



Join Our PRCUA Sales Force Today!

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!

Zapraszamy do czytania stron 15-20 w języku polskim.

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

June 1, 2014 - 1 czerwca 2014

No. 7 - Vol. CXXVIII

Poland's favorite son ascends the altar

CO-CANONIZATION ATTENDED BY A MILLION PILGRIMS

Saint John Paul II and St. John XXIII – pray for us...

WARSAW—Millions of Poles stayed glued to their TV screens on Mercy Sunday (April 27) to witness the long-awaited elevation to sainthood of their favorite son, Karol Wojtyła, better known as *Papież Jan Paweł Drugi*. And Poles were among the estimated 1 million pilgrims who personally attended the joint canonizations of John Paul II and his Italian predecessor John XXIII at the vatican in St. Peter's Square.

This was the first time in history that two popes were simultaneously proclaimed saints and the first time two pontiffs – Pope Francis and his retired predecessor Benedict XVI – took part in a canonization.

It was no coincidence that Pope Francis decided to co-canonize those two pillars of Catholicism at a single ceremony. Pope John XXIII had launched the Second Vatican Council to revitalize the Church and open dialogue with other religions, and John Paul II made ecumenism a cornerstone of his

papacy. But both were religious leaders deeply committed to the service of God, and men who never lost their people-friendly ways despite all the protocol, pomp and celebrity treatment they experienced.

Preceding the canonization, thousands of enthusiastic Polish pilgrims – including entire families, nuns, priests and seminarians, scouts, university students, soldiers and policemen – streamed into Rome. Most had come by plane, train and car, but some chose motorcycles and bikes and a few even made the more

than 800-mile journey on horseback or on foot. Polish white and red flags were everywhere and Polish was the most common foreign language heard on the streets of the Eternal City.

Attending the ceremony was an official Polish delegation led by President Bronisław Komorowski, accompanied by

headed by his adviser John Podesta.

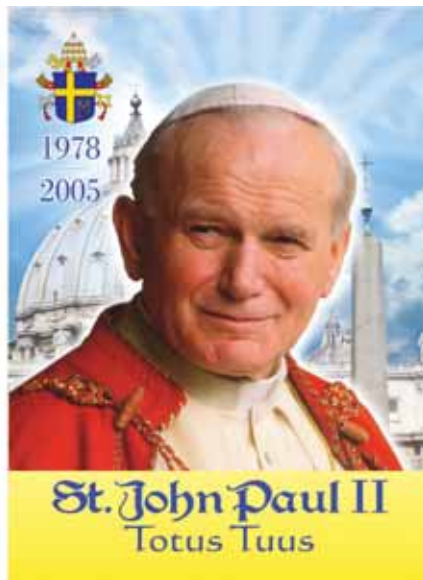
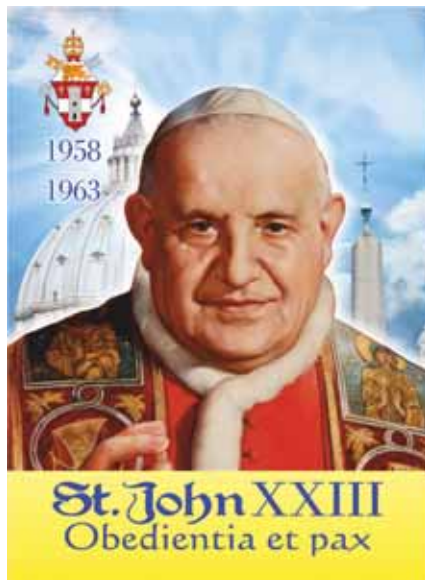
Many Poles felt that John Paul II had already been a saint during his pontificate, a conviction echoed at his funeral in 2005 by Italian young people who called for immediate sainthood. A similar view was expressed in a rare interview by the Polish Pontiff's immediate successor, Benedict XVI, who said: "In the years in which I

collaborated with him, it was ever clearer to me that John Paul II was a saint. My memory of John Paul II is filled with gratitude. I couldn't and shouldn't try to imitate him, but I have tried to carry forward his legacy and his work as best I can."

It was German-born Pope Benedict (Joseph Ratzinger) who accelerated his Polish predecessor's beatification in May 2011, a mere six years after his death. By the standards of the Roman Catholic Church, whose mills grind slowly, Karol Wojtyła's canonization can only be regarded as fast-track sainthood. Whereas John XXIII had to wait more than half a century to become a saint.

*By Robert Strybel,
Our Warsaw Correspondent*

Note: See articles written by PRCUA officers on pages 9 and 10-11 about their pilgrimages to Rome, and see their photos at www.prcua.org.



PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

Happy Father's Day - "Passages"



As a child, Dad, you helped me grow,
You taught me all a person needs to know...
Through who you were, you passed on to me
The merits of love, self-sacrifice, integrity.

TO ALL FATHERS -
WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE!

You probably thought I didn't hear,
Or your words of wisdom were not clear,
But the family values you exhibited to me
Were heeded unequivocally.

Your pride in me is now my pride,
Because your teachings I've applied.
I know who I am and the parent I will be
When I, too, have a child who looks up to me.

Your life will not end with your death or mine,
For all the lives we touch throughout our lifetime,
Will benefit from the values you shared with me
And be passed on to future generations eternally.



- By Kathryn G. Rosypal,
Executive Editor

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL



Calendar of PRCUA Events

JUNE

- 8 CHICAGO, IL - PRCUA ANNUAL SACRED HEART MASS** hosted by District #7 on Sun., June 8 at St. Ferdinand's Church. (See details at right.)
- 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 + MEETING** on Wed., June 11, 6 pm potluck; 7 pm meeting, Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Contact: V. Ulrich 517-484-3311
- 13 DETROIT, MI - POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT AT COMERICA PARK** on Friday, June 13. (See details at right.)
- 14 STERLING HTS., MI - YOUTH BOWLING IN MICHIGAN** (See details at right.)
- 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

JULY

- 8 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING** on Tues., July 8 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: Ed Kaplaniak, 521 Southmont, Johnstown, PA 15905
- 9 LANSING, MI - SOC. #2342 POTLUCK + MEETING** on Wed., July 9, 6 pm potluck, 7 pm meeting at Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Contact: V. Ulrich 517-484-3311
- 16 CHICAGO, IL - PRCUA SOC. 475 MEETING** on Wed., July 16 at 4:30 pm at PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL Contact: B. Jura 773-685-3134
- 19 RIVERVIEW, MI - NATIONAL PRCUA GOLF TOURNAMENT** hosted by Soc. #162 on Sat., July 19 at Riverview Highlands Golf Club, Riverview, Mi. Banquet at 7 pm at Soc. #162 Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI.
- 26 WESTLAND, MI - ANNUAL ST. STAN'S SOC. #718 PICNIC** on Sat., July 26 for members and family at Nankin Mills (Hines Park) from noon to 8 pm. Entrance is south of Ann Arbor Trail at Hines Dr., between Merriman & Wayne Rd., on west side of Hines Park. Food and drinks are complimentary. Contact: Denny and Tina Churchvara 313-561-7464
- 28 CHICAGO, IL - DISTRICT # 7 MEETING** on Mon., July 28 at 7:30 pm, PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL. Contact: Shirley Dudzinski, Secy. 773-763-4069

AUGUST

- 10-13 TOLEDO, OH - 61ST NATIONAL PRCUA CONVENTION** from Sun. to Wed. at Grand Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, 444 Summit Street, Toledo, Ohio
- 12 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING** on Tues., Aug. 12 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: Ed Kaplaniak, 521 Southmont, Johnstown, PA 15905
- 13 LANSING, MI - SOC. 2342 POTLUCK + MEETING** on Wed., Aug. 13, 6 pm potluck, 7 pm meeting at Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Contact: V. Ulrich 517-484-3311
- 17 ORLAND PARK, IL - DISTRICT 8 MEETING** on Sun., Aug. 17 at Noon, after 11 am Mass at Our Lady of the Woods Parish, 10731 W. 131st St., Orland Park, IL.
- 23 CANTON, MI - PRCUA NATIONAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT** hosted by Fr. Al's Society #1493 on Sat., Aug. 23. Holiday Inn Express, 3950 S. Lotz, Canton, MI, 734-721-5500, \$84.99 per room, includes hot buffet breakfast. Games at Canton Sports Center.

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.

Make check payable to: **PRCUA District 7** and send to:

Lillian Stempinski, 7339 W. Lee St., Niles, IL 60714
Contact: Lillian Stempinski at **847-965-7378**

Tickets will be held at the door.



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**

St. Stan's Society #718 News Flash

St. Stan's #718 has a new Secretary/Treasurer, effective June 1, 2014: Larry O'Reilly, 22243 Morley Ave. Dearborn, Mi. 48124 home (313)277-5778, cell (734) 341-5401

44th Annual Detroit Tigers' Polish American Night Friday, June 13 Tigers vs. Minnesota Twins

Pre-game ceremonies are at 6:30 pm; 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



Gift of Lifetime Security from Grandma and Grandpa!

Insurance for a safe future...

As a grandparent, you can help ensure that your grandchildren, who mean so much to you, will enjoy practical insurance benefits that can be a big help to them later in life.

Life Insurance: a caring and thoughtful Gift for your grandchild

Like most grandparents, you probably enjoy buying your grandchildren gifts. But toys and other presents can only bring happiness for so long. Why not consider a gift that can give your grandchildren an advantage for life and become your legacy?

Provide a lifetime of security with PRCUA permanent insurance

For less than it costs to buy a few toys a year, you could give your grandchild a much more valuable gift. Giving grandchildren a whole life insurance policy from the PRCUA is an affordable way to help protect their future security.

When you buy life insurance for your grandchildren, you are giving them a powerful head start on their future. With whole life insurance, your grandchildren can receive lifelong protection regardless of any future changes in their health, hobbies, occupation or any other situation that could prevent coverage from being approved at a later time.

Buy grandchild insurance now at low childhood premiums

Believe it or not, this gift of financial security can cost as little as \$1 a day! That's because your grandchild is eligible for low childhood premiums. And these low premiums are guaranteed never to increase. Because premiums are based on your grandchild's age at the time you submit the application, the sooner you apply, the lower the rates will be. Parents, grandparents and permanent legal guardians may apply.

Purchasing this caring and lasting gift is easy

As a grandparent, you can apply for this gift yourself. There are only a few simple questions to answer to request a free, no-obligation quote. You'll receive all the information you need to decide if a PRCUA permanent insurance certificate would make an important contribution toward your grandchild's future security.

The PRCUA has a 141-year history

The PRCUA has been serving its membership since 1873. It has helped grandparents just like you provide the loving gift of life insurance. Buying a life insurance plan with PRCUA ensures that your grandchild will have the opportunity to take advantage of fraternal benefits in the future, such as scholarships, educational loans, cultural and sporting events, and more!

Builds Cash Value

The PRCUA whole life insurance policy also builds "cash value" as long as premiums are paid. In adulthood, your grandchild will have the security of knowing that he/she can borrow against this cash value in an emergency.

Fraternal Benefits

Once you purchase whole life insurance for your grandchild, they immediately become a member of PRCUA with access to our fraternal benefits, such as ability to participate in local Polish language or dance schools, sports tournaments, and apply for college educational scholarships, grants and loans.

Sample quotes:

Age	Gender	Insurance Amount/ Plan	Annual Premium
2	Female	\$10,000/5 Pay	\$199.60
8	Male	\$20,000/5 Pay	\$481.00
10	Female	\$20,000/5 Pay	\$448.60

A variety of plans and insurance amounts are available – for every budget!

Contact your local PRCUA Sales Representative or the Home Office today to receive a quote to secure your grandchild's future!

1-800-772-8632 ext. 2631 or 2632

PRCUA Life Insurance – We Guide, You Decide.

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.

PRCUA CONVENTION YEAR QUIZ

This year is a Convention Year for the PRCUA. In celebration, *Narod Polski* is holding a Convention Quiz Contest in May, June and July of 2014. Each month, a 5-question quiz will be published. PRCUA members can enter the contest by either emailing answers to june-contest@prcua.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 June Subject: Polish History

1. What important event in Polish history took place in 966?
a) Coronation of Boleslaw the Brave; b) Christianization of Poland through the Baptism of its King Mieszko; c) St. Stanislaus, Bishop of Krakow, was murdered; d) Establishment of Gniezno as Capitol
2. Why was the Battle of Grunwald in 1410 so significant in Polish history?
a) It prevented Mongol Tartars from invading Poland; b) It defeated the Teutonic Knights and established the power of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in Eastern Europe; c) It saved Christian Europe from being overrun by Muslim hordes; d) It defeated the Russian Cossacks and enlarged Poland's eastern territories.
3. What was the "Swedish Deluge"?
a) Coronation of the Swedish King Augustus II on the Polish throne; b) Swedish invasion of Poland in 1655; c) Flooding of Polish lands by the Baltic Sea; d) Defense of Danzig (Gdansk) during World War II
4. When did the three partitions of Poland by neighboring countries take place?
a) 1410, 1412 and 1575; b) 1596, 1648 and 1717; c) 1807, 1814 and 1826; d) 1772, 1793 and 1795
5. In what year was the Republic of Poland admitted to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)?
a) 1945; b) 1969; c) 1980; d) 1999

June Quiz Entry Form

Answers:

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

Name _____

Street _____

City/St/Zip _____

PRCUA Society. # _____ Deadline: August 4, 2014.

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

Or e-mail: june-contest@prcua.org

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@prcua.org

POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FIRST QUARTER ENDING MARCH 2014

	FOR QTR. ENDING 3-31-2014	FOR QTR. ENDING 3-31-2013
INCOME		
PREMIUM & ANNUITY INCOME	\$4,498,469	\$3,001,130
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	2,584,758	2,457,037
OTHER INCOME	59	36,236
TOTAL INCOME	7,083,286	5,494,403
EXPENSES		
LIFE AND ANNUITY	5,767,209	4,167,387
GENERAL EXPENSES	1,098,539	1,061,336
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,865,748	5,228,723
NET OPERATING INCOME	276,079	265,679
REFUNDS TO MEMBERS	-33,192	-25,332
NET GAIN FROM OPERATIONS		
AFTER REFUNDS	242,887	240,347
REALIZED CAPITAL GAINS	107,990	-46,919
NET INCOME	\$350,877	\$193,428

THE PRCUA CONTINUES TO IMPROVE IN REVENUE GENERATION AND BOTTOM LINE PROFITABILITY..

Polish Museum Library Duplicate Book Sale June 20-22



Fri., June 20 – 2 p.m.-7 p.m.
Sat., June 21 – 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sun., June 22 – 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

First Floor Social Hall
984 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL

The PMA Library will be selling duplicate books in English and Polish on various Polish subjects, as well as a variety of books on non-Polish subjects.

If you love books, this is the place to purchase them at discount prices. Give a book a home!

PRCUA 2014-15 Scholarships and Grants Available - Final Notice

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 a separate application.

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 POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY CONTINUES TO FLOURISH IN PARMA

PARMA, OH - Polish Constitution Day 2014 in Northeast Ohio proved to be another success for the Polish American Congress (PAC) – Ohio Division, despite low temperatures and heavy clouds that rumbled across the sky during the entire weekend. Perhaps the weather was a harbinger of things to come! During the weekend events, no one knew that this would be the last time that John Borkowski would coordinate the celebration of this great patriotic Polish holiday. It was barely a week later that the Heavenly Father called John Borkowski home to his eternal reward!

John Borkowski's last job on earth was printing the beautiful program book for the PAC Polish Constitution Day weekend, which was dedicated to St. John Paul II, who was officially enrolled in the book of saints in a double canonization ceremony with Pope John XXIII at the Vatican only one week prior.

The cover of the program book featured the official canonization color photo of St. John Paul II. Inside were two articles about the newly-canonized saint. A short, but complete biography of the late Pope was reprinted from the Holy See Press Office, and the events that led to John Paul II's canonization were summarized by Mitchell Bienia, PRCUA District #5 Director, in another article.

In addition, the program contained articles about the Polish Constitution of May 3rd, 1791, Parade Grand Marshal (and Mayor of the City of Parma) Timothy DeGeeter, greetings from John Borkowski as PAC President, and from Mark Relovsky as PAC 1st Vice-President and Event General Chairman.

The May 3rd Constitution celebration began with a Polish Happy Hour on Friday, May 2. Polish piwo, pierogi and polkas were available for all to enjoy at the Parma Café on Ridge Road in Polish Village. And a Polish party tray appeared late in the evening as a snack for the polka-party-goers.

On Saturday, May 3, the traditional Polonia Ball was held at the American Ballroom Center in Polish Village, Parma, Ohio. John Szleszynski and his son provided music for dancing, listening and toe tapping, while Ligia Borkowski, Cecylia Dyczko and Ela Ostaszewski served authentic Polish food. Piast Polish Folk Song and Dance Ensemble performed a new dance at the Ball this year, from the Lowicz region. It was accompanied by huge wreaths of flowers which were used to form arches, under which each couple passed during the dance routine. The second number presented was the lively *Old Warsaw Polka*, a long-time favorite of the crowd. Isabela Buczkowski was crowned Ohio's Miss Polonia, and Haley Pluchar won the Junior Miss Polonia crown.

