



# Naród Polski

Bilingual Publication of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America

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

November 2019 - Listopad 2019

No. 11 - Vol. CXXXIV

www.PRCUA.org

Zapraszamy  
do czytania  
stron \_ - \_  
w jęz. polskim.



PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
PAID AT CHICAGO, IL

## Giving Thanks 2019

*"For the Beauty of the Earth, For the Beauty of the Sky"*



The opening verse from the above popular hymn just scratches the surface of all the many things we have to be thankful for as we approach Thanksgiving Day. God in His love and care for us has blessed us abundantly with so many beautiful gifts. All that we have now and all that we shall ever have is a gift from God.

As the preface at Mass each day reminds us, "It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God."

As we gather at our family tables, may thanksgiving to the Lord flow from our hearts in abundance for all He has done for us this past year!

A blessed and Happy Thanksgiving to our beloved PRCUA Family and Friends!  
**Smacznego Indyka!**

*Rev. Canon Walter J. Ptak  
National Chaplain*

## DEPUTY MARSHAL OF POLAND VISITS PRCUA AND PMA

The Honorable Małgorzata Maria Gosiewska, Deputy Marshal of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland, visited the Home Office of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and the Polish Museum of America on Monday, October 7. She was accompanied by the Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago Piotr Janicki and Vice Consul Piotr Semeniuk.

The visit began in the PRCUA Board Room with a short meeting during which PRCUA Officers President James Robaczewski, Vice President Micheline Jaminski, and Secretary-Treasurer Agnieszka Bastrzyk, and PMA President Richard Owsiany, PMA Managing Director Małgorzata Kot, and Historian Jan Lorys, familiarized Mrs.



Deputy Marshal Gosiewska (center) with PRCUA and PMA representatives and other guests touring the Paderewski Room



PMA President Richard Owsiany addressing the panelists

Gosiewska with the history and scope of operation of the PRCUA and PMA.

Guests proceeded to the Paderewski Room, where PMA Archivist Halina Misterka showed the most treasured artifacts from the Paderewski collection.

After a brief tour of the PMA Great Hall, Deputy Marshal Gosiewska, the consuls and accompanying guests participated in a panel entitled "Grateful for Independence in Tribute to America and Paderewski," organized by the Polish-Ukrainian Ignacy Jan Paderewski Foundation, the Paderewski Symphony Orchestra of Chicago and the Polish Museum of America. The event was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland as part of their funding of public diplomacy.





NOVEMBER

- 1-2
ALL SAINTS DAY / ALL SOULS DAY
- 4
CHICAGO, IL – POLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES FOR ADULTS BEGIN on Monday, November 4 at 6:00 pm in the PRCUA Board Room, 984 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL. FREE for PRCUA members; \$150 tuition for non-PRCUA members. Registration: mateusz-bomba@prcu.org or 773-782-2636. See details on pg. 18.
- 8-9
CENTER LINE, MI – 3rd NATIONAL PRCUA VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT - on Fri.-Sat., Nov. 8-9 in Center Line, MI, hosted by PRCUA Opole Dance School, Jennifer Vernon and Elizabeth Thacker, Chairwomen. Awards banquet on Sat., Nov. 9 from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. at Malone’s Tavern, 32350 Van Dyke Ave., Warren, MI. For additional information, contact: fraternal-department@prcu.org or 773-782-2636, www.prcua.org/sports or see the PRCUA Facebook page.
- 10
WYANDOTTE, MI – PRCUA SOCIETY #162 SOUP SUNDAY on Sun., Nov. 10, starting at 1:00 p.m. at PRCUA Lounge, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. \$5 per person - unlimited refills of a selection of soups. Soup makers are also needed. Contact Stan Pasko for more information at 313-815-5230.
- 11
VETERANS DAY (USA) / INDEPENDENCE DAY (POLAND) – THE PRCUA OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED.
- 16
DETROIT, MI – GWIAZDA DANCERS SOCCER WATCH PARTY on Sat., Nov. 16 at DCFC Clubhouse, 3401 E. Lafayette St., Detroit, MI. For tickets and information, contact Jessica at 313-682-3031 or panijessica@hotmail.com. See details on pg. 16.
- 18
ORLAND PARK, IL – PRCUA DISTRICT #8 QUARTERLY MEETING on Mon., Nov. 19 at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Woods, 10731 W. 131st St., Orland Park, IL.
- 20
LANSING, MI – WHITE EAGLE SOC. #2342 POTLUCK AND MEETING on Wed., Nov., 20 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Federated Polish Home, 1030 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI. Contact: Veronica Ulrich at 517-484-3311.
- 23
HICKORY HILLS, IL – CINDERELLA-PRINCE CHARMING BALL on Sat., Nov. 23 at Bobak’s Signature Events, 6440 Double Eagle Dr, Woodridge, IL. See details to the right.
- 26
WARREN, MI – ST. JOHN PAUL II SOC. #1593 MEETING on Tues., Nov. 26 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Anne Jr. H.S. (Back Building), 36000 Mound Rd., Warren, MI. Contact: Valerie Brumm at 248-622-8949 or valerie.brumm@gmail.com.
- 28-29
HAPPY THANKSGIVING – THE PRCUA OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED.

FRIDAYS
MADISON, IL – PRCUA SOC. #1004 FISH FRY & TACOS - Every Friday evening from October 4th through November 15th - Polish Hall, lower level, 826 Greenwood Street, Madison, IL. Serving from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Fried cod sandwich \$4, taco \$2. Chicken wings or strips, shrimp, onion rings, fries, slaw, and drinks are also available. Eat-in or carry-out. Follow all our events on Facebook.com/Polish.Hall.Madison

DECEMBER

- 1
WARREN, MI – PRCUA WOMEN’S DIVISION ANNUAL OPŁATEK - Hosted by the PRCUA Opole Dancers on Sun., Dec. 1 at DeCarlo’s Banquet Center, 6015 E 10 Mile Rd., Warren, MI. Doors open at 1:00 p.m., program at 1:30 p.m., lunch at 2:00 p.m. For tickets or questions, contact Beth Thacker at opole.director@comcast.net or 586-944-9683. See details on pg. 4.
- 6
ST. NICHOLAS DAY
- 7
CHICAGO, IL – ANNUAL PRCUA OPŁATEK, HOSTED BY DISTRICT #7 on Sat., Dec., 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Great Hall of the Polish Museum of America, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. For additional information and reservation form, see pg. 14.
- 8
WYANDOTTE, MI – PRCUA SOC. #162 CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY – PRCUA Banquet Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI on Sun., Dec. 8. Party starts at 12:30 p.m., Santa will arrive at 1:30 p.m. Members 10 and younger will receive a postcard with registration information before Nov 15. Questions can be directed to either Lisa 734-775-7987 or Mary Ann 734-341-2242.
- 14
WYANDOTTE, MI – 16TH ANNUAL SOC. #162 POLKA CHRISTMAS NIGHT on Sat., Dec. 14 at 8 p.m. at PRCUA Banquet Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. Kolędy, polkas and more. For more info, contact PRCUA Lodge at 734-281-7036. See details on pg. 18.
- 15
CHICAGO, IL – ANNUAL PRCUA SWCPSD CHRISTMAS SHOW on Sun., Dec., 15 at 1:00 p.m. at Mother McAuley Theater, 3737 W 99th St, Chicago, IL. For additional information, contact: Anna Kraszewski-Winkler at anna.kraszewski77@gmail.com.
- 15
WYANDOTTE, MI – PRCUA SOC. #162 Senior Christmas Party on Sun., Dec. 15 at PRCUA Banquet Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. Senior members 60 and over are welcome. \$10 for members, \$15 non-members (guests). Tickets must be purchased in advance. For more info, call Staś at 313-815-5230.

22
WYANDOTTE, MI – PRCUA SOCIETY #162 GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS on Sun., Dec. 22 at 1:00 p.m. at PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI.

24-25
MERRY CHRISTMAS! – THE PRCUA OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED.

31
NEW YEAR’S EVE

Polka Dance

St. Louis Metro Polka Club and PRCUA St. Stanislaus Soc. #1004 invite everyone to Rich Cullen's Dynamic Duo Polka Dance on November 24 at the Polish Hall, 826 Greenwood St., Madison, IL from 3:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Admission \$7, children 12 & under free. Polish sausage sandwiches & drinks are available for purchase. To learn more about our friends, the St. Louis Metro Polka Club, visit their website http://folkfire.org/polka/index.html. See all Polish Hall (St. Stanislaus Soc. #1004) events on Facebook.com/Polish.Hall.Madison.

Please submit all articles for the December issue of *Naród Polski* by November 15. Articles submitted after the deadline will be published in the following issue.

Adult Culture Group  
of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America  
cordially invites you to attend the

48th Cinderella - Prince Charming  
Ball

Saturday, November 23, 2019

Cocktails 6:30-7:30 pm  
Dinner 7:30 pm

Bobak's Signature Events  
6440 Double Eagle Dr, Woodridge, IL

Music for Dancing  
Donation \$85.00 per person

Reservation deadline:  
November 11, 2019

Information and reservations: Vicky Kroplewski  
708-698-1505

SAVE THE DATE

Southwest Center of Polish Song & Dance  
35th Anniversary  
Sunday, March 22, 2020 at 2 p.m.  
Mother McAuley Theater, 3737 W 99th St, Chicago, IL

Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance  
Masquerade Ball  
Saturday, January 18, 2020  
Camelot Banquets, 8624 W 95th St, Hickory Hills, IL



## Having the Conversation

At an early age, I decided that funeral service was my calling. The mysteries that surrounded the care of the deceased and those that care for the dead were compelling to me. After attaining the necessary education, my life-long work began. What was to follow over the next 33 years has been a fulfilling profession that helps the living to mourn and move forward with hope and promise of the Resurrection.

In the Catholic faith, we have the Sacraments to help fulfill these promises. We also have days of commemoration that bring special attention to those who have died - the feasts of saints and all faithful departed - All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. We pray for those who have left us, honor them and remember them. In doing so, their memory is kept safe and the prayers help bring them to the fullness of heaven.

We have these special liturgical days to help us commemorate our dead, yet we often find it awkward to talk about death in our own lives. Not having this difficult conversation can unnecessarily burden our families when we pass. Many families have had to deal with unexpected loss and find themselves not financially prepared. Maybe the funds were available. Maybe not. We plan in advance for the things we look forward to, such as that once-in-a-lifetime vacation, the kitchen remodel or sending the young ones to college. It takes responsibility and planning to set aside for those expenditures we know will happen.

We know that one day we will not be here with our loved ones. Planning for when we're gone requires as much responsibility as planning for the events that we look forward to. Taking responsibility for such an important decision shows that you are looking out for your family's future. So many times, when unexpected death occurs, the survivors are left to scramble for the necessary funds for final arrangements. In some situations, a proper funeral may be jeopardized or not held because funds are not available. Yes, the cost of funerals and graves can be costly. Could the funds be available, even when the unexpected occurs? Of course. Having a life insurance or final expense plan can significantly lessen the financial burden placed on our families.

When is a good time to talk to your spouse or children about the subject of dying? The best time to have that discussion is not when you need it – it is before it's necessary. Even when death is unexpected, making final arrangements in advance, whether they be life insurance or final expense plans, provides peace of mind and creates fewer financial worries for loved ones during an already difficult time.

Have the discussion that no one wants to have. Life may be smooth and anxiety-free now. That is the perfect time to prepare your family for when life does change.

- Leonard Zieliński, Funeral Director (Chicago, IL)

## Poland has been formally nominated to join the U.S. Visa Waiver Program

As of September 30, 2019, Poland has completed all necessary bilateral security agreements and has met the required B1/B2 visa refusal rate (for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019 it was under 3%), and has qualified to be nominated for membership in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program, which means Polish citizens will soon be able to travel to the United States for business and tourism in most cases without a visa.

There is an additional U.S. government administrative process required through the Department of Homeland Security to finalize Poland's entry into the Visa Waiver Program. If final approval comes from the Department of Homeland Security, Poland would be the 39th nation in the Visa Waiver Program, which allows travel to the United States without a visa if all requirements are met. Upon completion of that process, the Secretary of Homeland Security will then announce the date on which visa-free travel may commence.

Poland's inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program means that Polish citizens traveling on passports with embedded computer chips, and who have successfully obtained an Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) will be able to visit the United States for tourism and business trips of up to 90 days without a visa. Citizens of all countries traveling under the Visa Waiver Program must obtain an ESTA, which currently costs \$14 and is valid for up to two years.

Polish citizens wishing to travel in the U.S. for longer than 90 days, or who wish to engage in activities requiring other visa categories (e.g., to work or to study in the United States) will still need to apply for the appropriate category of visa. Polish citizens who are denied ESTA will also need to apply for a visa.

Discussing end-of-life decisions may be difficult for family members and close friends, but it is better to initiate such discussions as soon as possible rather than waiting until it's too late. The best advance care and estate planning happens well before it's actually needed. People sometimes think that if we bring this up with our families, they're going to think the worst, but if we explain that the goal is to understand what matters most to them at the end of life, the conversation can be a productive one. Many families use holidays like Thanksgiving to have the discussion, but any time can be the right time for you.

### Tips for end-of-life planning

- Before having a conversation with your loved ones, write down your thoughts. Decide on the four Ws: Whom do you want to tell? When do you want to talk to them? Where would you feel comfortable having the conversation? What do you want to say?
- Take baby steps. If you (or they) are feeling uncomfortable about having the conversation, start small. You don't have to do it all at once.
- Talk about concepts, not actualities. Many people find it easier to have a theoretical discussion rather than discuss their own death. If the person you're talking to is hesitant to talk, speaking about generalities may open a path to a fruitful conversation.
- Be creative. Introduce multiple ways to initiate a conversation. Take advantage of resources available online (such as conversation starter cubes or cards) and from organizations like AARP, the American Hospital Association, or [TheConversationProject.com](#).
- Share your wishes. A living will tucked away in your home safe won't do you any good when you're in the hospital.
- Keep on keeping on. If your spouse is reluctant to talk about end-of-life matters, talk to your adult children. If your family doesn't want to have the conversation, confide in a close friend or religious leader.
- Prepare your important documents: your advance directive (or living will) and powers of attorney. The advance directive spells out your wishes regarding what medical care you do (or don't) want, as well as your preferences for other medical decisions, such as pain management or organ donation. A medical power of attorney allows you to choose the person who can make medical decisions for you when you can't. A legal power of attorney authorizes a chosen person to make legal decisions on your behalf.
- Pre-plan your final arrangements. Most funeral homes will work with you to prepare your arrangements beforehand. Decisions like what you'll wear, what songs to sing, what flowers to have can all be decided by you in advance.

**92%** of people say that talking with their loved ones about end-of-life care is important.

**32%** have actually done so.<sup>1</sup>

**One conversation can make all the difference.**

<sup>1</sup> Source: *The Conversation Project National Survey (2018)*

201910EOLHP



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See PRCUA on Facebook



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You are cordially invited to attend  
PRCUA Women's Division  
Annual Oplatek Celebration  
Hosted by the PRCUA Opole Dancers

Sunday December 1, 2019  
DeCarlo's Banquet Center  
6015 E 10 Mile Rd., Warren, MI 48091

Doors open at 1 pm  
Program at 1:30 pm  
Lunch served at 2 pm

Adults \$20. Children 12 and under \$17



For tickets or questions,  
contact Beth Thacker  
[opole.director@comcast.net](mailto:opole.director@comcast.net)  
586-944-9683  
8191 Warren Blvd  
Center Line, MI 48015  
Checks payable to "Opole  
Dance School"

Reservations required by:  
Nov 22. Tickets will not be  
available at the door.

Share the Wealth and Prize  
Raffles to benefit the PRCUA  
Women's Division  
Scholarship Fund

352 VISITORS TOURED PRCUA  
HOME OFFICE AND THE PMA  
DURING OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO



PRCUA President James Robaczewski talking to a group of young visitors

Chicago Architecture Center. OHC allows participants access to 250+ architecturally, historically and culturally significant sites across the city, and to visit many buildings that are not typically open to the public. Featured sites include historic mansions, private clubs, sacred spaces, hotels, offices, theaters and much more. OHC began in 2011 and it is part of a worldwide network of Open House events that started with Open House London in 1992.

