“Together – We Can and We Will”

ZGODA

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF NORTH AMERICA

MAY/JUNE 2013 | www.pna-znp.org

Your family...
Your happiness...
Your future...

Protect it through the Polish National Alliance
6 – 22 Fraternal News
• Luke Kelly – PNA’s new Director of Sales
• Elections, Conventions, Resolutions
• Lodge 3106 – 2012 Summary
• Membership Award Recipients
• Supporting children’s hospice in Poland
• Easter Bonnet Parade
• Birthday Party in the White House
• Gift Card Program
• Earth Day
• The Great Chicago Dance Groups Concert
• Celebrating Maria Skłodowska–Curie

23 – In Memoriam

24 – 26 Education
• 20th National Spelling Bee
• Tuition Rewards Program

27 – New Members!

28 – 35 Sports & Youth
• Bowling Tournaments
• Chess Tournament
• Announcements
• We are Proud of...

36 – 37 Living Well – Cataracts

38 – 43 Life of Polonia

44 – 45 Poland Today

46 – History Pages
• May 3 Constitution

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Dear Members,

Here we are in June with almost half the year behind us, it is encouraging that the U.S. unemployment rate is decreasing and home values increasing as well as home sales rising. This is good news following a number of years being in a stale economy.

At the Polish National Alliance, we are making changes in order to serve you better; we listened to the comments of our delegates at the last convention. We are in a process of building and designing a new web-site. It should be up and running by the next issue of Zgoda.

I hope you enjoyed reading the last issue of Zgoda just as much we took pleasure in preparing it. Since its publication, we have received positive feedback and certainly appreciate the comments.

We have hired a new Sales Director, Mr. Luke Kelly, who will oversee the sales process and recruitment of sales representatives for the Polish National Alliance. Mr. Kelly comes to us with a LUTC designation and many years of experience in sales. We welcome him and wish him success.

Mr. Joseph Magielski, our Sales Director for many years, has decided to step down from the Sales Director position. We were very happy to have the services of Mr. Magielski for numerous years. We will miss his smile and sense of humor that he brought on a daily basis. He will continue to be a trainer and recruiter from his home in Youngstown, Ohio.

We have made changes at Alliance Printers and Publishers. Mr. Piotr Domardzki, Acting Editor, retired in March of this year whom we thank for his years of service. He was replaced by Ms. Margaret Blaszczyk, who by profession is a journalist, former TV producer and reporter and radio host on various stations in Poland as well as Chicago. We are happy to have her on board.

Shortly after, our Manager of Alliance Printers and Publishers, Ms. Emily Leszcynski retired as well. We were fortunate to have the expertise of Ms. Leszcynski during some turbulent years. We wish her all the best. She was replaced by Ms. Meg Pantelis, who by profession is a writer, correspondent, news director as well as manager. We are pleased to have her as part of the team.

One of our members, Mrs. Magdelana Solarz who by profession is an Artistic Director for the “WICI” Dance group, under the patronage of the Polish National Alliance, received a prestigious award. She received an “Outstanding Pole Award in Culture” sponsored by the Polish Promotional Foundation with offices in Warsaw. Pangaea Alliance is the national organizer of the contest in the United States.

The months of May and June bring joy and tears to the eyes of many being this is traditionally graduation for many, from kindergarten to college and above. Congratulations and much success to all.

The summer season is also a time for many marriages to take place; a very happy time for couples, families and friends as many enter the vows of matrimony. This is what keeps fraternalism alive and the need for organizations such as the Polish National Alliance.

At the last Board of Directors meeting, the Directors witnessed the opening of ballots concerning amendments to the by-laws of the Polish National Alliance. Our National Secretary, Mr. Charles A. Komosa announced the mailing of 225 of ballots to the representatives of the last convention. Of those 192 ballots were returned to the Home Office with 4 ballots being disqualified.

The ballots were opened and counted in the company of the entire Board. The results were as follows; 136 eligible ballots were marked “Yes” and 52 ballots were marked “No”.

All the Board of Directors accepted and approved the results as presented by the committee.

Some of the By-Law changes are effective immediately; some as of January 1, 2014 and the balance as of the next convention.

With Memorial Day behind us and summer around the corner, I, along with the Executive Committee and Home Office Employees wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer. Please keep us in mind for your insurance and retirement needs. We have been helping individuals and families since 1880.

ENJOY THE SUMMER!

Frank J. Spula
President
Dear PNA Members,

I hope you liked the first new issue of ZGODA.

I would like to thank those of you who send their compliments, ideas and comments. It is all appreciated and will be taken under consideration.

I would particularly like to thank Mr. Richard M. “Rudy” Rudowski, for the delicious summer fruit recipes, I will definitely use them in the July/August issue. Both currants (especially black) and gooseberries are on my favorite fruit list. Thank you also to Mrs. Olga Lopienski, Irene Mroz, and Mr. Ed Chrostowski and especially to Mr. John W. Cebrowski, for your support, comments and valuable advice.

Two most common concerns were: “Not enough Polish language articles “and “English – please!” I have decided not to have the “Polish Section” but rather the subject based structure, so everybody would have an opportunity to look through the whole publication. Having all articles in both languages would take up much valuable space, but I will try my best to make sure that all of you will have something interesting to read and have a good understanding of entire contents of ZGODA.

We all like to look at the pictures, but if they are not of a good quality we cannot enlarge or improve them. Ms. Wisniewska, our talented graphic designer, is spending a lot of time on them and doing whatever she can to make them look good. Thank you Ewa for your commitment! Please, send your pictures to us via e-mail, as jpg attachments of at least 300 DPI, if you can.

I would like to encourage you to write to us and share your stories, observations, recipes, pictures etc… It will make our publication lively and interesting.

In every next issue of ZGODA you will find an article about Polish National Treasures placed on the World Heritage List, and since I visited one of them during my recent trip to Poland, we will begin with the Białowieża Forest.

Wishing you a splendid summer,

Most Sincerely,
Alicja Kuklinska
Editor

Poland—properties inscribed on the World Heritage List

CULTURAL:
• Auschwitz Birkenau
• German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp
• Castle of the Teutonic Order in Malbork
• Centennial Hall in Wrocław
• Churches of Peace in Jawor and Świdnica
• Cracow’s Historic Centre
• Historic Centre of Warsaw
• Kalwaria Zebrzydowska: the Mannerist Architectural and Park Landscape Complex and Pilgrimage Park
• Medieval Town of Toruń
• Muskauer Park / Park Mużakowski
• Old City of Zamość
• Wieliczka Salt Mine
• Wooden Churches of Southern Little Poland

NATURAL:
• Belovezhskaya Pushcha / Białowieża Forest
Father’s Day in 2013 is on Sunday, the 16th of June.

Children do not always know just how to tell their Dad about the love that’s felt so deep, and respect they’ve always had.

Children do not always say but they hope their dad will know. Their heartfelt pride and love for him, they do not always show.

To all the fathers far and near - thank you for everything. You are forever in your child’s heart - Happy Father’s Day!

Mothers play an amazing role in almost every person’s life, don’t forget to tell your Mom how special and loved she is, not just on Mother’s Day, but any day you have a chance.

M-O-T-H-E-R

“M” is for the million things she gave me,
“O” means only that she’s growing old,
“T” is for the tears she shed to save me,
“H” is for her heart of purest gold;
“E” is for her eyes, with love-light shining,
“R” means right, and right she’ll always be,
Put them all together, they spell “MOTHER,” A word that means the world to me.

by Howard Johnson
Pittsburgh, Pa. On March 10th 2013 West End Lodge 1052 held their annual communion breakfast with a celebrated mass at St. Stanislaus Church followed by a catered breakfast at their lodge hall.

Former Director Joe Kaminski as always acted as master of ceremonies and greeted everyone and led all in saying grace. President and PNA Director, Val Pawlos spoke to the crowd about fraternalism in the Pittsburgh area among all the fraternal societies and how proud he was of District 8 in being one of the leaders of the PNA. He also spoke of the new insurance policies being offered and holding a seminar to discuss them to everyone interested.

This is an honored tradition at Lodge 1052 when The Ray Twardy Scholarship is handed out to qualified college students of the lodge. This year nine students received $500.00 dollars each. The recipients were Anna Barger, Jessica Brooks, Josh Brooks, Sarah Smallhoover, David Smallhoover, Elizabeth Schubert, Marco Schubert, Abby Kulbach and Zach Pawlos.

There were a few guest speakers including Dave Milcinovic Vice President of Union of Poles, Dave Sinclair Commissioner of District 8 and Tim Kuzma President of Polish Falcons. Among the guests were a few political members of the lodge Dan Deasy Pennsylvania State Representative, Teresa Smith Councilwoman for the City of Pittsburgh and Randy Martini Pittsburgh City Magistrate along with two candidates running for Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh Michael Lamb and Jack Wagner. Members from Monaca Lodge 841 and McKeesport Lodge 352 also attended.

Letters of thanks for the invite from President Frank Spula and the Polish Women’s Alliance of America were received, unfortunately they couldn’t make it due to other commitments.

A large Easter basket was donated by Director Pawlos and won by the youngest member of Lodge 1052 in attendance, Emily Grace Twardy 3 months old. Special thanks go to Dana DePaolo owner of Rockefellers Grille for a delicious catered breakfast. A great morning of fraternalism was shared by all.

Submitted by Director Val Pawlos, Region “E”
Kolejny Rok Działalności Grupy 3106.

Rok 2012 obfitował w wiele interesujących wydarzeń w Grupie 3106 Cumberland County, NJ. Rok rozpoczęto wyborami nowego zarządu, którego przewodniczącym został Marek Mezik.

W lutym, wspólnie z Organizacją Rycerzy Kolumba w Millville zorganizowaliśmy Polski Obiad, który był przyjemnie odebrany przez społeczność polsko-amerykańską.

29 kwietnia przedstawiciele naszej grupy pojechali na oficjalne uroczystości uczczenia pamięci ofiar poległych w Katyniu. Uroczystości te odbyły się w Baltimore przed pomnikiem przy pięknej słonecznej pogodzie.

Kolejnym wydarzeniem w tym roku był nasz coroczny udział w Paradzie Pułaskiego w Filadelfii. Nasza grupa zaprezentowała rydwan przedstawiający pierwszych polskich osadników w Jamestown w Virginii. Chór „Polonia” zaśpiewał piosenkę „Ojczyzno ma”.

Nasze comiesięczne msze w języku polskim, które celebruje ks. Paweł Kryszkiewicz, zakończyliśmy 15 grudnia tradycyjną kolacją wigilijną. Na wspólnym stole znalazły się tradycyjne potrawy wigilijne z różnych regionów Polski, które przynieśli uczestnicy tej kolacji. Staropolskim obyczajem kolacje rozpoczeliśmy modlitwą i łamaniem się opłatkiem.

Tekst i zdjęcia: sekretarka Grupy 3106, Barbara Mezik.
Bondsville, MA.
The Polish Alliance Youth Camp, Inc., known as Camp Stanica, is preparing for the 2013 camping season. The camp is located in Bondsville, MA on 60 acres of grassy fields and woods with the Swift River and Browns Pond/Crystal Lake providing for fishing, swimming, and hiking. There are facilities for games, gymnastics, dancing, and arts and crafts. The campers sleep in cabins on metal frame cots with mattresses. Camp Stanica is a co-educational overnight camp for children ages 6-14.

The weeks of camping are Session I: July 14-20, and Session II: July 21-27.

For more information, prices or a brochure please call 413-592-0227 or write: Eugene Kirejczyk 48 Szetela Drive, Chicopee, MA 01013, Camp Stanica information may be obtained on the PNA website at: www.pna-znp.org

Membership Award Recipients

Adams, MA. For the first time in the known history of PNA District 1, the top producers of insurance sales were honored for their hard work in enrolling new members into our great organization.

Monetary awards were presented to Lisa Mendel First Place for enrolling 44 members for an amount of $375,000 into PNA Lodge 1365 in Adams, MA for 2012, and Teresa Struziak Sherman Second Place for enrolling 18 members for an amount of $493,000 into PNA Lodge 711, Chicopee, MA. Both recipients are Lodge Financial Secretaries and Sales Representatives.

2nd Annual Bowling Tournament in St. Louis, Missouri

St. Louis, Missouri, Polish Cadets Lodge 1134 along with Polish Falcons Nest 45 co-sponsored the 2nd Annual Bowling Tournament at the Concord Bowl on March 23rd, 2013.

Nineteen children attended the tournament, seven were the PNA members, all had a great time bowling and for some it was the very first time. After the tournament all were invited to Pizza Hut for a party. Pizza and soft drinks were served and a surprise trophy was given to all who participated in the bowling tournament, everyone enjoyed themselves and can’t wait till next year to do it all over again.

Submitted by Carolyn Baras, Activities Director PNA Cadets Lodge 1134
Coordination of efforts to support children’s hospice in Poland

CHICOPEE, MA. PNA Lodge 711 Vice President, Gene Kirejczyk, is coordinating a special project with the Chicopee, MA Rotary Club and the Rotary Klub Rzeszow to assist the Podkarpackie Hospice for Children, the only home-based hospice for terminally ill children in Poland. The project was initiated by Stas Radosz, Executive Director for the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning, Chicopee, MA. Stas has been the expert communicator throughout the project development.

