



Naród Polski

Bi-lingual Publication of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

A Fraternal Benefit Society Safeguarding Your Future with Life Insurance & Annuities

January 2015 - Styczeń 2015

No. 1 - Vol. CXXIX

www.PRCUA.org

**Zapraszamy
do czytania
stron 15-20
w języku
polskim.**

**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@prcu.org
for more information.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

We are starting fresh again - with New Year's resolutions, hopes and plans to make 2015 a better and a more successful year.

The year 2014 was certainly a very busy year for the PRCUA. It began with the PRCUA declaring dividends to be paid to its members in March.

On January 26, 2014, the new entryway and the PMA Gift Shop in the lobby were blessed and opened with a small ceremony.

On the 1st day of March, PRCUA National President Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. officially convoked the 61st PRCUA Convention, and preparations for it began.

In May, we were overwhelmed with joy when the world celebrated the Canonization of St. John XXIII and St. John Paul II. PRCUA President Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. and his wife, Judith, as well as Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski, and PRCUA National Chaplain Rev. Canon Walter Ptak traveled to Rome to participate in the festivities.

The 61st PRCUA National Convention took place in Toledo, OH on August 10-13th, 2014. New Officers and Directors were elected and installed in September, and a new chapter of PRCUA history began.

In November, *Naród Polski's* Executive Editor Kathryn (Rosypal) Romani retired and in December a new Executive Editor, Lidia Kowalewicz, was appointed.

As we move into the year 2015, we look forward to another prosperous and busy year. In April of 2015, together with the Polish Museum of America, we will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the PMA Library, which was originally founded as the PRCUA Library. October of 2015 will mark the 80th Anniversary of the decision - made in 1935 by then PRCUA President Joseph Kania - to approve plans for creating the PRCUA Archives (now the Polish Museum of America Archives). We are proud to be the founders of the Library and Archives, and salute the PMA for continuing the great mission of preserving the past for the future.

May the New Year bring everyone good health and happiness in all your endeavors.



District 9 Celebrates Traditional Polish Christmas

The PRCUA Annual Oplatek, hosted by District 9 this year, took place on Sunday, December 7, at the Salvatorian Father's Monastery in Merrillville, Indiana. Over 100 guests from throughout the area filled the beautiful banquet hall.

Before sharing the deliciously prepared Wigilia meal, District 9 President Paul Pawlowski welcomed everyone to the event and introduced PRCUA Secretary-Treasurer James Robaczewski, who sang both the Polish and American National Anthems. District 9 Director and Mistress of Ceremonies, Elizabeth Sadus, called upon National Chaplain Reverend Canon Walter Ptak to give the invocation.

Among the many guests in attendance were: PRCUA Vice President Misia Jaminski; Past National President Francis Rutkowski; Past Secretary-Treasurer Joyce Szarowicz; members of the Polish American Congress Indiana Chapter; local representatives from the Polish National Alliance, Polish Falcons of America & Polish Woman's Alliance; PRCUA National Directors: District 1 - Marsha Mikuszewski, District 5 - Mitchell Bienia, District 6 - Connie Bonin, District 7 - Kevin Kucik, District 8 - Krystyna Lech and James Rustik. Also present, were the 2015 Cinderella Alicia Kaleta and Prince Charming Aleksander Labudzki.

After dinner, entertainment featured students from the St. Raphael Kalinowski Polish Language and Dance School in Munster, IN. Dressed in colorful Christmas and Krakowiak costumes, the students explained the meaning of Wigilia and how it is celebrated in Poland. While the students and audience sang traditional *koledy*, a special guest arrived. It was St. Nicholas who distributed gifts among the children! He was portrayed by Walter Dynowski.

Later in the program, Dir. Elizabeth Sadus, on behalf of District 9, presented Kathryn Rosypal-Romani with a gift for her retirement after 25 years of service as Executive Editor of the *Naród Polski*. The guests sang "Sto Lat"; then Kathryn thanked everyone for their warm wishes and friendship over the years.

Last, but not least, Vice President Misia Jaminski thanked Dir. Elizabeth Sadus and her Committee for all their hard work in making the Oplatek a huge success. Elizabeth closed the event by wishing everyone a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. District 9 is to be highly commended for having traditional meatless Wigilia food, rather than an everyday menu.

Article Submitted by Dir. Elizabeth Sadus

Pictures by Geno Sadus & Lidia Kowalewicz (more photos on page 11)



Present and past PRCUA Officers and Directors with Saint Nicholas and the students of St. Raphael Kalinowski School who performed at the Oplatek



Calendar of PRCUA Events

JANUARY

- 13 JOHNSTOWN, PA – ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING** on Tues., Jan. 13 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St., Johnstown, PA. 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 at 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; Tickets: \$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 am 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 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 at 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: Joann Ozog at 586-751-8168
- 30 STERLING HTS., MI – ZAJACZEK BOWLING FUNDRAISER** on Friday, Jan. 30, Sterling Lanes, Sterling Heights, MI. Contact: zajaczekdance@yahoo.com

FEBRUARY

- 3 CHICAGO, IL – POLISH CLASS FOR AMERICANS AT THE PRCUA.** See ad on the right.
- 7 CHICAGO, IL – POLONIA ENSEMBLE MARDI GRAS** on Sun., Feb. 7. More details on pg. 3. Contact: Anna Krynski at 847-529-2555.
- 8 CHICAGO, IL – DISTRICT #8 VALENTINE LUNCHEON** in honor of Past PRCUA Resident Vice President Anna Sokolowski on Sunday, Feb. 8, 2014 at Camelot Banquets, 8624 W 95th St., Hickory Hills, IL. Entry at 11:30 a.m., Luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Contact: Dist. 8 Director Jim Rustik at 630-567-0754
- 9 CHICAGO, IL – DISTRICT #7 MEETING** on Mon., Feb. 9 at 7:30 pm at PRCUA Social Hall, 984 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL. Contact: Shirley Dudzinski at 773-763-4069
- 10 JOHNSTOWN, PA – ST. CASIMIR'S SOC. #531 MEETING** on Tues., Feb. 10 at 7:30 pm, 306 Power St. Send premiums to: Ed Kaplaniak, 521 Southmont, Johnstown, PA 15905
- 11 LANSING, MI – SOC. #2342 POTLUCK AND MEETING** on Wed., Feb. 11, Potluck at 6 pm (weather permitting) at the Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Meeting at 7 pm. Contact: V. Ulrich at 517-484-3311
- 15 WYANDOTTE, MI – SOC #162 MEETING** on Sun., Feb. 15 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
- 15 TOLEDO, OH – SOC. #1584, #1633, #1617 & #719 MEETING** on Sun., Feb. 15 at 1 pm, Misiuda Hall, 5255 N. Detroit, Toledo, OH. Contact: Tom Jesionowski at 419-261-3636
- 15 CHICAGO, IL – DISTRICT #8 MEETING** on Sun., Feb. 15 at 12:00 pm at Our Lady of the Woods Church in Palos Hills, IL. For more information contact: James Rustik at 630-567-0754
- 17 WYANDOTTE, MI – SOC. #162 PACZKI BUS TRIP** on Tues., Feb. 17 Contact: 313-815-5230
- 20 TOLEDO, OH – ECHOES OF POLAND PIEROGI DINNER** on Fri., Feb. 27 at PRCUA Hall, 5255 Detroit, Toledo, OH from 4 to 8 pm; Dinner: \$8 – 4 pierogi, salad, bread, dessert, beverage. Advance order by the Dozen \$9 (cheese, potato, kraut or potato/cheese. Call 419-531-8658.
- 21 TROY, MI - SHIRLEY GALANTY MICHIGAN STATE BALL** on Sat., Feb. 21, Cocktails 5 pm; Promenade 6 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm, San Marino Club, 1685 Big Beaver Rd., Troy, MI. Tickets \$55 adult; \$50 students thru age 20. Semi-formal attire. Contact: Maria Jalkiewicz at 586-979-516422
- 24 WARREN, MI - POPE JOHN PAUL II SOC. #1593 MEETING** on Tues., Feb. 24 at 7 pm, St. Anne's H.S., 36000 Mound Rd., Warren, MI. Contact: Joann Ozog at 586-751-8168

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 Ave., Chicago, IL

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

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 31, 2015



Winners of the Polish American Heritage Month Coloring Contest

This year the Fraternal Dept. of the PRCUA received over 150 entries in our Polish American Heritage Month Coloring Contest. Thank you to all participants and congratulations to the winners:


Ages 3 - 5 group:
1st Place – Zosia Toboy (4), Rogalin Dance – Wyandotte, MI
2nd Place – Aleksandra Kroplewski (4), Southwest Center of Polish Dancing – Lemont, IL
3rd Place – Josephine Collins (3), Zajaczek – St. Clair, MI

Ages 6 - 8 group:
1st Place – Hannah Saunders (7), Zajaczek – Royal Oak, MI
2nd Place – Genevieve Jones (7), Zajaczek – Sterling Heights, MI
3rd Place – Miah Becker (8), Polskie Maki – China, MI

Ages 9 – 11 group:
1st Place – Abigail Wrzesinski (11), Opole – Chesterfield, MI
2nd Place – Jessica Saunders (10), Zajaczek – Royal Oak, MI
3rd Place – Elise Lubiarz (11), Tatry – Warren, MI

Ages 12 - 15 group:
1st Place – Taylor Withers (14), Soc. #1593 – Warren, MI
2nd Place – Harley Jones (13), Zajaczek – Sterling Heights, MI
3rd Place – Brendan Lubiarz (12), Tatry – Warren, MI

Ages 16 – 18 group:
1st Place – Roxanne Bazinski (17), Zajaczek – Rochester Hills, MI
2nd Place – Victoria Szczerbinski (16), Zajaczek – Richmond, MI
3rd Place – Michael Smigiel (17), Zajaczek – Macomb, MI



Last Chance!

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:

<p>Robert Fattore Sales Director (800) 772-8632 ext. 2631 robert-fattore@prcua.org</p>	<p>Agnes Bastrzyk Marketing Director (800) 772-8632 ext. 2632 agnieszka-bastrzyk@prcua.org</p>
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* 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.






PRCUA
"Polonia" Ensemble
invites you
to the First Traditional
Family Style

MARDI GRAS BALL

February 7th, 2015
6 pm-1 am
Crystal Palace Banquets,
1070 S. Elmhurst Rd., Mt. Prospect, IL

Delicious dinner in the tradition
of Polish kings; one of a kind
show of traditional dances with
old fashioned Polish "Ostatki"
customs; lively popular and
country dance music for your
dancing pleasure

Tickets: \$60 - adults (open bar)
\$25 - children ages 3-12
For reservations please call
Anna Krynski 847-529-2555




**PRCUA District #8
Valentine
Luncheon**
to honor of
**Past PRCUA
Res. Vice President
Anna Sokolowski**

February 8, 2015
Camelot Banquets
8624 W 95th St., Hickory Hills, IL

**11:30 Entry
12:30 Luncheon**

Tickets \$30
Reservations by February 1, 2015

For more information call
Dist. 8 Director Jim Rustik
at 630-567-0754



How can I become a member?

There are two ways to become a member of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America:

- 1) Purchase a life insurance certificate;
- 2) Open an annuity account.

