

Join the PRCUA Life Insurance Sales Force Today!

Does helping people provide you with a feeling of gratitude? Do you or someone you know have a warm personality combined with effective sales skills? The PRCUA is seeking new and/or experienced candidates, preferably with an insurance or service background, to market our financial products. Please contact: Robert Fattore, PRCUA Sales Director at 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2631 or email robert-fattore@prcu.org for more information. Sales and Product Training can be completed in person or online. Call NOW!!

Spring Special

Receive **\$4,000** of Life Insurance
as a **BONUS**
at no additional cost to you!

Naród Polski Polish Nation

Bi-lingual Publication of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America - A Fraternal Benefit Society Safeguarding Your Future with Life Insurance & Annuities.

www.PRCUA.org

April 1, 2012 - 1 kwietnia 2012

No. 4 - Vol. CXXVI



EASTER GREETINGS FROM OUR PRCUA CHAPLAINS

A Joyful Alleluia...

As we celebrate the great Feast of Easter, may the Risen Lord strengthen our faith and belief in Him as our way, truth and life. May the peace of the Risen Christ fill our hearts and homes as we share with each other the blessed egg, a symbol of new life at our Easter tables. A Blessed and Joyful Easter to our beloved PRCUA Family and all of Polonia. *Wesołego Alleluja!*

Fr. Walter J. Ptak
PRCUA National Chaplain

Fr. Anthony D. Iwuc
PRCUA National Vice Chaplain

Msgr. Stanley E. Milewski, P.A.
PRCUA National Vice Chaplain

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

Announcing the Top PRCUA Annuity Producers



Susan Watzlavick

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Officers and Board of Directors are pleased to announce the Top Annuity Producers for January through December, 2011.



Dennis Drake

In 1st place is **Susan Watzlavick** of Sales District 34, a resident of Shiner, TX. She brought in \$704,775.99 in annuity premium. Susan is experienced in insurance and investment services including



Michael Guillatt

life insurance, annuities, medical supplement, long term care, mutual funds and retirement planning. She is married to Dixon; they have 2 children, Jordan and Colton.



Barbara Frankowicz

In 2nd place is **Dennis Drake**, CBC, CFC, from Sales District 8. He brought in \$600,944.37 in annuity premium. He lives in Wilmington, Delaware with *(Continued on page 3)*

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL



Calendar of PRCUA Events

APRIL

APRIL 8

HAPPY EASTER



14 CHICAGO, IL - MLODA POLONIA SONG AND DANCE ENSEMBLE SPRING DANCE on Sat., April 14 at 7 pm, McManus Hall, 5900 W. Barry, Chicago. Music by Fox Band. Tickets: \$45 (covers dinner, cake, coffee, bottle of wine on table). Raffle, other attractions, great fun for all. Proceeds for Ensemble's trip to Festival in Iwonicz-Zdroj in Poland. Contact: Anna Krynski 847-529-2555

15 CHICAGO, IL - ILLINOIS-INDIANA WOMEN'S DIV. SWIECONE on Sun., April 15, hosted by District 7 at Grota Banquets, 3112 N. Central Ave., Chicago, IL. Entry 11:30 am; Lunch Noon; Adults \$25/Children \$15. RSVP by April 9 to Dir. Robert Bugielski, 5309 W. Wolfram, Chicago, IL 60641 or call 773-725-5655

15 LANSING, MI - SOC. #2342 SWIECONKA on Sun., April 15 at 1 pm at the Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Please bring a dish to pass. Contact: Tom Croff 517-627-0222

17 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING on Tues., April 17 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: Ed Kaplaniak, 521 Southmont, Johnstown, PA 15905

19 LANSING, MI - SOC. #2342 MEETING AND POT LUCK on Thurs., April 19 at 6 pm at the Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Contact: Tom Croff 517-627-0222

20-22 BUFFALO, NY - PRCUA NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT will be in Buffalo, New York, hosted by District #2, William Nowakowski, Chairman. **BUS FROM DETROIT** - A bus is reserved from Detroit to Buffalo, \$40 (round trip) for St. Stan #718 members & \$50 for non-St. Stan members by April 1, 2012. Checks are payable to St. Stan's #718 and mail to Bob Hojnacki at 25416 Deer Creek Dr., Flat Rock, MI 48134, Contact: Bob at hoj606@hotmail.com or 313-384-6255 for further information. **FROM ILLINOIS/INDIANA** - Bus available Thursday April 19 from the Chicago/Northwest Indiana area and returning on Sunday, April 22. If interested please contact Connie Bonin NOW at 715-257-9032 or constance-bonin@prcu.org

21 WARREN, MI - PRCUA OPOLE DANCERS RECITAL on Sat., April 21 at 2 pm at the Warren Community Center, 5460 Arden Ave., Warren, MI. Contact: Beth 586-758-6083

22 REDFORD, MI - PRCUA WIELICZKA DANCERS RECITAL on Sun., April 22 at 2 pm at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford, MI. Contact: 313-805-7729

22 WARREN, MI - PRCUA HALKA DANCERS RECITAL on Sunday, April 22 at 3 pm at Lincoln High School, 9 Mile & Van Dyke in Warren, MI. Contact 313-891-2403

24 WARREN, MI - POPE JOHN PAUL II SOC. #1593 MEETING on Tues., April 24 at 7 pm, St. Anne's H.S., 36000 Mound Rd., Warren, MI. Contact: B. Adamkiewicz 586-573-7510

29 HAMTRAMCK, MI - PRCUA GWIAZDA DANCERS RECITAL on Sunday, April 29 at 2 pm at St. Florian Parish, 2626 Poland St., Hamtramck, MI. Contact: 313-365-6066

29 LINCOLN PARK, MI - PRCUA ROGALIN DANCERS RECITAL on Sunday, April 29 at 1 pm at Lincoln High School, 1701 Champaign, Lincoln Park, MI.

29 COUNTRYSIDE, IL - PRCUA SOUTHWEST CENTER OF POLISH DANCING ANNUAL SPRING RECITAL on Sun., April 29 at Park Place of Countryside, 6240 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL - Doors open Noon, show 12:30 pm. Tickets \$10 in advance; \$12 at door. Contact: Ania Kraszewski, 773-972-0012

MAY

1-4 AND 21-24 - TEXAS HOLD'EM at Pampa Lanes, 31925 Van Dyke Ave., (north of 14 Mile Rd), Warren, MI, 5 pm-2 am to benefit Pope John Paul II Soc. #1593. Contact: W. Ozog at 586-751-8168 for information or to volunteer your time.

5 LANSING, MI - SOC. #2342 PIEROGI DAY on Sat., May 5 at 7 pm at the Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Contact: Tom Croff 517-627-0222

6 WARREN, MI - POLSKIE MAKI DANCERS RECITAL on Sunday, May 6 at 2 pm at Lincoln High School, 9 Mile & Van Dyke in Warren, MI. Contact: 586-979-5164

10 LANSING, MI - SOC. #2342 MEETING AND POT LUCK on Thurs., May 10 at 6 pm at the Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Contact: 517-339-4604

14 CHICAGO, IL - DISTRICT # 7 MEETING on Monday, May 14 at 7:30 pm at PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. May Crowning of the Blessed Mother. Contact: Shirley Dudzinski, Secy. 773-763-4069

15 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING on Tues., May 15 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: Ed Kaplaniak, 521 Southmont, Johnstown, PA 15905

16 CHICAGO, IL - PRCUA SOC. #475 MEETING on Wed., May 16 at 7:30 pm at PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Contact: B. Jura 773-685-3134

17 CHICAGO, IL - ILL-IND WOMEN'S DIVISION MEETING on Thurs., May 17 at 10:30 am at PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Crowning of Blessed Mother and honoring Mother of the Year. Contact: Irene Rush 630-295-5607

20 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC #162 MEETING on Sun., May 20 at 1:00 pm at PRCUA #162 Hall, 1430 Oak St, Wyandotte, MI 48129. Dues: Linda Alexander, 69 Winder, Unit 462, Detroit, MI 48201. Contact: Pres. Stan Pasko at 313-815-5230

22 WARREN, MI - POPE JOHN PAUL II SOC. #1593 MEETING on Tues., May 22 at 7 pm, St. Anne's H.S., 36000 Mound Rd., Warren, MI. Contact: B. Adamkiewicz 586-573-7510

Get Well Wishes are extended to PRCUA National Vice Chaplain Msgr. Stanley Milewski who is in the hospital. Please keep him in your prayers.

District 2 - New York Town Hall Meeting

with the PRCUA Executive Officers

Friday April 20, 2012, 7:00pm

Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle, Inc.,
612 Fillmore Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14212

in conjunction with the
PRCUA 75th Bowling Tournament

For more information contact Greg Olma,
Director, District 2 at 716-553-8399

MESSAGE FROM THE PRCUA SALES AND MARKETING DEPARTMENTS



During the months of April and May, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America is celebrating NEW LIFE by offering our **SPRING LIFE INSURANCE SPECIAL!**

Receive \$2,000 or \$4,000 of life insurance as a BONUS at no additional cost to you!

We are offering our 20-Year Limited Pay Whole Life plan with at least \$10,000 of life insurance protection and PRCUA will add \$2,000 of life insurance to the certificate face value! A total \$12,000 of coverage for the price of \$10,000 - that's Extra, Free Security! **Additionally, if you purchase \$20,000 face value, you will receive \$4,000 of FREE insurance!**

Example: A male, age 30, who is a standard non-smoker, may purchase a \$10,000 20-year limited pay whole life certificate for \$206.80 annually and receive \$2,000 of insurance as a bonus - at no additional cost*. **A savings of almost \$800 during the 20 year period!**

Features of the 20-Year Limited Pay Whole Life plan include:

- 20 low annual payments for a lifetime of life insurance coverage
- Payments can also be arranged semi-annually, quarterly or monthly
- Plan is dividend participating
- Accumulation of cash values
- Availability of PRCUA benefits of membership: Narod Polski publication, educational scholarships and loans, single-family residential mortgage loans, sports tournaments, cultural and ethnic events and much more!

For more information or to apply, please contact your local PRCUA Sales Representative or call 1-800-772-8632 ext. 2631 or 2632. You can also reach us by email: sales@prcua.org **All applications are subject to Underwriting*



Have a CD or IRA Maturing? Invest in a PRCUA Annuity NOW!			
PRCUA ANNUITY	PORTFOLIO SERIES		
ACCUMULATION VALUE	MILLENNIUM	CLASSIC	PREFERRED
\$ 300.00 - and above	3.000%	3.000%	3.000%
Note: The above APYs could change with market conditions in the future. Present conditions in the world financial markets dictate this change. Please visit www.prcua.org/annuity to keep posted on the current PRCUA annuity APYs.			

Announcing the Top PRCUA Annuity Producers

(Continued from page 1) his wife, Kathy, and daughter, Rachel. Dennis is the president of *The IRA Guys*.

Michael Guillatt of District #37 in Fremont, NE is in 3rd place. His total annuity premium was \$493,879.13. Michael has earned Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) and Certified Financial Planner professional designations. He has over 37 years in the financial services business.

Barbara Frankowicz is in 4th place, having brought in annuity premium of \$331,479.55. She is a sales representative in District #22 and resides in Palos Hills, IL with her husband, John.

In 5th position is **Steven Watkins** of Hoxie, KS, in Sales District #30. He brought in \$264,700.00 in annuity premium. Steve is a partner at the father-and-son Watkins Family Insurance Agency. He has been licensed and working in crop insurance and life insurance for over 10 years now. He and his wife, Kaylee, have three children Samuel, Claire, Simon, and one on the way.

Heartfelt congratulations go to these five outstanding Top 2011 Annuity Producers, as well as to all PRCUA sales representatives who sold PRCUA annuities last year. Hopefully, in the year 2012, Polish Americans will have even more income to invest in their own futures, with a PRCUA annuity. Thank you for your excellent service and keep up the good work!



Steven Watkins

TOP 2011 ANNUITY PRODUCERS			
	District	Agent	Total Annuity Premium
1.	34	Susan Watzlavick	\$704,775.99
2.	8	Dennis Drake	\$600,944.37
3.	37	Michael Guillatt	\$493,879.13
4.	22	Barbara Frankowicz	\$331,479.55
5.	30	Steven Watkins	\$264,700.00
6.	34	Patrick Rawlings Sr	\$261,029.07
7.	37	Mark Guillatt	\$260,000.00
8.	1	William Seranko	\$258,954.62
9.	34	Richard Ralston	\$240,878.87
10.	99	Robert Bielenda	\$225,038.72
11.	50	Shoreline Financial Service	\$190,000.00
12.	29	Mark Whitsett	\$169,909.27
13.	34	Howard Ruegsegger	\$124,256.87
14.	99	Michael Dinkens	\$ 97,837.73
15.	18	Daniel Wendol	\$ 96,597.65
16.	34	Kevin Wray	\$ 92,400.00
17.	22	Edward Muszalski	\$ 88,295.17
18.	40	William Davis	\$ 83,337.95
19.	33	The late Joseph Boruta	\$ 80,000.00
20.	6	Kelly Salatowski	\$ 75,247.81
Congratulations!			

PRCUA offers low-interest Educational Loans

to PRCUA members
who attend an accredited college.

For more information go to:
www.prcua.org/benefits/educationalloan.htm
or call 1-800-772-8632



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JOSEPH A. DROBOT, JR.

President: 773-782-2600

KATHRYN ROSYPAL

Exec. Ed.: 773-782-2600 Ext. 2640

narod.polski@prcua.org

(English language)

LIDIA KOWALEWICZ

Mng. Ed.: 773-782-2600 Ext. 2639

narod.polski@prcua.org

(Polish language)

Please direct mail re: delivery
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JAMES ROBACZEWSKI

Secretary-Treasurer

info@prcua.org

Direct all materials for
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**984 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL 60642-4101**
773-782-2600
Toll-Free 1-800-772-8632
Fax 773-278-4595
narod.polski@prcua.org
WWW.PRCUA.ORG
Business Hours: 8:15 am - 4 pm

Philadelphia Satellite Office
2636-38 E. Allegheny Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19134
215-425-3807
Toll-Free 1-800-558-8792
Fax 215-425-3961

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Polish Easter Recipes by Polish Chef Robert Strybel

BOILED FRESH KIELBASA:

Place 3 lbs fresh (raw) kielbasa in pot of cold water to cover by 1". Add 1 bay leaf and 1 lg cut onion; cook on low to a gentle boil. Simmer on low, covered, 45 min more. Let stand covered in hot stock 10 min before serving. Save the stock for soup.



WHITE EASTER BARSZCZ: In pot combine 3 c fresh or smoked kielbasa stock (from above recipe) with 3 c cold water, bring to boil and simmer 5 min. Add 1-2 buds crushed garlic and remove from heat. Separately, fork-blend 1 heaping T flour with 3/4 c sour cream until smooth. Add 1 c hot stock 1 T at a time to sour-cream mixture, whisk constantly, then stir mixture into pot. Return to heat and simmer 2-3 min just below boiling point. Add 1 t marjoram and sour to taste with 2-3 T white vinegar. Let stand covered 20 min for flavors to blend. Salt and pepper to taste and serve over hard-boiled eggs and sliced cooked sausage. Horseradish can be added.

BAKED FRESH KIELBASA: Arrange fresh (unsmoked) kielbasa in a single layer in baking pan. Cover with cold water and bake in 350° oven until half the water evaporates. Turn kielbasa over and continue baking until all water is gone.

MIXED VEGETABLE SALAD: In bowl, combine 3-4 c cold, cooked, diced potatoes, two 12-14 oz cans drained peas & carrots, 2 cans drained navy beans, 4 diced dill pickles, 1 c chopped green onions, 1 bunch diced radishes, 2 peeled diced apples, 4 diced hard-boiled eggs and 3 T chopped fresh parsley. Toss gently; season with salt & pepper. In separate bowl, fork-blend 1/2 sour cream, 1/2 c mayonnaise and 1 heaping t brown mustard. Season to taste with salt, pepper, sugar, lemon juice or vinegar. Gently mix into salad just to coat. Refrigerate overnight to blend flavors.

KIELBASA & SAUERKRAUT: Drain 2 - 3 qts sauerkraut and rinse in cold water. Drain again, press out moisture, chop coarsely, place in pot, scald with boiling water to cover, add 1 bay leaf and cook uncovered 1 hr. Drain and transfer to baking pan. Place 2-3 lbs kielbasa in the sauerkraut and bake, covered, in 350° oven 90 min, turning kielbasa over after 45 min. Leave in oven 30 min after turning off heat. Cut sausage into 2" or 3" and serve mixed mix with the sauerkraut.

HAM IN RYE CRUST: Combine 3 c rye flour with 1 egg white and just enough water to get a pierogi-dough consistency. (Optional: 1 T caraway seeds may be added.) Work by hand to blend ingredients and roll out. Tightly cover 5 lb fully-cooked ham with dough pinching edges together to seal. Bake in preheated 400° oven for 10 min, then reduce heat to 350° and bake 10 min per lb. After baking, cool to room temp, remove and discard rye crust, slice and serve.

