“Together – We Can and We Will”

ZGODA

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF NORTH AMERICA

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Make sure your family is protected through the PNA
5 – 18 Fraternal News
• PNA Lodge 2876 Anniversary Gala
• District XIV Convention
• Senior Mom and Dad luncheon
• 100th Anniversary of Councils 3 & 54 announcements
• Presentation Ball 2013, Berlin CT
• PNA’s supporters in Olsztyn, Poland
• Fishing Derby in Chicago
• Gift Card Program
• New Benefit – Tuition Rewards

19 – New Members!

20 – 21 Education
• 2014 Tour of the Marian Shrines of Portugal, Spain & France
• Tuition Rewards Program

22 – 29 Sports & Youth
• We are proud of...
• Winners of the Coloring Contest
• RxCut Plus Program
• Polish-American Night at the U.S. Cellular Field
• Golf tournaments

30 – 31 Living Well – The sun-tanning dilemma

32 – 33 In Memoriam

34 – 37 Life of Polonia
• Niagara-On-The-Lake Celebration
• Polish Constitution Day in Washington, D.C.
• Polish Mayors in Illinois
• LOT at the PNA

38 – 39 Bon Appétit

40 – 43 Poland Today
• UNESCO World Heritage List - Białowieża
• Polish achievements of the recent months

44 – 46 History Pages
• The Battle of Grunwald
• Flag Day Celebration at the PNA
• Fourth of July

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Summer coming to a close…

Our precious summer months and hot weather soon will be coming to a close, with vacations coming to an end and it’s time to prepare for Back to School.

Here we are in the month of August – at the start of a new school year in many school districts, with renewed opportunities facing our children and grandchildren.

I remember, as a young student going back to school, the excitement and anticipation. It was always a mixed feeling, one of enthusiasm but also anxiety.

For many students, it is a first step into the unknown, especially starting high school or college. The start of a school year is a time for a new beginning and even more important, a time to set NEW GOALS.

We need to keep on encouraging our children, to get it right by setting goals and reaching them. Parents and grandparents can help make the educational experience better. It is our duty to serve as role models and leaders. But more importantly, it is our responsibility to make a positive impact on them, help them create a vision for the future and assist them in achieving their goals.

Schools and education is a whole lot different than it was a generation ago when we were students. Teachers and educators are faced with more challenges than ever before. The seeds for education are being planted in preschool if not earlier.

Here at the Polish National Alliance, we have been focusing on education, supporting youth programs ever since the founding of the organization. Just this past year, we have spent in excess of $250,000 dollars for college scholarships. Our budget for Polish language classes is $20,000 annually. Dance subsidies total $100,000 annually. We have been living up to our corporate mission statement.

Recently, we introduced a Tuition Rewards Program aimed to assist parents and grandparents in providing enough funds for students to continue higher education. The cost of education has been rising each and every year and it is not going to stop. We need to prepare financially to pay for the costs of education.

According to this program, any juvenile, who is enrolled in the Polish National Alliance, by having a permanent plan of insurance in an amount of at least $10,000, can qualify for the “College Tuition Rewards Program” at no additional cost. It is another fraternal benefit of belonging to the PNA.

I urge all of you to take action. Today, let’s take a small step to make sure our children and grandchildren, our future leaders, have the means to obtain a higher education and won’t be left out because of a lack of funds. One way is for them to become a member of the Polish National Alliance. It is our responsibility to make a positive and lasting difference in our children and more importantly in their lives.

The Tuition Reward Program is available for children between the ages of 0 and 17. It is available for over 300 private colleges around the country. Additional information is available on our web-site: www.pna-znp.org/www.tuitionrewards.com or by calling our office at 1-800-621-3723.

Let’s remember, Education drives our Lives. Supporting your children is not the main thing it is the only thing. Let’s help them grow and succeed.

I hope this will be a good school year for all!

I look forward to hearing your comments.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Spula, FLMI
President
August, 2013

Dear Members,

I hope you are enjoying the summer. Fortunately, we still have some time left for interesting trips, or just spending time outdoors in our gardens and backyards.

Thank you to those of you who send their articles and pictures for this issue of ZGODA. Seems to me that our readers especially liked the idea of having “We are proud of …” section. I am delighted to share with everybody how smart and successful our young members are. They are our hope for the future of the Polish National Alliance.

Thank you also for all of the little notes and comments, I read and take under consideration all of them. I am proud of our publication and can tell you that we don’t have any leftover issues what so ever. We are trying to eliminate any mistakes and hope that if you find any, we will be forgiven. After all practice makes perfect!

I would like to thank the Public Relations Committee and its chairman Vice President David Milcinovic for his encouragement and support from the very beginning of the new ZGODA. I also have the pleasure in working with him on an exciting project – the new PNA website.

As some of you requested, we have a little more history (both in English and Polish) in this issue, and as I promised, an article about the primeval forest of Białowieża that is on the UNESCO World Heritage List. I hope you are enjoying reading about the Polish accomplishments of recent times and try some of the recipes sent to us by Mr. Rudziński.

You must check our new benefit -Tuition Reward Program. It can provide substantial financial help to students attending private colleges, especially, that you can combine the points and give them to a chosen member (student) of your family or godchild. There are over 300 hundred private participating colleges on the list. Please, check our website for more information.

Please, send me more articles, pictures and ideas. Remember to send your pictures as jpg attachments of at least 300 DPI. You know what they say: “a picture is worth a thousand words”.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Most Sincerely,

Alicja Kuklinska
Editor

The World Heritage List includes 981 properties forming part of the cultural and natural heritage which the World Heritage Committee considers as having outstanding universal value.

To be included on the World Heritage List, sites must be of outstanding universal value and meet at least one out of ten selection criteria. These criteria are explained in the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention which, besides the text of the Convention, is the main working tool on World Heritage. The criteria are regularly revised by the Committee to reflect the evolution of the World Heritage concept itself.

Only countries that have signed the World Heritage Convention, pledging to protect their natural and cultural heritage, can submit nomination proposals for properties on their territory to be considered for inclusion in UNESCO’s World Heritage List.

Meeting at its 37th session, held from 16-27 June 2013 in Cambodia, the World Heritage Committee added sites to the World Heritage List. Two of them are in Poland. They are: Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region and Wieliczka and Bochnia Royal Salt Mines.
April, 2013

Lodge 2876 chief executive officer Vincent Polletta opened the evening by introducing Pres. Joseph E. Sendrowski who greeted and thanked all for attending. Following the greeting the band Rhythms played the Star Spangled Banner and the Polish National Anthem “Jeszcze Polska Nie Zginela”.

Senator Richard T. Moore was next on the agenda and he graciously presented a Massachusetts Senate Resolution honoring the Dudley PNA on the 75th Anniversary of its founding. He was joined by three State Reps Kevin Kuros, Ryan Fattman, and Peter Durant in reading the Senate Resolution that was then presented to Vincent Polletta and Joseph E. Sendrowski. The pastor of St. Andrew Bobola Father Joseph Szwach offered an Invocation followed by a toast given by Vice Pres. Zosia Szydlik. The guests then sat down and enjoyed a meal of ham, turkey, haddock, or veggie lasagna.

Following the meal the three State Reps. Kevin Kuros, Ryan Fattman, and Peter Durant presented a Massachusetts House of Representative Citation congratulating Lodge 2876 for its 75 years of successful existence. The three then offered individual remarks and congratulations. Newly elected Dudley Selectman Peter Fox then took the podium and offered his praise and congratulations. The officers and directors of the Dudley Lodge are extremely proud to have had a State Senator, three State Reps., and a Dudley Selectman join the celebration.

Dignitaries from other Alliance lodges, councils, and districts included none other than the National President of the Polish National Alliance located in Chicago, Frank J. Spula. During his principal speech he presented a special gift to Mr. Henry Kotarba honoring his 46 years of dedicated service to the National PNA and to Lodge 2876. Mr. Kotarba was also honored by having the 75th Anniversary Program Book dedicated in his honor. President Spula noted that there are over 3,000 Lodges in 17 districts with more than 160,000 members in the National PNA family. The PNA is the largest ethnic fraternal organization in America. He offered that the founding fathers of Lodge 2876 must be very proud of themselves for the success of the Dudley Lodge. He noted that we also need to be proud of the existing officers and directors for continuing the success started by the founders, and that we must work to find replacements so as to keep the PNA and lodges active and vibrant.

Other Alliance dignitaries present included District A Director Walter Tokarz, Lodge 711, Council 62 of Chicopee President Gilbert J. Sherman, Theresa Struziak Sherman, former Director and Commissioner of PNA District A, the financial Secretary of Lodge 711, and Recording Secretary of Council 62. District 1 Commissioner Frank Wolanin, Council 111 President Peter Malecki, joined by Wanda Milecki a former Commissioner of District 1 and the Secretary of Council 111.

The evening ended with a Benediction by Father Joseph Szwach.

Article & pictures submitted by Joseph E. Sendrowski, President of Lodge 2876
District XIV Convention

Franklin, WI – PNA District XIV held its District Convention on Saturday, April 6, 2013 at the Polish Center of Wisconsin in Franklin, WI. In attendance were delegates from Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. Special guest for the event was PNA President Frank Spula.

The Convention began with the Pledge of Allegiance and an Invocation by Commissioner Teresa Jankowski. Former PNA Director Donald Pienkos of Lodge 2159 administered the Oath of Office to the delegates. Irene Hawkins of Lodge 3100 was appointed as Recording Secretary and read the minutes from the last District Convention.

Commissioners Teresa Jankowski & Gary Babinski reported on their activities in their respective areas. Commissioner Babinski reviewed the District goals: 1) Increase sales by 10%. 2) Maintain open communication with sales representatives. 3) Add sales representative to the Florian, MN area. Director Sandra Schuster gave her report and stressed the importance of increasing membership.

“Woman of the Year” award was presented to Past Director Hedy Rabiega of Lodge 3100 in Milwaukee, WI for her many years of dedicated work since 1977 to present. She served as Financial Secretary, Sales Representative, two-term Commissioner and two-term National Director.

President Spula presented Hedy Rabiega with the PNA’s second highest honor Silver Legion of Honor Award.

District sales awards were presented to Sandra Schuster for first place in all three categories, and Hedy Rabiega for second place.

After a delicious lunch was served by Jack Norman Catering of the Polish Center, President Spula updated the delegates regarding the current status of PNA and the changes needed to be made and are in process.

Reports were given by lodges and councils in attendance, with some time for questions.

The Convention concluded with the singing of God Bless America and Boże Coś Polskę.

After the Convention the out-of-town delegates attended mass at the beautiful and historic Basilica of St. Josaphat, which was built by the Polish Community in the late 1800’s. They went on to enjoy hospitality at Commissioner Jankowski’s house where further sharing and discussions continued about PNA matters.

We thank all the delegates who participated in the District meeting, and hope it inspired them to seek new members for PNA.

Submitted by Commissioner Teresa Jankowski

Delegates representing Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota at the PNA District XIV Convention.
To our Members:

As you may have seen in our last Zgoda publication an ad for our Tuition Rewards benefit plan, I would like to ask you a member one question. If I could show you a way that if you set aside $80-$120 per year, and a child could qualify for thousands of dollars per year for tuition to help pay for a college education, would this be of value to you?

Payments could be made for only 20 years, and upon graduation from college provide to the grad a lifetime gift of a $10,000 life insurance certificate.

Or, perhaps a one-time single payment of “between” $990-$1400 and receive in addition to thousands of dollars for college tuition a fully paid up $10,000 life insurance certificate.

If your answer is No! Stop Reading. If your answer is, YES BY ALL MEANS! IS THIS FOR REAL? Then you have just discovered the newest most beneficial membership benefit to be offered in years or maybe even decades here at PNA.

All you have to do is enroll a child between the ages of 0-14 in a permanent life insurance plan for a least $10,000. This a win-win for all. Let your investment work for you. It will provide college tuition dollars, a life insurance certificate, and in addition still being able to apply for our college scholarship award as well. For less than $1,500 in most cases look, what you can provide for a loved one.

Remember, the only people who purchase life insurance are people who love someone.

Have a great finish to summer and we will talk again in the fall.