Life Insurance

Our life insurance portfolio is very competitive and provides a variety of both whole and term plans. From small to large amounts of insurance, PRCUA has a life insurance plan for every need and budget. For example, a 45 year-old male, non-smoker, purchasing \$5,000 of whole life insurance would pay only \$15.64 a month for a 20 year limited pay whole life plan. Call us today for a personalized quote!

Annuities

PRCUA also offers annuity plans in our currently strong portfolio of financial products. Our annuities play an important part in helping members secure their family's financial future. The annuities offered in our portfolio are extremely competitive in today's market and require only a \$300 minimum deposit to open and there are no service fees.

What are the benefits of joining?

With over 50,000 members across the country, people join our organization because the PRCUA supports various Polish American causes, provides scholarships for higher education and student grants, and subsidizes a number of Polish language and dance schools with member tuition subsidies. Your membership also helps to support the Orchard Lake Schools, as well as The Polish Museum of America.

Become a member today!

If you would like more information about any of the life insurance or annuity plans offered by the PRCUA, please contact your local Sales Representative or call the Home Office at 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2631.

**The Office of the Polish
Roman Catholic Union
of America will be closed
on January 1 and 2
for the New Year**

This Holiday Season give your child,
grandchild, niece or nephew a
Whole Lifetime of
PRCUA Fraternal Benefits:
*Grants & Scholarships, Educational Loans,
Sports Tournaments, Outings, Polish Schools and more*

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@prcu.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 _____

5. Address _____

6. Phone # (_____) _____

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 ☐

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)

Applicant's Signature

Owner's Signature, if other than Proposed Insured

Witness/Authorized Representative

Form 101-2007

Home Office approval _____

RATES FOR THE 2014 CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

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:

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

Form 101-2007

	\$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



SHIRLEY GALANTY
MICHIGAN STATE BALL
Saturday, February 21, 2015

Cocktails 5 pm Promenade 6 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm

San Marino Club
1685 Big Beaver Rd., Troy, MI
Tickets \$55 adult; \$50 students thru age 20.
Semi-formal attire.
Contact: Maria Jalkiewicz 586-979-5164

Narod Polski

ISSI 0027-7894

POLISH NATION

Official Publication of the Polish
Roman Catholic Union of America

JOSEPH A. DROBOT, JR.
President: 773-782-2600

LIDIA KOWALEWICZ
Executive Editor
773-782-2600 Ext. 2639
narod.polski@prcu.org

Please direct mail regarding
delivery of newspaper,
organizational matters or change
of address to:
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Editorial from the Executive Editor

Dear Readers,

As you may have read in the November issue of the *Narod Polski*, Executive Editor Kathryn Rosypal retired at the end of November of this year.

The Officers of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America entrusted me with the responsibility of being the next Executive Editor of the *Narod Polski* and continuing with the great mission of providing our members with trustworthy and timely information about our fraternal organization. I am very grateful for their confidence in me and this opportunity to further serve the PRCUA. I look forward to working with the present Officers and Board of Directors, and know that I can count on their support.

I would like to thank our past and present Officers, Directors, PRCUA School Directors, coworkers, and all of our members - whom I have had the opportunity to work with for over 25 years - who have encouraged and supported me.

I sincerely thank retired Executive Editor Kathryn for her excellent work and cooperation. I worked with Kathryn for over 25 years. She introduced me to the PRCUA - which I had never heard of before I came to its main office - and to the life of Chicago's Polonia. She helped me with learning new computer programs, desktop publishing, and writing articles. Her professionalism, positive work attitude, and friendliness made the work more pleasurable for me and for other members of the staff who worked in the Publications Department during her tenure, including Editor Andrzej Azarjew, and Past Archivist, the late Mrs. Czeslawa Kozioł.

Both Kathryn and I aimed to represent the PRCUA with dignity at numerous municipal, state, and other events and celebrations in Chicago, within the United States, and even abroad. We supported each other, while creating each issue of the *Narod Polski*, and during various special projects for the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America.

Kathryn also participated in all the major events of my adult life. She celebrated with me my joys and successes, and was always there for me in times of grief and sadness. Those who know her appreciate her for her optimism, sense of humor, sincere and open heart, and for her willingness to embark upon new challenges. Thank you, Kathryn, from the bottom of my heart for being not only my boss, but also my mentor and a very dear friend.

I am happy to report that, for now, Kathryn will remain a consultant and will assist me with taking over the responsibilities of the Executive Editor.

As you may have noticed, the *Narod Polski* masthead on the first page was given a new look. The PRCUA Officers and I agreed that this is the best time to make any changes. We decided that this new masthead will give our publication a more modern look, as it is simple and easy to read and the colors complement our PRCUA logo.

As I begin this new journey, I have set a few goals for myself. I will strive to do my best to continue the remarkable work of my predecessors, to foster pride in our Polish heritage and in our fraternal organization, to adhere to ethical and professional standards, and to focus primarily on the events occurring within the PRCUA and Polonia. I will strive to keep *Narod Polski* objective, well written, well edited, and enlightening. At the same time, I would like to give priority to celebrating the achievements of our members.

I encourage all of our members to send information to me, and to share their stories and their concerns, so that we can keep *Narod Polski* as a viable "voice" of our fraternal organization.

Fraternally,
Lidia Kowalewicz, Executive Editor of *Narod Polski*
Email: narod-polski@prcu.org or 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2639

2015 PRCUA CALENDAR

Order while Supplies last!
One of Your Free Fraternal Benefits

The 2015 PRCUA Calendar, featuring Polish saints, are 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.

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.

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475	Angela Satarino	5929 N. Merrimac Ave Chicago, IL 60646
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**Wesoly Lud Polish Folk
Dance Co. of PRCUA**
**WINTER
DINNER DANCE**
"FIRE & ICE"

Saturday, January 17, 2015
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

Please mark your calendars!

of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America
extends a cordial invitation to you and your friends
to attend the

40th Annual Spring Fashion Show & Luncheon

on Sunday, March 8, 2015

Sabre Room

8900 W. 95th St., Hickory Hills, IL

*Proceeds from the Fashion Show go toward
scholarships for next year's Cinderella - Prince
Charming Ball Candidates.*

Tickets: \$35 adults, \$20 children 10 and younger

Please support this fund raiser!

For additional information, please contact Liz or
Walter Dynowski at 708-532-1541





The Open Door Otwarte Drzwi

Micheline "Misia" Jaminski
Vice President ~ wiceprezes

OPEN THE DOOR TO THE NEW YEAR, LOOK TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FUTURE, REVEL IN THE GOOD MEMORIES FROM THE PAST! Happy New Year, Everyone! Hope the Holidays were spiritual, exciting, memorable, and above all, healthy! I'm sure all of you have made your New Year's Resolutions – eat healthier, exercise more, drink less caffeine, be more patient, smile more, laugh often and, of course, SIGN MORE MEMBERS TO THE PRCUA!

On Saturday, November 29, 2014, the Chicago Union of Upper Silesians (*Związek Ślązaków w Chicago*), hosted its



Wesoly Lud at Barbórka



annual *Barbórka* (St. Barbara) Ball at European Chalet, Chicago, IL. St. Barbara is the patron of coal miners and her feast day is December 4. During *Barbórka* (as well as for weddings, funerals

and other important political or social ceremonies), the miners dress in a uniform that consists of a black suit and hat with a feather. The color of the feather (white, red or black) depends on the rank of the miner. My husband, Richard, and I accepted the invitation extended to the PRCUA. PRCUA's "WESOLY LUD" presented among other dances, the dances and songs from Upper Silesia.

Edward Muszalski, PRCUA Supervisor of Insurance District 22, hosted his annual Christmas Party at Prime Time Restaurant, Hickory Hills, IL on Thursday, December 4, 2014. Among those in attendance were: President J. Drobot Jr., VP M. Jaminski, Res. V.P. Emeritus A. Sokolowski, District 8 Directors K. Lech and J. Rustik and birthday girl, Danielle Lech-Kroplewski, District 8 Secretary.

After the PRCUA Board of Directors Meeting on December 5-6, PRCUA District 9 hosted the Annual "Oplatek" on Sunday, December 7, at the Salvatorian Fathers Monastery in Merrillville, IN. District 9 Director Elizabeth Sadus organized the event together with the Officers and members of her district. St. Raphael Kalinowski Polish School from Munster, IN presented a short bi-lingual Christmas program. Congrats to Beth and her Committee on an enjoyable afternoon! See article and photos on pages 1 and 11.

Leaving the Oplatek in Indiana, Richard and I rushed to the north side of Chicago to Copernicus Center where the Polonia Ensemble of PRCUA (Manager Anna Krysinski, Artistic Director/Choreographer Cecylia Roznowska and Musical Director Mieczyslaw Dzis) was performing its Christmas program. We arrived at the tail end, but by the resounding applause, we knew that it was an amazing performance. See article and photos on page 16.

Agnieszka Bastrzyk, PRCUA Director of Marketing, joined me at the Southwest Polish Society's Annual Christmas Party at Glenwood Oaks Rib & Chop House, Glenwood, IL on Thursday, December 11. My dear friend, Evelyn Cedzidlo is Vice President, and extended a cordial invitation to the PRCUA to attend. Evelyn and her friends are a very creative group and I always learn something new from them. This time it was "Christmas with the Right Family." I'll reveal more about this later.



Rogalin Dancers



Michigan Schools Directors and Instructors

by our Underwriter, Georgia Xamplas, President J. Drobot, Jr. coordinated the "Twelve Days of Christmas" assigning the various "days" to sections of attendees. As the "new kid on the block", my rendition of "A partridge in a pear tree"

was sung loud and clear. I was unaware of how spirited and talented our employees are and there may be a PRCUA Choir in the future. Then it was time for a game – distributing several "prizes" on each table. I read "Christmas with the Right Family" – I referenced it earlier as something I learned from my friend Evelyn. It is a game of passing wrapped gifts around the table to the right or left depending on the text of the story. It was a nice close to a fun afternoon, well-deserved by those who make the PRCUA and the PMA, the well-oiled machines that they are. The Executive Board as well as the Board of Directors are well aware of how instrumental our employees are, how important our volunteers are, and how important it is that we all remember that we are family of a different sort! So thanks to all who make our organization the success it is! See article and photos on pages 9 & 19.

PRCUA
Insurance
Supervisor
Edward
Muszalski joined
me on Sunday
morning,
December 21, at
SS. Cyril and
Methodius Social Hall in Lemont, IL for the "Oplatek" hosted by the JPPI Polish School and the Polish Club of Lemont. PRCUA's Polanie Dancers, under the artistic direction of Choreographer Anthony and Instructor Sabina Dobrzanski, assisted by Patricia Szyrzyna and Alexander Zleczewski, presented a *Jaselka* (Nativity Play) and a dance performance by its three groups. Bravo!



