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The PRCUA is seeking new or experienced insurance personnel to promote our financial products, preferably individuals in the Life Insurance and Retirement Planning field. CPA's, Attorneys specializing in Elder Law/Estate Planning and Financial Advisors are encouraged to inquire. Please contact: Robert Fattore, PRCUA Sales Director at 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2631 or email robert-fattore@prcu.org for more information. Contact us today and seize the opportunity!

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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

May 1, 2014 - 1 maja 2014

No. 6 - Vol. CXXVIII

Polonia's Cherished Saint John Paul II

VATICAN CITY - Countless Catholics gathered in St. Peter's Square in Rome on Sunday, April 27th to participate in the canonization ceremonies for Saint John Paul II and Saint John XXIII. These faithful pilgrims were determined to be present, in person, for this momentous occasion when these beloved Popes joined the ranks of the Saints of the Holy Catholic Church.

PRCUA National Chaplain Reverend Walter Ptak of Wyandotte, MI, led a delegation of Polish American Catholics from Michigan to Rome for the canonizations. Among the devoted pilgrims in the group were PRCUA President Joseph and First Lady Judith Drobot, Jr. Resident Vice Pres. Anna Sokolowski went to Rome with a group of Polish Fraternal leaders from

Chicago. Both represented the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America at this historic event.

The next issue of *Narod Polski* will include their impressions, as first-hand participants in this significant event, and an article on the canonizations by our Warsaw Correspondent Robert Strybel.

Throughout April, events in honor of the canonizations were held across the USA, from special Masses, prayer services, litanies, concerts, artistic programs and exhibits, to receptions, youth activities and church bus tours.

On April 26, many parishes, such as Five Holy



Saint John Paul II

(Photo taken in 1991 during his visit to Poland)

Martyrs Parish in Chicago, IL, held a "Canonization Vigil" that included the recitation of the rosary, poems about Blessed John Paul II, and various musical performances, which all led up to a big screen live broadcast of the actual canonization ceremonies

from Rome. Our modern technology is a blessing, for it united Catholics on every Continent so that we could experience the canonizations of these two saintly Church leaders.

In many churches the live broadcast culminated with Holy Mass and recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

The uniting together of Catholics into local groups enriched their mutual experience of

this once-in-a-lifetime historical occasion. This was especially true for members of the Polish American community who have lived through the amazing papacy of the first Polish Pope. We witnessed the loving way he brought a fresh, new approach to his role as Holy

Father, traveling to share his papal message of hope with the entire world. And share he did - visiting 129 countries and territories during his papacy.

We came to know, respect and love Pope John Paul II. Many of us saw him in person, either in Rome or during one of his visits to the U.S.A. Therefore, our connection with this saintly man - who had a remarkable personality and a most compassionate heart - is personal, making our joy about his canonization even more ecstatic.

We now have a "Friend in Heaven" - a saintly advocate who will take our prayers and heartfelt petitions to the throne of God on our behalf. What a unique gift this is to mankind! Let us all use this incredible gift from God, as we pray: "St. John Paul II, pray for us!"

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

Happy Mother's Day - "The Sacred Bond"

Being a mother is a sacred bond between a woman and God. He is entrusting her with His greatest of treasures - Life itself - and she is promising to dedicate her time, effort and energy to love and shape that "Gift of Life" into a child who will know, love and serve the Lord.

There is no greater task in this world! What a profound duty and responsibility mothering is! - An all-consuming, no-turning-back commitment, lasting a whole lifetime, with no time off.

God has total confidence in woman - KNOWING that as a mother she will do whatever it takes to protect and nourish her child. He trusts that she will nurture her offspring in a heartfelt, loving environment and teach each little Soul in her care to seek goodness, love the Lord, and always do the next right thing.

He relies on mothers, knowing they have extraordinary strength to take care of everyday responsibilities regardless of their own personal needs. He knows she is capable of giving her child unconditional love, not contingent upon reciprocation or the fulfillment of her expectations. He knows a Mother will keep her sacrifices silently locked in her heart, as she humbly fulfills the promise she made to God when their sacred bond was created.

Mothers come in all shapes and sizes. None are perfect - but each one is an essential part of God's plan for our life. Let us honor our mother on Mother's Day as the extraordinary woman she really is!

- Kathryn G. Rosypal, Exec. Editor



PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL



Calendar of PRCUA Events

MAY

3 CENTER LINE, MI - OPOLE DANCE RECITAL on May 3, 2 pm, Center Line H.S. Aud., 26300 Arsenal, Center Line, MI; Tickets \$7 at the door. Contact: Beth 586-944-9683

4 WARREN, MI - POLSKIE MAKI RECITAL on Sun., May 4 at 2 pm at Van Dyke Aud., Lincoln H.S., 22900 Federal, Warren, MI. Tickets \$7. Contact: Maria Jalkiewicz 586-979-5164

4 CHICAGO, IL - SOC. #308 DELEGATE ELECTION MEETING on May 4 at 2 pm at PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL.

5 SUMMIT, IL - MARIA KONOPNICKA SOC. #1622 MEETING on Mon., May 5 at 7 pm, St. Joseph's, 7240 W. 57th St., Summit, IL. Contact Ed Muszalski 708-937-3812

5 CHICAGO, IL - DELEGATE ELECTION MEETING FOR SOC. #408, SOC. #683, SOC. #795 AND SOC. #1012 on Monday, May 5 at 4 pm. in the PRCUA Social Hall 984 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL. Contact: Maria Grzadziel at 630-915-9976.

11 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!



11 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162'S ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST BUFFET on Sun., May 11, 8-12 Noon at Soc. #162 Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI

12 CHICAGO, IL - DISTRICT #7 MEETING on Mon., May 12 at 7:30 pm at PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL. May crowning of the Blessed Mother. Contact: Shirley Dudzinski 773-763-4069

12 ORLAND PARK, IL - DISTRICT 8 ELECTION MEETING on Mon., May 12 at 6:30 pm at Our Lady of the Woods Parish, 10731 W. 131st St., Orland Park, IL

13 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING on Tues., May 13 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: Ed Kaplaniak, 521 Southmont, Johnstown, PA 15905

13 CHICAGO, IL - DELEGATE ELECTION MEETING FOR SOC. #542 on Tues., May 13 at 6:30 pm at PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL. Contact: Mary Jane Robles 773-782-2600 Ext. 2601

14 LANSING, MI - SOC. #2342 POTLUCK AND MEETING on Wed., May 14, Potluck at 6 pm at the Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Meeting 7 pm. Contact: V. Ulrich 517-484-3311

15 CHICAGO, IL - ILL-IND WOMEN'S DIVISION MEETING on Thurs., May 15 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

16 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162 WINE, BEER & SPIRITS TASTING on Fri., May 16, 7-10 pm, PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. Tickets: \$25 in advance - buy at Hall Lounge; \$35 at the door. Must be 21 yrs. old.

17 DEARBORN HTS., MI - ST. STAN'S SOC. #718 (HOST) VS. WYANDOTTE SOC. #162 RYDER CUP GOLF on Sat., May 17, registration 12:30 pm at Warren Valley Golf Course; Afterglow at Randy's Bar & Grille. Contact: Mike Halberstadt at mhalbers@wyan.org or sign up at lounge.

17 TROY, MI - PRCUA SOC. #1111 DELEGATE ELECTION MEETING on Sun., May 17 at 6 pm at the Hamlin Pub 3946 Rochester Road, Troy, MI. Contact Mark Ozog at 586-751-8168

17 TROY, MI - PRCUA SOC. #1557 DELEGATE ELECTION MEETING on Sun., May 17 at 7 pm at the Hamlin Pub, 3946 Rochester Road, Troy, MI. Contact Mark Ozog at 586-751-8168

18 TOLEDO, OH - SOC. #1584, #1633, #1617 & #719 MEETING on Sun., May 18 at 1 pm, Misiuda Hall, 5255 N. Detroit, Toledo, OH. Contact: J. Sylak 419-729-2616

18 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162 MEETING on Sun., May 18 at 1 pm at PRCUA #162 Hall, 1430 Oak St, Wyandotte, MI. Dues: Linda Alexander, 69 Winder, Unit 462, Detroit, MI 48201. Contact: S. Pasko 313-815-5230

21 TROY, MI - CIRCUIT XI MEETING on Wed., May 21 at Noon at American Polish Cultural Ctr., 15 Mile and Dequindre, Troy, MI. Contact: B. Wozniak 586-731-3692

27 WARREN, MI - SAINT JOHN PAUL II SOC. #1593 MEETING on Tues., May 27 at 7 pm, St. Anne's H.S., 36000 Mound Rd., Warren, MI. Contact: J. Ozog 586-751-8168

JUNE

8 CHICAGO, IL - PRCUA ANNUAL SACRED HEART MASS hosted by District #7 on Sun., June 8 at St. Ferdinand's Church. (See details in box below.)

10 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING on Tues., June 10 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: Ed Kaplaniak, 521 Southmont, Johnstown, PA 15905

11 LANSING, MI - SOC. #2342 POTLUCK AND MEETING on Wed., June 11, Potluck at 6 pm at the Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Meeting at 7 pm. Contact: V. Ulrich 517-484-3311

13 DETROIT, MI - POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT AT COMERICA PARK on Friday, June 13. (See details on page 4.)

14 STERLING HTS., MI - YOUTH BOWLING IN MICHIGAN (See details below.)

18 TROY, MI - CIRCUIT XI MEETING on Wed., June 18 at Noon at American Polish Cultural Ctr., 15 Mile and Dequindre, Troy, MI. Contact: B. Wozniak 586-731-3692

22 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162 MEETING on Sun., June 22 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: S. Pasko 313-815-5230

24 WARREN, MI - SAINT JOHN PAUL II SOC. #1593 MEETING on Tues., June 24 at 7 pm, St. Anne's H.S., 36000 Mound Rd., Warren, MI. Contact: J. Ozog 586-751-8168

24th ANNUAL SAINT JOHN PAUL II SOC. PRCUA YOUTH BOWLING FUN DAY

Saturday, June 14, 2013, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.
5 Star Bowling Center

2666 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Heights, MI
RSVP MUST BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY, JUNE 9th

\$5 PRCUA member fee includes: 3 games bowling (or 2 bumper bowl), shoes, prizes & lunch. Lunch for adults = \$5.

