

## 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. CPAs, 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@prcua.org for more information.

Zapraszamy do czytania stron 18-24 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

December 1, 2014 - 1 grudnia 2014

No. 13 - Vol. CXXVIII

### Christmas Message

*O Holy Child of Bethlehem!  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin,  
and enter in,  
Be born in us today.*

*We hear the Christmas Angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
Oh come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel!*

This simple message of Christmas taken from the fourth verse of 'O Little Town of Bethlehem' reminds us of the reason for this Holy Season



May the Newborn Savior find a home in your hearts this Christmas and reside there throughout each day of the New Year.

**Wesołych  
i spokojnych  
Świąt Bożego  
Narodzenia  
i  
Błogosławionego  
Roku 2015**

*Very Rev. Canon  
Walter J. Ptak*

*Very Rev. Canon Anthony  
D. Iwuc*

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

## New Narod Polski Executive Editor Appointed

The Officers of the PRCUA are pleased to announce that Lidia (Jesionowska) Kowalewicz, Managing Editor of *Narod Polski* for the past 20 years, has been promoted to Executive Editor. She is replacing Kathryn Rosypal, who retired in November. Lidia, who has been in charge of the Polish section of the newspaper, will now be in charge of the entire publication.

Lidia was born in Warsaw, Poland, the youngest of 3 children of Lucyna (Bielecka) and Kazimierz Jesionowski. Her family resided in Pruszkow, a suburb of Warsaw, where Lidia attended a grammar school and high school. Her father immigrated to the U.S. in 1982.

In 1983, a few months after Martial Law in Poland was lifted, Lidia and her mother left Poland. They went on a tour to France, from which they did not return to Poland. They traveled to Munich, Germany, where they contacted the Polish American Immigration and Relief Committee,



*Executive Editor Lidia Kowalewicz*

which sponsored Polish refugees, to help them to come to the U.S.

Lidia's brother Dariusz (the oldest brother, Daniel, died in childhood) was able to leave Poland, and joined them in Germany in 1984. While in Germany, Lidia studied German and was active in the club for young refugees.

The Jesionowskis were granted permanent residency in the USA and arrived in Chicago in 1985. Lidia immediately enrolled in National Louis University to study English as a second language. After completing one year of ESL, she enrolled in a Computer Information Systems and Management program to learn computer programming. She also took Real Estate courses in Wright College in Chicago.

She worked full time in the kitchen of a German restaurant, then as a housekeeper for The Marriott Hotel, where she was quickly promoted to supervisor. (Continued on page 17)

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL



# Calendar of PRCUA Events

## DECEMBER

**5 TOLEDO, OH - ECHOES OF POLAND PIEROGI BY THE DOZEN SALE** on Fri., Dec. 5 from 10 am to 6 pm at PRCUA Misiuda Hall, 5266 N. Detroit, Toledo, OH. \$9/dzn. cheese, potato, kraut or cheese & potato. To order, call 419-531-8658

**7 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY** on Sun., Dec. 7 at PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte for Society members age 0-10 yrs. Carols at 1:30 pm, pizza and pop while waiting for Santa who arrives at 2:30 pm. Contact: 734-281-7039

**7 MUNSTER, IN - ILL.-IND. WOMEN'S DIV. OPLATEK** on Sun., Dec. 7 at 1 pm, Salvatorian Monastery, 5755 Pennsylvania, Merrillville, IN. Tickets \$30. RSVP by 11/29: Beth Sadus 708-481-6796

**9 JOHNSTOWN, PA - ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING** on Tues., Dec. 9 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: Ed Kaplaniak, 521 Southmont, Johnstown, PA 15905

**10 LANSING, MI - SOC. #2342 POTLUCK AND MEETING** on Wed., Dec. 10, Potluck at 6 pm, meeting at 7, Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Contact: V. Ulrich 517-484-3311

**10 TROY, MI - CIRCUIT XI MEETING** on Wed., Dec. 10 at Noon at American Polish Cultural Ctr., 15 Mile and Dequindre, Troy, MI. Contact: B. Wozniak 586-731-3692

**12 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC. #162 KOLEDY NIGHT** on Fri., Dec. 12, at PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St. Wyandotte. Music by the Cavaliers. All are welcome. Doors open at 7 pm. Contact: 734-281-7036

**14 WYANDOTTE, MI - OPLATEK & SOC. #162 SENIORS CHRISTMAS PARTY** on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 1 pm at PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St, Wyandotte, MI, hosted by the PRCUA Rogalin Dance Troupe. Dinner, entertainment, raffles, and sing-a-long. Advanced tickets only. RSVP by Dec. 2. Contact: 734-281-7036

**21 DARIEN, IL - SOUTHWEST CENTER OF POLISH DANCING CHRISTMAS SHOW** on Sun., Dec. 21 at 12:30 pm (doors open at Noon) at Hinsdale High School Auditorium, Door #8, 7401 Clarendon Hills Rd., Darien, IL. Advance tickets \$10 - at the door \$12 - children under 5 free. Raffle tickets can be purchased in advance; winner does not need to be present. Contact: Ania Kraszewski 773-972-0012

**21 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC #162 ELECTION MEETING** on Sun., Dec. 21 at 1:00 pm at PRCUA #162 Hall, 1430 Oak St, Wyandotte, MI. Dues: Linda Alexander, 69 Winder, Unit 462, Detroit, MI 48201. Contact: S. Pasko 313-815-523

**31 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC #162 POL-AM NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY** on Wed., Dec. 31 at PRCUA #162 Hall, 1430 Oak St, Wyandotte, MI. Doors open at 7 pm - Dinner at 8 pm - Music by The Kielbasa Kings, 9 pm-1 am - No BYOB. Open bar. \$40 per person (must be 21 yrs. or older) RSVP by 12-28-14. Contact: Keith Zelasko 734-771-7081 or get tickets at the PRCUA Lounge after 6 pm - 734-283-4810 (See page 6)

## JANUARY

### Happy New Year!

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

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

**17 HICKORY HILLS, IL - WESOLY LUD WINTER DINNER DANCE "FIRE & ICE"** on Sat., Jan. 17 at Camelot Banquets, 8624 W. 95th St., Hickory Hills, IL. Entry 6:30 pm, Dinner 7 pm; \$45.00 - children under 10 yrs. \$20; Music by Boogie Band. Contact: 708-403-5718

**17 DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MI - RYDER CUP BOWLING #162 VERSUS #718** (host Society) on Sat., Jan. 17, registration at 11 a.m. at Cherry Hill Lanes, 300 Inkster Road, Dearborn Hts., MI. Afterglow at Randy's Bar & Grill, 25122 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Hts., MI. \$40 includes bowling, prize money and food. Contact Bob Hojnacki at [hoj606@hotmail.com](mailto:hoj606@hotmail.com) or 313-384-6255

**18 WYANDOTTE, MI - SOC #162 MEETING & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS** on Sun., Jan. 18 at 1:00 pm at PRCUA #162 Hall, 1430 Oak St, Wyandotte, MI 48129. Dues: Linda Alexander, 69 Winder, Unit 462, Detroit, MI 48201. Contact: Pres. Stan Pasko at 313-815-5230

**25 DEARBORN HTS., MI - ST. STAN'S CORPORATE COMMUNION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS** on Sun., Jan. 25 Mass for our deceased members at 11 am at St. Linus Church, 6466 N. Evangeline, Dearborn Hts., MI followed by complimentary dinner at Stitt VFW Post, 6828 N. Waverly St, followed by an election meeting. RSVP by 1-11-15 to Leonard & Eileen Nasiatka 313-278-5219.

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

## NOTICE: TO ALL PRCUA SOCIETY SECRETARIES

Please email your 2015 Society meeting schedule and events to the Executive Editor: [narod-polski@prcu.org](mailto:narod-polski@prcu.org) before January 1 or mail to:  
Narod Polski, PRCUA Headquarters  
984 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL 60642



**IL-IN Women's Dept. Oplatek Hosted by District #9 Sunday, Dec. 7, 1:00 pm**

Tickets \$30

Salvatorian Monastery  
5755 Pennsylvania St, Merrillville, IN

RSVP to Elizabeth Sadus 708-481-6796  
**Deadline: Saturday, November 29, 2014**



**PRCUA Oplatek Dinner Hosted by Soc. #162 & Rogalin Dancers & Seniors Christmas Party for Soc. #162 Members Sunday, December 14th 2014 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm.**

PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI

*Polish dinner, open bar, raffles, singing, and a performance by the Rogalin Dance Troupe.*

Adults \$17, Kids 5-18 yrs. old \$13, 4 yrs. & under are free  
Tickets will NOT be sold at the door.

Please RSVP by sending your name, address and the No. of adults, youths and free children who will attend. Make check payable to: Rogalin Dance Troupe and send to: Rogalin - M. Stechschulte, 1781 13th St., Wyandotte, MI 48192

Contact: Michelle Stechschulte at 734-283-4589

**Deadline: Tuesday, December 2, 2014**

**CORRECTION:** From Crete, IL, Carol Nowack's name was misspelled on 50-Year-Member list in the last issue of *Narod Polski*. Our apologies!

**The Office of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America will be closed on December 24, 25, 26 and January 1 and 2 for Christmas and the New Year Holiday.**





# Attention:

Parents, Grandparents,  
Aunts and Uncles!

## 2014 Christmas Special

Beginning November 1, 2014 through January 31, 2015,\*\* SAVE 10% on your purchase of a \$5,000, \$10,000, \$25,000, \$50,000 or larger PRCUA Single Pay Life Insurance Certificate for your little one from 2 weeks to age 15 and 5 months.\*

Each applicant will receive a FREE gift depending on their age and a chance to WIN our Grand Prize – an Apple® iPad mini in Silver/White. Applications with face amounts of \$25,000 or larger will receive 2 entry tickets per application, providing a greater chance to win. FREE gift according to age: Ages 0-5 will receive a lovable little PRCUA TEDDY BEAR, Ages 6-10 will receive a SLAP WATCH and Ages 11-15 will receive RETRACTABLE EAR BUDS.

The Grand Prize drawing will take place on February 2, 2015. Visit PRCUA.org and Facebook to see the winning recipient. The winner will be announced in the March 2015 **Naród Polski**.

### Highlights of the Single Pay Life Insurance Plan:

- Builds cash value
- Dividend participating
- Coverage can never be cancelled by PRCUA
- Eligibility for membership benefits such as college scholarships and educational loans
- One payment for a lifetime of security for your loved one

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

**Robert Fattore**  
Sales Director  
(800) 772-8632 ext. 2631  
robert-fattore@prcua.org

**Agnes Bastrzyk**  
Marketing Director  
(800) 772-8632 ext. 2632  
agnieszka-bastrzyk@prcua.org

\* Use the proposed insured's nearest age.  
(Ex.: if the child is 8 years 5 months, use 8 years,  
if the child is 8 years 6 months, use 9 years.)

\*\* All applications for the PRCUA 2014 Christmas Special must be **postmarked by January 31, 2015.**

**All applications subject to Underwriting.**





**SAVE  
10%**

Beginning November 1, 2014 through January 31, 2015, you can SAVE 10% on your purchase of a \$5,000, \$10,000, \$25,000, \$50,000 or larger PRCUA Single Pay Life Insurance Certificate for your little one from 2 weeks old to age 15 and 5 months.

Use the proposed insured's nearest age. (Ex.: If he/she is 8 yrs. 5 mo. use 8 years, if he/she is 8 years 6 months, use 9 years.)

All applications for the PRCUA 2014 Christmas Special must be postmarked by January 31, 2015.

You can apply for the PRCUA 2014 Christmas Special by contacting your local PRCUA sales agent or by mailing the application to the left to the Home Office. A selection of rates for the Christmas Special can be found on page 5.

If you are applying for a life insurance amount of less than \$25,000, please complete the application to the left, sign the disclosures on page 5 and mail both pages to:  
**PRCUA Sales Dept.  
984 N. Milwaukee  
Chicago, IL 60642**

**ATTENTION!**

If you live in the following states:  
**CT, FL, IN, KS, MA, MD, MN, NE, NJ, NY, OH, VT or WI**


**OR**

If you are applying for \$25,000 or more of life insurance, please call or e-mail our office for a state-specific application.

We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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

sales@prcua.org



**POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA**  
*A Fraternal Benefit Society*  
984 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60642-4101  
773-782-2600 - Fax 773-278-4595 - (800) 772-8632 - www.prcua.org

**APPLICATION FOR LIFE INSURANCE**  
**For Amount under \$25,000**

---

**PROPOSED INSURED'S INFORMATION:**

1. Society # \_\_\_\_\_ Adult  Juvenile

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Male  Female  4. Age \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

5. Address \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Phone # (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

7. Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Soc. Sec. # \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER'S INFORMATION**

10. Name \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Soc. Sec. # \_\_\_\_\_

13. Plan of Ins. \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Amount of Ins. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

15. Premium Amt.: Single \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Annual \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Semi Annual \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly \$ \_\_\_\_\_

16. Primary Beneficiary \_\_\_\_\_ 17. RELATIONSHIP \_\_\_\_\_

18. Contingent Beneficiary \_\_\_\_\_ 19. RELATIONSHIP \_\_\_\_\_

20. Is this insurance intended to replace any now in force? Yes  No  21. Is Proposed Insured a PRCUA member? Yes  No

22. Dividend election (choose one): Paid in Cash? Yes  No  Purchase Paid-Up Additions? Yes  No

**APPLICANT'S INFORMATION (IF PROPOSED INSURED IS A JUVENILE.)**

23. Name \_\_\_\_\_ 24. Male  Female   
First Middle Last

25. Address \_\_\_\_\_ 26. Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL HEALTH STATEMENT OF PROPOSED INSURED**

27. Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ 28. Doctor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

29. Dr.'s Address \_\_\_\_\_ 30. Dr.'s Phone # (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

If you answered "YES" to questions 31-33, explain details below. Attach a separate page if additional space is needed.

31. Is Proposed Insured currently hospitalized, bedridden or confined to a wheel chair? Yes  No

32. In the past 5 years, has the proposed insured had or been treated for, or been advised to obtain treatment for medical or surgical condition including cancer, heart condition, kidney and liver disease, vascular disease, diabetes, muscular condition, stroke, elevated cholesterol, or drug and alcohol dependency? Yes  No

33. Has Proposed Insured used any form of tobacco in the last 12 months? Yes  No

Date	Name and Address of Physician and Hospital	Specific Reason & Results

Any person who knowingly and with intent to injure, defraud, or deceive any insurer files a statement of claim or an application containing any false, incomplete or misleading information is guilty of a felony of the third degree. Any certificate issued as a result of material misstatement or omission of facts may be voided and the company's only obligation shall be to return the premiums paid.

1) I AGREE that the statements and answers contained in this application and in any medical examination required by the Union are complete and true to the best of my knowledge and belief. 2) I AGREE to abide by the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Union, which are now in force or may hereafter be adopted by the Union. 3) I AGREE that the insurance applied for will become effective when the first premium due is paid and while the Proposed Insured's health, habits and occupation remain as described in this application on the date of issuance of a life insurance certificate by the Union. 4) I AGREE that if I am not a member of the Union, this application serves as a membership application.

SIGNED AT \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
City State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proposed Insured's Signature (Must be 16 yrs. or older)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner's Signature, if other than Proposed Insured

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness/Authorized Representative

Form 101-2007 Home Office approval \_\_\_\_\_

**This Authorization complies with the HIPAA Privacy Rule**

By executing this Authorization, I authorize all health care providers that have been involved in my care, diagnosis or treatment (including but not limited to, physicians, hospitals, clinics, medical practitioners and other medically related facilities) to disclose my medical records (including, but not limited to patient histories, progress notes, test results, x-rays and other diagnostic information) to the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America or its reinsurers for the purpose of:

**Determination of Eligibility for Life Insurance**

I understand that the information in my health record may include information relating to sexually transmitted diseases, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). It may also include information about behavioral or mental health services and treatment for alcohol and drug abuse.

I also understand that when my medical records are disclosed pursuant to this Authorization, my medical records and the information contained in those records may be subject to re-disclosure by the recipient and may no longer be protected by federal privacy laws.

I understand that I may revoke this Authorization, except to the extent that any health care provider or the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America has acted in reliance upon this Authorization. My revocation of this Authorization must be submitted in writing to: **Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, ATTN: Privacy Comp. Officer, 984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60642-4101**

This Authorization will expire six (6) months after the date upon which the Authorization was signed.

Signature of Individual Whose Information is to be Disclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian (If Applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

As part of our routine selection procedure, we may request that an investigative Consumer Report be made. These reports include information as to identify character, general reputation, personal characteristics, verification of residence, marital status, estimate of worth and income, occupation, avocations, general health, habits and mode of living. Information is obtained from several different sources. Confidential interviews may be conducted with neighbors, friends, associates and acquaintances. Personal discussions may be arranged with you or your family and public records may be carefully reviewed. Upon written request to the Underwriter at the PRCUA, further information on the nature and scope of the report will be provided. Our experience shows that information from investigative reports usually does not have an adverse effect upon our underwriting decision. If it should, we will notify you in writing and identify the reporting agency. At that point, if you wish to do so, you may discuss the matter with the reporting company. All of these rights are guaranteed to you by the Fair Credit Reporting Act, which took effect in April, 1971.

