

# NARÓD



# POLSKI

No. 3 - Vol. CXXIV

March 1, 2010 - 1 marca 2010

## PRCUA STATE OF THE UNION

This is my 12th consecutive State of the Union message to our members and it is one of the most difficult reports presented. This report is a reflection of the economic condition of our nation, as well as the world. No longer can we, as individuals or as an organization, be isolated from the actions of our leaders, either in Washington or internationally.

Some of the positive factors regarding the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America are as follows: The total assets grew from \$169,537,651 in 2008 to \$178,199,480 in 2009. Considering a decrease in surplus, this was still \$8,661,829 more in assets than our previous year. This reflects a positive 5.1% increase in assets.

In the twelve years that I have been reporting to you, our assets have grown by \$84,777,831. This is a 91% increase. The last time that our asset level was close to this amount was in 1995. At that time, the PRCUA assets were \$82,166,897.

Now, I would like to address the issue of our nation's and the world's economic order. Economic action was taken to prevent a severe economic depression in America. The pressure was to reduce interest rates. As most of you know, zero interest rates have been the policy of the Federal Reserve for over a year. This behavior had an adverse effect on our investment return.

The PRCUA earned \$709,333 less in net investment income in 2009 than in 2008, even though we had more funds to invest. Our overall return on net invested income to mean assets was 5.03% in 2009. Compare this with the year 1995 when our return was 6.9%. Why was there a drastic reduction in interest during 2009? Because there were over \$90 million in federally insured or

commercially issued bonds of high interest rates that were redeemed. We had to purchase bonds at a lower interest rate.

However, we are very fortunate that in our annuity program we were able to maintain a 1.55% spread. Our members received a maximum rate of return compared to other fraternal organizations or other companies.

Our total dividend paid on a cash basis to our members in 2009 was \$761,097. This year we have reduced the annual dividends to a level to reflect our ability to meet expenses and issue a respectable return of premium to our life insurance members, as reflected by our economic conditions.

As of this month, no special dividends have been declared.

Since April of 2009, the administration of your fraternal has reduced expenses. The salaries of the officers have been reduced back to the 2008 level. There has been a reduction in annuity interest rates, as well as a reduction in mileage reimbursements for all.

The *Narod Polski* newspaper has been changed from a semi-monthly publication to a monthly publication. Donations and matching funds have been reduced, along with other adjustments, to a lower level. (Continued on page 3)



Wallace M. Ozog, FICF  
National President, PRCUA

## TOP PRCUA 2009 LIFE INSURANCE PRODUCERS



Edward Muszalski



Michael Ozog



Thaddeus Klammerus



Teresa Gibala



Barbara Pawlowski

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America is pleased to report that deputy activity has shown a slight increase in business volume in 2009 to 412 certificates from a total of 398 certificates in 2008 - an increase of 3.52%.

Taking into account insurance premium collected in 2009, top producers among the PRCUA Insurance Supervisors are: **Edward Muszalski, FICF** from District 22, Chicago, IL with the highest premium collected and second highest in terms of applications submitted; **Michael Ozog, FICF** of Livonia, MI, from District 25, who had the second highest in premium

collected but highest in terms of applications submitted; **Thaddeus Klammerus, FICF** from District 6 in Dearborn Heights, MI; **Teresa Gibala, FICF** from District 12, Erie, MI; and **Barbara Pawlowski, FICF** of Chicago, IL, Supervisor of District 38.

The Top Producers on the 2009 PRCUA Deputy Honor Roll, who collected the highest premium amounts, are: **Judy Hoffman** of the PRCUA Home Office, Chicago, IL from District 98 with \$20,457.40 in premium income, **Sharon Quinn, FICF**, Office Manager of the (Continued on page 3)

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL



# Calendar of PRCUA Events

## MARCH

- 3 CLEVELAND, OH - MEETING TO ORGANIZE MAY 3RD POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY PARADE** in Cleveland (Warszawa District) on Wed., March 3 at 7 pm at PRCUA Ohio Office, 6966 Broadway, Cleveland, OH. Contact: Ewa (216) 883-3131
- 7 HICKORY HILLS, IL - M. KONOPNICKA ADULT CULTURE GROUP FASHION SHOW** on Sun., March 7; enter at 12, lunch at 1 pm at Sabre Room, 8900 W. 95th St., Hickory Hills, IL. Donation \$30. Contact: Liz or Walter Dynowski (708) 532-1541
- 11 LANSING, MI - WHITE EAGLE SOC. #2342 MEETING** on Thurs., March 11 at Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope Rd., Lansing, MI. Pot luck dinner at 6 pm; meeting follows at 7 pm. Contact: Tom Croff (517) 627-0222
- 13 LEMONT, IL - PRCUA SOUTHWEST CENTER OF POLISH DANCING 25TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** on Sat., March 13 at Lemont High School, doors open at 6 p.m.; show at 6:30 p.m. Donation \$10. For info contact Krystyna Lech at 708-361-5029.
- 14 CHICAGO, IL - DISTRICT 7 CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER** on Sun., March 14, cocktails at 1 pm, dinner at 2 pm; PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL. Tickets \$25. RSVP by March 9. Send check made payable to *District 7* to L. Stempinski, 7339 W. Lee St., Niles, IL 60714, Phone (847) 965-7378
- 16 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING** on Tues., March 16 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: L. McClain, 306 Power St., Johnstown, PA 15906
- 20 DEARBORN, MI - PRCUA NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT** (*See page 6.*)
- 20 DEARBORN, MI - POLKA DINNER DANCE** on Sat., March 20 at O'Kelley K. of C. Hall, 23663 Park, Dearborn, MI (2 blks S. of Michigan, 2 blksW. of Outer Dr.) Music: New Brass Express; 7 pm-12am (doors open 6:30pm) Cost: \$25 advance purchase includes: music, Polish Dinner, beer/wine/pop. Liquor is available at a cash bar. Dinner is part of the PRCUA Basketball Tournament. Contact: 313-384-6255 or Email: [hoj606@hotmail.com](mailto:hoj606@hotmail.com) for tickets. No charge for tournament participants.
- 21 DETROIT, MI - ST. JOSEPH SOC. #261 MASS AND COMMUNION BREAKFAST** on Sun., March 21, St. Louis the King Church, 18891 St. Louis on 7 Mile Rd., 2 blocks East of Mound Road, Detroit, MI. Mass at 9:30 am; Breakfast after Mass in St. Louis' cafeteria, followed by a short Society meeting. All society members are invited to attend. Contact Tom Lisiecki (586) 795-8901
- 21 HICKORY HILLS, IL - POLANIE DANCERS 10TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET** on Sun., March 21 at Camelot Banquets, 8624 West 95th Street, Hickory Hills, IL. Entry at noon. Donation \$25. For info contact Lillie Gajda, 312-859-6464.
- 21 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162 MEETING** on Sun., March 21 at 1 pm. at PRCU #162 Hall, 1430 Oak Street, Wyandotte, MI. Dues: L. Alexander, 1059 Molno, Wyandotte, MI 48192
- 21 TOLEDO, OH - SOC. #1584, #1633, #1617 & #719 MEETING** on Sun., March 21 at 1 pm, Misiuda Hall, 5255 N. Detroit, Toledo, OH. Contact: Joan Sylak (419) 729-2126
- 21 TOLEDO, OH - SOC. #2206 MEETING** on March 21 at 4 pm at Circle 8 Clubroom, 2501 Nebraska Ave., Toledo, OH.
- 23 WARREN, MI - POPE JOHN PAUL II SOC. #1593 MEETING** on Tues., March 23 at 7 pm, St. Anne's H.S., 36000 Mound Rd., Warren, MI. Contact: B. Adamkiewicz (586) 573-7510
- 27 ZAJACZEK DANCE ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE** on Sat., March 27, 2:30 pm at Warren Woods HS Auditorium, 13400 E. 12 Mile Rd., Warren, MI; Admission \$7; Alumni who would like participate, please contact: Colleen Bonkowski, [zajaczekdance@yahoo.com](mailto:zajaczekdance@yahoo.com) or call 586-558-3673
- 28 LANSING, MI - WHITE EAGLE SOC. #2342 SWIECONKA** on Sunday, March 28 at 2 pm at Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope Rd., Lansing, MI. Bring a dish to pass. Contact: Tom Croff (517) 627-0222

*Please send your meeting notices to the editor at least by the 15th of the previous month for inclusion in the calendar of events.*

## APRIL

- 5 WARREN, MI - ST. THERESA SOC. #428 MEETING** on Monday, April 5 at 7 pm. Contact Christopher Ozog at 586-524-4907 or e-mail at [cozog3@comcast.net](mailto:cozog3@comcast.net)
- 5 LONGWOOD, FL - SMIGUS-DYNGUS DAY** sponsored by Soc. #1492 on Mon., April 5, Noon - Dusk at Polonia, 750 S. Highway 17/92, Longwood FL 32750. Music by Cleveland's Joe Oberaitis. Advance food tickets \$15; \$20 at the door. Buy advance tickets at Polonia or by mailing a check made payable to Polonia. Benefits PRCUA Educational Fund and the Haitian Children's Hospital operated by Orlando's Fr. Jack Douglas's CP Order. Contact: (407) 331 1933
- 8 LANSING, MI - WHITE EAGLE SOC. #2342 MEETING** on Thurs., April 8 at Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope Rd., Lansing, MI. Pot luck at 6 pm; meeting follows at 7 pm. Contact: Tom Croff (517) 627-0222
- 11 MUNSTER, IN - IL-IN WOMEN'S DIVISION SWIECONKA** on Sun., April 11, at Carmelite Monastery Banquet Hall, 1628 Ridge Rd, Munster, IN; Mass at Noon, Lunch at 1:30 pm; Tickets \$25; RSVP by 3/25. Send reservation to: E. Sadus, 847 Marian Way, Chicago Hts., IL 60411. (Make check to: PRCUA IL/IN Women's Div.) Contact: Elizabeth Grabowski (219) 923-6613 Raffle prizes are appreciated.
- 18 HICKORY HILLS, IL - PRCUA SOUTHWEST CENTER OF POLISH DANCING** on Sun., April 18, Camelot Banquets, 8624 West 95th Street, Hickory Hills, IL; Entry: Noon and Dinner: 1:00 p.m. Donation: \$20 Adults; cash bar. Contact: Dir. Krystyna Lech (708) 341-6781
- 18 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162 MEETING** on Sun., April 18 at 1 pm. at PRCU #162 Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. Dues: L. Alexander, 1059 Molno, Wyandotte, MI 48192
- 18 TOLEDO, OH - SOC. #1584, #1633, #1617 & #719 MEETING** on Sun., April 18 at 1 pm, Misiuda Hall, 5255 N. Detroit, Toledo, OH. Contact: Joan Sylak (419) 729-2126
- 18 TOLEDO, OH - SOC. #2206 MEETING** on Sun., April 18 at 4 pm at Circle 8 Clubroom, 2501 Nebraska, Toledo, OH.
- 20 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING** on Tues., April 20 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: L. McClain, 306 Power St., Johnstown, PA 15906
- 23-25 PLYMOUTH, MI - PRCUA NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT** hosted by St. Stan's #718 at Plaza Lanes on Ann Arbor Rd. in Plymouth, MI. The host hotel is Embassy Suites located just north of I-275 & 7 Mile Rd. Polka Mass 6:30 pm at Hotel, followed by a dance.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

According to the PRCUA Constitution and By-Laws, Societies must elect delegates and alternates to the 60th PRCUA Quadrennial Convention during the months of April or May.

Contact your Society's Financial Secretary for information about your Society's Meeting, if it is not listed in the Calendar of Events.

All Financial Secretaries are urged to call Executive Editor Kathryn Rosypal toll-free at 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2640 before March 20th to have their Society's Meeting listed in the April issue of the Calendar of Events.

**Corrections:** In the Cinderella Ball article in the last issue the editors were given incorrect information. Please be advised that Nicole Mielnicki currently attends St. Raphael Kalinowski Polish School (RKPS) and dances with the Slask; and Bernadette Grabowski attended RKPS but is not currently a student there.



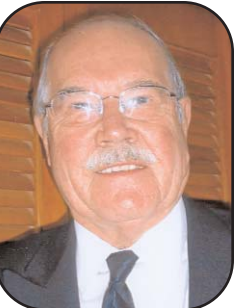
TOP PRCUA 2009 LIFE INSURANCE PRODUCERS



Judy Hoffman



Sharon Quinn



Julius Szymczyk



Elizabeth Grabowski

(Continued from page 1) PRCUA Philadelphia Satellite Office and Fin. Secy. of Soc. #2001, Soc. #2009 and Soc. #2015, from District 98 with \$13,967.40; **Edward Muszalski, FICF** of Burbank, IL, Pres. of the Maria Konopnicka Adult Culture Group and Pres. of Soc. #1622, coming from District 22, he had premium income of \$10,937.28; **Julius Szymczyk** of Warren, MI, Pres. of Soc. #906 and Vice Pres. of Soc. #1593, from District 25, Warren MI with premium income of \$9,588.64; and **Teresa Gibala, FICF**, of Erie, MI, Fin. Secy. of Soc. #1579, Soc. #1633 (Toledo, OH) and Soc. #509 from District 12, with \$6,077.85 in premium income.

The highest number of approved life insurance applications were submitted by **Anna Krynski**, School Director of Polonia Dancers and the Northwest Center of Traditional Polish Dancing in Chicago and Niles, IL, who brought in 47 applications. She is followed by **Bozena Matson**, of Griffith, IN, who has been a deputy since 2007 and who had 18 applications. She is tied with **Supervisor Teresa Gibala, FICF**, who also submitted 18 applications. **Dagmara Johnson** [no photo submitted] of Tinley Park, IL, who is active with the PRCUA John Paul II Polish Language School in Lemont, IL, had 15 approved applications submitted. **Krystyna Lech** of Palos Park, IL, National Director of District #8, School Director of the Southwest Center of Polish Dancing and Candidate Coordinator for M. Konopnicka Adult Culture Group, had 11 approved applications. **Elizabeth Grabowski** of Munster, IN, National Director of District #9 submitted 10 approved applications, as did **Julius Szymczyk** of Warren, MI and **Elaine Burkhardt**, of Philadelphia, PA, Secretary at the PRCUA Philadelphia Satellite Office, Rec. Secy. of Soc. #2022 and Fin. Secy. of Soc. #2002, Soc. #2011 and Soc. #2012 .

Congratulations and thanks are extended to all of the PRCUA Deputies and their Insurance Supervisors for a job well done in 2009.



Anna Krynski



Bozena Matson



Krystyna Lech



Elaine Burkhardt

State of the Union (Cont.)

(Continued from page 1) As of February of this year, an estimated savings of \$545,657.37 has been tabulated. This is 85% of the goal set by the Budget and Grievance Committee in March of 2009.

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners requires us to follow their ratings on all types of stocks and bonds. What was rated #1 is now rated #4 and this requires additional reserving of our funds from the surplus. In 2009, this amount was \$630,000.

For a complete report, please review the **PRCUA ANNUAL STATEMENT** for the year ending December 31, 2009 on page 11.

Where are we going? I have asked our Board of Directors, agents and members to bring in new members. Membership programs, in honor of our 137th anniversary and our 60th convention, have been instituted to provide new members with low cost life insurance. I am asking all of our members to promote these programs with the hope that each delegate will bring at least one new membership application to the Convention.

The PRCUA Membership Drive to help Societies is still on-going. A Society will receive \$10.00 for each of the Society's new deputy- generated life insurance certificate issued. After five new certificates are issued, the Society will have its name placed in a drawing to win an additional \$2,000. This drawing will take place during the upcoming PRCUA National Quadrennial Convention in August, 2010.

The PRCUA Annuity Programs still pay members a higher interest than can be earned in a bank savings account. The minimum deposit to start an annuity is only \$300. In these uncertain economic times, it is wise to save for the future, and it makes good sense to get the most for your money with a PRCUA annuity.

Membership is key to our fraternal's continued success. I urge all PRCUA members to spread the word about the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and its fraternal benefits to family members and friends. Your fraternal supports educational, charitable, benevolent, ethnic, patriotic and religious activities for the benefit of its members and the community at large. Now, I call upon all of our members to accept responsibility of supporting your fraternal by doing whatever you can to increase PRCUA membership. It's a win-win situation for everyone.

Wallace M. Ozog, FICF  
National President, PRCUA

DEPUTY HONOR ROLL BY NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS

POS.	DIST.	PRODUCER	APPS.	POS.	DIST.	PRODUCER	APPS.
1	99	Krynski, Anna	47	31	99	Migiel, Agnes	3
2	12	Gibala, Teresa	18	32	25	Skurski, Thomas J.	3
3	99	Matson, Bozena	18	33	22	Sokolowski, Anna	3
4	22	Johnson, Dagmara	15	34	12	Tomczak, Lawrence	3
5	22	Lech, Krystyna J.	11	35	6	Zimmer, Sr., Dennis	3
6	98a	Burkhardt, Elaine M.	10	36	6	Alexander, Linda	2
7	38	Grabowski, Elizabeth	10	37	12	Brzozowski, Martha Ann	2
8	25	Szymczyk, Julius S.	10	38	1	Bugielski, Robert	2
9	98B	Migiel, Agnes	9	39	22	Frankowicz, Barbara	2
10	22	Muszalski, Edward	8	40	2	Kucharski, Jerry	2
11	25	Ozog, Michael	8	41	98d	Pravachek, Connie	2
12	98a	Quinn, Sharon	8	42	1	Seranko, William P.	2
13	25	Richey, Robin Anne	8	43	56	Zabek, Kasimer J.	2
14	15	Gonsiorek, John	7	44	6	Carlini, Michael	1
15	6	Klamerus, Thaddeus	7	45	7	Croff, Thomas	1
16	99	Lisiecki, Thomas	7	46	19	Gides, John	1
17	25	Adamkiewicz, Bernice	6	47	37	Guilliatt, Mark	1
18	25	Cerankowski, R. J.	6	48	10	Kaplaniak, Edward F.	1
19	98b	Hoffman, Judy	6	49	4	Kseniak, Dorothy	1
20	26	Prussak-Klein, Celeste	6	50	55	Narowski, Anna	1
21	36	Abramczyk, David	5	51	17	Pawlowski, Barbara	1
22	99	Bielenda, Robert	5	52	1	Piasecki, Lorraine	1
23	34	Drake, Dennis	5	53	99	Quinn, Sharon	1
24	6	Kosowski, Patrick	5	54	34	Riha, Richard	1
25	6	Salatowski, Kelly	5	55	33	Robaczewski, James	1
26	98d	Ewald, Michelle	4	56	98c	Rucinski, Sylvia	1
27	26	Malkowski, Michael J.	4	57	34	Warzybok, Helen	1
28	6	McFee, Lorraine	4	58	22	Widur, Urszula	1
29	6	Sawicki, Helen	4	59	98B	Wolan, Anna	1
30	6	Mandernach, Ann M.	3				

MATCHING FUNDS DONATION COUPON

The PRCUA urges its members and friends to support the worthwhile causes listed below. As of July 2009, your tax-deductible contribution will now be matched by the PRCUA at the rate of 50 cents for each dollar donated, up to a total of \$5,000 per donation. Donors' names will be listed in Narod Polski unless you check the last box.

I have enclosed a donation and a check made payable to:

- ☐ SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary at Orchard Lake, Michigan
- ☐ John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington, D.C.
- ☐ Madonna University's *Leading the Way* Campaign
- ☐ Felician Sister's Motherhouse Renovations in Buffalo, NY
- ☐ Polish Museum of America - Sabina Logisz Development Fund

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you do not want your donation publicized in *Narod Polski*.