The 106-year old building of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and the Polish Museum of America is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and was open to the public on Saturday, October 19. PRCUA President James Robaczewski and Secretary-Treasurer Agnieszka Bastrzyk, together with five employees who volunteered their time, greeted the visitors and



PMA volunteers at the greeting table

showed them around the main hallway, some of the offices and the PRCUA Board Room. In the museum, guests were attended to by PMA President Richard Owsiany, Managing Director Małgorzata Kot, members of the PMA Board of Directors, employees and volunteers.

From the Office  
of the  
Secretary-Treasurer



Agnieszka J. Bastrzyk, ALMI, FICF, ACS

We need the current addresses for the following members. If you know the address of anyone on this list, please send it to: Agnieszka Bastrzyk, Secretary-Treasurer, PRCUA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101 or call 773-782-2600 Ext. 2604 or 1-800-772-8632 Ext. 2604.

SOC.	NAME	LAST KNOWN ADDRESS
72	Ann Wilhite	8824 Inkel Dt., Berkeley, MO 63134
224	Kily Slomkowski	209 Woodhaven Dr., Seven Fields, PA 16046
261	Ann Rzepka	7300 Marcus St., Detroit, MI 48213
471	Jan Janik	637 N. Western Ave., Chicago, IL 60612
527	Chester Zomkowski	628 Hillsdale Ct., Jackson, MS 39209
619	Edward Roskowski	1016 E. 25th St., Paterson, NJ 07513
951	Emily Meister	735 Terrace Blvd., Depew, NY 14043
1147	Jessie Szafraniec	2142 W. Iowa St., Chicago, IL 60622
1457	Helen Kowalewski	N178 Chaple Dr., Whitewater, WI 53190
1492	Loretta Spalding	1610 S. Treasure Dr., Miami Beach, FL 33141
1575	Donna Karwaczka	4708 S. Kenneth St., Chicago, IL 60632
1579	Elizbieta Huda	8841 Escanaba Ave., Chicago, IL 60617
1591	Stanley Ostrowski	8403 Sowinski Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103
2220	Phyllis Fidler	7109 Clark, Cleveland, OH 44102
2274	Anna Kessler	35449 Saint Clair Dr., New Baltimore, MI 48047



From the PRCUA Scholarship  
Recipients

To whomever it may concern,

I would like to thank you to PRCUA, its President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer for awarding me with the Student Scholarship Grant. I am very grateful for the award! This scholarship will be greatly used for continuing my education at the Illinois Institute of Technology in the field of mechanical engineering. Once again, I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to PRCUA.

Sincerely,  
Katarzyna Staron

Dear President Robaczewski,  
Vice President Jaminski,  
and Secretary-Treasurer Bastrzyk,

I wanted to take this opportunity to endlessly thank you for selecting me as one of the recipients of the PRCUA Education Fund Scholarship. This scholarship has a significant meaning to me as it affects my family heritage as well as my Polish culture. This scholarship will assist me financially in completing my educational career at Detroit Mercy, and in beginning my professional career as a high school teacher in the near future.

From when I was a young child, my parents always exposed me to my Polish heritage, which taught me many things that have influenced my personal growth and development. For example, the blessing of Easter baskets was always a special time during the Easter season for us as a family, as it demonstrated not only my rich heritage, but also my Catholic faith that I always live by.

With the mindset of my Polish values in the forefront daily, I will continue to live my life to its fullest. Dziękuję!

Best regards,  
Benjamin Westphal



Dear Parents, Grandparents,  
Aunts & Uncles!



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Fraternal Department Coordinator  
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Ask us how you can  
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PRCUALife Insurance Certificate  
with the **Family Plus Special!**

**Rates for Females**

Age	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
0	\$503.46	\$781.92	\$1,617.30	\$3,009.60
5	\$554.99	\$884.97	\$1,874.93	\$3,524.85
10	\$619.07	\$1,013.13	\$2,195.33	\$4,165.65
15	\$694.85	\$1,164.69	\$2,574.23	\$4,923.45

**Rates for Males**

Age	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
0	\$547.38	\$869.76	\$1,836.90	\$3,448.80
5	\$604.31	\$983.61	\$2,121.53	\$4,018.05
10	\$678.15	\$1,131.30	\$2,490.75	\$4,756.50
15	\$764.96	\$1,304.91	\$2,924.78	\$5,624.55



All applications for the PRCUALife 2019 Christmas Special are subject to underwriting and must be postmarked by January 31, 2020.



**PRCUALife**

**POLISH ROMAN CATHOLIC UNION OF AMERICA**

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FPDA-200-E	(IRA) Traditional IRA	2.00%	9%
FPDA-200R-E	(ROTH) Roth IRA	\$1,000 and over	8%
FPDA-200SE-E	(SEP) SEP IRA	3.75%	7%
FPDA-200SI-E	(SIMPLE) SIMPLE IRA		6%
FPDA-400-E	(TSA) TSA	1 Year Guarantee	5%
			4%
			3%

**SILVER *Plus* SERIES**

PLAN	ANNUITY TYPE	APY*	SURRENDER CHARGE
FPDA-101-E	(NQ) Non-Qualified	Min Guaranteed	7%
FPDA-201-E	(IRA) Traditional IRA	2.00%	6%
FPDA-201R-E	(ROTH) Roth IRA	\$1,000 and over	5%
FPDA-201SE-E	(SEP) SEP IRA	3.25%	4%
FPDA-201SI-E	(SIMPLE) SIMPLE IRA		3%
FPDA-401-E	(TSA) TSA	1 Year Guarantee	10% Annual Free Withdrawal Allowed

**BRONZE *Plus* SERIES**

PLAN	ANNUITY TYPE	APY*	SURRENDER CHARGE
FPDA-102-E	(NQ) Non-Qualified	Min Guaranteed	5%
FPDA-202-E	(IRA) Traditional IRA	2.00%	4%
FPDA-202R-E	(ROTH) Roth IRA	\$1,000 and over	3%
FPDA-202SE-E	(SEP) SEP IRA	2.50%	
FPDA-202SI-E	(SIMPLE) SIMPLE IRA		
FPDA-402-E	(TSA) TSA	1 Year Guarantee	10% Annual Free Withdrawal Allowed

**CONTRIBUTIONS AND APY CREDITS:** In order to be eligible for receiving interest for the month, contributions must be received at the PRCUA home office by the 15<sup>th</sup> calendar day. Interest is credited as of the end of the last calendar day of each month.

\*After the guaranteed period, the APYs could change with market conditions in the future. The APYs are based on our ability to lower our total expenses and still maintain a strong solvency ratio. Please visit [www.PRCUA.org/annuities](http://www.PRCUA.org/annuities) for the current annuity APYs.

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Polish Writer Olga Tokarczuk Receives  
2018 Literary Nobel Prize

In October this year, Olga Nawoja Tokarczuk, Polish essayist, poet, novelist, short-story author and screenwriter, was awarded the 2018 Nobel Prize for Literature. Tokarczuk has been honored by the Swedish Academy for "narrative imagination that with encyclopedic passion represents the crossing of boundaries as a form of life." She is the fifth Pole to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. She was preceded by Henryk Sienkiewicz (1905), Władysław Reymont (1924), Czesław Miłosz (1980) and Wisława Szymborska (1996).

Tokarczuk was born on January 29, 1962 in Sulechów near Zielona Góra, in western Poland. Her mother was a teacher and her father was a librarian. She studied psychology at the University of Warsaw and volunteered in an asylum for adolescents with behavioral problems. She graduated in 1985 and moved to Wrocław and later to Wałbrzych, where she practiced as a psychotherapist. In 1998, she moved to Krajanów, a small village near Nowa Ruda, from where she also managed her private publishing company Ruta from 1998 to 2003.

Tokarczuk began writing at the age of 17 while in high school. Her collection of poems entitled *Miasta w lustrach* ("Cities in Mirrors") was published in 1989 and her debut novel, *Podróż ludzi księgi* ("The Journey of the Book-People") was published in 1993. Tokarczuk's third novel *Prawiek i inne czasy* ("Primeval and Other Times") was published in 1996 and became highly acclaimed. Her educational background and work as a psychotherapist have influenced her literature. Tokarczuk's biggest work is her nearly 1,000-page epic novel titled *Księgi Jakubowe* ("The books of Jacob").

Tokarczuk is a recipient of many awards, including the Polish Publishers' Association and Kościelski Awards, the readers' choice of the Nike Award (four times) and was nominated many times for the Nike Literary Award. In 2002, Tokarczuk and her German translator Esther Kinsky received the Brücke-Berlin prize for literature in translation for the 1998 novel titled, *Dom dzienny, dom nocny* ("Day House and Night House"). She is also the recipient of the prestigious Usedomer Literaturpreis 2012 for her literary output. In 2018, she won the Man Booker International Prize for her novel *Bieguni* ("Flights"). In 2010, she received the Silver Medal for Merit to Culture – Gloria Artis from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland and in 2013, Tokarczuk was awarded the Vilenica Prize at the Vilenica International Literary Festival in Slovenia.

Her literary works have been translated into many languages and a few of them have been adapted for movies.

For a loved one this Christmas....  
Consider a gift of Polish heritage

A custom-researched analysis of a Polish surname will make an unusual and memorable Polish-themed gift for a loved one (or yourself). It will explain the name's meaning, how it originated, how many people share it, where they are from and whether a noble coat of arms accompanies it. If one is found, its image and the story behind it will be provided.

To order, kindly airmail a \$19 personal or bank (cashier's) check or money order (adding \$15 for each additional surname you wish to have researched) to Polonia's long-standing Warsaw correspondent and onomastician (name researcher): Robert Strybel, ul. Kaniowska 24, 01-529 Warsaw, Poland

Included is a useful genealogical contact sheet to help check your family records in Poland, track down ancestral homesteads and possibly even turn up long lost relatives. For more information please contact: [research60@gmail.com](mailto:research60@gmail.com)

The Ślepowron coat of arms was shared by the noble lines of nearly one thousand variously surnamed families including: Barański, Komorowski, Kozłowski, Nowiński, Kuźma, Lewandowski, Lipiak, Łacki, Malinowski, Nosek, Nowiński, Puchalski, Pióro, Roman, Sarnacki, Sobolewski, Szymański, Święcki, Ukrym, Wąż, Wojno, Wolski, Żak and Żukowski.







KIDS

ACTIVITY

PAGE

FIND ALL MATCHES

One rainboot has no pair. Can you find it?



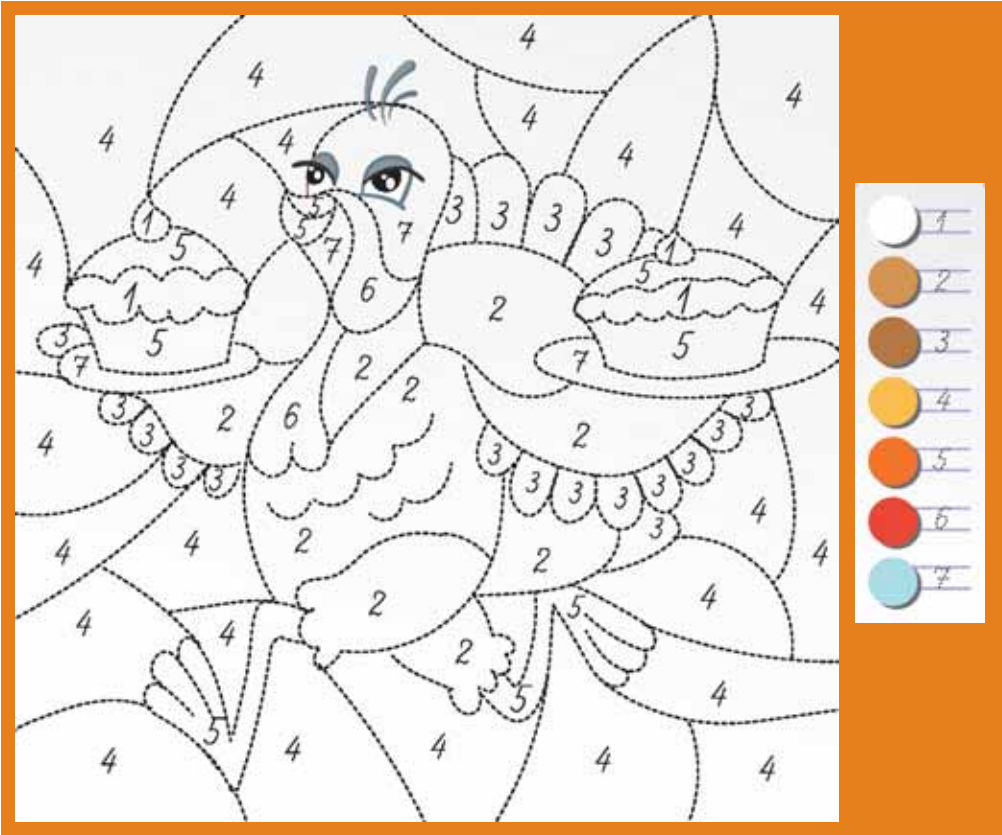
FIND THE WAY

Help the girl find the right way to her boots.



COLOR THE PICTURE

Color the turkey using the color palette sample on the right.



FIND ITEMS IN THE PICTURE



Find this part in the picture

- 1. How many mushrooms in the picture?
- 2. How many fallen leaves in the picture?
- 3. How many trees in the picture?

FIND THE CORRECT SHADOW

Only one shadow matches the picture on the left. Can you find it?







The Open Door  
Otwarte Drzwi  
Micheline "Misia" Jaminski  
Vice President ~ Wiceprezesa



Welcome November – the month of remembrance and gratitude. From its onset, we pay homage to the saints and our dearly departed. As a child attending Catholic grammar school in Chicago, I remember November 1st as a Holy Day of Obligation, attending Mass and having the day off from school. The next day, on All Souls Day, we prayed for those who were at rest in eternal peace. In those days, going to the cemetery was a routine family ritual as families tended to the “live gardens” they maintained on the graves. Nowadays, cemeteries have strict rules about grave decorations in order to keep the grounds well-manicured. Nonetheless, we adorn our loved ones’ graves with lovely silk arrangements and battery-operated candles, unlike in Poland, where real candles burn bright throughout the cemeteries and although live flowers are preferred, the changing seasons have prompted the use of silk arrangements as well. But I digress from the purpose of my commentary. When did All Saints Day become the Day of the Dead in Poland? I was curious as to how this Polish tradition morphed and referencing my understanding of All Saints Day and All Souls Day from my parochial Catholic education, also wondered how the Catholic faith differentiates them. Here’s one answer I found to my latter query: “All Saints Day, celebrated by the Roman Catholic church (and now other churches) on November 1, is set aside to honor church members believed to have gone to heaven. All Souls Day, November 2, was created to commemorate those who died baptized but without having confessed their sins, and thus they are believed to reside in purgatory. Roman Catholic doctrine teaches that intercessions (prayers) by earthly church members can cleanse these departed souls and prepare them for heaven.” (xperiencepoland.com). As to the former, it seems I am not the first to seek an explanation. I found an article in Polish that questioned if All Saints Day and the Day of the Dead could be synonyms. The author referenced the knowledge of a First Communicant who was taught “that every saint is deceased, but not every deceased is a saint. In addition to this, if we wish to continue using the term “Day of the Dead,” then we should not refer to it on November 1st, but on November 2nd, which is when we remember all the deceased. Then where did the term “Day of the Dead” come from when referring to All Saints Day (as it relates to Poland)?” The author found his answer in Wikipedia stating that since it was a public holiday, depending on the government of the times, the religious aspect had to be downplayed and took on a secular character. The significance of these holy days is that we gather together to celebrate and remember those who have gone before us whether with candles, flowers and/or Mass at the cemetery or prayers in a quiet space. My father’s hat which has a place in my car since his passing 11 years ago, serves as a tangible reminder of his existence. My mother, who passed two years ago, is remembered by some of her cooking recipes and sayings I utter unconsciously. My parents are not just a part of my physical being, but of my psyche as well each and every day.