ROAST PORK LOIN: Mash 2-3 buds garlic into a paste with 1 t salt; rub into 3 lb boneless pork loin. Place in roaster, cover and let stand at room temp 2 hrs. Remove loin, dust with flour (through sieve) and brown in hot fat on all sides to seal in juices. Place loin in roaster fat side up on rack; sprinkle with caraway seeds, pepper and marjoram. Roast uncovered at 450° 15 min; reduce heat to 350°. Add 1 c water to pan and baste occasionally. Roast about 90 min until meat juice is white, not pinkish. Cool to room temp. Refrigerate overnight and slice cold. Serve cold or warm up in pan drippings.

EASTER BABKA: Dissolve 1 packet active dry yeast in 1/2 c. warm half & half. Stir in 2-1/2 T sugar and 1 cup flour mix well and let stand in warm place until doubled. Stir in 3 T sugar, 1 c flour, 3 beaten eggs, 1 t grated lemon rind, 1/2 vanilla extract and 1 T melted butter. Work ingredients into a dough by hand and knead until smooth and elastic (8-10 min) or have a bread-hook mixer do the kneading. Work 1/4 c raisins into dough. Transfer to greased, floured fluted babka, brioche or Bundt pan, which should be no more than 1/3 full, cover with clean cloth and let stand in warm place until doubled in bulk. Bake in preheated 350° oven about 40 min. When cool remove from pan and glaze with icing made by fork-blending 1/2 c. confectioner's sugar with 1 T lemon juice or 1/4 t almond extract.



Letter to the Editor

March 5, 2012

Dear Editor:

It is well past time for the United States to end its inexplicable and discriminatory policy of excluding Poland from its Visa Waiver Program. Poland and its many visitors to the United States deserve better – and our nation would be well-served to keep that in mind.

From consistently standing with the United States on the international stage to the immeasurable contributions of Polonia to American society, Poland and our nation have a long and valued history. In fact, that bond led Poland in 1991 to repeal its visa requirements for United States citizens traveling abroad. Sadly, Polish citizens still lack the same consideration from the United States.

There is no logical reason to continue to discriminate against Poland and its people. Just the opposite, America's refusal to reflect its friendship with Poland in its Visa Waiver Program sends the wrong message to a trusted ally, and threatens the good will between our nations. Just as troubling, we run the risk of alienating Polish residents, and reducing their desire to travel to America.

American policy must change.

To that end, I applaud U.S. Senator Mark Kirk and Congressman Mike Quigley for their commitment to this matter. I stand ready to assist those leaders and others who share a commitment to including Poland in the Waiver Program. Beyond being good policy, expansion of the program is the right thing to do.

Sincerely,
Judy Baar Topinka
Illinois Comptroller

Peace Through Music In the Spirit of John Paul - Chicago 2012

**A CONCERT IN HONOR OF THE 1ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BEATIFICATION OF POPE JOHN PAUL II
ORCHESTRA HALL AT SYMPHONY CENTER
MONDAY, APRIL 23 - 8:00 P.M.**



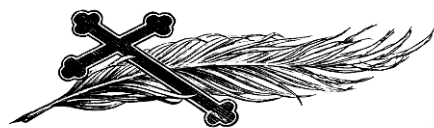
**LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO
ORCHESTRA
CHICAGO SYMPHONY CHORUS
SIR GILBERT LEVINE,
CONDUCTOR**

**PROGRAM: ANCIENT POLISH HYMN - BOGURODZICA
EDWARD T. CONE - PSALM 91 (1948)
BACH - MAGNIFICAT IN D
BEETHOVEN - SYMPHONY II "EROICA"**

Participating Organizations:

*His Eminence Francis Cardinal George - Chicago Archdiocese,
Polish Consulate in Chicago, Pax Per Musician Foundation, Polish
National Alliance, Polish Roman Catholic Union of America,
American Jewish Committee, Illinois Holocaust Museum,
Polish Museum of America, WFMT Radio Network*

*Brothers
and Sisters*



NAME	SOC.	STATE			
BERDYSZ, JOSEPHINE	2132	OH	MALONEY, CAROL	1213	NJ
BORUTA, JOSEPH	300	IL	MICHALSKI, RITA	2109	OH
BURZYNSKI, CHARLOTTE	1070	MA	MIS GENEVIEVE	1000	IL
BZURA, JOHN	162	MI	MYSZKOWSKI, JULIANNA	519	NY
CLOR, BETTY ANN	1368	MI	NARKO, FRANCES	593	IL
CYRAN, JOHN	36	OH	OSTROWSKI, REGINALD	162	MI
CZARNECKI, IDA	835	PA	OSYPIEWSKI, STELLA	750	NY
DAIGNAULT, LILLIAN	359	MA	PARADA, CLARA	608	PA
DALY, JENNIE	1364	NJ	PASTERZ, HENRYKA	308	IL
DOLESKI, ANNA	522	OH	PAVLICK, FRANK	855	PA
DYJESKI, LEONARD	1004	IL	PODKOPACZ, HELEN	445	MN
DYNOWSKI, EDMOND	1486	IL	POHL, REV. JEROME	2013	PA
ESTEP, MARJORIE	2319	PA	PRUSZYNSKI, PETER	343	PA
GAWLIK, STELLA	896	RI	RADZINSKI, HELEN	713	MA
GLODEK, ZOFIA	1368 & 2227	MI	RECH, ROBERT	893	MN
GODEK, STANLEY	308	IL	REED, MARY	786	OH
GOLEMBIEWSKI, GEORGE	2303	WI	REGULSKI, LAURA	527	MD
GORCOWSKI, FRANK	957	IL	RUMORA JR., GEORGE	522	OH
JACHIMOWICZ,			RUSCHE, WILLIAM	78	MI
SR. MARY CLAUDINA OSF	1118	MI	RUTA, STELLA	880	IL
JAKUSZ, LILLIAN	1598	IL	SHAW, GENEVIEVE	703	PA
JAMROSZ, WALTER	1020	PA	SIENKIEWICZ, CLARA	850	IN
JANICKI, WALTER	7	PA	SKORA, LAWRENCE	718	MI
JANIK, JOHN	880	IL	SOLTYSIK, JAN	300	IL
KANE, JOSEPH	240	PA	SPLANGER, ELEONORA	527	MD
KILLIAN, ANNASTACIA	1000	IL	STACK, GERALDINE	412	IL
KLOSKOWSKI, STANLEY	517	NJ	STARZYNSKI, CECILA	2030	NJ
KOBUS, CHESTER	2290	PA	STYPULCZAK, MARY	803	NJ
KOSWENDA, HALINA	122	IL	SZCZESNY, REV. MICHAEL	1000	IL
KOTH, HELEN	1253	WI	TOTH, FRANCES	517	NJ
KOTT, WALTER	471	IL	VAN NORMAN, GLADYS	696	MI
KOZIEL, STEPHANIE	803	NJ	WAIS, JOHN M.	1032	IL
KRASON, THADDEUS	308	IL	WIECZERZAK, DOLORES	2013	PA
KRASOWSKI, EDWARD	2320	WI	WOODS, ZYGMUND	337	IN
KROLIK, PETER	20	NJ	WRZOSEK, GENEVIEVE	809	NJ
KRYGER, MARGARET	294	IL	YESH, FRANK	531	PA
KUBIC, ANGELINE	337	IN	ZALEWSKI, HENRY	343	PA
MALAK, BARNEY	122	IL	ZAMACHAJ, EDNA	359	MA
			ZOTTER, MARY	237	PA

In Sympathy -

Condolences are extended to the Kwiatt Family on the death of Martha Kwiatt, Past National Director of District 8, on Monday, March 26, 2012. May she rest in eternal peace.



(Obituary in next issue.)

Monsignor Stanley Kloskowski Passed Away

He is survived by his sister, Laura Krisak, brothers Edward L. and Dr. Vincent (Geraldine) Jr.; nephews and a niece. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Gregory the Great RC Church, Hamilton Square, NJ. Interment followed in St. Mary's Cemetery, East Brunswick, NJ. May he rest in eternal peace.

- support membership in the PRCUA by encouraging individuals, both adult and juvenile, to become members of the PRCUA through its life insurance and annuity programs;
- solicit and encourage individuals to represent the PRCUA as agents and deputies by joining the sales department of the PRCUA and becoming licensed sales people of PRCUA financial products; initiate, cooperate and participate in the local representative district's activities as it relates to the fraternal goals and mission of the PRCUA.

**POLISH NIGHT AT COMERICA PARK
DETROIT TIGERS VS NEW YORK YANKEES
JUNE 1, 2012**

DETROIT, MI - Polka music 5:30 p.m., Polish dancing on the field at 6:30 p.m., Game 7:05, post game fireworks. Cost: \$43 pkg. includes upper box infield seat, t-shirt, hot dog/chips/soda and \$3 donation to PRCUA Soc. #1593 Scholarship Fund. Contact Wallace Ozog at **1-586-751-8168** or go to: **corey.bell@detroittigers.com**.

POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT - CHICAGO
TUESDAY, JULY 3, 2012 - 7:10 P.M.
U.S. CELLULAR FIELD, CHICAGO, IL
WHITE SOX VS. TEXAS RANGERS

CHICAGO, IL - Show your Polish Pride on Tuesday, July 3rd at U.S. Cellular Field. Back by popular demand is Polish-American Night at the ballpark. Enjoy Polish entertainment at the gates and then watch an exciting game of White Sox baseball! Tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis while supply lasts. Lower box seats \$20 (Regularly \$40). Parade tickets included. Orders must be placed by Monday, June 11. Tickets can be purchased from: **Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, 1-800-772-8632 ext. 2601**



Easter in Old Poland

In the slower-paced, less commercialized time of Old Poland, the season of Lent built up to the climax of Easter, but that did not bring celebrations to an abrupt end. Eastertide stretched another 50 days until Pentecost.

Following 40 days of penance, fasting and prayer during *Wielki Post* (Lent), the long-awaited day, *Wielkanoc* (Easter), finally arrived. *Rezurekcja*, the Easter sunrise Resurrection Mass usually began around 6 a.m. and nearly everybody took part. It began with a procession that encircled the outside of the church three times before the actual Mass got under way. Little girls strewed flower petals before the Blessed Sacrament, altar boys jangled bells, and their censers perfumed the early-morning air with the other-worldly scent of incense.

Church bells, which had fallen silent on Holy Thursday, rang out joyously to announce Jesus' Resurrection. During the procession explosions could be heard as guns and home-made explosives recalled the rumbling believed to have accompanied the opening of Christ's tomb. A nearby garrison would usually provide an artillery salute for the occasion. Both during the procession and at Mass, the faithful sang their hearts out, as most everyone knew by heart "Wesoły nam dzień dziś nastał", "Nie zna śmierci Pan żywota" and other popular Easter hymns.

After Mass, parishioners would greet one another with *Chrystus zmartwychwstał!* (Christ has risen), to which the reply came: *Prawdziwie zmartwychwstał!* (Truly He has risen). "Wesołego Alleluja!" (Happy Easter) is still used today.

Święcone - The faithful headed home in eager anticipation of eating all those foods they had given up for the entire 40 days of Lent, including butter, eggs, meat, etc. In some places, young farmers raced home, for they believed that the first to arrive would be blessed by the most abundant harvest that year. The breakfast began with the sharing of blessed Easter eggs, accompanied by mutual well-wishing. On the table were foods blessed the previous day by a priest.

The first course was usually a bowl of steaming Easter soup - a tart, fermented ryemeal soup known as *żurek* or white borscht. Hard-boiled eggs, plain or garnished with toppings, also tasted especially good after the long fast. And there would be various meats - sausages, roasts, hams, head cheese, black pudding and jellied pig's feet. Cakes included *babas* (tall, sweet raised cakes with raisins and glazed with icing), plain and filled raised egg breads, cheesecake and *mazurek*, a flat Easter cake.

After the festive *Święcone* (Easter breakfast), the head of the household would take the palm blessed at church on Palm Sunday, dip it in the freshly blessed Holy Water, sprinkle his home, livestock, outbuildings and fields to protect them from misfortune and ensure a good harvest. The balance of the day was spent in the immediate family circle, chatting, snacking and possibly going for an afternoon stroll.

Easter Games - The youngsters amused themselves with popular Easter games. *Walatka* or *wybitka* required two contestants to each hit their Easter eggs together. The one whose egg remained intact won and got the other player's egg as his prize. Another contest was the egg roll known as *toczenie pisaneek*, *turlanie jaj* or in Śląsk - *kulanie jajec*. Easter eggs were placed at the top of an inclined plank or a small hill and released. The one whose egg rolled the farthest was the winner.

Śmigus-dyngus - The following day was known as *Lany Poniedziałek* (Drenching Monday), when boys, armed with buckets of water and squirting devices, prowled in search of young maidens. The girls shrieked in protest, while being drenched, but secretly welcomed such attention. A maiden who remained dry on that day felt unpopular. This custom is known as *śmigus-dyngus*.

In Pomerania, Kashub country along the Baltic Sea, boys practiced a "dry dyngus", thrashing girls' legs with pussywillows. Other regions also had their own local traditions. In Kraków to this day, Easter Monday means the Emaus parish fair in the city's *Zwierzyniec* district. Stalls offer folk toys, balloons, sweets and treats, rides, folk bands and an organ-grinder.

The Racibórz area of Śląsk is known for its Hundred-Horse Procession. Leading the cavalcade is the parish priest in full liturgical garb on horseback. He is flanked by two of the most distinguished parishioners: one with a large cross, the other with a statue of the Risen Christ. The riders trace the parish boundaries, with other parishioners following on foot, and lead the procession to a local wayside shrine where the faithful as well as the surrounding fields are blessed.

All over Poland, Easter Monday was when house-to-house revelers began making their rounds, some which extended all the way to May. Their garb, routine and texts varied from region to region. The Easter trick-or-treaters recited humorous poems and ditties, begging for treats and threatening to play tricks on those who skimped. Such activities are far less common now but can still be seen in the mountain areas of southern Poland. In some places they are being revived by clubs and folk groups.

75th Annual PRCUA Bowling Tournament BOWLING BASH & OPTIONAL DINNER Saturday, April 21st, 2012



All bowlers, friends and guests participating in the 75th Annual PRCUA Bowling Tournament are cordially invited to attend the Buffalo Bowling Bash at the Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle Hall, immediately following the 6:00 PM Mass at nearby St. Stanislaus Church. The Bash will feature the awarding of trophies, gift basket drawings and raffles, along with the music of Al Kania and his Band. Enjoy the fully-stocked bar with both domestic and European beverages available for your purchase all night!

Maximize your enjoyment of this event by purchasing optional pre-paid dinner for only \$24.99. The menu features steak roll-ups, pork chops, roasted potatoes, a vegetable medley, desserts, coffee, and non-alcoholic drinks. If you are interested in taking advantage of this dining opportunity, please send your name, address, phone number and the number of tickets requested at \$24.99 each, along with your check made payable to **PRCUA District 2**, by April 10th to:

Dave Pfaff
11 Deerhurst Park Blvd, Kenmore, NY 14217
(716) 380-5252 email: darfa77@aol.com

PS: The dinner is subject to cancellation and refund if there are insufficient sales.

Meet the New PRCUA General Counsel



PRCUA General Counsel
Attorney John J. Chitkowski

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America is pleased to introduce the PRCUA's new General Counsel. At the Spring Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the PRCUA, Attorney John J. Chitkowski was approved as General Counsel, replacing Attorney Norman Schroeder, who has served as General Counsel since 2001.

John was born in Chicago, Illinois, December 2, 1963. He was admitted to the Illinois State Bar in 1991, the Michigan State Bar in 2004; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois (including trial bar) in 1993, and the U.S. Court of Appeals, 7th Circuit in 2004.

John Chitkowski graduated from Valparaiso University (B.A., 1986) and the John Marshall Law School (J.D., 1991).

He is a member of the Chicago, DuPage County and American (Member, Construction and Industry Forum) Bar Associations; Advocate Society, American Subcontractors Association; Construction Industry Affairs Council; Affiliated Subcontractors and Associates, Fox Valley General Contractors, Illinois Trucking Association, Glen Ellyn Park District, Milton Township Republican Organization, and the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America.

Attorney Chitkowski's practice areas are: Business Law; Civil and Commercial Litigation; Construction Law; Criminal Law; Estate Planning; Labor Law; Real Estate Law; Transportation Law. He resides in Glen Ellyn, IL with his wife, Kerry and their two daughters Danielle, 18 and Stephanie, 17.

Thank You, Norman Schroeder!

Sincere gratitude is expressed to Attorney Norman Schroeder, who served as PRCUA's General Counsel for the past 11 years, from 2001 to 2012. We wish him success and all the best that life has to offer.