Please make check payable to the appropriate institution named above and send to:

President Wallace Ozog, PRCUA,  
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60642-4101



## MICHIGAN FRATERNAL CONGRESS SCHOLARSHIP

Two \$500 non-renewable college scholarships shall be awarded each year by the Michigan Fraternal Congress. The scholarship recipients are subject to approval of the Executive Board.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Applications are open to residents of Michigan, who are insured members and active participants in PRCUA.
2. Candidates shall be graduating high school seniors who plan to enroll in the fall as a full time student (min. 12 credit hours) in an accredited 2 or 4 year college or trade school.
3. A check will be issued upon proof of enrollment, and the money is to be used for tuition and books only.
4. There is no limit to the number of applications that the PRCUA can submit.
5. A certificate will be presented at the high school commencement or at the Annual MFC Meeting Banquet.
6. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 out of a 4.0. An official high school transcript (with affixed seal) must be received by the deadline.
7. An essay (max. 100 words) will be submitted detailing volunteer activities that the applicant has participated in, including dates, with the PRCUA or the Michigan Fraternal Congress.

To obtain an application, please contact:

**Joyce Szarowicz, Secretary-Treasurer**  
PRCUA  
984 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60642-4101  
Phone: 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2606

Completed applications must be postmarked by **April 1, 2010.**

### Save Cancelled Stamps for the Missions

Please save your cancelled stamps, trim them with scissors to about 1/4 inch on all sides and send them to the Felician Sisters, who use them to support the Catholic missions. Please mail your stamps to:

**FELICIAN SISTERS**  
VILLA MARIA CONVENT  
600 DOAT STREET  
BUFFALO, NY 14211

## CONGRESSMAN QUIGLEY MEETS WITH POLISH AMBASSADOR



(L-r) Artur P. Orkisz of the Polish Embassy, who accompanied Polish Ambassador Robert Kupiecki to a meeting with Congressman Mike Quigley

Washington, DC - In mid-January, Congressmen Mike Quigley (D-IL) met with Polish Ambassador Robert Kupiecki in Quigley's Washington, D.C. office to discuss extending the Visa Waiver Program to include Poland, as well as economic issues facing Poland and Polish-Americans, a great number of whom reside in Illinois' 5th district.

Quigley has spoken on the House floor in support of the inclusion of Poland as a participating country in the Visa Waiver Program and also co-sponsored and helped pass a measure to grant honorary citizenship to Polish General Casimir Pulaski.

## Looking for Nominees to the “Fraternalists- in-Action” Program

The National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCFA) will continue its fraternal recognition program, Fraternalists-in-Action, which will highlight many contributions of fraternal benefit societies - such as the PRCUA - and their members to local communities throughout the country.

We are issuing a call for information about members who may be eligible for receiving the honorable distinction as a new fraternal Most Valuable Participant (MVP). Nominations, with the photo and biography of the nominee, should be mailed, faxed or emailed to PRCUA Home Office. The PRCUA fax number is 773-278-4595.

If you have any questions, please call Secretary-Treasurer Joyce Szarowicz at 773-782-2600, ext. 2606 or email her at [josephine.szarowicz@prcua.org](mailto:josephine.szarowicz@prcua.org).

## POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY ART CONTEST

The Polish Museum of America invites all students in Grades 6 to 12 to honor Ignacy Jan Paderewski on his 150th birthday and Frederyk Chopin on his 200th birthday by artistically depicting a phase of either of their lives.

Create a picture of either of these great men and their great contribution to history. Use any medium you like. Size must be 36 in. x 24 in. on posterboard or cardboard but not on canvas.

The Deadline is April 16, 2010. Prizes will be awarded in two categories: Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12. 1st prize-\$100; 2nd prize-\$75; 3rd prize-\$25; Best Overall - \$100.

Prizes will be awarded at the Polish Festival following the parade. The winning picture will be displayed on the PMA float in the parade. For more information and an entry form, go to:

[www.PolishMuseumofAmerica.org](http://www.PolishMuseumofAmerica.org)



## AROUND POLONIA



### MARCH 1ST PULASKI DAY CELEBRATION

- The Polish Museum of America is sponsoring the official State of Illinois' Annual Pulaski Day Celebration on Monday, March 1 at 10 a.m. at 984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL. The program consists of guest speakers from various levels of government, entertainment, and a wreath-laying ceremony, followed by a reception in the first floor Social Hall. The public is invited.

### BOOK SIGNING AT PMA MARCH 26TH - PRCUA MEMBER IS ONE OF THE HEROES - The Long Way Home:

An American Journey from Ellis Island to the Great War by David Laskin, due out on March 16 from Harper, tells the true story of twelve immigrants who fought with U.S. forces in World War I. Two of the heroes featured are from Poland, and one, Joseph Chmielewski, was a member of the PRCUA and an avid reader of *Narod Polski*. Poles embraced U.S. entry into the war, volunteering in greater numbers than any other immigrant group and raising an all-Polish infantry battalion under the command of Lt. Col. Peter F. Piasecki. Poles fought in every branch of the American military, winning many medals for bravery. Polonia also sent thousands of young men to fight for the liberation of Poland with Haller's Army. Author David Laskin enlisted Polish-American organizations, including PRCUA, to help find families whose fathers and grandfathers had fought in the Great War. Laskin will be lecturing on the book at the Polish Museum, 984 N. Milwaukee in Chicago on March 26 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, go to [www.thelongwayhomebook.com](http://www.thelongwayhomebook.com).

**SCHOLARSHIPS** - The University of Illinois - Chicago's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is now accepting applications for nearly 20 scholarships, with awards ranging from \$600 to \$10,000. Students will be able to find all relevant details, instructions and the application itself at: <http://www.uic.edu/las/students/scholarships>

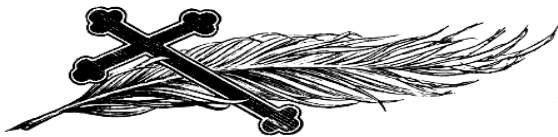
**SAVE THE DATE** - On October 1 & 2, 2010, the Polish Genealogical Society of America will hold its 32nd Annual Conference at the Hilton - Oak Lawn, 9333 South Cicero Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL. For details go to: [www.pgsa.org](http://www.pgsa.org)

**SUMMER STUDY-TOUR** At Catholic University in Lublin, Poland, July 3 to August 9 - \$1,560 for 2 weeks; \$2,850 for 5 weeks - Round-trip airfare Chicago - Warsaw is NOT included. Program fee includes: lodging and all meals in Poland; group travel in Poland; lectures, language classes, cultural performances, 5 UWM credits for 5-week program and health insurance. This study-tour is led by Dr. Michael Mikos, professor of Polish language and literature at University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee (UWM) and leader of 29 study tours. For information about these tours and other 2- to 8-week courses, call Prof. Mikos at 414-229-4151 or email: [mikos@uwm.edu](mailto:mikos@uwm.edu) or see website: [www.lrc.uwm.edu/tour](http://www.lrc.uwm.edu/tour)

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE YOUTH OF POLONIA** - The second annual Quo Vadis Conference will bring together young leaders from the USA and Canada to build bridges to leadership in the Polish community. Themed *Building Bridges, Building Leaders*, it will take place in Windsor, Ontario, Canada on May 7-9, 2010. Young men and women who want to be future leaders in Polonia are urged to attend. The true strength of our Polish American community comes from our ability to unite around our common history, our common language, our common heritage, and our commitment to the long-term success of our Polish American community. More information can be found online at: [www.QuoVadisConference.com](http://www.QuoVadisConference.com).



Dearly Departed Polish Roman Catholic Union of America  
Brothers  
and Sisters



MEMBER	SOC.	STATE	MEMBER	SOC.	STATE
ADAMKIEWICZ, GREGORY N.	904	MI	MAYLOR, STEPHANIE	693	IN
BACH, BERNICE	2159	OH	MIHELIC, SOPHIE	1024	PA
BARANIAK, MARY A.	1415	IL	MILEWSKI, EDWARD F.	549	MA
BAZAR, ANN	15	IL	MOMOT, FLORENCE L.	540	NY
BETKA, JOZEFA	1187	NY	MOSKALIK, KATARZYNA	1575	IL
BIZON, STANLEY J.	1497	IL	MUCHA, NORMA	283	WI
BLASZCZAK, ALFONSE	162	MI	MUSTO, SUZANNE L.	308	IL
BOC, CHRISTINE J.	162	MI	NALENCZ, LEONARD	977, 2248	OH
BOSKA, JOHN JR.	105	KS	NAUHEIMER, ROSE A.	388	IL
BOTIZAN, VICTORIA	213	WV	OCHAR, JENNETTE	2011	PA
BROZEK, ANNJANE J.	6037	PA	ORYL, LEONARD	2109	OH
BRZENK, HELEN E.	356	MI	OSIECKI, STANLEY	2102	OH
BRZOZOWSKI, EDMUND	213	WV	OSTRASZEWSKI, ANDREW	1615	PA
BUDZYN, EDWARD	849	IL	PARUK, LUCY	905	MI
BUJALSKI, FRANCIS	463	CT	PECZYNSKI, SIGMUND	389	CT
BYSIEK, EDWARD	1000	IL	PETNER, MARY	2001	PA
CHAMP, RITA	119	PA	PIERZYNOWSKI, THOMAS B.	162	MI
CIBOROWSKI, JANE	713	MA	PIETRASZEWSKI, LUCILLE G.	893	MN
CICHONSKI, SOPHIA	408	IL	PIOTROWSKI, VALERIA	988	IL
CYGAN, EDWARD	317	IL	PIZAREK, LUCILLE	1031	IN
CZECH, STELLA M.	203	NY	POGOWSKI, SALLY	2109	OH
DEBELAK, MARYJANE	2002	PA	POLLACK, ANTHONY	531	PA
DEMAGALL, KATHERINE	709	OH	POLLACK, ANTHONY E.	78	MI
DOMZIL, ADELAIDE A.	2303	WI	PORADZISZ, EMILY T.	308	IL
DREWEK, FLORENCE A.	283	WI	PRACZ, PAUL G.	308	IL
DROSKI, HENRIETTA	388	IL	PTAK, BERNARD G.	162	MI
FARRAN, THOMAS	78	MI	QUALIZZA, GLORIA	308	IL
FILOZOF, SOPHIE T.	750	NY	RANISZESKI, CHESTER	718	MI
FIRCZUK, ROSE	2045	NJ	REJMISZ, GLADYS	869	NY
FITOL, ANNA H.	404	CT	ROARK, WILLIAM F.	203	NY
FLANAGAN, CECILIA	295	PA	ROGUSZ, LORETTA	631	NY
GIBSON, GERALDINE	421	IL	ROSS, WALTER A.	1507	MI
GILL, JULIA	540	NY	ROSZKO, FRANK	1081	PA
GLOWACKI, LEONA A.	261	MI	SACHA, STANISLAW	2227	MI
GRABSKI, EVA E.	565	IN	SANDEJ, LORETTA	2108	OH
GROSZEK, WANDA	1486	IL	SEMBER, ALICE	2051	NJ
GRZESIK, ANTHONY S.	1598	IL	SERDICH, GERTRUDE S.	237	PA
GUEST, ELIZABETH	407	IL	SHEPHERD, EARL G.	861	WV
GUSCIORA, ROSE	803	NJ	SIMPSON, CECILIA	994	IL
GUTOWICZ, LORETTA	2001	PA	SIWULA, CASIMER	1486	IL
HALLMAN, LEONA	261	MI	SKWARSKI, DANIEL	2109	OH
JABLONSKI, CASIMER	463	CT	SLATTERY, STEFANIA	1000	IL
JASKOWIAK, HELEN	2001, 2022	PA	SNIADECKI, FRANCES	1444	OH
JELLOCK, JOSEPH R.	1570	PA	SOPRYCH, DOROTHY	300	IL
JENDRZEJEWSKI, LILLIAN	680	PA	SRODAWA, HELEN	540	PA
JURCZAK, VERONICA	623	CT	STRUK, PETER	262	CT
KALINOWSKI, ADAM	1486	IL	STUCZYNSKI, ANTHONY	1611	IL
KAMINSKI, THADDEUS	703	PA	SUDIKATUS, ELEONORE S.	2002	PA
KAY, HELEN	1591	OH	SUSCAVAGE, JACOB	1000	IL
KETTULA, HUGO W.	2308	WI	SWIDERSKI, HELEN	1617	OH
KIELBASA, MARIA	950	NY	SZALAJDA, VICTOR	621	PA
KLESZYNSKI, STELLA	354	IL	SZCZEPANIAK, VINCENT	211	NY
KOLAKOWSKI, STELLA	227	OH	TRABKA, KAZIMIERZ	709	OH
KONIECZNY, FRANK	1486	IL	TROJANOWSKI, GERTRUDE	994	IL
KORTS, MARY	2315	WI	TULIK, WILLIAM A.	308	IL
KOSIEROWSKI, JOSEPH	290	IL	ULATOWSKI, HELEN	977	OH
KRAWCZYK, EDWARD T.	1598	IL	UNANGST, STELLA	572	NJ
KRAWCZYK, KENNETH	1477	MI	WACLAWIK, JOSEPH JR.	1000	IL
KROLL, HELEN S.	2013	PA	WIECZOREK, BRUNO	237	PA
KRZYKOWSKI, DOROTHY	157	NJ	WIENCLAW, JOHN S.	162	MI
KUCHINSKI, ELIZABETH	404	CT	WILK, EUGENE F.	261	MI
KULESZA, MARION S.	124	OH	WILLIAMS, VALENTINE	1000	IL
LACKOWSKI, GERTRUDE	989	MI	WITKOWSKI, DANIEL	78	MI
LENZ, THOMAS J.	204	IN	WLOSZEK, JOHN	2152	OH
LESNIAK, VICTORIA	1206	IL	ZACKOWSKI, STELLA	1133	PA
LESZCZAK, SOPHIA E.	809	NJ	ZALEWSKI, WALTER	1000	IL
LUCINSKI, ADELE	407	IL	ZAMER, STEVE M.	2315	WI
MACEK, CECILIA E.	718	MI	ZEMINSKI, CHESTER	678	PA
MAJKA, BERTHA	1591	OH	ZGRABIK, NORBERT	2109	OH
MAKOWSKI, MARY	2011	PA	ZIELINSKI, STEPHANIE M.	2199	MI
MAKUCIN, SOPHIE	623	CT	ZULA, JOSEPHINE J.	479	PA
MALISZEWSKI, ANTHONY J.	76	NJ	ZYGMONT, DOROTHY	2220	OH
MATLOWSKI, LENA	2026	PA			

May they rest in eternal peace.

“Go Green” Contest  
for PRCUA Societies  
Win \$137.00



In celebration of this being the a Convention Year, *Narod Polski* has initiated a special “Go Green” Contest in which all PRCUA Societies can participate.

The PRCUA Society that gets the most members to convert from receiving the paper format *Narod Polski* newspaper in the

mail to receiving the newspaper in a PDF format on their computer - between March 1 and the first day of the Convention in August - will receive a prize of \$137. The prize money amount is representative of this 137th anniversary year of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America.

**Note that this is a 2-step process!** Go to the PRCUA website: [www.prcua.org/narodpolski](http://www.prcua.org/narodpolski). Go to the bottom of the page. 1) Click on “Start your digital Narod Polski subscription” and follow the directions. 2) Go back to the main page and click on “Stop your mailed Narod Polski subscription” and follow the directions.

**Important!** For the purposes of this contest, the way that the PRCUA will keep track of conversions is by counting the number of members who STOP getting their *Narod Polski* newspaper mailed. Therefore, in order for the Society to receive proper credit for the contest, a member must complete both Steps 1 and 2 and give their Society number in Step 2. **Go Green!**



STANLEY J. SZEMBORSKI  
PASSED AWAY

Paterson, NJ - Stanley Joseph Szemborski, 89, of Paterson died on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson, NJ. He was the son of Jerome and Wladyslawa and was born and raised in Paterson. Mr. Szemborski attended Seton Hall University and graduated from Rutgers University with a Masters Degree in Business Administration. He served as a Lieutenant in the Navy during WWII. Mr. Szemborski was a certified public accountant whose home and business were in the Lakeforest section of Lake Hopatcong from 1968 to 2001. He spent his retirement years in Rockaway Township and then returned to Paterson, NJ. Stanley had been an active church member all of his life. He loved music and participated in the ParTroy chorus for many years. He was a member of PRCUA Society #619.

He was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, the former Helen Zendzian, in 2005 and his brother, Henry, in 2007.

Survivors include his brother, Reverend Chester Szemborski, SDB; his sister Dr. Eleanor Szemborski, PhD; his son, VADM Stanley R. Szemborski, USN (Ret) of Alexandria, Virginia; his daughter, Joanne Szemborski Henning, DDS of Sparta; nine grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren.

Funeral Liturgy was held on February 22, 2010 at St. Stephen RC Church in Paterson, followed by a private cremation. May he rest in eternal peace.



# Naród Polski

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## Fraternal Family Favorites

By Robert Strybel

**TRADITIONAL WHITE EASTER BARZSCZ:** Cook 1 lb raw kielbasa, 1 quartered onion and 1 bay leaf covered in 4-5 c water at a gentle rolling boil for 45 min. Cool to room temp.; remove sausage; strain liquid and refrigerate over night. Next day remove and discard congealed fat. Heat stock to boiling, add water to make 4 c. Add 2 c zur liquid, simmer several min. and remove from heat. Fork-blend 1 heaping T flour with 1 c sour cream until smooth. Stir into it 1 c hot soup one spoonful at a time, whisking until smooth. Slowly stir into soup pot and simmer briefly. Add 1-2 buds crushed garlic, 1 heaping T prepared horseradish, 1 T marjoram and salt & pepper to taste. In soup bowls place sliced hard-cooked eggs, the sliced cooked kielbasa and ladle the hot soup over them.

**EASY WHITE EASTER BARZSCZ:** To 4 c de-greased kielbasa stock (see above) add 2 c water, bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer briefly. Remove from heat and, when slightly cooled, stir in 1 c sour cream that has been fork-blended with a heaping T flour. Use whisk or hand-held mixer to obliterate any lumps that form. Simmer briefly and sour with 2-4 T white vinegar (more or less to taste). Season and serve as above.

**EASTER SALAD:** Toss together 2-3 peeled, cored, diced apples, 2-3 diced brined cucumbers, and a heaping T prepared horseradish. Drizzle with 4 T salad oil, 1 T cider vinegar, toss well and salt & pepper to taste. A t sugar may be added. Decorate top with 3 sliced hard-cooked eggs and garnish with finely chopped parsley.

**RED PICKLED EGGS:** Combine 1 c white vinegar with juice of enough canned pickled beets to give 4 c liquid. Bring liquid to boil, simmer briefly and set aside to cool. When cooled to room temp, pour over hard-cooked eggs (without shells) to cover. Use a lid or plate to keep the eggs submerged. Refrigerate overnight or longer. When ready to use, pat eggs dry with paper towel and serve.

**HOMEMADE KIELBASA:** Combine 4 lbs coarsely ground pork butts and 1/2 lb ground unsalted pork fatback with 1 lb finely ground veal or beef round steak. Sprinkle with 3 T salt, 1/2 t pepper, 1 T marjoram and 3-4 buds crushed garlic. Mix well by hand, adding 1 c cold water until fully absorbed. Spread mixture in shallower glass or crockery pan and refrigerate overnight. Next day, stuff hog casings with mixture, twisting into 12" - 15" links and tying them with white twine. Hang up to air-dry in cool, well-ventilated place several hours or overnight. To cook, proceed as follows.

**BOILED FRESH KIELBASA:** Make pin pricks at intervals in 3 lbs fresh kielbasa. Place in pot of cold water which should cover it by at least 1". Add 1 bay leaf and 1 large quartered onion and cook on low to a gentle boil. Simmer on low covered 45 min. from the time boiling starts. Let stand in hot liquid another 10 min. before serving. Pork must be fully cooked so make sure it is no longer pink inside.