In November, we also commemorate our American veterans (thank you for your service) and this year, Poland’s 101st National Independence Day, both on the 11th. Then there’s Thanksgiving – the first of which occurred in 1621. It was not just one big meal, but a three day festival in honor of the Pilgrims’ first successful harvest. The hosts invited the Indians to share in the festivities – eating, hunting and different forms of entertainment. There was no turkey, pumpkin pie or potatoes on the original menu – cranberries, if served, would not have been in a sauce or relish. Not an annual event, President George Washington declared the first ever national Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, November 26, 1789. In 1827, Sara Josepha Hale, an American writer, initiated a thirty-year campaign to make Thanksgiving a national holiday inspired by the diary of a Pilgrim. Once it was proclaimed a national holiday, she published recipes for turkey, stuffing, pumpkin pie, among other dishes that influenced the menu adopted until today. During the Civil War in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln announced that the United States would celebrate Thanksgiving on the final Thursday of November. In 1939, the holiday was moved up a week by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to increase pre-Christmas sales. In 1941, FDR formally declared that the national celebration of Thanksgiving would be held on the fourth Thursday in November and so it remains to this day. How do you celebrate Thanksgiving? What dishes do you bring to the table? Let us know on PRCUA’s social media. Hope you have a blessed and plentiful Thanksgiving!

On October 5, 1979, Pope John Paul II came to Chicago. This was his third visit to the United States, but first time as Pontiff. The prior two times were in 1969 and 1976. The friendship between the Polish Pope and His Excellency, the late Alfred L. Abramowicz, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago evolved from a deep commitment to Poland. Bishop Abramowicz was the “Director of the Catholic League for Religious Assistance to Poland from 1960–1995, working as a principal U.S. fund-raising and organizational contact for the Catholic Church in Poland and for the Polish Solidarity movement” (Wikipedia) as well as pastor of Five Holy Martyrs Parish in Chicago from 1968 until his death in 1999. At the time, Five Holy Martyrs was the “capital” of Chicago’s southside Polonia. Meanwhile, in 1958, at 38 years of age, Father Karol Wojtyła became the youngest bishop in Poland; in 1964, the Archbishop of Kraków; in 1967, promoted to the Sacred College of Cardinals; on October 14, 1978, he was elected the first non-Italian pope in 400 years, the second longest serving pope in modern history; on April 27, 2014, Pope John Paul II was canonized a saint.

“The city of the broad shoulders became the city of the open arms,” declared the Tribune when Pope John Paul II visited in October 1979. An estimated 750,000 people lined the motorcade route 10 deep as it passed through the “heart of America’s largest Polish-American community” on the Northwest Side. After a short stop at a church in Pilsen, the Pope was again greeted by “a sea of 200,000 faces” at Five Holy Martyrs Catholic Church, a Polish church in Brighton Park, for a special open-air Mass. After the morning Mass, the Pope traveled to Grant Park, where an estimated 1.5 million people were waiting for him.” (by Ron Grossman, Chicago Tribune, September 27, 2019). In his capacity as the Director of the Catholic League, Bishop Abramowicz served as national chairman for the first U.S. visit of his friend Cardinal Wojtyła in 1969 and then was instrumental in planning

the second visit to Chicago in 1979 of the Cardinal, who was by then Pope John Paul II.

To what purpose have I provided this recollection? Five Holy Martyrs Parish has commemorated this historic papal visit with a Mass at the outdoor papal altar annually since 1979 and on October 6, 2019, the 40th anniversary, the Papal Mass Committee hosted not only an outdoor, multi-lingual Mass (in Polish, English, Spanish and Lithuanian) officiated by Bishop Robert Casey, but also organized a deremonial banquet at the Polish Highlanders Hall in Chicago. The committee was spearheaded by long time parishioner Angie Bartoszek, ably assisted by Malgorzata and Stanisław Guziak, among many others. The celebration took place in the warm autumn weather, unlike the cold brisk air 40 years ago. At one time, Five Holy Martyrs Parish was the nucleus and home of Chicago’s southside Polonia and especially PRCUA’s affiliates: District 8, the Five Holy Martyr Youth Dancers (1956-1985), Adult Culture Group (org. 1969), Maria Konopnicka Polish School (org. 1974), Wesoly Lud Polish Folk Dance Company (org. 1977) and the Southwest Center of Polish Dancing (org. 1985). FHM and especially Bishop Abramowicz and the Ocwiejas (Regina was PRCUA Vice President from 1982-1990) were very near and dear to my heart and those of many others. Accompanying me to this most recent event was District 8 Director Elizabeth Dynowski. It was only fitting that we would participate in this ruby celebration together because she, too, journeyed through FHM, the PRCUA affiliates and attended the original Papal Mass, although as a very young child. It was gratifying to see many of those who attended this year’s event reminiscing about their attendance 40 years ago, bringing with them copies of the *Naród Polski*, banners, flyers and other memorabilia.

Polish Heritage Month was a busy one indeed, so let’s reflect on the who, the what, the where of this past October. October 3rd found the PRCUA and PMA officers and staff celebrating the 146th “birthday” of the “Mother of All Fraternalists” with a healthy, sweet treat (freshly baked fruit tarts) in lieu of the traditional sheet cake. An article and photos are found on page 9 for you to read all about it.

The Polish American Chamber of Commerce hosted the Polonia Cup October 4 in which our PRCUA President and Secretary-Treasurer participated together with Sales Director Robert Fattore and professional agent Stan Nowak.

This year, the PRCUA joined the celebration of Polish Heritage in New York. On Sunday, October 6, the 82nd Pulaski Day Parade adorned Fifth Avenue in New York City, in which PRCUA President James Robaczewski participated. Our PRCUA banner was carried by one of the local Polish folk-dance groups. This year’s parade theme honored Ignacy Jan Paderewski, Prime Minister, statesman, composer and musician on the 100th Anniversary of Polish-American diplomatic relations. The Grand Marshal of this year’s parade was the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in Connecticut Darek Barcikowski and the Honorary Marshal was Bishop Artur Miziński. Prior to the commencement of the parade, the participants and guests attended Holy Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral. The evening prior, on Saturday, October 5, PRCUA was one of the sponsors of a different event, a concert by Polish singing sensation, Natalia Kukulska, which took place in New Britain, CT who, the following day, joined the white and red parade in the heart of New York City. It is PRCUA’s intention to revitalize its connection with New York’s Polish American community and present its product line. If any of our followers living in the New York area would like to become our spokesperson or professional sales agent, please contact us at [elzbieta-sawczuk@prcu.org](mailto:elzbieta-sawczuk@prcu.org) or 773-782-2632.

Meanwhile, on a bright sunny first Sunday in October, Agnieszka Bastrzyk represented the PRCUA at the 24th Annual Polish-American Heritage Month Celebration in the Calumet Region. The celebration began with a wreath laying ceremony at Pulaski Park in Calumet City, then a wreath laying at Pulaski Park in Hammond, IN, followed by a Mass within the Community Center at the Park. This Polish-American celebration was attended by representatives of Polish American Congress as well as dancers from “Mała Polska,” of the Kalinowski Polish School, including instructor Agata Wilgocki. We extend our gratitude to all those that make this annual event possible, especially Gerry Tarka, Calumet City Treasurer and Chairman of the Polish-American Heritage Month Committee.

On October 7, PRCUA Executive Officers were graced with the presence of the Vice Marshal of the Republic of Poland, Małgorzata Gosiewska, in the company of the Consul General of the Republic of Poland, Piotr Janicki, and Vice Consul, Piotr Semeniuk. After learning about the PRCUA and its efforts on behalf of the Polish Museum of America, Vice Marshal Gosiewska was able



40th Anniversary of John Paul II visit to Five Holy Martyrs



Outdoor mass



L-r: Robert Fattore, Agnieszka Bastrzyk, Stan Nowak, James Robaczewski at the Polonia Cup



Ceremony in Pulaski Park in Calumet City



to indulge in the rich history of our PRCUA building as well as its office and boardroom. Małgorzata Kot, Managing Director of PMA, was instrumental in leading the discussion of the PRCUA and PMA relationship. Following a pleasant break for coffee, the Vice Marshal participated in a symposium on the subject of the great Polish statesman, patriot, pianist and composer, Ignacy Jan Paderewski, held at the Great Hall of the Polish Museum. As a spokesman for Polish independence when Poland was erased from the map (but not from the hearts of Poles the world over), his celebrity opened doors to diplomacy and media attention to his mission.

Secretary-Treasurer Agnieszka Bastrzyk represented the PRCUA Executive Officers at the Opening of the PMA exhibit titled “Polish Imagination: The World of Tomorrow” at the Polish Museum of America. Addressing those in attendance, she emphasized the significance of the Polish Pavilion at the World’s Fair held in New York in 1939. After the World’s Fair, many of the artifacts that were provided by Poland for the Fair were relocated to the PMA as Poland was under siege during World War II.



Monica and Jeff Reiser with  
Wesoly Lud dancers

The newlyweds Mr. and Mrs.  
Reiser with the flower girls

bride and handsome groom included their siblings, relatives and close friends in the wedding ceremony. I was excited for the new Mr. and Mrs. (they are a BEEutiful match), the Pazdziora and Reiser families and that my little granddaughters were asked to join the other beautiful ladies from the wedding party as flower girls. Of course, Monica asked Wesoly Lud to perform at the reception and with pleasure, the dance company accepted the invitation, dancing to Jimmy Sturr’s Killer Bees. (Do you sense a “BEE” theme? Yellow and black are the colors of Jeff’s favorite college football team). Kahlil Gibran wrote: “For bees, the flower is the fountain of Life, for the flowers, the bee is the messenger of love.” Monica and Jeff, may the messenger of love be your fountain of life! Congratulations!



PRCUA Officers with Chicago  
Mayor Lori Lightfoot

PRCUA and PMA, we extended an invitation to the Mayor to “Save the Date” for the Pulaski Day Celebration on March 2, 2020.

As part of the Chicago Open House series, the Polish Museum of America provided tours for those who visited the building on Saturday, October 19. President James Robaczewski welcomed guests, sharing his extensive knowledge about the PRCUA and its building with a captive audience. Secretary-Treasurer Agnieszka Bastrzyk, as well as Robert Fattore, Lidia Kowalewicz, Emily Kurda, Mary Jane Robles and Mark Sorbi, were on hand to assist the



Soc. #1593 President John Godin and  
Vice President Christopher Ozog  
receiving a proclamation from State  
Senator Paul Wojno

Congress Illinois Division on its 50th Annual Polish American Heritage Award Banquet held October 20, 2019 at Chateau Ritz in Niles, IL. The Polonia Ensemble of PRCUA presented an artistic program (written and directed by Walter Bochenek with choreography by Jaclyn Krysinski) and commenced the social portion of the evening with a lovely Polonaise, inviting



PAC-IL with Polonia Ensemble

various dignitaries to dance, including the PRCUA Executive Officers who were in attendance. PRCUA congratulates all the award recipients especially to PRCUA members: Most Rev. Thomas Paprocki (Heritage Award – currently, bishop of the Diocese of Springfield, IL), Richard Owsiany (Civic Award – currently, President of the Polish Museum of America) and Jacek Niemczyk (Media Award – local Chicago radio personality).

On October 24, PRCUA Marketing Director Elżbieta Sawczuk and PRCUA Sales Director Robert Fattore had the pleasure of joining the West Town, Wicker Park-Bucktown, and Logan Square Chambers of Commerce during their October Business Mixer. The event, held at the Arts of Life

in Chicago, was a great opportunity to mix, mingle and join forces to bring together the best of the best of our business communities. The host of the evening, Arts of Life, advances the creative arts community by providing artists with intellectual and developmental disabilities a collective space to expand their practice and strengthen their leadership. Thank you, Sara Bemer, for the invite!

The PRCUA Executive Officers were in Cleveland, OH the last weekend in October. On Saturday evening, President Robaczewski, Secretary-Treasurer Bastrzyk and I joined National Director of District 5 Mitchell Bienia and his wife, Krystyna, at the Henryk Sienkiewicz Polish School zabawa in the Crystal Party Center in Parma, OH. School director Ewa Wiechec, greeted us warmly as did many of the guests including

PAC-OH President Thomas Kacki and founder and past instructor of the Piast Dancers Andrzej Gutowski. The Bienias extended their hospitality to the PRCUA EC with an invitation to their lovely home sharing with us their beautiful treasures and memories. The following day, in the Polish cathedral-style church of St. Casimir in the heart of an old Polish

section of Cleveland, identified by streets such as Kosciuszko, Sowinski, etc., a bilingual Mass was offered by Rev. Father Eric Orzech. Joining us was Thomas Jesionowski – the other PRCUA National Director from District 5, who is from Maumee, OH, among others from the local Polish community. Following Mass, Director Bienia arranged for a song and dance performance by the Piast Dancers (under the direction of Agnieszka Kotlarsic) and a “Meet and Greet” with the PRCUA national officers. Each of us had two minutes to introduce ourselves, as the hot homemade meal was waiting for the guests to partake. An added guest to this celebration of Polish Heritage Month was the Honorary Lithuanian Consul, Ingrida Bublys, who imparted a few words of the historical relationship of our two countries. After the delicious meal, Mitch Bienia presented plaques of recognition and appreciation to Gayle and Dennis Yurosko as well as to Father Orzech. It was truly a wonderful afternoon with a wonderful group of Polish Americans and we owe it all to Mitch (and Krysia) Bienia. Thank you.

The month of October ended with the PRCUA Employee Appreciation Luncheon. This year’s celebration had a western theme with a delightful and delicious western lunch with all the “fixins”. Lunch was followed by the presentation of awards for milestone anniversaries went to: Controller Emily Kurda for 35 years at PRCUA; Lidia Kowalewicz, Jolanta Zachara and Mary Jane Robles for 30 years; Danuta Czajkowska – 20 years; Robert Brewster and Judy Hoffman – 15 years; and Pam Tuytens for 5 years. A few games and activities followed with many employees dressed in western-wear (after all – it was Halloween!). A sincere thank you and congratulations to Julie Prado, Manager of the Members Services Department and her planning committee for an outstanding job preparing the afternoon festivities.

This month’s article began with reflections of the November Holy Days honoring the saints and our dearly departed. During the past month, many of our friends lost loved ones and we extend our deepest sympathies to: Claudine Wicker and Judy Hoffman on the passing of their mother, Pauline Filipowicz (age 90); to Conrad (and Beata) Wiecek on the passing of his father-in-law Mieczysław Dydo (age 86); to Helena Studencka, the general secretary of the Polish Highlanders Alliance on the untimely passing of her husband, Stanislaw (age 61); and to husband and family of one of our young, active PRCUA members, Christine Michelle (Pesartic) Forbes (age 46) – dear friend of Barbara Raczynski-Toboy and assistant to Paulina Tul-Ortyl, artistic director and choreographer of the Echoes of Poland Song and Dance Ensemble. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen. Please keep the family members and friends of these individuals and all others who have left this earth in your prayers.

“This, in my judgment, is the highest philosophy: First, do not regret having lost yesterday; second, do not fear that you will lose tomorrow; third, enjoy today.”

(ROBERT GREEN INGERSOLL)



Elżbieta Sawczuk (l) and  
Robert Fattore (r) at the  
Business Mixer

Mass in Cleveland (l-r) Dir. M. Bienia, A. Bastrzyk, M. Jaminski, Dir. T. Jesionowski, J. Robaczewski

Meet and Greet in Cleveland with Piast



Mass in Cleveland (l-r) Dir. M. Bienia,  
A. Bastrzyk, M. Jaminski,  
Dir. T. Jesionowski, J. Robaczewski



Meet and Greet in Cleveland with Piast

the PRCUA Executive Officers who were in attendance. PRCUA congratulates all the award recipients especially to PRCUA members: Most Rev. Thomas Paprocki (Heritage Award – currently, bishop of the Diocese of Springfield, IL), Richard Owsiany (Civic Award – currently, President of the Polish Museum of America) and Jacek Niemczyk (Media Award – local Chicago radio personality).

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L-r: Barbara Raczynski-  
Toboy with Christine  
(Pesartic) Forbes

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## 2020 PRCUA Calendar Available



The free 2020 PRCUA calendar will soon be available to PRCUA members. Members can pick up a calendar at the Home Office, 984 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL or can order it by calling the Marketing Department at 773-782-2630. Orders can also be placed by emailing the following: marketing@prcu.org.

We hope you will enjoy this 2020 calendar! Order while supplies last!



The 40th Anniversary Celebration of PRCUA #1593 St. John Paul II Society

On Sunday, October 20, 2019, members and friends gathered together to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of PRCUA #1593 St. John Paul II Society of Warren, MI. The celebration began with a Mass at St. Anne Parish, which has been the home of the Society for forty years. Pastor Fr. Paul Coutinha celebrated the mass. A few of the PRCUA Opole Dancers who are society members were also part of the procession into the church. After the mass, coffee and donuts were served to parishioners and the PRCUA history book and the St. John Paul II history book were distributed.