Looking through the Window...

by Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski



As I am writing this article, we just celebrated Casimir Pulaski Day, a holiday in Illinois in honor of the Polish born cavalry officer fatally wounded in the Revolutionary War. The Pulaski Day Celebration was held in the Sabina P. Logisz Great Hall of the Polish Museum of America in Chicago. It was a beautiful program which included short speeches by a number of state, county and city officials as well as Polish American leaders including a special guest - Mayor of Warsaw Poland, Hanna Gronkiewicz Waltz. In her address, she stressed the links between Chicago and Warsaw, which go back to the signing of the twin-city agreement in 1960. She described Casimir Pulaski as the second best known Pole in the U.S., after Tadeusz Kosciuszko. It was not planned, but the overwhelming theme of all the other speeches was to include Poland in the Visa Waiver Program. Poland is one of America's greatest allies and has fought for freedom in Iraq, Afghanistan and always supports the U.S. Poles pose no terrorist threat to America, and allowing Poles to visit the U.S. as tourists would encourage international trade and pump tourism dollars into our economy. By refusing visa-free travel for Poles, the U.S. is pushing away one of its closest allies. Allowing Poles to travel without visas will add to our security and enhance law enforcement and crime-fighting efforts through data-sharing agreements between our respective countries. At the end of this ceremony, a wreath-laying ceremony took place in front of the "Pulaski at Savannah" painting. Special thank you to the PMA President Maria Ciesla and the PRCUA President Joseph Drobot Jr. who, as Masters of Ceremonies, kept things flowing smoothly.

The last few months were very busy; I will share with you events from the month of February.

On Wed., Feb. 8, the Advocates Society of Polish-American Attorneys hosted its 81st Installation and Award Dinner. PRCUA member Joan Smuda was the MC. Many honored guests were present including the Polish fraternals. Congratulations and best wishes to Regina Rathnau Lairson as she starts her term as President of the Advocate Society.

On Sat., Feb. 11, PRCUA District #8 hosted its 2nd Annual Valentine Dance. The outstanding dance music included a variety to please everyone. The Queen and King of the Valentine Dance were Irene De Lonka and Paul Pazdziora. We hope that tradition continues and we look forward to a repeat of this wonderful event next year.



Paul Pazdziora & Irene DeLonka

On Sun., Feb. 12, Chicago Alderman Bob Fioretti and other elected officials including PRCUA President Joseph Drobot, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago Zygmunt Matynia and President of Polish American Congress Frank Spula, held a press conference at the PMA, announcing the introduction of a Resolution supporting the inclusion of Poland in the United States Visa Waiver Program. Alderman Fioretti said "This is a great idea that must be made a reality not just for Chicago, but the United States. Chicago has

the largest Polish population outside of Poland so it makes sense to make it easier for Poles, whose own economy has grown stronger, to have easier access to our city. This will strengthen Chicago's own global presence." Let's hope that other communities take on this task and support the Visa Waiver Program for Poland.



On Sat., Feb. 18, the PRCUA POLANIE Song and Dance Group held a "Carnival Ball". Over 100 attendees enjoyed a fun-filled night of great food, nonstop dancing, raffles and a performance by POLANIE. It was a fun way to raise money for the POLANIE dance group and it was so nice seeing the young dancers and their parents enjoying the night hanging out with each other. Thanks to everyone who helped to organize this event.

On Sun., February 19, hundreds of people gathered at SS. Cyril and Methodius auditorium in Lemont, IL to celebrate the 8th Polish Heritage Day. The theme was Krakow - the Royal City and one of the oldest cities of Poland. This all-day event featured artisans, deli and business displays, among them PRCUA. Our organization had a beautiful and informative display about our insurance products and fraternal activities. Marketing Dir. Agnieszka Bastryk and Sales Dir. Robert Fattore were available to answer questions and distribute information about our organization. Later in the afternoon, a special ceremony was held where POLANIE beautifully performed the "Krakowiak" and the Polish Club of Lemont honored Jan Zoltek with its Heritage Award for his involvement in Polonia. We congratulate Mr. Zoltek for this prestigious award and extend a "Thank You" to the Lemont Polish Club for organizing this event.



Dignitaries involved in Polish Heritage Day

On Feb. 25, the Annual Shirley Galanty Michigan State Ball was held at the beautiful Garden Banquets in Southgate, MI. The banquet hall was filled to capacity. The Ball pays tribute to the PRCUA Michigan dance schools' graduates. The Ball supports charitable organizations by donating a substantial portion of its proceeds to designated causes. This year, a presentation was made to the Orchard Lake Seminary, The American Polish Assistance Association and to the PRCUA Educational Fund. Also, for the first time, the Ball Committee awarded a scholarship to one of the graduates. The Ball was held in its usual splendor, the



Michigan graduates and their partners performing

graduates looked beautiful in elegant white dresses or tuxedos and with bright nervous smiles. Graduates Katherine Beister and Clara Albright (Rogalin Dance Troupe) sang the Polish and American National Anthems. Thomas Lisiecki, choreographer of Halka Dancers and Zakopane Dancers, and also PRCUA National Director of District # 10, was the MC; he did a superb job. The highlight of this evening was the performance by the graduates of the *Grand Waltz*, *Embassy Waltz*, *Krakowiak* and a very elegant *Polonez*. The surprise of this evening was a beautiful encore - a performance of *Footloose*.

Sincere congratulations to all graduates - you were outstanding. I do hope that you will continue the culture and traditions of your forefathers. Be involved in the PRCUA and other Polish organization and in dancing. Congratulations and God Bless you! We also owe a vote of gratitude to Kelly Malinowski, choreographer of the Ball, and to all dance group directors and choreographers for a job well done in preparing the graduates for this festivity. Everyone had a great time, especially our youth, as they danced the night away to the Duane Malinowski Orchestra. Thank you to all who participated, and I look forward to a similarly heart-warming event next year.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY - Let's sing *Sto Lat* to all with April birthdays: Kevin Ryba, our I.T. Wizard; Agnieszka Bastryk, Marketing Dir.; Dir. D8 James Rustik; and Past Dir. D8 Steven Cieslicki; Past Dir. D9 Elizabeth Grabowski and husband, Konrad; Angela Musielski; Teresa Gibala, Fin. Secy. Soc. #1633 & Supervisor of D12; Dariusz Kwasniewski, Frank Kociubinski, Walter Dynowski, Mary Gorny, Pres. Emer. Ed Dykla. Wishing you all much happiness!

Happy Birthday and *Sto Lat* to all who are celebrating in May, especially PRCUA employees: Anna Trush, Membership Dept. Supervisor; Kasia Budzyn, Exec. Asst. to the Pres.; Jolanta Zachara and Roberta Brewster, General Office; Danuta Rybska, Accounting Dept.; Claudine Wicker, Treasurer's Office; Mary Jane Cypura, Claims Dept. Also best wishes to Dir. D10 Thomas Lisiecki; Dir. D10 Christopher Ozog, Kristi Mihalic, Wieliczka Dir.; Jacklyn Krynski, Polonia's choreographer; Alina Rozwadowska. Special birthday greetings to our daughter, Alicia, who will celebrate her birthday on May 30th. "Dearest Alicia, we are very proud that you have grown up to be a woman of compassion, kindness, love and a good mother to Aurora. We love you!"

CONGRATULATIONS - Congratulations on the recent marriage of Emily Grace Bihler and Timothy Joseph Drobot (son of PRCUA Pres. Joseph Drobot Jr. and his wife, Judy). "Wishing you the best of life today and in the days to come. May your marriage be filled with love and romance, humor and understanding; may your joy last forever. May the Good Lord always be at the heart of your marriage, a light in your home, and a constant presence in your life together. Congratulations!"



Mr. & Mrs. Timothy J. Drobot

CONGRATULATIONS to the PRCUA Song and Dance Ensemble "Wesoly Lud" for 35 years of dedicated hard work, love and preserving Polish traditions through the art of dance. Special thanks to Misia and Richard Jaminski for their leadership.

"You inspired many dancers throughout your career as choreographers and I'm sure you will continue to do so for years to come. With most sincere gratitude we thank you for your continued dedication to preserve the rich heritage and culture of Poland and your continued commitment to Polonia. May you have a wonderful, successful anniversary celebration, and many more years of prosperity. STO LAT!"

GET WELL WISHES - Our warmest thoughts, good wishes and prayers are being sent to past PRCUA employee Frank Kociubinski; Michaeline Drust, Lucjan Rozwadowski, Krystyna Bienia and especially National PRCUA Vice Chaplain Monsignor Stanley E. Milewski. We are confident that God will be with you and heal you with His love. Get well soon!

HAPPY EASTER - Wishing you all the beautiful blessing of Easter! Rejoice and celebrate the miracle of Easter with family and friends. *Wesołego Alleluja, Smacznego Jajka i Mokrego Dyngusa!*

REMINDER - Before you file your tax return, please talk to us about IRAs and ROTH IRA before the deadline. Taxpayers have until April 17 to file their 2011 tax returns and to pay any tax due.

Until next time, take care. Send comments, ideas, and news to fraternal.department@prcu.org or call 1-800-772-8632 ext. 2643. Keep in touch! (See additional photos at www.prcua.org)



PHILADELPHIA NEWSY-NEWS



(Members' names are in capital letters)

IT'S ALL GOOD - Thanks so very much to our frequent visitor to the Philadelphia Office, EUGENE ZELL of SOCIETY 2001 for dropping off another bagful of aluminum tabs, which we are still collecting for the Ronald McDonald House. So definitely continue to save those tabs for us because we're so very interested in helping others.

SPECIAL HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES - A special friend is celebrating a most special birthday on April 18th. Let's all join together in wishing MSGR. ANTHONY E. JAWOROWSKI a super duper Happy Birthday.

"Monsignor, we won't be able to celebrate with you in person but we hope you know that you will definitely be in our thoughts and in our prayers on your birthday. Happy Birthday, Msgr. Jaworowski!" Msgr. Jaworowski served as the chaplain of the Union of Polish Women in America.



HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES -

HELEN McHALE of SOCIETY 2003 passed away on February 22, 2012. She is survived by her daughter, HELEN SCHWEITZER and sisters, MARY MIAZGA, STELLA DiLELLA AND THERESA WINK, also members of SOCIETY 2003. May she rest in eternal peace.

On February 22, 2012 SOCIETY 2013's **DOLORES WIECZERZAK** was called to her Eternal Rest. She is survived by a son, and her daughter NADINE LUCKEY of Reading, PA and her granddaughter, ALEX LUCKEY, who are both members of SOCIETY 2013 as well. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Adalbert Church with interment at Resurrection Cemetery. May she rest in eternal peace. We pray the love of God enfolds the entire WIECZERZAK Family during this journey of grief.

JOSEPHINE WITKOWSKI of SOCIETY 2015 passed away on March 12th and is survived by her daughter JOANNE FRANIAK also of SOCIETY 2015, a son, 7 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. JOSEPHINE was a former Officer of SOCIETY 2015 (UPWA Group 17) and enjoyed bowling on the Group 17's Bowling Team for many years. Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at St. Bartholomew's Church with interment at Resurrection cemetery.

We pray that the love of God will enfold the entire McHALE, WIECZERZAK and WITKOWSKI Families during this journey of grief.

WALKING ON SUNSHINE - Don't it feel good? SOCIETY 2022 is ever so proud of JUSTINE CZOP who was awarded second honors at Hallahan Catholic High School on the first semester report. JUSTINE is a freshman and ranks #8 in the class of 2014. She's the daughter of MARIA (Richard) CZOP and the granddaughter of IRENE SMOLIJ, who also are members of SOCIETY 2022. JUSTINE, as you steadily climb the ladder of success, we wish you all the very best. Keep up the good work.

CHRISTENING CONGRATULATIONS - A new little star recently brightened the SHIMP Family. On February 25, 2012 little KELSEY FRANCES SHIMP was filled with God's grace when she received the Sacrament of Baptism at All Saints Church in Bridesburg, Philadelphia, PA. Father Grogan, Pastor, officiated at the ceremony. Family members and friends were present on this most special day in KELSEY'S life. A celebration followed at the Crystal Room in Northeast Philadelphia. KELSEY is a 3rd generation PRCUA member. She's the daughter of CAROLYN and John, little sister of CONNOR, granddaughter of SOCIETY 2022'S President, MARYANN OCHMANOWICZ (Ed) and the niece of CHRISSIE OCHMANOWICZ, all PRCUA members. May all the little angels continue to watch over KELSEY all the days of her life.



Kelsey Frances Shimp, being held
by her mother, Carolyn

DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY - Rise and Shine, it's a brand new day. Here's a shout out to SOCIETY 2022's JANICE OLSZEWSKI of North Cape May, New Jersey. We hope you're doing well, girlfriend. Please know you're surrounded by caring thoughts.

WE ARE FAMILY - SOCIETY 2022 is ecstatic and is waving a big welcome banner for 5 year old ZACHARY SMITHSON of Norwood, PA who is the new addition to our happy family. The SOPS, who are ZACH's relatives, are members so there are even more reasons why, as one can see, PRCUA is definitely all about family.

PLAN A VISIT - If you are in Philadelphia's historic District, be sure to visit the Polish American Cultural Center Museum Exhibit Hall located at 308 Walnut Street which features Polish History and culture. Admission is free and winter and spring hours are Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 4 PM. Saturday hours will begin with the first weekend of May. The Gift Shop is open during regular Exhibit Hall hours. For further information you may call 215-922-1700.

SECURITY AT ITS BEST - Have you taken the initiative to make sure that everyone in your family is adequately insured? If not, now is the time to do so. PRCUA has various plans of life insurance to offer with affordable premiums that are right for your budget. We urge you to seriously think about this very important factor as life insurance is protection for your loved ones in the event of your death. The time to consider a PRCUA Life Insurance Policy is now. Stop by the PRCUA Philadelphia Office, we're here to assist you in any way possible. You may also call us at 215-425-3807.



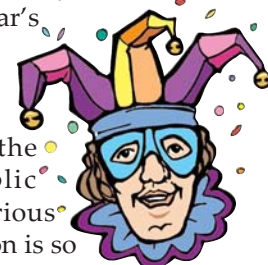
HAPPY EASTER - WESOLEGO ALLELUJA

- Easter is the sacred celebration of Christ's Resurrection from the dead and is the most special day of the year. Although the birth of Jesus Christ is important, His Resurrection offers the hope for everlasting life to everyone. From the city of brotherly love to our PRCUA Family and friends, we hope you have a wonderful and blessed Easter. Whether you're just relaxing or spending the day with family and friends enjoying yummy jelly beans and all the chocolate covered eggs, may your Easter be egg-tra special from morning to night.

APRIL FOOLS' DAY - A precursor of *April Fools' Day* was the Roman festival of *Hilaria*, held March 25. In the Middle Ages, New Year's Day was celebrated on March 25 in most European towns and was a week-long holiday ending on April 1. Many writers suggest that *April Fools' Day* originated when folks who celebrated New Year's on January 1 made fun of those who celebrated it on other dates.

In Poland, April 1 is a day full of jokes; people, the media (who sometimes cooperate to make the "information" more credible) and even public institutions are involved in jokes and hoaxes. Serious activities are usually avoided that day. This conviction is so strong that the anti-Turkish Alliance with Leopold I, signed on April 1, 1683, was backdated to March 31.

April 1st is a day to be silly with pranks and jokes and is certainly a good day to express our sense of humor. Were you April fooled?



HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU - Just like flowers in a garden, we're all here to play our part in making the world a beautiful place, so let's all try to bloom, spread our petals and touch someone's life this month. Have an awesome and amazing April.

Elaine Burkhardt, Philadelphia Office

CELEBRATING PULASKI DAY IN ILLINOIS



(L-r) Hon. Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, Mayor of the City of Warsaw, Poland; Most Rev. Andrew Wypych, Auxiliary Bishop of the Chicago Archdiocese; and Illinois State Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka [Photo: Teresa J. Potasiak]

President Drobot read a Resolution sent by Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan. David Vaught from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget read a Resolution signed by IL Governor Pat Quinn and Secretary of State, Jesse White. Resolutions were also delivered by Pat Michalski on behalf of Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas and Alderman Michael Zalewski (Ward 23).

Hon. Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, Mayor of the City of Warsaw, Poland, was the first speaker and talked about the Chicago-Warsaw Sister City Program and cooperation between Warsaw and Chicago. Other speakers were: Judy Baar Topinka, IL State Comptroller; Judge Aurelia Pucinski; Dorothy Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook Co.; PAC and PNA Pres. Frank Spula, 2nd Ward Ald. Robert Fioretti. All of them remarked on the heroism of Pulaski, his fight for American freedom, and their support for the Visa Waiver Program for Poland. Fioretti introduced the resolution that he presented to the Chicago City Council to support the Visa Program. Ald. Ariel Reboyras (30th Ward) talked about the importance of celebrating Pulaski Day for the younger generation, who need to learn ethnic culture.

Donations were made to the Polish Museum: PNC Bank gave \$5,000 represented by Joe Gregiore, IL Regional Pres.; Jewel-Osco, represented by Pres. Brian Huff and Dir. of Public Affairs Miguel Alba gave \$5,000; and Krakus Ham donated \$3,000. Jewel-Osco also awarded five \$1,000 scholarships to the following essay winners: Marta Budzikowska, Jane Dynak, Anna Mikulski, Kamil Plecki and Agata Turowski.

