

*"Together – We Can and We Will"*

# ZGODA



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE **POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE** OF THE U.S. OF N.A.

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Cover: Dariusz Lachowski, January, 2016.  
Wici dancers performing at the White Eagle, Niles, Illinois.

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## President's Corner

February, 2016

**Dear Members,**

I am pleased to inform our members, that 2015 was a year of transformation and positive results for the Polish National Alliance.

During the year, our surplus increased by over a million dollars, sales have increased over the previous year and we continue to provide fraternal benefits to our members. The last two sales promotions for children and adults yielded very positive results.

With the tax season quickly approaching, it's a good time to open an IRA, save for the future and at the same time take a deduction on filing your tax return – it's never too late to start saving money for your retirement. Please consult your tax advisor. The Polish National Alliance introduced IRA's in the early 80's and as time went added Tax Deferred Annuities and Roth IRA's to its portfolio. Throughout all these years, interest rates have been competitive and are viable to this very day. Thousands of individuals have taken advantage of this program with the PNA. For information on interest rates, applications, etc., please contact your local sales representative, Mr. John Wantuch of our IRA Department (ext. 365) or check our website [www.pna-znp.org](http://www.pna-znp.org)

This coming April, the week of the 24th through the 26th, the Polish National Alliance will be hosting its National Bowling Tournament in Las Vegas, Nevada. This is the second time the PNA will be having a tournament out West. We are excited and encourage bowling teams to participate. For more specific information, you can call our Fraternal Coordinator, Ms. Mary Srodon at 1-800-621-3723 ext. 312 or check our website.

I applaud the efforts of those lodges and councils that take it upon themselves and promote fraternal activities and programs in their own regions.

Congratulations go out to Council 21 of Baltimore MD, for printing a very nice 2016 calendar.

On February 16th and 17th, Censor Wesley Musial and Vice Censor Irene Grabowy will be chairing the first meeting of the newly elected Supervisory Council to provide them with information and instructions concerning their respective districts.

The following week, the newly elected Business and Fraternal Board will meet at the Home Office to get acquainted with the changes which were approved at the Quadrennial Convention and establish their platform and strategies for the next four years.

I'm looking forward for a renewed spirit of enthusiasm in our Commissioners and Directors as they take on their roles of leadership in their Districts and Regions.

Ever since the early beginnings of the Alliance, it has provided fraternal benefits to its members. Over the years, it has concentrated on youth programs and scholarships. This year is no different. Scholarship applications are available on line for students attending private and state colleges. Since the inception of the scholarship program, in excess of \$5 Million dollars have been distributed.

We see 2016, as a year of opportunity in expanding business and continuing as the leading Polish organization. We are focused and committed to provide you with competitive products and prompt and efficient service as we continue our fraternal mission.

**Frank J. Spula, FLMI**  
*President*



## From the Editor

February 16, 2016

### Dear Members,

Somehow, we managed to have both major holidays in this issue of Zgoda. There is plenty about PNA Christmas events across the country and Easter articles and greetings.

Polish National Alliance is a fraternal family, last year's covers were about a young family, and I hope you have noticed the evolving story. This year, I decided to put on the cover our members involved in fraternal activities. On the cover we have feature WICI Song and Dance Theater dancers who are PNA members, performing for a huge audience of all of the parents and friends of the ensemble.

As I previously indicated, this issue has a story of one of our noteworthy members, and I decided to start with our President, Frank J. Spula. Even though, we are working closely, he agreed to answer any of my questions... as long as I will not get too personal. I hope you will enjoy reading about him.

The last fifteen pages contain changes to the By-Laws approved at the 47th Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

Please share with me your stories and pictures, and make sure they are of good quality.

The deadline for submitting articles for the upcoming, April/May/June issue of Zgoda, is Monday, May 2nd, 2016.

Wishing you a Blessed Easter filled with love and the joys of spring,

*Yours Truly,*

**Alicja Kuklińska**  
*Editor-in-Chief*



## Jajka

- W wielu mitologiach symbolizowało początek, to właśnie z jajka wyklął się świat.
- Jajko jest największą pojedynczą komórką zwierzęcą, którą można zobaczyć gołym okiem.
- Największym jajem u zwierząt lądowych jest jajo strusia, mierzące ok. 10,5 cm. Jego skorupka może mieć do 3 mm grubości i jest 10 razy grubsza od skorupki jaja kurzego. Ugotowanie jaja strusiego na twardo zajmuje około 2,5 godziny.
- Jednym z najmniejszych jaj ptasich jest jajo koliberka hawańskiego, mierzy ono około 6 mm.
- Najstarsze rzeźbione fragmenty skorup strusich jaj odnaleziono w Afryce. Datuje się je na około 60 tysięcy lat wstecz.
- 3000 lat p.n.e. w Persji kolorowe jaja były prezentem ofiarowywanym z okazji pierwszego dnia wiosny.
- W tradycji wczesnochrześcijańskiej wykluwanie się pisklęcia z jaj łączyło ze zmartwychwstaniem. Jajka malowano na czerwono, co symbolizować miało krew Jezusa. W czasie Wielkiego Postu nie jedzono jajek.
- Kolor żółtka nie świadczy o walorach smakowych ani o właściwościach zdrowotnych jaja. Jest wyłącznie informacją o składzie karmy, którą karmione były kury. Kolor skorupki zależy wyłącznie od rasy kur.
- Najdroższymi jajami na świecie są Jajka Fabergé, które powstały w pracowni francuskiego złotnika, głównie dla rosyjskiej rodziny carskiej. W latach 1884-1917 powstało ich 65, z czego 8 zaginęło podczas wojen. Najdroższe z nich zostało sprzedane na aukcji za 8,9 mln brytyjskich funtów.

Radosnych Świąt Wielkanocnych,  
pełnych wiary, nadziei i miłości,  
życzę serdecznie czytelnikom Zgody:  
Alicja Kuklińska i Ewa Wiśniewska

# Wishing You Easter Filled with Love, Peace and Joys of Spring!

*Wesołego Alleluja!*

## **Executive Officers**

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# Centennial Dancers Cheering Seniors

During the month of December 2015, students of Lodge 53's Centennial Dancers made festive Christmas cards for senior citizens residing at the Woodhaven Retirement Community in Livonia, Michigan. The children, ages 3-18, made more than 100 Christmas cards, using crayons, stickers, and glitter to spread holiday cheer.

On December 19, 2015, members of the Centennial Dancers' oldest class, Olivia Dunn and Elena Wioncek (both wearing Krakowiak costumes), were joined by instructor Marie Stawasz (wearing an Opoczno costume), alumni Beth Stawasz-Donovan (wearing a Lowicz costume) and Andrew Donovan (portraying Sw. Mikolaj), for an afternoon visit to the Woodhaven Retirement Community where they distributed the beautiful, hand-made cards in person. The ladies also sang several Christmas carols for the residents, including several PNA members. All were very appreciative of the cards and enjoyed a celebratory afternoon.

*Submitted by: Bethany G. Stawasz*



# 91<sup>st</sup> New England Fraternal Alliance Meeting

Representatives of 10 fraternal benefits societies doing business in the New England States gathered in New Haven, CT on Saturday, November 7, 2015. The NEFA represents more than 300,000 fraternalists in the six New England States. This year's meeting was hosted by the Knights of Columbus in their home office building.

Georges Haddad, president of the NEFA offered warm welcome to the assembled fraternalists. The meeting began with the rising of the Stars and Strips at the outdoor flag pole in honor of the upcoming Veterans Day observance. Returning indoors, President G. Haddad called meeting to order. The opening prayer was offered followed by the Memorial Service led by Daniel Tanzone who serves as Chaplain of the NEFA. The service honored the fraternalists who have passed away during past year. The reports of the President, Secretary-Treasurer and various committees Projects, Scholarship, Publicity, Family Life, and Past Presidents followed. Two scholarships of \$1,000 each were presented to the recipients during the luncheon.

The afternoon session included presentation of interest to fraternalists. These included one by the Little Sisters of the Poor who was recipients of this Year's Care & Share project, Michael Rigonoli of Camp Rising Sun, a facility providing vacations for children with cancer. Connecticut State Senator Joseph J. Crisco, who serves as the Chairmen of the State Senate Insurance and Real Estate Committee, gave a wonderful presentation. He paid tribute to the important work of fraternal benefit societies whose outreach and service in their local communities which is vital in today's society. Toastmaster during the evening dinner was Norman Ouellette, a pass president of the NEFA and member of Catholic Financial Life. Principal speaker was Gary Nolan, Vice-President of Training and Ceremonies of the Knits of Columbus.

Closing remarks by Georges Haddad preceded the installation of Officers.

**President Georges Haddad** – Knights of Columbus

**1st Vice –President Irene Grabowy** – Polish National Alliance

**2nd Vice –President Albert Costa** – Luso American Life (PCU)

**Secretary –Treasurer John Kamenitsky** – GBU Financial Life, Sokol USA

Immediate Past President Thomas King –Catholic Associates of Foresters; Chaplin Daniel Tanzone -Slovak Catholic Sokol; and Directors, Eileen Wilson –Slovak Catholic Sokol; Joseph Goda –National Slovak Society; Marion Varga –CSA Financial Life Ins. Society; Theresa Goss –Catholic Association of Forester; Paul Plante –Catholic Financial Life and Daniel Michalak –Polish Falcons of America.

*Submitted by: Irene Grabowy,  
Vice Censor of the PNA and 1st Vice president of the NEFA.*



*From left to right; Irene Grabowy, 1st Vice President of NEFA; Georges Haddad, President of NEFA; Joseph J. Crisco, CT State Senator; Eileen Wilson, Publicity NEFA; John Kamenitsky, Secretary Treasurer of NEFA.*

## New Officers of the PNA Lodge 2093

PNA Lodge 2093 recently held an election of Officers for 2016. Elected were: Barbara Zakrzewska President, Mateusz Ratajczak Vice President, Henry Perucki Secretary, Katarzyna Fil and Iza Wroblewska as Directors and Stanley Wojciak, John Wallace Sr and Chester Klymczuk as Members of the House Committee. After the officers were sworn into office they were congratulated and everyone retired to the lodge canteen.



*Lodge 2093 Officers for 2016. Seated left to right: Mateusz Ratajczak Vice President, Barbara Zakrzewska President, Henry Perucki Secretary. Standing Left to right: Iza Wroblewska and Katarzyna Fil Directors, Stanley Wojciak, John Wallace Sr. and Chester Klymczuk House Committee.*



# The Chicago Society 2016 Inaugural Report

On Saturday, January 23, 2016, the Chicago Society, PNA Lodge 1450's Annual Inaugural Ball and Induction of Officers was held at the beautiful ballroom of the Café la Cave located in Des Plaines, Illinois. Upon entering the Café la Cave, over 140 guests were met by gracious waiters serving flutes of champagne and delicious hors d'oeuvres. It was the start of a beautiful and entertaining evening.

The festivities began with singing of the anthems of the Republic of Poland and the United States of America by Aleksandra Padowski. Ball Co-Chairman Ro Matuszczak welcomed the guests and introduced Father Robert Fedek, pastor of Our Lady of Victory Church who gave the invocation. A surprise for the guests was The WICI Song and Dance Theatre starting their performance with the Polonaise and then went to various tables inviting guests to join in the Polonaise. Following this, the group performed some Polish Folk dances. This started out for a festive evening. Next on the agenda, after a delicious dinner, the Persons of the Year Award



were presented by our President Ted Makarewicz. The recipients were Judge Edward H. Marsalek, Retired, a Chicago Society Member; Ronald "Topper" Topczewski, also a Chicago Society Member; and the Polish American Police Association. John Cieslik, Chicago Society Executive Vice President, presented the Booster Award to Charles Komosa for bringing the most new members to the organization. This was followed by the Induction of Officers by our brother member, John A. Wasilewski, Cook County Judge, Retired. Our President and Inaugural Ball Chairman, Ted Makarewicz, gave his address to the guests. Dancing followed to the music of the The Music Company.

There were many dignitaries present. Toni Preckwinkle, President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners; Cook County Assessor, Joseph Berrios; President of the Polish National Alliance, Frank Spula; Alderman John Arena; Illinois State Representatives Robert Martwick, Jr. and Michael McAuliffe; President of the Water Reclamation District Mariyana Spyropolous; the following judges: Diann Marsalek, Aleksandra Gillespie, Ann Loftus, Marc Martin and Frank and Bettina Gembala. Also in attendance was Andrew Przybylo, Mayor of Niles; Michael Zink, President of the Advocates Society; former alderman Carol Bialczak Goldman; Bozena Haszlakiewicz, President of the Legion of Young Polish Women; and Steve Kozicki, candidate for Judge – 12th District. Most important were the guests who made everything possible.



Special thanks to Chairman Ted Makarewicz, Co-Chair Ro Matuszczak and his wife Chris, who truly extended themselves, as well as Co-Chairs Charles Komosa, a mover, and John Cieslik. It was the effort of the above that made for a successful and enjoyable event.

*Submitted by: Charles Komosa,  
National Secretary and Director of  
Public Relations for the Chicago Society,  
PNA Lodge 1450.*

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or mail to: Alicja Kuklinska  
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Chicago, IL 60646



## IMPORTANT!

**It is possible that you have been named as a beneficiary on your relative's insurance certificate through the Polish National Alliance.**

If you are aware or think that you are the designated beneficiary on the life insurance certificate of someone that was a PNA member or know someone that is, please contact our office for further information.

In order to process the claim we will need the following:

- The insured's original Life Insurance Certificate or an Affidavit of Loss Form, which is available through the Home Office and on line.
- A certified copy of a the insured's death certificate
- The address and social security number of the beneficiary
- Complete a claimant's form which is available through the Home Office and on line.

Please call our Claim Department at:

**1-800-621-3723**

**[www.pna-znp.org](http://www.pna-znp.org)**



## Election 2016 at the PNA Lodge 711

Chicopee, MA. Members of Lodge 711 PNA of Chicopee, MA held their annual meeting and election of officers for the year 2016 at the Pulaski Club, Willimansett, MA on December 6, 2015. The installing officer, Jeannie Zapala, administered the oath of office to offices and elected delegates.

Pictured standing left to right: Commissioner Jeannie Zapala; PNA Business Board Director Teresa Struziak Sherman, Financial Secretary/Sales Representative; Gene Kirejczyk, Second Vice President and Auditor; Mitchell Nowak, First Vice President and Auditor and Adella Strycharz, Recording Secretary/Treasurer. Front row seated is Gilbert J. Sherman, President.

This energetic team is ready to begin a fruitful year of support for the great ideals of our Polish National Alliance. Sto lat!



*Submitted by:  
Teresa Struziak Sherman*

## Installation of Officers at Lodge 1224

Rockford, IL – Sunday, December 20th, Lodge 1224 held our election and installation of the officers for the year 2016. Joe Wojewodzki administered the oath to the new officers. The officers are: President: Marian Bielawski, Vice-President: Stanisław Wawioroko, Financial

Secretary: Teresa Bulka, Treasurer: Ann Wojewodzki, Recording Secretary: Irena Dyer. After the meeting Christmas party was held for our children.



*Submitted by:  
Joe Wojewodzki*

*(L-R) sitting Marian Bielawski, standing, Ann Wojewodzki, Teresa Bulka, Irena Dyer and Stanislaw Wawioroko.*

# Winter Concert of the Wici Song and Dance Theatre

On January 3rd, 2016, WICI Song and Dance Theatre hosted an event to celebrate their groups of all ages and were honored to entertain an audience of more than 700 people. We would like to thank everyone for their outpouring support and hope that everyone enjoyed the concert!



The following is a kind letter from an attendee of our event who witnessed Polish folk dancing for the first time and wanted to share her experience:

Recently, I was invited to Wici's Annual Holiday Ball and Concert

by a close friend of mine. Having little knowledge of what to expect, I was wondering what Wici was all about.

Now, I can say I have become a fan and am incredibly grateful that I went to see Wici Song and Dance Theater.

Wici astounded me with its diversity; I was able to see dances from multiple regions of Poland, each of which had different styles, costumes, and melodies. The costumes truly beautiful, rich in color and, as I learned later, were handcrafted in



Poland! To my surprise, the dancers themselves seemed magically appear in fresh costumes, they adopted completely different dance styles in a matter of minutes.

The dancers seemed to be of all ages, the youngest group seemed to



be as young as 3 years. All groups were wonderful but it's a mystery of how the teachers are able to get little children to be so well trained, yet so endearing. I had the opportunity to speak with some of the dancers after their performance to find out that most of them have been dancing with Wici for many years. It's



no wonder the representative group could be mistaken as a profession one, and they are all doing this on their free time.

It's truly optimistic that Wici upholding Polish culture and traditions. Chicago is lucky to have such







a group. It was mentioned that Wici give performances for various communities and had an over whelming 60 + performances last year.

I think everyone should dedicate an afternoon or an evening to see them perform, as it is truly an enjoyable and educational experience! I will be attending their next concert in March and entice everyone to come see this exceptional dance ensemble.

*Sincerely,  
Olga Ednark*

*Submitted by: Magdalena Solarz  
Photos: Dariusz Lachowski*



# A Remarkable Member...

***Beginning this year, in every issue of the Zgoda there will be one remarkable member featured. I decided to start with the President of the Polish National Alliance, since he is our leader and has been involved with the organization for the longest time. Meet:***



## **Frank J. Spula**

*You have been involved with the PNA for very many years, last year you were reelected as a President, is this only job you've ever had?*

This is my tenth year as a President of the PNA and I have been working for the organization since college, however, in between there were other jobs. I have been working since I was 15, my first job was in a restaurant, I was a shoe salesman, a driver and music instructor. Music was always part of my life, I went to music school for many years and my teachers thought I had a talent. Very few people know that I play accordion, except my close friends.

*Was being in life insurance business the only goal and dream you had as a young man?*

No, I wanted to be a doctor. My heart was set up on going to medical school, but life has all sorts of surprises for us and instead to Loyola Medical School I went to DePaul and graduated from there.

*Was your first full time job with the PNA, is this where you learned insurance business?*

I started at a commercial company; I've got my training through them. They had a great training program but at the same time I've got involved with the Polish National Alliance. I started as a clerk at the

Treasurer's office, worked in the Sales Department, became Sales Director then I was elected National Secretary and President.

*Did you have a mentor, someone that made a difference in your career?*

Yes, it was President Al Mazewski. He took me under his wings and guided me professionally during my early years at the PNA. During the course of my career I was being recruited by other organizations and at that time he said he would like me to stay because he sees a tremendous future for me within the organization. I decided to stay and I am happy with this decision.

*What was the most rewarding and fulfilling position?*

Naturally, it is a great honor to be a President, each position is challenging however, by being a Sales Director, I was able to help people get ahead and expand the organization, by understanding life insurance and selling it. I strongly believe in having life insurance, I have seen it making a difference in peoples' lives over the years. As a sales Director I felt fulfilled seeing the organization grow through some of my efforts.

*What was the worst time in your career?*

The last two years were probably the most challenging. After the economic meltdown of 2008 matters started to get more difficult with investments, sales and compliance regulations. We restructured, changed internally, and reorganized our position. It was demanding, but I strongly believe, we are on the right track. There is a Polish saying "Wszystko dobre, co się dobrze kończy." All well that ends well!

*Could some crisis have been avoided?*

Years ago there was a business plan prepared, suggested and rejected. It was anticipated that Delegates would never approve the proposal, being the Delegates to the convention are the highest governing body. It wasn't until the last two conventions that numerous changes were introduced and approved to the organization and its structure. Now, our Delegates are looking at things in another way. We also have compliance demands by the regulators, if we don't accept them they will be imposed on us.

*In today's society, do we still need fraternal activities, meetings, etc.?*

According to the fraternal model an organization



needs to have a ritualistic form of government, election of officers, conduct meetings, etc. Fraternal programs are the nuclease of the organization. Whether it is scholarships, support for Polish schools, sport activities, they bring people together and help form our organization. However, we cannot spend on fraternal programs more money than we make. You have to live within your means.

*You are known for being very conservative with money.*

I learned it as a child. My parents thought me how to work and how to save money. Both of my parents were very responsible and cautious people. My Mom was born here, in the U.S., she was the one that new the meaning of life insurance. My whole family believed in it and was insured.

*Where do you see the Polish National Alliance in 4 years?*

Our administration is smaller now, but more efficient. I want to be sure that we have professionals working for the organization, that we update and improve our image. With the improving economy, sales are increasing, I'm encouraged. We had a very good last quarter; I have great plans and hopes for this one.

*Is your private life affected by the enormous amount of time you spend at work?*

Sometimes you have to put your job in front of your own personal obligations. I can recall when I was to be godfather to my brother's first daughter, the christening was postponed because I had business trips planed. Being a President of the PNA is a very demanding job, however it is also very rewarding. You take the bad with the good.



*Traditionally, the President of the Polish National Alliance is also a President of the Polish American Congress; do you think it should remain like this?*

Polish National Alliance was one of the cofounders of the PAC and always financially supported the organization, without it the PNA and other organizations, it could never exist through all these years. The Polish National Alliance was a financial sponsor of the Polish American Congress

ever since 1944. I think, there could be a President of the PAC not affiliated with the PNA, but we should be absolutely certain that individual will not be using the organization for his or her personal advantage or



political gain. It would have to be someone committed and dedicated to the organization and its mission and also being able to provide the financial support in the time of need. That is why, traditionally, the President of the Polish National Alliance has been the President of the PAC. This is why this political organization has never been used for personal advantage, but only for the betterment of Poland and the Polish Community in the United States.

*What people don't know about you?*

I am a very private person, and would like to keep it this way. I enjoy good jazz music, love automobiles. Cars have always been a passion of mine, which is why I organized classic car shows at the PNA. When I was younger I was rebuilding classic automobiles, lately I don't have much time for it or anything. I love animals, used to have dogs now I have a cat. My last dog was paralyzed for many years, so it was a challenge to take care of him, but I was able to help him so he would have a happy and long life. My cat was a gift from a friend, she is very personable and now a part of my household for four years. Since sudden death of my only brother Edward two years ago, I exercise regularly, watch what I eat and listen to my body a lot more.

*You are known for never taking any time off. Most likely your lost vacation time combine would let you be off for over a year.*

*Where would you like to go on vacation?*

Yes, I am a workaholic. I feel that I'm neglecting my job by taking time off. I feel guilty not doing anything. I know it's not healthy. In response to your question, I would like to go to some tropical island for a week, perhaps two. I always wanted to go to Africa...and that will happen.

*Thank you for your time, and I will be happy to book that African safari for you!*

Ha, ha, not so fast, I need to check my schedule!

