contact: Kinga Koscielniak, Principal
773-470-6587
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 388994, Chicago, IL 60638

St. John Paul II Polish School (*Polska Szkoła im. Św. Jana Pawła II*)

Classes held: 608 Sobieski St., Lemont
Registration: August 21 and August 28, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
First class: September 9, 5 p.m. (high school); 6 p.m. (kindergarden – 8th grade)
September 10, 10 a.m. (all grades)

Class Times: : Fridays, 5 p.m. (high school); 6 p.m. (kindergarden – 8th grade); Saturdays, 10 a.m. (all grades)
Ages: 3 years old (kindergarden) thru grade XI (high school)
Contact: Halina Szyrzyna, hszyrzyna@gmail.com; principal@polschool.com
Mailing address:
608 Sobieski St., Lemont, IL 60439

Polanie Dancers at St. John Paul II Polish School

Classes held: Saturdays, 1-3 p.m.
Registration and other information – as above

Zbigniew Herbert School of Polish Language and Culture (*Szkoła Języka i Kultury Polskiej im. Zbigniewa Herberta*)

Classes held: 12001 S. Oak Park Ave., Palos Heights, (Chicago Christian High School)
Registration: By mail – registration form available at <https://www.szkolaherberta.com/zapisy-do-szkoly.html>
Completed forms should be mailed to:
P.O. Box 516 Lemont, IL 60439
First class: September 10, 9 a.m.
Class Times: Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Ages: Kindergarden (3 – 4 years old) – thru high school
Contact: Irena Woźniak - Principal
630-863-2759; info@szkolaherberta.com
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 516, Lemont, IL 60439

Maria Konopnicka Polish School (*Polska Szkoła im. Marii Konopnickiej*)

Classes held: 9320 S. 55th Ct., Oak Lawn
Registration: August 17, 7-9 p.m.
First class: September 9
Class Times: Fridays:
Religious education 4:30pm-5:30pm
Polish language classes 5:30pm-8:30pm
High School 4:30pm-8:30pm
Ages: Kindergarden thru high school
Contact: Joanna Niedzielski 708-990-0749
szkolamariikonopnickiej@gmail.com
Mailing address:
13100 Ballycastle Ct.
Lemont, IL 60439

Polonia Polish Folk Song & Dance Ensemble

Ages: 3 – 5 years old - Krasnoludki; 5 – 9 years old - Mała Polonia; 10 – 15 years old - Młoda Polonia; 15 – 30 years old - Polonia.
Location and Times: TBD
Contact: Anna Krysinski, Director
847-529-2555; annakrysinski@yahoo.com

Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Co., Inc.

Classes held: Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish Center, Lemont, IL
Class Times: Tuesdays, 7-10 p.m.
Ages: High school and up
Richard Jaminski, 708-288-7162
richardjaminski@gmail.com

MICHIGAN

Gwiazda Dancers

Classes held: PLAV Post 10 Hall
11824 Jos. Campau Hamtramck, MI 48212
Registration: Contact Jessica Urban-Wendt at panijessica33@outlook.com for details and information
First class: September 12, 6:30 p.m.
Class Times: Monday evenings.
Times times are determined by age group
Ages: 3 – 18 years old
Contact: Jessica Urban-Wendt, 313-682-3031; panijessica33@outlook.com
Mailing address:
5130 Kenicott Trl., Brighton, MI 48114

Halka Dancers

Classes held: Renewal Church, 11174 E. 13 Mile Road, Warren MI
Registration: Begins on Saturday, September 10
First class: Saturday, September 10
Class Times: Saturdays, 9:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – depending on age
Ages: 2.5 years old – thru high school
Contact: Laura Hejza, 586-291-4486
lhejza@comcast.net

Opole Dance Ensemble

Classes held: Kaltz Center, 11300 Engleman, Warren, MI
Registration: September
First class: Tuesday, September 13
Class Times: Tuesday evenings - class times are determined by age group.
Ages: 2.5 – 18 years old
Contact: Elizabeth Thacker, 586-944-9683
opole.director@comcast.net
Mailing address:
c/o Elizabeth Thacker
8191 Warren Blvd, Center Line, MI 48015

Polskie Maki Dance School

Classes held: Immaculate Conception Catholic School, 9500 Westbrook, Warren MI
Registration/: September, Saturdays, 10 a.m.
Class Times: Saturdays, 10 a.m.

Ages: 3 – 17 years old
Contact: Maria Jalkiewicz, Director
586-979-5164; cell 586-219-7841
Mailing address:
39516 Utica Rd., Sterling Hts, MI 48313

Tatry Polish Dancers

Classes held: Thursdays, starting in September in Dearborn Heights, MI
Ages: 3 – 18 years old
Location and Times: TBD
Contact: Gail Esker 248-255-9336

Wieliczka Dance Ensemble

Classes held: PLAV Post 16 – 25222 W. Warren Rd., Dearborn Heights, MI
Registration: September 8, 2022, 7 p.m.
First class: September 15, 6:30 p.m.
Class Times: Thursday evenings – practice time is age dependent – youngest group begins at 6:30 p.m.
3 years old to senior in high school
Contact: Kristi Mihalic, 734-455-3504
wieliczkadance@gmail.com
Mailing address:
44222 Richmond Ct., Canton, MI 48187

Zajaczek Dance Ensemble

Classes held: American Polish Century Club, 33204 Maple Lane Dr., Sterling Heights, MI
First class: September 15, 6 p.m.
Class Times: Thursdays 6-10 p.m.
Ages: 2.5 – 18 years old
Contact: Colleen Bonkowski 586-219-1982
zajaczekschool@yahoo.com
Mailing address:
28279 Suburban Dr., Warren, MI 48088

Zakopane Polish Folk Song and Dance Ensemble

Classes held: Renewal Church, 11174 E. 13 Mile Rd., Warren, MI
First class: September 7, 7:30 p.m.
Class Times: Wednesday, 7:30-10 p.m.
Ages: Adults (16-year-old and up)
Contact: Colleen Bonkowski, 586-219-1982
Zakopanefolkdance@yahoo.com
Mailing address:
28279 Suburban Dr., Warren, MI 48088

OHIO

Echoes of Poland Folk Song & Dance Ensemble, Inc.

Classes held: PRCUA, 5255 N. Detroit Ave., Toledo OH
Registration/First class: September 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Class Times: Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
PRCUA 5255 N. Detroit Ave Toledo OH
Ages: 5 – 12 years old
Contact: Paulina Tul Ortyl, 419-531-8658
rayortyl@hotmail.com
Mailing address: 3030 Hopewell Place, Toledo, OH 43606 (continued on pg. 21)

TAPS FESTIVAL FUN

By Teresa A. Gibala

The festivities began on Friday and Saturday June 17 and 18, at the Toledo Area Polka Society annual picnic at Oak Shade Grove in Oregon, OH. It was a fun way to meet all of our supporters at the picnic and to serve pierogi, promote our culture and recruit new dancers all at the same time. The festival was opened when Anna Toboy and Rob Szczublewski sang both the national anthems of United States and Poland accompanied by the Polish American Concert Band.


The dance fun began on Saturday, June 18, when the Echoes teen and adult ensembles of the PRCUA Echoes of Poland Dance Ensemble performed for a very enthusiastic crowd including PRCUA National Director from District 5, Tom Jesionowski and former National Director from District 10 Barbara Toboy.

The teen ensemble performed *Kujawiak*, and *Trojak Śląski*. The adults performed a suite of dances

from Łowicz. Couples in the adult and teen ensembles performed: *Polka Podlaska*, *Polka Spacerowa*, and *Krakowiaczek Jeden*. Everyone had a great time. We were so honored and proud to represent the PRCUA and present our beautiful Polish culture for all to see.

The Echoes of Poland is under the direction and choreographed by Paulina Tul Ortyl for the past 54 years. She has been the only director and choreographer we have had. The group will perform at the St. Scapular Festival in Wyandotte, MI in August and various festivals this summer, and will continue throughout the fall.





PRCUA

Memorial Annual Golf Scramble

Honoring those we lost

Saturday, August 27, 2022

1:00 p.m. (Shotgun Start)

Detwiler Golf Course

4001 N. Summit St., Toledo, OH

PRIZES FOR: CLOSEST TO THE PIN & LONGEST DRIVE FOR MEN AND WOMEN 50/50 & BASKET RAFFLES

Detach and return to address below with payment

Division (please circle):

Men's Division

Women's Division

Mixed Division

COST: \$55 per golfer

☐ golf
☐ steak dinner only \$15

Names of Golfers:

1. _____

☐ Steak

☐ Chicken

2. _____

☐ Steak

☐ Chicken

3. _____

☐ Steak

☐ Chicken

4. _____

☐ Steak

☐ Chicken

Return completed entry by: August 20, 2022 to: PRCUA/VikkiJean, 5255 N. Detroit Ave., Toledo, OH 43612

Questions? Contact: VikkiJean Mixon 419-351-2698

PASZPORT DO POLSKI POLSKIE MAKI DANCERS 46TH ANNUAL DANCE RECITAL

By Kelly Malinowski

With travel bans and mask mandates lifted, the Polskie Maki Dancers of Warren, MI, wasted no time in dusting off their passports, and boarding a plane to visit the homeland of their ancestors, as they presented their 46th annual dance recital, *Paszport do Polski*, on May 1.

The Polskie Maki Dancers escorted their audience on a dream trip with an exciting itinerary that included visiting four of the fifteen UNESCO World Heritage Sites located in Poland: the Białowieża Forest to see the dancing bison, the opulent Royal Castle in Warsaw to see where the kings and queens of Polish royalty danced, the underground cathedral of Poland, to pay tribute to St. Kinga's Chapel within the Wieliczka Salt Mine, and Po-

land's cultural capital, Kraków, to do some serious souvenir shopping in the Market Square (to purchase some beautiful Polish dancing dolls). Then it was off to the seashore in Gdańsk where we boarded a replica pirate ship called the Black Pearl. On this particular tour, we met up with some Baltic pirates who fought against the Teutonic Knights. We enjoyed a sleigh ride in Poland's winter capital of Zakopane and took in the beautiful picturesque Tatry Mountains. Time spent on the mountain trails of the Bieszczady Mountains in the Silesian town of Żywiec, allowed us to meet real live *hajduks* and put us on a path to tour the infamous Żywiec brewery. And last but not least, a visit to Poland's Hogwarts wizarding college at Castle Czocha was everything mystical you would expect it to be.