**BEER-BAKED FRESH KIELBASA:** Arrange 3 lbs. fresh kielbasa in a single layer in baking pan. Drench with 12 oz. beer and enough water to barely cover the sausage. Bake in pre-heated 375° oven 30 min. Turn sausage over. Smother with 4 small thinly sliced onions, sprinkle with caraway seeds and bake another 30 min.

**SAND BABKA:** Separate 4 eggs. Combine 3/4 c flour, 3/4 c potato starch and 4 tsp. baking powder and sift together. Cream 1 c + 2 T butter with 1-1/2 c confectioner's sugar, gradually add 4 egg yolks, zest rind and juice of 1 lemon and mix will. Gently fold in 4 stiffly beaten egg whites. Transfer to greased, flour-dusted babka pan or bundt pan and bake in 350° oven 1 hr or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean. When cool, dust with confectioner's sugar or drizzle glaze on.

## 76TH PRCUA NAT'L BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT MARCH 20, 2010 - DEARBORN, MI

New PRCUA players are welcome! Youth groups can play for FREE! Accommodations are at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn, 600 Town Center Dr., Dearborn, MI For reservations, call 313-593-1234, or toll-free 1-800-233-1234; the PRCUA room rate is \$90.00 per night, plus tax. Please, no more than 4 persons to a room. Ask for the Polish Roman Catholic Union room block before the March 12th deadline.

The gyms are at the University of MI/Dearborn and the Henry Ford Community College; both in Dearborn, MI. Directions to the gyms will be available at the hotel.

St. Stan's Society #718 will host the event. Hospitality Room will be in the hotel; a *Pub Crawl* is planned for Friday night. The awards presentation dinner will be on Saturday evening at the O'Kelly Knights of Columbus.

Entry form can be downloaded at: [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org). Complete and return it to the Home Office with \$50.00 entry fee per team. Make check payable to: PRCUA Sports Fund. Deadline: postmarked by **March 5, 2010.** Questions? Please call 1-800-772-8632, ext. 2601.

## PRCUA 2010 Nat'l Bowling Tournament April 23 - 25, 2010

Plaza Lanes

42001 Ann Arbor Road East, Plymouth, MI

Embassy Suites Hotel

19525 Victor Parkway, Livonia, MI

Room rates are \$94 and \$99 - include hot breakfast and a 2-hour happy hour. For reservations, call 734-462-6000. Mention the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Bowling Tournament to receive the special group rate.

Entry Form available at [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org) or call the Fraternal Dept. to obtain a form by mail. Questions? Call Tournament Director Ralph Stempinski at 847-965-7378 or the Fraternal Department toll-free at 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2601.

*Sympathy is expressed by the PRCUA Executive Officers, Board of Directors, Staff and Members to the Ocwieja Family. Frank Ocwieja, a member of Society #542, husband of the late Past PRCUA Vice President Regina Ocwieja, passed away on February 15, 2010. Condolences for the Ocwieja Family may be sent to:*



PRCUA Fraternal Department  
Ocwieja Family  
984 N Milwaukee Ave  
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

## Win a Recipe Book!

In celebration of the 2010 Convention Year, *Naród Polski* readers are invited to send their favorite recipes to the Editor for publication in the newspaper.

Everyone who sends a recipe will have their name entered in a monthly drawing to win the "PRCUA Sharing Our Best" Cookbook worth \$15. A prize will be awarded each month until August 2010 - when the PRCUA's 60th Quadrennial Convention will take place.

Members will receive one chance per recipe. No limit to the number of recipes you can submit. Email recipes to: [kathryn.rosypal@prcu.org](mailto:kathryn.rosypal@prcu.org) (put "Recipe" in the subject line) or mail to:

Editor - PRCUA Recipes  
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

**Our January Winner**  
**Aurelia C. Stadnick of Highland, Indiana**  
**Congratulations!**



## Looking through the Window...

by Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski



Dear Readers,

Spring is just around the corner! I can't wait for the weather to warm up, the trees to bud, the birds to return, the air to smell fresh and flowers to pop up. Since spring is so erratic, I know we'll have a few more cold and maybe snowy days, but spring is just around the corner!

Also around the corner is tax-time! Too many of us wait until April 15 to open or deposit funds into IRAs. Contact a PRCUA deputy or any PRCUA office now to open or contribute to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) for maximum profit.

Both traditional IRAs and ROTH IRAs offer attractive tax benefits to help your savings grow. The IRAs chief advantage is that deposits are tax deductible and earnings grow tax-deferred for life. At age 70.5, you must make withdrawals, which are taxed as ordinary income at that time. With a ROTH IRA, you get no tax deduction for your contributions. Earnings grow tax free and there is no tax upon withdrawal, if you have held the account for at least five years and are at least 59.5 years old. Both offer tax advantages when saving for your retirement. The minimum needed to open an IRA or ROTH IRA at the PRCUA is only \$300. You can also transfer a Traditional IRA or ROTH IRA held in another institution to the same kind of IRA at the PRCUA. Also, you can rollover your money into the same type of IRA. In a rollover, funds are paid directly to you and must be redeposited within 60 days in the same kind of IRA in order to qualify. Only one rollover involving the same IRA within any 12 month period is allowed. You can still contribute to your 2009 IRA until April 15, 2010. Or you can make IRA contributions for the 2010 tax year from January 2, 2010 to April 15, 2011. If you make an IRA contribution between January 2nd and April 15th, please designate which tax year your contributions are for: 2009 or 2010. Many of us miss out on tax benefits each year, which can result in significant savings, because we are unfamiliar with the tax laws. It's a good idea to consult with a tax professional to determine which type of IRA is best for your financial future.

Let me share with you what's been going on: As January winds were blowing and snow piled high, my husband and I, with our daughter, Basia, and son-in-law Sean, escaped to a warm climate. We took a very relaxing Caribbean cruise and spent time lying on the sun decks next to the pools, in the hot tub or socializing. We saw very nice sunsets and this sunny sanctuary made winter blues melt away, so we could forget about work. We just let loose and I learned a new hip-hop choreographed dance routines inspired by the movie "Gotta Dance". After a few rehearsals, participants of every age and with no experience (including yours truly) performed a hip-hop dance at a show held on the last evening in the ship's spectacular five-story main theatre. We were just "fabulous" and received a standing ovation! "Gotta Dance" is a must-see movie that appeals to the entire family. During our cruise, the devastating earthquake hit Haiti. In response to the catastrophic earthquake, guests donated over \$26,000 to the relief fund and the ship line pledged at least \$1 million in relief for ravaged Haiti.

On Sat., Jan. 16th, PRCUA Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Ensemble held its annual Winter Dance, celebrating the 5th and 10th year anniversaries of 15 dancers. Since I was out of town, I could not attend, but I heard rave reviews of the dinner dance and Wesoly Lud's very special performance. Congratulations to the dancers who celebrated their 10-year anniversary with the Wesoly Lud: Anna Kraszewski, Mark Kroplewski, Andrew Lech, Paul Pazdziora, Christopher Presz; and those who marked their 5-year anniversary: Nicole Bober, Kinga Guziak, Katherine Hiero, Beata Palarz, Kasia Wilczek, Michael Dziadkowiec, David Lyzbicki, Mike Palarz, Paul Steczek and David Zuk.



PRCUA Task Force at Home Office

On Jan. 23, the PRCUA Task Force met at our Chicago Home Office. The Task Force is working on updating the PRCUA Constitution. A preliminary proposal was submitted to the PRCUA executive officers and the Board. At this meeting, PRCUA President Wallace Ozog, Director of District #8 James Rustik and I were also present. We participated in the discussion and gave our recommendations and input. All members' input and comments from the Task Force meetings that were held in all districts, from correspondence and from this meeting were taken into account by the Task Force, which will soon have a final proposal.

During the school year, I make a point to visit our language and dance schools in the Chicagoland area. In January, I visited the Polonia Dance Ensemble during their rehearsals - Saturday for the younger dancers and Tuesday for the older dancers. I observed two of our newest Choreographers, Jaclyn Krysinski and Krzysztof Ptaszek, at work. Both had great patience and a professional attitude as they taught younger students steps of Polish folk dances. The dancers were truly engaged and captivated by the dance routines. I also attended the rehearsal of the older groups, who are rehearsing a new Mazur dance with Choreographer Iwona Puc-Piechocki. Also present at this practice was Polonia School Director Anna Krysinski and talented Artistic Choreographer Cecylia Roznowska.

On Tues., Jan. 26, the Polish American Congress Illinois Division held its annual Oplatek. It was a very nice holiday event with many leaders of Polonia in attendance. For entertainment, PRCUA's Mala Polonia, who were practicing next door, were asked to give an impromptu performance. Director Anna Krysinski obliged and the children, accompanied by accordionist Mieczyslaw Dzis, gave a very moving and lively performance by singing beautiful Polish and English carols that touched our hearts. "Thank you, Mala Polonia, for your beautiful singing, and thanks to their talented teachers."

During Carnival time, Maria Konopnicka Polish Language School and St. Rafael Kalinowski Polish Language School held their annual Dinner Dances. At the MKPLS dance we were entertained by the Polish



Mala Polonia with Mieczyslaw Dzis

Highlanders performing group, in which many students from the school took part in a Christmas play with some wonderful comic touches. The students showed great acting abilities and performed magnificently.

At the SRKPLS dance, we were entertained by the Maly Slask and Slask Dance Ensembles, under direction of the newly graduated Choreographer Natalia Grabowski and her assistant Konrad Habina. All the dances were performed beautifully; Natalia and Konrad should be commended for the progress the dancers have made. The audience applauded with enthusiastic appreciation. After the dinner, school children, their parents, teachers, the school board and guests took part in games and dancing. Adults not only enjoyed watching the youngsters have fun, but they were also became swept up by the magic of this evening. Everyone I spoke to expressed how much they enjoyed the music and dancing. Several people also told me that they never attended a Dinner Dance where students and adults danced side-by-side for much of the evening. Many thanks to the school boards, teachers and parents for orchestrating the activities, involving students and instilling in them a sense of pride and belonging.

We welcome to the Chicago area the Polish and Slavic Federal Credit Union, that officially opened two new branches in the suburbs on Jan. 30. The Grand Opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony was attended by leaders of Chicago's Polonia and Polish businesses, local clergy and diplomats, including Polish Museum of America Pres. Maria Ciesla and Dir. Jan Lorys, and I. Congratulations to PRCUA and PMA member Jolanta Wisnicki, who is PSFCU Manager at the branch in Mt. Prospect, IL.

**BEST WISHES** - Happy Birthday to all readers celebrating their birthdays in March, especially: PRCUA Secretary-Treasurer Joyce Szarowicz, Gen. Office IT assistant Madia Robles, District #6 National Director Sharon Haberski; Past District #7 National Director Joseph Boruta; Past District #8 National Director Barbara Sergeant-Rustik; Polonia Dance Ensemble School Director Ania Krysinski; Polskie Maki School Director Maria Jalkiewicz; Gwiazda School Director Cynthia Cervenak; Ron Toboy, husband of District #10 National Director Barbara Toboy; my mother-in-law Rena Sokolowski, PNA V.P. Paul Odrobina. We wish all of you happiness and good health always - STO LAT! Happy Wedding Anniversary to my brother-in-law and his wife Maria and Bohdan Sokolowski. May your honeymoon never end!

Let's also sing Sto Lat to all with a birthday in April, especially: Kevin Ryba, our I.T. wizard; and Agnieszka Migiel, Membership Dept. as well as National Directors: District #9 Elizabeth Grabowski and her husband, Konrad; District #8 James Rustik; and Past District #8 Steven Cieslicki; Angela Muszalski, wife of the Supervisor Ed Muszalski; Teresa Gibala, Fin. Secy. Soc. #1633 and Supervisor of Dist. #12; Clara Jakubowski, Deputy in District #16; and Dariusz Kwasniewski, Frank Kociubinski and Walter Dynowski.

Congratulations to Andrew Lech and Patricia Zupnik (both Wesoly Lud dancers) on their Valentine's Day engagement.

**CONDOLENCES** - Our sincere condolences are extended to the family of Ewa Trzeciak, our Cleveland Office employee, on the passing of Ewa's beloved father, Bogdan Niewinski, on Feb. 4th. "Dear Ewa, we will hold you and your family in our thoughts and prayers as you move through the process of grieving and healing."

It is also our sad duty to inform you that Frank Ocwieja, husband of the late Regina Ocwieja, Past PRCUA Vice President, passed away on February 15, 2010. "Our prayers and condolences are extended to the Ocwieja family and we pray that God will comfort you all during this difficult time. Our love and our thoughts are with you at this sad time. May his soul rest in eternal peace."

**GET WELL WISHES** are extended to Ron Burkhart, husband of Elaine Burkhart, our Philadelphia Office Employee, who is recovering after slipping during that terrible weather in Philadelphia and chipped his hip bone. Get well soon!

**BEST WISHES** to Frank Kociubinski, who retired as PRCUA's maintenance engineer after many years of loyal service. "We wish you improved health and thank you for your many years of dedication & commitment to the PRCUA."

**THANK YOU** to all of our readers, friends and especially PRCUA and PMA employees who remembered my family on Valentine's Day. Thank you for your sincere and sweet wishes, cards, emails, candy and gorgeous red roses. I was very touched by your thoughtfulness - thank you so much and may God Bless You!

**LENT** - Lent is not simply a time to "give up" something that you take up again on Easter morning. Lent is a journey; a time of reflection, refining and change. Wishing you a Holy Lent, and a Holy and Happy Easter. Take care and keep in touch. Email your comments, ideas, or news to [fraternal.department@prcu.org](mailto:fraternal.department@prcu.org) or call 1-800-772-8632 ext. 2643. Write soon!

More photos from the events mentioned above are on the PRCUA website [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org) under "Looking through the Window."



Andrew & Pat



Farewell, Frank





# PHILADELPHIA NEWSY-NEWS



**IN SYMPATHY** - Condolences are extended to SOCIETY 2003'S HELEN MELUSKY on the loss of her dear son, Gerald (Jerry) F. Melusky, Sr., age 58 of Roxborough, PA, who passed away on January 28, 2010. He is survived by 2 sons, a daughter and 2 grandchildren. He will be sadly missed by his aunt and uncle, HELEN (Financial Secretary of SOCIETY 2003) and JOHN MELNICK of SOCIETY 2003. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Josaphat Church. Sympathy is many hearts sharing one sorrow. May God comfort the entire Melusky Family in their great loss.

**THINKING OF YOU** - We're sending bright blue skies and lots of sunshine to SOCIETY 2007's Financial Secretary, JOAN GANTER. Always know you are in our thoughts and prayers.



Introducing Melissa Anne Schultz

**PRETTY IN PINK** - a beautiful baby girl made her debut and her smiles are more precious than silver and gold. Congratulations to SOCIETY 2018's Financial Secretary, WALTER (SKIP) and Michelle SCHULTZ on the arrival of their daughter, Melissa Anne who was born on January 8, 2010 at 5:14 PM at Abington Hospital. There was much excitement at the SCHULTZ Residence when Melissa Anne came home on January 9th. She's content in the love of her parents and family and looks forward to becoming a PRCUA Member.

Melissa is the great niece of PRCUA District 3's Director, JOANNE ZAJAC, Niece of JULIA AND MATT DICKINSON AND NICHOLAS AND MEGAN SCHULTZ and the new baby cousin of HANNAH and WYATT DICKINSON. To SKIP and Michelle, cherish this time and enjoy all the wonder and pleasure a new baby brings. May all the little angels protect Melissa every day of her life.

**OH DEM GOLDEN SLIPPERS** - Everyone knows that besides Philly cheesesteaks, soft pretzels and Tastycakes, Philadelphia is also known for its ever popular String Bands, who participate in the Philadelphia Mummers' Parade each and every year on New Year's Day. SOCIETY 2018's Financial Secretary WALTER (SKIP) SCHULTZ and SOCIETY 2021's Financial Secretary, NICHOLAS SCHULTZ are devoted members of the Greater Kensington String Band, whose theme for 2010 was "Empire of the Czar". They featured a Fabrege Egg, which opened up to reveal a dancing ballerina. Their music included *Dark Eyes* and selected music from the Nutcracker with Balalaika players. SKIP and NICK were Russian dancers and did an outstanding job. The costumes worn by all participants of the Greater Kensington String Band were phenomenal. SKIP also plays the banjo and NICK plays the drums. Greater Kensington String Band placed 7th and the captain placed 6th. Great job, SKIP and NICK.

**BUSHELS OF BELATED BIRTHDAY WISHES** - SOCIETY 2047's President, HELEN HRABOWSKI of Langhorne, PA celebrated an extra special birthday on December 30, 2009. Dear HELEN, these birthday wishes may be a smidgen late but we hope you know you're always wished much happiness no matter what the date. Hope your "special" birthday was delightful in every way.

**CONDOLENCES** - Heartfelt Sympathy is extended to HELEN HRABOWSKI, President of SOCIETY 2047 on the loss of her dear brother, John Ziomek of St. Petersburg, Florida who passed away on January 24th. Mr. Ziomek is also survived by his nephew, MICHAEL HRABOWSKI,

granddaughter, STEPHANIE SWERSKI and great grandchildren JACLYN and JOHN ZIOMEK, ALICIA, JACOB AND TIMOTHY SMALLWOOD and HAILEY SCHOENBERGER, all members of SOCIETY 2047. Although it's difficult today to see beyond all sorrow, may looking back in memories help comfort the entire Ziomek Family in their great loss.

**CIRCLE THE DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR** - The 5th Anniversary of the death of Pope John Paul the Great will be celebrated on April 8th at St. Adalbert Church, Thompson Street and Allegheny Avenue at 7 PM. For further information, please call Polish American Congress Eastern PA District at 215-739-3408.

**NEWS-A-DEL-PHIA** - "March-ing" to the season of Spring sounds very good right now as far as I'm concerned especially after experiencing three mega crippling snowstorms in one season, two within a week. This titanic snowstorm arrived in Philadelphia, New Jersey and Delaware on Tuesday evening, February 9th; it snowed for approximately 30 hours. Mail, mass transit, shopping malls and all schools were suspended due to blizzard-like conditions, toppling of trees, power shortages and collapsed roofs. Most businesses declared a holiday as everyone was urged to remain indoors and stay off the hazardous roads. Now, there is actually nowhere to put the snow; there are mountains of snow everywhere. The ever popular tune "Let it Snow" has become unpopular and folks everywhere are counting down the days to Spring. It's been said this has been the most snow to fall in Philadelphia in the 126 winters during which the weather service has kept score. Please no more snow! On a happier note and just as a reminder, the Philadelphia Office is open for business and we urge everyone to become a member of PRCUA by taking advantage of a Life Insurance Plan or an Annuity product which are designed to fit every budget. Information is available on the PRCUA website [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org) but better yet, stop by the Philadelphia Office and give us an opportunity to speak to you in person. Don't wait until it's too late.

Until the next issue of the **Narod Polski**, always remember the best vitamin to be a happy person is "B1."

Elaine, Philadelphia Satellite Office



Left to right, Nick and Skip Schultz



Members of the  
Greater Kensington String Band

## Polish American Social Services "PASS" United Social Services Outreach Program

308 Walnut Street - Philadelphia, PA 19106

Telephone: (215) 923-1900

Fax: (215) 922-1518 • Internet: [PolishAmericanSocialServices.com](http://PolishAmericanSocialServices.com)

Polish American Social Services (PASS), a non-profit agency, provides services to thousands of individuals each year in the Philadelphia area. Through its United Social Services Outreach Program, PASS provides bilingual benefits counseling, information, referral, translation and direct social services to low-income individuals, with a focus on the Polish speaking elderly with language and cultural barriers to economic stability and self-sufficiency. PASS is also known in its outreach areas, for assisting individuals from several ethnic groups who reside in the agency's service areas.

