

ZGODA

Winter
2021

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

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Merry Christmas
Wesołych Świąt

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*Christmas is a day of meaning and traditions,
a special day spent in the warm circle
of family and friends.*



*May peace be your gift at Christmas
and your blessing all year through!*

Stained glass window depicting a Nativity Scene and the Adoration of the Shepherds in the Church of Ostuni, Apulia, Italy. Photo by Jorisvo.

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of the U.S. of N.A.

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From the President

November 2021

Dear Members,

I hope you and your loved ones are staying warm and enjoying all the fun activities winter has to offer!

This certainly has been a trying time for all of us, but I can assure you the Polish National Alliance continues to do very well financially amidst this pandemic. Earlier in the year, we increased our interest rate on the annuities to 2.50% during the tax season, bringing in almost 10 million dollars of deposits.

During the past twenty months, our quarterly Board of Directors meetings have been conducted virtually. The pandemic has shown that we can adapt to whatever situations that arise. To address future goals and plans, we also had an in-person strategic meeting in August, during which we brainstormed ideas on how to address challenges facing us and what changes need to be made. Shortly after the meeting, the Office of the National Secretary started consolidating lodges in an effort to make them more active and inclusive. This is just one of many much-needed changes we plan to implement.

Finally, things are starting to turn around, and we are slowly returning to our normal in-person activities. Throughout the country, we have had several events taking place. Our summer youth camps were open, Baltimore had a 5K

run, and the Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria, Texas opened. In Chicago, WPNA 103.1 FM Radio Station's Polish Independence Walk/Run has returned in-person for the first time since 2019. The event sold out, the weather was amazing, and everyone had a great time.

This holiday season, we are featuring the Single Premium Whole Life certificates for children and adults. Being we are coming to the end of another year, you might be going over your finances. I encourage you to think about reviewing your current coverage to see if you'd like to make any changes. Having the best life insurance possible is an easy way to alleviate the heavy burden that often falls on spouses and other loved ones. The younger you apply, the lower your premiums will be. So there is no better time than the present to take a positive step towards securing your and your family's future! Call our office today at 1-800-621-3723 to speak to one of our experienced Sales Department staff members about your options.

On behalf of the Executive Officers, PNA employees, and myself, we wish you and your loved ones a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with love, happiness and good health!

Wesołych Świąt!

Sincerely,

*Frank J. Spula, FLMI
President and CEO*



Our Official PNA Representatives

We are here for you. Our PNA representatives are just like family and we know that sometimes you need to reach out and talk to someone who understands your concerns. Below is a list of directors and fraternal advisors, the districts and regions they represent, and their email addresses. Feel free to contact them with your comments and questions; after all, we are here for you!

Region	Fraternal Advisor	Contact	
A	Irene Grabowy	pnagrabowy@juno.com	860-589-0592
B	Sean Jackson	sjacksonpna@gmail.com	412- 841-3120
C	Bozena Kaminski	bozenak@polishslaviccenter.com	917-750-8143
D	David Milcinovic	davidgmilcinovic@yahoo.com	216-299-1407
E	Stella Szczesny	stellaszcz@gmail.com	313-680-4548
F	Barbara Wesołowski	Bwesolowski1@yahoo.com	708-460-6657
G	Magdalena Solarz	pna.fraternal.g@gmail.com	773-777-8800
H	Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden	jola@drydeneventproductions.com	713-805-5810
I	Teresa Jankowski	jtjankowski@sbcglobal.net	414-559-9301
J	Greg Chilecki	gchilecki@dslextreme.com	714-744-2775

Region	District	Area	Facebook Page
A	I,II	Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut	Polish National Alliance, North -East states
B	VIII	Western Pennsylvania, Western New York	PNA , Region "B" Fraternal Group
C	III,VI,VII	Eastern New York, New Jersey, East and Southwestern Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, DC	Polish National Alliance, Mid Atlantic
D	IX, XVII	Ohio, West Virginia	Polish National Alliance, Ohio and West Virginia
E	X, XV	Michigan, Indiana	Polish National Alliance, Michigan and Indiana
F	XII	South Chicago	Polish National Alliance, South Chicago
G	XIII	North Chicago	Polish National Alliance, North Chicago
H	IV, V, XI	Texas, Nebraska, Missouri, Florida, Colorado	Polish National Alliance, Region H
I	XIV	North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin	PNA, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin
J	XVIII	Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California, Arizona	Polish National Alliance, Pacific Coast, Nevada and Arizona

*Wishing you a Christmas
that's merry and bright,
and healthy, happy,
and prosperous New Year!*

Wesołych Świąt oraz zdrowia i
pomyślności w Nowym Roku!

Executive Officers:

Frank J. Spula, President, CEO
Marian Grabowski, Vice President
Alicja Kuklinska, National Secretary
Steve H. Tokarski, Treasurer

Directors:

Wesley E. Musial, Vice Chair
Irene T. Hercik
Anthony Nowak-Przygodzki
Val Pawlos
Jeff Twardy
Teresa Struziak Sherman

Fraternal Advisors:

Irene Grabowy. Sean Jackson. Bozena Kaminski.
David Milcinovic. Stella Szczesny.
Barbara Wesolowski. Magdalena Solarz.
Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden. Teresa Jankowski.
Greg Chilecki



M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S



Who gets your money?

Make sure your check ends up in the right hands!

Your beneficiary designation (not your will) dictates who will inherit your life insurance, annuity, or retirement savings.

**These life-changing moments should make
you check your beneficiaries:**

- ✓ You got married or got divorced
- ✓ You birthed or adopted a child
- ✓ You lost a loved one
- ✓ You decided to leave money to your favorite charity

Make sure the paperwork is up-to-date.

Please contact PNA customer service:

1-773-286-0500 ext. 376

Download **Change of Beneficiary** form
of the PNA website pna-znp.org

Polish National Alliance
6100 N. Cicero Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois 60646



Stretch your dollars and leave a meaningful legacy.

At this time of the year, people often think about what they can do for loved ones that would be most meaningful to them. The PNA Single Premium Whole Life¹ (SPWL) plan has two ways that can help you create a legacy that will carry on for years.

As an outright gift to children and grandchildren, SPWL creates an immediate asset for the child and will assure that insurance coverage will continue for years to come. For example, a gift of \$2,000 to a 1-year-old will purchase \$23,789 of life insurance coverage and create an immediate cash value that will continue to grow. What a great start for a young person who may need funds for college, a down payment on a home, or perhaps, looking long term, a supplement to retirement savings.

A second legacy strategy involves looking at your current assets and how they might be employed differently to generate a higher benefit for your heirs. Let's say you have \$30,000 in a CD and intend to leave \$10,000 to each of your adult children. You cannot give the money to them outright because you may need to use it. But what if you

could take that \$30,000, provide \$15,000 each for your children and still have another \$15,000 for your Church, your school, or for loved ones back home? What if you could retain control of the money if you need it and provide a greater benefit to your loved ones and favorite charity? A Female, age 67, making a premium payment of \$30,000, can purchase a single payment policy with a death benefit of \$64, 611².

Many people have used the Single Premium Whole Life to transfer more considerable sums of money to their heirs while taking advantage of current tax laws to make the strategy even more effective. A big plus is that you retain control of the cash value. The death benefit is income tax-free and, with an appropriately named beneficiary, avoids probate.

Let PNA help you make a meaningful gift through legacy planning with the Single Premium Whole Life policy. For as little as \$2,449, a female age 67 can purchase the SPWL and double the amount that her loved ones receive - \$5,000. For a Male age 67, \$2,610 would generate \$5,000.

The purchase of a Single Premium Whole Life policy makes a lot of sense in many different situations. Call us to see how you and the SPWL might make a difference to your loved ones, your favorite charity, or both!

*Tom Adamson, FICF, CLU ChFC
National Sales Manager*

1. *The Single Premium Whole Life Plan is a permanent plan of protection offering lifetime insurance coverage. Not available in all states*
2. *Underwriting requirements apply*





**APPLICATION FOR
INDIVIDUAL LIFE
INSURANCE**

Amounts \$30,000 and below

POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE
of the United States of North America
A Fraternal Benefit Life Insurance Society since 1880
6100 N. Cicero Avenue
Chicago, IL 60646-4386
pna-znp.org

Lodge No. _____

Certificate No. _____
For office use only

1. Name of Proposed Insured:		2. Sex M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>	3. Date of Birth	4. Age	5. Email
6. Address				7. Phone	8. Place of Birth
9. Social Security No.	10. Marital Status <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced		12. Occupation		13. Employer
14. Owner: (if other than insured):		Relationship:	Social Security No.	Email	
Address		City:	State	Zip	
15. Primary Beneficiary:		Relationship:	Social Security No.		
Address		City:	State	Zip	
16. Contingent Beneficiary:		Relationship:	Social Security No.		
Address		City:	State	Zip	

17a. Plan of Insurance _____ 17b. Amount of Insurance _____

18. Would you like to add the following riders: Disability waiver of premium ☐ Yes ☐ No; Accidental Death Benefit ☐ Yes ☐ No

19. Select a mode of payment: ☐ annual ☐ semi-annual ☐ quarterly ☐ monthly Payment Submitted: _____

20. Select a dividend option: ☐ Left on deposit ☐ Cash ☐ Purchase Paid up additions ☐ Reduce Premiums

21. Would you like the automatic premium loan option? ☐ Yes ☐ No

22. Does the proposed insured have any existing life insurance or annuity contracts now in force? ☐ Yes ☐ No

23. Is this insurance intended to replace or change any insurance now in force? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" provide Company and Policy # below

INSURABILITY QUESTIONS

	Yes	No
1. Height _____ 2. Weight _____ 3. Have you smoked or used any form of tobacco within last 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Within the past 10 years has the proposed insured ever been treated for or diagnosed by a medical professional with:		
a. Disease or disorder of heart, kidneys, stomach, liver, lungs, bones or joints?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. High blood pressure, chest pain, diabetes, cancer or tumor?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Nervous or mental disease, alcoholism or any drug habit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Currently taking medication? (If yes, indicate type and dosage below)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Has the proposed insured been treated by a medical professional for any other physical disease or deformity or consulted or been examined by any physician for other than a symptom-free check-up or had an electrocardiogram, x-rays, blood studies or has been hospitalized during the past five years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Has any application for life insurance been declined, withdrawn, postponed, or modified in any way by any insurance company during the past 5 years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Has the proposed insured had a driver's license suspended or revoked in the past 5 years? If "Yes" provide DL #	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FOR QUESTIONS 3 THRU 8 ABOVE, PROVIDE DETAILS TO "YES" ANSWERS. Attach another sheet if you need more room

Question:	Name and address of physician and hospital	Specific reason consults and results

Fraud warning notice

Any person who knowingly presents a false statement in an application for insurance may be guilty of a criminal offense and subject to penalties under state law.