Podkarpackie Hospice for Children operates in the Podkarpacie region of Poland. Its mission is to cover home care of children and adolescents with cancer and other incurable diseases, cystic fibrosis, metabolic diseases, or severe brain damage. Providing home palliative care to these children improves quality of life for these children and their families. The Hospice is on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and provides free rental of needed specialized medical equipment, such as, portable and stationary oxygen concentrators, pulse oximeters, infusion pumps, inhalers, and much more. Medical personnel, such as doctors, nurses, physiotherapists or psychologists, make daily trips to these young patients’ homes. All services are free. The agency also has a pediatric dental office for healthy children as well as children with chronic illnesses or mental retardation.

The Chicopee Rotary has funded the purchase of the much needed EKG equipment. There remains a need for additional equipment totaling $13,000.00 and includes such equipment and supplies as: tracheotomy tubes; gastronomy sets; ECG module; laser probe shower; post-surgery magnetic field mattress, and a small USG head.

The plan is to build a psychological help center for children and families who have lost a child. They will also include a day stay surgical center for children. The Chicopee, MA Rotary Club and the Rotary Klub Rzeszow are working together to help this worthy cause.

Gene Kirejczyk was honored by the Rotary Club International, Rotary Club of Chicopee, MA with the Paul Harris Fellowship Award in 2006. The motto of the club is “Service Above Self” and Gene, a retired local businessman, exemplifies that in his many years of volunteer efforts for several organizations including the PNA. Gene is treasurer of the Polish Alliance Youth Camp, Camp Stanica, delegate to PNA Council 62, PNA District 1, where he was the Man of the Year for 2006, and is a director of the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning at Elms College.

Donations for this cause can be sent to:
Gene Kirejczyk,
48 Sztela Drive,
Chicopee, MA 01013.
Gene can also be contacted at 413-592-022

Article and pictures submitted by Mrs. Teresa Struziak Sherman

Patient being treated by Poland’s Podkarpackie Hospice

Left to right: Gilbert J. Sherman, President of PNA Lodge 711 and PNA Council 62; Gene Kirejczyk, VP PNA Lodge 711 and coordinator of the Poland Hospice effort, Teresa Struziak Sherman, Financial Secretary PNA Lodge 711, PNA Council 62 and former PNA National Director Region ‘A’; and Jeannie Zapala, Commissioner PNA District 1.
Takie hasło miało spotkanie, które odbyło się wczesnym niedzielnym popołudniem, 7 kwietnia 2013 r. Było ono okazją do poparcia pożytecznej akcji Stowarzyszenia Dobroczynności i Wydziału Kobiet Okręgu XIII. Takie imprezy wiceprezesa Teresa Abick organizuje od wielu lat, kontynuując powojenną tradycję Wydziału Dobroczynności ZNP. Dochód przekazywany jest zawsze na pomoc starszym i potrzebującym członkom Związku Narodowego Polskiego w okresie świąt Bożego Narodzenia.

Na spotkanie do sal bankietowych Lido przybyło liczne grono związkowych rodzin i sympatyków Związku Narodowego Polskiego. Dzięki wysiłkom Marii środowicznik Z Wydziału Edukacji, która włożyła w organizację imprezy najwięcej pracy; przygotowała stół owocowy, kwiatowe dekoracje, etc. wszystko udało się znakomicie.

Przybyłych gości powitała wiceprezesa Teresa Abick i dalej przekazała pałeczkę prowadzenia komisarce Okręgu XIII. Wanda Juda podziękowała wszystkim za przybycie i poparcie tak ważnej i cennej inicjatywy.

Do sali bankietowej Lido przybyli urzędnicy Związku Narodowego Polskiego: prezes Franciszek Spula, wiceprezes Paweł Odrobina z żoną Janice, sekretarz Marian Grabowski, krajowe dyrektor: Irena Hercik i Christine Domalewski, komisarze Okręgu XII Barbara Wesołowski i Jerzy Hejna, Komisarka Okręgu XIII Wanda Juda. Obecne były prezeska i wiceprezesa Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej na stan Illinois; Mary Anzelmo i Maria Roszek-Kucharski. Na to uroczę przyjęcie rząbli również przedni komisarze ZNP; Zenon Olejniczak (Okręg XIII) z żoną Jadzią i Anna Kokoszka (Okręg XII).

Po obiedzie miały miejsce dwie cieszące się niesłabnącym powodzeniem loterie. Nagrodę główną, którą był 32" telewizor, ufundowany przez urzędników i dyrektorów krajowych. Wygrała go Anna Kokoszka, była komisarka Okręgu XII.

Największej emoci wzbudziła niewątpliwie parada wiosennych Stanisława Stękała i Krystyny Biłasiewicz przeniesiona przez Mary Ancelmo, Halinę Jaroszkę i Alicję Nawara.

Urszula Lewandowska
kapeluszy, w które większość przybyłych pań była ubrana.

W skład komisji która oceniała i wybierała najlepsze kapelusze weszli: Alicja Kuklińska (redaktor Zgody), Alicja Nawara (przewodnicząca Zrzeszenia nauczycieli Polskich w Ameryce) oraz przewodniczący, pan Marian Grabowski, skarbnik ZNP.

Jak powiedziała Alicja Kuklińska, najwyżej oceniane były kapelusze, które zostały własnoręcznie przyozdobione, podkreślające w ten sposób własny styl i kreatywność właścicieli.

Po obejrzeniu parady wiosennych kapeluszy jury przyznało nagrody:
I miejsce Urszuli Lewandowskiej,
II Krystynie Białasiewicz
III miejsce Stanisławie Stękał.

Panu Jerzemu Hejnie, jedynemu panu, który wziął udział w konkursie, Komisja przyznała dodatkową nagrodę. Wiceprezes Teresa Abick i Wiceprezeska Teresa Abick i komisarki Wanda Juda i Barbara Wesołowski wręczyły zwycięzcom nagrody.

Ipreza okazała się sukcesem, mile spędzonym popołudniem i okazją do założenia kapelusza, który kiedyś był przecież niezbędną częścią damskiej garderoby.

Najważniejsze jednak, że dochód z popołudniowego spotkania wesprze tych członków naszej związkowej rodziny, którzy potrzebują pomocy i życzliwości.

Krystyna Białasiewicz

Zdjęcia: Alicja Kuklińska

Po więcej zdjęć zapraszamy na naszą stronę internetową:
www.pna-znp.org
Birthday Party in the White House

On the weekend of February 15, 2013, National Secretary of the Polish National Alliance Charles A. Komosa arranged a special 9th birthday party for his son Charles A. Komosa II. The younger Charles is the great grandson of Charles Rozmarek, the co-founder and first president of the Polish American Congress from 1944-1968 and national president of the Polish National Alliance form 1939-1967.

The birthday weekend started on Friday evening with a very private tour of the West Wing of the White House for the younger Charles, his brother, Alexander, and parents Charles and Agata Komosa. The West Wing Tour included a visit to the Oval office, Situation Room, Rose Garden and south lawn, Cabinet Room, Roosevelt Room, the James S. Brady Press Briefing Room. During the tour, Marine One, the presidential helicopter, was practicing take offs and landings on the south lawn. (…)

On Saturday the Komosa family had a tour of the East Wing of the White House and later that afternoon a very private 9th birthday party celebration for the younger Charles in the Harry S. Truman White House Bowling Alley. Following day the family drove on the historic George Washington Memorial Parkway to Mount Vernon, Virginia for a tour of George Washington’s house. (…)

The younger Charles and his brother Alex had a very unique and personal experience in Washington; hopefully one of the Komosa boys ends up living in the White House one day! (…)

Submitted by National Secretary, Mr. Charles Komosa

Gift Card Program

New Initiative of the Polish National Alliance

As we begin the new Manna Gift Card initiative, the Polish National Alliance encourages all to purchase at least one card to help us get promotion off to a good start.

If you need to purchase a gift for someone, the Gift Card is ideal. Birthdays, name days, First Communions, school graduations and many more such events are perfect occasions to purchase the Gift Cards for.

It’s also a good present for various events involving children such as youth dancing groups, Polish school students, members of sporting clubs, as well as a gift for good grades or outstanding performance in sports.

The Gift Cards are not only an excellent gift but they are also very useful and handy when it comes to their immediate usage. Emergency situations might arise where we need to buy gas, groceries, or any number of things and these Gift Cards are there and ready to go in your wallet when you need funds.

By purchasing these Gift Cards you also help your very own Polish organization, the Polish National Alliance. The list of restaurants and vendors that you can use the Card at is long so the only thing that remains is deciding on where you want to spend it! Utilize this great opportunity and buy some cards for yourself, friends or family, or perhaps your coworkers! All the proceeds gathered from this venture will benefit our various youth programs.

Gift card orders are filled every 15th and 30th of each month. As soon as the payment is received and processed the gift cards will be sent. The check or money order should be made payable to the Polish National Alliance. Credit cards are not accepted!

For vendor’s list and order form check our webpage: http://www.pna-znp.org/
For more information please call Krystyna Bialasiewicz:
773-286-0500 ext. 296

Nowa inicjatywa Związku Narodowego Polskiego.

Jeśli potrzebujesz prezentu najlepszym wyborem będzie zakup Gift Card, którą oferuje Związek Narodowy Polski. Imieniny, urodziny, Komunia święta, szkolne graduacje to okazje w których takie karty sprawdzają się najlepiej.

Jest to również dobry prezent na różne okazje dla dzieci z grup tanecznych, uczniów polonijnych szkół, członków grup sportowych, jako nagroda za dobre wyniki w nauczaniu lub osiągnięcia w sporcie.

Takie karty nie tylko są dobrym podarunkiem, ale również są bardzo przydatne do natychmiastowego osobistego użytku. Zawsze potrzebujemy kupić benzynę, czy zrobić zakupy spożywcze.

Kupując Gift Card pomagasz swojej polonijnej organizacji, którą jest Związek Narodowy Polski. Lista, która obejmuje karty VISA popularne sklepy, restauracje, stacje benzynowe, apteki, kina itp. jest wielka i wybór należy tylko do Ciebie. Skorzystaś więc z okazji i zamów karty dla siebie, swojej rodziny, przyjaciół, organizacji czy grupy w której działasz. Pieniądze uzyskane w ten sposób będą przeznaczone na programy młodzieżowe ZNP.

Karty można zamówić na stronie internetowej ZNP: www.pna-znp.org
Po więcej informacji prosimy dzwonić do Krystyny Bialasiewicz: 773-286-0500 ext. 296
Po otrzymaniu wypełnionego zamówienia i zrealizowaniu czeków, zamówione Gift Card(s) będą natychmiast wysłane pod Twój adres.

Submitted by the Office of Vice-President Paul C. Odrobina
Wybory w Gminie Nr 39 ZNP.

Sprawozdanie z zebrania wyborczego Gminy Nr 39 działającej na południowej stronie Chicago. Zebranie odbyło się dnia 9-go kwietnia 2013 r. w restauracji New Warsaw.

W zebraniu uczestniczyła liczna grupa delegatów. Na wstępie prezes Marian Winczo powitał i poprosił zebranych o powstanie i uczczenie jednominutową ciszą zmarłych delegatów Gminy 39 tej. Wiceprezeska Anna Kokoszka wraz z delegatami odmówiła modlitwę za chorych i zmarłych delegatów. Sekretarka Aleksandra Sowa odczytała listę urzędników wszyscy byli obecni, oraz listę Grup przynależnych do Gminy 39 ZNP.


Prezes – Marian Winczo
Wiceprezeska – Anna Kokoszka
Sekr. protokołowa – Stanisława Stękała


Sekr. prot. Aleksandra Sowa

PNA Lodge 3259
“Piast” Election of Officers

Yorba Linda, CA – On Sunday January 20, 2013, more than 30 members of “Piast” Lodge 3259 met for their election meeting. This was the first meeting of the New Year. After reports of the board for the year 2012, elections were conducted.

Newly elected officers are:
President- Greg Chilecki
Vice President – Maria Hulisz
Miroslaw Dobrowolski
Financial Secretary - Barbara Jaroslawski
Recording Secretary – Jaroslaw Musial
Treasurer – Bozena Lojewska
Sergeant-at-Arms – Miroslaw Jaroslawski
Doorkeeper – Janusz Piatek

PNA District 16 Commissioner Ania Karwan installed the new officers. After the election, there was a potluck lunch, during which the Piast Lodge members discussed their program of activities for 2013.

Congratulations to all of our newly elected officers!

Submitted by: Greg Chilecki
PNA Commissioner District XVI

From left: Janusz Piatek, Miroslaw Dobrowolski, Barbara Jaroslawski, Miroslaw Jaroslawski, Jaroslaw Musial, Maria Hulisz, Bozena Lojewska, Greg Chilecki, Ania Karwan
Council 84 hosts District 3 Convention

Due to the unavailability of the Polish Home in Yonkers, NY, Council 84 of South Brooklyn, NY offered to host this year’s convention of council and lodge delegates at the parish of Our Lady of Czestochowa - St. Casimir on Sunday, April 28, 2013.