The celebration continued at the Century Banquet Center. Prior to dinner, guests had the opportunity to look at photos from years past. They also were able to purchase 50/50 raffle tickets and tickets for a variety of prizes.

Christopher Ozog, Vice President of the Society, was the Master of Ceremonies for the event. He welcomed everyone and then called upon the PRCUA Opole Dancers to sing the Polish and American national anthems. After the anthems were sung, the dancers were called upon to perform the Polonaise, one of the five historic national dances of Poland and considered the first dance to begin a celebration. The program continued with a brief introduction by Christopher Ozog of the early history of the Society, followed by two more dances by the Opole Dancers. National PRCUA Vice President Emeritus Robert Bielenda gave the toast and Fr. Tim Wezner, a member of St. John Paul II Society and also a former dancer of Pope John Paul II Dance School, gave the invocation.

The program continued after the delicious meal was served. Master of Ceremonies spoke on the many ways that the St. John Paul II Society has served the needs of Americans of Polish heritage in the St. Anne Parish community and also in the surrounding community the past forty years. He stated that the Society was able to support the dance school, encourage members to participate in sports programs, assist members with their higher education, donate money to St. Anne Parish, Orchard Lake School, the Polish Museum of America, Wayne State Polish Room and to other PRCUA societies, dance schools and charitable organizations.

The Society has been able to do these things because of many fundraisers, such as Polish artifacts, bake and pierogi sales, raffles, Las Vegas parties, bingo, dinner dances, Texas Hold'em, Euchre tournaments, sale of promotional items at Tigers Polish American Night and by hosting national PRCUA sports tournaments.

In order to hold these fundraisers, volunteers were needed. Christopher called upon and recognized several members who have volunteered their time and contributed to the growth of the Society. The first group of dedicated individuals were those members who were involved from the beginning and built a strong foundation for the society: Wallace Ozog, founder, and his wife, Joann; Harry and Judy Burzynski; Bernie and Linda Ciarkowski; John and Sharon Gardocki; Marilyn Lewandowski; John Rakowski; Julius Szymczyk; Celeste Grabowski; Irene Raczynski; Michael Ozog; Ron Martin; Barbara Toboy and Diane Wezner.



John Godin, Society President, presenting Fr. Paul (l) and Fr. Tim (r) with books for the libraries

The second group of individuals who were recognized are children of some of the members mentioned above. Since their parents were part of so many of St. John Paul II Society events, the children had no choice but to tag along with their parents and hence, grew up with PRCUA. They were Christopher Ozog (present Vice President), Barb Ozog (present Athletic Director), Brian and Valerie Brumm (present Financial Secretary), Cindy



Cooper (present Trustee) and John Godin (present President). A third group who was introduced was our future PRCUA leaders - children from the following families: Orłowski, Brumm, Cooper, Toboy, Thacker, Ozog, Withers and Godin. These children volunteered their time by participating in the Masses, dancing, singing, assisting in mailings, set up and clean up at events. The members are aging and the younger members must come forward. By growing up with the activities in Polonia, there is a better

chance that they will become involved. Each individual, including children, received a token of appreciation.

For many years, St. John Paul II Society held a Polish heritage dinner and mass at St. Anne Parish. Each time, books of a Polish topic would be donated to the library. A presentation of books was given to Fr. Paul to add to the St. Anne School library and also to Fr. Tim for St. Lawrence Elementary School, to start a collection of such books.

In appreciation of St. Anne allowing us to call it our home for forty years, a framed picture of St. John Paul II was given to Fr. Paul, in hopes that this picture will be a reminder of our Society at the parish. The same picture was given to Fr. Tim, the only member who answered God's call to the priesthood, as a reminder of his PRCUA society and all the fun he had as a dancer. It was also given to him as a reminder that he has been with the Holy Father all of these years as a member of PRCUA St. John Paul II Society.

The afternoon concluded with the acknowledgement of individuals and organizations in attendance. It is important to support each other in Polonia, whether it be a dance school, society or other Polish organization. By so doing, there is unity and fraternalism. A thank you is extended to the following: PRCUA Vice-President Emeritus Robert and Mrs. Eleanor Bielenda, PRCUA Fr. Al's Society President Joseph and Mrs. Nina Ozog, PRCUA St. Rita Society President Barbara Toboy and Financial Secretary Michael and Mrs. Deanna Ozog, PRCUA District #10 National Director Colleen and Mr. Brian Bonkowski, Leonard

and Joseph Sobota from the Polish Falcons, and others.

We greatly appreciate Elizabeth Thacker, director of PRCUA Opole Dance School, and her students for participating in Mass and performing at the banquet, and to Thomas Lisiecki, choreographer of Halka Dancers, for providing background music.

Fr. Paul was called upon to say the benediction. However, he surprised us. Since no one sang "Sto Lat," Fr. Paul, who comes from India, did a superb job of singing this popular song. We thank Fr. Paul for taking the initiative to end our program with this famous Polish song.

It takes one leader and many volunteers to make an event successful. The 40th Anniversary of PRCUA #1593 St. John Paul II Society was a very successful event because of its chairman, Christopher Ozog, who was well organized and brought the history of the Society to life in an interesting manner. His committee, including children, the

Godin family, the Cooper family, the Brumm family, the Ozog family and Celeste Grabowski assisted in various capacities, and we thank them.

May St. John Paul II watch over our society and guide us for many more years so that we can continue to "serve the needs of the Americans of Polish heritage in the St. Anne Parish community and also in the surrounding community."

Submitted by Joann Ozog;  
Photos by Kristina Godin  
(Additional photos on pg. 11)



Charter members of St. John Paul II Society, Wallace and Joann Ozog, with sons Michael (l) and Christopher (r)





Opole Dance Ensemble performance



Display boards and raffle prizes (top)



Anniversary cake (right)



Members and parishioners  
enjoying coffee and donuts  
after Mass



Sign at Century Banquet  
showcasing our celebration



Gifts for Society members



Joann Ozog and Eleanor  
Bielenda before the  
celebration, guests were  
given booklets, either St.  
John  
Paul II or PRCUA



## MEETING SOCIETY #1593's NEWEST MEMBER

The best present a child can receive is a PRCUA life insurance certificate. That is what one of the newest members of PRCUA #1593 St. John Paul II Society received as a present for her 1st birthday.

Sylvia Faye Matus is the daughter of Amanda and George Matus III. Her father has been a member from an early age when his mother signed him up to the PRCUA Pope John Paul II Dance School. He also danced with the Mała Polska Dance Ensemble.

Sylvia's sister, 3 year old Evaline is also a member of the society. In a few years, hopefully, we will see both Sylvia and Evaline perform in one of the PRCUA dance schools. We welcome Sylvia into the St. John Paul II Society of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and we thank the Matus family for seeing the importance of life insurance for their children.



Matus family

## "We Celebrated and Gave Back" 40th Anniversary of PRCUA St. John Paul II Society at St. Anne Sausage Festival

This year marks the 40th anniversary of PRCUA #1593 St. John Paul II Society from Warren, MI. Since its inception, St. Anne Parish has been the home of the society. As a way of thanking and giving back to the parish, Wally and Joann Ozog, founders of this society had a booth at the St. Anne Sausage Festival September 20-22. The Ozogs had a similar booth at the festival for 20 years (1978-1997). Because this was the 40th anniversary of the society, they decided to bring it back. They invited members and former Pope John Paul II Society dancers to celebrate and relive old friendships and memories.

Sunday was designated PRCUA Day. A Polka Mass started the festival on Sunday with the participation of PRCUA Opole Dancers dressed in their colorful costumes. They also put on a delightful dance program later in the day. The majority of the Opole Dancers are members of St. John Paul II Society and quite a few of them are also students at St. Anne School.

Those who supported the booth had the opportunity to purchase Polish items and also to take a chance at a lollipop game to win a variety of prizes. All money collected was given to the parish. Joann also put together a collage of old photos with the hope that it would bring back memories, which it did.

A formal celebration of the 40th Anniversary of PRCUA #1593 St. John Paul II Society took place on Sunday, October 20th at St. Anne Parish with a holy mass followed by a luncheon at the Century Banquet Center in Sterling Hts., MI.

A great big "thank you" is extended to those Opole families who showed true fraternalism by assisting with set up and helping to pack and unpack each day, to the long-time society members who worked the booth, especially Harry and Judy Burzynski, Sharon Gardocki, Linda Ciarkowski and Michael and Deanna Ozog, Marianne Lapinski (mother of an Opole Dancer), Eli Kujawski (student of the Opole Dance School), and Elise Lubiarz (a Tatro Dancer who was very graciously willing to help us out) along with her friend, Autumn.

We also deeply appreciate the Home Office becoming a festival sponsor. Not only did they give to St. Anne Parish, but in turn, we were able to promote our fraternal organization and show many people what we are all about.

It is because of the cooperation of all of the above that we were able to celebrate and make people aware of the accomplishments of the St. John Paul II Society over the past forty years and at the same time, say thank you to St. Anne Parish for giving us a home for so many years.

May PRCUA #1593 St. John Paul II Society continue to be strong, active and involved. It will need the support and interest of all of its members, especially the younger ones, to continue to do so. In order for fraternalists to continue, the younger generation must participate and take over for those who came before them.

Submitted by Joann S. Ozog



Tatro Dancers after the Mass with PRCUA President  
Emeritus Wallace Ozog



Judy and Harry Burzynski, long time society  
members and volunteers



L-r: Krystyna and Alex Bienkowski, society  
members and former society dancers, Joann Ozog,  
Marianne Lapinski, mother of Opole dancer



Wezner family: Diane - director of dance school,  
Joseph, Steven and Fr. Tim - society member and  
former dancer; Joann Ozog and Sharon Gardocki,  
long time member and volunteer



Ozog and Zoltowski families



Kim Szumanski Pakula,  
former Society dancer



Rose Daly, former  
bingo volunteer for  
many years



Eli Kujawski, Society  
member and dancer  
of Opole Dance  
School



Alex Wolicki and family



ZAJĄCZEK DANCE ENSEMBLE NEWS

TWO Dancers = ONE Great Fundraiser

St. Basil the Great Catholic Church in Eastpointe, MI was the place to be on Saturday, October 5th. The church hall was filled with the delicious aroma of a Polish dinner served with basket raffles, a 50/50 raffle drawing, and two Zajączek Dance Ensemble dancers! Natalya Bonkowski and Olivia Westphal volunteered their time and talents to add some Polish flare to a wonderful fundraiser. From performing a modified Polonez, to drawing the winning basket tickets, both girls sparkled with grace and beamed with bright smiles. However, in the end, the real winners were the altar servers at St. Basil the Great Catholic Church, as they will now be able to purchase new robes! Thank you to everyone who helped to make



Natalya Bonkowski and Olivia Westphal performing and helping with the fundraiser

this first Polish Dinner Fundraiser a great success!!

Submitted by: Karrie Westphal  
 Secretary,  
 Zajączek Dance Ensemble

"WHERE WORDS FAIL, MUSIC SPEAKS"



On Sunday, October 6, the sounds of Polish music filled the air at the Z Hall (ZCJB) in Owosso, MI as family and friends gathered for the Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame induction ceremony. Olivia Westphal, dancer from Zajączek Dance Ensemble, Sterling Heights, MI came dressed in her Kraków costume to help in honoring the four inductees, one being her great-grandfather, Joseph Andrew Kulas. Olivia's grandfather, James Kulas, accepted the award on behalf of his father. Both Olivia's grandfather and great-



Olivia Westphal with her grandfather, James Kulas

grandfather are members of the Polka Hall of Fame. Polish music has always been the anchor of the Kulas family, and this passion has seamlessly been transferred to each generation. Olivia's presence at this commemoration is an example of this! Thank you to "Joe" Kulas and his fellow musicians for their years of endless time and effort in promoting Polish music and for continuously speaking up, when words have failed.

Submitted by: Karrie Westphal (granddaughter of Joe Kulas)  
 Secretary, Zajączek Dance Ensemble



Polka Hall of Fame plaque and biography



James Kulas with his grandchildren



Family of Joseph Kulas

TOGETHER, WE PRAY

As one! On Sunday, October 6, Zajączek Dance Ensemble, along with several other PRCUA dance schools, participated in the Most Holy Mass at St. Albertus Catholic Church in Detroit, MI. The reason to honor our Polish heritage! Reverend Canon Walter J. Ptak, PRCUA's National Chaplain, celebrated the Mass reminding us of the strength and courage our ancestors portrayed in migrating to the United States from Poland in search of a better life. And because of their efforts, we enjoy the life we live today. May God continue to bless our Dance Schools and the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America as we work together as one, never forgetting our Polish culture and what it represents. For more information regarding St. Albertus Catholic Church, please contact, the Polish American Historic Site Association at [www.stalbertusdetroit.org](http://www.stalbertusdetroit.org), or 4231 St. Aubin Street, Detroit, Michigan 48207.

Submitted by: Karrie Westphal  
 Secretary, Zajączek Dance Ensemble  
 Photography by:  
 Mrs. Mary Ann Smigiel



One PRCUA Family



Together as one



St. Albertus Church



Fr. Ptak receiving the Offertory Gifts



Zajączek dancers



Two generations.... one purpose



Zajączek Ensemble Director and PRCUA District #10 Director Colleen Bonkowski



Bonkowski Family



Tricia and Jonathan Dennis



The Palencik Family from the Halka Dance Ensemble



Natalya Bonkowski and Jonathan Dennis



HAPPY HALLOWEEN, ZAJĄCZEK DANCERS!!



The Halloween celebrations began early with the Zajaczek Dance Ensemble Polish Dance School on Thursday, October 17, 2019. Our home base, the American Polish Century Club in Sterling Heights, MI was filled with excitement as students enjoyed their normal dance classes, but coupled them with a little Halloween fun! Dance ensemble choreographers Tricia Dennis and Rachael Kasperek, along with ensemble director Colleen Bonkowski, created a lively atmosphere for each dance group, challenging the students to dance with a smile, as family and friends watched with pride. From princesses to monsters, from dragons to frat boys, to those who chose to come as Zajaczek dancers, everyone relished in the joys of Halloween as one dance family! Happy Halloween to all!

Submitted by: Karrie Westphal, Secretary,  
Zajaczek Dance Ensemble  
Photography by: Mrs. Mary Ann Smigiel  
and Zajaczek parents

DEARLY  
DEPARTED  
PRCUA  
BROTHERS AND  
SISTERS

Member	Society	State
Adamczewski, Rose	2206	OH
Atlas, Patricia A.	951	NY
Barta, Lillian	1579	IL
Bartkowiak, Lillian	1027	NY
Borkowski, Irene	2002	PA
Brosco, Denise Mary	78	MI
Cynkar, Theodore	2291	PA
David, Annie C.	224	PA
Dean, Arleen	957	IL
Dylag, Msgr. Michael	1593	MI
Dzierla, Elizabeth	850	IN
Gill, Anthony	540	NY
Giza, Louis S.	540	NY
Gregorzewski, Josephine	1593	MI
Gromniak, Joseph G.	540	NY
Groulx, Marcella	459	MI
Heatherby, Harry E.	703	PA
Hench, Faith H.	283	WI
Hopkins, Helen	72	MO
Jacobs, Clementine	1000	MI
Jazwinski, Stanley	593	WI
Kanos, Jennie	506	OH
Knizner, Margaret P.	119	PA
Kobierowski, Elizabeth	2040	PA
Kosakowski, Mae	572	FL
Kowal, Mary	1024	PA
Kozdecki, Barbara Ann	602	NE
Kranc, Ronald	354	IL
Lacki, Joseph	78	MI
Leiman, Frances	261	MI
Levandowski, Alexander G.	2320	WI
Marchocka, Mary	604	MA
Matella, Eileen	509	IL
Mizikowski, Irene	1000	PA
Olek, Richard	237	PA
Ostrowski, Chester R.	2144	OH
Otloski, Wanda	2144	OH
Peck, Patricia A.	262	CT
Pietrzak, Stanley J	227	OH
Pilarz, Frank	384	PA
Potrzebowski, Virginia	719	OH
Rosolek, Joseph	2315	AZ
Schultz, James	593	WI
Schuster, Kathleen	1253	WI
Sewick, Virginia L.	261	MI
Sokacz, George	1593	MI
Topel, Dorothy A.	407	AZ
Warat, Helena	317	IL
Wawrzynek, Henry E.	2003	PA
Wieckowski, Mary A.	1000	NJ
Wozniak, Chester	1593	MI
Zelinski, Helen	29	PA

May they rest in eternal peace

PRCUA extends sincere condolences to Home Office employees Judy Hoffman and Claudine Wicker on the loss of their mother, Pauline Filipowicz, who passed away on Monday, October 7, 2019.