ICC18 SHORT AP (2018)

Please complete reverse side

Acknowledgement

Please mark the following box, if applicable

☐ I acknowledge that an illustration conforming to the life insurance certificate applied for was not provided. I understand that an illustration will be provided no later than at the time of certificate delivery

To the best of my knowledge and belief the statements and answers in the application are true, complete and correctly recorded. I agree that this application will be the basis for any certificate issued on this application. I further agree that this insurance applied for shall be subject to the conditions and provisions of the contract of insurance and will not take effect until the policy is issued by the Polish National Alliance of the U.S. of N.A. (PNA), the full first year premium has been paid to the PNA and the Proposed Insured's health and other conditions are as described in this application.

THE POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THE U.S. OF N.A. IS LICENSED TO DO BUSINESS AS A FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETY. AS SUCH, IT IS NOT INCLUDED IN ANY STATE'S LIFE AND HEALTH GUARANTY ASSOCIATION (OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION). THIS MEANS THAT FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES CANNOT BE ASSESSED FOR THE INSOLVENCY OF OTHER LIFE INSURERS OR OTHER FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETIES. BY LAW, A FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS OWN SOLVENCY. IF THERE IS AN IMPAIRMENT OF RESERVES, A POLICYHOLDER MAY BE ASSESSED A PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE IMPAIRMENT. THIS PROCESS IS DESCRIBED IN THE POLICY ISSUED BY THE SOCIETY.

on

Signed in

City/State

Date

Signature of Proposed Insured

Signature of Agent

Signature of Owner

Authorization for Release of Health-Related Information

This Authorization complies with the HIPAA Privacy Rule

I hereby authorize any licensed physician, medical practitioner, pharmacy benefits manager, hospital, clinic or other medical or medically related facility, insurance company, MIB Inc. or other organization, institution or person, that has any records or knowledge of me or my health to give to the Polish National Alliance of the U.S. of N.A., or its reinsurers, any such information. I authorize the Polish National Alliance of the U.S. of N.A., or its reinsurers, to make a brief report of my personal health information to MIB. A photographic copy of this authorization shall be as valid as the original.

I understand that the information in my health record may include information relating to sexually transmitted diseases, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). It may also include information about behavioral or mental health services and treatment for alcohol and drug abuse.

I also understand that when my medical records are disclosed pursuant to this Authorization, my medical records and the information contained in those records may be subject to re-disclosure by the recipient and may no longer be protected by federal privacy laws.

I understand that I may revoke this Authorization, except to the extent that any healthcare provider or the Polish National Alliance of the United States of North America has acted in reliance upon this Authorization. My revocation of this Authorization must be submitted in writing to:

**Polish National Alliance of the United States of North America
Attn. Privacy Compliance Officer
6100 N. Cicero Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60646**

This Authorization will expire twenty-four (24) months after the date the Authorization is signed or for the time limit, if any, permitted by applicable law in the state where the policy is delivered or issued for delivery.

Signature of Individual Whose Information is to be Disclosed

Date

Print Name of Individual

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Print Name of Parent or Legal Guardian

Protecting families since 1880

Protect your legacy



Maintain control of your money
Enjoy tax advantages

Single Premium Whole Life Insurance

\$30,000 provides coverage of:

Age	Female	Male
65	\$68,635	\$64,198
66	\$66,585	\$62,293
67	\$64,611	\$60,464
68	\$62,711	\$58,709
69	\$60,881	\$57,026
70	\$59,124	\$55,416

Standard Non-Smoker Rates, other amounts available.



Call 1-800- 621 - 3723

One payment, a lifetime of coverage!

Polish National Alliance of the U.S. of N.A.
6100 N.Cicero Ave., Chicago, IL, 60646

www.pna-znp.org | [Facebook.com/PNAZNP](https://www.facebook.com/PNAZNP)

PNA Frontline Hero Award



We recently asked the PNA Family to nominate a member they think deserves to receive the PNA Frontline Hero Award. Each region received several nominations with incredible stories of selflessness. We are so proud of our members' courage and tireless efforts. These days, we don't need to look up at the sky to find a hero. They walk among us every day.

Fraternal Advisors from each region selected three judges to undertake the careful process of choosing the winners from their respective regions.

The PNA Frontline Hero Award recipients from each PNA region are as follows:

Region A

Elizabeth Paczuska-Morawiak



Lodge 228, Council 118, District 1
Elizabeth made and donated over 10,000 masks to the Polish Community for free, and made sure the elderly had food during coronavirus lockdown. She was nominated by MaryAnn Ivil, Halina Oles, Grzegorz Paczuski, Renata

Tubilewocz, Adam Paczuski, Daniel Paczuski and James Wojciechowski.

Region A Committee: Teresa Sherman, Marianna Koziol-Dube, and Irene Grabowy.

Region B

Jacqueline Petrus-Powell

Mental Healthcare Supervisor

Lodge 352, Council 110, District 8

Jacqueline is on the frontline that you don't often hear



about. She acts as an advocate for her patients and is skilled in crisis management. Jacqueline encourages her patients to live beyond their limitations. At the end of the day, she leaves work, but work never leaves her. Jacqueline was nominated by Jaren and John Petrus.

Region B Committee:

Jim Meizner, Bob Alvarez, and Gary Cernetich.

Region C

Selena Slackus

Special Education Teacher



District 7

Selena is a special education teacher that provides in-person instruction five days a week at an elementary school. She cares for her students and tries her best to give them an excellent education while facing the challenges and changes Covid-19 has brought.

Selena was nominated by her husband Steve and daughters Chaylee and Cara.

Region C Committee:

Robert Bronchard, Grace Kopec, Bozena Kaminski.

Region D

Alex H. Gadzik

EMT Firefighter

Lodge 455, Council 50, District 9

Alex is an EMT/Firefighter with the Barton Fire Dept. and Cumberland Trail Fire District. After losing his job during the pandemic, Alex took a full-time job with the



Cumberland Trail Fire District. He enrolled in Belmont College for a Fire Science and Paramedic Degree and helped test over 25,000 people in 14 months. On his days off, he works shifts at the county vaccine clinics. Alex was nominated by Jeff S. Gadzik.

Region D Committee: Allan R. Szuflada, Ann M. Weinberger, and Stanley J. Magielski, Sr.

Region E

Megan Rosemarie Krolkowski ICU Registered Nurse



Lodge 53, Council 54, District 10, Region E

Megan is an ICU Registered Nurse who graduated in the spring of 2019. After graduation, she accepted a position as an ICU Nurse, not knowing what was ahead. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Megan provided quality care to her critically ill patients while comforting grieving families. She also worked a second job as a contin-

gent nurse on the Covid floor at Henry Ford Hospital ICU. Megan was nominated by Kim Krolkowski.

Region E Committee: Thomas Schemanski, Barbara Gronet and Stella Szczesny.

Region F

Dr. Joseph Kokoszka

Lodge 2927, Council 39, District 12



Dr. Joseph Kokoszka has practiced medicine for the past 32 years as a general surgeon specializing in colorectal surgery. During the pandemic, he worked alongside medical personnel treating the most severe cases of COVID-19. He was seriously infected with the virus and spent several weeks in isolation away from his family. When he recovered, he

went right back to work.

Region F Committee: Arthur Trybek, Judith Trybek.

Region G

Anna Wierzbicki

Intensive Care Nurse

Lodge 1474, Council 41, District 13

Anna is an intensive care nurse at Community First



Medical Center. She works long shifts looking after extremely ill patients suffering from COVID-19 and other severe conditions. During COVID-19, she has faced dangerous conditions without proper PPE and has spent her own money to acquire the protective gear needed to stay

safe. Anna always puts her patients' well-being ahead of her own. Anna also takes care of her elderly mother and has to be extremely careful not to bring the virus home, which adds stress levels to an already stressful job. Anna was nominated by Wanda Juda and Magdalena Solarz.

Region G Committee:

Kinga Wojdyla, Emilia Kozlowska and Marlena Hadas.

Region H

Grace Kathryn Ciaston Registered Nurse



Lodge 165, Council 182, District 5

Grace is a Registered Nurse who graduated from Louisiana State University. In early February 2020, she passed her Board and began working in the cardiac unit at the Ochsner Hospital in New Orleans. Her unit was repurposed to treat COVID-19 patients

within her first month there. This was before protective equipment was widely available. Since the crisis began, Grace has volunteered to administer vaccines at various clinics. Her grandfather Leopold Ciaston, former Vice Censor PNA, and grandmother, a fifty-year registered nurse, are smiling down at her from heaven. Grace was nominated by Maryann Ciaston.

Region H Committee: Katie Kubiak, Erica AC Dryden and Lukas Bielecki.

Region I

Clarice Joy Michalski

E-Commerce Clerk

Lodge 1476, Council 115, District 14, Region I

When the pandemic began, and colleges went remote, Clarice went to work filling online grocery orders to help her community. During the pandemic, her dad had open



-heart surgery. She contracted COVID-19 herself but went back to work as soon as she could. Without seeking recognition or reward, she did what she could for everyone she could. Clarice was nominated by Kristine Michalski.

Region I Committee:

Irene Hawkinson, Teresa Jankowski, and Richard Rabiega

Region J

Alexandra Grochulski
Pharmacist



Lodge 3259, Council 73, District 16, Alexandra graduated from Touro University with a Doctorate degree in Pharmacy. During the pandemic, Alexandra was at the forefront of clinically evaluating the virus guidelines, expert opinions, and recommended medications for hospitalized patients and how they improved outcomes. Alexandra coordinated with different departments, physicians, nurses, and government agencies to properly evaluate COVID-19 medications.

With several outstanding nominations from District 16, Alexandra was chosen through a draw by the Officers of Lodge 3259.

Congratulations to all of the PNA Frontline Hero Award recipients.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the community.

LODGE 513 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



Joseph Caires, standing with his parents Heidi and Lebano Caires, is seen here as he receives the Lodge 513 2021 \$500.00 Scholarship Award. Joseph is attending the University of Northwestern Ohio, majoring in High Performance Motorsports Technology. The award was presented by Edward Zolkiewicz Jr., Lodge 513 Financial Secretary. This award is given in memory of Edward Zolkiewicz Sr., a past President and Financial Secretary who served Lodge 513 for many years.

Submitted by Ed Zolkiewicz Jr.

Region D Fraternal Advisor



On November 15, 2021, Mr. David Milcinovic was elected PNA Fraternal Advisor in Region D by the local Representatives to the last PNA National Convention in Phoenix, AZ.

David Milcinovic is known to PNA members as former PNA Vice President and National Director. He is active in his area of Cleveland, OH, and ready to serve the organization and its members!

We wish David Milcinovic all the best in his new position!