Contact Valerie Brumm at 248-622-8949 or valerie.brumm@gmail.com



District #7 of the PRCUA cordially invites you, your family and friends to attend the

Annual Sacred Heart Mass
Sunday, June 8,
Mass at 12:30 p.m.

St. Ferdinand Church

3101 N. Mason Street, Chicago, IL

A Luncheon will be held after the Mass
Grota Banquets - 2:00 p.m.

3112 North Central Avenue, Chicago, IL

Donation \$30.00 per person.

Free parking 1/2 block north at Chicago City Parking lot.

Please make reservations by Friday, May 30, 2014.
Make check payable to: **PRCUA District 7** and send to:

Lillian Stempinski, 7339 W. Lee St., Nilas, IL 60714



Spring Life Insurance Rejuvenation

With the coming of Spring, the beautiful, longer days give us energy and hope for daily challenges. This optimism also provides an added boost to work on or complete goals we set for ourselves. One such goal can be insuring ourselves or our loved ones.

Which stage are you in? Which stage are your children and other loved ones in?

Single Person

Most single people feel they don't need life insurance. There are exceptions: Do parents or siblings depend upon you or will they depend upon you in the future? Do you have debt? How will your funeral expenses be paid?

If you are young and healthy, your insurability is at its peak! You will have the best rates for life insurance, so take advantage of it! Especially if you anticipate a need for life insurance protection in the future, it makes sense to lock in coverage now at premiums that fit your budget. You will then be well prepared for the future.

Married

Among other things shared with your spouse, financial obligations are one of the most important. What would happen to your spouse if you passed away? Would he/she be able to pay the bills, take care of the car loan, mortgage, save for an emergency?

These are difficult financial challenges even without having children. If you are planning to have children in the future, applying for life insurance prior to pregnancy and birth is a wise decision. If any health complications do arise, you will be comforted to know that both you and your spouse are already insured.

Married With Kids

Once you are married with children, responsibilities (and expenses) multiply! If you've not already done so, make sure that life insurance is part of your family's financial security plan. What would happen if your family lost a spouse's paycheck? Would the family be able to continue living as before? Losing a parent/spouse is stressful on its own – not knowing how to pay next month's bills can be dreadful.

Single Parent

Being a single parent, you strive to fulfill almost every role and satisfy your child's every need. Have you protected the financial future of your children by making sure you have enough life insurance coverage? Such coverage can ensure that your children live comfortably, and pursue their goals despite the loss of their parent. Leave your children a lasting legacy through your life insurance.

Stay-at-Home Parent

Stay-at-home parents make a huge contribution to their families. Surveys have estimated that their tasks such as childcare, cooking, cleaning, transporting and other related activities are valued at \$30,000 to \$45,000 per year! Has your family underestimated the replacement value of these services? If something happened to the stay-at-home parent, can the surviving spouse afford to pay for these services?

Grown Children

While some people in this stage may feel that life insurance needs have diminished – this isn't the case! Although you may no longer have to provide for your children or pay mortgage or car loan expenses, would the savings and income you have now be enough for your spouse to maintain his/her lifestyle if something were to happen to you? Daily living expenses, possible future medical expenses and even the ability to pay for the kind of funeral you desire – are there funds available for these purposes? Is it important for you to leave an inheritance for your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and loved ones?

Retired

If you were to die, did you know that your heirs could incur a large estate tax payment depending on the size of your estate? Life insurance proceeds, which are generally income tax free, are payable immediately to your beneficiary, so heirs can immediately take care of estate taxes, debts, funeral expenses and other expenses without having to search for ways to liquidate other assets at a discounted rate.

Just as we take small steps in our everyday lives to protect ourselves against life's uncertainties - such as locking our homes or buckling our seatbelts – we need to do the same when it comes to protecting our family's financial well-being. Life insurance is like that lock or seatbelt. It helps ensure that if you die prematurely, your loved ones will be provided for financially.

Whatever your budget and needs are, PRCUA agents are available for consultation and to give you detailed information on life insurance coverage and annuities.

Call your local PRCUA Sales Representative or the Home Office: 1-800-772-8632 ext. 2631 or 2632 – it only takes a few short moments to find out what your options are, which plan would be best for you and how much it would cost.

PRCUA 61st Convention Life Insurance

During the first half of 2014, PRCUA will be preparing for a very important event – the 61st National Convention. The Convention will be held in Toledo, Ohio beginning Sunday, August 10 through Wednesday, August 13, 2014. Elected delegates from all of our societies will represent our membership and express our members' wishes as they relate to the direction our organization should take as we go forward into the future.

In honor of this event, the PRCUA will be offering a 61st Convention Life Insurance Special, 5 Year Limited Pay Whole Life Plan, effective February 1 through December 31, 2014. Take advantage of this special and choose between four annual premium options: \$261, \$361, \$461, or \$561. Annual payment mode only

Special Highlights:

- Ages 0-80
- Cash value growth
- Dividend participating
- Coverage can never be cancelled by PRCUA (as long as all premium payments are made)
- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) payments are available
- Eligibility for membership benefits such as college scholarships, grants and educational loans
- Five annual premium payments for a lifetime of coverage
- Riders available – ask your PRCUA Sales Representative for details
- Cannot be combined with any other life insurance special.

Please contact your local PRCUA Sales Representative or the Home Office for purchase or questions:

Robert Fattore
Director of Sales
800-772-8632 ext. 2631
Robert-Fattore@prcua.org

Agnieszka Bastrzyk
Director of Marketing
800-772-8632 ext. 2632
Agnieszka-Bastrzyk@prcua.org

*Use the proposed insured's nearest age. (Example: If 30 yrs. 5 mo., use 30 years; if 30 yrs. 7 mo. use 31 years.)

All applications subject to Underwriting.

ANNOUNCING PRCUA CONVENTION YEAR QUIZ CONTEST

This year is a Convention Year for the PRCUA. In celebration, Narod Polski is holding a monthly Convention Quiz Contest in May, June and July of 2014. Each month, a 5-question quiz on a different theme will be published in the newspaper. PRCUA members can enter the contest by either submitting answers online at our website may-contest@prcu.org or by mailing the answers to the editor.

Each PRCUA member who correctly answers all 5 questions will have their entry placed in a raffle. Three top prizes of \$100 will be awarded to the lucky winners – one prize per quiz. The winners will be chosen at the 61st Convention and announced in the September Narod Polski. All PRCUA members - except national officers, board members or employees - are eligible to submit one entry in each monthly quiz. All entries must be received by Monday, August 4th, 2014. Good luck.

Convention Year Quiz – Month of May

Subject: Saint John Paul II

- What work did Karol Wojtyla do during World War II?
a) officer in the Polish underground, 2) slave laborer in Germany, c) chaplain to university students, d) breaking rocks in a stone quarry
- Before becoming Pope, in which Polish city was Cardinal Wojtyla the Archbishop?
a) Warsaw, b) Krakow, c) Gdansk, d) Poznan
- What Feast Day did Pope John Paul II establish?
a) Feast of the Holy Family, b) Feast of Holocaust Martyrs, c) Feast of Divine Mercy, d) Feast of Our Lady of Czestochowa
- How many years had John Paul II been Pope?
a) 26 years, b) 27 years, c) 25 years, d) 28 years
- Which annual date was officially declared as Saint John Paul II's Feast Day?
a) May 18th – his birthday, b) April 2 – the date he died, c) April 27 – his canonization date, d) October 22nd – the day he was inaugurated as Pope

May Quiz Entry Form

Answers:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____

Name _____

Street _____

City/St/Zip _____

PRCUA Society. # _____

All entries must be received by Monday, August 4, 2014.

Send to: PRCUA Contest,
984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642

Special Convention Essay Contest - A Chance to Let Your Voice and Opinions Be Heard!

For decades, the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America has openly acknowledged that we need to find meaningful ways to get the youth of the Polish American community involved in our fraternal organization. At each Convention, the Youth Committee presents a report to the delegates, offering its advice on how this can be accomplished. Many of their ideas have been adopted, such as the social media forums that PRCUA is involved in, for example.

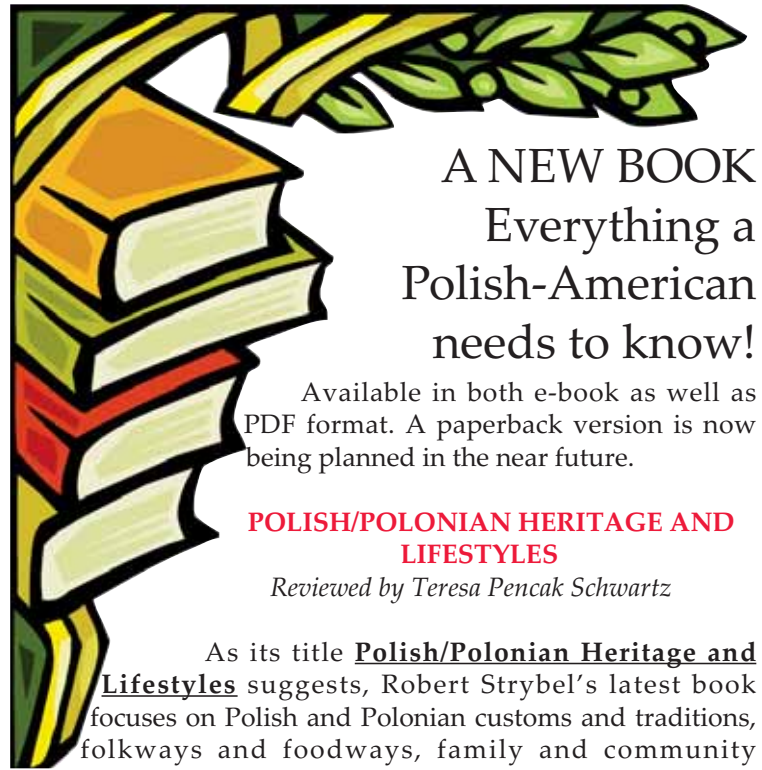
However, the problem still remains: How can we get our youth - especially teens and young adults - involved in our organization in a successful way? What can the PRCUA offer them to attract their attention and to sustain their involvement?

With the 61st National Convention just a few months away, PRCUA members are being asked to write an essay presenting new ideas and new ways by which the PRCUA can get our young people more involved in our organization.

The Youth Committee, headed by the PRCUA's youngest Director, Beth Sadus of District #9, will read and judge the essays, announcing one winner at the Convention. A prize of \$100.00 will be awarded.