Notice to \_\_\_\_\_  
Proposed Insured's Signature (Must be 16 yrs. or older) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NO COVERAGE WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE PRIOR TO CERTIFICATE DELIVERY UNLESS AND UNTIL ALL CONDITIONS ON THIS RECEIPT ARE MET.** If: (1) an amount equal to at least one month premium, for the plan and amount applied for, is submitted; (2) all underwriting requirements, including any medical examinations required by the rules of the Union are completed; and (3) the Proposed Insured is, on the date indicated on this receipt, a risk acceptable for insurance exactly as applied for without modification of plan, premium rate, or amount under the rules and practices of the Union. THEN insurance under the certificate applied for shall become effective on the latest of (a) the register date of application, (b) the date of the last of any medical examinations, and (c) any date of issue requested in the application.

**THE AMOUNT OF INSURANCE WHICH MAY BECOME EFFECTIVE PRIOR TO CERTIFICATE DELIVERY SHALL NOT EXCEED \$100,000**, which amount includes any additional benefits for death by accident. If any of the above conditions is not met, the liability of the PRCUA shall be limited to the return of the amount submitted.

**NO REPRESENTATIVE HAS THE AUTHORITY TO ALTER THE TERMS OR CONDITIONS OF THIS RECEIPT.**

Received \$ \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_

on the Life of: \_\_\_\_\_

in connection with an application for life insurance with the same date as this receipt. This payment is made and accepted subject to the above conditions.

**POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA**  
Chicago, Illinois

Agent/Deputy Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**RATES FOR THE 2014 CHRISTMAS SPECIAL**

	\$5,000		\$10,000	
Age	Male	Female	Male	Female
0	\$412	\$368	\$735	\$647
1	\$421	\$377	\$752	\$665
2	\$432	\$387	\$774	\$684
3	\$444	\$397	\$797	\$705
4	\$456	\$409	\$822	\$727
5	\$469	\$420	\$849	\$750
6	\$483	\$432	\$876	\$774
7	\$497	\$444	\$905	\$799
8	\$512	\$457	\$934	\$824
9	\$527	\$470	\$965	\$851
10	\$543	\$484	\$996	\$878
11	\$560	\$498	\$1,029	\$907
12	\$577	\$513	\$1,063	\$936
13	\$594	\$528	\$1,098	\$966
14	\$612	\$544	\$1,134	\$997
15	\$630	\$560	\$1,170	\$1,030
	\$25,000		\$50,000	
Age	Male	Female	Male	Female
0	\$1,702	\$1,482	\$3,314	\$2,875
1	\$1,746	\$1,527	\$3,402	\$2,964
2	\$1,799	\$1,575	\$3,509	\$3,061
3	\$1,858	\$1,627	\$3,625	\$3,165
4	\$1,920	\$1,683	\$3,751	\$3,275
5	\$1,987	\$1,740	\$3,883	\$3,390
6	\$2,055	\$1,800	\$4,020	\$3,509
7	\$2,126	\$1,861	\$4,163	\$3,633
8	\$2,200	\$1,925	\$4,310	\$3,761
9	\$2,277	\$1,991	\$4,463	\$3,893
10	\$2,356	\$2,060	\$4,622	\$4,031
11	\$2,438	\$2,131	\$4,786	\$4,173
12	\$2,523	\$2,205	\$4,956	\$4,320
13	\$2,610	\$2,281	\$5,130	\$4,472
14	\$2,699	\$2,359	\$5,308	\$4,627
15	\$2,790	\$2,439	\$5,490	\$4,788

Congratulations to PRCUA's 2015 Cinderella Alicia Kaleta and Prince Charming Aleksander Łabudzki, as well as to Cinderella Runner-Up Gabrielle Skrzypiec and Prince Charming Runner-Up Michal Kaluzny

PRCUA Officers and spouses with Bishop Andrew Wypych, Polish Consul Robert Rusiecki, members of the M. Konopnicka Adult Culture Group 2015 Royal Couple, Runners-Up and Candidates at the Cinderella-Prince Charming Ball (article in January)



# Narod Polski

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## POLISH NATION

Official Publication of the Polish  
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**JOSEPH A. DROBOT, JR.**

President: 773-782-2600

**LIDIA KOWALEWICZ**

Executive Editor

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of address to:

**JAMES ROBACZEWSKI**

Secretary-Treasurer

info@prcu.org

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WWW.PRCUA.ORG

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See PRCUA on  
Facework or Twitter



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Chicago, IL 60614

## Kolędy Night

Fri., December 12, 2014

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

PRCUA Soc. #162 Hall

1430 Oak Street, Wyandotte, MI 48192

Music by the Cavaliers.

Everyone is welcome.

Join the Christmas Carol Sing-Along!

Contact: 734-281-7036



**SOUTHWEST CENTER OF  
POLISH DANCING  
CHRISTMAS SHOW**

**Sunday, December 21**  
**12:30 pm (doors open at Noon)**  
**Hinsdale High School Auditorium,**  
**Door 8,**  
**7401 Clarendon Hills Road**  
**Darien, IL.**

**Advance tickets \$10, at the door \$12**  
**children under 5 free.**

**Raffle tickets can be purchased in**  
**advance. Winner need not be**  
**present. Call Ania Kraszewski**

## Soc. #162 Pol-Am New Year's Eve Party

Wed., December 31, 2014

PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI

Doors Open 7 p.m., Dinner 8 p.m.

Music 9 pm to 1 a.m. - No BYOB - Open Bar

Music by The Kielbasa Kings

\$40.00 per person - Reserve by Dec. 28. Get tickets from:

PRCUA Lounge after 6 pm - 734-283-4810

Keith Zelasko 734-771-7081

Must be at least 21 years of age.



Wesoly Lud Polish Folk

Dance Co. of PRCUA

WINTER DINNER

DANCE

"FIRE & ICE"

**Saturday, January 17,**  
**Camelot Banquets**

8624 W. 95th Street, Hickory Hills, IL

Donation: \$45.00 (Children under 10 \$20.00)

**Entrance: 6:30 p.m.; Dinner: 7:00 p.m.**

**For reservations: 708-403-5718**

*Music by Boogie Band*

## From the Office of the Secretary- Treasurer

**James J. Robaczewski, FIC**



We need the current address for the following members. If you know the address of anyone on this list, please send it to: James Robaczewski, Secretary-Treasurer, PRCUA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101 or call (773) 782-2600 Ext. 2605 or 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2605.

### SOC. NAME

2044 Victoria Mc Dermott

2044 Teofila Rupinska

2044 Tadeusz Czajka

2045 Sophia Stelmazek

2047 Jacob Smallwood

2047 Timothy Smallwood

2047 Jaclynn Zimmer

2049 Janet Arrant

2049 Susan Kelly

2049 Maryanne Szekler

2049 Maria Galictis

2051 Eleonora Werchowinci

2051 William Smocklike

2051 Irene Fedora

2053 Theresa Pulaski

2057 Sean Brennan

2057 Sonia Neisseria

2057 Matthew Neisseria

2059 Alicia Richardson

2109 Jozef Olsewski

2220 Helen Bialystok

2220 Krystyna Klos

2308 Joseph Klug

2315 James Boracic

### LAST KNOWN ADDRESS 2003

2214 Shields St, Philadelphia, PA 19142

P.O. Box 81, Paoli, PA 19301

5834 Elmwood Ave Philadelphia, PA 19143

State Highway 35, South Amboy, NJ 08879

P.O. Box 1390, Port Arkansas, TX 78373

P. O. Box 1390 Port Arkansas, TX 78373

116 14th Ave St. Petersburg, FL 33701

100 S. Main St, Shenandoah, PA 17976

9 N. Jardin St, Shenandoah, PA 17976

432 West Center St, Shenandoah, PA 17976

P. O. Box 364 Philo, CA 95466

98 W 17th St, Bayonne, NJ 07001

86 West 27th St Bayonne, NJ 07002

16 East 31st St Bayonne, NJ 07002

6165 Paderborn Dr Hudson, OH 44236

Box 4090 Pottsville, PA 17901

16 Duck Pond Lane Ramsey, NJ 07446

16 Duck Pond Lane Ramsey, NJ 07446

26 Wildwood Ave Villas, NJ 08251

350 West Cherry St Mt. Carmel, PA 17851

1919 Sandy Hill Rd. Plymouth Mt, PA 19462

8805 Grand Division A, Cleveland, OH 44125

4660 3-Meadows Dr, Brookfield, WI 53005

21226 Osage Trail San Antonio, TX 78266

## Coming in February!

## POLISH FOR AMERICANS AT THE PRCUA!

The PRCUA will host weekly language classes in  
Conversational Polish at the Beginner Level starting on

**Tuesday, February 3, 2015**

**6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

**PRCUA Social Hall**

**984 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL**

This pilot program will extend to the end of May and  
will be taught by Accredited Polish Language Teacher,  
Halina Szyrzyna.

Tuition for PRCUA Members - FREE

Tuition for Non-PRCUA Members - \$150.00

If you are not a member and would like to become one,  
please contact: Agnieszka Bastrzyk: 773-782-2632,  
**Agnieszka-Bastrzyk@prcu.org** or Robert Fattore: 773-782-  
2631, **Robert-Fattore@prcu.org**.

To register for the class, please either email:

**mary-jane-robles@prcu.org** or

call 773-782-2601

**Deadline for registration is Friday, January 31st.**

## First Graders Inducted into PRCUA's St. Raphael Kalinowski Polish School in Munster, IN

MUNSTER, IN - On Saturday, October 18, 2014, the solemn oath of our first grade students took place. Taking part in the ceremony were: School Principal Malgorzata Czachor, School Board President Mrs. Ewa Sobula, First Grade Teacher Teresa Studzinski, as well as older students: Kevin Nawrocki – Master of Ceremonies, David Holicz, Adrian Orciuch, and Mateusz Potrawski.

After greeting all the guests, the Principal emphasized the role of parents who, out of love for Poland, bring their children to St. Rafael Kalinowski School not only to study Polish language, but also to learn the beautiful traditions and history of Poland. Addressing the children, she stated: "Our wish for you is that you may always remember your Polish heritage and may always be proud of it."

Next, after, masterfully passing a short examination showing their knowledge of Poland, the first graders made their pledge to the President of the School Board. Then they were officially recognized as students of St. Raphael Kalinowski Polish School. The list of students who were admitted and who made their pledge were: Kinga Grabowski, Olivia Helfen, Patrick Juchniewicz, Amelia Kaim, Klaudia Nawrocki, Wiktoria Przybysz, Mateusz Szklarz, Veronica Wilgocki, Hailey Wojtaszek, and Peter Zarozny.



*A new first grade class of students being inducted into the PRCUA's St. Raphael Kalinowski Polish Language School for the 2014-2015 school year*

Later each student entered his or her name into the memorial register, and then received a commemorative diploma and mascot funded by the School Board. At the end of the ceremony, the children were invited for a brief reception organized by the parents.

The children were happy, and their proud parents were deeply moved. This ceremony will certainly remain in their memory for years to come.

Mrs. Teresa Studzinski, the first grade teacher, organized the program for the ceremony and also prepared her children for their first examination.

*Submitted by Principal Malgorzata Czachor*

## 2015 PRCUA CALENDAR

*Order while Supplies last!*

The 2015 PRCUA Calendar, featuring Polish Saints, is available. The calendar is FREE to members. Members can pick up the calendar at our Home Office, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Or you can order it by calling Linda Kasprzyk at 773-782-2630 or email your request to her at: [linda-kasprzyk@prcu.org](mailto:linda-kasprzyk@prcu.org).

## CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT WORKSHOP

Saturday,  
December 13

Social Hall,  
Polish Museum  
of America

984 N. Milwaukee Ave.,  
Chicago, Illinois 60642

**Morning Session**  
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Afternoon Session**  
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Workshop fee includes  
free admission ticket to  
the Museum.

Adults: \$15  
Children under 12 yrs. \$7

**All Children must be  
accompanied by an adult.**

**RSVP Deadline:**  
December 12th

Space is limited.  
Please arrive 10 min. prior  
to Session.

Free parking available.

Please send a check made  
payable to PMA, along  
with your name, address,  
area code and phone  
number or email address,  
which session you want  
and how many adults and  
children will attend, to :

**PMA Christmas  
Workshop**

984 N. Milwaukee Ave.,  
Chicago, IL 60642-4101  
Or call 773-384-3352, ext.  
2102 to pay by credit card.

## PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers Perform at St. Florian's Soup Festival



HAMTRAMCK, MI - On Sunday, October 26, members of the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers performed at St. Florian Church at Hamtramck's Annual Soup Festival. The event included numerous soups, prepared by members of the parish, along with other Polish food offerings including: placki, gołabki, and gofry.

The Kielbasa Kings Polka Band was also there, playing lively tunes that made the crowd kick up their heels on the dance floor.

Gwiazda Dancers presented a short performance of Polish folk dances which included: the Krakowiak, along with suites of dances from Beskid Śląsk, Kaszëbë, and Lublin. The group closed its performance by dancing to the *Helena Polka*.

Performing at the St. Florian Soup Festival has become an annual tradition for the group. Gwiazda uses St. Florian's facilities as its practice space and many of its members are parishioners of the Parish.

The Soup Festival performance was Gwiazda's third appearance and second performance of the year and the first time that some of the group's youngest members have ever performed.

*Submitted by Nicholas J. Nowakowski  
(Gwiazda Secretary & 1997 Alumnus)*



*First Performance for some of these Gwiazda Tots*

## Elaine M. Pranica - Rest in Peace

CHICAGO, IL - Elaine M. Pranica, nee Bugajski, passed away on November 9, 2014 at the age of 85 years. She was the wife of the late Joseph T. Pranica, who served as National President of the PRCUA from 1962 to 1970. Mrs. Pranica, a member of PRCUA Soc. #412, #795 and #1486, is fondly remembered by all who knew her.

Mrs. Pranica resided in Chicago. She was the loving mother of Joseph J., Kevin T. and John M. Pranica; dear sister of the late Edward Bugajski; foster-sister of Lottie (Henry) Wojcik; aunt of Bruce (Mary Jean Raciti-Bugajski) and Dennis Bugajski, Diane (Don) Haberkamp and Denise Wojcik.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Monica Church in Chicago with Interment at Maryhill Cemetery in Niles, IL. May she rest in eternal peace.



# PRCUA MICHIGAN CULTURAL WORKSHOP 2014

WYANDOTTE, MI - On Sunday, October 19, the PRCUA District #10 National Directors, together with the Michigan PRCUA Dance School Directors, sponsored the 5th Annual PRCUA Michigan Cultural Workshop for youth. This year, there were over 80 PRCUA participants between the ages of 8-18 years who registered for the workshop.



When the students started arriving at 9:00 a.m., they were greeted by Rita Cerankowski (Halka Director) and Rose Ann Lackey (Tatry Director) (photo at left) who registered and assigned the students to their specific workshop groups. While the students waited for classes to begin, Pat Steven (Syrena Director) and Colleen Bonkowski (Zajaczek Director) served a Continental breakfast of juice and muffins and other breakfast goodies.

**POLISH LEGENDS** - The first of four workshops that some of the students attended was the Polish Legends Class. The instructor of this class was Tom Lisiecki (photo at right) (Halka and Zakopane Chorographer). Tom had so much fun with the students, explaining legends and showing several short videos of a few Polish Legends. These included: The Trumpeter and the Tartars, The Queen of the Baltic, The Sleeping Knights, The Legend of Janosik and The Legend of the Three Brothers. The oldest group of students decided to reenact the Legend of the Wawel Dragon at the end of their session. You could hear the students' laughter from that fun activity all around the hall.



**POLISH COOKING** - The next workshop was the cooking class, taught by Karen Pietrzyk (Opole Officer) with her assistant, Beth Thacker (Opole Director), along with volunteer parents from Halka and Zajaczek Dance groups. They taught the students how to make kolaczki (jam filled cookies) and mizeria (cucumber salad). Each student was taught how the dough was made and how to roll out, cut, fill and close the dough to make the perfect cookie. Also, Karen and Beth gave the students some little facts about Poland. The students thought it was funny that most of the bottled drinking water in Poland has bubbles (carbonated); they had to be careful when purchasing water in Poland to make sure it had "no gas" (*nie gazowana* - uncarbonated). After all of the cookies were done, each student got to enjoy the fruits of their labor.

When the first half of the workshops were completed, everyone took a lunch break. Thanks to our chefs, Colleen Bonkowski (Zajaczek Director), Maria Jalkeiwicz (Polskie Maki Director) and Laura Hejza (Halka Officer), we feasted on freshly-made subs and bakery-made cookies. We enjoyed great conversations, not only with each other, but also with the PRCUA dance school directors and chorographers.

**POLISH FOLK DANCING** - The next class was the Polish folk dance class. The instructor was Janet Vilag (Rogalin Chorographer). Each class learned a different Regional and National dance from Poland. After reviewing the five National Dances of Poland, the students were taught what some may argue could be the sixth National Dance of Poland, The Trojak. At the end of the class, Janet had girls' and boys' costumes from Poland to show the students. She also showed them where these regions are located on a map of Poland.