Group 1



Group 2

Accolades were paid to Polskie Maki's high school graduates, who were presented on stage alongside their parents. Congratulations to Layna Leveck, Clarissa Magiera, and Abygail Rebeaud, not only for their graduation from their respective high schools and from the Polskie Maki Dance School, but also for their participation in the 2022 Shirley Ann Galanty Michigan State Ball. Also recognized during the recital was 2020 graduate, Chloe Wojciechowski, whose graduation recital and ceremonies were cancelled due to Covid-19. Continued success to all four of our lovely graduates!

Congratulations to all the Polskie Maki dancers and travelers on a wonderful recital performance. Special thanks to Polskie Maki school director Maria Jalkiewicz, choreographer and dance instructor Kelly Malinowski, teacher's aide, Holly Malinowski, and to all the Polskie Maki parents and grandparents for their continued support and efforts

throughout the dance season and for the successful production of our recital.



Group 3



Groups 4 and 5



The Open Door Otwarte Drzwi

Micheline "Misia" Jaminski

Vice President | wiceprezes
micheline-jaminski@prcu.org



It is hard to believe that August has arrived. With only the last minute preparations for the 63rd Quadrennial Convention left to complete, August 12-14 is almost here and with the realization that time really flies! I personally cannot believe that I have already served as the Vice President of PRCUA for eight years and yet 84 articles and 32 Board of Director reports to say otherwise. This year's Convention will revamp our Constitution, take stock of our current business practices, vote on a new budget, and elect a few new Directors.

The current Chaplain, Officers and most of the Directors are running opposed thus will continue for another term. A few familiar faces will be returning as their positions are unopposed as well. We will be welcoming back Kevin Kucik from District 7 and Gregory Olma from District 3 - both after a four-year break. We will be extending our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Mitch Bienia from District 5, Anna Krysinski from District 7, and Lou Perfetto from District 3 - the former two both completed three terms and the latter chose not to run a second term. A contested race for National Director is in District 10 with two-term incumbent Colleen Bonkowski, incumbent Valerie Brumm, and Kristi Mihalic - three amazing women with fraternal hearts and

business minds.

If you are a delegate, the hosts of this year's Convention - District 8 with National Directors Liz Dynowski and Mirek Cislo at the helm - await your arrival and hope to make your and your guests' stay memorable and enjoyable. The site of Convention 2022 is the Oak Brook Hilton in beautiful downtown Oak Brook on the outskirts of Chicago. The Convention proceedings will be live-streamed and you will be able "to read all about it" on our social and printed media. I wish the delegates successful deliberations, the candidates much luck, and to all, a really great get-together. It's been too long since we have seen many of you. In the spirit of the Diamonds and D e n i m theme of Saturday night's banquet, here's a great



President Robaczewski

Other than the preparations for the Convention and business as usual, July seemed a little more subdued although the 69th PRCUA National Golf Tournament more than made up for it. On July 22 and 23, the host group from St. Rita's Society #1368: Keith Kujawski (President), Patty Johansen and Paula Vultaggio as well as super volunteers - Deann Kujawski and Jerry Lubiarz, rolled out the red carpet for the golfers and the sports fans who come to cheer and just get together, starting with the hospitality welcome reception on Friday night. They came from Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and, of course, Michigan. The Maple Lane Golf Course in Sterling Heights, Michigan was most accommodating and also provided the venue for the awards banquet on Saturday which ended



National Directors from Michigan Valerie Brumm and Colleen Bonkowski



Deann Kujawski, Conrad Wiecek, Patty Johansen



Host group with PRCUA Officers

with a surprise 50th birthday party for Keith Kujawski (his actual birth date), sharing the day with Pat Coughlin, and celebrating with his friends, Erik Johansen and Mike Rocheleau who also turned 50 during the week. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KEITH AND FRIENDS! Sto Lat! PRCUA Dignitaries who golfed: President Jim and Elaine Robaczewski, Secretary-Treasurer Agnieszka Bastrzyk, Michigan Director Valerie Brumm, past President Joe and Judy Drobot and former Director Connie Bonin. Cheering them on the sidelines were: President Emeritus Wally and Joann Ozog; past Director Tommy Lisiecki; Daniel, Natalia and Karol Bastrzyk; and yours truly. As usual, the Fraternal Department Coordinator - Conrad Wiecek - made sure that waivers were signed, fees were paid, gifts distributed, and all was in order. There will be an article and more photos in the upcoming issue of the *Naród Polski*, but in the meantime, permit me to showcase the winners: Men:

Marcus Dobek, Michael Dobek, Joshua Stortz, Joseph Stortz; Mixed: Amy Baucom (2021 Golf Chairperson from Laporte IN), Thomas Baucom, Jeffrey Cunningham, Curtis Walker; Senior Mixed: Mary Jane Favot, Eugene Souva, John Zelasko; Senior Men: Dennis Churchvara, Frank Nasiatka, Jerry Nasiatka, Edward Zabczynski; Women: Susan Kazmierczak, Jennifer Nowacki, Sherry Okorowski, Sandra Tyburski; Skins: Brandon Hamilton, Mark Hamilton, Robert Hojnacki, Thomas Hojnacki; Skins: Scott Binkley, Patrick Coughlin, Keith Kujawski, Todd Malavolti; Contest winners: Closest to pin (men): Billy Cherfoli; Closest to pin (women): Jennifer Nowacki; and Longest drive (women): Vikki-Jean Mixon. Congratulations to the champions and all golfers! Bravo to the host group - St. Rita's Society #1368! Thank you, Conrad, for attending to the details and preparation!

Soon after arriving at the hotel for the Golf Tournament (7/22), my



Vice President Micheline Jaminski with Rogalin Dance Troupe



Ania and Zosia Toboy with Marcia Pilkievicz

“Uber” driver – PRCUA member and long-time friend – Marcia Pilkievicz joined me for a quick hello at the hospitality reception and then it was on to the performance of the Rogalin Dancers for Polish Night at Market Center in Southgate, Michigan. We surprised School Director Lisa Brandt and dance instructors, Janet Vilag and Basia Toboy. The dancers made their presence known



Ania Toboy and a mysterious polka dancer

with a few lively dances and the audience responded in kind with much applause (#1 Rogalin fan – Stan Pasko - President of Society #162 – was front and center). After the show, a lady from the audience asked Ania Toboy, one of the Rogalin dancers, to dance a polka with her 87-year young mother. We advised Ania to take it easy with the lady, but WOW – could that lady polka - spin-



Liz Dynowski and the HHPD in DisneyWorld

ning, turning and kicking up her heels! I always said that Polish dancing is the fountain of youth. Here's proof! Folks, it's time to get that heart pumping! In the good old days, this form of exercise was called aerobics. It is now referred to as endurance activities, cardio or cardio-respiratory exercise. It does not matter what we call it – as long as we do it! Bravo dancers! Bravo instructors! Thanks Marcia, Basia, Ania and Zosia (Toboy) for the Friday night date!

Best wishes to former Director Sharon and Steve Haberski on their 59th wedding anniversary (7/6) and to President James and Elaine Robaczewski on their 21st on the 21st! Wedding bells rang for Richard and Mary Grace Turkiewicz on July 1. STO LAT!

Congratulations to St. Albertus Parish in Detroit, Michigan – the birthplace of the PRCUA – on its 150th anniversary. The celebration began with Holy Mass on July 6.

On July 29, Krystyna Bienia was recognized as one of the 2022 Heritage Award Honorees as a Polonia Supporter Extraordinaire by the Polonia Foundation of Ohio at its 57th Annual Pulaski Scholarship and Heritage Awards Banquet in Cleveland, Ohio. We congratulate Mrs. Bienia on her well-deserved accolade. Director District 5, Mitchell, is her #1 fan. The two have been a dynamic force since they exchanged wedding vows 45 years ago (September 16, 1977).

Since hosting a PRCUA Convention is not enough of a responsibility, National Director District 8, Liz Dynowski, took her 25 HHPD Dancers (Hickory Hills Park District) to Disney World and Universal Studios at the beginning of July to perform at each. In addition to the dancers, there were 85 family members and friends.

Polonia Ensemble (Jaclyn Krysiński, Artistic Director and Choreographer; *(continued on pg. 15)*)



Sharon and Steve Haberski (1977)



Elaine and James Robaczewski (2001)



The newlyweds Richard and Mary Grace Turkiewicz and family



Krystyna and Mitchell Bienia (1977)

ZAJĄCZEK DANCE ENSEMBLE NEWS

By Barb Ozog, Secretary
Zajaczek Dance Ensemble

After two years of no festival, Zajaczek dancers were excited to be back dancing under the big tent on Sunday, June 26, at the Polish Festival held at the American Polish Century Banquet Center in Sterling Heights, MI. The dancers attended a noon Mass at the Club, then proceeded

in couples outside in a parade to the tent.

Dancers ranged from our youngest Mały Zajaczek to our oldest and 2022 graduates. It was a hot day, but the dancers did an amazing job entertaining the crowd.

Zajaczek Dance Ensemble will be hosting the 67th PRCUA National Softball Tournament on Au-

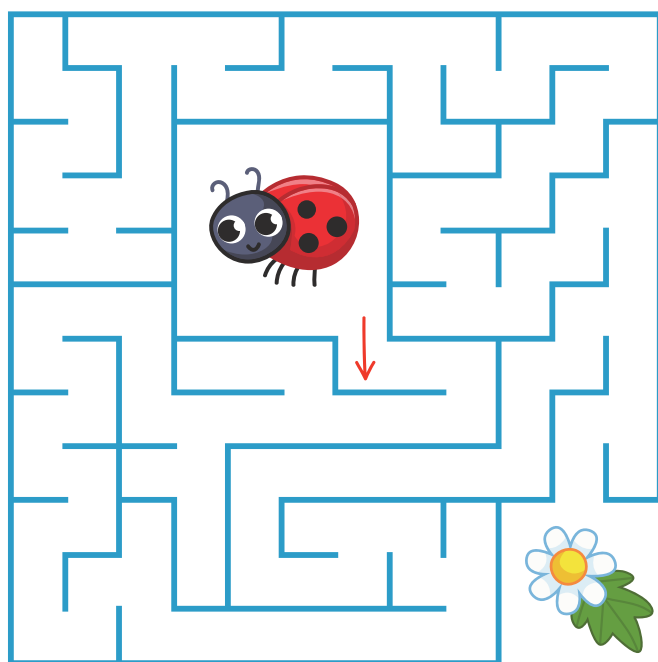
gust 19-20 in Warren, MI. For more information, visit www.prcua.org/2022-softball.