The Committee members may use the ideas presented in those essays to develop their recommendations to the delegates on the floor of the Convention.

RULES: Contest is open to all PRCUA members, officers, board members and employees. Limit essay to 1,000 words. Include your name, address, and Society Number. Send to: **PRCUA Essay Contest, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101** or email to: essay-contest@prcu.org



A NEW BOOK Everything a Polish-American needs to know!

Available in both e-book as well as PDF format. A paperback version is now being planned in the near future.

POLISH/POLONIAN HERITAGE AND LIFESTYLES

Reviewed by Teresa Pencak Schwartz

As its title Polish/Polonian Heritage and Lifestyles suggests, Robert Strybel's latest book focuses on Polish and Polonian customs and traditions, folkways and foodways, family and community celebrations, as well as social and cultural events of every conceivable type.

It has been my pleasure, as project assistant, to work with him on this book which explains in detail the Polish traditions of Christmas, Easter, St. John's Eve, Harvest Festivals, weddings, christenings, namedays, anniversaries and funerals.

This 400-plus-page book touches on Polish history and culture, Polish/Polonian (Polish American) heritage and lifestyles; also contains a wealth of information on Polish surnames and genealogy, even suggestions on what to name your household pet, how to set up a Polish restaurant in your area or how conduct a successful Pol-Am fund-raiser. Abundant contact data is included to inform readers where they can find this or that cultural resource or make contact with Polish-related businesses and organizations.

The result of years of research, this is a one-of-a-kind instruction manual for Polish-American clubs, parishes, schools, organizations, families and individuals with countless ideas on how to celebrate and popularize Polish traditions and lifestyles in North America. It was written so that no Polish American could honestly say: "My family has drifted away from its Polish heritage, so I don't know much about it" or "I wouldn't know where to begin." Hopefully, this book will even pique the interest of some who bluntly state: "Polish culture is not my cup of tea – I'm just not interested."

Polish/Polonian Heritage and Lifestyles is available:

- As an e-book which can be read on a Kindle or other e-tablet or personal computer [iPad, Nook, etc.], from **Amazon.com** for \$8.99 at <http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00APPJKEW> or
- In PDF format, which can be read or printed out on any personal computer, will be e-mailed to you by the author. Just airmail a personal or bank (cashier's) check or money order for \$8.99, along with your email address, to the author:

Robert Strybel
ulica Kaniowska 24
01-529 Warsaw, Poland

44th Annual Detroit Tigers Polish American Night

Please order your baseball tickets for the 44th Annual Polish American Night to be held on Friday, June 13, 2014. Minnesota Twins will play the Detroit Tigers. Pre-game ceremonies are at 6:30 pm with game time at 7:05 pm.

Ticket price are \$54 for Lower Baseline Box near Kaline's corner which includes a souvenir T-shirt; \$48 for Upper Deck Box (last year it was in section near 325); \$38 for lower left field; \$33 for upper deck reserve. T-Shirt available for \$9. These prices do not include the food voucher (hot dog, chips and pop). Cost is \$5.00 per voucher.

Email Wally Ozog at wozog@wowway.com with your order and mail your check made payable to PRCUA #1593 to:

Wallace Ozog, 30214 Woodhouse Dr., Warren, MI 48092

PRCUA SOCIETY #1593 DOUBLE CELEBRATION ON MAY 4TH

WARREN, MI - On Sunday, May 4, at St. Anne Parish, 32000 Mound Road in Warren, MI, a double celebration will be held - 1) commemorating the canonization of Pope John Paul II, and 2) to mark the 35th Anniversary of PRCUA Pope John II Society #1593. Effective April 27, 2014, the name of Soc. #1593 was changed from Pope John Paul II Society to St. John Paul II Society.

Members and friends are invited to attend the 8:45 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 4th, followed by a minimally-priced Breakfast in the School Cafeteria. They can view a historical Exhibit, which will consist of photos depicting various events in the Life of Saint John Paul II and it will also depict the history of PRCUA Saint John Paul II Society.

The Exhibit will also be open on Saturday, May 3 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A St. John Paul II souvenir prayer card will be distributed to those who view the Exhibit. The community and members of PRCUA are cordially invited to this double celebration. For further information, call Wally Ozog at 586-751-8168.

PRCUA Member John Huchrowski Honored by International Polka Association



Violinist Jumpin' John Huchrowski

BELLE VERNON, PA - Accolades go to John Huchrowski, a member of PRCUA Society #2291 for 64 years, who was recently honored by the International Polka Association (IPA) with a Certificate of Achievement Award for 80 years as an accomplished violinist and polka musician.

A resident of Belle Vernon, PA, "Jumpin' John" was born on Dec. 28, 1927 in Wall, PA, one of 13 children. In the 1930s, he had his first violin lesson, being taught by Walter Smith & Joe Guzik. He attended Polish School and St. Leocadia, in Wilmerding, PA and graduated from Westinghouse Memorial H.S. in 1946. John was

chosen to represent his Alma Mater in the All State Orchestra at the State Forum in Harrisburg, PA. Later, he was invited to join & play for the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony, with Conductor Stanley Levin.

John loves to perform Polka music. He was a guest with Marie Torri on the *KDKA Polka Show* with Joe Fiedor, and did a show on KTLA, Ch. 5, Los Angeles, CA. He organized the *Polka Party Band* for the George Almasi TV Shows on Ch. 53, Pittsburgh, PA and was co-owner of *Pomona Polka Town* in Pomona, CA.

John Huchrowski performed with Lil' Wally, Stephanie, Frankie Yankovic, Johnny Vadnal, and Gary Seibert. He also performed with three IPA Hall of Famers: Joe Mlakar, Sam Pugliano, and Lou Trebar.

With a lifelong career in music, John performed with many bands, musicians and orchestras, including: *Dave Miron Orchestra, CA*; *Tony Mandella Orchestra, Etiwanda, CA*; *Bill Guzel Orchestra, Etiwanda, CA*; *Frank Zeitz, Arcadia, CA*; *Herb Eberly, La Verne, CA*; *Jan Cyman, FL*; *Northern Sounds, FL*; *Bee Sharps, FL*; *Don Wojtila, Enon Valley, PA*; *Polka Quads, Steelton, PA*; *Kosovo Tamburitzza, Wall, PA*; *Nick Padezan Tamburitzza; Mikey Dee Orchestra*; and *Bill Smartnick Orchestra*. John has also worked with the following Button Box Groups: Fontana, CA; Penn Ohio; Myrtle Beach; White Valley; and Western PA.

John performed with Hall of Famer Matt Wasielewski's Polka Jets; Joe Fiedor & the Polish All Stars, Polka Family; Stan Olszewski's Varitones; Dorothy Ziemianski's Slovak-Hungarian Music; Bob Jezewski's Merry Makers; Ray Jay & the Carousels; Andy Fenus & the Trel Tones; Marvels Orch. Erie, PA; Polka Happiness; Dynasonics; Buffalo Touch; Chester Jonczak's Duo; Chudaks; Jersey Polka Richie; Concertina All Stars; John Gora, Stas Golonka and Molly B.

John's Bands included: Stardusters 1944-1955; Highlites, Pomona, CA, 1956-1966; Polka Dynamics; and the "Ol' Goats" Orchestra.

Congratulations are extended to John Huchrowski, an outstanding violinist, who has dedicated his entire life to bringing the joy of music into the hearts and lives of Polka-lovers across America. Bravo! The PRCUA salutes you, John! What a wonderful legacy John has created!

Resident V.P. Anna Sokolowski Chosen as Vice Marshal of the May 3rd Parade

CHICAGO, IL - The PRCUA is very proud to announce that our very own Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski has been chosen as this year's Vice Marshal of the Polish Constitution Day Parade in Chicago on May 3rd. What a great honor this is for the PRCUA, as well as for Mrs. Sokolowski personally.

Edward Mika, Honorary President of the Alliance of Polish Clubs was chosen by a panel of 17 members of the Committee, as the Grand Marshal of the Polish Parade. Anna Sokolowski was surprised to be nominated for the title of Marshal. The nomination was made by Mary Anselmo, President of the Association of Young Polish Women.

"I was very surprised by his nomination. I did not expect to be in the top three and be chosen as a Vice Marshal. I am extremely honored to have received this distinction," said Anna Sokolowski when the designation was announced.

For Anna, the Polish Parade is a family tradition. Since 1964, when she came to the U.S., she has participated in every parade - missing only twice for her two daughters' first communions. She reported that marching in the parade through the streets of our great city made her feel proud of her roots. Although she left Poland long ago, she recalls her mother's words: "Remember daughter, that your heart is in Poland; always cherish Polish culture and tradition and teach it to others, because it is the most important value in life." For Mrs. Sokolowski, the parade is a chance give our children beautiful Polish values, most importantly, showing our pride of being Polish to the entire city and America. "Let's all join this year's parade, showing our Polish identity and pride in the fact that our countryman, a man whom many of us met, is counted among the saints of the Church. There can't be a greater reason to be proud!" concluded Mrs. Sokolowski

Dorota Malachowska was also selected a Vice Marshal of the Parade. For 3 years she has been President of *Dar Serca* Foundation, after serving as Secretary for 20 years.

Anna and Mark Sokolowski have been married since 1970. They reside in Downers Grove, IL, and are the proud parents of two daughters, Basia (Sean) Ackerman and Alicia Sokolowski and grandparents of Aurora, Annika, Alex and Charlotte.

Anna Sokolowski, FICF has been serving the PRCUA as its National Resident Vice President since 2002. She is now in her third and final term in office. Mrs. Sokolowski is a licensed life insurance sales representative and was a PRCUA Million Dollar Insurance Producer in 2002. She belongs to John Paul II Society #1605 and is an active member of District 8, where she served as District 8 VP and chaired various District 8 events. Besides her duties as V.P., she also served for a while as PRCUA Consultant Underwriter. Mrs. Sokolowski writes a social news column in *Narod Polski*. She is an avid photographer who has enhanced *Narod Polski*, PRCUA Facebook, and the PRCUA website with her photos.

V.P. Sokolowski reorganized the PRCUA schools and was instrumental in bringing the Fraternal Department into the 21st century by initiating PRCUA social networking such as MySpace, Twitter and Facebook, where she posts information and photos about PRCUA events. She is a staunch supporter of the PRCUA Dance Groups, Polish Language Schools, Sport Tournaments, the Cinderella-Prince Charming Ball, the PRCUA Shirley Galanty Michigan State Ball and the Polish Museum of America.