Krakus Ham also donated three \$1,000 awards to the Polish Saturday Schools that participated in the essays: Nicholaus Copernicus School, Maria Curie-Sklodowska School and St. Faustina School. King Krakus of Krakus Ham announced the winners of the Krakow Legends essay and presented the awards to: Magdalena Soltys, Justyna Mech, Joanna Kocol, Patryk Mlacki. The essay contest and the multi-media contest were organized by the Council of Educators in Polonia. Winners of the multi-media contest were: Anna Zelma, Natalia Walczak, Tomasz Bendarski and Jas Tirpak. These awards were presented by Hanna Kapica, Prof Lidia Filus and Czeslawa Kolak.

Since Poland was in mourning over the death of 16 people in a fatal train crash, Hon. Konrad Zielinski, Vice Consul of R.P. in Chicago represented Consul Gen. Zygmunt Matynia. Dir. Jan Lorys read a letter from Hon. Matynia.

The program concluded with the wreath laying ceremony under the "Pulaski at Savannah" painting by Stanislaw Batowski. Polish Women's Alliance Pres. Delphine Huneycutt participated, with other key dignitaries.



Dignitaries performing the wreath laying

After the program, guests were invited to the PRCUA Social Hall for a reception sponsored by Kasia's Deli, Jewel-Osco, Krakus Ham and Happy Foods.

In the evening, a Pulaski Day Banquet was held by the IL Division of the Polish American Congress at the White Eagle Banquet Hall in Niles, IL. The prestigious



(Above) Essay winners with Council of Educators in Polonia (Below) Jewel-Osco Scholarship winners with Jewel-Osco dignitaries & Jan Lorys (ctr.)



President's Award was presented by IL Div. PAC Pres. Mary Anselmo to PRCUA member Mrs. Cecylia Roznowska, founder of the PRCUA Polonia Ensemble. for her 50+ years of work as a Polish folk dance choreographer and artistic director. Polonia Ensemble performed at the banquet. Congratulations to Pani Cecylia Roznowska!



"Pulaski" and the Polonia Ensemble at White Eagle Banquet Hall



Pres. Mary Anselmo with Cecylia Roznowska [Photo: Dr. George Otto]



David Vaught, State of IL Dir. of Management & Budget presented a resolution from IL Governor Pat Quinn to PMA Pres. Maria Ciesla and PMA Chair Joseph A. Drobot, Jr.



(L-r) Hon. Dorothy Brown, PWAA Pres. Delphine Huneycutt, Mary Anselmo, Pres. of IL Div. PAC and Sharon Zago, V.P. of PWAA



Hanna Kapica addressing the crowd as King Krakus (right) strikes an imposing pose



Singer Ola Podowska, dais dignitaries and Kosciuszko Guards Color Unit

A TRIBUTE TO 35 YEARS OF WESOLY LUD

Republic of Poland Presented "Cross of Merit" to Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski and M. & R. Jaminski

On a beautiful unseasonably warm and sunny Sunday afternoon - March 18, 2012, the Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Company - past, present and future - presented its talents and accomplishments to a near capacity audience at Lincoln Way East High School in Frankfort, IL. For the present dancers, it was an honor and privilege to share the stage with Alumni - those who made the group the prestigious Ensemble it has become. It was an opportunity for these current dancers to show their respect and gratitude to those who laid the foundation and built upon an idea that gave Americans of Polish descent a place to belong, to nurture their inner "Mazowsze" and be proud of their heritage. On behalf of all of the current members, I take this moment to bow before the Alumni and thank them for their past affiliation with Wesoly Lud and for devoting 11 Sundays in preparation of 9 dances and suites including the energetic and physically-demanding dances of *Lachy Sadeckie* and *Podhalanie*; *Lubusk*; the stately *Polonez* and *Mazur*; *Lowicz*, which they performed with their children, nieces and nephews and godchildren; of course, the *Country Western* and *Dziadek Chicago Polkas*; and the *Grand Finale* - from Rzeszow.

Introducing our honored guests was my daughter, Nicole Bencik. Five of our wonderful Alumni shared their own personal experiences in Wesoly Lud with the audience throughout the Concert - Richard Wisniewski, a Wesoly Lud dancer for 23 years; original members, my sister Jeanine Binkowski-Leonhard and John Nowicki; Kalina Dziadkowiec and Luke Gorczyca, whose engagement was the encore at the Rzeszow Festival Gala Concert 2011 and appropriately commenced Wesoly Lud's 35th Celebration Concert. Being with Wesoly Lud since its onset, I am personally moved and excited to see what wonderful adults these Alumni have become and wish them the best that life has to offer. I witnessed their motivation, dedication and endurance, and see that they have not lost their sense of humor and creativity.



Nikki Bencik with nephew
Cole Pearson - Misia
Jaminski's grandson

There are two groups of Wesoly Lud at present who worked especially hard to showcase their best at this concert, presenting some of the most popular dances in the Company's repertoire. Lud I opened the Concert with the new *Eastern Krakow Suite*, and performed the exciting and dynamic *Spisz* and *Opoczno* dances; the American dances *Jive*, *Fiddlemania*, *Hej Wesole Ludzie*, and the newest addition "*Killer Bees*" *Chicago Polkas*; and the *Grand Finale* - from Rzeszow. Lud II covered the southwestern region of Upper Silesia (*Gorny Slask*) and southeastern region of Lublin, the *Chicago Polka "Celebration"* and of course, the *Grand Finale* - from Rzeszow. Bravo on a job well done by both groups!

In preparation for this 35th year celebration, I reviewed 8mm and 16 mm film clips, videotapes, DVDs and photos, reliving the many great moments and remembering the few not-so-great moments. Through it all, I continue to see the passion and loyalty of the dancers, the justly-deserved pride radiating from the parents and family members, the gratitude and support of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America in our mission; acknowledgements by other organizations of America's Polonia; friends who have unknowingly formed a Wesoly Lud Fan Club; and especially the honor and recognition by the President of the Republic of Poland through the Consul General in Chicago of the efforts of my very good friend Anna Sokolowski, my husband - the incomparable and phenomenal Creative Genius and Choreographer, Richard Jaminski - and me (Misia Jaminski) - someone born in the USA, who for some reason was destined to devote her life to Polish folk dancing.

I hope the photos give you a taste of our 35th Anniversary Concert; the DVD will preserve the fruits of the Company's labor; and the memories of this Celebration will remain in the hearts and minds of those who lived it, especially mine. Thank you, Wesoly Lud! Thank you to all who made this Celebration memorable!

- Written by Misia Jaminski

PS-Special thanks for the love and support of my family and friends - who share this part of my life with me.



Kalina Dziadkowiec and
Luke Gorczyca



Richard
Wisniewski

* * *
For the past 35 years, Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Ensemble has graced the stage with it's impressive, energetic song and dance performances, not only in the United States, but also in Poland, Canada, China, Ukraine and Lithuania.

For their 35th Anniversary Concert, the theater was filled. Among the honored guests were Republic of Poland Consul General in Chicago Zygmunt Matynia with his wife, Bozena; PRCUA Pres. Joseph Drobot Jr. and First Lady Judy Drobot; Secy.-Tres. James Robaczewski with his wife, Elaine; Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski with her husband, Mark; D8 PRCUA Directors Krystyna Lech and James Rustik; D7 Dir. Anna Krysinski, her daughter Jaclyn and Cecylia Roznowska, artistic choreographer of PRCUA Polonia Ensemble; Edziu Rajtar, choreographer of Dolina Dancers of Minneapolis, MN; Donna Skurski, choreographer and Dir. of Wawel Dancers and choreographer of PRCUA Opole Dance Group from MI and her husband, Tom; Past PRCUA Secy.-Tres. Joyce Szarowicz and husband, Wally; and Past D7 Dir. Steve DeLonka with his wife, Irene.

The spectacular concert won a standing ovation from the audience. What a wonderful tribute it was to the group's Artistic Directors and Choreographers Misia Jaminski and Richard Jaminski, for 35 years of dedication to preserving and promoting Polish culture!

Special thanks and congratulations go to all the dancers. They were wonderful! Kudos from the PRCUA to Misia and Richard Jaminski and to all dance instructors, committee members, volunteers and parents, for their hard work to make this concert such a great success!

After the performances, on behalf of President Bronislaw Komorowski, Rep. of Poland, Zygmunt Matynia, Consul General in Chicago - assisted by his wife Bozena - graciously presented the *Silver Cross of Merit* to Misia Jaminski, the *Silver Cross of Merit* to Richard Jaminski, and the *Gold Cross of Merit* to PRCUA Res. V. P. Anna Sokolowski for their many extraordinary contributions in promoting Polish culture in Polonia. Established in 1923 with three medal levels - gold, silver and bronze - this is Poland's highest and most prestigious civilian award. It is awarded to people who go beyond the call of duty in their work for Poland and society as a whole. Congratulations go to these three outstanding PRCUA leaders for receiving this well-deserved (Continued on page 11)



(Top) Mazur - Alumni
(Above- both) Rzeszow
Grand Finale - All Groups
(Right)

Gorny Slask - Lud II
(Below)

Podhale - Alumni

[Photos: Bill Schultz,

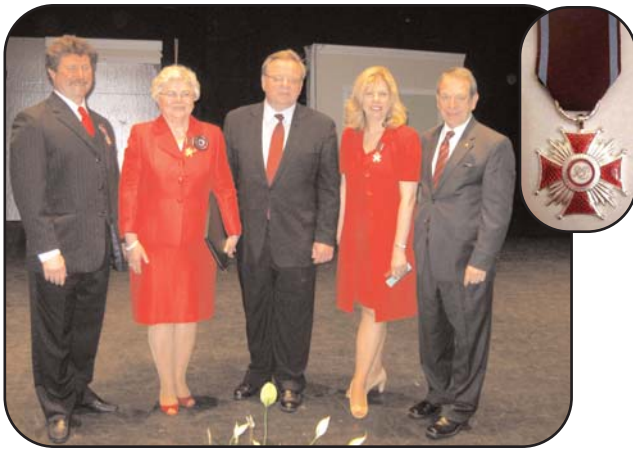
Irene Gavaghan and

V.P. Anna Sokolowski]



(Above) Fiddlemania - Lud 1 (Below) Celebration Polka - Lud II





(L-r) Richard Jaminski, PRCU A Res. Vice President. Anna Sokolowski, R.P. Consul Gen. Zygmunt Matynia, Micheline Jaminski and PRCUA Pres. Joseph A. Drobot, Jr.

Republic of Poland's Cross of Merit - the highest civilian award



(Cont. from page 10) honor and recognition.

The PRCUA is very proud of Wesoly Lud and indebted to Misia and Richard Jaminski for the many years they have selflessly devoted to teaching our youth to value and appreciate our Polish heritage. Bóg zapłać!

(Left) PRCUA Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski after receiving the Gold Cross of Merit from the Republic of Poland's President Bronislaw Komorowski

[Photo: Bill Schultz]



(Left) Consul Gen. Matynia awarding the Silver Cross of Merit to Misia Jaminski; (Above) Richard Jaminski receiving the Silver Cross of Merit



Lowicz - Alumni and their children, nieces, nephews and godchildren



Opoczno - Lud I

Misia Jaminski (left) and Ivona Jablonski-Gal (right) holding a quilt handmade by Wesoly Lud dancers - one was given to Misia and another one to Richard. The quilts were cleverly made from past Wesoly Lud T-shirts!



PRCUA President Issues a "Call to Action" in Support of Including Poland in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program

A press conference was called by Chicago Alderman Bob Fioretti (W2) at the Polish Museum of America on Sunday Feb.12, 2012 to initiate a Resolution supporting the inclusion of the Republic of Poland in the United States Visa Waiver Program. The Resolution was introduced to the Committee on Human Relations of the City of Chicago at its March 6th meeting, for the group's endorsement.

Other elected officials and leaders of Polonia who also signed the resolution and added their support were: Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago Zygmunt Matynia; PNA & PAC President Frank Spula; PRCUA Pres. & PMA Chair Joseph A. Drobot Jr. and Resident V.P. Anna Sokolowski; IL Div. PAC Pres. Mary Anselmo; Pol-Am Chamber of Commerce Pres. Bogdan Puksza and Tom Startek; Monika Starczuk of the Polish Initiative; Ald. Ricardo Munoz (W22); Ald. Michael Zalewski (W23), Ald. Ariel Reboyras (W30); Ald. Scott Waguespack (W32); Ald. Nicholas Sposato (W36); John Arena (W45); Ald. Joe Moore (W49); Attorney Robert P. Groszek, and immediate Past President of the Advocates Society.

Before television cameras and news reporters, PRCUA President Drobot said:

Good afternoon. My name is Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. I am the president of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, a fraternal benefit society and also Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Polish Museum of America. Both institutions are located in Chicago at 984.N Milwaukee Avenue.

I am here this afternoon to offer support for a resolution introduced by Alderman Robert W. Fioretti, for the Chicago City Council Committee on Human Relations to include the Republic of Poland in the United States Visa Waiver Program.

Inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program allows individuals holding legal passports from the country of their citizenship to be admitted into the United States without going through the lengthy process of seeking a visitors visa. Today in Poland, each person seeking to visit the US must individually apply for a visa from the U.S. Embassy.

Currently, the United States has granted visa waivers to 36 countries around the world, 28 of them are Poland's European neighbors. Why hasn't Poland been granted this same privilege?

Poland is a full participating member of the European Community, a member of NATO, and has always been a valued ally of the United States. The Polish military has fought alongside our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. Why isn't Poland in the Visa Waiver Program?

Polish immigrants throughout our country's history have contributed greatly to the growth and development of the United States in education, medicine, science, the arts, culture, athletics and industry. The great city of Chicago has been a primary beneficiary of this Polish immigration.

Why must today's Polish citizen go through the time-consuming process of seeking a visa to come to Chicago to visit friends and family or to just enjoy the sights and sounds of this great metropolitan world-class city?



Chicago Alderman Robert Fioretti of Ward 2 who initiated the Resolution

Generals Pulaski and Kosciuszko fought in our own War of Independence, securing for us the right to self-determine our own destiny. General Pulaski gave his life for our freedom. Ironically, if General Pulaski was alive today, even though an Act of Congress granted him Honorary United States Citizenship, he would still have to apply for a visa to enter our country.

Why isn't Congress granting Poland inclusion into the Visa Waiver Program?

I urge this Committee on Human Relations of the City of Chicago to unanimously support this resolution, introduced by Alderman Fioretti, and I recommend that the entire City Council adopt the Resolution to include the Republic of Poland in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program. Thank you."

We know there is strength



PNA Pres. F. Spula & Consul Gen. Z. Matynia

in numbers. There is something more that we can do!

CALL TO ACTION - If every city in the U.S. - that has a large Polish and/or Polish American population - adopted a similar Resolution about including Poland in the Visa Waiver Program and sent that Resolution to both the U. S. House of Representatives and the U. S. Senate, perhaps Congress would finally give this matter the attention it deserves and act appropriately to remedy the unfair practice of excluding Poland from the Visa Waiver Program!



Higher Perspectives



Jesus I trust in Thee - Jezu Ufam Tobie

With the celebration of Easter upon us, the Feast of Divine Mercy follows with the reminder of Jesus' Divine Mercy available to all. This relatively new Feast was established by Blessed John Paul the Great in the Jubilee Year 2000 at the Canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska.

It was first celebrated universally on the Second Sunday of Easter, 2001. The message of Jesus' Divine Mercy was revealed by Jesus to St. Faustina over a number of years in the 1930s. It then spread rapidly around the world, despite many setbacks. Its message is one of simplicity and beauty, reminding us of our Savior's deep desire that we be united with Him through His Divine Mercy.

Jesus Himself established the timing of this Feast when he told St. Faustina that "Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Divine Mercy, but there must also be deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to absolve yourself from it." (Diary 742)

Jesus told St. Faustina that this Feast emerged "from the very depths of My mercy



and is confirmed in the vast depths of my tender mercies." (Diary 420) He also told her that "whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary 300)

Jesus, through St. Faustina reminds us that He desires that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls and especially for poor sinners. He goes on to tell St. Faustina that "on that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open and I will pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy."

What beautiful words of contemplation for us during this Easter Season! Jesus' Divine Mercy is open to all, especially the most hardened sinners. He wants us to come back to Him and find refuge, forgiveness and peace. In a world that seems to be

spinning out of control more and more each day, this is a message that we need to hear and believe! No sin is too great to be forgiven, for Jesus' Mercy is greater, and He wants us to return to Him. Who among us does not need to be reminded of this merciful love and forgiveness, as we trod along the path to salvation? Who among us can say that we are not in need of His Mercy in our lives? Personally, I find myself often repeating those five words of comfort and trust in God's Will for me: *Jesus I trust in Thee!*

This year, The Feast of Divine Mercy falls on Sunday, April 15th, the Second Sunday of Easter. Make it a priority on this day to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy or to participate in the closing of the Divine Mercy Novenas that are held in many of the Parishes around our country.