Fraternally Yours,
Luke Kelly
Director of Sales

PNA Cadets Lodge #1134 Local Coloring Contest Winners

St. Louis, Missouri, Lodge #1134 sponsors the local coloring contest the same day as the Easter Egg Hunt using the same pages and ages as the national coloring contest. The judges have picked these winners.

Ages 5 to 6:
Nicholas Krauze

Ages 7 to 8:
David Thurman

Ages 9 to 10:
Julia Powell

Ages 11 to 12:
Aliza Ahmed

The winners were given gift cards and all submitted entries were forwarded to the home office for the national contest.

Submitted by Carolyn L. Baras, Activities Director
Chicago, Illinois - The Polish National Alliance South Side Senior Group celebrated Mother’s Day and Father’s Day on June 25, 2013 at the Mayfield Banquet Hall in Chicago.

PNA Vice President Paul Odrobina was emcee. He introduced Father Waclaw Lech, Pastor of St. Camillus Parish in Chicago, to bless the meal. After the blessing, President Frank Spula was introduced and spoke to the 150 guests attending. In his remarks, Vice President Odrobina spoke on activities for the summer including, Polish American Night at U.S. Cellular Field on July 2nd and Chicago Fire Soccer on August 10th, and a casino trip to Blue Chip Casino will take place on Wednesday September 18th. He also mentioned that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 24, 2013. Mr. Odrobina thanked the staff and volunteers who assist at the meetings and dignitaries attending the luncheon including: President Spula, Director Christine Domalewski, Commissioners of District 12 Barbara Wesolowski and Jerzy Hejna, former Directors Helen Orawiec, Arthur Trybek and Cecelia Tomaszkiewicz, former Commissioners of District 12 Anna Kokosza and Roman Bucon and the volunteers Irene Spiewak, Loretta Waltee, Eleanore Jasiorkowski, Florence Jadach, Anna Bucon, and staff Joan Oskorep, Robert Jadach and Krystyna Bialasiewicz and his wife Janice.

After lunch, a Mom of the Year was selected who was Josephine Dygdon. She received a hanging floral basket. The Father of the Year was Jozef Kozak. He received a bottle of spirits. There was a special $50.00 hat raffle. The hat is made with money roses that totaled $50.00 and was given by Vice President of the Polish Women’s Alliance Sharon Zago. The lucky winner of the hat was Terry Rucka.

Vice President Odrobina thanked the Seniors for their attendance and support throughout the year and also thanked his staff and volunteers who help out with the meetings during the year as well. The staff of the Mayfield was thanked too for the delicious luncheon and good service they provided.

The rest of the afternoon, music and dancing were provided by the “Joe Pat” Orchestra under the direction of Frank Gentille.

Story and Photos by: Robert M. Jadach
We are preparing to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Council 3, District 13 on Sunday, November 17, 2013, at Przybylo’s House of the White Eagle, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, IL 60714.

The afternoon will feature a brief program, dinner and dancing.
The festivities will include celebrating a century of dedicated service, which continues to bring national exposure for the PNA through involvement in a variety of programs.

Council 3 has influence and involvement through the Polish Language School, dance group, the Fencing Academy (nationally recognized team with Olympic candidates training at the PNA facility), the Dance Studio and more.

President of the Polish National Alliance Mr. Frank J. Spula is a long time member and former Treasurer of Council 3.

To place wishes or advertisement in our centennial commemorative program book, please e-mail Alicja Kuklinska at: pnacouncil3@gmail.com

Submitted by: Irene Hercik, Director of District 13, Chairperson of the 100th Anniversary Committee
Berlin, CT – The annual Debutante and Squire Presentation Ball, sponsored by the Women’s Division of District II, was held on April 27, 2013, at the Baltic Restaurant in Berlin, CT. The evening began with a warm welcome in both Polish and English by Commissioner Marianna Kozioł Dube, who also introduced for the first time Commissioner Donald A. Dube. Marianna then introduced the Lady Chairperson, former Debutante Agata Wozniak, member of Lodge 315 and of the dance group “Orlęta.” The Master of Ceremony for the evening was Daniel Michalak, member of Lodge 441 and former Squire.

The Debutantes and Squires were escorted by the United States Coast Guard Academy cadets from New London, CT.

Teresa Abick, Lady Vice President of the PNA represented the executive officers. Also present was Vice Censor Irena Grabowy. Representing the Board of Directors was Tadeusz Kutarba, Director of Region “B”.

Dinner was served and an arrangement of Polish and American music was performed by the band To My Band. After the dinner, the Debutantes and Squires were officially presented, with their biographies and accomplishments proudly pronounced in both Polish and English. The Debutantes, Squires, and cadets danced our traditional “Polonaise,” choreographed by Wojtek Górniak, also the proud father of one of the Debutantes Claudia Górniak. All the guests were invited to join in and enjoy the rest of the evening, dancing to traditional and contemporary melodies.

My many thanks go out to the committee for their hard work and dedication to make the evening an enjoyable and huge success. Special thank you goes to Janina Chlus for putting together the program book, and Maryann Czerczak and Ela Clebowicz for helping with getting the Ads for the program book. A very special thank you goes to Wojtek Górniak for teaching the Polonaise to the debutantes, squires and their escorts and Victoria Zolkiewicz-McInnas for putting the final touches on the presentation. But most of all I would like to thank our Former Commissioner Grazyna Krupa who was again this year always ready to advise and go anywhere to help with negotiations. Without her this would have been a lot more difficult to accomplish. I would like to add here that we are the only District that holds a Presentation Ball every year. So thank you Grazyna again for your help, patience and guidance. I truly appreciate it. I also must not forget Irene Grabowy as she was always ready to help and guide me. My appreciation and thanks are going to all who generously supported the Polish National Alliance and District II.
Debutantes
Sabrina Xiao Chun Brown, Lodge 2612
New Britain
Jessica Fretto, Lodge 1061 Torrington
Larrisa Gade, Lodge 513 Wallingford
Claudia Gorniak, Lodge 315 Bridgeport
Samantha L. Putko, Lodge 441 Bristol
Elizabeth Zielinski, Lodge 513 Wallingford

Squire
Michael Okula

Submitted by: Marianna Koziol Dube, Commissioner District II
Sympatycy ZNP na Warmii i Mazurach

Rzeczywistą oznaką, że działalność Związku Narodowego Polskiego, największej polonijnej organizacji, jest szeroko znana nie tylko w Stanach Zjednoczonych Ameryki Północnej, ale także na drugiej półkuli, jest fakt powstania w Olsztynie w końcu maja 2007 roku Koła Sympatyków Związku Narodowego Polskiego.

Olsztyn to największe miasto i stolica województwa warmińsko-mazurskiego, położone nad rzeką Łyną, otoczone lasami i jeziorami, popularne miejsce wakacji.

Mottem KSZNP jest łacińska sentencja: „Ibi semper est Victoria ubi Cocordia est”, czyli „Tam jest zawsze zwycięstwo, gdzie panuje zgoda. Zgoda, tylko jedno krótkie słowo, tylko 5 liter, lecz jakie miejsce się w nim potęga” stwierdził prezes Marek Nowacki.

Pomysłodawcą i założycielem organizacji jest Alek Nowacki, emerytowany olsztynianin pełen życiowej energii i pomysłów. Niewątpliwie powstanie Koła jest osobliwym zdarzeniem, ponieważ na przestrzeni 133 długich lat historii ZNP jest to jedyna taka inicjatywa.

Zadaniem Koła Sympatyków jest utrzymywanie kontaktów z ZNP, wzajemne popieranie się, przekazywanie w obie strony istotnych informacji, które na przykład mogą służyć młodzieży na lekcjach historii zarówno w Polsce jak i w USA, również propagowanie zwyczajów i kultywowanie świat narodowych obchodzonych przez rodaków w Stanach Zjednoczonych. Członkowie Koła utrzymują stały kontakt z głównym biurem ZNP.


Prezesem Koła Sympatyków ZNP jest Krzysztof Marek Nowacki, Iwona Arent jest wiceprezesem,
a sekretarzem Lech śmiglewski.
Natomiast pomysłodawca i założyciel Alek Nowacki jest honorowym prezesem.

W zabytkowym Hotelu „Pod Zamkiem” odbyło się szczególne spotkanie członków Koła Sympatyków ZNP. Honorowy prezes Alek Nowacki wręczył uczestnikom legitymacje członkowskie, podpisane w Chicago, w głównej siedzibie przez prezesa Związku Narodowego Polskiego i Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej, Franciszka Spulę. Przy tej okazji, prezes Koła, Marek Nowacki z wykształcenia historyk, przedstawił zebranym dzieje Związku, podkreślając jego rolę w procesie zjednoczenia Polonii Amerykańskiej, podtrzymywania tradycji i przekazywania narodowych wartości.

W ciągu paru lat działalności Koło Sympatyków, odbyło się w zabytkowym hotelu „Pod Zamkiem”, wiele ciekawych spotkań i prelekcji poświęconych historii Polski i Polonii.

Raz w tygodniu, drogą lotniczą, dociera do Olsztyna Dziennik Związkowy, gazeta codzienna pochodziła w 1908 roku i nadal nieprzerwanie ukazująca się w Chicago. Sympatyści ZNP z Olsztyna spotykają się przy świątecznych okazjach Bożego Narodzenia i Wielkanocy a towarzyszy im opiekun duchowy, ks. Infułat dr. Julian żołnierkiewicz. Na jednym z „Opłatków” posłanka i wiceprezeska Koła Iwona Arent powiedziała: „Potrzebny jest nam taki dzień, takie spotkania, żebyśmy złożyli sobie życzenia na rozpoczynający się rok i podzieliśmy opłatkiem.

Jest to też okazja, by wspomnieć o Polakach z Polski, o których jesteśmy zgodni jako stowarzyszenie. Informacja o naszym spotkaniu zapewna dotrze do Chicago, więc nasi przyjaciele będą wiedzieli, że pamiętań onich i życzymy im jak najlepiej.”


Dzięki gościnności członkini Koła, właścicieli hoteliku „Pod Zamkiem”, pani Grażyny Bryk, spotkania odbywają się w tym urokiwym, położonym u stóp olsztyńskiego zamku (największej turystycznej atrakcji miasta) miejscu.

Koło Sympatyków zawsze pamięta i obchodzi amerykańskie święta jak: 4 lipca, Independence Day, czy Thanksgiving Day.

4 lipca 2010 r. w 234 rocznicę uchwalenia Deklaracji Niepodległości Stanów Zjednoczonych Ameryki Północnej odbyło się w Morągu spotkanie z ponad setką stacjonujących w tym mieście żołnierzy amerykańskich. Na piknik członkowie Koła przywieźli żołnierzom beczkę piwa z miejscowego browaru i smaczną kełbą podarowaną przez zakład z Morlin –Ostróda, które są własnością kapitału amerykańskiego.

W 10 rocznicę zamachów terrorystycznych na World Trade Center w Nowym Jorku minutą ciszy uczczono pamięć ofiar oraz odsłonięto pamiątkowa tablica w Arboretum Lesnym w Kudypach. Wkrotce po zamachach posadzone tam zostały dwie Magnolie Drzewiaste, zwyczajowo zwane w Polsce Magnolią Amerykańską. Miały one symbolizować dwa zniszczone budynki WTC, oraz początek nowego życia.

Pierwszą okazją do osobistego spotkania Koła Sympatyków z Olsztyna z Zarządem ZNP była wizyta w Chicago dr. Urszuli Hura w styczniu 2010 roku. W czasie spotkania z prezesem Franciszką Spulą, któremu towarzyszył wiceprezes Paweł Odrobina i skarbnik Marian Grabowski, dr Hura przekazała serdeczne pożądania w imieniu olsztyńskiego Koła Sympatyków ZNP.

„Koło nasze ma za zadanie szerzenie wiedzy o Polonii, która przez szereg lat tak wiele pomagała swej Ojczyźnie i dziś nie zapomina o swoich korzeniach. Jesteśmy wdzięczni za wszystko, za to, że dziś możemy się cieszyć wolną, niezależną i dumną Polską, to naszą wspólną historią. Dlatego też chcemy podtrzymywać więzi z Polonią, propagować jej zwyczaje i kultywować przyjazd Polaków do naszej krajobrazowej organizacji jaką jest Związek Narodowy Polski.”