Upon their arrival, delegates and guests were warmly greeted in the lower school hall by Commissioners, Helen M. Pater and Marian Wiercioch where they were offered a continental breakfast. Shortly thereafter, they attended 9:30 Mass during which time, celebrant Father Witold Mroziewski, Pastor of the Parish welcomed the delegation and wished them fruitful deliberations.

Immediately after church, Commissioner Pater officially opened the convention and asked Barbara R. Blyskal to lead all in singing “Kiedy Ranne Staże Zorze”. She welcomed the following delegates: Eugeniusz Zych (Council 17 of New York City), Dennis Kubiak and Maria Jurewicz (Lodge 30), Mirka Adamszyn (Lodge 44), Helen Bajor and Leszek Gensiorski (Lodge 1030). Barbara, Blyskal, Edward Blyskal and Adele Iwachow (Council 84 of South Brooklyn, NY), Paul Iwachow (Lodge 52), Helen M. Pater and Frances X. Gates (Lodge 2366); Paul Ochal (Council 114 of Amsterdam, NY); Dolores and Walter Buczek (Council 136 of Cohoes, NY) Marian Wiercioch and Mary Sala (Lodge 1684); Joseph Pawlik and Michael McKenna (Council 150 - Yonkers, NY); Danuta Bronchard and Grazyna Michalski (Lodge 1903); Marie Costa Lodge 510 - Staten Island, NY; Guests: Censor Wesley Musial of Philadelphia PA; Walter Tokarz, Director of Region A - Districts 1 & 3 and his wife, Boguslawa of Massachusetts. Lodge 2366 is honored to have as a member, Frances X. Gates, National Director of the Polish American Congress. She spoke about the history of PAC and the necessity to continue supporting it.

Wesley Musial, PNA Censor addressed the delegates as the official representative of the PNA. He encouraged all sales agents to make an asserted effort to move forward and increase the numbers of new members into the PNA family.

Walter Tokarz, Director of Region A, echoed the Censor’s position encouraging new membership. He stressed that each delegate should strive to sign up at least one new member this year.

At this time, the delegates took a break and ate a hearty meal catered by JUBILAT PROVISIONS. Father Witold Mroziewski joined the delegation for lunch. Once again, he greeted all and offered a prayer.

Council 84 would be remiss if it did not acknowledge Ms. Danuta Sieminska, CEO of Atlas Bank for their monetary support in helping defray some of the expenses of the convention.

The Resolutions Committee, chaired by Edward Blyskal, presented the following document.
RESOLUTIONS
For the POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THE U.S. OF N.A.
DISTRICT III JOINT CONVENTION

Sunday, April 28, 2013
Hosted by Council 84 at
Our Lady of Czestochowa / St. Casimir Parish
25th Street, between 3rd and 4th Avenues
Brooklyn, NY 11232

We, the Officers and Delegates of the PNA of the
U.S. of N.A. District III Joint Convention held the
28th day of April in the year 2013, bring to mind the
following thoughts, feelings, reactions and resolutions,
do hereby state that:

1. In early March of 2013, Pope Benedict declared
he no longer can continue to serve the Catholic
Church from Rome and therefore resigned his leading
position. Shortly thereafter, in March, the Cardinals
of the Catholic Faith gathered and elected the Ar-
chbishop from Argentina, Jorge Mario Bergoglio of
Buenos Aires as Pope Francis. He is widely known for
his dedication to the simple, humble and holy needs of
the poor. We wish him well in his new position.

2. We support Polish American Congress’ efforts
in re-energizing its strength in developing better influence
and contact with the White House to emulate the
interests of the Polish people.

3. We wish to thank our Commissioner, Helen M.
Kostecki Pater of Valley Stream, NY and Commissio-
ner Marian J. Wiercioch of Cohoes, NY for selecting
the date and organizing this Sejmik of District III
hosted by Council 84 here in South Brooklyn, NY.

4. We wish to thank Rev. Father Witold Mroziewski,
JCD, Pastor of Our Lady of Czestochowa - St. Casimir
Parish, for his stimulating thoughts as well as recogni-
zizing District III of the PNA during the start of this
morning’s Mass.

5. It is an honor for us to express our appreciation
by acknowledging and thanking the following guests
present here today:
* PNA’s Censor, Mr. Wesley Musial, from Philadelphia, PA.
* Mr. Walter Tokarz, Director of Region A and
  his wife, from Massachusetts.

6. We thank Ms. Danuta Sieminski, CEO of Atlas
Bank – who was unable to be with us today – for her
generous donation in helping to sponsor today’s event.

7. District III proudly acknowledges the following
Sales Agents who worked very hard this past year to
improve and increase PNA membership:
* Danuta Bronchard
* Walter Brzozowski
* Helen M. Pater

* Edward Swiderski
* Marian Wiercioch

8. We congratulate Teresa Sherman, former Direc-
tor of Region A for the wonderful articles she con-
tinues to write for ZGODA. In the latest issue (March
– April 2013) she informs our members of the impor-
tance of reducing stress to maintain our health. Stress
is one of the many disturbing health factors which
should be eliminated, reduced, or better controlled if
we wish to maintain our health and welfare in order
to move forward in our lives.

9. We congratulate this year’s Woman of the Year:
Ms. Helen Kostecki-Pater.
We congratulate this year’s Man of the Year: Mr.
Joseph Pawlik.

10. We acknowledge President Frank Spula to-
gether with the PNA Executives for doing their best to
expand our fraternal organization and call upon all
Commissioners, Lodge Leaders and Members to take
the initiative to develop new programs for the youth
in our communities as well as sell insurance protection
for their individual benefit. Programs for development
might include nutrition, health tips, cooking, dancing,
singing or body development or other worthwhile ac-
tivities. If numerous activities are developed involving
PNA members, PNA may adopt competitive programs
to stimulate further growth of these worthy functions.

11. District III resolves to provide a strong presence
in the New York Pulaski Parade, hopefully
showing our strength with a float.

12. We hope and pray that all present attending
this convention return to their homes safely and each
do his/her best to achieve greater PNA membership
and participation in their Lodges and Councils ‘till
we meet again. With a little more concerted effort
and co-operation, “Together – We Can and We Will”
achieve better results to help PNA move the American
and Polish communities more effectively. Each of us
MUST do our part to achieve this GRAND GOAL.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward Blyskal, Chairman
Assisted by: Dolores Buczek, Frances X. Gates, Eugeniusz Zyck
District 1 Annual Joint Convention

Adams, MA. District 1 PNA held its Annual Joint Convention for 2013 at the PNA Home in Adams, MA, hosted by PNA Lodge 1365.

Commissioners Frank Wolanin and Jeannie Zapala co-chaired the meeting and elections of secretary and treasurer. Elected secretary for PNA District 1 was Wanda Milecki. Elected Treasurer of District 1 was Kamila Wnuk. Keynote Speaker, PNA National President Frank J. Spula, eloquently presented his ideas and goals for the future of the PNA. He encouraged renewed interest in the PNA by asking that we think on the level of our younger generations and meet their insurance and fraternal needs. The PNA leaders throughout the country must involve themselves in other activities and organizations to make our PNA presence known. President Spula received on overwhelming applause for his dynamic speech. Also present and speaking on the stability of the PNA during these turbulent economic times were PNA National Treasurer, Marian Grabowski and PNA Director Region “A” Walter W. Tokarz.

The meeting was fruitful and the dinner, which was catered by PNA Lodge 1365 members and Bernat Caterers, was delicious and a delight for all the delegates present.

This year Commissioners Frank Wolanin and Jeannie Zapala presented two unprecedented monetary awards to the two top salespersons of PNA District 1. Receiving the top award for the greatest number of the new members enrolled was Lisa Mendel of PNA Lodge 1365 of Adams, MA. Receiving the second place award and having the highest volume of sales was Teresa Struziak Sherman of PNA Lodge 711 in Chicopee, MA.

The District also presents a distinguished Man and Woman of the Year award annually at the District Convention. The trophy award for “Woman of the Year 2013” was presented to Zosia Szydlík of PNA Lodge 2876 of Dudley, MA. Zosia has been a member of Lodge 2876 since 1986, and assists at many meetings whenever needed, and at Lodge events. She has been a Delegate to two PNA National Conventions and serves as a Delegate to PNA District 1. Zosia is Vice President of Lodge 2876 and currently serves as PNA Council 111 Vice President.

Receiving the award for “Man of the Year 2013” was Stanley M. Soja of PNA Lodge 3219 of Wilbraham, MA. Stanley has been a PNA member since age 12. He currently serves as Lodge Financial Secretary, assisting in committee work and Council 62 events. In 1968 Stanley was elected as President of PNA Council 62 of Chicopee, MA and served in that capacity for a total of 38 years. Stanley was elected a delegate to 10 PNA National Conventions, served on several Pre-Convention Committees, organized PNA Lodge 3219, Chaired the first New England PNA National Golf Tournament in 1973, organized the Piast dance group in 1983, enlisted over 900 members into the PNA and was elected Commissioner of PNA District 1 in 1983. Stanley has received many awards from the PNA and other organizations, including the prestigious PNA award, the Bronze Legion of Merit in 1995 by President Edward Moskal. At this convention Stanley was presented and adorned with the Silver Legion of Honor Medal by PNA President Spula. He was also awarded a crystal wine decanter and certificate by PNA Treasurer, Marian Grabowski. In addition, for all his many years off dedication and service, Stanley was presented a monetary award from PNA Council 62 by current President, Gilbert J. Sherman. To our award winners, Sto Lat!

Submitted by Teresa Studziak–Sherman

Adams, MA. Pictured at the PNA District 1 Joint Convention for 2013 are left to right: PNA National Director Region “A” Walter W. Tokarz, PNA National Treasurer, Marian Grabowski; Man of the Year 2013 and former Commissioner PNA District 1, Stanley M. Soja holding his engraved clock and wearing his Silver Medal of Honor; Woman of the Year 2013, Zosia Szydlík holding her trophy; PNA National President, Frank J. Spula; Commissioner District 1, Jeannie Zapala; Mr. Szydlík; Peter Milecki, President PNA Council 111, and Joseph E. Sendrowski, President PNA Lodge 2876.
New members of Lodge 525 of Holyoke, MA

From left: Caitlin Gadecki, Stefan Gadecki, Daniel Sadkowski, Roman Sloc, Joanna Sadkowski, Karolina Kearney, Gregory Bernat

New officers of Lodge 1224 Rockford, IL

Rockford, IL. On Sunday January 27th, Lodge 1224 held an election of the officers for the year 2013. Joe Wojewodzki administered the oath to the new officers with a reception following.

The new officers of Lodge 1224 are: Financial Secretary: Teresa Bulka, Treasurer: Zdzislaw Woroniak, Vice-President: Stanislaw Wawroko, President: Marian Bielawski, Recording Secretary: Ann Wojewodzki.

New officers of the Pulaski Club

The annual meeting and election of officers was held at the Pulaski Club in Willimansett, MA.

Pictured above are the newly elected officers for 2013 left to right:
Richard Knurek, President; Jeannie Zapala, Vice President and PNA District 1 Commissioner; Evelyn Saczawa, Secretary, and Eugene P. Kirejczyk, Treasurer and Chairman of the Camping Committee.

Submitted by Jeannie Zapala

Earth Day

On Saturday, April 13th, District XIII Commissioners: Józef Hercik and Wanda Juda along with students from the Saint Maksymilian Kolbe Polish School and Director Irene Hercik participated in an Earth Day Riis Park clean-up.

Despite cold and windy Chicago weather, a group of the PNA members took part in making their City, as well as a Planet Earth, nicer place to live. Congratulations and thank you for your admirable efforts.
After careful deliberation the Membership Committee submits the following recommendations that:

District 1 PNA welcome and support our new Director of Insurance Sales, Luke Kelly.

The Home Office conducts at least one Insurance Sales Seminar for District 1 PNA annually for Lodge Presidents, Financial Secretaries and Sales Representatives. District 1 considers Sales Seminars to be vital for increasing PNA membership. Sales Seminars are a means for keeping field agents current, and offer opportunities for networking and sharing ideas among participants. The seminars should include separate breakout sessions as part of the agenda for “seasoned” financial secretaries/sales representatives, and less experienced financial secretaries/sales representatives.

District 1 conduct its own insurance sales seminars with the guidance of the Home Office Director of Insurance Sales.

New Financial Secretaries and Sales Representatives should be required to participate in an Orientation organized by the Home Office within three months of their election or appointment to that office.

Notification for insurance sales seminars should be announced at least two months in advance, and that all Presidents, Financial Secretaries and Sales Representatives are encouraged to attend.

Presidents, Financial Secretaries and Sales Representatives who attend sales seminars, should share the information from the seminars with other Lodge and Council officers and members, and attempt to recruit new officers and Sales Representatives.

Each Lodge and Council should devote more time to new PNA membership and fraternal/social activities. Each Lodge and Council should promote an active Membership Committee.

PNA District 1 should sponsor a Membership Contest and award $7.00 for each new application submitted by a delegate present at the next District Convention, and the Co-Signer of the new application would receive $5.00.

Council delegates should consider the contributions individuals have made to the PNA when electing delegates to the National Convention.

Lodge/Council officers and delegates should continue to enroll their family and friends as members of the PNA.

Financial Secretaries and Sales Representatives should be encouraged to update and utilize the computer software available from the Home Office, and register to use the Agents’ page. The software should be current and correct.