Our regular dance season will be here before you know it! Classes begin again in September. For more information on how to join this group, contact Colleen Bonkowski, director, at zajaczek-dance@yahoo.com.





1. Find the way to the flower.



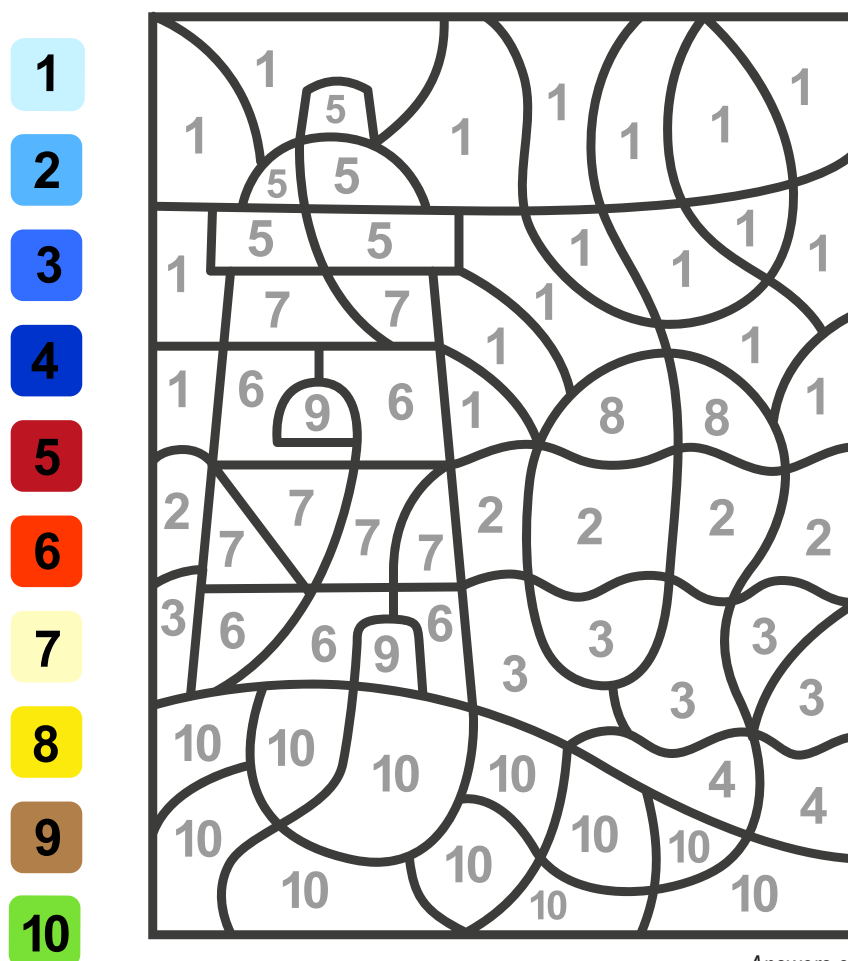
2. Solve the puzzle.



3. Find 10 differences.



4. Color the picture using the color suggestions on the left.



Answers on pg. 24

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2022 PRCUA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

This year, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America awarded \$50,000 in scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students, for the academic year 2022/2023. 14 students received Education Scholarships, 11 students received Fraternal Scholarships, and 6 students applied for and were awarded both scholarships.

We wish you all the very best in this new academic year!

Education Scholarship

Name	College/University	Major	Student Year	Society
Cain Dudek	Pennsylvania State University	Medicine	Graduate	
Alicia Lichacz	University of Kentucky	Nursing	Senior	1605
Claudia Kedryna	DePaul University	Graphic Design	Junior	
Alexandra Kolodziejewski	St. George's University	Medicine	Graduate	
Hannah Sliwa	University of Michigan	Social Work	Graduate	1605
Marcel Kas	Marquette University	Accounting and Finance	Senior	
Angelica Luszcz	Loyola University Chicago	History	Sophomore	
Madison Dziuk	University of Texas Health Science Center	Occupational Therapy	Doctorate	
Natalia Wojnowski	Northwestern Univ. Feinberg School of Medicine	Medicine	Graduate	
Olivia Westphal	University of Detroit Mercy	Nursing	Sophomore	1618
Karolina Gal	Loyola University Chicago	Biochemistry	Sophomore	943
Magda Wilhelm	DePaul University	Graphic Design	Sophomore	
Olivia Gutowski	Case Western Reserve University	Neuroscience Pre-Med	Sophomore	2010
Alec Westphal	Oakland University	Elementary Education	Senior	1618
Kamila Bochenek	Loyola University Chicago	Nursing	Senior	1638
Kamila Wilhelm	DePaul University	Marketing	Junior	
Michelle Cecchin	Marquette University	Marketing	Sophomore	
Lucas Skowrya	University of Iowa	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	1622
Ashley Fay Penczynzyn	Albertus Magnus College	Clinical Counseling	Graduate	
Daniela Kira Georges	University of Southern California	Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy	Graduate	

Fraternal Scholarship

Name	College/University	Major	Student Year	Society
Adam Ciecierski	Loyola University Chicago	Biology	Sophomore	1634
Marianna Osentoski	Michigan State University	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	261
Hannah Sliwa	University of Michigan	Social Work	Graduate	1605
Justin Klonoski	University of Notre Dame and Computer Science	International Economics	Sophomore	1605
Dianna Foran	University of Colorado at Boulder International Affairs	Cinema Studies and	Senior	1605
Amy Czauderma	Lake Forest College	Psychology	Sophomore	1626
Lindsey Bonk	University of South Carolina	Criminology and Criminal Justice	Senior	1004
Jacob Call	Arizona State University	Engineering Management	Junior	1579
Lucas Skowrya	University of Iowa	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	1622
Kamila Bochenek	Loyola University Chicago	Nursing	Senior	1638
Karolina Gal	Loyola University Chicago	Biochemistry	Sophomore	943
Olivia Westphal	University of Detroit Mercy	Nursing	Sophomore	1618
Olivia Gutowski	Case Western Reserve University	Neuroscience Pre-Med	Sophomore	2010
Kamila Szewo	Bradley University	Nursing	Senior	1624
Evan Petrunak	Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	Finance	Sophomore	531
Brooke Kosowski	Pasco-Hernando State College	Radiology	Sophomore	718
Agatha Grabowski	Indiana University NW	Education	Graduate	234



Kamila Bochenek



Lindsey Bonk



Jacob Call



Michelle Cecchin



Adam Ciecierski



Amy Czauderma



Cain Dudek



Madison Dziuk



Dianna Foran



Karolina Gal



Daniela Georges



Agatha Grabowski



Olivia Gutowski



Marcel Kas



Claudia Kedryna



Justin Klonoski



Alexandra Kolodziejki



Brooke Kosowski



Alicia Lichacz



Angelica Luszcz



Marianna Osentoski



Ashley Penczynzyn



Evan Petrunak



Lucas Skowyra



Hannah Sliwa



Kamila Szwedo



Alec Westphal



Olivia Westphal



Kamila Wilhelm



Magda Wilhelm



Natalia Wojnowski

THE OPEN DOOR (continued from pg. 11)

Anna Krysiński, Executive Director; and Mieczysław Dziś, Musical Director) performed at the Whiting Indiana Pierogi Fest on both July 29 and July 31. The festival, which began in the 1990's, celebrates the blends of many cultural backgrounds from around the world and pierogi were chosen to honor Eastern European heritage. We will have more on the performance of the Polonia Ensemble in the next issue of the *Naród Polski*.

The Zakopane Dance Ensemble, which performed for the first time since the pandemic at the end of June at the American Polish Festival in Sterling Heights, Michigan, have also been busy preparing for upcoming performances at summer events. Welcome back, Zakopane Dancers! Colleen Bonkowski is the Manager and Tommy Lisiecki, Artistic Director and Choreographer.

Wesoły Lud Dance Company performed at two weddings in July, most recently on the 30th for alumna Deanna Crouchelli (her mom Veronica and aunt Barbara are also former Wesoły Lud dancers, and her Babcia - Mary Brzeźniak – and Cio-ciaBabcia - Diane Cortesi - charter members and former dancers of the Adult Culture Group). Congratulations and best wishes to the new Mr. and Mrs. Christian (Kit) Bradley! Both Wesoły Lud and Wesoły Ludek (SWCPSD) will be performing at the Convention – so stay tuned!

Wedding anniversary wishes to all celebrating in August, especially to past PRCUA Presidents and their lovely wives – the Dykłas, Ozogs and Drobots; Secretary-Treasurer Agnieszka Bastrzyk and her husband, Daniel - as well as to my Prince Charming, Richard (34 years and going strong), family and friends including Krystyna and Tadeusz Lech, Teresa and Wacek Pazdziora, Barbara and Jim Rustik, Robert and Danielle Kroplewski, Victoria and Mateusz Bomba (1st), and so many others for whom the month is special. Birthday wishes galore during this last month of summer – especially to our PRCUA President – you aren't getting older; you are getting better (my grandson Cole Pearson shares the date). Happy birthday Jim (and Cole) and to so many other special people! All the best to all of you! Sto lat!

As I close this month's article, I would like to thank all the PRCUA members for their vote of confidence.

Michael Jordan had his 3-peat and thanks to you, this MJ will have hers also!

THE LAST EIGHT HAVE BEEN TRULY GREAT! WE'LL STRIVE FOR MORE IN THE NEXT FOUR!