Polanie of JPPI Polish School, Lemont, IL

Then it was off to the PRCUA Southwest Center of Polish Dancing's (SWCPD) Annual Christmas Recital. Secy.-Tres J. Robaczewski and his family joined me at this event. Sitting in the first row and not backstage was a little different for me, but I'll get used to it. SWCPD is my second PRCUA "child" – it's where my daughters and nieces danced and where I met countless others who became a part of my life and heart. Now, those alumni of SWCPD bring their children to learn the traditional dances and songs of Poland. SWCPD Alumni Managing Director Anna Kraszewski greeted the guests who also included Dist. 8 National Director Krystyna Lech and her husband, Ted; the M.Konopnicka Adult Culture Group (with President E. Muszalski); former SWCPD School Directors Barbara Frankowicz and Janina Wargacki – some of whom were also attending as delighted grandparents as well. With over a hundred children anxiously waiting in the wing, the audience of proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles were in for a treat. Singing Instructor Annette Nowakowski and her son, Ben, were the emcees of the show as the six dance groups of SWCPD weaved on and off the stage singing kolędy and performing a variety of dance suites. Bravo! to Richard Jaminski, Artistic Director and Choreographer; Dance Instructors: Camilla Steczek, Ola Herdzik, Kasia Bialas, Michael Dziadkowiec; Assistants: Sylvia Kupiec and Stephanie Anhalt; Volunteers: Anna Cieplucha, Emily Stoch and Bart Morawski, as well as to Annette, Dan (secret role) and Ben Nowakowski and Ania Kraszewski for an amazing performance!



SWCPD group (photo by L. Golab)

REMEMBER the PRCUA Sports Tournaments - #1 this year is Basketball on March 21, 2015. (See the details on page 9.)

CONDOLENCES to Lillian Stempinski and her family on the passing of her husband, Ralph. Eternal rest grant him, O Lord.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. PRESIDENT - Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. celebrated his Diamond Birthday on December 20, 2014. Sto Lat and another sto!

On a personal note: The holidays were exceptionally memorable for the Jaminski house – it was the first time that our six year old grandson, Cole, celebrated Christmas with us. Cole, our daughter, Alina, and her husband, Ben, live in Phoenix, AZ (although soon they will be moving to Indianapolis and be closer to "Bocha" (Babcia)). Also joining us was our daughter Niki, her "beau," and my sister, Nini, and her family. Cole's visit gave Richard and me the incentive we needed to pull out all the Christmas decorations for the outside and inside of the house – now, we need to find the time and energy to take it all down!

"Za kolędę dziękujemy, zdrowia, szczęścia Wam życzymy na ten Nowy Rok!"

PRCUA Employees Say Farewell to Kathryn (Rosypal) Romani



Kathryn (l) received warm wishes from the PRCUA Officers (l-r) Joseph A. Drobot, Jr., James Robaczewski, Micheline Jaminski

Chicago, IL - Kathryn (Rosypal) Romani, former PRCUA Executive Editor was honored with a retirement party and lunch on Friday, December 5, 2014 at the PRCUA Home Office. Kathryn, who resides in PA, traveled to Chicago to give her final report at the

PRCUA Quarterly Board meeting on Saturday, December 6th.

Present and former PRCUA Officers, Directors and PRCUA and PMA employees, with whom Kathryn (Kasia) has worked for over 25 years, as well as Kasia's family were invited. Those who were able to take time from their busy schedules to attend were: Kathryn's daughter Elizabeth Miller, past PRCUA VP



Lidia Kowalewicz with Kathryn as she cuts the cake

Anna Sokolowski, past Director of District #7 Robert Bugielski, Director of Dist. #7 Anna Krysinski, PRCUA Supervisor Edward Muszalski, retired PRCUA employees Mary Gorny and Alice Robaczewski.

Secretary-Treasurer James Robaczewski presented Kasia with a PRCUA check. This was followed by an array of good wishes, flowers, gifts from various



President Drobot and Kasia

guests, an engraved crystal vase from the officers and a 5-piece set of luggage and a gift card from the employees. The President of the Polish Museum of America, Maria Ciesla, and the PMA employees expressed their special thank you to Kasia who had been a PMA volunteer and the editor of the PMA's Newsletter for the past 15 years.

Kathryn thanked everyone for their heartfelt wishes, gifts, and, most of all, for celebrating this very important milestone with her.

Secy.-Tres. Robaczewski offered a short prayer, after which a delicious lunch buffet from Kasia's Deli was enjoyed by all. After lunch, Kathryn cut a beautiful cake which had a chocolate inscription that read: "Kathryn, Thanks for 25 Years. Happy Retirement!"

Kathryn, you have worked so hard and given so much to our organization; we will always remember you. We wish you the very best as you move into this new chapter of your life.

Congratulations and Happy Retirement!



Julie Prado, Jola Zachara, Lidia Kowalewicz, Kathryn Romani



Kasia with past PRCUA employee and friend Mary Gorny



Ralph Stempinski Passed Away



NILES, IL- Ralph Stempinski, 76, husband of PRCUA past National Director of District #7, Lillian Stempinski, passed away on Thursday, December 11, 2014 at his home in Niles, IL, after a long illness. He was a member of PRCUA Society #471.

Born in Chicago, the son of Theodore and Marie Stempinski, Ralph graduated from Holy Trinity High School in Chicago. He and Lillian (Jezior) were married in November of 1961; the couple enjoyed 53 years of married life together. They were blessed with two sons, Paul John and Joseph Michael, who are also PRCUA members.

Ralph worked as a truck driver, but later the Stempinskis owned and managed a grocery store and a laundromat. Ralph loved to bowl. In fact, he became a Senior Professional Bowler who went on tour to many cities across the country.

In 1992, at the request of then President Edward Dykla, Ralph became Director of the PRCUA National Bowling Tournament and coordinated 18 tournaments, with the assistance of his family, retiring in January of 2011.

Ralph was admired by PRCUA bowlers for his professionalism, knowledge, friendliness and patience. He often attended PRCUA events and will surely be missed by all who knew him. May Ralph Stempinski be blessed a hundredfold for all the good he did for others and may Almighty God grant him eternal peace.

The PRCUA extends our heartfelt sympathy to Ralph's wife and sons.

Condolences may be sent to: The Stempinski Family, 7339 W. Lee St., Niles, IL 60714-2211.

Friend of Polonia Judy Baar Topinka Passed Away

CHICAGO, IL - Illinois Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka died on Thursday, December 10, 2014 at the age of 70, from complications after a stroke.

Judy Baar Topinka was born in 1944 in Riverside, IL to Lillian Mary (Shuss) and William D. Baar Topinka, Czech and Slovak immigrants. She attended Northwestern University in Evanston, IL and received a B. S. degree in Journalism from the Medill School of Journalism.

She began her political career in 1980 when she won a seat in the House of Representatives and served two consecutive two-year terms. In 1984, she won a seat in the Illinois Senate and she held that position for 10 years.

In 1994, she won the election for Illinois State Treasurer and was re-elected in 1998 and 2002. She was Illinois' first woman to become State Treasurer, the first to be elected to three consecutive terms, and the first Republican to hold the post for over 32 years.

In November of 2005, she entered the gubernatorial primary. In March of 2006 she won the Republican nomination, but lost in the race against Rod Blagojevich in November of 2006.

In 2010, Judy Baar Topinka successfully ran for the Republican nomination for the position of Illinois State Comptroller. She was re-elected to a second term in November 2014.

Despite her busy schedule, she held numerous workshops and meetings with small business representatives, youth, and media representatives.

She is survived by one son, Joseph Baar Topinka.

Memorial services honoring Judy Baar Topinka were held in the morning on Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150 in Countryside, IL.

During the ceremony, farewell speeches were given by Illinois Governor Pat Quinn, former Governor James R. Thompson, Governor-Elect Bruce Rauner, Illinois Auditor General William Holland, Capitol Fax Publisher Rich Miller, TV & Radio Personality Roe Conn, Topinka Chief of Staff Nancy Kimme, and her son Joseph Baar Topinka, among others.

Topinka was an active supporter of the Polish-American community. She often participated in many Polonia events and celebrations: May 3rd Parades, Taste of Polonia, Red and White Ball, and was a member of Legion of Young Polish Women. She supported the Visa Waiver program and was also a regular speaker during the annual Pulaski Day Celebration at the Polish Museum of America.

Her support of Polish-American causes gained her many friends among Chicagoland's Polonia. May she rest in eternal peace!



Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka at the 2013 Pulaski Day Celebration

Gwiazda Dancers Celebrate Christmas

HAMTRAMCK, MI - On Monday, December 8, 2014, the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers held their Annual Christmas Party at the Polish National Alliance Hall in Hamtramck, MI. This annual event is a great way to close the first half of the dance school year, allowing everyone to enjoy and unwind. This year's event featured games and holiday crafts led by some of the Gwiazda students' parents.

After everyone had arrived, it was time to participate in a delicious potluck dinner with all sorts of treats brought by the dancers' families. Grace before meals was led (in English) by Gwiazda's 2015 graduate, Katie Kobeski and (in Polish) by Gwiazda's Assistant Dance Teacher Ewa Sztandera.

Following the meal, more games were played and then carols and *koledy* were sung. Apparently the dancers picked the right songs because suddenly Św. Mikołaj was soon in their midst. Św. Mikołaj presented gifts of Gwiazda duffle bags, oranges, and candy



Group's choreographer, Basia Nowakowski helping St. Nicholas to give presents to all *Gwiazda* dancers.



Students with St. Nicholas (Aaron Tabaczynski)



Gwiazda students with St. Nicholas

canes. Before the gifts were presented there was, of course, some quizzing by the saint. In some instances, this was simply: "Have you been good?" But some of the older dancers had to answer questions about their catechism.

The evening concluded with wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The Gwiazda dancers will now have some time off for the holidays with practices resuming in early 2015.

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

PRCUA & PMA Employees Celebrate at the Christmas Party



CHICAGO, IL - PRCUA and PMA employees enjoyed each other's company at the Employee Christmas Party held at Greek Islands in Chicago on December 17, 2014.

Before dinner the Officers wished everyone a Merry Christmas, and Secretary-Treasurer James Robaczewski offered a prayer. Everyone shared traditional Polish Oplatek, wishing one another Merry Christmas and lots of good health in the upcoming New Year.



After a delicious Greek style dinner, the Officers led some fun games. First was the song "12 Days of Christmas" in which everyone had to sing and act out the part of the song that was assigned to them when they were handed a paper sign.

Then Vice President Micheline Jaminski distributed boxes of chocolates to each table. Employees had to pay attention to the story she read and pass the chocolates to the left or right as the story was read. Everyone enjoyed themselves and had a good time.

Later, the Officers gave everyone a beautiful red ornaments onto which PRCUA First Lady Judith Drobot had written their name in ornate calligraphy.



81st ANNUAL PRCUA NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT MARCH 21, 2015 Dearborn, MI



The 81st PRCUA National Basketball Tournament will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2015. Out-of-town players and guests will be housed at the Comfort Inn, 20061 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn, Mi. For reservations, please call 313-436-9600; the tournament room rate for PRCUA is \$105.00 per night, plus tax. Please, no more than 4 persons to a room. Make sure to ask the hotel for the PRCUA rate; get your room reservations before the deadline, which is March 10, 2015.

The gym facilities will be at Henry Ford College and Dearborn High School. Directions to the gyms will be included with a handout at the hotel.

St. Stan's Soc. #718 is hosting the tournament. The committee, co-chaired by Jerry Nasiatka and Bob Hojnacki, is making final plans for this event. A hospitality get-together will take place from 6 to 10 p.m. on Friday night at The Beer Garden in Dearborn. The awards ceremony/reception is to be held on Saturday evening at O'Kelley's Knights of Columbus, on Park Avenue, also in Dearborn; music provided by The Kielbasa Kings.