*Alicja Kuklińska*

# Kolędowanie z Lajkonikiem

W niedzielne mroźne popołudnie, 10 stycznia 2016 roku, przy szopce w kościele św. Trójcy, zabrzmiały kolędy w wykonaniu ponad 130-osobowego Zespołu Pieśni i Tańca Lajkonik, który zgodnie z coroczną tradycją, przybył na Mszę św. w swojej intencji. Rok 2016 jest dla zespołu rokiem szczególnym. **Dnia 24 kwietnia 2016 r., mamy zaszczyt zaprosić do Copernicus Center, gdzie wspólnie z Państwem będziemy świętować jubileusz 25-lecia istnienia zespołu Lajkonik.**

Trójcowo jest dla Lajkonika domem od chwili powstania zespołu w 1991 r. Domem, który zgodnie z tradycją należało „obkolędować”. W tegorocznym kolędowaniu oprócz wielu gości, byłych tancerzy ze swoimi rodzinami oraz dziećmi, które stawiają już pierwsze kroki w zespole, uczestniczyła też pani Zofia Pernak, przedstawicielka ZNP, która związała się z nami od 1997 r., zapisując zespół do ZNP grupy 3241.

Po Mszy św., uroczystości przeniosły się do podziemi kościoła. Na scenie zaprezentowały się grupy m. innymi; w polonezie Bóg się rodzi i mazurze W dzień Bożego Narodzenia, a dzieci zaśpiewały wzruszające kolędy i pastorałki. Pastorałka Przekażcie sobie znak pokoju wykonana przez solistów i ok. 400-osobowy chór zebranych, wycisnęła trzy wzruszenia i była tłem do wspólnych życzeń i dzielenia się opłatkiem. Podczas poczęstunku, który znów, jak co roku zapewnili rodzice i tancerze, dzieląc się nim z wszystkimi obecnymi, nastąpiły odwiedziny kolędników. Na scenie ku ucieście najmłodszych, pojawiły się tradycyjne postacie: król, diabeł, anioł, śmierć, turoń, bocian, cyganki, dziad, aby bawić i weselić zebranych tradycyjną narracją i składać życzenia. Znów, zmieniły się twarze wykonawców, którzy czuli obserwatorskie oko swych wspaniałych poprzedników – tak, bowiem tworzy się tradycja.

Wieczór był miły i klimatyczny, wypełniony wdzięcznością za udany miniony rok i nadzieją na dobry, twórczy rok srebrnego jubileuszu zespołu. Wyświetlane na dużym ekranie kolędy, zagrane pięknie przez p. Marte Dudek, skupiły sprawdzone grono sympatyków śpiewu w każdym wieku, którzy spotykają się na kolędowaniu zespołu od wielu lat. Zdjęcie jednej z naszych utalentowanych mam, p. Doroty Rozyckiej Zabek, opowiadają najpiękniej historię tego kolędowania.

Więcej informacji o zespole i zdjęć na stronie: **[www.lajkonikchicago.us](http://www.lajkonikchicago.us)**

*Halina Misterka*









Polish National Alliance continues on a long tradition of organizing special Christmas gatherings for its seniors.

On Tuesday, December 8, 2015, the Polish National Alliance organized a Christmas Luncheon and Winter Wonderland Express experience for PNA Seniors at the Chicago Botanic Gardens in Glencoe, Illinois. PNA Fraternal Coordinator Mary Srodon greeted and welcomed the thirty five guests. After her greetings, Mary Srodon acknowledged PNA officers President Frank Spula, National Secretary Charles A. Komosa, Business Director Irene Hercik, Fraternal Director Wanda Penar, Commissioner of District XIII Wanda Juda, and Mr. Romuald „Ro” & Chris Matuszczak, a Board Director for the Chicago Society, PNA Lodge 1450.



President Frank Spula offered brief remarks and graciously wished the guests a spectacular Holiday with family and friends, good health, and much love. All the guests were then invited to dine on a scrumptious gourmet buffet and sweets. After the luncheon, the guests strolled and toured the Winter Wonderland



Express, a magical adventure to a winter wonderland of twinkling lights and holiday beauty with 750,000 lights sparkle outside that welcome guests to the Garden's wonderland. Inside the Regenstein Center, a 10,000-square-foot exhibition of miniature trains winds over bridges, under trestles, and more than 80 miniature Chicago-area landmarks, including Navy Pier, Soldier Field, Chicago Stadium, the Chinatown Arch, the Art Institute, the South Shore Cultural Center, the Frank Lloyd Wright Robie House, and more. All the guests received a beautiful Polish themed ornament from Santa to remember the day by!

On Tuesday, December 15th the PNA Chicago Southside Seniors celebrated Christmas Season attending festive luncheon at the Mayfield Banquets organized by the Polish National Alliance. Newly elected PNA Fraternal Director Barbara Wesolowski greeted everyone and wished all a blessed Christmas. An entertainment was

provided by Harry Harrison, who sang and played carols. Among the guests were Treasurer Marian Grabowski, Commissioner Jerzy Hejna, former officers; Cecelia Tomaszewicz, Anna Kokoszka, Roman Bucon as well as Polish Veterans and Ladies Auxiliary, who always are well in attendance. There was singing of carols, a Christmas raffle and plenty of good Christmas cheer.

**For a full gallery of photos from both events visit PNA's website: [www.pna-znp.org](http://www.pna-znp.org)**





# Christmas 2015

Polish National Alliance subsidizes Christmas parties for its juvenile members across the country.  
For full gallery of Christmas 2015 photos visit: [www.pna-znp.org](http://www.pna-znp.org)



*Council 8, Milwaukee, Wisconsin*



*Lodge 1684 Cohoes, New York*



*Lodge 599, Natrona, Pennsylvania*



*Lodge 156, Seattle, Washington*



*Lodge 1134 Eureka & St. Louis, Missouri*



*Lodge 2426, Wyandotte & Southgate Michigan*

For more information please, contact Fraternal Activities Coordinator: Ms. Mary Srodon -1773-286-0500 ext. 312

## Lodge 238, Baltimore, MD Officers for 2016



Krystyna Jasinski – *Vice President*  
 Malgorzata Janowski – *Recording Secretary*  
 Malgorzata Bondyra – *Financial Secretary*  
 Jan Mokros – *Sgt at Arms*  
 John Klauza – *Vice President*  
 Maksymilian Bondyra – *President*  
 Richard Poremski – *Treasurer*  
 (Pictured from left to right)

*Submitted by Malgorzata Bondyra.  
 Photo by Dominika Bondyra.*

## Council 203 Officers Sworn In



Washington, DC: PNA Council 203 members gathered at the Washington Council for its election of officers meeting held January 10, 2016. Rev. Father Philip Majka (far right) gave the swearing in of elected (left to right) Janice Navalaney, Sharon Brzostowski, Mike Jarvis, Brian Buckoski, Stasia Hutchison and Connie Donnelly.

*Submitted by: Ben Filipczyk, Recording Secretary Lodge 848*

## PNA Council 3 Holiday Dinner



Council 3 PNA delegates celebrated their holiday dinner on Friday, December 11, 2015 in the Chopin Room of the Polish National Alliance. Breaking of our traditional oplitek was followed by a delicious dinner, which was enjoyed by all. Singing of Christmas carols in Polish and English was followed by a small raffle. Winners of the 50/50 cash raffle were Chestine Man, Katie Golowacz and John Olender. We thank all that participated that could not attend and for kind donations received. We extend our best wishes for a healthy and peaceful New Year to every PNA member and their families.

*Submitted by Irene Hercik,  
 Council 3 President and Business Board Director.*



# Council 21 Christmas Party

Baltimore, MD. On Saturday, December 19th 2015, Council 21 held its Annual Children's Christmas Party. At 12 Noon, the Grand Room of the PNA Building on Eastern Ave filled up with children accompanied by parents and grandparents.



After the welcoming ceremony, a delicious lunch prepared by great cooks June and Bud Jones - members of Lodge 339, was served. After lunch, the Polish Language Class led by Agnieszka Krajewski (Lodge 238), with help from local musicians, sung Polish Carols which they learned in class. Next, Krakowiaki Dancers (Lodge 339) led by Melissa Kalinowski and Maks Bondyra took the stage and performed few Polish dances. Afterwards, everyone had a chance to test their dance skills during the



audience participation dance to the famous polka tune „It's a Small World". The arts and crafts corner and face painting stations were both occupied by the youngest.

The most exciting part for the kids was a visit from Santa Claus. He presented gifts to all of the attending children. The line to see Santa was very long, and it took him some time to talk to each child.

At the end, the Commissioner James Mislak called all of the children to pose for a group photo. It was a fun filled afternoon and a memorable day for many Polish-American kids and their families.

*Submitted by:  
Malgorzata Bondyra, Lodge 238*

## Polish National Alliance Scholarship Program

**Deadline is April 15th, 2016**



The Polish National Alliance is pleased to announce the PNA's Annual College Scholarships. The program is available to all PNA members who are currently enrolled as full time College or University students and who will be continuing their undergraduate studies in the Fall 2016 semesters.

Full-time students who will be Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors in the Fall 2016 semester qualify for scholarships. Incoming freshmen do not qualify.

Please check Fraternal Benefits/Scholarship Program tabs for Rules, Regulations and Application.

You may also request the Application by e-mailing:

**[mary.srodon@pna-znp.org](mailto:mary.srodon@pna-znp.org)**

or calling: **1-800-621-3723 ext. 312.**

**[www.pna-znp.org](http://www.pna-znp.org)**



The Polish National Alliance is proud of this program. It is not only a substantial demonstration of our organization's dedication to fraternalism but is also keeping with our historic commitment to support the intellectual and educational aspirations of our members.

# Welcome to our PNA Family



**Samuel Henry Zaskey**, born on October 15, 2014, son of Michael and Leah Zaskey of Chicopee, Massachusetts is a new member of Lodge 2590. His Policy was a gift from his loving grandparents William M. and Joanne B. Zaskey.  
*Submitted by William M. and Joanne B. Zaskey*



**Alexander Grzymala**, born on July 4th, 2011 (pictured with his younger brother), is a new member of Lodge 2514. His parents are Aneta and Mark Grzymala of Wilmette, IL. He was signed up by Stanislaw Rawicki.



**Adalyn Skye Howansky**, born February 09, 2019, daughter of Nicholas-Christine Howansky is a new member of Lodge 1684, Cohoes, NY. She was signed up by grandparents Daniel & Anna Howansky.  
*Submitted by Daniel & Anna Howansky*



**Maverick Zan**, born March 20, 2015, son of Wesley and Shellie, was signed up to Lodge 128, Bremond, TX. His policy was a gift from his loving great-grandmother, Marie Zan.  
*Submitted by: Marie Zan*

## Special Delivery for a PNA Lodge 711 Family

Wilbraham, MA. **Mary Elizabeth** Cochran came into the world Sunday, October 4, a healthy 8 pounds and 20.5 inches in the hands of a Wilbraham Firefighter atop her parents' bed at their home



in Wilbraham, MA. Mary is a true native of the town. Mary's mother, Danielle Cochran, was three days overdue on that Sunday morning. She and her husband, Daniel, had had a false alarm the day before and had gone to the hospital. She

was released and spent the night at home. When Danielle awoke, she felt fine. Then she decided to take a shower. Within two minutes she was on the floor unable to move and calling to her husband, Daniel. He called 911. It took nine minutes from the time the call came into dispatch to delivery. Both the Wilbraham Firefighters and Police Officers responded to the 911 call. After the birth, to show their appreciation, the Cochran family held an open house for the responders and their departments. Mary is healthy and thriving. Her sister, Catherine, age two, was not sure what was happening and why all the commotion was occurring. The Cochran family is a 100% PNA family belonging to PNA Lodge 711 of Chicopee, MA. The family has been enrolled by Lodge 711 PNA Sales Representative,

*Teresa Struziak Sherman, PNA National Business Board Director of Wilbraham, MA.*

**Isla James Muscatello**, born April 20, 2014. Daughter of Anna and James Muscatello, is the newest member of PNA Lodge 1684. The PNA policy was a gift from proud grandparents Stanislaw and Zofia Bobek. Stanislaw Bobek is a Sergeant at Arms at Lodge 1684. Isla was signed up by Marian Wiercioch, Commissioner District 3.  
*Submitted by Marian Wiercioch*







**Maximilian Welsh,** pictured with his mom Kasia Welsh, is a new member of Lodge 2879. His policy was a gift from his Grandmother Jadwiga Romaszko.

*Submitted by: Jadwiga Grcic*



**John T O'Neill,** born June 16, 2015 is a 3rd generation member of Lodge 513. He is a son of Kelly Perkowski O'Neill and grandson of John Perkowski. Signed up and submitted by Ed Zolkiewicz, Jr.



**Camden Siekierka** is the newest member of Lodge 1935 Camden Siekierka is son of father Jacob Siekierka and proud grandparents Mark and Marilyn Siekierka, who are all members of lodge 1935.

*Submitted by: Frank Tokarsky, Financial Secretary, Lodge 1935*



**Alyssa Rose Wierzbicki,** born October, 2015 daughter of Mary & Kevin Wierzbicki of Arlington VA is a new member of Lodge 1474 Chicago, IL. The policy was a gift from her great grandmother Stella Wierzbicki and was signed up by her aunt, Former National Director Anna Wierzbicki. Alyssa is a 5th generation member of the PNA family.



**Bentley Thomas Sun,** son of Bob and Theresa Sun of Glenview, Illinois, born on September 14, 2015 is the newest member of Lodge 694.

Bentley's policy was a gift from his loving grandparents, Joseph and Irene Hercik.

*Submitted by: Irene Hercik, Business Board Director of Chicago, IL.*



**Claire Delphine Sheridan,** born December 10, 2015, pictured with her sisters: Emilia Marie, Avery Rose and Lilian Grace, is the newest member of Lodge 3250. All four girls are PNA members! Clair's policy was a gift from her loving grandfather, Philip H. Sheridan of Palatine, Illinois.

*Submitted by: Philip H. Sheridan.*



**Harper Lyn Wojewodzki,** born November 5, 2015 is the new member of Lodge 1224 in Rockford, Illinois. She is the daughter of Christopher and Erin Wojewodzki. Her certificate was a gift from loving grandparents Joseph and Anna Wojewodzki, long time PNA members.

*Submitted by: Joe Wojewodzki.*



# It's COOL to be in Polish school

...especially if it is affiliated with the  
Polish National Alliance!



## Dzień Babci i Dziadka w Szkole im. Juliusza Słowackiego

*„To, czego dzieci potrzebują, w obfitości dostarczają dziadkowie. Dają bezwarunkową miłość, dobroć, cierpliwość, poczucie humoru, komfort, lekcje życia. Oraz, co najważniejsze, ciasteczka.”*

*Rudolph Giuliani*

Za oknem zimowy, mroźny dzień, a w Polskiej Parafialnej Szkole im. Juliusza Słowackiego w Wheeling, Illinois jakże ciepła i serdeczna atmosfera. To za sprawą naszych najmłodszych, którzy już od kilku tygodni przygotowywali się do tego dnia, a teraz stojąc świątecznie ubrani wypatrują na sali swoich najukochanszych dziadków. Wszystko już dopięte na ostatni guzik, dzieci trzymają własnoręcznie zrobione laurki, szkolna jadalnia zamieniła się na ten dzień w elegancką, pięknie przystrojoną salę, a w tle widnieje napis „Dzień Babci i Dziadka”.



*Eva Vickerman, Antoś Rapciak, Karolina Ćwikła*

Pani dyrektor Renata Rudnicki rozpoczyna nasze spotkanie pięknymi słowami o tym, jak bardzo dziadkowie są wnukom potrzebni, ile korzyści wypływa z tej wspaniałej relacji. To babcie i dziadkowie poświęcają nam swój czas, mają niekończące się pokłady cierpliwości, kochają bezgranicznie - słyszymy słowa pani dyrektor. I za to wszystko dzieci chciałyby dzisiaj swoim dziadkom podziękować.

Występ rozpoczynają nasi najmłodsi – uczniowie przedszkola i zerówki. „My jesteśmy krasnoludki” w wykonaniu 4-latków rozwesela niejedno babcine serce. Pan Marcin Bogacz i Anna Lorenc, którzy wzbogacają lekcje muzyką w najmłodszych klasach, dzisiaj dostarczają nam wspaniałego akompaniamentu. Salę wypełniają radosne wierszyki i piosenki „W starych nutach babuni”, „Kto za tobą w szkole ganiał”, „O mnie się nie martw” czy „Babcia stała na balkonie”. Atmosfera radości i wzruszenia wypełnia salę, a babcie i dziadkowie dzięki piosenkom śpiewanym przez swoich wnuków, przenoszą się w czasy, gdy sami byli młodzi.

Oczywiście, nie zapomnieliśmy również o naszych babciach i dziadkach w Polsce, którzy, mimo iż za oceanem, sercem są zawsze z nami. Część uczniów robiła laurki wcześniej, aby już tego dnia dziadkowie w Polsce mogli je otrzymać. Na koniec salę wypełniło głośnie, bo zaśpiewane z całego serca przez wszystkich uczniów „Sto lat”, a babcie i dziadkowie zaproszeni zostali na „ciasteczko i herbatkę”.

„Babcia i dziadziu jest trochę rodzicem, trochę nauczycielem i trochę najlepszym przyjacielem.” – i za to im serdecznie dziękujemy.

*Joanna Rokosz, nauczycielka w Polskiej Szkole Juliusza Słowackiego w Wheeling  
Zdjęcia: Halina Fotidzis*



*Klasa III a, inscenizacja wiersza „Nowy Rok z życzeniami dla dziadków”*



*Klasa O a, tuż przed koncertem.*

Send all articles, pictures and correspondence to:

**zgoda@pna-znp.org**

or mail to: Alicja Kuklińska

Zgoda Magazine

6100 N. Cicero Avenue

Chicago, IL 60646





## 40 lat Polskiej Szkoły Sobotniej im. Mikołaja Kopernika w Niles



Polska Szkoła im. Mikołaja Kopernika w Niles, Illinois obchodziła w sobotę 23 stycznia 40. rocznicę istnienia. Jubileusz ten stał się okazją do bankietu, na którym zgromadziło się około 400 osób by celebrować tę szczególną okazję, oddać cześć tym, którzy szkołę założyli i tym, którzy pracowali na jej sukces przez cztery dziesięciolecia.

Na uroczystość, oprócz osób bezpośrednio związanych ze szkołą, przybył Konsul RP oraz liczni przedstawiciele polonijnych organizacji. Dyrektor szkoły, pani Bernarda Redlinska oraz prezes zarządu pan Witold Moskal przedstawili historię szkoły, jej osiągnięcia oraz wyrazili wdzięczność i zarówno tym, którzy pracowali na jej rzecz w przeszłości jak i tym, którzy nadal tworzą jej społeczność. Do szkoły uczęszcza obecnie 340 uczniów, z którymi pracuje 26 wykwalifikowanych nauczycieli.

z rozmachem autorski spektakl poświęcony patronowi szkoły Mikołajowi Kopernikowi.

Szkoła im. Mikołaja Kopernika w Niles od lat współpracuje ze Związkiem Narodowym Polskim, do którego należy duża grupa młodzieży i nauczycieli. Uroczystość 40-lecia szkoły miała dla mnie znaczenie szczególne ze względu na to, iż przez kilkanaście lat pracowałam tam, jako nauczycielka klas licealnych i kierownik. W tym czasie zostałam członkiem ZNP i włączyłam się aktywnie w życie Polonii amerykańskiej.

Dziękuję za wyróżnienie mnie okolicznościowym medalem szkoły i życzę w imieniu własnym oraz Związku Narodowego Polskiego dalszych sukcesów.

*Alicja Kuklińska  
Zdjęcia: Andrzej Baraniak*



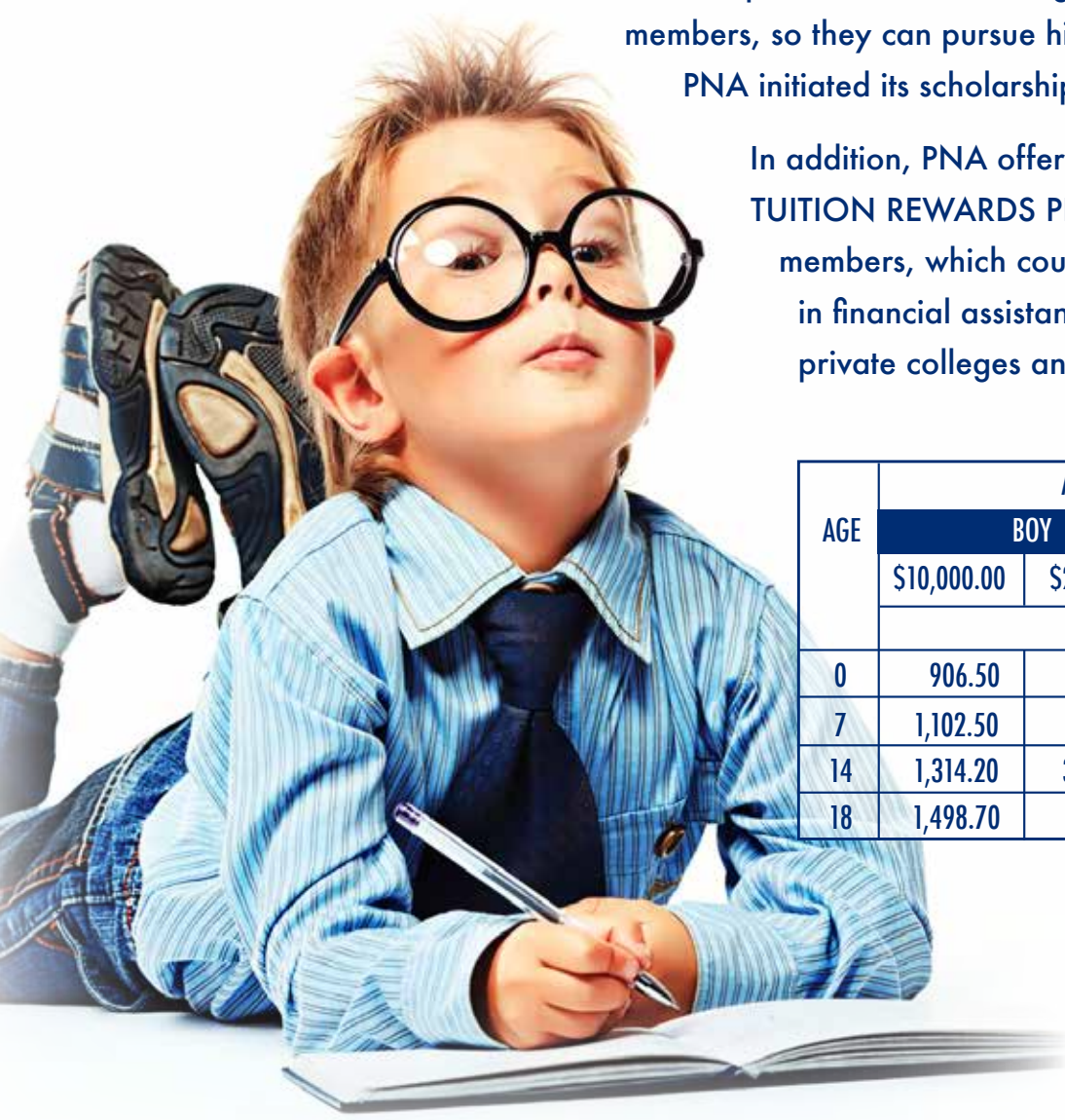
# *Gift that will last a lifetime*

## **PNA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS**

In the last 10 years PNA awarded \$2,525,000 in fraternal scholarship benefits to our college and graduate student members, so they can pursue higher education goals.