Please remember Pauline and her family in your prayers. May she rest in peace.





Halka Dancers Kickstart their 51st Year



Halka Dancers at St. Thecla Fall Festival in Clinton Twp., MI



Halka Dancers love their new pencil pouches. Thank you, Pani Misia!



Poland inspired horse race line-up

event in donating to the prize raffle or bringing additions for the food and dessert tables. New this year was a “Horse Race” game in which each horse represented something about Poland and each horseman was dressed accordingly. In Lane 1 was “HERO” – the legendary Lajkonik, ridden by current Halka Dancer Christian Palencik. Lane 2 was “Z-PANE,” who represented Zakopane and was honored to have exchange student Zdenek Svelch from the Czech Republic lead him. Zdenek is attending high school while staying with Halka family, Aaron, Michael and Zosia Tabaczynski. A



Halka parents Gina and Justin showing off their fancy footwork



Mother/daughter promenade - Cathi and Bailey Sayle and Amanda and Dakota Litnianski



Halka moms Dana Davidson and Dottie Sikula (center) with their mothers



Halka families: Tabaczynski, Krass, and Shick

The PRCUA Halka Dancers of Detroit have gotten right to work for their 51st year beginning with walking in the annual Labor Day Parade in Hamtramck, MI, a performance for the St. Thecla Fall Festival in Clinton Township, MI and welcoming several new dancers to their family when classes began in September.

Along with all the new school year excitement, the Halka Dancers held their second annual Square Dance Fundraiser October 5. It was a night where you couldn’t help but smile the whole time as square dance caller, Walt Zitorski, invited everyone to make a “B—i—g circle”, instructed simple square dance steps before everyone broke into squares, and he added a bump-bump-bump while do-si-do-ing to really add to the fun! Each time a “big circle” was made, Walt added on more steps and Halka teacher/choreographer Tom Lisiecki assisted by standing in the middle of the floor to assist those that needed extra help. The last instruction is for the Virginia Reel, which Walt referred to as “the killer” since you needed to really pay attention. The Halka families helped with this

special thank you to PRCUA District 10 Director, C o l l e e n Bonkowski for attending our fundraiser and also accepting the challenge to dress up as the horse in Lane 3 named “STO-LOT-TY”

because Polish people know how to par-ty! Lane 4 was 2019 Halka graduate, Zachary Palencik riding “TAD” for the Polish-American war hero, Tadeusz Kościuszko. Zachary’s dad, Andy Palencik, was in Lane 5 as “SALTY” from the Wieliczka Salt Mines, and finally Lane 6 was 2019 Halka graduate, Michael Federico, as “MY CAPTAIN” from the fishing area of Gdańsk. As numbers 1 thru 6 were randomly picked the horse in that lane could move forward thru several spaces. It was “HERO” that finished first and a betting winner was then chosen. Thank you to all that supported our group on this fun night. The ideas are already spinning to make next year’s square dance even better!

Submitted by: Laura Hejza, Director of the Halka Dancers



Halka Halatsis Family



Halka Executive Team (left to right): Deb Federico, Laura Hejza and Tom Lisiecki

— The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America —  
Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko-Katolickie w Ameryce

cordially invites you, your family and friends to attend its annual  
ma zaszczyt zaprosić Szanownych Państwa na swój doroczny

*Optatek*

Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 7 P.M.      Sobota, 7 grudnia 2019, godz. 19.00  
hosted by PRCUA District 7      organizowany przez Dystrykt 7 ZPRKA  
Great Hall of The Polish Museum of America | Sala Główna Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce  
984 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60642

Entrance/Rozpoczęcie 6:00 p.m. • Dinner/Kolacja 7:00 p.m.  
with a traditional Wigilia style dinner, Christmas caroling, Santa's visit and more!  
połączony z tradycyjną Wigilią, wspólnym kolędowaniem i wizytą św. Mikołaja!

Donation/Donacja: Adults/Dorośli \$35 • Children 12 and under/Dzieci poniżej 12 roku życia \$17.50  
Cash Bar/Platny Bar

— RSVP by November 29, 2019 —

Enclosed please find my check made payable to PRCUA District 7 in the amount of /  
W załączeniu czek wypisany na PRCUA District 7 opiewający na sumę:  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for number of tickets requested / ilość zamówionych biletów:  
Adults/Dorośli / Children/Dzieci

PRCUA District 7, 3759 N. Newland Ave., Chicago, IL 60634 or/tub prcuadistrict7@gmail.com  
For more information please contact District 7 Directors / Szczegółowe informacje u Dyrektorów Dystryktu 7:  
Ewa Cholewicki (224) 622-1517 / Anna Krzyński (847) 529-2555

Name / Nazwisko \_\_\_\_\_  
Address / Adres \_\_\_\_\_  
City / Miasto \_\_\_\_\_ State / Stan \_\_\_\_\_ Zip / Kod \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone / Numer telefonu \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLES ON PG. 7

Find the correct shadow: 3

Find all matches: 7

Find items in the picture:

1 - 5; 2 - 10; 3 - 5



Find the way:





Tatry Dancers’ Trivia Night



Tatry Dancers in Dearborn Heights, MI, had an adult night out hosting a music trivia fundraiser at the Post in Plymouth, MI on October 12th. The music was playing, the food and drinks were overflowing and everyone was having a great time!

Over 40 people attended this event. The event was put on by 8 Trax Musical Trivia. Music trivia from the 1960's and up was played for a few hours. The Post donated gifts for the winner.

Lots and lots of laughs, dancing and shouting! We highly recommend 8 Trax in the metro Detroit area for fundraising.

Submitted by Gail Esker, Tatry Secretary



PRCUA National Officers addressing employees

On October 3, PRCUA Home Office employees and PMA staff celebrated the 146th anniversary of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, “Mother of all Polish fraternal” in the United States. Remarks on this outstanding occasion were offered by PRCUA National Officers: President James Robaczewski, Vice President Micheline Jaminski, and Secretary-Treasurer Agnieszka Bastrzyk. The officers expressed their gratitude to those who established the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America 146 years ago to provide help to their fellow Polish Americans, those who served our organization ensuring its development and prosperity throughout the decades, and to all employees and members who continue the work of our founders.



Jan Lorys making remarks on behalf of the PMA

Congratulations and best wishes were conveyed on behalf of the Polish Museum of America by PMA Historian Jan Lorys.



SAT, FEB. 8 – 7:00PM  
vs. NEW YORK KNICKS

Show your Polish Pride on Saturday, February 8th at Little Caesars Arena as the Pistons take on the New York Knicks. Enjoy pre-game performances and Pistons basketball! Through this package you will receive an exclusive discount and a limited edition Pistons Polish Heritage T-shirt. All attendees will also have the opportunity to shoot a postgame free throw on the Pistons Floor. Don't hesitate to get your tickets and order today!

EXCLUSIVE TICKET PRICING:

100 LEVEL SEMI-CORNER (SECTION 125):	\$76 (\$91 value)
100 LEVEL CORNER (SECTION 117):	\$42 (\$57 value)
MEZZANINE END (SECTION M2):	\$32 (\$47 value)
200 LEVEL CORNER (SECTION 230):	\$30 (\$45 value)

\*FREE Limited Edition Polish T-shirt for each ticket purchased  
— redeem at Pistons Game  
\*Postgame Free Throw Shot on The Pistons Court for all purchasers

PURCHASE TICKETS AT:  
**PISTONS.COM/POLISH**

Offer cannot be redeemed at the Xfinity Box Office.  
For additional information, please contact:  
**BRANDON GOEBEL**  
(248) 377-0172 / BGOEBEL@PISTONS.COM

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2020

All tickets are subject to availability and are based on a first-come, first-served basis. All prices on orders received after the indicated deadline are subject to change. Refunds or exchanges will not be issued. Please provide an accurate cell phone number and email address in order to access your tickets. All tickets purchased will be available on your Pistons Account. You will receive an email once they are available.



Get a free limited edition Polish T-shirts with every ticket purchased for the Polish Heritage Night through the link listed above.

REQUEST FOR OLD CHRISTMAS CARDS AND SPARE ROSARIES

Fr. Paul Cruz from Kerala, India, kindly requests *Naród Polski* readers to send him used Christmas cards and spare rosaries that will be shared by missionaries and needy people in India. Thirty percent of the community served by Fr. Cruz are well off and the reminder are poor and uneducated, but pious people. All donations will be greatly appreciated. Fr. Cruz and other missionaries will offer prayers and holy Masses for all who will help with this collection. Items can be send to: FATHER PAUL CRUZ, Kottiyam P.O., Kollam 691 571, Kerala, India

CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND/OR REQUEST FOR NARÓD POLSKI NEWSPAPER

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To access the newspaper online, go to: [www.PRCUA.org/narodpolski](http://www.PRCUA.org/narodpolski)  
Click on "Start your digital Naród Polski subscription."

If you'd like to get a print-copy, email: [pam-tuytens@prcu.org](mailto:pam-tuytens@prcu.org) or mail the form above to:  
PRCUA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101, Attn: Pam Tuytens

ATTENTION!

The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America is asking its members to provide PRCUA with their e-mail addresses in order to update members’ database and form an efficient and earth-friendly way of communicating. To send your e-mail address fill out the form above. Provided information will be strictly used for business purposes.



## PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers Late September & Early October Happenings

We haven't seen frost on the pumpkins yet in Michigan, but we've certainly seen pumpkin spice. Fall is upon us and with the fall comes the start of a new dance year and... a steady stream of performances and appearances.

On Monday, September 9, the Gwiazda Ensemble welcomed new and returning families as they held their first practice of the 2019-2020 dance year at their practice space at P.L.A.V. Post 10 in Hamtramck, MI.

On Saturday, September 21, the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers performed at St. Anne Church in Warren's Annual Sausage Festival. For its performance, Gwiazda presented two versions of the Krakowiak, a polka, the oberek and suites of dances from Beskid Żywiecki, and Beskid Śląski.

On Sunday, September 22, the Gwiazda had a mini-dożynki celebration by visiting Blake's Cider Mill in Armada, MI. There the dancers and their families experienced some of the benefits fall in Michigan offers: cider, donuts, corn mazes, apples, pie, pumpkins, and fun.

On Thursday, October 3, members of the PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers and their families headed to Troy, MI and the facilities of Gabletek to work on assembling the Polish Eagle lawn ornaments that Gwiazda is currently selling. If you're interested in acquiring your own steel Polish Eagle lawn ornament, and would like additional information, contact Gwiazda's director, Jessica Wendt at [panijessica@hotmail.com](mailto:panijessica@hotmail.com).

On Saturday, October 5, the Gwiazda dancers performed in Farmington Hills, MI during the Farmington Farmers Market Polish Day. For its performance, Gwiazda presented a polka, the Krakowiak, and a suite of dances from Beskid Żywiecki. In addition to the performance, Gwiazda member Schyler Babicz participated in a fashion show featuring designs by Oleńka Lisiecka of Recultured Designs.

On Sunday, October 6, members of Gwiazda, along with PRCUA National District 10 Director Colleen Bonkowski and many other metro-Detroit area PRCUA dance schools, attended Mass at St. Albertus Church in Detroit, MI. The mass was celebrated by PRCUA's National Chaplain, Rev. Canon Walter Ptak. As is tradition, the Polish Heritage Mass serves as a kickoff to October's Polish Heritage Month celebrations. In his homily, Fr. Ptak spoke about the importance of Polish traditions and the maintenance and preservation of them by Polonian communities in the United States.

Founded in 1871, St. Albertus was the first Polish American Church in the



**PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers perform at St. Anne's Sausage Festival in Warren**



**Gwiazda Dancers and their families enjoying a fall day at Blake's Cider Mill**



### Gwiazda Families at Gabletek prepping Polish Eagle lawn ornaments



**Gwiazda Dancers attend Polish Heritage Mass at St. Albertus in Detroit, MI**



### Gwiazda Dancers perform at Farmington Farmers' Market Polish Day



**Schyler Babicz in  
Recultured  
Designs Fashion  
Show at  
Farmington  
Farmers Market  
Polish Day**



## Gwiazda Dancers perform at Polkatober at Detroit's Eastern Market



**Gwiazda Dancers and the Kielbasa Kings Polka Band at Pierogi Fest in Algonac**



**Gwiazda**  
choreographer, Basia  
Nowakowski and  
**Gwiazda** Secretary,  
Nick Nowakowski  
presenting bread and  
salt at a recent wedding  
reception

Archdiocese of Detroit. Although closed in 1989, the site is lovingly maintained by volunteers from the Polish American Historic Site Association. The PRCUA was founded at St. Albertus in 1873. In the late 1960s, St. Albertus hosted the future St. Pope John Paul II during one of his visits to Detroit.

Immediately following Mass at St. Albertus, the Gwiazda Dancers headed over a few blocks to Detroit's Eastern Market, where they performed at the annual Polkatober Event. For the Eastern Market Polkatober performance, Gwiazda presented a polka, the Krakowiak, the oberek and a suite of dances from Beskid Żywiecki. The event received a good deal of local media attention with photos of the Gwiazda dancers appearing in the online and print editions of the *Detroit News*.

**Pierogi Fest in Algonac** On Tuesday, October 8, the Gwiazda Dancers headed northeast to Algonac, MI to perform at the Algonac VFW Post #3901's Pierogi Fest. In addition to pierogi, the event featured music by the Kielbasa Kings polka band and a performance by Gwiazda. For its performance, Gwiazda presented the polka, the Krakowiak, and the oberek.

On Saturday, October 12, in St. Clair Shores, MI, Gwiazda's choreographer Basia Nowakowski and Secretary Nick Nowakowski presented bread and salt at a wedding reception. Gwiazda was pleased that they were able to showcase this cherished Polish custom at the wedding celebration.

The new dance year is already off to a busy start. Gwiazda has performances and appearances lined up deeper in to the fall and through the holidays. Perhaps we'll see you at a performance this fall? You can like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter: @PRCUA\_Gwiazda for realtime updates.

*Submitted by Nicholas J. Nowakowski, Gwiazda Secretary & 1997 alumnus*

The PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers are hosting a watch party!

**POLAND VS. ISRAEL**

(EuroCup Qualifier)

Saturday, November 16, 2019

DCFC Clubhouse 3401 E Lafayette St, Detroit, MI

2:15 pm (2:45 pm kickoff)

Tickets \$20 in advance \$25 at the door  
(tickets include admission, food, and one \$5 drink ticket)

Ages 3-12 \$10

Contact (313) 682-3031 or [paniessica@hotmail.com](mailto:paniessica@hotmail.com) for more info

**For advanced ticket purchase pick one of the following options:**

**by Monday, 11/11/19**

- hand in to any Gwiazda Family
- paypal to: [paniessica@hotmail.com](mailto:paniessica@hotmail.com)
- send the form below along with check (made payable to: PRCUA Gwiazda)

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# adult tickets (\$20 each): \_\_\_\_\_ # children tickets (\$10 each): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers 223 W. Auburn Trl. Brighton, MI 48114

**POLSKA  
BIAŁO CZERWONI**





TWO MORE REASONS  
TO CELEBRATE

On October 3rd, the long hoped-for announcement came from the Vatican: Pope Francis had approved a miracle attributed to the Venerable Servant of God, Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński, thus opening the way for his beatification. Shortly thereafter, it was announced that this ceremony which will elevate the "Cardinal of the Millennium" to the title of "blessed", will take place at a special Mass celebrated in Pilsudski Square in Warsaw on June 7, 2020, by Giovanni Cardinal Becciu, Prefect of the Congregation of Bishops in Rome.

As Primate of Poland, Cardinal Wyszyński headed the Church in Poland from 1948 until his death from abdominal cancer in May of 1981 - days after the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II. Imprisoned for three years from 1953-1956, his leadership ensured not just the survival, but the flourishing of the Church in Poland, a nation behind the "Iron Curtain." His "Great Novena" initiative in preparation for Poland's millennial celebrations in 1966 served as a nine-year "retreat" for the country and helped lay the spiritual foundation for the Solidarity movement which would later arise.

Appropriately, the miracle attributed to his intercession was of a 19-year-old girl who was cured of terminal thyroid cancer in 1988. Since then, she has lived a healthy life without any signs of the malady.