HALKA'S 2022 SUMMER PHOTO ALBUM

By Laura Hejza

Since their wonderful 53rd recital in March, the PRCUA Halka Dancers of Detroit have not stopped their drive to support many PRCUA and community events. Here is a list of our summer happenings (so far) and proud moments:

- Attended PRCUA Join Hands Day for spring clean-up at St. Albertus Parish, Detroit on May 14th.

- Danced during halftime at Detroit City Football Club Polish Heritage Night May 14th.

- Provided a traditional Polish performance for the Cultural Togetherness Fair hosted by the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council on May 21.

- Attended the 18th Blessing Mass for Polish Dance Schools at St Hyacinth Church on May 22.

- Halka was all set to perform for the pre-game festivities of the 51st Polish American Night for the Detroit Tigers, Comerica Park. The game was canceled due to rain but a Polish Paws photo shoot was worth the trip.

- Supported PRCUA Youth Bowling Day hosted by St. John Paul Society #1593 on June 3.

- Performed for pre-game Polish Night festivities at Jimmy John's Field on June 9.

- Performed at Polish Festival of the American Polish Century Club June 24th and excited to share that 2018 Halka graduate Evelyn Kasprek is this year's Polish Festival Queen and 2021 Halka graduate Natalie Palencik is the Festival Princess.

- Halka was honored to perform along with PRCUA Tatry group for the 150th Anniversary Picnic of St.

Albertus Parish in Detroit where PRCUA began!

The Halka Dancers are looking forward to their next performance at the Sweetest Heart of Mary Pierogi Festival (Detroit) on Saturday, August 13 and invite you to come and see them dance at 5:15 p.m. in the band tent. Parades and a rescheduled Detroit Tiger's Polish Night are also on our summer agenda before we begin our 54th school year in Sep-

tember. Be sure to check out our exciting news on page 6 as the PRCUA Halka Dancers are shaking things up with a new practice location. For information about our extraordinary group, contact Director Laura Hejza at lhejza@comcast.net or call 586-291-4486.

See more photos in the digital version of the Naród Polski





PRCUA GWIAZDA DANCERS' LATEST HAPPENINGS

By **Nicholas J. Nowakowski**
Gwiazda Secretary & 1997 Alumnus

Summer's here and we're doing all we can to enjoy the warm weather in Michigan. Even with plenty of time for fun, we've made sure to reserve some space and have plenty of time for folk.

On May 22, members of the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers (along with other Polish folk dance ensembles from in and around metro-Detroit) participated in the annual blessing of the Polish Dance Ensembles at St. Hyacinth Church in Detroit, MI. The 2022 version of the event was particularly special as it saw the event's return after a two year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 27, Gwiazda Dancers and other metro-Detroit area Polish folk ensembles attended the 51st Annual Polish American Heritage Night with the Detroit Tigers at Comerica Park in Detroit. The dancers were on hand, in the tunnel and ready to go onto the field for their performance when they received news that the game and the Polish heritage activities were being cancelled due to rainy conditions. The Polish American heritage festivities and activities with the Detroit Tigers have been rescheduled for August 30.

On May 29, members of the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers participated in the annual Memorial Day parade held in St. Clair Shores. Gwiazda was well received as it pro-

gressed along the over 1 mile long parade route as dancers tossed out candy and red beads to parade goers, all while polkas played on a portable speaker.

On June 9, members of the Gwiazda Ensemble participated in the annual Polish American Heritage night held at Jimmy John's Field in Utica, Michigan with the United Shore Professional Baseball League. The event included pre-game polkas from Duane Malinowski and his Orchestra, performances by Gwiazda (and other PRCUA dance groups) pre-game on the field, a tribute to the late polka legend, Big Daddy Lackowski and the singing of the Polish national anthem.

From June 10 to June 12, Gwiazda's choreographer Basia Nowakowski traveled to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to attend Polish Fest, the largest Polish Festival in the United States. While at Polish Fest, Basia



Gwiazda at St. Clair Shores Memorial Day parade

had the opportunity to view the Polish Folk Dance Association of the America's gala concert and to re-connect with folk friends she hadn't seen since early 2020.

There's still plenty of summer left here in metro-Detroit, and Gwi-

azda has plenty on its calendar to share plenty of folk between now and the beginning of October. You can keep up with Gwiazda by liking us on Facebook or following us on Twitter (@PRCUA_Gwiazda).



Gwiazda at Detroit Tigers Polish Heritage Night



Dancers at Jimmy John's Field Polish Heritage Night

YOU ARE INVITED

PRCUA #1593 St. John Paul II Society cordially extends an invitation to the community to the Polish Day Parade which previously was held in Hamtramck, MI. This year it will take place in Warren, MI on Saturday, August 27, starting at 2:45 p.m. The parade begins at Martin Road, goes down Van Dyke to the Civic Center and will end at Warren City Hall. This year's Polish Day Parade is being held in conjunction with Warren's Birthday Bash.

PRCUA #1593 will be having a booth near the Civic Center starting at 12:00 noon the day of the parade. There will be an exhibit and a "Family Raffle." Proceeds goes towards the fraternal programs of the society. Bring the family down and enjoy the parade with dancers, bands and more; have some delicious Polish food; learn about the Polish heritage and support PRCUA #1593 "Family Raffle."

Save the Date

PRCUA Inaugural Mass and Banquet

Sunday
September 11, 2022

More informaton to follow...
visit www.PRCUA.org

(cont. from pg. 2) by April of 1884. Fr. Moczygamba offered the first Mass on Palm Sunday on April 6, 1884. Archbishop Patrick A. Feehan blessed the church on Sunday, August 31, 1884. In 1886, additional land was purchased as the site of the parish cemetery.

Fr. Moczygamba, wanting to ensure a good education for children brought in Felician Sisters in September 1884 to work as teachers at the parish school.

On March 29, 1898, a fire broke out in the store located across the street from the school. Wind carried the flames and burned the school to the ground. A new school was built of Lemont limestone, donated by one of the quarries located near Lemont.

In 1911-12, a central heating system and electricity were installed in all of the parish buildings. In May 1914, Signor Giusti, a well-known Italian artist completed the painting of scriptural scenes on the walls of the church. In 1921-22, gas, water supply and drainage were installed. On the feast of St. Joseph, March 19, 1926, the Felician Sisters moved into a newly built convent, which was blessed on Sunday, May 30, 1926.

On Ash Wednesday, February 22, 1928, both the church and rectory burned to the ground. Until a new church was erected, parishioners held Masses at the St. Patrick's Irish Church. The foundations and floors of the new buildings were laid by December 14, 1928. The first Mass in the new church was celebrated on January 1, 1930 by pastor Fr. Henry Jagodzinski.

On July 9, 1942, after serving as pastor of St. Cyril for 29 years, Fr. Jagodzinski was transferred to St. Salomea Parish in Chicago. He was succeeded by Rev. Leo Hinc, but because of ill health, Fr. Hinc resigned only a few weeks after being appointed. On July 27, 1942, Archbishop Samuel Stritch assigned the Rev. Ladislaus J. Nosal as pastor of St. Cyril.

In 1942, stained glass windows were obtained and installed in the church. In 1943, a shrine dedicated to our Lady of Perpetual Help was constructed in the chapel at the northeast corner of the church in honor of all parishioners serving in the armed forces. Between 1945 and 1952, many improvements and renovations were made in the church, school, rectory and convent.

After Fr. Nosal died on August 20, 1956, Fr. Vincent Sekulski was appointed as pastor. Father Vince died on June 17, 1957 and was succeeded by Rev. Julius Gilewski.

A new school and gymnasium were built and on September 11, 1960. The shrine of Our Lady of Grace, built by parish volunteers, was completed in November, 1968.

After having served the parish for 17 years as pastor, Rev. Gilewski retired in July 1974. Rev. Richard Jozwiak was assigned as the new pastor.

In June of 1979, Rev. Edward Witusik, was assigned as an associate pastor. In September 1979, Fr. Witusik organized the Polish Club of Lemont, which is active to this day. The club's first initiative was to reintroduce the Holy Mass performed in Polish, as it was in the past. Then, in January 1980, John Paul II Polish Saturday School was organized (the school is subsidized by the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America.)

On May 24, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin celebrated the jubilee Mass on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the parish.

In 1992, after 108 years of ministry, the Felician Sisters were no longer able to serve the parish due to declining numbers in their order.

On September 1, 1992, Fr. Jozwiak retired after 18 years as pastor. Cardinal Bernardin appointed Rev. Victor Sivore as the new pastor.

On August 15, 1999, Cardinal Francis George unveiled and enshrined the icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa (The Black Madonna).

In January 2001, Fr. Sivore passed away, and Rev. Lawrence Lisowski was appointed as the new pastor. Many new projects, renovations and plans for rejuvenating parish life were initiated. On August 21, 2004, Bishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller blessed the new enlarged church entrance.

On May 4, 2008, a redesigned grotto replacing the original one was blessed by Cardinal George. The shrine now features the statue of Pope John Paul II praying to Mary in front of a piece of stone cut into the shape of the map of Poland. The Our Lady of Grace statue and some of the original limestone pieces were incorporated in the grotto.

Since March of 2013, Rev. Waldemar Stawiarski serves as pastor of Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish in Lemont.

5TH PRCUA NATIONAL VOLLEYBALL

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TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE

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Higher Perspectives

"CONVENTION-al" Wisdom

As all of our readers should already be well aware, this month of August will feature the 63rd Quadrennial Convention of our beloved Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. According to our Organization's statutes, this gathering represents its highest authority and decision-making body, which not only determines our national leadership, but also charts our overall course for the next four years.

The dictionary defines "quadrennial" first as being an event which takes place every four years. This period of time - which is also used by other organizations - is popular because it gives enough time between conventions to get things done without being too long between such sessions, like a six-year period might be. Besides, people have a hard enough time saying and remembering "quadrennial"...imagine all the fun and mix-ups that would happen with the word for an every six-year convention!!!!?? (sexennial).