The Home Office should concentrate on retention of members through communication with Financial Secretaries/Sales Representatives.

Financial Secretaries/Sales Representatives should utilize existing PNA members to prospect for new members.

The Home Office should continue to send names of delinquent members with UL certificates to the sales agent in a timely manner. However, if the premium is finally paid, the agent should also be notified of the payment.

The Home Office should develop promotional items/brochures/flyers for use by the sales force.

A copy of this report will be sent to Zgoda, and the PNA Executive Officers.

The Membership Committee is comprised of all Financial Secretaries and Sales Representatives of District 1 PNA Councils and Lodges.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the District 1 PNA Membership Committee:

Teresa Struziak Sherman, PNA Lodge 711, Chairperson
Irena Gadecki, PNA Lodge 525
Lisa Mendel, PNA Lodge 1365
Evelyn Saczawa, PNA Lodge 2590
Jeannie Zapala, PNA Lodge 3276
Walter Tokarz, PNA Lodge 677
Stanley M. Soja, PNA Lodge 3219
Caroline Kuczynski, PNA Lodge 1168
Wanda Milecki, PNA Lodge 1063

Submitted by Teresa Struziak Sherman
DISTRICT 1 PNA RESOLUTIONS
ADOPTED BY THE ANNUAL JOINT CONVENTION
HELD IN ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS
APRIL 14, 2013

The Resolutions Committee of District 1 PNA presents the following resolutions for the next District year on behalf of the delegates present at the Joint Convention.

1. RESOLVE to thank National President Frank J. Spula for his dedicated leadership for the Polish National Alliance and the Polish American Congress.
2. RESOLVE to thank P.N.A. Lodge 1365 and the Juliasz Slowacki PNA Home in Adams, Massachusetts for hosting the P.N.A. District 1 Convention.
3. RESOLVE that PNA District I delegates strongly support the Visa Waiver Resolution in the United States Congress to include Poland.
4. RESOLVE that P.N.A. members continue to support the Blessed John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington D.C. and acknowledge his rise to sainthood.
5. RESOLVE to donate Polish artifacts and memorabilia of Lodges and Polish organizations to the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning at Elms College in Chicopee, MA.
6. RESOLVE to support the Kosciuszko Foundation in its efforts to promote Polonia, Polish contributions to science and to continue its many generous scholarship awards.
7. RESOLVE to support the Polish Alliance Youth Camp, Camp Stanica, located in Bondsville, MA sponsored by P.N.A. Council 62.
8. RESOLVE to congratulate the 2013 Woman of the Year, Zosia Szydlik, and 2013 Man of the Year, Stanley M. Soja, for emulating devotion and perseverance for the Polish National Alliance.
9. RESOLVE to congratulate Natalie T. Ricardo of Cambridge, MA, member of PNA Lodge 711, Chicopee, MA for winning the Second Place prize of $500 in the PNA National Spelling Bee on April 6, 2013 in Chicago, IL.
10. RESOLVE to acknowledge our appreciation to Zgoda Editor, Alicja Kuklinska, and Graphic Designer, Eva Wisniewska, for the beautiful appearance and informative content of the newly redesigned Zgoda publication.
11. RESOLVE to thank P.N.A. District 1 Commissioners Jeannie Zapala and Frank Wolanin and National Director Walter W. Tokarz for their efforts to promote P.N.A. District 1, and for arranging this P.N.A. District 1 Convention.
12. RESOLVE to thank PNA National President, Frank J. Spula and National Treasurer, Marian Grabowski for their attendance at our Convention, and for their dynamic words of wisdom regarding the Polish National Alliance.

Respectfully submitted,
The Resolutions Committee

Gilbert J. Sherman, PNA Lodge 711, Chairperson
Joseph E. Sendrowski, PNA Lodge 2896
Kamila Wnuk, PNA Lodge 3276
Mary Wolanin, PNA Lodge 525
Elizebeth Pierga, PNA Lodge 3276

Submitted by Teresa Struziak Sherman
17 marca 2013 kilkuset młodych tancerzy z zespołów tanecznych będących pod opieką Związku Narodowego Polskiego, pojawiło się na scenie sali koncertowej Lane Tech High School przy 2501 W. Addison w Chicago aby zaprezentować się publiczności w rozlicznej gamie polskich tańców ludowych i narodowych. Tańczono polki, krakowiaki, polonezy, kujawiaki, oberki, tańce wielkopolskie, cieszyńskie, lubelskie, śląskie, kaszubskie, kurpiowskie i wiele innych porywając publiczność umiejętnością poruszania się po scenie, przepięknymi strojami i wykonaniem.

tyczna całego koncertu Magdalena Solarz.


Program z dużą dozą humoru prowadziła aktorka, Ewa Stani-
PNA Lodge 3216 Celebrates Maria Skłodowska-Curie

It’s Not Your Mother’s Tea

Orlando, Florida – Polish National Alliance Lodge 3216 and the Orange County Regional History Center joined hands in celebrating the life of two-time Nobel Prize Winner, Maria Skłodowska-Curie. On March 13, 2013 during Woman’s History Month the Lodge and History Center partnered to produce a cocktail reception, Polish buffet, book signing and lecture entitled “Marie Curie: Icon of Science and Working Mother” featuring the highly acclaimed author Shelly Emling and her new book Marie Curie and Her Daughters: The Private Lives of Science’s First Family.

An intellectually curious crowd of over 100 people showed their appreciation for author Shelly Emling’s insights into the lives of Maria Curie and her daughters with applause, laughter and probing questions about the personal and professional life of the famous Polish scientist.

Special guests for the evening included Charles Komosa, Polish National Alliance National Secretary; Richard Turkiewicz, National Director of Polish Roman Catholic Union of America and Sara Van Arsdel, Orange County Regional History Center, Executive Director.

PNA Lodge 3216 members were treated to a special pre-event reception. Each PNA member received an autographed copy of the Marie Curie book, and a photo opportunity with the engaging author Shelly Emling. Notable members participating in the evening were Stella Boncler, Lodge President, Mary Jo Odahowski, Lodge member and even Chair. Additionally, Al Schwarz Lodge Past President, his wife Amanda and their 12 year old daughter Joy were also present. Author Shelly Emling was delighted to meet Joy Schwarz, who is also a “young author” of a biographical school assignment on Marie Curie.

The event is one of many outreach events produced by PNA Lodge 3216. The Lodge has produced a series of festivals, musical concerts, lectures and social events designed to promote membership and engage the greater community in the history and accomplishments of Polish and Polish-Americans.

Submitted by: David A. Odahowski

W marcu tego roku, w siedzibie głównego Związku Narodowego Polskiego w Chicago odbyło się seminarium medyczne połączone z badaniami krwi na zagrożenie rakiem.

Na zaproszenie Związku Narodowego Polskiego do udziału w tym spotkaniu odpowiedziało kilkadziesiąt osób, które między innymi miały okazję wysłuchać wykładu dr Stanisława Bryjaka na temat zagrożeń rakiem u kobiet i mężczyzn, a panowie dodatkowo mieli okazję zrobić badanie krwi na zagrożenie rakiem prostaty.

Jednym z tematów seminarium był również wpływ palenia tytoniu na występowanie schorzeń rakowych u człowieka. Wszyscy uczestnicy mieli również okazję poddać się badaniu ciśnienia krwi, kontroli wagi itp. Badania bezpłatnie prowadziła szkoła medyczna TTI oraz pracownicy kliniki Handa Medical Group z Chicago.


Podczas spotkania czynne było stoisko z informacjami dotyczącymi programów ubezpieczeniowych oferowanych przez ZNP oraz usługami świadczonymi przez szkołę TTI i Handa Medical Group.

AB/NEWSRP
Stanley Majcher was born in 1916 in Mięcinik, Poland. He was the child of Aleksandra Sprazynska and Stanislaw Majcher. Soon after graduating high school, he was scheduled to attend college in 1939 but his plans were deterred possibly due to war. Majcher entered Poland’s Air Force Academy instead, where he trained to be a fighter pilot to defend Poland from German and Russian invasions.

Upon two revolutions of 1917 in Russia, the monarchy collapsed and Bolsheviks seized power.

Perhaps if the October, 1917 revolution had not occurred, there may never have been a Katyn Forest massacre and atrocity years later. Stanley became a prisoner of war after being shot down in 1940. He escaped from the Germans only to be taken captive again by the Russians. Stanley Majcher was a survivor of the Katyn Forest Massacre. After being held as a prisoner of war in Siberia, he was released during a prison exchange and flew the remainder of the war for the English. He made his way from Siberia to England and flew both fighters and bombers for the RAF per Joe Stadnik.

By the middle of Sept, 1939 German Nazi was numbering around 200,000 men and had overrun most of west and central Poland. The Polish fought very hard and valiantly as evidenced by the Warsaw Uprising (Powstanie Warszawskie). This was a major WWII operation by the Polish Home Army Resistance (Armia Krajowa) to liberate Warsaw from the Nazi.

Polish fighter pilots like Stanley Majcher mainly flew 1939 P50 A Polish fighter planes known as “Jastrzab” meaning Hawk. This airplane was a one seater aircraft. These were all older aircraft.

The Polish Government purchased newer, more modern aircraft for their pilots and had these delivered to Romania. These aircraft were shipped there to the Polish Air Force by the French and the British, despite having a wartime pact with Poland. Romania never sent any troops to aid and assist Poland in this time of need. When Polish pilots arrived in Romania to receive the new Polish aircraft, they were placed in handcuffs instead.

The French welcomed Polish pilots to France with open arms and great joy. However, when the Polish pilots arrived in France, the French did a complete about face. They would not believe the Polish pilots, when they began describing to them the superior German aircraft that Nazis were flying. In this state of disbelief the French felt that the Polish pilots had simply been totally inadequate and lacking in flying skills while defending Poland.

The English were quite grateful and delighted to have Polish pilots flying in the RAF. Per former PNA Lodge President Joe Stadnik, Stanley Majcher flew P51 Mustang aircraft for the RAF. Other fighter planes used by the British included the Hawker Hurricane and the well known Spitfire. However, when the British filmed the movie “The Battle of Britain “ in 1970, this film’s content was considered to be unflattering to Polish pilots. The movie failed to show the exceptionally fine traits and qualities of Polish pilots. Again per former Lodge 3230 President Joe Stadnik, the English were often shorthanded in having enough bomber pilots available to fly and bomb Germany so they recruited Stanley and other Polish fighter pilots.

After the war he relocated to Detroit, Michigan and became a U.S. citizen. On September 8, 1951, Stanley married the former Sophie Michalak in Hamtramck, Michigan; His wife preceded him in death on May 9th, 2000. Stanley had retired to Florida in 1978, after being employed by Chrysler and later Sunoco in Detroit. In 2005, Stanley returned to Gladstone, MI to be closer to his family. He resided there in Fairview Manor. He is survived by a daughter, Christine (Kim) Inghram of Gladstone and a son, Raymond of Escanaba, MI.

When Stanley was living in Brevard County, Fl. and active in PNA Lodge 3230, he would always march in the Titusville Christmas Parade. Per the former President of Lodge 3230, Joe Stadnik, Stanley would carry a large Polish banner while marching despite his age. If any lady wished to polka, Stanley would gladly do the polka with her right there in the middle of the street along the parade route. Stanley also attended the polka dances that Waldemar “Val” Jasinski, former proprietor of the Brevard County old Bellwood Hotel/Motel, held in the paved parking lot. He very often won the polka contests there. Stanley loved to polka and as a result of winning the polka contests he was often called “Polka King Stanley”.

Stanley Majcher was deeply and sincerely missed when he left Titusville, Florida to return to live in Michigan again and be with his family. He will be missed even more now by all of his good friends and acquaintances at PNA Lodge 3230 and by others living here in Florida. A very special tribute goes out to him and to all those, who unfortunately perished in Katyn Forest and in WW2 on this Memorial Day, 2013. Thank you all so very much for serving and flying. Thank you to all PLAV members also.

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Chicago, Illinois - On Saturday, April 6, 2013, eleven finalists took part in the Polish National Alliance Spelling Bee. The competition was held at the Crowne Plaza O’Hare and sponsored by the PNA Educational Department.

The contestants not only participated in the bee but also were entertained with a tour of Chicago. Their guides were the Pronouncer Agnieszka Przeslicke and husband Glen, who are both high school teachers. The tour was very educational and enjoyable and made possible by the PNA and its Educational Department.

Welcoming our PNA Youth to the 20th Annual Spelling Bee was Vice President Teresa N. Abick, who introduced Agnieszka Przeslicke a local high school teacher, (Chicago Public Schools) as the Pronouncer.