On Sunday, May 4, Holy Mass was celebrated in honor of Polish Constitution Day at St. Charles Borromeo Church, also in Polish Village. Rev. John Carlin, Pastor, warmly welcomed the Polish community to his church, which consists of a large number of ethnic Polish parishioners. Mass was said by the Rev. Terrence Grachanin, who is completing his first year in the priesthood. He gave a heartfelt explanation of Polish Constitution Day, and recalled some special moments during the canonization of St. John Paul II while he was in Rome for that special event. Fr. Terry declared, "Remember this day, (the canonization day), for it is the day the Poles invaded Rome." Fr. Carlin also indicated that he wanted to expand the participation of St. Charles Parish in next year's Polish Constitution Day activities.

At 2 pm the PAC Polish Constitution Parade stepped off from Parma Circle on Ridge Road, in the heart of Polish Village. Bands, floats, veterans groups, fraternal associations, and students from



The late John Borkowski
A Great Fraternalist



Announcer Bruce Kalinowski TV-WKYC, Ch. 3 & Past PRCUA Pres. Francis Rutkowski



Fr. Eric Orzech



PRCUA Piast Polish Folk Song and Dance Ensemble

Polish schools were among the hundreds of marchers in the parade. Representing the PRCUA were students and teachers from Henryk Sienkiewicz Polish School, the Piast Polish Folk Song & Dance Ensemble, and Dennis Yurosko, Denise Rutkowski and Dist. 5 Dir. Mitchell Bienia, who led the contingent by carrying the PRCUA banner.

Parma Mayor Timothy DeGeeter was Parade Grand Marshal. Parma Ward 2 Councilwoman Debbie A. Lime, and Parma Director of Community Development Erik C. Tollerup were liaison representatives from the City of Parma, who

did a yeomen's job in coordinating all aspects of the City of Parma's participation, including thousands of dollars of funding to support the event.

Following the parade, a gala afterglow was held in the parking lot near St. Charles Church, where thousands of revelers enjoyed the afternoon listening to music by Jody Maddie and Honky Express Polka Band. Many vendors provided food and drink, as well as Polish crafts. St. Casimir's Kitchen offered a variety of Polish dishes to satisfy the ethnic palate.

A huge word of "Thanks" goes to the City of Parma for supporting this event with a myriad of services including huge tents, tables, chairs, security, clean-up staff, advertising, 2,000 hand-held Polish flags for distribution along the parade route, street banners, staff, volunteers, etc. Such a massive undertaking could not have been possible without the support of the City of Parma. The Polish American Congress, officers, directors and members wish to express a sincere word of appreciation to Mayor Tim DeGeeter and the entire staff of the City of Parma.

- By Mitchell Bienia, Director, District 5
(Photos: Henryk Kacki)



PRCUA
Henryk
Sienkiewicz
Polish
School



PRCUA
Piast
Polish
Folk
Song and
Dance
Ensemble

Naród Polski

ISSN 0027-7894

POLISH NATION

Official Publication of the Polish
Roman Catholic Union of America

JOSEPH A. DROBOT, JR.

President: 773-782-2600

KATHRYN ROSYPAL

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

narod.polski@prcu.org

(English language)

LIDIA KOWALEWICZ

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

narod.polski@prcu.org

(Polish language)

Please direct mail re: delivery
of newspaper, organizational
matters or change of address to:

JAMES ROBACZEWSKI

Secretary-Treasurer

info@prcu.org

Direct all materials for
publication to the editors at
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

773-782-2600

Toll-Free 1-800-772-8632

Fax 773-278-4595

narod.polski@prcu.org

WWW.PRCUA.ORG

Business Hours: 8:15 am - 4 pm

See PRCUA on
Facebook or Twitter



Naród Polski is published
monthly by the Polish Roman
Catholic Union of America,
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue,
Chicago, IL 60642-4101

Periodical postage paid at
Chicago, IL and additional
mailing offices.

POSTMASTER -

Send address change to:

Naród Polski

984 N. Milwaukee Avenue

Chicago, IL 60642-4101

Printed at: Newsweb Corporation

1645 W. Fullerton Avenue

Chicago, IL 60614

A Most Remarkable Polish Constitution Day Parade in Chicago, May 3rd, 2014

By Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski, Parade Vice Marshal



(L-r) A. Sokolowski's granddaughter Aurora Marron, Pres. & Mrs. J. Drobot, Runners-Up M. Guziak & A. Skwirut, V.P. A. Sokolowski, Bp. A. Wypych, Cinderella G. Suarez, and Prince Charming J. Stanek at the Pre-Parade Brunch

CHICAGO, IL - Imagine my surprise when, late in March, I received a phone call informing me that I am one of the nominees for the Grand Marshall for Chicago's 2014 Polish Constitution Day Parade! It was a great honor to be nominated among many of Polonia's prominent leaders. Later, a special committee composed of Polish organizations, met at the Alliance of Polish Clubs headquarters and chose as Grand Marshal Edward Mika, former President of Alliance of Polish Clubs, former Vice Marshal of the Parade, Parade Chairman for 10 years and a Polish American activist. The two Vice Marshals chosen were Dorota Malachowska, President of the Board of Directors of the Gift from the Heart Foundation – the only foundation in the USA that provides help to seriously ill and handicapped children from Central and Eastern European countries where the medical treatment that they require may not be available. The other person selected was me, Anna Sokolowski, Resident Vice President of the PRCUA for the past 12 years, a longtime volunteer and a member in several organizations in the Polish American community.



(L-r) Vice Marshal Dorota Malachowska, Grand Marshal Edward Mika, and Vice Marshal Anna Sokolowski, PRCUA Resident Vice President

Our duties as Marshals of the May 3rd Polish Constitution Day Parade included promoting the parade and taking part in pre-parade activities. We did TV and radio interviews, as well as press conferences and guest appearances.

On May 2nd, Dorota Malachowska and I attended the May 3rd Constitution Day Celebration at the Polish Consulate in Chicago. The next day, we took part at the Flag-Raising Ceremony at the Daley Plaza, which is located in the heart of the Chicago Loop, attended by Polonia's leaders and RP Consul Robert Rusiecki, PAC and PNA President Frank Spula, PRCUA President Joseph Drobot, Jr. and the Kosciuszko Color Guards. Also we attended the Pre-Parade Brunch, where we had an opportunity to meet with many public officials, clergy and members of various organizations.

After the Pre-Parade Brunch, it was a time for the parade! In Chicago, the Polish Constitution Day Parade takes place on the first Saturday of May. It is the largest Polish parade that celebrates the anniversary of the ratification of the Polish Constitution on May 3, 1791, the world's second oldest constitution, preceded only by the

Constitution of the United States. For 123 years, Chicago's Pol-Am organizations have come together and organized this traditional parade, full of pride and tradition.

The theme for the 123rd Parade was "Saint John Paul II: Poland's Gift to the World." The theme honored the Pope's canonization to sainthood that took place on April 27, 2014 at the Vatican. The distinct honor of leading the marchers on Columbus Drive was accorded to the Grand Marshal and two Vice Marshals. Although I have attended every Chicago Polish Parade since 1964 - when I came to the USA - except two, I never imagined that I would ever have the honor or leading the Parade!

After the Polish and American anthems were sung by PRCUA member Aleksandra Podowski, we were led to the reviewing stand where we could watch and admire the parade. There were over 100 units that participated in this year's parade - hundred and hundreds of students representing Polish language schools from the Chicagoland area, including Indiana.

Most of the students were dressed in white-and-red Polish colors and waved Polish flags. Also there were many dance groups, dressed in a very colorful Polish folk dress. As they marched, they also sang and performed dance routines. The Parade also featured clergy - including Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago Andrzej Wypych, many local dignitaries, politicians, veterans groups, and numerous Polish organizations. Representing the PRCUA were Sales Dir. Robert Fattore and IT Director Kevin Ryba carrying the PRCUA banner; President Joseph and Judy Drobot; Marketing Dir. Agnieszka Bastrzyk with her husband, Daniel, and two children, Aleks, and Natalia, Controller Emily Kurda, and employees Danuta Czajkowski, Danuta Rybski and Jolanta Zachara, as well as some members.

Of course, PRCUA's many dance and language schools were represented, as well as the M. Konopnicka Adult Culture Group, and the 2014 reigning

Cinderella Gabriella Suarez and Prince Charming Jeremiah Stanek and Runner-Ups Martha Guziak and Adrian Skwirut. The Polish Museum of America, marching bands, race cars, motorcycles, horse-drawn carriages and even marching dogs participated! Drawing the most attention were colorful floats that featured the photo of St.



John Paul II and religious or patriotic themes. The fact that the weather was perfect made this a great day to celebrate this historical event.

The crowds lining the parade route were in high spirits, cheering and waving flags as the units passed by. I was so proud to take part in this year's parade. Thank you so much to all who participated,

On a personal note, I had a blast, the parade was an amazing and remarkable event. Thank you for all the nice wishes, congratulations and flowers that I received. I am very touched, you sure lifted my spirits. I feel so blessed to have friends like you!



Bastrzyk Family



M. Konopnicka Adult Culture Group

Looking through the Window...

by Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski



Dear Readers,

After a long delay, we are finally enjoying some warm weather. June is such a beautiful month; some people call it the month of love. June is named after Juno, the Roman Goddess of Marriage. It was considered good luck to be married in June. So best wishes to all June newlyweds. We also celebrate Flag Day and Father's Day in June. Show your patriotic pride by celebrating and honoring the American Flag; remember to fly it on June 14! The next day, June 15th is Father's Day. Tell your Dad how special he is! Make him feel appreciated and loved, not just on Father's Day, but every day. We wish all Fathers a happy and special Father's Day.



Above and below - Southwest Center of Polish Dancing with Res. V.P.

American Polka. The dancers did a wonderful job. I always look forward to the spring recitals; it is amazing to see how the dancers have improved since the beginning of the year. Many new dance routines were learned by these youngsters since the Christmas recital. They obviously worked hard in the last few months to get so many ovations!

I am very proud of the performances. A special thank you goes to School Director Ania Kraszewski for all her hard work in making this recital so special. Thank you to choreographers Misia and Richard Jaminski, and dance instructors: Evelina Pabijanski, Camilla Steczek, Michael Dziadkowiec, Katherine Bialas, and Aleksa Herdzik; dance instructor assistant Stephanie Anhalt; volunteer assistants Natalie Rozwadowski and Kasia Presz; and vocal instructors Annette Nowakowski and Richard Jaminski. You did an exceptional job! My sincere thank you to the dancers for their kind words and for presenting me with a bouquet of flowers.

Speaking of recitals, I would like to thank all the PRCUA dance groups, the very dedicated and hardworking school directors, choreographers, and dance instructors, who worked together at the practices, rehearsals and performances. We are very fortunate to have such a committed group of individuals in our organization. A sincere thank you also goes to the audiences, who have been such faithful supporters of our dancers and dance groups. If you are a parent and have children that are not dancers in our dance groups, I highly recommend getting involved with the PRCUA dance groups. You definitely will not regret it. Our dance school directors welcome all students, even if they have never danced before. I assure you that you will be impressed by your child's hidden talents and their amazing annual performances.



In the last week of April, I traveled to Rome, Italy for the Canonization of our beloved John Paul II. In Rome, I met with PRCUA President Joseph Drobot and his wife, Judy, who arrived a few days before me, with Fr. Walter Ptak and the Pinnacle Pilgrimage Travel Group. I was invited to join their group to spend a day visiting some sites. Using Rome's modern metro, we arrived at San Giovanni in Laterano - Papal Archbasilica of St. John - the official ecclesiastical seat of the Bishop of Rome, who is the Pope. Inside are 12 statues of the Apostles that fill the niches (photo at left). Also, there are 6 papal tombs inside. Under the tabernacle is the papal altar, where only the Pope can say Mass. Above the sacramental altar is a fragment of the table on which Jesus ate the last supper. Across the street, we visited the Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem. Inside was an interesting collection of relics from the Holy Land, including a full-size replica of the Shroud of Turin. It also contains the remains of a modern saint, the young girl named Antonietta Meo (1930-1937), nicknamed Nennolina. She is patron saint of the cancer stricken, especially children.

Across the street from St. John's is the Palace of the Holy Steps, with 28 steps that Jesus climbed when he was brought before Pilate. Pilgrims line up to climb the steps on their knees.

After a quick lunch we boarded a public bus and traveled to the Catacombs of Callixtus. The Roman catacombs contain burial crypts, some with the original preserved marble tablets. There we saw the crypt of St. Cecilia, patron saint of music. Our tour ended with Mass in one of the Chapels at the Catacombs of Callixtus.

In the evening, we strolled through the Vatican and St. Peter's Square where we could already see people gathering, singing, praying near the portraits of the two popes - John XX III and John Paul II. It was an interesting, spiritual and fun-filled day with such a nice group of people, many of whom are PRCUA members. Special thank go to the Pilgrimage Travel Group, Fr. Ptak, group members and to President Drobot and his wife, Judy, for inviting me to be part of your day. I really enjoyed being part of your group; thank you for making me feel so welcome. (See my article on the Canonization of two Popes on page 10.)

On May 3rd, Poles around the world celebrated May 3rd Polish Constitution Day. We had beautiful weather for the Annual Parade that took place in Chicago. Thank you to all who participated. (See my article on the Chicago May 3rd Polish Constitution Parade on page 6.)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY and *Sto Lat* to all who are celebrating a birthday in June, especially PRCUA employees: Anna Wolan, Gen. Office; Linda Kasprzyk, Asst. to Sales Office; Michael Perzynski, Maintenance; former employee of Ohio office Ewa Trzeciak; Halina Misterka, PMA Archivist; Malgorzata Kot, PMA Head Librarian; PRCUA Directors Mitch Bienia (D5) and Robert Bugielski (D7); also Frieda Zabek, past Dir. (D1); Richard Jaminski, very talented choreographer of Wesoly Lud and SWCPD; Patricia Steven, Syrena Dir. and Walter Sojka. Happy Birthday and *STO LAT* to our son-in-law, Sean Ackerman: "I hope your birthday will be extra special - like you!" A very special Happy 7th Birthday to our sweet granddaughter, Aurora. "You are our Princess; we love you so much!"

Happy Birthday to all readers celebrating their birthday in July, especially PRCUA employees: Julie Prado - General Office Manager, Mark Sorbi - Gen. Office; and Emily Kurda, Controller; Fred Tuytens - very friendly PMA guide. *Sto Lat* to National Director Connie Bonin (D6), Anna Kraszewski- SWCPD Director and Maryann Davis, Rogalin Gymnastics Director.

Special Happy Birthday wishes to Stephanie "Stevie" Dzioba Jarosz, a life-long resident of Lawrence, Massachusetts, who will turn 96 on June 21st. She and her sisters were very active in PRCUA St Michael's Society from Holy Trinity Parish. She loves reading *Narod Polski*



and passing on its recipes. Mrs. Jarosz is pictured with her 5 great grandchildren: Will, Katie, Rose, Mark, and Anna. Wishing you all the happy things birthday celebrations bring!

CONGRATULATIONS to the newlywed couple - Grace (Grele) and Greg Labojewski. May you continue to be each other's best friend and together fill your lives with fun, laughter and love. Wishing you a wonderful future together!

Also congratulations to all Graduates, especially to PRCUA part-time summer employees - Katrina Odrobina (Elmhurst College) and Natalia Kowalewicz (Loyola University), who graduated. We wish you all the very best as you complete this important stage in your life and begin on a new journey that we are sure will reach even greater heights. Congratulations on this momentous occasion.

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to National PRCUA V.P. Robert Bielenda and his lovely wife, Eleanor; and to wonderful friends Basia and Janusz Frankowicz, Marlene and Andre Bober and Marysia and Bolek Bogun. I hope that married life is especially sweet to all of you! Congratulations!

CONDOLENCES to the family of John Borkowski, President of the PAC Ohio Division and Past President of the Alliance of Poles in America of Cleveland, OH, which merged with the PRCUA. He passed away suddenly on May 11th, Mother's Day after a short illness. Our deepest sympathies are with you during this time of loss. We hope you can find reassurance in the care of your friends, and allow the loving memories you have of John to help you through this time. May he rest in eternal peace.

Take care until next time. Let me know what is going on in your world: fraternal.department@prcu.org or call 1-800-772-8632 or send letters to: Fraternal Dept., 984 N. Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL. 60642.



PHILADELPHIA NEWS

(Member's name are in capitals.)

CONFIRMATION CONGRATULATIONS: SOCIETY 2022'S LAUREN RENEE VIDOVICH received the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 9, 2014 at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Franklinville, NJ, by the Most Rev. Dennis J. Sullivan, Bishop of Camden, NJ. Also in attendance was Rev. Jaromir Michalak, Pastor. LAUREN chose the name Theresa in honor of her late babci VERONICA THERESA VIDOVICH. Her sister ALISSA was her sponsor. LAUREN is in 8th grade at St. Michael the Archangel Regional Catholic School in Clayton, NJ. She will graduate on June 9th and will attend Williamstown High School in September. LAUREN enjoys playing basketball and swimming. She is the daughter of ELAINE TABBIE (RONALD) VIDOVICH, sister of ALISSA and KRISTEN, and granddaughter of ELAINE MIKELIONIS, all PRCUA members. Her aunts, uncle and many cousins are PRCUA members as well. May all your tomorrows be blessed with the joy of your faith, Lauren.