Interestingly, the secondary definition of "quadrennial" is an event that goes on for a four-year period. Anyone who has ever been to a convention before would probably agree that, at any given time, it seems as if the business sessions are magically able to combine both of these definitions!

Successful conventions, though, often do combine a number of different elements. An obvious first one is that they provide a real home-coming for all who participate. An organization such as ours has membership concentrations in many places throughout the country. While our directors do their best to represent us and our National Officers do likewise in trying to visit, especially for special events, most often our hard-working, regular membership does not have the opportunity to interact with their counterparts in other places. A convention gives just such an opportunity to compare notes, put faces with names, exchange ideas, and see how our one organization manifests itself differently yet effectively in various areas while serving the needs of our common membership.

Consequently, another element of conventions is their representative nature. All of these various centers of membership from around the country elect official delegates to represent them and their points of view at the convention deliberations and elections. The number of delegates is determined by the numbers on the local level. This is something taken very seriously and I am always reminded of this fact when delegates are certified and sworn in before they are allowed to enter into any deliberations or act in any official way. There's one more benefit, I think, to having all of our delegates gathered together: it's a good thing when our national officers and directors get a chance to officially interact and hear from their "bosses".

Another element of a convention is parliamentary procedures. Things have to be run in an orderly and fair way so agreed-upon rules are put in place for all to follow. This can and often does seem awkward to many people. After all, it's not a system of doing things we encounter every day. But, if it makes anyone feel better, even those running the convention appoint a "chief parliamentarian" whose job it is to remind them of what to do and make sure everyone is actually following those rules!

A related convention element - and it doesn't have to be a nasty word - is politics. When the matter of the election of officers and directors, votes to change the constitution or other operational practices, and any number of other such things gets combined with various personalities within the organ-

ization, regional interests, and various legitimate but differing views, you're going to end up with what we could call "politics". It's a wonderful thing to have people who passionately care about our organization! The convention provides the ideal forum to both formally and informally "hash all of this out" with the understanding that those involved ultimately have the greater good of the entire PRCUA foremost at heart.

This leads to the last element, and perhaps one unique to our Polish Roman Catholic Union of America: the spiritual aspect. Masses and prayers are a regular and integral part of the convention structure. We take seriously Jesus' reminder that "alone, you can do nothing, but with God, all things are possible" by making sure we invite Him into our deliberations and decision making. He provides the strength to stand firm with principle when that is necessary. He also inspires the wisdom to know when to move on or accede to more appropriate possibilities. Perhaps it is this spiritual element which has allowed us to not just survive as the nation's oldest Polish fraternal organization, but indeed to grow, prosper, and remain so useful in serving the ever-changing needs of Polonia on to our very day.

In the days leading to our National Convention, it will be my pleasure to offer Masses and remember in my prayers all of the delegates to the 63rd Quadrennial Convention, those who worked so hard to plan and make it happen, all of the officers and directors who have served, and all new ones who will begin to assume the mantle of service. Allow me to take this opportunity to also acknowledge with gratitude all that the PRCUA is, represents, and does in the service of Polonia. God Bless!

By Fr. Eric Orzech,
St. Stanislaus Parish
& St. Casimir Parish,
Cleveland, OH



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Vendor fee \$30

PRCUA Schools Registration Schedule *(continued from pg. 7)*

Echoes of Poland Folk Song & Dance Ensemble, Inc.

Classes held: School House Commons
1700 N. Reynold Rd., Toledo, OH

Registration: September 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
(both ensembles)

First class: September 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Teen & Adult, 7:30-9 p.m.; Sunday, 6-7:30 p.m.

Class Times: Thursdays, Teen, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Adult 7:30-9:30 p.m.; Sundays, 6-7:30 p.m.

1700 N. Reynolds Toledo OH

Ages: Teen 13 - 15 years old; Adult 16 & up
Contact: Paulina Tul Ortyl, 419-531-8658
rayortyl@hotmail.com

Mailing address: 3030 Hopewell Place,
Toledo, OH 43606

LEADERS OF THE POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA

JAN (JOHN) J. OLEJNICZAK

Compiled by Lidia Kowalewicz
Editor



Jan J. Olejniczak was born on March 21, 1886 in Chicago, IL. He was the son of Joseph and Mary (née Gierzyńska). He was baptized in St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in Chicago and attended public schools in South Bend, IN.

On August 17, 1909, Jan Olejniczak married Zofia Michalska; the ceremony took place at St. Casimir Parish in South Bend, IN. The couple had two children: Jan J. Olejniczak, Jr. and Marta Olejniczak. His wife Zofia died on May 20, 1945. His daughter, who married Aleksander Łoboda, died on April 11, 1949.

Olejniczak was the secretary of the IV District of Polish Falcons in South Bend, IN. He was a delegate to the conventions of Polish Exile (*Wychodźstwa Polskiego*) during both world wars, which were held in Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Cleveland and Detroit.

In South Bend, he held a few political offices: he was the 6th Ward Alderman - elected for two terms (1917-1925 and 1925-1928); the first president of the City Council as a citizen of national origin; he served

as vice president of the Board of Public Works, appointed by the City Mayor of Chester Montgomery; was a director of Kosciuszko Building & Loan Association (1911-26).

He was a member of PRCUA St. Michael Archangel Society #412; Knights of Columbus, Lafayette Council #361; Gwiazda Wolności Society Gr. 1820 PNA; Rev. Godon Society #191 Polish Union of America; Gniazdo 4 Polish Falcons in Indiana; Polish American Democratic Organization; Citizens of Polish Americans; Moniuszko Division of M.P. in America; Klub Czarna and Klub Dębno.

Olejniczak was decorated with *Miecze Hallerowskie* by General Haller in 1929 in Radom, Poland; *Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta* by the Polish government in 1931; *Legia Honorowa* by Polish Falcons; *Order Weterański* by Polish Army Veterans of America; *Krzyż Zasługi* by the PRCUA.

At the Polish National Department (*Wydział Narodowy Polski*) convention held in Detroit in August 1918, Olejniczak was elected to the Board of the organization. The Polish National Department, operating in Chicago from 1916 to 1925, was an organization whose purpose was to work on the restoration of independent Poland. PRCUA worked closely with Ignacy Paderewski and its other leaders, supporting their efforts by helping to organize the Polish Army, arrange manifestations, fundraising

and working in many committees.

He was the treasurer of Polish American Council; member of Pulaszki Sesquicentennial Committee; and was active in Polish Catholic Council of America (President 1929), and a director of the Polish American Chamber of Commerce.

Jan Olejniczak, who was nicknamed "Big John", made great contributions to the PRCUA, for which he was awarded the title of *Honorary PRCUA President*.

Olejniczak became a PRCUA Director at the 36th Convention held in 1919 in Newark, NJ, and was reelected at the 37th Convention held in 1922 in Pittsburgh, PA.

He served as the chairman of the 37th and 38th PRCUA Conventions.

He was elected PRCUA President at the 39th Convention held in Buffalo, NY in 1928, was reelected at the 40th Convention in Detroit, MI and served in this position until 1934.

PRCUA continued working with the Polish National Department after it was transformed into the Polish Social Welfare Council in America (*Polska Rada Opieki Społecznej w Ameryce* - PROSA) in 1925.

By the end of the 1920s, the Polish diaspora began to consider founding a new central organization. The PRCUA took the initiative to establish it, and invited other organizations to a meeting held in December 11-12, 1929 in Cleveland, OH. The event was attended by representatives of 17 organizations and 19 publications. In his speech at the meeting, President Olejniczak extensively justified the need to create the organization that would be primarily Catholic.

11 organizations joined the new organization named the Polish Cath-

olic Central (*Polska Centrala Katolicka*). A meeting of the presidents of the organizations that applied for accession was convened on February 12, 1930 in Cleveland. Eight organizations whose presidents participated in the meeting, allocated certain sums for a new organization and chose the management board; Jan J. Olejniczak was elected its president. The Polish Catholic Central existed for only two years and its greatest achievement was the organization of the 10th anniversary of the Miracle on the Vistula River in 1930 at the Kościuszko Monument. PRCUA, which was the main organizer, won an award for its marching float depicting the death of Fr. Skorupka (a Polish priest, chaplain of the Polish Army, who died during the battle of Warsaw).

Around the same time Polish diaspora in Chicago was involved in some other initiatives - participation in the General National Exhibition (*Powszechna Wystawa Krajowa*) in Poznań in 1929 and Congress of Poles from Abroad (*Zjazd Polaków z Zagranicy* - originally to be held in 1927, was moved to July 14-21, 1929). PRCUA, and many other organizations did not attend the Congress of Poles from Abroad because of the late notice on the date of the event to be held.

In May of 1928 the Exhibit Committee was established, PRCUA was one of the first organizations to join the committee, declared to cover part of the costs of building the Pavilion of the Exile (*Pawilon Wychodźstwa*), and began collecting the artifacts for the pavilion. After the exhibit was closed, the artifacts were donated to the archdiocesan Church Museum in Poznań.

PRCUA also decided to organize a trip to Poland in conjunction with the upcoming exhibition, as well as a membership recruitment contest. Two winners of the contest received ship passages to Poland. The group traveling to Poland left New York on May 11, 1929. The participants of the trip were enthusiastically received at all the ports they visited. On May 27, President Olejniczak and Vice Chaplain Rev. Paweł P. Janeczko presented honorary membership to President of Poland Ignacy Mościcki and to Polish Primate Cardinal August Hlond.

President Olejniczak was one of the keynote speakers (*cont. on pg. 22*)



Participants of the PRCUA trip to Poland in 1929 during an audience with President of the Republic of Poland Ignacy Mościcki (seated in the center in the armchair) with PRCUA President Jan Olejniczak (seated to the left of president) and Rev. Janeczko (sitting on the right of president). Photo: Polish National Digital Archives

LEADERS OF THE PRCUA

(continued from pg. 21)

during the ceremony organized by the Polish diaspora on November 1, 1928 at the Grand Opera House in Chicago, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Poland regaining its independence. Also in 1929, the PRCUA participated in the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of the death of Kazimierz Pułaski, organized under the aegis of the U.S. government in South Bend, IN, Savannah, GA, and Washington, D.C. PRCUA covered part of the costs of the ceremony, and President Olejniczak together with Vice President Żolińska, Secretary General Przybyliński and Directors Maria Osuch and Franciszek Kempa personally participated in the celebrations in Savannah and Washington.