In closing, I leave you with this wonderful prayer to St. Faustina to obtain for you special graces through her intercession.

O Jesus, who filled Saint Faustina with profound veneration for Your boundless Mercy, deign, if it be Your holy will, to grant me, through her intercession, the grace for which I fervently pray.....

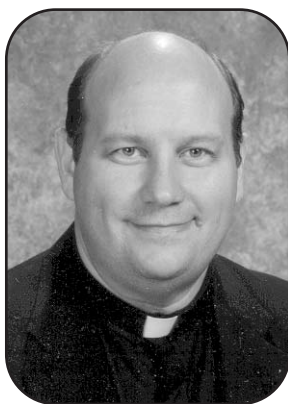
My sins render me unworthy of Your Mercy, but be mindful of Sister

Faustina's spirit of sacrifice and self-denial, and reward her virtue by granting that petition which, with childlike trust, I present to You through her intercession.

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory Be... Saint Faustina, pray for us!

A Blessed and Happy Easter to all! *Wesołego Alleluja!*

If you would like to send me an email, please do!
wptak3022@aol.com



By Fr. Walter Ptak
PRCUA National Chaplain
and Pastor -
Our Lady of Mount Carmel,
Wyandotte, MI

How to Recite the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy

Jesus said to St. Faustina: "Encourage souls to say the Chaplet which I have given you ... Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death ... When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between my Father and the dying person, not as the Just Judge but as the Merciful Savior ... Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from my infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy ... Through the Chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will."

The Chaplet of Mercy is recited on Divine Mercy Sunday using ordinary rosary beads of five decades.

1. Holding the cross, make the Sign of the Cross
2. Pray the "Our Father" on the first bead
3. Pray the "Hail Mary" on the second bead
4. Pray "The Apostle's Creed" on the third bead
5. On each of the 5 larger beads, (the *Our Father* beads of the rosary) pray:
"Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."
6. On each of the 5 decades of smaller beads (*Hail Mary* beads of the rosary) pray:
"For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."
7. Conclude with the following, repeated 3 times: **"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."**

For more information regarding Divine Mercy Sunday, the Divine Mercy Litany and other prayers or books on the life of Saint Faustina go to the following website www.thedivinemercy.org

PRCUA Group to Celebrate Dyngus Day

The fraternal and social members of PRCUA Society #1031 invite everyone to come to LaPorte, IN to enjoy our community *Dyngus Day Festivities*. This Polish post-Easter holiday has been celebrated in LaPorte for the past twenty years. It has become a widespread community event.



Dyngus Day is a Polish tradition celebrated on the Monday after Easter when boys throw water at girls, marking the historic event when the first historical ruler of Poland, Mieszko I was baptized into the Roman Catholic Church in 966.

Who would ever think people in LaPorte would be still be celebrating 1046 years later!

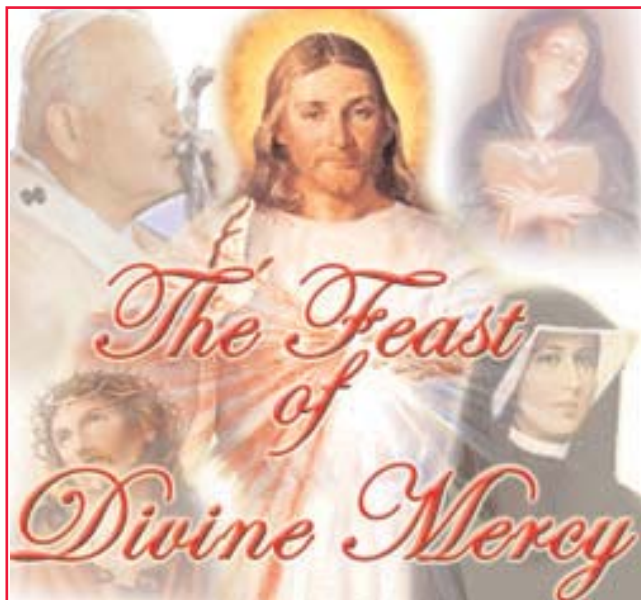
This year's celebration is on Monday, April 9, 2012 and involves eating and drinking, rather than getting wet. There will be at least eleven businesses participating in Dyngus Day. PRCUA Soc. #1031 President Don Sawyer Sr. announced at the group's meeting on March 10th that on Dyngus Day the PRCUA Club at 620 Bach Street will serve Polish goulash from 11 a.m. until it's gone. The band *Blackjack 66* will perform from 5 p.m. on.

The American Legion Post 290 at 5675 Mulberry Avenue in LaPorte will begin serving fresh Polish sausage, sauerkraut, pierogi and rye bread at 11 a.m. and offers carry-outs. Most of the other taverns and social clubs in LaPorte also begin serving a smorgasbord of Polish food at 11:00 a.m. Most organizations offer entertainment and, of course, food.

The LaPorte local bus service offers free rides between all businesses that participate in the festivities beginning at 5 p.m. The Northwest Athletic Club, 301 W. Kieffer Rd., in nearby Michigan City is hosting the 2nd Annual 5K Run and Walk, as a Dyngus Day fund raiser for the American Red Cross of LaPorte County. It starts at 6 pm at the Athletic Club.

This is a very fun day for everyone. We would love to see you and any other people you feel to bring along to enjoy Smigus Dyngus Day!

Submitted by Jennifer Lopez Henning, Fraternal Secy., Society #1031



Paczki Day in Florida



"Paczki Day" in Longwood, FL at Polonia Restaurant was sponsored by P R C U A Society #1492. Shown in the photo, enjoying these traditional "Shrove Tuesday" sweet treats are District 4 Director Richard

Turkiewicz, Polka Hall of Fame member Joe Oberaitis and his mother Valerie Oberaitis, who are both members of Society #1492.

From 11-11:30 a.m., PRCUA members could enjoy a free doughnut with a cup of coffee. Thanks go to Polonia Restaurant owners, Rob and Chef Marek, and also society members for their help. Special thanks to Chef Marek for the "smaczni" paczki.

Submitted by Director Richard Turkiewicz, District 4

PRCUA Scholarship and Education Fund Grants Available to Members

Each year, the PRCUA offers scholarships from its Scholarship Fund, as well as Educational grants from the PRCUA Educational Fund, Inc. The deadline for application to both programs is July 1st.

Applicant must be enrolled as a full-time sophomore, junior, senior, graduate student or professional student in an accredited institute of higher learning.

Applicants must have successfully completed their freshman year of undergraduate studies before the deadline for filing an application. An official transcript or other documentation from the applicant's school must be attached to the completed application form or sent directly by the Educational Institution to the PRCUA on or before the deadline of July 1st.

Full-time enrollment shall conform to those guidelines established by the federal financial aid program. (A minimum of twelve (12) credit hours for day students or eight (8) credit hours for evening students.) Part-time graduate or professional students are eligible.

Awards are made in August and sent directly to the designated educational institution.

For complete information go to the PRCUA website:

www.PRCUA.org and click on Member Benefits



PRCUA Choreographer Engaged



Michael Dennis & Tricia Zajac

DETROIT, MI - Engagement! Michael Zajac, husband of the late Mrs. Linda Zajac, announced the engagement of their daughter, Tricia Zajac, to Michael Dennis, son of Thomas and Karen Dennis. Tricia Zajac, a member of Society #1618, is a choreographer for the PRCUA Zajaczek Dance Ensemble and member of PRCUA Zakopane Dance Ensemble.

She graduated from Oakland University, attended Nuclear School at the University of Findlay and is currently employed at DMC Sinai Grace Hospital in Nuclear Medicine. Michael Dennis graduated from Michigan State University, attended law school at the University of Toledo and is an attorney practicing throughout the Metro Detroit area. A June 2013 wedding is planned. Congratulations & best wishes!

ST. STAN'S SOCIETY # 718 TUITION GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDS

DETROIT, MI - PRCUA St. Stan's Society #718 is proud to announce the continuation of its Tuition Grant and Scholarship Programs for 2012. Awards will be announced at the Annual Family Picnic on August 4, 2012. Entries are available on the St. Stan's website, www.prcua.org, click on societies, click on **718 St. Stan's**, click on **scholarship**. Additional information is available by contacting Tom and Janice Dudek at (734)981-8119 or e-mail cvg52@comcast.net Deadline for entries is **July 15, 2012**.

Donors to the PRCUA Scholarship Fund and Education Fund, Inc.

Donations from October 2010 to March 2012:

Donor	Town/State	Dedication:
Joan E. Smuda	Chicago, IL	
Wallace M.Ozog	Warren, MI	
Robert & Eleanor Bielenda	Redford, MI	- in memory of Matt Dobek, Stan Drall, Joseph Foxa, Virginia Mardeusz, Shirley Galanty, Frank Pilat, George Hamel, Christina Bukata
		- in honor of Sylvia & Benny Kolano, Janet & Len Mier
Halka Dance Group	Detroit, MI	- in memory of Alice Chylinski
Joseph P. Boruta	Mt. Prospect, IL	- in memory of Sabina Logisz
Kenneth Ciesla	Villa Park, IL	
Wallace M. Ozog	Warren, MI	- in memory of Sabina Muszalski
Edward Muszalski	Burbank, IL	- in memory of Sabina Muszalski
PRCUA Michigan State Ball	Dearborn Hts., MI	
PRCUA MI Women's Dept.	Detroit, MI	
Pre Convention Committee	Arlington Hts., IL	
Wallace M. Ozog	Warren, MI	- in memory of Bill Kubik
Benedict Wieclawek	Huntley, IL	
MI PRCUA/APA Circuit XI	West Bloomfield, MI	

(Continued in next issue)

News from PRCUA Blessed Pope John Paul II Society-Warren, MI



Society #1593
Officers for 2012
(Back, l-r) Celeste Grabowski, Julius Szymczyk, Jane Burzynski, Ted Rost, Wallace Ozog;
(Front, l-r) Ralph and Irene Raczynski and Bernice Adamkiewicz

Blessed Pope John Paul II Society #1593 of Warren MI held its meeting on January 24, 2012 at St. Anne Jr. High building. Many items were discussed and voted upon including information on the many events being held in Polonia.

We welcome our new members from Societies #904, #426 and #428 who merged with Society #1593. We hope that these members will join us at our meetings that are held the fourth Tuesday of each month and will actively participate in the events sponsored by the Society.

Election of Officers took place and those in office in 2011 willingly accepted another term. The 2012 Officers are: President Wallace Ozog, Vice-President Julius Szymczyk, Treasurer Celeste Grabowski, Financial Secretary Bernice Adamkiewicz, Recording Secretary Judy Burzynski and Auditors Ralph Raczynski, Irene Raczynski and Ted Rost. Congratulations are extended to the officers and we sincerely thank them for giving their time to the organization.

After the meeting, "Happy Birthday" was sung to VP Julius Szymczyk and everyone enjoyed birthday cake.

If anyone is in need of Insurance, wants an Annuity or has questions on existing certificates, you can contact any of the following deputies: Wallace Ozog (1-586-751-8168), Julius Szymczyk (1-586-751-3007), Bernice Adamkiewicz (1-586-573-7510).

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 20- *Be Polish for a night* - Madonna University's Annual Scholarship Fundraiser, at Laurel Manor, Livonia Michigan. Doors open 6 p.m. Polish Dinner, auction, Polish Dancers, music by Duane Malinowski, Co-chair Bob Bielenda & Wallace Ozog, For further information or tickets, call Ashley at 1-734-432-5421.

May 1-4 & 21-24- Texas Holdem at Pampa Lanes (Van Dyke north of 14 Mile Rd), 5 pm - 2 am Contact Wallace Ozog at 1-586-751-8168 for further information or to volunteer your time.

PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers News

February was a busy month for the PRCUA Gwiazda dancers. On Feb. 11, Gwiazda Dancers performed at St. Florian Parish in Hamtramck's Annual Polka Party, presenting regional and national dances, as well as a polka. The party also featured the musical stylings of the *Misty Blues*, a well renowned polka band.

On Sat., Feb. 18, Gwiazda performed at Hamtramck's "Count Down to Paczki Day" event. Mayor Dr. Karen Majewski was there and everyone had free paczki.

On Sat., Feb. 25, a contingent of the Gwiazda dancers, including choreographer, Basia Grabas and director emeritus, Cindy Cervenak, attended the 21st Annual Shirley Ann Galanty PRCUA Michigan State Ball in Southgate, MI. Although there are no graduates from Gwiazda in 2012, we wished to be present to support and congratulate the graduates from the other PRCUA Michigan schools on their special day.

On March 3, Gwiazda performed at the Fifth Annual Polish Folk Dance Festival held in Troy, MI. Following that performance, members attended the Annual Blessing of the Polish American Folk Dance Ensembles held at St. Hyacinth Parish in Detroit, MI.

Submitted by Nicholas J. Nowakowski, Gwiazda Secretary

PRCUA National Basketball Tournament Winners



2012 PRCUA Basketball Champs from Soc. #162 (Front, l-r) Manager Jacob Grabowski, David Toboy, Eric Salla, Ryan Mahalak; (Back, l-r) Mickey Bozymowski, Daniel Thomas, Joshua Barry, Charles Hutson, and John Bobrowski III

On Saturday, March 24, the 78th Annual PRCUA National Basketball Tournament, hosted by Soc. 413, was held in East Chicago/Hammond, IN. In this year's tournament 12 teams participated - six teams from the Detroit, MI area, one team from Buffalo, NY; and five teams from Indiana. The Basketball Tournament started on Saturday, early in the morning, in three gyms and all of the players had positive attitudes and enjoyed a high level of competition.

Congratulations go to Society #162 from Wyandotte, Michigan, our championship team who won after playing an exciting game against East Chicago Ph.D's of East Chicago, IN.

On behalf of the PRCUA Fraternal Department, we want to thank all of the teams who participated in the tournament. We are so grateful for your support of the PRCUA sports tournaments.

A very special thank you goes to Society #413, especially to Chairperson Richard Sobilo and his committee who contributed their time, talent, pure sweat, love and fun into hosting this enjoyable basketball tournament.

We know there is a lot of work involved and we all appreciate their efforts in putting together and preparing everything so all the participants could enjoy this event. We thank all of you very much!

Details about the tournament, written by Richard Sobilo, will be published in a future issue of *Narod Polski*.

Article written by V.P. Anna Sokolowski

Tatry Dancers' Graduates Presentation



(Front, l-r)
Graduates: Stacey Malinowski, Emily Grawburg, Jaclyn Bedford and Jessica Bartnicki; (back, l-r)
Escorts:
Robert Leon,
Luke Bochenek,
Michael Suchyta
and Matthew Bartnicki

DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MI - The PRCUA Tatry Dancers presented their four 2012 graduates at their Annual Presentation Dinner-Dance which was held in 2011. This year's Tatry graduates are: **JESSICA BARTNICKI, JACLYN BEDFORD, EMILY GRAWBURG** and **STACEY MALINOWSKI**.

Family and friends gathered for the event held at the Hellenic Cultural Center in Westland, MI, where they enjoyed a delicious dinner, followed by Tatry's Group 5 performance and dance music by *A Touch of Brass*.

Master of Ceremonies was Thomas Lackey and he graciously welcomed everyone to this heartwarming event. Brian Ozimek had the privilege of introducing our dignitaries, special guests, officers and the honored graduates.

Tatry is always honored by the attendance of some very special guests and dignitaries. This year the following were in attendance: Fr. Edwin Balazy, Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, Dearborn Heights, MI; City of Dearborn Heights Mayor Dan Paletko; PRCUA National Vice President Robert and Mrs. Eleanor Bielenda; National Director of District 10 Christopher Ozog; PRCUA National President Emeritus Wallace Ozog and Former PRCUA First Lady Joann Ozog.

A Touch of Brass did a wonderful job and kept the music flowing throughout the evening. Guests enjoyed a mixture of polkas, waltzes and modern dances. The dance floor was filled with young and old alike.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the 2012 Tatry graduates and their graceful performance of the Graduate's Waltz. It was breathtaking to see the girls, in their white full-length gowns and tiaras, gliding across the floor in the capable arms of their talented escorts, who looked debonair in their black tuxedos. Everyone was so proud of all of them, as they gave a memorable dance performance.

Congratulations are extended to the four graduates, along with best wishes for success in all their endeavors. We sincerely hope that our graduates will always hold Tatry in a special place in their hearts, as we do them. Everyone associated with Tatry Dancers are so very proud of our graduates, who showed great dedication and perseverance throughout many years of Polish folk dancing. What a wonderful accomplishment for Jessica, Jaclyn, Emily and Stacey and their families!

Special thanks are extended to Tatry School Director Rose Ann Lackey for her dedication to the school and the students and her boundless energy. Special thanks also go to Tatry choreographer and teacher Karen Lubiarz for her exceptional talents and ability not only to teach Polish folk dance to the children, but to also instill in them a love for Polish culture and heritage.