Ongoing agency objectives include:

1. To make social service information available to individuals, family members, care-givers and the community-at-large to insure that they know about and understand available services and can overcome language or cultural barriers to self-sufficiency.
2. To enable eligible individuals to make better use of available income through money management and benefits counseling, information about health care and home health care options, employment programs etc.
3. To establish and coordinate linkages between public and private social service programs to assure effective service delivery to individuals.
4. To help elderly and other residents retain and maintain their homes through information, referral and direct service of various housing programs, and to obtain emergency assistance for individuals facing urgent needs which threaten to displace them from their homes.

PASS provides convenient access to a comprehensive range of services and benefits programs, including a phone helpline. PASS's services help build self-sufficiency and community stability. Each year over 8,000 individuals contact PASS for information or assistance. Some individuals require extensive services, while others need basic information or referral services.

If you, or someone you know, is in need of social services or information, please do not hesitate to call the PASS office listed above.



PULASKI VERSUS PULASKI

by Polish American Historian Edward Pinkowski



General Casimir Pulaski

Pulaski County, Indiana has done its share to save the memory of a Polish hero of the American Revolution, its namesake Casimir Pulaski. Actually, before Pulaski County was officially established in February 7, 1835, its landowner, Little Turtle, knew more about the heroes from Poland - Pulaski and Kosciuszko - than the average American.

First, in 1780, Little Turtle, leader of Miami Indians, defeated the military forces of Augustin de la Balme, whom Casimir Pulaski met in Philadelphia.

Secondly, in 1798, when Little Turtle was in Philadelphia to discuss the terms of a treaty, he visited General Kosciuszko in a boarding house at 3rd and Pine Streets, now the Kosciuszko

National Memorial, and spent a few hours in Kosciuszko's room exchanging gifts.

Lost in the pages of history is the little-known fact that I, Edward Pinkowski, bought that house in the 1960s and changed the deed to make it impossible for any future owner to do anything with the property except turn it into a shrine to Kosciuszko. With the lobbying support of the Polish American community, including the Polish American Congress and the Polish American media, the U. S. Congress appropriated nearly half a million dollars in the 1970s to restore Kosciuszko's last residence in America.

When the public visited the historic home and saw the exhibits on General Tadeusz Kosciuszko, it became apparent that the shrine literally brought Kosciuszko's name out of hiding. It was a one-of-a-kind Polish American historic site in Philadelphia. Not even the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York could match it.

However, the biographies of Kosciuszko written by two Polish American authors, in recent years, missed the point.

Ironically, every February the length of a walk of officers of the Eastern District, Polish American Congress, and a crowd from the Kosciuszko House to a restaurant for the swearing-in ceremonies is longer than the Pulaski parade today in Philadelphia.

**OUT OF A CORNFIELD** - No matter how much the interest in General Pulaski wanes, Pulaski County, Indiana - and other places named after the military leader on horseback from Poland - remain as reminders of his great contribution to American history.

For generations, the people of Pulaski County, Indiana, have seen the name of a Pole on their courthouse in Winamac, on their tax bills, town halls, newspapers, and schools. The county paid each volunteer, first \$25 and then \$100, to enroll in the Union Army during the Civil War, and each outfit from the county took its name wherever it fought. In every election, whether county, state, or presidential, there were returns from Pulaski County. Make no mistake, the name was made to stay in Indiana.

Instead of Michkinikwa, Mish-e-ken-o-quah, the Indian name of Little Turtle, a committee of the Indiana General Assembly named one of the counties it created Pulaski and another Kosciuszko, although they eliminated the "z" in the latter name. Two of the 92 counties in Indiana today are still Pulaski and Kosciusko. Of all the Polish place names in the United States, these two counties are the closest to Chicago.

The legislators left the organization of Pulaski County up to a time when it had enough settlers to vote for candidates to fill county offices. The first county

commissioners -- elected May 13, 1839, one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years -- decided to establish the county seat on the Tippecanoe River, 78 miles southeast of Chicago, and called it Winamac, named after a distinguished leader of the Indians in the Battle of Tippecanoe. They also changed the townships, assigning them names instead of numbers. Not one of them thought of naming Township 29 the same as the county. Two for the price of one? No, sir!

**VILLAGE OF PULASKI** - How strange it is that so many generations have lived in Pulaski County, Indiana, and have never hung a painting or set a bust of General Pulaski in the courthouse. The post office in the village of Pulaski, in Indian Creek Township, was not even named the same way. The history of the village is generally overlooked.

Its name dates back to November 1855 when David Short, who built a dam across the sluggish Tippecanoe River, laid out a village of 36 lots and placed the name "Pulaski" on the map. Tippecanoe Bottoms or Short's Dam would have been a more fitting name. To his credit Short stuck to Pulaski and attracted the attention of the Indiana Gazeteer, the Bishop of the Fort Wayne diocese, and many other groups, not to mention the settlers themselves.

For the first time in the corn belt, Indiana had a county and a village named "Pulaski." The bridge, built in 1855 across the river at Pulaski, played a major role in the growth and development of the region. Business of all kinds flourished. Pulaski County abandoned its old, hewed-log courthouse and built a new brick one in 1862, with "Pulaski" in bigger letters on the facade of the building. During the Civil War, more soldiers came out of Indian Creek Township than any other township in Pulaski County. Neither the number of servicemen in wars after that nor others who shook the dust of the place from their feet are known to the writer.

**TRUST IN PULASKI** - Looking at Pulaski from two sides -- the hero himself and the toponym -- has never been done. The Polish American population, including the newspapers and histories it reads -- too little, of course -- has a vested interest in General Pulaski. All Poles, however, don't know the exact dates that he was born and died.

To remind you -- and encyclopedias, too -- General Pulaski was born in Warsaw on March 6, 1745, died on Captain Bulfinch's ship on October 15, 1779, and was buried, first secretly on Greenwich Plantation in the dark hours of the same day, and then, ceremonially in 1853, in a public square of Savannah, Georgia.

A few folks -- without seeing the evidence produced since 1996 when Pulaski's bones were plucked out of a brick vault in Savannah, Georgia -- believe in the hoax that was previously perpetrated, saying that General Casimir Pulaski was buried at sea.

Thank God that the Polish press has presented much of the evidence, albeit sometimes in condensed form, to its readers. Unfortunately, Polish newspapers, often suffer for lack of readers and advertisers. Still, speakers and letter writers continue to spread outdated information about Pulaski. Old, made up, and erroneous repeats of misinformation deserves the waste basket.

Remember this, without DNA, Dr. Charles Merbs - who has solved hundreds of murders by the study of human bones - solved a 200 year-old mystery and found proof that Pulaski was not buried at sea. Yet some people refuse to believe it. Wow, the study of bones worked when DNA failed!

Whatever false stories are printed, particularly in the bilingual newspapers from New York and Chicago, the inhabitants of Pulaski County, Indiana, trust their namesake. They honor it, say the name daily, and find nothing wrong with their address. Trust? That's all that counts.

"May Pulaski countians," wrote Dick Dodd in the Pulaski County Journal, April 5, 1962, "forever enjoy the heritage of liberty and freedom for which the namesake of their county gave his life."

(Editor's note: The author visited Pulaski County, Indiana, Sept. 16, 1968, including St. Joseph's Catholic Church, across the river from Pulaski, and picked up the illustrations from Google.)



General Thaddeus Kosciuszko



Little Turtle



## Tatry's Annual Graduate Presentation Dinner-Dance



(L-r) Tatry Director Rose Ann Lackey; National Director of District #10 Tom Lisiecki; Fr. Edwin Balazy, Pastor, St. John the Baptist Church, Dearborn Hts., MI; Tatry Graduate Alexandra Dixon; Escort Drew Asel; Michigan State Senator Irma Clark-Coleman's Chief of Staff Brigitte Maxey; PRCUA National Vice President Robert Bielenda; National Director of District #10 Barbara Toboy; and Tatry Choreographer Karen Lubiarz.

Dearborn Hts., MI - The Annual Presentation Dinner-Dance, hosted by the PRCUA Tatry Dancers, took place on October 24, 2009. Alexandra Dixon was presented as Tatry's only graduate this year. Tatry families and friends gathered together at the Robert Jones K. of C. Hall in Lincoln Park, MI to pay tribute to the graduate.



Tatry Graduate Alexandra Dixon and her escort, Drew Asel

The evening consisted of a scrumptious sit-down dinner, presentation of the graduate, entertainment by Group 5 dancers, who performed "Polish Soul", along with great music and dancing throughout the evening.

Master of Ceremonies was Tom Lackey, PRCUA National Director of District #10. Brian Ozimek introduced the dignitaries, Tatry officers and the graduate. A Touch of Brass entertained with a wonderful array of music, including polkas and other familiar favorites. The dance floor, which was never empty, was filled with young and old alike.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of Tatry 2010 graduate Alexandra Dixon, who glided across the floor in a graceful waltz with her escort Drew Asel.

Tatry is always honored by the attendance of some very special guests. This year's dignitaries included: Fr. Edwin Balazy, Pastor, St. John the Baptist Church of Dearborn Heights, MI; Robert Bielenda, PRCUA National Vice President; Brigitte Maxey, Chief of Staff for Michigan State Senator Irma Clark-Coleman; Dearborn Heights Mayor Dan Paletko; Barbara Toboy, PRCUA National Director of District #10 and Tom Lisiecki, PRCUA National Director of

District #10.

We sincerely hope that Alexandra's final year with the PRCUA Tatry Dancers will hold a special sense of accomplishment for her. We are very proud of our graduate, who had the fortitude and dedication to continue her Polish folk dancing through to her high school graduation. What a wonderful achievement for the graduate and her family. Good luck to our graduate in all her endeavors!

Very special thanks go to the Tatry School Director, Rose Ann Lackey, and Choreographer/Teacher Karen Lubiarz, who always make our dancers shine. Gratitude is also extended to the Tatry officers: Jeannie Wojnarowski - President, Elizabeth Kozakiewicz - Vice President, Kathy Belcher, Secretary and Patty Grawburg - Treasurer.

Written by Kathy Belcher, Tatry Secretary

## Michigan Pol-Am News Available

PRCUA member Christopher Ozog have a facebook page set up for the Detroit PRCUA area. People can just type into the search engine: Detroit PRCUA and the website should come up.

PRCUA member Christopher Ozog has a monthly e-mail that goes out with information about Detroit Polonian events. To subscribe, send an e-mail to [Detroitpolonia@prcu.org](mailto:Detroitpolonia@prcu.org) and write "subscribe" in the subject line. Both PRCUA and non-PRCUA information is given in this newsletter.

## News from PRCUA Society #1593



Proud father, Doug Evans, with graduate son David and David's mother Mary Ann Evans

David Evans, of Madison Hts., Michigan, a member of PRCUA #1593 Pope John Paul II Society, graduated from Kettering University (formerly GMI) with a bachelor degree in mechanical engineering in September 2009. David is the son of PRCUA deputy Doug and Mary Ann Evans and grandson of PRCUA #1593 President Ralph and Irene Raczynski.

While at Kettering, David was the President and co-captain of the hockey team and did an internship at Faurecia Automotive. David's Grandpa Ralph was his inspiration and reason for pursuing an engineering degree from Kettering.

"Congratulations, David, and continued success in all you do. The PRCUA and your family are very proud of you and your accomplishments."

Written and submitted by  
Barbara Toboy,  
National Director of District 10



Grandpa Ralph Raczynski and David Evans, proudly displaying his diploma

## Chicago Heights Commemorated Polish American Heritage Month

Chicago Hts., IL - The Chicago Heights-Wadowice Sister Cities Committee was active again in October celebrating Polish American Heritage Month at City Hall. Committee members presented a beautiful pictorial display covering the history, past and present, of the Chicago Heights Polish Community. In addition, Mayor Alex Lopez signed a proclamation designating October as "Polish American Heritage Month" throughout the City. The Polish and American flags flew side-by-side in front of City Hall.



Elizabeth Sadus and her father, Eugene

Looking at some of the materials on display is PRCUA Secretary of District #9 Elizabeth Sadus and her father, Eugene, Chairman of the Chicago Heights-Wadowice Sister Cities Committee of which Elizabeth is also a member.

## Doing the Right Thing

New Bedford, MA - Stanley Dudek of Mansfield, MA, a member of PRCUA Society #899, recently returned a book to the New Bedford Public Library in Massachusetts. It wasn't overdue by a week, a month or even a year. It was nearly a century overdue, and the fine came to a whopping \$361.35! "Facts I Ought to Know about the Government of My Country" was supposed to have been returned by his mother, also a PRCUA member, by May 10, 1910.



Stanley Dudek waits to return a library book after 99 years  
(AP Photo/The Standard Times, Peter Pereira)

Stanley Dudek reported that he came across the book while going through things that had belonged to his mother, who died about 10 years ago. He decided that returning the book to the city was the right thing to do. The overdue book fine was a penny a day in 1910. But Dudek wasn't asked to pay it. The library plans to display the book in its special collection.



ANNUAL STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009  
OF THE POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA  
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60642

ASSET	
Bonds.....	\$ 130,527,467
Stocks...(Preferred \$19,626,718 - Common \$ 6,048,197).....	25,674,915
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate.....	9,481,007
Real Estate Owned including Contract Sales.....	2,802,326
Certificate Loans.....	1,205,575
Cash on Hand and On Deposit.....	6,756,213
Short Term Investment.....	-0-
Electronic Data Processing Equipment.....	69,473
Premiums Actually Collected by Subordinate Lodges Not Yet Remitted to Home Office.....	73,884
Investment Income Due and Accrued.....	<u>1,608,621</u>
TOTAL ADMITTED ASSETS	<u>\$ 178,199,480</u>

LIABILITIES, SPECIAL RESERVES AND UNASSIGNED FUNDS	
Aggregate Reserve For Life Certificates and Contracts.....	\$ 170,060,445
Deposit - Type Contracts.....	57,229
Certificate and Contract Claims.....	1,185,625
Provisions For Refund Payable in Following Calendar Year.....	150,000
Life Premiums Received in Advance.....	454,530
Surrender Values on Canceled Certificates.....	908
Interest Maintenance Reserve.....	137,694
Commission to Field Workers Due or Accrued.....	3,127
General Expenses Due or Accrued.....	138,816
Taxes, Licenses and Fees Due or Accrued.....	89,785
Unearned Investment Income.....	16,307
Amounts Withheld or Retained by Society as Agent or Trustee.....	135,102
Assets Valuation Reserve.....	<u>1,457,646</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$ 173,887,213</u>

Special Bonus Dividend Payable in Following Year.....	-0-
Unassigned Funds.....	<u>4,312,268</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 4,312,268</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 178,199,480</u>

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS (Excluding Unrealized Capital Gains and Losses)	
Life and Annuity Premiums.....	\$ 17,255,651
Net Investment Income.....	8,520,697
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve.....	18,824
Reimbursement for Educational Stipends.....	<u>4,139</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 25,799,310</u>

DEDUCT:	
Death Benefits.....	\$ 2,225,500
Matured Endowments.....	343,316
Annuity Benefits.....	3,602,894
Disability Benefits.....	765
Surrender Benefits.....	6,425,606
Interest on Certificates or Contract Funds .....	2,996
Supplementary Contracts with Life Contingencies.....	493,786
Supplementary Contracts without Life Contingencies.....	-0-
Increase in Aggregate Reserve for Certificates and Contracts with Life Contingencies.....	9,659,467
Commission on Premiums.....	149,568
Contributions for Employees Benefits.....	266,595
General Insurance Expense and Fraternal Payments.....	3,833,010
Taxes, Licenses and Fees.....	<u>226,414</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 27,229,916</u>

Net Gain From Operations Before Refunds to Members and Excluding Realized Capital Gains and Losses.....	\$ (1,430,606)
Refund to Members.....	168,944
Net Gain From Operations After Refunds to Members.....	\$ (1,599,550)
Net Realized Capital Gains.....	<u>4,766</u>
NET INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	<u>\$ (1,594,784)</u>

UNASSIGNED FUNDS AND SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS			
Unassigned Funds 12/31/08	\$ 6,182,450	Unassigned Funds 12/31/09	\$ 4,312,268
Unrealized Gain	1,100,647	Net Loss From Operation	1,594,784
Change in Non-Admitted Asset	<u>50,101</u>	Bonus Dividends	385,000
		Change in Reserve	<u>1,041,147</u>
TOTALS	<u>\$ 7,733,199</u>	TOTALS	<u>\$ 7,333,199</u>

SUMMARY OF VALUATION REPORT FOR THE YEAR OF 2009		
Number of <u>Life Certificates</u>	Amount of <u>Insurance</u>	Total <u>Reserves</u>
60,553	\$ 360,277,376	\$ 170,060,445
Expected Mortality on Gross Amounts At Risk.....		\$ 1,916,517
Net Death Losses Incurred in 2008 Less Reserve Released		690,126
Ratio Percent of Actual to Expected Mortality on Gross Amounts at Risk During 2008.....		36.01%
Net Investment Income.....		<u>\$ 8,520,697</u>
RATE OF NET INVESTMENT INCOME TO MEAN ASSETS		
2005 - 5.10%	2006 - 5.36%	2007 - 5.39%
	2008 - 5.73%	2009 - 5.03%
RATIO OF ASSETS TO LIABILITIES		
2005 - 110.33%	2006 - 110.32%	2007 - 108.06%
	2008 - 103.78%	2009 - 102.48%

The Society's valuation indicates that on the basis of the American Experience of 1941, 1958 and 1980 Commissioner's Standard Ordinary Table of Mortality with interest at 2 1/2% and 5%, the future assessment payments at the net rates now collected together with the invested assets are sufficient to meet all certificates as they mature by their terms with a margin of safety of \$ 4,312,268 over the above statutory standard.  
Respectfully submitted,  
*Wallace M. Ozog, President*  
*Anna Sokolowski, Vice President*  
*Robert L. Bielenda, Vice President*  
*Josephine Szarowicz, Secretary - Treasurer*  
*Emily Kurda, Controller*  
*Steimla & Associates, Inc., Actuary*

Good Census Advice

The PRCUA urges its members to cooperate with the U.S. Census Bureau by answering their questions - whether you receive the census form by mail, or a phone call or a knock on the door by a census worker. But follow the guidelines below to protect yourself from identity theft.

The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers verify addresses of households across the country. Eventually, census workers will count and gather information about every person living at each address in the USA, including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

**How do you tell the difference between a census worker and a con artist?** A census worker will have a badge, a handheld device for typing in your information, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification badge but do not invite them into your home. The interview just takes a few minutes.

Census workers are currently knocking on doors to verify address information. **Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.**

REMEMBER, no matter what census workers ask you, you really only need to tell them the name, age, gender and race of each of the people who live at your address. While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, you do not have to answer unless you want to.

**ETHNICITY:** The Polish American Congress has issued a statement saying: “There should have been a place to allow every participant to complete not only a race block, but a place to list ethnicity. This issue was brought to the attention of Census 2010 representatives but was not rectified.” Therefore the PAC is urging Polish Americans to declare their ethnicity by doing 2 things: For Question #9, on race, answer WHITE and write in “Polish American.” Also lower, where it says “some other race” write in “Polish American.”

The Census Bureau may contact you by telephone, regular mail, or in person at home. **However, the Census Bureau will not contact you by E-mail, so be on the lookout for E-mail scams of people impersonating the Census Bureau. For protection, never click on a computer link or open any attachments in an E-mail that is supposedly coming from the U.S. Census Bureau.**

Census data is used to determine the number of seats a State is entitled to in the U.S. Congress and the amount of federal funding an area will receive, as well as other statistical reports. Please cooperate with the Census Bureau.