Krystyna Białasiewicz.
Związek Narodowy Polski był jednym z głównych sponsorów konkursu łowienia ryb zorganizowanego w niedzielę 2 czerwca 2013 r. w Busse Woods Grove. Polish Fishing and Hunting Club rokrocznie zaprasza dzieci na tę cieszącą się coraz większą popularnością imprezę.

Zawody przeprowadzono w dwóch konkurencjach: na złowienie największej ryby oraz najwięcej ilości ryb, które szczęśliwie wracały do wody.

Mimo nienajlepszej pogody do zawodów przystąpiło 106 dzieci w wieku od 2 do 16 lat.

Zwycięzców nagrodzono wędką, medalem i dyplomem, za miejsca od 4 do 6 każdy również otrzymał wędkę. Razem rozdano dzieciom 60 szt. wędek.

Zwycięzcy w kategorii od 11 do 16 lat:
1. Mateusz Michalski
2. Wiktor Pawlik
3. Marcin Bednarski
4. Tomek Klaczak

Nad przebiegiem zawodów czuwało 10 sędziów: Jan Chorąży, Stanisław Kiersznowski, Sławek Garbacik, Wiesław Gubała, Jan Dąbrowski, Ryszard Lupa, Piotr Fabian, Janusz Małek, Stanisław Ziemiański i Andrzej Wojciechowski.

Związek Narodowy Polski reprezentował sekretarz Karol Komosa z synami oraz przedstawicielka Wydziału Członkostwa Anna Burszczyk, którzy przekazali do rozlosowania 4 karty ze sklepu Target wartości 25 dol. każda.

Po ekscytujących zawodach każde dziecko otrzymało kiełbaskę lub parówkę do wyboru i coś do picia. Dla kibiców i rodziców przygotowane były pyszne grilowane kiełbaski lub krupnioki.

Sędziowie konkursu: Jan Chorąży, Stanisław Kiersznowski, Zbigniew Kossakowski, także Maria Wolak, Barbara Krawczyk, Beata Kossakowski, Leszek Pacholek, Bogdan Cichoń i Robert Żwirek z żoną. Przygotowanie miejsca w parku, namioty, oflagowanie i rozwieszanie banerów to zasługa Marcina Michałka, Sławka Garbacika, Franciszka Sztabki, Bogdana Olejniczaka i Jerzego Krawczyka.

Wędkowanie to prawdziwy relaks na świeżym powietrzu, nie mówiąc o świeżych i pysznych rybach. Jak widać na zdjęciach, łowienie ryb interesuje nie tylko chłopaków, ale i dziewczynki które świetnie dają sobie z tym radę. Trzeba mieć nadzieję, że w następnym roku będzie ciepło i słonecznie, a chętnych na ryby znowu będzie wielu.

Krystyna Białasiewicz
Zdjęcia: Jerzy Krawczyk

Sędzia konkursu: Jan Chorąży, Stanisław Kiersznowski, Sławek Garbacik, Wiesław Gubała, Jan Dąbrowski, Ryszard Łapa, Piotr Fabian, Janusz Matek, Stanisław Ziemiański i Andrzej Wojciechowski.

PNA “Piast” Lodge 3259 organized a potato pancake breakfast

For the second year, PNA “Piast” Lodge 3259 organized a potato pancake breakfast for Palm Sunday on March 24, 2013, in cooperation with Fr. Henryk Noga, the Director of the Pope John Paul II Polish Center, Yorba Linda, California.

The entire Board of Piast Lodge worked all day Sunday and provided over 300 servings of delicious potato pancakes after each Mass.

Funds raised were split between PNA Piast Lodge’s scholarship fund, and the Church Building Fund.

Submitted by: Greg Chilecki, Commissioner District XVI

Team of highly skilled cooks frying pancakes:
Waldek Mialkowski, Michał Golonko, Miroslaw Dobrowolski,

Long line for those wanting PNA potato pancakes

Serving: Danuta Dobrowolski, Jarosław Musial, Barbara Jarosławski, Mariola Musial

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PNA GIFT CARD PROGRAM is a new fundraising agenda for our organization. It's called the Manna Group Scrip Program and it will allow our organization to fundraise while we shop. The purchase of the gift cards will benefit the Youth Fund at the PNA.

The gift cards are being available from the Polish National Alliance Home Office. You may choose gift cards from a large variety of stores, restaurants, and businesses in your area with denominations starting from $5.00 and up.

These cards could be used by your Lodge or Council as awards for the members, dance groups, Saturday Polish Schools, sports, contests, or for your own personal use. Examples of gift cards to purchase include: gas stations, grocery stores, restaurants chains, department stores, and many more.

To obtain these gift cards, it’s as easy as 1-2-3. Just look over the vendor’s list, mark the desired cards, fill out the form and return them to the PNA Home Office and we will send you the cards.

Gift card orders are filled every 15th and 30th of each month. Please allow up to one week for the mailing. All orders must be sent to the PNA via U.S. Mail accompanied by a check or money order made payable to Polish National Alliance.

SORRY, WE CANNOT ACCEPT EMAIL ORDERS OR CREDIT CARDS.

We hope you will take advantage of this great opportunity.
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<thead>
<tr>
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We are off to school today!

What will happen when it’s time to go to college?  
Who will help with cost?  
Who can we rely on?

The Polish National Alliance has the answer: 
**Tuition Rewards & Scholarship Program**

Thousands of tuition dollars will be awarded to any PNA members who are enrolled into a $10,000 or higher permanent plan of insurance.  
(Children must be between the ages of 0-17 to enroll)  
Don’t put off this decision any longer, act today and begin to earn rewards points.  
Call the Membership Department today and ask for an application.  
For more information about these programs visit our website at:  
[www.pna-znp.org](http://www.pna-znp.org)  
or call our Education Department at:  
**1-800-621-3723 ext.312**
Welcome to our PNA Family

New Members

**Lucas Michael Grande**
(born 5-4-12) is a new member of Lodge 7003. He is the son of Lynn and Matt Grande of New York, NY and the brother of 3 year old Jackson. The PNA policy was a gift from proud grandparents, Paulette and William Charnitski. Lucas is the great-grandson of the late Stella and Peter Dobranski, both active members of the PNA.

**Jozef Chester Tomala**
born 5-23-2012, Joeys proud parents are Barbara i Andrzej Tomala. PNA Policy is the gift from loving grandparents Marysia & Leszek Krzyminski.

**Julian Henry Poniatowski**
age 3 new member of Lodge 2911, District 7
He is son of our member J. Henry and wife Stacie Fagerlin Poniatowski, grandson of member Henry and Karen Poniatowski and Richard Fagerlin.

**Benjamin M. Dennison**
(born December 28, 2012) is the youngest member of Lodge 827 in Youngstown, Ohio. Benjamin M. Dennison is the son of Coette M. Dennison and Matthew R. Dennison of Boardman, OH. The proud grandparents are Bernadine A. and Richard D. Becker of North Lima, OH, who gave him the insurance as a gift. He was enrolled by Joseph M. Magielski, Sr., Sales Representative and former Director of Sales for PNA.

**Greyson William Price**
born January 24, 2013, the newest member of Lodge 1094 of Elmira, NY. He now joins his sister Mia and his cousins Sebastian and Nolan as members of our PNA Family. His parents are William and Amanda Price of Mount Wolf, PA, and he is sponsored by his loving grandparents William and Mary (Zubriski) Price of East Fallowfield, PA.
Plan your next vacation with the Polish National Alliance!

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to invite you to join us on a beautiful tour of the Marian Shrines of Portugal, Spain and France along with the historical sites in each country. Rather than a trip or vacation, it is truly a Pilgrimage, where we will be able to visit the sacred places where many saints walked before us. A religious pilgrimage is a grace-filled opportunity to join together in prayer, both in gratitude for many blessings received, as well as in petition for the continuing in holiness of our Church.

We begin with a tour of Lisbon’s historical city and cathedrals. We travel to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal and the birthplaces of Francisco, Jacinta and Lucia, to whom the Virgin appeared for the first time on May 13th, 1917.

Next, we will journey to sunny Spain, visiting many beautiful Cathedrals along the path that many pilgrims have trodden over the centuries. Our visit will include the city of Madrid, the capital of Spain; the historic town of Toledo, where El Greco lived; as well as Avila, the walled town of the Carmelite nun, St. Teresa of Jesus.

We then continue to Lourdes, France, where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to St. Bernadette, and where so many have been miraculously healed.

On our way to Barcelona, we enjoy a relaxing drive to Montserrat Mountain where we visit the Royal Basilica featuring the Romanesque sculpture of “Virgen Moreneta”.

Finally, we enjoy a full day of sightseeing in the historical and beautiful city of Barcelona.

I hope you will consider this most special gift to yourself and join us as we embark on a pilgrimage that promises to offer not only a journey of faith, but also time for prayer, meditation and enjoyment. As space is limited, reservations should be made as soon as possible.

Teresa Abick
Vice President

LOURDES, FATIMA & SPAIN
Departing May 24, 2014 from Chicago
Return to Chicago June 4, 2014
$3,798.00
All Inclusive
(Except lunches)

Journey features: round trip transportation from Chicago, hotels, land transportation via deluxe private motor coach, professional English speaking guide, breakfast & dinner daily, entrance fees to all sites on itinerary, tips, surcharge, taxes, and daily masses.


Rates based on double-occupancy, the airline fuel surcharge ($637) and currency exchange rate at the date of quotation to your host. Subject to change up to 30 days prior to departure.

Each tour member must hold a U.S. passport that is valid up to 6 months after the scheduled return.

Any required visas will be processed for US citizens only. Non-US citizens are solely responsible for obtaining any required visas.

For more information check our website: www.pna-znp.org
or contact:
Teresa Abick / Mary Srodon
6100 N. Cicero Avenue
Chicago, IL 60646
1-800-621-3723
mary.srodon@pna-znp.org

Liane Matrisch: Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal
PNA COLLEGE TUITION REWARDS PROGRAM

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
www.pna-znp.org / www.tuitionrewards.com

2013 – 2014 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Education Department received over 430 Applications for PNA Scholarships. The Ad-Hoc Committee met in early May to review them.

The scholarships were awarded on a point system, highest points given for the GPA. Letters were sent to all of the recipients at the end of May.

List of all of the Scholarship Award recipients is posted on the PNA’s website: www.pna-znp.org

THE 2013 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Back row - from left to right: Vice President Teresa Abick, Director Wanda Penar, Vice Censor Irene Grabowy, Director Stanisława Raczka, Committee Agnes Kamiński. Front row - from left to right Committee Barbara Sullivan, Barbara Wesolowski, Director Teresa Bukowski (missing from photo - Director Allan Szyflada).
Joanna Sojka, Alderman, Ward 7,
Des Plaines IL, PNA Lodge 3237

Joanna was born in Chicago in December 1984. Her parents came from Poland and made sure Joanna knows her Polish roots very well. In 2003 she graduated from Schaumburg High School as valedictorian – the best student, a year earlier, she graduated with honors Emilia Plater’s Saturday’s Polish School. She graduated Northwestern University studied economics, political science and international relations. Joanna was an exchange student at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, where she studied Polish language and economics of the European Union, volunteer in the Sejm (House of Representatives) in Warsaw, Poland.

After graduating from College in 2007, she started work in a consulting company, and then she went back to Northwestern University to get a Master’s degree in Higher Education Administration and Social Policy. Immediately after that, she took accepted position in the administration of the University of Illinois.

Two years ago Miss Sojka bought condominium in Des Plaines, charming town with fast access to Chicago, new Center, and many parks.

“I noticed, however, that many businesses are closed, and even the movie theater is closed. I realized that there is so much that needs to be done so that the city would reach its full potential. When I found out that Matt Bogusz (also of Polish descent), two years younger than me, a friend from College, is Des Plain’s new candidate for mayor, I decided to help him with his election campaign. After two meetings, Matt said that I should run for the Office of Alderman. I did, we had a lot of support from the voters and endorsements from the local press and we were both elected!”

Councilors and Mayor of Des Plaines, IL do not receive a salary, but just a monthly allowance to cover the cost of the phone, commuting, etc… They must reside in the City so they could represent its interest. Joanna Sojka did not appeal for the votes of the Polonia, because she did not want the constituents to select her just for the sake of her Polish origin. “I wanted voters to trust me and consider me as the right candidate with the right program. But now, I’d like the Polish Community to know that I am one of them and they can turn to me with their problems. I know that in Des Plaines live many Poles who don’t speak English very well and sometimes they have difficulties settling cases and I will gladly help them.”