Lauren Vidovich, Bishop Dennis Sullivan and Alissa Vidovich



Kathryn Burkhardt



Allison Sop

COMMUNION CONGRATULTIONS:

On April 26, 2014 SOCIETY 2002 and 2022's KATHRYN BURKHARDT of Woolwich, NJ, received First Holy Communion at the Community of the Holy Spirit Church in Mullica Hill, NJ. A party was held at her home, was attended by family and friends. It was a sunny day and the Moon Bounce was quite an outside attraction. KATHRYN is in 2nd grade at Stratton School, where she is a member of the Drama Club. On May 8, 9 and 10 she performed in an entertaining 2nd grade production at school. She is also a member of a soccer team. KATHRYN is a 4th generation member. She is the daughter of RONALD and KIM BURKHARDT, sister of CECILIA and EMILY, granddaughter of ELAINE BURKHARDT and niece and cousin of MICHELE, SEAN and ALLISON SOP.

On May 3, SOCIETY 2002 and 2022'S ALLISON SOP received her First Holy Communion at St. Madeline Church in Ridley Park. A party in her honor was held at the Heritage Ballroom of Barnaby's, and the DJ along with the candy table was a big hit. ALLISON is in 3rd grade at Leedom Elementary School. On May 12th she sang in a school show, with the 2nd and 3rd grade chorus members. ALLISON is a 4th generation member. She's the daughter of MICHELE and SEAN SOP, granddaughter of ELAINE BURKHARDT, godchild of RONALD BURKHARDT and niece and cousin of KIM, CECILIA, KATHRYN and EMILY.

Dear Kathryn and Allison, may God be with you and all through your futures as you follow HIS way.

HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU FROM ELAINE BURKHARDT AND SHARON QUINN: As we departed from the PRCUA Office at 2636 E. Allegheny Avenue when it closed, "parting was definitely sweet sorrow." Working in the

same office since 1985/1986 was a happy routine in our lives. We are both eternally grateful to our dear mothers, who set the paths for us to work at the UPWA. After our merger with PRCUA in 1997, we were glad to be retained as employees. We served so many fine members and meet new friends there. Our comradery with Home Office staff was heartwarming. It was an honor to serve the PRCUA to the best of our ability. Thank you to Pres. Joseph Drobot, V.P. Anna Sokolowski and Secy.-Tres. Jim Robaczewski, as well as all District Directors for the many benefits we derived as employees; we are truly appreciative. Now we are reaping the benefits of retirement by enjoying time with our children and grandchildren. Thank you PRCUA for everything. So from us to you and you and you..."we'll have these moments to remember."

The PRCUA thanks Sharon and Elaine for their 16 years of dedicated service and fraternal loyalty. Executive Editor Kathryn Rosypal especially acknowledges Elaine for writing the *Philadelphia News Page* with such color and flair for 16 years. "I am very grateful, Elaine."

MESSAGE TO PHILADELPHIA MEMBERS FROM THE EDITOR -

In response to Philadelphia members' concerns about the "Philadelphia Page" being eliminated from *Narod Polski*, I would like to point out that, although there is not a "Philadelphia Page" per se, news from our Philadelphia members will continue to be published from time-to-time in a "Philadelphia News" column. Members can submit news by e-mailing or sending it directly to the Executive Editor Kathryn Rosypal (see page 6 for contact information) or by submitting it to your Society's Financial Secretary or to your District Dir. Joanne Zajac.

The only change is that Philadelphia news - which had included births, receiving sacraments, graduations, and weddings - as was done in the UPWA newspaper - will follow our general publication guidelines beginning in July. PERSONAL EVENTS, like those mentioned, will not be printed. We will publish awards, honors, special achievements, special anniversaries, events, activities, obituaries of Society officers, and significant news.

John S. Borkowski Passed Away

CLEVELAND, OH - John S. Borkowski, 69, was called to his eternal rest on Mother's Day, May 11, 2014, after a very short illness. He was born to Stanley and Sophie Borkowski in Janochy, Poland, on October 13, 1944. With his mother and sister, Jane Smolinski, John immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1957. In 1963, he not only graduated from St. John Cantius High School, but also he was naturalized as an American citizen.



John S. Borkowski

John took a job at the *Polish Daily News*, where he remained until 1965. That year, John sought greater career challenges at Legal News Publishing Company, and then continued his education, graduating from Colorado Springs School of Printing, in Colorado Springs, CO. In 1984, John became Superintendent of Legal News Publishing Co., a position he held until his retirement in 2012.

John has been involved in the activities of Cleveland's Polonia since his youth. He was a long-time member of the Polonia Soccer Club, and Treasurer of that group for 8 years. Between 1962-93, John led "John Borkowski and his Orchestra," a band that was seldom far from the Polonia activities of the day. It was only after John became President of the Alliance of Poles of America that he gave up his first love — music — for his true love — the Alliance.

Since 1958, John Borkowski was a member of the Alliance of Poles, which merged with the PRCUA in 2005. In 1968, John was elected Vice President of Henry Sienkiewicz Group 120, now PRCUA Society #2220, an office he held until his death. In 1982 John was elected a National Director of the Alliance; in 1986, First Vice President; and in 1990, Executive Vice President. This rise to the top of this beloved organization was unimpeded, and, in February of 1992, John Borkowski became Acting President of the Alliance of Poles of America. He was sworn in as President in June. At the 38th Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland, Ohio in 1994, John was re-elected President by acclamation, with no opposition. John's proudest achievement was the establishment of the Polish School at the Alliance of Poles, as well as its dance troupe "PIAST" in 1992.

John's involvement in Polonia grew; he was President of the Polish American Congress — Ohio Division; President of the Friends of John Paul II Foundation, Ohio Chapter; Knight of Pulaski and Director of the Polonia Foundation of Ohio, Inc.; President of the Alliance of Poles Federal Credit Union, which merged with the Steel Valley Federal Credit Union. He was also active in the Cleveland Society of Poles, Inc.; Polish National Alliance Lodge #827; Parma Polish American League; Post #30 of the Polish Legion of American Veterans and Post #152 of the Polish Army Veterans Association.

John's honors include: *Krzyz Kawalerski* the highest honor bestowed on a civilian by the Polish government; medal *Zasluzony dla Kultury Polskiej* from the Rep. of Poland for keeping Polish culture alive and thriving in Ohio; the Alliance of Poles highest honor, the *Meritorious Service Award*, the Polonia Foundation of Ohio *Heritage Award*, the Cleveland Society of Poles *Good Joe - Polish-American Heritage Award* and the Polish Army Veterans Association's *Miecze Hallerowskie* and *Krzyz za Zaslugi dla Polski*.

A long-time resident of Parma, Ohio, and most recently of Seven Hills, OH, he is survived by his wife, Ligia (nee Dabrowski) — the real love of his life, and two sons, Thaddeus (Noreen) and Walter, as well as a grandson, Johnny. Both sons are graduates of the University of Toledo.

Secy.-Tres. James Robaczewski represented the PRCUA at the wake and Mass of Christian Burial at Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus. He was interred at Holy Cross Cemetery.

May John Borkowski rest in eternal peace, knowing that he left this world a better place in which to live through all the charitable works he did to help others. - *Dir. Mitch Bienia (D5)*

Our Pilgrimage to Rome



Pres. Joseph Drobot, Bronia Welsh and First Lady Judy Drobot in St. Peter's Square

Perspectives of President Joseph and First Lady Judy Drobot, Jr.

When the dates were announced for the canonization of Blessed John XXIII and Blessed John Paul II on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 27, 2014, Judy and I decided that we would attend this historical event. But how?

Through PRCUA National Chaplain Rev. Canon Walter Ptak, and his association with the Pinnacle Pilgrimage Travel Group, we were able to commit to traveling with many members of Father Ptak's former parish, Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Wyandotte, MI. Fr. Ptak promotes the PRCUA wherever he goes. Eleven out of the 26 pilgrims in our group were PRCUA members, including: Dan Neasz, Jim & Marcia Tokarczyk, Sandra Ososkie, MaryJo Harling, Dorene Harling, Marie Miller, Elizabeth Miller, and, of course, Fr. Ptak, Judy and myself.

As pilgrims, our trip also included visits to the many holy sites in the Vatican, and throughout Rome, such as the catacombs of St. Callixtus and four major Basilicas of St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran, St. Paul outside the Gate and St. Peter's - all of which were breathtaking and inspiring. We visited many churches in Rome, too numerous to name, and lit a candle in each one, for the benefit of, and in appreciation for, our family's and friends' intentions.

The Vatican Museum, with its historical artifacts, was especially exciting; our tour there finished with the Sistine Chapel's breathtaking ceiling and Last Judgment frescoes painted by Michelangelo, while lying on his back, high above the Chapel. This is the Chapel where the cardinals are sequestered when the Conclave of Cardinals is held to elect a pope. It is from this room that the telltale black (not elected) or white (elected) smoke is seen spewing from the chimney by multitudes waiting in St. Peter's Square for papal-election results.

Our group also participated in a Papal audience, which all popes hold every Wednesday, to welcome visitors to the Holy City. It is at this audience, held outdoors in St. Peter's Piazza (Square), where our Holy Father Pope Francis rides in his popemobile through the crowd for all to see. The Piazza is divided into sections with clearly defined avenues for the popemobile to make its rounds.

We were at the Piazza just before 7 a.m. that morning, even though the audience did not begin until 10 a.m. A light rain fell and everyone had umbrellas, which we were afraid would obscure our view of Pope Francis. Since we were early, we positioned ourselves against one of the barriers that defined the popemobile's pathway. We were very fortunate because as the crowd grew, site lines became very difficult. Because so many people were so far away from the papal dais, huge video screens were positioned around the Piazza, whose video transmission brought you right up to the Holy Father.

Rain continued, not hard, but enough to keep the umbrellas up. However, just before Pope Francis made his appearance, the rain stopped, umbrellas closed and the sun came out for the entire rest of the audience. As Pope Francis rode through the crowd, we were able to photograph him at close range. What a thrill!

However, an even more exciting evening awaited us. Through the friendship of our tour directors, Gregory and Mary Kuns, with



Pope Francis in the popemobile



Swiss Guard at the Vatican

Monsignor Henryk Mieczyslaw Jagodzinski of the Vatican Secretary of State staff, Judy and I and Fr. Ptak were invited to eat supper in the Vatican Dining Room. Incredible as this may seem, this is where Pope Francis also dines! We were asked by the Monsignor to abide by certain protocols and respect our Holy Father's privacy, should he appear during our visit: no photos and no interruptions. You can be sure that we honored this request.

While we were eating, the Holy Father came into the room. We were stunned. He did not acknowledge us, but went to his table in a corner not too far away. We were all quite giddy and watched his every move, especially when he arose and came to the buffet table to help himself to dessert, the same table that we just visited! An unimaginable peace came over our table as we were in the presence of our Holy Father. We had our own very private audience! After supper, Msgr. Henryk escorted us to the Holy Father's private chapel, where Pope Francis offers morning prayers. It is modern but very simple; we were able to visit here and offer our own prayers.

As the anticipation grew for the canonization ceremony, so did the crowd of pilgrims. I believe there were more Polish people in Vatican City than Romans! The religious and souvenir shops were bustling and the sales staff spoke enough Polish to accommodate visitors.

Saturday evening anticipation grew to a frenzy, as crowd estimates became unreal. Would there be 2- or 3-million people trying to get into St. Peter's Square? Some camped in the Piazza to get first seating, while others waited just outside the gate. At 11 p.m. the Piazza was closed to any more visitors and remained closed until 5 a.m. Those who were inside could stay, but could not reenter, if they left. No one else could come in until the morning. Therefore, all the alleys, streets and parks became gorged with people. People were praying, singing and trying to sleep. Cardboard boxes became makeshift tents and bed rolls were strewn on the streets. A majority of the people just stood because there was nowhere to sit..



Piazza Navona

The amazing thing is that with all these people congregated in such a small space, there were no incidents of unruly conduct or civil disobedience. What happened when the gates were opened, we cannot say because we were not tempted to challenge the crowd. But St. Peter's was filled with pilgrims to the point that people said they could sleep standing up, without falling, because everyone was jammed together so tightly.

Judy and I made our way to the Piazza Navona, where large screens were placed to televise the event. There were only 150,000 people there and we were able to view the entire event quite comfortably. This Piazza was filled with Polish people, waving flags and banners from all over Poland, and the audio transmission of the canonization ceremony was translated into Polish.

Nothing can describe the exhilarating sensation and roar from the crowd when the sainthood of St. John Paul II and St. John XXIII was officially declared by Pope Francis. Jubilation prevailed and a peace settled throughout the Piazza, as the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass began.

Throughout the day and thereafter, until we left on Wednesday, pilgrims continued to stream into Rome and Vatican City in a very celebratory mood. We continued to tour Italy, including traveling to Assisi to visit the Basilica of St. Francis with our group. Res. V.P. Sokolowski joined us for the day.

For me, this trip had a very personal significance that made it profoundly special. My father, Joseph A. Drobot, was elected President of the PRCUA in August of 1978. In October of 1978, he and my mother traveled to Rome for the investiture of Karol Cardinal Wojtyla as Pope John Paul II - the first Polish Pope. Now, here it is 36 years later, while I too am serving as President of the PRCUA, that Judy and I were in Rome for the canonization of Pope John Paul II. The saga has come full circle.

We have been deeply blessed. Without a doubt, this was a trip of a lifetime!

(Photos: Judy Drobot)



Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi

CANONIZATION OF TWO POPES by Res. Vice President Anna Sokolowski

"We declare and define John XXIII and John Paul II, and we enroll them among the saints, decreeing that they are to be venerated as such by the whole Church." With these words, Pope Francis has proclaimed two of his predecessors as saints of the Roman Catholic Church on Sunday, April 27, 2014, at the celebratory Mass at St. Peter's Square in Rome, Italy.

For me this day was so special, so spiritual and full of pride. I was invited to Rome by *Wspolnota Polska* (World of Polonia), *Rada Polonii* (Polonia Advisors) and the Polish American Congress (PAC). Since Bozena Kaminska, VP, PAC; Delphine Huneycutt, Pres., PWAA; and I were part of this special delegation from the United States, we were privileged to receive a special pass for the Canonization Mass. It took us



Pope Francis greeting Former Pope Benedict XVI at the co-canonization ceremony (Photo: Vatican I.S.)



PRCUA VP Anna Sokolowski with Andrew Kaminski and Polish American Congress VP for Polish Affairs - Bozena Kaminski

audience responded with a joint "Amen." Bells tolled and crowds applauded, most of them waving white and red flags from John Paul II's homeland - Poles from around the world who came to Rome for this celebratory event. It was a unique and historic day, as two former popes were canonized and forever recorded in the history books of the Catholic Church.

The Mass was attended by over 1 million people, retired Pope Benedict XVI among them. Pilgrims also followed the ceremony on giant TV screens around the Vatican and Rome. After Pope Francis pronounced John XXIII and John Paul II as two new saints, their relics were brought to the altar - St. John Paul II's blood and a small piece of John XXIII's skin. Then the Mass proceeded as usual, with Pope Francis presiding and Pope Benedict XVI concelebrating with almost 150 cardinals and 700 bishops. Also in attendance were over 6,000 priests from all over the world.

During the Homily given by Pope Francis, he explained why both saints exemplified God's love and mercy. He described Saints John XXIII and John Paul II as priests, bishops and popes of the 20th century. Both of them lived through the tragic events of that century but they were not overwhelmed by them. God was more powerful. He also explained that Pope John XXIII was open to the Holy Spirit and Pope John Paul II was a leader and protector of the family.

Communion was distributed by over 600 priests and deacons, easily recognized by the yellow umbrellas that accompanied them. The entire ceremony was sumptuous and spectacular; the entire setting was so impressive with two giant portraits of the new saints hanging from St. Peter's Basilica, for all to see. After Mass, the Pope made his way through St. Peter's Square in the popemobile to greet all the people who witnessed this historic event.



V.P. Anna Sokolowski with President of the Rep. of Poland Bronislaw Komorowski

Later that evening, I was invited by the President of Poland and his wife, to an Official Diplomatic Reception in the Papal Chancellery in honor of the canonizations. President Komorowski thanked Italian and Vatican authorities for organizing this extraordinary event so well and for the warm reception given especially to thousands of Polish pilgrims. He also expressed his hope that the canonization of St. John Paul II will be the beginning of a new chapter to a beautiful example set by the Holy Father. The reception was attended by former Presidents of Poland Lech Walesa and Alexander Kwasniewski; Karolina Kaczorowska, widow of Ryszard Kaczorowski, the last President of the Republic of Poland-in-exile; clergy and government officials, diplomats, and special

guests from around the world. It was a wonderful evening where I had the opportunity to talk and mingle with many distinguished guests.

The next morning, we left our hotel in the very early morning to attend a Mass of Thanksgiving in St. Peter's Square. Thousands of weary pilgrims were trying to get into the Square. As we entered, everyone received a Mass booklet with Italian and Polish text of the Mass and the homily.