Symbols of Unbreakable Friendship



(l-r) Stevens Point Mayor Michael Wiza, Consul Paulina Szafałowicz, PNA and PAC President Frank Spula and artist Bolesław Kochanowski

Many Polish-American Community leaders joined Polonia members at the Cultural Commons in Pfiffner Pioneer Park in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, to celebrate the unveiling of an art installation honoring the bonding between the United States and Poland. The sculpture, titled „For Your Freedom and Ours,” depicts a bald eagle and a white eagle atop two large metal spires. It was created by Bolesław Kochanowski, a Portage County artist and blacksmith, with the help of his three sons.

Each detail was carefully designed to symbolize the bond between the United States and Poland. The towering spires reference the grandness of these countries’ histories. The way they are skewed signifies the challenges of fighting for justice and liberty. The broken tips represent the sacrifices and hardship that are the price of the freedom both countries enjoy.

Polish National Alliance and Polish American Congress President Frank Spula was in attendance and made a few remarks. „The bond between the United States and Poland is not one to be taken for granted,” Mr. Spula remarked, „Our friendship is the result of centuries of being in each other’s corner during the most difficult parts of our histories dating back to Jamestown in 1607 with the arrival of the first Polish immigrants in North America. We must all continue to work to maintain this friendship”.

Thank you, Mr. Kochanowski, for your hard work and beautiful contribution to Polonia in America!



Photos by: Irena Frączek

The Milwaukee Society Scholarships

The Milwaukee Society Scholarship Awards Dinner was held on June 22, 2021 at the Polish Center of Wisconsin. Congratulations to Brett Boelkow, Alexis Dolan, Alexander Pienkos and Grace Tentoni. We wish them well in their studies and look forward to seeing what their future will bring.



Pictured from left to right: Don Pienkos, Janine Adamczyk, Alexander Pienkos, Alexis Dolan, Brett Boelkow, Michele St. Marie Boelkow, David Zepecki (not pictured - Grace Tentoni)

*Teresa Jankowski,
Fraternal Advisor, Region I*

For updated info visit:

www.pna-znp.org

or our facebook page:

<https://m.facebook.com/PNAZNP/>

WPNA 103.1 FM Hosts Car Show



to revisit your childhood in Poland, a few Maluch cars were there to look at. If you wanted to feel like a millionaire, there were several Porsches on-site as well. If you wanted to see some of the latest driving technology, there were several cars that came out in 2021. Attendees could feel like they were traveling back in time, either in the United States or Poland, with so many decades-old cars. The passion of the car owners was on display: cars from



The WPNA FM Radio Station, in conjunction with the PNA and Auta PRL Chicago, hosted a car show on Sunday, August 29th, 2021, at the Polish National Alliance Gardens! Admission to the event was free, and there were plenty of fun activities for kids and adults. Featuring the theme of “European vs. American,” the car show featured nearly 150 cars of various styles from Europe and the United States. It was a great day for car lovers to show off their vehicles and get to know other’s.

The Car Show had enough variety to suit everyone’s tastes. If you wanted



as way back as the 60s and 70s drove and looked good as new!

Later in the afternoon, awards were given to cars in several categories, including “Best in Show”, “Best Classic,”

and “Best Modern,” to name a few. Congratulations to all the winners! Thank you to all of our sponsors as well! We can’t wait for next year.



PNA Lodge 750 Golf Open

Glassport PNA Lodge 750 hosted their 2nd Annual PNA 750 Open at Victory Hills Golf Course in Elizabeth, Pennsylvania. The event was held to raise money for the First Tee Foundation of Pittsburgh, a non-profit organization focused on teaching children the game of golf and its inherent life values. The First Tee Foundation is an international youth development organization that helps shape the lives of young people from all walks of life by reinforcing values like integrity, respect, and perseverance through the game of golf.

This was the second time Lodge 750 held their Golf Open. The golfers

were treated to a day of great golf and fraternalism. Following the golf, the golfers returned to the Glassport PNA for the awards banquet. The golfers were treated to a feast prepared by the hard-working cooks at the Lodge, including homemade pierogi, stuffed cabbage, halushki, kielbasa, and more!



Larry Piekut, Bill Piekut, John Wilson, Frank Piekut



Mark Carlson, Rich Gordon, Tom Bodden, "Rab" Bodden

The event winners were Dean Marraccini (Lodge 352) and Jason Snider (Lodge 1870), with a combined score of 173. Second place finishers were Clinton Will (Lodge 750) and Joe Hermanson (Lodge 750) with a total of 177, and Larry Sayre (Lodge 1870) and Jake Diana (Lodge 750) finished in Third Place at 187. Dean Marraccini also turned in the best overall score with a round of 74.

2021 PNA 750 GOLF OPEN CHAMPIONS



Jason Snider, Sean Jackson, Larry Sayre, Tom Vasilich, Louis Campano



Jason Snider, Dean Marraccini

Through the efforts of the lodge members and guests of the event, PNA 750 was able to donate over \$1,000 in money and equipment to the First Tee Foundation of Pittsburgh. The event raised \$750, with event winner Dean Marraccini generously donating his winnings of another \$200. Jeff Lebedda of the First Tee Foundation attended the event and talked to the golfers about the importance of their organization. Children who would otherwise not have a chance to participate in afterschool programs can attend the program for free, thanks to donations like the one made by members of Lodge 750. Mr. Lebedda also spoke of graduates of the program who have received college scholarships due to the skills and lessons they have learned from the program.

PRESENTING THE DONATION TO THE FIRST TEE FOUNDATION OF PITTSBURGH



Sean Jackson, Fraternal Advisor Region B, Jeff Lebedda, First Tee Foundation of Pittsburgh, Rich Tyszkiewicz, President of PNA Lodge 750

Visit: www.firstteepittsburgh.org for more information.

Submitted by Sean Jackson, Fraternal Advisor Region B

Team Baltimore Celebrates Polish Independence



Baltimore, MD. On a chilly Saturday morning, October 30th, following a stormy Friday night that brought flooding to the area, PNA Council 21's "Team Baltimore" gathered at the historic Fort McHenry to do its part to participate "virtually" in WPNA's annual Polish Independence 5K Walk/Run. With great enthusiasm, the group started its Walk at noon and continued for three full rounds of the property, enjoying the historical scenes, the beautiful grounds, and the crisp air.

What started as a cloud-covered event eventually turned into a sunny and bright adventure, ending with group

photos and even the participation of the local gentleman who reenacts and educates people about the Fort's history and significance. In fact, PNA Council 21 president and Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland for Maryland, Richard Poremski, chose this location for the 2021 Walk because of its history in keeping the United States independent.

During the War of 1812, the British attempted an assault on the Fort, hoping to take control of the port city of Baltimore, which was crucial to their plans. Still, this attempt was thwarted by the American force that defended Fort McHenry. This defeat

of the British at the Battle of Baltimore in 1814 was a turning point in the War, and a peace agreement was reached the same year. This seemingly unimaginable victory against the greatest military in the world is the same event that inspired Francis Scott Key to write "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Thanks to this victory, people from around the globe are not only able to visit this incredible National Monument and Historic Shrine, but they are also able to imagine how intense the battle must have been that led to the creation of the National Anthem of the United States. This year Team Baltimore was very intentional in choosing Fort McHenry to combine this legacy -- this monument to American independence -- into the celebration of Poland's regained independence which is the foundation of this annual Walk.

Following the Walk, everyone was invited back to the Lounge at PNA Council 21 to continue the celebration with complimentary food and refreshments accompanied by Polish pop, rock, and folk music. The organizers and participants had a fantastic time promoting Polish-American heritage and culture that everyone is already talking about next year's event.

*Michael Carnahan,
PNA Council 21*



Greetings from Region H

Fall is here! Thanksgiving Dinner with family and get-togethers with loved ones are long-awaited, joyous occasions. It's hard to believe that Christmas and New Year's Eve are just around the corner!

Our community is out of hibernation and going strong. Though we are still hosting Zoom get-togethers, we also embrace in-person events, such as Polish university club meetings, social events, picnics, new museum openings, Polish language classes, Polish film festivals, Dożynki celebrations, and Polish Heritage Month celebrations. We have had time to reflect during quarantine, and we are ready to take on new initiatives.

Region H hopes all are safe, in good health, and are getting on with life in our new normal. Those who are still suffering, our prayers are with you and your family.

I am wishing you and yours Happy Holidays!

Życzymy wszystkim Wesółych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia i radosnego Nowego Roku!

Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden, Fraternal Advisor, Region H

20th Anniversary of the Consecration of Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Church

On August 22nd, 2021, Houston Polonia celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Consecration of Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Church in Houston. The holy mass was followed by a concert titled „Maryjo, Królowo Polski.” After the concert, the guests enjoyed lunch. The performances were stunning, with talented youth showing off their skills.



2 Talented young singers with PNA fraternal Advisor Jolanta Mazewski Dryden, Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, Erica Dryden, Lukas Bielecki and Yessica Krozel, director of Wawel Dance group.



Social get-together after the celebration with PNA Progressive member Roza Ekimov and friends.

Dożynki Mass and Homecoming Festival

Celebrations at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church for the Dożynki Mass and Homecoming Festival were held on September 4th, 2021, in Chappell Hill, TX. This was the 84th festival, and the parish also celebrated 132 years of existence. This community keeps the Polish traditions in Texas alive.



Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, Kosciuszko Lodge 165 and friends



One of the original classes at this historic Polish Church

Polish Studies Program at the St. Thomas University

On September 8th, 2021, the University of St. Thomas (UST) Saint John Paul II Institute Advisory Board met with Dr. Richard Ludwick, President of UST. The University established a new program of Polish Studies. The first classes started this fall semester. Fraternal Advisor Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden is honored to be on the board for this excellent program. In October, there were several promotional events of the Polish Studies at the University of St. Thomas. These included: Presentation on Polish History in Texas by Dr. Jim Mazurkiewicz, a Featured reading by Polish actor Marek Probosz, and a violin recital by world-renowned violinist Hubert Pralitz from Dallas. Robert Rusiecki, Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Houston, and Mrs. Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden were on hand for the presentation.



Ewa Thompson was presented with an award for her gift to the University of St. Thomas St. John Paul II Institute.



Bremond Fest

The Bremond community opened up their festival on September 24th, with a fall event that included the Polish Pickle run once again.



Mike Kurtin, Kosciuszko Lodge 165, at the festival with Andrzej and Sharon Szpak and the rest of the gang resting after feeding the crowd with great Polish Food.

Polish Heritage Day in Denver, CO

Heartfelt thanks to the Polish store European Gourmet, a regular sponsor of our Polish Club of Denver Polish Heritage Day Annual Picnic on September 25th. Guests of the picnic enjoyed delicious bigos and grilled items.



Annual Slavic Festival

The Slavic Festival came back on September 26th, 2021. The Wawel Dance Group from Houston took over the show with great performances. Fraternal Advisor Mazewski-Dryden provided a Polish Cultural display for the event.