Eleven finalists decided to take part in this year’s competition:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Briggs</td>
<td>District 15</td>
<td>Hebron, Indiana</td>
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<td>Julia Kozlowski</td>
<td>District 16</td>
<td>Playa del Rey, California</td>
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<td>Artur Kozlowski</td>
<td>District 13</td>
<td>Chicago, Illinois</td>
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<td>Mark Krawiec</td>
<td>District 2</td>
<td>Bristol, Connecticut</td>
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<td>Jessica LaChance</td>
<td>District 10</td>
<td>New Boston, Michigan</td>
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<td>Dominika Lulewicz</td>
<td>District 14</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisconsin</td>
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<td>Michal Lyewski</td>
<td>District 12</td>
<td>Lemont, Illinois</td>
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<td>Natalie T. Ricardo</td>
<td>District 1</td>
<td>Cambridge, Massachusetts</td>
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<td>Amanda Shea</td>
<td>District 17</td>
<td>Medina, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julia Stanitski</td>
<td>District 6</td>
<td>Elkridge, Maryland</td>
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The 1st Place winning word was “REBELLION”. After several rounds of competition the winners were as follows:

1st Place - Artur Kozlowski - District 13
2nd Place - Natalie Ricardo - District 1
3rd Place - Elizabeth Bartuska - District 7

The PNA is proud and honored to be associated with all these fine young people, in our eyes they are all winners and may their future endeavors all be filled with good luck and good health.

It takes a group of dedicated people to make an event of this kind possible and success. We need to acknowledge the Educational Committee members, Directors Teresa Buckoski, Wanda Penar, Stanisława Rawicka, Alan Szuflada and Chairperson Vice President Teresa Abick.

A special thank you goes to our Pronouncer, Agnieszka Przeslicke and judges: Christine Tarchala, Secretary of Lodge 669, Barbara Wesołowski, retired school administrator and Commissioner of District...
Youth Trip to Poland

On Friday, May 10th, 2013 the Officers of the Polish National Alliance held the drawing and chose five young people that will have an opportunity to participate in the Youth Trip to Poland, July 14 – 28, 2013.

A total of 22 entries were received and each officer had a chance to draw one. These are the young PNA members who are the lucky winners:

Alexandra Bonfigt – Fremont, WI
Heather Foust – Youngstown, OH
Frank Kaminski – Chicago, IL
Matthew Sikora – Buffalo Grove, IL
Dominik Szarek - Chicago, IL

Congratulations and Bon Voyage!

Dear travelers,
Please note that we are looking forward to a story and great pictures from Poland!

AK

12 and Margaret Sas, Treasurer of Lodge 669 PNA, timekeeper - Wanda Juda Commissioner of District 13.

Thanks to the Officers, Directors and Commissioners who witnessed and distributed prizes to the winners, including Vice President Paul C. Odrobina, National Treasurer Marian Grabowski, Director Irene Hercik and Commissioners Barbara Wesolowski and Jerzy Hejna (District 12), Wanda Juda and Joseph Hercik (District 13) and George Gustas (District 15).

For these events to be successful, we need your help and expertise in the Districts to promote the PNA and the programs that are truly beneficial to our youth.

Story by: Mary Srodon
Photos by: Wanda Juda

A special thank you goes to Mary Srodon, Mrs. Abick’s Assistant for coordinating the entire program.

Send all articles, pictures and correspondence to: zgoda@pna-znp.org or mail to: Alicja Kuklinska Zgoda Magazine 6100 N. Cicero Avenue Chicago, IL 60646

Lourdes, Fatima & Spain Pilgrimage
May 24 – June 4, 2014

For more information, contact: Teresa Abick 773-286-0500 ext. 310

To request a brochure e-mail: mary.srodon@pna-znp.org

Detailed information will be available in the next issue of ZGODA
Any juvenile that enrolls into the Polish National Alliance by purchasing a permanent life insurance plan over $10,000 can qualify for the college tuition rewards program at no additional cost!

This program is "a free living benefit" for the future college student to help in the cost of a college education.

Tuition Rewards® is the nation’s first and largest college savings program. It can be used at over 300 participating private colleges & universities in 45 states.

It helps make college affordable for all our children!
Start earning your Tuition Rewards Points now. Join the Polish National Alliance.

FOR EXAMPLE:

Juvenile Member Enrolls will receive: 1,500 PTS = *$1,500

PNA MEMBER ENROLLS IN THE BIRTHDAY CLUB WILL RECEIVE ADDITIONALLY:
ages (0-11) 500 PTS per year  5,500 PTS = *$5,500
ages (12-14) 750 PTS per year    2,250 PTS = *$2,250
ages (15-17) 1,000 PTS per year   3,000 PTS = *$3,000

Total Tuition Rewards Program Benefit for a new enroll at age (0-17) 12,250 PTS = *$12,250

*These dollars amounts are paid directly to a private college for tuition only and are not cash payments.

Also PNA members who have a life insurance certificate in-force who register at www.tuitionrewards.com and are a relative can provide an additional 1,500 pts ($1,500) to the recipient (student).

This tuition rewards benefit is only for private colleges and is allocated over 4 years. The benefits are paid directly to the college.

REMEMBER THESE JUVENILES ALSO QUALIFY FOR OUR PNA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For additional information please contact PNA Membership Department at:

Polish National Alliance
6100 N. Cicero Ave, Chicago, IL 60646
tel.: 773-286-0500 / toll free 1-800-621-3723
PNAZNP
Welcome to our PNA Family

Abigail Burszczyk
(born December 13, 2010), and her sister Emilia (born August 24, 2008). Daughters of Andrzej and Karolina Burszczyk are the new members of Lodge 3250, IL. They are 100% PNA Family!

Nicholas and Gabrielle Toczek
New Members of Lodge 700
“Czytelnia Polska” - Los Angeles, CA
These two wonderful children were recently signed to Lodge 700. The new members are grandkids of Mrs. Ariadne Toczek from Glendale, CA.

John Christopher Wieczorek
Born: January 24, 2013, son of Christopher and Jacqueline Wieczorek is the newest member of PNA Lodge 2368. His PNA membership is a gift from great grandma Alfreda Ziemski, President of Lodge 2368.

Owen Daniel Bugala
(born September 29, 2012)
Proud parents are Steven & Julie Bugala. Sponsored by grandparents: George and Judy Bugala.

Krysta Anne Marie Stacks
She was born October 10, 2012. Daughter of Brittney Polczynski and Daniel Stacks, is the newest member of the PNA Lodge 1684, Cohoes, NY. The PNA policy was a gift from proud “Babcia”, Great Grandmother Nellie Polczynski. Signed up by Sales Representative, Marian Wiercioch.

Cohoes, NY
New member, Lodge 1684
Alexander Edward O’Connor, born March 5, 2013. Son of Christopher and Aneta O’Connor, is the newest member of Lodge 1684. The PNA was a gift from proud “Babcia and Dziadzia” Zdzislaw and Andrew Jakubiak. Alexander is the 9th grandchild enrolled by their grandparents Zdzislaw and Andrew Jakubiak (Eight boys and one girl). Signed up by Sales Representative, Marian Wiercioch.

Ava Osie Burnell
(born 4-27-09).
New member of Lodge 57 daughter of Keidie Howley. Policy was a gift from the PNA member’s (babcia) Janina and (pradziadek) Jan Cydzik. Sales Representative Jan Cydzik.

Ava Osie Burnell
New Members
The 67th National Bowling Tournament was held this year on April 26, 27 & 28, 2013 at the North Versailles Bowling Center where the 400 bowlers and guests gathered for their assigned squads.

Thursday, Lodge 352 in McKeesport, Pennsylvania hosted a hospitality night to welcome the bowlers. The lodge also had music, dancing, food, karaoke and delicious dinners served at their facility on Friday and Saturday nights.

Bowling got under way on Friday with the Singles and Doubles events and again on Sunday to complete those events. Saturday featured the team events with two squads bowling during the day. Between the two sessions, the tournament was officially started with the annual opening ceremonies held at North Versailles Bowling Center Vice President Paul Odrobina welcomed the bowlers to McKeesport and wished them good bowling and high scores. Vice President Odrobina thanked the management of North Versailles Bowling Center and their staff for the terrific job they have done for the tournament and then introduced all the PNA dignitaries and guests who attended the opening ceremonies which included; Director Val Pawlos, Commissioners David Sinclair (District 8), Thomas Schemanski and Stella Szczesny (both from District 10), Wanda Juda (District 13), Former Directors Joseph Kaminski and Anna Wierzbicki and his wife Janice Odrobina. The American and Polish Anthems were played. The first ball was thrown out by Former Director Joseph Kaminski and LonJean Krivda (daughter of the local tournament chairman Francis “Rick” Krivda. Lastly, Vice President Odrobina thanked his staff Joan Oskorep and Robert Jadach for their assistance in making the Bowling Tournament run so smoothly for over 25 years each.

To keep with the tradition started a few years back, the winning Men’s and Ladies teams from the Tournament held in South Bend, Indiana were announced and awarded their first prize plaques. The winning men’s team was “My Shoe Is Sticky” from McKeesport and Ed Bavolar is the team captain. The win-
District 12 Sponsors Sixth Annual Bowling Tournament

Orland Park, Illinois - The sixth annual Junior Bowling Tournament in District 12 took place at the Orland Bowl on Sunday morning, May 19, 2013. Fourteen children attended the event. Commissioners Barbara Wesolowski and Jerry Hejna has kept this annual event going, in conjunction with the National Junior Bowling Tournament that is run with the four Polish Fraternal Organizations headed by PNA Vice President Paul C. Odrobina and the Vice Presidents of the Polish Women’s Alliance, Polish Roman Catholic Union and the Polish Falcons of America. Commissioner Wesolowski noted in her welcome that a bowler that participated in last year’s tournament placed in the top three in their age group on the National level of the Junior Bowling. In addition, she thanked the children for participating in the event and other events from the District, and extended greeting and good luck from Vice President Paul Odrobina. The children were assigned the lanes and bowling began. The children on the lanes became instant friends.

Parents and grandparents came along to coach and cheer the children. The smaller age groups were allowed to use bumpers, so they would be able to get a score. When the children finished their last game, Commissioner Barbara Wesolowski introduced PNA National Director Christine Domalewski (who serves on the Sports and Youth Committee), Commissioner of District 12 Jerry Hejna, former PNA Director Arthur Trybek, former Commissioner of District 12 Anna Kokoszka, District 12 Women’s Division Treasurer Elizabeth Kaminski, and District 12 Treasurer Joseph Dobersztyn, who came to support the children. Each of the children were awarded a medallion with the PNA emblem as a token of participation donated by the Sports and Youth Department. After the awards were presented, the children and adults were treated to a pizza party.

At the end of the tournament, the children went home happy, and made new friends, and can’t wait till next year to enjoy the morning and meet up with everyone.

Bids are still being accepted for Lodges, Councils and Districts to submit bids for the 2014 golf and softball tournaments. The Sports and Youth Committee at the May 6th meeting approved that the 2014 - 68th National Bowling Tournament will be held in LaPorte, Indiana with Lodge 1120 as the host lodge.

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Story and photos by: Robert M. Jadach
Po raz kolejny, z inicjatywy Klubu Szachowego “Hetman” działającego przy Związku Narodowym Polskim, w niedzielę 17 marca 2013 roku w Klubie Sportowym “Eagles” w Chicago odbyły się Mistrzostwa Polonii.

Sędzią głównym zawodów był Bogusław Niemczewski, trener szachów, uczestnik turniejów krajowych i międzynarodowych.


Najlepsi juniorzy grający w grupie dorosłych to: I- sze miejsce Tomasz Grudziński, II. Adrian Górsksi. III. Jakub Kowalczyk.

W grupie dorosłych I- sze miejsce zajął Aramold Markovic, II. Andrzej Niemiec, III. Ryszard Grabowski.

Sponsorem turnieju była firma telekomunikacyjna WDT, Związek Narodowy Polski, a także prywatnie, Bogusław Niemczewski.

Szanują cieszą się dużym zainteresowaniem wśród dzieci i młodzieży, a kilka wyższych uczelni w USA oferuje pełne stypendium z tej dyscypliny.

Amerykańska Federacja Szachowa (USCF) skupia obecnie ponad 100 tysięcy zawodników. Warto popularyzować tę intelektualną grę zarówno wśród Polonii jak i w środowisku amerykańskim.

Tych wszystkich którzy umieją już grać w szachy
Monaca, PA

The colder than normal spring weather didn’t prevent the lanes of District VIII from heating up at the District’s Yearly Bowling Tournament. PNA Lodge 841 Monaca was host this year and served a fine dinner afterwards during the awards ceremonies. Vice President Paul Odrobina, Chairman of the Sports and Youth Committee, emceed the tournament and encouraged the Fraternalism and Sportsmanship of the participating members. A special thanks to President of Lodge 841 Marty Olshanski, the officers and trustees and all of the volunteer members of the Lodge for hosting a memorable event.

Story and photos submitted by:
David Sinclair, District VIII Commissioner

The girls of Lodge 664 enjoying fellowship and fraternalism at the Monaca Lanes.

Krystyna Bialasiewicz

Więcej zdjęć z szachowego turnieju można zobaczyć na stronie: http://www.malyszphoto.com/p53438288

W tym roku w Turnieju wzięła udział rekordowa liczba miłośników królewskiej gry, bo aż 50-ścic. Rozgrywki odbyły się w kategoriach: dzieci, juniorów i dorosłych.

a także tych, którzy mieliby ochotę poznać zasady gry, Klub Szachowy istniejący przy Związku Narodowym Polskim serdecznie zaprasza na spotkania odbywające się w każdy pierwszy poniedziałek miesiąca od godziny 7 PM do 10 PM w głównej siedzibie Związku Narodowego Polskiego pod adresem 6100 N. Cicero, Chicago.