As Resident V.P., Mrs. Sokolowski has been a visible and honored representative of PRCUA in Polonia. Together with three other major Polish American fraternal - Polish National Alliance, Polish Women's Alliance of America, and Polish Falcons - she jointly organized annual Polish-American Days at Six Flags/Great America, Chicago White Sox, Chicago Wolves, Chicago Bulls, Chicago Fire, Sleeping with the Dinosaurs at the Field Museum, Fraternal Bowling, and Casino Outings. This has fostered greater cooperation among the four major Polish American fraternal in the Chicagoland area.

A well-travelled Vice President, during her terms in office, she organized a "Castles and Palaces of Poland" trip for PRCUA members. Under her leadership, for the first time in PRCUA history, our dance groups participated in the International Children's Polish Folk Dance Festival in Iwonicz Zdroj (2003, 2006, 2009, 2012). She encouraged the PRCUA to send young teachers to Rzeszow and Lublin, Poland, during the summers, to attend a 4-year certified choreographer course. They all completed the courses and passed the exam; V.P. Sokolowski was at their graduation in Poland to congratulate them.

She also attended the Worldwide Convention of Polonia (*Zjazd Polonii i Polakow z Zagranicy*) organized by *Wspolnota Polska* (2007, 2012). Last year, she attended the Conference of Polish Leaders in Poland. She also accompanied PRCUA adult dance groups to the festivals in Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, and China.

Born in Poland, Anna immigrated to the USA 50 years ago and became a U.S. citizen in 1975. She graduated from the University of Illinois. Mrs. Sokolowski is a Life Member and the Board Vice Chair of the Polish Museum of America. She is active in Polonia as a member of the Polish American Congress, PAC - IL Div., Joseph Conrad Korzeniowski Yacht Club, Chicago Intercollegiate Council, Polish Women's Civic Club and Polish Club in Lemont. She is also a former Director of the Illinois Fraternal Congress.

V.P. Anna Sokolowski has been honored with the distinction of being selected as a recipient of the "Gold Medal of Merit" from the Republic of Poland and the Bronze "Gloria Artis" Medal from the Republic of Poland's Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, for her contributions to Polish culture. She also received special recognition from the Archdiocese of Chicago for generous support of its Polish Youth programs. In 2011 and 2013, she received a Certificate of Appreciation and award from the Polish Teachers Association of America for contributions to the Polish language schools.

The PRCUA is very proud of the diverse accomplishments of its Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski, and extends sincere congratulations on this latest of many honors accorded to her. Bravo!



PRCUA Resident Vice President
Anna Sokolowski Vice Marshal
of Chicago's Polish Parade

Naród Polski

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FOUR POLISH FRATERNALS SPONSOR POLISH AMERICAN OUTINGS IN CHICAGOLAND

CHICAGO, IL - Four Polish fraternal organizations - PRCUA, Polish National Alliance, Polish Women's Alliance of America and Polish Falcons - invite you and your family to participate in three summer events which the four organizations are sponsoring.

Demonstrate your pride in your Polish heritage by attending these events and supporting the endeavors of the four Polish fraternals. Not only will you have a great night of fun and friendship, but you will also be able to purchase your tickets at greatly reduced prices. See details below.



POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT WITH THE CHICAGO FIRE SOCCER TEAM

The first event of the summer is Polish American Night with the Chicago Fire Soccer Team.. The game will take place on **Sunday, May 18, 2014** at Toyota Park in Bridgeview, Illinois. The Chicago Fire will host the Kansas City Sporting. Tickets are only \$22.00 (regular \$40.00).

Tickets can be purchased through the Chicago Fire Sales Office Contact, Ed Kaczynski (708) 496-6784. Please note that tickets are subject to availability and due to high demand, we encourage you to order tickets as soon as possible.



POLISH AMERICAN DAYS AT SIX FLAGS GREAT AMERICA

June 21, 22, 28 & 29 in 2014 are Polish American Days at Six Flags Great America Theme Park in Gurnee, Illinois. Tickets for this event are \$31.00 each. The Park offers an assortment of rides for all ages and even features a toddler section for the little ones.

Want to get wet? Admission to "Six Flags Hurricane Harbor" is an additional \$5.00 with this ticket price and it is located next door to the Theme Park.

You may order tickets online at www.sixflags.com/greatamerica and use the Promo Code: **POLISH**. The online ticket price is \$33.00. Tickets can be also be purchased for Great America by calling the Polish Roman Catholic Union 773-782-2600 Ext. 2601. Be sure to order your tickets as soon as possible because they go fast at these reduced rates.



POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT AT U.S. CELLULAR FIELD IN CHICAGO

Tuesday, July 1, 2014, the annual Polish American Night at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago will be sponsored by the four fraternals. The Chicago White Sox will host the Los Angeles Angels. The lower box seat tickets are \$25.00 each (regular \$40.00). Orders must be placed by Monday, June 16, 2014 in order to receive this special price. Tickets last year went fast, so please order them early. Call the PRCUA Fraternal Department at 773-782-2600 Ext. 2601.



Michigan's Annual Blessing of Polish American Dance Groups



(L-r) PRCUA's First Lady Judith Drobot, Kristi Mihalic - Dir. of Wieliczka Dancers, members of Wieliczka Dancers and Pres. Joseph Drobot, Jr.

DETROIT, MI - March 30, 2014 marked the 12th Annual Blessing of the Polish American Dance Ensembles at St. Hyacinth Roman Catholic Church in Detroit, Mi. Sixteen dance groups were represented, including eight from the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America: Halka Dancers, Mala Polska Folk Ensemble, Opole Dancers, Polskie Maki Dancers, Rogalin Dancers, Syrena, Wieliczka Dancers, Zajaczek Dancers and Zakopane.

Reverend Janusz Iwan was the celebrant of the Mass and he said he was so pleased to see so many dancers that it was like bringing the heart of Poland to America. He was thrilled that our Polish traditions, our Polish heritage and Catholic faith is still strong in America, and he would like the youth to carry it on to future generations.



(L-r) Pres. & Mrs. Drobot with little Zosia and her older sister Ania Toboy

National Vice President Bob Bielenda and his wife, Eleanor; National Secretary-Treasurer James Robaczewski; District #10 National Director Thomas Lisiecki; District #10 National Director Christopher Ozog; and Past District #10 Dir. Barbara Toboy and her family.



(L-r) Christine Krass of Zakopane Polish Folk Dancers. and District #10 National Director Thomas Lisiecki

During the Offertory, each group brought gifts to the altar: an illustrated history of Poland, pisanki, kierzce and ciupaga, bread and salt, red poppies, Holy Rosary, Krakowiak dolls, Krakowiak hat with peacock feathers, soil from Wawel Castle, an icon of the Black Madonna (Our Lady of Czestochowa), chrusciki, basket of fruit, homemade bread, a photograph of John Paul II, and a scroll with the signed names of all the dancers that were present.

It was a beautiful, touching ceremony and a wonderful way to kick off the groups' dance recital season.

- Article and photos by V.P. Bob Bielenda



61st Convention Notices

NOTICE ON CONVENTION REPRESENTATION

The 61st Quadrennial Convention of the PRCUA is quickly approaching. The Secretary-Treasurer reminds all officers of PRCUA Societies of a very important provision in the Constitution and By-Laws governing the representation of Societies at the Convention.

Section Three, Article 03E, Delegates to the Convention, Paragraph 6

"A Society delinquent to the UNION more than two (2) months in its assessments loses its rights to representation at the Convention."

The accounts of a majority of Societies are current, therefore this notice does not apply to them. However, any Society which is delinquent is encouraged to bring its account up-to-date immediately, so that your Society will meet the qualifications of the Constitution for representation at the Convention, which is the most important gathering of our fraternal organization.

James Robaczewski, FIC, Secretary-Treasurer

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES SEEKING PRCUA NATIONAL OFFICES

The Candidates Qualifications Committee has announced that all candidates seeking to run for election to a national office in the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America must contact the Secretary-Treasurer for an application. All applications must be submitted to the Office of the Secretary-Treasurer and postmarked by May 30, 2014.

Candidates must meet the following requirements as set forth by the PRCUA Constitution. Although the Constitution uses masculine terminology, the information applies to male and female equally. **Article 03K Nomination of Officers and Directors**

1. Only a Delegate meeting the following requirements shall be nominated for the position of Officer or Director for the UNION and may be a candidate for that office in the UNION:

- a. the Delegates must personally be present and registered at the Convention within the timeframe of the first session on the second day of the Convention;
- b. must have been a member of the UNION for at least five (5) years;
- c. is a citizen of the United States of America;
- d. has indicated his desire to aspire for the specified office or his name has heretofore been presented by a Society or a Circuit with the consent of the candidate. Such an announcement must be forwarded to the Candidates Qualifications Committee and **postmarked by May 30** of the Convention year. Once approved by the Candidates Qualifications Committee, all qualified candidates [names] must be published in an issue of the official publication of the UNION thirty (30) days prior to the Convention.

A candidate for the office of Director must be a resident of the District and he must be a member of a Society, which is located in the District.

2. No two members of a nuclear family shall be permitted, during the whole or any part of the same term, to be members of the Board of Directors. Nuclear family shall mean familial relationships only, including husband and wife, parent and child and brother and sister. If and in the event that two or more members of a nuclear family shall, at a Convention, run for and receive enough votes to be entitled to be a member of the Board of Directors, then only that member of the nuclear family who has received the most votes from the Delegates at the Convention shall be entitled to take the oath and serve the Term of Office provided for the position for which that member sought election.

Please request an application in person or by telephoning the Secretary-Treasurer's Office at 773-782-2600 Ext. 2605 or toll-free at 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2605. Or send your request for an application by REGISTERED MAIL to:

James Robaczewski, FIC, Secretary-Treasurer
PRCUA
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

BUDGET & GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE NOTICE

The PRCUA Budget and Grievance Committee has announced that any PRCUA member who has a complaint, suggestion or grievance should file it - in writing - with the Budget and Grievance Committee. It should be **postmarked by May 30, 2014**. The PRCUA Convention will only accept complaints, suggestions and grievances that have been officially filed with this Committee.

A meeting of the Budget and Grievance Committee will be held after receipt of responses from the membership.