By 1928, the PRCUA had organized 37 baseball teams and 15 bowling teams. In 1929, President Olejniczak appointed the first Youth and Sports Committee consisting of: Joseph Rostenkowski, chairman; A. W. Czerniak, secretary; Frank Galiszewski, Mary Lew, Bronislaus Galecki and Anthony Graczyk, all of Chicago; Ann Stempień of Detroit, MI; Stanley Chelminiak of South Bend, IN; Stanley Kapa of Washington, DC, & Stephanie Zaremba of Buffalo, NY.

In 1931, President Olejniczak formed the 2nd Sports Committee, which included: Frank Brandt, chairman; Agnes Kleszyk, secretary; Dr. Stanley Jedlowski of Chicago; Marie Kasprzak of Milwaukee, WI; and John Smogor of South Bend, IN.



PRCUA float at the World Exhibition in Chicago in 1933 (l-r): Kobyliński, W. Janeczek, M. Zolińska, Ks. P. Janeczko, J.J. Olejniczak, Klara Paleszyska, J. Opremski, F. Kempa, F.S. Barc, A. Zygmuntowicz

Through their efforts, the PRCUA Sports Department sponsored its first national tournament - basketball tournament in 1934, held in Chicago, and won by PRCUA Society #251 of Indiana Harbor, IN. That same year, the Committee equipped and assisted 135 softball teams, 56 basketball teams and 10 women's teams throughout the U.S. The PRCUA also sent a representative to the Olympics held in Los Angeles (see article in July 2022 issue of the *Naród Polski*).

At the 40th PRCUA Convention held in Detroit in October 1931, on the recommendation of President Olejniczak, PRCUA established a relief fund for members who struggled with the unemployment, that hit the country after the stock market crash of 1929. PRCUA was the first organization that rushed to help its members. Before the Convention closed, Dr. Władysław Sokołowski, Counselor from the Polish Embassy decorated the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and President Olejniczak with the *Polonia Restituta Crosses* in recognition of the PRCUA's contributions to the Polish cause.

In 1928 and 1929, numerous societies in PRCUA Osada 11 brought up the idea of establishing the PRCUA Museum. The same proposal was made at the 40th PRCUA Convention by Osada 69. President Olejniczak in his report to the Convention advocated and supported the project of establishing a museum at PRCUA. The museum was established in 1935 and opened in 1937 during Joseph Kania's presidency at PRCUA.

Chicago Polonia continued its efforts to form some central organization. On October 25, 1931, at the PNA headquarters, a meeting of the presidents of Polish diaspora organizations and societies was held, which was to create the basis for the establishment of such a unit. In 1932, an Inter-organizational

Committee was established, consisting of representatives of the organization and more important local societies (with the exception of the PNA). This committee organized almost all major celebrations that took place from 1932 to 1934.

On March 16, 1933 PRCUA Headquarters hosted General Józef Haller. President Olejniczak decorated Haller with the PRCUA diamond cross and presented him with PRCUA donation of \$1,000.

A Century of Progress International Exposition (the Chicago World's Fair) was held in Chicago from 1933 to 1934. PRCUA and other organizations planned to build the Polish pavilion, where the items sent from Poland were to be displayed. Due to the financial difficulties caused by the Great Depression, and the differences of opinions between the Polish leaders and the Polish government, the organizations withdrew their offer to build the pavilion. However, it was decided that Polonia would participate in and organize some other accompanying events for the guests who came to the World Fair, including the Polish Hospitality Week and a parade along Michigan Ave. PRCUA displayed a float depicting the "cornucopia - horn of plenty".

President Olejniczak was one of the guest speakers at Polish Day, organized at the fair grounds on August 26, 1934.

On December 27, 1934, President Joseph Kania decorated Jan Olejniczak and other past PRCUA Presidents (Adamkiewicz, Rostenkow-



Dr. Władysław Sokołowski, Counselor from the Polish Embassy decorating President Olejniczak with the Polonia Restituta Cross at the 40th PRCUA Convention, Oct. 28, 1931

ski, Kazmierczak) with the PRCUA medal for their service and leadership to the organization.

From 1934 to 1937, Olejniczak served as the PRCUA National Treasurer.

In May 1936, Olejniczak was elected to the first Board of the newly formed Polish Inter-Organizational Council in the United States, and was reelected a year later.

In 1937, he was a member of the committee which was in charge of relocating the grave of Fr. Teodor Gierzyk, one of the founders of PRCUA, and commissioning the new grave stone.

In 1940 PRCUA Women's Division founded a fully equipped ambulance for the Polish Army fighting in France. The vehicle, together with



Jan Olejniczak and representatives of other major Polish organizations with President Roosevelt in Washington, DC., October 11, 1944

another 14 ambulances funded by the Polish diaspora in Chicago, were blessed by Archbishop Samuel Stritch at a ceremony on June 23, 1940. Olejniczak was the



Olejniczak and other Polonian dignitaries with Ignacy Paderewski at the Civic Opera House, 1932

chairman of this event.

Jan J. Olejniczak was again elected PRCUA President at its 43rd Convention in Baltimore, MD in 1941, and he remained in this position until 1945 (beginning in 1937, PRCUA instituted conventions every 4 years.)

On November 3, 1941, Olejniczak and other dignitaries spoke at the opening of the Paderewski Room, where memorabilia of Ignacy Paderewski and furniture from the room where he lived before his death, were collected. Items were donated by his sister Antonina J. Wilkońska.

In 1943, PRCUA celebrated its 70th anniversary. Olejniczak was one of the keynote speakers at the banquet held on June 27 at PRCUA Youth Building (*Dom Młodzieży*). On April 8, 1945, he was also one of the speakers at the celebration held on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of women being granted the right to vote in PRCUA.

From the early 1940s, Paderewski and Sikorski appealed to the leaders of the American Polonia to plea the American government for

help for Poland, which was in the center of war-torn Europe.

In May 1944, under the pressure of public opinion and war events, the Polish American Council authorized the leaders of Polish organizations, press and clergy to convene a conference to discuss the means and methods of action in the affairs of Poland and the American Polish diaspora. The result of this action was the establishment of the Polish American Congress (PAC) and defining its goal of a free Poland and underscoring its support for the U.S. war effort against the Axis powers. Jan Olejniczak served as PAC Treasurer. On October 11, 1944, a PAC delegation (including Jan Olejniczak) met with President F.D. Roosevelt in the White House.

Olejniczak took an active part in the meetings of the *Rada Polonii Amerykańskiej* (Polish War Relief), an organization established in 1938 by the Polish organizations in Chicago, whose aim was to provide charitable and financial help to Poland. In 1945, as a member of the executive board of this organization, he was dele-

gated to Poland with a special mission to examine the existing conditions and needs and organize help for Polish war victims. He visited Warsaw, Kraków, Poznań, Gdynia, Gdańsk, Słupce, Lublin and Majdanek. During his stay in Poland, he spoke with leading representatives of the Polish government. The talks concentrated on the humanitarian help for the



Meeting of the leaders of Polish organizations, press and clergy who founded the Polish American Congress during the meeting at Polish Women's Alliance Headquarters on March 4, 1944

war ravaged Poland.

Olejniczak remained faithful to the PRCUA after the end of his presidency, taking an active part in the life of the organization.

Jan Olejniczak died on November 7, 1963. The funeral service was held on November 12 at St. Helen Church. He was interred at St. Adalbert Cemetery in Niles, IL. He was survived by son Jan (Helena) Olejniczak, grandchildren Jan Łoboda, Aleksandra Ledl and Barbara Olejniczak, great-grandchildren Mark and Stefan Łoboda, sisters Władysława Grzegorek and Agnieszka Austin, brothers Corbett and Walenty.

After the death of the PRCUA past leader, the Home Office main entrance was decorated with black ribbons. The Board issued a memorial resolution and decided to organize a memorial ceremony. The officers and directors were to participate in the funeral.

The memorial ceremony was held on November 11 at the funeral home. PRCUA Vice President Aniela B. Górny was the chairman of the program in the absence of President Joseph Pranica, who was attending the PRCUA Bowling Tournament in

New England.

Remarks at the event were given by Vice President Gorny, *Naród Polski* Editor Zygmunt Stefanowicz, Vice President of the PRCUA Women's Division Antonina Czerniak, past President Kazimierz Kozakiewicz, President of Osada #14 Władysław Buszkiewicz, President of Połączone Osady Ludwik Żuławiński, Vice President of *Macierz Polska* Eleonor Król, Vice President of the PNA-Illinois Division Dr. Edward Różański, and Polish Falcons Director Jadwiga Bielańska. A PRCUA resolution was read by PRCUA Secretary General Vincent Versen.

All guest speakers remarked on Olejniczak's honesty and diligence in the service to the PRCUA, other organizations, and American Polonia and Poland.

At the funeral, PRCUA President Joseph Pranica, Secretary General Vincent Versen, Treasurer Franciszek Litwin, Attorney Stanisław Kusper, Editor Zygmunt Stefanowicz and past President Kazimierz Kozakiewicz served as pallbearers. The Mass was celebrated by PRCUA Chaplain Rev. Walerian Karcz with the assistance of Rev. Władysław Szczypuła and Rev. Marian Metler at the main

altar, and Rev. Stanisław Lisewski and Rev. Mieczysław Starzyński at the by-altars. Homily was said by Rev. Stanisław Piwowar, pastor of St. Helen Church.

Sources: *Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymo Katolickie w Ameryce 1873-1948* by M. Haiman; *Naród Polski*, (Nov. 21, 1963); PMA Archives.



Jan Olejniczak and family



Opening of the Paderewski Room, November 3, 1941

OLIVER'S STORY



Oliver Frank Wolicki

With a face like that, who needs words! But here's Oliver's story none-the-less! The blessed event of Oliver's birth occurred on Friday, April 8, 2022 at 3:54 p.m. at Detroit's, Ascension St. John's Hospital. If that date sounds familiar, it because it was the 2022 Tiger's opening day at Comerica Park. Call it coincidence if you want, but the momentous occasion clenched the Tiger's winning that game and the city of Detroit became engulfed in full party mode!