PNA initiated its scholarship program in 1973.

In addition, PNA offers to its members a **TUITION REWARDS PROGRAM®** to all of its members, which could provide up to \$44,075 in financial assistance for students attending private colleges and universities.



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18	1,498.70	3,701.75	1,344.40	3,316.00

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# "I Am Proud to Be Polish"

Art Contest for PNA Members Ages 5 to 12

## February 1st - May 31st, 2016

To commemorate 1050 Years of Poland's existence as a Christian, sovereign country in Europe, The Polish National Alliance is pleased to announce the first PNA Original Art Contest 2016, "I'm proud to be Polish" for its juvenile members.

Whether it is Poland's captivating history, a Polish organization your family is involved in, Polish traditions at your home - let your children express themselves and show their talents.

### Rules:

- All artwork must be original. Photographs, computer generated artwork or tracing of other's artwork will not be accepted.
- Acceptable media are paint (water colors or oil), pencil, colored pencil, ink, markers crayons or pastels.
- Artwork must be two-dimensional, at least 8.5 x 11 and no larger than 18 x 24 inches.
- Child must be a PNA member. Only one entry per child is allowable.
- 4 age groups: 5 - 6, 7 - 8, 9 - 10, 11 - 12
- The artwork should not have the artist's signature, initials or name on the front. Write the title only in back of the artwork.
- Send your artwork along with the completed Art Contest Entry Form to:  
Polish National Alliance  
Fraternal Activities  
6100 N. Cicero Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60646
- Postmark no later than **May 31, 2016**

### 2016 Art Contest Entry Form

Title of the artwork:

.....

Name: .....

Age: ..... D.O.B: .....

Address: .....

City: .....

State: ..... Zip: .....

Phone No.: .....

email: .....

Lodge No.: .....

Parent Signature: .....

### A total of \$4,000.00 will be awarded in prizes.

Winners will be asked to provide a photo and a short bio for publicity. All entries become the property of the Polish National Alliance and will not be returned. For more information visit: [www.pna-znp.org](http://www.pna-znp.org)



# We are proud of

## Morgan Wawrzyniak,



member of the PNA Lodge 2337, was crowned the 50th Miss Polonaise on Saturday, October 24, 2015 at the annual Polonaise Ball. The ball is sponsored by the East Side Federation of Erie Pennsylvania.

Morgan is 17 years old and attends Mercyhurst Prep High School where she is a Senior. Her career goal is to become an occupational therapist. While in school, Morgan holds all four years of First Honors and won the Dollars for Scholars Award. She has been accepted into the National Honor Society, is the student body secretary, and a peer leader. Morgan is involved in the Spirit club, Ophelia club, Spanish club, Women in Motion and Serteens club. She plays varsity softball as pitcher and first baseman where she won the defensive MVP award. Morgan also participated in the MASH program at LECOM over the summer.

When Morgan ran in the Miss Polonaise contest in 2014 she was awarded First Runner-up and Miss Congeniality.

*Submitted by Morgan's proud parents are Gregg and Yvonne Wawrzyniak.*

## Mark B. Grzymala,



Mark Grzymala is a graduate of Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology

His practice areas are: Construction Litigation, Business Litigation Business/Corporate as well as Civil Litigation.

PNA member of Wilmette, IL was listed as a Rising Star in Construction Litigation by Illinois Super Lawyers Magazine for 2016, a designation reserved for the top 2.5% of all Illinois attorneys under 40. Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high-degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. The selection process includes independent research, peer nominations and peer evaluations

***Congratulation Mr. Grzymala!***

## Barbara Mikulski,



U.S. Senator and PNA member from Maryland was honored with Presidential Medal of Freedom.

On November 24, 2015 President Obama honored Sen. Barbara Mikulski with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, lauding her as a "tireless advocate for women, children and seniors."

"You don't want to be on the wrong side of Barbara Mikulski," the president quipped. "She has been a lioness on Capitol Hill, fighting for working families and for high-tech jobs."

Barbara Mikulski, a senator since 1987, will be retiring at the end of her current term this year.

Senator Mikulski has been Maryland's most popular politician for decades. Last December, The Baltimore Sun, announced Senator Barbara Mikulski its **2015 Marylander of the Year**, for fighting tirelessly for the interests of her community and for her unmatched dedication.

***Congratulation Madam Senator!***



## Board of Directors Meeting

On November 23-24, 2015 former PNA Board of Directors held its last meeting. During this joint conference of both Fraternal and Business Board, managers of the Alliance Printers and Publishers as well as the Alliance Communication presented their reports and spoke about plans for the near future. Directors had a chance to see newly built studio for the WPNA 1490 Radio Station.

New Board of Directors as well as the Supervisory Council will meet for the first time at the PNA Home Office in February.



## Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation



*Announces*

## The Majer and Lakowski Families Memorial Scholarships

### Scholarship Terms:

- Available for full-time undergraduate and graduate students majoring in engineering or business administration.
- Recipients must attend a public state university or college.
- Amount of the scholarship is equal to the annual state-resident (in-state) tuition.
- Scholarships are renewable annually.
- Merit and need are taken into consideration.
- Candidates not selected can reapply annually.
- Preference shall be given to applicants who will be juniors, seniors, or graduate students in the fall term.

To obtain an application, send a request by mail to PACCF (address above) or an application can be printed from PACCF website at [www.paccf.org](http://www.paccf.org)

Applications must be submitted by **March 15, 2016**

# Make love your lasting legacy

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30	22.32	30	19.78
40	32.92	40	28.96
50	50.36	50	43.63

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Male Age	Monthly Premium	Female Age	Monthly Premium
20	5.18	20	4.28
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50	16.16	50	13.90

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# Betlejemskie Światło Pokoju w Związku Narodowym Polskim

Na kilka dni przed świętami pracownicy Związku Narodowego polskiego spotykają się na wspólnym lunchu by na chwilę odetchnąć od zawodowych obowiązków, podsumować mijający rok i życzyć sobie i organizacji wszelkiej pomyślności na Nowy Rok.



Podczas zeszłorocznego, bożonarodzeniowego przyjęcia uhonorowano dwoje pracowników obchodzących 25. lat zatrudnienia w organizacji: Marię Mastalerz oraz Adama Maja.



Podczas zeszłorocznego, świątecznego spotkania odwiedzili Związek Narodowy Polski przedstawiciele Związku Harcerstwa Polskiego i przekazali na ręce prezesa Franka Spuli Betlejemskie Światło Pokoju.

Ubiegłorocznym przesłaniem Betlejemskiego Światła Pokoju było hasło "Zauważ człowieka". My

harcerze i harcerki przekazując je pragniemy uwrażliwić na wszystkie potrzeby współczesnego człowieka. Byśmy prosząc radośnie śpieszyli z pomocą, milczących w cierpieniu dostrzegali, a ukrywających się odnajdywali i okazywali im pomoc. Betlejemski ogień umacnia nasze braterstwo i współpracę dla dobra człowieka. Niech obudzi i pogłębi w nas wrażliwość na cudze potrzeby", powiedziała na spotkaniu w ZNP harcmistrzyni Beata Pawlikowska.

Prezes Spula, przyjął Betlejemskie Światło z rąk małych harcerek i podziękował za ten niezwykle dar, symbol radości i pokoju. Zapewnił, że chciałby przekazać je zarówno członkom ZNP jak i całej Polonii, podkreślając, że dzisiejszy świat bardzo pokoju potrzebuje.

Inicjatywa przekazywania Betlejemskiego Światła Pokoju została narodziła się w 1986 roku w austriackim Linzu, jako część bożonarodzeniowej akcji charytatywnej na rzecz dzieci niepełnosprawnych oraz innych osób potrzebujących pomocy. Związek Harcerstwa Polskiego w Chicago przyjął zwyczaj dzielenia się światłem od skautów austriackich w 2001 roku.



## The Peace Light of Bethlehem at the PNA

On December 18th, 2015 the Home Office celebrated its annual Christmas Luncheon. Mary Mastalerz and Adam Maj were recognized on their 25 years of employment. The Peace Light of Bethlehem was brought to the PNA Home Office by the Polish Scouts.



# Toys for Kids for Christmas

Thank you to everyone who donated to the annual **Toys for Kids at Christmas** drive organized by the Polish National Alliance. Shortly before Christmas toys were delivered to the Shriners Hospital for Children in Chicago.

Ms. Mary McCauley, Donations Coordinator for the hospital, accepted the donation and expressed her gratitude on behalf of the children receiving medical care at the Shriners Hospital.

Shriners Hospitals for Children specialize in advanced care for children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate. Hospital's mission is carried out without regard to race, color, creed, sex or sect, disability, national origin or ability of a patient or family to pay.



## Czy warto się ubezpieczyć?

Oczywiście, że warto! Zwykle, myśląc o ubezpieczeniu, mamy na myśli dom, mieszkanie, samochód. Czy warto jednak ubezpieczyć siebie samego? Czy jest to sensowny wydatek? Chociaż nikt ze sobą na drugą stronę pieniędzy nie zabrał, mogą one być bardzo potrzebne naszym bliskim; rodzinie i przyjaciołom, których pozostawimy.

Przekonał się o tym przed laty Frank Spula, prezes Związku Narodowego Polskiego. Polisy wykupione przez oboje rodziców pozwoliły jemu i jego rodzinie uniknąć bardzo dużych wydatków.

„Ubezpieczenie na życie daje poczucie bezpieczeństwa, spokój ducha oraz wiarę, że nie zostawi się najbliższych bez środków do życia” mówi prezes Spula i przypomina historię własnego ojca, który odszedł nagle, na wiele lat przed matką.

„Mój ojciec zmarł w szpitalu. Po jego śmierci nadeszły rachunki, które mogliśmy pokryć z jego ubezpieczenia na życie. Proszę pamiętać, że nawet, gdy pacjent ma ubezpieczenie Medicare, to nie pokrywa ono rachunków medycznych i szpitalnych w stu procentach. Zawsze jakąś część muszą pokryć spadkobiercy. Dzięki ubezpieczeniu ojca mogliśmy pokryć jego szpitalne rachunki, godnie go pochować, a mama mogła żyć tak, jak poprzednio”, podkreślił prezes Spula.

„Moi rodzice wcześniej zadbali też o to, by wykupić miejsca na cmentarzu tak, że koszty pogrzebu ojca były niższe o ten wydatek. Zaoszczędziło to wiele stresu pogrążonej w żałobie mamie, mnie i mojemu bratu.. W ciągu tygodnia, otrzymaliśmy ze Związku Narodowego Polskiego pieniądze. Wystarczyło przedstawić akt zgonu i złożyć odpowiedni wniosek. Proszę pamiętać, że są to wolne od podatku pieniądze”, podkreślił prezes ZNP.

Pieniądze z polisy ubezpieczeniowej pomogły Frankowi Spuli poradzić sobie również z wydatkami ostatniego roku życia jego matki. „Mama chorowała na raka. W ciągu tylko jednego roku wydaliśmy na jej leczenie przynajmniej 50 tys. dolarów. Była również leczona w Teksasie, w klinice dr. Burzyńskiego. To były naprawdę duże wydatki na leczenie i na comiesięczne podróże. Po jej śmierci pieniędzmi z ubezpieczenia pokryliśmy koszty pogrzebowe, zapłaciliśmy rachunki lekarzy i szpitala. Dzięki jej zapobiegliwości i poczuciu odpowiedzialności ani ja ani mój brat nie poniesliśmy większych wydatków. Jesteśmy mamie za to bardzo wdzięczni. Dzięki niej pamiętamy również o zabezpieczeniu finansowym naszych rodzin.”

Warto pomyśleć o przyszłości swojej i bliskich. Zaradzić pewnym problemom, zadbać o to, byśmy godnie odeszli z tego świata nie pozostawiając po sobie zaległości finansowych, nie obciążając rodziny czy przyjaciół. Do tego właśnie służy ubezpieczenie na życie.

„**Pewnym zdarzeniom nie można zapobiec, ale zawsze można finansowo przygotować się na ich nadejście**” stwierdził prezes Spula.

Zadzwoń do Związku Narodowego Polskiego Sprawdź, który plan ubezpieczeniowy odpowiada najlepiej twoim potrzebom i możliwościom.

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# New Year's Chopin Concert at Polish Embassy

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Fredrick Chopin piano compositions and Polish melodies were floating in the air here at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland on January 7, 2016 under the auspices of Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf, in conjunction with the Heritage Society of the National Philharmonic Orchestra (NPO). Charge d'Affaires Maciej Pisarski warmly welcomed everyone, especially the numerous NPO guests, and remarked upon the close working relationship between the Embassy and the NPO, conducted by Maestro Piotr Gajewski, which frequently showcases Polish artists and musicians.

Pianist Brian Ganz is devoted to the music of Fredrick Chopin, and is recognized as one of the finest conveyors of Chopin's repertoire. He enraptured the audience with his presentation of the Cantabile in B-Flat Major, Impromptu No. 1 in A-Flat Major, and two Nocturnes in C Minor and F Major, respectively. The Embassy's historic Paderewski/Steinway piano never sounded as good as it did on this evening as it almost-knowingly responded to Ganz's amazing commands and entreaties.

With her unrivaled voice and dramatic gestures, mezzo-soprano Magdalena Wor, accompanied by



*Pianist Brian Ganz accompanies mezzo-soprano Magdalena Wor as she sings "A Maiden's Wish" (Żuczynie) at the Embassy of Poland to celebrate the beginning of the New Year with a dynamic program of Chopin's compositions and songs entitled "Chopin – Bel Canto of the Piano."*



Ganz, held the audience in their thrall as she sang ten short Polish songs by Chopin that are rarely heard. We heard and appreciated vocals such as "Handsome Lad" (Sliczny chlopiec), "Drinking Song" (Hulanka), "Out of My Sight!" (Precz z moich oczu!), "Double Ending" (Dwojaki koniec) and "Lithuanian Song" (Piosnka litewska). Before each presentation, Ganz and Wor explained the lyrics and plot for the audience's edification. Some presentations were quite amusing, some melancholy or thoughtful, but they all represented the vibrancy and foibles of life. Polish-American Wor was standing in for Iwona Sobotka who was still stranded in Poland due to American visa issues.

The delightful evening was capped by a bountiful Polish and European buffet - with various deserts - that left no one wanting. Along with the wine and aforementioned music, it proved to be an excellent entrance for the New Year of 2016.

*Text & photos: Richard P. Poremski,  
Polish American Journal, Washington DC,  
PNA Lodge 238*

# Wydarzenia drugiej połowy 2015 roku

Jak co roku, Polonia hucznie powitała Nowy Rok na Balach Sylwestrowych z nadzieją, że nastąpią lepsze czasy bez wojen i osobistych problemów. Niestety, ciągle nie ma pokoju, a jako skutek wojen do Europy masowo przybywają emigranci z Syrii i Turcji.

W Polsce nastąpiły duże przemiany systemu demokratycznego. Został wybrany i zaprzysiężony nowy prezydent, Andrzej Duda. W wyborach powszechnych, pod przewodnim hasłem wielu ważnych zmian zwyciężyła partia Prawo i Sprawiedliwość, która ma obecnie przeważającą większość w Sejmie i Senacie RP. Mijmy nadzieję, że nowy rząd wypełni swe obietnice i Polska będzie dalej przykładem dla innych krajów Europy.



*Immigration Heritage Hall of Fame, Tariq Farid, Igor Sikorsky, Igor Sikorsky Jr., Helen & Vincent Knapczyk.*

My Nowy Rok witaliśmy w Klubie Białego Orła, na wspaniałym, sprawnie zorganizowanym balu. Mimo, że Polonia nie dopisała liczebnie, przy dźwiękach doskonałej orkiestry w przyjaznej atmosferze, czas minął szybko i wesoło. Widać jednak, że dawne huczne bale należą do już przeszłości.

W dniach 26-30 września 2015, prezydent R.P. Andrzej Duda przybył do Nowego Yorku by uczestniczyć w Zgromadzeniu Organizacji Narodów Zjednoczonych. 29 września spotkał się z Polonią i weteranami w Konsulacie w Nowym Jorku. Prezydent w treściwych i życzliwych



*Nowy York. Prezydent RP Andrzej Duda i Helena Knapczyk w Konsulacie*

słowach dziękował weteranom za wierną służbę dla ojczyzny i stwierdził, że bez ich poświęcenia nie mielibyśmy obecnej demokratycznej Polski. Wśród odznaczonych przez Prezydenta zasłużonych działaczy polonijnych była nasza córka Donna Kelly, która otrzymała Srebrny Krzyż Zasługi. Każdy pragnął zamienić kilka słów z dostojnym gościem. Ja z małżonką, Naczelną Prezeską Korpusu Pomocniczego Pań, mieliśmy zaszczyt zrobić z prezydentem wspólne zdjęcie. Na uroczystość Konsulat RP zaprosił liczne grono honorowych gości, między obecnymi był Frank Spula, prezes ZNP i KPA, ucieszyłem się, że mogłem z nim tam spotkać. To nadzwyczajne spotkanie z Prezydentem RP na długo pozostanie w naszej pamięci.

W dniu 4-go października braliśmy udział w Paradzie Pułaskiego wzdłuż Piątej Alei w Nowym Jorku, Piękna parada, lecz niestety należy

stwierdzić, że zainteresowanie nią przez nowojorską publiczność ciągle maleje. Po paradzie weterani udali się na miłe spotkanie koleżeńskie i poczęstunek do siedziby Okręgu II SWAP na Manhattanie.

11 października 2015 roku pojechaliśmy do Hartford, gdzie, co roku, po mszy w lokalnym kościele, maszerujemy pod Pomnik Generała Kazimierza Pułaskiego na okolicznościowy program z udziałem wielu honorowych gości, polityków i reprezentantów władz miejskich. Na tej podniosłej, historycznej uroczystości zgromadziło się również duże grono harcerstwa i młodzieży z polskich szkół sobotnich. Na poczęstunek przeszliśmy do Polskiego Domu Narodowego. Sponsorem uroczystości był Kongres Polonii Amerykańskiej na Stan Connecticut z prezesem Januszem Kocurem na czele.

17 października 2015 roku, w Hotelu Holiday Inn w Bridgeport odbył się 25. Bal Błękitny, ku czci byłych żołnierzy Armii Błękitnej z 1917 r., walczących pod wodzą generała Józefa Hallera we Francji i później w Polsce, w wojnie bolszewickiej 1920. Na uroczystość przybyli weterani, członkinie Korpusu Pomocniczego Pań z różnych stanów Ameryki i Kanady, reprezentanci wojska i władz polskich oraz przedstawiciele Polonii. Związek Narodowy Polski reprezentował skarbnik Marian Grabowski, który na wstępie swego przemówienia odczytał list od prezesa Franka Spuli oraz mówił o historii i zasługach Stowarzyszenia Weteranów Armii Polskiej w Ameryce i Kanadzie. W czasie programu odebrałem przysięgę od Konsul Generalnej z Nowego Yorku Urszuli Gacek, nowego członka Stowarzyszenia Weteranów Armii Polskiej w Ameryce. Po obiedzie i programie, część artystyczną rozpoczął Zespół Taneczny Orle-





*Wzniesienie polskiej Flagi przed Ratuszem w Bridgeport, CT, Proklamację odbiera Vincet Knapczyk.*

ta. Solo wystąpiły Angelika Rudka, która pięknie zaśpiewała „Wojenko, wojenko” i Angelika Sidorowicz, która zaśpiewała „Legiony to żołnierska nuta”. Oba wykonania publiczność nagrodziła stojącą owacją. Średnia grupa Orłat zatańczyła tańce Śląskie, a starsza grupa krakowiaka i inne tańce ludowe. Zabawę taneczną rozpoczęto wspólnym Polonezem. Była to bardzo miła koleżeńska uroczystość, każdy czuł się młodo i chętnie włączał do tańca. Zapraszamy na następny Bal Błękitny, który odbędzie się w tym samym hotelu, 22 października 2016.

W tym roku, założony przez Agnieszkę Wisłę, członkinię Białego Krzyża przy Armii Błękitnej z dużą pomocą finansową Heleny Paderewskiej, Korpus Pomocniczy Pań będzie obchodził 90 lat istnienia. Koleżanki z Korpusu były uhonorowane na wielu polonijnych uroczystościach. Placówka 111 im. Gen. Józefa Hallera urządziła piękny bankiet, 4 listopada Konsul Generalna Urszula Gacek, zaprosiła Panie z Korpusu do Konsulatu na nadzwyczajne spotkanie, na które przybyło 12 pań ubranych w błękitne pelerynki, na czele z Prezeską Heleną Knapczyk. Podczas spotkania autorka książki „Agnieszka Wisła”, dr. Anita Maksymowicz zaprezentowała zasługi i zdolności organizacyjne tytułowej bohaterki przy organi-

zowaniu Stowarzyszenia Weteranów Armii Polskiej w Ameryce i Korpusu Pomocniczego Pań oraz jej nieustanną pomoc potrzebującym.

7-go listopada 2015, z inicjatywy Polsko Amerykańskiej Fundacji w Connecticut (charytatywnej organizacji istniejącej od 1996 roku i zajmującej się pomocy emigrantom różnych narodowości oraz promowaniem kultury polskiej) w sali Alumni Hall w Connecticut State University w New Britain, odbyła się uroczystość przedstawienia kolejnych kandydatów do Izby Pamięci Dziedzictwa Imigrantów (Immigrant Heritage Hall of Fame) Tegorocznymi Laurentami powyższego wyróżnienia byli: Tariq Farid (pomysłodawca i właściciel firmy Edible Arrangements), weterani Helena i Wincenty Knapczyk (Helena od ponad 27 lat jest Naczelną Prezeską Korpusu Pomocniczego Pań, Wincenty wstąpił do SWAP w 1959 roku, pełnił różne funkcje i od 10 lat jest naczelnym Komendantem Stowarzyszenia Weteranów Armii Polskiej w Ameryce i Kanadzie. Oboje udzielają się w wielu polonijnych organizacjach i współpracują z demokratycznymi władzami w Polsce.) oraz Igor Sikorsky i jego syn Igor Sikorsky Jr, konstruktor helikopterów.