Ideą Klubu Szachowego jest popularyzacja szachów wśród Polonii. Można tu uczyć się gry od podstaw, rozwijać już umiejętności, a także brać udział w turniejach szachowych.

Michelle Davis,
Debbie Petrulli,
Jay Peebly,
Pete Smericky and
Paul Odrobina.

Kerry Good,
Paul Odrobina,
Dale Myers and
Scott Spillar.
Robert Bronchard, the PNA Lodge 1903 member was selected by The Associated Music Teachers’ League (AMTL) as a winning pianist in the competition to play at the 78th annual Young Musicians Concert. He was featured alongside other top musicians for the May performance at Carnegie Hall.

Bronchard, a piano performance major at Hunter College (Class of ‘16), contended with a crop of high skilled musicians in their teens and early 20s. The Young Musicians Concert features only “la crème de la crème” of developing artists, according to the AMTL.

Congratulation to Robert and his proud parents Mr. & Mrs. Bronchard from New York, NY.

PNA Member – Thomas Michael Zbikowski is an American football safety for the Chicago Bears of the National Football League. He is also a professional boxer. He was drafted by the Baltimore Ravens in the third round of the 2008 NFL Draft and after that played for the Indianapolis Colts. Tom earned All-American honors playing college football for the University of Notre Dame.

He was born in Park Ridge, IL and is of a Polish descent on his father’s side of the family. At Buffalo Grove High School he played quarterback and set the school records. During his junior season in Notre Dame he broke out as one of the college football’s best utility players excelling as a safety and return man.

Tom made his professional boxing debut at Madison Square Garden in NY in June 2006 beating his opponent and signed 3-fight contract. After 2008 NFL season he decided to put his boxing career on hold and focus on football, however to fulfill his contract, in 2011 he returned to the ring for the victorious fight in Las Vegas. His professional boxing record is 4 wins (3 knockouts) and 0 Losses.

We wish him great career playing for the Chicago Bears and hope to see him at the Super Ball one day.

W ubiegłym miesiącu zawodnicy Chicago Bears rozpoczęli przygotowania do rozpoczynających się we wrześniu rozgrywek NFL. Jednym z najnowszych nabytków Chicago Bears jest zawodnik polskiego pochodzenia Tom Zbikowski. Tom jest członkiem Grupy... ZNP,urodził się w Park Ridge, jest absolwentem Buffalo High School oraz University of Notre Dame.

Zaczął grać w football mając 5 lat, a w wieku 9 lat rozpoczął trenować boks.Przez cztery sezony był zawodnikiem Baltimore Ravens, później przeszedł do Indianapolis Colts.

Tom Zbikowski ma na swoim koncie 4 duże zwycięstwa bokserskie, ale na razie , jak twierdzi będzie koncentrował się na footballu. Życzymy mu powodzenia w drużynie Chicago Bears i mamy nadzieję zobaczyć i Toma i Chicago Bears na Super Ball w lutym 2014.

W oparciu o wywiad przeprowadzony przez Kamila Krzaczyńskiego dla Dziennika Związkowego opracowała: Alicja Kuklińska.

Zdjęcia: Kamil Krzaczyński
Show your Polish Pride on Tuesday, July 2nd at U.S. Cellular Field. Back by popular demand is Polish-American Night at the ballpark. Enjoy Polish entertainment at the gates and then watch an exciting game of White Sox baseball!

In addition to specially priced tickets, you will have the opportunity to participate in a pregame parade on the field! You must arrive by 6:15 pm at Gate 1 on the southeast side of the stadium to be able to participate. Make sure to request parade passes when you purchase your tickets. Parade Passes are limited to the first 700 tickets purchased. Don’t hesitate to get your tickets order today!

Tickets can be purchased from:

- Paul Odrobina, Vice President
  Polish National Alliance
  1-800-621-3723, ext. 316
- Anna Sokolowski, Vice President
  Polish Roman Catholic Union
  1-800-772-8632, ext. 2601
- Sharon Zago, Vice President
  Polish Women’s Alliance
  1-888-522-1898, ext. 208
- Paul Sadowski, President of District II
  Polish Falcons
  1-(847) 877-4114

Please note that tickets are subject to availability and due to high demand, we encourage you to order tickets as soon as possible.
POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE
LODGE 1120
P.R.C.U.A. and FALCONS
Of
La Porte, Indiana
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For “Deserving Kids Christmas fund”

Saturday June 29th, 2013
at
Whispering Pines Golf Course
32280 State Rd # 4 Walkerton,
Indiana 46574

Tee off time is 12:00 p.m.
Central time – Shot gun start

For more information, prices and reservations Contact:
John Hindle at PNA Lodge 1120
Hinney11@hotmail.com or
Phone 219-608-5528
Or Call PNA Lodge 1120
for information
219-362-7619

Food and Drinks served afterwards
at PNA Lodge 1120
306 Park Street, La Porte,
Indiana 46350

Polish National Alliance
COUNCIL 41
PRESENTS
A Night at the Races
ON
Thursday, June 20, 2013
MAYWOOD PARK
8600 NORTH AVENUE,
MAYWOOD, IL
Price includes:
Admission, Buffet dinner, Program
Buffet served at 7:00 p.m.
Live Racing starting at 7:40 p.m.
Seating on the Second Floor

For more information, prices and tickets call:
Agnes Kaminski 847-824-2283
Matt Matusiak 847-800-6042

Zapraszamy młodzież na:
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W OŚRODKU MŁODZIEŻOWYM OKRĘGU 12 & 13 ZNP
10701 River Road, Yorkville/Plano IL 60545

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dużo dobrej zabawy oraz szereg atrakcji:
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OGNISKO – GRY SPORTOWE – DUŻO ZABAWY NA
ŚWIEŻYM POWIETRZU!

ZNIŻKA DLA CZŁONKÓW PNA
Informacje: www.pnayouthcamp.com
Agata 708-925-6917
E-mail: AGATA.PNA@GMAIL.COM
Junior Bowling Tournament

Chicago, Illinois - District 13, PNA held its annual junior bowling tournament on Sunday, April 14, 2013 at Habetler Bowling Center. Commissioners Wanda Juda and Joseph Hercik welcomed all present and introduced the guests, who included: National Secretary Charles Komosa and Director Irene Hercik. Thirtyseven children gathered together accompanied by their families to try their luck at rolling a ball down the alley. They had waited for this event all year long and were anxious to get started. The process started by registering all bowlers by Anna Wierzbicki and official greeter Commissioner Wanda Juda and then assigned them to the bowling lanes. Thanks to Matt F. Matusiak and Henry Ziemba part of the District 13 Sports and Youth Committee who put the names of the children into the computers. For the youngsters who needed, bumpers lanes were available so they could knock some pins down. At the end of the tournament, all children received medals for their participation. National Secretary Charles Komosa handed out the medals with the assistance of Commissioners Wanda Juda and Joe Hercik. All then were treated to pizza and soda. The Easter Bunny also made a guest appearance to see the children. A group picture of the children was taken. A bag of Easter Goodies was distributed to all the children present. All children went home happy and could not wait till next time that there would be bowling. Thanks to Commissioners Wanda Juda and Joseph Hercik for sponsoring this annual event, and to the officers of District 13 Women’s Division, and members of District 13 Sports and Youth Committee - Janina Kopacz, Alexandra Brzezinski, Anna Wierzbicki, Matt F. Matusiak, Henry Ziemba and Jozef Penar for overseeing the event so that things ran smoothly.

Submitted by: Anna Wierzbicki, District 13 Secretary
Photos by: Wanda Juda, Commissioner District, 13

Sports & Youth
What should I know about cataracts?

What is a cataract? A cataract is a clouding of the lens of your eye that affects vision. Although cataracts are not always a result of aging, they occur most often in elder adults. About one in every five adults over the age of 65 has a cataract, and if you are in your mid-seventies to eighties, you have a 50% chance of having or having had a cataract. A cataract may occur in one or both eyes, but it does not spread from one eye to the other or from one person to another. The lens of your eye is a clear part of your eye that focuses light, or an image, on the back of your eye called the retina. Once the light reaches the retina, the light is changed to nerve signals and sent to the brain. If the lens is cloudy from a cataract, the image that you see will be cloudy or blurred or it may seem like you are looking through a thick mist or foggy window. In the early stages cataracts do not block much light, so you may not notice any eyesight changes. However, cataracts grow, some more slowly than others, blocking more light and causing difficulties in reading, driving, and performing regular activities, especially at night. Eventually surgery is the end result.

What are the causes and risk factors of cataracts? The lens of the eye consists mainly of water and protein. The protein is arranged in such a way to keep the lens clear and allows light to pass through it. Through the aging process, the protein clumps together and begins to cloud the lens causing a yellowish to darker color such as brown and images becoming less defined. This is a cataract. Although many conditions and lifestyle habits increase the risk of developing cataracts, these are some examples:

- Aging (the most important)
- Diabetes
- Increase drinking of alcoholic beverages
- Over exposure to sunlight
- Increased exposure to radiation (X-rays and cancer radiation therapy)
- Family history of cataracts
- High blood pressure
- Being overweight or obese
- Prior eye injury or infection
- Previous eye surgery
- Long term use of corticosteroid medications (prednisone)
- Smoking
- Lack of taking necessary vitamins

How can you protect your vision? You do not need to be old to have cataracts. Some babies are born with cataracts. Eye injuries can cause cataracts to form. Chronic medical conditions can be a cause, especially diabetes, and extreme exposure to sunlight and radiation, but there are some ways that you can protect your eyes that may delay the development of cataracts. Protect your vision by:

- Wearing UV blocking sunglasses and a brimmed hat to block ultraviolet sunlight;
- Refraining from smoking and excessive drinking of alcoholic beverages;
- Taking care of other medical problems, especially diabetes;
- Maintaining a healthy weight and exercising regularly;
- Maintaining good nutrition: eating green leafy vegetables, fruit, and foods high in antioxidants, and
- Scheduling regular comprehensive dilated eye exams at least annually, or no more than every 2 years apart. Your eye care professional can also check for other eye diseases such as macular degeneration, glaucoma and other vision disorders, which when treated early, can save your sight.

What are the symptoms of cataracts? The most common symptoms of a cataract are:

- Blurry or cloudy vision
- Colors that seem faded
- Glare, halos or overly brightness of headlights, lamps or sunlight to the point of causing blindness
- Poor night vision
- Possible double vision
- Frequent eyeglass or contact lens prescription changes

If you have any of these symptoms, schedule an appointment with your eye care professional. These symptoms can also be a sign of other eye problems. Your eye care professional can detect a cataract by performing various eye exams.

How are cataracts treated? In the early stages of cataract development, treatment may consist of new eye prescription glasses, using brighter lighting, anti-glare sunglasses or the use of magnifying lenses. Eventually, as your vision becomes worse, surgery is
the only effective treatment. Surgery involves removing your cloudy lens and replacing it with an artificial lens. The results are amazing! Having had cataracts removed from both my eyes at the age of 53, I can attest to the miraculous improvement in my vision after the surgery. If you have cataracts in both eyes, they are removed 4-8 weeks apart. The type of surgery and the lens to be used are decisions to be discussed with your doctor. The artificial lens that is implanted in your eye is a clear plastic lens that does not require any care. The lens is a permanent part of your eye that you cannot see or feel. Some people have other eye conditions that prevent them from having an artificial lens implanted. In these cases a soft contact lens or high magnification glasses may be needed. Your doctor will advise you on what is the best solution for your condition.

What are the risks of cataract surgery? As with any surgery, there is always the risk of bleeding and infection. Cataract surgery can increase the risk of having a detached retina, which must be treated immediately to prevent vision loss. If you have sudden flashes or floaters, contact your doctor immediately! They should be treated as a medical emergency. Floaters are little “cobwebs” or specks that seem to float around in your field of vision. In most cases, cataract surgery is safe and complications are not very common. Your doctor will provide you with written instructions for care prior to cataract surgery and after the surgery.

After surgery...returning to normal vision. After cataract surgery you might experience mild discomfort, some itching and some fluid discharge. Your eye may also be sensitive to light and touch. Your doctor will prescribe eye drops to help healing and decrease the risk of infection. An eye shield will help to protect your eye, especially while you are sleeping. Do not rub or press on your eye. Do not bend from your waist to pick up items from the floor, or lift heavy objects. Driving is usually allowed in one week. Your doctor will give you specific instructions as to your activity schedule. In most cases, healing will occur in about eight weeks. Sometimes the eye tissue surrounding the new lens becomes cloudy and requires treatment with a laser to let the light to pass through. Using the laser is a painless procedure, and the results allow you to have clear vision once again. This clouding is referred to as an “after-cataract” and can occur months or even years after cataract surgery. You will be able to return to most every day activities within a few days after surgery. Your vision may be somewhat blurry at first. You will notice that colors that were dull are now bright. You may need a new prescription for eye glasses or contact lenses after recovering from surgery. Your doctor will provide you with specific guidelines.

Cataract surgery is one of the most common operations performed in the United States. It is considered to be one of the safest and most effective of all surgeries. Approximately 90% of the cataract surgery cases result in patients gaining improved vision. I know that I definitely did!