Eileen Hanley, Chairperson
Nicole Bencik

Patrick Kosowski

Teresa Gibala, Secretary
Michael Turkiewicz

Send your complaints, suggestions and/or grievances to:

Budget and Grievance Committee
PRCUA, 984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60642-4101

INSTRUCTIONS TO PRCUA SOCIETIES REGARDING CREDENTIALS FOR DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE CONVENTION

After the election of delegates and alternates is held by your PRCUA Society, please complete the delegate and alternate credentials with all the necessary information. Have it signed by the President and Financial Secretary of the Society and mail only the **DUPLICATE** to the office of the Secretary-Treasurer. It must be **postmarked by May 30, 2014**.

The **ORIGINAL** must be given to your Society's delegate or alternate, who must present it when registering at the PRCUA Convention.

Please send credential duplicates to:

James Robaczewski, FIC, Secy.-Tres.
PRCUA
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE PRCUA CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The Constitution Committee is accepting proposed changes to the PRCUA Constitution and By-Laws. Any PRCUA member, Society, Circuit or District in good standing has the right to propose changes to the PRCUA Constitution and By-Laws. These changes must be submitted **IN WRITING** to the Constitution Committee by June 1, 2014 for consideration. Please follow the format below when submitting proposed changes. The Committee will accept proposed changes until June 1, 2014. Thank you.

Proposal to the Constitution Committee

Name _____

Street _____

City, St, Zip _____

Phone: Day (_____) _____

Evening (_____) _____

Your PRCUA Society Number _____

Changes proposed to these articles:

Chapter _____ Article _____ Page(s) _____

Title of Article _____

Reason for proposed change: _____

Proposed wording: _____

Send proposed changes by **June 1, 2014** to:
PRCUA Constitution Committee, Secy-Tres. James
Robaczewski, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101

PHILADELPHIA NEWS

(Member's name are in capitals.)

CONGRATULATIONS: Best wishes are extended to PRCUA National District 3 Director JOANNE ZAJAC, member of Society #2013 on her recent election as President of the Philadelphia Fraternal. Re-elected as Secretary-Treasurer was SHARON QUINN of Society #2015. JOANNE and SHARON will serve in these capacities for a year. Here's wishing these energetic ladies a fruitful reign.

PRETTY IN PINK: Pink has been the predominant color in Port Richmond it seems. On January 25, 2014, Society #2022 members KEITH and MARY TOMSON welcomed the arrival of their very first baby. Ruth Emma arrived at Holy Redeemer Hospital weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz. and stretching 21 ½ inches long. Adorable Baby Ruth is the granddaughter of CHRISTINA (John) TOMSON, niece of JOHN and KEITH TOMSON and cousin of SKYLER, all PRCUA Society #2022 members.



Ruth Emma Tomson



Emma Grace Yost

On February 25, 2014, Society #2022 member, DR. CHRISTINA YOST and hubby, Mark, welcomed the arrival of their first child. Cute little Emma Grace made her debut at Einstein Hospital weighing 7 lbs. 6 oz. and 19 ¼ in. long. Emma's Uncle BRIAN MURDOCK and cousin DEXTER MURDOCK are also Society #2022 members.

Congratulations to the entire TOMSON and YOST families on the arrival of their new blessings from above. May all the little angels watch and guard over the babies all the days of their lives. Society #2022 is especially excited because Baby Ruth and Baby Emma are already in the process of becoming PRCUA members, thanks to the efforts of their grandparents.

CONFIRMATION CONGRATULATIONS: Society #2022's third-generation member DANIELLE HAMM of Colledgeville, PA received Confirmation on April 2, 2014 at St. Eleanor Catholic Church by Bishop Thomas Martino. She chose the name "Anne" and her sponsor was her sister, RACHEL. DANIELLE is a 6th grade student at Perkiomen Valley Middle School East and is quite a field hockey and basketball enthusiast. She is the daughter of LINDA (Brian) HAMM and the sister of ERIN, RACHEL and TAYLOR HAMM, all PRCUA members. May the Holy Spirit fill your heart with continued joy, Danielle.



Danielle & Rachel Hamm

SILVER ANNIVERSARY WISHES: 25 years ago on April 1, 1989, Society #2022's TABBIE MIKELIONIS was united in Holy Matrimony at Nativity B.V.M. Church to Ronald Vidovich. On April 1, 2014 in celebration, TABBIE and Ron enjoyed a romantic dinner on the 37th floor of a renowned restaurant in Center City Philadelphia. The following day Tabbie's mother, ELAINE MIKELIONIS, her sister CHRISTINE WIELGUS and brother BILLY MIKELIONIS - all Society #2022 members - honored the silver love birds with a surprise dinner at a famous restaurant. TABBIE and Ron are the parents of Soc. #2022 members ALISSA, KRISTEN and LAUREN VIDOVICH. They reside in Williamstown, NJ and many family members belong to Soc. #2022. Congratulations on 25 years of love, companionship and togetherness.



Tabbie and Ron Vidovich

IN SYMPATHY: Thoughts and prayer are with Society #2022's member ELAINE MIKELIONIS on the loss of her dear husband, Bill. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Nativity B.V.M. Church. Bill is also survived by daughters TABBIE (Ron) VIDOVICH, CHRISTINE WIELGUS, son BILLY MIKELIONIS, 5 granddaughters, a grandson and a great granddaughter. Sincere condolences are extended to the entire Mikelionis Family on their great loss. May Bill Mikelionis rest in eternal peace.

Submitted by Elaine Burkhardt, Fin. Secy. Societies #2002, #2011, #2022, Philadelphia, PA

INVITATION TO THE DEDICATION OF A HISTORICAL MARKER

In 2013 the PA Historical and Museum Commission approved a historical marker to honor Dr. Walter Golaski (1913-1996), engineer and inventor who was a leading pioneer in manufacturing knitted Dacron blood-vessel replacements. A Drexel University graduate, he was also a philanthropist who established closer ties between the US and Poland through cultural and scholarly exchange. He was Chair of the Kosciuszko Foundation (1973-82.)

The marker dedication will take place at 12 Noon on Saturday, May 17th at the corner of 34th Street and Lancaster Ave. in Philadelphia; this is Lancaster Walk in back of Drexel University Athletic Center. All are welcome to attend.

A luncheon will follow at 2 pm. Tickets are \$40 per person at Drexel's Paul Peck Alumni Center, 32nd & Market Street. Please make your reservation now. Call Jean Joka, 215-483-0193. Additional information about the event will be posted on the Internet as it becomes available: <http://www.polishcultureacpc.org/Golaski>

New Board Installation Dominates PACC March Meeting



PACC New Executive Officers & Board of Directors & Past President

CHICAGO, IL - The Polish American Chamber of Commerce (PACC) monthly Business-After-Hours gathering on Thursday, March 20 was remarkable due to the number and quality of its guests, and the fact that it doubled as the Chamber's annual meeting. Celebrating the 20th anniversary of founding, the Chamber was honored to hold the event at the Polish Museum of America (PMA), known as the "crown jewel" of Polonia. The meeting was sponsored by the PRCUA, the oldest Polish fraternal in the country.

Following PRCUA President Joseph Drobot's warm welcome, he spoke about the PRCUA and its history, and invited everyone to view the PRCUA History Exhibit that was on display at the PMA. Then PACC President Lucas Fuksa greeted all and thanked the PRCUA for their membership in the PACC, and for their generosity as host. He also reflected on PACC's accomplishments during 2013, and on the two terms of his presidency.

President Fuksa then announced the results of the recent election. Members of the 2014-15 Executive Committee and Board of Directors are: Daniel Bara, 4th Wave Consulting (V.P./External - international); Agnes Bastrzyk, PRCUA; Malgorzata Borysiewicz, Up-To-Sound, Inc.; Beata Bukowski, Team Beata Bukowski at Forum Mortgage Bancorp; Lucas Fuksa, Fuksa Khorshid, LLC (Immediate Past Pres.); Ela Golebiewska, Bright Star Media; Henry Kazmierczak, H&L International, Inc.; Jolanta Kaczmarek-Waltos, Soho Image & Style, Inc.; John Kapusciarz, European Chalet; Marek Kowalczyk, IDEA Furniture, Co. (V.P./Internal); Sylvia Miga, Pulido Sanchez Communications (Secretary); Jan Mlynarski, Graphic Arts Co.; Anna Morzy, Fragomen (President); Stan Nowak, Integra Insurance; Mario Puharic, Integra Communications; Stanley Skoczen, Omega Structures, Inc.; Robert Stafecki, AR TV Chicago; Tom Startek, StarTech Glass, Inc. (V.P./External - local); Art Tobolski, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage; Halina Wikar, Taxes - The Financial Services Corp. (Treasurer); Monika Wyrwas, FYI, Inc.; Slawek Wysocki, Chicago Metal; and Tony Zaskowski, Property Consultants RE. The officers and board were sworn in and installed by James Robaczewski, PRCUA Secretary-Treasurer.

While there are no term limits for a Director on the PACC Board, the President is limited to 2 two-year terms. Outgoing Pres. Lucas Fuksa introduced Anna Morzy, the new President of the Board. "I am honored to be entrusted with the position of President of the PACC," said Anna Morzy. "In 2014, as we celebrate the Chamber's 20th anniversary and Poland's 25th anniversary of its entry into free markets and democratic rule, we will continue to highlight the PACC's dual role of promoting local Polish American businesses focused on Chicagoland and ... we will continue to build and strengthen the bridge between the U.S., Poland, and the EU."



(Front) Bogna Solak of Oak Mill Bakery, with a PRCUA gift bag that she won, (back, l-r) Agnes Bastrzyk, and Pres. Anna Morzy



Past Pres. L. Fuksa receiving a certificate from Pres. Anna Morzy with Exec. Dir. B. Puksza in back

The PACC's Exec. Dir. Bogdan Puksza, who helped emcee the meeting, said: "The high caliber of our Board members, and the Board's Executive Committee, bode well for the Chamber's future. It's an excellent mix of successful entrepreneurs and professionals."

For more information about the PACC, go to the following website: www.polishamericanchamber.org



The 80th Annual PRCUA National Basketball Tournament was held on Saturday March 29th in Warren, MI, hosted by PRCUA St. Rita's Society #1368. This year's tournament included 11 teams in the Men's Division and 3 teams in the Women's 3-on-3 Division. The weekend festivities kicked off Friday night with a hospitality room at the Holiday Inn. As usual, when an event is hosted by St. Rita's, Marina Losinski provided some amazing cuisine for the event. This year's fare included crab salad and clam chowder, both of which received rave reviews.