**WYCINANKI CLASS** - The final class was the Polish folk art class led by Jessica Wendt (Gwiazda Director) assisted by Kristi Mihalic (Wieliczka Director), and parent volunteers from many dances schools. Students learned to make traditional Polish "wycinanki", beautiful Polish paper-cutting decorations. All students were shown many varieties of wycinanki, from very basic ones to the most intricate type. Some of the shapes they were able to make were birds, roosters, peacocks, hearts, flowers, trees and circles. Combining different colored paper into one wycinanki created the most beautiful designs. The students also learned the symbology for some colors: white - purity, red - love, green - hope, blue - peace, orange - happiness, etc. The students also learned how to apply the colored papers on top of each other to create masterpieces. The students were excited to take home with them the piece of Polish folk art that they made in class.

When the day ended, each student received a commemorative t-shirt of the event, compliments of the PRCUA Home office, along with a PRCUA bag filled with PRCUA goodies. After the students received their goodie-bags, they then were directed to a grab-bag where they randomly chose a surprise prize from numerous choices. Thanks go to Michelle Stechschulte (Rogalin Director) who went out of her way to round up all the prizes for the participants.



Thanks also go to all of the PRCUA Michigan Dance School Directors for all the work and effort they put into organizing and running the 2014 PRCUA Michigan Cultural Workshop. Because of them, everyone had a great time learning Polish culture and developed a greater appreciation for their Polish heritage...and even made a few new friends!

Submitted by Tom Lisiecki, PRCUA National Director, District #10





PRCU Dance School  
 Directors (l-r) Pat  
 Steven (SYRENA),  
 Michelle Stechschulte  
 (ROGALIN), Jessica  
 Wendy (GWIAZDA),  
 Nat'l Dir. of Dist. #10  
 Colleen Bonkowski  
 (ZAJACZEK &  
 ZAKOPANE), Rita  
 Cerankowski (HALKA),  
 Rose Ann Lackey  
 (TATRY), Beth Thacker  
 (OPOLE), Maria  
 Jalkiewicz (POLSKIE  
 MAKI), Kristi Mihalic  
 (WIELICZKA);  
 Kneeling: Tom Lisecki,  
 Nat'l Dir. of Dist. #10.  
 (HALKA/ZAKOPANE  
 CHOREOGRAPHER)



Zajaczek Dancers



Tatry Dancers



Wieliczka Dancers



(Below)  
Polskie Maki Dancers



Opole Dancers



Halka Dancers



Rogalin Dancers (All photos by: Mary Ann Smigiel)

## Easy Christmas Wigilia Recipes



Below are easy recipes for traditional Polish Wigilia foods by the Polish Chef, Robert Strybel.

**SAUERKRAUT & MUSHROOMS:** Drain, rinse, re-drain, and chop coarsely a 32 oz. jar of sauerkraut. Place in pot, scald with boiling water to cover, add 1 mushroom cube, 1 bay leaf and cook 1 hr or until it loses its crunch. In 3 T hot oil fry 8 - 12 oz fresh diced Portobello mushrooms and 1 lg diced

onion; stir frequently until liquid evaporates and mushrooms sizzle. Sprinkle with 2 T flour, add several spoons of sauerkraut liquid and simmer briefly. Stir into sauerkraut and simmer on stove or bake in 350° for 1 hr. Season to taste with salt, pepper, a little caraway and/or marjoram and 1 to 2 tsp sugar, if desired. Simmer 10 min.

**NOODLES & SAUERKRAUT:** Cook 1 lb pkg of wide egg noodles according to directions until tender. Drain well and combine with some of the sauerkraut & mushrooms (above).

**CHRISTMAS EVE GOŁĄBKI:** Core cabbage and wilt cabbage leaves in boiling water cored-side-down; remove leaves as they wilt and set aside to dry. Cut off some of the thick vein of each leaf lengthwise to reduce its thickness. Chop and fry 1 lb. Portobello mushrooms and 2 onions in 4 T butter until tender. Combine with 3 c slightly undercooked buckwheat, barley, millet or rice. Stir in 1 egg, salt & pepper generously; add a heaping T fresh, finely chopped dill and/or parsley. Roll mixture in cabbage leaves. Place no more than 2 layers in roasting pan or casserole. Drench with 2 mushroom cubes dissolved in 4 c hot water and bake covered at 350°



2 hrs or more. Sauce: cook pan drippings with 2 T flour dissolved in milk until thick.

**NOODLES & POPPYSEED:** Cook 1 lb pkg of wide egg noodles according to directions until tender. Drain and dot hot noodles with 2 T butter; stir in 1 c ready-to-use poppyseed pastry filling. If store-bought filling does not contain raisins, add 1/2 c raisins plumped in hot water and drained and toss gently to distribute evenly. May be served warm, room temp or chilled.

**KUTIA:** Soak 1 c bulgur wheat (or barley or rice) in about 2 c hot water 30 minutes. Bring to a boil, cover and cook until tender. Mix in 1/2 c poppy seeds. Bring 1 c honey and 2 c water to gentle boil, reduce heat and simmer on low 20 min. When cool, stir into wheat & poppyseed mixture. May be served with cold coffee cream. Optional: add 1/2 t vanilla extract, 1/4 c ground almonds or walnuts and/or 1/2 c plumped raisins.

**POLISH POPPYSEED COOKIES:** Cut ¼ lb butter into 2-3/4 c flour with pastry blender or two knives. Work in 2/3 c confectioner's sugar, 2 slightly beaten eggs, 3 T sour cream and 3 T poppyseeds. Work into a uniform dough and knead until easy to handle. Refrigerate for at least 30 min. Roll out dough 1/4 inch thick and cut into desired shapes (circles, diamonds, crescents, etc.). Bake 10 minutes at 375° or until edges begin turning brown. Remove and dust with powdered sugar while still warm or frost with icing when cool.

**COUNTRY-STYLE FRUIT CAKE:** Beat 5 whole eggs and 5 yolks with 1 slightly heaped c sugar until fluffy. Mix 1-3/4 c flour with 1 T baking powder and stir into egg mixture, beating until smooth. Stir in 1/4 c melted butter. Rinse 1 c raisins and 1 c chopped prunes, drain, shake in plastic bag to coat with flour and stir into dough. Add 3 T finely chopped candied orange rind. Mix gently to evenly distribute fruit. Transfer to well-greased loaf pans and bake in preheated 375° oven 1 hr. After it cools, dust with confectioner's sugar or glaze with icing.

**KOLACZKI:** Mix 1 (8 oz.) softened cream cheese and 3 sticks (12 oz.) softened butter until light and fluffy. Add 3 c flour, 1 cup at a time and mix well. Wrap dough in plastic; refrigerate at least 1 hr. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Roll out dough to 1/4-inch thickness on a surface that has been dusted with equal parts confectioners sugar and granulated sugars (not flour). Cut dough into 2-inch squares. For filling you will need 2 (14oz.) cans pastry filling (poppyseed, apricot, raspberry, or prune). Place 1/2 to 1 t filling on center of each square. Overlap opposite corners of the dough and pinch at the center over the filling. Bake for 15 min when corners start to brown. Cool and dust with confectioner's sugar if serving soon. Store in a tightly covered container without the confectioner's sugar or freeze. Makes about 5 dozen.



**PIERNIKI or GINGERBREAD COOKIES:** Make 1 wk before serving; they become more tender during storage. In lg bowl cream 2 eggs with 1 c sugar; mix in 1 c honey and 1 t. baking soda dissolved in 3 T water. In separate bowl, mix 4-1/2 c flour, 1 t ginger, 1/2 t cinnamon, 1/2 t nutmeg, 1/4 t ground cloves and 1/4 t black pepper. Add to egg mixture; work into a dough. Knead on floured board, roll out to 1/4-inch thickness. Preheat oven to 400°.

With cookie cutters, cut dough and bake on greased cookie sheet for 10 min. Remove from oven and cool on racks. The cookies can be glazed with icing. Store in an air-tight container. Makes 6 to 8 dozen cookies. (More Wigilia recipes were published in the November issue.)



## Polish Roman Catholic Union of America Third Quarter Operating Results Year to Date 9-30-2014 & Year to Date 9-30-2013

	<u>30-Sept. 2014</u>	<u>30-Sept. 2013</u>
<b>INCOME:</b>		
Life and Annuity sales	\$11,441,832	\$10,895,324
Investment Income	7,790,649	7,491,263
Other Income	<u>209,808</u>	<u>151,334</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>19,442,289</u></b>	<b><u>18,537,921</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Life and Annuity	15,321,935	14,696,336
General Expenses	<u>3,272,950</u>	<u>3,105,619</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>18,594,885</u></b>	<b><u>17,801,955</u></b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b><u>847,404</u></b>	<b><u>735,965</u></b>
Dividends to Members	(99,783)	(76,369)
Net Capital Gain (losses)	<u>489,367</u>	<u>278,576</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b><u>1,236,987</u></b>	<b><u>938,172</u></b>
<b>SURPLUS ACCOUNT</b>		
Begin. Bal-Dec.31, prior year	6,613,928	5,091,106
Net Income (-loss)	1,236,987	938,172
Change in Reserves	<u>(68,943)</u>	<u>554,734</u>
<b>Ending Bal-Dec 31</b>	<b>7,781,972*</b>	<b>6,584,012</b>

\*Surplus as of statement date, Sept 30, 2014

We continue to improve our profit and surplus.

## President Obama Visits Chicago



CHICAGO, IL - On Tuesday, November 25th, U.S. President Barack Obama addressed the citizens of Chicago about his immigration reforms at the Copernicus Center on Chicago's Northwest side. Among the attendees were Secretary-Treasurer Jim Robaczewski, representing the PRCUA, who met with the President prior to his speech, as well as many other esteemed members of the Polish American Community. (Photos; Exec. Editor Lidia Kowalewicz)



## The Christ Child's Visit - Christmas of 1967

A True Story by Past Executive Editor Kathryn Rosypal-Romani



Ahhh, I remember it well - Christmas of 1967. As an impudent 17-year old college freshman, who came home for the Christmas holidays, I was a dichotomy. My trendy mini-skirt and tight sweater alluded to the chic young woman I wanted to portray to my family. But my flaming red hair, tied in two long braids, and the teddy bear that traveled with me wherever I went, betrayed the childlike innocence that still consumed my heart. How very much I looked forward to this Christmas with my family!

I LOVED Christmas! Mom always chose a huge, bushy tree that she humorously called a *Hanukkah Bush*. Of course Dad shook his head in disbelief, asking why she couldn't buy a normal size tree for once! His job was to squeeze the massive evergreen through the doorway into the living room. I did the fun part, making the branches explode as I pulled off the rope.

With a graceful whoosh, the tree unfurled its limbs, hiding the 6-foot-wide bay window behind its lofty boughs. The room was permeated with pungent pine as Dad hoisted

the massive evergreen into the stainless steel tree stand that he had welded together last Christmas to support Mom's always massive trees. Wow! It was a real Beauty!

Dad had the first crack at the tree. He wound big colored lights around it from top to bottom before anyone else could touch the tree. Then Mom added her lovely glass ornaments. As she took each one out of the wooden cherry box that held 8 of them, separated by dividers, she removed the cotton wad from around the globe. Then she told us the story of the ornament - how old it was, and who gave it to her. My keen memory can still recall those precious stories.

Then Nanny took over, shooing everyone else away as she and I painstakingly placed silver icicle strands, one-at-a-time, on the tree. She insisted that was the "proper" way to do it. To tease her, I threw a whole handful on the tree at one time. She pulled it off in dismay and admonished me, saying: "If you're not going to do it right, don't do it at all." It took us over an hour to cover the huge evergreen but when we were done, it was perfect.

But I had the most sacred duty of all: setting up the nativity scene under the tree, including the animal corral that my grandfather had made for my Mom's 1st Christmas in 1918. He glued straw onto a board and surrounded it with a fence made of twigs. Inside it, I placed sheep and other tiny animals made of tin, covered with wool, also from 1918. Grandpa died when Mom was only 9, but I actually felt his love for our family every Christmas when I placed the corral under the tree. He was surely with us in spirit. Last but not least, I had the honor of climbing on a chair and gingerly crowning our masterpiece with a beautiful porcelain-faced angel. Dad turned the lights on, as we all audibly gasped at the beauty of the transformed evergreen. We declared our creation to be the "best tree ever." Of course, we said that about every Christmas tree every year.

Our family carefully carried out Polish Wigilia Christmas Eve traditions and passed them down from generation to generation. Even as 5th-generation Polish Americans, my two older sisters and I knew the Christmas customs by heart and the meanings behind them.

Mom gave me hay to spread on the dining room table, symbolizing the stable where Jesus was born. Together, we topped it with a pure white tablecloth, representing Mary's virginity. An extra plate was set at the table for the Christ Child. Polish tradition dictated that if anyone came to your door during the Wigilia meal, that person represented the Christ Child in disguise and should be invited to sit at the extra place and join in the meal.

My two sisters arrived with their husbands and children. The snow had been falling all day, draping everything in white luminescence. "What perfect Christmas weather," I declared. "Yeah, as long as you're not driving in it!" quipped my brother-in-law, who had just driven for three hours from New Jersey to Pennsylvania. The house was abuzz with noise and activity. As the youngest of three girls, it had been my job to look for the first star to appear in the sky, marking the beginning of Wigilia. But now, my oldest sister had three children and my other sister had two, so they took over that solemn duty.

Wigilia was a fast day. Nanny made pierogi that looked like "flying saucers" with 2 inches of dough around the filling. Dad made the pickled herring days ago. Mom's peas and sauerkraut smelled wonderful. Earlier, I made noodles with poppyseeds and now the fried fish was almost done. Everyone was very hungry. The children complained that they could not see the first star because of the snow. I told them to keep looking, as I quickly fashioned an aluminum foil star and taped it to a broom stick. Sneaking outside, below the bay window, I waved the star where the children could see out. Satisfied that it had been seen, I slipped back inside. "The star, the star, we saw it," the children yelled. We were all grateful that the long-awaited meal could now begin.

Nanny was the Matriarch of the family - the oldest person at the table - so she passed the *oplatki* wafers around until everyone had a piece. Then she and Dad shared *oplatek* and we all joined in, each breaking off a small piece of the other person's wafer and eating it, as both exchanged good wishes, hugs and kisses. This ritual erased all ill feelings between family members, so that everyone could start the new year with a clean slate. We shared the pink *oplatek* wafer with our dog, just as Polish farmers once shared it with their livestock.

As we sat down to enjoy red beet soup with mushroom-filled dumplings that looked like little ears (*uszki*), there was a knock on the door. I ran to open it because - FINALLY - after waiting 17 years for the Polish tradition to be fulfilled, someone representing the Christ Child was actually knocking on OUR door! After focusing on Polish customs and their meanings all day long, I was thrilled. It didn't get any better than this!

There, standing in the snowstorm, surrounded by a foot of snow on the porch was a short, stout, red-faced stranger. The fact that we didn't know him made it even more exciting! I invited the man inside, asking him to take off his coat and join us for dinner. I told him that it was an old Polish custom and he would be given a place of honor at the table. He stumbled into the living room, holding onto Dad's recliner to steady himself and sheepishly asked to use the phone to call a taxi. He explained that he had spent the afternoon at the Polish Club, down the road. The bartender had called a taxi for him, but it never came and the tavern closed early for Christmas.

"That's okay," I said eagerly, "now you can have dinner with us and maybe it will stop snowing by the time the meal is over." I could smell whiskey on his breath, as I tried to take the gloves and hat that he had just taken off.

My parents heard my invitation. Horrified, they quickly jumped up and came to our visitor, pushing me out of the way. "That man is drunk. How could you invite him to eat with us? What are you thinking?" Mom harshly whispered in my ear. "I'm thinking of our Polish traditions," I answered. "Ever since I can remember, you've always said if someone comes to the door during Wigilia, it is the Christ Child in disguise. We must invite that person to have Wigilia with us!" "Yes," said Mom sternly, "but not some old drunk!"

"How can you say that?" I said in anger, "Don't you see? He's the Christ Child in a very clever disguise! We HAVE TO invite him to eat with us! It's our Polish TRADITION!"

Dad was already calling a taxi for the embarrassed man whose face grew even redder. He insisted, "No, no, no, I don't want to disturb your Christmas Eve dinner - I just want a taxi. P-l-e-a-s-e, just call a taxi for me!"

I pulled Mommy down the hallway where I hoped the man would not hear us. Overwhelmed with disbelief, I just could not accept that my parents, who so painstakingly taught me one thing, were going to do the opposite. "If you send that man away," I challenged Mom, "you and Dad are hypocrites!"

Mom tried to console me and make me understand. "No," she patiently explained, "you can see how embarrassed the man is. He doesn't want to celebrate Christmas with a group of strangers - he wants to go home to his own family. You are embarrassing him even more by trying to force him to do something he doesn't want to do. We can't DO that, even if it is our tradition. We have to do as he asks and let him go!"

I ran into my bedroom, crying. My ideals were crushed and my heart was heavy with disappointment. Dad asked the man to wait in the living room until the taxi came. He waited about ten minutes until the snow stopped falling and then decided to leave, even though the taxi had not yet come.

Upon hearing the front door slam, I ran from my bedroom shouting, "I wanted to at least say good-bye." I threw open the front door and eagerly looked for the man but he was nowhere to be found. In fact, there were no footsteps leading away from the door, even though he had left just a minute ago. I insisted that my parents come and see this phenomena - no man, no footsteps - but Dad sternly yelled, "I've had enough of your nonsense for one night. Now, sit down and eat."