References
Nagrody „Wybitny Polak za Granicą” 2013

Trzeciomajowe uroczystości w Konsulacie Generalnym RP w Chicago

Z udziałem gubernatora Illinois Pata Quinna w Konsulacie Generalnym RP w Chicago zainaugurowano trzeciomajowe obchody w Wietrznym Mieście. Piątkowe uroczystości otworzyły cykl imprez przygotowanych w ramach majowego święta.

W swoim wystąpieniu gubernator przypomniał, że Konstytucja 3 Maja była pierwszą w Europie i drugą po amerykańskiej ustawie zasadniczej na świecie. Wyraził uznanie dla polskiego oddania dla wolności i demokracji. “Polacy oparli się nazizmowi i komunizmowi, Polacy to ludzie kochający wolność” – mówił.

Pat Quinn nawiązał do strategicznego partnerstwa Polski i Stanów Zjednoczonych podczas misji wojskowych w Iraku i Afganistanie. Z uznaniem mówił o wzajemnych ćwiczeniach Gwardii Narodowej i Wojska Polskiego. Wspominał także Jana Karskiego, jako swojego wykładowcę na uniwersytecie Georgetown i jego zasługi w ukazaniu światu prawdy o holokaucie.


Tekst oraz zdjęcia: Andrzej Baraniak

Outstanding Pole Abroad 2013 - results

Category: Young Pole

Piotr Uzarowicz (Los Angeles, CA)

Mr. Uzarowicz is an award-winning director of theater and film in Chicago and Los Angeles. His professional background as film director includes 6 movies from 2006 to 2011. His work includes “The Virgin Forest”, “Miracle on Third Street”, “Samaritan”, “Dead in the Water”. Piotr is the author of film documentary “The Officer’s Wife” about families of officers killed in Katyn during Second World War. He is an undergraduate of Loyola University Chicago.
University and completed a MBA with post-graduate distinctions in Paris, France at an international business school. He has worked as a creative director at advertising and public relations agencies in Chicago, Germany and the United Kingdom.

Category: Science

Marek Dollar (Oxford, OH)

Dr. Dollar currently serves as Dean and Professor of Engineering Science, School of Engineering and Applied Science at the Miami University in Oxford, OH. He has an outstanding record of academic accomplishments in research and teaching. Some of his biggest scientific achievements are in the understanding of structure-properties relationships in high-temperature structural materials for aerospace applications. He has authored over 90 peer reviewed publications. He has direct responsibility for the school comprising 7 academic departments, 78 tenure-track and tenured faculty, over 25 adjunct and visiting faculty, and about 1800 students. In 2004, he was appointed Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland.

Category: Personality

Carla Knorowski (Chicago, IL)

Dr. Knorowski currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation in Chicago. She was formerly an Associate Dean and Director of External Affairs at the University of Illinois. She has worked with the Kosciusko Foundation in New York to advance Polish faculty exchanges between the U.S. and Poland. She assisted in bringing to the U.S. a Polish citizen who was not of financial means to pay for an operation to repair his eye which was injured and deformed in childhood. She was the Managing Director of Development at the Chicago Humanities Festival. Dr. Knorowski joined Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) as Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of its Foundation. She earned her Ph.D. in public policy from UIC. She earned a certificate from Harvard University for completing its renowned Harvard Institutes for Higher Education.

Category: Culture

Magdalena Solarz (Glenview, IL)

Mrs. Solarz currently serves as Artistic Director for “WICI” Group in Chicago. She is a Master Teacher listed with the Illinois Arts Council in its “Arts-in-Education” program. She has over 30 years of artistic work promoting Polonia and Polish culture and folklore. She has traveled the world with the group “WICI” (under patronage of The Polish National Alliance) to popularize Polish culture. She has received many awards and recognitions throughout her profession career. Her biggest specialty is in choreography.

Polish Promotional Emblem Foundation (Foundation), with headquarters in Warsaw, is the organizer of the contest. The contest is furthermore organized in cooperation with the Senate of the Republic of Poland, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (through the assistance of Polish Embassies and Consulates abroad), and President Office of the Republic of Poland and in association with “Wspolnota Polska”. Pangea Alliance is the national organizer of the contest in USA.

The main purpose of the contest is to create a positive image of Poles living permanently abroad, to show their accomplishments and successes. All candidates have to be citizens of Poland, or be of Polish descent that lives legally outside of Poland.

For more photographs by Andrzej Baraniak check: www.newsrp.smugmug.com
Members of Rochester’s Polish American Community gathered on April 30, 2013 to commemorate the 222nd Anniversary of the Polish Constitution on May 3, 1791. The observance included a mass at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, followed by an “Akademia” presented by the talented and charming children of Rochester’s “Polska Szkola” Saturday morning Polish School. The observance, sponsored by the Rochester Polonia Civic Centre, was greeted by President Eugene Golomb who expressed our community’s great pride in this landmark event that bonds Poland and America together and carries on with our children today.

The children and attendees were addressed by Polish American Congress of Western New York National Director Stephen Flor. In his remarks, Flor encouraged the children always to be proud of the great contributions that their ancestors made to the struggle for freedom and human dignity. Flor noted “that since General Casimir Pulaski “Father of the U.S. Cavalry” laid down his life at the very inception of our United States, and General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, who returned to Poland after securing our Liberty in America, instituted the first constitution in Europe on May 3, 1791, the People of Poland have always fought for Freedom’s Cause. Kosciuszko led an insurrection in Liberty’s Name. Although Poland was enslaved, The Torch of Liberty was not extinguished. Polish people fought under Dombrowski, 200 years ago in the War of 1812. They rose in insurrection in 1831, and 1848. 150 years ago, in 1863, while these United States were engaged in a great Civil War, to prove that “government of the people, for the people and by the people should not perish from the face of the Earth”, elsewhere on the face of this Earth, the People of Poland rose in the January Insurrection of 1863 for this Cause.

The insurrection was crushed, but veterans, exiled from Poland, made their way to our American shores and laid the foundation of our present day Polish American Community. Within 30 years, they raised an army, in Niagara On The Lake, not far from here, to take back and procure the Liberty Kosciuszko had fought for. Poland became a free country. The freedom was short lived, when 20 years later, everything that is evil in the hearts of man, manifested itself in the Nazi invasion of Poland. Poland suffered unimaginable horrors. It was 70 years ago, that people of Warsaw rose in an Uprising to gain Freedom. (…) Though Poland won World War II against their enemy, the Nazis, they lost the war to one of their allies, the Soviet Union, who occupied and continued to suppress the People. It was not until the fall of the “Iron Curtain” in the 1980’s that Poland finally became a free country. (…)

The event was attended by a veteran of the Solidarity movement who spent 6 months in prison under martial law before being expelled from Poland, Richard Kuczkowski, Commissioner of District IV of the Polish National Alliance, “the oldest and largest Polish American fraternal society in North America, the same organization founded by a veterans of the 1863 Insurrection” pointed out Mr. Flor.

In his remarks Mr. Flor addressed children saying - “Always be proud of the great contributions that these men and women have made in the name of human dignity and freedom! We come from a long line of Freedom Fighters! And so, today, as the People of Poland and the United States walk hand in hand, counted amongst the free, independent, and democratic nations on Earth, let us rededicate ourselves to the Ideals embodied in the U.S. Constitution and the Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791!”

Submitted by
Steve Flor, Secretary, PNA District 4

Change of Address
Interruption in subscription
Call Sophie Gajda
1-800-621-3723 ext. 366
E-mail: sophie.gajda@pna-znp.org

Veteran Jozef Zawitkowski of the Polish Home Underground Army (AKA) surrounded by the Children of Rochester’s “Polska Szkola” Saturday morning Polish School.
W kwietniu tego roku, w Kon- 
sultacie RP w Chicago odbyła się 
inauguracja programu „Cała Po-
lonia Czyta Dzieciom” na którą
przybyły z Polski przedstawiciele
„Akademii Mądrego Wychowa-
nia” oraz fundacji „ABCXXI”
– Irena Koźmińska i Elżbieta
Olszewska.
Fundacja „ABCXXI” działa
w Polsce od 1998 roku i zajmuje
się działaniami oświatowymi,
edukacyjnymi, promocyjnymi na
rzecz rozwoju dzieci, prowadząc
programy edukacyjne w przedsz-
kołach „Dzieciństwo na całe życie”
oraz „Szkola z charakterem” w szkołach podstawowych i gimnazjalnych.
Jedną z najbardziej popularnych i skutecznych inicjatyw Fundacji jest prowadzona od 2001 r. kampania społeczna „Cała Polska czyta
dzieciom”. Od paru lat jej zasięg powiększył się o kraje Europy („All of Europe Reads to Kids”) a w tym roku, dzięki zabiegom dyrektor Pad-
erewski Orchestra, pani Barbarze Bilszcie, objął środowisko polonijne
Chicago.
Ta piękna i mądra inicjatywa wspierana jest przez szereg organizacji polonijnych w tym min. Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej, Zrzeszenie
Nauczycieli Polskich w Ameryce, Copernicus Fundation.

Poloniści rodzice, czytajcie dzieciom! Budujcie z nimi trwałą więź poprzez codzienny rytm wspólnego czytania książki. Dzięki tej
więzi wasze pociechy będą czuły się w życiu bezpieczne, zaspokojone zostaną ich potrzeby emocjonalne i będą uczyły się języka pol-
skiego.
Nawet małe dziecko może oglądać obrazki i wsłuchiwać się w kocący rytm głosu rodzica. Starsze dzieci potrzebują kontaktu, zainteresowania, bliskości z rodzicami oraz pozytywnych wzorców.

Pamiętaj:
Czytaj dziecku 20 minut dziennie. Codziennie!
Polish ambassador in Washington greets the PNA and PAC members.

Washington D.C.: At the 19 March 2013 reception for an occasion marking publication of Jan Karski’s book, “Story of a Secret State”, Polish Ambassador Mr. Ryszard Schnepf was presented with the patch of the Polish Legion American Veterans, U.S.A., by Ben Filipczyk (PNA Lodge 848) along with fellow PAC and PNA members.

This past January, Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf replaced Ambassador Robert Kupiecki who is serving now as Poland’s Deputy Minister of National Defense.

Submitted by Mr. Ben Filipczyk, Recording Secretary of the PNA Lodge 848.

Polish Constitution Day Celebration in Connecticut

Stamford’s Polish American community was blessed with a beautiful sunny day to celebrate the 122nd Anniversary of the second oldest Democratic Constitution in the world, based on the US Constitution. After a Mass of Thanksgiving at Holy Name of Jesus Church, celebrated by Father Mariusz Olbrys, the congregation walked to Kosciuszko Park for the ceremonies and Flag raising.

Proclamations from Mayor Pavia and the Stamford Board of Representatives were read.

The main speaker, Mr. Mateusz Stasiek, Vice Consul of the Republic of Poland, spoke on the importance of the Constitution of Poland to the Polish community throughout the United States and the world. The audience was entertained by recitations from children of the Polish Saturday School and the Slowianie Polish Dancers with a reception following at the Holy Name Athletic Club.

On the photograph, left to right: Bozena Buda, Edwarda Buda-Okgreglak, Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf, Ben Filipczyk and Richard Okreglak.

Slowianie Dancers.

Jerzy Karwowski - President of the Polish American Cultural Society, Al Koproksi - Trustee of the Kosciuszko Foundation and Vice Consul Mateusz Stasiak of the Republic of Poland.
Promoting Strong Brand of Poland
II Polish-American Business Workshop

On Monday, April 22, 2013, the Polish National Alliance along with Polish American Congress, Polish American Chamber of Commerce and the Trade and Investment Promotion Section of the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington D.C. sponsored the second Polish American Business Workshop.

The meetings took place in the PNA’s home office in Chicago. Special guests included Ilona Antoniszyn–Klik, Undersecretary of State in the Polish Ministry of Economy; Ryszard Schnepf, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the US; Longin Komolowski, President of the Wspolnota Polska Association; William Czajkowski, Head of the US Commercial Service at the US Embassy in Warsaw; Pawel Pietrasinski, Head of the Trade & Investment Section of Poland’s Embassy in Washington, DC; and Jaroslaw Narkiewicz, Deputy Speaker of the Lithuanian Parliament. There were representatives of Polish–American Chambers of Commerce from different states, as well, as the representatives of different regions of Poland. The PNA was represented by President Frank J. Spula, who was one of the main speakers, as well as the Executive Officers.

The conference was a continuation of the last year’s meeting which resulted in the “Chicago Declaration” adopted by Polish-American Business Community. Its main role was promoting strong brand of Poland in the United States.

In addition to plenary sessions with keynotes from the distinguished guests, two panels’ discussion and breakout sessions concluding with the resolutions detained at the offices of the PNA, well-attended reception was held at the Copernicus Center.

Little Wici wins 1st prize!