Polish Harvest Festival in Houston

The annual Houston Polish Harvest Festival of Dożynki was once again celebrated in a big way. Attendees came back strong and waited in line for excellent Polish food, enjoyed performances by Wawel Polish Dancers and Poland's variety of folk costumes.

Students from the Polish School in Houston were on stage performing great Polish dances. The food and vendors were terrific, with Fraternal Advisor Mazewski-Dryden featuring a Polish Cultural display and distributing PNA information. The beautiful silent auction was a hit once again, thanks to PNA member Maryann Ciaston.



Meeting of the Universities

Texas's A & M Polish Association and the University of Texas Polish Club had a joint meeting at Dr. Jim & Kathy Mazurkiewicz's home in Bryan on October 30th. Homemade Polish food was prepared and served by the club members. Dr. Jim discussed the upcoming events and Polish Texas History.



Homecoming Bazaar in Anderson, Texas

The annual 67th Homecoming Bazaar took place on October 10th at one of the oldest Polish Churches in Texas. PNA had a cultural display and a PNA display at the event. Mike Kurtin, Kosciuszko Lodge 165 and one of the event organizers, smoked BBQ while our very own Polish Fiddler Brian Marshall entertained the crowd.

Photo's courtesy of Chad Huff



Check out Polish National Alliance Region H's New Facebook Page!

Please share and like us on Facebook! Please keep us updated on your projects, ideas, and innovations!



POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE – 2022 ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

"WINTER WONDERLAND"

Calling all PNA Photographers! This year's PNA Photo Contest theme is: "Winter Wonderland."

Contestants are asked to submit photos with a winter theme or setting.

This is your chance to be creative with different settings, lighting, and style!

Whether you feel like dusting off your winter boots to take photos outside, warming up a cup of hot cocoa to take photos of winter decorations at home, or finding other creative ways to show the essence of winter, we can't wait to once again see the artistic side of our PNA Members!

PNA PHOTO CONTEST 2022 ENTRY BLANK PLEASE PRINT

Name	
Age	
Address	
E-mail	
Telephone	
Photo Title	

PNA Photo Contest Rules are as follows:

1. **Contestant must be a PNA Member.**
2. Each contestant is limited to one (1) photo submission.
3. Photo size must be 8"x10".
4. Photos cannot be mounted for framed.
5. Photos must not be signed or marked in any way on either the front or back.
6. Photos must be submitted in print form and digital file. We recommend high quality photo paper and a high resolution file.
7. Each entry must include a filled-out photo contest entry form (found to the left of this text).
8. All entries become property of the PNA and will not be returned.
9. Only photographs made by amateur photographers are contest eligible.

Ten (10) winning photographs will be chosen and each winning photographer will be awarded a \$100 prize and a plaque with their mounted photo. All contestants will receive a Certificate of Appreciation. **All entries must be postmarked no later than Monday, February 28, 2022.**

PNA PHOTO CONTEST

**Attn: Fraternal Activities Department
6100 North Cicero Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois 60646-4385**

Questions: (773) 286-0500, ext. 312





Ryland Andrew Tanhauser, born December 23, 2020, is a new member of PNA Lodge 1747. He is a son of Brian and Julie Tanhauser of Northampton, PA. The PNA Membership was a gift from his grandparents Andrew and Susan Tanhauser of Nazareth, PA. Ryland's older sister, Abigale, is also a PNA member.



Marie Elizabeth Jasinski, born April 10, 2021, daughter of Nicholas and Klaudia Jasinski of Chicago is the newest member of Lodge 3278. Her PNA membership is a thoughtful gift from her proud grandmother, PNA Sales Representative Elizabeth Stolarczuk.



Leonardo Walenty Lojek, born April 3, 2021, is the son of Mr. Jacek Lojek and Dr. Rosalyn Tokarz of Boston, MA. He is also the grandson of former PNA Director Mr. Walter Tokarz of Region A. Leonardo has been proudly announced by his family as a 4th generation PNA member of Lodge 677 in Central Falls, RI. We look forward to watching him grow and represent his Polish American heritage.



Avery Grubin,
born February 23, 2012
Aedyn Grubin,
born June 16, 2014
Asher Grubin,
born February 2, 2016

Children of Mark Grubin and Veronica Underwood Grubin of Newington, CT, are the new members of the PNA Lodge 464, Council 58. Their grandparents, Thomas and Irene Syp Underwood signed them up to the PNA. Ms. Irene Syp Underwood has been Recording Secretary of the PNA Lodge 464 for over 50 years!



Marie Regina Stach,
born February 9, 2020, daughter
of Christopher and Jessica Stach
of Boston, MA is a new member of
Lodge 2879. Her PNA membership
was a gift from loving grandparents
Stanislaw and Barbara Stach of Chi-
cago, IL.



Jackob A. Predki,
born February 17, 2019
Joseph A. Predki,
born September 24, 2015
John Paul Predki,
born December 12, 2011

Sons of Jacek and Elizabeth
Predki of Niles, IL, are members
of PNA Lodge 3278. Their mem-
bership is a gift from their loving
grandparents Zenon and Elżbieta
Cebula of Northbrook, IL. They
were signed up to the PNA by
Sales Representative Elizabeth
Stolarczuk.



Ayden Jaxon Lascola,
born April 1, 2021, son of Matthew
and Soraya Lascola of Waynesburg,
PA, is a new member of Lodge 1052.
He was signed up to the PNA by Di-
rector Jeff Twardy.



Talia Rose David,
born March 4, 2019, is a new mem-
ber of Lodge 1770 and joined her
family as the sixth generation PNA
member. Talia is the daughter of Cas-
sie Jendzejec and Avi David, and a
great granddaughter of Stanley M.
Jendzejec, former PNA Vice President.



Zenon J. Nemmers,
born August 19, 2018, son of Michael
and Kasia Nemmers of Libertyville, IL
is a new member of Lodge 3278. His
PNA membership is a thoughtful gift
from his loving grandparents Zenon
and Elżbieta Cebula of Northbrook,
IL. He was signed up by the PNA
Sales Representative Elizabeth Stol-
arczuk.





Nina E. Schergen,
born August 25, 2017,
Mathias Bruno Schergen,
born May 5, 2020,
Children of Mathias and Renata
Scherger of Lemont, IL, are new
members of Lodge 1824. Their PNA
membership is a gift from their lov-
ing grandparents Halina and Zbig-
niew Krzyminski of Lemont, IL.



Mya Skorniak,
born February 20, 2017,
Zane Skorniak,
born August 20, 2020,
Children of Matthew and Amy
Skorniak are new members of
Lodge 2927. Their PNA member-
ship was a gift from their loving
grandfather Mr. Lawrence Skorniak
of Oak Brook, IL who made sure
his family is 100% PNA Family!



Mateo Francisco Benda,
born November 22, 2020, son of
Dominic and Isabella Benda of Wal-
nut Creek, CA, is a new member of
PNA Lodge 76. PNA certificate is a
thoughtful gift from his loving grand-
mother Ms. Margaret A. Toczek of
Seven Hills, OH.



Dean R. Dobersztyn,
born April 19, 2019,
Son of Peter and Jennifer Dobersztyn
is a new member of Lodge 1824. His
PNA certificate is a thoughtful gift from
his grandparents Joseph and Grażyna
Dobersztyn of Tinley Park, IL.



Jarek Goszkowski,
born January 7, 2010,
Jaelin Goszkowski,
born February 25, 2012,
Children of Jason Goszkowski
and Jessica Baehman of Grand
Chute, WI, are new members of
Lodge 2821. They were signed
up by PNA Sales Representative
Edward S. Jeziorny.



Zyla Stanton,
born June 5, 2021,
Daughter of Ryan and Carla Stan-
ton of Los Angeles, CA, is a newest
member of Lodge 1939. Zyla's photo
was submitted by her loving grandfa-
ther Mr. Robert Stanton.



Freddie Jo Harte-Dobersztyn,
born October 14, 2020,
Daughter of Paul and Krystal Harte-Do-
bersztyn, is a new member of Lodge
1824. Freddie's PNA certificate is a
thoughtful gift from her grandparents
Joseph and Grażyna Dobersztyn of
Tinley Park, IL

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1	858.10	2100.25	772.10	1885.25
2	886.00	2170.00	797.30	1948.25
3	915.00	2242.50	823.50	2013.75
4	945.10	2317.75	850.60	2081.50
5	976.40	2396.00	878.60	2151.50
6	1008.70	2476.75	907.60	2224.00
7	1042.20	2560.50	937.70	2299.25
8	1077.00	2647.50	968.80	2377.00
9	1112.90	2737.25	1001.00	2457.50
10	1150.00	2830.00	1034.30	2540.75
11	1188.40	2926.00	1068.70	2626.75
12	1227.80	3024.50	1227.80	3024.50
13	1268.20	3125.50	1141.30	2808.25
14	1309.30	3228.25	1179.00	2902.50
15	1350.90	3332.25	1217.40	2998.50

Higher amounts available. Subject to underwriting.

Polish National Alliance of the U.S. of N.A.
6100 N. Cicero Avenue Chicago, IL 60646

www.pna-znp.org | [Facebook.com/PNAZNP](https://www.facebook.com/PNAZNP)

Dożynki Celebration in Council 171

Polish National Alliance Council 171 hosted a Dożynki celebration on September 19, 2021. A traditional procession was made to The Incarnation of Our Lord Church in Bethlehem, PA, followed by the blessing of the wieniec, the wreaths made of the grains of the harvest, and holy mass. We gathered at the Polish Citizens Society Club for a pig roast and enjoyed the music of DJ Bogdan. The proceeds from this year's Dożynki celebration will fund college scholarships for members of PNA Council 171 in Bethlehem, PA.

*Submitted by Christine Thompson,
PNA Council 171
Financial Secretary*



Plener malarski w PNA

W piękny, sobotni poranek 21 sierpnia 2021, w ogrodach Związku Narodowego Polskiego (PNA) miłośnicy sztuki malarskiej spotkali się, by pod czujnym okiem profesjonalnych artystów zademonstrować swój talent.

Plener poprowadzili profesjonalni artyści plastycy i pedagodzy, aktywni i kreatywni członkowie Grupy 2514 PNA, mgr Anna Wińska-Bajena oraz mgr Leszek Bajena. Zachęcając uczestników do czynnego uczestnictwa w sztuce, przekazywali im podstawy kompozycji obrazu, uczyli zastosowania perspektywy oraz właściwości barw.

Wspólne, rodzinne malowanie, obcowanie ze sztuką i naturą dostarczyły uczestnikom i organizatorom wiele pozytywnych wrażeń. Twórczo i mile spędzone chwile pozostaną w pamięci, do czasu następnej sesji plenerowej w ogrodach PNA.

Zarząd PNA jest otwarty na inicjatywy swoich członków. Budynek PNA jest malowniczo położony w sercu rezydencjalnej dzielnicy Sauganash i dysponuje obszernym parkingiem.

Family Outdoor Painting at the PNA!