No one would come to the door. I went out on the porch looking for the man. There was no man, no tire tracks from a taxi or any other kind of vehicle, for that matter. Nothing but the glistening snow-covered landscape and the mystery of the invisible stranger - the Christ Child in disguise.

"Will God ever forgive us for sending away the Christ Child like that?" I asked rhetorically. "Yes," said Nanny, "It's Christmas Eve and sharing *oplatki* wipes our slate clean, even in the eyes of God."

As I took my place at the table, I blatantly announced to everyone that, "When I grow up, I won't be a hypocrite. Everyone and anyone will always be welcome at MY table."

And so it is. In my own home, every holiday our table was graced by visiting cousins from Poland or acquaintances who had no family to share the holiday with, or even strangers, homeless people. My children never questioned it. They just accepted this as one of Mom's eccentricities.

Even today, our door is always open and we live our lives ready to share whatever we have with whomever God sends to our door. The Christ Child never appeared again during Wigilia, but He has reigned supreme in my heart and in our home ever since the Christmas of 1967.

May you also open your home and your heart to Him.

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

*From the Folks at PRCUA*



## MY FAVORITE PA

13



14



15



16



17



18



19



20



**Pres. Joseph Drobot, Jr.** - As a child, my favorite thing about Christmas was going to my Babcia's house.

**Fr. Anthony Iwuc** - My favorite thing is the beautiful Polish tradition of Wigilia with the family and the star. Then.. walking to church in the snow for Midnight Mass. Memories for a lifetime!

**Dir. Eileen Hanley** - The gathering of family and friends - the sound of laughter, singing and merriment.

**V.P. Micheline Jaminski** - When I was a child, my ultimate favorite thing about Christmas was going to my Babcia's house and seeing the Christmas tree that the "angels" decorated in my room.

**Secy.-Tres. James R. Quinn** - My favorite thing about Christmas is singing carols before Mass.

**Dir. Elizabeth Sadus** - Wigilia at my Busia's house. The warmth & love of my family, tradition and customs.

**Madia Robles** - Being with my family!

**Julie Prado** - Being together with family and watching the children open their gifts, brings me the most joy.

**Mary Jane Robles** - My favorite thing about Christmas is celebrating with family.

**Lisa Terlecki** - I enjoyed seeing my cousins and getting to spend time with them.

**Kathryn Rosypal** - Setting up the Nativity scene under the Christmas tree and singing in the church choir.

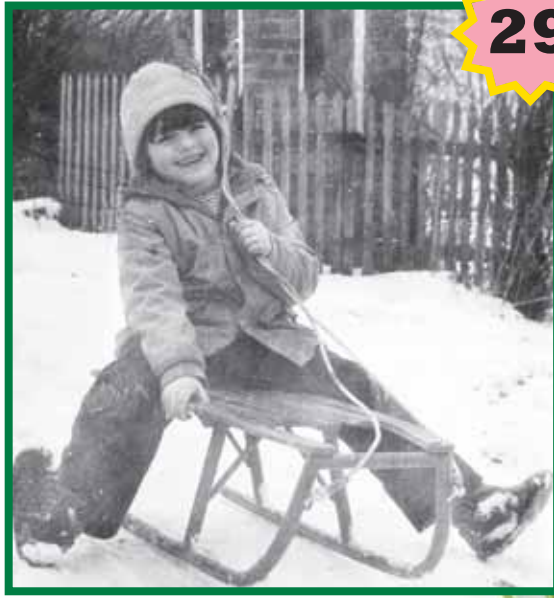
**Dir. Sharon Quinn** - I remember coming down the steps on Christmas morning with my brother. My brother was at the bottom of the steps with these big flood lights on the movie camera capturing our excitement. It was so wonderful to see what Santa left for us.

**Can you guess whose childhood photos these are from  
among PRCUA Officers, First Lady, Past Presidents, Board  
Members and Employees?  
The answers can be found on page 15.**



**RT OF CHRISTMAS**

a's house for Wigilia.  
nily... the oplatek sharing and special meal at the sign of the first  
nerriment that fills the home at Christmas time.  
as coming home after Wigilia Dinner at my Babcia and Dziadzia's  
obaczewski - Going to Midnight Mass and listening to the choir  
al Polish meal and, of course, presents.  
the greatest joy.  
dut Choir at Midnight Mass.  
ers and sisters. My father  
citement as we saw



# Merry Christmas From Our Family To Yours



Even though we all share the common bond of Polish heritage, each family celebrates Wigilia and Christmas in their own unique way. Just as in Poland, different regions have different traditions, so too it is in America. But we also have the additional influences that infiltrated our family through countless generations as Polish Americans.

This year, the PRCUA National Officers have most graciously agreed to share with our readers how their family celebrates a Polish Christmas.

## The Drobot Family

The Wigilia at our home at Christmas time is very special to our family. We always start Christmas Eve with Mass at St. Regis Church in Bloomfield Hills, MI, where we have been parishioners for forty years. It is here where our children went to school and received many of their sacraments. Great memories!

After Mass, we begin by sharing the oplatek wafer and wishing everyone good health and happiness for the coming New Year. Our meal begins with appetizers of smoked fish\*, shrimp and herring. Then we sit down to have our White Soup (Borszcz). Then we have our main course of potato, sauerkraut, cheese and meat pierogi – these are the highlight of our meal. Added to that, we have smoked kielbasa, klopsy, potatoes and a vegetable plate of broccoli, carrots and mushrooms. Usually a mixed green salad is also served.

Of course, dessert is much anticipated – we have chrusciki and other home baked sweets. After our delicious meal, we exchange gifts and open presents. We like everyone to sing Christmas carols as the perfect ending to our Christmas Eve celebration.

On Christmas Day, we continue to celebrate this special holiday by getting together with our aunts, uncles and cousins.

*\*Until it was time for Joe and Judy to prepare the Wigilia meal at their home, there was no smoked fish at the Drobot Wigilia table. Judy, in an effort to impress her husband's Polish family, researched the traditional Wigilia meal and found in a cookbook that smoked fish was a part of it. Much to the satisfaction of her father-in-law who shared her love of this delicacy, her addition to the Drobot tradition was a major success.*

- Submitted by PRCUA First Lady Judith Drobot

## The Jaminski Family



Christmas 2013 (l-r) Nicole Bencik; Richard and Misia Jaminski; Anthony Coltri; Joline McConachie; Kayla, Jeanine and Brian Leonhard

As a child, Misia remembers Wigilia at her Babcia and Dziadzia's house where the Christmas tree was adorned with edible treats. It was customary to place hay under the white tablecloth and to always leave an extra place setting – especially for the spirit of the deceased family members. The Wigilia meal, of course, consisted of the oplatek (including those from relatives from afar); then śledzie (herring) in sour cream as well as pickled in vinegar,

and served with small pieces of rye bread; mushroom soup AND clear beet barszcz with none other than mushroom uszka (dumplings); cheese pierogi and pierogi with sauerkraut and mushrooms; smoked fish (as a child, Misia didn't eat it because it was served with its head and tail intact); baked sauerkraut with yellow peas; rice with golden raisins; noodles with poppy seeds; creamed and pickled mushrooms; little mushroom pancakes (dried mushroom caps soaked in water, then dipped in "pancake" batter and fried); and for dessert, dried fruit compote, pastries, coffee or tea.

This tradition continued when it was time for Misia's parents to take over, but because their children didn't like fish, fried shrimp were added as were filets of sole. In time, Misia took over the Wigilia meal and the smoked fish was replaced by filets of orange roughy or salmon; some of the side dishes were eliminated for lack of interest; dried fruit compote was replaced with fruit cocktail and to the assortment of pastries was added an ice cream cake.

When Richard joined the family, he added the traditional foods from the Rzeszów and Lublin regions (birthplaces of his mother and father respectively). These delicacies included ruskie pierogi (pierogi stuffed with cheese and potatoes) and kasza gryczana z sosem grzybowym (buckwheat with mushroom gravy) - the latter of which Misia's sister, Jeanine, affectionately refers to as "Alpo."

Throughout the years, the children always quickly ate and rushed to the Christmas tree to "separate" the gifts for each recipient, encouraging the parents to either eat faster or continue their meal after opening the gifts. At times, Christmas carols were sung after each present was opened to add to the suspense. Depending on how young the children were, this was sometimes by-passed. Then it was off to Midnight Mass (although now the Jaminskis attend the 10 p.m. Mass at their local church). As is the tradition in America, Santa came during the night, leaving special presents and always partaking of the milk and cookies left for him.

Christmas Day is celebrated at the Jaminski's house in the afternoon with appetizers, Wigilia leftovers (always a hit), prime rib, mashed potatoes, green beans, and the traditional green cream cheese and pineapple jello (the Binkowski now Jaminski & Leonhard mandatory holiday side dish). Then the family relaxes, playing games, watching movies and enjoying just being a family.

## Robaczewski Family Christmas



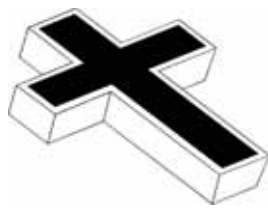
Elaine, James, Joey and Tommy Robaczewski

My family celebrated Christmas Eve with my father's side of the family. They were Polish, but they had lost some of the Polish Christmas traditions. The meal was not meatless, but they still shared oplatek.

My mother had always told us about Christmas, when she was young, and how the meal was meatless. I really did not have a traditional Wigilia dinner until I was in my early teens. My future sister-in-law invited our family to join hers for their Wigilia dinner. As traditional Wigilia dinners are, it is meatless, but they did not include any fish courses. They served seven different courses: mushroom soup, boiled potatoes, pierogi, kidney beans, navy beans, rutabagas and sauerkraut. The servings were placed in the middle of the table and all the participants ate from a common bowl. Each participant uses a spoon and a piece of bread as their "plate" for each course. This is how holiday meals were customarily served in Poland.

I have celebrated this "traditional" Wigilia with my family and extended family for over thirty years. My wife and sons look forward to this meal, as one of our Christmas traditions. Some of our other annual traditions include a Christmas tree hunt, where we cut down our own tree; visiting Santa; and making our three stops on Christmas day to visit as much family as possible on this holy and joyous day.

*Dearlly Departed PRCVA  
Brothers  
and Sisters*



<u>Member</u>	<u>Society</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Society</u>	<u>State</u>
Ankrom, Frances H.	213	WV	Mikishko, Stacia A.	633	CT
Bankus, Stella	1000	IL	Mioduszewski, Irene J.	1593	MI
Baranowski, Edwin c.	139	IL	Murawski, Sharon M.	283	WI
Binkowski, Raymond P.	1593	MI	Niedbalski, John P.	1633, 2206	OH
Ciesielka, Josephine	2003	PA	Novak, Genevieve	565	IN
Ciurej, Joseph	308	IL	Nowak, Catherine K.	527	MD
Deren, Josephine S.	1275	MA	Nowak, William J.	855	PA
Duszak, Beverly Ann	641	IL	Olkowski, Dusty M.	2109	OH
Farrington, Thomas F.	237	PA	Peake, Todd	1584, 1617	OH
Fedyk, Lucille A.	2039	PA	Pollock, Felicia	2144	CA
Gajewski, Lottie J.	531	PA	Pousak, Joseph C.	162	MI
Glinski, Marian	1000	IL	Putz, Lucille B.	87	MI
Gregorc, Diane F.	1591	CT	Rech, Dorothy A.	893	MN
Gurski, Lillian A.	1593	MI	Semproch, Clara A.	2109	OH
Guzan, Mary A.	795	IL	Serio, Barbara	203	FL
Hanula, Jean Anne	593	AZ	Shea-Lowell, Linda J.	1570	MD
Hrutkay, Helen	1000	PA	Sielski, Andrew J.	162	MI
Juiris, Henry M.	878	IL	Sikora, Joseph	72	IL
Kamien, Leonard	750	NY	Skala, Jane	258	IL
Kenzie, Dorothy A.	2109	FL	Skiba, Edward	865	PA
Kocay, Anna	20	NJ	Sowinski, Viola S.	203	NY
Kociubinski, Frank	1559	IL	Spack, Stanley	816	NJ
Koldys, Virginia	359	MA	Stawovy, Theodore	621	PA
Kolenic, Irene M.	78	MI	Suda, Frances T.	28	FL
Koperniak, Stanley	359	MA	Szeremeta, Josephine	308	IL
Koscak, Florence	2308	WI	Szymkowiak, Leon	2291	PA
Kranc, Alice M.	354	IL	Talalaj, Anne	1136	CT
Kucharski, Stanley J.	540	IL	Turziak, Mary A.	308	IL
Lacki, Edward	542	IL	Winckowski, Joseph A.	1124	MI
Lichorobiec, Mary	2009	PA	Wojtcak, Edward G.	418	IL
Lopata, Julia	2002	SC	Zabawa, Edward	334	IL
Lukaszewski, Rita	542	IL	Zamonsky, Margaret C.	2031	PA
Malecha, Sophie	1579	IL	Zawodny, Kenneth J.	1617	MI
Marshall, Linda J.	1031	IN	Zegar, Stanley	1486	IL
May, Eleanor H.	701	CA	Zolandz, John	1580	CT
Mickens, Edward F.	120	NJ			

*May they rest in eternal peace.*

**FIRST POLISH PLAYER CONTRACTED  
IN MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL**



*Arthur Strzalka with his parents in Rybnik*

NEW YORK, NY - The New York Yankees have signed left-hander Artur Strzalka to a seven-year minor league contract. He is the first player born and developed in Poland to get a contract with an MLB organization.

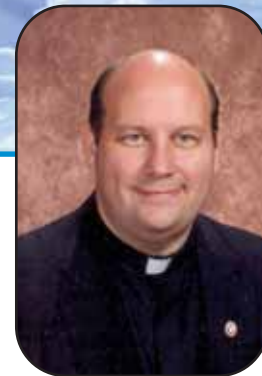
Arthur will spent a few weeks in the Dominican Republic in an instructional league before returning to Poland to finish school.

Next year, he will move to Florida to begin his professional career.

The 18-year-old from Rybnik, Poland, (in Silesia) will play for Poland at the B-Level European Championship in Zurich, and then also will participate in the MLB European Academy in Regensburg, Germany.

*Submitted by David Jansen*

*Higher Perspectives*



*By Rev. Canon  
Walter J. Ptak  
National Chaplain,  
PRCUA*

**Advent: Time of Preparation  
for the  
Celebration of Christmas**

It's hard to believe that yet another year is coming to an end and the Season of Advent is upon us once again! After praying in November for those who have died and who await the fullness of the Kingdom, we now find ourselves in Advent, the time of preparation for the coming of the Word made Flesh, in the person of Jesus Christ. Our focus changes from death to life, the life of the One who brings meaning to all our lives.

Next to Lent and the Easter Season, Advent and Christmas Season are the most important time of the year. Indeed, they are the 'most wonderful time of the year.' It is the time for us to reflect on the great love that God has for us in fulfilling His promise and sending His only begotten Son as our Savior. He is the Word made Flesh in the Glory of the Incarnation.

Advent has a two-fold nature: the commemoration of the birth of Christ in time some two thousand years ago, and the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a season that demands our attention. All too often, Advent is bypassed so that the celebration of Christmas can begin. It is good that so many people look forward to celebrating Christmas. It is a special time of the year! But without Advent's preparation, Christmas losses its meaning and becomes all too commercialized and meaningless.

Advent prepares us to celebrate Christmas with JOY! John the Baptizer reminds us to "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight the path." This can be done in many ways. Let me suggest three to you.

The First is to take stock of your spiritual life. Make a list of your strengths and weaknesses in your spiritual life. Review the list and use the Advent Season to work on the areas in which you need to grow.

The Second is to plan to celebrate the beautiful, grace-filled Sacrament of Reconciliation. Every Parish publishes a list of times that the Sacrament will be celebrated before Christmas. Check the list and make it a point to go and be reconciled with God, experience His Divine Mercy in your life and you will be ready to show that same love to others during the Christmas Season. Confession is great for the soul and lifts the burden of sin that so often keeps us weighted down.

Finally, the Third way to make Advent meaningful deals with the family. Prepare an Advent Wreath on the table in your home. Light the corresponding candle each week at the principal meal with the family gathered, and ask those present to state what they are doing to prepare spiritually for Christmas. The four candles remind us that Christ is coming and keeps us focused on what we are about to celebrate.

It is my hope that you will try these three simple ideas this Advent Season. If you do, Advent will take on a new meaning, and it won't be lost in the rush to celebrate Christmas. It will become a season of preparation and not just something we hear about or celebrate in church. When we take the time to prepare, the main event is always much more spectacular. Advent and Christmas are indeed something to celebrate and one complements the other. May you and your Loved Ones enjoy a grace-filled Advent and then, a Christmas Season filled with HIS Love!

If you would like to contact me about a topic you would like me to write about or any other matter, my email address is [wjmptak@gmail.com](mailto:wjmptak@gmail.com) or if you prefer to write, my address is **SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary 3535 Indian Trail Orchard Lake, MI 48324**. I would love to hear from you!

