



The Forum

of the Chicago Society, Lodge 1450 PNA

Our Second Century of Brotherhood and Service

VOLUME 72

September 2020

NUMBER 9

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 16

General Meeting
Will be ONLINE via ZOOM
6:30pm

(see instruction on page 3)

Monday, October 5

Board Meeting
Teleconference - 6:00 pm

Please contribute anything
you would like published
to ted.kozelka@gmail.com.

Brothers,

Happy Labor Day! Hope
everyone had a wonderful,
restful and safe Holiday
weekend.

PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE



A moment of silence for the passing of Brother Edmund Gronkiewicz who passed away on September 2, 2020. Also, our condolences go out to the Skaja Family on the passing of Bernard "Bud" Skaja. May they rest in peace and may eternal light shine upon them.

As we are now in the month of September, I am still saddened that we cannot have our meetings in person. The virus is still affecting many people, young and old. As many of us know Hubert Cioromski, he fell ill to this virus and was hospitalized. I am glad to report, he is at home and getting better. I also came down with symptoms and had to go get tested, thankfully the result was negative. My symptoms were from an infected tick bite with Lyme disease. I am much better with the help of antibiotics, but I had a taste of what this virus can put someone through; home quarantine and isolation from family members until I got my results back. This virus affects all of us differently.

So with this news, I am informing all that we will not be meeting in person at least this month but I am happy to report that we will be having a Zoom Meeting on our scheduled Third Wednesday of the month September 16th. A big THANK YOU goes out to Brother Adam Konopka for arranging this. If you are familiar with Zoom, any small group of people can have a 45 minute meeting free of charge. Anything above say 10 attendees have to pay a fee.

Continued, page 2.

A monthly news bulletin for
the Chicago Society PNA
membership

Director of Publications
editor@chicagosocietypna.org



CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

Board of Directors

President:

Peter A. Dykas

1st Vice President:

Adam Konopka

2nd Vice President:

Romuald Matuszczak

Secretary:

Jan S. Plachta

Financial Secretary:

Richard Ciesla

Treasurer:

Richard Wiermanski

Advocate:

Walter Piecewicz

Senior Director:

Mario Mikoda

Social Activities Director:

Anthony P. Kawalkowski

Director of Outreach:

Zenon Kurdziel

Director of Personnel:

Charles Cwiakala

Director of Publications:

Ted Kozelka

Continued from page 1.

Chicago Society did not invest in this earlier, as I was hoping that the restrictions would have eased by now and we could have met in person. So watch for an email from Zoom that you are invited to join a scheduled meeting, coming out soon.

Log-in information is also included starting on page three. This is not a spam email. If you need help, Brother Konopka says he will help you set up if you need the help. We will try to make it short and sweet and straight to the points. Hope all can join.

As we approach the end of the year, the Nominating Committee is working hard to find the right candidates for the next group of Officers and Directors to lead us forward into the future. If you are interested in serving, please contact Brother Ted Makarewicz, Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

One final point, I am proud to say that our membership is growing even if we cannot meet in person. Glad to announce that we have a potential new member: Chris Laskowski. See Chris' bio on page nine. Let's continue to grow and invite friends to join.

Let's all hope that we can meet up soon in person. And let's all be healthy and safe during this strange year. Wear your mask, stay six feet away, and wash your hands frequently.