Congratulations Miss Sojka and best of luck on behalf of the PNA!

More info: www.joannasojka.com

By Alicja Kuklinska based on an updated interview given by Joanna Sojka to Alicja Otap (Polish Daily News, April 2013)
Joseph Carter
New Boy Scout, Member of Lodge 3203
Joseph Carter, 11, son of Roger and Georgeann Carter, has crossed over into Boy Scouts after earning his highest award possible in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light. Joseph joined Cub Scouts as a Tiger Cub in the first grade and earned many awards including two religious emblems and all 20 WEBELO activity pins to become a “Super Achiever.” Joseph will continue his journey to Eagle Scout with Troop 21 in Bluff Park, AL. In addition to scouting activities, Joseph is also a straight A student entering middle school, an active altar boy at Prince of Peace Catholic Church, and has recently taken up piano and performed with honorable mention in an Honors-Society-Only Recital/Competition and school talent show. He is also a summertime swimmer with the local pool with qualifying times in breaststroke for the county competition.

The Carter family are residents of Birmingham, AL. Joseph is the grandson of Alfrieda Russell, PNA Lodge 3203, Melbourne, FL.

Submitted by: Ms. Alfrieda Russell

Diana Sobczynski
received a Master’s Degree in Education, from Oregon State University on June 15, 2013. She is the daughter of Commissioner Edward & Patricia Sobczynski. Diana lives and work in Eugene, Oregon.

Congratulations on her achievement and best wishes for the future.

Submitted by: Edward R. Sobczynski,
Commissioner District 17

Katie Smedley – daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Randy Smedley of New Jersey graduated on May 22nd, 2013 from Monmouth University in New Jersey with a degree of Bachelor of Science Marine & Environmental Biology and Policy, with a minor in Public Policy. She is a member of PNA Lodge 650 Chester, PA, granddaughter of Emily Ochrymowicz of Chester, PA, also of Lodge 650 and the late Frank Ochrymowicz.

Submitted by: Emily Ochrymowicz

Four generations of 100% PNA family! Great grandmother Wanda Rocko, grandmother Donna Poniatowski, mother Amanda Saccomanno and daughter Kaylee Page Saccomano.

Submitted by Wanda Rocko
Chicago, Illinois - The Annual PNA Coloring Contest for children ages 5 through 12 came to a close on May 31, 2013. There were over 100 participants entered this year.

The coloring books used this year were "Children and Sports" and "Polish Dancers". Judging was held on June 26, 2013 at the PNA Home Office. The judges were Commissioner of District 12 Jerzy Hejna, Magdelena Pantelis, General Manager of the Polish Daily News and Mary Srodon, Executive Secretary to Vice President Teresa Abick, Vice President Paul C. Odrobina and his staff Joan Oskorep and Robert Jadach were on hand to assist. The judges praised the quality and creative originality of the many entries, which made it difficult to select the winning entries. It was stated by the judges, that all the entries submitted were all winners, but we were able to only select ten in each age group.

The Polish National Alliance Sports and Youth Department would like to thank and acknowledge the efforts of all the children who participated, and congratulate the winners. We also acknowledge the judges for taking time off their busy schedules to come in to select our winners.

Story and Photos by: Robert M. Jadach

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING WINNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGES - 5 and 6</th>
<th>Lodge 2571</th>
<th>Garfield, New Jersey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leah Calandriello - age 5</td>
<td>Lodge 2571</td>
<td>Garfield, New Jersey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Grzybowski - age 5</td>
<td>Lodge 1770</td>
<td>Rockville, Rhode Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Kita - age 5</td>
<td>Lodge 3278</td>
<td>Harwood Hts., Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominic Orend - age 5</td>
<td>Lodge 455</td>
<td>Newark, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailey Rose Ray - age 5</td>
<td>Lodge 128</td>
<td>College Station, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Sekula - age 5</td>
<td>Lodge 2727</td>
<td>Orland Park, Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Suchowolec - age 5</td>
<td>Lodge 1061</td>
<td>Torrington, Connecticut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Suchowolec - age 5</td>
<td>Lodge 1061</td>
<td>Torrington, Connecticut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reyna Czyzewski - age 6</td>
<td>Lodge 2159</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisconsin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Krauze - age 6</td>
<td>Lodge 1134</td>
<td>Bethesda, Maryland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGES - 7 and 8</td>
<td>Lodge 3259</td>
<td>Anaheim, California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas Mszyca - age 7</td>
<td>Lodge 430</td>
<td>Malvern, Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eva Nemeth - age 7</td>
<td>Lodge 430</td>
<td>Malvern, Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nadia Nemeth - age 7</td>
<td>Lodge 1134</td>
<td>Ballwin, Missouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ariana Powell - age 7</td>
<td>Lodge 711</td>
<td>Ruckersville, Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olivia Sharff - age 7</td>
<td>Lodge 1134</td>
<td>Florissant, Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Thurman - age 7</td>
<td>Lodge 2159</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisconsin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordyn Czyzewski - age 8</td>
<td>Lodge 122</td>
<td>Macedonia, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Grams - age 8</td>
<td>Lodge 1134</td>
<td>St. Louis, Missouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Olmsted - age 8</td>
<td>Lodge 464</td>
<td>Ellington, Connecticut</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julia Piasiecki - age 8</td>
<td>Lodge 128</td>
<td>Wichita Falls, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGES - 9 and 10</td>
<td>Lodge 455</td>
<td>Macedonia, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emma Gazdik - age 9</td>
<td>Lodge 122</td>
<td>St. Louis, Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Grams - age 9</td>
<td>Lodge 1134</td>
<td>Colonia, New Jersey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Olmsted - age 9</td>
<td>Lodge 2886</td>
<td>Ruckersville, Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Reilly - age 9</td>
<td>Lodge 711</td>
<td>Wilbraham, Massachusetts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Sharff - age 9</td>
<td>Lodge 711</td>
<td>Camp Hill, Pennsylvania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew J. Sherman - age 9</td>
<td>Lodge 1540</td>
<td>Tomball, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zachary Zimmerman - age 9</td>
<td>Lodge 128</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Dear - age 10</td>
<td>Lodge 1052</td>
<td>Ballwin, Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Mazuch Jr. - age 10</td>
<td>Lodge 1134</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia Powell - age 10</td>
<td>Lodge 1134</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGES - 11 and 12</td>
<td>Lodge 1134</td>
<td>St. Louis, Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aliza Ahmed - age 11</td>
<td>Lodge 3259</td>
<td>San Clemente, California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olga Kajdas - age 11</td>
<td>Lodge 455</td>
<td>Newark, Ohio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brandon Orend - age 11</td>
<td>Lodge 2727</td>
<td>Orland Park, Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Sekula - age 11</td>
<td>Lodge 500</td>
<td>Tinley Park, Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riley Wodka - age 11</td>
<td>Lodge 4033</td>
<td>Garrettsville, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacey Kathleen Luzny - age 12</td>
<td>Lodge 2394</td>
<td>Orland Park, Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alyssa Novak - age 12</td>
<td>Lodge 2886</td>
<td>Colonia, New Jersey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gianna Reilly - age 12</td>
<td>Lodge 2612</td>
<td>New Britain, Connecticut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veronica Rivera - age 12</td>
<td>Lodge 711</td>
<td>Wilbraham, Massachusetts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebekah Sherman - age 12</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PNA OFFERS TO MEMBERS:

RxCut Plus: Your Equalizer in Healthcare
• Take control of your healthcare costs & use
• Save up to 75% on your prescription medications
• Have free access to discounts on prescriptions with your Prescription Savings Card

What is the Equalizer program and how can it help me?
Using your FREE RxCut Card guarantees every user the absolute lowest price possible; which EQUALS = their Insurance Copayment, the Pharmacy retail price or the RxCut discount, whichever is less. Don’t be fooled into paying higher prices... always ask...
What's my RxCut price? If you don’t have insurance use the card and save more.

How much of a discount will I get?
The RxCut Price is on 21 out of the 25 most frequently processed generic drugs, for our members, has been lower than an insurance co pay of $10 or more. Discounts vary depending on the medication and the pharmacy and typically range from 15% to 75%, with the largest savings coming from generic medications. The program has provided savings as high as 90%. By asking “What’s my RxCut Price?” consumers are guaranteed they are always paying the lowest price possible.

Where can I Use the card?
With over 54,000 participating pharmacies; it is simple to find a pharmacy that will accept the card. Visit www.rxcut.com/PNA or call 1-800-808-1213 to find participating pharmacies in your area. All major chain pharmacies and most independent pharmacies throughout the United States are included in this program.

How much does it cost to participate?
The RxCut Plus Program is FREE. We provide this service to all members and their families that wish to save on their prescription prices.

When does the card expire?
The card has no expiration date and can use each and every time you have a prescription medicine. All cards are active and ready for use.

If you have additional questions or are in need of a card, please call office of the Vice President Paul Odrobina:
1-800-621-3723 ext. 316
Chicago, Illinois - On Tuesday evening, July 2, 2013, the four Polish Fraternal Organizations, PNA, PRCUA, PFA, and PWA united once again for an evening to host Polish-American Heritage Night at U.S. Cellular Field (Sox Park).

Members of the Polish National Alliance, Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, Polish Women’s Alliance, Polish Falcons of America and local Polish Americans cheered on the Chicago White Sox who hosted the Baltimore Orioles. There were over 1,000 representing all the Polish American groups that attended the evening’s baseball game. In the eight years of hosting the Polish American Night, it was one of the most exciting.

Prior to the start of the game Vice President of PNA, Paul C. Odrobotina, (chairman of this event), PNA President Frank Spula, President of the PWA, Delphine (Dolly) Huneycutt, Vice President of the PRCUA Anna Sokolowski, and Secretary-Treasurer of the PRCUA Joseph Robaczewski, and Polish Falcons District II President, Paul Sadowski and wife Beth, were introduced on the field to the crowd. The officers also had a chance to meet with Polish Boxers Artur Szpilka and Andrzej Fanfara, who attended Polish American Night to promote their fights at the Sox Park in August. Fans were able to walk the field before the game. Also attending the game were Treasurer Marian Grabowski and Commissioner of District 12 Barbara Wesolowski.

The biggest cheer that evening came from the crowd when the fraternal leaders were introduced on the field and when President of the Polish National Alliance and Polish American Congress Frank Spula threw out the first pitch to Sox Pitcher John Danks to officially start the game.

As the guests were entering the park, they were entertained by two Polka Bands, The Merry Notes and Polish Generations. Throughout the evening, we learned about many of the current and former White Sox players who were Polish and played for the club. We never knew that so many players were Polish from just one team. What a history lesson we learned that evening. Besides South Paw going around the park, so were “The Little People” dressed in Polish dance costumes.

After the final inning the Sox beat the Orioles with a score of 5- 2. This concluded the eighth Polish-American Heritage Night of 2013. The four fraternal organizations would like to thank the Sox and their staff for a wonderful evening and hope the members and fans join us again next year.

*Story and Photos by Robert M. Jadach*
In June, PNA Lodge 2093 of New Britain CT won the 2013 American Pool Association State Pool Championship.

The Lodge sponsored team competed against over 100 teams in their league and was declared the 2013 State Champion. The team has been invited to an all expense paid trip to the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas Nevada on August 17, 2013. There they will compete against some of the best teams in the nation.

The Lodge members and officers wish our team all the best and we look forward to displaying the National Trophy in our Lodge!

Submitted by:
Henry Perucki - Secretary of Lodge 2093

---

Polish American Night with the Chicago Fire!

On this special night, Polish American families and friends have the opportunity to purchase Premier Tickets which are regularly $40 for only $22!

To Purchase Please Call
Paul Odrobina, Vice President
Polish National Alliance
1-800-621-3723 Ext. 314

For questions, please contact Ed Kaczynski at 708-496-6784

Please note that tickets are subject to availability and due to high demand, we encourage you to order tickets as soon as possible.
LaPorte, Indiana - PNA Lodge 1120 in LaPorte, Indiana co-hosted a Golf Outing Benefit for the Deserving Children’s Fund along with the LaPorte nest of the Polish Falcons and the LaPorte branch of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America.