## News from PRCUA Soc. #1413

Michigan - Twins Dane and Ava Lackey, children of Tom and Kerri Lackey, celebrated their first birthday on November 12, 2009. The joyous event included grandparents Tom and Rose Ann Lackey and Grandma Rita Mathes, godparents Tim and Rebecca Lackey for Dane and Susan Lackey and Erik Mathes for Ava, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Dane and Ava are now third-generation PRCUA members. Babies bring so much joy - and twins make it twice as nice.

Submitted by Rose Ann Lackey, Dir., PRCUA Tatry Dancers



## Mary F. Martinkosky Passed Away

Wheeling, WV - Mary F. (nee Gorczyca) Martinkosky, 88, a lifelong resident of Wheeling WV died on September 11, 2009. She was the daughter of the late Anthony J. and Katherine B. (nee Stepien) Gorczyca, who had 12 children. Affectionately called "Mirandy," she was a former member of St. Ladislaus Church in Wheeling and a former employee of Stone & Thomas, Sylvania Electric and Marx Toys. Mirandy had also served as Treasurer of PRCUA Society #213 for many years and was Secretary to the Thursday Night Guild. She loved to play bingo, cards and dominos and she was very proud of her Polish heritage.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 56 years, Teddy P. Martinkosky, who died in 2003; five brothers: Stanley, John, Joseph, Walter and Frank; three sisters: Helen, Rose and Stephanie; four nephews and a niece.

Surviving are: sons, Richard (Phyllis) of Wheeling, WV and Ronald (Kathleen) of Bridgeport, OH; daughter, Janet (Charles) Cunningham of Wheeling; grandsons: Matt (Leah) Cunningham of McMechen and Alex (Christina) Cunningham of Washington, DC; granddaughters: Wendy (Michael) Tronka of Lansing, OH; Carrie (Shawn) Gralinski of Martins Ferry, OH; Mareesa Cunningham of Wheeling and Amy Martinkosky of New York, NY; great grandchildren: Celeste and Colleen Tronka of Bridgeport, OH and Kaden and Kyla Cunningham of McMechen, WV; one sister, Jennie Zerkowski of Wheeling and 2 brothers Casimir Gorczyca of Woodsboro, MD and Edward Gorczyca of Wheeling, plus nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on September 15 at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Wheeling, with Rev. Chuck McGinnis as celebrant. She was interred in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Wheeling, WV. May Mary Martinkosky rest in eternal peace.

## Pope Decrees Beatification of Poland's 'Solidarity Chaplain'

On December 19, 2009, Pope Benedict XVI approved the beatification of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, former Chaplain of Poland's Solidarity Labor Union, who was brutally murdered by the communist government's secret police in 1984. The decree placed this charismatic priest just a step away from sainthood.

Fr. Popieluszko, who was born in 1947, was an outspoken advocate of the then-outlawed Solidarity Movement in Poland. He was a staunch anti-communist who laced his sermons with political messages backing the Solidarity Movement led by electrician Lech Walesa.

About 250,000 people attended Fr. Popieluszko's funeral at his church in a Warsaw suburb on November 3, 1984. For the first time in nearly 3 years, Lech Walesa was allowed to



Father Jerzy Popieluszko

address the crowd. He said: "Solidarity lives because Popieluszko shed his blood for it."

Three Polish secret service officers from Poland's Interior Ministry abducted Father Popieluszko after he celebrated his last Mass in Bydgoszcz, in central Poland.

The bound-and-gagged body of the 37-year-old priest was found in the Vistula River on October 30, 1982, eleven days after his abduction. The secret police tortured him to death and then threw his body into a reservoir some 70 miles north of Warsaw.

Identified, thanks to the priest's chauffeur, in 1985, the 3 officers and their superior were tried and found guilty of the priest's brutal murder. They received sentences ranging from 14 to 25 years, however they were released from prison early after they received controversial amnesties.

In October of 2009, Father Popieluszko's mother accepted Poland's highest honor, the *Order of the White Eagle*, on behalf of her son.

His beatification process began in 1997 when the Vatican began procedures to beatify Fr. Popieluszko. Last year Pope Benedict XVI authorized a speedier procedure. Because the murdered priest is considered a martyr, his beatification dossier did not require evidence of a miracle.

"Solidarity was alive because Father Popieluszko gave his life," former President of the Republic of Poland, Lech Walesa, said at a Rome screening of a documentary on Father Popieluszko.

"When the state cannot speak, the (Catholic) Church does. Without the symbiosis with the Church, Poland would have been wiped off the face of the earth," Walesa said.

The Nobel Peace laureate also said that he and Father Popieluszko both felt that because the pope at the time - His Holiness Pope John Paul II - was Polish, this presented "a unique opportunity for Poland and other countries to make a break with communism."

Another film about Fr. Popieluszko, entitled "To Kill a Priest," was made in 1988 by Director Agnieszka Holland.

It is rumored that the priest's beatification may take place sometime this year.

## Thank You from Scholarship Recipient Studying in Poland



Dear Mr. Ozog,

I would like to thank you and PRCUA for granting me a scholarship this year. I really appreciate the help with furthering my education; a good education is the greatest asset a person can have in this day and age.

Evidence of what I'm doing with the scholarship can be found in the picture attached to this email. The picture is of me in Collegium Maius, the

oldest building of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow on the first day of classes. I'm studying in Krakow this semester, learning the Polish language, culture and customs, and am having an amazing time. Living here reaffirms why I love my Polish heritage so much.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Kaniewski

## PRCUA ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2010 FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America is pleased to open nominations for the 2010 Fraternalist of the Year program. The award is given annually to the member who, throughout the past year, exhibited extraordinary acts of fraternalism, provided outstanding volunteer service in the community and uncommon leadership in his/her local society. All entries must be received by June 5, 2010 to be considered by a panel of judges for the top position.

Once the PRCUA's top Fraternalist is selected, nomination material will be forwarded on to the "National Fraternalist of the Year" program to be considered for nationwide recognition. The program is sponsored by the National Fraternal Congress of America (NFC). Beginning July 1, an independent panel of judges will review the nominations and select one winner. NFC will present the award at its 2010 annual meeting in Chicago, IL, September 9-11, 2010.

For an application, please contact:

PRCUA  
Secretary-Treasurer Joyce Szarowicz  
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

## POLISH MUSEUM PROPOSES TWO POLAND TRIPS IN 2010

The Polish Museum is proposing the popular two-week "Capitals of Poland" tour which includes Warsaw, Gdansk, Poznan/Gniezno, Krakow, Czestochowa, Malbork, and Zakopane. We will visit 8 of the 13 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Poland. Proposed dates are in late June to early July.

The second trip is "Art Deco - Poland." It would cover Warsaw, Krakow, Bielsko-Biala, and Katowice, Gdynia on the Baltic Sea and Stalowa Wola. The proposed date of this trip is mid-September.

This year and next, Poland is still an affordable proposition but once it begins using the Euro, all will be expensive. The trips will occur only if we have minimum of 20 persons each. For more information, email:

[jan-lorys@polishmuseumofamerica.org](mailto:jan-lorys@polishmuseumofamerica.org) or call PMA Director Mr. Jan Lorys (773) 384-3352 Ext. 102.



# POLISH NEWS BYTES

*Compiled by Our Warsaw Correspondent Robert Strybel*

**THE FIRST AMERICAN TROOPS** are expected to arrive in Poland in March to man a Patriot rocket battery due to be installed in the northern town of Morag. Although located some 60 miles from the Russian border, Polish authorities say the site was not selected for any political or strategic reasons but only because of its existing military infrastructure including barracks and training grounds. The Patriots, which will be stationed in Poland on a rotation basis, have been provided by the United States in place of the Bush-era anti-missile shield from which the Obama Administration withdrew last September.

**RUSSIA'S BALTIC FLEET** will be strengthened in response to Poland's plans to have American Patriot missiles installed not far from the border of Russia's Kaliningrad region. The Russian Information Agency Novosti reported Russian naval sources as saying the fleet will be enhanced with new corvette-class warships fitted with long-range high-precision cruise missiles. The Kaliningrad region, formerly part of German East Prussia, was claimed by Stalin who insisted the USSR needed a Baltic port that did not freeze over in winter.

**MOSCOW HAS DENIED POLAND'S CLAIM** to having arrested a Russian spy and accused Poles of trying to whip up anti-Russia hysteria. A Polish-speaking Russian national who had spent over a dozen years in Poland, where for cover he operated a small business, was arrested in early 2009 but nearly a year went by before the arrest was officially announced in Poland. President Lech Kaczynski has decorated the agents of Poland's National Security Agency who made the arrest.

**POLISH WINTER** - Poland experienced one of the harshest Januaries on record with heavy snowfall and temperatures as low as -25°F. Thousands of households across the country were without electricity for weeks on end. Repair crews could not keep up with sagging ice-caked power lines which were pulled down by falling trees and branches as soon as they were repaired. Numerous villages were snowed in and cut off from the outside world. Ice-jammed rivers caused flooding in low-lying areas. When everything is tallied up, the heating, repair and snow-removal bill is expected to be staggering.

**POLAND'S POPULATION** increased slightly by 37,000 last year and amounted to 38,173,000, according to data released by the Central Statistical Office (Główny Urząd Statystyczny). A smaller increase was noted in 2008, but over the 11 years prior to then the number of Poles had declined by 179,000. In the 1980s it was widely predicted that Poland's population would top 40 million by the year 2000, but a declining birth rate reversed the trend. Poland is now the sixth largest European country in terms of population.

**POLES IN BELARUS** have appealed to the Polish government for support in their dispute with the Belarussian authorities who have prevented them from entering their Dom Polski (Polish community center) in the town of Iwieniec. The regime of Aleksander Lukashenka, Europe's last remaining dictator, does not recognize the group and has set up a puppet organization which it says is the legitimate representative of Belarussia's half-million-strong Polish minority. Belarussian Poles live on their native turf which was cut off from Poland after Stalin arbitrarily redrew the border.

A wide-ranging ban on smoking is being prepared by the government of Poland, a country of 38.5 million, where nine million people smoke up to 20 cigarettes a day. If the bill is adopted, smoking will be prohibited in all pubs, cafes and restaurants, in public buildings, trains and taxis as well as at bus stops, stadiums and on beaches. Those violating the ban face a fine of 500 zlotys (about \$178). The bill is in keeping with European Union guidelines.

**UKRAINIAN REBEL LEADER** Stefan Bandera has been declared a "hero of Ukraine" by outgoing president Viktor Yushchenko, triggering protests in neighboring Poland. Bandera's Ukrainian Nationalist Organization was responsible for the war-time genocide of up to 150,000 Poles in the former Polish regions of Volhynia and Eastern Galicia. Western Ukrainians idolize Bandera as a freedom-fighter, but in largely pro-Russian Eastern Ukraine he is mainly remembered for collaborating with the Nazis.

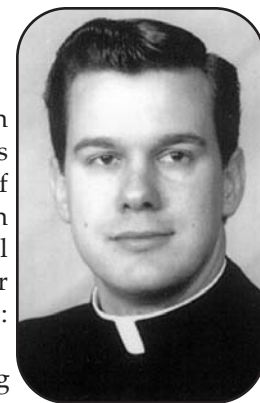
**\$20 MILLION WORTH OF CIGARETTES AND ALCOHOL** were smuggled into Poland in 2009, according to Polish border guards. But human trafficking has declined thanks to better monitoring and patrolling. Eighty-one groups of illegal immigrants were detained last year, the most from Vietnam, Ukraine, Russia and Georgia. All told, 1,488 cases of border violations were noted. Under international agreements, illegal border-crossers are sent back to the country they entered from. Those from war-torn or disaster areas may apply for refugee status.

**"RABBIT À LA BERLIN"** a film by Bartek Konopka and Anna Wydra is a Polish-German co-production that has been nominated for an Oscar in the short documentary film category. It is a fascinating history lesson through the eyes of wild rabbits which, during the Soviet era, made their home and freely multiplied along a 75-mile grassy strip constituting a no-man's land Death Zone between the two Berlin walls. When the wall came down, the rabbits had their first contact with city traffic, dogs and people taking pot shots at them with guns. The irony is that, for 28 years, the rabbits were the only ones who enjoyed the greatest freedom during communism. The rabbits' fate serves as a guise for an allegorical tale of a totalitarian system.

**THE WORLD'S MOST SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT** for destroying explosive materials and detecting illegal drugs has been installed at the Fryderyk Chopin International Airport in Warsaw. The advanced technology allows quicker and more precise specification of unattended luggage content and includes a device to prevent terrorists from using radio signals to detonate bombs. A bomb-ejecting device is part of the state-of-the-art security package.

**WIND-GENERATED ELECTRICITY** accounted for only 0.5% Poland's power consumption in 2008, but it is expected to increase to about 2.3% this year. According to the Polish Wind Energy Association, a 26-fold increase is likely by 2020, which will make Poland the European country with the most wind-generated electricity.

## THE LENTEN SEASON



*By Fr. Eric Orzech,  
Chaplain  
Alliance of Poles  
Division of PRCUA*

As this issue of *Narod Polski* ushers in the month of March, we find ourselves already having entered the Season of Lent - that annual forty-day, built-in retreat is the Church's major penitential season of the year that prepares us for the celebration of our greatest feast: Easter.

Lent has a rich and interesting history in the Church. While it is a time for penance and self-denial, it has been anything but boring and has resulted in many creative and useful means to achieve those desired ends.

Unfortunately, a brief article like this cannot hope to provide more than a superficial overview of some of its facets. Given that, it might be best to look at the basics and see what they ask of us, as followers of Jesus, especially during this special season.

The gospel for Ash Wednesday always is the account where Jesus tells his followers of how their attitudes toward prayer, fasting and almsgiving should be different from those of others. While He speaks of these things as characteristics which should mark the lives of His people all year around, they also serve as the hallmark characteristics of the Lenten Season and are worthy of our reflection so that this time of spiritual preparation is fruitful in our lives.

Prayer is our communication with God. It is indispensable to the spiritual life. Yet prayer should be something not so much that we work at, as that which works for us! We should have communal and private prayer as a regular part of our repertoire, including those personal devotions and methods which we find life-giving and renewing. Our attitude toward prayer can reveal much and influence its results. Is it that "thing" which we have the obligation to do each day or rather that time of the day that I live for because it makes all the difference in the world. A little Lenten attention to our prayer life and our attitude can be enriching for a long time to come.

Fasting is to deprive ourselves of something for a greater good. It can take the form of food or drink, but also entertainment and activities such as watching certain television shows or using computer games. Fasting serves the greater purpose of helping us to distinguish between that which we need versus that which we want. It also strengthens us for the battles of everyday life. If I can't keep from eating a piece of candy for 40 days, then how will I have the fortitude necessary to choose honesty over dishonesty or morality over immorality? If I can't be faithful in small matters, how will I be able to be faithful in important ones? Careful attention to our choices regarding fasting this Lent will also serve us well for a long time to come.

Almsgiving, or charity, is the sharing of our time, treasure and talent. It is the living-out of Christ's commandments to love. Ideally, our prayer and fasting yield their results in our almsgiving. One points the way to what we should do, and the other gives us the means by which to accomplish it.

It is important to share our material goods with those in need. It is also important to share our greatest gift - ourselves! If you wish to do a quick priorities check, simply look at what takes up your time... your presence. That is what's important to you. Do any modifications need to be made so that the important people and things aren't being overlooked because our lives are filled with too many other things? A little taking stock of our priorities this Lent will help us far beyond this season's forty days.

The Church provides us with the Lenten Season as an opportunity to grow. It's up to us to take advantage of this time and make it work in our lives.

**Editor's Note:** One Catholic institute that reaches out to society's most desperate and neediest sector is Covenant House, which has been feeding, clothing and helping homeless youths for decades in New York City. Remember them when it comes to almsgiving. Go to: [www.covenanthouse.org](http://www.covenanthouse.org)





NEWS FROM CLEVELAND

Polish Constitution Day Festivities  
Move to Suburb

Officers and Directors of the Polish American Congress - Ohio Division have voted to move festivities of Polish Constitution Day from Slavic Village in Cleveland's inner city to the suburb of Parma, Ohio. The decision was painful. No one really wanted to leave the City of Cleveland location, but for the past several years attendance as well as participation has been dramatically decreasing.

Polish Constitution Day Activities

Festivities for Polish Constitution Day include a Polonia Ball with selection of Miss Polonia, wreath laying at monuments honoring Casimir Pulaski and Tadeusz Kosciuszko, holy mass in honor of the Polish Constitution, a grand parade followed by a short program and refreshments.

Declining Support

Three years ago the PAC struggled with this problem of declining support, and decided to redouble efforts to keep the activities in the city. Additional financial assistance was sought and obtained, which provided funds for improved publicity and advertising. The local councilman, Anthony Brancatelli, and Cleveland's Housing Court Judge, Raymond Pianka, were generous contributors to the efforts. Polish organizations made donations as they have done in past years. The local newspaper, The Neighborhood News, provided extensive coverage of the weekend events. Efforts were made to raise the profile of the Polish community in Cleveland by hosting events throughout the year at places such as the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, the Western Reserve Historical Society, the Cleveland Metroparks and Cleveland's City Hall. A huge billboard advertising Polish Constitution Day activities was placed along a strategic stretch of interstate highway leading into downtown Cleveland.

Vote to Move Parade

Despite these efforts, the crowd of spectators continued to dwindle. The Executive Board of the Ohio Division of the Polish American Congress presented the dilemma to the entire Board of Directors. After much discussion, and passionate pleas by Councilman Brancatelli and faithful city residents, the vote was taken. By a margin of 10 to 4 the decision was made to move Polish Constitution Day activities to the suburb of Parma.

Parma

Parma is an older suburb at the southern border with the City of Cleveland. A huge influx of the population of Parma migrated to this area shortly after World War II, and the community continued to grow. Many ethnic groups took advantage of new neighborhoods with moderately priced housing. Parma boasts a Polish population numbering about 12,000, among the largest in the region.

Details of the weekend are still in the planning stages, but officials of Parma eagerly welcome the Polish Constitution Day activities to their city. In a city-sponsored drive, they plan to rally citizens to attend this historic event.

Schedule of Events

The Polonia Ball will be held on Saturday, May 1. On Sunday, May 2, wreath laying will still take place at the Pulaski monument in downtown Cleveland, on Mall C, between the Cleveland City Hall and the Cuyahoga County Courthouse. If renovation at the Cleveland Museum of Art is completed, and the Kosciuszko monument is accessible again, another wreath will be placed at this site. The parade will proceed on Ridge Road, between Snow Road and Parma's City Hall. Direction of the parade has yet to be determined.

Grand Chairman of Cleveland's Polish Constitution Day events is Francis Rutkowski. The committee is composed of the entire Board of Directors and Officers of the Ohio Division of the Polish American Congress. John Borkowski is president of the organization.

All Are Invited

All Polonia, and indeed everyone in the region, is invited to attend Polish Constitution Day activities. Special invitation is extended to all members of the community to plan to line Ridge Road on Sunday, May 2 to watch the grand parade as it steps off at 1:30 pm.

Anyone interested may march in the parade. Non-Polish ethnic groups are encouraged to participate. Parade applications may be obtained from Mitchell Bienia at (216) 641-7633. - *By Mitchell Bienia, Director, District 5*

Haiti's Polish Connection

*By Robert Strybel, Polish/Polonian Affairs Writer*

Weeks have passed, but the Caribbean island-nation of Haiti has yet to come to terms with the death, destruction and general turmoil unleashed by January's monster-earthquake. Poland was one of the first countries to respond to the United Nations' appeal for emergency assistance. A powerful quake measuring 7.3 on the Richter Scale struck off the coast of this country of 9 million, causing widespread damage and loss of life to its capital Port-au-Prince and other areas.