**ANSWERS TO THE PHOTOS ON PAGES 12-13**

1. Robert Fattore, Sales Dir.;
2. Joseph Drobot, Jr., President;
3. Robert Kowalski, Printer;
4. Kevin Ryba, IT Dir.;
5. Joanne Zajac, Dir. Dist. 3;
6. James Rustik, Dir. Dist. 8;
7. Elizabeth Sadus, Dir. Dist. 9;
8. Tom Jesionowski, Dir. Dist. 5;
9. Thomas Lisiecki, Dir. Dist. 10;
10. Mitcell Bienia, Dir. Dist. 5;
11. Kevin Kucik, Dir. Dist. 7;
12. Secy.-Tres. James Robaczewski;
13. Madia Robles (E)\*;
14. Julie Prado (E);
15. Claudia Wicker (E);
16. Colleen Bonkowski, Dir. Dist. 10;
17. Audrey Carpenter (E);
18. Micheline Jaminski, V.P.;
19. Lisa Terlecki (E);
20. Eileen Hanley, Dir. Dist. 4;
21. Krystyna Lech, Dir. Dist. 8;
22. Mary Jane Robles (E);
23. Robert Brewster (E);
24. Pat Tropp (E);
25. Kathryn Rosypal, Editor;
26. Lidia Kowalewicz, Exec. Editor;
27. Sharon Quinn, Dir. Dist. 3;
28. Judy Hoffman (E);
29. Anna Wolan Grabowski (E);
30. Martha Madro (E);
31. Agnes Bastrzyk, Marketing Dir.

*\*(E) = Employee*

## PRCUA EVENTS IN CLEVELAND, OHIO

CLEVELAND, OH - November of 2014 proved to be a very busy month for PRCUA members in Cleveland, Ohio. The highlight of the month was the November 9th Holy Mass, which was dedicated to a multitude of events, celebrated by Rev. Eric Orzech at St. Casimir Church.

### Liturgical Feast, Veterans Day, Polish Independence Day

First, the liturgical feast was the anniversary of the dedication of the Papal church in Rome, St. John Lateran Basilica, which symbolizes the world-wide unity of the entire Roman Catholic Church. Second, the Mass commemorated the Veterans Day holiday, November 11. This same day also marked the celebration of Polish Independence Day, quite similar in significance to the 4th of July in America. It was during the signing of the Armistice in Paris in 1918, ending World War I, that Poland was reestablished as an independent state, according to the 13th of President Wilson's 14 Points, which became the basis for a peace program ending World War I. The Culture Committee of St. Casimir Parish prepared a very moving patriotic program in both Polish and English.

### Mass for Deceased PRCUA Members

As November is known in the Catholic Church as the "Month of Holy Souls in Purgatory," the Mass was also dedicated to the memory of all deceased members of PRCUA's District 5 at the request of Director Mitchell Bienia. Many PRCUA members attended this special liturgy. Following Mass, the Alumni Association of St. Casimir Parish prepared a pancake and sausage breakfast. Guests lingered after Mass to renew old acquaintances, as well as to make new friendships. Conversation flowed freely because the atmosphere was relaxed and the mood was mellow.

### Prayers for Safety and Return of Deported Father

To add to the activity of the Sunday Mass, the church was filled with a contingent of Latinos who regularly come to St. Casimir Church to give thanks for blessings received and to ask for special favors. Over that last year, prayers at St. Casimir Church have been credited with the miracles of saving the bread-winners of three families from deportation by the U.S. government.

About 30 miles east of Cleveland is a Latin American community, whose members are agriculture workers in the fields and nurseries of Lake County. Some of the workers, having entered the United States legally, overstayed the terms of their visas, are now out of legal status, and are considered illegal residents. Deportation has been the U.S. government's method of handling this type of situation.

### Polish Madonna

Having heard of the "Polish Madonna," as the icon of *Matka Boska Czestochowska* is known to the Latinos in Lake County, Mexicans came to St. Casimir Church to pray for a miracle. And, indeed, it happened. On the day of the scheduled deportation of Ricardo Ramos, a reprieve was granted by the U.S. Department of Justice. And this miracle did not happen just once; it occurred twice again, for the Padilla and the Hernandez families, whose fathers were scheduled to be deported.

However, the fourth miracle was not to be. On November 4, Angel Murillo was, in fact, deported from the United States and sent back to Mexico.

### Multi-Lingual Rosary

So, on November 9, St. Casimir Church was again filled with hundreds of Mexicans, praying to the Polish Madonna for the safety and speedy return of the deported father. During October, the "Month of the Holy Rosary," the congregation prayed the rosary after Mass in three languages, alternating among Polish, English and Spanish. St. Casimir Church, offering a warm welcome, has become a place of prayer for the Latin American community of Lake County in Ohio.

### Polish School Dinner-Dance

On the evening of November 8, the Parents Committee of the Henryk Sienkiewicz Polish School and the Piast Polish Folk Song and Dance Ensemble held a fund-raiser dinner-dance at Crystal Party Center. The evening was a complete success, thanks to the huge crowd. Dinner was delicious, and music - provided by Vertigo - enticed nearly everyone to the dance floor. It was great to see three generations enjoying themselves together. Present members of Piast danced side-by-side with their parents as well as grandparents. A basket raffle helped to bring extra funds for the operation of the Polish school and Piast Polish Folk Song and Dance Ensemble. PRCUA Director Mitchell Bienia was happy to represent the PRCUA at this festive event.

### Pulaski Day Speaker

On November 7, District 5 Director Mitchell Bienia was the featured speaker at the monthly meeting of the Cleveland Society of Poles. The title of Bienia's presentation was "Little Known Facts about Casimir Pulaski." Being of Polish extraction, most members of the Cleveland Society are already familiar with the life and contributions of Casimir Pulaski. What Bienia did was to supplement this basic knowledge of the hero of two continents with details rarely mentioned in most presentations. Extensive research unearthed many facts previously unnoticed. Topics of the speech covered the controversies relating to Pulaski's date of birth, place of death and burial, and results of DNA testing.

Director Bienia gave a shortened version of this speech at the Polonia Foundation's Pulaski Day celebration in October, and it was well received. So Bienia was asked to present the full speech at the Cleveland Society meeting.

### Polish Veterans Alliance Commemoration

On November 15, the Polish Veterans Alliance (PVA) Gen. T. Kosciuszko Post No. 1 commemorated the 96th Anniversary of Polish Independence Day with a Mass at St. John Cantius Church, followed by a dinner-dance at the PVA Post. No. 1 The celebration commemorated the revival of the Polish state in 1918 after years of captivity and occupation by Russia, Prussia and Austria. A short patriotic program was conducted by Post 1 officers, followed by a tasty homemade dinner, after which there was music for dancing and listening pleasure. Director Bienia represented the PRCUA at this event.

By Mitchell Bienia, Director, PRCUA District 5

## THE MIRACLE AT ST. CASIMIR

CLEVELAND, OH - On Sunday, November 9, St. Casimir Parish in Cleveland, Ohio, celebrated Mass at the usual 11:30 a.m., but on this Sunday there was a special commemoration at the church, which had been closed by the Bishop of Cleveland on November 8, 2009. But faithful and loyal parishioners said "No" to the injustice; they appealed to the highest court in the Vatican and prayed for the intercession of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

**Vatican Orders Reopening of Churches** - On March 1, 2012, a decree was issued from Rome declaring that eleven parishes which were closed in the Cleveland Diocese must be re-opened. On July 15, 2012, St. Casimir's Church reopened its doors to the faithful, once again to celebrate Mass inside the church. What was so amazing about this church was that, when it was closed, parishioners and supporters refused to leave.

**Miracle of St. Casimir** - The people and the media named it "The Miracle of St. Casimir." Thus the story of the devotion of the people and their faith in the power of Our Lady of Czestochowa became known. On the night of the closing, a parishioner had a dream that Our Lady of Czestochowa said, "Do not leave me," and the parishioners vowed not to leave the church. From November 15, 2009, prayer vigils were held outside the locked and chained church for 139 weeks, every Sunday - snow, rain or shine - until re-opening.

**A Special Sunday** - On Sunday, November 9, Veterans Day and Polish Independence Day (actual day is November 11) were remembered by the parish with a beautiful program of readings, remembrance of historical events, song and patriotic music, including "God Bless America," "America the Beautiful" and "Ojczyzna Ma."

**ICE Steps-In** - The story of the "Miracle" attributed to Our Lady of Czestochowa was heard by the local population of Mexicans who live in an adjoining county. Mexican fathers have been taken away from their families by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) and deported, leaving wives and children alone, without support of the father. They, too, have a strong belief in the Blessed Mother. So they came to St. Casimir's as a pilgrimage asking for the intercession of the Polish Madonna.

**Welcome** - The parish of St. Casimir and Pastor Eric Orzech have welcomed the local Mexican faithful and have prayed the rosary with them. Members of the Mexican community have brought a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe to St. Casimir, which stands with the icon of the Black Madonna, before the main altar in the church.

**Last Minute Extensions** - Since Christmas of 2013, three fathers scheduled for deportation have had last minute extensions granted, keeping families together. In all of these instances, their wives are in the USA legally, and all of their children were born in the U.S. These families have lived in Northeast Ohio for a number of years.

**Deportation** - On All Souls Day, November 2, a fourth family came to pray and

to ask for intercession for a husband and father who was taken into detention a few days earlier. Sadly, he was deported two days later, on Election Day, after the family received mixed signals from ICE.

**Pilgrimage to St. Casimir Church** - Not to be deterred, about 300 men, women and children from the Mexican Community joined the congregation of St. Casimir on Veterans Day and Polish Independence Day. They wanted to show their continued faith in God and in America. And they



wanted to pray for their families, and to give thanks for the blessings and help they have received through the parishioners of St. Casimir, who have opened their doors to them.

From the choir loft of St. Casimir's hangs a large banner that succinctly states the belief of its parishioners: "We Trust in Jesus!"

- By Joseph Feckanin

(Photos by Stanislav Zadnik)





## New Narod Polski Executive Editor Appointed

(Continued from page 1) In 1988, she became a secretary in a small store.

In school, she met her husband Dariusz Kowalewicz. The couple were married in 1991. They reside in Arlington Heights, IL. The Kowalewicz Family was blessed with the birth of their only daughter, Natalia, in 1992. Daughter Natalia, who graduated from Loyola University with a B.A. in Psychology, is presently attending graduate school at Adler Professional School of Psychology in Chicago, IL.

In 1989 Lidia was hired as editorial secretary in the PRCUA's Publication Department, where she worked with Executive Editor Kathryn Rosypal and Managing Editor Andrzej Azarjew, who was in charge of the Polish section. When Mr. Azarjew became sick in 1993 and retired early, Lidia was promoted to the position of Acting Managing Editor of *Narod Polski*. In 1994, she was promoted to Managing Editor, responsible for the Polish section of the newspaper.

She is Financial Secretary of PRCUA Societies #800 and #1629. In 1990, Lidia served as a member of the Election Commission at the Polish Consulate in Chicago, during the presidential elections in Poland. In 2004, she represented *Narod Polski* at the 12th Global Polish Media Forum meeting in Poland, which took place in Tarnow and Gdansk.

Lidia has worked at many PRCUA events, as photographer and reporter, and has attended four PRCUA Conventions. She has produced multiple PRCUA forms, brochures, program books, ads, and other printed materials. For the last few years she has produced program books for the Cinderella and Prince Charming Ball and for many PRCUA dancing and language schools. Together with Kathryn Rosypal, she was the curator of *Narod Polski's* 100th Anniversary and 115th Anniversary Exhibits, and the PRCUA 140th Anniversary Exhibit.

As a member of the Loyal Order of Moose, Lidia has been involved in many charitable projects, served as a Chapter Junior Regent and she organized a Polish Night. She is a member of the Polish Museum of America and has volunteered at many of the PMA's functions, as well as serving as an instructor at PMA workshops for many years. She also produces many of the PMA's printed materials.

In her spare time, Lidia loves to travel, enjoys reading, drawing and working on small home remodeling projects.

Throughout her 25+ year career at the PRCUA, Lidia Kowalewicz has served under three administrations. She has earned their respect, and has continuously demonstrated outstanding dedication to our fraternal organization and its members.

The PRCUA Officers and Board of Directors are proud to make this well-deserved appointment and look forward to a long and successful future for our Publications Department, under the leadership of Executive Editor Lidia Kowalewicz.

Executive Editor Lidia Kowalewicz can be reached toll-free at 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2639 or 772-782-2600 Ext. 2639. Articles and photographs for submission to the *Narod Polski* should be emailed to her at:

[narod-polski@prcua.org](mailto:narod-polski@prcua.org)

## ♥ ♥ ♥ Hallo-Wedding ♥ ♥ ♥



(L-r) PRCUA V.P. Misia Jaminski, parents Nancy and John (back) Golemo, newlyweds Tina and Joe Golemo, bridesmaid Therese Golemo, Richard Jaminski, and grandparents Walter and Petronella Latuszek (seated)

CHICAGO, IL - On October 31, 2014 - Halloween - the "Hallowed wedding" of PRCUA Member, Joseph Golemo, son of Nancy and John Golemo, and grandson of Petronella and Walter Latuszek to Tina Marie Romano took place at St. Julianna's Church in Chicago, IL.

Joseph's mother and grandparents have been very active in the PRCUA for decades. Nancy, danced with the PRCUA Wisla Dancers, then with Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Ensemble, and she taught Polish folk dancing at PRCUA's Southwest Center of Polish Dancing and District #7's Wisla and Zalipie Dancers. Nancy is Financial Secretary of PRCUA Soc. #1590 (District 8) and Joseph's Grandfather, Wally, is Financial Secretary of PRCUA Soc. #878 (District 7).

The PRCUA extends best wishes to the newlyweds for a long and happy life together filled with everlasting love.

*Submitted by Richard Jaminski*

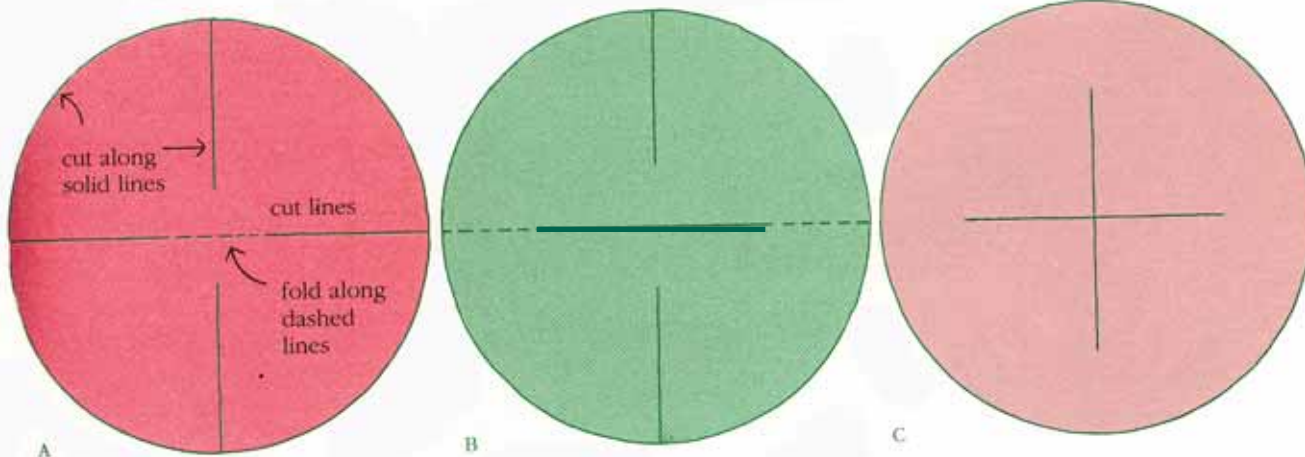
### WORLD OR GLOBE ORNAMENT

The Polish people are known for the many lovely hand-made paper ornaments that decorate their Christmas trees. Below is one of the most popular designs - the World or Globe Ornament, with full instructions and diagrams on how to make it. Try it! It will be a fun project for the family in preparation for Christmas.

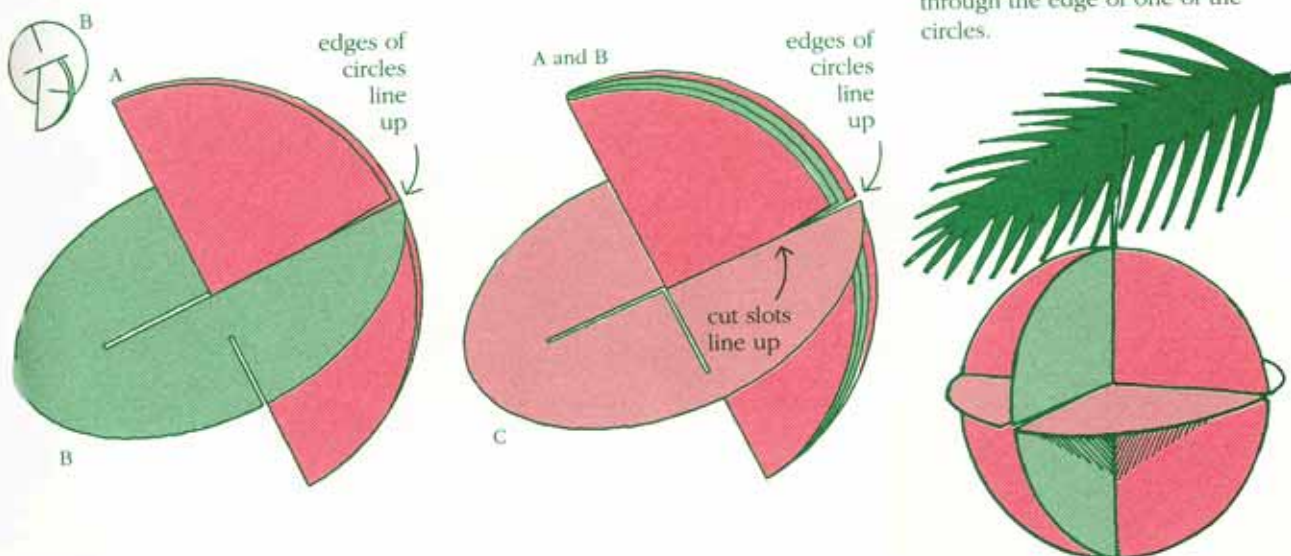
**Materials needed:**  
construction paper  
scissors  
needle and thread

*Instructions*

1. Trace circles A, B, and C, including the cut lines, to make a tracing pattern. Use this pattern as a guide when cutting the construction paper.
2. Cut the circles out of construction paper. Each circle may be a different color. Be sure to also cut along the cut lines.