Oliver Frank Wolicki is the newborn son to proud parents Alex and Sarah Wolicki of Royal Oak, MI, and brother to three-year-old Adelaide. This handsome boy weighed in at 8 pounds 12 ounces and was 20 inches long. Mom, Sarah while adjusting to life with a newborn and a toddler, is delighted that sister Adelaide has taken quite a loving interest in her baby brother. Adelaide is helpful in holding Oliver, kissing him, comforting him, and babysitting him while he's in his bouncer chair! Oliver seems to be a quick study and has become a mama's boy in no time flat! But as reported, he has also picked up a few bad habits from his uncles on the Porada side of the family. But that's another story!

When asked how Alex and Sarah decided on the name Oliver Frank, they both admitted that they loved the name Oliver, but did have some trouble with the middle name since they wanted to honor both their fathers.

The angels of fate were smiling down and helped both to

make their selection. Frank was chosen after Dziadek Wolicki, Alex's father. No hurt feelings however as love is all around. Sarah feels a deep connection to her late father Gregory Porada, within all of Oliver's being, as Oliver's intrauterine insemination occurred on her father's 1st year anniversary of death. Additionally, Oliver's birth on the Tiger's opening game (which incidentally was her father's favorite team) was truly a definite sign that her late father had a hand in Oliver's arrival! A feeling that Sarah will always be comforted by.

As an added note, the name Oliver is a name that denotes peace such as the infamous Olive branch. It is a name that is synonymous with ancestors and descendants. Dziadzia Gregory is all around and within baby Oliver!

The Wolickis are a 100% PRCUA family. Dad, Alex is a past graduate of the PRCUA Zajączek Dance Ensemble, mom Sarah is a graduate and alumni dancer of the PRCUA Polskie Maki Dancers and sister Adelaide debuted in her first recital with the Polskie Maki Dance School this past May. It's been a busy but blessed time of year! Congratulations to the entire Wolicki and Porada families!



Big sistert Adelaide with Oliver



Wolicki family

DEARLY DEPARTED
PRCUA BROTHERS AND SISTERS



Member	Society	State	Member	Society	State
Chandonnet, Lillian V.	78	MI	Kucynski, Judith Ann	122	IL
Dalbo, Stella T.	531	PA	Kula, Michal	29	PA
Decara, Patricia L.	295	PA	Kvasnak, Christine	1118	MI
Dobrinic, Audrey A.	709	OH	Lapczynski, Alan V.	162	MI
Dolega, Richard L.	122	IL	Laskowski, Halina	463	CT
Fennell, Irene	237	PA	Lauenzi, Albert	2220	OH
Forys, Agnes M.	1004	IL	LIS, Judy M.	20	NJ
Gable, Jennifer L.	572	NJ	Machay, Margaret	1000	IL
Gomez, Alfred E.	718	MI	Marszal, Jerzy	1593	SC
Gordon, Neil	1000	IL	Mastee, Theodore J.	78	MI
Grabowski, David V.	1593	MI	Mendez, Sr., Richard A.	1004	IL
Gregg, Eugenia M.	237	PA	Michalski, Florence A.	527	MD
Grzelinski, Aloise T.	880	IL	Michon, EmIL	542	MI
Gumula, Cecylia C.	597	CT	Miegoc, Irene T.	78	MI
Hawk, Donna M.	2015	PA	Migala, Diana	1557	IL
Hojnacki, Jerome	337	IN	Motyl, Leocadia	604	MA
Holman, Christine	977	NV	Mroczkowski, Bruno	72	MO
Holod, Beverly Ann	87	MI	Mydlowski, Catherine	2019	NJ
Janak, James	795	IL	Myszkowski, Bernard	308	IL
Jasiorkowski, Eleonore	308	IL	Neukum, Josephine	450	MO
Jaworski, Stanley	2109	OH	Pachesny, William John	78	MI
Jurczyk, Raymond	87	MI	Paprocki, Christine	240	PA
Kaczala, Donald	2148	IL	Plaza, Andrew M.	162	MI
Kaczmarek, Carla	1593	MI	Shenkman, Gerald	671	IL
Kieliszkowski, Kazimierz	1423	WI	Shiels, Arthur J., Jr.	162	MI
Kierstyn, Charles H.	2320	WI	Slicker, Frederick J.	2145	OH
Klein, James	2145	OH	Tomcho, Josephine	2015	NJ
Kolano, Andrew	479	IL	Tosseng, Evelyn	565	IN
Kosiba, Casimer	300	IL	Wenski, John Joseph	105	KS
Koziol, Rose	907	NJ	White, Veronica	527	MD
Kuca, Francis A.	1004	IL	Wyszkowski, Stanley	817	WI

May they rest in eternal peace.

SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US!

Did you become proud parents or grandparents? Did someone 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*.

ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLES ON PG. 13:

1. Find the way to the flower:



3. Find 10 differences:



2. Solve the puzzle: 1. BICYCLE, 2. BACKPACK, 3. WATERFALL, 4. FIRE, 5. VAN; 6. GUITAR, 7. COMPASS, 8. MOUNTAINS; 9. TENT; 10. MAT; 11. CAMPER; 12. ROD; 13. LANTERN; 14. BOAT; 15. FOREST

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UBEZPIECZENIA BEZ TAJEMNIC

Robert Sobczak

Specjalista ds. ubezpieczeń

Słowniczek ubezpieczonego

Na podstawie codziennych rozmów i współpracy z klientami wnioskujemy, że największe problemy związane ze zrozumieniem zasad działania systemów opieki zdrowotnej na terenie Stanów Zjednoczonych wynikają z niepełnej znajomości używanych terminów. Na prośbę naszych czytelników postaramy się przybliżyć parę z nich tak, byście otrzymali podstawy terminologii obowiązującej w naszej branży.

Medicare - program ubezpieczeń społecznych administrowany przez rząd federalny od 1966 roku. Gwarantuje on dostęp do ubezpieczenia na zdrowie dla osób powyżej 65 roku życia, które przepracowały w USA co najmniej 40 kwartałów i płaciły stawki na Medicare przy rozliczaniu podatków dochodowych oraz dla osób młodszych będących na rentach inwalidzkich (disability) przez 24 miesiące.

Podstawowe elementy programu **Medicare**:

Part A – część A – przyznawana automatycznie przy otrzymaniu Medicare, pokrywa częściowo koszty leczenia szpitalnego,

Part B – część B – przyznawana dla osób niepo-

siadających ubezpieczenia w pracy lub rezygnujących z niego, pokrywa 80% kosztów lekarskich zatwierdzonych przez Medicare, po opłaceniu rocznego deductible, posiadająca stałą opłatę ściągana zazwyczaj z emerytury.

Part C – część C – plany typu **Medicare Advantage** – plany oferowane przez prywatne firmy ubezpieczeniowe stanowiące alternatywę pokrycia i zmniejszenia kosztów leczenia w systemie Medicare. Z zasady muszą one pokrywać co najmniej te świadczenia, które pokrywane są przez oryginalne części Medicare (Part A i Part B)

Part D – część D – **PDP - Prescription Drug Plan** – Zniżkowy plan na leki na receptę

Premium - opłata miesięczna - miesięczna stawka, którą płacimy za polisę ubezpieczeniową.

Deductible - udział własny - jest to kwota ustalona na polisie, do wysokości której, ubezpieczony płaci za leczenie w 100%. Dopiero po przekroczeniu tej kwoty ubezpieczenie zaczyna pokrywać koszty leczenia.

Co-pay - opłata własna - z góry ustalona w polisie, stała opłata za korzystanie ze specyficznych usług lub świadczeń np. za wizytę lekarską lub wizytę na pogotowiu.

Coinsurance - udział wspólny - po zapłaceniu deductible ubezpieczony może być nadal odpowiedzialny za część kosztów leczenia, zazwyczaj 20%-50% (zwanego Coinsurance), dopóki nie osiągną one wyznaczonego na polisie limitu (**Maximum Out of Pocket**).

Maximum Out of Pocket (MOOP) - maksymalny roczny koszt leczenia. Termin określający maksymalny wydatek roczny, za który odpowiedzialny jest pacjent. Powyżej tej kwoty firma ubezpieczająca przejmuje wszystkie koszty leczenia ustalone w polisie. W planach związanych z **Medicare** nie obejmuje one kosztów lekarstw na receptę.

Network - Preferowana Grupa Lekarska - grupa lekarzy, szpitali lub zakładów lekarskich posiadających preferencyjne umowy z firmą ubezpieczeniową. Dzięki kontraktowi z networkiem mogą oni oferować swoje usługi po preferencyjnych cenach ustalonych w umowie.

MIB (Medical Information Bureau) - firma zajmująca się zbieraniem informacji o stanie zdrowia pacjentów w celu wyławiania nieścisłości dotyczących stanu zdrowia i ich nawyków.

Extra Help - Low Income Subsidy - dodatkowa pomoc dla osób o niskich dochodach i zasobach nie kwalifikujących się na Medicaid. W zależności od poziomu dochodu wpływa ona na koszt opłaty miesięcznej za Part D Medicare, jak również jego deductible i opłat za leki. Pomoc ta może w skali rocznej przewyższać \$5,000.

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SZKOŁA ŚW. RAFAŁA KALINOWSKIEGO I ZESPÓŁ „MAŁA POLSKA” NA PARADZIE

„Wolność i Pokój dla Świata” (*Freedom and Peace for All*) to hasło przewodnie tegorocznej parady, upamiętniającej 231. rocznicę uchwalenia Konstytucji 3 Maja, która po dwóch latach przerwy spowodowanej pandemią powróciła do Wietrznego Miasta Chicago. Po raz kolejny,

uczniowie Polskiej Szkoły im. Św. Rafała Kalinowskiego działającej pod patronatem PRCUA wraz z rodzinami oraz tancerzami zespołu „Mała Polska”, dumnie zademonstrowali jedyną polską społeczność szkolną działającą na terenie stanu Indiana. Zespół „Mała Polska” po-

nownie miał okazję zaprezentować przepiękne stroje łowickie, zakupione z dotacji otrzymanej ze środków finansowych pochodzących z Kancelarii prezesa Rady Ministrów w ramach konkursu „Polonia i Po-lacy za Granicą 2021”. Nie zabrakło również regionu kurpiowskiego, który w tym roku dumnie dołączył do kolekcji garderoby naszej

grupy tanecznej.