11 listopada to Święto Niepodległości w Polsce, a w Ameryce dzień zakończenia I wojny światowej zna-

ny, jako Dzień Weterana. W Bridgeport, CT, co roku przed pomnikiem poległych żołnierzy gromadzą się lokalni weterani i oczywiście Polscy z Placówki 24 SWAP, jak również goście i przedstawiciele władz państwowych i miejskich. Dokładnie o godzinie 11:00, w chwili podpisania traktatu pokojowego 11 listopada, przewodniczący płk. Thomas Kanasky rozpoczął program od wciągnięcia na maszt amerykańskiej flagi. Po modlitwie, tym razem przez rabina, nastąpił czas przemówień i wyróżnień zasłużonych weteranów i innych lokalnych działaczy. 12 listopada obchodziliśmy uroczyste Święto Niepodległości Polski w Konsulacie RP w Nowym Jorku.

14 listopada 2015, przed ratuszem w Bridgeport, CT odbyła się uroczystość wniesienia polskiej flagi i ogłoszenia proklamacji burmistrza miasta, pana Billa Fincha, ogłaszającą, że cały tydzień będzie w Bridgeport polskim tygodniem. Miałem zaszczyt wciągnąć na maszt polską flagę a miłą niespodzianką było przyznanie mi honorowego tytułu „Polonian of Bridgeport”. Uroczystość sprawnie przeprowadził Pan Moczerniuk z udziałem pocztów sztandarowych, weteranów i innych organizacji. Młodzież Polskiej Szkoły Sobotniej im. Papieża Jana Pawła II, której kierownikiem jest pani Elżbieta Pardon Malewska, zaprezentowała ciekawy program historyczny.

W niedzielę 15 listopada, w kościele Świętego Michała w Bridgeport, odbyła się uroczysta Msza św. oraz program pod przewodnictwem A. Więciorkowskiego, prezesa Centrali Złączonych Polskich Towarzystw. Weterani z Placówki 24 w Bridgeport wystąpili z pocztami sztandarowymi, prezes CZPT naświetlił historię Święta Niepodległości Polski, a młodzież sobotniej szkoły polskiej deklamowała patriotyczne wiersze.

*Vincent Knapczyk*

# 1050 Years of Christianity in Poland

**On April 14th, 966, Polish king, Mieszko I and his court converted and were baptized marking the beginning of the Christianization of the nation.**

Celebrations marking the 1050th anniversary of Poland becoming a Christian nation will be the most important series of events for Poland this year. The main celebrations will take place in the western city of Poznań and nearby Gniezno, which are considered to be the cradle of Polish Christianity. The events celebrating the country's 1050 years of Christianity will be a joint initiative of the Church and government.

Before the adoption of Christianity, Poland was a pagan country. Christianity arrived on the Polish lands around the late 9th century, most likely around the time when the Vistulan tribe encountered the Christian rite in dealings with their neighbors, the Great Moravia (Bohemian) state. The Moravian cultural influence played a significant

role in the spread of Christianity onto the Polish lands and adoption of that religion.

The baptism of Poland refers to the ceremony when the first ruler of the Polish state, Mieszko I and much of his court, converted to the Christian religion. Mieszko's wife Dobrawa of Bohemia, a devoted Christian, played a significant role in promoting Christianity in Poland, and might have had significant influence on converting Mieszko himself. The exact place of Mieszko's baptism is disputed, however, Gniezno or Poznań are the most likely sites. The date of Mieszko's baptism was on the Holy Saturday of 14 April 966.

The ceremony was preceded by a week of oral catechism and several days of fasting. The actual ceremony involved pouring water over the segregated groups of men and women, although it is possible that their heads were immersed instead, and anointed with the chrism.

The Christianization of Poland through the Czech–Polish alliance

represented a conscious choice on the part of Polish rulers to ally themselves with the Czech state rather than the German one. Later, Polish Church chose to be directly subordinate to the Vatican.

In adopting Christianity as the state religion, Mieszko sought to achieve several personal goals. He saw Poland's baptism as a way of strengthening his hold on power, as well as using it as a unifying force for the Polish people. It replaced several smaller cults with a single, central one, clearly associated with the royal court and improved the position and respectability of the Polish state on the international, European scene.

Mieszko I died in 992. He divided Poland among his sons, but Duke Boleslaw I the Brave (son of Dobrawa) expelled his father's last wife, Oda of Haldensleben, and his half-brothers and reunited Poland between 992 and 995. He was a remarkable politician, strategist, and statesman that turned Poland into a country comparable to older western monarchies and raised it to the front rank of European states.

Boleslaw the Brave conducted successful military campaigns in the west, south and east. He consolidated Polish lands and conquered territories outside the borders of modern-day Poland.

Finally, as the culmination of his reign, in 1025 he had himself crowned King of Poland with the official permission and blessing from Pope John XIX. He was the first Polish ruler to receive the title of rex (Latin: "king"). He was the first King of Poland.

Boleslaw the Brave is widely considered one of Poland's most capable and accomplished Piast dynasty rulers.



*Jan Matejko: Christianization of Poland A.D. 966.*



# Początki państwa polskiego

Na początku X wieku w Wielkopolsce ścinano wielkie obszary lasów i budowano na potęgę państwo Piastów. W połowie X wieku Siemomysł podbił liczne małe grody plemienne położone pomiędzy Obrą i Baryczą a na zdobytym terenie Polanie wybudowali nowe osady. Grody centralne Gniezno, Poznań, Giecz strzegły niewielkiego, liczącego około 5 tys. km kw. państwa Piastów. Ludność tego państewka szacuje się na 150 tys. osób.



*Mieszko I*

Panowanie Piastów szybko się rozszerzało. Po dojściu do władzy (ok. 960 r.) Mieszko I przebudował i wzmocnił grody założone przez poprzednika. Polanom udało się rozszerzyć swoje panowanie przyłączając Śląsk, Kraków i Pomorze. Tak powstała Polska.

Od samego początku geopolityczne położenie Polski między Zachodem a Wschodem było kłopotliwe. Polska Mieszka I leżała na styku dwóch światów, łacińskiej cywilizacji zachodniej i bizantyjskiej wschodniej. Sąsiednie po-

tęgi, państwo czeskie i cesarstwo niemieckie nalegały na młode państwo gnieźnieńskie. Wybór Zachodu, dokonany przez Mieszka za pośrednictwem Czechów, określił przyszłość Polski i jej mieszkańców.



*Dobrawa*

W roku 965 Mieszko I ożenił się z księżniczką Dobrawą z czeskiej dynastii Przemyślidów i w konsekwencji tego związku 14 kwietnia 966 roku książę i jego dwór przyjęli chrzest za pośrednictwem czeskim. Chrzystianizacja całego społeczeństwa trwała przez kilka stuleci. Mieszko I był świadomy, że przyjęcie nowej wiary i stworzenie własnej organizacji kościelnej umocni jego państwo i zapewni uznanie chrześcijańskiej Europy.

W identyfikacji Polski z Zachodem dopomogła ofiara z życia św. Wojciecha, biskupa praskiego, który zginął podczas misji chrystianizacyjnej w 997 r. na ziemiach Prusów. Jego śmierć odbiła się głośnym echem w Europie. Syn Mieszka I, książę Bolesław, wykupił od Prusów ciało męczennika i przewiózł je do Gniezna. Cesarz Otton III,



*Bolesław Chrobry*

zafascynowany tą historią, odbył w roku 1000 pielgrzymkę do grobu Wojciecha w Gnieźnie, ostatnie kilometry przemierzając pieszo. Bolesław wykorzystał wizytę Ottona III do pokazania swojej potęgi przyjmując gościa w największych grodach i organizując pokaz s zbrojnych zastępów. W podziw i uznaniu dla Bolesława wręczył mu włócznię św. Maurycego, i relikwie gwoździa z Krzyża Pańskiego i nałożył na głowę swój diadem, uznając go za równego sobie.

Z powodu późniejszych wojen z Niemcami, dopiero w Wielkanoc, 18 kwietnia 1025 roku Bolesław zwany Chrobrym, za długo zabieganą zgodą papieża Jana XIX, został pierwszym koronowanym królem Polski.

**Sejm RP na posiedzeniu 22 grudnia 2015 roku ustanowił rok 2016 Rokiem Jubileuszu 1050-lecia Chrztu Polski w 1050.**

# UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Poland

## Old City of Zamość



**Zamość** is a unique example of a Renaissance town in Central Europe, designed and built in accordance with the Italian theories of the “ideal town,” on the basis of a plan which was the result of perfect cooperation between the open-minded founder, Jan Zamoyski, and the outstanding architect, Bernardo Morando. Zamość is an outstanding example of an innovative approach to town planning, combining the functions of an urban ensemble, a residence, and a fortress in accordance with a consistently implemented Renaissance concept. The result of this is a stylistically homogeneous urban composition with a high level of architectural and landscape values. A real asset of this

great construction was its creative enhancement with local artistic architectural achievements.

Located on the trade route linking western and northern Europe with the Black Sea, the town was conceived from the beginning as an economic center based on trade.

The community of this town, which from the outset was planned to be multinational, had a high level of religious tolerance.

Zamość is the tangible reflection of the social and cultural ideas of the Renaissance, which were strongly accepted in Poland. This can be exemplified by the establishment of a university (Zamość Academy) by the founder and owner of the town.

### **Zamość – miasto idealne**

Zachowane w niemal niezmiennym od czasu powstania kształcie renesansowe, prywatne miasto ufundowane zostało w 1580 roku przez kanclerza Jana Zamoyskiego. Leżące na szlaku łączącym zachodnią i północną Europę z Morzem Czarnym stało się ważnym na mapie Europy punktem handlowym. Przez wieki było miejscem harmonijnego współistnienia i uzupełniania się kultur Wschodu i Zachodu. W pełnej tolerancji współżyło wiele nacji. Polacy, Włosi, Niemcy, Rusini, Ormianie,



Grecy i Żydzi. Przenikanie różnorodnych, wielonarodowościowych wpływów artystycznych wpłynęło na wyjątkowości architektoniczną i nadało miastu jego niepowtarzalny klimat.

Plan Zamościa, sporządzony według projektu włoskiego architekta Bernarda Morando, nawiązywał do ówczesnych miast włoskich i koncepcji miast idealnych podporządkowanych w całości wyobrażeniom estetycznym, wymogom gospodarczym, społecznym i politycznym. Miasto idealne miało być funkcjonalne, bezpieczne, przyjazne mieszkańcom i piękne. Zamość jest takim właśnie, idealnym miastem nazywanym często Perłą Renesansu.

### Jedne z najbardziej interesujących obiektów Starego Miasta w Zamościu to:



**Rynek Wielki z Ratuszem**, okazały, kwadratowy plac o wymiarach stanowi centrum miasta i pełni funkcję reprezentacyjną. Otaczają go piękne kamienice mieszkańskie, a na północnej stronie placu stoi Ratusz, architektoniczny symbol miasta.



**Brama: Szczebrzeska**, wybudowana w XVI wieku przy południowej linii murów miasta i

przebudowana na przełomie XVII i XVIII wieku w stylu klasycystycznym.



**Kolegiata św. Tomasza**, zbudowana w wieku XVI i przebudowana dwa wieki później w stylu klasycystycznym, z wnętrzem wypełnionym wspaniałymi renesansowymi rzeźbami i sztukateriami, arcydziełami pędzli największych włoskich mistrzów oraz skarbcem wypełnionym bezcennymi inkunabułami i starodrukami.



**Pałac Zamojskich**, zabytek architektury barokowej, w którym obecnie znajduje się siedziba Sądu. Przed budynkiem znajduje się pomnik hetmana i kanclerza Jana Zamoyskiego.



**Wielki Arsenał**, zbrojownia z XVII wieku, w której teraz znajduje się Muzeum Barwy i Oręża „Arsenał”.



**Kościół Franciszkanów**, ufundowany w 1637 roku przez hetmana Tomasza Zamoyskiego, jedna z najwybitniejszych budowli sakralnych Polski XVII wieku.



**Synagoga**, jedna z najlepiej zachowanych i najpiękniejszych żydowskich świątyń w Polsce. Wybudowana w 1610 roku w stylu renesansowym została zdewastowana przez hitlerowców podczas II wojny światowej została odbudowana i działa pod nadzorem Fundacji Ochrony Dziedzictwa Żydowskiego.



W 1992 roku Zespół architektoniczno-urbanistyczny Starego Miasta w Zamościu, został wpisany na listę Dziedzictwa Światowego UNESCO.

AK

# Easter Favorites

## Easter Babka

Polish babka is a cross between a cake and a bread. It is a must on a Polish Easter table. Babka is a Polish word for grandmother; the loaf is baked in a Bundt pan so it looks like a grandmother's wide, fluted skirt. I hope you will enjoy this classic, tried recipe.

### Ingredients:

- ½ cup lukewarm milk
- 3 large eggs at room temperature
- ½ tsp. of salt
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- ¼ cup (4tbsp.) softened butter
- 2 cup unbleached flour
- 2 tsp. instant yeast
- ¼ cup currants or golden raisins
- ¼ cup candied mixed fruit or candied orange peel

### Rum syrup:

- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 to 2 tbsp. rum

*You can substitute apple juice for the water and rum.*

### Icing:

- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- pinch of salt
- 2 tbsp. milk or a combination of milk and rum or apple juice

### Preparation:

Place everything except the fruit in a mixing bowl, and beat at medium speed until cohesive. Increase your mixer's speed to high, and beat for 2 minutes. Add the fruit, beating gently just to combine.

Cover the bowl, and let the dough/thick batter rest/rise for 60 minutes; it won't appear to do too much. Scoop the batter into a greased 10-cup Bundt pan. Cover the pan, and let the dough rest/rise for 30 minutes, while you preheat your oven to 350°F. Bake the babka for 35 to 40 minutes, until an instant-read thermometer inserted into the center of the loaf reads at least 190°F. Do not over bake it!

While the babka is baking, prepare the rum syrup. Combine all of the syrup ingredients in a small saucepan set over medium heat. Bring the mixture to a boil, and boil, swirling the liquid in the pan, until the sugar dissolves. Remove from the heat. Remove the babka from the oven. Poke it all over gently with a toothpick or fork, and slowly pour the syrup over the babka's surface. When the syrup is fully absorbed (about 20 minutes or so), carefully loosen the babka's edges, and turn it out of the pan onto a rack. To make the icing: Mix all of the ingredients together, stirring until smooth. Drizzle over completely cool babka.



## Raosted Leg of Lamb



### Ingredients:

- 1 (4-pound) leg of lamb
- 3 cloves garlic, cut in half
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1 tbsp. salt
- 1 tsp. black pepper
- 1 tbsp. oregano
- 2 tbsp. butter, softened
- 1 cup hot water

### Preparation:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Wash and dry leg of lamb. With the point of a sharp knife, make slits all over the lamb. Sprinkle garlic with a little salt and black pepper. Insert clove halves into slits in lamb. Combine juice of 1 lemon, 1 tablespoon salt, 1 teaspoon black pepper and oregano, and rub all over lamb. Place lamb on a rack in a shallow pan. Spread butter on top of lamb and pour hot water in bottom of baking pan. Bake uncovered 25 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 degrees and bake, turning once and adding water as needed, for 2 hours or until instant-read thermometer registers 145 degrees. Allow it to rest 20 minutes before carving.



# Easter

Easter is one of the most popular and most celebrated occasions in the Western world. It is considered as one of the oldest and the holiest festivals celebrated by the Christians.

After Jesus' crucifixion, all his followers thought they will never again see their leader. To everyone's surprise, on the third day of his crucifixion, Christ rose from his dead body. Popularly known as the Resurrection of Christ, this holy event filled follower's hearts with joy, relief and hope and they began to celebrate the day.

The name Easter derived its name from the Anglo-Saxon goddess Eastre, which symbolizes hare and egg. We celebrate Easter between March 22 and April 25 on the first Sunday after the full moon, which happens on, or after March 21, the Spring

Equinox. Since ancient times, egg has been considered as the symbol of rebirth. The tradition of giving eggs at Easter goes back to ancient Egyptians, Gaul, Persians, Greeks and Romans, to whom the egg was a symbol of life.

In Poland, country of many unique traditions and customs, Easter is the most important holiday. The entire week before Easter is called Holy Week.

7 days before the main Easter celebrations, on Palm Sunday people gather for a procession with palms in their hands, usually made from branches of native trees, including box, willow, yew and olive. Some of the Polish villages and small towns organize artificial palm competitions.

Blessing of the Easter baskets is one of the most enduring and

beloved Polish traditions on Holy Saturday. In Poland as well as within Polish communities around the world, a small amount of the most important food like eggs, bread, meat and butter are put inside the nicely decorated basket and brought to the church for the blessing.

Easter Sunday morning, after attending the Resurrection Mass, Polish people sit down for a big, traditional family breakfast, which starts with sharing of the blessed food. Easter Eggs are always on the table, sharing a boiled egg with one's relatives is a national tradition.

Easter Monday, also known as Wet Monday (Lany Poniedziałek), is an official holiday in Poland. There is a very ancient Easter tradition called "Smigus Dyngus", custom of pouring water on one another. (See page 42)



# The Drowning of Marzanna

Notwithstanding the strong Catholic character of Poland, some pagan traditions have endured till today. One of them is the spring equinox celebration known as the Drowning of Marzanna (*Topienie Marzanny*).

Marzanna is the Polish avatar of Morena, the old Slavic goddess of winter, plague and death. The way of protection from the icy grasp of the Marzanna was to encourage the arrival of spring and ensure a good harvest in a ritual of burning of her effigy, followed by a drowning, to be sure she is really gone.

The name Marzanna derived from the words: old Polish *mor* / *mór* (plague or sickness), *mara* / *mora* / *zmora* (evil spirit, nightmare).

In medieval times, the ritual involved making a Marzanna effigy out of straw wrapped in linen and beautified with ribbons and beads. At dusk the villagers would gather at the riverbank, setting the statue on fire and tossing it into the water, singing and cheering as the figure disappeared downstream.



Nowadays, on March 21st, we can witness in different parts of Poland many colorful processions, mainly those of children, walking with several effigies adorned with bright scraps of paper. Under adult supervision, Marzanna is taken to the nearest riverbank or bridge, set ablaze and thrown to her watery grave as the children sing springtime songs. There are also many competitions for the best or biggest effigy of Marzanna organized.

AK



## Śmigus Dyngus

Among the Easter traditions Śmigus Dyngus may be the most unexpected. Nowadays it is an open water battle played out with water pistols, bottles, water balloons thrown from windows, plastic bags or whatever means are on hand and in some rare instances even fire trucks have been known to join in. If you are in Poland on Easter Monday (Lany Poniedziałek), hold your electronic devices, the nearest and most unsuspecting person is a legitimate target for a generous splash of water.

What might come across to a foreigner as a spontaneous adolescent mating ritual, is in fact a respected tradition. The origin of this custom is linked with both Christianity, where splashing with water is evocative of the baptism or blessing, and with old folk game between young boys and girls, who celebrated the arrival of spring, the revival of nature's fertility and, when the opportunity arose, looked into possibility of future bonding.

Traditionally, Easter Monday was the day when boys are allowed to shower girls with water (and spank them with pussy willow, currently less common tradition). Girls had to wait until the following day to launch similar attacks of their own. The name Śmigus Dyngus is a combination of two different traditions, which long ago became merged. Śmigus refers to the water fight, Dyngus refers to another act, when a girl threatened with water could bribe herself out of the danger by offering a token, a painted Easter egg.

The festivities around Śmigus Dyngus have not always met with the approval of the rulers of the society. In 1410, the bishop of Poznań issued an edict named *Dingus Prohibitur*. However, the covering with water has also been given a religious interpretation, when associated with the baptism of Mieszko I, which probably occurred on Holy Saturday, 966. Mieszko I was the first Christian king of Poland, and the first ruler of what could possibly be called a unified Poland.

AK



# Dusznica bolesna

Dusznica bolesna (Angina Pectoris) nie jest chorobą, ale zespołem objawów, które pojawiają się, gdy do serca dociera za mało krwi, a wraz z nią tlenu i substancji odżywczych. Dusznica bolesna zwana również dławicą piersiową, jest objawem choroby wieńcowej serca.

## Objawy

Objawem dławicy piersiowej jest ból w klatce piersiowej, który może być określany, jako: ugniatający, piekący lub ściskający, a nawet dławiący lub rozrywający. Ból ten zwykle jest zlokalizowany za mostkiem i może promieniować do lewego barku i ramienia, a niekiedy do okolicy podszczękowej lub lewej łopatki. Może on się utrzymywać od kilku do kilkunastu minut, a nawet dłużej, i nie zmienia się w zależności od pozycji ciała czy fazy cyklu oddechowego. Objawami towarzyszącymi są zwykle ogólny niepokój, kołatanie serca, a niekiedy uczucie duszności lub braku tchu, mdłości, pocenie. Wiele osób cierpiących na dusznicę bolesną ma tylko niektóre z powyższych objawów; przy łagodnej odmianie choroby objawy mogą być w ogóle niewidoczne.

## Przyczyny

Niewydolność naczyń wieńcowych jest zazwyczaj spowodowana miażdżycą, chorobą, w której substancje lipidowe gromadzą się wewnątrz tętnic i zmniejszają przepływ krwi przez tętnicę. Inne przyczyny to m.in. skurcz, zator, zapalenie lub uraz tętnicy wieńcowej, zakrzepica tętnicza czy rozwarstwienie aorty. U ludzi młodych przyczyną te patologii w obrębie układu sercowo-naczyniowego może być regularne sięganie po nikotynę, kofeinę i alkohol, a także przepracowanie i stres i napięcie. Prawdopodobieństwo zachorowania na dusznicę bolesną jest większe u osób palących, z wysokim poziomem cholesterolu lub wysokim ciśnieniem krwi, z nadwagą lub o małej aktywności fizycznej. Atak dławicy może być spowodowany również przez wysiłek fizyczny, działanie zimna lub zdenerwowanie, jak również przez dłużej trwające napięcie psychiczne i stres.