The spirituality, teachings, and leadership of Cardinal Wyszyński during such trying times made him the true "Father of the Nation," appreciated by no one more than Pope John Paul II himself. Two quotes of his which would do leaders of any stripe good to reflect upon in our own days are "The fear of an Apostle is the first ally of his enemies," and "The lack of courage is the beginning of defeat for a Bishop." Truer and timelier words were never spoken!

Also, while unrelated but almost simultaneously occurring, the Polish Bishops' Conference sent a petition to Pope Francis in Rome that Pope St. John Paul II be officially named a Doctor of the Church and Co-Patron of Europe. These honorary distinctions would certainly be in keeping with the themes and focus of his long and fruitful pontificate. As of the present, though, there has not been any action taken on this request and no announcement made regarding it.

All this gives us two more reasons to celebrate!!! And to pray!!! Soon-to-be BLESSED Cardinal Wyszyński, pray for us! Pope St. John Paul II, hopefully-to-be Doctor of the Church and Co-Patron of Europe, pray for us!



PRCUA President Joseph Osajda standing by to Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński during the beatification of Maksymilian Maria Kolbe pilgrimage in 1971



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



Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński

Fraternal Organizations met with Michigan State  
Representatives

Fraternal organizations met with Michigan State Representatives in Lansing, MI on October 22 in support of the tax code. To emphasize the efforts of the members of fraternal benefit societies and their value to society through their work, charitable giving, educational programs and volunteer activities, PRCUA President Emeritus Wallace Ozog, FICF, met with Ryan Berman (State Representative from the 39th District), who is on the House Insurance Committee and Lori M. Stone (State Representative from the 28th District), which represent the city of Center Line and Warren to what benefits our state.

Sen. Berman's grandmother, Stella Klein, was one of the organizers of the PRCUA Opolo Dancers. His mother, as well as his uncles and aunt were also dancers in this PRCUA sponsored group. In fact, his uncle James Klein was at the Detroit Metro Airport greeting Cardinal Karol Wojtyla on his visit to the Orchard Lake Schools.

Lori Stone was Christopher Ozog's dance partner when they performed in the Alliance of Poles Dance Group.



President Emeritus Wallace Ozog with  
State Representatives Ryan Berman (l)  
and Lori M. Stone (r)

PRCUA Vice President Emeritus Robert Bielenda FICF, spoke with State Representatives on the many ways that the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America as well as the entire fraternal life insurance community, help enhance the quality of life for its members and the communities in which they live and work. He explained the value of the PRCUA in the State of Michigan in promoting Polish heritage, the Catholic faith, and the ethnicity through the Polish dance groups and their participation in local parades and community functions.



Robert Bielenda (PRCUA), Wendy Martin (Women's Life), Michigan State Representative Daire Rendon, Allison Koppel (American Fraternal Alliance), Edward Arthur and Stephen Grice (Modern Woodmen of America)



Robert Bielenda (PRCUA), Stephen Grice (Modern Woodmen of America), Wendy Martin (Women's Life), and Edward Arthur (Modern Woodmen of America)

Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep Announces New Educational Model

ORCHARD LAKE VILLAGE, MI. (October 15, 2019) – Orchard Lake St. Mary's Preparatory School announces a new, innovative approach to learning and student development in the Fall of 2020. St. Mary's will become the first Catholic high school in its region to operate under a co-divisional model, with boys and girls educated in a single-gender learning environment on the same campus.

This model offers a single-gender classroom experience alongside opportunities for boys and girls to engage socially, spiritually and in co-curricular activities. St. Mary's prepares its students to excel in college and beyond by developing their abilities to think critically, work collaboratively, and succeed independently. In this culture, for the first time, both boys and girls will have all of the advantages of co-educational interaction without social pressures in the classroom. With the boys and girls in separate classrooms for the majority of their instruction, students have a choice of when and how they socialize during break times, before, and after the school day ends.

"While we recognize this opportunity represents change, our core values remain the same," said St. Mary's Headmaster Bob Pyles. "Importantly, the extraordinary men and women of our faculty and staff remain the foremost resource in the daily formation of St. Mary's students. Through their work rooted in faith, maintaining the culture of opportunity, growth, and accomplishment will be our highest priority as we transition to this new model."

With more than 135 years of history, St. Mary's has stood out as the fastest-growing Catholic high school in the State of Michigan over the last twenty years. Located on the shores of Orchard Lake -- and rooted firmly in the traditional teachings of Catholic education -- the school has a history of diversity, with students of varied backgrounds and household situations. This new model continues that commitment to diversity. The principle of inclusion will expand beyond the components of race and ethnicity to include a co-divisional approach for all qualified young people.

"Our school is financially healthy. We recently raised more than \$6 million in private donations towards the construction of a new 22-classroom building overlooking Orchard Lake, have already invested \$2.2 million into our current classrooms and learning centers over the past 12 months, and have plans to build a 50,000 square foot indoor athletic facility. In looking at the future, we have the best chance at continuing this period of strength by expanding our student base to include families who want the St. Mary's caliber of education and spiritual guidance for their daughters," added Pyles.

St. Mary's received recommendations from three nationally-regarded Catholic high schools that have recently adopted similar models. DeLaSalle Collegiate in Chicago and both Holy Cross and Xaverian High Schools in New York City all report that enrollment and student opportunities have increased and strengthened since adopting this model.

The school has innovated and evolved its own model since its founding on the 115-acre collegiate-like campus on the shores of Orchard Lake. Organizations, programs, and policies of the Schools have adapted as needs in both society and the Church have changed since 1885.



For example, three distinct schools – SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, St. Mary's College and St. Mary's Preparatory – emerged from a restructuring of the Seminary in 1927-28, each with a four-year program. Male lay students were first admitted to the college in 1969; women and commuter students in the college and theology soon followed in 1970. The preparatory first offered a day-school option to its traditional boarding school program in 1987 and has since more than tripled its enrollment.

St. Mary's will transition to a co-divisional school (Boys and Girls Divisions) for the incoming ninth grade class for the 2020-2021 academic year. All current students will remain in a single-gender learning environment until graduation.


"At this moment in our history, we are reminded of the words of Saint John Paul II, who visited our campus twice during his lifetime," added the Very Reverend Canon Mirosław Król, Chancellor of the Orchard Lake Schools. "In his encyclical *On the Collaboration of Men and Women*, he encouraged cooperation and adequate support throughout our lives so that both genders can become healthy men and women."






**JP2**  
**1920**  
**2020**


**DOM RODZINNY  
JANA PAWŁA II**

**THE FAMILY HOME  
MUSEUM OF  
ST. JOHN PAUL II  
OF WADOWICE,  
AND THE  
POLISH MISSION OF THE  
ORCHARD LAKE SCHOOLS**  
present the exhibition:






**Urodziłem się  
w Wadowicach  
"I was born  
in Wadowice"**

**Hours:**  
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 4-8 PM  
 Saturday & Sunday: 10 AM-7 PM  
 At the "Old Gym" (Building no. 5) on the historic  
 campus of the Archdiocesan Shrine of St. John Paul II

**Thank you for your free will offering!**

**Orchard Lake Schools  
3535 Commerce Rd.,  
Orchard Lake, MI 48324**

**October 12 - November 10, 2019**  
**Info: [mpalka@orchardlakeschools.com](mailto:mpalka@orchardlakeschools.com) / (248) 392-9209**  
**[www.orchardlakeschools.com](http://www.orchardlakeschools.com) - [www.polishmission.com](http://www.polishmission.com)**





## LISTOPAD

### I-2 WSZYSTKICH ŚWIĘTYCH I ZADUSZKI

**4 CHICAGO, IL – KURS JĘZYKA POLSKIEGO DLA DOROSŁYCH** rozpocznie się w poniedziałek 4 listopada o godz. 18.00 w sali konferencyjnej ZPRKA, 984 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL. Oplaty: gratis dla członków ZPRKA; osoby nie należące do ZPRKA - \$150. Zapisy: Fraternal-Department@PRCUA.org lub pod nr. tel. (773) 782-2636.

**8-9 CENTER LINE, MI – 3. KRAJOWY TURNIEJ SIATKÓWKI ZPRKA** - piątek sobota, 8-9 listopada w Center Line, MI. Gospodarzem jest zespół tańca „Opole” ZPRKA, przewodniczącymi są Jennifer Vernon i Elizabeth Thacker. Bankiet z rozdaniem nagród odbędzie się w sobotę, 9 listopada w godz. 18:00-23:00 w Malone's Tavern, 32350 Van Dyke Ave., Warren, MI. W sprawie uzyskania dodatkowych informacji, prosimy się kontaktować z biurem ZPRKA, na adres: fraternal-department@prcu.org, dzwonić pod numer telefonu: (773)-782-2636. Informacje zamieszczone są również na stronie www.prcua.org/sports lub PRCUA Facebook.

**10 WYANDOTTE, MI – NIEDZIELA Z ZUPĄ TOW. #162** - niedziela, 10 listopada, od godziny 13:00, PRCUA Lounge, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. \$5 za osobę - nieograniczone dokładki. Potrzebni są ochotnicy do ugotowania zup. Dodatkowe informacje: Stan Pasko, tel. (313) 815-5230.

**11 DZIEŃ WETERANA (USA) / DZIEŃ NIEPODLEGŁOŚCI (POLSKA)** – BIURO ZPRKA NIECZYNNE

**16 DETROIT, MI – TRANSMISJA MECZU PIŁKI NOŻNEJ POMIĘDZY ZESPOŁAMI POLSKI I IZRAELA.** Do obejrzenia transmisji zaprasza zespół „Gwiazda” ZPRKA. Sobota, 16 listopada, od godz. 14:15 (mecz rozpocznie się o 14:45). Bilety: dorośli - \$20 w przedsprzedaży i \$25 przy wejściu (w cenie biletu poczęstunek i jeden napój alkoholowy w cenie \$5); \$10 - dzieci w wieku 3-12 lat. Dodatkowe informacje: (313) 682-3031 lub paniJessica@hotmail.com. Osoby zainteresowane wcześniejszym zakupem biletu (do 11 listopada) mogą dokonać zakupu osobiście u członków zespołu „Gwiazda”; dokonać opłaty przez paypal na adres: paniJessica@hotmail.com; lub wysłać formularz ze str. 16 wraz z czekiem (płatne na: PRCUA Gwiazda) na adres PRCUA Gwiazda Dancers 223 W. Auburn Trl., Brighton, MI 48114.

**18 ORLAND PARK, IL – KWARTALNE ZEBRANIE DYSTRYKTU #8 ZPRKA,** poniedziałek, 18 listopada o godz. 19:00, w sali przy parafii Our Lady of the Woods, 10731 W. 131st. St., Orland Park, IL.

**23 HICKORY HILLS, IL – 48. BAL „KOPCIUSZKA I KSIĘCIA” GRUPY KULTURALNEJ DOROSŁYCH,** sobota, 23 listopada, Bobak's Signature Events, 6440 Double Eagle Dr, Woodridge, IL. Godzina koktajlowa 18:30-19:30, kolacja o godzinie 19:30. Info: Vicky Kroplewski (708) 698-1505. Szczegóły na str. 24.

**28-29 ŚWIĘTO DZIĘKCZYNIENIA** – BIURO ZPRKA BĘDZIE NIECZYNNE

**MADISON, IL - TOW. #1004 ZPRKA ZAPRASZA NA FISH FRY & TACOS** - w każdy piątkowy wieczór do 15 listopada - Polish Hall (Św. Stanisława #1004), 826 Greenwood Street, Madison, IL, w godz. od 17:00 do 20.00. Kanapka z dorsza - \$4, taco - \$2. Dostępne są również krewetki, smażone kawałki kurczaka, krążki cebulowe, frytki, sałatka z kapusty i napoje. Na miejscu lub na wynos. Wszystkie wydarzenia Tow. #1004 dostępne na: Facebooku.com/Polish.Hall.Madison

## GRUDZIEŃ

**1 WARREN, MI – DOROCZNY OPŁATEK WYDZIAŁU KOBIET W STANIE MICHIGAN,** niedziela, 1 grudnia w DeCarlo's Banquet Center, 6015 E 10 Mile Rd., Warren, MI. Gospodarzem jest zespół tańca Opole. Drzwi otwarte o godz. 13:00, program o 13:30, obiad o 14:00. Bilety: \$20 - dorośli, \$17 - dzieci 12 lat i poniżej. Rezerwacji należy dokonywać do 22 listopada (bilety nie będą sprzedawane przy wejściu). W sprawie biletów lub pytań prosimy kontaktować się z Beth Thacker pod adresem opole.director@comcast.net lub 586-944-9683. W programie loterie, z których dochód przeznaczony zostanie na stypendia Wydziału Kobiet.

**6 DZIEŃ ŚW. MIKOŁAJA**

**7 CHICAGO, IL – DOROCZNY OPŁATEK ZPRKA, GOSPODARZEM JEST DYSTRYKT #7,** niedziela, 7 grudnia, godz. 19:00 w Głównej Sali Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Formularz zgłoszeniowy i dodatkowe informacje dostępne na str. 14.

**8 WYANDOTTE, MI - PRZYJĘCIE BOŻONARODZENIOWE DLA DZIECI Z TOW. #162** - niedziela, 8 grudnia o godzinie 13:30, PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. Przyjęcie rozpocznie się o godz. 12:30, wizyta św. Mikołaja o godz. 13:30. Dzieci w wieku do 10 lat otrzymają zaproszenia pocztą, zgłoszenia należy przysyłać do 15 listopada. Dodatkowe informacje: Lisa (734) 775-7987 lub Mary Ann (734) 341-2242.

**14 WYANDOTTE, MI – 16. DOROCZNY WIECZÓR BOŻONARODZENIOWY Z POLKĄ TOW. #162,** sobota, 14 grudnia, o godz. 20:00 w PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. W programie: kolędy, polki, walce i oberki z zespołem Kavalier's and Friends. Możliwość zakupu obiadu, płatny bar. Wstęp wolny - mile widziane donacje. Dochód przeznaczony na działalność Tow. #162 ZPRKA.

**15 CHICAGO, IL – DOROCZNY WYSTĘP BOŻONARODZENIOWY POŁUDNIOWO-ZACHODNIEGO CENTRUM TAŃCA I ŚPIEWU ZPRKA,** niedziela, 15 grudnia, o godz. 13:00 w Mother McAuley Theater, 3737 W. 99th St., Chicago, IL. Dodatkowe informacje: anna.kraszewski@gmail.com.

**9 WYANDOTTE, MI – PRZYJĘCIE BOŻONARODZENIOWE TOW. #162 DLA SENIORÓW,** niedziela, 15 grudnia w PRCUA Hall, 1430 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. Zapraszamy członków w wieku 60 lat i więcej. \$10 - dla członków, \$15 USD dla osób niebędących członkami (gości). Bilety należy zakupić wcześniej. W celu uzyskania dodatkowych informacji, prosimy dzwonić do Stasia pod numer (313) 815-5230.

**24-25 BOŻE NARODZENIE - WESOŁYCH ŚWIĄT!** – BIURO ZPRKA BĘDZIE NIECZYNNE

**31 SYLWESTER**

*Grupa Kulturalna Dorosłych  
Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce*  
ma zaszczyt zaprosić na

### 48. Bal Kopciuszka i Księcia

sobota, 23 listopada 2019 r.

Bobak's Signature Events

6440 Double Eagle Dr, Woodridge, IL

Koktajle 18:30-19:30

Kolacja 19:30

Bilety \$85.00 od osoby

Rezerwacje będą przyjmowane  
do 11 listopada 2019 r.



Informacje  
i rezerwacje:  
Vicky Kroplewski  
708-698-1505

## DO WSZYSTKICH SEKRETARZY TOWARZYSTW ZPRKA

Prosimy o przysyłanie terminarza zebrań i imprez zaplanowanych na 2020 rok. Informacje należy przysyłać **do 15 grudnia 2019 r.** na adres: **narod-polski@prcu.org** lub pocztą na adres: **Executive Editor, Narod Polski, PRCUA Headquarters**  
984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60642-4101

## Kalendarz ZPRKA na 2020 r.

Zachęcamy wszystkich do zamawiania kalendarza ZPRKA na rok 2020. Kalendarz będzie dostępny w biurze ZPRKA, 984 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL. Zamówienia można również kierować pocztą elektroniczną na adres: **marketing@prcu.org** lub telefonicznie na numer telefonu (773) 782-2630.