Fraternally yours,

Peter Dykas

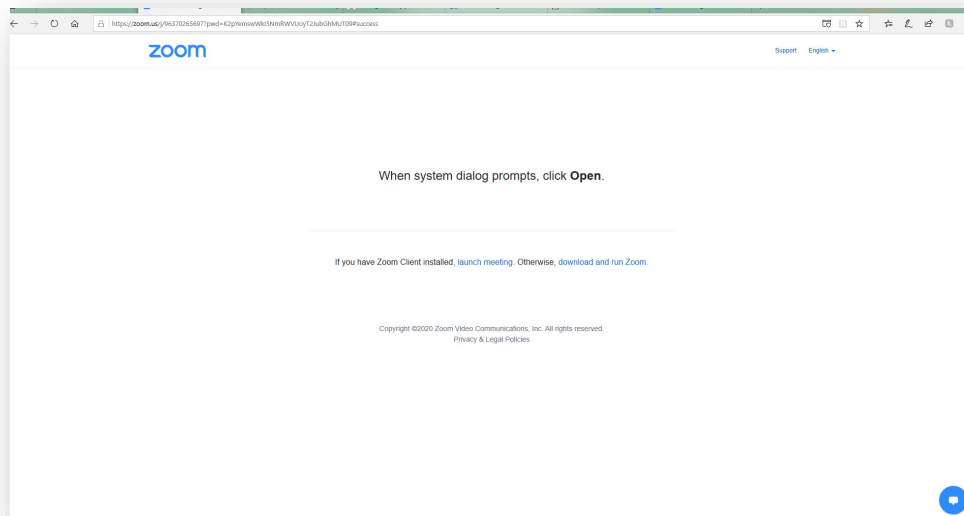
President of Chicago Society PNA

Attending the September General Meeting Via ZOOM (6:30pm, September 16, 2002)

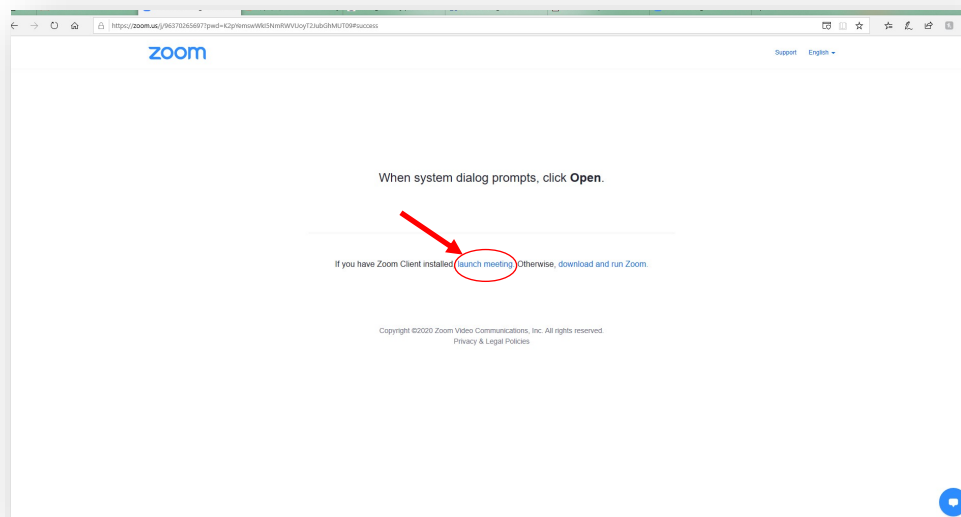
1. **CLICK** on the web link provided in the Forum email:

<https://zoom.us/j/96370265697pwd=K2pYemswWkl5NmRWVUoyT2JubGhMUT09>

The following screen will appear:



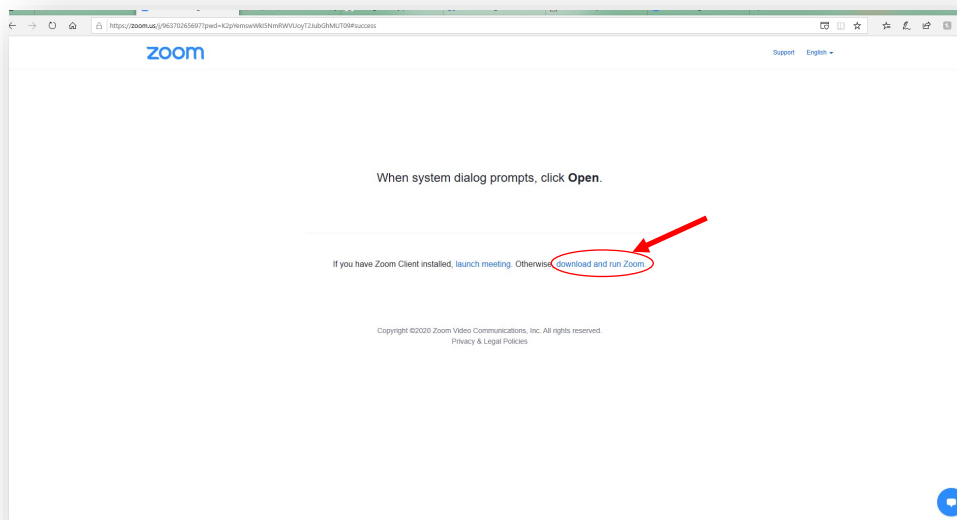
2. **IF** your computer already has Zoom, **THEN** CLICK ON “launch meeting” and enter the following ID and password as follows:



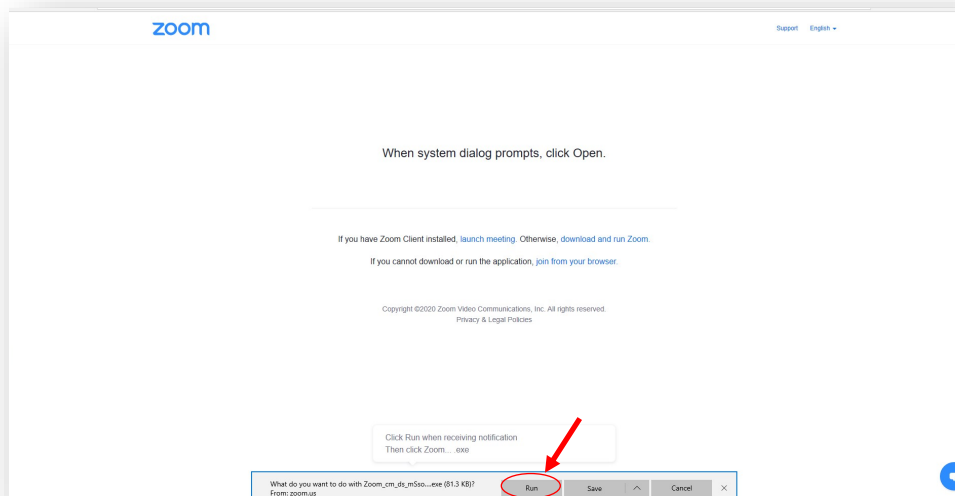
ID: 963 7026 5697

Password: 177949

3. **IF** your computer does not have Zoom, **THEN** process as follows:
-SELECT “download and run Zoom.”