## Leczenie

W przypadku ataku dusznicy należy uspokoić chorego i pomóc mu zażyć przepisane przez lekarza leki uspokajające lub rozszerzające naczynia wieńcowe. Łagodna lub umiarkowana postać dusznicy może wymagać leczenia lekami, które poszerzają tętnice: azotynami, betablokerami lub antagonistami kanału

wapniowego. Osoby z wysokim poziomem cholesterolu powinny przyjmować leki zwane statynami, które pomagają obniżyć poziom cholesterolu we krwi i zmniejszają prawdopodobieństwo wystąpienia objawów dusznicy. W przypadku ciężkiej dusznicy może być konieczna operacja poszerzająca tętnice (angioplastyka) lub wszczepienie bypassów. Codzienne przyjmowanie małej dawki aspiryny pomaga zapobiegać krzepnięciu krwi i zmniejsza ryzyko ataku serca.

## Zapobieganie

Najlepszym sposobem zachowania zdrowia serca i zapobiegania dusznicy jest zdrowy tryb życia. Kondycję serca można poprawić, utrzymując zdrową wagę, regularnie ćwicząc, stosując niskotłuszczową i niskocholesterolową dietę oraz wyzbywając się nałogów takich jak palenie czy nadmierne spożywanie alkoholu czy kawy. Bardzo ważny jest dla serca odpoczynek i unikanie stresu. Mniejsza ilość stresu przekłada się też na mniejsze obciążenie serca, niższe ciśnienie i spadek cholesterolu.



# What You Should Know About Angina

Angina is a symptom of an underlying heart problem, usually coronary heart disease (CHD), and is not a disease itself. Angina is chest pain that occurs when your heart muscle does not receive enough oxygen-rich blood. Angina may feel like there is pressure or squeezing in your chest. The pain may not always be in your heart area, but can occur in your shoulders, arms, neck, and jaw, back or can even feel like you are having indigestion. Coronary heart disease is the most common type of heart disease in adults and occurs when a waxy substance called plaque builds up on the inner walls of your coronary, or heart arteries that supply the heart with the oxygen-rich blood that the heart needs to work. The plaque stiffens and narrows the coronary arteries which causes a reduced blood flow to the heart muscles resulting in chest pain. Other plaque may be soft and more likely to break off and cause blood clots to form in your arteries, and can partially or completely block the blood flow in your heart with the end result being a heart attack. That is why you must seek medical attention immediately if you have any signs or symptoms of angina. There are many types of angina. Your doctor will need to determine what type you may have by performing various tests. The treatment will vary depending upon the type of angina you may have. All chest pain, and related pain, should be checked by a medical doctor or practitioner. Experts



believe that about 7 million people in the United States suffer from some form of angina, occurring equally in men and women. Although chest pain can be a sign of CHD, it may be a sign of other conditions.

**Underlying Causes of Angina.** The underlying causes of angina are generally the same as the underlying causes of CHD. Research suggests that CHD begins when certain conditions damage the inner layers of the coronary arteries. These factors include:

- Smoking;
- Increased amounts of certain fats and cholesterol in the blood;
- High blood pressure, and
- High amounts of sugar in the blood because of insulin resistance or diabetes.

As the arteries become damaged, the plaque builds up. The condition is called atherosclerosis (ath-er-o-sk-

ler-O- sis).



## **Smoking and how it damages your heart and blood vessels.**

The chemicals in tobacco smoke harm your blood cells, can damage your

heart function and heart vessels, and increase your risk for atherosclerosis or CHD. Smoking is a major risk factor for heart disease especially when combined with other risks such as unhealthy cholesterol blood levels, high blood pressure, and being overweight or obesity. Any amount of smoking damages the heart and blood vessels. Secondhand smoke, which is the smoke that comes from the end of a burning cigarette, cigar or pipe, or smoke exhaled by a smoker, damages the heart and blood vessels of any person inhaling this polluted air. Secondhand smoke also raises the risk of CHD in children and teens because it:

- Lowers HDL or good cholesterol
- Raises blood pressure
- Damages heart tissue

The risks of secondhand smoke are very high for premature babies and children with respiratory conditions such as asthma. If you smoke, quit! It is possible, but not always easy. You must want to quit. Millions of people have successfully quit smoking and remained nonsmokers. There are many programs, strategies, methods and medicines to help you stop smoking. Check on line or with your medical provider. You can prevent or lower your risk for angina and heart disease by making lifestyle changes and treating related conditions, such as high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, diabetes and being overweight or obesity. Risks for angina and heart disease also increase beyond the ages of 45 for men and 55 for women and for individuals with a family history of early heart disease.

**Adopt a healthy lifestyle.** Lifestyle choices can prevent or delay angina and heart disease. Examples of a healthy lifestyle include:

- Stop smoking and avoid secondhand smoke;
- Avoid angina triggers;
- Eat a healthy diet;
- Keep physically active;
- Maintain a healthy weight;
- Learn ways to handle stress, and
- Follow your prescribed medical plan.



**Main Signs and Symptoms of Angina.** Pain and discomfort are the main symptoms of angina. The pain can be described as pressure, squeezing, burning or tightness in the chest and usually begins behind the breastbone. It can be difficult to describe and not always located in the chest, but can be located in surrounding areas. Signs and symptoms may also include nausea, tiredness, and shortness of breath, sweating, light-headedness and weakness. Women are more prone to feeling discomfort in the neck, jaw, throat, abdomen or back. The elderly and people with diabetes are prone to having shortness of breath. Weakness, dizziness and confusion can mask the symptoms of angina in older adults. To help diagnose the type of angina you may have, the doctor may ask you questions about your symptoms, such as:

- What seems to cause the pain and what relieves it?
- What does the pain feel like? Describe it.
- How often does it occur?
- Where is the pain located?
- How severe is the pain?
- How long does the pain last?

Based on your answers, the medical practitioner will order blood tests and other diagnostic procedures.

Treatment includes lifestyle changes, medical procedures, and cardiac rehabilitation. The main goals of treatment are to reduce pain and discomfort and to prevent or lower your risk for heart attack and death. If the angina is not stable, it is an emergency that requires hospitalization immediately! Call 911. Angina is a sign of an underlying heart condition. Do not delay in seeking medical treatment from your medical practitioner. It may save your life.

#### References:

1. *National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. What is angina, et al. [June 1, 2011].* <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/angina/>, topics/causes, topics/signs/, topics/diagnosis, topics/treatment, topics/prevention. Printed Jan. 13, 2016. 9 pages.
2. *National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. How does smoking affect the heart and blood vessels. [Dec. 17, 2015].* <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/smo>. Printed Jan. 13, 2016. Pages 1-2.

Submitted by:  
Teresa Struziak Sherman, R.N, BSN, MS  
National Director PNA, Business Board



# Things that are Good for Your Heart



**Heart disease is the leading cause of death among American men and women, claiming more than 600,000 lives each year. The good news, however, is the majority of heart disease is preventable by making healthy lifestyle changes, and it doesn't necessarily have to be drastic.**



## Think red

Strawberries, raspberries, cranberries, pomegranates, tomatoes, red chili peppers, red wine, and red grapes contain lycopene, a carotenoid that gives foods their bright color and flavonoids, powerful antioxidants that help prevent cell damage. These phytochemicals have been shown to help reduce the risk of heart disease. Adding some vitamin C increases the power of the flavonoids so have some citrus, cabbage, spinach, and cantaloupe as well.

## Spice it up

Research shows that coronary-artery disease is an inflammatory process. Many herbs and spices have antioxidant properties, which help suppress the inflammation process. Turmeric, cinnamon, nutmeg, basil, oregano, parsley, rosemary, and thyme are all loaded with antioxidants. Herbs and spices have been used in traditional medicine across the ages and around the world.

## Indulge yourself

Dark chocolate and red wine (in moderation) can keep the cardiologist away by warding off cellular damage and they also make you feel so good. Resveratrol, the potent antioxidant found in red wine is highly beneficial to your heart.

## Have a cup of tea

Tea is good for heart's health. People, who regularly drink tea, both green and black, have a reduced risk of heart disease and stroke.

## Walk more

Americans spend 55% of waking hours sitting, increasing their risk of cardiovascular disease and other health problems. Make simple lifestyle changes like walking around when you're on the phone, taking frequent breaks at work, and strolling the treadmill while you're watching TV.

## Dance

Dancing combines muscle strengthening, cardio exercise, and mental stimulation. The combination of exercise and stress relief is just what your heart needs.

## Care for your teeth

Recent studies suggest there is a link between gum disease and cardiovascular disease, perhaps even a more serious risk factor than high blood pressure, smoking, high cholesterol, gender, and age, according to the Academy of General Dentistry. Brush and floss your teeth regularly helps

## Sleep longer

Every extra hour of sleep is associated with a significant drop in your odds of developing coronary artery calcification over a few years period. Getting less than 7.5 hours of shut-eye each night is associated with an increased risk for heart disease.

## Don't worry

Science is backing up the correlation between emotions and heart health. People who are happy and positive are less likely to develop heart disease. Take the time to appreciate the little things in life.

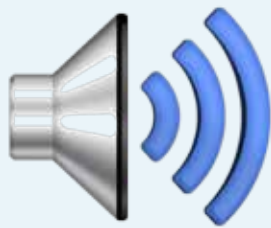
## Have friends

People, who connect with others have healthier hearts. Get together with your friends to laugh, cry, complain, plan etc. Connections with other people contributes to longevity. Have pets, they could also be your great friends and companions.

## Visit your doctor

By visiting with your physician on a regular basis, he or she can form a complete picture of your heart health. Heart disease prevention starts by making small changes that have big impact.





## Notice of Vacancy for PNA Business Board Director

**Notice is hereby given that the elective office of Business Director of the Polish National Alliance of the U.S. of N.A. has become vacant due to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Mark Orwat on December 21, 2015. By this announcement the vacancy is officially declared.**

Pursuant to the provisions as stated in section 78 and 91(15) of the By-Laws of the Alliance, the filling of the vacancy in the elective office of Business Director is by election by majority vote of the members of the Business Board of the Alliance who are present and voting. The vacancy in the office of Business Director shall be filled by the means of an election by the Business Board of Directors. Such vacancy shall be filled NOT LATER THAN NINETY (90) DAYS FROM THE DATE of this publication in the Zgoda.

**A candidate for the elective office of Business Director in order to qualify must satisfy the all requirements as set forth in Section 71:**

### **Section 71 – Qualifications of and other Provisions Relating to Candidates for either Elective or Appointive Officers of the Alliance.**

#### **A. Elective Officers**

A candidate for an elective office specified in Section 69 hereinabove, must possess the following qualifications:

1. At the time of application the candidate must be a Beneficial Premium Paying Member of the Alliance in good standing, uninterruptedly, for at least five (5) years, immediately preceding election to office.
2. Be a citizen of the United States.
3. Unless an incumbent Officer, the candidate must have, since the last Convention, served for at least three (3) years as a Lodge Officer or as a council delegate.
4. Such candidate must have knowledge of the membership products of the Alliance.
5. A candidate for the position of Business Board of Director must be either the incumbent for the position or demonstrate knowledge of insurance by passing the FMLI certification issued by LOMA or be a certified public accountant, a chartered financial planner, hold a master's in business administration or public administration or be a chartered underwriter. Additionally, an individual can be eligible if such individual has passed at least the first two (2) LOMA exams concerning insurance products and insurance operations and agrees to pass at least one additional exam each quarter after his or her election. In the event such a candidate is elected and fails to pass the additional exams as specified herein, the Business Board of Directors shall declare a vacancy in the position to which such candidate was elected at its meeting immediately following such failure.
6. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, Candidates shall not be eligible if they have been convicted of a felony, been discharged in bankruptcy or if any federal or state statute, regulation or rule prevents such individual from holding such office.

**Any qualified member of the Alliance may submit an application in the form prescribed by the Business Board of Directors within thirty (30) days after the announcement of the vacancy in the official publication of the Alliance –"ZGODA".**

**Applications post marked later than March 16, 2016 will NOT be considered.**

For information or questions please call **National Secretary Charles A. Komosa at 1-800-621-3723**

A request for an application must be made in writing or electronically to: **charles.komosa@pna-znp.org**

Polish National Alliance  
Att: Charles A. Komosa  
6100 North Cicero Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60646

**BY-LAWS**  
**of the**  
**POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THE**  
**UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA**

Revised and Reenacted  
 At The ~~47<sup>th</sup>~~ Regular Convention  
 Held From August ~~23<sup>rd</sup>~~~~17<sup>th</sup>~~ to August ~~26<sup>th</sup>~~~~1<sup>st</sup>~~, 201~~5~~~~4~~, inclusive  
 in ~~Cleveland, Ohio~~ ~~Minneapolis, Minnesota~~

Today, we, Representatives of the ~~47<sup>th</sup>~~ Convention of the Polish National Alliance of the United States of North America, assembled in ~~Cleveland, Ohio~~~~Minneapolis, Minnesota~~ on the ~~23<sup>rd</sup>~~~~17<sup>th</sup>~~ through the ~~26<sup>th</sup>~~~~1<sup>st</sup>~~ day of August, 201~~5~~~~4~~, as faithful guardians of the ideals which those founders bequeathed to us as a sacred heritage and guided by over one hundred thirty ~~five~~~~one~~ (13~~5~~~~4~~) years of experience, hereby adopt, ratify and declare these By-Laws to be binding, equally, upon all of the members of the Polish National Alliance.

**ARTICLE I**  
**Organization**

**Section 1 - Definition of terms as used in these By-Laws.**

(b) The term "Supervisory Council" shall be the body consisting of the duly elected and serving Commissioners. It shall have the powers as delineated in Article VII.

(d) The term "Alliance" when used to identify funds, money, property, assets or liabilities shall refer and relate to such funds, money, property, assets or liabilities of the Alliance, which are under the control of the Business Board of Directors as distinguished and differentiated from the funds, money, property, assets or liabilities belonging to other constituent bodies of the Alliance.

(p) The term "beneficial premium paying member" shall mean a member of the Alliance who has in force any life insurance certificate and/or annuity product. In the case of an annuity product, such member must maintain at least a \$10,000.00 balance in said annuity or make at least a ~~\$250~~~~100~~.00 annual contribution during the prior four (4) consecutive calendar years.

**ARTICLE II**  
**Membership and Benefit Certificates**

**Section 8 - Application for Membership-Admission to Membership**

Applications for membership must be made on forms prescribed by the Business Board of Directors. Application shall be processed in accordance with membership rules and regulations adopted by the Business Board of Directors. Every applicant elected to membership must be inducted in accordance with the Ritual of the Alliance. An applicant who is or was a member of a subversive organization, having for its object the overthrow of the United States government by force and violence, shall not qualify for acceptance as a member of the Alliance.

~~Section 14 - Reserved~~

**Section 14~~5~~ - Transfers of Lodge Membership**

Transfers of lodge membership shall be subject to rules and procedures prescribed by the Fraternal Board of Directors.

**Section 16~~7~~ - Benefits, Premium Rates and Reserves**

The Business Board of Directors shall determine the kinds, amounts and combinations of benefits to be offered by the Alliance and the ages at which those benefits will be issued; shall prescribe the premium rates for and the reserve basis of those benefits and the form and content of benefit certificates and applications therefore, and shall establish the underwriting rules governing the acceptance or rejection of applications for benefit certificates.

**Section 17~~8~~ - Entire Contract**

The benefit certificate, the application therefore and any declaration of insurability made by the applicant, a copy of which application and of any such declaration shall be attached to said certificate, the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of the Alliance as they were on the effective date of the benefit certificate or as they subsequently may have been amended constitute the entire contract between the Alliance and the owner. No subsequently made amendment to the Articles of Incorporation or to the By-Laws shall increase the premiums stated in or diminish any benefit provided by the benefit certificate except as provided in Section ~~22~~~~19~~ and ~~21~~~~4~~.

~~Section 19 - RESERVED~~

**Section 18~~20~~ - Benefit Certificates on Children**

The Business Board of Directors shall provide for the issuance of benefit certificates on the lives of children less than sixteen (16) years of age, who, except for their ages, possess the qualifications required of applicants for membership in the Alliance. The application for such benefit certificate must be made by an adult person, must name as beneficiary a person on whom the child is dependent for support and must be consented to in writing by a natural or adoptive parent of the child if such a parent is living.

~~Section 21 - Reserved~~

**Section 20~~3~~ - Power to Waive Certain Reinstatement Requirements**

The Business Board of Directors, by resolution affecting all benefit certificates providing a life insurance benefit, shall require any reinstatement requirements therein contained relating to the submission of evidence of insurability or the payment of interest including loans, after review by the Office of Underwriter and approved by the National Secretary.

**Section 21~~4~~ - Maintenance of Solvency**

If the Alliance's reserves become impaired, the Business Board of Directors may impose an assessment against each benefit certificate on an equitable basis. Such assessment shall not be a personal liability but may be paid in cash or allowed to stand against the benefit certificate as an indebtedness bearing compound interest at an effective rate not to exceed five per cent (5%) per annum, or in lieu of either, the owner may consent to a proportionate reduction in benefits.

**Section 22~~5~~ - Valuation**

Annually, the Business Board of Directors shall cause a valuation to be made of all benefit certificates in force on December 31st. Such valuations shall be made by competent actuaries with the reserve basis on which such benefit certificates were issued or such higher reserve basis as may be prescribed from time to time by the Business Board of Directors.

**Section 23~~6~~ - Distribution of Surplus**

Annually the Business Board of Directors shall determine if there is divisible surplus in the insurance fund, and if such is found, make available to owners of benefit certificates such portion if any,



thereof, as each, in the sole discretion of the Business Board of Directors is equitably entitled.

#### **Section 29 – Duplicate Benefit Certificate**

~~If a benefit certificate is lost or destroyed or is beyond the control of the owner, the owner may request by phone, letter, fax or e-mail an affidavit and complete the form with the facts and circumstances and deliver it to the Secretary of the Alliance. If the Secretary of the Alliance determines there is no reasonable chance of the benefit certificate being restored to the owner, a duplicate benefit certificate shall be issued.~~

#### **Section 2630 - Beneficiaries**

A beneficiary or beneficiaries shall be designated in each application for a benefit certificate. No beneficiary shall have or obtain any vested interest in the proceeds of any benefit certificate until such certificate has become due and payable in conformity with the provisions of the insurance contract.

If any beneficiary shall die before the insured or otherwise be disqualified by law from receiving any of the proceeds of a benefit certificate, any proceeds of the benefit certificate that would have been payable to such beneficiary, if living or if not so disqualified, shall be payable equally to the surviving beneficiary or beneficiaries unless otherwise provided in the benefit certificate.

If no qualified beneficiary is living at the insured's death, then the benefit shall be paid to insured's estate.

~~Except in Illinois and New York, if no claim is received by the Alliance from one qualified to submit a claim within five (5) years from the date it is established from the records of the Alliance that monies became due and payable or if the proper claimant can not be located within said period of time, the benefits provided in the insured's certificate or certificates shall be paid to the Polish National Alliance Educational Fund, a 501(c)(3) entity.~~

#### **Section 2832 - Proofs in Support of Claims**

Proofs required by the Alliance to be submitted in support of any claim for a benefit shall be on forms satisfactory to the Alliance. Such proofs shall be executed under oath and shall contain such information, supporting affidavits and evidence as the Business Board of Directors may require.

The furnishing of blank forms or the receipt of purported proofs in support of a claim for a benefit shall in no case be considered as an admission of any liability of the Alliance or as a waiver of its right to demand further proofs.

#### **Section 2933 - Determination of Liability**

The Business Board of Directors shall have the authority within the Alliance to determine the liability of the Alliance for the payment of any benefit and shall have power and authority to settle, by compromise or otherwise, any claim for a benefit when in its judgment the best interest of the Alliance requires it. Any claimant shall have the right to appeal such decision pursuant to Section 17176 of these Bylaws.

#### **Section 34 – Reserved**

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Funds of the Alliance and Investments**

#### **Section 327 - Funds**

All moneys and property, both real and personal, belonging to the Alliance shall be kept and accounted for in two (2) funds, namely; the Insurance Fund and the Fraternal Fund. However, either of said funds may, by action of the Convention or of the Business Board of Directors, be subdivided and maintained for specific purposes whenever such action is found to be in the best interest of the Alliance.

#### **Section 3540 - Investment of Funds**

Funds of the Alliance shall be invested in securities and loans on improved real estate authorized by the State of Illinois and shall be made by a Committee of ~~five~~ seven (57), consisting of the President, as chair, the ~~two (2)~~ Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer, ~~Investment Manager~~ and the Chief Financial Officer of the Alliance. ~~In the event that there shall be only one (1) Vice President, then the Committee shall consist of six (6) members namely, the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Investment Manager and Chief Financial Officer.~~ Each investment shall be approved by a majority of the Committee.

#### **Section 3641 - Legality -Restrictions**

No investment shall be made in any security whatsoever, until the statutory conformity and propriety of such investment shall be recommended as qualified by the Investment ~~Advisor~~ Manager, engaged for these purposes by the Business Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE IV Convention**

#### **Section 3742 - Membership**

(a) The Convention is the supreme legislative and governing body of the Alliance and shall consist of Representatives, chosen in accordance with Article V of these By-Laws and the Chairman of the Convention appointed in accordance with Section 48 of these By-Laws.

(b) Unless elected as Representatives, the Censor, Vice-Censor, the President, ~~all~~ Vice Presidents, the Secretary and the Treasurer of the Alliance, the Business Board of Directors, Fraternal Board of Directors, Commissioners, the General Counsel, the Chief Financial Officer, the Underwriter and, the Director of Insurance Sales, ~~the President of the PNA Bank and the non-resident Vice President of the Union of Poles Division of PNA,~~ shall be entitled to a seat and voice in the Convention, but shall not be entitled to vote.

#### **Section 3843 - Representatives**

Each Council shall be entitled to one (1) Representative for every five hundred (500) Beneficial Premium Paying or Honorary Members or a major fraction of that number, in good standing, as established by the records of the Secretary of the Alliance as of the 31st day of December, preceding the regular Convention, specifically including members holding only Paid-Up certificates or certificates of Extended Insurance. If a Council or temporary Council, as defined in Section 11620, on such date shall have less than two hundred fifty-one (251) Beneficial Premium Paying Members in good standing, the Fraternal Board of Directors shall order it joined, for purposes of representation in the Convention to a Council in the same Commissioner's District, which would serve to effect an increase in the representation of the given Council, as determined and ordered by the Fraternal Board of Directors.

#### **Section 3944 – Honorary Representatives**

The title of Lifetime Honorary Representative may be bestowed by a Convention upon an individual. A nomination for Honorary Representative shall be made by a Representative in writing submitted to the National Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention.