On August 21st, parents and children came to the PNA Gardens for a morning filled with art and relaxation as they painted pictures outdoors while enjoying the sunny weather. The event was coordinated by PNA Lodge 2514 members Anna Wińska-Bajena and Leszek Bajena, both of whom are artists. Mr. and Mrs. Bajena were at the event giving painting lessons and ideas to attendees. We can't wait to see everyone again next year!



Zdjęcia: Anna Wińska-Bajena

Wici na Florydzie



Teatr Pieśni i Tańca Wici od ponad trzydziestu lat jest znany i podziwiany na terenie Chicago i okolic. Sławy przysporzyły mu również liczne wyjazdy na zagraniczne festiwale. W marcu zeszłego roku, z powodu pandemii, występy ustały, a próby odbywały się w okrojonym składzie.

Można sobie wyobrazić i zrozumieć radość, która zapanowała w zespole na wieść o wyjeździe na Florydę. Zarząd Centrum Jana Pawła II w Clearwater wystosował oficjalne zaproszenie z prośbą o występ Teatru Wici dla Po-

lonii z okolic Tampy. Tancerze z miejsca przystąpili do prób. Dyrektor i choreograf zespołu, pani Magdalena Solarz, powołała trzy grupy oraz solistkę oraz starannie dobrała repertuar.

Koncert Wici na Florydzie odbył się 7 sierpnia, 2021 roku. Przez dwie godziny

kolorowe, przepiękne stroje zmieniały się na scenie jak w kalejdoskopie. Zaprezentowano poloneza, mazura, krakowiaka, tańce spiskie i rzeszowskie, biłgorajskie i sądeckie. Niesamowitą furorę zrobiła solistka Kasia Pijanowska, której uroda i przyśpiewki ludowe zachwyciły widownię. Oklaskom nie było końca. Były podziękowania, łzy wzruszenia, uściski i serdeczności.

Zespół był serdecznie przyjęty również przez zarząd prężnie działającej od 20 lat organizacji polonijnej w Clearwater. Centrum Jana Pawła

II kwitnie dzięki wspaniałym działaczom, którym przewodzi prezes zarządu Jolanta Piątek. Dzięki nim, a szczególnie pani Halince, panu Alfredowi i panu Romanowi Koczwarze występ Wici miał piękna oprawę świetlną i nagłośnienie.

Edmund Blaszkowski

WICI Song And Dance Wows in Florida!

On August 7th, Wici Song and Dance Theatre blew away audiences in Clearwater, Florida with a stunning, 2-hour performance. Dressed in beautiful traditional Polish costumes, Wici performed several Polish dances, including the Polonaise, Mazurka, Krakowiak, and many more. The group performed during an event hosted by the Polish Center of John Paul II in Clearwater, FL. Special thanks goes to Polish Center of John Paul II and its President Jola Piątek for hosting WICI at the center. Most especially, thank you to WICI Song and Dance Artistic Director and Choreographer Magdalena Solarz and WICI dancers for their hard work in promoting Polish culture through song and dance and representing the Polish National Alliance.

Jubileusz audycji „Na Śląskiej Fali”

2 października 2021, Ślązacy zamieszkujący aglomerację chicagowską obchodzili uroczyste 25-lecie audycji „Na Śląskiej Fali”, nadawanej na falach należącej do PNA radiostacji WPNA 1490 AM.

Jubileuszową imprezę poprowadzili prezes Związku Ślązaków Piotr Brzęki i prezes radia „Na Śląskiej Fali” Jadwiga Rup. Obok reprezentantów Związku Ślązaków i prowadzących audycję „Na Śląskiej Fali”, w uroczystości uczestniczyli przedstawiciele Związku Podhalan w Ameryce Północnej z nowym prezesem, Stanisławem Sarną, członkowie Koła nr 55 Ratułów z prezesem Władysławem Koisem oraz dyrektor radiostacji WPNA 1490 AM i WPNA 103.1FM Jacek Niemczyk. Nie zabrakło ważnych sponsorów audycji, przedstawicieli Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union (PSFCU), Polish Roman Catholic Union of America (PRCUA), Montrose Deli oraz Ashland Sausage.

Jacek Niemczyk wręczył w imieniu radiostacji WPNA 1490 statuetkę przedstawiającą srebrny mikrofon Jadwidze Rup, prezes audycji „Na Śląskiej Fali”, a sam został przez Związek Ślązaków wyróżniony dyplomem honorowego członka organizacji. Wyrazy uznania otrzymali także Jarosław Maculewicz, z inicjatywy, którego powstała audycja „Na Śląskiej Fali” i Romuald Sobański, jeden z pierwszych prowadzących program oraz Frank J. Spula, prezes radia WPNA, a także Związku Narodowego Polskiego (PNA)



i Kongresu Polonii Amerykańskiej (PAC). Srebrnymi mikrofonami nagrodzono prowadzących audycję „Na Śląskiej Fali”: Piotra Brzękę, Jadwigę Rup, Halinę i Jerzy Szyrznów, Renatę i Marka Niezgodę, Stanisława Kunacha, Adama Godowskiego, Andrzeja Matejczyka, Janusza Bartosińskiego i Tadeusza Mareckiego.

Na rozpoczęcie jubileuszu, pierwsza dama dworu królowej tegorocznej Parady 3 Maja, Monica Lebensztejn zagrała kilka utworów na pianinie elektronicznym. Muzycznie oprowadzał uroczystość DJ Marek Kalinowski. Występ Pawła Kobierskiego był dla zgromadzonych dodatkową atrakcją. Goście bawili się w rytm śląskich, góralskich i amerykańskich przebojów i raczyli wyśmienitymi potrawami śląskiej kuchni.

Zdjęcia: dziennikzwiązkowy.com, Andrzej Brach, Milinda Gunawardhana, Alicja Jarosz Gunawardhana

25th Anniversary of Radio Program “Na Śląskiej Fali”

„Na Śląskiej Fali” radio program, broadcasted on WPNA 1490 AM, celebrated its 25th Anniversary on October 2nd, at a banquet organized by the Chicago Union Of Upper Silesians President Piotr Brzęki and Radio Program Director Jadwiga Rup. WPNA 1490 AM General Manager Jacek Niemczyk was honored at the banquet and presented a special award to Jadwiga Rup. Guests had a wonderful time enjoying Silesian food while listening to Polish music. Congratulations to, „Na Śląskiej Fali” and may there be many more jubilees!



Grand Opening of the Polish Heritage Center

In 1854, Silesian Polish Immigrants arrived in Texas and created the first and oldest permanent Polish settlement in the United States. The vision of a heritage center commemorating and preserving their contributions has come to fruition with the grand opening of the Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria, Texas. Congratulations to all involved with this historic and momentous achievement!



The Polish Heritage Center in Panna Maria, Texas, embodies the Polish people's spirit of determination, perseverance, pride, and faith. The Polish Heritage center will become "the beating heart of Polonia and contribute to the future of our nation from the unique perspective of Polish beliefs and traditions." The museum exhibits are dynamic and are an excellent presentation of Polonia's history.



It was wonderful to see everyone come from near and far to celebrate the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Saturday, October 23rd, 2021. The ceremony started with a welcome speech by Angelica Docog, PHC Executive Director, and a Welcome and Invocation by Bishop Emeritus John Yanta, PHC Founder and President. The welcomes were followed by the Polish & USA National Anthems performed by the Wigilia Ensemble, performing several beautiful pieces throughout the event. Special remarks were made by Robert Rusiecki, Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Houston, and Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden, Polish National Alliance Fraternal Advisor. The ceremony also included performances by the Jagoda Dance Group of Dallas in traditional Polish costumes, musical artist Pawel Piekarczyk (on his Poland-sponsored Texas Tour), and a product showcase by Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden of Polish Events & Happenings Boutique.



PNA Members: Dr. Mark Pienkos, PAC Vice President with Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden, Fraternal Advisor Region H



The Polish Heritage Center is now open to the public Thursday - Sunday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The Library and Research Center will open in January. Special thanks to everyone who has helped to make this possible! Please come often and share the news with your friends, family, and community organizations! Visit: polishheritagecentertx.org

*Photo's courtesy of Stan Aponiuk
Submitted by Jolanta Mazewski-Dryden, Fraternal Advisor Region H*



In Memoriam

JOSEPH M. MAGIELSKI, SR. (1941-2021)



Joseph M. Magielski, Sr. of Boardman, OH, passed away on September 3, 2021, after a brief illness.

He was a proud and active Polish-American affiliated with many professional organizations. He worked for New York Life Insurance, served as President

of The Youngstown Association of Life Underwriters, and had a very successful career with the Polish National Alliance. His PNA involvement started with local Lodge 827 and Council 46. He was a Delegate to five PNA National Conventions, served as the PNA Director, upon retirement became National Sales Director, and recently held the elective office of Fraternal Advisor in Region D.

Joseph Magielski was born in Lichtenfels, Germany, to the late Stanislaw and Stefania Magielski. He was a graduate of Poland High School and received his business degree from Youngstown State University. Joe served as a Sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps and was a proud veteran, very active in many groups, including the American Legion and AMVETS. He was President of the Catholic War Veterans and a member of the Polish Legion of American War Vets.

He enjoyed collecting coins and stamps, conservative politics, and going to casinos in his free time. Always outgoing and personable, he will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his family members, friends, and the PNA family.

CHRISTINE TARCHALA (1959-2021)



Christine Tarchala passed away unexpectedly after a brief illness on October 1, 2021.

She left behind her mother Aleksandra Kot, husband of 42 Years Walter, two daughters, grandchildren, and many heartbroken family members and friends.

Christine worked in the finance department of Hollister, Inc., and was a representative distributor of Mary Kay Cosmetics. She was the Financial Secretary of Lodge 669, Council 120 Delegate to two PNA National Conventions, and was designated Secretary at both conventions. She was also a former PNA employee. She was a delegate to the Polish American Congress Illinois Division.

Christine was devoted to her Bible Study, renewed in the Holy Spirit. She is gone from our sight but not from our hearts. Rest in Peace, dear friend.

HELEN M. PATER (1944-2021)

Helen M. (Kostecki) Pater passed away on August 22, 2021, in Valley Stream, New York.



She was an active member of the Polish American community in New York and a longtime PNA member. Helen was the Alliance College graduate, class of 1966. She was Lodge 2366 President and Financial Secretary, Council 84 Vice President, Delegate to two PNA National Conventions, and District III Commissioner.

Helen Pater was also a member of the Polish Singers Alliance of America and the Jutrzenka Singing Society officer.

Helen was a true Polish American patriot, a kind and caring person giving exceptional support for her family and friends. She will remain in our hearts forever.

BERNICE A. KRAUZE (1942 – 2021)



Bernice Ann Krauze passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by family on October 27, 2021, in St. Louis, MO.