We were very fortunate to get seats near the main altar, four rows behind the President of Poland and diplomatic delegations. As we waited for the Mass to begin, Polonia's delegation had another chance to meet the Polish President and the Polish governmental delegation. Before Mass, we received a warm greeting in Polish and Italian from Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz. He thanked Pope Francis and his predecessor, Benedict XVI for the canonization, as well as the authorities of Rome for safely accommodating such a large number of pilgrims, especially those from Poland. He also thanked Italy for welcoming a Pope from Poland and for the love they showed during his pontificate. He recalled that at first, the Italians would call John Paul II "the Polish Pope," but soon after they called him "Our Pope." He also thanked God for giving us a dual gift - two saints - John XXIII - a son of Italy, who merited the title "Good Pope" and who made revolutionary reforms at Vatican Council II, more than half a century ago, and John Paul II, a son of Poland, the Pope of Divine Mercy, who led the Church into the third millennium of Christian faith, and who is recognized as playing a pivotal role in bringing an end to Communism in Europe. In his greetings, Cardinal Dziwisz, also expressed solidarity with Ukraine during these difficult times.

Cardinal Angelo Comastri, Vicar General of His Holiness for Vatican City and Archpriest of the Vatican Basilica, presided at the Mass of Thanksgiving. In his homily, he recalled John Paul II words: "The saints do not ask us to applaud them, they ask that we imitate them." He urged everyone to imitate the new saint who had the courage to defend our faith, to defend human life, to defend peace, and who invited the young to welcome Christ. He also emphasized the courage John Paul II had in proclaiming the Gospel, especially during a time when the world pretended as if God no longer existed. The Cardinal concluded the homily by emphasizing the special attention Pope John Paul II gave to youth, as well as his devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, to whom he entrusted himself and his whole life. The Cardinal received a standing ovation after his homily.

After Mass, we attended a press conference and luncheon at the very beautiful Hosianum Palace, one of the most prestigious historic residences in Rome. Here we had an opportunity to meet with Most Rev. Mieczyslaw Mokrzycki, Archbishop of Lvov, Ukraine, who served as the Assistant Personal Secretary to Pope John II and later served on the staff of Pope Benedict; Most Rev. Jozef Kowalczyk, Archbishop of Gniezno and Primate of Poland; Most Rev. Szczepan Wesoly, Archbishop

Emeritus of Gniezno; Msgr. Stefan Wylezek, Administrator of John Paul II Foundation; and Msgr. Pawel Ptasznik, head of the Polish section of the Vatican Secretary of State. They related some of their personal experiences with John Paul II.

Also present was Grzegorz Galazka, the PWA Pres. Huneycutt and V.P. Sokolowski with personal photographer Cardinal Nycz, Archbishop of Warsaw of Pope John Paul II for over 20 years, and now photographer to His Holiness Pope Francis. The official portrait of John Paul II on the facade of St. Peter's Basilica for the canonization was taken in 1989 by Galazka, as the Pope was cheerfully speaking with a group of children. When the Vatican was looking for an official portrait of the Pope, he submitted that image, never imagining that this particular photo would be chosen as the official image of the saint. Grzegorz Galazka is also author of the album "Polonia Semper Fidelis," a collection of the photos taken by him which is an extraordinary chronicle of the pontificate of John Paul II. I donated a copy of this photo album - a testimony



V.P. Anna Sokolowski with former President of Poland Lech Walesa



Polish flags flying among the crowd at St. Peter's Square



Cardinal Nycz, Archbishop of Warsaw

(Continued from page 10) of John Paul II's faith and teachings - to the PMA Library for posterity.

Later that evening, a Thanksgiving Concert, "Te Deum Laudamus," took place in Rome's Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore. The concert was organized by *Wspolnota Polska*, *Rada Polonii*, and the Polish Association of the European Union, RP Foreign Ministry, with the association of the Polish Embassy at the Vatican. All were greeted by Stanislaw Cardinal Dziwisz, former Secretary to Pope John Paul II and now Archbishop of Krakow, who again thanked everyone for attending such a happy occasion as the concert for Saint John Paul II. Also present were Kazimierz Cardinal Nycz, Archbishop of Metropolitan of Warsaw; Archbishop Jozef Kowalczyk, Primate of Poland; as well as many bishops and priests and distinguished guests including the Ambassador of Poland to the Vatican, Piotr Nowina-Konopka. It was such a beautiful and touching concert. The program included the works of prominent Polish composers – Maciej Banach, Jacek Boniecki, Tadeusz Karolak and Jerzy Maksymiuk. Over 250 artists performed – including for the first time - combined soloists from the renowned *Mazowsze* and *Slask* Song and Dance Ensembles and the musical band *Des Orient*. It also featured the renowned pianists - Olejniczak and Marianna Humerska -and soloists Emile Leiyuy Tar and Marta Wylomanska. The concert featured the music of Fryderyk Chopin and Ignacy Paderewski, as well many songs and hymns, among them "Bogurodzica", the oldest Polish religious hymn, "Our Father", ' Te Deum", " Agnus Dei II", "Kyrie" and it ended with the Pope's favorite song "Barka".



It was so unusual and touching that the concert was narrated by Pope John Paul II, who in his own words, introduced us to the great events in Polish history, the mission of the Church and travels around the world during his Papacy. On huge TV screens, we could see the Pope speaking to us, but it felt like he was with us, speaking personally to each of us. It was an unforgettable and very emotional concert, which I am sure many attendees will never forget.

I am so grateful that in my lifetime I was able to meet Pope John Paul II and live through the Papacy of Popes John XXIII and John Paul II, who are the most well-known popes. Both came from humble backgrounds, they loved being priests and they loved life. So there is no accident that the two of them were declared saints together. Both of them were such a big part of our lives. We can relate to them because they played a great role in our lives and they are the models to whom we can aspire.

This was my third visit to the Vatican in the last 10 years. In 2004, I attended the 26th Anniversary of John Paul II's pontificate and had an audience with His Holiness. Meeting John Paul II was one of the most significant events in my life. It was amazing to be near him, to be blessed by him - I will never forget this moment. In 2011, I attended the Beatification of John Paul II, the largest beatification ceremony in the Church's history. With millions of pilgrims, I fell on my knees chanting "Santo Subito" and now I have had the great privilege to attend his Canonization. Many have asked me which was my favorite trip? Each visit was different, but each was very spiritual and memorable. Yes, I can be partial here; I am extremely proud and honored that a son of Poland, Karol Wojtyla - Pope John Paul II - is now a Saint.

Let me end with the words of John Paul II from his address at the historic meeting organized by *Wspolnota Polska* in Rome, 1990 - "We may be proud of what we have. It is therefore so important to feel Polish, to have an awareness of Polish roots which reach back to a millennium ago and receive their power from Christian faith."

(Photos: Anna Sokolowski)

See additional photos from the trips to Rome on the PRCUA website: www.prcua.org.

Invitation by the Polish Museum of America
to the Opening of the **70th Anniversary of the Struggles of the Polish Armed Forces in the West Exhibit** on **Sunday, June 15, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.**
Sabina P. Logisz Great Hall
984 Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60642-4101
A \$5.00 donation per person is requested to help offset the price of the refreshments. Ample free parking.

Gwiazda Dancers' 54th Annual Recital



CENTERLINE, MI - On Sunday, March 30, at the Centerline High School Auditorium, PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers held their 54th Annual Spring Recital. The event began with the presentation of Gwiazda's two graduating seniors, Karina Trypus and Alexandra Chabowski. The Ensemble's Director, Jessica Wendt, and choreographer, Basia Nowakowski, presented them to the audience with their parents and then read their biographies. Following this, the graduates danced an elegant Viennese waltz with their partners Bartek Sobiesiuk

and Daniel Naworol. The couples dazzled the audience with the grace and skill they'd acquired through their years of dancing.

The Ensemble then presented the national dances of Poland. Gwiazda's Group 3 danced the Polonez, Group 2 performed the Mazur, Groups 2, 3, and 4 presented the Krakowiak and Group 1 closed this segment of the recital by dancing a Kujawiak and Oberek.

After a quick break, the program shifted to a presentation of Polish regional dances. Group 3 performed dances from Sącz, Group 1 presented dances from Spisz, as they debuted newly acquired folk dress from Spisz, Group 3 performed dances from Beskid Śląski, and a finale from all the groups included dances from Rzeszów.

After a brief intermission, the dancers returned with each Group dancing an American- style polka and with all the groups performing the Helena Polka.



The Groups then presented novelty dances with the theme of board games. The games represented were family favorites like Monopoly, Operation, Candyland, and Twister. The entire Ensemble concluded the recital with its presentation of dances from Beskid Zywiecki.

The Ensemble was honored to have PRCUA National President Joseph Drobot attend the recital, along with PRCUA National Director of District #10 Tom Lisiecki. Both Director Lisiecki and President Drobot



addressed the audience, speaking about the benefits of PRCUA membership and fraternalism.

Huge thanks go to all of Gwiazda students and their parents for their hard work over the 2013-14 season, and to Gwiazda Director Jessica Wendt, Choreographer Basia Nowakowski, Gwiazda's Officers, Costume Director Cindy Cervenak, and Rev. Miroslaw Frankowski, Pastor, for providing the Ensemble with a practice space at St. Florian Church in Hamtramck, MI., and to all who have contributed, in any way, to the group's success.



On May 4th, the Ensemble performed at the annual Strawberry Festival at St. Florian Parish in Hamtramck, MI. Gwiazda also has performances planned at the Annual Detroit Tiger's Polish American Night in June, at Sweetest Heart of Mary Church's Annual Pierogi Festival and at the



Annual Polish Day Parade in Hamtramck, Michigan.

Submitted by Nicholas J. Nowakowski
Gwiazda Secretary & 1997 Alumnus



CALLING ALL GOLFERS...

62ND ANNUAL PRCUA NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



RIVERVIEW, MI - The 62nd National PRCUA Golf Tournament will be held at Riverview Highlands Golf Course in Riverview, MI, on Saturday, July 19, 2014. Sacred Heart of Jesus Soc. #162 is hosting this tournament.

This year's tournament will have an entirely new look. The entire outing will be a **FOUR-PERSON SCRAMBLES TOURNAMENT**; the divisions are

Ladies, Mens, Mixed and Seniors (62 and over). The golf fee is \$50 per golfer.

The **Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road in Southgate, Michigan**, will be the headquarters for the tournament. Be sure to mention that you are with the PRCUA National Golf Tournament group; the rate for rooms is \$109.00 for two double beds. Make your reservations by calling **734-283-4400**. The cutoff date for reservations is **June 27, 2014**, so call soon!

Stan Pasko, along with his Committee, is excited to host this event. For those arriving early, Society #162 will host a hospitality time at their lounge on Thursday and Friday nights, at 1430 Oak Street, Wyandotte, MI.

On Saturday, Riverview Highlands Golf course will be the site of the tournament and lunch. The Banquet will be held at the Soc. #162 Lounge, with a complete dinner and music by the New Brass Express; dinner is free for all golfers, and a charge of \$10 for non-golfers. Cash bar available.

We hope to see you at the tournament! The Golf Tournament Entry Form is available for downloading from the PRCUA website at **www.prcua.org** or you can call the Fraternal Department toll-free at **1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2601**.

- PRCUA Executive Committee

Double Celebration



Soc. #1593 Fin. Secy Joann Ozog, Pres. Wallace Ozog, Tres. Celeste Grabowski, Ron Martin Secy. Judy Burzynski, Barbara Martin and District 10 Nat'l Director Christopher Ozog

WARREN, MI - PRCUA Saint John Paul II Society #1593 from Warren, MI, held a Double Celebration at St. Anne Parish on May 3 and 4. The Society was organized by Wallace Ozog in June 1979, making it 35 years old this year. Since our Polish Pope John Paul II was canonized April 27, the officers decided to have an Exhibit on the Holy Father in conjunction with the Society's Anniversary Celebration. On Sunday, there was a 8:45 am. Mass and a Breakfast prepared by the Cub Scouts of the parish.

An exhibit was on display, organized by Joann Ozog, which included displays on the Holy Father and Youth, The Traveling Pope, Youth Depicting the Life of the Pope Through Art, the Pope's Visit to Hart Plaza, Hamtramck and the Pontiac Silverdome, A Look at a Modern Day Saint, as well as several posters. There also was a large display of photos on the many activities of Saint John Paul II Society #1593 from years past.

Those who came to view the exhibit received prayer cards of St. John Paul II and St. John XXIII. There were many positive comments on the exhibit and it brought back memories for many people, especially from the Holy Father's visit to Hamtramck, MI, and the Pontiac Silverdome.

On Thursday, May 8, PRCUA President Emeritus Wallace Ozog, who is also President of PRCUA St. John Paul II Society #1593, gave a presentation to 600 students at St. Anne Elementary School on his experiences with the Holy Father. The students were very attentive, asked questions and each received a prayer card and a coloring page of St. John Paul II with his biography, composed by *Narod Polski* Executive Editor Kasia Rosypal.

The Canonization of St. John Paul II is close to the hearts of Wally and Joann Ozog because, first of all, Mr. Ozog organized a PRCUA Society 35 years ago and named it Pope John Paul II Society. Secondly, the Ozogs have had the opportunity to see the Pope five times, twice in a private audience at the Vatican. At that time, little did Wally and Joann realize that they were seeing, meeting and touching a saint. Very few people have had that opportunity; it will be remembered forever.

With the canonization of Pope John Paul II, Society #1593 changed its name to St. John Paul II Society.

- By Joann Ozog, Financial Secretary
(Photos courtesy of Mr. Marion)



Cub Scout Pack #1478 leaders and cooks who prepared the Breakfast at St. Anne's Parish



(Above) Display of Society #1593's activities over the past 35 years
(Left) Art contest entries with the theme of St. John Paul II



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

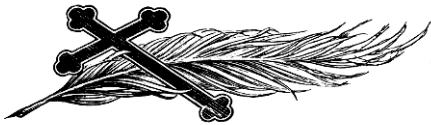
Vikkijean Mixon

5255 N. Detroit Avenue

Toledo, OH 43612

Dearly Departed PRCUA

Brothers
and Sisters



MEMBER	SOC.	STATE	MEMBER	SOC.	STATE
Alexandrowicz, Frances	2018	PA	Mc Daniel, H.T. Lennie	802	IL
Antalosky, Frances E.	2026	IL	McBauer, Patrick Allen	1593	MI
Balog, Mary	111	NY	McDonald, Wanda	626	IL
Bazan, Vincent	1004	IL	Michalski, Joseph M.	1413	MI
Blaszka, Joseph	802	IL	Minc, James J.	2132	OH
Bokuniewicz, Frances	2026	IL	Moskal, Violet	291	IL
Bordynski, Raymond	160	NY	Nowacki Dorothy F.	2308	WI
Choyce, Maryann	308	IL	Pochekailo, Mary C.	707	IL
Ciciora, Casimir E.	1000	IL	Pociask, Regina	1253	IL
Compall, Dr. Theodore	878	IL	Powers, Sharon	1404	MI
Curski, Daniel V.	337	IN	Prasnikar, Eugene D.	2319	PA
Czepiel, Helen T.	2002	PA	Przybek, Matthew	1486	PA
D'Alba, Josephine	658	MA	Radomski, Mary E.	712	IL
Denbowski, Gertrude E.	2007	IL	Rataj Stanley J.	1118	MI
Dickinson, Cathy F.	1591	OH	Rutkowski, Raymond J.	2109	OH
Drvarich, Stephanie	540	IL	Ryan, Irene	707	IL
Gmoser, Joshua D.	162	MI	Scanga, Irene	2293	PA
Goszczynski, Loretta	471	IL	Sersen, Leonard J.	844	IL
Gregorek, Frank	1486	IL	Skaggs, James Anthony	87	MI
Grzywna, Joseph	2271	IL	Skowronski, Ethel	1175	NJ
Jarosz, Stella R.	1122	IL	Slover, Viola	802	NJ
Ketchie, Joseph	1477	MI	Slowick, Stephanie	2001	PA
Kijewski, Richard W.	122	IL	Smitkowski, Carl J.	2159	OH
Kluga, Walter S. Jr.	712	IL	Stanczyk, Benjamin C.	2274	MI
Koza, Helen W.	359	MA	Szwed, Michele J.	783	IL
Kozek, Alice	540	IL	Thomas J. Ropoleski	76	IL
Kozlowski, Dorothy B.	1031	IN	Wesolowski, Alice	2040	IL
Krenzal, Rita	213	WV	Wozniak Stella	291	IL
Kreston, Joan M.	1583	FL	Wysocki, Richard N.	542	IL
Kwapich, Teodor J.	2206	OH	Yettaw, Geraldine	823	IL
Kwiecien, Richard E.	1368 & 1493	MI	Zabdyr, Stella	565	IN
Laskowski, Esther	388	IL	Zawada, Maria	1575	IL
Maczka, Rita G.	261	MI	Zonca, Helen L.	1228	IL
Majchrowski, Josephine T.	359	MA	Zylka, Katherine C.	2030	IL
Mallik, Wanda S.	855	PA			

May they rest in eternal peace.