Mamy nadzieję, że spodoba się Państwu nasz nowy kalendarz! Nakład ograniczony - zamów kalendarz już dziś!



**Prosimy o dostarczenie artykułów do grudniowego wydania „Narodu Polskiego” do 15 listopada 2019.**  
**Materiały nadesłane po terminie będą wydrukowane w jednym z kolejnych wydań.**





## “Czas na dyskusję”

O tym, że usługi pogrzebowe to moje powołanie wiedziałem od dziecka. Zafascynowała mnie tajemnica, którą otaczany jest temat śmierci, troski o zmarłych, organizacji ich ostatecznego pożegnania oraz opieka nad rodziną pogrążoną w żałobie. Po zdobyciu niezbędnej edukacji w tym kierunku podjąłem pracę, która okazała się być pasją mojego życia. Od 33 lat zajmuję się niesieniem profesjonalnej pomocy tym, którzy utracili najbliższych. Wspieram ich w przejściu przez najtrudniejszy w życiu czas żałoby i odnalezieniu nadziei i wiary w obietnicę Zmartwychwstania.

W wierze katolickiej pomagają w tym Sakramenty. W naszym kalendarzu mamy też dni, w których wspominamy wszystkich zmarłych i modlimy się za ich duszę: Wszystkich Świętych i Dzień Zaduszny. W tym szczególnym czasie, wprowadzającym nas w atmosferę zadumy, modlitwy i wspomnień, oddajemy cześć pamięci tych, którzy odeszli.

Dni te zbliżają nas nieco do tematyki odchodzenia z tego świata, z którą w życiu codziennym często ciężko nam się mierzyć. Ucieczka od myślenia o kresie naszego życia jak i odkładanie dyskusji z rodziną na temat naszych ostatecznych decyzji nie jest jednak dobrym rozwiązaniem. Wiele rodzin, na których nieszczęście to spada zwykle z nienacka, staje przed tym problemem kompletnie nieprzygotowana. Brak wcześniej zaplanowanych funduszy na ostateczne pożegnanie bliskich może skomplikować życie i przysporzyć poważnych problemów finansowych. Czasem pieniądze się znajdują... czasem jednak nie.

Zastanawiające jest dlaczego planujemy w życiu to, co przed nami: remont kuchni, kolejne wakacje czy edukację dzieci, a nie planujemy jak ma wyglądać nasza ostatnia droga. Życiowa odpowiedzialność nakazuje nam zaplanować ten ostatni wydatek, na coś co nieuniknione i co na pewno się wydarzy.

Wiemy, że nadejdzie kiedyś kres naszych dni, gdy zabraknie nas tu z bliskimi. Zaplanowanie swojego pogrzebu i środków na pokrycie jego kosztów to odpowiedzialna decyzja świadcząca o głębokiej trosce o najbliższych i rodzinie. Gdy śmierć bliskiej osoby nas zaskakuje, a owego planu brak, stajemy w obliczu nagłego zorganizowania sporych środków na ostateczne pożegnanie. Często organizacja pogrzebu staje zupełnie pod znakiem zapytania, bo nazwyczajniej w świecie pieniędzy po prostu nie ma, a koszty pogrzebu okazują się zbyt wysokie. Czy można więc takiej sytuacji uniknąć? Czy możemy jej oszczędzić naszym rodzinom? Tak! Wystarczy będąc jeszcze tu na ziemi pomyśleć o wykupieniu ubezpieczenia na życie lub ubezpieczenia pogrzebowego tzw. Final Expense.

Zapytacie kiedy jest najlepszy czas, by porozmawiać z rodziną o naszych ostatecznych decyzjach? Najlepszy czas jest nie wtedy, gdy zaistnieje potrzeba, najlepszy czas jest zanim ona zaistnieje. Przygotowanie planu na wypadek śmierci za wczasu, zabezpieczenie bliskich polisą na życie lub ubezpieczeniem Final Expense zapewnia Wam i Waszym rodzinom spokój ducha i umysłu oraz komfort pożegnania w trudnym czasie żałoby.

Porozmawiajcie więc z najbliższymi już dziś. Tak, właśnie teraz, gdy nikt nie chce o tym rozmawiać, gdy każdy ucieka od tematu. Życie dziś może być łatwe i bezstresowe, ale jutro może już takie nie być...

Teraz jest najlepszy czas, by przygotować rodzinie na chwilę, w której życie zmienia się nieodwracalnie.

- Leonard Zieliński, Funeral Director (Chicago, IL)

## DZIEŃ WSZYSTKICH ŚWIĘTYCH I ZADUSZKI



Uroczystość Wszystkich Świętych, obchodzona 1 listopada, wywodzi się z czci oddawanej męczennikom, którzy oddali swoje życie dla wiary w Chrystusa, a których nie wspomniano ani w martyrologiach miejscowych, ani w kanonie Mszy Świętej.

W III wieku rozpowszechniła się tradycja przenoszenia całych relikwii świętych, lub ich części, na inne miejsca. W ten sposób chciano podkreślić, że święci są własnością całego Kościoła. W 610 r. papież Bonifacy IV otrzymał od cesarza starożytną świątynię pogańską Panteon, w której kazał złożyć liczne relikwie i poświęcił tę budowlę na kościół pod wezwaniem Matki Bożej Męczenników. Od tego czasu oddawano cześć wszystkim zmarłym męczennikom, w dniu 1 maja.

W 731 r. papież Grzegorz III przeniósł tę uroczystość na dzień 1 listopada, a w 837 r. papież Grzegorz IV rozporządził, aby odtąd 1 listopada był dniem poświęconym pamięci nie tylko męczenników, ale wszystkich świętych Kościoła katolickiego.

W roku 935 papież Jan XI wyznaczył na 1 listopada osobne święto ku czci wszystkich świętych, które miało obowiązywać w całym Kościele. Wprowadził też wigilię tego święta. W roku 1475 papież Sykstus IV ustanowił w dniu 1 listopada obowiązkową dla wszystkich wiernych uroczystość i dołączył do niej oktawę obchodów. Wigilia i oktawa zostały zniesione w roku 1955 przez papieża Piusa XII.

Po dniu Wszystkich Świętych (2 listopada) jest dzień Zaduszny, w którym wspomina się wszystkich zmarłych. Na cmentarzach w całej Polsce, w oba te dni, zapalają się lampki nagrobne, a mogiły okrywają się bukietami kwiatów - najczęściej tradycyjnych chryzantem.

Rozmowa dotycząca naszych ostatecznych decyzji bywa trudna zarówno dla członków naszych rodzin jak i naszych najbliższych przyjaciół. Lepiej jednak przeprowadzić ją jak najwcześniej niż czekać, aż będzie za późno. Plan opieki medycznej na moment krytyczny jak również plan rozwiązań spadkowych najlepiej przygotować zanim staną się one potrzebne. Nawiazywanie do tego tematu za wczasu często spotyka się jednak z negatywnymi reakcjami. Jesteśmy posądzani o negatywne myślenie o najgorszym i chęć sprowadzenia na nas nieszczęścia. Jeśli jednak wytłumaczymy najbliższym jak ważne jest dla nas zaplanowanie tego co wydarzy się pod koniec życia, rozmowa może się okazać bardzo produktywna. Wiele rodzin wybiera swobodną i radosną atmosferę Święta Dziękczynienia na podjęcie tego tematu. Dla Was jednak każdy inny czas może okazać się właściwy.

### Porady dotyczące planowania decyzji ostatecznych

- ✎ Zanim podejmiesz rozmowę z najbliższymi zanotuj swoje przemyślenia. Odpowiedz sobie na cztery pytania: Z kim chcesz podzielić się planami? Na kiedy planujesz rozmowę? Jakie miejsce jest najbardziej odpowiednie na jej przeprowadzenie? Co zamierzasz powiedzieć?
- ✎ Nie spiesz się. Jeśli wyczuwasz atmosferę braku komfortu dla którejkolwiek ze stron, nie naciskaj. Nie musisz omówić wszystkiego na raz.
- ✎ Rozmawiaj ogólnie, niekoniecznie odnosząc się do własnej osoby. Wielu ludziom łatwiej znieść ten temat w czysto teoretycznej dyskusji niż w odniesieniu do śmierci najbliższej osoby. Jeśli osoba, z którą planujesz rozmowę opiera się i nie chce jej przeprowadzić, nawiązanie do tematu „ogólnie” może otworzyć ścieżkę do bardziej otwartej dyskusji o konkretach.
- ✎ Bądź kreatywny. Wykorzystaj różne pomysły do zainicjowania rozmowy. Skorzystaj z narzędzi dostępnych w internecie, porad organizacji jak: AARP, Amerykańskiego Stowarzyszenia Szpitali lub [TheConversationProject.com](http://TheConversationProject.com).
- ✎ Mów otwarcie o swoich potrzebach i ostatniej woli. Twój testament schowany bezpiecznie w Twojej domowej szufladzie nie przyda się nikomu w sytuacji krytycznej w szpitalu.
- ✎ Nie poddawaj się. Jeśli Twoja druga połowa upiera się by nie rozmawiać na ten temat, zwróć się do Waszych najstarszych dzieci. Jeśli rodzina odmawia podjęcia tematu, podejmij go z bliskimi przyjaciółmi lub zaprzyjaźnionym duchownym.
- ✎ Przygotuj niezbędne dokumenty: *advance directive* lub *living will* oraz *powers of attorney*. Pierwsza opcja (*advance directive*) mówi o Twojej woli dotyczącej dalszego leczenia czy podejmowania próby ratowania życia lub też nie, informuje także o Twojej woli kontroli bólu lub oddania organów. Opcja medycznego *power of attorney* pozwala wyznaczyć osobę, która jest uprawniona przez Ciebie do podejmowania decyzji medycznych w chwili, w której Ty nie bedziesz w stanie. Opcja prawnego *power of attorney* uprawnia wskazaną osobę do podejmowania decyzji prawnych w Twoim imieniu.
- ✎ Zaplanuj wcześniej jak ma wyglądać Twoje ostatnie pożegnanie. Pomoże Ci w tym każdy dom pogrzebowy, do którego zwrócisz się o pomoc. Plan taki może również zawierać Twoją wolę dotyczącą takich szczegółów jak: ostatnie ubranie, oprawa muzyczna pogrzebu czy aranżacje kwiatowe.

<sup>1</sup> Źródło: The Conversation Project National Survey (2018)



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15	\$764.96	\$1,304.91	\$2,924.78	\$5,624.55

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		3 rok gwarantowany	4%
			3%
			Darowana bezpłatna wypłata roczna 10%

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FPDA-101-E	(NQ) Non-Qualified	Min. gwarantowane	7%
FPDA-201-E	(IRA) Traditional IRA	2.00%	6%
FPDA-201R-E	(ROTH) Roth IRA	\$1,000 i więcej	5%
FPDA-201SE-E	(SEP) SEP IRA		4%
FPDA-201SI-E	(SIMPLE) SIMPLE IRA		3%
FPDA-401-E	(TSA) TSA	3.25%	
		3 rok gwarantowany	
			Darowana bezpłatna wypłata roczna 10%

PLAN	RODZAJ KONTA	% ROCZNE*	KARA REZYGNACYJNA
FPDA-102-E	(NQ) Non-Qualified	Min. gwarantowane	5%
FPDA-202-E	(IRA) Traditional IRA	2.00%	4%
FPDA-202R-E	(ROTH) Roth IRA	\$1,000 i więcej	3%
FPDA-202SE-E	(SEP) SEP IRA		
FPDA-202SI-E	(SIMPLE) SIMPLE IRA		
FPDA-402-E	(TSA) TSA	2.50%	
		3 rok gwarantowany	
			Darowana bezpłatna wypłata roczna 10%

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\*Oprocentowanie roczne jest gwarantowane w pierwszym roku certyfikatu, a w kolejnych latach może ulec zmianie wraz z warunkami na rynku finansowym. Aktualne oprocentowanie roczne, można sprawdzić na stronie [www.PRCUA.org/annuities](http://www.PRCUA.org/annuities)



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## ZPRKA I MPA WZIĘŁY UDZIAŁ W OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO

352 osób odwiedziło siedziby Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce i Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce podczas imprezy Open House Chicago (OHC), która odbyła się w weekend 19-20 października. Open House Chicago to bezpłatny dwudniowy festiwal, który odbywa się co roku w październiku w Chicago, organizowany przez Chicago Architecture Center. OHC pozwala uczestnikom uzyskać dostęp do ponad 250 ważnych architektonicznie, historycznie i kulturowo miejsc w całym mieście i odwiedzić wiele budynków, które zazwyczaj nie są otwarte dla publiczności. Wyróżnione miejsca to zabytkowe rezydencje, prywatne kluby, budynki sakralne, hotele, biura, teatry i wiele więcej! OHC została po raz pierwszy zorganizowana w 2011 roku i jest częścią światowej sieci wydarzeń Open House, które rozpoczęły się jako Open House London w 1992 roku.



Prezes ZPRKA James Robaczewski z grupą zwiedzających

106-letnia siedziba ZPRKA i MPA, która jest wpisana do Krajowego Rejestru Miejsc Historycznych, była otwarta dla publiczności w sobotę, 19 października. Prezes ZPRKA James Robaczewski i sekretarz-skarbnik Agnieszka Bastrzyk wraz z pięcioma pracownikami, którzy zgłosili się na ochotnika, witali gości i oprowadzali ich po głównym hallu, niektórych biurach i sali obrad. W muzeum odwiedzającymi zajmowali się prezes MPA Ryszard Owsiany, dyrektor zarządzająca Małgorzata Kot, członkowie dyrekcji MPA, pracownicy i wolontariusze.



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## W 40. ROCZNICĘ PONTYFIKALNEJ MSZY ŚW. W PARAFII PIĘCIU BRACI MĘCZENNIKÓW W CHICAGO

6 października wspólnota parafii Pięciu Braci Męczenników obchodziła uroczystości 40-lecia historycznej wizyty Ojca Świętego Jana Pawła II w tej parafii. Mszę św. jubileuszową koncelebrował przy ołtarzu papieskim ks. biskup Robert Casey wraz z kilkunastoma księżmi. Zgromadzeni wierni dziękowali Bogu za dar św. Jana Pawła II, naszego wielkiego Polaka.

Zarząd i dyrekcję ZPRKA reprezentowały na jubileuszowej mszy św. wiceprezes Micheline Jamiński i dyrektor krajowa Dystryktu #8 Elizabeth Dynowski.

Jan Paweł II odbył swoją pierwszą, 8-dniową pielgrzymkę do Stanów Zjednoczonych w dniach od 1 do 7 października, 1979 r. Celem tej wizyty było umocnienie w wierze Kościoła Stanów Zjednoczonych Ameryki Północnej oraz wizyta w siedzibie Organizacji Narodów Zjednoczonych i spotkanie z amerykańską Polonią. Jan Paweł II odwiedził 6 amerykańskich miast, w większości wielkich centrów życia katolickiego. W Chicago przebywał w dniach 4-6 października 1979 r.

Karol Wojtyła wcześniej odwiedził parafię Pięciu Braci Męczenników dwukrotnie jako kardynał metropolita krakowski w 1969 i 1976 r., będąc gościem biskupa Alfreda L. Abramowicza, biskupa pomocniczego w Chicago i proboszcza tej parafii. Parafia Pięciu Braci Męczenników była w tym czasie największą parafią polską na południowej stronie Chicago. Przy parafii działała m.in. Szkoła języka polskiego im. Marii Konopnickiej, sponsorowana przez Zjednoczenie Polskie Rzymsko-Katolickie w Ameryce, Dystrykt #8 ZPRKA oraz Grupa Kulturalna Dorosłych. W salach parafialnych odbywały się próby kandydatów do balu „Kopciuszka i Księcia” oraz zespołu tańca ludowego „Wesoły Lud” i Południowo-Zachodniego Centrum Polskich Tańców.

5 października 1979 r., przed ołtarzem papieskim ustawionym na parkingu parafialnym, zgromadziło się 17 500 zaproszonych gości reprezentujących głównie polskie parafie, organizacje i instytucje Archidiecezji Chicago, a 200 000 wiernych modliło się wokół parafii, manifestując swoją głęboką wiarę i swoje oddanie i umiłowanie dla Papieża-Polaka.