To obtain an entry form, please call the Fraternal Department at 1-800-772-8632, ext. 2601. Entries must be completed and returned to the Home Office, together with \$50.00 entry fee per team. Make your check payable to PRCUA Sports Fund. Be sure to get the entry postmarked by March 2, 2015.

New PRCUA players welcomed and encouraged! If there are any questions, please call the Fraternal Department at 1-800-772-8632, ext. 2601.

Joseph A. Drobot, Jr.
National President

Micheline Jaminski
Vice President

James Robaczewski
Secretary-Treasurer

Society #162 celebrates Christmas

Annual Oplatek and Senior Christmas Party

WYANDOTTE, MI - On Sunday, December 14, PRCUA Society #162 in Wyandotte, MI and the Rogalin Dance Troupe hosted the Annual Oplatek Dinner and Society #162's Senior Christmas Party. Over 285 people were in attendance.

The afternoon started with cocktails at 1:00 pm. Then Rogalin Dance Troupe Director Michele Stechschulte welcomed guests and introduced Society #162 President Stan Pasko. He welcomed all the dignitaries in attendance, which included: PRCUA President Joe Drobot, Jr. and his wife, Judy; VP Misia Jaminski and her husband, Richard; President Emeritus Wallace Ozog and his wife, Joann; past VP Robert Bielenda and his wife, Eleanor; District #10 Directors Tom Lisecki and Colleen Bonkowski, as well as Honorable Joe Peterson, Mayor of Wyandotte; and Councilman Larry Stec.

President Pasko introduced Janet Vilag, Choreographer of the Rogalin Dance Troupe. The dancers, dressed in Krakowiak folk dress then performed for the crowd. After their delightful performance, National Chaplain Rev. Canon Walter J. Ptak led everyone in a prayer, explained the Polish tradition of sharing Oplatek, and allowed everyone time to do so. Afterwards, guests enjoyed a great dinner, cooked by Maryann Rogowski, which included chicken soup, meatballs, pork chops and all the trimmings.

After dinner, the Wyandotte Chorale: John Drozdowski, Kevin Jakubowicz (Kielbasa Kings), Syl Wienclaw, and Joe Piasecki led the group in singing *kolędy*.

The afternoon concluded with a few raffles, cocktails and carols!



11th Annual Polish Christmas Kolędy Night

WYANDOTTE, MI - The 11th Annual Polish Christmas Kolędy Night was hosted by PRCUA Soc. #162 in Wyandotte, MI, on Friday, December 12th.

In what has become a standing tradition in Wyandotte, *The Kavaliers* and friends again entertained over 325 guests at the PRCUA Soc. #162 Banquet Hall.

Each year, *The Kavaliers*, who have been entertaining for over 40 years, would gather in the PRCUA Lounge to sing Christmas carols and kolędy, and play some polkas, waltzes and obereks. As time went on, the crowds in attendance grew larger and larger until finally - about three years ago - the decision was made to move the event into the larger hall. Of course, the ambiance of the Lounge needed to be replicated in the hall, so Lounge Manager and Society #162 Vice President Mike Halberstadt brought the atmosphere along. With the help of many, the jukebox, Christmas lights, table tops and popcorn machine were moved and the party continued in stellar fashion.

The Kavaliers - John Zelasko Sr, Joe Zelasko, Joe Piasecki, Mickey Konopka, John Zelasko, Jr. and Keith Zelasko - started off the night and their "friends" and fellow musicians kept coming in one-by-one all night long. Thank you to all the musicians who came out to join in the fun. At one time there were over 20 musicians on the bandstand!

Special thanks go to the Polish Carolers who came all the way from Chicago: Tony Blazonczyk, Danny Matea, Len Zielinski, John Jaworski, Brian Kapka and Whitey Ryniec. What a great surprise! And thanks for the afterglow serenade in the lounge! *Bóg Zapłać!*

Kolędy Night at the PRCUA Hall has grown into a great night in Wyandotte, and everyone looks forward to it, year after year. Watch for the date for next year's event. Come on out and join in the fun!



District 9 Celebrates Traditional Polish Christmas



THE TRADITION CONTINUES FOR THE TENTH TIME: WESOŁY LUD POLISH FOLK DANCE COMPANY OF PRCUA AT THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF POLISH FOLK ENSEMBLES, RZESZÓW, POLAND



It all started in 1980 – not the International Festivals of Polish Folk Ensembles in R z e s z ó w , Poland which started in 1974; not the PRCUA WESOŁY LUD POLISH FOLK D A N C E COMPANY, which was organized in

1977; what I am referring to is the year WESOŁY LUD went to the Rzeszow Festival for the very first time and caught the “Rzeszow” fever. Attending the Festival has become the goal of each and every generation of “Luders” since then. Even though in 1980 Poland looked totally different than it does in 2014, the spirit of the residents of Rzeszów and the neighboring towns has never changed – these “fans” are welcoming, enthusiastic, friendly and appreciative. WESOŁY LUD has been cheered and embraced for a total of TEN amazing times – as far as U.S. groups are concerned, 2nd only to Krakowiak Dancers of Boston who attended 12 times. The Rzeszów Festival is hosted by the Rzeszów Branch of *Stowarzyszenie Wspólnota Polska* with Festival Director Mariusz Grudzien at the helm. He is ably assisted by Wiesława Czarnota and Piotr Kowalski and, of course, an amazing staff and many generous sponsors including the Honorary Patron, President of the Republic of Poland, Bronisław Komorowski.

In 1980, there were 10 WESOŁY LUD couples who attended the Rzeszów Festival. It was two weeks long and the most significant difference was that the participating groups were taught a brand new dance suite to perform at the Gala Concert and add to their repertoire. To this day, WESOŁY LUD performs that suite of dances and songs from the region of Łowicz, taught to us by the late Choreographer Irena Kik. WESOŁY LUD was joined with GÓRNIK from Czechoslovakia (remember it was 1980). With costumes borrowed from one of the Rzeszów folk groups, the suite was performed by 24 couples at the Philharmonic Auditorium in Rzeszów. It was a memorable experience! For the Concert of Dances from the Homeland, WESOŁY LUD performed the Jitterbug, to the tune of “American Bandstand.” The Gala Concert was coordinated by Ignacy Wachowiak. As is customary, neighboring towns host the visiting groups and WESOŁY LUD went to Sędziszów Małopolski. History was to repeat itself in 2014.

After 1980, our group attended the Festival in Rzeszów in 1983, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011 and #10 was in 2014, linked with trips to Lithuania, Ukraine, Hungary and most recently Czech Republic.

This year, WESOŁY LUD departed from O’Hare on July 15th. Lining up for its traditional photo, our Lud men always plan a surprise with “creative” t-shirts – this year was no different. It was great, with an added plus! The guys surprised me totally. I had a “favorite” pair of cut-off jeans that I used to wear for practice (my wife threw them out). The guys decided to... well, “a picture tells a thousand words”...let the photo speak for itself. (By the way, the t-shirt had a drawing of my curly hair, my mustache and my catch phrase “Peachy”.) Good job, guys! This was the first time Pani Misia approved of the guys’ t-shirts and it made a great start to a wonderful journey!

Preceding the 2014 Rzeszów experience, WESOŁY LUD opted to perform at the V Arts Festival in Prague, Czech Republic, hosted by the European Association of Folklore Festivals (EAFF). In addition to the open air performances in various locations in Prague’s City Centre, the dancers toured the city by bus, trolley, train and boat, enjoying the Old Town Square by day and evening, and seeing among other sights, the Astronomic Clock, St. Nicholas Church, and Charles Bridge. Prague is a beautiful city and we were happy to have crossed it off our bucket lists. With no air conditioning in the hotel and near 100-degree-temperatures, we looked forward to a smooth air conditioned bus ride to Lubaczów County, Poland – the Subcarpathian Province found in south-eastern Poland, several miles away from the Ukrainian border.

On July 20, our entourage of 34 people, including Mr. and Mrs. Sokolowski, chaperones Veronica Brzezniak, Irena Gavaghan and Maria Kopinski, 27 dancers and



Wesoly Lud in 1980



my wife Misia and I, boarded the bus for the next phase of our adventure. The 14-hour bus trip with 48 pieces of luggage and 34 carry-ons, on a bus with limited trunk space arrived

safely. The original bus slated for us broke down - a repeat of our past European adventures! We were greeted by the Provincial Director of Culture, Stanisław Myśliwy and Co-Director Marta Tabaczek, as well as the Manager of the Student Hotel in Oleszyc. We moved into our nice clean rooms and within an hour after arriving, dressed in our costumes, our hosts whisked us to Mass in Młodowa. Thereafter, a delicious home-cooked dinner was served and then we had two performances. Both outdoor performances, the first in Kresowa Osada at Baszna Dolna, were an opportunity to interact with a Russian Dance and Singing Group “Korale” from St. Petersburg and the local folk dance group, ZPiT Kresy. The second performance was a repeat of the first but this time in the Town Square of Lubaczów. There, WESOŁY LUD had its own Fan Club; members of our families came to applaud and visit for awhile.

For the next two days, there were sightseeing trips to the Sanctuary in Lubaczow and the town itself, the Kresy (Eastern Borderlands) Muzeum in Lubaczów, and in Horyniec-Zdrój – through the abundant forest of pine trees known for its microclimate, the chapel nestled in the midst of this forest and the Orthodox Church Complex in Radruż, which was erected in 1583, as well as an outdoor party at Kresowa Osada with live music, great food and excellent hospitality. A joint concert by WESOŁY LUD, KORALE and BIAŁY ORZEŁ from Toronto concluded the second leg of our journey. We would like to thank all who made this pre-Rzeszów Festival a wonderful experience, especially Mayor Wiesław Kapel and the entire Lubaczow Committee.



And then it was “home” – to RZESZÓW, of course!! The largest city in southeastern Poland, Rzeszów is THE Center of Polish Folk Culture! The Rzeszów Festival is the Olympics of Polish Folk Dancing! It is where Polish folk dancers the world over come and celebrate the beauty of Polish culture. Imagine - this ONE country has such a variety of costumes, music, and dances matched by no other – it truly makes the Rzeszów Festival a magnificent celebration! Rzeszów’s cityscape has changed quite a lot in 34 years – positive changes, modern changes in its architecture, landscape, streets and highways. It is truly one of the most beautiful cities in Poland.

The Festival itinerary was as follows: for the next week, the Polytechnic University of Rzeszów – or Festival City – would house the dancers. On Thursday, July 24, a Welcome Reception treated guests to the delicacies of the region, as well as music and dancing. The Festival formally opened the next day with the traditional Parade through the streets of the city, which were lined with enthusiastic well-wishers greeting the dancers who have come to celebrate their heritage in the land of their forefathers!

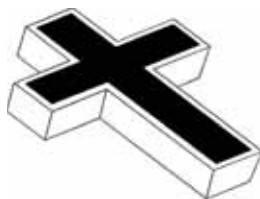
WESOŁY LUD was very excited to hear the introduction – “And for the tenth time, Rzeszów welcomes the Representative Dance Ensemble of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, WESOŁY LUD”!