The event was held at the Whispering Pines Golf Course in Walkerton, Indiana on Saturday, June 29, 2013. The weather was pleasant and cooperated to stay nice throughout the day.

PNA Vice President along with his wife Janice drove out to the golf open and met with Commissioner of District 15 Mary Wozniak and her husband Dennis. They stopped and met with the golf open chairman John Hindle, a Lodge 1120 member and with the owners of Casey’s Lanes and Thunder Bowl to secure the dates for the 2014 PNA National Bowling Tournament in April.

*Story and Photos by Robert M. Jadach*
Venango, Pennsylvania - The 35th District VIII Golf Tournament was held on Friday, June 14th and Saturday, June 15th at the Venango Valley Golf Course in Venango, Pennsylvania.

The two day tournament was enjoyed by 147 golfers that represented twelve lodges within the district. The golfers appreciated the dedication of Ted Haluch in managing the tournament with the aid of his wife Josephine, his daughter Tusia, and his granddaughter Stacey. The ladies of Lodge 1540, namely Laura Puchasz and Wanda Pilarczyk have also assisted Ted, all these many years. The hospitality of Kim Loreno, owner of the Golf Course and restaurant, has also been outstanding over the years.

The Winners of the Tournament

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>LODGE</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHAMPION FLIGHT</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Dan Woods Sr.</td>
<td>Lodge 1052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Dean Marraccini</td>
<td>Lodge 352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Ed Pagac Jr.</td>
<td>Lodge 1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>“A” FLIGHT</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Joshua Strawins</td>
<td>Lodge 352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Eric Pawlos</td>
<td>Lodge 1052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Jeremy Phillips</td>
<td>Lodge 352</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>“B-I” FLIGHT</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Anthony Colecchi</td>
<td>Lodge 750</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Brian Tustin</td>
<td>Lodge 1327</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Ron Viskovicz</td>
<td>Lodge 1870</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>“B-II” FLIGHT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Joe Navaroli</td>
<td>Lodge 664</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Dan Flynn</td>
<td>Lodge 1746</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Pete Smerecy</td>
<td>Lodge 352</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>“C” FLIGHT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Kevin Pawlos</td>
<td>Lodge 1052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>John Wilson</td>
<td>Lodge 750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Tom Mejercik</td>
<td>Lodge 1013</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>“D” FLIGHT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>James O’Donnell</td>
<td>Lodge 1870</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Adam Galaski</td>
<td>Lodge 352</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Rick Callihan</td>
<td>Lodge 1327</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SENIORS FLIGHT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Joe Veres</td>
<td>Lodge 1746</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Doug Campbell</td>
<td>Lodge 841</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Frank Szatkowski</td>
<td>Lodge 352</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LEDIES FLIGHT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Terry Viskovicz</td>
<td>Lodge 1870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Tusia Mott</td>
<td>Lodge 1540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Sherry Wonsevicz</td>
<td>Lodge 1870</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TEAM CHAMPION – LODGE 1052**

Dan Woods Sr. - 146; Dan Woods Jr. - 156; Eric Pawlos - 160; Carl Palastro - 165 = Total 627

Acknowledgement to Vice President Paul Odrobina and Chairman of the Sports and Youth Committee for the plaques and the monetary contribution which was appreciated. Special thanks to National Director Val Pawlos and District VIII Commissioner David Sinclair for their effort in making this golf tournament the most prominent within the PNA.

Submitted by: Joseph Kaminski
Former Director – Region “E”

For pictures from the District 8 Annual Golf Tournament visit our website: www.pna-znp.org
The sun-tanning dilemma and you

It wasn’t all that long ago that, as the days began to become longer warmer, the thoughts of sun bathing and sun tanning was uppermost in people’s minds. It was the “in” thing to do, and from backyards to roof tops, one could notice a sparsely clad body soaking in the rays. Then came the research findings that these rays were not healthy, and the threat of the big “C” or cancer, of the skin and lips was a result of sun exposure. Then the research further stated that sun exposure caused eye damage, wrinkles, age spots, particularly on the face, and “leathery” skin. Therefore, loving the sun does not provide a person with a reciprocal relationship. Most of us think that a person who has a sun-tanned complexion is healthy. Yet this glowing complexion obtained from the sun or from a tanning booth/bed, lamp, or the like, actually hastens the effects of aging and increases a person’s risks for developing skin cancer and other health problems. Tanned skin is not a sign of good health and should not be thought of as stylish or offering sex appeal. It is a sign that your skin has been hurt by the sun’s ultraviolet rays. Damaging sun exposure is not only reserved for the summer, but also affects people who work outdoors during the year, fall hikers and winter skiers.

The increase in the number of tanning salons in the United States revealed that young people, mostly women between the ages of 18 to 22 years old, were most likely to use a tanning bed. The American Cancer Society estimates that one American dies every hour from skin cancer. At current rates, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) predict that one in five Americans will be diagnosed with skin cancer in their lifetime. Sun exposure even in small doses and even on cloudy days, may lead to long-term damage. The sun’s invisible ultraviolet (UV) rays damage the skin fibers called elastin, causing the skin to stretch and sag, bruise and tear easily, and heal more slowly if injured. A younger person may not notice the damaging effects of UV radiation to the body, but it will be evident in later life. Both sunburn and tanning is the skin’s reaction to damaging UV radiation. Everyone is susceptible to sunburn and the harmful effects of UV radiation regardless of one’s skin color. People who especially should avoid exposure to the sun are those who have:

- Pale skin, blond, red or light brown hair.
- Been treated for skin cancer, or have family members who have had skin cancer or other sun exposure complications.
- Medication prescriptions that may increase your sun sensitivity.

There are many products on the market claiming to reduce wrinkles and cover age spots. None have been confirmed to provide lasting results.

Health Effects of Overexposure to the Sun

Many people do not take sun exposure seriously, stating that, “When I was a kid, we never worried about being out in the sun. It was good for us.” Well, it really was not good for us. Also, the environment has changed. Our natural protection, the atmosphere’s ozone layer, is being depleted. We are now exposed to the harmful UV rays from the sun more than ever before. Understanding the risks of sun-related health problems can help you enjoy the outdoors and lower your chances of overexposure to the sun’s harmful rays.

Skin cancer, which is an uncontrolled growth of abnormal skin cells, is one of the most common forms of cancer in the U.S. Melanoma is the most serious form of skin cancer and is diagnosed most often in adolescents and young adults. UV exposure and sunburns/tans during childhood are disease risk factors. There are other types of skin cancers called Basal cell carcinoma and Squamous cell carcinoma, if caught early, are not usually fatal.

Other sun exposure damage disorders can occur when you are exposed to UV sun rays. These disorders include:

a) Actinic keratosis, which are skin growths that occur on areas of the body that has previously been exposed to the sun, and premature skin aging. The growths appear as raised, reddish and rough textured, and are premalignant or malignant (cancerous). Seek medical attention if you notice any.

b) Premature aging, which over time can cause the skin to become thick, wrinkled and leathery. Approximately 90% of visible skin changes are not due to aging, but to sun exposure.

c) Cataracts and other eye damage can occur from UV radiation from the sun. Vision becomes cloudy and if not treated, will lead to blindness. Other eye damage includes tissue growth that can lock vision, skin cancer around the eyes and macular degeneration which can lead to blindness.

d) Immune system suppression or reduction by the skin has been discovered to be a result of UV radiation. Normally the skin provides us with defense...
against invaders such as cancers and infections. When UV radiation weakens our immune system, the skin is unable to protect us from the invasion effectively.

**Sun Safety/Prevention** is the key. Stay out of the sun as much as possible.

- **Use sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or greater, at least 15 minutes before exposure, and then every 2-3 hours.** SPF is the degree to which a sunscreen can protect your skin from sunburn.

- **Broad spectrum** protection protects against all types of skin damage caused by sunlight and includes both UVA and UVB rays. Prior government rules on sunscreens were concerned mostly with protection against sunburn, which is mainly due to the sun’s ultraviolet B (UVB) rays, and did not address ultraviolet A (UVA) rays which cause skin cancer and early skin aging.

- **Water resistance sunscreen** stays on your skin longer when it gets wet, but still must be reapplied as instructed on the label. If you have acne, regular sunscreen reduces the increase in acne that waterproof sunscreen can cause.

**Tips for Applying Sunscreen**
- **Apply evenly as recommended to all uncovered skin, particularly to the lips, nose, ears, neck, hands and feet.**
- **Reapply sunscreen after swimming, sweating, drying off or exercising.**
- **If you lack hair on your head, apply sunscreen there or wear a hat.**
- **Babies and children need extra care from the sun. Apply sunscreen to children older than 6 months every time they go outdoors. Ask your health care professional about applying sunscreen to infants under 6 months old. It is better to keep them out of the sun.**

- **Use cosmetics and eyewear that provide UV protection.** Reflecting sunlight off of snow, sand, cement and water further increases your exposure to UV radiation and your risk of eye damage. Wear sunglasses with 99% to 100% UV protection. If you wear UV protection contact lenses, also wear sunglasses. Wraparound sunglasses are best. Children should wear UV protection sunglasses outdoors, not toy sunglasses.

- **Avoid sun exposure during the hours of 10 AM to 2-3 PM.** Keep in the shade as much as possible.

- **Dress to protect your exposed body areas.** Wear a wide brimmed hat, long sleeves, and pants and use an umbrella for shade.

- **Check your skin routinely for new and changing skin growths or lesions.**

- **A person’s lifetime sun exposure occurs before age 18,** so parents must protect their children and teach them prevention.

**Sunscreen Labels: New and Improved**

As of June 14, 2011 the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced new regulations for sunscreen manufacturers currently sold as non-prescription items to assure their safety and effectiveness. These regulatory changes should make it easier for consumers when buying and using sunscreen products. These rules also apply to cosmetics and moisturizers containing sunscreen. The summer of 2013 is when these new FDA Regulations become effective.

- **It is not necessary to throw away any sunscreens that you may have been using.** The FDA considers them to be safe. Purchase broad spectrum sunscreens with a SPF of 15 or greater. Reapply as indicated every 2 hours, more frequently if swimming or sweating, and you should be fine.

- **The FDA is requesting more information on sunscreen sprays to determine whether they pose a health threat if inhaled accidently.**

- **For more information on sunscreen use, go to:** [www.fda.gov/sunscreen](http://www.fda.gov/sunscreen).

- **Be alert, be wise, and be current in knowing how to solve the dilemma of sun- tanning.** Best of all, limit your sun exposure forever!

**References:**

Teresa Struziak Sherman, RN, BSN, MS
In Memoriam...  

**CZESŁAW CHESTER SAWKO**
**1930 – 2013**

Last month, after the long illness, longtime PNA member, Czesław (Chester) Sawko passed away at the age of 83. He was a beloved husband of Stella T. nee Grodzki; devoted father of George, Mark, Paul (Kimberly) and Julie (Timothy) Read; dear brother of Victor (Dorothy) and Mitchell (Marilyn) Sawko; dear grandfather of Sarah & Rebecca Sawko, Aileen, Kylee and Justeen Read. Mr. Sawko was an Army Veteran of the Korean War. He was a well-known, respected and distinguished Chicagoan, businessman, philanthropist and generous-hearted person.

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**Zesłaniec, milioner, filantrop**

W październiku 2010 roku, w kościele św. Konstancji miała miejsce uroczystość uhonorowania polonijnego biznesmena i filantropa Czesława Sawki Złotym Medalem Pontyfikatu Jana Pawła II przyznawanym przez arcybiskupa krakowskiego, kardynała Stanisława Dziwisza za zasługi dla Archidiecezji Krakowskiej i powstającego Centrum Jana Pawła II osobom, które poprzez swoją twórczość i ośfarność dali dowód wielkiego oddania i zaangażowania w życie Kościoła oraz pielęgnowania pamięci o umiłowanym Ojcu Świętym Janie Pawle II, tak w kraju jak i poza jego granicami.

Uroczystego wręczenia Medalu i okolicznościowego dyplomu dokonał ks. biskup Tadeusz Jakubowski, obecni byli min. generał zakonu paulinów, ojciec Izydor Matuszewski z Jasnej Góry, ks. kanonik Tadeusz Dzieszko, konsul generalny Zygmunt Matynia, prezes Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej i Związku Narodowego Polskiego Franciszek Spula.”