Announcing the winners of this year's:

Polish Heritage Quiz

Two different Polish cookbooks were the prizes offered in this year's Polish Heritage Quiz. Unlike previous quizzes which featured multiple-choice questions, this year's version showed a drawing of a Polish family, about which contestants were asked questions. The questions and correct answers are:

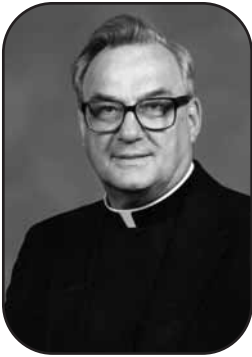
- 1) What Polish custom does this drawing depict? – The blessing of Easter food or *Święconka*.
- 2) When does it take place? – On Holy Saturday, the day before Easter.
- 3) What's wrong with this picture? – The bell should not be ringing because church-bells fall silent on Holy Thursday and only come alive again to celebrate our Lord's Resurrection.

The 1st prize, "Polish Holiday Cookery", was awarded to AMY WOŁOSZYN of Fitchburg, WI whose entry was chosen in a random drawing. The 2nd prize, "Culinary Traditions of Mazovia, Kashubia and Silesia", went to RAYMOND BULWICZ of Brick, NJ. Congratulations and "Smacznego!"

POSTSCRIPT: In reply to Question 3, several contestants wrote "the man is missing a leg." In the original drawing, the man's left leg was very faintly outlined. When the drawing got Xeroxed, scanned, e-mailed and finally set up in print, the man's leg indeed became invisible. Since contestants couldn't have known those details, the entries of those who gave the "legless man" answer were counted as correct and took part in the drawing. In fact, the second-prize winner, Ray Bulwicz, was one of them.

† Higher Perspectives †

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam
(For the greater glory of God)
CARDIAC ARREST-ED?



By Rev. Canon Anthony
D. Iwuc of Providence,
RI, PRCUA National
Vice Chaplain

The heart, Karl Rahner says, is the "primordial word" symbolizing the wellspring of life, the totality of one's being.

Since 1675, the Catholic Church has celebrated the burning love of Jesus Christ for all persons - symbolized by a heart aflame - the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The fire represents the transformative power of divine love.

The Devotion to the Sacred Heart is naturally defined by the heart, the emblem of love. Everything in Jesus is connected with love. Jesus is loving and lovable. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is a symbol of compassion, unmitigated love and the long-suffering of Christ towards humanity. God loves us deeply and intimately. The loving Heart of Jesus remains constant and true.

For over 2,000 years the central message of the Gospel is to know God's love and to share it with others. Christ revealed to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque His ardent desire to be loved by mankind, and His design of manifesting His Heart with all Its treasures of love and mercy, of sanctification and salvation.

Have we suffered cardiac arrest? . . . or have we come to a realization of the fountain of love and mercy in that divine-human Heart of God?

Like Margaret Mary, do we feel "invested" with the Presence of God?

Pope Pius XI reminded us that "the spirit of reparation has always had the first and foremost place in the worship given to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus." With Margaret Mary we can make up for the coldness and ingratitude of the world - by frequent and loving Communion, especially of the First

Friday of each month, by an hour's vigil of prayer, in memory of Jesus' agony and isolation in Gethsemane. We can keep an image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in our Catholic homes.

The Heart of God loves us with a passionate love . . . sparing nothing - even to exhausting and consuming Itself - to testify to this love.

Let us make the connection between Margaret Mary Alacoque and St. Faustina and respond to God's love by our reverence, devotion and reparation.

In our loveless, selfish world, so preoccupied with time and space, let us not forget about eternity. Would that we could say with Margaret Mary Alacoque: "What have I in heaven and what do I desire on earth, but Thee alone, o my God. I need nothing but God, and to lose myself in the Heart of Jesus."



PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

O Most Holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore you, I love you, and with a lively sorrow for my sins, I offer you this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure and wholly obedient to your will. Grant, Good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you. Protect me in the midst of danger. Comfort me in my afflictions. Give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, your blessing on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Amen.

Place an Ad in the PRCUA Convention
Program Book for Posterity

Those interested in placing an ad in the PRCUA 61st National Convention Banquet Program Book can contact Teresa Gibala at 734-848-4296 to receive an Ad Contract. Prices are \$15 for one-line Well-Wisher, \$30 for 2-line (larger text) Patron; \$100 for a quarter-page, \$150 for a half-page; \$200 for a full page, or \$300 for a gold page. All are black and white-print. Photos are an extra \$15 each, available for quarter-page and up. Color text and/or designs are \$50 extra, available for half-page and up. The book will be preserved in the Polish Museum's Archives.



Fraternal Favorites by The Polish Chef, R. Strybel

SOUR CREAM APPLE SQUARES By Aurelia Stadnick of Highland, IN (The editor apologizes that there was an error in this recipe that was published last month. It is corrected below.)
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In lg. bowl combine 2 c. flour, 2 c. brown sugar, packed, and 1/2 c. softened butter; beat at low speed until crumbly. Stir in 1 c. chopped nuts. Press 2-3/4 c crumb mixture in bottom of ungreased 13x9x2-inch baking pan. To remaining mixture, add 1 to 2 tsp cinnamon, 1 tsp baking soda, 1/2 t salt, 1 c sour cream, 1 tsp vanilla, 1 lg. egg; mix well. Stir in 2 c finely chopped peeled apples. Spoon evenly over base. Bake for 30 to 40 min. ot until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cut into squares. Serve with sweetened whipped cream or ice cream. Serves 12 to 16.

GRILLED PORK-NECK STEAKS): Slice 2½ - 3 lbs pork neck into steaks ½ inch thick. Pound with mallet lightly and set aside. For the marinade, in a large bowl combine ¾ c salad oil with 3 buds crushed garlic, 1 lg finely chopped onion, 2 crumbled bay leaves, 1 t salt, 1 t ground pepper, 1 t marjoram, 1 t sweet paprika, 1 t freshly squeezed lemon juice, 1 t brown mustard and several dashes of Tabasco or hot pepper sauce. Mix well; place meat in the marinade, making sure all sides get coated. Cover and refrigerate at least 24 hrs. Cook on fairly hot charcoal grill several mins. on each side until fully cooked inside. Serve with boiled dilled potatoes and a crispy salad.

HOT KIELBASA: This is the most convenient way to serve kielbasa to a large crowd. Cut smoked kielbasa into 3 - 5" serving-sized pieces, place in a large pot, cover with boiling water and cook until boiling resumes. Reduce heat to low, cover and remove portions as needed. Provide rye bread, horseradish, and brown Polish-style mustard.

GRILLED KIELBASA: Cut smoked kielbasa into 3 - 5" serving-sized pieces or use wiener-size Polish sausage. Cook on charcoal or grill well away from flame, turning frequently, until evenly browned on all sides. These can also be cooked on a rotisserie. Score each piece of kielbasa by cutting half-way through at an angle on one side at 1/4" intervals. Provide rye bread, horseradish, and brown Polish-style mustard.

KIELBASA ON A STICK: Cut smoked kielbasa into 3 - 5" serving-sized pieces or wiener-sized Polish sausage. Run a wooden skewer up each piece almost to the end. Grill.

BATTERED KIELBASA ON A STICK: Prepare sausage as in preceding recipe but dip kielbasa-on-a-stick in pancake or crêpe (naleśnik) batter and deep-fry to a nice golden-brown.

KIELBASA-KEBABS: On a skewer alternate 1/2" - 3/4" pieces of smoked kielbasa with 1/2" thick onion slices, fresh mushroom caps, squares of thick-sliced bacon and bell pepper pieces of roughly equally size. Brush with oil, sprinkle with pepper, marjoram, garlic powder and paprika and cook on rotisserie or grill, making sure that all sides are evenly cooked. They are ready when the onion is tender.

MUSHROOM GOŁĄBKI FOR VEGETARIANS: Here is a delicious alternative to meat gołąbki that all will enjoy. In 4 T butter, margarine or oil sauté 1 lb. fresh, washed and chopped portobello mushrooms with 2 med chopped onions. Combine with 4 c slightly undercooked rice or barley. Add 1 raw egg and mix to blend ingredients. Salt & pepper to taste and garnish with 1 T chopped fresh parsley and 2 T chopped dill. Fill pre-wilted cabbage leaves, roll and tuck the ends of the leaves in at the sides by poking with your finger. Drench with a 10.5 oz can cream of mushroom soup combined with 3 c boiling water in which 1 mushroom bouillon cube has been dissolved, and bake, covered in preheated 350° oven at least 2 hrs.



Cardinal Dziwisz, Honored in Cleveland, OH



Joyful Pastor Fr. Eric Orzech

CLEVELAND, OH - On Thursday, May 15, Stanislaw Cardinal Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow, blessed Polonia of greater Cleveland, and all Northeast Ohio with an official pastoral visit. A full day of events took place, starting with a morning greeting of the Cardinal at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, followed by a meeting with the pupils of both St. Stanislaus Elementary School as well as the adjacent Cleveland Central Catholic High School. After a luncheon at Pope John Paul II Cultural Center, His Eminence headed to the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus in Slavic Village.

Mass of Thanksgiving - The evening festivities began with a joyous and magnificent Mass of Thanksgiving for St. John Paul II, filled with pomp and circumstance worthy of a Vatican celebration. Joseph Drobot, Jr., President of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, and his lovely wife, Judith, were the official representatives of the PRCUA, along with PRCUA District 5 Director Mitchell Bienia and his wife, Krystyna.

Trumpet Fanfare - A trumpet flourish greeted the Cardinal as he entered the church, accompanied by a procession of 40 Catholic priests, a dozen Eastern Rite priests, three bishops, children in authentic Polish folk attire, all led by a cross

bearer and color guard carrying the U.S. flag, papal flag and local veterans' flag.

Electric Atmosphere - The scene became electric as the priests entered the church, all wearing identical vestments, creating a sea of flowing white and royal blue robes with a golden "M" emblazoned on the front and back. Cameras flashed like lightning bolts as the Cardinal appeared, carrying a reliquary containing a fragment of the blood-stained cassock that Pope John Paul II was wearing the moment he was shot in St. Peter's Square by Mehmet Ali Agca on May 13, 1981.

Pomp and Celebration - The celebration was one, the likes of which have not been seen in Cleveland for many, many years. The church was decorated in full splendor, highlighted by huge streamers of red and white fabric flowing from the highest point above the main altar, spreading into patriotic banners as they unfurled to the four corners of the sanctuary. Flowers were in profuse abundance, filling the air with the sweet fragrance of lilies. The music director, David Krakowski, had prepared a majestic program of music in English and Polish, as well as Latin. Most impressive was the orchestral accompaniment. At the very moment the Cardinal raised the Sacred Host following the Consecration, trumpets cracked the silence, a drum roll rumbled, and tympani thundered a magnificent fanfare, even startling some members of the congregation – so great was the tribute.

The entire Mass continued with such pageantry, even surpassing the memory of the canonization ceremony of Popes John XXIII and John Paul II at the Vatican, just weeks prior. Following the presentation of the relic of St. John Paul II, the reliquary was set in a place of honor on a pedestal directly before the main altar for all to venerate.



Reliquary containing the blood of St. John Paul II

Four Eagle Award - Upon the conclusion of the Mass, a grand banquet was held in honor of Cardinal Dziwisz, where he was presented with the Four Eagle Award, the highest honor the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus bestows upon groups or individuals who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to the St. Stanislaus community.

The Cardinal's remarks were indeed heartwarming as he freely spoke in Polish. with his remarks translated through an English-language interpreter. He was humorous, witty and occasionally profound in his comments, all the while promoting the "Be Not Afraid" John Paul II Center which he has founded in Krakow, noting that all donations are 100% tax deductible.

Endearing Farewell - Following his remarks, Cardinal Dziwisz mingled with the huge crowd, posing for photos with eager admirers. After a long

and tiring day, the Cardinal retired to his sleeping quarters at St. Stanislaus rectory, but some of the crowd flowed into the garden below his window, and serenaded the Cardinal, reminiscent of the students of Krakow who sang to Karol Wojtyla when he returned to Krakow as Supreme Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church. A very tired, but lighthearted Cardinal came to the window at St. Stanislaus rectory to acknowledge the admiring throng below the window. He led a song or two, and then wished everyone a "good night," as he bestowed his blessing, and retreated into the room – to the applause of the crowd below.

Event Organizer - The organizer of the day-long event was the Rev. Eric Orzech, pastor of both the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus, as well as St. Casimir Church, in addition to being a contributing writer to the *Narod Polski*. It was an army of volunteers who performed the tasks necessary to make a success of such a daunting event. Sheer manpower was evident in enhancing a religious and solemn atmosphere for a thousand people, while creating a party center venue for another throng, while at the same time, maintaining a quiet and peaceful residence for an esteemed guest.

It will not be easy for Stanislaw Cardinal Dziwisz to forget his visit to Cleveland! May he long remember the devotion of his flock in Northeast Ohio.

By Mitchell Bienia, Director, District 5
(Photos courtesy of Earl Holzheimer)



Cardinal Dziwisz at the rectory window being serenaded by admirers from Polonia

KALENDARZ na CZERWIEC i LIPIEC 2014

♦ 8 czerwca (niedziela) - DOROCZNA MSZA ŚW. ZPRKA KU CZCI BOSKIEGO SERCA JEZUSA - szczegóły poniżej.

♦ 13 czerwca (piątek) - NOC POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKA NA STADIONIE COMERICA PARK - szczegóły obok.

♦ 14 czerwca (sobota) - 24-te ROZGRYWKI KRĘGLARSKIE DLA MŁODZIEŻY - szczegóły obok.

♦ 15 czerwca - DZIEŃ OJCA (w Stanach Zjednoczonych).

♦ 19 lipca (sobota) - TURNIEJ GOLFOWY ZPRKA w Riverview Highland Golf Club, Riverview, MI - Gospodarzem będzie Tow. #162; bankiet o godz. 19 w Soc. #162 Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI.

♦ 26 lipca (sobota) - DOROCZNY PIKNIK TOW. ST. STAN SOC. #718 - piknik dla członków Towarzystwa #718 i ich rodzin w Nankin Mills (Hines Park); godz.: 12-20; napoje i poczęstunek. Wjazd znajduje się na południe od Ann Arbor Trail przy Hines Dr. pomiędzy Merriman i Wayne Rd., na zachodniej stronie parku Hines Park. Dodatkowe informacje: Denny i Tina Churchvara (313) 561-7464.

♦ Prosimy członków Towarzystw ZPRKA o zapoznanie się z terminarzem zebrań Towarzystw str. 2.

POMOC FINANSOWA DLA STUDENTÓW**Upływa termin nadsyłania podań!**

ZPRKA oferuje swoim członkom pomoc finansową na studia w formie trzech oddzielnych programów: Fundusz Edukacyjny ZPRKA (PRCUA Education Fund, Inc), stypendia ZPRKA i pożyczki studenckie. Każdy program wymaga wypełnienia odrębnego podania.

Pomoc jednorazową:

\$1500 - "Ku pamięci Aleksandra, Anny, Jana i Waltera Kuszel" przeznaczone dla studentów formacji religijnej;

\$1500 - "Ku pamięci Victorii Kushel" - dla studentów pielęgniarstwa (dwie nagrody w wysokości \$1000 jedna i 500 druga).

Pomoc wieczystą:

"Ku Pamięci Adele Szumilus Sularski" - bez wyszczególnienia kierunku studiów.

Rada Dyrektorów ZPRKA może ustanowić dodatkowe stypendia, w wypadku gdy dostępne będą dodatkowe środki finansowe.

Podania o pomoc w ramach Funduszu Edukacyjnego, stypendia, pożyczki studenckie można znaleźć na stronie: www.prcua.org, gdzie należy wybrać: Member Benefits, a następnie jedną z trzech możliwości: Educational Scholarships, Student Scholarship Grant Program, Educational Loans. W sprawie otrzymania wniosków można również pisać na adres: PRCUA Educational Benefits, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101.

Wypełnione podania, weryfikacja danych oraz potwierdzenie średniej ocen należy przesłać do biura ZPRKA do 1 lipca 2014 r.

Dystrykt #7 ZPRKA

w Ameryce serdecznie zaprasza na doroczną

**Mszę św. ku czci
Boskiego Serca Jezusa
w niedzielę, 8 czerwca 2014 r.**

**o godz. 12:30
w kościele św. Ferdynanda
3101 N. Mason St., Chicago, IL**

**O godz. 14:00 lunch w Grota Banquets
3112 N. Central Ave., Chicago, IL
darmowy parking 1/2 bloku od sali na Chicago City Parking**



Z okazji Dnia Ojca

*Najlepsze życzenia
spełnienia marzeń
i szczęściem wypełnionych
chwil!*

24-te Rozgrywki kręglarskie dla młodzieży**Tow. Jana Pawła II ZPRKA**

sobota, 14 czerwca 2013 r.

w godz. 10 rano do 2 po poł.

5 Star Bowling Center

2666 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Hts., MI

Rezerwacje przyjmowane będą do poniedziałku, 9 czerwca. Koszt uczestnictwa: \$5 dolarów dla członków ZPRKA; w cenie - 3 rozgrywki kręglarskie (lub 2 na liniach bumper bowling), wypożyczenie butów, nagrody i lunch. Lunch dla towarzyszących dorosłych - \$5. Kontakt: Valerie Brumm (248) 622-8949 lub valerie.brumm@gmail.com

44-TA DOROCZNA NOC POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKA

NA STADIONIE COMERICA PARK

13 czerwca 2014 r.