The Men's Division tipped off bright and early on Saturday morning at the Warren Community Center (WCC) and Immaculate Conception School Gym, and continued all morning long. The Women's 3-on-3 Division took place at the WCC, and following round robin play, **St. Rita's Blue Team** captured the championship.

After lunch at the Community Center, 25 participants squared off in the first ever 3-point shooting contest. After sinking an impressive 9 out of 15 in the first round, **Eric Salla** from **Pound Town Express** netted an amazing 12 out of 15 three-pointers to capture the men's title. **Jen LaBudie** from St. Rita's captured the women's title. Congratulations!

Bracket play continued all afternoon and culminated in a championship match pitting the Polish Hammers against the Pound Town Express. In impressive fashion, the **Pound Town Express** team captured the Championship.

Participants, dignitaries, and special guests gathered on Saturday evening at Fr. Kramer Knights of Columbus Hall in Centerline, MI, for the Awards Banquet. Guests dined on a full Polish menu that included pierogi, city chicken, and golabki. St. Rita's official DJ, Matt Ruffner (DJ Rough Dirt), provided music for the evening. Prizes were awarded to the following teams and individuals:

TEAM CHAMPIONS:

Men Pound Town Express of Wyandotte, MI
Women St. Rita's Blue of Warren, MI

ALL STARS:

Pound Town Express	Dan Budzyn, Chuck Hutson
Polish Hammers	John Dzvrovski, Jimmy Michaels
Mr. Pete's Boys	Vince Kazmierczak, Dan Lutman
Toledo PRCUA	Robert Wietrzykowski, Jeff Tyburski
Dare Bar	Greg Knop, Bob Hojnacki
St. Rita's 1	Pat Dermyer, Pat Leszczynski
St. Rita's 2	John Eagle, Steve Zenkiewicz
Bielenda's Boys	Tim Sobczak, Jeff Belczak
Boomba Boys	Nick Sobczak, John Bysiorek
Aces	Jeff Highland, Tom Stibich
PRCUA #1593	John Hale, Jeff Hayball
St. Rita Teal	Stacy Pedigo, Christy White, Kari Losinski
St. Rita Blue	Patty Johansen, Deann Losinski
St. Rita Pink	Jen LaBudie

MOST VALUABLE PLAYERS:

Men - John Bobrowski; Women- Valerie Brumm

3 POINT CHAMPIONS:

Men - Eric Salla; Women - Jen LaBudie

A special tribute was made to Anna Sokolowski, who is in her final months in office as PRCUA Resident Vice President. She was presented with an All Star award, a Champion's award, and a special framed picture signed by those who participated in this year's tournament. We at St. Rita's thank Anna for her service over the last twelve years, particularly her support of the sports tournaments.

The evening also included a few rounds of "Famous Polish Legends Races." presented by Keith Kujawski. The Banquet capped off a great weekend of basketball, fun, and fraternalism.



PRCUA 2014 Basketball Champs - Pound Town Express from Wyandotte, Michigan



PRCUA Men's 2014 All Stars



(Left) PRCUA Women's 2014 All Stars



(Far left) Pres. Drobot shooting the first basketball (Close left) 3-point winners Jen LaBudie (rt) & friend picking up trophy for Eric Salla

Matt Ruffner (DJ Ruff Dirt) and Jason Losinski.



(L-r) Jerry Lubiarz, Pres. Joseph Drobot, Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski with signed picture and Jason Losinski

A ton of thanks go to all who helped to make this event a huge success: scorekeepers Jack Steinhebel, Greg Losinski, Kevin Tuczec, Eric Lesnau, Bryan Blank, Jeff Curcio and Chuck Purgiel; workers Patty Johansen, Eric Johansen, Kelly Leszczynski, Katie McClenahan, Cheryl Belbot, and super special thanks to Jennifer Orr-Vernon and Robin Coker. Appreciation goes to Dave Klein from the Warren Parks and Recreation Dept. for his assistance with the gyms, referees, and tournament scheduling. Finally, I would like to give a BIG thank you to Jason Losinski for his 'out of the box' thinking all weekend in helping to make this year's tournament an amazing success!

Jerry Lubiarz, St. Rita's #1368

Highlights of the 2014 PRCUA National Bowling Tournament



MEN'S ALL EVENTS

HANDICAP TOTAL

	PRIZE	POINTS	WINNING BOWLER
1.	\$130.00	2230	Jason Losinski
2.	\$110.00	2213	Michael Ozog
3.	\$80.00	2135	Thomas Swiatek
4.	\$50.00	2117	Mark Kapanowski
5.	\$25.00	2072	Ed Kapanowski Sr.

SCRATCH TOTAL

	PRIZE	POINTS	WINNING BOWLER
1.	\$75.00	1976	Scott Hoye
2.	\$60.00	1970	Rick Lambert
3.	\$40.00	1954	David Stewart
4.	\$20.00	1951	Jeff Greenlaw
5.	\$10.00	1947	Michael Wilson

WOMEN'S ALL EVENTS

HANDICAP TOTAL

	PRIZE	POINTS	WINNING BOWLER
1.	\$90.00	2099	Christy White
2.	\$70.00	2089	Lori Lambert
3.	\$50.00	1997	Jinx Phillips

SCRATCH TOTAL

	PRIZE	POINTS	WINNING BOWLER
1.	\$40.00	1687	Valerie Brumm
2.	\$30.00	1659	Katie Hyso
3.	\$20.00	1566	Laura Taraszkiwicz

Congratulations to the top bowlers!



77th PRCUA National Bowling Tournament News



(L-r) D10 Dir. Tom Lisiecki, Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski, V.P. Bob Bielenda, Pres. Joseph Drobot, Secy.-Tres. Jim Robaczewski, D10 Dir. Chris Ozog

PLYMOUTH, MI - The 77th Annual PRCUA National Bowling Tournament was recently hosted by St. Stan's Society #718. It was held from Friday, April 4, through Sunday, April 6, 2014, at Plaza Lanes in Plymouth, Michigan.

The tournament kicked off with a fantastic hospitality event at Doc's Sports Retreat on Thursday night. St. Stan's and the tournament chairpersons, Frank and Jerry Nasiatka, put together a first-class gathering, which included free pizza and a couple of drinks per person. It was really nice to see so many people fill the large patio section at Doc's for this gathering!

Bowling began on Friday morning and lasted through Sunday afternoon. The Opening Ceremony was held on Saturday at 12:30 p.m. Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski introduced the National Officers of the PRCUA, as well as the PRCUA Directors who were present. Host Society President Jerry Nasiatka then presented the ladies of PRCUA with a special gift, recognizing their individual contributions to the PRCUA as a whole. Jerry presented a special gift bag to First Lady Judy Drobot, Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski, Eleanor Bielenda, spouse of V.P. Bob Bielenda, and Mary Jane Robles, Exec. Asst. to the Res. V.P., who assists in the bowling tournament preparations.



Eleanor Bielenda, Judy Drobot, Mary Jane Robles, Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski

Dave Grabowski was then awarded the "Joe Osmanski Bowler of the Year" plaque and jacket for the year 2013. Congratulations, Dave! The Opening Ceremony commenced with the playing of the Polish and American National Anthems. PRCUA National President Joseph Drobot, Jr. then



Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski and Pres. Joseph Drobot with 2013 Joe Osmanski Award Winner David Grabowski



Pres. Joe Drobot throwing the ceremonial first ball

had the honor of officially kicking off the 77th Annual Tournament by throwing the ceremonial first ball. Throughout the entire weekend, the Tournament saw some outstanding scores. There were many high 200 games and more than a handful of 700 series. Several bowlers flirted with that elusive perfect 300 game, but it

proved to be unattainable in this year's tournament.

After the Team Event on Saturday, many attended a private Mass held in the Holiday Inn Ballroom, celebrated by St. Stan Society's Chaplain, Father Paul Ballien. Afterwards, the Awards Banquet took place, where the crowd was treated to the wonderful music of the Randy Krajewski Trio.

Along with the



Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski and V.P. Bob Bielenda with recognition cakes

complimentary hors d'oeuvres and partially-subsidized drinks, two special cakes were presented and enjoyed, acknowledging two very special people. The cakes were presented by host Jerry Nasiatka to Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski and Society 718's very own Vice President Bob Bielenda to recognize their many contributions and fraternal efforts throughout their three terms (12 years) in office. Sadly, this year's tournament will be the last for both Anna and Bob as National Officers. It was fitting that many took the time to thank both of these outstanding fraternalists for all they've done, and to congratulate them and wish each one well in the future. Personally, I consider both to be tremendous mentors and friends. I am grateful to have had the chance to work with them both. Our wonderful organization has been blessed to have had them as leaders for the past 12 years.

During the Banquet, National President Joseph Drobot, Jr. spoke to all regarding the importance of continuing our fraternal activities and seeking new members to help us grow as an organization. Then, the 2014 National Team Champions were announced:

Men's Division - "Five Kaps" from St. Stan's in Taylor, Michigan. Captained by Edward "Edzia" Kapanowski, Sr., the "Five Kaps" consisted of three of Edzia's sons (Edward Jr., Robert and Mark) and his brother, Tommy. Congrats and nice bowling to the Kapanowski clan! As manager of this team, Edzia's wife, Tosia, can be very proud of her "boys."



(L-r) Maria Miesik, Lori Miesik and Cheryl Belbot of St. Rita's "Made in Detroit" - the Women's Team Champs with Patrick Kosowski & Soc. #718 President Jerry Nasiatka in the background

Women's Division - "Made in Detroit - St. Rita's #1368" from Warren, Michigan. Captained by the soon-to-be-married Lori Miesik, the team of Maria Miesik, Cheryl Belbot, Stacey Schorejs and Valerie Brumm pulled away from the pack and claimed the title. Nice bowling ladies! And best wishes to Lori and her lucky husband-to-be!

PLEASE SEE THE PRCUA WEBSITE FOR THE TOTAL LIST OF RESULTS FOR ALL THE FLIGHTS AND THE TEAM PHOTOS: www.prcua.org

I tip my hat to the Tournament hosts - Jerry and Frank Nasiatka - and their army of volunteers who organized a wonderful and flawless tournament. As a member of this Society, I realize that I can be a bit biased, but I think it would be hard to find anybody who attended the Tournament who had a bad thing to say. Nice work, Society 718! Once again, you were shining brightly for our fraternal brothers and sisters!