Czesław Sawko urodził się 15 stycznia 1930 roku w Kamiennym Moście, w małej wiosce na terenie południowo-wschodniej części ówczesnego województwa białostockiego, w rodzinie Zofii i Juliana Sawko. Ojciec do wybuchu wojny był gajowym w okolicznych lasach, mama Zofia zajmowała się prowadzeniem domu i wychowaniem dzieci.

W wyniku zbrojniczej polityki władz sowieckich i bezduszności urzędników rodzina Czesława Sawko poniosła niepowodzone straty. 10 lutego 1940 roku ojciec i będąca w ciąży mama wraz z trojgiem synów zostali deportowani w głąb Rosji, pozostawiając na miejscu córkę Jadwigę, która w przeddzień wywózki, ciężko zachorowała. Z chorą siostrą w porozowskim szpitalu pozostali zeszustosobotni brat Stanisław. Pozbawiona odpowiedniej opieki medycznej dziewczynka zmarła po paru tygodniach. Stanisława Sowieci aresztowali i deportowali w głąb Rosji, gdzie po kilku miesiącach dołączył do najbliższych.

Podczas transportu z Archangielska do kołchozu w Uzbekistanie na skutek zimna i głodu zmarł również najmłodszy brat Władysław. Po podpisaniu umowy pomiędzy Rządem RP i Rosją Sowiecką, do armii generała Andersa trafił najstarszy z rodzeństwa, brat Stanisław, a Czesławowi wraz z dwoma młodszych braci i rodzicami szczypiornie udało się wydostać z Rosji i przez Pahlavi, Teheran, Karaczi, Bombaj w maju 1943 roku dotrzeć do Meksyku w okolice miasta Leon, gdzie na osiedlu „Santa Rosa” spędzili 3 lata.

W marcu 1946 roku rodzina Sawko udaje się wyemigrować do Chicago. Czesław zaczął pracować jako gonicz w należącym do Związku Narodowego Polskiego „Dzienniku Ziemiańskim”, W 1951 roku wstąpił do wojska amerykańskiego i przez 13 miesięcy walczył na froncie amerykańskim, a następnie walczył na froncie koreańskim, gdzie za zasługi na polu walki w krótkim czasie awansowany został do stopnia starszego sierżanta plutonowego.


Intensywna praca, której podporządkował całe swoje życie, oraz finansowy sukces pozwoliły mu na działania charytatywne początkowo przez Fundację Charytatywną Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej, później na rzecz Kościoła w Polsce, Watykanu oraz meksykańskiego miasta Leon, osiedla Santa Rosa i okolic.

Spośród dziesiątków darowizn do najbardziej znaczących przekazanych przez Czesława i Stanisława Sawko należą: około 150 tys. dolarów na ufundowanie Pomnika Kardynała Stefana Wyszyńskiego, na terenie Jasnągórskiego Sanktuarium, 100 tysięcy dolarów przekazanych do dyspozycji kardynała Stanisława Dziwisza z przeznaczeniem na sprowadzenie do Polski pamiątek po Ojcu Świętym Janie Pawle II, które stały się zaczątkiem budowy w Krakowie Centrum im. Wielkiego Papieża Polaka „Nie lękajcie się”. 250 tysięcy dolarów przekazał na budowę Centrum Jana Pawła II w Waszyngtonie. Środki na odnowienie kościoła na osiedlu „Santa Rosa” w Meksyku, wybudowanie tam kliniki „Stella” oraz szkoły „Chester Sawko School” kosztowało również około 250 tysięcy dolarów. Adresatem pomocy finan-
sowej był również dawny ośrodek, gdzie pan Czesław spędził 3 lata, a w którym obecnie przebywa ponad 300 sierot. Kolejnym celem darczyńca była odbudowa kościoła w Szydłowicach na Białorusi oraz wiele innych mniejszych aczkolwiek ważnych donacji.

Przejawem uznania dla jego wrażliwości i hojności było uhonorowanie go między innymi przez Ojca Świętego Benedykta XVI Komandorią Orderu Św. Sylwestra, a przez kardynała Józefa Glempa Złotym Medalem Prymasa Polski oraz przyjęcie przez ojców paulinów w poczet Konfratrów Zakonu Jasnogórskiego.


Czesław Sawko to przykład Polaka patriota, który doświadczony przez los, pozbawiony ojczyzny i domu, ciężką, wytrwałą pracą osiągnął ogromny sukces i wrażliwy na potrzeby innych potrafił dzielić się jej owocami bez ostentacji i ze skromnością godną prawdziwego chrześcijanina.

Cześć jego pamięci.

Opr. Alicja Kuklińska na podstawie artykułu Andrzeja Baraniaka z października 2010 roku.

Zdjęcia z uroczystości nadania Złotego Medalu Pontyfikatu Jana Pawła II oraz uroczystości pogrzebowych ś. P. Czesława Sawki znajdują się na stronie: www.newsrp.smugmug.com

MARY A. GURSKI
a true PNA leader

Ludlow, MA. Mary A. Gurski, former President of PNA Lodge 2873 Ludlow, MA for 42 years, and currently a member of PNA Lodge 3276, passed away peacefully in the comfort of her home on June 1st. Her family was present as she spent her final hours with them. She was born in Ludlow, MA in 1911 to Polish immigrants, the late Jan and Karolina (Lechowicz) Ziemba. Mary was a lifelong resident of Ludlow and a communicant of Christ the King Church. Mary has been a PNA member since 1946. She was always a great supporter of the PNA, enrolling more than 100 members as a PNA Sales Representative. She was a delegate to Council 62 for 42 years, serving on the Membership and Banquet Committees. On the Lodge, Council and District 1 levels, Mary was an active member of the Membership and Banquet Committees as well. She also served as a Director of the Polish Alliance Youth Camp, Camp Stanica, in Bondsville, MA for 32 years, and was the camp cook.

In 2004 Mary was named PNA District 1 Woman of the Year. She received the distinguished PNA Silver Legion of Honor medal award in 2011. Mary has served as a member of the Polish Alliance Youth Camp for 40+ years and was instrumental in the Camp's recovery after it was severely vandalized in 1970. Mary was always dependable to help when needed and has been the Queen of fundraising activities for Lodge scholarships, Council and District events. She was known for her delicious cheesecakes, pierogi, and many Polish/American delicacies. Mary was also active in many other civic and ethnic organizations, and has received many awards and certificates of recognition. Mary was honored as Citizen of the Year by the Ludlow Polish American Citizen's Club, was a member of the Saint Anne's Sodality, Christ the King's Ladies Guild and the Polonie Club. Mary was the Grand Marshall in the Ludlow Memorial Day parade, President of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary 3236 and worked tirelessly for Veteran's causes. Mary worked for the Westinghouse for 44 years. She then worked at the Springfield, MA Registry of Deeds from 1979 to the present. She was the only full time State employee of Massachusetts that was 101 years young. Mary celebrated her 100 years at a function at the Polish American Citizen's Club in Ludlow on November 4, 2011. The event was attended by over 125 people including many state and local dignitaries. Mary was predeceased by her husbands, Stanley Skiba and Frank Gurski, a son, Stanley Skiba and nine siblings. She leaves her daughter, PNA Commissioner District 1 Jeannie Zapala and husband Richard of Ludlow, her niece, Lottie Kruzel, nine grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Donations in Mary’s memory may be made to Christ the King Church Fund, Warsaw Avenue, Ludlow, MA 01056, or to the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning at Elms College, 33 South Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

Submitted by Teresa Struziak Sherman
Washington, D.C. May 7, 2013 the “Konstytucja Trzeciego Maja” was celebrated at the residence of Ambassador Ryszard and Mrs. Dorota Schnepf. Vice-President Joe Biden, spoke of the strong relations between the United States and Poland. James Mislak and Richard Poremski, Lodge 238, Council 21 represented the Polish National Alliance.

Submitted by:
James Mislak, Council 21.

June 9, 2013, the 96th Annual Pilgrimage Parade and Memorial Commemoration.

Newly installed International Joint Committee Honor Guard “Sokoly Color Party” Co.1A of the Polish American and Canadian Polish Congresses, proudly bears the National Flags of The United States, Canada, and Poland, at the lead of this year’s 96th Annual Pilgrimage to the Republic of Poland National Military Cemetery of General Haller’s Recruits. Grand Marshalek Włodzimierz Barto leads the parade, flanked on front right center by U.S. Vice Parade Marshalek Kazimierz Kwalaek, accompanying (center second) Miss Polonia of Canada. Polish American Congress National Director and Organizer of the Guard, Steve Flor, (front left), leads American Flag bearer Guard Kris Liczer (brother Robert Liczer, Alt.); Julek Bobiarski, Flag of Canada; and brother, Franek Bobiarski, Flag of Poland; (third row left to right), Richard Solecki, President, the Polish American Congress of Western New York; Jacek Kaminski (center beneath Canadian Flag) President, the Canadian Polish Congress – Niagara District; and far right - Army Colonel Michal Peksa - Defense, Military, Navel and Air Attaché, Embassy of the Republic of Poland - Ottawa, Canada. In back ground, Okiestra Polskiej Placowka Nr. 418 Royal Canadian Legion w St. Catharines; Stan Skrzeszewski (Canadian Adjutant). (Photo by Andrzej Kawka, Canadian Organizer of the Guard ).

U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden and Ms. Agnes Pawelkowska

Również w Des Plaines Joanna C. Sojka, absolwentka polskiej szkoły, płynnie dwujęzyczna, wygrała urząd radnej 7. okręgu (Jej sylwetka znajduje się w sekcji „We are proud of...”)

**Harwood Heights** – reelekcję na urząd burmistrza wygrała Arlene C. Jezierny pokonując Demetriosu Mougioliasa stosunkiem głosów 54 proc. do 46. Jezierny deklaruje, że będzie kładła nacisk na rozwój gospodarczy miasta. Wyraża nadzieję, że dzięki powstaniu supermarketu Mariano´s zwiększą się dochody miasta z podatków od sprzedaży oraz przybędzie miejsc pracy.


**Midlothian** – w wyborach na burmistrza Sharon Rybak pokonała przewagą 57 proc. głosów Terry Stephensa, który uzyskał 43 procent.

**Mount Prospect** – burmistrzem została Arlene A. Juracek, która w wyborach nie miała kontrkandydatów.

**Niles** – w wyborach na burmistrza wygrał Andrew Przybyło pokonując przewagą 63 proc. głosów Krzysztofa Hanusiaka, który uzyskał 37 procent.

Przybyło, absolwent Loyola University, dotychczas sprawował urząd radnego 7. okręgu (jej sylwetka znajduje się w sekcji „We are proud of...”)

**Roselle** – w wyborach na burmistrza wygrała Gayle A. Smolinski, która przewagą 66 proc. głosów pokonała trzech rywali.

**Schiller Park** – w wyborach burmistrza Barbara J. Piltaver, mająca polskie pochodzenie (nazwisko panieńskie matki – Pasternak) uzyskała 50,4 proc. głosów i pokonała nieznaczną przewagą Annę Montana, która zdobyła 49,6 procent.

**Summit** – reelekcję na czwartą kadencję wygrał burmistrz Joseph W. Strzelczyk pokonując przewagą 51 proc. głosów dwóch rywali. Strzelczyk jest weteranem sił zbrojnych, byłym maklerem giełdowym i byłym młodzieżowym działaczem sportowym.


**Wilmette** – Bob Bielinski wygrał wybory na burmistrza przewagą 60 proc. głosów.

Chmura jest nie tylko ekspertem finansowym, ale i podatkowym, emerytowanym, długoletnim współurzędnikiem IRS. Chmura postuluje odpowiedzialny rozwój ekonomiczny Norridge, utrzymanie niskich opłat i podatków. Obiecuje również współpracę z polską społecznością.