Mecz rozegrają drużyny

DETROIT TIGERS i MINNESOTA TWINS



Uroczystości poprzedzające mecz rozpoczną się o godz. 18:30, mecz - o godz. 19:05.

Prosimy o jak najwcześniejszy zakup biletów na 44-tą Doroczną Noc Polsko-Amerykańską na stadionie Comerica Park w Detroit, MI. Cena biletów: \$54.00 - Lower Baseline Box przy Kline's corner; \$48 - Upper Deck Box (w ubiegłym roku w sekcji przy numerze 325); \$38.00 - Lower Left Field; \$33.00 - Upper Deck Reserve. W cenę nie jest wliczony kupon na jedzenie (hot dog, chipsy i napoje gazowane). Cena pojedynczego kuponu na jedzenie - \$5.00. W cenie biletu koszulka T-shirt (osoby, które nie chcą koszulki, mogą odliczyć \$9.00 od ceny biletu).

Rezerwacje: wozog@wowway.com, prosimy wystawiać czeki na P.R.C.U.A. #1593 i przysyłać na adres: Wallace M. Ozog, 30214 Woodhouse Dr. Warren MI 48092.

**POLONIJNE ORGANIZACJE
ZAPRASZAJĄ NA WSPÓLNE IMPREZY**

Cztery Polskie bratnie organizacje Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko-Katolickie w Ameryce, Związek Narodowy Polski, Sokolstwo Polskie w Ameryce i Związek Polek w Ameryce, zapraszają do udziału w trzech letnich imprezach, które sponsorują oferując bilety po obniżonych stawkach.

**POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKIE DNI
W SIX FLAGS/GREAT AMERICA**

21-22 czerwca 2014 i 28-29 czerwca 2014

W dwa czerwcowe weekendy świętować będziemy POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKIE DNI w SIX FLAGS GREAT AMERICA w Gurnee, Illinois. Bilety dostępne są w cenie \$31.00 od osoby. Wstęp do "Six Flags Hurricane Harbor" jest możliwy za dodatkową opłatą w wysokości \$5.00 i można go nabyć przy wejściu do Theme Park.

Bilety można zamawiać drogą elektroniczną na: www.sixflags.com/greatamerica - należy użyć kod promocyjny: POLISH. Cena biletu online wynosi \$33.00.

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

Mecz rozegrają: WHITE SOX z Chicago i ANGELS z Los Angeles

wtorek, 1 lipca 2014, godz. 19:10

U.S. Cellular Field - Chicago

Bilety: LOWER BOX SEATS (Sec.14) \$25

(cena w normalnej sprzedaży \$40)

Przy wejściu występy polskich zespołów tanecznych. Przed meczem parada na stadionie. Osoby chętne do wzięcia udziału w paradzie, proszone są o ustawienie się przy wejściu #1 (południowo-wschodnia część stadionu) przed godz. 18:00 Aby wziąć udział w paradzie, należy poprosić o specjalną wejściówkę przy zakupie biletu. Wejściówki na parady ograniczone do 700. Bilety w tej cenie można zamawiać do poniedziałku, 16 czerwca 2014 r.

Bilety na POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKIE DNI w SIX FLAGS GREAT AMERICA i na POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKĄ NOC NA STADIONIE U.S. CELLULAR FIELD można również zamawiać bezpośrednio w naszych organizacjach: Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko-Katolickie w Ameryce (1-800-772-8632, w. 2601); Związek Narodowy Polski (1-800-621-3723 w. 316); Sokolstwo Polskie w Ameryce (1-800-535-2071); lub Związek Polek w Ameryce (1-888-522-1898 w. 208).

SEJMOWY QUIZ ZPRKA

W związku z odbywającym się w tym roku Sejmem ZPRKA, "Naród Polski" zaprasza wszystkich naszych członków do wzięcia udziału w specjalnym konkursie sejmowym z zagadkami. W miesiącach maju, czerwcu i lipcu zamieszczamy trzy konkursy na trzy różne tematy, każdy z pięcioma pytaniami. Uczestnicy mogą odpowiadać na pytania pisemnie załączonym poniżej formularzu lub drogą elektroniczną na adres: june-contest@prcu.org.

Każdy członek ZPRKA, który poprawnie odpowie na wszystkie 5 pytań, weźmie udział w losowaniu nagrody. Szczęśliwy zwycięzca (każdego miesiąca jeden) otrzyma nagrodę w wysokości \$100. Nazwiska zwycięzców wylosowane zostaną podczas 61 Sejmu ZPRKA i ogłoszone we wrześniowym wydaniu "Narodu Polskiego". W konkursie mogą wziąć udział wszyscy członkowie ZPRKA z wyjątkiem: członków zarządu i dyrekcji i pracowników biura ZPRKA. Poprawne odpowiedzi muszą być nadesłane do 4 sierpnia 2014. Życzymy udanej zabawy i szczęścia!

Konkurs Sejmowy ZPRKA - Czerwiec

Temat: Historia Polska

1. **Jakie ważne wydarzenie miało miejsce w 966 r.?**
a) Koronacja Bolesława Chrobrego; b) Chrzest Polski;
c) zabójstwo św. Stanisława, biskupa krakowskiego;
d) Założenie Gniezna
2. **Dlaczego Bitwa pod Grunwaldem miała tak wielkie znaczenie dla historii Polski?**
a) zapobiegła inwazji Polski przez Tatarów mongolskich;
b) w bitwie pokonano Krzyżaków, dzięki czemu umocniła się potęga Unii Polsko-Litewskiej w Europie; c) zapobiegła najeźdźcom hordom muzułmańskim na chrześcijańską Europę;
d) w czasie bitwy pokonano rosyjskich Kozaków i powiększono polskie ziemie na wschodzie
3. **Co określamy nazwą Potop Szwedzki?**
a) objęcie tronu polskiego przez króla szwedzkiego Augusta II; b) najazd Szwecji na Rzeczpospolitą w 1655 r.;
c) zalanie ziem polskich przez wody Morza Bałtyckiego;
d) obrona Gdańska w czasie II wojny światowej
4. **W jakich latach miały miejsce 3 rozbiory Polski:**
a) 1410, 1412 i 1575; b) 1596, 1648 i 1717; c) 1807, 1814 i 1826; d) 1772, 1793 i 1795
5. **W którym roku Polska została przyjęta jako członek Paktu Północnoatlantyckiego NATO?**
a) 1945 r.; b) 1969 r.; c) 1980 r.; d) 1999 r.

Konkurs Sejmowy - Odpowiedzi

1. ____ 2. ____ 3. ____ 4. ____ 5. ____

Nazwisko _____

Adres _____

Miasto/stan _____

Kod pocztowy _____ Tow. ZPRKA _____

Odpowiedzi muszą być nadesłane do poniedziałku, 4 sierpnia 2014 r. na adres:

PRCUA Contest
984 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL 60642

lub przesłane pocztą elektroniczną na adres:
june-contest@prcu.org

Uwaga: Prawidłowe rozwiązanie konkursu Strybel's Heritage Quiz - str. 13.

Specjalny Konkurs Sejmowy na pracę pisemną *Niech Twoja opinia zostanie wysłuchana!*

Przez dziesięciolecia ZPRKA otwarcie przyzje, że musimy znaleźć sensowny sposób, aby młodzież polonijna zaangażowała się w życie naszej organizacji. Na każdym Sejmie ZPRKA Komitet Młodzieży przedstawia sprawozdanie delegatów, oferując porady, w jaki sposób można to osiągnąć. Wiele z ich pomysłów zostało przyjętych, jak na przykład wykorzystanie portalów społecznościowych przez ZPRKA.

Jednak problem pozostaje: Jak możemy przekonać naszą młodzież - zwłaszcza nastolatków i dwudziestolatków - do działalności w naszej organizacji? Co ZPRKA może im zaoferować, aby ich przyciągnąć i aby pozostali zaangażowani?

61. Sejm ZPRKA odbędzie się już za dwa miesiące, zapraszamy członków ZPRKA do napisania pracy pisemnej, prezentującej nowe pomysły i nowe sposoby, dzięki którym można będzie uzyskać zaangażowanie większej ilości młodych członków w naszej organizacji.

Komitet Młodzieży, kierowany przez najmłodszego dyrektora ZPRKA Beth Sadus z Dystr. #9, przeczyta i oceni wszystkie prace, wybierając jednego zwycięzcę w czasie Sejmu. Zwycięzca otrzyma nagrodę w wysokości \$100.00.

Członkowie komitetu będą mogli korzystać z pomysłów przedstawionych w tych pracach, aby przedłożyć swoje zalecenia delegatom w czasie obrad.

ZASADY: Konkurs jest otwarty dla wszystkich członków ZPRKA, członków zarządu i dyrekcji oraz pracowników. Prosimy ograniczyć prace do 1000 słów. Wszystkie prace powinny zawierać imię i nazwisko autora, adres i numer Towarzystwa, do którego należy. Prace prosimy wysyłać na adres: PRCUA Essay Contest, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60642-4101 lub e-mail: essay-contest@prcu.org.

Specjalny program ubezpieczeniowy na życie z okazji 61. Sejmu ZPRKA

ZPRKA 61-ego Sejmu, który rozpocznie się w niedzielę, 10 sierpnia, a zakończy we środę, 13 sierpnia w Toledo, Ohio. Aby uczcić to wydarzenie, ZPRKA pragnie zaoferować specjalnym program ubezpieczeniowy na życie – 5 Year Limited Pay Whole Life, który wchodzi w życie z dniem **1 lutego 2014**, a zakończy się **31 grudnia 2014**. Oferujemy 4 różne spłaty roczne do wyboru - **\$261, \$361, \$461, \$561**.

Ubezpieczenie w tym programie zapewnia:

- możliwość wykupienia planu dla osób w wieku od 0-80 lat
- przyrost wartości gotówkowej
- dywidendy dla ubezpieczonego
- ubezpieczenie nie może być zerwane przez ZPRKA, jeżeli składki są opłacane
- dostępny łatwy elektroniczny przelew pieniędzy
- możliwość ubiegania się o stypendium na studia lub pożyczki edukacyjne
- ubezpieczenie spłacane przez 5 lat, jest ważne do końca życia

W celu wykupienia ubezpieczenia, skontaktuj się z lokalnym przedstawicielem działu sprzedaży ZPRKA lub biurem głównym: Agnieszka Bastrzyk, dyrektor marketingu, tel (800) 772-8632 ext. 2603; Agnieszka-Bastrzyk@prcu.org

* Prosimy o podanie wieku zbliżonego do daty urodzin. Przykład: 30 lat i 5 miesięcy – podajemy wiek 30 lat. 30 lat i 6 miesięcy – podajemy wiek 31 lat)

Oferta nie może być łączona z innymi ofertami specjalnymi. Tylko roczne spłaty. Każda aplikacja zostanie wynagrodzona magnesem. **Wszystkie wnioski podlegają szczegółowemu rozpatrzeniu.**

SEJMOWE ROZGRYWKI GOLFOWE ZPRKA

Sobota, 9 sierpnia 2014 r.

Detwiler Park Golf Course

4001 N. Summit St., Toledo, OH 43611

początek o godz. 11



Zapraszamy wszystkich członków ZPRKA do udziału

- Wpisowe: \$45 od osoby -

w cenie: wózek golfowy, nagrody, spotkanie po zakończeniu rozgrywek

hotdogi i piwo w PRCUA Club

5255 N. Detroit Ave., Toledo, OH

Wczesne zapisy mile widziane. Prosimy o przesłanie listy uczestników wraz z opłatami na adres: PRCUA, Vikki Jean Mixon, 5255 N. Detroit, Ave., Toledo, OH 43612.

Prosimy wystawiać чеки na: PRCUA Preconvention Committee

ZAPRASZAMY NA BAL LETNI MPA

Członkini ZPRKA Joann S. Ozog, laureatką nagrody Dziedzictwa Polskiego MPA na rok 2014



P. Joann S. Ozog

Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce serdecznie zaprasza wszystkich członków ZPRKA do udziału w 34-tym dorocznym Balu Letnim MPA. Bal odbędzie się w piątek, 6 czerwca 2014 roku w Galleria Marchetti, 825 W. Erie St. w Chicago, IL.

Elegancki wieczór rozpoczynie się koktajlami o godz. 19:00. W czasie obiadu i do tańca grać będzie renomowana Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra. Cena biletów wynosi 200 dolarów od osoby. Część ceny biletu i wszelkie donacje na MPA można odpisać od podatku.

W tym roku, MPA uhonoruje Joann Shirley Ozog jako odbiorcę cenionej nagrody "Dziedzictwa Polskiego". Pani Joann Ozog, całe życie mieszka w stanie Michigan, jest córką śp. Jana i Wiktorii Kuszel. Jej mężem jest Wallace Ozog, honorowy prezes ZPRKA. P. Ozog mają trzech synów: Michaela, Marka i Christophera i dwoje wnucząt Grace i Ryana. W latach 1998-2010 była "pierwszą damą" ZPRKA, obecnie, jest bardzo aktywnym członkiem i sekretarzem finansowym Towarzystwa #1593 ZPRKA.

W latach 1998-2009, p. Ozog pracowała jako wolontariuszka w Muzeum Polskim w Ameryce, często poświęcając tej pracy 40-godzin tygodniowo, pracowała jako przewodnicząca działu członkostwa, koordynator imprez i koordynator wolontariatu. Kiedy zaczęła się udzielać jako wolontariusz, Muzeum Polskie było po prostu skarbnicą polskich i polsko-amerykańskich zabytków - mało jednak było znane wśród Polonii poza Chicago. Pani Ozog doceniała wartość tej ważnej instytucji i była zdecydowana rozpowszechnić wiedzę o Muzeum Polskim w całych Stanach Zjednoczonych.

W latach 1998-2009, p. Ozog pracowała jako wolontariuszka w Muzeum Polskim w Ameryce, często poświęcając tej pracy 40-godzin tygodniowo, pracowała jako przewodnicząca działu członkostwa, koordynator imprez i koordynator wolontariatu. Kiedy zaczęła się udzielać jako wolontariusz, Muzeum Polskie było po prostu skarbnicą polskich i polsko-amerykańskich zabytków - mało jednak było znane wśród Polonii poza Chicago. Pani Ozog doceniała wartość tej ważnej instytucji i była zdecydowana rozpowszechnić wiedzę o Muzeum Polskim w całych Stanach Zjednoczonych.

W 1999 roku, kiedy została zapoczątkowana ogólnokrajowa kampania członkowska, p. Ozog spędziła wiele czasu rekrutując nowych członków. Kampania przyniosła również muzeum około 500 tys. dolarów, która zostały wykorzystane na remonty, konserwację muzealnych eksponatów, zakup potrzebnych materiałów i różnych nowych programów.

Dzięki staraniom pani Joann Ozog pnownie zaczął ukazywać się kwartalnie biuletyn MPA (PMA Newsletter), który nie był publikowany od lat. W miarę upływu lat rozszerzyła zakres swojej działalności: zainicjowała warsztaty robienia polskich ozdób bożonarodzeniowych, wyplatania palm wielkanocnych, malowania pisanek, robienia wycinanek, warsztaty genealogiczne i robienia tradycyjnych polskich pierogów. Warsztaty te rozpowszechniły się szeroko wśród polsko-amerykańskiej społeczności, dając Polonii możliwość poznania polskiej sztuki ludowej poprzez naukę z pierwszej ręki.

Jako była nauczycielka, p. Ozog szczególnie koncentrowała się na zajęciach dla dzieci i młodzieży, które miały zwiększyć ich świadomość polskiego dziedzictwa i znajomość polskiej kultury i tradycji - konkursy plastyczne, koncerty, kolacje i obchody "Października - Miesiąca Dziedzictwa Polsko-Amerykańskiego". Zauważyła, że uczniowie, którzy przyjeżdżali do Muzeum Polskiego sa często znużeni wycieczką, więc stworzyła interaktywne książeczki, które kierowały uwagę młodzieży na eksponaty muzealne, zmuszając ich, do odszukania pewnych obiektów, co sprawiało, że wizyta w muzeum, stawała się doświadczeniem przyjemnym i bardziej edukacyjnym. Korzystając z pomocy graficznej redaktor biuletynu MPA Kathryn Rosypal, Joann Ozog opracowała także książeczki o gen. Kazimierzu Pułaskim, Ignacym Paderewskim, i polskich imigrantach w Chicago.

Była inicjatorką projektu "Uratuj książkę", dzięki któremu odrestaurowano ponad 200 rzadkich, starych książek, na cel ten napłynęło prawie 20 tys. dolarów darowizn, w czasie kadencji p. Ozog. P. Ozog zainicjowała również projekt "Rekonstrukcji zdjęć" - skanowania i ktatalogowania fotografii z kolekcji MPA. Na cel ten wpłynęło do 2009 r. około 40 tysięcy dolarów.

Grupa stworzona przez p. Ozog - "Przyjaciele MPA z Michigan", hojnie nadsyła wpłaty na kolejne projekty, w tym przystosowanie magazynu na salę konferencyjną, renowacje w archiwum i bibliotece, zakup komputerów, drukarki, kopiarki, telewizora, sprzętu wideo oraz dodatkowe fundusze na projekt Rekonstrukcji zdjęć. Grupa ta w czasie kadencji p. Ozog przekazała ponad 35 tys. dolarów.