Such individual nominated for the position of Honorary Representative shall have the qualifications established by the Rules and Regulations committee of the [Business](#) Board of Directors.

Such title shall be awarded upon an individual after nomination by a Representative and approval of a majority of the Representatives as such convention.

An Honorary Representative shall have the right to attend and address any Convention with all expenses paid by the Alliance. Such Honorary Representative shall not have a right to make a motion or vote unless such an individual is a duly elected Representative.

#### **Section 405 - Qualifications of Representatives - Term of Office**

A Representative to the Convention shall be at the time of election a Beneficial Premium Paying Member of the Alliance in good standing belonging to the Adult Division, uninterruptedly, for at least two (2) years, preceding the date of election to office, who is a citizen of the United States, and who is not an officer, agent or employee of any other fraternal insurance organization or association transacting life insurance business, ~~in competition with the Alliance~~ or a representative or delegate to its general convention. Each Representative elected, as provided in these By-Laws, shall hold office for the full term between regular Conventions.

Where the Executive Committee of the [Business](#) Board of Directors determines that a person elected as a Representative to the Convention does not meet the specific qualifications of this section of the By-Laws or failed to be elected in accordance with the By-Laws, the Executive Committee shall direct its Secretary to notify the Council Secretary that said Representative failed to meet the required qualifications for Representative or was improperly elected. In the event that such disqualification was due to the fact that the Representative failed to meet the required qualifications, the Secretary shall declare that a vacancy exists, and direct the Council to fill the vacancy in accordance with the By-Laws within ten (10) days. In the event the Representative was improperly elected, said position shall not be filled.

#### **Section 416 - Mileage and Per Diem**

Representatives to the Convention, the Officers named in Section [3742](#) and employees of the Alliance designated by the [Business](#) Board of Directors to perform services thereat shall receive such per diem for the time in actual attendance at a regular or Special Convention, and the time in travel at each regular or Special Convention, as determined by a proper resolution approved by the Business Board of Directors prior to March [31<sup>st</sup>](#) of the year in which the Convention shall be held. In addition thereto, they shall be reimbursed either for actual coach fare and connecting taxi or limo if utilizing air, train or bus for each way of travel to and from the place of the Convention or direct mileage, if travel by personal automobile of less than 500 miles radius, at a rate to be determined and fixed by the [Business](#) Board of Directors.

#### **Section 427 - Regular Convention**

Regular meetings of the Convention shall be held every four (4) years, at the time and place to be determined by the [Business](#) Board of Directors, provided that the Convention shall begin no later than the 15th day of September.

#### **Section 449 - Notice of Call of Special Convention**

Written notice of the call for a Special Convention shall be mailed by the Secretary of the Alliance to each member of the preceding regular Convention, at the last known address, at least thirty (30) days before

such Special Convention. The notice shall state the time, the place of the Convention and the subject matter to be considered. At said Convention, no subject matter other than that contained in the notice shall be considered. In the event of the inability or refusal to act by the Secretary of the Alliance, the [Business](#) Board of Directors shall designate a person to mail the required notices.

#### **Section 51 - General Convention Committee**

~~This Committee shall be created at least one (1) year before each regular Convention, and shall consist of members of the Alliance, appointed by the Censor. This Committee shall organize within thirty (30) days after its appointment, and its activities, which shall include the necessary preparations for the meeting of the Convention, shall be governed by rules prescribed by the Board of Directors. Each member of this committee shall serve without compensation, except reimbursement of actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, which expenses shall be audited and approved by the Committee on Budget and Finance and paid from the Convention fund.~~

~~In the event there are not sufficient members from the lodges where the Convention is to be held to form a General Convention Committee, then the Home Office of the Alliance shall take active part to the extent necessary in the activities for making the preparations for the Convention.~~

#### **Section 4652 - Pre-Convention Committees**

##### **(a) The Committee on Credentials - Duties and Functions**

This Committee shall obtain from the Secretary of the Alliance a list of the elected Representatives to the Convention, together with all protests, if any, and shall convene [no less than sixty \(60\) days prior to the Convention at the Home Office of the Alliance and again](#), one (1) day prior to the Convention at the place of the Convention ~~and begin to function~~. It shall receive the credentials of each Representative upon registration, and compile a list of non-contested and a list of contested Representatives. The non-contested list of Representatives shall be read to the Censor in the presence of the Representatives assembled for organization of the Convention who shall then take the oath of office of said non-contested Representatives and so organize the Convention. The Committee shall deliver to the ~~temporary~~ Secretary of the Convention the list of Representatives who have been seated. This Committee shall then report the list of contested Representatives together with its findings and recommendations, for consideration by the Convention. The Convention may adopt the recommendations, may amend them or may refer them to the Committee for further action.

##### **(b) The Committee on Grievances and Complaints**

All grievances and complaints to be considered by the Committee must be filed with the Secretary of the Alliance, not less than [sixty thirty \(360\)](#) days prior to a regular Convention. The Secretary of the Alliance shall deliver them to the Committee. The Committee shall meet prior to the Convention, shall examine and investigate all the grievances and complaints received and make a report thereupon together with its findings and recommendations to the Convention. A grievance, or complaint not filed within the time provided for herein shall not be considered.

##### **(c) Reserved**

##### **(d) The Committee on Laws and By-Laws**

This committee shall meet not less than thirty (30) days before a regular Convention at the Home Office of the Alliance and shall review and analyze the Laws and By-Laws of the Alliance and shall study and consider any amendments thereto including amendments proposed by any member or body of the Alliance or such as may be initiated by the



members of the committee, and shall report to the Convention upon all such proposed amendments together with their recommendations thereon. The Secretary of the Alliance shall furnish a copy of said report and recommendations to each Representative of the Convention at least 10 days prior to the opening of the Convention. Amendments proposed by any member or body of the Alliance shall be submitted to the Committee not less than sixty (60) days prior to the regular Convention at which the amendments shall be considered. After the adjournment of the Convention and if no objections are raised to the adopted amendments by the Department of Insurance of the State of Illinois, the same shall be edited, indexed, and printed under the supervision of the Business Board of Directors and the General Counsel.

**(de) The Membership Committee**

This Committee shall meet not less than thirty (30) days before each regular Convention ~~at the Home Office of the Alliance~~ and shall be composed of Representatives who are sales representatives or who possess knowledge of sales, financial products and are knowledgeable of the operations at different levels within the PNA. This Committee shall make a detailed study of the organizational work of the Alliance since the last Convention and recommend to the Convention such changes or improvements therein as they may consider for the best interests of the Alliance.

**(ef) Education Committee**

This Committee shall meet not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Convention ~~at the Home Office of the Alliance~~ and shall review the financial status of the scholarship fund and make such recommendations to the Convention as it may deem proper.

**(fg) The Committee on Alliance Publications and Communications**

This Committee shall meet not less than thirty (30) days before the regular Convention, ~~at the Home Office of the Alliance~~ and shall review and analyze all operations and financial conditions of the Alliance Publications and Alliance Communications, and make such recommendations to the Convention as it may deem proper.

**(gh) The Sports and Youth Committee**

This Committee shall meet not less than thirty (30) days before the Convention ~~at the Home Office~~ and shall review all operations of the Sports and Youth Department and make such recommendations to the Convention as it may deem necessary.

**(hi) Concepts and Ideas Committee**

This Committee shall meet not less than thirty (30) days before the Regular Convention ~~at the Home Office~~ and shall make such recommendations to the Convention as it may deem necessary affecting the Alliance, its programs and initiatives.

~~Upon adjournment of the Regular Convention, it shall become an Advisory Committee at the call of the President and Board of Directors until the next Pre-Convention Committee on Concepts and Ideas is appointed.~~

**(ij) Nominations Committee**

The members of the Nominations Committee shall meet at the Home Office not less than thirty (30) days prior to the start of a regular Convention to review each candidate's petition for office and determine his or her qualifications. The qualifications shall include but not be limited to compliance with these By-laws, the applicable laws of the various state insurance laws and federal laws.

(lm) Any Pre-Convention Committee member may participate and act in person or through the use of a conference telephone or interactive

technology, including but not limited to electronic transmission, Internet usage, or remote communication, by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can communicate with each other.

**Section 48~~54~~ - Organization of the Convention Assembly**

(1) Not less than ~~forty fivesixty~~ (45~~60~~) days prior to the regular Convention, the Censor of the Alliance shall appoint a chairperson of the Convention who shall be deemed a Representative and all other officers of the Convention from among the Representatives in accordance with the rules and regulations approved by the Business Board of Directors. The chairperson shall not be a current elected officer of the Alliance nor an individual seeking to be elected to an office.

(5) The Budget Committee of the Business Board of Directors ~~Assembly~~ shall fix the compensation of the Convention Officers ~~with the recommendation of the Budget Committee.~~

(9) The proceedings of the Convention shall be governed by the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised ~~10<sup>th</sup> Edition~~, except as modified by these By-Laws or by the appropriate action of the Convention.

**Section 51~~7~~ - Powers of the Convention**

(a) Make laws, rules, and regulations for the governance~~ment~~ of the Alliance, which shall not be in conflict with the Articles of Incorporation of the Alliance, or the laws of the State of Illinois;

(g) Approve the admission of any fraternal benefit society with similar purposes, aims and legal structure to the Alliance upon such terms as may be approved by the Department of Insurance in such States as the Alliance is conducting business. In the event such approval is necessary prior to the next Convention, the Business Board of Directors is authorized to have the delegates of the last National Convention vote by means of correspondence;

**ARTICLE V**

**Elections o Representatives and Nominations of Commissioners**

**Section 53~~9~~ - Electoral Assembly**

Representatives to the Convention shall be elected and one~~two~~ (1~~2~~) nominees for District Commissioner shall be nominated by the Electoral Assembly of each council, which shall be composed of delegates elected by lodges. Each Lodge shall be entitled to a minimum of two (2) delegates and an additional delegate for every twenty-five (25) adult members in good standing and a major fraction of that number in excess of fifty (50) members, according to the records of the Secretary of the Alliance as of the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December in the year prior to the Convention year. Vacancies occurring in delegate positions for any reason shall be filled by election in the lodges.

**Section 55~~61~~ - Rules for Designation or Election of Delegates to Electoral Assembly**

The Business Board of Directors, not later than ~~November~~February 1st of the year prior to the Convention~~in which the convention shall be held~~, shall post on its website and publish in the official publication of the Alliance and mail to each lodge rules regulating the ~~designation or~~ election of delegates to the Electoral Assembly.

**Section 56~~62~~ - Delegates of Lodges to the Electoral Assembly**

Delegates elected to the council at the annual meeting of the lodge held in the months of November, December or January~~in the month of December~~ immediately preceding the Convention ~~year~~ shall likewise be

delegates to the Electoral Assembly, provided, however, that they may be deprived of the position of delegates to the Electoral Assembly as hereinafter provided for, by virtue of the lodge being entitled to a lesser number of delegates to the Electoral Assembly than it has to the council.

All delegates to the Electoral Assembly must possess the qualifications prescribed in Section 119~~23~~ of these By-Laws.

Prior to ~~November~~February 1st in the year prior to the Convention ~~year~~, the Secretary of the Alliance shall certify to each lodge the number of delegates to the Electoral Assembly to which the lodge is entitled.

~~In the event the number of delegates to the Electoral Assembly to which a lodge is entitled exceeds the existing number of delegates which the lodge has elected to the council, then at the regular meeting of the lodge in the month of February, the lodge shall elect such additional number of delegates to the Electoral Assembly as may be required to complete its full complement of delegates. In the event the lodge is entitled to a lesser number of delegates to the Electoral Assembly than the existing number of delegates which the lodge has elected to the council, then the lodge's authorized complement of delegates to the Electoral Assembly shall be composed of those delegates to the council who received the highest number of votes at the annual election in the month of December.~~

#### Section 57~~63~~ - Nominations in the Lodges for Representatives and District Commissioners -Notification to the Electoral Assembly

Nominations of candidates for Representatives and for District Commissioner shall be made in the lodges at ~~a~~the regular meeting ~~prior to in the month of February 28th of the Convention year.~~ The candidates nominated for Representatives shall be members of the nominating lodge and reside within the District wherein the Lodge is located. The candidates for a nomination of District Commissioner shall possess the qualifications prescribed in Section 71~~8~~, and be a member of a lodge within the Commissioner's District to which the nominating lodge belongs and be resident of said District.

#### Section 58~~64~~ - Time, Place and Officers of the Electoral Assembly

Each council shall fix a day and place between March 1st and April 15th~~March 31st~~ before each regular Convention for the purpose of electing Representatives to the Convention and nominating a candidate for District Commissioner. Notice of the time and place of the meeting of the Electoral Assembly shall be sent not later than ten (10) days before said meeting by the secretary of the council to the secretary of each lodge within the council and to the secretary of any council assigned to it as provided in Section 38~~43~~. The secretary of the assigned council shall promptly notify each lodge of such council of the scheduled meeting. The officers of the council shall be the Officers of the Electoral Assembly, provided, that if any of such officers are candidates for Representatives or for District Commissioner of the District, they shall be disqualified from holding such office, and the Electoral Assembly shall elect a delegate thereof in place of such candidate as Officer of the Electoral Assembly.

In the event an Electoral Assembly meeting has not been called by the Council then the Secretary of the Alliance is authorized to direct the Commissioners of that District to call such meeting. The officers of the Electoral Assembly shall be as provided in these By-Laws.

#### Section 65—The Duties of Councils

~~It shall be the duty of each council to furnish all necessary supplies and ballots for the use by the Electoral Assembly and pay all expenses in~~

~~connection with the meeting of the Electoral Assembly, and notify all of the lodges belonging to the council of the results of the elections and nominations held in the Electoral Assembly.~~

#### Section 61~~8~~ - Final Election - Manner of Placing Name Upon the Ballot

In instances where a primary election has been held, the nominees who are to be placed upon the final election ballot as provided for in Section 60~~7~~, shall be placed under the respective captions of the office for which they were nominated, in the order of the highest number of votes received by them in the primary election.

#### Section 68~~75~~ - Credentials

The Executive Officers of the Electoral Assembly shall issue credentials to the duly elected Representatives, and a nominating certificate to the nominee for District Commissioner, within five (5) days following their election or nomination, signed by at least a majority of its members, and a majority of the judges of election and shall forward duplicate copies thereof to the Secretary of the Alliance, no later than April 20~~th~~1st who shall transmit the copies of credentials to the Credentials Committee of the Convention, and copies of the nominating certificate for District Commissioner to the Nominating Committee of the Convention.

### ARTICLE VI Officers of the Alliance

#### Section 69~~76~~ - Elective Officers of the Alliance

~~(A) Until January 1, 2016, the elective Officers of the Alliance shall be a Censor, a Vice-Censor, a male District Commissioner and female District Commissioner elected from each Commissioner's District, a President, a female Vice-President, a male Vice-President, a non-resident Vice-President for the PNA/UPA Division, a Secretary, a Treasurer, four (4) Directors for Director's Region "H" and a Director for each Director's Region "A", "B", "C", "D", "E", "F", "G", "I", "J", "K" and L. In the event that either the male or female Vice-President, is unable, unwilling or resigns from said office, then the remaining Vice-President shall serve as the only remaining Vice-President.~~

~~If a male is elected President, the elected female Vice-President shall be designated as the First Vice-President. If a female is elected President, the elected male Vice-President shall be designated First Vice-President.~~

~~(B) Beginning on January 1, 2016, t~~The Elective Officers of the Alliance shall be Censor, a Vice-Censor, a President, a Vice-President, ~~a non-resident Vice-President for the PNA/UPA Division,~~ a Secretary, ~~and a Treasurer.~~ Additionally, the Convention that takes place in 2015, shall ~~elect~~ five (5) Business Board of Directors and ten (10) Fraternal Board of Directors. One (1) Fraternal Director shall be elected from each Region by a majority of the Representatives from the Region represented by the candidate~~all of the Representatives to the National Convention.~~ All candidates for an elective office shall have the qualifications stated in Article VI Section 71~~8~~ paragraphs A(1), (2), (3), (4) and C. Candidates ~~from for the office of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or~~ the Business Board of Directors shall also have the qualifications as set forth in Article VI Section 71~~8~~ Paragraph A (5), (6) and shall be elected at large. The Fraternal Board of Directors ~~shall have the qualifications set forth in Article VI and~~ shall be elected to represent the Regions of the Alliance as established by the Fraternal Board of Directors. Also, each District shall elect from its nominees a District Commissioner.

~~(C) For purposes of the transition from the Bylaw provisions in effect prior to January 1, 2014 until January 1, 2016, the following shall be used to determine the Board of Directors:~~



~~(1) Prior to December 31, 2013, the then Board of Directors of the Alliance shall meet and by secret ballot determine which current members of the Board of Directors shall be assigned to the Business Board of Directors with the remaining members being assigned to the Fraternal Board of Directors. At the Convention held in 2015, the Convention shall elect the members to the separate Boards in accordance with the above provisions.~~

~~(2) If a vacancy shall occur in either the Business Board of Directors or the Fraternal Board of Directors, the vacancy shall be filled by an individual qualified to hold office from the same Region wherein the vacancy occurred.~~

#### **Section 707 - Appointed Officers of the Alliance**

The appointed Officers of the Alliance shall be a Medical Director, General Counsel, Chief Financial Officer, Underwriter, Chief Editor of Zgoda, and Director of Insurance Sales, all of whom must remain Beneficial Members of the Alliance in good standing.

#### **Section 718 - Qualifications of and other Provisions Relating to Candidates for either Elective or Appointive Officers of the Alliance**

##### **A. Elective Officers**

A candidate for an elective office specified in Section 6976 hereinabove, must possess the following qualifications:

1. At the time of application the candidate must be a Beneficial Premium Paying Member of the Alliance in good standing, uninterruptedly, for at least five (5) years, immediately preceding election to office. ~~In addition, a candidate for the office of Vice President of the UOP Division must be a member of a lodge assigned to the District and Region composed of the groups and/or lodges which belonged to the Union of Poles in America.~~ In addition, a candidate for a Fraternal Director of the Alliance shall be a member of a lodge for at least ~~three~~ one (31) years in the region to which election is sought and reside in the region to which election is sought.

##### **B. Appointed Officers**

A candidate for an appointed office as specified in Section 707, shall possess such qualifications as are prescribed by these By-Laws and such other qualifications as may be determined by the Business Board of Directors.

##### **C. Other Provisions Relating to Elective and Appointive Offices.**

Candidates for either elective or appointed officers are subject to the following prohibitions:

2. A candidate for any of the offices hereinabove enumerated shall, at the time of the filing of application for the office, execute and file with the office of the Secretary of the Alliance, upon forms approved and satisfactory to the Business Board of Directors, evidence of compliance with the qualifications and conditions hereinabove specifically set forth and such other information as the said Board of Directors may require.

No member of the Alliance shall seek or be a candidate for more than one (1) elective office specifically set forth in Section 6976 hereof at each Convention of the Alliance.

#### **Section 729 - Nominations for Elective Officers of the Alliance**

(a) Nominations for elective Officers of the Alliance, with the exception of District Commissioners, shall be made by petition, in form prescribed

by the Business Board of Directors signed by at least twenty-five (25) Beneficial Premium Paying Members of the Alliance, in good standing and filed with the Secretary of the Alliance not less than sixty (60) days before the Convention. The Secretary of the Alliance shall acknowledge the receipt of such petition from each such nominee and shall publish the names of all nominees in the official publication of the Alliance not less than fifteen (15) days before the Convention, and deliver all nominating petitions to the Nominating Committee. This Committee shall examine each petition, and if it is found to be in proper form and qualified, shall report the name of the candidate to the Convention to be placed in nomination.

(b) Candidates for elective office must personally request a single petition for candidacy by mail, electronic means or in person for the office which they seek. A candidate can file only one (1) petition for one (1) elective office. More than one (1) petition will not be accepted by the General Secretary.

#### **Section 7380 - Nominations by Convention Caucus of District Commissioner and their Election by Convention**

The Representatives to the Convention shall elect the District Commissioners at the same time, place and using the same voting procedures as for the other national candidates. The names of the candidates will be placed on the ballot. In the event no nominee receives a majority vote of the ballots cast, the Supervisory Council by mail shall cast ballots to break the tie. Each caucus shall report to the Convention the names of its elected Commissioner who shall be confirmed by the Convention.

#### **Section 7481 - Voting and Rules of Election**

All voting for contested offices shall be by secret ballot, and according to rules of election prescribed by the Committee on Elections and approved by the Convention.

#### **Section 7582 - Election and Installation**

The officers named in Section 6976 shall be elected at each regular Convention and shall be installed by the chairman of the Convention, in accordance with the ceremony prescribed in the Ritual. In the intervals between Conventions, the installation shall be made by the Censor, or the President, provided, that in instances where officers are required to furnish bond, they shall not enter upon the performance of the duties of said office until their bonds shall have been approved and accepted.

#### **Section 7683 - Term of Office - Report - Presence at the Convention**

Unless otherwise provided, all of the elective Officers of the Alliance shall be elected for the next ensuing quadrennial term, commencing the later of the 1st day of January after the adjournment of the Convention, or upon receipt of all regulatory approvals and shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The appointed Officers of the Alliance shall serve for such time as the appointing authority may determine. All Officers shall make a written report of their official activities to the Convention. Members of the Business and Fraternal Board of Directors and appointed Officers as provided in Section 707, shall be present at the sessions of the Convention and give all information respecting their office as the Convention may request.

The Fraternal and Business Board of Directors and Commissioners shall be limited to two (2) consecutive terms and this shall not preclude a Director or a Commissioner to run for that office again after a lapse of four (4) years.

#### **Section 7784 - Compensation**

2. The Censor, Vice Censor, President, ~~all~~ Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer shall receive the compensation as recommended by the Budget Committee of the Business Board of Directors and approved by the Business Board of Directors.

#### Section 7885 - Vacancies

Vacancies caused by any reason in the elected offices of the Alliance shall be filled as provided in Section ~~8692~~(4), Section 918(~~15~~6) and Section 1035.

#### Section 7986 - Bonds of Officers

The Convention may fix the bond of any Officer, or in default thereof, the Business Board of Directors shall fix the bond for such Officers, in such amount and in such manner as it shall determine, and the expense thereof shall be paid from the Insurance Fund of the Alliance. Failure to file such bond with the Secretary, by any Officer required to give bond, within thirty (30) days after the time of the fixing of such bond, or within such time extensions thereof granted by the Business Board of Directors, shall create a vacancy in his office, which shall be filled as provided in these By-Laws.