Bernice was born in St. Louis to Walter and Genevieve Zygmunt. In 1966, she married her soulmate and partner in life, Benny, and they settled in south St. Louis, raising four boys. Only her faith in God was more important to Bernice than the health and well-being of her children.

Bernice was an active member in churches that she and Benny attended throughout her life – St. Stanislaus Kostka and St. Gabriel's. She was a prideful Polish woman known in her community as a kind, gentle soul who loved to talk about everything. She was an active member of the PNA family; Treasurer of Lodge 1134 and Council 30, served as a Delegate to three National Conventions, and District XI Commissioner.

Bernice was fond of saying to those she loved, "be sure to say a prayer to the Good Lord to look out for you and take care of you." May the Good Lord now watch over Bernice and take care of her. She will be missed by all those she touched.

Council 143 PNA

Council 143 PNA in District 12 had its last meeting just a few days before the State of Illinois went into lockdown in mid-march March of 2020. So after 19 months, on October 14, 2021, the delegates of Council 143 met for lunch and a meeting at Peaches and Pears Restaurant in Chicago, Illinois.

All of us were happy to be together again and catch up on the happenings in our lives and in the life of the Polish National Alliance. During the time between these two meetings, two of our delegates passed away. We remembered in prayer - Loretta Waltee, Vice-President of Lodge 1577, who died in June of 2021, and Walter Piekarczyk, President of Lodge 1919, who died in August 2021. Another of our regular council meeting attendees, Eleanor Jasiorkowski moved into a nursing home this past year. These three rarely missed a meeting. Our numbers are dwindling, but our older members still enjoy coming to a PNA meeting to meet with their fraternal brothers and sisters and keep abreast of PNA news.



Happy Birthday Ms. Anna Bucon!

On a happier note, we sang "STO LAT" to our delegate, Anna Bucon, who celebrated her 96th birthday on October 9. Anna's husband, Roman, was a former Commissioner of District 12. Anna's daughter, Barbara La-Rocco, is the Treasurer of our Council. All of the Council

meeting delegates were appreciative of the opportunity to get together once again.

*Submitted by: Barbara Wesolowski,
Fraternal Director Region F*

PNA District XII Youth Home Corporation Scholarships

The PNA District XII Youth Home Corporation is happy to announce it has awarded ten \$1500 scholarships and three \$1000 scholarships for the 2021-2022 school year for a total amount of \$18,000.

The recipients of scholarships for 2021-2022 school year are: Claudia Baniak, Arianna Galetta, Justine Kwak, Wiktor Lechwar, David Mscisz, Andrea Frances Papiernik, Matthew Papiernik, Jacqueline Tomecki, Joseph Tomecki, Abigail Sobczak, Sebastian Szuba, Riley Wodka, and Honorata Woznik.



The Scholarship Committee members are Judith Trybek, Chairman and Secretary of the Scholarship Committee, Barbara Wesolowski, Arthur Trybek, Anna Kokoszka, and Shirley Wass.

The officers of the District XII Youth Home Corporation are Region F Fraternal Advisor Barbara Wesolowski, President, Arthur Trybek, 1st Vice President, Anna Kokoszka, 2nd Vice President, Shirley Wass, Secretary, and Judith Trybek, Treasurer.

Since 1987, District XII Youth Home Corporation has awarded 911 scholarships for a total of \$462,000.00.

Submitted by Judith Trybek, Secretary of District XII Youth Home Corporation Scholarship Committee.

Ognisko Grupy 3259 Piast



W dniu 28 sierpnia 2021 roku, Grupa Piast ZNP (PNA) zorganizowała doroczne ognisko i spotkanie na plaży w Huntington Beach, Kalifornia.

Piknik odbył się już po raz 25. Po rocznej przerwie spowodowanej pandemią uczestniczyła w nim grupa ponad 40 osób, składająca się z członków PNA i przyjaciół.

Wiceprezes Grupy Piast Marlena Hulisz wraz z mężem Andrzejem przyjechali na plażę wczesnym porankiem by zarezerwować najlepsze na piknik miejsce. Było tradycyjne pieczenie kiełbasek, wspólne śpiewanie przy akompaniamencie gitary. Spotkanie trwało do późnych godzin wieczornych, a rozchodząc się do domów uczestnicy obiecali spotkać się ponownie w przyszłym roku.

Ognisko Grupy Piast, jest doskonałą okazją do spotkania starych znajomych, zawarcia nowych przyjaźni oraz podtrzymywania poczucia wspólnoty organizacyjnej!

Greg Chilecki, Fraternal Advisor Region J

Polish Miss Massachusetts 2022

HOLYOKE, MA. The Polish Miss Massachusetts Pageant 2022 was held at Pilsudski Park, Holyoke, MA, on Saturday, August 14, 2021. The Polish National Alliance Lodge 525 and the Polish American Congress of Western Massachusetts organized the eighteenth annual event under the new pageant name of Polish Miss Massachusetts.

Judges for the Pageant were: Dorota Kosciuk-Borowski, Artistic Director-Theatre of Imagination, Novum, CT; Christopher Plewa, owner of Modern Homes, LLC; Edyta Halastra, a registered nurse and co-owner of Polnorth Contractors, Inc.; Michael Sugrue, Executive Vice President, Polish National Credit Union, and Julia Sudol, Miss Polonia Massachusetts, 2019. The “Daniel Band” provided live music that entertained an audience of more than 225 people. Ms. Miranda Ronke-Czarnecki and Andrzej Jamroga served as Masters of Ceremony and introduced the contestants in English and Polish.

During breaks in the competition, the 7th Annual Junior Polish Miss Massachusetts Pageant 2022 was held for girls ages 7-10. Seven girls competed on stage in casual wear and fancy dress wear. Liliana Nofal, age 8, from Holyoke, MA, won the Junior Polish Miss Massachusetts 2022 title. She loves to dance and play sports. Also competing was Lilly Forget, age 9,

from Chicopee, MA, who won as 1st runner up. Lilly is a member of PNA Lodge 711 of Chicopee, MA.

Of the six Polish Miss Massachusetts 2022 contestants, all of whom were very beautiful and intelligent young women, Paulina Wysocka, age 24, of Hampden, MA won the title of Polish Miss Massachusetts 2022 as well as the People’s Choice Award. Ms. Carly Liquori, who currently holds the title of Miss Polonia MA 2020, presented Paulina with her crown. Ms. Wysocka graduated from Western New England University, Springfield, MA, majoring in Marketing, Communications, and Advertising. Her minor was Economics and International Business. She also attended the IESEG School of Management Program in Paris. Paulina works for the United Way of Pioneer Valley, focusing on feeding the hungry, youth development, and financial wellness. She is also a director of Food Pantry- “Chicopee Cupboard”, providing groceries for people in need. Paulina was born in Poland and speaks fluently in both Polish and English. Paulina and the first runner-up competed for the Miss Polonia USA 2022 title in October 2021 in New York City. The winner of that competition will vie for the title of Miss Polonia World 2022.

The first runner-up was Jensen Giroux, age 20, of Ludlow, MA. Jensen is a junior at Westfield State Univer-

sity, Westfield, MA. She is studying Elementary Education. Brianna Walas, age 20 of Ludlow, MA, won the “Glamour” award. Brianna is a junior at Holyoke Community College. Maya Lecko of Chicopee, MA, age 18, won the “Ms. Personality” award. She is a freshman at Framingham State University, Framingham, MA studying Business Management. Maggie Cyr, age 18 of South Hadley, MA, won the “Active Wear Award.” She is a freshman at Holy Cross College majoring in biology as a pre-med student. Nicole Salacinski, age 19 of Chicopee, MA, won the “Miss Photogenic” award. She is a sophomore at Holyoke Community College, majoring in Early Childhood Education.

Escorts for the event were Aleksander Wojcik, Krystian Wojcik, Mason Sady and Emerson Sady, all members of PNA Lodge 525. Masters of Ceremony for the adult competition were Miranda Ronke-Czarnecki in English and Andrzej Jamroga in Polish. Tamara Pierzchalski in English and Oliwia Bragiel in Polish conducted the Jr. Polish Miss MA 2022 Pageant.

Committee members included: Irena and Richard Gadecki; former Commissioner PNA District 1, Frank Wolanin and Mary Wolanin; John and Dorothy Wolanski; Joseph M. Kos; Ewa Pierzchalski; Gosia and Pawel Misniakiewicz.

Special guests attending the event were: PNA National Director Teresa Struziak Sherman; former PNA Commissioner of District 1, Frank Wolanin, and many former and current PNA Council and Lodge officers who offered congratulations to the pageant winners.

POLISH MISS MASSACHUSETTS 2022 HAILS FROM HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS



Holyoke, MA. Paulina Wysocka, age 24, from Hampden, MA, was crowned Polish Miss Massachusetts 2022 at the 18th Annual Pageant on August 14, 2021, at Pilsudski Park, Holyoke, MA. Over 225 guests attended the event sponsored by PNA Lodge 525 and the Polish American Congress of Western MA. The evening featured traditional homemade Polish foods, dancing, entertainment, and fun for everyone.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE POLISH MISS MASSACHUSETTS 2022 WINNERS



Holyoke, MA. Pictured on stage with the 2022 contestants of the Polish Miss Massachusetts 2022 Pageant front row is Liliana Nofal, Polish Junior Miss Massachusetts 2022; back row are left to right: Maggie Cyr, winner of Active Wear award; Maya Lecko, Personality award winner;

Polish Miss Massachusetts 2022 and Peoples' Choice award winner, Paulina Wysocka; National PNA Director, Teresa Struziak Sherman; Nicole Salacinski, won the Photogenic award and Jensen Giroux, First Runner-Up. Missing from the photo is Brianna Walas, who won the Glamour award.

JUNIOR MISS POLONIA MASSACHUSETTS 2022 RUNNER-UP AND PNA MEMBER



Holyoke, MA. Lilly Forget, age 9, from Chicopee, MA, is pictured with

Polish Miss Massachusetts 2022 at the Junior Polish Miss Massachusetts 2022 Pageant held at Pilsudski Park, Holyoke, MA, on August 14, 2021. Lilly is a member of PNA Lodge 711 of Chicopee, MA, and was selected as 2nd Runner-Up.

The Pageant is sponsored by PNA Lodge 525 of Holyoke, MA, and the Polish American Congress of Western Massachusetts.

*Submitted by
Teresa Struziak Sherman,
PNA Director*

Silesian Voivodeship

*From the shores of the Baltic Sea to the rocky Carpathians,
Poland offers tourist attractions that should not be missed. Rich History.
Stunning scenery. Hidden treasures.*

KATOWICE

Katowice is the capital city of the Silesian Voivodeship. It is the 11th-most populous city in Poland, and its urban area is the most populous in the country. The large coal deposits in the nearby mountains created booming coal mining and steel industries, which

helped spur a great deal of growth and prosperity in Katowice during the Industrial Revolution. Today, Katowice is a major economic and cultural center in Poland. Many companies and organizations are headquartered there, including the Polish National Radio Symphony orchestra. Despite being

only the 11th most populous city in Poland, Katowice has the 7th largest number of workers and regularly ranks as an area one of Poland's lowest unemployment rates. It is second only to Warszawa in the number of commuters coming from other municipalities to work in the city.