Following the parade and the formal welcome speeches, the guests were treated to a special performance at the M U L T I M E D I A FOUNTAIN, which provided a computerized concert utilizing water, music, lights, lasers and actors. On Saturday, WESOŁY LUD performed in the Rynek (Old Town). On Sunday, Mass was at the Rzeszow Cathedral and a performance where else, but in Sędziszów Małopolski just like in 1980!



(Continued on pg. 13)

Dearly Departed PRCUA
Brothers
and Sisters



Member	Society	State
Adamiak, John A. Jr.	1570	PA
Adamkiewicz, Bernice	162, 1593	MI
Bakota, Edward	479	PA
Beczkowski, John S.	712	NY
Birkenhauer, Martha L.	1593	MI
Brooks, Leonard J.	951	NY
Chaberek, Ulena M.	899	MA
Cymmerman, Jr., Donald G.	855	PA
Demyanovich, Richard E.	162	MI
Depaulis, Catherine	366	PA
Derbas, Joanna	1486	IL
Golba, Thomas	2206	OH
Graczyk, Jacaueleine A.	654	NY
Hering, Dorothy M.	709	OH
Jacks, Joseph J.	1118	MI
Kalinoski, Paula	1570	PA
Koltunchik, Barbara J.	718	MI
Korenkiewicz, John	286	IL
Kosierowski, Harriet	2051	NJ
Krzyzaniak, Anna	1486	IL
Lokuta, Lawrence	162	MI
Luczkowski, Stanley A.	2159	OH
Mazurkiewicz, Kathryn R.	1545	NY
Nelsen, Henrietta A.	2320	WI
Nosek, Frank	1094	MA
Nowicki, Adolph Raymond	122	IL

Member	Society	State
Okulski, Irene	291	NJ
Orlowski, Richard C.	237	PA
Ossowski, Chester L.	1000	AZ
Piszczor, Catherine	290	IL
Rose, Jeanette	565	IN
Rydzinski, Richard	2102	OH
Salera, Dorothy M.	835	PA
Sharik, Jean	31	PA
Simek, Florence	683	IL
Sinski, Mildred	1000	IL
Sledzinski, Mary Ann	1486	PA
Stachnik, Celia V.	519	NY
Stall, Adele	1000	IL
Starko, Anna	213	WV
Stawowy, John	621	PA
Swiegowski, Joshua P.	1617	OH
Thomas, Martha	509	IL
Tiska, Adam	125	PA
Wedge, Sandra L.	1368	MI
Yanics, Eleanor	619	MD
Yartin, Pete	384	PA
Zadroga, Regina	2021	PA
Zajac, Eugene	384	PA
Zak, Casmira T.	1000	IL
Zubko, Rose M.	1575	IL

May they rest in eternal peace.

(Cont. from p. 14) And then it was time for the Concert "Folklore of Nations of the World." WESOŁY LUD performed its Country Western Chicago Polka, earning the Ensemble the final spot in the program, followed by the Finale – the Polonaise from the movie "Pan Tadeusz" by Wojciech Kilar. Selected ensembles performed their own choreography – our choreography was intricate and an interesting routine for WESOŁY LUD. Imagine 7 dance groups simultaneously performing their own choreographies – WESOŁY LUD onstage and the others on the massive dance space – all entertaining an audience of 7,000 at the Hala Podpromie, Regionalne Centrum Widowiskowo-Sportowe im. Jana Strzelczyka.

The Grand Finale of the Rzeszów Festival was the *Koncert Galowy* (Gala Concert). A three-hour concert performed by 37 Polish folk dance groups from the world over, intertwined with mini-finales by small groupings of ensembles. The theme – a tribute to Wojciech Kilar – continued to this Gala Concert, once again opening with another 7 groups performing the Polonaise to the music from "Pan Tadeusz," with the finale performed by all participating groups to waltzes by the composer from the movie "Tęadowata." It is difficult to put into words the emotions experienced by the audience – the grand music, the synchronized movement and flow of the choreography, the pride and performance of the dancers. It is like being in a majestic dream and those who were able to experience it, have an amazing memory.

Thank you to the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America for its contribution – financially and fraternally – to the WESOŁY LUD Polish Folk Dance Company, toward this trip, as well as for its continued support throughout the past 37 years. On behalf of the dancers, parents, and directors, may God bless the PRCUA and its members for many years to come!

Richard Jaminski, Wesoly Lud Artistic Director and Choreographer



Higher Perspectives



By Rev. Canon
Anthony D. Iwuc,
Past Vice Chaplain,
PRCUA

1972 – 2015 = 52,500,000!

Maurice Baring had a favorite story. One doctor was talking to another. "About the termination of a pregnancy . . . I want your opinion. The father was syphylitic, the mother tuberculous. Of the four children born, the first was blind, the second died, the third was deaf and dumb, and the fourth was tuberculous. What would you have done?" asked the first doctor. "I would have ended the pregnancy," said the second doctor. "Then you would have murdered Beethoven!" replied the first doctor.

Thursday, January 22 is the 42nd anniversary of the blackest day of infamy in the 239 year history of our country – the day when the Supreme Court overruled the Supreme Lawgiver (God) and reversed 2,000 years of Christian enlightenment by 'legalizing' the killing of the unborn children living in the wombs of their mothers. We have laws protecting wildlife and dogs. Don't steal an eagle's egg – it will mean a \$5,000 fine. Don't use a beagle for chemical experimentation, it's a federal offense. It is illegal to put to death ruthless, convicted, even self-confessed criminals, but it's perfectly legal, almost praiseworthy, to murder innocent, defenseless, unborn human babies. Over 239 years ago, our Founding Fathers wrote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident . . . that all men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among them is LIFE." These truths are self-evident. That means they need not be proven; that they really can't be proven, but must be accepted. ALL men, human beings, have these rights – white, black, yellow, red or whatever color; rich or poor; elderly, sickly, the young, children and infants. These rights are inalienable. No man, no group of men, not even the nine Supreme Court Judges of the greatest, most powerful, richest, most educated, most advanced in medicine nation on earth, can take these rights away. Abortion was wrong yesterday. It is wrong today. It will be wrong tomorrow, no matter what laws are passed, no matter what court decisions may be rendered. There is an authority higher than the Supreme Court. That authority is God. God has commanded us – THOU SHALL NOT KILL!

During the Church's Christmas season we read about the slaughter of the Holy Innocents, ordinarily on December 28, in Bethlehem by Herod's soldiers and we stand aghast. How could Herod be so cruel! How could he be so inhuman! How many infants did Herod put to death? About 20 or 30? By today's standards Herod was a piker. Today, thousands of infants are put to death in their mother's womb every day, and what do we make of it? Nothing!

There were over 2,769,000 American military personnel involved in the Vietnam war. Of this number 58,655 were killed. There were 2,710,345 survivors. Since 1972 over 52,500,000 unborn babies were involved in America's abortion war. There were no survivors. All perished! They were defenseless. No one came to their aid.

The U.S. now has the most permissive abortion laws in the world. What is the next step? To permit the killing of a newborn child up to a week, a month, a year, 2 years after it is born? When will we stop? When and where will we draw the line? Now we have people starting at the other end - killing people because they are too old, because they are incapacitated, because they need too much care, because hospital and nursing care is so expensive. Where do you suppose these two groups will meet? At age 20? 25? 30? 40? 50?

One of God's greatest gifts is Life. Life is a mystery, which no one has been able to comprehend. Life is something that no one, NO ONE, has been able to create. The best we can do is transmit, pass on Life – whether it is human life, animal life, or plant life. No scientist has been able to make an inanimate, a lifeless object, come to life.

Let us plead with Mary Immaculate, the Patroness of our Nation, who bore the Son of God in her womb, to intercede for us, to lead us to repentance, and to turn away the just anger of our Heavenly Father. May she inspire all of our people with a true horror for the unspeakable crimes being committed under the protection of the law, so that we may, as a nation under God, reverse this trend to utter corruption and self-destruction.

Prayer to Mary, Mother of the Living

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the Living,
to you do we entrust the cause of life.

Look down, O Mother,
upon the vast numbers of babies not allowed to be born,
the poor whose lives are made difficult,
men and women who are victims of brutal violence,
the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy.
Grant that all who believe in your Son
may proclaim the Gospel of Life
with honesty and love to the people of our time.
Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new,
the joy of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives
and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely,
in order to build, together with all people of good will,
the civilization of truth and love,
to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of Life.

Evangelium Vitae, March 25 1996, Pope John Paul II

Rogowski looking to keep improving



TRAVERSE CITY, MI – Patrick Rogowski came to the Traverse City Hounds for the 2013-14 season knowing the winning tradition the organization had and yearned for a Midwest Junior Hockey League championship and a national title.

Rogowski helped the Hounds to a regular-season and Veteran’s Memorial Cup playoff championship last season, only to see their national championship hopes fall a bit short in Las Vegas.

This year, Rogowski is back in Traverse City and has every intention of doing all he can to push the Hounds to play more games in April.

“The coaching staff is very good and they know what they are doing,” said Rogowski, a 19-year-old forward from Pinckney, Mich. “This season, I hope to play better than last season as I know the game speed and I’m ready for the competition.”

Rogowski was a Division 2 First Team All-State selection in 2012-13 while playing for Pinckney High School, where he posted 28 goals and 55 points in 28 games. He then signed a tender agreement for the Hounds and finished with 16 goals and 37 points while skating in all 42 games in 2013-14.

“Personally, I was a little timid because it was the first time wearing a half shield, but now that I’m confident it will be a lot better, the team was good last year, but this year, I think the team is better,” explained Rogowski. “Our work ethic is good and we are a very athletic team. I believe this year we are going to be ready and show up to play every game and not goof off as much.”

And for Rogowski, who recorded three goals and three assists for six points in the Hounds’ season-opening sweep on the road last weekend against the Berkley Bruins, he said he brings puck movement and speed to the club this year and no matter what line he’s on, he said he’ll find that certain chemistry.

“We have high expectations for ‘Rogo,’” said Traverse City associate head coach Jacek Wilk. “He is a returning player that had a solid year last year. He has matured as a player and as an individual.”

Down the line, Rogowski wants to keep playing hockey as long as he can and knows that scouts are always watching. He said he has three ways to keep progressing that should ultimately see him advance the hockey ladder.

“Keep moving my feet, find the open ice and score some goals,” Rogowski said.

Courtesy of the Traverse City Hounds and the Midwest Junior Hockey League

We wish Patrick a great season and much success! Patrick is a member of PRCUA Society #718. His parents Don and Mia Rogowski, grandparents Don and Dorothy Rogowski and uncle Joe Krol are also long time PRCUA members.

PMA HOLDS CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT WORKSHOP

CHICAGO, IL - On Saturday, December 13, 2014 the Polish Museum of America organized a Christmas Ornament Workshop for children and adults.

The classes were conducted in two sessions: morning and afternoon. Guests were welcomed by PMA Managing Director Margaret Kot. Instructions were given by: Grace Bazylewski, Liz Muscare, Maria Grzadziel, Lidia Kowalewicz, Isabella Grobelna, Lisa Terlecki, and Terri Sinkowski. Workshop instructors were helped by: Halina Bieniewska, Kasia Balutowska, Alexandra Baczynski, Adam Aksnowicz, Krystyna Grell and Margaret Kot.