**Zwycięstwa wyborcze kandydatów polskiego pochodzenia w stanie Illinois!**
Na początku był... taniec

Spotkanie z wybitnym choreografem Januszem Chojeckim

W obecnej dobie trudno sobie wyobrazić życie bez komputera. Praktycznie nie ma dziedziny życia, w której możemy się bez niego obejść. Ale żeby wykorzystywać go do tańca... hmm – brzmi to dosyć niecodziennie. Okazuje się jednak, że już blisko pół wieku temu, kiedy komputerami były pokaźnych rozmiarów szafy, do wymyślania i tworzenia układów tanecznych wykorzystał urządzenie ówczesny student fizyki, a z zamiłowania tancerz i choreograf, Janusz Chojecki.

Na zaproszenie Stowarzyszenia Polskich Tańców Ludowych w Stanach Zjednoczonych Janusz Chojecki przyleciał do USA, aby spotkać się ze środowiskiem polonijnych choreografów i kierowników zespołów tanecznych w Chicago i Minneapolis.

Obecny dyrektor artystyczny Zespołu Pieśni i Tańca Politechniki Warszawskiej karierę tancerza rozpoczął w zespole „Pod-Pamiątkowe zdjęcie uczestników seminarium


W spotkaniu, którego gospodarzem była wiceprezes ZPRK Anna Sokołowska, obok gościa z Polski i wicekonsula Konrada Zieńkiewicza choreografowie: Misia i Ryszard Jamińscy z „Wesołego Ludu”, Magdalena Solarz z zespołu “Wici”, Halina Misterka z “Lajkonika”, Anna Krysiń-
On June 6th, 2013 President Frank J. Spula and Executive Officers met with representatives from the PLL LOT at the PNA headquarters. Inauguration luncheon was also attended by the Polish Consul Robert Rusiecki, and representatives of selected Polish organizations in Chicago. Participants had an opportunity to try gourmet meal that will be served for the airplane’s business class passengers. Mr. Tomasz Dąkowski, Director of Sales from LOT Airlines spoke about long awaited inauguration of Dreamliner (Boeing 787 plane) on the Warsaw – Chicago air connection and the new approach to travel between Poland and United States.

The new airplanes are great and we hope they will safely serve travelers for many years to come.

Mr. Tomasz Dąkowski, Director of Sales in LOT Airlines speaking to Polonia representatives. Photo: Kamil Krzaczynski

Text i zdjęcia: AB/NEWSRP
“Still in Our Memories
Currants and Gooseberries”

Below is the note and recipes from our member from Pennsylvania, Mr. Richard Rudowski.
I hope you, your families and friends will enjoy them. So far I made savory “Rosy Chicken” and “Currant Kisiel” (it brought back memories from my childhood) and my guests liked it a lot.

Dr. Rudzinski, thank you for sharing your!  

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“After my plants started producing fruit over 12 years ago I discovered that there were very few available recipes. The first year there was enough fruit for a pie, the second year pie and jam, and the third year, oh my gosh what am I going to do with all this fruit! Shortly afterwards the president of our international growers association suggested: start gathering recipes. Since then this collection now has grown to over 1600 recipes in 26 categories, from pickled products, baked goods, desserts, salads, sauces, meats, vegetables, beverages wines, cordials, and mixed drinks, etc…”

Richard M. “Rudy” Rudowski PhD, retired

Cassis Cupcakes

Muffin pan filled with paper liners
- 1-1/2 cups flour
- 1-1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup milk1/2 cup Crème de Cassis

Easy Butterscotch frosting
Preheat oven to 350F.
Mix flour together with baking powder and salt. In a mixing bowl beat sugar, oil and eggs until smooth. The alternately add flour mixture with milk and Cassis, beating until smooth.

Scoop batter into prepared pan and bake for 20-25 minutes until golden brown and tops spring back when lightly touched.

Remove from pan and cool completely. Serve topped with Buttercream frosting.

Variation: Add a drop of red food coloring to give the batter a light pink hue.

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Gooseberry Jelly Roll

Prepare a baking powder biscuit dough and roll it out to a 1/4-inch thick rectangle. Spread melted butter on the surface followed by 1-pint gooseberries mixed with 1/2-cup brown sugar.

Roll as for a jellyroll and place seam side down on a greased baking sheet. Brush the surface with butter and bake at 400°F for 25-30 minutes. Serve with any desired sauce or heavy cream.

Gooseberry Nut Bread

- 2 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 1/4 cup oil
- 3 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 2/3 to 1 cup canned whole green gooseberries, drained

Preheat oven to 350°F.
Beat eggs and gradually add sugar, milk, and oil. Combine and sift dry ingredients together then add to the liquid mixture. Stir until just blended. Fold in gooseberries and nuts. Pour into well-greased loaf pan. Bake 50-55 minutes.
**Currant Kisiel**
- 1-1/2 cups red and black currants
- 2-1/2 cups water
- About 3/4 cup sugar
- 6 Tablespoons potato starch (cornstarch is a good substitute)
- 1/2 cup cold water

Rinse the currants under running water and remove stems. Place the currants in boiling water and return to a boil several times then press through a sieve. Add sugar to the pulp then bring to a boil, then remove from the heat. Mix the potato or cornstarch with cold water and pour slowly into the currant mixture. Stirring constantly, bring to a boil. Divide into portions and allow to set by sprinkling with a few drops of cold water. Cool.

**Rosy Chicken**
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine
- 1 broiler-fryer, about 2-1/2 pounds, cut into serving pieces
- 1 cup red currant jelly
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 1 cup dairy sour cream

Melt butter in skillet then add chicken and brown. Melt jelly in saucepan, add wine and sour cream and mix well. Pour over chicken, turn control to low simmer and cook for 1 hour or until tender. Turn once and occasionally baste with sauce. Contributor says they always save leftover sauce and put on broccoli the next day. It takes away its bitterness.

**Sweet & Sour Kielbasa**
- 1 pound kielbasa
- 1 (10 ounce) jar red currant jelly
- 1/2 (5 ounce) jar golden spicy mustard (for more spiciness add entire jar)

Cut meat into bite-sized pieces. Add to boiling water and cook for 8 to 10 minutes. Poke with a fork to release excess grease and fat. Meanwhile melt jelly in a crock-pot set on low. When meat in done boiling, rinse, then add to crock-pot mixture making sure all pieces are coated. Simmer for 1 hour or more on low.

**Red Cabbage**
- 1 large head red cabbage
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup white distilled vinegar
- 1/2 cup currant jelly or currant juice
- Butter or margarine

Wash cabbage, remove outer leaves and remove inner core. Chop or shred finely. Place in a large pot, add vinegar and simmer for approximately 1 hour. Add currant jelly and sugar. Cook until tender. Watch carefully so the cabbage does not scorch. If necessary add more vinegar and/or sugar. Before serving add 2 tablespoons butter or margarine to make cabbage look nice and shiny.
Białowieża Forest

Białowieża is the last remains of the primeval forest which once covered most of Europe at the end of the last ice age, which has never been completely deforested. It contains several species of fauna which were once native in forests throughout Europe, but which have now been mostly eradicated. It is for example the only place where European Bison, (Polish: Żubr) still remain free and living in the forest as they once did throughout Europe. Wolves, Lynx, Red Deer, Wild Boar, Elk (same as Moose in North America), and Roe Deer are among its other inhabitants. It is also a showplace reserve for Tarpan (Polish wild forest horse). The avifauna includes corncrake, white-tailed eagle, white stork, peregrine falcon and eagle owl.

Because of its geographical location the site contains elements of northern and southern flora. Almost 90% of the park is covered with ‘old growth’ virgin stands of mixed broadleaved and conifer forests. Over 900 vascular plant species have been recorded, including 26 tree and 138 shrub species. Almost two-thirds are indigenous with the remainder being anthropogenic introductions.

The inner-most sanctuary of Białowieża is completely preserved and protected by a fence, with tourists only allowed inside with guides. Inside, the forest lives, breathes and decays as it has for thousands of years. Outside of the inner-sanctuary several more kilometers of forest are semi-preserved. The town of Białowieża is on the edge of the forest and is located in the Polish part of the reserve.

Those that visited Poland, or Polish delicatessens, most likely stumbled across Żubrówka vodka. It comes in a bottle with a distinctive label featuring a bison, (żubr), and a blade of buffalo grass. Even though bison do not really feed on this grass, a few visitors bold enough to try this national firewater will be aware of the precarious existence of the European bison, or realize that they can actually see them in the wild.

Conserving bison is not just about protecting a national symbol of Poland; it is linked to the survival of Europe’s last primeval forest, the 8,000-year-old Białowieża, which straddles the border with Belarus. Around 16% of the Polish part of the forest is a national park and home to about 470 of the animals.

The bison is Europe’s heaviest land mammal, weighing up to 800kg. They are naturally shy and experts want to keep it that way – but it is possible to see them. Polish kings and Russian tsars were fond of hunting bison and for that reason alone maintained a small population. But during the First World War, bison were hunted to near extinction for food by German soldiers and locals. In 1929 a captive-breeding program started, and in 1952 the animal was reintroduced to the forest.

Białowieża is definitely worth a trip if you are in Poland: the forest teems with wild life - wolves, elks, stags, lynx and a great variety of birds – and it’s a haunting experience to wander among its ancient trees. To walk among the giant, slender trees is to glimpse the primeval forest that once blanketed all of the continent’s lowlands. Splintered stumps and trunks lie covered with moss between majestic oaks that still remember kings that hunted in these woods.

For those with less time or those less adventurous there is an easy but still very rewarding solution - visit the large semi-natural enclosure, or “show reserve” near the village.

I have seen it all myself, for the first time long time ago with my parents, and also recently and it’s an incredible experience, I highly recommend it!

And just in case you cannot go to Białowieża, I have a suggestion: you can watch żubry online in their natural habitat. It is a live transmission carried out by the State Forests.

Go to: http://www.lasy.gov.pl/zubr

The camera is installed on a northern edge of the forest at the place where foresters put in feed in winter time, which is why these animals like to visit there and spend some time. Enjoy and please be aware of the time difference between Poland and U.S.

Article and photos by Alicja Kuklińska based on a personal experience and the website research.
Puszcza Białowieska jest środowiskiem życia dla olbrzymiej jak na naszą strefę klimatyczną liczby gatunków zwierząt, dotychczas stwierdzono w Puszczy obecność ponad 12 tysięcy gatunków ...

Symbolem parku jest żubr, gdyż właśnie w tym parku ocalono od zagłady to zwierzę. Żubry wyginęły już prawie całkowicie w XVIII wieku. Obecnie w Białowieskiej Puszczy żyje około 750 żubrów.


Obszar Ochrony Ścisłej Białowieskiego Parku Narodowego w 1979 z racji dużego znaczenia dla kultury i dziedzictwa ludzkości, wpisano na prestiżową Listę Światowego Dziedzictwa Kulturowego UNESCO.

Żubr (Bison bonasus) to bez wątpienia najbardziej imponujący mieszkaniec polskich lasów. Dorosłe samce mogą ważyć ponad 900 kg i liczyć nawet blisko 190 cm wysokości. W początkach XX wieku te majestatyczne zwierzęta wyginęły w swojej naturalnej ostoii w Puszczy Białowieskiej; ostatnia żyjąca na wolności żubryczka padła z rąk kłusownika w 1919 r. Na szczęście populację udało się odtworzyć dzięki pszczyńskiej hodowli, założonej jeszcze w 1865 r. przez księcia Jana Henryka XI Hochberga.

Dziś żyje w Polsce około 1250 żubrów, z których większość znajduje się pod opieką Lasów Państwowych. Tworzą stada żyjące na wolności m.in. w puszczech Białowieskiej, Knyszynskiej, Boreckiej czy w Bieszczadach, a część znajduje się w ośrodkach hodowli. Największa, białowieska populacja liczy niemal 500 osobników.

Spotkać żubra w lesie nie jest jednak łatwo, więc możliwość podglądania go na żywo w internecie to nie lada gratka.Wystarczy uzupełnić się w cierpliwość i odwiedzić stronę internetową: http://www.lasy.gov.pl/zubr

Mnie nie udało się jeszcze zobaczyć żubrów, ale widziałam dziki i przemykające przez polane zające. Życzę czytelnikom szczęścia.

Różnica między bizonom a żubrem - Są to dwa różne gatunki należące do tego samego rodzaju Bison. Także w budowie anatomicznej występują istotne różnice. Bizon ze względu na obfite owłosienie produkcja wrazenia większego od żubra, ale tył ciała ma niższy i mniejszy. Rogi bizona są krótsze, u nasady cieńsze i silniej zakrzywione, a nos bardziej wypukły.