Medieval Castle in Będzin. Silesia coat of arms.



Nikiszowiec housing estate in Katowice.

Katowice also has a very thriving music scene. It is the seat of the internationally renowned Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music and the Silesian Philharmonic. Katowice also hosts several award-winning music festivals, including Off Festival and Tauron New Music. Other music festivals held in Katowice include the Silesian Jazz Festival, the Rawa Blues Festival, and the Mayday Festival. In 2015, Katowice was named a UNESCO City of Music and joined the UNESCO Creatives Cities Network.



Spodek Arena in Katowice.

Katowice hosts a diverse variety of events, including the finals of Intel Extreme Masters, and the ESL One Katowice Tournament, both of which are Esports video game tournaments.

Katowice also has many scenic tourist attractions. Like many big cities in Poland, Katowice has a Market Square and several parks and nature reserves. One of the most frequented parks in Katowice is the Kościuszko Park, which dates back to 1888.

CZĘSTOCHOWA

Częstochowa is one of the most famous Polish cities in the world, especially among Catholics and Orthodox Chris-



tians. Millions of pilgrims from all around the world come to Częstochowa every year. That is because in Częstochowa resides the Jasna Góra Monastery, which is the home of the revered Black Madonna Painting. More information about this incredible city can be found on page 39 of this issue of Zgoda.

RYBNIK

Rybnik is a city around 24 miles southwest Katowice and is another cultural and economic hub of the Silesian Voivodeship. The town is a cohesive blend of modern industry, historic sites, nature preserves, and cultural sites. Though there are many big companies in the city, Rybnik mostly enjoys the presence of many small businesses.

Rybnik is located on two rivers: The Nacyna and the Ruda, which both eventually flow in the Odra River. The city was a fishermen's settlement during the Middle Ages, and it is thought that the city's name originated from the Polish word for fish (Ryba). The large selection of parks, squares, and gardens has earned Rybnik the reputation of "the green city of Silesia." Kwietnik magazine awarded Rybnik first place in their contest for the most flowered Polish city.



Basilica and city center in Rybnik.

There are many historical and architectural sites to visit in Rybnik, some of which date back several centuries. The Church of St. Catherine and St. Lawrence date back to the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries, respectively. There is also a Piast castle from the early 13th century that was redesigned in the 18th century, a late Baroque estate house, the basilica of St. Anthony, and many other sites.

BIELSKO-BIAŁA

Bielsko-Biała, the sixth most populous city in the Silesian Voivodeship is composed of what were once two separate towns, Bielsko and Biała, which merged in 1951. Like many other cities in the Silesian Voivodeship, Bielsko-Biała is attractive to tourists and businesses.

Bielsko-Biała is known for being a business-friendly city, particularly for automotive and machine-building industries. Until recently, it was the second-largest textile center after Łódź. It is home to several manufacturers of aircraft and gliders as well.

Silesia Beskids mountains.



Bielsko-Biała sits on the opposite banks of the Biała River. Many hikers looking to hike Szyndzielnia Mountain or the nearby Beskid Mountains stay in Bielsko-Biała. The city is also home to several ski resorts, including the trendy Szczyrk resort. The city of Żywiec is within the Bieskid Mountains and is also a popular winter sports destination. Żywiec is also famous for being where the most famous Polish beer, “Żywiec,” is made.



City Castle in Bielsko-Biała.

Bielsko-Biała is also known for its Modern Style Architecture and is often called “Little Vienna.” Some of its most well-known tourist attractions include an Art Nouveau mansion called “Frog House,” the only statue of Martin Luther in Poland, St. Nicholas Cathedral, St. Stanislaus Church, as well as a monument dedicated to the beloved Polish children’s cartoon, “Bolek and Lolek”!

TRAIL OF THE EAGLE’S NESTS

The Trail of the Eagle’s Nests (Szlak Orlich Gniazd) is a popular trail of medieval castles set in a landscape among beautiful forests and hills. The 101-mile long trail runs from Częstochowa to Kraków and is mainly contained within the Eagle’s Nests Landscape Park. It encompasses 25 castles and watchtowers and is considered one of the best tourist trails in Poland. Many people choose to hike, but you can also go through the trail by bike, car, or bus. There are also many guided tours from Kraków.

Ogrodzieniec Castle.



NATURE PRESERVES

There are eight landscape parks within the Silesian Voivodeship. Two of these parks, the Eagle Nests Landscape Park and Little Beskids Landscape Park, are also partly located in the Lesser Poland Voivodeship. The Załęczce Landscape Park is also shared with the Łódź Voivodeship. The Landscape Parks entirely within the Silesian Voivodeship are the Rudy Landscape Park, the Silesian Beskids Landscape Park, the Stawki Landscape Park, the Upper Liswarta Forests Landscape Park, and the Żywiec Landscape Park.





Jasna Góra Monastery

Częstochowa

Częstochowa is one of the most famous Polish cities in the world, especially among Catholics and Orthodox Christians. Many people with a Polish Catholic upbringing grew up with at least one souvenir from Częstochowa in their home. Millions of pilgrims from all around the world come to Częstochowa every year. That is because in Częstochowa resides the Jasna Góra Monastery, which is the home of the revered Black Madonna Painting.

Jasna Góra Monastery and Our Lady of Częstochowa

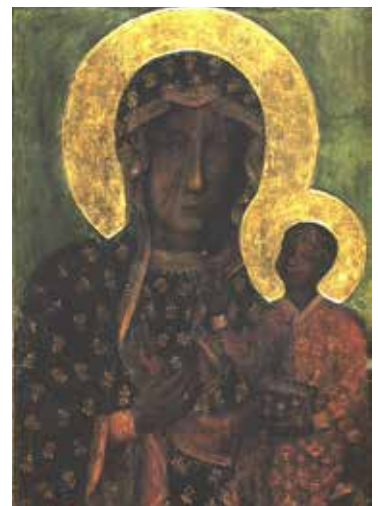
The Jasna Góra (Luminous Mount) Monastery was founded in 1382 by Pauline monks who came from Hungary after being invited by Władysław, Duke of Opole. It is the third-largest Catholic pilgrimage site in the world, with millions of pilgrims from all over the globe coming to visit every year.

It is home to the icon of our Lady of Częstochowa, also known as the Black Madonna of Częstochowa. This painting has several miracles attributed to it, from healing the sick to victories in battle. The Black Madonna is credited with saving the Monastery during the Siege of Jasna Góra, leading King John II Casimir Vasa to proclaim her Queen of Poland.



There are many theories and legends associated with the origins of the painting. It is said that the icon was painted by St. Luke on a tabletop built by Jesus Christ and was later discovered in Jerusalem by St. Helena. St. Helena brought it to Constantinople, where it was enshrined and remained for the next 500 years. It is believed, in 803, the painting was given as a wedding gift to a Greek Princess and was placed in the royal palace at Belz, where it stayed for the next 600 years. It eventually found its way to Częstochowa in the 14th century.

The Madonna Icon bears notable scars on her right cheek, which occurred when the Hussites stormed the Monastery in 1430 and stole several items, including the painting. It is said that when the Hussites put the icon in their wagon, their horses refused to move. Frustrated, a Hussite threw the painting on the ground and struck it with his sword, giving it the famous gashes. Legend says that after he tried to strike it for the third time, he fell to the ground and died.



Siege of Jasna Góra

The Siege of Jasna Góra in the winter of 1655 was a siege by the Swedes in an attempt to capture the Jasna Góra Monastery during the Swedish invasion of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Poland was preoccupied with several military conflicts at the time, including the Russo-Polish War. The Swedes decided to take advantage of Poland's weakness, and they were able to overwhelm the commonwealth quickly. However, their luck ran out at Jasna Góra. Despite being vastly outnumbered, seventy monks, 160 soldiers, and several local volunteers held off 4,000 Swedish army soldiers, mostly comprised of German mercenaries, to save their Monastery and beloved painting from capture. When the monks saw the Swedes approaching the Monastery, they hid the Black Madonna painting and replaced it with a copy. It is believed, the Monastery miraculously survived thanks to the help of the Black Madonna.



Siege of Clari Montis (Jasna Gora) in 1655, painting by Franciszek Kondratowicz

Although the Swedes were vastly stronger in numbers, they were not stronger in weapons. The Monastery had 12-18 light cannons and a few 12 pounders. The monks themselves were armed with over 60 muskets and a lot of ammunition. After several rejected negotiation attempts, the Swedes began their siege on November 18. What followed was a 40-day long battle during which the Swedish Army and the Poles exchanged several blows, with the tide turning back and forth between each force. The Swedes heavily shelled the walls of Jasna Góra, and the Poles successfully destroyed several Swedish cannons, though the Swedes had received reinforcements throughout the battle. After experiencing several setbacks and suffering heavier casualties, the Swedish army withdrew their attack on December 27.

ZGODA

1881-2021

In 1881, the delegates of the second PNA Convention approved the organization's official publication *Zgoda* (Harmony) and elected its first editor, Edward Odrowąż. On November 23, 1881, the first issue was published. It was then a weekly publication at an annual subscription price of \$2. Since then, the publication has had many editors, contributors and went through many transformations.

Zgoda is still the largest Polonian publication in the United States. It reflects the Polish National Alliance and its mission of protecting its members through financial products and promoting the Polish American Community in the United States.

We pay tribute to *Zgoda*'s editors and contributors throughout the last 140 years!



Thank you to all of the current contributors and readers for keeping it an authentic reflection of the organization and life of Polonia in the United States.

Congratulations *Zgoda*!

Most Proudly,

Alicja Kuklińska
Editor in Chief

President Frank J. Spula Honored with Polish Spirit Award

This year's 41st Annual Polish Museum in America Gala took place in the main hall named after Sabina F. Logisz on October 8, 2021. For the second year in a row, the Gala had several virtual attendees and was broadcast live via Social Media. The Gala's symbol, the Poppy flower, served as a backdrop for a Gala that featured speeches by prominent community leaders and Polish cultural song and dance performances.

PMA Managing Director Małgorzata Kot thanked the event's sponsors and congratulated the coordinators for a successful Gala amidst continuing turbulent times. The Gala's was chaired by PRCUA Vice President Micheline Jaminski and emceed by Elżbieta Sawczuk. Music was provided by the Anthony Kawalkowski Trio, with contributions from PaSO Academy of Music pianist Youssef El Yakine. The dance group, "The Future of Polonia," consisted of representatives of different Chicago dance ensembles who performed several Polish dances.