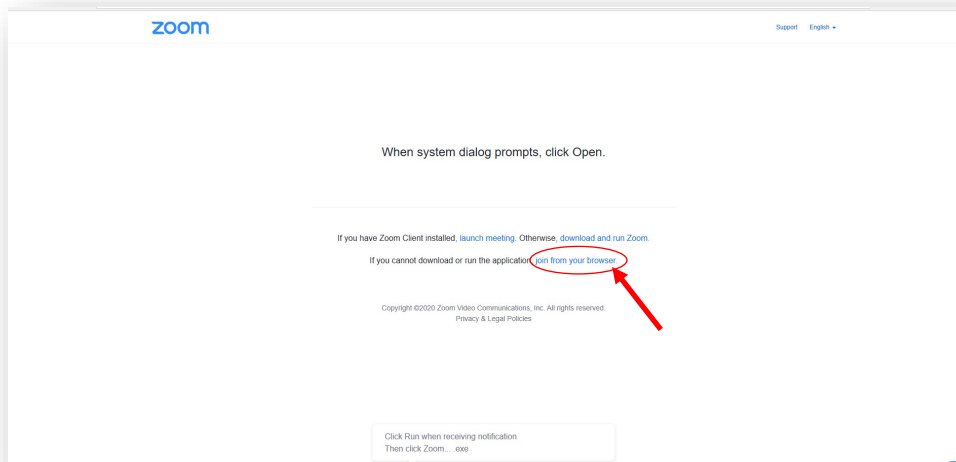


4. A pop-up window will appear at the bottom of your screen. **SELECT** “Run.”

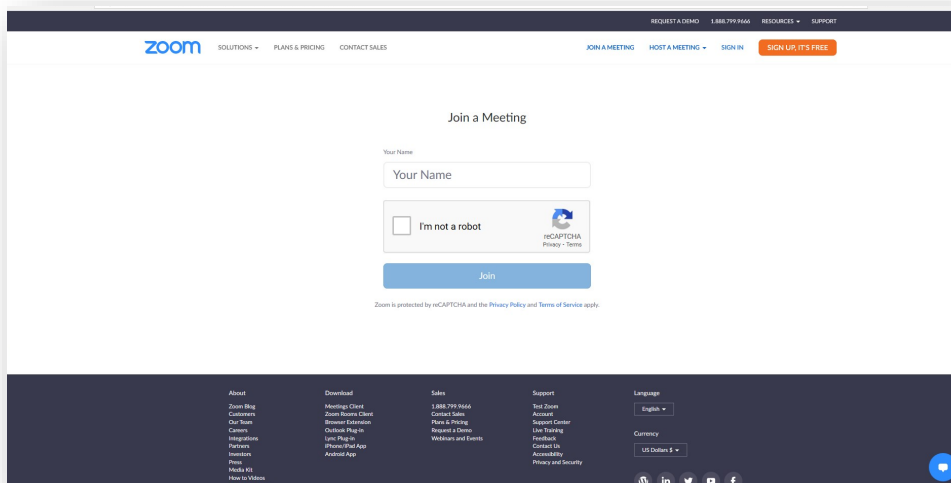


-Your computer will start installing the Zoom program.

6. At this point you should be ready to enter the meeting. **ENTER** the Meeting ID number and password in step 2.
7. If you are still unable to enter the meeting or download the program, **SELECT** “join from your browser.”



8. Your computer will link to the screen below. **ENTER** your name, **SELECT** “I’m not a robot”, and **CLICK-ON** “Join.”



9. Make sure your microphone and video-camera are functioning. Please MUTE audio unless you are speaking. See you there! (***Go to page 9 for meeting agenda.***)



Chicago Society, P.N.A.
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Held on Monday August 31, 2020

Due to the corona virus emergency this was a teleconference meeting

Call to Order: President Dykas called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Roll Call of Officers and Directors present: Brs. Ciesla, Cwiakala, Dykas, Kawalkowski, Kozielka, Matuszczak, Piecewicz, Plachta, Wiermanski. Absent were: Brs. Konopka, Kurdziel and Mikoda. Br. Dykas declared a quorum.

Bills: Br. Matuszczak moved to pay the bill for (redacted) from System Forms, Inc., for printing and mailing of the August Forum. Br. Ciesla seconded. Motion passed. Br. Dykas informed about a GoDaddy bill from Br. Grzadziel for Domain Renewal for the Chicago Society PNA for (redacted).

Directors and Officers Reports:

1st Vice-President: Br. Konopka was absent. There was no speaker and no report was needed.

2nd Vice-President: Br. Matuszczak stated that there was no meeting in August and he had nothing to report. He also informed that the next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 5, 2020 at 7 pm. Br. Ciesla moved to accept the report. Br. Cwiakala seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer: Br. Wiermanski stated that last week he send his report to the Board members. There were no comments. Br. Wiermanski informed that he is send an application to the Illinois Department of Revenue for sales tax exemption. Needed is the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) tax exemption letter stating that we are not for profit organization. Br. Matuszczak moved to accept the report. Br. Kawalkowski seconded. Motion passed.

Advocate: Br. Piecewicz stated that there were no new legal developments in August. Discuss were issues with the election of officers in the current COVID-19 environment. How to handle it considering our Constitution that requires face to face voting. Recommended was connection thru ZOOM. We will need to think about it. Wiecek payment are on schedule. Br. Matuszczak moved to accept the report. Br. Ciesla seconded. Motion passed.

Social Activities Director: Br. Kawalkowski had nothing to report. Discussed was possibility of holding a Deserving Children's Christmas Party, sort of "Drive-By Christmas Party" on a large parking lot. Mentioned was the Polish National Alliance parking lot and have gifts and a small food box, individual cheese or sausage pizza, etc. with a Santa wearing a mask. It's still in the works. Can we have a Chicago Society Christmas meeting for a small group of members of first paid, first served? Under consideration is the Allegra Banquet Hall. Stay in line, buffet style, workers in gloves will serve on the plates the food that we wish. We need to be aware that the average age of our members is in the high-risk category. Br. Cwiakala moved to accept the report. Br. Piecewicz seconded. Motion passed.

Director of Personnel: Br. Cwiakala reported that we have received the \$50 application fee from the new applicant, Chris Laskowski. The money will be forwarded to Br. Ciesla for processing. This application was sent to us electronically. Noted was that the application didn't have any sponsors. Br. Matuszczak and Br. Cwiakala volunteered to sponsor Chris Laskowski application. Additionally, we still have two applicants that are waiting to be inducted. Br. Matuszczak moved to accept the report. Br. Ciesla seconded. Motion passed.

Director of Outreach: Br. Kurdziel was absent, there was no report.