3. Fold circle A in half and insert through the center slot of circle B. Unfold circle A.
4. Fold circles A and B so that the cut slots line up. Insert the two folded circles through circle C.
5. Gently unfold the circles and "lock" them into place so they make a ball. To make a hanger loop, bring a needle and thread through the edge of one of the circles.



## KALENDARZ na GRUDZIEŃ 2014 i STYCZEŃ 2015

- ◆ 5 grudnia (piątek) - WYPRZEDAŻ PIEROGÓW - organizowana przez ZPiT Echoes of Poland; w godz. 10-18, PRCUA Hall, 5255 N. Detroit, Toledo, OH; 12 pierogów (ser, ziemniaki, kapusta, ruskie) w cenie \$9; zamówienia prosimy składać na numer (419) 531-8658. Kolejną wyprzedaż pierogów zaplanowana jest na 27 marca 2015 r.
- ◆ 7 grudnia (niedziela) - ZABAWA BOŻONARODZENIOWA DLA DZIECI Tow. #162 ZPRKA; zapraszamy dzieci w wieku od 0 do 10 lat; PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI; godz. 13:30 - kolędowanie; pizza i napoje; godz. 14:30 wizyta św. Mikołaja; informacje zostały rozesłane do członków Towarzystwa wcześniej. Dodatkowe informacje: (734) 281-7039.
- ◆ 7 grudnia (niedziela) - OPLATEK WYDZ. KOBIET NA STANY ILLINOIS-INDIANA - szczegóły obok.
- ◆ 12 grudnia (piątek) - WIECZÓR KOLED Tow. #162 ZPRKA - szczegóły poniżej
- ◆ 14 grudnia (niedziela) - KOLACJA OPLATKOWA I PRZYJĘCIE DLA SENIORÓW z Tow. #162 - organizowane przez ZPiT "Rogalin" i Tow. #162 - szczegóły str. 20.
- ◆ 21 grudnia (niedziela) - KONCERT ŚWIĄTECZNY Południowo-Zachodniego Centrum Polskich Tańców - szczegóły str. 19.
- ◆ 31 grudnia (środa) - POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKA NOC SYLWESTROWA Tow. #162 - szczegóły poniżej.
- ◆ 17 stycznia (sobota) - ROZGRYWKI KRĘGLARSKIE Ryder Cup - Tow. #162 kontra Tow. #718 (gospodarz); rejestracja o godzinie 11:00 w Cherry Hill Lanes, 300 Inkster Rd., Dearborn Hts., MI. Po rozgrywkach spotkanie w Randy's Bar & Grille, 25122 W. Warren Ave., Dearborn Hts., MI. Koszt uczestnictwa \$40 od osoby obejmuje udział w rozgrywkach, nagrody i poczęstunek. Zainteresowane udziale osoby powinny skontaktować się z Bobem Hojnackim: hoj606@hotmail.com lub (313)384-6255
- ◆ 17 stycznia (sobota) - ZABAWA TANECZNA I OBIAD "Fire & Ice" ZPiT "Wesoły Lud" - szczegóły str. 19.

Prosimy członków Towarzystw ZPRKA o zapoznanie się z terminarzem zebrań Towarzystw na stronie 2.

### Towarzystwo #162 ZPRKA zaprasza na **POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKĄ NOC SYLWESTROWĄ**



**środa, 31 grudnia 2014 r.**

ZPRKA Hall, 1430 Oak St Wyandotte, MI 48192

**Do tańca grać będzie: The Kielbasa Kings**  
drzwi otwarte o godz. 19:00  
kolacja o godz. 20:00  
zabawa w godz. 21:00-1:00

**Bilety - \$40 za osobę (tylko w przedsprzedaży - do 28 grudnia)**  
otwarty bar (prosimy o nie przynoszenie własnego alkoholu)  
Uczestnicy muszą mieć co najmniej 21 lat

W sprawie zakupu biletów i dodatkowych informacji prosimy dzwonić do PRCUA Lounge (734) 283-4810 (po 18:00); Keith Zelasko (734) 771-7081; Kenny Konopka (734) 629-6796 lub Joe Zelasko (734) 283-8538.

Dochód przeznaczony zostanie na fundusz ogólny Tow. #162

### ZPRKA poszukuje doświadczonych sprzedawców

Poszukujemy nowych lub doświadczonych pracowników ubezpieczeniowych do promocji naszych produktów finansowych, najlepiej osób z doświadczeniem w sprzedaży ubezpieczeń na życie i w dziedzinie planowania emerytalnego. Zachęcamy zwłaszcza księgowych, adwokatów ze znajomością prawa emerytalnego/nieruchomości i doradców finansowych.

Prosimy o kontakt z Robertem Fattore, dyrektorem sprzedaży ZPRKA pod numer 1-800-772-8632 w. 2631 lub na adres: robert-fattore@prcua.org, w celu uzyskania dodatkowych informacji.

Skontaktuj się z nami już dziś i nie przegap tej doskonałej okazji.

Dystrykt #9 ZPRKA zaprasza w imieniu  
Wydziału Kobiet na Stany Illinois-Indiana  
na doroczny

**OPLATEK**

w niedzielę, 7 grudnia 2014 r.

o godz. 13

Salvatorian Monastery w Merrillville, IN.

5755 Pennsylvania St, Merrillville, IN

**Bilety w cenie \$30 od osoby**

W sprawie zakupu biletów prosimy  
dzwonić do Elizabeth Sadus,  
tel. (708) 481-6796.



Biuro ZPRKA będzie nieczynne w dniach  
24, 25, 26 grudnia 2014 r. oraz 1 i 2 stycznia 2015 r.  
z okazji świąt Bożego Narodzenia i Nowego Roku



### 24. Doroczny Ball im. Shirley Galanty w Michigan

na cześć absolwentów szkół tańca ZPRKA w Michigan

Sobota, 21 lutego 2014 r.

San Marino Club

1685 Big Beaver Rd., Troy, MI

Koktajle - godz. 17 Promenada - godz. 18

Obiad - godz. 18:30

Bilety - \$55 dorośli; \$50 - studenci do lat 20.

Informacje i rezerwacje:

Maria Jalkiewicz (586) 979-5164

**PIĄTEK, 12 GRUDNIA 2014 R.**

**WSTĘP O GODZ. 19**

**PRCUA SOG. 162 HALL**

**1430 OAK STREET, WYANDOTTE, MI**

**MUZYKA W WYKONANIU**

**"KAVALIERS"**

**ZAPRASZAMY**

**DO WSPÓLNEGO KOLEDOWANIA**

**INFORMACJE: 734-281-7036**

**Wieczór  
Koleđ**

### Czy zmieniłeś(aś) adres zamieszkania?

Jeśli w ostatnim czasie zmieniliście Państwo miejsce zamieszkania, prosimy o nadesłanie nowego adresu, abyśmy mogli uaktualnić Wasze dane i abyście nadal mogli otrzymywać "Naród Polski".

Nazwisko: \_\_\_\_\_

Nowy adres: \_\_\_\_\_

Miasto: \_\_\_\_\_ Stan: \_\_\_ Kod poczt.: \_\_\_\_\_

Stary adres: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ostatnia okazja!****Tylko  
do końca  
grudnia!****Specjalny program  
ubezpieczeniowy na życie  
z okazji 61. Sejmu ZPRKA**

Z okazji tegorocznego 61-ego Sejmu ZPRKA, który odbył się w Toledo, Ohio oferujemy specjalny program ubezpieczeniowy na życie – 5 Year Limited Pay Whole Life. Oferta weszła 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 edukacyjnej
- 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.**

**Powstają klasy jęz. polskiego**

Zapraszamy wszystkich Amerykanów zainteresowanych nauką języka polskiego dla początkujących.

Klasy odbywać się będą we wtorki w godz. 18-20 w budynku ZPRKA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL

Klasy rozpoczną się w lutym 2015 r.

Koszt uczestnictwa:  
członkowie ZPRKA - bezpłatnie,  
osoby nie należące do ZPRKA -  
\$150.00 od osoby

Naukę prowadzić będzie dyr. Polskiej Szkoły im. Jana Pawła II w Lemont,  
p. Halina Szyrzyna

Więcej szczegółów w kolejnych wydaniach "Narodu Polskiego"

**Uwaga:****Rodzice, dziadkowie,  
wnukowie i ciocie!****Specjalny Program Bożonarodzeniowy**

Od 1 listopada 2014 r. do 31 stycznia 2015 r. ZPRKA oferuje Specjalny Program Bożonarodzeniowy dla dzieci w wieku od 2 tygodni do 15 lat i 5 miesięcy.\* Kupując polisę ubezpieczeniową Single Pay Life Insurance na sumę 5.000, 10.000, 25.000, 50.000 dolarów lub więcej możesz zaoszczędzić 10%.

Każda nadesłana aplikacja ubezpieczenia na życie zostanie nagrodzona prezentem. Dzieci od lat 0-5 otrzymają pluszowego misia ZPRKA, od lat 6-10 otrzymają zegarek a od lat 11-15 otrzymają słuchawki. Każda aplikacja będzie również uprawniała wnioskodawcę do udziału w loterii, w której do wygrania jest Apple® iPad Mini w kolorze srebrno/białym. Aplikacje na sumy 25.000 dolarów lub więcej otrzymają 2 losy na loterię!

Losowanie odbędzie się w dniu 2 lutego 2015 roku. Zwycięzcy ogłoszeni będą na: [www.PRCUA.org](http://www.PRCUA.org), Facebook i w marcowym wydaniu „Narodu Polskiego”.

**Oprócz zabezpieczenia dla drogiej Wam osoby, ubezpieczenie Single Pay Life zapewnia:**

- Przyrost wartości gotówkowej
- Dywidendy dla ubezpieczonego
- Możliwość uzyskania stypendium na studia lub pożyczki edukacyjnej
- Jednorazową spłatę ubezpieczenia
- Gwarancje istnienia polisy przez cały okres życia ubezpieczonego

W celu wykupienia ubezpieczenia, skontaktuj się z lokalnym przedstawicielem działu sprzedaży ZPRKA lub biurem głównym:  
984 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL 60642

Kontakt w języku polskim:

**Agnieszka Bastrzyk**, dyrektor marketingu

Tel. 1-800-772-8632 w. 2632,

e-mail: [agnieszka-bastrzyk@prcu.org](mailto:agnieszka-bastrzyk@prcu.org)

\* Podaj w przybliżeniu wiek ubezpieczonego (np: jeśli on/ona ma 8 lat i 5 miesięcy – wybierz 8 lat, jeśli on/ona ma 8 lat i 6 miesięcy, wybierz 9 lat).

\*\* Wszystkie wnioski na Specjalny Program Ubezpieczeniowy ZPRKA muszą być wysłane pocztą do **31 stycznia 2015 r.**

**Wszystkie wnioski podlegają szczegółowemu rozpatrzeniu.**

**SZKOLENIE  
SEKRETARZY  
FINANSOWYCH**

Chicago, IL - Kilkunastu sekretarzy finansowych ZPRKA z Dystryktów 6, 7, 8 i 9 ZPRKA wzięło udział w szkoleniu, które, zorganizowane zostało w biurze głównym ZPRKA w sobotę, 8 listopada 2014 roku.

Szkolenie prowadzili menadżerka Julie Prado oraz sekretarz-skarbnik James Robaczewski. Dodatkowo uwagi skierowali do uczestników dyrektor sprzedaży Robert Fattore oraz dyrektorka działu marketingu Agnieszka Bastrzyk.

W czasie szkolenia mieli okazję zapoznać się z nowymi formularzami, które ostatnio weszły lub niedługo wejdą w użycie oraz nowe przedstawione zostały plany ubezpieczeniowe, oferowane przez ZPRKA. Prowadzący przypomnieli również jak prawidłowo wypełniać miesięczne sprawozdania i terminy ich nadsyłania do biura głównego.



## Ślubowanie pierwszoklasistów w Polskiej Szkole im. św. Rafała Kalinowskiego

W sobotę, 18 października 2014 roku, odbyło się w naszej szkole uroczyste ślubowanie uczniów pierwszej klasy. W uroczystości wzięli udział: p. Małgorzata Czachor - dyrektor szkoły, p. Ewa Sobula - prezes zarządu, p.



Teresa Studzinski - wychowawczyni klasy 1 oraz uczniowie klas starszych: Kevin Nawrocki - prowadzący uroczystość, David Holicz, Adrian Orciuch i Mateusz Potrawski - uczniowie stanowiący poczet sztandarowy. Na uroczystość

licznie przybyli rodzice pierwszoklasistów.

Po przywitaniu wszystkich p. dyrektor podkreśliła rolę rodziców, którzy z miłości do Polski przyprowadzają swoje dzieci, żeby w polskiej szkole uczyły się nie tylko języka, ale też tradycji i pięknej polskiej historii. Zwracając się do dzieci powiedziała: "chcemy, abyście zawsze pamiętali o swoim polskim pochodzeniu i zawsze byli z niego dumni".

Następnie, po pięknie zdanym egzaminie z wiedzy o Polsce, pierwszoklasiści złożyli ślubowanie, poprowadzone przez prezesa zarządu szkoły i zostali przez p. dyrektor pasowani na uczniów Polskiej Szkoły im. św. Rafała Kalinowskiego. W poczet uczniów zostali przyjęci i ślubowanie złożyli: Kinga Grabowski, Olivia Helfen, Patrick Juchniewicz, Amelia Kaim, Klaudia Nawrocki, Wiktoria Przybysz, Mateusz Szklarz, Veronica Wilgocki, Hailey Wojtaszek i Piotr Zarożny.



Po pasowaniu, każdy uczeń wpisał się do księgi pamiątkowej, otrzymał pamiątkowy dyplom i maskotkę ufundowaną przez zarząd szkoły. Na koniec uroczystości dzieci zostały zaproszone na mały poczęstunek zorganizowany przez rodziców.

Dzieci były bardzo przejęte, a rodzice wzruszeni. Uroczystość ta na pewno pozostanie w ich pamięci.

Program uroczystości opracowała wychowawczyni klasy pierwszej - p. Teresa Studzinski, która też przygotowała dzieci do ich pierwszego egzaminu.

Małgorzata Czachor

Zespół "Rogalin"  
i  
Towarzystwo #162 ZPRKA

pragną zaprosić Państwa do udziału  
**w Kolacji Oplątkowej**  
Obiad w polskim stylu, otwarty bar, loterie, śpiew  
i występ zespołu "Rogalin"  
**niedziela, 14 grudzień 2014 r.**  
**w godz. 13:00-16:00.**  
**PRCUA Hall**  
1430 Oak St Wyandotte, MI 48192

**Dorośli \$17, dzieci 5-18 lat - \$13, dzieci do 4 lat - wstęp wolny**  
Bilety tylko w przedsprzedaży do 2 grudnia 2014 r.

Aby uzyskać więcej informacji  
i w sprawie zakupu biletów  
prosimy o kontakt  
tel. (734) 281-7036

## Książeczki i broszurki o tematyce bożonarodzeniowej

Po raz kolejny ZPRKA oferuje swoim członkom kilka wydawnictw, związanych z Bożym Narodzeniem:

- **Broszurkę z kolędami** - 10 najpopularniejszych kolęd w jęz. angielskim i 10 w jęz. polskim. Broszurkę można otrzymać bezpłatnie.

- **Polskie Boże Narodzenie: Zwyczaje, kolędy i przepisy kulinarne** (Polish Christmas: Customs, Carols and Cuisine) - Kolorowa książeczka z opisem zwyczajów bożonarodzeniowych w Polsce, przepisami na tradycyjne potrawy wigilijne i świąteczne oraz słowami kolęd w języku angielskim i w języku polskim. Książeczka jest darmowa, wymagana jest opłata za przesyłkę - \$1.50 za jedną książeczkę i 50 centów za każdą następną.

- **Książeczkę do kolorowania "Narodziny Jezusa"** ("Birth of Jesus Coloring Book"). Książeczka jest darmowa, opłata za przesyłkę - \$1.50 za jedną książeczkę i 50 centów za każdą następną.