Kudos to the Tatry Officers for their and excellent service: Mary Skurnit - Pres.; Janice Vincent - V.P.; Christina Walters - Secy.; and Jerry Lubiarz - Treasurer.

Thanks to all who attended this special tribute to Tatry's 2012 graduates and everyone who helped in any way to make this presentation event such a success.

Submitted by Christina Walters, Tatry Secretary



(L-r) School Director Rose Ann Lackey, PRCUA Director of District 10 Christopher Ozog, PRCUA President Emeritus Wallace Ozog, Joann Ozog, Fr. Edwin Balazy, Eleanor Bielenda, PRCUA Vice President Robert Bielenda, Tatry Choreographer Karen Lubiarz and Dearborn Hts. Mayor Dan Paletko

Topinka Congratulates Walesa

CHICAGO, IL - IL State Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka recently congratulated Nobel Peace Prize winner and former President of Poland, Lech Walesa, on receiving the Lincoln Leadership Prize. Presented by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, the award was given at a benefit dinner in Chicago. Walesa was leader of the Solidarity Trade Union movement, which contributed to the downfall of communism in Eastern Europe.

[Photo by: Teresa J. Potasiak]



- KALENDARZ na KWIECIEŃ i MAJ 2012
- ♦ 9 kwietnia (poniedziałek) - DZIEŃ DYNGUSOWY - Towarzystwo #1031 ZPRKA zaprasza na dzień pełen atrakcji. W LaPorte Dzień Dyngusowy ma już 20 letnią tradycję. W tym dniu większość tawern i klubów w okolicy serwuje od godz. 11.00 bufety z tradycyjnymi polskimi potrawami, w tym roku serwować będziemy polski gulasz. Lokalne linie autobusowe oferują darmowe przejazdy dla uczestniczących firm, których jest około 11 (przejazdy dostępne są od godz. 17.00). Większość uczestniczących organizacji, dostarcza jedzenie i zapewnia program rozrywkowy. Zapraszamy do spędzenia wspólnego dnia.

♦ 14 kwietnia (sobota) - ZABAWA WIOSENNA organizowana przez Zespół Pieśni i Tańca “Młoda Polonia”. Godzina rozpoczęcia - 7:00 wieczorem, Mc. Manus Hall, 5900 W. Barry Ave, Chicago. Gra zespół Fox. Bilety: \$45.00 (w cenę biletu wliczone: gorący obiad, ciasto i kawa oraz wino na stole). Loteria i inne atrakcje. Dobra zabawa gwarantowana. Informacje: (847)529-2555.

♦ 15 kwietnia (niedziela) - ŚWIECONKA Wydziału Kobiet na stany Illinois/Indiana ZPRKA, Grota Banquets, 3112 N. Central Ave., Chicago, IL. Początek - godz. 11.30, lunch - 12.00 w południe. Gospodarzem będzie Dystrykt #7 ZPRKA. Bilety: \$25.00 - dorośli, \$15.00 - dzieci. Prosimy o dokonywanie rezerwacji do 9 kwietnia. Rezerwacje i informacje: Robert Bugielski, 5309 W. Wolfram, Chicago, IL 60641, tel. (773)-725-5655.

♦ 15 kwietnia (niedziela) - ŚWIECONKA Tow. #2342, Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI; godz. 13.00. Prosimy o przyniesienie jakiegoś dania na wspólny stół. Informacje: Tom Croff (517) 627-0222.

♦ 20 kwietnia (piątek) - “BĄDŹ POLAKIEM PRZEZ JEDEN WIECZÓR” - Doroczna zbiórka funduszy na stypendia w Madonna University. Laurel Manor, Livonia MI. Początek - godz. 18.00. Polski obiad, aukcja, występy polskich zespołów tanecznych, muzyka w wykonaniu Duane Malinowski. Współprzewodniczącymi imprezy są Bob Bielenda i Wallace Ozog. W sprawie dodatkowych informacji i biletów prosimy dzwonić do Ashley, tel. (734) 432-5421.

♦ 20-22 kwietnia (piątek-niedziela) - DOROCZNY TURNIEJ KRĘGLARSKI ZPRKA odbędzie się w Buffalo, NY. Gospodarzem turnieju jest Dystr. #2 ZPRKA, przewodniczącym - William Nowakowski. Tow. St. Stan’s #715 oferuje dojazd autokarem z Detroit, MI do Buffalo, NY. Koszt przejazdu \$40 od osoby dla członków Tow. #715 i \$50 dla innych uczestników. Ilość miejsc ograniczona. Rezerwacji należy dokonać do 1 kwietnia 2012 r. Czeki wystawione na: St. Stan #718, należy przysyłać na adres: Bob Hojnacki, 25416 Deer Creek Dr., Flat Rock, MI 48134. Dodatkowe informacje: Bob Hojnacki, tel. (313) 384-6255, hoj606@hotmail.com.

21 kwietnia (sobota) - RECITAL ZESPOŁU “OPOLE”. Godz. 14:00. Warren Community Center, 5460 Arden Ave., Warren, MI. Informacje: Beth (586) 578-6083.

♦ 22 kwietnia (niedziela) - RECITAL ZESPOŁU “WIELICZKA”. Godz. 14.00, St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford, MI.

♦ 22 kwietnia (niedziela) - RECITAL ZESPOŁU “HALKA”. Godz. 15.00, Lincoln High School, 9 Mile & Van Dyke, Warren, MI. Informacje: Rita Cerankowski, tel: (313) 891-2403.

♦ 29 kwietnia (niedziela) - RECITAL ZESPOŁU “GWIAZDA”. Godz. 14.00, Parafia św. Floriana, 2626 Poland St., Hamtramck, MI. Informacje (313) 365-6066.

♦ 29 kwietnia (niedziela) - RECITAL ZESPOŁU “ROGALIN”. Godz. 15.00, Lincoln High School, 9 Mile & Van Dyke, Warren, MI. Informacje: (734) 283-4589.

♦ 29 kwietnia (niedziela) - DOROCZNY WIOSENNY RECITAL POŁUDNIOWO-ZACHODNIEGO CENTRUM POLSKICH TAŃCÓW - Park Place of Countryside, 6240 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL. Szczegółowe informacje zostaną podane do wiadomości w najbliższym czasie. Informacje: Ania Kraszewski, tel. (773) 972-0012.

♦ 1-4 maja (wtorek-piątek) - TEXAS HOLDEM & BLACK JACK - Towarzystwo #1593 zaprasza na rozgrywki karciane, z których dochód zasili Fundusz Braterski Towarzystwa. Pampa Poker Room, 31925 Van Dyke na północ of 13 Mile Rd., Warren, MI. Rozgrywki odbywać się będą w godzinach od 6 wieczór do 2 rano. W piątek 4, maja w godz. 6-8.30 wiecz. organizatorzy zapraszają na obiad do Pampa
- Lanes Restaurant. Dochód z obiadu zasili Fundusz Stypendialny. Cena obiadu \$25.00 od osoby (uczestnik otrzyma \$10.00 w żetonach do Pampa’s Game Room). Rezerwacje prosimy wysyłać na adres: PRCUA #1593, 30214 Woodhouse Dr., Michigan, 48092.

♦ 5 maja (sobota) PARADA 3 MAJOWA w Chicago.

♦ 5 maja (sobota) DZIEŃ PIEROGOWY TOW. #2342. Godz. 19.00 Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Informacje: Tom Croff (517) 627-0222.

♦ 6 maja (niedziela) - RECITAL ZESPOŁU “POLSKIE MAKI”. Godz. 14.00, Lincoln High School, 9 Mile & Van Dyke, Warren, MI. Informacje: (586) 979-5164.

Prosimy członków Towarzystw ZPRKA o sprawdzenie kalendarza na str. 2 - w celu zapoznania się z terminarzem planowanych na najbliższe miesiące zebrań Towarzystw.
- WZRASTA POPARCIE W SPRAWIE
ZNIESIENIA WIZ DLA POLAKÓW

Waszyngton, D.C. - Kongresman Mike Quigley (IL-05) i senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) wyrazili poparcie dla nowego projektu turystycznego, przedstawionego dzień wcześniej przez sen. Kirka i dwupartyjną grupę senatorów. Projekt Jobs Originating through Launching Travel (JOLT) zawiera reformę przestarzałego prawa wizowego i stworzenie nowych miejsc pracy przez rozwój turystyki. Współsponsorami ustawy jest dwupartyjna grupa senatorów w tym: sen. Kirk, Charles Schumer (D-NY), Mike Lee (R-UT), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) i Roy Blunt (R-MO).

Jak podkreślił kongresman Quigley “Polska jest cenionym dyplomatycznym partnerem Stanów Zjednoczonych i włączenie Polski do programu bezwizowego, przyniosłoby dochód z turystyki dla Chicago i wielu innych miast w USA. Zatwierdzenie tej ustawy przyczyniłoby się również do poprawy bezpieczeństwa narodowego”.

Rzecznik sen. Kirka zaznaczył, iż “Pomimo silnego poparcia dla Stanów Zjednoczonych, Polska jako jedyny ważny demokratyczny sprzymierzeniec USA, nie jest zwolniona z obowiązku posiadania wize. Nowa ustawa pozwoliłaby prezydentowi USA wypełnić zobowiązania wobec silnego demokratycznego sojusznika, a zwolnienie Polski z obowiązku posiadania wize pobudziłoby tym samym amerykański przemysł turystyczny. W ub. roku przemysł turystyczny zapewnił 100 tys. miejsc pracy i przyniósł więcej niż 10 mld dolarów do Illinois. Bezwizowy program powinien być dawno zreformowany, więc dwupartyjne starania powinny pomóc w szybkim zatwierdzeniu go przez Kongres”.

Kluczowe zadaniem projektu JOLT wspieranego przez kongr. Quigley i sen. Kirka, jest rozszerzenie programu zwalniającego z obowiązku posiadania wize (VWP) o sojuszników takich jak Polska, która na mocy bieżących uregulowań, do programu się nie kwalifikuje. Obecnie, Polska jest jedynym z 25 krajów obszaru Schengen, którego obywatele nie mogą podróżować do USA bez wize na okres 90 dni.

*

W dniu 27 marca 2012 r. w sprawie zreformowania prawa wizowego zeznawała przed Senackim Komitetem Sądowniczym ds. Imigracji, Uchodźstwa i Bezpieczeństwa Granicznego senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md). Jest ona jednym z współsponsorów ustawy sponsorowanej przez dwupartyjną grupę senatorów z różnych stanów.

Sen. Mikulski mówiła m.in.: “Reforma programu wizowego stworzyłaby nowe miejsca na rynku pracy, zwiększyła bezpieczeństwo narodowe i umocniła przymierze z naszymi sojusznikami. Odwiedzający USA tu wydawaliby pieniądze. Polska była wiernym i prawdziwym sojusznikiem USA, polskie wojsko walczyło wraz z amerykańskimi żołnierzami w Afganistanie i Iraku mimo to nie mogą oni odwiedzać Stanów Zjednoczonych, gdyż nie są zwolnieni z obowiązku posiadania wize. Babka z Gdańska nie powinna potrzebować wize, aby odwiedzić swoje wnuki w Baltimore. Walczyłam przez wiele lat, by zapewnić, że rozszerzymy ten ważny program, tak, aby zachować bezpieczeństwo granic, a jednocześnie pomóc podróżnym, którzy przyjeżdżają do USA w celu odwiedzenia rodziny, w sprawach zawodowych lub aby po prostu zwiedzić nasz kraj, bez przechodzenia przez długi i drogi proces starania się o wizę. Unowocześnienie programu bezwizowego, pozwoliłoby również na przekierowanie pracy placówek dyplomatycznych na pracę nad bezpieczeństwem kraju. Program o bezwizowym ruchu został wprowadzony w 1986 r., został zreformowany w 2007, jednak po 4 latach znowu musi zostać odświeżony”.

*

Przed Komisją Senacką wystąpił również prezes Amerykańskiego Związku Turystycznego (U.S. Travel Association), Roger Dow, który również popiera rozszerzenie programu VWP. Podkreślił, że: “Międzynarodowy ruch osobowy w celach turystycznych lub biznesowych, przeżywa rozwój. Wiele osób zainteresowanych jest odwiedzeniem USA w celach prywatnych lub zawodowych, jednak długi proces starania się o wizę ich zniechęca. Projekt JOLT ma na celu zapewnienie skrócenia procesu oczekiwania na interwiew w sprawie wize do 15 dni, a po roku do 10 dni”.

Biura Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katolickiego w Ameryce
będą nieczynne w Wielki Piątek, 6 kwietnia 2012 r.

STYPENDIA I DOTACJE DLA STUDENTÓW ZPRKA

Każdego roku Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko Katolickie w Ameryce przyznaje młodzieży studenckiej stypendia Funduszu Stypendialnego ZPRKA i dotacje edukacyjne z Funduszu Edukacyjnego ZPRKA.

Termin nadsyłania podań na pomoc finansową ZPRKA upływa **1 lipca 2012 r.**

Ubiegający się o stypendium studenci muszą być na 2 (sophomore), 3 (junior) lub 4 (senior) roku studiów licencjackich (undergraduate) lub studiów magisterskich (graduate), albo zawodowych (professional) w akredytowanej uczelni lub szkole wyższej. Muszą również uczęszczać na studia w pełnym wymiarze godzin.

Jako pełen wymiar godzin uznaje się: min. 12 godzin dla studentów studiów dziennych i 8 godz. dla studentów studiów wieczorowych. Kwalifikują się również studenci studiujący w pełnym lub niepełnym wymiarze godzin w programie magisterskim (graduate) albo studiów zawodowych (professional).

Student musi mieć ukończony z pozytywnymi ocenami pierwszy rok (freshman) studiów licencjackich (undergraduate) - przed terminem nadsyłania podań; oficjalny odpis ocen studenta musi być dołączony do podania, lub przesłany przez szkołę bezpośrednio do ZPRKA do 1 lipca 2012 r.

Decyzja o przyznaniu pomocy finansowej podjęta zostanie w sierpniu, a stypendia i dotacje przesłane zostaną bezpośrednio do instytucji naukowej, w której uczy się student.

Szczegółowe informacje i formularze podań można znaleźć na stronie:

www.PRCUA.org

pod hasłem *Member Benefits*.

Terminy nadsyłania artykułów do “Narodu Polskiego”

“Naród Polski” ukazuje się pierwszego dnia każdego miesiąca. Wszystkie materiały do opublikowania, muszą napłynąć do 15 dnia miesiąca poprzedzającego wydanie. Prosimy o przesyłanie artykułów w formacie Word lub napisanych bezpośrednio w poczcie e-mail, a nie wysyłanych fax-em lub w formacie PDF. Zdjęcia powinny być przesłane osobno (nie jako części korespondencji e-mail), w formacie JPEG.

Informację jak skontaktować się z jednym z dwóch redaktorów “Narodu Polskiego”, znaleźć można na str. 6 “Narodu Polskiego”.

NOC POLSKO- AMERYKAŃSKA NA STADIONIE COMERICA PARK

1 czerwca 2012 r. Program rozpocznie o godz. 17.30 w rytmie polki, o godz. 18.30 wystąpią zespoły tańca ludowego. Mecz rozpocznie się o 19.05. Po zakończeniu meczu pokaz fajerwerków. Koszt uczestnictwa \$43.00 - w cenie miejsca w tzw. upper box infield, koszulka T-shirt, kanapka z parówką, chipsy i napój gazowany oraz donacja w wysokości \$3.00 na Fundusz Edukacyjny Tow. #1593 ZPRKA. Informacje: Wallace Ozog 1-586-751-8168 lub: corey.bell@detroitigers.com.

NOC POLSKO- AMERYKAŃSKA NA STADIONIE U.S. CELLULAR FIELD

Po raz kolejny zapraszamy całą Polonię na Noc Polsko-Amerykańską, we wtorek, 3 lipca 2012 r. Mecz rozegrają drużyny White Sox i Texas Rangers. Początek o godz. 7.10 wieczorem. Przed meczem polski program artystyczny. Liczba miejsc ograniczona, prosimy o dokonywanie rezerwacji do poniedziałku, 11 czerwca 2012 r. Miejsca LOWER BOX SEATS - \$20.00 (regularna cena - \$40). Bilety na mecz można zakupić dzwoniąc do: Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katolickiego w Ameryce, tel. 1-800-772-8632 w. 2601

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Listę nazwisk przedstawiamy na str. 1 i 3
“Narodu Polskiego”.**

**Wszystkim życzymy wielu sukcesów
w następnych latach!**

*Życzymy szybkiego powrotu to zdrowia,
wicekapelanowi ZPRKA, ks. Infułatowi
Stanisławowi E. Milewskiemu, który przebywa w
szpitalu.*

NOWY RADCA PRAWNY ZPRKA

Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko Katolickie w Ameryce podaje do wiadomości, iż na kwartalnym zebraniu zarządu i dyrekcji ZPRKA, adwokat John J. Chitkowski zatwierdzony został jako radca prawny, zastępując piastującego dotychczas to stanowisko, Normana Schroedera, który był radcą prawnym ZPRKA od 2001 r.