Z niecierpliwością oczekujemy na moment, kiedy to znów będziemy mogli wyjść razem i przejść w pochodzie by celebrować polskie święto narodowe.



Koncert 35^{lat} działalności artystycznej Zespołu Pieśni i Tańca „POLONIA”

Jolanta Dylewska

W niedzielę 5-tego czerwca br. w imponującej sali koncertowej McAninch Arts Center w DuPage College w Glen Ellyn, IL odbył się rocznicowy koncert Zespołu PiT „Polonia”. Publiczność licznie dopisała i w czasie dwugodzinnych występów spontanicznie przerywała gromkimi oklaskami kolejne suity taneczne i wzruszające pieśni. Trudno uwierzyć że popularny w USA i za granicą zespół „Polonia” ma już 35 lat!

Niedzielnny koncert utkwiał z pewnością w pamięci rodziców młodych tancerzy, ich gości, honorowych przedstawicieli polskiego Konsulatu, polonijnych organizacji i chicagowskich polityków. Na sali obecni byli między innymi: wicekonsul Agata Grochowska, James Robaczewski, prezes PRCUA (patronującemu „Polonii”), Mirosław Niedziński prezes KPA na stan IL, Katarzyna Lesny Prezes Legionu Młodych Polek, Urszula Gawlik wiceprezes Zrzeszenia Nauczycieli Polskich, Anna Sokółowski członek zarządu Muzeum Polskiego, przedstawiciele Związku Młodych Lekarzy Polskich, Lusja Bucki i Robert Musiałowicz reprezentujący Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego, Ewa Rumińska ze Związku Klubów Polskich, i wielu

innych gości. Szczególnie miłym akcentem było przybycie na koncert i osobiste gratulacje dla „Polonii” od przedstawicieli zespołów artystycznych z Chicago oraz od zespołu „Dolina” z Minnesoty. Druga część koncertu rozpoczęła się od wystąpienia dra. Willy Wilsona, chicagowskiego filantropa, kandydata na burmistrza miasta Chicago, który stał się ostatnio sławny z darmowych prezentów rekordowo drogiej benzyny na terenie Chicago. Dr Wilson serdecznie gratulował osiągnięć nie tylko zespołowi „Polonia”, ale również całej społeczności Polaków w Chicago.

Dyrektor „Polonii”, Anna Krysińska, z głębokim wzruszeniem oznajmiła, że tegoroczny koncert jubileuszowy poświęcony jest pamięci założycielki zespołu; zasłużonej i utalentowanej śp. Cecylii Rożnowskiej, która zmarła ubiegłego roku w wieku 92 lat, kończąc ponad 70-letnią karierę jako choreograf i kochany przez wszystkich pedagog. Twórcza dusza założycielki była obecna na sali podczas koncertu. Jej pamięć uczcił krótki film dokumentalny, w którym młodzież z „Polonii” mówiła o ogromnej inspiracji i życiowej mądrości pani Cecylii Rożnowskiej, jaką przekazała ona swoim wychowankom. Młodzi tancerze wspominali niezapomniane chwile prób i podróże podczas, któ-



Program z okazji 35-lecia działalności zespołu „Polonia”

rych pełną pasji pani Rożnowska dzieliła się z nimi miłością do ziemi ojczystej, polskiego języka i kultury ludowej, której była wyjątkowym wielbicielem i znawcą. Anna Krysińska, dyrektor zespołu, jest córką założycielki i kontynuatorką tradycji „Polonia Ensemble”. Za zasługi dla kultury polskiej za granicą otrzymała w ostatnich latach wiele wysokich odznaczeń państwowych od rządu polskiego. Wnuczka pani Cecylii, Jaclyn Krysiński, która od dziecka tańczy i śpiewa w „Polonii” jest dziś dyrektorem artystycznym zespołu. Obie panie, Anna i Jaclyn gorąco dziękowały podczas koncertu instruktorom zespołu bez których „Polonia nie wzniosłaby się na obecny poziom artystyczny”. A rzeczywiście kunsztu artystycznego można tancerzom i muzykom „Polonii” pozazdrościć.

Bogaty areseńal kostiumowy zespołu to zasługa wspaniałych rodziców: Agnieszki Woźny, Teresy Sowa, Ewy Wszolek, Edyty Mosz,

Haliny Zgiet, Renaty Kraśnickiej i wielu, wielu innych.

Wszystkimi przygotowaniami koordynowała niezastąpiona Dorota Romek. Roprowadzaniem biletów koordynowała Agnieszka Bazula. Media reprezentowali Artur Partyka i Andrzej Brach.

Na imponującej świetnej akustyką i przestrzenią scenie McAninch Arts Center tancerze „Polonii” pokazali tańce, których nauczyli się przez lata wielogodzinnych prób i występów. W czasie niedzielного koncertu ponad 150-ciu tancerzy dało z siebie wszystko, a reżyserzy przedstawienia wprawili w podziw zaskoczoną rozmachem koncertu publiczność.

Koncert rozpoczęły wszystkie grupy „Polonii” (od czterolatków do studentów uniwersyteckich) dumnym polonezem „Piękna Nasza Polska Cała”. Dwujęzyczną konferansjerkę ze swadą prowadzili Dorota Wójcik i Mark Dobrzycki. W programie znalazły się piękne tańce i przyspiewki ze (kont. na str. 28)



Tancerze „Polonii” z prezesem Robaczewskim

(kont. ze str. 27) wszystkich regionów Polski - od Tatr do Bałtyku. Nie zabrakło tańców z przedwojennej Warszawy oraz czysto amerykańskiego *swinga*. Publiczność do łez wzruszyła piosenka ludowa „Kraj rodzinny matki mej” mówiąca o tęsknocie do rodzinnej Polski. Organizatorzy koncertu nie ograniczyli się do zbioru pojedynczych regionalnych pieśni i tańców. Większość regionów Polski pokazana była w formie suit - grup tańców regionalnych w zachwycających ręcznymi haftami, jakością materiału i kolorytem strojach ludowych. Świetna choreografia, atletyczne wręcz zdolności tancerzy, koordynacja ruchu i przepych kostiumów w suicie rzeszowskiej, kaszubskiej, górnośląskiej, spiskiej i warmińskiej wprawiły publiczność w świetny humor, a oklaskom do rytmu znanych melodii nie było

końca. Tańcom i pieśniom towarzyszyła pełna ludowa kapela pod dyktando Mieczysława Dziś, który od początku założenia zespołu z pasją, talentem i zawodowym przygotowaniem muzycznym prowadzi „Polonię” od strony wokalne i akompaniamentu.

Przygotowanie dwugodzinnego koncertu z udziałem 150 tancerzy i muzyków, ponad 500 kompletów różnobarwnych kostiumów, to nie lada przedsięwzięcie artystyczne i organizacyjne dla grupy zawodowców, a przecież „Polonia” to zespół młodzieży chicagowskiej, która uczy się na próbach po szkole i po pracy. Za cudownym rozwojem zespołu stali zawsze bezgranicznie oddani i bezinteresowni rodzice oraz grono młodych instruktorów, którzy tańczyli w „Polonii” od dziecka, a dziś

rozwijają swoje kariery w kierunkach medycznych, finansowych, nauczycielskich i innych. To oni przygotowują choreografię i zajęcia wszystkich grup tanecznych. Do nich należą: Jaclyn Krysinski, Magdalena Rozko, Nicole Romek, Nina Romek i Emilia Wójciak. Dyrektor Anna Krysinski gorąco dziękowała po koncercie tej właśnie grupie młodych twórców sukcesu koncertu jubileuszowego „Polonii”.

Z zespołem współpracuje także choreograf Iwona Puc oraz nowy nabytek pedagogiczny, Andrzej Krasnicki.

Jak podkreśliła dyrektor Anna Krysinska „nie sztuka pracować z doświadczonymi tancerzami, którzy przychodzą do zespołu z przygotowaniem. Sztuka to wykształcić pokolenie dobrych tan-

cerzy, którzy będą chcieli z pasją przekazywać to czego się nauczyli następnym pokoleniom”. Pedagogiem, który potrafił stworzyć taki model w zespole była śp. Pani Cecylia Rożnowska, utalentowany inspirowator i serdeczny przyjaciel młodzieży z „Polonii”. To ona swoim dowcipem, gawędziarskim talentem, serdecznością i zawodową wiedzą choreografa dopingowała do pracy polonijną młodzież przez 35 lat. Spadkobiercami jej pracy są dziś nie tylko córka, wnuki i grupa świetnych instruktorów, ale też cała rzesza młodzieży z zespołu „Polonia”.

Niech następne lata przyniosą niezliczone okazje do koncertów i podróży po świecie. Sto lat dla Zespołu Pieśni i Tańca „Polonia”!

www.ploniaensemble.com [facebookpoloniaensemble](https://www.facebook.com/poloniaensemble)



Cieszyn – w wykonaniu „Malej Polonii”



Taniec kowbojski prezentuje „Młoda Polonia”



Lubelski



„Krasnoludki”



Reprezentacja „Polonii” rozpoczyna koncert skoczynym oberkiem



Kolorowa suita tańców starej Warszawy



Suita kaszubska – tańczy grupa reprezentacyjna



Reprezentacja w strojach łowickich i szlacheckich



Tańce spiskie



Suita tańców rzeszowskich



Beskid Śląski – taniec górali śląskich wykonany przez grupę „Młoda Polonia”



Warmia – suita z regionu Polski północno-wschodniej, jako najbliższa sercu śp.Cecyli Rożnowskiej, założycielki zespołu „Polonia”



Tańce kurpiowskie



„Krasnoludki” zachwyciły publiczność swoim występem i kolorowymi strojami



Kaszuby – region z okolic polskiego pomorza

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