Zamówienia na powyższe publikacje można przysyłać wraz z czekiem za opłatę pocztową wystawionym na **PRCUA**, na adres: PRCUA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642. Attn. Linda; lub telefonicznie dzwoniąc do Lindy Kasprzyk (773) 782-2600 w. 2630 lub na bezpłatny nr. 1-800-772-8632 w. 2630; lub pisząc na adres [linda-kasprzyk@prcu.org](mailto:linda-kasprzyk@prcu.org)

Książeczki i broszurki można również odebrać osobiście w biurze głównym ZPRKA w Chicago.



ZPiT "Wesoły Lud" ZPRKA zaprasza na

## Zimową zabawę "FIRE and ICE"

Sobota, 17 stycznia 2015r.

Camelot Banquets

8624 W. 95th St., Hickory Hills, IL

Bilety - \$45 (dzieci do lat 10 - \$20)

wstęp - godz. 18:30

Obiad - godz. 19

W sprawie rezerwacji prosimy dzwonić pod numer:  
(708) 403-5718

Do tańca grać będzie: *Boogie Band*



## Kalendarz ZPRKA na 2015 r. Zamów już dziś! Nakład ograniczony!

Zachęcamy wszystkich członków do zamawiania kalendarza ZPRKA na rok 2015, zadedykowanego polskim świętym. Kalendarze są darmowe.

Jeśli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem kalendarza, prosimy o skontaktowanie się z: Linda Kasprzyk na numer tel. (773) 782-2630 lub pocztą elektroniczną: [linda-kasprzyk@prcu.org](mailto:linda-kasprzyk@prcu.org).

Kalendarze można również odebrać osobiście w biurze ZPRKA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL.

## WARSZTATY KULTURALNE ZPRKA

Wyandotte, MI - W niedzielę, 19 października, dyrektorzy Dystryktu #10 ZPRKA wraz z dyrektorami szkół tańca ZPRKA z Michigan sponsorowali 5. doroczne Warsztaty Kulturalne ZPRKA w Michigan dla dzieci i młodzieży. W tym roku w warsztatach udział wzięło ponad 80 uczestników w wieku od 8-18 lat, którzy wcześniej zarejestrowali się na warsztaty.

Kiedy studenci zaczęli przybywać o godzinie 9:00, zostali powitani przez panie Ritę Cerankowski (dyrektorkę zespołu "Halka") i Rose Ann Lackey (dyr. zespołu "Tatry"), które rejestrowały uczniów i zapisywały ich do specyficznych grup warsztatowych. Podczas gdy uczniowie oczekiwali na rozpoczęcie zajęć, panie Pat Steven (dyr. zespołu "Syrena") i Colleen Bonkowski (dyr. zespołu "Zajaczek") podawały uczestnikom śniadanie kontynentalne z sokiem, słodkie babeczki i inne przysmaki śniadaniowe.

**POLSKIE LEGENDY** - pierwszym z czterech warsztatów, w którym wzięli udział niektórzy uczestnicy była klasa polskich legend. Instrukctorem klasy był Tom Lisiecki (choreograf zespołów "Halka" i "Zakopane"). Tom bawił się doskonale z uczniami, wyjaśniając legendy i pokazując im kilka krótkich filmów nagranych na podstawie polskich legend, jak: Trebacz Mariacki i Tatarzy, królowa Bałtyku, Śpiący Rycerz, legendę o Janosiku i legendę o trzech braciach. Najstarsza grupa uczestników postanowiła odegrać legendę o smoku wawelskim na zakończenie warsztatów. Śmiech uczestników rozlegał się na całym korytarzu.



**WARSZTATY KULINARNE** - następne zajęcia to nauka gotowania, prowadzone przez Karen Pietrzyk (członkini zarządu zespołu "Opole") i jej asystenta, Beth Thacker (dyr. zespołu "Opole"), wraz z rodzicami-wolontariuszami z zespołów "Halka" i "Zajaczek". Uczestnicy uczyli się jak zrobić "kołaczki" (wypełnione dżemem ciasteczka) i mizerię (sałatkę ogórkową). Każdy student poznał jak zrobić ciasto i jak je rozwałkować, wyciąć, wypełnić i zamknąć, aby powstały doskonałe ciasteczka. Ponadto panie Karen i Beth przedstawiły uczniom drobne fakty o Polsce, uczniowie uważali, że niektóre z nich są wyjątkowo zabawne, jak np. że kupowana w Polsce woda butelkowa jest zazwyczaj gazowana. Na zakończenie warsztatów każdy uczestnik mógł się cieszyć owocami swojej pracy.



Po pierwszej połowie warsztatów wszyscy mieli przerwę na lunch. Dzięki pracującym tego dnia w kuchni Colleen Bonkowski, Marii Jalkiewicz (dyr. zespołu "Polskie Maki") i Laurze Hejza (z zarządu zespołu "Halka"), wszyscy zasiedli do poczęstunku ze świeżych kanapek i ciasteczek, w czasie uczyli mieli okazję na rozmowę ze sobą oraz dyrektorami i choreografami



**WARSZTATY POLSKICH TAŃCÓW LUDOWYCH** - klasa tańców ludowych prowadzona była przez instruktorkę Janet Vilag (choreografkę zespołu "Rogalin"). Każda klasa poznała inny polski taniec regionalny i narodowy. Po zapoznaniu się z pięcioma tańcami, uczniowie dowiedzieli się, iż niektórzy twierdzą, że trojak jest szóstym polskim tańcem narodowym. Na koniec zajęć, Janet pokazała uczestnikom tradycyjne dziewczęce i chłopięce stroje ludowe oraz gdzie znajdują się regiony, z których one pochodzą na mapie Polski.



**WARSZTATY WYCINANEK** - ostatnią klasą była nauka robienia wycinanek, prowadzona przez Jessicę Wendt (dyr. zespołu "Gwiazda") wspomaganą przez Kristi Mihalić (dyr. zespołu "Wieliczka") oraz rodziców-wolontariuszy z wielu zespołów. Uczniowie nauczyli się robić tradycyjne polskie wycinanki z papieru. Nauczyciele pokazali uczestnikom wiele odmian wycinanek, od bardzo podstawowych, do najbardziej skomplikowanych. Niektórzy uczniowie byli w stanie wyciąć ptaki, koguty, pawie, serca, kwiaty, drzewa i okręgi. Łącząc różne kawałki kolorowego papieru w jedną wycinankę, stworzyli niepowtarzalne wzory. Uczestnicy poznali również symbolikę niektórych kolorów: biały - niewinność, czerwony - miłość, zielony - nadzieja, niebieski - pokój - pomarańczowy - szczęście, itd. Dowiedzieli się również, w jaki sposób naklejać warstwowo kolorowe papiery, aby stworzyć arcydzieła. Wszyscy byli zadowoleni, że mogli zabrać do domu przykłady polskiej sztuki ludowej, które sami stworzyli w klasie.



Na zakończenie każdy uczeń otrzymał pamiątkową koszulkę imprezy od biura głównego ZPRKA, wraz z torbą ZPRKA, wypełnioną różnymi drobiazgami. Mieli również okazję wylosować nagrody-niespodzianki, przygotowane dla wszystkich uczestników dzięki p. Michelle Stechschulte (dyr. zespołu "Rogalin").



Dzięki wysiłkowi dyrektorów szkół tańca ZPRKA z Michigan, którzy włożyli w organizację i prowadzenie Warsztatów Kulturalne ZPRKA w Michigan. Wszyscy uczestnicy bawili się świetnie i mieli okazję rozwijać szacunek dla ich polskiego dziedzictwa ... a nawet poznać nowych przyjaciół!

Tłum. z art. Toma Lisieckiego, dyr. Dystr. #10



*Południowo-Zachodnie Centrum Polskich  
Tańców ZPRKA zaprasza na*

### *Koncert Świąteczny*

*niedziela, 21 grudnia 2014 r.*

*Hinsdale South High School Auditorium*

*7401 Clarendon Hills Rd., Darien, IL 60561 Door 8*

*Drzwi otwarte o godz. 12 w poł.  
Koncert rozpocznie się o godz. 12:30*

*Bilety w przedsprzedaży - \$10,  
przy wejściu - \$12,  
dzieci do lat 5 - wstęp wolny*

*W czasie koncertu loteria pieniężna - prosimy o  
zakupywanie losów na loterię u Ani Kraszewski,  
(773) 972-0012 (zwycięzca nie musi być obecny)*



## DO SEKRETARZY TOWARZYSTW ZPRKA

Prosimy sekretarzy Towarzystw ZPRKA o nadesłanie do 1 stycznia 2015 r. kalendarzy zebrań na rok 2015 na adres:

Narod Polski, PRCUA,  
984 N. Milwaukee Ave.,  
Chicago, IL, 60642-4101

lub na adres e-mail: lidia-kowalewicz@prcu.org

## Zespół Pieśni i Tańca "Polonia" ZPRKA

zaprasza na

### IV WIELKI RODZINNY FESTIWAL ŚWIĄTECZNY "Magiczne Świąta"

do Copernicus Center, gdzie wystąpi wspólnie z młodymi artystami, aktorami, muzykami, śpiewakami i tancerzami z: Akademii Muzyki PaSO, Polskiej Parafialnej Szkoły im. J. Słowackiego i Warsztatów Teatralnych Little Stars

Spotkamy się na teatralnej scenie, przy wigilijnym stole z muzyką, tańcem, śpiewem, kołędowaniem tak, aby ten niepowtarzalny nastrój świąt, zapanował w naszych umysłach i sercach na wiele grudniowych dni.

Przez cały czas Festiwalu czynny będzie świąteczny jarmark, na którym szansa zakupu oryginalnego prezentu, książki lub płyty, wyrobów rzemiosła, biżuterii czy ozdób choinkowych.

Wiele atrakcji dla dzieci, w tym zdjęcia z Mikołajem oraz przysmaki świątecznego stołu.

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## The Open Door Otwarte Drzwi

Micheline "Misia" Jaminski  
Vice President ~ Wiceprezesa



L-p: James Robaczewski, pani Hanna Suchocka, Micheline Jaminski

„Święta, święta - radości tyle w nas.  
Święta, święta - choinkę ubrać czas.  
Święta, święta - miłości bije dzwon.  
Święta, święta - podaj mi swoją dłoń”

Autor: Jan Borysewicz (muzyka), Janusz Panasewicz (słowa)

Teraz, kiedy wszystkie ostatki z indyka po Dniu Dziękczynienia zostały z radością skonsumowane przez nasze wspaniałe rodziny i przyjaciół, w duchu wdzięczności za wszystko co posiadamy, który żyje w naszych sercach, rozpoczynamy przygotowania do najpiękniejszego momentu w roku!!! Radosne przyjdzie na świat Jezusa Chrystusa. Wkrótce,

entuzjastyczny sezon a w nim zgiełk i dziecinne oczekiwanie czegoś większego, czegoś duchowego, czegoś naprawdę specjalnego. Następnie, Nowy Rok i nadzieja na lepsze, bogatsze, szczęśliwsze i zdrowsze dni. Ale najpierw podsumujmy co wydarzyło się od naszego ostatniego felietonu.

W dniu 30 października uczestniczyliśmy wraz z sekretarzem-skarbnikiem Jamesem Robaczewskim w spotkaniu i wykładzie b. premiera Polski pani Hanny Suchockiej w Notre Dame University w Chicago. Nanovic Institute for European Studies (Instytut Studiów Europejskich im. Nanovica) na Uniwersytecie Notre Dame zaprasza wybitnych europejskich przywódców w celu zaangażowania studentów i wykładowców wokół zagadnień o dużym znaczeniu dla współczesnej Europy i świata. Pani Hanna Suchocka została pierwszą kobietą premierem Polski w 1992 roku, za prezydentury Lecha Wałęsy, a następnie pełniła funkcję ambasadora RP przy Stolicy Apostolskiej. Jej uwagi zostały dobrze przyjęte przez obecnych, a po obiedzie odbyła się sesja pytań i odpowiedzi.



Pp. Tina i Joseph Golemo

W dniu Halloween, 31 października, wraz z moim mężem Ryszardem, byliśmy świadkami ślubu Tiny Romano i Josepha Golemo (patrz osobny artykuł ze zdjęciami na str. 10). Dziadek pana młodego - Walter Latuszek, jest sekretarzem finansowym Tow. #787 (D-7) ZPRKA, a jego mama, Nancy Golemo była tancerką „Wisły” i „Wesołego Ludu” oraz była instruktorką tańca w Południowo Zachodnim Centrum Polskich Tańców Ludowych, w zespołach „Wisła” i „Zalipie”. Obecnie jest sekretarzem finansowym Tow. #1590 (D-8). Gratulacje dla nowożeńców!

W dniu 2 listopada odbył się w Centrum Polskim w Milwaukee, WI doroczny bankiet z okazji Święta Niepodległości (w Polsce to dzień 11 listopada) oraz Dnia Weterana w Ameryce, zorganizowany przez Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej, Wydział Wisconsin. ZPRKA reprezentowali na tej uroczystości: James Robaczewski z żoną Elaine oraz Sharon Haberski i Jeannette Holmquist - członkinie komisji planowania.



J. Robaczewski, S. Haberski i J. Holmquist podczas oglądania wystawy poświęconej Janowi Karaskiemu

8 listopada, w siedzibie Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce, wzięłam udział w szkoleniu dla sekretarzy finansowych towarzyszy ZPRKA, które prowadził J. Robaczewski i menadżerka Julie Prado. Tego samego dnia uczestniczyłam w zabawie Polskiej Szkoły im. Ks. S. Cholewińskiego, która odbyła się w „Crystal Grand” w Lemont. W czasie zabawy wystąpił zespół „Wesoły Lud” pod kierownictwem Ryszarda Jamińskiego.

W dniach 8-9 listopada b.r. odbywał się w Domu Podhalan w Chicago doroczny festiwal „Na Góralską Nutę”, sponsorowany przez Związek Podhalan w Północnej Ameryce (ZPPA). Przez dwa dni, dziecięce i młodzieżowe zespoły taneczne prezentowały tańce i przyspiewki podhalańskie. Z Kanady, przyjechał zespół „Tatry”, a dla urozmaicenia programu zaproszono zespół ZPRKA „Wesoły Lud”. Prezes ZPPA Józef Cikowski, którego znam od ponad 35 lat, miło mnie „zawitól”. Jego żona Ania - była tancerką w „Wesołym Ludzie”, a zespół „Wesoły Lud” tańczył na ich weselu. (Mój ojciec, śp. Mieczysław A. Binkowski, był bardzo związany z ZPPA, był wieloletnim członkiem i sekretarzem generalnym ZPPA).

12-go listopada kierownik ubezpieczeń D-22 Edward Muszalski zaprosił Deputowanych na szkolenie, w którym uczestniczyli, m.in.: prezes Józef Drobot, wiceprezesa Misia Jamińska, dyrektorka marketingu Agnieszka Bastryk, ubezpieczycielka Georgia Xamplas i dyrektor sprzedaży Robert Fattore. Szkolenie odbyło się w restauracji „New Warsaw” w Chicago, IL.



Przedstawiciele ZPPA i ZPRKA oraz nowi członkowie ZPRKA: Elizabeth, Teresa i Karol Stekala

Udział wzięły w nim również była wiceprezesa Anna Sokołowska i dyrektorka D-8 Krystyna Lech. Miła i serdeczna atmosfera zmobilizowała wszystkich obecnych do dalszej, intensywniejszej pracy na rzecz zwiększenia liczby członków ZPRKA.

W sobotę, 15 listopada 2014 r. ZPPA obchodził swoje 85-lecie. Uroczystość jubileuszową rozpoczęto Mszą św. w Kościele oo. Cysterców w Willow Springs, IL. Przewodniczył jej pochodzący ze Słopnic koło Limanowej ojciec Tadeusz Florek Prowincjał krakowskich Karmelitów Bosych. Ołtarz ozdobiony był sztandarami poszczególnych kół ZPPA. Jubileuszowy bankiet odbył się w Domu Podhalan w Chicago. Podczas spotkania, zabrali głos, między innymi: prezes ZPPA J. Cikowski, prezes Związku Podhalan w Polsce Andrzej Skupień, konsul RP Robert Rusiecki. Wieczór uświetniły występy reprezentacyjnej grupy dziecięcej ZPPA z Chicago oraz zespół góralski „Siumni”.



Zarząd główny ZPPA z prezesem Józefem Cikowskim i jego małżonką Anią; konsul Robert Rusiecki z małżonką; prezes ZPP Andrzej Skupień; prezes ZPRKA Józef A. Drobot, Jr. z małżonką Judy; prezes Zw. Ślązaków w Ameryce Marek Niezgoda; wiceprezesa ZPRKA Micheline Jamińska z mężem Ryszardem; o. Tadeusz Florek prof. Anna Brzozowska-Krajka, autorka książki „Etnokultura w diasporze”

dwa bale ZPRKA: w Michigan – bal absolwentów grupy tanecznej „Zajaczek”, a w Illinois – 43. „Bal Kopciuszka i Księcia” Grupy Kulturalnej Dorosłych im. M. Konopnickiej. W Michigan ZPRKA reprezentowali były wiceprezes Robert Bielenda wraz z dyrektorami D-10 Colleen Bonkowski i Tommy Lisiecki. Na balu Kopciuszka obecni byli: prezes J. Drobot, wiceprezesa M. Jamińska wraz małżonkami, dyrektorzy Elizabeth Sadus, Krystyna Lech, James Rustik, Anna Krysińska i Kevin Kucik. Przybyli także Robert Rusiecki z-ca Konsula Generalnego RP w Chicago, JE ks. biskup Andrzej Wypych, Judy Baar Topinka - rewizor Stanu Illinois, była wiceprezesa ZPRKA Anna Sokołowska z mężem i przedstawiciele innych polonijnych organizacji.