John J. Chitkowski urodził się w Chicago, IL 2 grudnia 1963 roku.

W 1991 r. został członkiem palestry w stanie Illinois, w 2004 w stanie Michigan, w 1993 r. w Sądzie Okręgowym na Północny Region Illinois i w 2004 roku w 7. Okręgu w Amerykańskim Sądzie Apelacyjnym.

W 1986 roku ukończył Valparaiso University, a następnie w 1991 John Marshall Law School.

Jest członkiem Amerykańskiego Związku Prawników oraz w Chicago i DuPage County. Oprócz tego jest członkiem wielu stowarzyszeń i organizacji zawodowych i lokalnych miejskich. Jest także członkiem Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katolickiego w Ameryce.

Prawnik Chitkowski posiada szereg specjalizacji: prawo biznesowe, prawo cywilne, procesy handlowe, prawo budowlane, prawo karne, prawo majątkowe, prawo pracy, prawo transportowe, prawo dot. nieruchomości.

John Chitkowski mieszka z żoną Kerry i dwoma córkami Danielle (18) i Stephanie (17) w Glen Ellyn, IL.

Nowemu radcy prawnemu życzymy wielu sukcesów.

Trzeba było,
aby Chrystus cierpiał
i trzeciego dnia
zmartwychwstał;
w imię Jego
będzie głoszone nawrócenie
i odpuszczenie grzechów
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za wszelkie przejawy serdeczności,
i zrozumienia dla nas...

Dyrektor Biblioteki wraz z pracownikami

Biblioteka Towarzystwa Chrystusowego
dla Polonii Zagranicznej
Poznań

75. Krajowy Turniej Kręglarski “BOWLING BASH” i OBIAD Sobota, 21 kwietnia 2012 r.

Zapraszamy wszystkich uczestników 75. Turnieju Kręglarskiego ZPRKA i wszystkich towarzyszących im gości do Adam Mickiewicz Library & Dramatic Circle Hall bezpośrednio po mszy św., która odprawiona zostanie w pobliskim kościele św. Stanisława, na spotkanie towarzyskie “Bowling Bash”. W czasie spotkania wiele atrakcji: przyznanie nagród, wręczenie koszy z prezentami, loterie fantowe, grać będzie Al Kania i jego zespół. Dla uczestników dobrze zaopatrzone bar.

Zainteresowani mogą również wykupić wcześniej obiad. Koszt obiadu: \$24.99. W cenie: wołowe roladki, kotlety schabowe, pieczone ziemniaki, warzywa, desery, kawa i napoje bezalkoholowe. Osoby zainteresowane dokonaniem wcześniejszej rezerwacji, proszone są o przesłanie następujących informacji: nazwisko, adres, numer telefonu i liczba rezerwowanych biletów po \$24.99 każdy, wraz z czekiem wystawionym na: **PRCUA District #2** na adres:

Dave Pfaff

**11 Deerhurst Park Blvd
Kenmore, NY 14217**

(716) 380-5252, darfa77@aol.com

Czeki i rezerwacje muszą być nadesłane do 10 kwietnia 2012 r.

Uwaga: Obiad będzie anulowany, jeśli nie będzie wystarczającej ilości osób zainteresowanych.

JUBILEUSZ 'WESOŁEGO LUDU'

18 marca 2012 r. Zespół Pieśni i Tańca "Wesoły Lud" obchodził jubileusz 35. lecia koncertem galowym w Lincoln-Way East High School Theater w Frankfort, IL.

Przez ostatnie 35 lat "Wesoły Lud" ozdabia scenę swoimi imponującymi i dynamicznymi występami nie tylko w Stanach Zjednoczonych, lecz także w Polsce, Kanadzie, Chinach, na Ukrainie i Litwie.

W czasie koncertu jubileuszowego obecni i dawni tancerze zespołu wykonali bogaty program wypełniony tradycyjnymi piosenkami oraz eleganckimi narodowymi i regionalnymi tańcami ze swojego bogatego repertuaru. W programie zaprezentowali również popularne w ich wykonaniu polki.

Sala teatralna była wypełniona po brzegi. Wśród obecnych byli dostojni goście: konsul generalny RP w Chicago Zygmunt Matynia z żoną Bożeną i członkowie zarządu i dyrekcji ZPRKA: Joseph Drobot Jr. z żoną Judy, sekretarz-



Alumni - Dziadek Polka.

skarbnik James Robaczewski z żoną Elaine, wiceprezesa Anna Sokołowski z mężem Markiem. Ponadto obecni byli: dyrektorzy Dystr. #8 ZPRKA Krystyna Lech i James Rustik, dyrektorka Dystryktu #7 Anna Krysiński, jej córka Jaclyn oraz dyrektor artystyczny i choreograf Zespołu Pieśni i Tańca "Polonia", p. Cecylia Rożnowska; Edziu Rajtar - choreograf grupy tanecznej "Dolina" z Minneapolis, MN.; Donna Skurski - choreograf i dyrektor grupy tanecznej "Wawel" i choreograf grupy tanecznej

"Opole" z Michigan oraz jej mąż Tom, była skarbnik-sekretarz ZPRKA Josephine Szarowicz z mężem Wally i były dyrektor Dystr. #7 ZPRKA Steve DeLonka z żoną Irene. Przed zakończeniem koncertu, konsul Zbigniew Matynia odznaczył państwo Misię i Ryszarda Jamińskich Srebrnymi Krzyżami Zasługi Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej, a Złotym Krzyżem Zasługi RP za pracę dla Polonii została odznaczona wiceprezesa ZPRKA, Anna Sokołowski. Są to jedne z najwyższych cywilnych odznaczeń w Polsce.

Koncert zakończył się owacją na stojąco publiczności. Co za wspaniały hołd dla Misi i Richarda Jaminskih oraz wszystkich tancerzy!

Wszystkim odznaczonym gratulujemy zaszczytu, a zespołowi "Wesoły Lud" życzymy wielu sukcesów w przyszłości i kolejnych pięknych jubileuszów.

Historia ZPiT "Wesoły Lud"

Zespół Polskich Tanców Ludowych WESOŁY LUD z Chicago, jest reprezentacyjnym zespołem folklorystycznym Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katolickiego w Ameryce, najstarszej i jednej z największych organizacji Polonii Stanów Zjednoczonych. Zespół został zorganizowany z inicjatywy Pani Misi Binkowskiej-Jaminskiej w styczniu 1977 r. Od początku istnienia celem działalności zespołu jest rozpowszechnianie polskiego folkloru, tańca i śpiewu, doskonalenie umiejętności artystycznych oraz zachęcanie młodzieży amerykańskiej polskiego pochodzenia do spędzania pożytecznych i przyjemnych chwil w gronie POLONUSÓW.



Lud I - Spisz.

WESOŁY LUD jest młodym ambasadorem Polonii chicagowskiej. Występował w Polsce, na Litwie, na Ukrainie, w Montrealu i Toronto w Kanadzie, również w Shanghaju w Chinach jak i w wielu stanach Stanów Zjednoczonych Ameryki.

WESOŁY LUD brał udział w V (1980r), VI (1983r), IX (1993r), X (1996r), XI (1999r), XII (2002r), XIII (2005r), XIV (2008r) i XV (2011r) Światowym Festiwalu Polonijnych Zespołów Folklorystycznych w Rzeszowie. W 1999 r. i 2005 r. brał udział w turniejach po Polsce, a w 2011 r. wystąpił w Budapeszcie na Węgrzech i w południowej części Polski.

W 2005 r. występował również w Wilnie na Litwie. W 2008 r. w Teatrze



Mike Dziadkowiec i Monica Marszałik w tańcu "Killer Bees".



Nicole Bencik przedstawiła gości honorowych.

Wielkim we Lwowie na Ukrainie.

W 2010 r. WESOŁY LUD został zaproszony do udziału w Międzynarodowym Festiwalu w Szanghaju w Chinach, gdzie prezentował polskie tańce ludowe. Chińczycy z wielkim zainteresowaniem oglądali występy zespołu także w Pawilonie Polskim EXPO 2010.

Zespół otrzymał nagrodę Ministerstwa Kultury i Sztuki za młodość i ekspresję, a w 2007 r. pierwszy „Złoty Medal” wręczony w Stanach Zjednoczonych, za „zasługi w krzewieniu kultury polskiej wśród rodaków w Stanach



Lud I - Jive.

Zjednoczonych Ameryki i na całym świecie” od Stowarzyszenia "Wspólnota Polska".

Członkami zespołu WESOŁY LUD są uczniowie szkół średnich, studenci i osoby pracujące, którzy poświęcają swój czas i talent w tygodniowych próbach i występach. Większość członków zespołu zaczęło swoje taneczne zamiłowanie w dziecięcych grupach Południowo-



Lud II - Lublin.

Zachodniego Centrum Polskich Tańców Ludowych przy ZPRKA (t.j. Wesoły Ludek, Młody Ludek, Mały Ludek itd.) oraz Polanie Szkoły Polskiej im. Jana Pawła II ZPRKA.

Poza swoimi stałymi choreografami, chicagowianką Misią i rzeszowianinem Ryszardem Jamińskimi, WESOŁY LUD miał zaszczyt współpracować z wieloma znakomitymi choreografami z Polski (miedzy innymi Januszem Chojekiem, Emmą Cieślinską, Wiesławą Hazuka, śp. Ireną Kik, Anatolem



Alumni - Lubusk.

Kocylowskim, Leokadą Magdziarz, Sławomirem Mazurkiewiczem, śp. Bożeną Niżańską, Janem Pogonowskim, śp. Janem Sejda, Anielą Sidor, śp. Ignacym Wachowiakiem, Kazimierą „Mamcią” Walczak, Marią Wnęk, Michaliną Wojtas).

W repertuarze zespołu znajdują się suity: górnego śląska, krakowa wschodniego, lachów sądeckich,



Alumni - Lachy Sądeckie.

łowicka, lubelska, lubuska, opoczyńska, orawska, podhalańska, podlaska, rzeszowska, spiska, warmińska, wielkopolska, oraz tańce narodowe polonez, mazur (z opery S. Moniuszki "Straszny Dwór" oraz Biały mazur), kujawiak, oberek i krakowiak (Kosynierów).

WESOŁY LUD jest jednym z założycieli i członkiem Stowarzyszenia Polskich Tańców Ludowych w Ameryce (Polish Folk Dance Association of the Americas, Inc.) oraz organizatorem Festiwalu Polskich Tańców Ludowych w Chicago (1982 i 2007). Obecnie, pani Misia jest prezesem PFDA.

Oprócz poparcia ZPRKA, zespół otrzymuje wsparcie Rady Kulturalnej Stanu Illinois.



Konsul Matynia wręczył odznaczenia pp. Jamińskim i Annie Sokołowskiej.



Kwiaty i gratulacje od zarządu ZPRKA.



"Wesoły Lud" po zakończonym koncercie jubileuszowym.

Cecylia Rożnowska otrzymała wyróżnienie KPA

Chicago, IL - W związku z dorocznymi obchodami Dnia Pułaskiego w stanie Illinois, Wydział Stanowy Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej urządził w dniu 5 marca w salach bankietowych "Białego Orła", uroczysty bankiet.

Imprezie przewodniczyła prezeska wydziału, Mary S. Anselmo, która również przedstawiła postać bohatera dwóch narodów, Kazimierza Pułaskiego.

W czasie uroczystości wręczone zostały wyróżnienia przyznane przez Wydział Stanowy KPA. Nagrodę "Synowie Wolności" otrzymali senator Mark Kirk i kongresman Mark Quigley, którzy są sponsorami ustawy o zniesieniu obowiązku wizowego dla Polaków.

Statuetkę "Sons of Liberty" otrzymał kpt. Andrew Adameczyk z Gwardii Narodowej Illinois, który współpracuje z polskimi żołnierzami w Iraku.



Lauratka z dyr, Anną Krysińską i JE. bpem Andrzejem Wypychem.



Spotkanie "Town Hall Meeting" z zarządem ZPRKA

Dystrykt #2 ZPRKA zaprasza uczestników 75. Turnieju Kręglarskiego ZPRKA, wszystkich członków ZPRKA i osoby zainteresowane z Buffalo i okolic, na spotkanie "Town Hall Meeting" w piątek, 20 kwietnia 2012 r. o godz. 7 wieczorem w Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle, Inc., przy 612 Fillmore Ave., Buffalo, NY. Dodatkowe informacje: Greg Olma, dyrektor Dystryktu #2 ZPRKA, tel. 716-553-8399.



Laureatka Cecylia Rożnowska (p) z prezeską Wydziału Stanowego KPA, Mary S. Anselmo.

Nagrodę prezesa Wydziału Stanowego KPA za całokształt działalności artystycznej i propagowanie kultury polskiej otrzymała choreograf i dyrektor artystyczny Zespołu Pieśni i Tańca ZPRKA, Cecylia Rożnowska.

Drugą nagrodę za całokształt działalności otrzymała Maria Roszek-Kucharski.

W czasie wieczoru ZPiT, "Polonia" zaprezentował program artystyczny.

Gratulujemy Pani Rożnowskiej zaszczytnego wyróżnienia i życzymy wielu kolejnych sukcesów.

Tancerze ZPiT Polonia z członkami zarządu ZPRKA i laureatką. Jako Pułaski - Marek Podowski.

WIOSENNY SPECJALNY PROGRAM UBEZPIECZENIOWY

W miesiącach kwietniu i maju, ZPRKA celebrować będzie "Nowe życie". Oferujemy WIOSENNY SPECJALNY PROGRAM UBEZPIECZENIOWY.

Otrzymaj \$2,000.00 lub \$4,000.00 ubezpieczenia na życie jako bonus, bez konieczności wnoszenia dodatkowych opłat.

Oferujemy plan ubezpieczeniowy 20-Year Limited Pay Whole Life o wysokości \$10,000.00. ZPRKA podniesie wartość ubezpieczenia o \$2,000.00. Ogólna wartość ubezpieczenia wynosić więc będzie \$12,000.00 - za cenę ubezpieczenia 10-tysięcznego.

Dla osób, które zakupią ubezpieczenie o wartości \$20,000.00 bonus wyniesie \$4,000.00!

Dla przykładu: niepalący mężczyzna w wieku 30 lat, może wykupić polisę ubezpieczeniową na sumę \$10,000.00 na powyższy plan ubezpieczeniowy. Składka wynosić będzie \$206.80. Polisa będzie wystawiona na \$12,000.00, bez dodatkowych kosztów* ze strony ubezpieczającego się. **W ciągu 20 lat - zaoszczędzi prawie \$800!**

Plan 20-Year Limited Pay Whole Life cechuje:

- 20 niskich opłat rocznych, które pokrywają dożywotni plan ubezpieczeniowy
- opłaty mogą być dokonywane półrocznie, kwartalnie lub miesięcznie
- naliczane są dywidendy



- posiada wartość gotówkową

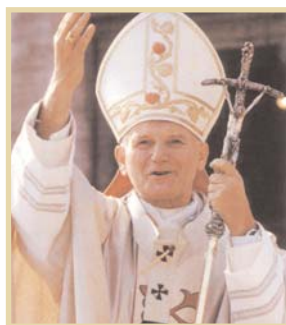
- ubezpieczony może korzystać z wszystkich dodatkowych korzyści: publikację "Naród Polski", stypendia i pożyczki na szkoły wyższe, pożyczki na domy jednorodzinne, turnieje sportowe, imprezy kulturalne i towarzyskie, oraz wiele innych!

Oszczędzaj z ZPRKA! * Wszystkie podania muszą być wcześniej zatwierdzone

Pokój przez muzykę W duchu Jana Pawła II - Chicago 2012

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Zapraszamy do udziału w turniejach sportowych ZPRKA w 2012 r.

60. Turniej Golfowy ZPRKA - 21 lipca 2012 roku, Toledo, OH. Gospodarzem będzie Dystrykt #5 ZPRKA.

58. Krajowy Turniej Piłki Softball - 18 sierpnia 2012 r., w Big Rapids, MI. Gospodarzem będzie Towarzystwo St. Rita's Soc. #1368, przewodniczącym - Jerry Lubiarz.



Dodatkowe informacje nt. turniejów ZPRKA można uzyskać dzwoniąc do Departamentu Braterstwa ZPRKA 1-800-772-8632, w. 2601.

ZOSTAŃ AGENTEM UBEZPIECZENIOWYM ZPRKA

Czy lubisz pomagać ludziom? Czy masz predyspozycje jako sprzedawca? Czy chciałbyś zarobić dodatkowe pieniądze? ZPRKA poszukuje nowych agentów sprzedaży ubezpieczeń i innych produktów oferowanych przez ZPRKA w 25 stanach, w których posiada licencję.