Przyznanie tej prestiżowej nagrody p. Joann Ozog nie jest przypadkowe. P. Ozog osiągnęła swój cel uczynienia z Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce instytucji znanej w całej Ameryce. Z programów, które zainicjowała, skorzystała niezliczona ilość Amerykanów polskiego pochodzenia, którzy poprzez organizowane warsztaty, mieli okazję poznać polskie obyczaje i tradycje. Bez wątpienia, starania pani Ozog zaowocowały jej dokonaniem, jakie wniosła w ochronę polskiej kultury, zwyczajów, tradycji i dziedzictwa w Ameryce - ZPRKA jest dumna z jej osiągnięć. Brawo!

Bal Letni Muzeum Polskiego jest największą imprezą dochodową MPA. Dzwoniąc pod numer (773) 782-2601 można zakupić bilety na loterię (\$10 - jeden los; 3 za \$25 lub 8 za \$50). 1. nagroda - \$2,500 dolarów, 2 nagroda - \$1000; 3. nagroda - \$750, 4 nagroda - \$500 dolarów. Zwycięzca nie musi być obecny na balu.

(dok. ze str. 20) większość pielgrzymów, którzy przybyli do Rzymu na to uroczyste wydarzenie, machała biało-czerwonymi flagami. Był to wyjątkowy i historyczny dzień, w którym kanonizowano dwóch byłych papieży i który na zawsze zapisał się w księgach historii Kościoła katolickiego. Mszę koncelebrował papież Franciszek, z udziałem emerytowanego papieża Benedykta XVI i prawie 150 kardynałów i 700 biskupów. Obecnych było ponad 6000 kapłanów z całego świata.

Przejeżdżając po mszy św. przez plac św. Piotra, papież pozdrawiał pielgrzymów, którzy byli świadkami tego historycznego dnia.

Później tego wieczoru zostałam zaproszona przez Prezydenta RP i jego żonę na przyjęcie dla dyplomatów w Palazzo della Cancelleria (kancelarii papieskiej), z okazji kanonizacji Jana XXIII i Jana Pawła II. Prezydent Komorowski podziękował władzom Włoch i Watykanu za zorganizowanie tego niezwykłego wydarzenia i ciepłe przyjęcie, zwłaszcza dla tysięcy polskich pielgrzymów. W przyjęciu uczestniczyli m.in. byli prezydenci Polski - Lech Wałęsa i Aleksander Kwaśniewski oraz Karolina Kaczorowska - wdowa po ostatnim prezydencie RP na uchodźstwie, Ryszardzie Kaczorowskim, liczni duchowni i urzędnicy państwowi, dyplomci, goście specjaliści z całego świata.

Następnego dnia rano wzięliśmy udział we Mszy Dziękczynienia na Placu św. Piotra. Ponownie w drodze do placu mijaliśmy tysiące pielgrzymów. Mieliśmy szczęście dostać miejsca w pobliżu głównego ołtarza, cztery rzędy za Prezydentem RP i delegacjami dyplomatycznymi. Oczekując, delegacja Polonii miała kolejną okazję do spotkania prezydenta i polskiej delegacji. Przed Mszą otrzymaliśmy ciepłe powitanie w jęz. polskim i włoskim od kard. Stanisława Dziwisza, metropolity krakowskiego i b. sekretarza Jana Pawła II. Podziękował on też papieżowi Franciszkowi i jego poprzednikowi, Benedyktowi XVI za kanonizację, a władzom Rzymu za wspaniałą opiekę nad pielgrzymami, zwłaszcza tymi z Polski. Podziękował również Włochom za przyjęcie papieża z Polski i miłość jaką go otaczali w czasie jego pontyfikatu. Przypomniat, że na początku, Włosi nazywali Jana Pawła II "polski papież", ale wkrótce zaczęli mówić "nasz papież". Kard. Dziwisz podziękował Bogu za danie nam podwójnego daru - dwóch świętych: Jana XXIII - syna Włoch, który zasługuje na tytuł "Dobry papież", który wprowadził rewolucyjne reformy, jak ogłoszenie Soboru Watykańskiego II, ponad pół wieku temu i za Jana Pawła II, syna Polski, "Papieża Bożego Miłosierdzia", który wprowadził Kościół w trzecie tysiąclecie wiary chrześcijańskiej i który odegrał zasadniczą rolę w doprowadzeniu do upadku komunizmu w Europie. Kard. Dziwisz wyraził także solidarność z Ukrainą w czasie obecnej trudnej sytuacji w tym kraju.

Kardynał Angelo Comastri, wikariusz generalny Jego Świątobliwości dla Watykanu i arcykapłan Bazyliki Watykańskiej, przewodniczył Mszy Dziękczynienia. W homilii wezwał wszystkich do naśladowania nowego świętego Jana Pawła II, który miał odwagę bronić naszej wiary, życia ludzkiego i pokoju, który zapraszał młodzież do przyjęcia Chrystusa. Podkreślił też, odwagę Jana Pawła II w głoszeniu Ewangelii.

Po mszy uczestniczyliśmy w konferencji prasowej i lunchu w pięknym Hosianum Palace, jednej z najbardziej prestiżowych zabytkowych rezydencji w Rzymie. Tutaj mieliśmy okazję spotkać ks. Mieczysława Mokrzyckiego, arcybiskupa Lwowa, na Ukrainie, który służył jako osobisty asystent sekretarza papieża Jana Pawła II, a później służył w sztabie papieża Benedykta, ks. Józefa Kowalczyka, arcybiskupa gnieźnieńskiego i Prymasa Polski, ks. Szczepana Wesołego, emerytowanego arcybiskupa gnieźnieńskiego, ks. Stefana Wyleżka, administratora Fundacji Jana Pawła II i ks. Pawła Ptasznika, kierownika sekcji polskiej watykańskiego sekretarza stanu. Obecny był także Grzegorz Gałązka, osobisty fotograf papieża Jana Pawła II, a teraz fotograf Jego Świątobliwości papieża Franciszka.

Wieczorem odbył się w rzymskiej bazylice Santa Maria Maggiore Koncert Dziękczynienia "Te Deum Laudamus", z okazji kanonizacji Jana Pawła II. Koncert został zorganizowany przez "Wspólnotę Polską" Radę Polonii i Polskie Stowarzyszenie Unii Europejskiej oraz Ministerstwo Spraw Zagranicznych RP, we współpracy z Ambasadą RP w Rzymie. Na początku koncertu zostaliśmy przywitani przez kard. Stanisława Dziwisza, który podziękował wszystkim za udział w koncercie ku czci św. Jana Pawła II. Obecni byli również kard. Kazimierz Nycz, abp. metropolita warszawski, abp. Józef Kowalczyk, Prymas Polski oraz wielu biskupów i księży i znamienitych gości, w tym ambasador Polski w Watykanie Piotr Nowina-Konopka. Był to piękny i wzruszający koncert. W programie znalazły się utwory wybitnych kompozytorów polskich - Macieja Banacha Jacka Bonieckiego, Tadeusza Karolaka i Jerzego Maksymiuka. Wystąpiło ponad 250 artystów - w tym po raz pierwszy wspólnie soliści słynnych zespołów pieśni i tańca "Mazowsze" i "Śląsk" oraz zespołu muzycznego "Des Orient". Udział wzięli znani pianiści Olejniczak i Marianna Humerska oraz soliści Emile Leiyuy Tar i Marta Wylomanska. Zaprezentowano muzykę Fryderyka Chopina i Ignacego Paderewskiego, a także wiele piosenek i pieśni, m.in. "Bogurodzicę - najstarszą polską pieśń religijną, oraz "Ojciec nasz", "Te Deum", "Agnus Dei II", "Kyrie". Koncert zakończyła ulubiona piosenka Jana Pawła II - "Barka".

Niezwykłe i wzruszające było, że narratorem koncertu był sam papież Jan Pawła II, który na gigantycznych ekranach, własnymi słowami wprowadził nas do wielkich wydarzeń w historii polski, misji Kościoła i podróży po całym świecie w czasie jego pontyfikatu. Na ekranach mogliśmy zobaczyć papieża mówiącego do nas wszystkich, ale czułam, że mówi do każdego z osobna i że był tam z nami. To był niezapomniany i bardzo emocjonalny koncert i jestem pewna, że wielu uczestników nigdy go nie zapomni."

zdjęcia: Anna Sokolowski, Judith i Joseph Drobot



Wiceprezesa ZPRKA A. Sokolowski z prezydentem RP. B. Komorowskim



Koncert Dziękczynienia - u góry kard. Stanisław Dziwisz

Zmarł Jan Borkowski



Śp. Jan Borkowski

Jan S. Borkowski urodził się w miejscowości Janochy w Polsce, w dniu 13 października 1944 roku. Był synem Stanisława i Zofii Brokowskich. Wraz z matką i siostrą, Jane Smoliński, wyemigrował do Stanów Zjednoczonych w 1957 roku. Ukończył szkołę podstawową św. Jana Kantego w 1959 r. W 1963 r. ukończył szkołę średnią św. Jana Kantego oraz otrzymał obywatelstwo amerykańskie.

Po ukończeniu szkoły średniej podjął pracę w gazecie Polish Daily News, gdzie pozostał do 1965 roku. Tego roku podjął się większych wyzwań zawodowych, rozpoczynając pracę w Legal News Publishing Company, kontynuował jednocześnie naukę w Colorado Springs School of Printing w Colorado Springs, CO. W roku 1984 pan Jan został superintendentem w wydawnictwie Legal News Publishing Company, stanowisko to piastował aż do przejścia na emeryturę w 2012 roku. Będąc już na emeryturze, dorywczo podejmował się pracy w wydawnictwie przy specjalnych projektach.

Od wczesnej młodości był zaangażowany w działalność Polonii w Cleveland. Był wieloletnim członkiem klubu piłkarskiego Polonia Soccer Club i skarbnikiem klubu przez 8 lat. W latach 1962-1993, prowadził zespół muzyczny "John Borkowski and his Orchestra", który aktywnie uczestniczył w życiu polonijnym. Swoją miłość do muzyki porzucił dopiero w chwili, gdy został wybrany prezesem Związku Polaków w Ameryce - swojej drugiej wielkiej miłości.

Jan Borkowski był członkiem Związku Polaków od 1958 r. (w 2005 roku Związek przyłączył się do Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko Katolickiego w Ameryce). W 1968 roku p. Borkowski został wybrany wiceprezesem Grupy Henryka Sienkiewicza 120, obecnie Tow. #2220 ZPRKA, stanowisko to pełnił aż do śmierci. W roku 1982 został wybrany dyrektorem krajowym Związku; w 1986 roku, pierwszym wiceprzezesem; a w 1990 r., wiceprezesem wykonawczym. W lutym 1992 r., został wybrany na stanowisko prezesa Związku Polaków Ameryce i został zaprzysiężony w czerwcu tego roku. Na 38. Sejmie, który odbył się w Cleveland, OH we wrześniu 1994 roku, p. Borkowski został ponownie wybrany na prezesa Związku - przez aklamację, nie było sprzeciwu wobec jego kandydatury lub jego zwycięstwa. Jednym z osiągnięć, z których był najbardziej dumny, było utworzenie w 1992 r. Szkoły Polskiej w Związku Polaków, oraz zespołu tańca "PIAST".

W miarę wzrostu zaangażowania p. Borkowskiego w Związku Polaków wzrastało również jego zaangażowanie w życiu Polonii. Był członkiem oraz piastował stanowiska w wielu organizacjach, w tym: był prezesem Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej - Oddział w Ohio; prezesem Towarzystwa Przyjaciół Fundacji Jana Pawła II, Oddział w Ohio; Rycerzem Pułaskiego i dyrektorem Polonia Foundation of Ohio, Inc; przewodniczącym Sojuszu Polaków Federalnej Unii Kredytowej, która połączyła się z Steel Valley Federal Credit Union, gdzie początkowo został dyrektorem, a następnie skarbnikiem. P. Borkowski był również aktywnym członkiem Towarzystwa Polaków w Cleveland, Związku Polskiego w Ameryce Lodge #827; członkiem Parma Polish American League; aktywnym członkiem kilku polskich organizacji weterańskich, w tym Post #30 Legionu Polskiego Amerykańskich Weteranów i Post #152 Stowarzyszenia Weteranów Armii Polskiej.

Za swoją działalność otrzymał wiele nagród i wyróżnień, m.in.: Krzyż Kawalerski, najwyższe wyróżnienie nadawane osobom cywilnym przez polski rząd; Medal "Zasłużony dla kultury polskiej" od rządu polskiego, za utrzymanie i rozwijanie polskiej kultury w Ohio. Od Związku Polaków w Ameryce otrzymał najwyższe wyróżnienie "Meritorious Service Award", od Fundacji Polonii w Ohio "Nagrodę dziedzictwa", od Towarzystwa Polaków w Cleveland "Good Joe - Polish-American Heritage Award" oraz od Polskiego Stowarzyszenia Weteranów Armii - Miecze Hallerowskie i Krzyż za zasługi dla Polski.

Jan S. Borkowski (l. 69), mieszkał przez wiele lat w miejscowości Parma w Ohio, a ostatnio w Seven Hills, w Ohio. Odszedł do Wiecznego odpoczynku w Dzień Matki, 11 kwietnia 2014 r., po bardzo krótkiej chorobie. Pozostawił pogrążonych w smutku: ukochaną, zawsze go wspierającą żonę Ligię (z domu Dąbrowski) i dwóch synów Tadeusza (żonaty z Noreen) oraz Waltera, a także wnuka, Johnny, który był przysłowiowym "oczkiem w jego głowie". Obydwaj synowie są absolwentami Uniwersytetu w Toledo. Tadeusz jest farmaceutą w Giant Eagle Pharmacy, Walter jest na emeryturze.

ZPRKA reprezentował w uroczystościach pogrzebowych sekretarz-skarbnik ZPRKA, James Robaczewski.

Wieczny odpoczynek racz Mu dać Panie!

PODWÓJNA UROCZYSTOŚĆ

Towarzystwo Św. Papieża Jana Pawła II #1593 z Warren w stanie Michigan obchodziło w dniach 3-4 maja podwójną uroczystość - 35-lecie założenia Towarzystwa i kanonizację św. Jana Pawła II. Obchody miały miejsce w parafii św. Anny.

Towarzystwo Św. Papieża Jana Pawła II zostało zorganizowane przez Wallace Ozoga w czerwcu 1979 r. Ponieważ uroczystości jubileuszowe zbiegły się w czasie z kanonizacją patrona Towarzystwa, Ojca św. Jana Pawła II w dniu 27 kwietnia, zarząd Towarzystwa podjął decyzję o połączeniu tych dwóch wydarzeń.

W niedzielę 4 maja odprawione zostało o godz. 8:45 uroczyste nabożeństwo w kościele św. Anny w Warren, MI. Po mszy św. harcerze Cub Scouts z parafii, przygotowali śniadanie.

W związku z kanonizacją św. Papieża Jana Pawła II przygotowana została wystawa o Ojcu Świętym. Wystawę zorganizowała pani Joann Ozog, która podzieliła ją tematycznie: Ojciec Święty i młodzież, Podróż papieskie, Młodzież obrazująca życie Papieża poprzez sztukę, Wizyta Papieża w Hart Plaza, Hamtramck i Pontiac Silverdome, Spojrzenie na współczesnego świętego. Przygotowała również kilka plakatów oraz fotografie przedstawiające działalność Towarzystwa św. Papieża Jana Pawła II w przeszłości.

Wszyscy, którzy przyszli, aby zobaczyć wystawę otrzymali kartyki z modlitwami do św. Jana Pawła II i św. Jana XXIII. Wiele osób pozytywnie wypowiadało się na temat wystawy, była też okazja do wspomnień, zwłaszcza, z wizyty Ojca Świętego w Hamtramck w stanie Michigan i w Pontiac Silverdome.

W czwartek, 8 maja emerytowany prezes ZPRKA Wallace Ozog i prezes Tow. Św. Jana Pawła II #1593, spotkał się z ok. 600 uczniami szkoły podstawowej przy parafii św. Anny i opowiadał o swoich spotkaniach z Ojcem Świętym. Uczniowie słuchali z ciekawością i zadawali pytania, każdy otrzymał kartkę z modlitwą i kolorowaną przedstawiającą Św. Jana Pawła II i jego biografię, napisaną przez red. "Narodu Polskiego", Kathryn Rosypal.

Kanonizacja św. Jana Pawła II była wyjątkowo bliska sercom pp. Wallego i Joann Ozog, ponieważ pan Ozog, organizując 35 lat temu Towarzystwo ZPRKA, wybrał za patrona Towarzystwa Papieża Jana Pawła II. Państwo Ozog mieli również okazję spotkać papieża pięć razy, w tym - dwa razy na prywatnej audiencji w Watykanie. W tym czasie pp. Wally i Joann nie zdawali sobie sprawy, że mieli okazję widzieć, spotkać i dotknąć świętego. Jakże niewielu ludzi dostąpiło takiego zaszczytu.