Jan Paweł II odprawił mszę św. w języku polskim oraz po polsku wygłosił kazanie. Dziękując za ofiarowane dary, papież zwrócił się do wiernych słowami: „pragnę w nich wypowiedzieć to wszystko co wnieśli synowie i córki naszej pierwszej Ojczyzny: Polski, w całokształt dziejów i życia tej drugiej Ojczyzny za oceanem”.

Maggie Daly, felietonistka Chicago Tribune napisała o tej niezwykłej wizycie: *Wydaje się, że Chicago zmieniło się dzisiaj, że przeniknęły Chicago rzadko spotykane duchowe doznania. To dlatego, że papież Jan Paweł II jest tutaj z nami. Wydaje się, jakby miał częstkę Chrystusa i w sobie i ze sobą.*

Od 1979 r. parafia Pięciu Świętych Męczenników upamiętnia tę historyczną wizytę Ojca Świętego Jana Pawła II doroczną mszą świętą.



Bilet wstępu na mszę w parafii Pięciu Braci Męczenników w dniu 5 października 1979 r.



Dary do ołtarza przynieśli między innymi ówcześni prezesi organizacji polonijnych (l-p): prezes ZNP i KPA Alojzy Mazewski, prezeska ZPWa Helena Zielińska, prezes ZPRKA Joseph A. Drobot, Sr.

## WIZYTA KS. ARCYBISKUPA HENRYKA JÓZEFA NOWACKIEGO W SIEDZIBIE ZPRKA I MPA



Arcybiskup Nowacki z członkami zarządu PRCUA oraz Małgorzatą Kot i Haliną Misterką w Pokoju Paderewskiego



Arcybiskup Nowacki składa wpis do książki pamiątkowej

W poniedziałek, 28 października odwiedził siedzibę Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce i Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce, ks. arcybiskup Henryk Józef Nowacki, były Nuncjusz Apostolski w Nikaragui i w krajach skandynawskich oraz na Słowacji.

Arcybiskup Nowacki spotkał się z członkami zarządu ZPRKA: prezesem Jamesem Robaczewskim, wiceprezes Micheline Jamiński i sekretarz-skarbnik Agnieszką Bastrzyk oraz zwiedził muzeum. W muzeum gościa oprowadziły dyrektor zarządzająca Małgorzata Kot i archiwistka Halina Misterka. Składając wpis to książki pamiątkowej w muzeum, dostojny gość napisał: *Wyrażam wielką wdzięczność za możliwość odwiedzenia Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce i za ubogacenie się duchowe historią naszej Ojczyzny w tym przyjaznym Kraju. Życzę całemu Personelowi tego Muzeum Bożego Błogosławieństwa w tej pięknej i jakże potrzebnej służbie Polsce. Abp. H.J. Nowacki, Nuncjusz Apostolski. Chicago-Tarnów 28.10.2019 r.*

## STO LAT ZJEDNOCZENIE POLSKIE RZYMSKO- KATOLICKIE W AMERYCE!

3 października 2019 r. pracownicy biura ZPRKA i pracownicy MPA świętowali wspólnie 146. rocznicę założenia Zjednoczenia Polskiego Rzymsko-Katolickiego w Ameryce „Matki” wszystkich polonijnych organizacji bratniej pomocy w Stanach Zjednoczonych. Uwagi na temat tej wyjątkowej okazji wygłosili członkowie zarządu ZPRKA: prezes James Robaczewski, wiceprezeska Micheline Jamiński i sekretarz-skarbnik Agnieszka Bastrzyk. Wyznali oni wdzięczność tym, którzy 146 lat temu założyli Zjednoczenie w celu niesienia pomocy Polakom w Ameryce, tym, którzy służyli naszej organizacji, zapewniając jej rozwój i dobrobyt przez dziesięciolecia, oraz wszystkim pracownikom i członkom, którzy kontynuują pracę naszych założycieli.

Gratulacje i najlepsze życzenia zostały przekazane w imieniu Muzeum Polskiego w Ameryce przez historyka MPA Jana Lorysia.



Z krótkimi przemówieniami wystąpili członkowie zarządu ZPRKA

## DZIEŃ DZIĘKCZYNIEŃ

Dzień Dziękczynienia (Święto Dziękczynienia), to najpiękniejsze święto amerykańskie, obchodzone w przedostatni czwartek listopada. Jego tradycja sięga 1621 roku.

11 grudnia 1620 roku, do wschodnich wybrzeży Ameryki, w miejscu dzisiejszego Plymouth, MA, dopłynął angielski statek, który przywiózł z Plymouth w Anglii pierwszych angielskich purytanów, zwanych dziś pielgrzymami. Do Nowego Świata przybyło około 102 pasażerów i około 30 członków załogi. Przed opuszczeniem pokładu, pielgrzymi podpisali Porozumienie Mayflower, dokument na mocy którego utworzona została kolonia Plymouth i podstawowa forma demokracji, gdzie każdy członek miał przyczyniać się do dobrobytu społeczności.

Pierwszy rok pobytu pielgrzymów na nowej ziemi był bardzo ciężki. Pierwszą zimę przeżyło 55 osób. Korzystając z pomocy Indian z plemienia Wampanoag, pielgrzymi nauczyli się uprawy kukurydzy i dyni, łowienia ryb i zakładania pułapek na leśną zwierzynę, dzięki czemu kolejne plony były obfite. Jesienią 1621, dla uczczenia pomyślnych zbiorów, gubernator kolonii w Plymouth, William Bradford, zarządził urządzenie święta zbiorów, które obejmowały trzydniowe obchody. Na święto zaproszeni zostali członkowie plemienia Wampanoag wraz z wodzem Massasoitem.

Początkowo Święto Dziękczynienia obchodzono dowolnie. Później, zaczęto je wyznaczać i ogłaszać proklamacjami prezydenckimi i gubernatorskimi.

Począwszy od 1630 roku, Dzień Dziękczynienia obchodzono w całej Nowej Anglii. W 1789 r. prezydent George Washington proklamował 26 listopada jako dzień „dziękczynienia i modlitwy”, jednak przez blisko pięć dekad, święto nie było obchodzone powszechnie.

Proklamację wydał również w 1812 r. prezydent Madison, a w 1817 roku stan Nowy Jork ustanowił proklamacją Dzień Dziękczynienia dorocznym świętem stanowym. Za przykładem Nowego Jorku podążyły inne stany północne, a następnie południowe. W 1863 roku prezydent Abraham Lincoln ustanowił święto narodowe, obchodzone w ostatni czwartek listopada.

W 1939 r. Prezydent Franklin Roosevelt zmienił datę z ostatniego czwartku listopada na następny przedostatni czwartek listopada. 26 grudnia 1941 r. prez. Roosevelt podpisał wspólną rezolucję Kongresu zmieniającą narodowy Dzień Dziękczynienia z ostatniego czwartku listopada na czwarty czwartek.

Dzień Dziękczynienia to święto radosne, łączące ludzi różnych narodowości, tradycji czy wyznań. Tradycję podtrzymują nowe pokolenia Amerykanów i ludzi, którzy wybrali sobie Stany Zjednoczone jako drugą ojczyznę. Dzień Dziękczynienia nie może się obejść bez rodzinnego obiadu, którego główne danie stanowi pieczony indyk. Podaje się go z różnymi dodatkami, takimi jak tłuczone ziemniaki, farsz i sos żurawinowy, fasolka szparagowa, kukurydza, ciasta dyniowe.





## UBEZPIECZENIA BEZ TAJEMNIC

### Jak przygotować się do spotkania z agentem ubezpieczeniowym w sprawie Medicare?

Coroczny okres zapisowy (AEP) już w pełni. Daty pomiędzy 15 października, a 7 grudnia pozwalają posiadaczom Medicare na wybór i zapisywanie się na plan uzupełniający do Medicare, który wystartuje z datą 1 stycznia 2020. Okres zapisowy umożliwia każdemu posiadaczowi Medicare dopasowanie pokrycia do nowych, obecnych potrzeb na najbliższy rok kalendarzowy. W poniższym artykule chcę zająć się tematem: **Jak przygotować się do spotkania z agentem ubezpieczeniowym właśnie w tym okresie i przede wszystkim jak wybrać odpowiedniego agenta?**

Zdaje sobie sprawę, że osoby powyżej 65 roku życia oraz młodszy posiadacze Medicare, w ostatnich tygodniach zalewani są informacjami dotyczącymi nowej oferty firm ubezpieczeniowych na 2020 rok. Państwa skrzynki pocztowe i emailowe pękają w szwach. Wszystkie rozwiązania i oferty wyglądają interesująco i skonstruowane są w sposób mający na celu zwrócenie Państwa uwagi na załączoną ofertę. Wiemy dobrze, że reklama jest dźwignią handlu, ale w formie małej reklamówki firmy nie są w stanie przedstawić całej oferty. Prezentują tylko jej zarys, zwracając uwagę na niektóre szczegóły wyróżniające dany plan.

#### Co wybrać?

**Jak sprawdzić, czy plan posiadany przez nas nadal będzie dobrze funkcjonował w przyszłym roku?**

**Czy mamy inne rozwiązania, inne opcje?**

**Czy są one lepsze, gorsze? Czy warto je zmieniać?**

Z tymi pytaniami zmagamy się co roku.

Rozwiązaniem może być spotkanie z agentem ubezpieczeniowym specjalizującym się w ubezpieczeniach na zdrowie i Medicare.

**Jak wybrać odpowiedniego agenta? Jak upewnić się, że podejdziesz do sprawy obiektywnie, a nie przez pryzmat własnych korzyści?**

Poniżej podamy parę porad jak wybrać odpowiednią osobę do spotkania i jak się do tego spotkania przygotować.

Po pierwsze agent ubezpieczeniowy agentowi ubezpieczeniowemu nie jest równy. Jak w każdej branży istnieją specjaliści w każdej dziedzinie. Branża ubezpieczeniowa jest rozległa. Na co dzień słyszy Państwo o ubezpieczeniach na samochody, domy, motocykle, workers compensation, itp. Ubezpieczenia na zdrowie są jedną z najbardziej dynamicznie zmieniających się dziedzin w branży. Trzeba być stale w kontakcie z firmami ubezpieczeniowymi, śledzić najnowsze regulacje prawne zarówno po stronie federalnej, jak i po stronie stanowej. Przepisy dotyczące produktów, ich dostępność, pokrycia i zasięg zmieniają się średnio kilka razy do roku. Agenci zajmujący się wszystkimi dziedzinami ubezpieczeń, fizycznie nie są w stanie nadążyć za powyższymi zmianami. Tym bardziej jeśli dotyczą one kilku firm, a nie tylko jednej. **Szukajmy więc agenta specjalizującego się na co dzień w ubezpieczeniach na zdrowie i życie, a nie oferującego pełną gamę ubezpieczeń na wszystko.**

Po drugie Medicare jest specyficzną grupą ubezpieczeń na zdrowie wymagającą specjalnych, corocznych treningów, licencji i certyfikatów. Nie każdy agent ubezpieczeniowy, specjalizujący się w ubezpieczeniach na zdrowie je posiada. Jest to kwestia zaangażowania, czasu i specjalizacji w danej dziedzinie. Najważniejszą licencją upoważniającą nas do oferowania całej gamy ubezpieczeń dedykowanych posiadaczom Medicare jest **AHIP**. Aby agent mógł legalnie oferować plany zniżkowe na leki na receptę (PDP – Part D Medicare) oraz plany typu Medicare Advantage (MA – Part C) nie tylko **musi posiadać i odnawiać co roku powyższą licencję, ale również musi odbyć specjalistyczny trening dotyczący powyższych produktów, z każdą firmą ubezpieczeniową, z którą ma kontrakt ich dotyczący.** Jak widzicie Państwo sami, nie jest to takie proste.

Po trzecie warto rozmawiać z agentem **posiadającym obiektywne podejście do obecnej oferty rynkowej, czyli mówiąc krótko oferującym produkty co najmniej kilku firm na danym terenie.** Agenci oferujący produkty tylko jednej firmy nie mogą być obiektywni i nie mogą w pełni dostosować odpowiedniego produktu do Państwa potrzeb. Nie ma na tym rynku firmy najlepszej dla wszystkich. Każda z firm i jej ofert przeznaczona jest do specyficznej grupy odbiorców i nie jest w stanie zadowolić każdego.

Po czwarte agenci opłacani są bezpośrednio z firmy ubezpieczeniowej lub brokera/agencji zrzeszającej grupę agentów. Każda z firm oferujących

produkty Part D i Part C Medicare płaci dokładnie taką samą, ustaloną każdego roku przez urząd federalny stawkę za te produkty. Agent nie powinien więc stronniczo kierować klienta tylko w stronę jednej firmy, ale by móc to zrobić i rzetelnie dostosować plan do potrzeb klienta **musi mieć kontrakt z co najmniej 2-3 firmami ubezpieczeniowymi.** Inaczej obiektywizm nie istnieje.

Umawiając się z agentem możecie Państwo zawsze zapytać o posiadane licencje i jakie firmy ubezpieczeniowe reprezentuje. To pozwoli Państwu spędzić czas z osobą kompetentną, mającą możliwość doboru dodatków do Waszych potrzeb.

Idąc na spotkanie z agentem pamiętajcie o zabraniu **listy leków**, które zażywacie codziennie po to, by dobrać odpowiednią i najtańszą ofertę z planów zniżkowych na leki na receptę. Weźcie też obowiązkowo **nową kartę Medicare**. Stara niestety nie będzie już umożliwiała dokonania zapisów na rok 2020. Niezbędny będzie także **dokument potwierdzający Waszą tożsamość.**

Robert Sobczak  
Specjalista ds. ubezpieczeń.

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## WICEMARSZAŁEK RP MAŁGORZATA GOSIEWSKA SPOTKAŁA SIĘ Z CZŁONKAMI ZARZĄDU ZPRKA I MPA



Spotkanie z wicemarszałek Gosiewską w sali obrad ZPRKA

Małgorzatę Marię Gosiewską. Dostojnemu gościowi towarzyszyli konsul generalny RP w Chicago Piotr Janicki i wicekonsul Piotr Semeniuk.

Wizyta rozpoczęła się od krótkiego spotkania w sali obrad ZPRKA, podczas którego prezes ZPRKA James Robaczewski, wiceprezes Micheline Jamiński i sekretarz-skarbnik Agnieszka Bastrzyk, oraz prezes Muzeum Polskiego Ameryki Ryszard Owsiany, dyrektor zarządzająca MPA Małgorzata Kot i historyk MPA Jan Lorys zapoznali panią Gosiewską z historią i działalnością ZPRKA i MPA.

Goście udali się następnie do Pokoju Paderewskiego, gdzie archiwistka Halina Misterka zaprezentowała najcenniejsze pamiątki z kolekcji Paderewskiego.

Po krótkiej wizycie w Sali Głównej MPA, wicemarszałek Gosiewska, konsulowie i goście towarzyszący wzięli udział w konferencji naukowej „Wdzięczni za niepodległość w hołdzie Ameryce i Paderewskiemu”. Organizatorami konferencji byli Polsko-Ukraińska Fundacja imienia Ignacego Jana Paderewskiego, Paderewski Symphony Orchestra of Chicago oraz Muzeum Polskie w Ameryce. Wydarzenie wsparte było przez Ministerstwo Spraw Zagranicznych RP w ramach środków na dyplomację publiczną.

W ramach konferencji wystąpili: Małgorzata Gosiewska, wicemarszałek Sejmu Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej; Marek Żebrowski, dyrektor Polish Music Center przy Uniwersytecie Południowej Kalifornii w Los Angeles z wykładem na temat „Paderewski a Ameryka”; Richard Wargo, dyrektor artystyczny Marcelina Sembrich-Kochańska Opera Museum z wykładem na temat „Paderewski i Sembrich-Kochańska - polskie gwiazdy amerykańskiej sceny oraz ich działalność na rzecz Ojczyzny”; Krzysztof Górski, dyrektor Poczty Polskiej ds. współpracy z zagranicą, historyk i pasjonat I.J. Paderewskiego z wykładem na temat „Wdzięczni za niepodległość w hołdzie Ameryce i Paderewskiemu”; Adam Bala, prezes Zarządu Polsko-Ukraińskiej Fundacji imienia Ignacego Jana Paderewskiego: „Upamiętnianie Paderewskiego w działaniach Fundacji”.

Konferencję poprowadziła Barbara Bilszta-Niewrzoł, dyrektor generalna Paderewski Symphony Orchestra of Chicago.



Małgorzata Gosiewska wystąpiła w czasie konferencji w muzeum