(l-r) PRCUA President and PMA Chair James Robaczewski, PNA and PAC President Frank Spula and PMA President Richard Owsiany

The proceeds from the Gala will go towards funding PMA activities and programs.



During the Gala, PNA and PAC President Frank Spula was awarded the Polish Spirit Award, recognizing the recipient's commitment to promoting Polish and Polish-American heritage, culture, and community. "I am truly honored to receive this Spirit award and be placed in a distinguished rank of past honorees..." said Mr. Spula during his acceptance speech. He continued, "I will continue working for the Polish community in Chicago, and hope to see more and more Polish Americans involved...My greatest reward is being part of this community". Congratulations, Mr. Spula!



The Polish Museum of America was established in 1935 as the "Museum and Archives of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America." The first public display area opened on January 12, 1937, in a specially designed and constructed room within the headquarters building of the PRCUA. From that date, the Museum's collection and importance grew very rapidly and quickly gained autonomous status as "The Polish Museum of America" with its own governing board of directors.

Today, the Museum is a recognized resource for materials pertaining to Poland and the Polish-American community. It is determined to continue its mission to Polish and Polish-American past for the benefit of current and future generations.

www.polishmuseumofamerica.org

For this Zgoda issue, Małgorzata Bondyra presented us with a few Silesian Christmas recipes. Perhaps sauerkraut and peas are an odd combination but rest assured - it's a delicious vegetarian dish. Makówki is a festive Silesian Christmas Eve desert. The essential ingredients are good-quality poppy seeds, wheat rolls or challah bread, and milk. Makówki can also be enriched with dried fruits and decorated to your liking. The dessert is best served chilled.

Dried Fruit Compote is traditionally prepared for Christmas Eve dinner in most regions of Poland. It can compliment any of your fall and winter dinner menus.

Are you looking for a gift for neighbors or coworkers? How about a box of homemade Pierniki?



Sauerkraut with peas
Kapusta z grochem

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs. sauerkraut
- 2 oz. shelled peas
- 2 oz. whole peas
- 2 onions (chopped)
- 1 oz. flour
- Oil or butter
- Pepper, salt, bay leaf

Directions:

Rinse the peas and let them soak for several hours, each kind separately. Boil the peas in the same water, each one individually. Chop the sauerkraut with a knife, add the bay leaf and cook until soft but not soggy (add some water). Mix the sauerkraut with the peas (leave some whole peas to decorate the plate). Combine oil/butter, chopped onion, and flour in a small skillet, and prepare a roux. Mix the roux into the sauerkraut and peas. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Poppy Seed Christmas Dessert
Makówki



Ingredients:

- 250g (9 oz) ground dry poppy seeds
- 2-3 dried rolls (challah bread)
- 1 L milk (depending on how much milk will be consumed by the poppy seed mass)
- 4 tbsp. sugar
- 4 tbsp. raisins
- 4 tbsp. almond flakes
- 2 tbsp. melted butter
- 2 tbsp. cocoa
- 2 tbsp. honey
- 3-4 drops of almond oil or vanilla sugar
- 1 pinch of salt

Directions:

Place the ground poppy seeds into a pot and add boiling milk. Add almond oil or vanilla sugar, butter, cocoa, sugar, honey, raisins, almond flakes, and salt. Cook everything over low heat, constantly stirring so that it does not burn until a mush is formed. Slice rolls or challah. Place a layer of sliced bread in a bowl. Cover the bread layer with a layer of the hot poppy seeds mixture. Repeat the procedure until the bowl is filled. The last layer should be poppy seed mass. Decorate the top. Leave the poppy seeds to cool down. Cover the bowl with cling film and put it in the refrigerator (preferably overnight).

Dried Fruits Compote

*Kompot z suszonych owoców
(Kompot z Pieczek)*



Ingredients:

- 8 oz. prunes
- 4 oz. of each - dried apricots, apples, figs
- 2 oz. dried pears
- 1 orange
- 1 lemon
- 1 cinnamon stick or 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 5 cloves
- Honey or sugar to taste

Directions:

Boil water in a pot and remove from heat. Rinse off the dried fruits and place them in a pot of water. Allow resting for 3-4 hours. Slice lemon and orange and add them to the above along with cinnamon and cloves. Cook on low heat for 25 minutes or less so that the fruits don't fall apart. Sweeten with honey (or sugar) to your taste. Cool it down and pour it into a pitcher.

Gingerbread Cookies

Pierniki - Original Recipe by Chef Jan Bandula



Ingredients:

- 1 cup butter
- 1 1/2 cups molasses
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 5 tsp. powdered ginger
- 2 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 Tbsp. baking soda
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 Egg
- 7 cups all-purpose flour
- Royal Icing
(see recipe below)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Melt butter in a saucepan. Remove from the heat and add molasses. Stir until combined. Add the granulated sugar, salt, powdered ginger, and cinnamon. Stir in the baking soda, water, and egg. Place the flour into a large mixing bowl. Form a well in the center and slowly pour the liquids into the flour.

Mix until well combined. Wrap in plastic and refrigerate at least four hours before rolling the dough to 1/4-inch thickness. Use the cookie cutters to form cookies. Bake for 10 minutes. Cool completely before decorating with Royal Icing, if desired.

Royal Icing

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. confectioners' sugar, sifted
- 1/2 tsp. cream of tartar
- 3 egg whites

Directions:

Sift together sugar and cream of tartar. Add egg whites and mix on medium speed until stiff and glossy. Wrap airtight until used.



*Małgorzata Bondyra,
PNA Lodge 238 President,
Council 21, Baltimore, MD*



*Photos by Michael Carnahan,
Lodge 339, Council 21, MD*

Vaccination

Covid-19 Booster, the Flu, and You

What Are Vaccines?

Vaccines can be in the form of injections, liquids, pills, or nasal sprays that can teach your body's immune system to recognize and defend against harmful germs, such as viruses, bacteria, or parasites. Vaccines contain germs, or parts of germs, that cause disease. The germs have been weakened or killed so that you won't become sick. The vaccine will cause an immune response that your body then reacts to fight off the germs. Your immune system will remember the germ and attack it if it enters your body again. This protection against a particular disease is called immunity. Because these diseases can be severe, even deadly, it is safer to get immunity from a vaccine than getting sick with the disease. There can be mild side effects from vaccines or rare serious side effects. Discuss with your health care provider your concerns, if any. All vaccines in the United States must go through extensive safety testing.



Science has shown that vaccination continues to be the safest and most effective way to prevent COVID-19, as well as the most severe complications of the disease, such as hospitalization and death. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have approved the vaccines for children from age 5 and older. The dose will be less than for adults. Vaccines not only protect you but also help to keep the disease from spreading to others.

COVID-19 Booster.

During the last quarter of 2020, it was determined by the FDA that people who had had the COVID-19 vaccinations had declining immunity after a time and that a COVID-19 booster was necessary to keep one's immunity active to fight off future exposures to the disease. On October 20, 2021, the FDA authorized the use of boosters for Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccines for persons who had been previously vaccinated 6 months before receiving the booster. Moderna and J&J boosters have shown some specific and serious nerve disorders, but the numbers are extremely low. Some researchers have approved mixing and matching booster vaccines and the original vaccine. Personally, I advise keeping the booster in the same family as the initial shot(s) that you received.

Currently, the COVID-19 booster is available for:

- A Moderna booster dose may be administered at least 6 months after completion of the primary series to persons:
 - Who are age 65 or older
 - Who are age 18-64 and are at high risk of severe COVID-19 as determined by a health care provider
 - Who are age 18-64 and have frequent exposure to work environments and COVID-19
- The use of the J&J single booster dose may be given at least 2 months after the single dose of the first time vaccination to persons age 18 and older.
- The mix and match of the original shot and the booster may be given to the same person.
- The single booster of the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine may be administered at least 6 months after completion of the primary series to persons age 18-64 or those with frequent institutional or occupational exposure.

Booster Shots at No Cost.

Now that the FDA and CDC have approved the COVID-19 booster shots, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved that coverage is available for the COVID-19 boosters for persons who have health insurance coverage under Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and in the commercial health insurance market. There is no cost for the COVID-19 vac-

cinations or boosters. So, do not hesitate to avail yourself of the opportunity for COVID-19 vaccination and the booster.

What about the Seasonal Flu Vaccine?

As the United States is concerned with the COVID-19 pandemic, we must not forget about the flu season as the winter is soon upon us. Influenza, or flu, viruses usually spread during fall and winter. Getting vaccinated now can decrease your chances of getting the flu. The flu is a serious disease that can lead to hospitalization and even death. Your best protection from the flu and its complications is vaccination. The CDC estimated that during the 2019-20 flu season, vaccination prevented more than 7 million flu illnesses, 105,000 hospitalizations, and 6,300 flu-related deaths. This year, it is likely that the flu viruses and COVID-19 will circulate at the same time this fall and winter. The FDA ensures that safe and effective flu vaccines are available each flu season.



Flu viruses are spread by droplets when infected people cough, sneeze, or talk. The flu may also be spread when a person touches a surface or object with flu viruses on it and then touches his/her mouth, eyes, or nose. The CDC recommends that adults and children age 6 months or older receive a flu vaccination by the end of October. If it is after October, get the flu shot. It is still a good protector. If you have been sick with the flu this season, still get the vaccine.

There are four strains in the vaccine. Your illness was caused by one strain. The flu shot will protect you from the other three strains. The flu vaccine will not cause you to become sick with the flu. It takes about two weeks for your body to build immunity after a flu shot or any other administered vaccination. So, you may get the flu virus during that time. Typically, children and older adults are most at risk of getting sick with the flu. The flu vaccine is safe, effective, and of high quality. The FDA provides oversight and strict regulations for all vaccine manufacturers. If you do get the flu, your health care provider may prescribe an FDA-approved antiviral medication. These drugs work best if you

take them within 48 hours after the onset of symptoms.

Which Shot Should You Get First This Flu Season?

With the possibility of a COVID-19 outbreak and the flu season, it becomes complicated to decide what shot to get first- the COVID-19 booster or the flu shot. It is now approved by the FDA and CDC that both shots may be given simultaneously. One vaccine does not affect the other. Other infection disease experts suggest that you can space the 2 shots a week or two apart. He also said that people should take the COVID-19 booster as the first shot and then take the flu shot 2-4 weeks later.

Conclusion.

This article has provided an introduction to vaccines, information on the COVID-19 booster, the seasonal flu, and you. COVID-19 and the flu are both serious health conditions and must be reckoned with by all of us. Although there are restrictions as to who is eligible for the COVID-19 booster shot, I believe it will soon be available for ages 13 and older and eventually for children ages 5 and older. Your health insurance provider absorbs the cost. It is possible that you may interchange different vaccine manufacturers when getting vaccinated if you so choose. Because flu season is upon us, it is very important that everyone who is already COVID vaccinated gets the booster and the flu vaccine. It is your decision to be vaccinated, so do it. Protect yourself and others in your life and your community.



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