Jeśli Ty, lub ktoś kogo znasz, chciałby się podjąć tego wyzwania, przejść szkolenie i zdobyć licencję sprzedawcy, skontaktuj się z Robertem Fattore, dyrektorem Działu Sprzedaży ZPRKA pod numer 1-800-772-8632 w. 2631 lub na adres: robert-fattore@prcu.org

DOROCZNE OBCHODY DNIA PUŁASKIEGO

Chicago, IL - 5 marca w Muzeum Polskim w Ameryce, odbyły się doroczne obchody Dnia Pułaskiego. W uroczystości udział wzięli przedstawiciele władz stanowych i miejskich, duchowni, przedstawiciele organizacji polonijnych oraz liczna grupa polsko-amerykańskiej społeczności. Obecna również była, przebywająca z wizytą w Chicago, prezydent miasta Warszawy Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz.

Uroczystość rozpoczął dyrektor MPA Jan Loryś, który powitał wszystkich w muzeum. Program prowadzili: prezeska MPA Maria Cieśla oraz przewodniczący zarządu Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce i prezes ZPRKA, Joseph A. Drobot, Jr.

Modlitwę przed i po uroczystości odmówił J.E. biskup pomocniczy Archidiecezji Chicago, ks. Andrzej Wypych. Hymny narodowe polski i amerykański zaśpiewała tancerka Zespołu Pieśni i Tańca "Polonia" ZPRKA Ola Podowski, której akompaniował na fortepianie organista z Misji św. Trójcy w Chicago, Piotr Dymon.

Prezes Drobot odczytał rezolucję nadesłaną z okazji obchodów Dnia Pułaskiego przez prokuratora generalną stanu Illinois, Lisę Madigan, następnie szef departamentu budżetu stanu Illinois David Vaught przekazał rezolucję, którą podpisali gubernator Illinois Pat Quinn i sekretarz stanu Jesse White. Rezolucję przekazał również radny miejski z 23. Dystryktu, Michael R. Zalewski. Rezolucję skarbnika powiatu Cook, Marii Pappas, odczytała Pat Michalski.

Prezydent miasta Warszawy, Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz wspomniała w swoim wystąpieniu, iż Chicago i Warszawa od 1960 roku są "Miastami siostrzanymi", dzięki czemu rozwija się współpraca pomiędzy tymi dwoma metropoliami oraz zaprosiła zebranych do odwiedzenia Warszawy, nowoczesnego i pięknego miasta.

Kontroler stanu Illinois, Judy Baar Topinka, wyraziła w swoim przemówieniu swoje oburzenie z powodu nie włączenia Polski do programu ruchu bezwizowego, zapewniła swoje poparcie dla ustawy o zniesieniu wiz do USA dla obywateli polskich i podziękowała politykom, którzy wspierają tą ustawę.

Ponieważ w Polsce trwała żałoba narodowa w związku z katastrofą kolejową, w której zginęło 16 osób, na uroczystość nie przybył konsul generalny RP w Chicago Zygmunt Matynia. Dyrektor Jan Loryś odczytał nadesłany przez konsula list, w którym konsul podkreśla, iż uroczystość jest obchodzona jest ku czci wszystkich, którzy walczyli o wolność.

Sędzina Aurelia Puciński zachęcała wszystkich do prowadzenia kampanii na rzecz zniesienia wiz dla obywateli polskich oraz do udziału społeczności polskiej w lokalnym życiu politycznym.

Sekretarz Sądu Okręgowego Dorothy Brown podkreśliła wielkie zasługi Pułaskiego w walce o wolność Stanów Zjednoczonych oraz jego bohaterstwo, prawość i poświęcenie dla ideałów.

Podobnie jak poprzedni mówcy, również prezes Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej i prezes Związku Narodowego Polskiego, Frank Spula nawiązał do bohaterskiej postawy Pułaskiego. Wspomnił wielkie zasługi polskich imigrantów dla Stanów Zjednoczonych i zachęcał zebranych do kontaktowania się z lokalnym kongresmanami, w celu poparcia dla zniesienia wiz dla obywateli polskich.

Poparcie dla ustawy o zniesieniu obowiązku wizowego dla Polaków wyraził w swoim przemówieniu również radny 2 dystryktu miejskiego Robert Fioretti, który wystąpił z rezolucją o poparcie dla projektu ustawy do Rady Miasta Chicago.

Radny 30 dystryktu miejskiego Ariel Reboyas, podkreślił w swoim przemówieniu znaczenie kultywowania kultury narodowej i kontynuacji obchodów Dnia Pułaskiego.

Jak co roku, Dzień Pułaskiego jest okazją do wręczenia stypendiów i nagród dla polonijnej młodzieży. Obecni na uroczystości przedstawiciele sieci sklepów Jewel-Osco wręczyli 5 stypendiów w wysokości \$1000 każde uczestnikom konkursu na pracę pisemną. Stypendia otrzymali: Marta Budzikowska, Janne Dynak, Anna Mikulski, Kamil Plecki i Agata Turowski.

Nagrody w konkursie zorganizowanym przez Radę Nauczycieli Polonijnych na pracę pisemną nt. legend krakowskich otrzymali: Magdalena Sołtys, Justyna Mech, Joanna Kocol, Patryk Młacki. Nagrody ufundowane przez Radę Nauczycieli Polonijnych dla dzieci



J.E. bp. Andrzej Wypych.



Prezydent m-ta Warszawy
Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz.



Prezes KPA i ZNP
Frank Spula.



Pat Michalski.

uzdolnionych muzycznie i plastycznie, otrzymali: Anna Zelma, Natalia Walczak, Tomasz Bendarski i Jaś Tirpak. Nagrody Rady Nauczycieli Polonijnych wręczyły: Hanna Kapica, prof Lidia Filus i Czesława Kolak.

W czasie uroczystych obchodów przekazane zostały również donacje na Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce od przedstawicieli Jewel-Osco w wysokości \$5000, Banku PNC w wysokości \$5000 i firmy Krakus Ham w wysokości \$3000. Firma Krakus przekazała również nagrody w wysokości \$1000 dla trzech szkół polonijnych, których uczniowie wzięli udział w konkursie na temat legend krakowskich: im. Mikołaja Kopernika, im. Marii Curie Skłodowskiej i im. św. Faustyny.

Oficjalny program zakończyło złożenie

wieńca pod obrazem Stanisława Batowskiego "Pułaski pod Savannah". Po



Młodzież wyróżniona przez Radę Nauczycieli
Polonijnych.

programie goście zaproszeni zostali na poczęstunek i kawę, przygotowany dzięki uprzejmości sponsorów: Kasia's Deli, Krakus Ham, Jewel-Osco i Happy Foods.

W Illinois Dzień Pułaskiego jest świętem stanowym i jest

obchodzony od 1977 r., w każdy pierwszy poniedziałek marca.



Dzień Św. Józefa w ZPRKA

Chicago, IL - W poniedziałek, 19 marca, tradycyjnym zwyczajem, pracownicy ZPRKA i Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce zebrali się w stołówce biura głównego, by wspólnie zjeść lunch z okazji uroczystości św. Józefa, Oblubieńca Najświętszej Maryi Panny.

Krótką modlitwę odmówił ks. Robert Fedek z parafii M.B. Zwycięskiej. W skromnej uroczystości udział wzięli przedstawiciele zarządów zaprzyjaźnionych organizacji braterskich: Zw. Narodowego Polskiego i Zw. Kobiet w Ameryce.

Pierwsze wzmianki o wspomnieniu św. Józefa pochodzą z IV wieku z klasztoru św. Saby pod Jerozolimą. Na Zachodzie pierwsza wzmianka pochodzi z manuskryptu z VIII w., znalezionej w Centralnej Bibliotece Zurichu. Do brewiarza i mszału rzymskiego święto to zostało wprowadzone przez papieża Sykstusa IV w 1479 r. W 1726 r. papież Benedykt XIII włączył imię św. Józefa do litanii do Wszystkich Świętych. Na początku XX w. św. Pius X zatwierdził litanie do św. Józefa. W 1919 r. papież Benedykt XV włączył do Mszy świętej specjalną prefację o św. Józefie, a w 1962 r. Jan XXIII wpisał imię św. Józefa do kanonu Mszy świętej.



Przy stole - goście z zaprzyjaźnionych
polonijnych organizacji.



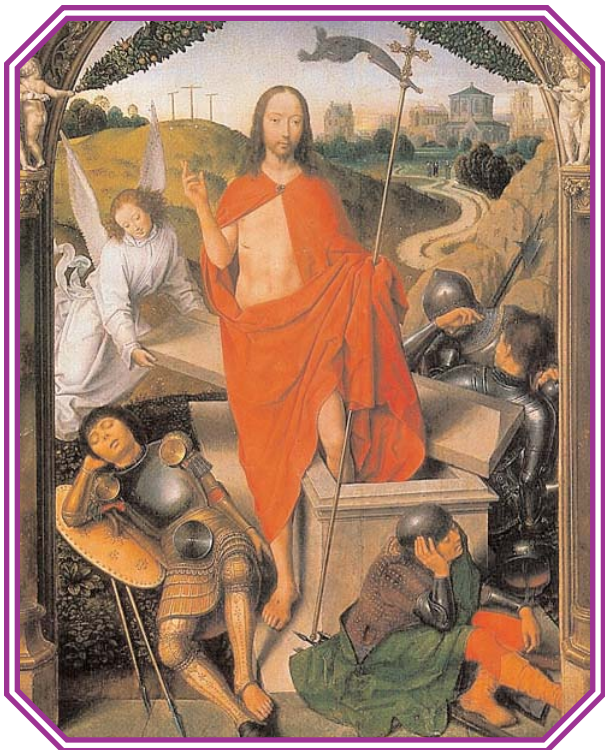
Donacja przekazana przez
Jewel-Osco dla MPA.



Studenci uczelni oraz uczniowie szkół średnich, którzy
otrzymali stypendia ufundowane przez Jewel-Osco.



Ks. Robert Fedek.



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do ludzi w potrzebie, tak duchowej, jak i materialnej.

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przesyłamy pozdrowienia dla Zjednoczenia i Polonii.

ks. Władysław J. Ptak
Naczelny Kapłan

ks. Antoni D. Iwuć
Wicekapłan

ks. Infułat Stanisław E. Milewski
Wicekapłan

Prezes Drobot wspiera starania o zniesienie wiz dla obywateli polskich

Chicago, IL - W dniu 6 marca 2012 r. prezes ZPRKA Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. wystąpił przed Komisją ds. Stosunków Międzynarodowych Rady Miasta Chicago, gdzie przedstawił swoje poparcie dla ustawy radnego miejskiego Roberta W. Fioretti, w sprawie zniesienia wiz dla obywateli polskich. W spotkaniu wzięli również udział przedstawiciele innych organizacji polonijnych. Poniżej przedstawiamy tekst wystąpienia prezesa Drobot.

Dzień dobry. Nazywam się Joseph. Drobot, Jr. i jestem prezesem Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katolickiego w Ameryce, organizacji braterskiej pomocy, a także prezesem zarządu Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce. Obie instytucje znajdują się w Chicago przy 984 N. Milwaukee Avenue.

Celem mojej obecności tutaj jest poparcie dla uchwały, którą radny miejski Robert W. Fioretti, przedstawił Komitetowi ds. Stosunków Międzynarodowych Chicagowskiej Rady Miejskiej, na mocy której obywatele Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej zostaliby zwolnieni z obowiązku posiadania wizej wjazdowej do Stanów Zjednoczonych.

Włączenie do programu zwalniającego z obowiązku posiadania wizej (Visa Waiver Program VWP) pozwala osobom posiadającym paszporty w kraju ich obywatelstwa, na wjazd do Stanów Zjednoczonych bez przechodzenia przez długi proces starania się o wizę turystyczną. Dziś w Polsce, każda osoba starająca się odwiedzić USA, musi ubiegać się o wizę w amerykańskiej ambasadzie.

Obecnie, Stany Zjednoczone przyznały zwolnienie z obowiązku posiadania wizej 36 krajom na całym świecie, 28 z nich jest europejskimi sąsiadami Polski. Dlaczego Polsce nie został przyznany taki sam przywilej?

Polska jest pełnoprawnym członkiem Wspólnoty Europejskiej, członkiem NATO, i zawsze była nieocenionym sojusznikiem Stanów Zjednoczonych. Polskie wojsko walczyło wraz z amerykańskimi siłami zbrojnymi w Afganistanie i Iraku. Dlaczego więc Polska nie została zwolniona z obowiązku posiadania wizej?

Na przestrzeni historii, polscy imigranci w naszym kraju przyczynili się znacznie do rozwoju Stanów Zjednoczonych w wielu dziedzinach: edukacji, medycynie, nauce, sztuce, kulturze, lekkiej atletyce i przemyśle. Wielkie miasto Chicago było głównym beneficjentem tej polskiej imigracji.

Dlaczego dzisiejszy obywatel Polski musi przechodzić przez długi proces ubiegania się o wizę aby móc wjechać do Chicago w celu odwiedzenia przyjaciół i rodziny, albo aby po prostu cieszyć się widokami i dźwiękami tej wielkiej metropolii światowej, miasta o światowej klasie?

Generalowie Pułaski i Kościuszko walczyli w naszej własnej wojnie o zabezpieczenie naszej wolności, abyśmy mieli prawo decydować o naszym własnym losie. General Pułaski oddał za naszą wolność swoje życie. Ironicznie, gdyby general Pułaski żył dziś, chociaż ustawa Kongresu przyznała mu honorowe obywatelstwo Stanów Zjednoczonych, on wciąż musiałby ubiegać się o wizę wjazdową do naszego kraju.

Dlaczego Kongres nie włączy Polski do programu zwalniającego z obowiązku posiadania wizej?

Naklaniam zebrany tutaj Komitet ds. Stosunków Międzynarodowych miasta Chicago, aby jednogłośnie poparł tę uchwałę przedstawioną przez radnego Fioretti i zalecił, aby cała Rada Miasta Chicago podjęła uchwałę o objęciu Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej programem zwalniającym z obowiązku posiadania wizej wjazdowej do USA.

Dziękuję.

DYSTRYKT #9 ZPRKA OGŁASZA WAKANS NA STANOWISKO DYREKTORA

Podajemy do wiadomości, iż istnieje wakans na urząd krajowego dyrektora w Dystrykcie # 9 ZPRKA, w następstwie rezygnacji obecnego dyrektora.

Niniejszym powiadamy członków, że przyjmujemy podania na powyższe stanowisko. Kandydat musi być członkiem ZPRKA i mieć opłacone wszystkie składki za ostatnie pięciolecie oraz musi zamieszkiwać na terenie Dystryktu #9 (granice Dystryktu przedstawiamy w angielskiej sekcji Narodu Polskiego).

Wakat będzie wypełniony na następnym kwartalnym zebraniu rady dyrektorów zaplanowanej na 9 czerwca 2012. Podania są dostępne w biurze ZPRKA u sekretarza/skarbnika Jamesa Robaczewskiego. Wypełnione podania ze zdjęciem muszą być dostarczone do biura ZPRKA nie później niż 15 maja 2012 przesyłką poleconą (registered lub certified mail), albo osobiście. W celu otrzymania podania, proszę kontaktować się:

PRCUA Secretary-Treasurer James J. Robaczewski
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60642-4101
Tel (773) 782-2600 lub (800) 772-8632

Zakres obowiązków dyrektorów jest określony w Konstytucji ZPRKA i został zatwierdzony przez Sejm ZPRKA w sierpniu 2010 r. Obowiązkiem dyrektora jest m.in.:

- uczestniczyć we wszystkich zebraniach rady dyrektorów;
- nadzorować przepływ funduszy ZPRKA;
- zatwierdzać kaucję wymaganą od prezesa i innych urzędników, od których takowa jest wymagana;
- zapoznawać się i zatwierdzać wszystkie raporty i działania innych członków zarządu i dyrekcji, oraz być odpowiedzialnym za bezpieczeństwo, rozwój i porządek w Zjednoczeniu;
- na podstawie pisemnej rekomendacji i porady aktuariuszów Zjednoczenia, może dokonywać sprawiedliwego rozdziału nadwyżek, przez wypłatę dywidend;
- jest zobowiązany do podejmowania działań w obrębie budżetu jaki zatwierdzony został przez Sejm i jest corocznie analizowany i stosownie regulowany przez Komisję Budżetową.

Oprócz obowiązków służbowych dyrektora Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katolickiego w Ameryce, jakie przedstawione zostały w Konstytucji, dyrektor powinien:

- wspierać rozwój członkostwa w ZPRKA przez zachęcanie osób, zarówno dorosłych jak i młodzieży, do wstępowania do ZPRKA, przez wykupienie ubezpieczenia na życie lub programów emerytalnych;
- zachęcać osoby do reprezentowania ZPRKA jako agencji ZPRKA w dziale sprzedaży ZPRKA i otrzymania licencji na sprzedaż produktów finansowych oferowanych przez ZPRKA;
- inicjować, współpracować i uczestniczyć w braterskiej działalności lokalnych Dystryktów, która jest jednym z celów i zadań ZPRKA.