Szczegółowe relacje i zdjęcia z tych imprez podane będą w styczniowym „Narodzie Polskim”. Z przyjemnością informuję, że Kopciuszkiem na rok 2015 została Alicia Kaleta, a Księciem Aleksander Łabudzki. Ich zastępcami zostali Gabrielle Skrzypiec i Michal Kaluzny. Składam najserdeczniejsze gratulacje i podziękowania wszystkim, którzy brali udział w obu balach.

Mam nadzieję, że w kolejnych latach uczestnikami balu będą młodzi członkowie rodzin, kolejnych pokoleń Polaków urodzonych w Ameryce, dzieci rodziców, którzy sami kiedyś uczestniczyli lub byli szczęśliwymi zdobywcami tytułu Kopciuszka i Księcia. Wielu rodziców i dziadków już „maluchom” wszczepia tradycje i kulturę polską. Z wielką przyjemnością składam gratulacje rodzicom: pp. Markowi i Renee (Bober) Kroplewskim, z okazji narodzin córeczki - Ava Marlene i pp. Robertowi i Danieli (Lech) Kroplewskim z okazji narodzin drugiego syna - Joseph Eric oraz piękne powinszowania przekazuję DZIADKOM obu rodzin – w tym dyrektorce D-8 Krystyny Lech. Rodzice, kochani absolwenci zespołu „Wesoły Lud” i dziadkowie udzielają się i wspierają ZPRKA.



Pp. Dagmara i Aleksander Schusler

Spóźnione, ale serdeczne życzenia i gratulacje składam Dagmarze i Aleksandrowi Schusler z okazji ich ślubu. Dagmara jest córką Jarosława i Jolanty Wiśnickich (p. Jola jest kierownikiem Oddziału P-SFUK Bridgeview). Gratulacje dla nowożeńców!

W życiu tak już jest, że jedni przychodzą na ten świat a inni odchodzą. Z żalem ich żegnamy i przekazujemy słowa wsparcia bliskim.

W imieniu ZPRKA składam serdeczne kondolencje Rodzinie zmarłej p. Elaine M. Praniczy, która odeszła z tego świata 9 listopada b.r. mając 85 lat. Pani Pranicza była żoną Josepha T. Praniczy (prezesa ZPRKA w latach 1962-1970).

Z żalem żegnamy ś.p. Rose Zubko, która odeszła w wieku 98 lat. Była członkinią i jedną z założycielek Grupy Kulturalnej Dorosłych ZPRKA. Przekazujemy najszersze wyrazy współczucia całej Rodzinie.

Dużo szczęścia, zdrowia i powodzenia to tradycyjne, najszersze życzenia. Wesołych Świąt i szczęśliwego Nowego Roku - niech obficie da, co ma najlepszego!



## “POLONIA” zatańczyła na Gali Charytatywnej ZAP



W sobotę, 15 listopada odbyła się w Loews O'Hare Hotel w doroczną Gala Charytatywna Zrzeszenia Amerykańsko-Polskiego.

W czasie uroczystej Gali przyznane zostały doroczne nagrody prezydenckie. Tegorocznymi laureatami zostali: Presence Resurrection Medical Center, Polskie Radio WNVR 1030AM oraz Telewizja Polvision.

Mistrzem ceremonii była Peggy Kusiński z NBC Universal, WMAQ. W programie artystycznym wystąpił ZPiT POLONIA ZPRKA, założony przez Cecylię Rożnowską i Annę Krysińską 27 lat temu, który zaprezentował wspaniałego mazura i tętniącego życiem Rock & Roll'a.

Do tańca grał zespół “Marszałek Band”. Wśród gości obecni byli m.in. Konsul Konrad Zieliński, radny 30 Okręgu Chicago, Ariel Reboyras oraz przywódcy wielu organizacji.

zdjęcia: Victor Studio

## Prezydent Obama w Centrum Kopernikowskim

Chicago, IL - We wtorek, 25 listopada 2014 r. prezydent USA Barack Obama odwiedził Chicago i wygłosił w Centrum Kopernikowskim przemówienie na temat nowego dekretu migracyjnego.

Prezydenta oficjalnie powitał irlandzki imigrant, przebywający od 16 lat w Chicago właściciel kilku restauracji, Billy Lawless.

Na początku swojego wystąpienia prezydent Obama potępił przemoc i rozruchy, które miały miejsce w Ferguson, MO.

Prezydent wyjaśnił że nowy dekret to nie amnestia lub legalizacja, a nawet droga do obywatelstwa - bo to nie jest coś, co może zrobić (taką decyzję może wydać tylko i wyłącznie Kongres), ale działanie, które ma umożliwić milionom imigrantów w USA szansę do życia i pracy tutaj, bez obawy o deportacji i zapewnienia rodzinom, że nie zostaną rozdzielone.

Dodał, że imigranci są korzystni dla gospodarki. Złagodzenie restrykcji prawnych wobec milionów nieudokumentowanych pracowników doda co najmniej 90 mld USD naszego produktu krajowego brutto w ciągu następnej dekady. Prezydent podkreślił, że chce współpracować z przedstawicielami grup etnicznych oraz ze wszystkimi ugrupowaniami politycznymi, w celu uzyskania bardziej trwałego rozwiązania legislacyjnego.

Z ramienia zarządu, ZPRKA reprezentował na spotkaniu sekretarza skarbnik James Robaczewski.



Prezydent Barack Obama przemawia w Centrum Kopernikowskim  
zdjęcie: Lidia Kowalewicz

## Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce zaprasza na

### Warsztaty tworzenia polskich ozdób choinkowych

sobota, 13 grudnia 2014

w godzinach od 10:30 do 12:30 oraz od 13:30 do 15:30.

Koszt udziału w warsztatach z wliczeniem zwiedzania Muzeum,  
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\* \* \*

### Niezwykła Wigilia ze Świętym Janem Pawłem II

niedziela, 14 grudnia 2014 o godz. 15

Spotkanie poświęcone książce „Bóg się rodzi, moc truchleje. Refleksje i życzenia dla Rodaków” będzie wspaniałą okazją do chwili zadumy przed Świętami Bożego Narodzenia.

Sala Główna im. Sabiny F. Logisz Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce

984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago IL. 60642

Wstęp – sugerowany datek 10 \$, członkowie MPA z ważną kartą członkowską 5 \$

<https://www.facebook.com/events/951340548213942/>



## Wigilijne potrawy

### Tradycyjny barszcz wigilijny

6-7 suszonych grzybów, 8 średniej wielkości buraków, 4 kwarty (quart) wody, 2 średnie cebule, przekrojone na pół, 2 grubo posiekane ząbki czosnku, sól i pieprz do smaku, sok z 1 cytryny lub kwasek cytrynowy, 10 ziarenek ziela angielskiego, 4 liście laurowe, cukier do smaku, 5 łyżek oleju, zielona pietruszka

Suszone grzyby namoczyć 30 minut w zimnej wodzie. Buraki umyć i ugotować w wodzie ok. 30 minut aż zmiękną, obrać ze skórki, pokroić w podłużne paski i wrzucić do wysokiego garnka z wodą. Dodać przekrojone na pół cebule, czosnek, odsączone grzybki i wszystkie przyprawy, kwasek i olej. Pod koniec gotowania przyprawić do smaku wg. uznania. Przed podaniem posypać pokrojoną natką pietruszki. Podawać z uszkami z grzybów lub krokietami.

### Krokiety do barszczu

naleśniki, 1 funt kapusty kiszzonej, 1 funt pieczarek lub innych grzybów, dwie duże cebule, dwa jajka, sól, pieprz do smaku, bułka tarta, olej, 2 łyżki masła (do smażenia cebuli z pieczarkami)

Ciasto na naleśniki (ok. 10 naleśników): jedno jajko, 1 filiżanka (cup) mąki, 1 filiżanka mleka, szczypta soli

Zmiksować wszystkie składniki mikserem (im cieńsze mają być naleśniki, tym ciasto powinno być bardzo rzadsze). Naleśniki usmażyć na bardzo dobrze rozgrzanej patelni z odrobiną oleju. Na rozgrzanej i natłuszczoną patelnię nalać ok. 2-4 łyżki ciasta i poruszając patelnią rozprowadzić dokładnie ciasto na całej powierzchni patelni. Smażyć z jednej strony około 1-2 minuty, przewrócić na drugą stronę i dosmażyć kolejną minutę, aż naleśnik się trochę zarumieni. Odstawić do wystygnięcia.

Kapustę kiszoną przepłukać zimną wodą, wycisnąć i drobno pokroić. Podsmażyć kapustę na niewielkiej ilości oleju około 10 minut, wrzucić do garnka i dusić, dolewając wrzącej wody. Kiedy kapusta będzie dostatecznie miękka odsączyć ją z nadmiaru wody na sicie. Cebulę posiekać drobno i podsmażyć na odrobinie masła, dodać pieczarki pokrojone w kosteczkę lub cienkie plastry i smażyć wszystko do miękkości grzybów i odparowania nadmiaru wody. Wszystkie składniki farszu wymieszać i doprawić solą i pieprzem do smaku. Zawijać farsz w naleśniki. Rozgrzać olej na patelni. Zanurzać krokiet w rostrzepanych jajkach, następnie obtaczać je w bułce tartej i obsmażyć na złoty kolor.

### Tatar ze śledzia po węgiersku

1/2 funta filetów śledziowych, 2 jajka, pół cebuli, 4 ogórki konserwowe, 2 pieczone czerwone papryki obrane ze skórki, 4 marynowane grzybki, 1 łyżka koncentratu pomidorowego, 1 łyżka miodu, 1 łyżka musztardy, 1 1/2 łyżeczki czerwonej ostrzej papryki, 1 łyżka kaparów, szczypta słodkiej papryki, pieprzu i ew. soli

Paprykę posmarowaną odrobiną oliwy wstawić na 10 minut do piekarnika rozgrzanego do 390 stopni, aby pozbyć się skórki. Filety śledziowe, ogórki, cebulę, obraną paprykę i jajka na twardo pokroić na dość grubą kostkę. Drobno posiekać marynowane grzyby. Składniki wymieszać, dodać pozostałe składniki i delikatnie wymieszać.

### Karp w ziołach

3 funty karpia, 1 łyżeczka pokruszonego rozmarynu, 1 łyżeczka pokruszonej kolendry, 2 łyżki posiekanej natki pietruszki, 1 łyżka masła, 2 cytryny, sól i pieprz do smaku

Zioła wymieszać (wcześniej odłożyć połowę natki). Karpia oczyścić i umyć, posolić, posypać pieprzem, skropić sokiem z cytryny, obłożyć mieszanką ziół, odstawić na 1 godz. do lodówki. Folię aluminiową posmarować masłem, ułożyć rybę, obłożyć resztą masła, zawinąć folię. Wstawić do rozgrzanego piekarnika (390F). Po 30 minutach pieczenia rozchylić folię. Gotową rybę wyjąć na półmisek, posypać natką i skórka z cytryny udekorować plasterkami cytryny.

## Błogosławieństwo Bożonarodzeniowe 2014



W ten czas Świąt Bożego Narodzenia, gdy gromadzimy się wokół rodzinnych stołów, my Wasi kapelani, pragniemy w sposób duchowy dzielić się z Wami tradycyjnym Oplątkiem braterskiej miłości.

Niech Nowonarodzony szczerze obdarza Was i Waszych bliskich wszelkimi łaskami, światłość Boskiej Dzieciny niech napęlnia Wasze dusze, a Jego miłość niech rozraduje Wasze serca w ten Święty Czas i na każdy dzień Nowego Roku 2015!

*Zdrowych i Wesołych Świąt  
Bożego Narodzenia.*

*Wiel. Ks. Kanonik Władysław J. Ptak  
Wiel. Ks. Kanonik Antoni D. Iwuć*



### Lidia Kowalewicz mianowana redaktorem naczelnym “Narodu Polskiego”

Chicago, IL - Lidia Kowalewicz, która od 20 lat zajmuje stanowisko redaktora wykonawczego “Narodu Polskiego”, została mianowana przez zarząd główny ZPRKA, redaktorem naczelnym “Narodu Polskiego”, na miejsce przechodzącej na emeryturę red. Kathryn G. Rosypal.

Lidia Kowalewicz urodziła się w Warszawie jako najmłodsze z trojga dzieci Lucyny (z d. Bieleckiej) i Kazimierza Jesionowskich. Najstarszy brat Daniel zmarł we wczesnym dzieciństwie. Rodzina Jesionowskich mieszkała na przedmieściach Warszawy, w Pruszkowie, gdzie Lidia ukończyła szkołę podstawową im. Władysława Broniewskiego i Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. Tomasza Zana. Kazimierz Jesionowski wyemigrował do USA w 1981 roku.

W 1983 r., wkrótce po zniesieniu stanu wojennego w Polsce, Lidia wyjechała wraz z mamą na wycieczkę do Francji, z której nie powróciły. Dotarły do Monachium, gdzie skontaktowały się z organizacją Polish American and Relief Committee, która zajmowała się pomocą dla osób chcących uzyskać stały pobyt w USA. W 1984 dołączył do nich brat Dariusz. W Monachium Lidia zajęła się nauką języka niemieckiego oraz działała w klubie dla młodych uchodźców z Europy wschodniej.

Rodzina otrzymała stały pobyt w USA i przybyła do Chicago w lutym 1985 roku. Lidia zapisała się na kursy ESL w National Louis University (wówczas National College of Education) w śródmieściu Chicago. Po ukończeniu rocznego kursu ESL, rozpoczęła studia na 4-letnim programie Computer Information Systems and Management. W tym samym czasie uczyła się również na kursy sprzedaży nieruchomości we Wright College w Chicago oraz pracowała na pełen etat, początkowo w niemieckiej restauracji, potem w hotelu Marriott w Chicago, gdzie wkrótce została awansowana na stanowisko superwizora. W 1988 r. Lidia zaczęła pracę jako sekretarka w małym sklepie w Chicago.

W czasie studiów Lidia poznała Dariusza Kowalewicza, para pobrała się w 1991 roku. W 1992 r. urodziła się ich córka Natalia.

W czerwcu 1989 r. rozpoczęła pracę jako sekretarka w redakcji “Narodu Polskiego”, współpracując bezpośrednio z redaktorami Kathryn Rosypal i Andrzejem Azarjewem, oraz zawsze chętną do pomocy archiwistką, Czesławą Kozioł.

Gdy w 1993 r. redaktor Azarjew zachorował i ze względów zdrowotnych musiał zrezygnować z pracy, Lidia została awansowana na stanowisko p.o. redaktora wykonawczego. W 1994 r. została mianowana redaktorem wykonawczym,

odpowiedzialnym za polską sekcję “Narodu Polskiego”.

W 1990 r. była członkiem komisji elekcyjnej w Konsulacie RP w Chicago, w czasie wyborów prezydenckich w Polsce.

Wspólnie z Kathryn Rosypal reprezentowały “Narod Polski” i ZPRKA na wielu uroczystościach stanowych, miejskich i organizowanych przez inne organizacje. W 2004 r. Lidia została wydelegowana na XII Światowy Zjazd Mediów Polonijnych, który odbył się w Tarnowie i Gdańsku w Polsce.

W czasie ponad 25 lat pracy uczestniczyła w 4 Sejmach ZPRKA, pracowała jako fotograf i reporter w czasie wielu uroczystości w ZPRKA. Przygotowała wiele materiałów, wykorzystywanych przez ZPRKA: broszur, książek pamiątkowych, programów uroczystości i innych druków. Przez ostatnie kilka lat, przygotowywała książki pamiątkowe na Bal Kopciuszek i Książę, dla polskich szkół ZPRKA, na Bal Muzeum Polskiego i inne.

Wraz z Kathryn Rosypal była kustoszem wystaw z okazji 100-lecia i 115-lecia “Narodu Polskiego” i 140-cia ZPRKA.

Jest sekretarką finansową Towarzystw 800 i 1629 ZPRKA.

W 2004 roku wstąpiła do Loyal Order of Moose, organizacji braterskiej, gdzie zaangażowała się w wiele projektów charytatywnych, w 2009 r. była członkiem zarządu jednego z oddziałów organizacji, gdzie zorganizowała wówczas “Polską noc”.

Jest członkiem Polskiego Muzeum w Ameryce i wolontariuszem w czasie różnych uroczystości i warsztatów organizowanych przez MPA.

Rodzina pp. Kowalewiczów zamieszkuje na przedmieściach Chicago w Arlington Hts. Córka Natalia ukończyła w 2014 r. Loyola University, studiuje obecnie w Adler Professional School of Psychology w Chicago.

Wszelką korespondencję do red. Kowalewicz prosimy kierować do biura głównego ZPRKA lub na adres: narod-polski@prcu.org; telefonicznie prosimy dzwonić pod numer: 1-800-772-8632 w. 2639 lub 773-782-2600 w. 2639