Participants were free to sit and work at different tables, where various ornament instructions were prepared. Everyone could choose which ornaments they wanted to make - according to their individual skills and abilities. Complimentary cold drinks, coffee and sweets were served.

At the end of each workshop, prize raffles were held whereby children and older participants could win gift baskets. Participants also had the opportunity to visit the Museum, as the price of the tour was included in the workshop price.



(Photos: Malgorzata Kot)

Polish-born Grandparents Did Make a Difference In Tribute to “Babcia” and “Dziadek”

By Robert Strybel, Polish/Polonian Affairs writer



National Grandparents Day has been celebrated in the US on the first Sunday after Labor Day since 1978. In Poland, *Dzień Babci* (Grandma's Day) on January 21st was first launched in 1965 and a *Dzień Dziadka* (Grandpa's Day) was added on January 22nd. Both are relatively new occasions, but grandparents' help with child raising and household chores was already known centuries ago. In Polonia, *Dziadkowie* (grandparents) were often a repository of our ancestral heritage. Polish-born grandparents were best suited to pass down the family history and Old World lore – customs, traditions, prayers, lullabies, nursery rhymes, recipes and assorted notions and practices.

Not all Polish grandparents were able to play such an active tradition-sharing role. They may have lived at the other end of a large metropolis or even in another state. Maybe they lived in the same house with only one or several of many grandchildren, so those grandchildren living elsewhere could not enjoy the full benefit of their companionship. And there were grandparents who just weren't too talkative or simply didn't care to dredge up all that “Old Country stuff” because “this is America.”

I don't know if anyone has ever formally studied the influence of Polish grandparents, but years of observation and spot interviews with Polish Americans have convinced me that PolAms blessed with the presence of Polish-born grandparents in their formative years have been among Polonia's most active members. I'm sure I'm not the only one who owes the initial stage of interest in and love of their ancestral heritage, as well as a desire to share it with others to their grandparents. All four of mine were born in partition-era Poland.

My paternal grandmother Kazimiera Strybel née Skorupska, whom I called Babcia Kazia, acquainted me with the Polish fables of Krasicki and Fredro and taught me to read and write in Polish even before I went to school. Dziadek Zdzichu (her husband) was a hard worker, good provider and household handyman but also the silent type whose cultural input was limited. My maternal grandmother, Babcia Kupczyńska, told me stories in Polish that she made up, as she went along the way, but her major claim to fame was being the quintessence of grandmotherly love, kindness, piety and devotion.

My paternal grandparents took me to Sunday Polish picnics at such suburban Detroit parks as Warszawa, Zielony Gaj and Szwajcarska Dolina and to see *Wagabunda*, the first live post-war variety show from Poland. My maternal grandparents didn't own a car and were less mobile, but I recall going with them by bus to see a pre-war Polish movie *Barbara Radziwiłłówna*. The local Polish Daily *Dziennik Polski* and other Polish publications (I recall *Nowy Świat*, *Ameryka-Echo* and *Miesięcznik Franciszkański*) were found in the homes of both sets of my grandparents.

My paternal grandpa, Dziadek (Jan) Kupczyński, was in a class all his own. A barber by occupation, who had served in the music corps of the Russian Tsar's army, he was natural-born storyteller with sayings and anecdotes for every occasion. He was also a natural-born teacher, who taught his grandkids to play the xylophone and offered me \$5 (a lot of money back then!) if I could list all the U.S. states around the country's perimeter. Dziadek also taught me to recite Adam Mickiewicz's ballad *Czaty*, although back then I didn't know Mickiewicz from the corner butcher. He and I used to just chat, naturally only in Polish, play checkers and attend open-air Detroit symphony concerts together. We were buddies!

Many of the seminarians to whom I taught Polish at Orchard Lake (my first college teaching job) were the products of Polish-born grandparents. Without that family connection, perhaps some of them might not have even been there. The same was true for many of Detroit's third-generation Polish community leaders, politicians, clergy, professionals and insurance-fraternal activists.

To this day, the family of University of Wisconsin's Professor Donald Pienkos of Milwaukee carries on many of the traditions to which he was first exposed by his four Polish-born grandparents. “These have included favorite Polish dishes, *oplatek* at Wigilia, *Święcone* (Easter breakfast) comprising foods blessed at church, as well as wedding traditions,” the political scientist remarked. He also recalled his dziadek's “fistful of money” game. He would fill a bowl with coins and each grandchild got to keep as many as he could wrap his fist around.

Of course, this is a two-way street. Grandparents’ cultural influence also depended upon the receptivity of grandchildren. There were some grandchildren who were ashamed of grandparents speaking broken English or Babcia wearing a headscarf (*babushka*) all year round. Such kids felt those quaint and corny Old Country ways did not fit in with the “modern”, 100% American lifestyle being aggressively peddled by the WASP powers that be!

Kids of DP generation parents often never knew their grandparents and owed their interest in things Polish to their parents. Greenpoint native and lifelong Polish cultural activist Krystyna Gutt learned about her heritage from her DP dad and PolAm mother. Historian Professor John Radziłowski had US-born PolAm grandparents and learned to speak Polish thanks to his Polish-born great-grandfather. In some families a stray aunt or uncle may have been the main ethnic torch-bearer.

Whatever the case, it appears that ancestors with direct Old Country ties are usually the ones who, in most PolAm families, have passed down the ancestral heritage to the younger generation. Was this the case in your family as well?

KALENDARZ na STYCZEŃ i LUTY 2015

♦ 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 udziałem 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. 18.

30 stycznia (piątek) - ROZGRYWKI KRĘGLARSKIE I ZBIÓRKA FUNDUSZY ZPiT "Zajaczkę" - Sterling Lanes, Sterling Hts., MI. Informacje: zajaczekdance@yahoo.com.

♦ 3 lutego (wtorek) - KLASA JĘZ. POLSKIEGO W ZPRKA - szczegóły str. 16.

♦ 7 lutego (sobota) - BAL KARNAWAŁOWY ZPiT "Polonia" - szczegóły obok.

♦ 8 lutego (niedziela) - Walentynkowy lunch na cześć byłej wiceprezeski ZPRKA, p. Anny Sokołowskiej - szczegóły obok.

♦ 17 lutego (wtorek) - AUTOKAROWA WYCIECZKA TOW. #162, Wyandotte, MI po pączki. Informacje: (313) 815-5230.

♦ 20 lutego (piątek) - OBIAD PIEROGOWY ZPiT "Echoes of Poland" - PRCUA Hall 5255 Detroit, Toledo, OH; w godz. 16-20; koszt uczestnictwa \$8 - w tym 4 pierogi, sałata, chleb, deser, napoje; Wcześniejsze zamówienia: 12 pierogów w cenie \$9.00 (z serem, ziemniakami, kapustą kiszoną lub mieszane z serem i ziemniakami) pod nr. telefonu: (419) 531-8658.

♦ 21 lutego (sobota) - 24. DOROCZNY BALL IM. SHIRLEY GALANTY W MICHIGAN - szczegóły obok.

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

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

Ostatnie swawole karnawału w Chicago!

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Bal karnawałowy
w rodzinnym stylu!

7 lutego 2015 r.
w godz. 18 do 1 rano
 Crystal Palace Banquets
 1070 S Elmhurst Rd, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

Znakomite dania polskiej kuchni królewskiej. Pokaz staropolskich tańców i obyczajów zapustowych. Siarczyna dworska (i chłopska) muzyka do tańca. Wodzirej porwie nas wszystkich do wesołej zabawy.

Bilety w cenie: \$60 dorośli (otwarty bar)
\$25 dzieci od 3-12 lat

Po rezerwacji prosimy dzwonić do Anny Krysińskiej,
 tel. 1(847)529 2555.



Ostatnia okazja!

Rodzice, dziadkowie, wujkowie 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. Zwycięcy ogłoszeni będą na: 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

* Podaj w przybliżeniu wiek ubezpieczonego (np: jeśli dziecko ma 8 lat i 5 miesięcy, wybierz 8 lat, jeśli dziecko 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.



Dystrykt #8 ZPRKA zaprasza na Walentynkowy lunch

na cześć
 byłej wiceprezeski ZPRKA
 p. Anny Sokołowskiej

8 lutego 2014
Camelot Banquet
 8624 W 95th St, Hickory Hills, IL

11:30 Wejście
12:30 Lunch
Bilety \$30

Rezerwacje do 1 lutego 2014

Dodatkowe informacje:
 dyrektor Dystr. #8 Jim Rustik
 tel. (630) 567-0754

Zaznacz w kalendarzu datę!

Grupa Kulturalna Dorosłych im. M. Konopnickiej
Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce
pragnie serdecznie Państwa zaprosić do udziału w

40. Dorocznym Wiosennym Pokazie Mody lunchu i programie artystycznym w niedzielę, 8 marca 2015 r. Sabre Room

8900 W. 95th St., Hickory Hills, IL

Biletu: \$35 dorośli, \$20 dzieci do lat 10

Dochód z pokazu przeznaczony zostanie
na stypendia dla przyszłorocznych uczestników
Balu "Kopciuszek i Książę"

Prosimy o wsparcie tego wartościowego celu!

Aby uzyskać dodatkowe informacje, dzwoń do:
Liz lub Walter Dynowski tel. (708) 532-1541



Gratulujemy zwycięzcom w konkursie na kolorowanke

ZPRKA sponsorowało doroczny konkurs z okazji obchodzonego w październiku, Miesiąca Dziedzictwa Polskiego. Na obrazku, który należało pomalować znajdowała się podobizna ppłk. Matka Urbana - amerykańskiego wojskowego polskiego pochodzenia, uczestnika II wojny światowej. Na tegoroczny konkurs nadesłanych zostało ponad 150 prac. Nazwiska zwycięzców zamieszczamy na str. 2.

Gratulujemy zwycięzcom i dziękujemy wszystkim za udział.

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@prcu.org, w celu uzyskania dodatkowych informacji.

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

Powstają klasy jęz. polskiego

Zapraszamy wszystkich 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 3 lutego 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 Szyrzym

Zainteresowani mogą się rejestrować pod adresem:

mary-jane-robles@prcu.org

lub telefonicznie, dzwoniąc na numer (773) 782-2601

Termin rejestracji upływa w piątek, 31 stycznia 2015 r.

Magiczne Świąta z Zespołem Pieśni i Tańca "Polonia"

Miesiąc grudzień co roku obfituje w szereg imprez i atrakcji związanych z przygotowaniami i obchodem Świąt Bożego Narodzenia. Dla tancerzy z zespołu "Polonia" jest to czas intensywnych przygotowań do zbliżających się występów.

Jednym z najbardziej unikalnych było przedstawienie "Magiczne Świąta" w Copernicus Center, w którym zespoły "Mała Polonia" oraz "Polonia" uczestniczyły już po raz czwarty.