That wraps up the 2014 Tournament news. Thanks to all for attending and supporting our fraternal events. I am looking forward to seeing everybody at the 78th PRCUA Bowling Tournament next year in Muskegon, Michigan (tentatively April 10-12). Frank Swiatek and his crew at PRCUA Society #718 are already working hard to create a great tournament experience for us all at next year's event. The past few fraternal events in Muskegon have been extremely well run and fun. You won't want to miss the next tournament! See you in Muskegon!

Patrick Kosowski, Bowling Tournament Director
(Photos courtesy of Resident V.P. Anna Sokolowski)



(L-r) Soc. #718 Tournament Committee members Ernie Pindzia, Frank Nasiatka, Jerry Nasiatka and Ed Zabzcynski



Accepting the awards for Men's Team Champions "Five Kaps" are Tosia & Edward Kapanowski, Sr. of Soc. #718 with Tournament Dir. Patrick Kosowski



(L-r) Behind-the-scenes planners Exec. Asst. to the Res. V.P. Mary Jane Robles, Tournament Director Patrick Kosowski and Res. V.P. Anna Sokolowski

PRCUA 2014 National Convention Golf Outing

Saturday, August 9, 2014

11:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Detwiler Park Golf Course

4001 N. Summit St., Toledo, OH 43611

- Open to all PRCUA Members -
Entry fee: \$45.00 per person, includes:
golf cart, prizes and afterwards,
hot dogs and beer at the PRCUA Club
5255 N. Detroit Ave., Toledo, OH.

Sign-up early for this Golf Outing.
Send a list of the golfers' names and your entry fees,
made payable to:
PRCUA Preconvention Committee
to
PRCUA
Vikkijean Mixon
5255 N. Detroit Avenue
Toledo, OH 43612

Gwiazda Dancers Spring Forward



DETROIT, MI - On March 1, 2014, Spring hadn't quite sprung in Michigan. On that day, Metro-Detroiters were treated to another 4-6 inches of snow. But the endless winter didn't stop the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers! The Ensemble performed at two separate events that day.

In the morning, Gwiazda's Tots, Group 2, and Group 3 performed in Hamtramck, Michigan at the City's annual "Count Down to Paczki Day Celebration." This is an annual event which features the Ensemble and includes the Misty Blues Polka Band and, of course, *paczki*.

This year's event was held in conjunction with the Paczki Run (a 5 K race through the City of Hamtramck). Many of the runners stuck around to catch the performance. The groups presented their Krakowiak, Cięta Polka, Beski Śląski, Lasowiak and a Polka performed by the entire Ensemble.

In the afternoon, Gwiazda's Group 1 performed at the annual Polish Folk Dance Festival held at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy, Michigan. Gwiazda has attended each of these festivals since they began. Group 1 performed its Kujawiak/Oberek at this event.

With these two performances down, the students, directors and choreographer of the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers narrowed their focus as they began holding double practices in preparation for the Ensemble's 54th Annual Recital which was held on March 30, 2014.

Submitted by Nicholas J. Nowakowski
Gwiazda Secretary & 1997 Alumnus

Polish Surname Corner

A Mother's/Father's Day gift for a loved one?

Have you ever wondered what your parents' or grandparents' Polish surnames mean and how they came into being? A custom-researched surname analysis report will make an interesting and unusual Mother's Day or Father's Day gift and be a nice surprise to your loved ones.

A large group of Polish last names were derived from the names of various foods and crops. These have included: KIEŁBASA (sausage), KAPUSTA (cabbage/sauerkraut), GOŁĄBEK (stuffed cabbage or "little pigeon"), MLEKO (milk), ŚMIETANA (cream), TWARÓG (curd cheese), ŚLIWKA (plum), GRUSZKA (pear), BARSZCZ (borscht sour soup), ŻYTO (rye), GRYKA (buckwheat), PIWKO (small beer), WÓDKA (vodka) and many more.

Other Polish surnames referred to occupations, household and barnyard tools, as well as the father's first name or the home village of a distant ancestor. Whatever the case, you can learn all about the specified Polish last name, what it means, how it came about, how many people use it, where they come from and whether or not a coat of arms goes with it. If it does, a picture will be included. If interested, kindly airmail a \$19 personal or bank check or money order (adding \$10 for each additional surname you wish to have researched) to:

Robert Strybel
ul. Kaniowska 24
01-529 Warsaw, Poland



In addition to your Surname Report, you will also receive a useful genealogical contact chart which can help you track down your family records in Poland and possibly even turn up long-lost relations. For more information, please contact research60@gmail.com



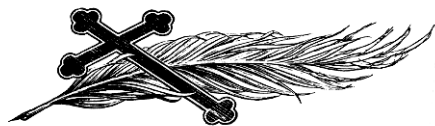
Gwiazda Dancers performing at the Countdown to Paczki Day Celebration



The youngest Gwiazda Dancers lining up for their performance

Dearly Departed PRCVA

*Brothers
and Sisters*



MEMBER	SOC.	STATE			
Ahles, Ann M	359	MA	Mazur, Walter D.	294	IL
Bachara, Virginia C	261	MI	Mishkofski, Joseph	345	PA
Balakier, Joseph	527	IL	Nadbielny, Florence	317	IL
Balzan, Deborah Lee	823	IL	Nasierowski, Jane	750	NY
Carey, Patrick J	162	MI	Niemiec, Helen	680	PA
Czaplicki, Alexander	148	IL	Nowak, Ethel	2303/2315	IL
Dent, Elmira P	2013	PA	Nowak, Catherine	308	IL
Dever, Loretta	2013	PA	Osmanski, Thaddeus C	240	PA
Dill, Anna	1491	IL	Palamara, Frank	162	MI
Doleski, William S	522	IL	Pilichowski, Agnes	1202	WI
Filak, Edward J	213	WV	Rook, Ann B	2032	PA
Fliss, Laura Jane	1594	OH	Rusek, Sophie	1122	IL
Gawinski, Elizabeth R	2013	PA	Ryba, Chester J	1591	OH
Godfryd, Ann P	823	IL	Satalla, Evelyn H.	479	PA
Goniwicha, Lucy J	162	MI	Sikorski, Mary Frances	1457	IL
Grys, Florence	2109	OH	Sirko, Helen	597	CT
Gumieniak, Helen	896	IL	Sledd, Charlotte	1032	IL
Hartwich, Leona	2012	PA	Sobal, Josephine	258	IL
Hoenes, Anna S	527	IL	Sobczak, Dolores M	2109	OH
Jachimski, Sr., Joseph	527	IL	Stachnik, Edward	308	IL
Jackowski, Mary M	517	IL	Stefaniak, Carole H	2308	WI
Karandy, Theresa	203	NY	Szot, Mary Jane A	87	MI
Kender, Theodore M	2308	WI	Telesz, Darlene F	1570	IL
Klis, Frank L	1415	IL	Uznanski, Jerome Edmund	308	IL
Krolik, Helen	20	NJ	Walczak Jr., Leonard M	519	IL
Kucharski, Leonard J	2100	OH	Waldecki, Lucille L	36	OH
Kurek, Mildred	2011	PA	Welch, Helene S	820	IL
Lefforge, Loretta	718	MI	Wenzel Sr., Paul W	1633	OH
			Yarnes, Florence	916	IL

May they rest in eternal peace.



Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May. It pays tribute to all men and women, who have died in military service to the U.S.A.

It is traditional to fly the U.S. flag at half mast from dawn until noon. Many people visit cemeteries and memorials, particularly to honor those who have died in military service. Often volunteers place an American flag on each grave in national cemeteries.

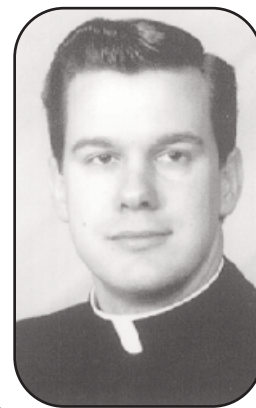
Over the years, Memorial Day has become less of an occasion of remembrance and more of a weekend marking the beginning of summer. Many people choose to hold picnics, sports events and family gatherings on this weekend. For the fashion conscious, it is only acceptable to wear white clothing, particularly shoes, from Memorial Day until Labor Day. However, fewer and fewer people follow this rule and many wear white clothing throughout the year.

Memorial Day is a federal holiday. All non-essential Government offices are closed, as are schools, businesses and other organizations. Most public transit systems do not run on their regular schedule. Many people see Memorial Day weekend as an opportunity to go on a short vacation or visit family or friends.

Memorial Day started as an event to honor Union soldiers, who had died during the Civil War. It was inspired by the way people in the Southern states honored their dead. After World War I, it was extended to include all men and women, who died in any war or military action. Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day. The current name for this day did not come into use until after World War II. Decoration Day, and then Memorial Day, used to be held on May 30, regardless of the day of the week on which it fell. In 1968, it was changed to the last Monday in May.

† *Higher Perspectives* †

"SOME THOUGHTS ON THINGS POLISH AT THIS TIME OF YEAR..."



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

As I write this article, we are into Holy Week and fast approaching Easter. The Sacred Triduum culminates the somberness of our Lenten journey and leads us to the joys of the Resurrection.

These days are filled with the beautiful and meaningful traditions associated with the Polish observance of Easter. From *Gorzkie Zale* we move to the blessing of food on Holy Saturday and the rich symbolism of everything that makes-up our *Swieconka*. (Nothing says "resurrection" like a nice hunk of smoked meat/kielbasa!)

Then there is the *Rezurekcja*, the first Mass of Easter morning with the traditional proclamation that CHRIST IS RISEN and the procession around the church before beginning the Mass itself. Our Easter hymns, with heavenly melodies, help bring to us a sense of the Risen Christ in our midst like nothing else can. We then join with family and friends for a truly festive day celebrating our life and love with good food and fellowship.

As with most Catholic cultures, though, Polish tradition can't limit such an important celebration to just one day. There is the "drugi dzien Swiat" (second day holiday) which carries it over to Monday. This is something our American culture and society is sorely lacking. For most people, it's back to work, and life as usual, the day after Easter. By keeping the "2nd day" special, the Poles are one step ahead in remembering a most important fact:

Easter is a Season and not just a day. In case we forget this, the Church Herself reminds us with a simple look to the calendar... Lent might be 40 days of penance and preparation but Easter is 50 days of celebrating and rejoicing. Let's remember to not be better at Lent than we are at what it is preparing us for: our Easter observance.