### ARTICLE VII The Supervisory Council

#### Section 818 - Composition

The Supervisory Council shall be the judicial, appellate, and supervisory body of the Alliance, and shall be composed of the Censor, Vice-Censor, and District Commissioners from each ~~Commissioner's~~ District.

#### Section 829 Meeting and Quorum

The meetings of the Supervisory Council shall be called by the Censor as often as necessary. Upon the written demand of a majority of the District Commissioners, or upon a duly adopted resolution of the Business Board of Directors, the Censor shall call a meeting to be held not more than thirty (30) days from the time of the receipt of said demand or resolution. Written notice of the time and place of said meeting shall be sent to each member of the Supervisory Council not less than ten (10) days prior to the meeting. A majority of all members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. In the event of the refusal of the Censor to call a meeting within the time provided for herein, the Vice Censor shall call a meeting within the time provided for herein. In the event of refusal of the Censor and Vice Censor to call a meeting within the time provided for herein, a majority of the Supervisory Council shall elect a member of the Supervisory Council to perform such function. Upon the failure of the majority of the Supervisory Council to elect a member of the Supervisory Council to perform such function, then the Business Board of Directors ~~shall may~~ appoint an Officer to perform such function.

#### Section 8390 - Vote by Correspondence

The Censor may request the members of the Supervisory Council to take action, or to indicate their respective decisions, or vote on any matter, including disciplinary proceedings, by any reasonable means, including electronic methods, without the necessity of any formal meeting. The written demand of the Commissioners or the resolution of the Business Board of Directors referred to in the preceding section may include a requirement that the action, decision or vote of the Supervisory Council, shall be taken through any reasonable means of correspondence. The affirmative vote of the majority of the Supervisory Council shall be necessary for the adoption of any action, decision or vote conducted through any reasonable means of correspondence, except that a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the Supervisory Council shall be required for the removal, suspension from office or the expulsion of any member or body from the Alliance. If a secret ballot is

deemed appropriate, the members of the Supervisory Council shall mail the secret ballot to the Secretary of the Alliance.

#### Section 8693 - Powers

The Supervisory Council, in addition to other powers herein provided, shall have power to:

(2) Rule upon the appeal of any member of the Business or Fraternal Board of Directors who has been suspended.

(4)-(a) Fill, by a majority vote of the members of the Supervisory Council, who are present and voting a vacancy caused by any reason in the elective office of Censor, Vice Censor, ~~President, Secretary or Treasurer of the Alliance~~. In the event the unexpired portion of the term of office remaining in the vacancy of the office of Censor ~~or the office of President~~ is less than six months prior to the first day of Convention, the duties of the Censor shall be performed by the Vice-Censor, ~~the duties of the President shall be performed by the First Vice-President~~.

(b) ~~Fill, by a majority vote of the members of the Supervisory Council, any vacancy caused by any reason in the elective office of Vice-Censor and Vice-President, by any reasonable means of correspondence without the necessity of a meeting.~~

~~(c)~~ The filling of a vacancy in the office of Commissioner caused by any reason, shall be by an election by the current Council Representatives to the latest Convention, convened for this purpose by the Secretary of the Alliance ~~remaining Commissioner~~. This election must be confirmed by the Supervisory Council voting by the medium of correspondence without the necessity of a meeting. In the event the remaining term of a Commissioner is less than six (6) months, there will be no election for the vacant Commissioner.

All applicants for a vacancy in an elective office, other than that of Commissioner, shall file an application in writing therefore in the same manner and form as prescribed in Section 718. Such applications must be filed within thirty (30) days after the announcement of the vacancy was published in the official publication of the Alliance. The vacancy must be filled by the Supervisory Council not later than sixty (60) days from the date of publication of the announcement of the vacancy in the official publication of the Alliance.

(5) Examine, have full access to, the official records, books of account and all other documents and papers belonging to the Alliance and in the possession of the Business or Fraternal Board of Directors or of any officer, member or subordinate body of the Alliance. The right of such examination and access may be delegated by the Supervisory Council to a representative selected by it for that purpose.

(6) The controversies, disputes, situations or matters under this section shall be presented to the Supervisory Council by the aggrieved member, officer or body of the Alliance by a verified petition succinctly stating the nature of the grievance. The Supervisory Council shall first determine whether the verified petition presents a matter under this subsection. If it determines that the matter is not under this subsection, it shall indicate to the petitioner, the judicial body or the authority within the Alliance which has jurisdiction thereof and the section of these By-Laws pertaining thereto and shall dismiss the petition without prejudice, and the petitioner shall proceed before the judicial body or the authority indicated by the Supervisory Council. If the verified petition complains of the conduct of any member, Officer or body of the Alliance, a copy of the verified petition shall be served upon such member, Officer or body personally or by certified mail



within ten (10) days after the determination of the Supervisory Council that has jurisdiction of the matter, and such member, Officer or body may file a written answer thereto within twenty (20) days after the receipt thereof. The Supervisory Council may extend the time for answering or may grant leave to amend the petition and may regulate the procedure to be followed in all other respects. The Supervisory Council shall thereupon either hear the matter itself or designate a judicial body consisting of a designated number of its members to do so. If the matter is heard by the judicial body, it shall render its report and recommendation to the Supervisory Council, which shall thereupon render its decision. The Supervisory Council shall, in these instances in addition to other powers, have all the powers granted to a judicial body hearing disciplinary matters. Every decision of the Supervisory Council shall be by vote of the majority of all members thereof, present and voting, or in the case of a vote by correspondence, then by a majority of the members of the Supervisory Council, except a decision imposing the penalty of removal from office or expulsion, which decision shall be by the vote of three-fourths (3/4) of all members of the Supervisory Council. Any person, Officer or body who or which may regard himself or itself aggrieved by virtue of the decision of the Supervisory Council, may appeal therefrom to the next regular Convention, by petition directed to the Pre-Convention Committee on Petitions, Grievances and Complaints in the manner prescribed in Section ~~46~~<sup>52</sup> (b) of the By-Laws.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Board of Directors

~~(The provisions of ARTICLE VIII shall be in effect until January 1, 2014)~~

#### Section 94 – Composition

~~The Board of Directors of the Alliance shall consist of the President, two (2) Vice Presidents, the Vice President for the PNA/UPA Division, Secretary, Treasurer of the Alliance, and fifteen (15) Directors, as provided in Section 76.~~

#### Section 95 – Executive Committee of the Board of Directors

~~The President, the Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer of the Alliance shall constitute an Executive Committee, which, in the interim between the meetings of the Board of Directors of the Alliance shall exercise all of the authority and powers of the Board of Directors, as the orderly conduct of the affairs of the Alliance may require.~~

#### Section 96 – Meetings – Quorum

~~All members of the Board of Directors of the Alliance shall hold and participate in regular meetings once every quarter and such special meetings, as may be called by the President of the Alliance. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors of the Alliance shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.~~

~~In lieu of a special meeting, any business may be transacted by the Board of Directors by correspondence or telecommunication, fax and/or e mail. If such business is transacted by way of telecommunications, a written confirmation of any action taken shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for their execution.~~

#### Section 97 – Compensation of Directors

~~Each Director shall receive such allowance for attendance at meetings of the Board of Directors and for special services in the interest of the Alliance, authorized by the Board of Directors as shall be fixed by the Convention at which they were elected.~~

#### Section 98 – Powers of the Board of Directors

~~The Board of Directors shall be the executive body of the Alliance and shall supervise and control all of the affairs and business of the Alliance~~

~~and exercise all power and authority incident thereto and shall provide and establish rules and regulations therefore as it may deem necessary and proper. Such powers shall include for particularization but not in limitation of the above, the power to:~~

~~(1) Provide for the creation of various committees to exercise certain necessary functions of the Board of Directors in the interim between the meetings of said Board.~~

~~(2) Organize and issue charters to councils and lodges and revoke or suspend the same for cause, without resort to disciplinary proceedings.~~

~~(3) Exercise supervision and control over districts, councils, and lodges, and to direct various bodies of the Alliance to institute disciplinary proceedings in instances involving embezzlement or conversion of funds belonging to the Alliance.~~

~~(4) Collect rates, dues and all other revenues and exercise control over persons authorized to collect insurance premiums and overall funds, investments and property of the Alliance with power of disposition.~~

~~(5) Prescribe forms of applications for membership, and forms, conditions, rates and amounts of benefit certificates and riders, and authorize the issuance thereof when approved by the Insurance Department of the State of Illinois and of other States wherein the Alliance is authorized to transact business.~~

~~(6) Appoint a Budget Committee. The Budget Committee shall prepare a detailed budget in writing of the anticipated expenses and income on an annual basis. Said Budget will be submitted for approval by the Board annually. During the Quadrennial National Convention year, the Budget Committee will present their Budget to the National Convention for informational purposes only. The Budget Committee shall also, make recommendations to the National Convention for the salaries of the Elected Officers for the four (4) year period between National Conventions.~~

~~The Budget Committee shall meet at least semi-annually to review and revise the budget, if necessary.~~

~~(7) By a three fourths (3/4) vote of the members of the Board of Directors present at any meeting, deprive any member in attendance thereof of his right and privilege of participating in the proceedings of said meeting when the conduct of such member at said meeting is unbecoming an Officer of the Alliance and impedes the orderly transaction of business.~~

~~(8) Suspend any member of the Board of Directors for malfeasance or misfeasance of his duties by a two thirds (2/3) vote of all members of said Board with the right of appeal to the Supervisory Council. The suspension shall be in force until reversed.~~

~~(9) Make such contracts, as it deems necessary, in connection with the business of the Alliance, subject to the provision, that no contract, except for solicitation of new members for the Alliance, shall be entered into with any member of the Board of Directors or of the Supervisory Council, or with any Officer of the Alliance, or with any person with whom he is related, or with a firm or corporation in which he possesses a financial interest.~~

~~(10) Fix and approve bonds of Officers and employees of the Alliance as it shall determine, and the expense thereof shall be paid from the Insurance Fund of the Alliance.~~

~~(11) Provide and cover the costs of bonds for all persons authorized to handle funds that are the property of the Alliance.~~

~~(12) Prescribe the forms and provide for the distribution of all blanks, books and other documents, which may be necessary in the conduct of the business of the Alliance.~~

~~(13) Reserved.~~

~~(14) Exercise full power, supervision and control over all persons who collect or have in their possession money or property belonging to the Alliance.~~

~~(15) Determine admission of any ethnic or religious fraternal benefit society to the Alliance with similar purposes, aims and legal structure, upon terms as may be approved by the Departments of Insurance in such States as the Alliance is conducting business.~~

~~(16) Fill a vacancy caused by any reason in the elective office of Director by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at their next regular meeting, or at a special meeting. Provided however, that vacancy shall be filled not later than ninety (90) days after the occurrence of the vacancy. Applications shall be filed with the Secretary of the Alliance within thirty (30) days after the announcement of the vacancy in the official Publication of the Alliance. Announcement of a vacancy shall be published in the official Publication of the Alliance in the issue next following the occurrence of the vacancy.~~

#### **Section 99 - Duties**

It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to:

~~(1) Select banks of deposit for the funds of the Alliance.~~

~~(2) Appoint, within sixty (60) days after each regular Convention or at the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting, whichever is earlier, a Medical Director, General Counsel, Underwriter, Chief Financial Officer, Director of Insurance Sales, and within ninety (90) days appoint an Actuary.~~

~~(3) Employ or remove any or all employees of the Alliance, fix their compensation, exercise supervision and control over them.~~

~~(4) In the event of the disability or inability of the Secretary or the Treasurer of the Alliance to perform his official duties, or in the event of a vacancy in said offices, to appoint a temporary Secretary or temporary Treasurer of the Alliance, who shall perform the duties of such office until the vacancy is filled by the Supervisory Council, as provided in Section 93(4)(a).~~

~~(5) Examine and pass upon all claims against the Alliance and direct the payment thereof.~~

~~(6) Furnish the Convention all necessary information, certificates, documents and papers which may be necessary in order that the Convention may verify the financial condition of the Alliance.~~

~~(7) Print all reports of Officers and mail them to each Representative to the Convention not less than twenty (20) days before each regular Convention.~~

~~(8) Prescribe the ritualistic practices in the Alliance and publish the same in a manual for the use of the subordinate bodies thereof.~~

~~(9) Perform such other duties as these By Laws, Articles of Incorporation, and the laws of the State of Illinois prescribe.~~

#### **ARTICLE VIII (A)**

##### **Business Board of Directors**

~~(The following provisions of ARTICLE VIII (A) and (B) will be in effect after December 31, 2013)~~

#### **Section 8794 - Composition**

The Board of Directors of the Alliance shall consist of two (2) separate boards, namely the Business Board of Directors and the Fraternal Board of Directors. The Business Board of Directors shall consist of the President, ~~two (2) Vice-Presidents,~~ Secretary, Treasurer of the Alliance, and five (5) Business Board of Directors. The Fraternal Board of Directors shall consist of the President, ~~all~~ Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and ten (10) Fraternal Board of Directors.

#### **Section 8895 - Executive Committee of the Business Board of Directors**

The President, the Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Alliance shall constitute an Executive Committee, which, in the interim between the meetings of the Business Board of Directors of the Alliance shall exercise all of the authority and powers of the Business Board of Directors, as the orderly conduct of the affairs of the Alliance may require.

#### **Section 918 - Powers of the Business Board of Directors**

The Business Board of Directors shall be the executive body of the Alliance and shall supervise, ~~and~~ control and have effective oversight of all of the affairs and business of the Alliance and exercise all power and authority incident thereto and shall provide and establish rules and regulations therefore as it may deem necessary and proper. Such powers shall include for particularization but not in limitation of the above, the power to:

(4) Oversee the Collection of rates; dues and all other revenues and exercise control over persons authorized to collect insurance premiums and overall funds, investments and property of the Alliance with power of disposition.

~~(13) Reserved.~~

~~(156)~~ Fill a vacancy caused by any reason in the elective office of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or of Business Board of Directors by a majority vote of the Business Board of Directors at their next regular meeting, or at a special meeting. Provided, however, that vacancy shall be filled not later than ninety (90) days after the publication ~~occurrence~~ of the vacancy. Applications shall be filed with the Secretary of the Alliance within thirty (30) days after the announcement of the vacancy in the official Publication of the Alliance. Announcement of a vacancy shall be published in the official Publication of the Alliance in the issue next following the occurrence of the vacancy.

#### **Section 929 - Duties**

It shall be the duty of the Business Board of Directors to:

~~(3) Employ or remove any or all employees of the Alliance, fix their compensation, exercise supervision and control over them.~~

~~(4)~~ In the event of the disability or inability of the Secretary or the Treasurer of the Alliance to perform his official duties, or in the event of a vacancy in said offices, to appoint a temporary Secretary or temporary Treasurer of the Alliance, who shall perform the duties of



such office until the vacancy is filled by the [Business Board of Directors](#) ~~Supervisory Council~~, as provided in Section ~~9193~~(154)(a).

## ARTICLE ~~IX~~VII(B) FRATERNAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Section ~~93100~~ - Composition

The Fraternal Board of Directors of the Alliance shall consist of the President, ~~all~~ Vice Presidents, [Secretary, Treasurer](#) of the Alliance, and ten (10) Fraternal Board of Directors members.

### Section ~~97104~~ - Powers of the Fraternal Board of Directors

(1) ~~From January 1, 2014 until December 31, 2016 the First Vice President shall serve as chairperson of the Fraternal Board of Directors. In the absence of the First Vice President, the Second Vice President shall serve as the Chairperson. After December 31, 2016, t~~The Vice President shall serve as Chairperson of the Fraternal Board of Directors.

(~~5~~4) Fill a vacancy caused by any reason in the elective office of Fraternal Board of Director by a majority vote of the Fraternal Board of Directors at their next regular meeting, or at a special meeting. Provided however, that vacancy shall be filled not later than ninety (90) days after the ~~publication~~occurrence of the vacancy. Applications shall be filed with the Secretary of the Alliance within thirty (30) days after the announcement of the vacancy in the official Publication of the Alliance. Announcement of a vacancy shall be published in the official Publication of the Alliance in the issue next following the occurrence of the vacancy.

## ARTICLE IX Censor, Vice-Censor and District Commissioners

### Section ~~98105~~ - Offices and Powers of the Censor

The Censor shall be the Chairperson of the Supervisory Council and temporary Chairperson of every Convention. In an ex-officio, non-voting capacity, the Censor can attend the [Business and Fraternal](#) Board of Directors meetings of the Polish National Alliance, Alliance Printers & Publishers, Alliance Communications and PNA Education Fund.

The Censor shall have the following powers:

~~(2) To appoint a secretary.~~

(~~2~~3) To appoint, within thirty (30) days after each regular Convention, and ~~subject to the approval of the Supervisory Council~~, the Chief Editor of "Zgoda", the official publication of the Alliance.

(~~3~~4) To veto in writing, any resolution, act, action or proceeding of the [Business or Fraternal](#) Board of Directors, which in his opinion is contrary to these By-Laws or the enactments of the Convention or adversely affect the interest of the Alliance, within ten (10) days from the date of the [Business or Fraternal](#) Board of Directors meeting which veto may be overridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of the [appropriate](#) Board of Directors.

### Section ~~99106~~ - Duties

It shall be the duty of the Censor:

(3) To call Special Conventions in accordance with the provisions of Section ~~44~~8.

(9) Appoint all Convention Officers as provided in Article VI Section ~~49~~54.

### Section ~~1007~~ - Vice-Censor

The Vice-Censor shall be an ex-officio member of the [Business and Fraternal](#) Board of Directors and perform the duties of the Censor during the temporary absence or inability of the Censor to perform his duties. The Vice-Censor shall perform such duties as are imposed upon him by these By-Laws and the Censor. The Vice-Censor shall be ex-officio Secretary of the Supervisory Council.

### Section 1018 - Duties of District Commissioner

It shall be the duty of each District Commissioner to:

(2) Perform such services and activities in the interest of the Alliance, within the district, which may be requested by the Censor or the [Fraternal](#) Board of Directors.

(3) The ~~female~~ Commissioner of each District shall organize a District Women's Division of which [he/she](#) shall serve as [or appoint a](#) chairperson.

(4) ~~All Commissioners shall cooperate with each other.~~

(~~5~~) Render a written report of all official activities to the Convention and such other reports as may be requested by the Censor or the [Business](#) Board of Directors.

(~~5~~6) Each Commissioner shall be knowledgeable of and promote the various insurance, financial and fraternal benefits available.

### Section 1029 - Commissioner's District Convention

[Each](#) District Commissioner(~~s~~) shall call a Commissioner's District Convention, at least once a year, not earlier than March 1st and not later than November 1st, at a place selected for the purpose of discussion and making recommendations of ways and means for promoting the welfare and advancement of the District.

Such Convention shall be composed of delegates elected by the councils in the district, each council being entitled to one (1) delegate for every five hundred (500) members, or a major fraction thereof. At any other District Convention/meeting, each Lodge within the District shall be entitled to send up to two (2) elected delegates to such meeting, who shall have all rights and privileges, including, but not limited to, voice and vote. The District Commissioner(~~s~~) shall ~~jointly~~ preside at such District Convention and shall appoint from the delegates of such District Convention the secretary. All other officers shall be elected by the delegates. The expenses of delegates participating in a District Convention shall be borne by the individual delegate, his Council, or his lodge as determined by the Council.

Where a District Convention cannot be held once a year because of geographic or other hardship, the District Commissioner(~~s~~) upon written request to the Chairman of the Supervisory Council may be authorized to hold a District Convention once every two (2) years.

### Section ~~10310~~ - Vacancy

~~In the event of a vacancy or inability to perform, it is the duty of the remaining Commissioner to carry on in the interim.~~

[In the event there is no candidate for the position of Commissioner of a District at the conclusion of the National Quadrennial Convention, the Censor shall appoint an individual who resides in the District to serve as the Commissioner for such District.](#)

All applicants for a vacancy in the elective office of Commissioner occurring after the National Quadrennial Convention shall file an application in writing in the same manner and form as prescribed in Section 728. Such application shall be filed with the Secretary of the Alliance within thirty (30) days after the notice of vacancy appears in the official Publication of the Alliance. Publication shall be in the issue next following the occurrence of the vacancy.

A District Convention shall be called by the Fraternal Board Director whose Region encompasses the vacant District, remaining Commissioner within 60 days of the notice of vacancy and the current District-Council Representatives to the latest Convention will elect a Commissioner from the declared candidates.

## ARTICLE XI President/Chief Executive Officer and the Vice-Presidents of the Alliance

### Section 10411 - Powers and Duties

The President of the Alliance shall be the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of the Alliance, and Chairman of the Business Board of Directors. He shall exercise all rights, powers and privileges incident to said office, and for particularization but not in limitation thereof, he shall have the right:

(1) To appoint the members of all Committees established by the Business or Fraternal Board of Directors whose appointment by the President is provided for in these By-Laws.

(2) To appoint, subject to the approval of the Business Board of Directors, representatives and agents, throughout the entire jurisdiction of the Alliance, who shall perform such duties, receive such compensation and have such titles, ~~as the Convention or as~~ the Business Board of Directors may determine.

(5) To suspend any Officer or employee for misconduct, incompetence or neglect of duty and report such suspension at the next meeting of the Business or Fraternal Board of Directors, as applicable, who may upon vote of two-thirds (2/3) thereof confirm and ratify the President's action. The suspension shall be in force unless overturned by the Business or Fraternal Board of Directors, as applicable.

(6) To perform such duties as shall be imposed upon the President by these By-Laws and the Business Board of Directors. To devote the entire time and attention to the affairs of the Alliance, provided, however, that the President shall not be prohibited from engaging in any civic, charitable and philanthropic activities which are in furtherance of the objectives of the Alliance. The President may not engage in any other occupation for pecuniary profit.

### Section 10512 - Vice-Presidents - Right of Succession

~~(1)~~ In case of temporary inability of the President to act, the President's duties shall be performed by the First Vice-President, or in case of the latter's inability to act, then by the Second Vice-President. In case of the death, resignation or removal for cause of the President, the First Vice-President, or in case of inability to act of the Vice President, then the Secretary then the Second Vice-President shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of the President, with all rights and privileges of that office, until a successor has been elected in the manner provided by Section 913-~~(154)~~. ~~After December 31, 2016, in case of temporary inability of the President to act, the President's duties shall be performed by the Vice-President. In case of the death, resignation or removal for cause of the President, the Vice-President shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of the President, with all rights and~~

~~privileges of that office, until a successor has been elected in the manner provided by Section 93 (4).~~

### Section 10613 - Vice-President - Duties

~~(12)~~ The Vice-Presidents shall perform such duties as are imposed upon him them by these By-Laws, the President and by the Business and Fraternal Board of Directors.