W tym roku młodzi i starsi



edukację naszych dzieci oraz pogratulować wszystkim wspaniałym tancerzom, tym dużym i tym małym, za ich wytrwałość, jak również rodzicom za ich poświęcenie. Zapraszamy w nasze szeregi. poloniaensemble@prcu.org; 1-847-529-2555.

tancerze zaprezentowali publiczności scenę kolędników przybywających do staropolskiego dworku, gdzie zostają powitani przez hojnych gospodarzy. Oprócz tancerzy nie zabrakło rozśpiewanych kolędników; diabła, śmierci, turonia, królów i cyganek, którzy oprócz śpiewu i tańca pokazali swoje wspaniałe talenty aktorskie.

Z podobnym repertuarem zespół "Polonia" występował na kilku kolejnych przedświątecznych spotkaniach wigilijnych, zorganizowanych przez Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej na stan

Illinois, Chicago Society, oraz Wigilii dla samotnych i ubogich, zorganizowanej po raz 14ty przez radio 1030AM i Polvision przy bazylice św. Jacka. Za każdym razem witano ich z uśmiechem i ciekawością, a żegnano ciepłymi brawami, s z c z e r y m i podziękowaniami i wyrazami zachwytu.

Kolejny rok, kolejne święta minęły bardzo uroczysto. Dla młodych tancerzy to kolejny sukces sceniczny, potwierdzający ich talent, profesjonalizm i miłość do polskiego folkloru i tradycji. Zapraszamy wszystkich Państwa na kolejne występy zespołów "Krasnoludki", "Mała Polonia" oraz "Polonia", pragnę podziękować dyrektor Annie Krysińskiej, założycielce Cecyli Rożnowskiej, instruktorowi tańca Jacklyn Krysiński, dyrektorowi muzycznemu Mieczysławowi Dziś oraz choreografowi Iwonie Puc, za

Red. Kathryn (Rosypal) Romani pożegnała się z pracownikami biura ZPRKA

Chicago, IL - Redaktor naczelna "Narodu Polskiego", Kathryn (Rosypal) Romani, która odeszła z końcem listopada na emeryturę, odwiedziła 5 grudnia biuro ZPRKA, gdzie została przyjęta lunchem. Kasia przyjechała do Chicago, aby złożyć ostatnie sprawozdanie jako redaktor naczelny w czasie kwartalnego zebrania zarządu i dyrekcji ZPRKA w dniu 6 grudnia.

Na lunch zaproszeni zostali obecni i byli członkowie zarządu i dyrekcji i pracownicy ZPRKA oraz Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce, z którymi Kathryn pracowała przez ponad 25 lat, a także rodzina p. Kasi. Obecni byli:



Kasia otrzymała życzenia i prezent od zarządu ZPRKA (l-p) Kathryn, prezes Joseph Drobot, wiceprezes Micheline Jamiński, sekretarz-skarbnik James Robaczewski



Podziękowania od prezesa MPA Marii Cieśli i pracowników MPA



Z była wiceprezeską ZPRKA Anną Sokołowską (l) i superwizorem Edwardem Muszalskim

córka Elizabeth Miller, była wiceprezeską ZPRKA Anna Sokołowska, b. dyrektor Dystr. #7 Robert Bugielski, dyrektorka Dystr. #7 Anna Krysiński, superwizor ZPRKA Edward Muszalski, emerytowane pracowniczki ZPRKA Mary Górny i Alice Robaczewski.



Najlepsze życzenia od dyr. Dystr. #7 Anny Krysińskiej

wszystkim za ich obecność w tak ważnym dla niej dniu, który stanowi początek nowego etapu w jej życiu.

Pan Robaczewski zmówił krótką modlitwę, po której wszyscy obecni zasiedli do lunchu przygotowanego przez Kasia's Deli. Po lunchu Kathryn pokroiła okazały tort, na którym wypisane były czekoladą podziękowania i życzenia pomyślności.

Gratulujemy i życzymy Kasi (Rosypal) Romani dużo zdrowia, spełnienia marzeń i planów oraz zasłużonego odpoczynku!

Jak zostać członkiem ZPRKA?

Istnieją dwa sposoby, umożliwiające stanie się członkiem Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce:

- 1) Kup polisę ubezpieczeniową na życie
- 2) Otwórz konto emerytalne

Ubezpieczenie na życie

Nasze portfolio ubezpieczeń na życie jest bardzo konkurencyjne i zapewnia różnorodne plany ubezpieczeniowe, zarówno stałe jak i terminowe, dostępne w różnej wysokości ubezpieczenia. Plany oferowane przez ZPRKA są dostosowane do każdej potrzeby i każdego budżetu. Na przykład, 45-letni, niepalący mężczyzna wykupując stałe ubezpieczenie na życie na sumę 5000 dolarów, będzie płacił tylko 15,64 dolarów miesięcznie przez ograniczony okres czasu 20 lat. Zadzwoń do nas dzisiaj po indywidualną wycenę!

Konta emerytalne

ZPRKA oferuje również plany emerytalne w naszym obecnym silnym portfelu produktów finansowych. Nasze plany emerytalne odgrywają ważną rolę, pomagając członkom w zabezpieczeniu przyszłości finansowej swojej rodziny. Plany oferowane w naszym portfolio, są bardzo konkurencyjne na dzisiejszym rynku i wymagają tylko 300 dolarów minimalnej wpłaty przy otwarciu oraz zwolnione są z opłat serwisowych. Obecnie można uzyskać od 2,5% do 2,75% APY!

Jakie są korzyści z przystąpienia?

W obecnej chwili posiadamy ponad 50.000 członków w całym kraju. Ludzie wstępują do naszej organizacji, ponieważ ZPRKA wspomaga wiele polsko-amerykańskich inicjatyw, zapewnia stypendia dla studentów oraz granty edukacyjne na wyższe uczelnie oraz dotuje wiele polskich szkół języka polskiego i tańca ludowego, opłacając wpisowe. Stając się członkiem będziesz wspierać Zespół Szkół w Orchard Lake, a także Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce.

Zostań członkiem już dziś!

Jeśli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać więcej informacji nt. któregośkolwiek z oferowanych przez ZPRKA planów ubezpieczeniowych na życie lub planów emerytalnych, prosimy o skontaktowanie się z lokalnym przedstawicielem handlowym lub z biurem głównym ZPRKA.

Czy pamiętasz, że oferujemy elektroniczną wersję "Narodu Polskiego" i usługi bankowe ACH?

Elektroniczna wersja Narodu Polskiego - przyjazna środowisku

Członkowie ZPRKA, którzy chcieliby zaprenumerować gazetę "Naród Polski" w formie elektronicznej, a nie za pośrednictwem poczty, mogą dokonać zmiany w bardzo prosty sposób - wystarczy wejść na naszą stronę internetową, www.prcua.org i wybrać "Naród Polski", a następnie odpowiednio wypełnić rubrykę "Manage Your Subscription".

Oszczędź czas i pieniądze! Przystąp do programu A.C.H.

Członkowie ZPRKA mogą zarejestrować się do programu bankowego ACH. Umożliwia on użytkownikom dokonywanie automatycznych opłat za posiadane w ZPRKA ubezpieczenia na życie, pożyczki hipoteczne, i/lub spłaty zaciągniętych pożyczek - bezpośrednio z ich konta bankowego. Jednocześnie posiadacze kont emerytalnych annuity mogą zaaranżować automatyczne dokonywanie wpłat na konto annuity i/lub automatyczne wypłaty z tego konta i przelewy bezpośrednio na ich konto bankowe.

Aby zarejestrować się do tej nowej usługi, prosimy o kontakt e-info@prcu.org lub telefonicznie z Julie Prado tel. (773) 782-2600 w. 2626 lub Anną Grabowski (773) 782-2600 w. 2628. Rejestracja jest prosta i wymaga wypełnienia obowiązujących formularzy, które rozpoczną proces automatycznych przelewów. Ten nowy program pozwoli członkom zaoszczędzić czas i koszty wysyłki pocztowej.

Biuro ZPRKA będzie nieczynne w dniach 1 i 2 stycznia



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.

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

Stypendium Fundacji Charytatywnej KPA

Fundacja Charytatywna Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej (Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation) informuje o udostępnionych stypendiach imienia rodzin Majer i Lakowski – The Majer and Lakowski Families Memorial Scholarships – dla studentów studiów inżynierskich i administracji biznesu. Kandydaci muszą być studentami studiów bakałarskich (licencjackich) lub magisterskich, w publicznej uczelni stanowej (uniwersytet lub college). Pierwszeństwo będzie dane do uczniów na roku studiów trzecim, czwartym i magisterskie.

Stypendia pokrywają roczne czesne, które uiszcza student – mieszkanie stanu.

Kopię podania o stypendia można uzyskać pisząc na adres: Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation, 5711 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60646 (tel. 773-763-9942).

Formularze podań można też wydrukować ze strony internetowej Fundacji Charytatywnej KPA: www.pacfc.org.

Termin składania podań upływa 15 marca 2015 roku.



81. DOROCZNY TURNIEJ KOSZYKÓWKI ZPRKA 21 marca 2015 - Dearborn, MI

81. Ogólnokrajowy Turniej Koszykówki ZPRKA odbędzie się w sobotę, 21 marca 2015 w Dearborn, MI. Zawodnicy i goście mogą się zakwaterować w hotelu Comfort Inn, 20061 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn, MI. Aby dokonać rezerwacji, należy zadzwonić 313-436-9600. Cena pokoju dla uczestników turnieju ZPRKA wynosi \$105 za noc, plus podatek (maksimum 4 osoby w pokoju). Rezerwując pokój nie zapomnijcie zapytać o cenę dla ZPRKA. Termin rezerwacji upływa 10 marca 2015 r.

Turniej rozgrywany będzie w Henry Ford College and Dearborn High School. Informacje o dojeździe do sali gimnastycznej zostaną wysłane pocztą elektroniczną oraz umieszczone na ulotkach dostępnych w hotelu.

Gospodarzem tegorocznego turnieju jest Tow. św. Stana. #718 ZPRKA. Komitet organizacyjny, któremu współprzewodniczą Jerry Nasiatka i Bob Hojnacki jest w trakcie załatwiania ostatecznych formalności i przygotowań. W piątek w godz. od 6 do 10 wieczorem odbędzie się w ogródku piwnym w Dearborn spotkanie integracyjne. Ceremonia rozdania nagród odbędzie się w sobotę wieczorem w O'Kelley's Knights of Columbus, na Park Avenue, również w Dearborn; w czasie wieczoru grać będzie zespół The Kielbasa Kings.

W celu uzyskania formularza zgłoszeniowego prosimy się kontaktować z Działem Braterskim ZPRKA, tel. 1-800-772-8632, w. 2601. Formularze należy wypełnić i odesłać do biura głównego, razem z opłatą 50.00 dolarów wpisowego od drużyny. Prosimy wystawiać czeki na: PRCUA Sports Fund. Wszystkie zgłoszenia muszą być wysłane do 2 marca 2015 (data stempla pocztowego).

Zapraszamy i zachęcamy do udziału nowych zawodników! Dodatkowe pytania, prosimy kierować do Działu Braterstwa ZPRKA, tel. 1-800-772-8632, w. 2601.

Joseph A. Drobot, Jr.	Micheline Jamiński	James Robaczewski
prezes	wiceprezes	sekretrz-skarbnik

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*

Warsztaty robienia ozdób choinkowych w MPA

W sobotę, 13 grudnia Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce zorganizowało warsztaty robienia ozdób choinkowych dla dzieci i dorosłych.