ROSEMONT THEATRE
5400 North River Road
Rosemont, IL 60018

On March 24 2013 the international dance, singers and actors contest competition was held in Rosemont Theater. In the dance category, Little Wici took first place with a major leap. For the highest achievement our artists received medals, statues as well as cash prizes. The competition was attended by dance groups from Turkey, Albania, Mexico, Bosnia and many others. On the photo Little Wici stands with the consul Konrad Zielinski, who was also a member of the jury that was composed of consulates representatives from countries that participated in this competition, as well as other members related to art and culture. The artistic director of the “Wici” group is Magdalena Solarz, while Kinga Wojdyla-Postawska works as the group choreographer.
Poland- happy island

“Cool Polonia, happy island that wants to stay away from the euro,” entitles article about Poland's economic addition Monday (April 15) issue of “La Repubblica”. The author of the text - Andrea Tarquini said that after years of economic growth, Poland has become the first among the post-Soviet countries economy. He sees the economic downturn, but stresses that the Polish economy still recorded increases. The author of the article is very complementary for Polish economy. “La Repubblica” compares Poland with Germany and Great Britain, “vigorous entrepreneurs, investors and youth. An increase of 1.5% this year, we could dream of, not only we, but also Italians, French, and even Germany. According to Andrei Tarquini Poland has a chance to finish the reform and become even more competitive. Among the tasks to be performed are the reform of health care and the pension system, upgrading infrastructure, railways and construction of highways.(…)

Article can be read at http://www.repubblica.it/economia/affari_finanza/2013/04/15/news/cool_polonia

Jakub Pachocki of University of Warsaw triumphs in Google programming competition

Jakub Pachocki, computer science student at the University of Warsaw, stood last year at podiums of many prestigious programming competitions in Poland and around the world. At the end of July in New York the won another major contest: Google Code Jam.

According to the University of Warsaw website, in Google Code Jam finals the Polish computer science student defeated 24 competitors, selected from among 20,000 participants from around the world.

Google Code Jam is an individual programming competition, which consists in solving algorithmic problems. Participants, both amateurs and professionals, must demonstrate knowledge of different environments and programming languages. First prize is 10 thousand dollars.

Last year, Jakub Pachocki took third place in this competition. In addition, this May, together with Tomasz Kuleczcyki and Wojciech Śmietanks, he won second place in the World Finals of the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest, which took place in Warsaw. At the end of last year, Jakub Pachocki also took first place in the Wielka Przesmycka, an important programming competition organized in Wroclaw, and won the Algorithmic Battles in Warsaw.

In an interview with PAP the student explained that in this type of competition, programming skills and ability to write error-free programs in a short time are crucial. “It is more like mathematical work or solving logic puzzles, than the work on a website” - said Jakub Pachocki in an interview with PAP.

Source: PAP - Science and Scholarship in Poland

“Madonna under the Fir Tree” is back in Poland

Another precious painting lost after the II World War returned to Poland following several months of negotiations conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Wroclaw Cathedral recovered an outstanding painting by Lucas Cranach the Elder entitled “Madonna under the Fir Tree”. For decades the Madonna was missing. There were rumors it was sold in the private art collection market, but the authorities were never able to track it down. Finally the painting was found in a possession of an anonymous Swiss collector who kept it on the down low until his recent death. He bequeathed it to the Diocese of St. Gallen in Switzerland and as of last year because of to the intense negotiations of the Poland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Office for the Restitution of Cultural Goods “Madonna under the Fir Tree” found its way home.

Life expectancy in Poland shorter than in other European Union countries–report

On average across the European Union, life expectancy at birth is 82 years for women and 75 years for men while in Poland it is 80 and slightly over 70, respectively, according to an OECD and EC report.

Poland has one of the lowest life expectancies for women (80 years) and for men (slightly over 70), reads the
Mortality rate from cancer, especially lung cancer in men, remains the leading cause of death in Poland. At the same time, obesity and diabetes are increasingly prevalent in Poland, the report stressed.

According to a “Social inequalities in health in Poland” report, large inequalities in life expectancy persist between socio-economic groups. For both men and women, highly educated persons are likely to live longer.

In Poland, 30-year-old men with a high level of education can expect to live 48.5 years more (to 78.5) while 30-year-old men with a low education level are likely to die at 66.5 years reads the report prepared by the Warsaw-based Institute of Public Health for the World Health Organization.

The study presents a first comprehensive summary of the current knowledge on the scale of health inequalities in Poland.

Source: PAP - Science and Scholarship in Poland

UNESCO List of World Heritage Sites

The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), advisory body to the World Heritage Committee, issued a positive recommendation for the application for adding to the UNESCO List of World Heritage Sites of wooden churches in the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathian region and the extension of the Wieliczka Salt Mine entry to include mines in Bochnia and the Saltworks Castle in Wieliczka.

Poland and Ukraine applied for adding 16 churches. Eight of them are located in Poland. These are the churches of St. Paraskeva in Radruż, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Chotyniec, St. Archangel Michael in Smolnik, St. Archangel Michael in Turzańsk (all in Podkarpacie), and in Małopolska the churches of St. James the Younger the Apostle in Powroźnik, the Mother of God in Owczary Care, St. Paraskeva in Kwiatoni, St. Archangel Michael in Brunary Wyżne. On the Ukrainian side eight temples have been selected in Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Carpathian region.

“The selected churches are located in the northern zone of the Western Carpathians. The oldest wooden churches in the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathians are from the sixteenth century. These temples are the finest achievements of wooden architecture of the Orthodox Church of their time, and to this day they amaze with complex structural solutions” - reads the National Heritage Board of Poland release.

The variety of forms and types, excellence of work design solutions and diversity of style distinguishes wooden Orthodox Church building in the Polish and the Ukrainian Carpathians from the wooden church buildings in the rest of Europe.

Decision on entry into the World Heritage List will be made at 37th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, which will be held on 16-27 June in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Source: PAP - Science and Scholarship in Poland

European Union honored Nicolaus Copernicus (Mikołaj Kopernik) and rename European Earth Observation Programme to Copernicus.

The new name was announced by Commission Vice-President Antonio Tajani during the Competitiveness Council. In a world facing an increased risk of natural and other disasters Copernicus aims to monitor the state of the environment on land, at sea and in the atmosphere and also to improve citizens’ security.

Four years ago, a similar initiative ended in a small scandal when the same EU Programme was to be named Kopernikus. Some considered the use of the German spelling of scholar’s name an attempt to indicate his German roots.

Copernicus is a Latin transcription of the name. The astronomer’s greatest work “On the Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres” was written in this language.

Established in 2008 in Lille, European Earth Observation Programme was previously known as GMES, Global Monitoring for Environment and Security) and is compared with the EU’s ambitious satellite navigation project Galileo.

Source: PAP - Science and Scholarship in Poland
May 3 Constitution

The First Polish Rzeczpospolita (i.e. Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth) was established as a union of two states: Kingdom of Poland and Grand Duchy of Lithuania ruled by a common Jagiellon dynasty. The union took place in Lublin, in 1569.

In the second half of 17th century the Commonwealth entered a period of protracted political and social crisis, leading to acceptance of a Russian protectorate in 1768 and the first partition in 1772. The events of 1768-1772 greatly shocked the nation dominated by the nobility (szlachta). In the subsequent years their support for political and social reforms was growing.

A key role in work on the reform was to be played by King Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski. In 1787, he obtained consent from the Russian empress Catherine II to convene a so-called ‘Confederated Sejm’ whose decisions had to be made by majority of votes. This assembly, also known as the Four-Year or Great Sejm, began its session on 6 October 1788 in Warsaw. It had a considerable success in the legislative area, with a ‘Government Act’ of May 3, 1791 known as the May 3 Constitution as a crowning achievement.

The Constitution consisted of an introduction (preamble), a principal part divided into 11 articles, and a conclusion. It was given the status of a supreme law, designed as a frame construction, whose provisions had to be developed by way of statutes. It had paved the way for a moderate reform of the country’s political and social system.

The May 3 Constitution was overthrown in 1793, officially repealed at the assembly in Grodno, as a result of a plot by the neighboring powers and betrayal on the part of the Constitution’s opponents, leaders and participants of treacherous Targowica Confederation.

The Government Act remained vivid in the memory of the Polish nation. It made it easier for them to survive the time of bondage and helped keep alive its dignity and hope for rebirth of the Polish state.

For Poles nowadays, the May 3 Constitution is considered as a political testament of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. It imposes on generations of Polish nation an obligation to build independent society, in harmony and sense of responsibility for the mutual good, and in the spirit of openness to those nations with whom they shared their destiny.

May 3 was established as a holiday only days after the constitution was passed by the Grand Sejm (Parliament). It was later suspended for many years due to the country’s partitioning, but was reinstated after Poland regained its freedom in 1918. After World War II, in 1946, the communist authorities banned the holiday’s public celebration and officially cancelled it in 1951. Since 1990 the May 3 holiday has again been celebrated as an official statutory holiday in Poland.

Radosny Dzień
Józef Relidyński

Dnia radości, dnia wesela!
Jak szeroki polski kraj,
Niechaj okrzyk w niebo strzela
Vivat! Vivat! Trzeci Maj!

Naród z królem, król z narodem
Odrodzenia zięćt sen…

w upojeniu cudnym, młodym
niech nam dzień rozgbańka len
Trzeci Maj!… Wielki Boże!

Cóż się oprze, któż nas zmoże?
Bóg nad nami! Polska w nas!

Zorza świta, dzień się rodzi –
Po wolności sięgnij rący!

Vivat! Vivat! Trzeci Maj.

(„Roczni稠 Warszawa, 1932r.)

Trzeci Maj
Michał Aret

Maj – rocznica pięknych serc!
Maj – rocznica wielkich myśli,
Tym, co dawno przeminęły,
Hołd składają, ci co przeszli.

Choć przeminął dawno wiek,
Dawne hasła się zmieniły,
Orzeł począł nowy bieg.

Lecz z przeszłości czerpał siły.
Kiedy miłość pobratała
W jedną całość Polski stany,
Miłość ponad wszystko trwała.

Tym, co w Polsce dali myśl,
Aby stworzyć cud majowy,
Cześć z oddaniem złóżmy dziś,
Przed pamiętką chyląc głowy.

ZGODA may/june 2013
Chicago, Illinois - PNA Vice President Paul C. Odrobina announces that the PNA Annual Photo Contest will once again take place this year during 2013.

There is a theme for the contest, “Showcase Your Furry Friends”, which could be a photo of your favorite pet or animal. The contest will run from May 1, 2013 through September 1, 2013. Entries must be postmarked no later than the September 1st deadline. Winning photos for the contest will be posted on the PNA Website and in the Zgoda.

**POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE**

**ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST RULES**

**THEME: “SHOWCASE YOUR FURRY FRIENDS”**

Good Luck to All!

Participants must be members of the Polish National Alliance.

Photos may be of anything that pertains to the theme of the contest and taken by the entrant during 2013.

Duration of the Contest is:

**May 1, 2013 to September 1, 2013.**

Each contestant is limited to **TWO (2) photo entries.**

No restricted age limit for contest.

Entries of photo can be either in BLACK AND WHITE or in COLOR.

Photo size must be a minimum of 4” X 6” to a maximum of 8” X 10”. **DO NOT MOUNT ANY PHOTO. DO NOT WRITE ON; DEFACE THE FRONT OR BACK OF PHOTO. ANY MOUNTED OR DEFACED PHOTO WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.**

Photos can be taken from either a **FILM** or **DIGITAL CAMERA** and must be submitted in Print form (photo paper). **NO ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Each entry must have your full name, address, phone number, PNA Lodge number and Certificate Number. (Use Entry Form)

All entries become property of the Polish National Alliance. No entries will be returned. Ten (10) Winners will receive a cash prize, plus an Award Winners Plaque. All contestants will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.

Judges decisions will be final. Winners and their prizes will be published in the Zgoda and posted on the PNA Website.

Only **AMATEUR** photographers are eligible. All entries must be postmarked **NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2013 and mailed to:**

P.N.A. PHOTO CONTEST
SPORTS AND YOUTH DEPARTMENT
6100 NORTH CICERO AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60646-4385
The PNA emblem is a relic from the January 1863, uprising of Poland against Russia. It was designed by the Revolutionary Government as a reminder that the Royal Republic of Poland was a commonwealth of three nations who shared the glories and misfortunes of the state.

Thus the white eagle on red shield represented crown lands, or Poland proper; the white knight on blue shield known as Pogon (the Chase) was the coat of arms of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania while Michael Archangel symbolized the Duchy of Ruthenia.

In using this symbol of unity, the Revolutionary Government hoped, without much success, to engage Lithuanians and Ruthenians in the common struggle against Russia. The January Uprising failed. But a member of its Revolutionary Government, Agaton Giller inspired the founding of the Polish National Alliance. Consequently, the founders of the PNA adopted this symbol for its fraternal emblem.

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

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Listen to our WPNA 1490 AM radio program (24 hours every day, all over the world)

via internet: www.wpna1490am.com

PNA BANK

May 3 Parade 2013 in Chicago.

Members of the “Wici” Song and Dance Group carrying a banner supporting the Visa Waiver Program for Poland.

Photo: Andrzej Baraniak

The Polish National Alliance has been protecting the financial futures of their members for over 133 years.

Through a wide array of life insurance products, PNA can provide tax-free life insurance proceeds to provide for final expenses, mortgage cancellation, emergency funds, college funds, child care, and a monthly income. These same products that protect our members’s families in the event of premature death also provide tax-advantaged method for accumulating additional monies for cash needs and/or retirement.

Now is the time for you, your family and friends to take full advantage of the PNA’s insurance and annuity programs.