Fifty-four Polish rescue workers accompanied by 10 rescue dogs, food, water and four tons of equipment flew to Haiti but had to land in the neighboring Dominican Republic and travel in motor vehicles the rest of the way. A Polish field hospital was soon set up to treat survivors of the earthquake.

In Poland, collections were taken up in churches and major charity groups such as Caritas raised funds and sent relief supplies to Haiti. Well-known actors and pop singers gave free concerts to aid the Haitian earthquake victims. The disaster left up to 150,000 dead. Trucks piled with corpses carried bodies to mass graves to prevent the spread of disease in the tropical heat. Around one million people have become homeless after the tremors reduced their homes to rubble.

Despite financial assistance, relief supplies and volunteers from all over the world, the catastrophic situation defied description. "What I saw boggled the mind!" "It was absolute chaos!" "The stench, the screams, the roving gangs and total confusion were something I couldn't imagine in my wildest nightmare!" "I have been in more than one disaster area, but have never seen anything like this!" Such were the comments of some of the Polish rescue workers shared with TV audiences. The experienced fire-brigade rescuers hailed from Nowy Sacz, Warsaw, Łódz, Gdansk and Poznan.

The recent humanitarian mission was not the Poles' first operation in Haiti. In 1994, a newly independent Poland contributed its recently created GROM commando unit to a UN-mandated Multinational Force to help uphold democracy following the collapse of Haiti's dictatorial junta. GROM's tasks included protecting UN and White House officials amid widespread unrest. The Polish commandos impressed both the locals and international observers as the only combat force not using protective helmets or bullet-proof vests.

Poles involved in humanitarian and military missions, as well as the occasional Polish tourist or missionary passing through, soon learn of the special relationship linking Poland with the black island republic.

In 1772 Russia, Prussia and Austria partitioned Poland. Many Polish soldiers, hoping to win back Polish territory, joined the French army, but as distinct Polish legions. The understanding was that they would fight enemies of France, who were allied with Russia, Prussia and Austria, and perhaps France would help them reestablish Poland.

In 1790, Haitian slaves were emancipated by the French Revolution but the island Governor refused to grant them freedom and civil rights. The slaves and blacks revolted. In May of 1802, French Emperor Napoleon sent 40,000 troops to Haiti to quell a slave rebellion and re-enslave the island's blacks. This included 5,280 soldiers of the Polish Legions. The rainy season brought outbreaks of yellow fever and malaria. By November 24,000 foreign soldiers were dead and 8,000 were hospitalized from disease.

The French leader of Haiti, Rochambeau, wrote to Napoleon that, to reclaim the capital of Saint-Domingue, France must "declare the negroes slaves, and destroy at least 30,000 negroes and negresses." The French were barbaric in their brutality; they burned alive, hanged, drowned, and tortured black prisoners, buried them alive in piles of insects and boiled them in cauldrons of molasses. One night, Rochambeau held a ball to which he invited the most prominent mulatto ladies; at midnight he announced the death of their husbands. Each act of brutality was repaid by the Haitian rebels. After one battle, Rochambeau buried 500 prisoners alive; Dessalines, the rebel leader, responded by hanging 500 French prisoners. Rochambeau's brutality helped unite blacks, mulattos, and others against the French. Some of the Polish soldiers refused to fight against blacks, supporting the principles of liberty. Other Poles actually joined the rebel forces. General Wladyslaw Jablonowski was one such Polish military leader.

Following a bloody struggle, Haiti declared its independence in 1804 and the remaining Frenchmen and whites were either slaughtered or prohibited from owning property. One exception were the Polish soldiers, who were spared the fate of other whites. The Haitians were so enamoured by their Polish brothers-in-arms that they included them in the Haitian Constitution of 1805 in which Articles 12 and 13 stated that no white man may hold land on Haiti apart from the Germans (who had a small community there) and the Poles. About 400 of the Poles chose to remain in Haiti. Of the remainder, 700 Poles returned to France and many were - after capitulation - forced to serve in British units; 160 Poles were later given permission to leave Haiti and were sent to France at Haitian expense.

The Poles settled several communities, one of the best known which is Cazales, said to have been named after a Polish settler called Zalewski. Today, descendants of those Poles who stayed are still living in Casale and Fond Des Blancs.

They form what is probably the world's strangest "Polonian" community. Although they speak no Polish and know next to nothing about Poland, some Haitians consider themselves "blanc" (white), "Polonais" (Polish) or "noir Polonais" (black Poles) and are extremely proud of that distinction. The names of some of the original Polish settlers - Kowal, Rzepa, Osika, Ptak, Wilczek and Broda - can still be discerned in forms greatly distorted by the local Creole French dialect.

Despite generations of intermarriage with Haitians, the descendants of the Polish soldiers have a lighter complexion and still display traces of European facial features.

And an urban legend circulating among this downtrodden, impoverished people of one of the world's poorest countries is that someday Poles will come from across the sea and save them from their misery. That's exactly what the GROM commandos and the Polish rescue workers tried to do in some small way. But it will take a sustained, united effort, and billions of dollars contributed by many countries of the world, to help Haiti get back on its feet after the earthquake and improve the lives of its people.



## NA MARZEC I KWIECIEŃ W ZPRKA

- ♦ Grupa Kulturalna Dorosłych im. M. Konopnickiej zaprasza na 35. WIOSENNY POKAZ MODY I LUNCH w niedzielę, 7 marca 2010 r., Sabre Room, 8900 w. 95th St., Hickory Hills, IL. Wstęp - 12 w południe, lunch - 1 po południu. Bilety \$30.00 od osoby. Dodatkowe informacje: Liz Dynowski lub Walter Dynowski, tel. (708) 532-1541
- ♦ 25-lecie Południowo-Zachodniego Centrum Polskich Tańców - KONCERT JUBILEUSZOWY. Sobota, 13 marca 2010 r. w Lemont High School. Początek godz. 18, koncert godz. 18:30. Bilety - \$10. Informacje: Krystyna Lech (708) 361-5029.
- ♦ Dystrykt 7 ZPRKA zaprasza na doroczny obiad "CORNERED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER" przygotowany przez Ray'a Harringtona. Niedziela, 14 marca 2010 r., stołówka ZPRKA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Koktajle - 1 po poł., obiad - 2 po poł. Wstęp - \$25.00 od osoby. Rezerwacje muszą być dokonane do 9 marca 2010 r. u p. Lillian Stempiński, 7339 W. Lee St., Niles, IL 60714, tel. (847) 965-7378. Prosimy wystawiać czeki na: District #7 PRCUA. Bilety do odebrania przy wejściu.
- ♦ KRAJOWY TURNIEJ KOSZYKOWKI ZPRKA - 20 marca w U of M Dearborn & Henry Ford Junior College w Dearborn, MI. Gospodarzem tegorocznego turnieju jest Towarzystwo St. Stan Society #718 ZPRKA. Zakwaterowanie w hotelu Hyatt. Obiad i zabawa w rytmie polki na zakończenie turnieju, odbędzie się w O'Kelley K. of C Hall, 23663 Park, Dearborn MI (2 bloki na południe od Michigan i 2 bloki na zach. or Outer Dr.) w godz. 19:00-24:00 (wejście o godz. 18:30). Bilety w cenie \$25.00 można zakupić w przedsprzedaży (w cenie biletów: obiad, muzyka do tańca, piwo/wino/napoje gazowane). Płatny bar. Rezerwacje: (313) 384-6255 lub pocztą elektroniczną: hoj606@hotmail.com. Dla uczestników turnieju - wstęp wolny.
- ♦ BANKIET JUBILEUSZOWY z okazji 10-lecia zespołu "Polanie" - niedziela, 21 marca 2010 r. w Camelot Banquets, 8624 W. 95th Street, Hickory Hills, IL. Początek - 12 w południe. Bilety - \$25.00. Informacje Lillie Gajda (312) 859-6464.
- ♦ "ŚWIECONKA" Tow. Białego Orła (White Eagle Society) #2342 ZPRKA w Lansing, MI - niedziela, 28 marca o godz. 2 po południu w Federated Polish Home przy 1020 W. Mt. Hope Rd., Lansing, MI. Uczestnicy proszeni są o przygotowanie i przyniesienie ulubionej potrawy, którą podzielą się z innymi gośćmi. Informacje: Tom Croff (517) 627-0222.
- ♦ Doroczna "ŚWIECONKA" Wydziału Kobiet na Stany Illinois-Indiana ZPRKA - niedziela, 11 kwietnia 2010 r. w sali bankietowej Ojców Karmelitów Bosych, 1628 Ridge Rd., Munster, IN. Msza św. o 12 w południe; lunch - godz. 13:30. Wstęp - \$25.00 od osoby. Rezerwacji można dokonać u E. Sadus, 847 Marian Way, Chicago Hts., IL 60411. Prosimy wystawiać czeki na: PRCUA Illinois/Indiana Women's Division. Dodatkowe informacje: Elżbieta Grabowski (219) 923-6613 lub Elizabeth Sadus (708) 481-6796. Bilety do odebrania przy wejściu. Mile widziane nagrody na loterię.
- ♦ BANKIET JUBILEUSZOWY Południowo-Zachodniego Centrum Polskich Tańców ZPRKA z okazji 25. lecia Centrum - niedziela, 18 kwietnia 2010 r., Camelot Banquets, 8624 West 95th Street, Hickory Hills, IL. Początek - godz. 12, obiad - godz. 13. Bilety - \$20.00 dorośli. Płatny bar.
- ♦ KRAJOWY TURNIEJ KRĘGLARSKI ZPRKA - 23-25 kwietnia 2010 r. Plaza Lanes przy An Arbor Rd. w Plymouth, MI. Gospodarzem turnieju jest Tow. św. Stanisława #718 (St. Stan's) ZPRKA. Zakwaterowanie: Embassy Suites przy I-275 i 7 Mile Rd. O godz. 18:30 msza w hotelu. Po mszy zabawa taneczna.
- ♦ WYSTĘP ZESPOŁU "ZAJĄCZEK" - sobota, 27 marca o godz. 14:30 w Warren Woods Auditorium, 13400 E. 12Mile Rd., Warren, MI. Bilety - \$7.00. Absolwenci, którzy chcieliby wziąć udział w występie proszeni są o skontaktowanie się z Colleen Bonkowski, tel. (586) 558-3673 lub zajaczekdance@yahoo.com.

## WAŻNE ZAWIADOMIENIE

Zgodnie z zaleceniami Konstytucji i Statutu ZPRKA, Towarzystwa ZPRKA muszą w miesiącach kwietniu lub maju dokonać wyboru delegatów i ich zastępców na 60. Sejm ZPRKA.

Członkowie Towarzystw powinni skontaktować się ze swoimi sekretarzami finansowymi w celu otrzymania informacji na temat zebrania, na którym odbędzie się wybór delegatów i ich zastępców.

Prosimy wszystkich sekretarzy finansowych o powiadomienie redaktor Kathryn Rosypal 1-800-772-8632 w. 2640 o terminie zebrania. Aby informacje o zebraniach ukazały się w kwietniowym wydaniu "Narodu Polskiego" muszą być dostarczone do 20 marca 2010 r.

## Terminy nadsyłania artykułów do "Narodu Polskiego" na 2010 r.

Data publikacji	Termin nadsyłania artykułów
1 kwietnia	wtorek, 16 marca
1 maja	wtorek, 20 kwietnia
1 czerwca	wtorek, 18 maja
1 lipca	wtorek, 15 czerwca
1 sierpnia	wtorek, 20 lipca
1 września	wtorek, 17 sierpnia
1 października	wtorek, 14 września
1 listopada	wtorek, 19 października
1 grudnia	wtorek, 16 listopada
1 stycznia 2011 r.	wtorek, 14 grudnia

## WYGRAJ KSIĄŻKĘ KUCHARSKĄ!

W związku ze zbliżającym się rokiem sejmowym, zapraszamy do nadsyłania do redakcji swoich ulubionych przepisów kucharskich (w języku angielskim i polskim). Osoby, które nadeślą przepisy, wezmą udział w comiesięcznym losowaniu nagrody - naszej książki kucharskiej pt. "PRCUA Sharing Our Best", o wartości \$15.00. Co miesiąc, aż do sierpnia 2010 r., czyli do miesiąca rozpoczęcia 60. Sejmu ZPRKA, będzie przyznawana jedna książka kucharska. Każdy nadesłany przepis weźmie udział w losowaniu. Czytelnicy mogą nadsyłać tyle przepisów, ile zechcą.

Przepisy należy przesyłać na adres e-mail: kathryn.rosypal@prcu.org (prosimy o zamieszczenie słowa "Recipe" w rubryce pt. subject), lub wysłać pocztą na adres:

Editor - PRCUA Recipes  
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

## SPECJALNE PLANY UBEZPIECZENIOWE

### Doskonały prezent na każdą okazję

W z obchodzonym w 2010 roku jubileuszem 137 lat istnienia Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katlickiego w Ameryce, oferujemy Specjalny Jubileuszowy Plan Ubezpieczeniowy "137th Anniversary Special". Jest to 20-letni plan ubezpieczeniowy, który posiada wartość gotówkową, nie przewiduje jednak wypłaty żadnych dywidend.

Wykupując ten nowy plan ubezpieczeniowy, przy opłacie pierwszej rocznej składki, można otrzymać zniżkę wykorzystując bon o wysokości \$137.00. Aby ubezpieczenie zostało całkowicie spłacone, należy uiszczać pełne opłaty przez następne 19 lat.

\*

W 2010 roku w dniach 8-11 sierpnia odbędzie się 60. Sejm ZPRKA. W związku ze zbliżającym się Sejmem ZPRKA oferujemy również Specjalny Plan Sejmowy "60th Convention Special". Jest to stały plan ubezpieczeniowy, przy wykupieniu którego wymagana jest jednorazowa opłata. Plan został przygotowany specjalnie z myślą o promocji zbliżającego się Sejmu. Plan ten posiada wartość gotówkową i przewidywane są wypłaty dywidend.

Wykupując Specjalny Plan Sejmowy "60th Convention Special", przy wpłacie jednorazowej składki, można otrzymać zniżkę wykorzystując bon o wysokości \$60.00. Zachęcamy wszystkich do skorzystania z niskiej opłaty za ten plan ubezpieczeniowy. Plan ten daje Państwu zabezpieczenie z chwilą wykupienia oraz w przyszłości - bez wnoszenia dodatkowych opłat.

Dokładne informacje nt. powyższych programów specjalnych, oraz innych oferowanych przez ZPRKA produktów, można uzyskać kontaktując się bezpośrednio z jednym z naszych biur, lub z jednym z naszych agentów ubezpieczeniowych.

## DYSTRYKT #9 ZPRKA POSZUKUJE

Dystrykt #9 ZPRKA poszukuje wszystkich obecnych i byłych: członków zarządów Dystryktu # 9 ZPRKA, członków zarządów Towarzystw należących do Dystryktu #9 oraz wszystkich członków ZPRKA należących do Dystr. #9.

Dystrykt #9 ZPRKA pragnie zorganizować "ZJAZD RODZINNY", połączony z doroczną ŚWIECONKĄ ZPRKA, w niedzielę, 11 kwietnia 2010 r. w sali bankietowej przy klasztorze Ojców Karmelitów Bosych (Carmelite Monastery Banquette Hall) w Munster, IN.

W związku z planowanym "Zjazdem", Dystrykt #9 poszukuje adresów, numerów telefonów, adresów e-mailowych, które pomogą skontaktować się ze wszystkimi, którzy należą lub należeli do Dystr. #9, w celu rozesłania zaproszeń.

Osoby, które mogą udzielić jakichkolwiek informacji proszone są o kontakt z dyrektorką Dystryktu #9 ZPRKA Elżbietą Grabowski, pod numer 219-923-6613 lub na adres: wola60@hotmail.com; z sekretarką protokolową Elizabeth Sauds - tel. 708-481-6796 (sadusea@aol.com) lub z superwizorką Dystr. #9 Barbarą Pawlowski tel. 708-946-6270



## WIADOMOŚCI Z POLSKI

Replika pomnika Kościuszki stanie w Warszawie - Trwają prace wykończeniowe przy pomniku Tadeusza Kościuszki, który ma stanąć na pl. Żelaznej Bramy, naprzeciwko pałacu Lubomirskich w Warszawie. Pomnik przedstawia generała w amerykańskim mundurze w otoczeniu postaci zwyczajnych bitew, jeńca i kosyniera. Pomnik Kościuszki będzie repliką obelisku odsłoniętego w Waszyngtonie w 1910 r. (o historii budowy tego pomnika pisaliśmy w "Narodzie Polskim z dn. 4 maja 2009 roku). Autorem stojącego na skwerze La Fayette'a, naprzeciwko Białego Domu pomnika był Antoni Popiel. Pomnik w Waszyngtonie jest symbolem wkładu nie tylko Kościuszki, ale całej Polonii w cywilizację amerykańską. Został ofiarowany 11 maja 1910 roku jako dar Polonii. Artystyczną kopię w oparciu o zdjęcia i pomiary pomnika wykonali artyści z rodziny rzeźbiarskiej Sieków. Początkowo planowano ustawić pomnik blisko ul. Marszałkowskiej, ale zdecydowano w końcu, że lepiej będzie się komponował na placu Za Żelazną Bramą. Autor projektu adaptacji pomnika Kościuszki Józef Ząbecki zaproponował także, aby wykonać ponadpółmetrowe podwyższenie, pokryte trawą, dzięki czemu pomnik będzie widoczny z Marszałkowskiej. Odsłonięcie pomnika nastąpi 2 maja 2010 r. w Święto Polonii i Dzień Flagi.

Banknoty z Chopinem na internetowej aukcji - W dniach 9-12 lutego 2010 r. Narodowy Bank Polski (NBP) wystawił na internetowej aukcji 100 tys. banknotów upamiętniających 200. rocznicę urodzin Fryderyka Chopina. Banknoty zostały zaprojektowane przez artystów Grzegorza Pfeifera oraz Katarzynę Jarnuszkiewicz. Na przedniej stronie znajduje się portret kompozytora. Z lewej strony widać dworek w Żelazowej Woli, a z prawej reprodukcję pierwszego wydruku Mazurka B-dur op. 7 nr 1 z autografem Chopina. Na odwrocie na tle krajobrazu z wierzbami przedstawiono reprodukcję fragmentu Etiudy f-moll op. 10 nr 9. Każdego roku bank centralny emituje jeden banknot kolekcjonerski i kilkanaście monet okolicznościowych.

Zmiany w kodeksie drogowym - Rząd RP przyjął projekt nowej ustawy dotyczącej prawa jazdy. Prawo jazdy kategorii A (A1) i B (B1, B+E) ma mieć termin ważności wynoszący maksymalnie 15 lat. Ma się też pojawić prawo jazdy kategorii AM na quady i motorowery. Nowi kierowcy będą pozostawać pod specjalnym nadzorem przez 2 lata od momentu otrzymania dokumentu. Osoba, która otrzyma 24 punkty, będzie kierowana na kurs reedukacyjny. Prawo jazdy na większe pojazdy (samochody ciężarowe, autobusy) ma być wydawane na okres maksymalnie 5 lat. Uprawnienia do jazdy tzw. ścigaczami będą mogły mieć osoby, które ukończą 24 lata. Osoby młodsze będą mogły poruszać się jednośladowymi o mocy do ok 46 KM. Zmiany przygotowane zostały przez Ministerstwo Infrastruktury, które uważa, iż kierowcy w wieku 18-24 lata są sprawcami największej ilości wypadków. Dodatkowo, instruktorzy na prawo jazdy będą musieli uczestniczyć w warsztatach, które mają podnosić ich kwalifikacje.