We are all familiar, I'm sure, that Polish tradition gives that second day of Easter the name "Dyngus Day." On this day, boys drenched girls with water and playfully spanked their legs with pussywillow branches. Of course, the girls reciprocated and everyone ended up being wet. It is believed this was begun as a reenactment of the Baptism of King Mieszko on Holy Saturday, April 14, 966, when all of Poland became Catholic. This tradition has been more or less quietly observed in our communities and homes for many years, having been a more central part of our forebearer's observance back in the Old Country.

[Editor's Note: Certain cities - like Buffalo, NY, and Cleveland, OH, for example - have had a tradition of bigger public demonstrations on this day and others are beginning to develop new traditions in this regard. Dyngus Day in Buffalo extends to festival halls in the Historic Polish District, Cheektowaga, Depew, South Buffalo and Black Rock. It's one of the largest and most unique ethnic celebrations in the U.S. with Polka bands from across the nation, Polish folk dance performances, Polish Food and bar-hopping. And the celebration in Cleveland, OH - in its 4th year - has more than 26 venues of food, music and entertainment. The agenda includes parades, a Miss Dyngus Pageant, dog pageant, Polish food, Polka bands and more.]

As with all things Americanized and adapted for local use, there are always changes in how and why things are done. Certainly, a strong economic incentive is there to "cash-in" on peoples' desire to have a good time. There's nothing wrong with that, by the way. However, with that may come others' promotion of things which can only be described as "pseudo-Polish". Indeed, many advertisements I see for these events literally employ Polish caricatures and parodies. It makes one wonder whether people are being invited to laugh with us or at us.

Now, far be it from me to not be for anything that brings positive attention to the truly beautiful and wonderful richness of our Polish heritage. And, we certainly are a people who know how to have a good time! Perhaps, though, I've just been moved to note that there are plenty of appropriate things to draw attention to, without necessarily slipping down paths we'd be better off not traveling. My little musings are certainly not meant to make a mountain out of a molehill, but perhaps help us all to be sure that we, and others on our behalf, are putting our best foot forward.





Fraternal Favorites by PRCUA Members

MUSHROOM APPETIZER

By Anna Felcyn, Williamstown, NJ

2/3 c vinegar, 1/2 c salad oil, 1 head garlic, 1 Tbsp. sugar, 1-1/2 tsp. salt, dash of pepper, 2 Tbsp. water, dash of hot pepper sauce, 1 sliced onion, 2 sm. cans mushrooms or 2 pints fresh mushrooms. Combine first 8 ingredients, add onion and mushrooms; cover and refrigerate. If using fresh mushrooms, cook them first in salted water.

SOUR CREAM APPLE SQUARES

By Aurelia Stadnick of Highland, IN

1 c flour, 2 c brown sugar, packed, 1/2 c softened butter, 1 c chopped nuts, 1 to 2 tsp cinnamon, 1 tsp baking soda, 1/2 t salt, 1 c sour cream, 1 tsp vanilla, 1 lg. egg, 2 c finely chopped peeled apples.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In lg. bowl combine flour, brown sugar and butter; beat at low speed until crumbly. Stir in nuts. Press 3/4 c crumb mixture in bottom of ungreased 13x9x2-inch baking pan. To remaining mixture, add cinnamon, baking soda, salt, sour cream, vanilla and egg; mix well. Stir in apples. Spoon evenly over base. Bake for 30 to 40 min. or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cut into squares. Serve with sweetened whipped cream or ice cream. Serves 12 to 16.

LEMON BARS

By Aurelia Stadnick of Highland, IN

2 c flour, 1/2 c powdered sugar, 1 c softened butter, 1 (14 oz) can sweetened condensed milk, 4 lg. eggs, 2/3 c lemon juice, 1 Tbsp. flour, 1 tsp baking powder, 1/4 tsp salt, 4 drops yellow food coloring (optional), 1 Tbsp. grated lemon peel

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In bowl, combine 2 c flour, and sugar. Cut in butter until crumbly. Press lightly onto bottom and halfway up sides of ungreased 13x9x2-inch baking pan. Bake 20 min. For filling: In lg. bowl, beat condensed milk and eggs until fluffy. Beat in lemon juice, flour, baking powder, salt, food coloring just until blended. Fold in lemon peel; pour over crust. Bake 20-25 min. or until set and crust is golden brown. Cool in pan on wire rack. Refrigerate for 2 hrs., Cut into bars and sprinkle with powdered sugar, if desired. Makes 48.

SWORDFISH WITH MUSTARD BUTTER

By Eva Maze

1/4 c unsalted butter, 2 Tbsp. Dijon mustard, 2 Tbsp. finely chopped fresh basil, vegetable oil, 4 - 8 ounces swordfish steaks, about 3/4 inch thick, salt and pepper to taste, fresh basil for garnish

In sm bowl, mix butter, mustard and basil. Preheat broiler or grill. Brush pan with oil. Season fish. Broil fish just until cooked through, about 3 minutes per side. Transfer to plate and top each steak with mustard-basil butter. Garnish with fresh basil.

STEAK ROLL-UPS

By Kathryn Rosypal-Romani

Make 1 Stove-Top stuffing mix according to pkg. Salt & pepper 4 lg cube steaks. Sprinkle with garlic powder to taste. Pound to thin. Spread each with Dijon or brown mustard, top with a slice of uncooked bacon, and a spear of dill pickle. Pile 1/4 c stuffing on top, spread out. Roll up tightly; fasten with toothpicks or tie with string. Roll in flour, shake off excess. Brown on all sides in hot oil. Transfer to baking pan, add 2 chopped onions and drench with 2 1/2 c beef stock. Cover and bake at 350 degrees 50-60 min. Remove meat. Thicken pan drippings with flour and (optional) sour cream for gravy.



PRCUA Scholarships and Grants Available

Each year, the PRCUA offers funds for higher education to its members from three separate programs:

- 1) PRCUA Education Fund, Inc.;
- 2) Scholarship Program; and
- 3) PRCUA Educational Loans. Each program requires the submission of a separate application.

One-Time Scholarships

In Memory of Alexander, Ann, John, and Walter Kushel, \$1,500 to be used for the study of Religious Formation

In Memory of Victoria Kushel \$1,500 to be used for the study of Nursing (one \$1,000 and one \$500)

Perpetual Scholarship

In Memory of Adele Szumilus Sularski - no specific major of study has been specified.

Also, the PRCUA Board of Directors can establish additional scholarships as funds are available.

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

For eligibility rules, information and to download applications, go to: www.prcua.org. Click on BENEFITS, then click on:

- 1) Educational Scholarships;
- 2) Student Scholarship Grant Program; and/or
- 3) Educational Loans.

Or you can write to:

PRCUA Educational Benefits
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

Applications, GPA and various submissions and verifications must be received by **July 1, 2014**.

PAC to Celebrate 70th Year of Service to Polonia!

**"FROM PROUD PAST TO DYNAMIC FUTURE"
May 30-31, 2014, Buffalo, NY**

The Polish American Congress (PAC) invites all Pol-Ams to take part in its 70th Anniversary Commemorative events that will take place on May 30 and 31st in Buffalo, NY - the city where the PAC was founded seven decades earlier.

On Friday, May 30th, celebrations will commence with a Jubilee Conference focused on unity and cooperation within Polonia. A Gala Dinner will follow later that evening.

On Saturday, May 31st, the PAC will host a trip to the St. Vincent DePaul RC Cemetery in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada, to visit representatives of the Polish Canadian Congress. This unprecedented meeting is going to take place in a historic setting of "Haller's Cemetery" - a Polish military memorial park in Niagara-on-the-Lake, where we plan to honor the memory of the Polish soldiers from the United States and Canada, who volunteered in General Haller's "Blue Army" during World War I.

We truly hope that you will join us for this milestone celebration. Please visit the PAC website at www.pac1944.org for more details.

The PAC, an "umbrella" organization, is a federation of over 3,000 Pol-Am organizations and clubs, ranging from national fraternal benefit societies, such as the PNA, PWA, PRCUA and Polish Falcons to veteran, cultural, professional, religious and social associations, with aggregate membership of over one million. With 41 State Divisions and Chapters, the PAC is represented in 23 states. It promotes civic, educational and cultural programs to further Polish history, language and culture, and to stimulate Pol-Am accomplishments and involvement in legislative activities in the USA.

The PRCUA is a member of the Polish American Congress and sincerely congratulates the organization for its outstanding work on behalf of Polish Americans in the United States, and for achieving this commendable milestone.

Film Presentation on St. Faustina Kowalski in OH and MI in May

Portraying the first saint of the 21st century - canonized by Pope John Paul II in April 2000 - is a daunting task, but it's one actress Maria Vargo is humbled to take on because of the message it allows her to spread. Vargo plays St. Faustina Kowalska in the one-woman play, "Faustina: Messenger of Divine Mercy," which will be presented in churches and venues in Ohio and Michigan in May.

"Every time I portray her, I'm trying to have a deeper relationship with God," Vargo said. "I'm trying to spread the message of Divine Mercy because it's such a beautiful message of love and forgiveness."

The play gives an account of St. Faustina, a Polish nun who lived from 1905-38, who was a visionary and the apostle of Divine Mercy.

She began having visions of Jesus in 1930, which she documented in her diary. Jesus appeared to her in a white robe with rays of white and red light emanating from near his heart. He told her to have his image painted with, "Jesus, I trust in you," written at the bottom, and asked her to hold a feast on the Sunday after Easter. Seventy years later, Pope John Paul II officially declared the Sunday after Easter as the Feast of Divine Mercy.

Tickets for the show cost \$10 a person, or \$45 for a family of five or more. The film has been on tour across America since October and will continue more than a year.

The 90-minute production features acting as well as singing.

The following schedule will occur in May:

- 5/1 - St. Anthony Church, 7:30 pm, Youngstown, OH
- 5/7 - St. Faustina Church, 7:30 pm, Warren, MI
- 5/8 - Queen of the Miraculous Medal, 7 pm, Jackson, MI
- 5/9 - St. Anthony Cath. Center, 7 pm, Temperance, MI
- 6/12 - Trenton Village Theatre, 7 pm, Trenton, MI
- 5/14 - Holy Family Life Center Gym, 7 pm, Memphis, MI
- 5/15 - Our Lady of the Lake Chapel, Orchard Lake Schools, 7 pm, Orchard Lake, MI

For more information, and future scheduling go to: www.divinemercedrama.com