Żubry nie jedzą żubrówki. Żubrówka to zwyczajowa nazwa turówki leśnej, byliny należącej do traw. Rośnie licznie m.in. w Puszczy Białowieskiej i dochodzi do 50 cm wysokości. Ma bardzo intensywny smak i zapach, dlatego po wysuszeniu używana jest jako środek leczniczy oraz jako przyprawa do wód i likierów.

Żubrom nadaje się imię i numer rodowodowy. Pierwsze dwie litery imienia świadczą o pochodzeniu. Wszystkie żubry nizinne (białowieskie) żyjące w hodowlach zamkniętych, umieszczane są w „Księdze Rodowodowej Żubrów”. Zawiera ona rodowody i historie życia poszczególnych osobników. Żubrom nadaje się imię i numer rodowodowy. Pierwsze dwie litery imienia informują o pochodzeniu danego osobnika.
The winners of the competition receive cash prizes, a trip to present at the annual International Mars Society Convention, and, according to the competition website, “a year’s worth of bragging rights”.

This is the second Polish win in the history of the University Rover Challenge. In 2011, Magma2 rover also built in Białystok, took the highest place on the podium.

“Great success of Polish teams is the result of hard work of students, universities and organizers. Once again, we have proven that if we start a project, we want to and can be the best” - believes Mateusz Józefowicz of Mars Society Polska. Both teams are winners of the Minister of Science and Higher Education Programme “Generation of the Future”.

This year 14 teams from the U.S., Canada, Poland and India have signed up for the competition. Poland was represented by three teams - from Białystok, Wrocław and Rzeszów.

URC competition was held in the American desert in Utah, in conditions similar to those on Mars. During three days, the teams had to perform complicated tasks, including reconnaissance, searching for signs of life in soil samples and providing medical package to an injured astronaut. High temperatures, dust resembling Martian conditions and low humidity are a challenge for machines and humans.

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.

Polish inventors won 18 medals, including 10 gold medals at the 24th International Invention Innovation & Technology Exhibition ITEX 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. One of the Polish solutions received the “ITEX 2013 Best Invention” award in the overseas category.

Representatives of the Association of Polish Inventors and Rationalizers informed PAP that of all Polish solutions, the solution “Family of modular special vehicles for reconnaissance and minesweeping codenamed SHIBA” developed at the Military University of Technology received the most prestigious award.

The creators of the solutions are: Dr. Wiesław Barnat, Prof. Tadeusz Niegoda, Tomasz Wróbel and Dr. Marcin Szczepaniak. The Polish invention has been selected from among more than a thousand solutions from 20 countries.
Amazon to offer cloud computing in Poland

US e-commerce giant Amazon will soon start doing business in Poland, daily Rzeczpospolita reported. According to sources quoted by the newspaper, the company has leased space in Warsaw for its servers. Amazon declined to comment on the issue.

According to newspapers sources, Amazon Corporate Services Poland, which was registered last November, will focus on providing IT services and not on online retail. Amazon is focusing more on IT services in its global strategy, a recent report from Research Farm states.

The company plans to focus on cloud computing services.

The US giant has not launched an online store in Poland despite having up to 1 million Polish customers per month. Polish clients use mostly Amazon’s UK store, where they can get free delivery when they purchase items for a specified amount of money (currently £25).

The Polish e-commerce market is dominated by auction site Allegro, which has 11.1 million users.

Poles pay the least for food and drink in the EU

In 2012, the prices of food and drink in Poland were at 61 percent of the EU average, according to Eurostat data. This means that they were the lowest in the bloc.

In the particular categories, meat prices were lowest in Poland, at 55 percent of the EU average, and so were milk, cheese and eggs prices, at 63 percent.

Food and drink prices were the highest in Denmark, where they amounted to 143 percent of the EU average, followed by Sweden (124 percent) and Austria (120 percent). On the other end of the spectrum, along with Poland, were Bulgaria (68 percent) and Lithuania (77 percent). Prices of foodstuffs in Croatia, which is set to join EU on July 1, are at 92 percent of the EU average.

“Hela” back in Poland

The British A27M Cruiser Tank VIII Cromwell – General Maczek’s favorite tank – was officially handed over to Poland by Portugal in Lisbon. General Stanislaw Maczek used this type of vehicle, affectionately nicknamed “Hela”, as his mobile command centre in 1944 – 1945. “Hela” will be overhauled and put on display in the Land Forces Training Centre in Poznan. The Cromwell tank (model A27L Centaur Mk I, type C, QF 6-pounder gun) was produced in August 1943 in Great Britain. The tanks were used by the 1st Armored Division commanded by General Stanislaw Maczek, including by the 10th Regiment of Mounted Riflemen. This military unit completed the entire combat route from Normandy to Wilhelmshaven. After the end of World War II, the UK handed over several dozen Cromwell tanks, including “Hela” to Portugal.

Polish innovations awarded in United States

Three gold medals with mentions, eight gold medals and five special awards were granted to Polish scientists during the 28th INPEX, the Invention & New Product Exposition, in Pennsylvania, United States on June 19-21.

INPEX, the Invention & New Product Exposition, is America’s largest invention trade show. INPEX provides a forum for inventors to exhibit their inventions and attempt to make contacts with companies interested in licensing, marketing or manufacturing new products. This year scientists from 24 countries presented 550 inventions including 13 Polish.

Gold medals with mentions were granted in following categories: medicine, education, and security - with the latter one honoring the Warsaw Stock Exchange for the technology of producing paper for passports. The technology also received a special prize: „INNOVATOR CUP INPEX 2013”.

Gold medal with the mention for education went to the Warsaw University of Technology for thermal analysis program for composite materials TERMET CAE.

The third medal in the category of medicine went to dentist doctor Jacek Nocon, a Pole working in Germany for material imitating a bone which may be used as dentistry implant.

Other gold medal winners were POLTEGOR-INSTYTUT open pit mine institute, Road and Bridge Research Institute, Warsaw and Poznan Universities of Technology, VOICE LAB Ltd., Polish Academy of Sciences’ Experimental and Clinical Medicine, “BioEnergia” Malopolska Renewable energy sources centre.

Source: PAP - Science and Scholarship in Poland
The Battle of Grunwald or First Battle of Tannenberg was fought on 15 July 1410, during the Polish–Lithuanian–Teutonic War. The alliance of the Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, led respectively by King Vladysław Jagiełło and Grand Duke Vytautas (Witold), decisively defeated the German–Prussian Teutonic Knights, led by Grand Master Ulrich von Jungingen. Most of the Teutonic Knights' leadership were killed or taken prisoner. While defeated, the Teutonic Knights withstood the siege on their fortress in Marienburg (Malbork) and suffered only minimal territorial losses at the Peace of Thorn (Toruń). Territorial disputes continued until the Peace of Melno was concluded in 1422. However, the Knights never recovered their former power and the financial burden of war reparations caused internal conflicts and an economic downturn in their lands. The battle shifted the balance of power in Eastern Europe and marked the rise of the Polish–Lithuanian union as the dominant political and military force in the region.

The battle was one of the largest battles in Medieval Europe and is regarded as the most important victory in the history of Poland, Belarus and Lithuania. It was surrounded by romantic legends becoming a larger symbol of struggle against invaders and a source of national pride.

**Czy wiesz że?**

Po bitwie pod Grunwaldem król Władysław Jagiełło podarował czeskim rycerzom przybyłym z poświękami, wsparciem polskim wielbłąda; stał się on później elementem herbu Pilzna.

**Ważniejsi jeńcy krzyżacki** wzięci do niewoli w 1410 byli przetrzymywani w oczekiwaniu na okup na zamku Tenczyn pod Krakowem.


*Na podstawie źródeł internetowych opracowała: Alicja Kuklińska*
Sierpniowe Święta

Sierpień to wyjątkowy miesiąc - przypadają w nim święta wywodzące się z dwóch wartości, które w Polakach zawsze były głęboko zakorzenione: patriotyzmu i religijności.

15 sierpnia obchodzone jest katolickie Święto Wniebowzięcia Najświętszej Marii Panny (obchodzone w Polsce jako Matki Boskiej Zielnej oraz Dzień Wojska Polskiego (nawiązujące do słynnej Bitwy Warszawskiej z 1920 r. zwanej Cudem nad Wisłą).

Najmłodszym państwowym świętem sierpniowym jest Dzień Solidarności i Wolności ustanowiony na cześć wielkiego zrywu narodowego z 1980 r., który zapoczątkował proces upadku komunizmu w Europie.

Rodowód patriotyczno-religijny mają też Ogólnopolskie Dożynki Jasnogórskie obchodzone w pierwszą niedzielę września, podczas których rolnicy składają wieńce żniwne przed ołtarzem Matki Boskiej, zaś chleb z nowej mąki wręczają uroczyście Prezydentowi RP.

Opr. Alicja Kuklińska

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Flag Day Celebration

On Friday, June 14, 2013 The Polish National Alliance celebrated the tradition of Flag Day. The event was held in front of the PNA Home Office building and was attended by City of Chicago Officials, PNA Officers, Community Leaders, Employees, and guests. It was organized by the office of the Vice President Paul Odrobina.

Since June 14, 1777, the flag is uniting American People who many years ago founded this great nation and those who, like most of us, joined it later.

Its colors symbolize the patriotic ideals and spiritual qualities of the citizens of this country.

Red stripes proclaim the fearless courage and integrity of American people.

White stripes stand for liberty and equality for all.

Blue is the blue of heaven, loyalty, and faith.

The American flag represents eternal principles: liberty, justice, and humanity and embodies freedom of speech, religion, assembly, the press, and the sanctity of the home.

It is living symbol of this nation’s law.

The American flag is the sacred emblem of our country it should be respected and guarded.
Dzień Niepodległości obchodzony jest oficjalnie od 1941 roku, ale jego tradycja sięga XVIII wieku i czasów amerykańskiej rewolucji, kiedy to 13 kolonii stanie się walki o wolność z Królestwem Wielkiej Brytanii. 4 lipca 1776 roku Kongres Kontynentalny podpisał Deklarację Niepodległości. Historyczny akt stał się symbolem narodzin amerykańskiej niepodległości, a jego symnatariusz nazwano ojcami -założycielami. Amerykanie świętują ten dzień biorąc udział w paradach, festiwalach, koncertach i pokazach sztucznych ogni, a o bohaterstwie przypomina wszystkim szereg najrówniejszych dziej amerykańskiej kultury - pomników, muzeów, filmów, książek i piosenek. Jest to jedno z ulubionych świąt Amerykanów, łączących wszystkich, którym przyszło żyć pod amerykańskim sztandarem!

Narodziny amerykańskiej niepodległości

W drugiej połowie XVIII wieku zaostrzył się konflikt pomiędzy angielskimi kolonią w Ameryce Północnej a Koroną Brytyjską. Wielka Brytania ograniczała władzę samorządów i hamowała rozwój kolonii, nakładając na nie coraz to nowe podatki. Zbiegło się to w czasie stopniowego tworzenia się świadomości narodowej oraz wpływem europejskiej myśli oświeceniowej.

5 września 1774 roku w Filadelfii zebrali się Kongres Kontynentalny, który podjął decyzję o stworzeniu unii w celu wzmocnienia oporu wobec metropolii oraz przyciągania się do ewentualnej walki. Początek rewolucji dały starcia, do jakich doszło w kwietniu 1775 roku pod Lexington i Concord.


Po zakończeniu wojny z Brytyjczykami mieszkańcy nie porzucili rewolucyjnej tradycji i każdego roku celebrowali dzień podpisania Deklaracji, wyrażając w ten sposób poczucie dumy i jedności narodowej. Ten patriotyczny zwyczaj rozkwitł jeszcze bardziej po wojnie z roku 1812, kiedy to Stany Zjednoczone znów wystąpiły przeciwko Wielkiej Brytanii.

W 1870 roku Kongres Stanów Zjednoczony ogłosił 4 lipca świętem narodowym, ale dopiero od 1941 roku, kiedy to ustawa została rozszerzona stała się federalnym dniem wolnym od pracy.
Chicago, Illinois - PNA Vice President Paul C. Odrobina announces that the PNA Annual Photo Contest will once 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 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.

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