III Światowy Zjazd Gdańszczan - W dniach 21 - 23 maja bieżącego roku odbędzie się w Gdańsku III Światowy Zjazd Gdańszczan. Zjazdy odbywają się co cztery lata od 2002 roku i cieszą się dużym zainteresowaniem, zwłaszcza wśród zagranicznych przyjaciół i dawnych mieszkańców miasta. Gdańsk zapisał się w historii jako miasto słynące z

## ZAPRASZAMY

Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce zaprasza na Warsztaty dekorowania pisanek i wyplatania palm wielkanocnych (dorośli i dzieci od lat 8) w sobotę, 20 marca 2010 r., PMA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago. Warsztaty dekorowania pisanek - w godz. 10-12, \$15.00 od osoby, instruktor - Arnie Klein; warsztaty wyplatania palm - w godz. 13-15, \$10.00 od osoby. Tego samego dnia można również wziąć udział w wielkanocnym ozdabianiu ciastek (dwie tury - \$5.00 od osoby każda), instruktor Elizabeth i Mira Link oraz w przygotowaniu kanapki na lunch (\$6.00 od osoby). Liczba miejsc ograniczona. Informacje/rezerwacje 773-384-3352 w. 104 lub 773-562-6059.

Gene Siskel Film Center zaprasza na 13. Doroczny Festiwal Filmów Krajów Unii Europejskiej - w dniach 5 marca-1 kwietnia 2010 r. W czasie pokazu odbędzie się chicagowska premiera polskiego filmu fabularnego pt. „Zero” - w niedzielę, 21 marca o godz. 19:30 i w czwartek, 25 marca o godz. 20:00. Reżyseria: Paweł Borowski, w rolach głównych: Robert Wieckiewicz, Bogdan Koca. Więcej informacji można znaleźć na stronie: [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org). Adres centrum: 164 North State, St., Chicago, IL; tel.: 1-800-982-2787.

Konkurs plastyczny z okazji Święta Konstytucji 3-maja dla uczniów od klasy 6. do 12. Organizator: Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce. TEMAT: Z okazji 150. rocznicy urodzin Ignacego Jana Paderewskiego oraz 200. rocznicy urodzin Fryderyka Chopina, wybitnych polskich kompozytorów i pianistów prosimy o wykonanie pracy inspirowanej życiem i twórczością jednej z postaci. Wymagany rozmiar pracy: 36" x 24", tylko na papierze plakatowym (posterboard). Prace nadesłane na konkurs stają się własnością Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce. Termin nadsyłania prac upływa 16 kwietnia 2010. Nagrody przyznawane będą w dwóch kategoriach wiekowych: klasy 6-8 i klasy 9-12. 1 nagroda - 100 \$, 2 nagroda - 75 \$, 3 nagroda - 25 \$, nagroda za pracę, która najciekawiej przedstawia temat - 100 \$. Dodatkowo informacje: (773) 384-3352 w. 101.

## ZPRKA OFERUJE STYPENDIA

Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko Katolickie w Ameryce każdego roku przyznaje stypendia i pomoc finansową dla studentów, członków ZPRKA. Dostępne są podania na stypendia na rok szkolny 2009-2010 dla studentów na studiach tzw. undergraduate, graduate i professional. Studenci mogą się ubiegać o stypendium każdego roku przez 3 lata z kolei, za każdym razem muszą jednak składać nowe podanie. Stypendia przyznawane są na kierunki i do szkół wymienionych w podaniu (aplikacji).

Rozpatrywane będą podania, które napłyną do ZPRKA wraz z odpisem stopni studenta i pracą pisemną, z datą stempla pocztowego do **1 lipca 2010 r.**

Aby się kwalifikować do otrzymania stypendium ZPRKA, studenci muszą spełniać poniższe wymagania:

1. być członkiem ZPRKA przez okres co najmniej 5 lat i posiadać stałe ubezpieczenie na życie w ZPRKA na sumę nie mniejszą niż \$5 000; lub być członkiem ZPRKA co najmniej 4 lata i posiadać ubezpieczenie na sumę \$15 000; lub być członkiem ZPRKA przez co najmniej 3 lata i posiadać ubezpieczenie na życie na sumę \$25 000; musi także mieć opłacone na czas wszystkie składki członkowskie;
2. mieć ukończony z pozytywnymi ocenami pierwszy rok (freshman) studiów licencjackich (undergraduate) przed terminem nadsyłania podań; odpis ocen studenta musi być przesłany przez szkołę bezpośrednio do ZPRKA przed 1 lipca;
3. być studentem w pełnym wymiarze godzin w programie undergraduate (min. 12 godzin dla studentów studiów dziennych i 8 godz. dla studentów studiów wieczorowych), lub w pełnym lub niepełnym wymiarze godzin w programie magisterskim (graduate) albo studiów zawodowych (professional);
4. mieć średnią ocen GPA przynajmniej 2.5 (w skali 4.0), lub przynajmniej 3.5 (w skali 5.0).
5. musi utrzymać polisę ubezpieczeniową i opłacać wszystkie składki przez okres przynajmniej 5 lat od chwili uzyskania ostatniej pomocy finansowej;
6. student musi być obywatelem lub stałym rezydentem USA;
7. student musi napisać i przesłać esej o długości do 500 słów na temat wyznaczony przez ZPRKA.

Decyzja o przyznaniu stypendiów podjęta zostanie przez niezależny od ZPRKA komitet stypendialny, składający się z przedstawicieli szkolnictwa, biznesu, instytucji prawnych. Wszystkie decyzje podjęte przez komitet będą niepodważalne.

Stypendia zostaną przyznane na podstawie ocen studenta oraz na podstawie jego zaangażowania w życie społeczne, zainteresowania pozalekcyjne i plany na przyszłość.

Wszyscy studenci, którzy otrzymają stypendia, mogą się również ubiegać o pożyczki na studia oferowane przez ZPRKA.

Podania będą rozpatrywane anonimowo - nadesłane podania i prace pisemne zostaną opatrzone numerami, komitet stypendialny otrzyma tylko te dokumenty, które nie będą zawierały danych osobistych i na tej podstawie będzie podejmowana decyzja; również odpis ocen studenta będzie opatrzony numerem i w takiej formie będzie rozpatrywany.

ZPRKA zastrzega sobie prawo do zmiany zasad i wymagań jak również do ewentualnego wycofania programu stypendialnego.

\* \* \*

Studenci mogą się również ubiegać o stypendia pochodzące z Funduszu Edukacyjnego ZPRKA. Fundusz został stworzony na potrzeby kwalifikujących się studentów wszystkich studiów: licencjackich, magisterskich i zawodowych (undergraduate, graduate i professional).

Wypełnione podania (application) studentów ubiegających się o stypendia z Funduszu Edukacyjnego muszą być nadesłane do **1 czerwca 2010 r.**

Studenci muszą również spełnić poniższe wymagania:

1. Podania muszą być całkowicie wypełnione;
2. Do podania musi być dołączony odpis średniej ocen studenta;
3. Wymagane jest potwierdzenie czynnego udziału studenta w życiu środowiska polonijnego;
4. Wymagane jest potwierdzenie udziału studenta w pracach społecznych;
5. Studenci ubiegający się o stypendium, muszą mieć ukończony pierwszy rok studiów (freshman) licencjackich (undergraduate) przed 1 czerwca 2009 r. Odpis ocen studenta lub odpisy innych dokumentów z uczelni muszą być dołączone do podania i przesłane przez uczelnię bezpośrednio do ZPRKA przed 1 czerwca 2010 r.
6. O stypendium mogą się ubiegać studenci drugiego, trzeciego i czwartego roku (sophomores, juniors, seniors), studiów licencjackich, magisterskich lub zawodowych (undergraduate, graduate i professional). Kwalifikują się studenci studiujący w pełnym wymiarze godzin (min. 12 godzin dla studentów studiów dziennych i 8 godz. dla studentów studiów wieczorowych), lub w pełnym lub niepełnym wymiarze godzin w programie magisterskim (graduate) albo studiów zawodowych (professional);

Podania rozpatrywane będą na podobnych zasadach jak podania o stypendium ZPRKA.

\* \* \*

Informacje na temat wszystkich form pomocy finansowej dla studentów oraz gotowe aplikacje można znaleźć na stronie internetowej ZPRKA: [www.prcua.org](http://www.prcua.org) pod hasłem "Member Benefits".



# Wiadomości z Cleveland, Ohio

W ostatnim wydaniu “Narodu Polskiego” z dnia 1 lutego 2010 roku, w sekcji Wiadomości z Cleveland, Ohio, w czasie druku została zmieniona czcionka, co spowodowało, iż ostatnie paragrafy artykułów zostały wydrukowane tylko częściowo. Poniżej zamieszczamy ostatnie paragrafy tych artykułów w całości.

Autora artykułów, pana Andrzeja Mireckiego oraz wszystkich Czytelników, serdecznie przepraszamy. Poniżej zamieszczamy pełne zakończenia artykułów.

## ZEBRANIE SPRAWOZDAWCZO-WYBORCZE GR. 2220 ZPRKA - CLEVELAND, OH

Dawna Grupa 120, to obecna Grupa 2220 ZPRKA, licząca 1217 członków. Myślę, że te same ideały nam przyświecają, co naszym poprzednikom, a więc wypada życzyć dalszej owocnej pracy dla dobra nas wszystkich, ku chwale naszego narodu. - *Andrzej Mirecki*

## 200 ROCZNICA URODZIN F. CHOPINA

A w kraju, spętany w zaborców kajdany, naród pamiętał muzykę Chopina. Ta muzyka najpiękniejsza, przesiąknięta na wskroś polską atmosferą, w której zawarty został, ów typowy dla naszego romantyzmu niezwykle smutek i zaduma, trwała na dworach i w miastach. Niosła się echem po polach kwiecistych, błdziła w liściach dębów, kładła się na czarnej roli, jako klawiatura fortepianu, z której słychać było skoczne mazurki lub poważne nokturny, a częściej i Marsz żałobny. Takie to nasze dzieje...

Muzyka Fryderyka Chopina, pozostała na wieczność w duszy polskiego narodu i trwać będzie po wsze czasy na całym świecie. - *Andrzej Mirecki*

## LUTY

2 lutego obchodzimy święto Matki Boskiej Gromnicznej, warto przypomnieć staropolskie przysłowia z tym świętem związane, które często się sprawdzają, a mianowicie: "Gdy na Gromnicę zamieć śnieżna trzyma, niedługo już zima" i "Gdy w Gromnicę pięknie wszędzie, tedy dobra wiosna będzie".

## DZIĘKUJEMY

Jednocześnie w imieniu Reakcji “Narodu Polskiego” chcę podziękować panu Andrzejowi Mireckiemu, autorowi większości artykułów w polskiej sekcji “Wiadomości z Cleveland, Ohio”, za kilkuletnią współpracę. Dziękuję za wielką życzliwość, sumienność i profesjonalizm, za wzbogacenie naszej publikacji wieloma ciekawymi, artykułami, sprawozdaniami, informacjami oraz wspomnieniami, które przez te lata spotykały się zawsze z dużym zainteresowaniem naszych Czytelników.

Dziękuję również panu Henrykowi Kąckiemu, za nadsyłanie do tych artykułów wielu pięknych zdjęć.

Życząc zdrowia i wszelkiej pomyślności, zasylam wyrazy szacunku.

*Lidia Kowalewicz, redaktor wykonawczy*




# Stypendia Kongresu Organizacji Braterskich na stan Michigan

Kongres Urganizacji Braterskich na Stan Michigan (Michigan Fraternal Congress - MFC) oferuje co roku dwa stpendia w wysokości \$500 każde. Zwycięzcy stypendiów zostają wybrani i zatwierdzeni przez Radę Wykonawczą kongresu.

- O stypendium ubiegać się mogą osoby na stałe mieszkające w stanie Michigan, które są ubezpieczone i aktywnie działają w ZPRKA.
- Kandydaci powinni w tym roku kończyć szkołę średnią i zamierzać rozpocząć studia w pełnym wymiarze jesienią br. (minimum 12 godzin kredytowych) w akredytowanej uczelni 2-letniej lub 4-letniej lub szkole handlowej.
- Czek zostanie wystawiony po otrzymaniu dowodu rejestracji do szkoły i może być wykorzystany tylko na pokrycie czesnego lub zakupu podręczników.
- ZPRKA może przekazać kongresowi dowolną ilość podań o stypendia.
- Certyfikat zostanie wręczony uczniowi w czasie uroczystości zakończenia szkoły lub w czasie dorocznego bankietu MFC.
- Ubiegający się o stypendia muszą posiadać średnią ocen przynajmniej 2.5 w skali 4.0. Orginalny odpis ocen (school transcript) z pieczęcią szkoły musi być nadesłany przed wyznaczoną datą.
- Uczniowie muszą napisać pracę pisemną (esej w jęz. angielskim) o długości maksimum 100 słów, w której przedstawią swój udział (z uwzględnieniem dat) w pracach MFC lub ZPRKA.

Osoby zainteresowane otrzymaniem formularza (aplikacji) na stypendium prosimy o skontaktowanie się z: Josephine Szarowicz, Secretary-Treasurer, PRCUA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101, tel. 1(800) 772-8632 w. 2606.

Wypełnione podania muszą być nadesłane przed 1 kwietnia 2010 (data stempla).



## Zapraszamy Towarzystwa ZPRKA do udziału w “Ekologicznym konkursie”

Z okazji zbliżającego się 60. Sejmu ZPRKA redakcja “Narodu Polskiego” pragnie zaprosić wszystkie Towarzystwa do udziału w “Ekologicznym konkursie”.

Zasady konkursu są bardzo proste - Towarzystwo, w którym pomiędzy 1 marca 2010 r. i dniem rozpoczęcia 60. Sejmu ZPRKA, największa ilość członków zamieni prenumeratę “Narodu Polskiego” z papierowej na elektroniczną, otrzyma nagrodę w wysokości \$137. Kwota \$137 jest symboliczna, gdyż w tym roku obchodzimy 137. rocznicę naszej organizacji.

Przypominamy, że od maja 2009 r. “Naród Polski” ukazuje się w całości w wersji cyfrowej w wysokiej rozdzielczości w kolorze, w formacie PDF. Zachęcamy więc, aby osoby korzystające z komputera otrzymywały “Naród Polski” drogą elektroniczną, zamiast pocztową. Wybierając tą opcję, pomagacie naszej planecie - oszczędzając drzewa i lasy i zmniejszając ilość odpadków, ale także pomagacie ZPRKA zaoszczędzić na kosztach produkcji i przesyłki. Wersja cyfrowa dostępna jest bezpłatnie. Osoby, które nie mają dostępu do internetu, będą nadal otrzymywać papierową wersję gazety.

Zamiana prenumeraty na cyfrową jest bardzo prostą procedurą. Należy wejść na stronę [www.prcua.org/narodpolski](http://www.prcua.org/narodpolski), na dole strony nacisnąć na: “Start your digital Narod Polski subscripton” (hasło w kolorze zielonym), przejść do: “Register for the digital Naród Polski” i wysłać załączony e-mail. Następnie należy przejść do hasła “Stop your mailed Narod Polski subscription” (hasło w kolorze czerwonym), wypełnić w tabelce wymagane dane, w rubryce poniżej wybrać opcję “I Agree”, i wybrać hasło “Submit”.

UWAGA: Aby ZPRKA mogło potwierdzić ilość członków z danego Towarzystwa, którzy zdecydowali się na elektroniczną prenumeratę “Narodu Polskiego” i zrezygnowali z papierowej wersji, prosimy o dokładne zastosowanie się do powyższych instrukcji.

## ZPRKA PRZYJMUJE NOMINACJE

### Do tytułu 2010 Fratrnalist of the Year

Pragniemy poinformować, iż Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko Katolickie w Ameryce rozpoczęło przyjmowanie kandydatur do tytułu 2010 Fraternalist of the Year, sponsorowanego przez National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA).

Wyróżnienie przyznawane jest każdego roku, członkowi organizacji braterskiej, który w roku poprzedzającym nominację, wykazał się wyjątkowymi akcjami wolontarystycznymi, różnymi formami pracy wolontarystycznej we własnym środowisku oraz, zaangażowaniem i działalnością przywódczą na rzecz lokalnego towarzystwa, do którego należy. Zgłoszenia kandydatur należy nadsyłać do 5 czerwca 2010 r. na adres: PRCUA, Secretary-Treasurer Josephine Szarowicz, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60642-4101. Grupa jurorów wybierze osobę, która według nich, najlepiej spełnia wszystkie wymagane warunki.

Następnie, wybrana przez ZPRKA kandydatura zostanie przekazana do National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA). Począwszy od 1 lipca 2010 roku grupa niezależnych jurorów będzie rozpatrywać nadesłane z całego kraju nominacje, po czym wybierze zwycięzcę. Wręczenie tytułu 2010 Fraternalist of the Year nastąpi w czasie dorocznego zebrania NFCA, które będzie miało miejsce w dniach 9-11 września 2010 r. w Chicago.

### Do tytułu MVP

National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA) prowadzi program Fraternalists-in-Action, w ramach którego wyróżnia indywidualne osoby, za wybitną działalność na rzecz lokalnego środowiska oraz towarzystw i organizacji braterskich na terenie całego kraju.

Prosimy o nadsyłanie biografii i zdjęć kandydatów do tytułu Most Valuable Participants (MVPs). Kandydatury członków ZPRKA do tytułu, można przysyłać pocztą, faxem, lub pocztą elektroniczną do biura ZPRKA.

Pytania na temat powyższego programu, prosimy kierować do sekretarza-skarbnika ZPRKA p. Josephine Szarowicz na numer: (773) 782-2600 w. 2606 lub na adres: [josephine.szarowicz@prcua.org](mailto:josephine.szarowicz@prcua.org).



## Z ŻYCIA POLSKIEJ SZKOŁY IM. MARII KONOPNICKIEJ



### Święto Niepodległości

W dniu 13 listopada 2009 uczniowie naszej polskiej szkoły w Oak Lawn przedstawili krótki program artystyczny dla uczczenia 11 listopada - Święta Niepodległości. Aby uczniowie lepiej zapamiętali tę datę, akademię przygotowała wychowawczyni pani Maria Mikos.

U góry: oprawa akademii.

U dołu: pani Maria Mikos wraz ze swoimi uczniami.

### Odwiedziny Świętego Mikołaja

Zgodnie z polską tradycją św. Mikołaj odwiedza dzieci w dniu swoich imienin, 6 grudnia.

W Polskiej Szkole im. M. Konopnickiej w Oak Lawn św. Mikołaj przybył do uczniów w piątek, 4 grudnia 2009 r. i rozdawał dzieciom słodycze. W roli św. Mikołaja dzieci rozpoznały ojca Filipa Krzemienia.

W lokalizacji chicagowskiej św. Mikołaj zaskoczył dzieci w sobotę, 5 grudnia 2009 r., w trakcie przerwy śniadaniowej. Przybył w

Św. Mikołaj w otoczeniu grona pedagogicznego - nauczycielki Lilka Czajczyk, Maria Mikos, Ewa Bienkowska, Alina Skubisz, ks. Robert Wojsław, p. Genowefa Hudaszek oraz dyrektor Stanisław Skubisz.



Pamiątkowa zbiorówka - wszyscy obecni uczniowie, nauczyciele i goście.

towarzystwie swojej asystentki, śnieżynki, dzwigając wielki wór na plecach. Uczniowie przywitali go gromkimi brawami i piosenką "Jedzie, jedzie św. Mikołaj do was dziecięcki ...". Ucieszyły ich oczywiście słodkie prezenty, które w większości zostały natychmiast spalaszowane. Dyrektor szkoły Stanisław Skubisz zaprosił gościa specjalnego do wspólnego zdjęcia. W roli św. Mikołaja wystąpił ksiądz Robert Wojsław.