Goście z zainteresowaniem oglądają wystawę



Jedna z plansz wystawowych



Kard. Dziwisz w Cleveland

KARD. DZIWISZ ODWIEDZIŁ CLEVELAND, OH

W czwartek, 15 maja, metropolita krakowski kard. Stanisław Dziwisz złożył wizytę duszpasterską Polonii w Cleveland, OH. Rano kardynał powitany został na lotnisku Hopkins International Airport, następnie spotkał się z uczniami szkoły podstawowej św. Stanisława Szkoły i szkoły średniej Central Catholic High School. Po lunchu w Centrum Kulturalnym im. Papieża Jana Pawła II, Jego Eminencja udał się do sanktuarium św. Stanisława BM, gdzie po południu odprawiona została msza św. dziękczynna za dar św. Jana Pawła II, pełna przepychu i stosowna do okoliczności. ZPRKA reprezentowali prezes Joseph Drobot z żoną Judith oraz dyrektor Dystr. #5 ZPRKA Mitchell Bienia z żoną Krystyną.

Wchodzącego do świątyni kardynała w asyście 40 księży katolickich, 12 księży wyznania prawosławnego, 3 biskupów, ubranych w ludowe stroje dzieci i pocztów sztandarowych, powitały fanfary trębaczy. Wchodzących w procesji duchownych, ubranych w identyczne szaty, witał również blask lamp błyskowych. Kardynał, wniósł relikwiarz zawierający fragment splamionej krwią sutanny, którą Jan Paweł II miał na sobie w chwili, gdy został postrzelony na Placu Świętego Piotra przez Mehmeta Ali Ağcę w dniu 13 maja 1981 roku.

Tak wielkiej i dostojnej uroczystości nie widziano w Cleveland od wielu lat. Kościół został wspaniale udekorowany, nad ołtarzem zwisały ogromne serpentyny z czerwonej i białej tkaniny, które płynąc od najwyższego punktu nad głównym ołtarzem, zwieszały się do czterech rogów świątyni. Kwiaty wypełniły powietrze słodkim zapachem lilii. Dyrektor muzyczny, Dawid Krakowski, przygotował majestatyczny program muzyczny w jęz. angielskim, polskim, jęz. łacińskich. Wyjątkowo imponujący był akompaniament orkiestry. W momencie gdy kardynał podniósł Świętą Hostię po konsekracji, ciszę przerwały fanfary trąbek, zagrzmiwały werble i bębny. Cała msza była bardzo podniosła, niemal przekraczając swoją widowiskowością uroczystości kanonizacji papieża Jana XXIII i Jana Pawła II w Watykanie, sprzed kilku tygodni. Po prezentacji relikwii Świętego Jana Pawła II, relikwiarz został ustawiony na honorowym miejscu na piedestale przed ołtarzem głównym, aby wszyscy mogli go ucałować.

Po mszy odbył się na cześć kardynała Dziwisza, uroczysty bankiet, w czasie którego została mu wręczona Nagroda Czterech Orłów (Four Eagle Award), najwyższe wyróżnienie przyznawane przez Sanktuarium św. Stanisława osobom lub instytucjom, które wykazały wybitne zaangażowanie na rzecz parafii.

Kardynał Dziwisz zwrócił się do gości z wielką sympatią. Mówił zabawnie, czasem zawierając w swoich słowach głęboką myśl, a jednocześnie promując Centrum Jana Pawła II "Nie lękajcie się", które założył w Krakowie.

Po zakończeniu wystąpienia, kardynał Dziwisz rozmawiał z gośćmi i chętnie pozował do zdjęć. Po długim i męczącym dniu kardynał udał się do przeznaczonych dla niego pomieszczeń na plebani, ale niektórzy z gości udali się pod jego okna, by tam na wzór studentów krakowskich, którzy śpiewali pod oknami Karola Wojtyły, gdy wrócił do Krakowa jako papież, śpiewać znane pieśni. Bardzo zmęczony, ale zrelaksowany, kardynał podszedł do okna, zaśpiewał z tłumem piosenkę lub dwie, a następnie życzył wszystkim "dobranoc", udzielił błogosławieństwa i wśród braw udał się na spoczynek.

Organizatorem całodziennych uroczystości był ks. Erich Orzech, który jest proboszczem sanktuarium św. Stanisława i parafii św. Kazimierza, oraz pisze artykuły do "Narodu Polskiego". Pomagała mu armia wolontariuszy, którzy wykonywali zadania konieczne do powodzenia takiego trudnego przedsięwzięcia. Ogrom pracy był widoczny w podniosłej religijnej uroczystej atmosferze wśród tysiąca uczestników.

Mitchell Bienia, dyrektor Dystr. #5 ZPRKA



Relikwia św. Jana Pawła II

ZPRKA W PARADZIE 3-CIO MAJOWEJ W CHICAGO



Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko Katolickie w Ameryce (l-p) Alicia Sokolowski, Aurora Marron, prezes Joseph A. Drobot, p. Judith Drobot, transparent nieśli Kevin Ryba i Robert Fattore



Marszałek tegorocznej parady honorowy prezes Klubów Polskich Edward Mika oraz wicemarszałkinie: prezeska Fundacji Dar Serca Dorota Malachowska (l) i wiceprezeska ZPRKA Anna Sokolowska (p)



Południowo-Zachodnie Centrum Polskich Tańców



Szkoła Polska im. Jana Pawła II z Lemont, IL



Szkoła im. Rafała Kalinowskiego z Munster, IN



Szkoła im. Marii Konopnickiej



Zespół Pieśni i Tańca Polonia



"Kopciuszek i Księżę" oraz ich zastępcy



Przedstawiciele Grupy Kulturalna Dorosłych



(L-p) pracownice biura ZPRKA Emilia Kurda, Jolanta Zachara, Danuta Czajkowska, Danuta Rybska i Agnieszka Bastrzyk (z prawej). Druga z prawej siostra p. Zachary, Zuzanna Świątek.



Kanonizacja Św. Jana XXIII i Św. Jana Pawła II Członkowie zarządu ZPRKA na uroczystościach w Rzymie



Okolo 800 tysięcy osób zgromadziło się na placu św. Piotra i w okolicznych uliczkach w Watykanie w niedzielę, 27 kwietnia 2014 roku, na uroczystości kanonizacyjnej św. Papieża Jana XXIII i św. Papieża Jana Pawła II.

Już od poprzedzającej nocy w kościołach rzymskich odbywały się czuwania modlitewne i nabożeństwa przed kanonizacją. Msza św. poprzedzona została odmówieniem Koronki do Miłosierdzia Bożego, odczytaniem tekstów autorstwa obu papieży oraz ośpiewaniem hymnów do nich.

Uroczysta msza św. rozpoczęła się o godz. 10 rano. Zgodnie z tradycją, o włączenie Jana Pawła II i Jana XXIII w poczet świętych oficjalnie prosili przewodniczącego liturgii papieża Franciszka prefekt Kongregacji Spraw Kanonizacyjnych kard. Angelo Amato i postulatorzy procesów: ks. Sławomir Oder i o. Giovanguiseppe Califano, O.F.M.

Papież Franciszek, w obecności swego poprzednika Benedykta XVI, ogłosił świętymi Jana XXIII i Jana Pawła II wygłaszając formułę: *“Na chwałę Trójcy Przenajświętszej, dla wywyższenia katolickiej wiary i wzrostu chrześcijańskiego życia, na mocy władzy naszego Pana Jezusa Chrystusa, świętych Apostołów Piotra i Pawła, a także Naszej, po uprzednim dojrzałym namyśle, po licznych prośbach o pomoc Bożą i po wysłuchaniu opinii naszych Braci w biskupstwie orzekamy i ogłaszamy świętymi błogosławionych Jana XXIII i Jana Pawła II i wpisujemy ich w poczet świętych i polecamy, aby w całym Kościele byli oni czczeni z oddaniem pośród świętych. W Imię Ojca i Syna i Ducha Świętego”*.

Do ołtarza przyniesione zostały relikwie św. Jana XXIII (relikwiarz z fragmentem skóry Jana XXIII) i św. Jana Pawła II (relikwiarz z ampułką z krwią św. Jana Pawła II). Na kanonizacji obecne były francuska zakonnica Marie Simon-Pierre i Floribeth Mora Diaz z Kostaryki, których uzdrowienia uznano za cuda przypisywane wstawiennictwu Jana Pawła II.

Do Watykanu przybyły 93 państwowe delegacje z całego świata, w tym 24 prezydentów i monarchów oraz 30 premierów. Polskiej delegacji przewodniczył prezydent Bronisław Komorowski z żoną, uczestniczyli w niej również premier Donald Tusk z żoną, marszałkowie Sejmu i Senatu Ewa Kopacz i Bogdan Borusewicz, delegacja parlamentarzystów oraz byli prezydenci Lech Wałęsa i Aleksander Kwaśniewski.



Papież Franciszek i kardynałowie w czasie uroczystości kanonizacyjnych

Na uroczystościach kanonizacyjnych nie zabrakło przedstawicieli ZPRKA. Do Watykanu pojechali: prezes ZPRKA Joseph A. Drobot, Jr., który wraz z małżonką Judith uczestniczył w pielgrzymce zorganizowanej przez kapelana ZPRKA ks. Władysława Ptaka oraz wiceprezesa ZPRKA Anna Sokołowski, która udała się do Rzymu z delegacją Polonii.

Zarówno prezes Joseph Drobot jak i wiceprezesa Anna Sokołowski stwierdzili, że uczestnictwo w tych uroczystościach było wyjątkowym przeżyciem, które na zawsze pozostanie w ich wspomnieniach i sercach.

Państwo Drobot, wraz z ks. Ptakiem i uczestnikami wycieczki, w której udział wzięła znaczna grupa członków ZPRKA, poza udziałem we mszy św. kanonizacyjnej mieli okazję zwiedzić wiele miejsc. Dzieląc się wrażeniami z wycieczki pp. Judith i Joseph Drobot opowiadali o swojej niezwyklej podróży (pełna wersja relacji w angielskiej sekcji):

“Wizyty w katakumbach św. Kaliksta, podróż do Asyżu, do domu św. Franciszka, zwiedzanie czterech głównych bazylik - Matki Bożej Większej, św. Jana na Lateranie, św. Pawła za Murami i św. Piotra na Watykanie, zapierały dech w piersiach i były inspirujące. Odwiedziliśmy wiele, wiele więcej rzymskich świątyń, zbyt wiele by je wymienić, ale w każdej z nich została zapalona świeca w podziękowaniu i w intencji naszych przyjaciół.

Muzeum Watykańskie, ze swoimi zabytkami i historią było szczególnie interesujące, ponieważ nasza wycieczka zakończyła się wizytą w Kaplicy Sykstyńskiej, gdzie podziwialiśmy piękne freski na suficie, przedstawiające “Sąd ostateczny”, namalowane przez Michała Anioła.

Nasza pielgrzymka obejmowała również udział w środowowej audiencji papieskiej dla pielgrzymów odwiedzających Święte Miasto. Byliśmy na placu bardzo wcześnie, tuż przed 7 rano, padał drobny deszcz, wszędzie widziało się parasole i obawialiśmy się, że nie będziemy



Pielgrzymi w Watykanie

widzieć papieża. P o n i e w a ż p r z y b y ł i ś m y wcześnie, udało nam się stanąć tuż przed jedną z barier okalających drogę, którą przemierza samochód papieski. Mieliśmy szczęście, bo jak tłum rósł, trudno było cokolwiek dostrzec.

Należy tu wspomnieć że, dla wielu ludzi, którzy stali daleko od papieskiego podium, umieszczono olbrzymie ekrany wokół Placu. Niezależnie więc jak daleko stało się od papieża, transmisja wideo przybliżała każdego do Ojca Świętego.

Tuż przed przyjazdem papieża deszcz przestał padać i wyszło słońce. Gdy papież Franciszek jechał przez tłum, byliśmy tak blisko, że mogliśmy go sfotografować. Co za emocje!

Czekał nas bardzo ekscytujący wieczór. Dzięki temu, że dyrektorzy naszej wycieczki, Grzegorz i Maria Kuns zaprzyjeźnieni są z prałatem Henrykiem Mieczysławem Jagodzińskim, dyplomatą w Sekretariacie Stanu Stolicy Apostolskiej, zostaliśmy wraz z ks. Ptakiem zaproszeni na kolację w jadalni watykańskiej. Niesamowicie, że mogliśmy spożywać kolację w jadalni, w której jada również papież Franciszek! Zostaliśmy poproszeni o przestrzeganie pewnych protokołów i uszanowanie prywatności Ojca Świętego, nie przerywanie i nie robienie zdjęć. Oczywiście uszanowaliśmy te wymagania.

Byliśmy oszołomieni, gdy w czasie kolacji przybył Ojciec Święty. Udał się do swojego stołu, niedaleko od miejsca, gdzie my siedzieliśmy. Obserwowaliśmy niemal każdy jego ruch, zwłaszcza, gdy podszedł do bufetu po deser, przy którym my przed chwilą byliśmy! W obecności Ojca Świętego ogarnął nas niewyobrażalny spokój.

Jak przewidywano, liczba pielgrzymów przybywających na uroczystość kanonizacji stale wzrastała. Wydawało się, że w Watykanie było w więcej Polaków niż Rzymian. Sklepiki z pamiątkami tętniły życiem, a sprzedawcy znali język polski na tyle, by obsłużyć klientów.

W sobotni wieczór podniecenie wśród pielgrzymów i liczba uczestników niedzielnej uroczystości, stały się nierealne. Wydawało się, że dwa lub trzy miliony ludzi, próbowało dostać się do Bazyliki Świętego Piotra. Niektórzy obozowali na placu św. Piotra, aby uzyskać jak najlepsze miejsce, niektórzy czekali za bramą. O 11 w nocy plac zamknięto, aż do 5 rano następnego dnia. Ci, którzy byli w środku mogli pozostać, ale nie mogli wyjść i powrócić. Do następnego rana nikogo nie wpuszczano na plac.

Wszystkie zaułki, ulice i parki wypełniły się z ludźmi. Ludzie modlili się, śpiewali, a niektórzy próbowali spać. Powstały prowizoryczne namioty z kartonów, podręczne materace zalegały ulice. Większość osób stała, bo nie było gdzie usiąść lub położyć się. Niezwykle jest to, że w tym wielkim tłumie, na tak małej przestrzeni, nie było żadnych nieprzyjemnych incydentów.

Nie próbowaliśmy nawet dostać się na Plac św. Piotra po otwarciu bram. Słyszeliśmy tylko, że było tak ciasno, że ludzie mogli spać na stojąco bez upadku.

My zatrzymaliśmy się na Piazza Navonna, gdzie zostały umieszczone duże ekrany do transmisji z placu św. Piotra. Na placu było około 150 tys. ludzi i byliśmy w stanie dość komfortowo oglądać uroczystość. Piazę wypełniali Polacy, machali oni flagami i trzymali transparenty z całej Polski, a transmisja z uroczystości była tłumaczona na języku polski.

Nic nie może opisać odczuć i radosnego okrzyku tłumy, gdy Jan Paweł II i Jan XXIII zostali oficjalnie ogłoszeni świętymi przez papieża Franciszka. Zapanowała wielka radość, a potem spokój, gdy rozpoczęła się Msza św.

Bez wątpienia była to podróż naszego życia!”

Prezes Drobot dodał jeszcze: “Mój ojciec, Joseph A. Drobot, został wybrany prezesem ZPRKA w sierpniu 1978 roku. W październiku 1978 roku, a moja mama udała się do Rzymu na inaugurację pontyfikatu Jana Pawła II, jako pierwszego polskiego papieża. Teraz, 36 lat później, moja żona Judy i ja byliśmy w Rzymie na kanonizacji Jana Pawła.”

Wspominając swój pobyt w Rzymie, wiceprezesa Anna Sokołowski tak opisuje (pełna wersja w ang. sekcji):

Zostałam zaproszona do Rzymu przez Wspólnotę Polską, Radę Polonii i Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej. Wraz z Bożeną Kamińską - wiceprezeską KPA oraz Delphine Huneycutt, prezeską Związku Polek w Ameryce, byłyśmy częścią delegacji ze Stanów Zjednoczonych. Dzięki temu uzyskaliśmy pewne przywileje, np. specjalną przepustkę na mszę kanonizacyjną, lecz mimo to, aby dostać się z naszego hotelu na Placu Św. Piotra, zabrało nam 3 godz. Plac św. Piotra zalegało tysiące pielgrzymów, powiewało wiele polskich flag. Pomimo przepustki, musieliśmy stać w kolejce, aby dostać się do kilku punktów kontrolnych, zanim pozwolono nam wejść na plac. Tam zostaliśmy zarprowadzeni do wyznaczonej dla nas sekcji w pobliżu ołtarza, gdzie siedzieliśmy z delegacją Senatu RP i różnych delegacji międzynarodowych.

Po ogłoszeniu przez papieża Franciszka dwóch nowych świętych pielgrzymi odpowiedzieli wspólnie "Amen", zabiły dzwony i rozległy się gromkie brawa, (dok. na str. 17)



Kapelan ZPRKA ks. Ptak (z lewej) w koncelebrze mszy św. w czasie pielgrzymki



Uczestnicy wycieczki pod przewodnictwem ks. Ptaka w Asyżu