(2) The Vice President shall serve as the Chairman of the Fraternal Board of Directors.

~~(3) Both of t~~The Vice-Presidents shall be a part-time position. He shall, whenever reasonable, engage respectively devote their entire time and attention to the affairs of the Alliance, provided, however, that they respectively shall not be prohibited from engaging in any civic, charitable and philanthropic activities which are in furtherance of the objectives of the Alliance. They, or either of them, may not engage in any other occupation for pecuniary profit.

## ARTICLE XII The Secretary of the Alliance

### Section 10713 - Duties

It shall be the duty of the Secretary:

(1) To designate, immediately, upon assuming the duties of the office, and subject to the approval of the Business Board of Directors, an Assistant Secretary, who shall perform the duties of the Secretary, during the temporary absence or disability.

(2) To keep accurate and complete minutes of all meetings of the Business and Fraternal Board of Directors, which shall be approved as written or as amended at the next succeeding meeting, ~~and sent within ten (10) days thereafter to the members of the Supervisory Council. Minutes of all Board of Director meetings will be mailed to any Council President upon a request.~~

(6) To recommend to the Business Board of Directors the employment of all necessary help for the proper discharge of the office.

(8) To provide, under the direction of the Business Board of Directors, all supplies necessary for the use of lodges and juvenile circles for the transaction of the business of the Alliance.

~~(12) Reserved.~~

~~(123)~~ To declare a vacancy in any elective office of the Alliance.

~~(134)~~ To send out notice of a Special Meeting in the case of a lodge president failing to call such meeting pursuant to Section 1436~~(5)~~.

~~(145)~~ To suspend temporarily a delinquent secretary, agent or person authorized to make premium collections and to appoint another person to act in their place until the case is disposed of pursuant to the provisions of Section 14952.

~~(156)~~ To perform such duties as shall be imposed upon the Secretary by these By-Laws and the Business or Fraternal Board of Directors. To devote the entire time and attention to the affairs of the Alliance, provided, however, that the Secretary shall not be prohibited from engaging in any civic, charitable and philanthropic activities which are in furtherance of the objective of the Alliance. He may not engage in any other occupation for pecuniary profit.



## ARTICLE XIII The Treasurer of the Alliance

### Section 108~~14~~ - Duties

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer:

- (1) To receive all moneys due to the Alliance from all sources, receipt therefore and to deposit the same, in the name of the Alliance, in such banks or other institutions as the [Business](#) Board of Directors may direct.
- (2) To make all disbursements on behalf of the Alliance upon proper requisitions, and only by check executed pursuant to the rules and regulations established by the [Business](#) Board of Directors.
- (3) To submit written reports of receipts, disbursements, funds on hand and balance sheets to the Convention, the Supervisory Council or the [Business](#) Board of Directors, whenever requested to do so by any of them.
- (4) To recommend to the [Business](#) Board of Directors the employment of all necessary help for the proper discharge of the Treasurer's duties.
- (6) To perform such duties as shall be imposed by these By-Laws and the [Business or Fraternal](#) Board of Directors. To devote the entire time and attention to the affairs of the Alliance, provided, however, that the Treasurer shall not be prohibited from engaging in any civic, charitable and philanthropic activities which are in furtherance of the objectives of the Alliance. The Treasurer may not engage in any other occupation for pecuniary profit.

## ARTICLE XIV~~H~~ General Counsel, Medical Director, Chief Financial Officer, Underwriter, Director of Insurance Sales

### Section 109~~15~~ - General Counsel

The General Counsel shall be a graduate of an accredited law school, be a licensed attorney-at-law, and shall have practiced his profession, in any State for at least five (5) years, and be a member of the Bar of the State of Illinois. It shall be the duty of the General Counsel to be the legal adviser of the Alliance.

- (4) To recommend to the [Business](#) Board of Directors the employment of all necessary help for the proper discharge of his or her duties.
- (5) To perform such duties as shall be imposed by these By-Laws and the [Business](#) Board of Directors.

### Section 110~~6~~ - Medical Director

- (1) To resolve and finally determine all questions relating to the physical or mental condition of any claimant or proposed insured referred by the Underwriter or the [Business](#) Board of Directors.
- (2) To advise the [Business](#) Board of Directors in establishing or amending the underwriting rules.
- (3) To recommend to the [Business](#) Board of Directors amendments to established underwriting rules appearing to be necessary or desirable.
- (4) To appoint, subject to the approval of the [Business](#) Board of Directors, necessary office help and to devote such time as the proper performance of duties may require.

- (5) To perform such other duties pertaining to the office as the [Business](#) Board of Directors may prescribe.

### Section 111~~7~~ – Chief Financial Officer

- (1) To examine and verify the accounts of all Officers of the Alliance, and upon direction of the [Business](#) Board of Directors to examine and verify the accounts of all officers of subordinate bodies thereof, who collect, receive, disburse, manage or have in their custody funds belonging to the Alliance, and for such purposes to demand, at any time, a written accounting from any such officer of the funds or other property of the Alliance in the officer's custody or control.
- (2) To examine and verify all demands upon the Alliance for payment of money and make recommendations thereon to the [Business](#) Board of Directors.
- (3) To furnish financial reports relating to the Alliance to the [Business](#) Board of Directors and on the request of the Censor.
- (4) To perform such other duties as the [Business](#) Board of Directors shall prescribe.

### Section 112~~7A~~ - The Underwriter

- (4) To advise and consult with the [Business](#) Board of Directors in establishing or amending underwriting rules and negotiating or amending reinsurance agreements.
- (5) To recommend to the [Business](#) Board of Directors amendments to established underwriting rules and reinsurance agreements appearing to be necessary or desirable.
- (6) To recommend to the [Business](#) Board of Directors, in consultation with the General Counsel and/or the Actuary, amendments to applications and benefit certificate forms appearing to be necessary or desirable.
- (8) To serve on the Reinsurance Audit Committee with other individuals appointed by the [Business](#) Board of Directors.
- (9) To perform such other duties as the [Business](#) Board of Directors may prescribe.

### Section 113~~8~~ - Director of Insurance Sales

The Director of Insurance Sales shall be conversant with methods of procuring and directing ~~producersfield personnel~~; the establishment and conduct of ~~salesfield-service~~ operations and with benefits authorized and provided for under insurance plans of the Alliance. The following shall be among the duties:

- (1) To procure and submit to the [Business](#) Board of Directors for approval suitable candidates for the position of sales representative of the Alliance.
- (2) To supervise and direct the ~~Producersfield personnel~~ and ~~salesfield~~ operations of the Alliance, and to maintain appropriate statistics reflecting such ~~salesfield operations~~.
- (4) To arrange, prepare, and publicize contests for the purpose of encouraging the ~~ProducersSales Representatives~~, financial secretaries, and members to solicit new members.

(5) To perform such other duties as the [Business](#) Board of Directors shall prescribe.

#### **Section 1148A - Publications**

The [Business](#) Board of Directors shall have power and authority to provide for an official publication and other publications necessary to advance the interest of the Alliance. One copy of each issue of the official publication shall be mailed to every household of the Alliance. The policy of all publications of the Alliance shall be in harmony with the purposes of the Alliance. No publication shall be used for personal or partisan political purposes within the Alliance, nor in any way calculated to lessen its prestige. The publications shall defend the gains of Americans of Polish descent in the political life of this country as well as in other fields of constructive endeavor, regardless of political affiliation. Constructive criticism of persons occupying public offices, or of their acts, shall be permitted.

### **ARTICLE XIV Councils**

#### **Section 1159 - Composition - Division of**

Each council shall be a federation of local lodges assigned to it by the [Business](#) Board of Directors, which shall also designate each council by a number. Whenever the number of adult members, in good standing, of the lodges constituting a council, shall exceed 5,000, the [Business](#) Board of Directors, may, upon written petition of one-third (1/3) of the lodges belonging to such council, divide it into two (2) or more councils, with due regard to local distances and conditions.

#### **Section 11620 - When Lodges may Constitute Councils - Transfer of Lodges**

(a) In the event a lodge shall be located more than thirty (30) miles from the nearest council, then it shall in itself constitute a temporary council, and shall be entitled to Representatives to the Convention, in accordance with the provision of Section [3843](#). A lodge may be transferred from one council to another by the [Business](#) Board of Directors, when in its opinion, such action is necessary in the interest of the Alliance, and it shall make such transfer upon the request, in writing, of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of any lodge in good standing.

#### **Section 11721 - Property of Dissolved Councils**

When all lodges of a Council are transferred to another Council, due to inactivity, it shall be the duty of its last Officers to deliver to the [Business](#) Board of Directors, or its authorized agent, the books, charter, seal, papers, and records of the Council together with all moneys in the hands of the Council Officers, which have been paid to such Council and such property shall become property of the Alliance.

#### **Section 11822 - Council Assembly - How Constituted**

The assembly of each council shall consist of delegates elected by the several lodges belonging to it in compliance with the provisions of Sections [11923](#) and [1403](#). Each lodge shall be entitled to a minimum of two (2) delegates and an additional delegate for every twenty-five (25) adult members in good standing and a major fraction of that number in excess of fifty (50) members. Vacancies occurring in delegate positions for any reason shall be filled by election in the lodges.

#### **Section 11923 - Delegates - Qualifications**

For the purpose of establishing the selection of delegates to the Electoral Assembly of the council, each lodge shall preserve the records of the election of its delegates to the council conducted by it in the months of [November](#), [December](#) and [January](#) preceding the Convention

year until the time that the proceedings of the Electoral Assembly of the council have been concluded.

#### **Section 1204 - Meeting of Council Assembly - Election of Officers - Executive Board Quorum**

The first meeting of the assembly of each council shall be held not later than March [31st](#) of each year, at which time there shall be elected a president, a secretary and treasurer, and such other officers as it may deem necessary, who shall hold office until their successors are elected, and who shall constitute the executive board of the council. Delegates representing one-third (1/3) of the lodges of the council shall constitute a quorum of a council assembly for the transaction of business.

#### **Section 1215 - Duties of Council Assembly**

It shall be the duty of each council assembly:

(2) To promote the formation of lodges and the solicitation of new members for the Alliance, under the direction of the [Business](#) Board of Directors.

(5) To adopt rules and regulations for the conduct of the activities of the council, which rules and regulations shall not conflict with these By-Laws and the rules and regulations of the [Business](#) Board of Directors.

#### **Section 1225A - Financial Reporting.**

Annually, each Council shall submit to the National Secretary a copy of the audit committee's report and a financial statement listing all of the assets of the Council or a copy of such Council's Internal Revenue Service Form 990. Such report and financial statement shall be submitted on forms approved by the [Business](#) Board of Directors and submitted by March 31st of each year.

### **ARTICLE XVI Lodges**

#### **Section 1247 - Formation**

Lodges may be formed in any territory within the jurisdiction of the Alliance, by the [Business](#) Board of Directors or its duly authorized agents. Each lodge shall consist of not less than twenty-five (25) Beneficial Premium Paying Members, provided that in localities where there is no lodge in existence, the number necessary to secure a charter shall be fifteen (15) members.

#### **Section 1258 - Charters - Number and Name of Lodge**

Upon receipt of a petition for charter and acceptable applications for membership, the [Business](#) Board of Directors may grant a charter to a new lodge, if in its opinion, such action will promote the best interest of the Alliance. The [Business](#) Board of Directors shall designate each lodge by a number and shall give it such name as may be selected by it and approved by the [Business](#) Board of Directors, and shall assign it to a specified council. No lodge shall change its name without the approval of the [Business](#) Board of Directors.

#### **Section 1269 - Financial Reporting.**

Annually, each Lodge shall submit to the National Secretary a copy of the audit committee's report and a financial statement listing all of the assets of the Lodge or a copy of such Lodge's Internal Revenue Service Form 990. Such report and financial statement shall be submitted on forms approved by the [Business](#) Board of Directors and submitted by February 28th of each year.

#### **Section 12730 - Supplies**

The supplies furnished to lodges shall be such as may be provided by the [Business](#) Board of Directors, and each lodge shall procure from the



office of the Secretary of the Alliance all books, blanks, and other supplies required by it.

#### **Section 12831 - Meeting - Quorum - Order of Business**

If the lodge president fails or refuses to call and hold regular meetings as established by the By-Laws or by resolution of the lodge, then the Secretary of the Alliance shall call such a meeting and notify all members of the lodge. Failure of the lodge president to call regular meetings may subject said president to removal from office by the lodge or by the [Business](#) Board of Directors of the Alliance. Special meetings may be called pursuant to Section 1436(5).

#### **Section 12932 - Self Government - Representation - Powers**

Every lodge shall have the right of self-government, and shall be entitled to participate in the activities of the council to which it has been assigned; to representation in the Electoral Assembly, and in the Convention, upon the same conditions, and subject to the same requirements, as applied to every other lodge in the council, and as may be fixed by the Convention. A lodge shall have power to induct members, in accordance with the Ritual prescribed by the Alliance, to adopt and amend its By-Laws for its government, which shall not be in conflict with these By-Laws and the rules and regulations of the [Business](#) Board of Directors, and to impose dues upon its membership to defray expenses of its regular operations.

#### **Section 1336 - Suspension of Lodges**

If a lodge shall refuse to obey an order of the Convention, the Supervisory Council or the [Business](#) Board of Directors, or shall fail to remit any payment or special assessment required by these By-Laws on or before the tenth (10) day of the next month following the month in which the same was payable, such delinquent lodge shall ipso facto stand suspended, and a notice of such suspension shall be mailed by the Secretary of the Alliance to the president, financial secretary and treasurer of such lodge, and to the president of the council before the last day of such month. Such suspension shall deprive the lodge of all its rights and privileges given to it in these By-Laws or the enactments of the Convention. The benefit certificates of the members shall not thereby be affected.

#### **Section 1358 - Transfer of Members of Suspended Lodge**

Any member whose lodge has been suspended by the [Business](#) Board of Directors, or by the operation of these By-Laws, may, subject to other provisions of these By-Laws, within three (3) months after such suspension, upon payment to the Alliance of all arrearages, if any, together with the current payment, obtain a transfer card from the Secretary of the Alliance and may become a member of any other lodge in accordance with the provisions of Section 145.

#### **Section 1369 - Property of Dissolved Lodges**

When a lodge is permanently suspended, dissolved, or when its charter is revoked, it shall be the duty of its last Officers to deliver to the [Business](#) Board of Directors, or its authorized agent, the books, charter, seal, papers, and records of the lodge together with all moneys in the hands of the lodge Officers, which have been paid in as monthly rates, assessments or administrative taxes, and such property shall become the property of the Alliance. The property of the lodge shall be subject to disposition by the members thereof as provided in Section 1325.

#### **Section 13740 - Consolidation**

If any two or more lodges belonging to the same or another council wish to consolidate, they shall make such request in writing to the [Business](#) Board of Directors, with a written notice thereof to the council or councils affected. The [Business](#) Board of Directors shall thereupon

prescribe or approve the conditions and terms of any such consolidation, including the disposition of the assets and liabilities of the lodges affected. In the event of a consolidation of two or more lodges, the members thereof shall retain all their rights and privileges of membership which they possessed at the time of the consolidation.

#### **Section 13841 - Failure to Maintain Required Membership at Meetings**

If the Beneficial Premium Paying Members of a lodge, at any time, are less than ten (10) in number, and if the deficiency is not corrected within sixty (60) days after notice from the [Business](#) Board of Directors, or if a lodge remains dormant and inactive, or for any other valid reason it may appear to the best advantage of the Alliance, the [Business](#) Board of Directors shall revoke the charter of such lodge, and assign its members to other lodges in the same Commissioner's District, and in such cases, the funds and property of the lodge shall be disposed of as provided in Sections 1325 and 136.

### **ARTICLE XVII**

#### **Lodge Officers and their Duties**

#### **Section 1403 - Election and Term of Office**

Lodge officers and delegates to the council shall be nominated and elected annually at the regular meeting of the lodge in the between November 15 and January 31. Nominations may be held at an earlier date if the lodge desires. Elections shall be conducted in the manner provided for by the lodge, but shall be by secret written ballot, provided, when only one (1) candidate is nominated for an office, then he shall be declared elected without ballot, and provided further, that the election of the Financial Secretary shall be subject to the approval and confirmation by the [Business](#) Board of Directors. Each elected officer and delegate shall hold office for one (1) year and until the successor is elected and installed.

#### **Section 1469 - Financial Secretary - Duties**

The Financial Secretary shall:

~~(2) Reserved.~~

(134) Upon the filing of a written complaint by any member, officer, or body of the Alliance with the [Business](#) Board of Directors supported by affidavits to the effect that the Financial Secretary is not performing the duties as required by these By-Laws, the resolutions of the Convention, the rules and regulations of the Alliance, or is guilty of conduct which is detrimental to the welfare of the lodge and of the Alliance, the [Business](#) Board of Directors, upon being satisfied with the truth of the charges contained in the complaint, may summarily remove such Financial Secretary without compliance with the rules of disciplinary procedures as provided in Article XIX of these By-Laws. Such removal shall become effective immediately. The elected officers of the lodge shall immediately appoint, subject to the approval of the [Business](#) Board of Directors, another suitable member as Financial Secretary, who shall hold office until the next regularly scheduled election meeting of the lodge and until a successor is elected.

(134) In the case of a delinquent Financial Secretary, agent or person authorized to make collections, the Secretary of the Alliance, with the approval of the [Business](#) Board of Directors, shall notify the lodge President and Financial Secretary in writing of a temporary suspension and appoint within sixty (60) days another person to act in the Financial Secretary's stead until the case is disposed of pursuant to the provisions of Section 14952.

#### **Section 14952 - Penalty for Violating Preceding Section**

Should any Financial Secretary or any person authorized to collect premiums knowingly violate any of the provisions of the foregoing Section 146~~9~~ and 147~~50~~, complaint may be made against him to the Business Board of Directors by any member, officer or body of the Alliance, and if, upon due notice and hearing he shall be found guilty of such violation, he shall be removed from office.

If upon due notice and hearing, any Financial Secretary or any person authorized to collect premiums and other funds on behalf of the Alliance shall be found guilty of failing to transmit any funds collected by him on behalf of the Alliance to the Treasurer of the Alliance as required by these By-Laws, the Business Board of Directors is hereby authorized to institute civil and/or criminal complaint against such person to recover any funds collected and not remitted to the Treasurer of the Alliance as provided by these By-Laws.

#### **Article XVII – Reserved**

**Section 157 through 160 – Reserved**

### **ARTICLE XVIII The School Corporation**

#### **Section 159~~66~~ – Bylaws**

The Bylaws of the School Corporation shall be adopted and subject to revision by the Fraternal Board of Directors of the Alliance.

### **ARTICLE XIX Disciplinary Provisions**

#### **Section 163~~70~~ - Offenses for which Councils and Lodges may be Punished**

The commission of the following offenses by a council or lodge may be punished by the Business Board of Directors by suspension or revocation of the charter.

#### **Section 165~~72~~ - Judicial Bodies**

(1) If the complaint is fraternal by nature, as opposed to financial, the matter shall be adjudicated under the provision of this section, otherwise all financial disputes involving insurance products shall be resolved using the provisions of Section 171~~8~~.

(4) The Business Board of Directors shall be the judicial body in which all complaints shall be filed against the councils, the Officers thereof, and, except for the members of the Supervisory Council, all the elective Officers of the Alliance.

#### **Section 166~~73~~ - Rules of Procedure**

The Business Board of Directors shall prescribe rules of disciplinary procedure, which shall become effective when approved by the Supervisory Council. Such rules shall provide for:

#### **Section 168~~75~~ - Effect of Suspension or Expulsion**

Where an accused has been suspended or expelled by action of judicial body, he ~~or she~~ shall be deprived of all rights and privileges of every nature whatsoever, provided, however, that the privilege of maintaining the benefit certificate in force by continuing payment of the required premium rates and such payments as may be payable under the benefit certificate shall not be revoked and, provided further, that a member so suspended or expelled shall be notified by the Secretary of the Alliance in writing of the above privilege.

**Section 170~~7~~ - Appeals from Decisions of the Judicial Body of the Supervisory Council, and from Decisions of the Supervisory Council in Appellate Matters.**

In all cases wherein the Supervisory Council hears disciplinary matters in the first instance as a judicial body, the procedure before it shall be the same as prescribed for other judicial bodies.

All decisions of the judicial body of the Supervisory Council and all decisions of the Supervisory Council in appellate matters may be appealed by any person, officer or body who may deem aggrieved thereby to the next regular Convention by petition directed to the pre-Convention Committee on Petitions, Grievances and Complaints in the manner prescribed in Section 46~~52~~(b) of these By-Laws.

### **ARTICLE XX Amendments to the By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation of the Alliance**

#### **Section 172~~9~~ - Amendments to the By-Laws**

The By-Laws of the Alliance may be amended by a majority vote of all Representatives present and qualified to vote at a regular Convention, or a special Convention, called for that purpose. Each member, Lodge, Council Business or Fraternal Board of Directors, may submit a proposed amendment, in writing. In the event the proposed amendment is submitted by a Lodge, Council or the Business or Fraternal Board of Directors, it must be signed by its respective Officers. All proposed amendments shall be sent to the Secretary of the Alliance not later than sixty (60) days before the Convention for delivery to the Committee on Laws and By-Laws.

#### **Section 175~~82~~ - Amendment by Referendum**

To meet changing statutes or rules and regulations of the Insurance Departments of various States wherein the Alliance is authorized to transact business, or when such action is deemed to be of serious importance to the welfare of the Alliance, the Business Board of Directors with the concurrence of the Supervisory Council may order a proposed amendment to these By-Laws be submitted to a referendum vote of all members of the last regular Quadrennial Convention of the Alliance.

#### **Section 176~~83~~ - Indemnification of Officers and Directors**

The Alliance may maintain insurance on such directors and officers against liability for acts or omissions in the performance of their duties as determined by resolution of the Business Board of Directors.

#### **Section 177~~84~~ - Robert's Rules of Order**

In the absence of any rules or regulations governing any particular phase of the deliberations of any constituent body of the Alliance, the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised-10<sup>th</sup> Edition" shall apply.

#### **Section 178~~5~~ - Repealing Clause**

Any provision contained in the By-Laws, inconsistent with the amendments passed at the 47~~6~~th Convention, are hereby repealed.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NUMBERS OF MANY SECTIONS WERE CHANGED. THOSE CHANGES ARE NOT PRESENTED HEREIN, SINCE THE ONLY CHANGE WAS THE SECTION NUMBER.**

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*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.*

*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.*



*Elżbieta Stolarczuk,  
Krzysztof Kasperowicz and  
WICI Song and Dance Theatre.*

*Photo: Dariusz Lachowski*

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