W imieniu dzieci, nauczycieli, dyrekcji i komitetu rodzicielskiego składamy świętem Mikołajom, ojcu Filipowi Krzemień i księdzu Robertowi Wojsław, serdeczne podziękowania.

### Pasowanie na ucznia u Pięciu Braci Męczenników

Uroczystość pasowania na ucznia, w lokalizacji naszej szkoły w Chicago, przy Parafii Pięciu Braci Męczenników, miała miejsce w dniu 19 grudnia 2009 r.

W obecności licznie przybyłych rodziców, krewnych i przyjaciół, pierwszoklasiści zaprezentowali ciekawy program artystyczny. Wesołość wzmocniły rzucane niespodziewanie ze sceny cukierki.

Pomysłowe pierwszaki program przygotowały wraz z wychowawczynią panią Aliną Skubisz. Następnie złożyli przysięgę na sztandar szkoły, po czym zostali pasowani na ucznia szkoły przez dyrektora pana Stanisława Skubisza za pomocą wielkiego, złotego ołówka.

Wychowawczyni wręczyła swoim pupilom dyplomy a przedstawicielka komitetu rodzicielskiego pani Sylwia Mchenry pamiątkowe, ilustrowane polskie książeczki.

Publiczność zachwycona występami pierwszoklasistów nagrodziła ich gromkimi brawami.

### Akademia Bożonarodzeniowa w Oak Lawn.

Akademia Bożonarodzeniowa w naszej szkole w lokalizacji w Oak Lawn miała miejsce w piątek, 18 grudnia 2009 r.

Uroczystości dodawało podniosłego charakteru miejsce, kościół St. Louis de Montfort.

Głównymi autorami przedstawienia były wychowawczynie panie Teresa Kaczmarczyk i Danuta Wdowka oraz ich wychowankowie. Na scenie zasiadł św. Józef z Marią Panną i Dzieciątkiem Jezus w otoczeniu aniołków. Do szopy przybyli pasterze, trzej królowie oraz wiele innych postaci. Przybył też św. Mikołaj w asyście aniołków. Były wiersze, kolędy i pastorałki. Śpiewły dzieci, śpiewali nauczyciele i śpiewała cała licznie zgromadzona publiczność.

Święty Mikołaj nagrodził słodyczami artystów za ich wspaniałe widowisko a pozostałe dzieci za piękne kolędowanie.

dok. na str. 19



P. Danuta Wdowka ze swoimi uczniami.



P. Teresa Kaczmarczyk ze swoimi uczniami.



Artyści biorący udział w przedstawieniu, grono nauczycielskie oraz niektórzy przedstawiciele komitetu rodzicielskiego. W roli św. Mikołaja - p. Andrzej Morawa.



Występy uczniów.



Uroczyste pasowanie na ucznia szkoły.



dok. ze str. 18 - Z życia Polskiej Szkoły...

**Akademia Bożonarodzeniowa w Chicago**

Artyści w trakcie widowiska i śpiewania kolęd.

P. Jan Liszka św.  
Mikołaj w mikołajowej  
przemowie.Ks. Robert Wojsław  
w czasie kazania.

rodzicielskiego Sylwia McHenry oraz dyrektor szkoły Stanisław Skubisz.

Pojawił się również św. Mikołaj z koszem cukierków oraz dobrymi radami dla dzieci i pozdrowieniami dla dorosłych.

W nagrodę za piękne widowisko rodzice zaprosili dzieci, grono pedagogiczne oraz gości do suto zastawionych stołów. Och, czegoż tam nie było! Same pyszności!

Krystyna Królikowska

Spośród gości honorowych piękne kazanie wygłosił ks. Robert Wojsław, a piękne życzenia świąteczno-noworoczne złożyli wiceprezes komitetu

Wiceprezes kom.  
rodzicielskiego Sylwia McHenry  
i dyr. szkoły Stanisław Skubisz  
składają życzenia świąteczne.**KONDOLENCJE**

Z żalem donosimy, że Pan Bóg powołał przed swoje oblicze kilka osób z naszej rodziny Zjednoczeniowej.

W czwartek, 28 stycznia zmarła emerytowana pracownica ZPRKA, Jadwiga (Harriet) Wawzenek. P. Wawzenek zatrudniona była w biurze głównym na różnych stanowiskach. Na emeryturę przeszła 1 czerwca 1984 r., po 13 latach pracy.

\*

W poniedziałek, 15 lutego 2010 r. zmarł Frank Oćwieja, mąż śp. b. wiceprezeski ZPRKA Reginy Oćwieja. Uroczystości pogrzebowe odbyły się w sobotę, 20 lutego w kościele Pięciu Braci Męczenników w Chicago, IL.

\*

W czwartek, 18 lutego 2010 r. zmarła była dyrektorka Dystryktu #6 ZPRKA, Helen J. Ignatowski. Uroczystości pogrzebowe odbyły się we wtorek, 23 lutego w Kościele Katolickim pw. Najświętszego Sakramentu w Milwaukee, WI.

\*

Śp. Olga  
Bialek

W poniedziałek, 22 lutego 2010 roku zmarła emerytowana, długoletnia pracownica biura głównego ZPRKA, Olga Bialek. Pani Olga pracowała w departamencie statystyki ZPRKA przez 33 lata i odeszła na emeryturę w styczniu 1994 r. Była członkinią Towarzystwa #253 ZPRKA. Msza św. pogrzebowa Olgi Bialek odprawiona została w piątek, 26 lutego w bazylice św. Jacka w Chicago. Zmarła pochowana została w grobowcu rodzinnym na cmentarzu Maryhill w Niles, IL.

Rodzinom Zmarłych składamy wyrazy głębokiego współczucia.  
Niech Pan Bóg da Im wieczne spoczywanie.

**LUTY W BIURZE ZPRKA**L-p: Wallace Ozog, Jan Loryś,  
Anna Sokołowski,  
John Andrzejewski, Adam  
Andrzejewski, Maria Cieśla,  
Mieczysław Gil, Witold Żabiński.

W poniedziałek, 1 lutego 2010 r. odwiedził biura Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katolickiego w Ameryce i Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce Adam Andrzejewski, kandydat w wyborach na stanowisko gubernatora Illinois, w prawyborach, które odbyły się w dniu 2 lutego.

Towarzyszyli mu, popierający jego kandydaturę Witold Żabiński - prezes Polsko-Amerykańskiej Izby Handlowej na południowo-zachodnie stany USA oraz Mieczysław Gil - polski działacz związkowy, opozycjonista w okresie PRL, poseł na Sejm X i I kadencji, przewodniczący Obywatelskiego Klubu Parlamentarnego. W czasie wizyty w ZPRKA i PMA obecny był również ojciec kandydata, John Andrzejewski.

Adam Andrzejewski  
z pracownikami ZPRKA i MPA.

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We wtorek, 16 lutego świętowaliśmy w biurze głównym Zjednoczenia, "tłusty wtorek", amerykański odpowiednik polskiego "tłustego czwartku". Z tej okazji zarząd ZPRKA zafundował pracownikom ZPRKA i PMA świeże pączki i kawę.



Świeże pączki dla pracowników.



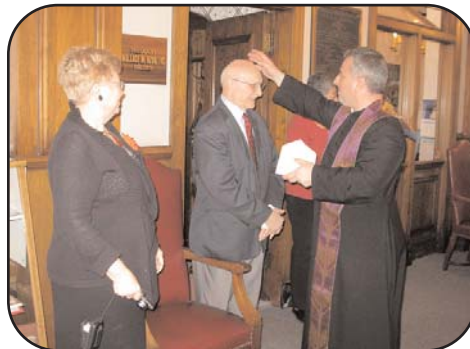
Na pytania odpowiada Halina Misterka.

W tym roku mieliśmy też nieoczekiwaną w i z y t ę przedstawicieli kanału 2 chicagowskiej telewizji, którzy nagrali k r ó t k i program w którym wspomniana została tradycja jedzenia pączków. Głównie jednak przeprowadzili oni wywiady z pracownikami nt. sytuacji ekonomicznej w Stanach Zjednoczonych i w Polsce. O udzielenie wywiadów poprosili: archiwistkę PMA, Halinę Misterkę, która przeprowadziła się 15 lat temu z Polski do USA oraz z sekretarkę adwokata, Jennifer Crissey, która, mimo, że jest rodowitą Amerykanką, kilkakrotnie odwiedziła Polskę i w niedalekiej przyszłości zamierza osiedlić się tam na dłużej.

Program został wyemitowany wieczorem we wtorek, 16 lutego.

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W środę, 17 lutego pracownicy ZPRKA i PMA, jak co roku od kilku lat, skorzystali z uprzejmości proboszcza parafii św. Jadwigi w Chicago, ks. Stanisława Jankowskiego, który specjalnie przybył do biura ZPRKA, aby w Środę Popielcową zmówić krótką modlitwę i czyniąc na naszych czołach popiołem znak krzyża, przypomnieć nam o rozpoczynającym

Ks. Jankowski posypał popiołem głowy  
członków zarządu ZPRKA

się w tym dniu Wielkim Poście i nadchodzących Świątach Zmartwychwstania Pańskiego.



oraz pracowników ZPRKA i MPA.



## 70. LECIE MORDU KATYŃSKIEGO



**Ręce niektórych więźniów  
prze rozstrzelaniem  
zostały zskępowane.**

17 września 1939 r. Rosja Sowiecka przyłączyła się do niemieckiej napaści na Polskę. Do sowieckiej niewoli w obozach zbiorczych Kozielsk, Ostaszków i Starobielsk oraz więzień zorganizowanych przez NKWD na terenach wschodnich RP, trafiło ćwierć miliona żołnierzy polskich, operujących na wschodnich obszarach II Rzeczypospolitej, a po agresji sowieckiej rozbrojonych i zatrzymanych przez Armię Czerwoną i NKWD, w tym znacznej części oficerów oraz przedstawicieli polskiej przedwojennej inteligencji - księży, pracowników sądów, profesorów i pedagogów, Rząd Polski na Obczyźnie wiedział o istnieniu obozów już od jesieni 1939 roku, na podstawie korespondencji, którą prowadzili aresztowani z rodzinami pozostałymi na ziemiach polskich. Od samego początku władze próbowały dokonać ewidencji jeńców. Władze NKWD nie zgodziły się jednak udostępnić list jeńców ani rządowi polskiemu, ani Międzynarodowemu Czerwonemu Krzyżowi.

5 marca 1940 r. Biuro Polityczne Komitetu Centralnego Wszechzwiązkowej Komunistycznej Partii wydało decyzję na mocy której zlecono wymordowanie przez NKWD na wiosnę tego roku, przetrzymywanych w obozach na terytorium ZSRR około 20 tys. jeńców wojennych.

W wyniku tej zbrodniczej decyzji, zastrzelono łącznie prawie 22 tysiące osób: w lesie katyńskim: 4421 osób, w Charkowie 3820 osób, w Twerze - 6311 osób i 7305 osób w innych obozach na terenach zach. Ukrainy i Białorusi.



**Jedna z odkopanych zbiorowych mogił.**

Ofiary dokonanej w ścisłej tajemnicy zbrodni zostały pogrzebane w zbiorowych mogiłach - w Katyniu pod Smoleńskiem, Miednoje koło Tweru i Piatichatkach na przedmieściu Charkowa.

Groby pomordowanych Polaków odkryte zostały latem 1942 roku przez polskich robotników przymusowych, którzy dowiedzieli się o tym od miejscowej ludności. Poinformowani o tym fakcie Niemcy, nie wykazali zainteresowania doniesieniami. Dopiero po klęsce pod Stalingradem postanowili wykorzystać te informacje przeciwko Rosjanom. 13

kwietnia 1943 r. Niemcy ogłosili, że odkryli groby polskich oficerów zamordowanych przez NKWD. Władze sowieckie gwałtownie temu zaprzeczyły oskarżając o zbrodnię nazistów. Rząd RP w Londynie zwrócił się do genewskiego Międzynarodowego Czerwonego Krzyża z prośbą o zbadanie sprawy. W odpowiedzi Związek Radziecki zerwał z nim stosunki dyplomatyczne i oskarżył go o współpracę z A. Hitlerem. Działania Rządu na Uchodźstwie nie poparły również ani Wielka Brytania ani Stany Zjednoczone. Ponieważ rząd Stalina zablokował działania Międzynarodowego Czerwonego Krzyża, władze niemieckie utworzyły komisję międzynarodową z jednym obserwatorem, składającą się z 12 osób z krajów zależnych od II Rzeszy (Belgii, Bułgarii, Danii, Finlandii, Włoch, Chorwacji, Holandii, Protektoratu Cech i Moraw, Słowacji, Rumunii, Węgier) i 1 osoby z neutralnej Szwajcarii. W skład komisji weszli wybitni specjaliści medycyny sądowej.

Powołana została również niemiecka komisja sądowo-lekarska oraz 12 osobowa komisja Polskiego Czerwonego Krzyża.



**Międzynarodowa komisja lekarska  
identyfikująca ofiary.**

Ekshumacji dokonano w ośmiu masowych grobach. Ciała ułożone były warstwami, od sześciu do dwunastu, niektórzy mieli powiązane z tyłu ręce. Prawie wszystkie ofiary zginęły od jednego (czasem więcej) strzałów w tył głowy. Przypuszczano wówczas, że jeńców mordowano bezpośrednio nad grobami w pozycji kłęczącej lub leżącej (znalezione w latach 90-tych XX stulecia groby jeńców z Ostaszkowa i Starobielska wykazały, że najprawdopodobniej jeńcy byli mordowani w piwnicach budynku administracyjnych, skąd zwłoki wywożono do masowych grobów). Ekshumację prowadzono do 3 czerwca 1943 r., wydobyto w tym czasie ponad 4100 ciał i dokonano 2800

identyfikacji. Ustalono również, iż ofiary zabito i pogrzebano trzy lata przed ekshumacją, czyli wiosną 1940 roku.

Sprawa morderstwa w lasach katyńskich wypłynęła w czasie Procesu Norymberskiego, Rosjanie o zbrodnię oskarżali Niemców, jednak pomówień tych nie włączono do aktu oskarżenia, w wyniku czego w ogłoszonych wyrokach końcowych o masakrze katyńskiej nie było ani słowa.

18 września 1951 r. Kongres USA powołał specjalną komisję do wyjaśnienia zbrodni. 22 grudnia 1952 r. komisja potwierdziła, że sprawcą masakry oficerów polskiej armii w lesie koło Katynia było NKWD. Ze względu jednak na ówczesne układy polityczne, ustalenia wykonane począwszy od roku 1943 r. były przemilczane przez następne prawie 50 lat.

Dopiero 13 kwietnia 1990 władze rosyjskie oficjalnie przyznały się do odpowiedzialności za zamordowanie polskich oficerów. Wtedy odkryto kolejne dwa miejsca spoczynku polskich oficerów (w Charkowie i w Miednoje). W 1992 Polska otrzymała kopię decyzji Ł. Berii z 5 marca 1940 o rozstrzelaniu 25 700 osób cywilnych i wojskowych pochodzenia polskiego.

W 1991 r. polscy specjaliści przeprowadzili pierwsze czynności ekshumacyjne, potwierdzające lokalizację miejsca zbrodni. Kolejne prace prowadzone były przez specjalistów Rady Ochrony Pamięci Walk i Męczeństwa w 1994 r. Wtedy to rozpoczęto właściwe prace pomiarowe, sondaż i ekshumacje we wszystkich trzech miejscach, gdzie znajdowały się masowe groby. Do 1996 r. precyzyjnie zlokalizowano groby, oraz zgromadzono obszerną dokumentację. W 1999 roku rozpoczęto prace przy budowie trzech cmentarzy: w Katyniu, Miednoje i Charkowie. Cmentarze poświęcone zostały i otwarte w 2000 roku.

W latach 2000-2004 rosyjska prokuratura prowadziła śledztwo w sprawie mordu katyńskiego, jednak postępowanie zostało umorzone. 30 listopada 2004 r. Instytut Pamięci Narodowej rozpoczął polskie śledztwo, na mocy którego polska prokuratura oskarżyła funkcjonariuszy państwa rosyjskiego o mord na 21 768 jeńcach polskich.

## GRATULUJEMY NAJLEPSZYM SPRZEDAWCOM UBEZPIECZEŃ I SUPERWIZOROM

Zarząd Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katolickiego w Ameryce pragnie podziękować wszystkim deputowanym, którzy przyczynili się do wzrostu sprzedaży programów ubezpieczeniowych w 2009 r. W porównaniu z 2008 rokiem nastąpił wzrost o 3,52%.

Superwizorzy, w których Dystryktach napłynęło najwięcej składek ze sprzedanych polis to: Edward Muszalski, FICF - Dystr. #22 (także drugie miejsce pod względem otrzymanych aplikacji), Michel Ozog, FICF - Dystr. #25 (najwięcej otrzymanych aplikacji), Thaddeus Klamerus, FICF - Dystr. #6, Teresa Gibala, FICF - Dystr. #12 oraz Barbara Pawlowski - Dystr. #38.

Deputowani, dzięki którym napłynęło najwięcej składek to: Judy Hoffman - Dystr. #98, Sharon Quinn, FICF - Dystr. #98, Edward Muszalski, FICF - Dystr. 22, Julius Szymczyk - Dystr. #25, Teresa Gibala, FICF - Dystr. #12.

Najwięcej aplikacji nadesłali: Anna Krysiński (Glenview, IL), Bożena Matson (Griffith, IN), Teresa Gibala, FICF (Erie, MI), Dagmara Johnson (Tinley Park, IL), Krystyna Lech (Palos Park, IL), Elizabeth Grabowski (Munster, IN), Elaine Burkhardt (PhiladelphiaPA).

Wszystkim deputowanym i superwizorom gratulujemy, dziękujemy za wydaną pracę i poświęcenie oraz życzymy kolejnych sukcesów w następnym roku.

Więcej informacji w angielskiej sekcji "Narodu Polskiego".

**Doroczne Orędzie prezesa Ozoga - str. 1 i 3**  
**Raport o sytuacji finansowej ZPKA - str. 11**

## NIEDZIELA PALMOWA

17 lutego, w Środę Popielcową, Kościół katolicki wszedł w okres 40-dniowego postu, czas oczekiwania na Dzień Zmartwychwstania Pańskiego.

Tydzień przed Wielkanocą, 28 marca, obchodzić będziemy Niedzielę Palmową, święto ustanowione na pamiątkę wjazdu Chrystusa do Jerozolimy, gdzie przybył wraz z uczniami na święto Paschy. Jak podaje Pismo Święte, witany był przez wielkie tłumy ludzi, którzy wołali: "Hosanna Synowi Dawidowemu, błogosławiony, który idzie w Imię Pańskie dla naszego zbawienia".

Według obrzędów katolickich tego dnia wierni przynoszą do kościoła palemki, symbol odradzającego się życia. W Polsce Niedziela Palmowa obchodzona jest od średniowiecza.

A oto jak przedstawiła nastrój Niedzieli Palmowej Zofia Kossak-Szczuczka: "W Palmową Niedzielę każdy kościół polski zakwita wiązkami wierzby, modrzewiu, borówek, borowinku, jak gdyby całe gaje weszły do świątyni oddać hołd Zbawicielowi. Wierzby usiane białymi kotkami - to polska palma wdzięczna i pokorna. Gdy wiosna wczesna a Wielkanoc późna, kotki wierzby nie są już białe, ale żółte,



**Wjazd Jezusa do Jerozolimy  
wg. jednego ze starych malowideł.**

sypiące złotym pyłem o słodkiej woni. Wychodząc po nabożeństwie z kościoła, należy połknąć parę poświęconych baziek. Miękkie, kosmate, z trudem przechodzą przez krtań, lecz zabieg wart jest trudu, chroni bowiem od chorób gardła na przeciąg roku".

"Rok Boży"