Zajęcia, prowadzone były w dwóch grupach: porannej i popołudniowej. Gości witała dyrektorka wykonawcza MPA Małgorzata Kot. Instrukcji udzielały: Grace Bazylewski, Liz Muscare, Maria Grządziel, Lidia Kowalewicz, Izabela Grobelna, Terri Sinkowski i Lisa Terlecki. W prowadzeniu warsztatów pomagali: Halina Bieniewska, Kasia Balutowska, Aleksandra Baczyński, Adam Aksnowicz, Krystyna Grell i Małgorzata Kot.

Dla uczestników przygotowano stoły z różnymi ozdobami - każdy mógł wybrać, które ozdoby chce zrobić - według stopnia umiejętności i indywidualnych zdolności. Na gości czekały również zimne napoje, kawa i słodkości.

Na zakończenie warsztatów odbyły się loterie fantowe, na których do wygrania były koszyki z prezentami dla dzieci oraz dla starszych uczestników. Uczestnicy mogli również skorzystać z okazji, aby zwiedzić muzeum.

zdjęcia: Małgorzata Kot



Doroczne przyjęcie świąteczne pracowników ZPRKA i MPA

Chicago, IL - Tradycyjnym już zwyczajem pracownicy biura ZPRKA i



MPA spotkali się na dorocznym przyjęciu świątecznym, które w tym roku odbyło się we środę, 17 grudnia w restauracji The Greek Islands w Chicago.

Mimo, że spotkanie nie



odbywało się w polskiej restauracji z typowo polskim jedzeniem, wszyscy pracownicy doskonale się bawili i chętnie skorzystali z okazji, aby



poznać kulinarne walory innych narodowości.

Przed obiadem członkowie zarządu prezes Joseph A. Drobot, Jr. oraz wiceprezes Micheline Jamiński życzyli wszystkim radosnych świąt i zdrowia w nadchodzącym Nowym Roku.



Sekretarz-skarbnik zmówił krótką modlitwę przed posiłkiem, po czym wszyscy tradycyjnie dzielili się opłatkiem i składali sobie życzenia.



Po obiedzie wszyscy doskonale się bawili w przygotowane przez członków zarządu zabawy. Najpierw wszyscy wzięli udział w śpiewie amerykańskiej kolędy 12 Days of Christmas, potem zaś wiceprezes



zaprosiła do drugiej zabawy. Na każdym stole położone zostały pudełka z czekoladkami. Wiceprezes odczytała zabawną historię, a czekoladki musiały być podawane na lewo i prawo - w zależności

od czytanego tekstu. Uciechy było co niemiara.

Na zakończenie członkowie zarządu podarowali wszystkim czerwone bombki, na których wcześniej pani Judith Drobot wykaliografowała ręcznie imiona każdego pracownika - piękne upomniki, które wszystkich zachwyciły.

zdjęcia: Lidia Kowalewicz

WESPRZYJ FUNDUSZ EDUKACYJNY ZPRKA

Nie zapominajmy o tym, że w każdej chwili możemy pomóc członkom ZPRKA, którzy dążą do zdobycia wyższego wykształcenia. Co może być bardziej znaczące niż dotacja na Fundusz Edukacyjny ZPRKA i pomoc polsko-amerykańskiej młodzieży w uzyskaniu lepszego wykształcenia?

ZPRKA wzywa swoich członków i sympatyków do wspierania naszej młodzieży poprzez dotacje na Fundusz Edukacyjny ZPRKA (PRCUA Education Fund, Inc), Fundusz jest organizacją niedochodową i posiada status 501(c)(3).

Nazwiska darczyńców zostaną wymienione w "Narodzie Polskim", osoby które nie chcą być wymienione, prosimy o zaznaczenie, iż pragną pozostać anonimowe.

Jeśli są Państwo zainteresowani utworzeniem konkretnego stypendium w swoim imieniu dla potomności, czy "Na cześć" lub "Na pamiątkę" ukochanej osoby, prosimy skontaktować się z prezesem ZPRKA Josephem Drobotem, tel: 1-800-772-8632, w. 2602, w celu uzyskania dodatkowych informacji.

Słowo od redaktora naczelnego:

Szanowni Państwo,

Jak przeczytaliście zapewne w listopadowym wydaniu "Narodu Polskiego", redaktor naczelna Kathryn (Rosypal) Romani przeszła z końcem listopada 2014 roku na emeryturę.

Członkowie zarządu Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce powierzyli mi odpowiedzialne stanowisko redaktora naczelnego "Narodu Polskiego" i kontynuowanie wielkiej misji poprzednich redaktorów, która ma na celu zapewnienie członkom ZPRKA godnego przekazu aktualnych informacji o naszej braterskiej organizacji. Jestem bardzo wdzięczna za okazane mi zaufanie. Jestem jednocześnie pewna, że mogę liczyć na wsparcie i współpracę zarządu i dyrekcji.

Chciałabym podziękować byłym i obecnym członkom zarządu, dyrektorom ZPRKA, dyrektorom szkół języka polskiego i tańca ludowego, współpracownikom oraz wszystkim członkom, z którymi miałam okazję pracować przez ponad 25 lat.

Serdecznie dziękuję redaktor Kathryn (Rosypal) Romani za ogrom pracy, który włożyła i za wspólnie przepracowane w redakcji "Narodu Polskiego" lata. Kathryn wprowadziła mnie w tajniki działalności ZPRKA, organizacji, o której nie słyszałam zanim nie odwiedziłam biura głównego oraz w życie Polonii w Chicago. Pomogła mi nauczyć się nowych programów komputerowych, pisanie artykułów i tworzenia gazety przy pomocy Desktop Publishing. Jej profesjonalizm, pozytywne nastawienie do pracy, i życzliwość sprawiły, że praca w redakcji była przyjemna dla całego personelu, który pracował wówczas w redakcji, w tym redaktora Andrzeja Azarjewa i archiwistki, śp. pani Czesławy Kozioł.

Wraz z Kathryn starałyśmy się reprezentować ZPRKA godnie na licznych oficjalnych imprezach i uroczystościach miejskich, stanowych i innych w Chicago, w Stanach Zjednoczonych, a nawet za granicą. Wspierałyśmy się nawzajem podczas tworzenia każdego kolejnego wydania "Narodu Polskiego" i podczas różnych projektów, przygotowywanych dla Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce.

Kathryn uczestniczyła również we wszystkich najważniejszych wydarzeniach z mojego dorosłego życia. Cieszyła się z moich sukcesów i wspierała mnie w trudnych chwilach. Ci, którzy ją znają osobiście, cenią ją za jej optymizm, poczucie humoru, szczere i otwarte serce, i za jej gotowość do podejmowania się nowych wyzwań. Dziękuję Kathryn, że była nie tylko moją szefową, ale także moim mentorem i przyjacielem. Pragnę również poinformować, że Kathryn pozostanie przez jakiś czas konsultantem i będzie mi pomagać w przejściu obowiązków redaktora naczelnego.

Jak zauważyliście zmieniliśmy wygląd strony tytułowej "Narodu Polskiego". Wraz z członkami zarządu ZPRKA zdecydowaliśmy, że jest to najlepszy moment, aby dokonać pewnych zmian. Uważamy, iż nowy nagłówek da naszej publikacji bardziej nowoczesny wygląd, jest prosty i łatwy do odczytania, a kolory zostały dopasowane do kolorów logo ZPRKA.

Zaczynając pracę na nowym stanowisku wyznaczyłam sobie kilka celów. Postaram się kontynuować niezwykle dzieło moich poprzedników, których celem było wspieranie naszego polskiego dziedzictwa i naszej organizacji braterskiej, przestrzeganie standardów etycznych i zawodowych, a przede wszystkim będę chciała skoncentrować się na wydarzeniach mających miejsce w ZPRKA i wśród Polonii. Ponieważ publikacja nasza jest naszą wizytówką poza ZPRKA, dlatego postaram się, aby "Naród Polski, był pisany ciekawie i pouczająco.

Zachęcam wszystkich Państwa, do nadsyłania do redakcji informacji, aby "Naród Polski" był prawdziwym "głosem" naszej organizacji i tych, którzy ją tworzą, czyli jej członków.

Z braterskim pozdrowieniem,

Lidia Kowalewicz, redaktor naczelny

DYSTRYKT #9 ZPRKA ŚWIĘTOWAŁ DOROCZNY "OPŁATEK"



L-p: prowadząca program dyr. Elizabeth Sadus, James Robaczewski i Paul Pawłowski

Tegoroczny "Opłatek" ZPRKA został zorganizowany przez Dystrykt #9 ZPRKA w sali przy Sanktuarium MB Częstochowskiej w Merrillville, IN.

Wchodzących gości witała dyrektorka Dystryktu #9, Elizabeth Sadus.

Na przykrytych białymi obrusami stołach królował wśród dekoracji i upominków, tradycyjny opłatek.

Gości powitali dyr. Sadus oraz Paul Pawłowski. Hymny narodowe polski i amerykański zaśpiewał sekretarz-skarbnik Jim Robaczewski, a kapelan ZPRKA ks. prałat Władysław Ptak odmówił krótką modlitwę.

Dzieląc się opłatkiem, wszyscy życzyli sobie wesołych świąt i pomyślności w nadchodzącym nowym roku.

W czasie lunchu podane zostały tradycyjne potrawy wigilijne: barszcz grzybowy, ryba, kapusta, pierogi i śledzie.

Po lunchu dyr. Sadus podziękowała emerytowanej redaktor "Narodu Polskiego", Kathryn Romani, za wieloletnią współpracę.

W krótkim programie artystycznym przygotowanym przez Szkołę im. bł. Rafała Kalinowskiego z Munster, IN, uczniowie przedstawili historię narodzin Dzieciątka Jezus oraz kilka kolęd. Występ młodych artystów nagrodzony został brawami.

Dzieciom największą radość sprawiło przybycie św. Mikołaja, który obdarzył wszystkie z nich drobnymi upominkami.

Na zakończenie, odbyła się loteria fantowa. W losowaniu szczęśliwych wygranych pomagały obecne na "Opłatkach" dzieci.

W "Opłatkach" udział wzięli obecni i byli członkowie zarządu i dyrekcji ZPRKA, przedstawiciele zaprzyjaźnionych organizacji, "Kopciuszek i Książę 2015" oraz księża z Sanktuarium.



Powyżej: dyr. Sadus (p) wręczyła drobny upominek red. Rosypal (l) w dowód wdzięczności za pomoc i współpracę

Z lewej: ks. Władysław Ptak zmówił krótką modlitwę



Goście powstali do odśpiewania hymnów narodowych



Młodzi artyści ze Szkoły Polskiej im. św. Rafała Kalinowskiego



Pamiątkowe zdjęcie ze św. Mikołajem



Dzieci oraz "Kopciuszek i Książę" pomagali przy loterii fantowej prowadzonej przez Micheline Lamont



"Kopciuszek i Książę" czyli Alicia Kaleta i Aleksander Łabudzki ze św. Mikołajem, w którego wcielił się p. Walter Dynowski



Grupowe zdjęcie z obecnymi i byłymi członkami zarządu i dyrekcji ZPRKA i młodymi artystami

zdjęcia: Lidia Kowalewicz