Director of Publications: Br. Kozelka didn't have anything to report. Br. Cwiakala commented that the last issue of Forum didn't provided list of Board members. Attendees agreed that this list should be part of the Forum as it was in the previous editions. Br. Kozelka asked that any material to be published in the September Forum should be send to him no later than September 8, 2020. Br. Matuszczak moved to accept the report. Br. Cwiakala seconded. Motion passed.

Financial Secretary: Br. Ciesla reported that our total deposits to date are: (redacted). The Wiecek repayments are on schedule and has a balance of (redacted) (30+more payments). We have 103 members; which includes 4 members with waived dues. At the present time there is only one-half year payment of \$75.00 from Br. Orwat that is owed. Br. Matuszczak volunteered to call Br. Orwat and ask him about his new address. We are still looking for more advertisers. Two applicants are to be inducted. Directory hasn't been updated yet. Br. Matuszczak moved to accept the report. Br. Cwiakala seconded. Motion passed.

New Business: Br. Dykas discussed issues of our membership dues due to the current pandemic environment. We are unable to hold our General Meetings; our activity is restricted to teleconference meetings. Br. Ciesla informed that dues requests are mailed around December 1. We are not for profit fraternal organization committed to the welfare of the Polish community and interested in its social advancement. Br. Cwiakala proposed to organize a ZOOM meeting. Instructions about it will be published in the next issue of Forum.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Br. Matuszczak and was seconded by Br. Kozelka. There being no farther business, Br. Dykas adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm, wishing everybody to be safe and stay healthy. Next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 5.

Respectfully Submitted



Jan S. Plachta – Secretary

2021 SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE CHICAGO SOCIETY OF THE POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE

The Nominating Committee consisting of Thaddeus Makarewicz, Chairperson and Committee Members Frank Czaja, and Jim Kolak, have selected one candidate for the following positions and all nominated candidates have signed an acceptance of nomination. Those candidates and offices are as follows:

Adam Konopka - President
Christopher T. Grzadziel - 1st Vice President
Charles Cwiakala - 2nd Vice President
Andrew Haszlakiewicz - Secretary
Richard Ciesla - Financial Secretary
Jan S. Plachta - Treasurer
Edward J. Wasilewski - Advocate
Zenon Kurdziel - Director of Social Activities
Kenneth J. Kogut - Director of Personnel
Theodore R. Kozelka - Director of Publications
Romuald Matuszczak - Director of Outreach

The above listed slate of candidates is hereby submitted to the Chicago Society pursuant to the Constitution of the Chicago Society, Article VII, Election of Officers and Directors, Section 4, effective January 1, 2018 dated this September 08, 2020.

2021 Chicago Society Nominating Committee

Thaddeus J. Makarewicz

Chairperson



September General Meeting (Zoom) Agenda

1. Roll Call of Officers
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. St. Josephs Prayer.
4. Officers and Directors Reports.
5. Possible Induction of New Members.
6. New/Old Business.
7. Good of the Order.

Welcome to New Member Chris Laskowski!

Chris Laskowski has applied for membership in the Chicago Society with the sponsorship of Brothers Chuck Ćwiąkała and Ro Matuszczak. Originally from Gdansk, Poland, Chris is a resident of Gilberts, Illinois. A graduate of Northwestern University with a Master's in Integrated Marketing Communications, Chris is the Head of Marketing at New Home Star.

New Home Star is the largest private seller of new homes in America with over \$2B in annual sales volume. Recently, the company was voted as the #1 Best Places to Work by Crain's Chicago Business (Large Category) and earned a top-three spot for Glassdoor. Chris oversees the marketing agency that supports community-level initiatives for sales agents, employee engagement initiatives, and business development marketing.

Welcome Chris and we all look forward to meeting you in person soon!

In Memoriam: Edmund J. Gronkiewicz

Edmund J. Gronkiewicz, 81, born in Chicago on February 4, 1939, passed away on September 3, 2020. He was the loving son of the late Edmund Gronkiewicz and the late Mary Balonek Gronkiewicz. He was the dearest friend of Joan Trandel.

Edmund grew up on the Southwest Side of Chicago and attended St. Casimir Grammar School, then Quigley Seminary. He was a graduate of Loyola University Chicago, receiving his bachelor's, master's, and juries doctor degrees all within four years of each other. A polyglot, Edmund was fluent in Latin, Greek Hebrew, Aramaic, French, Russian, and Polish.



Edmund spent 20 years as a deacon at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church located in the East Lakeview area of Chicago. He was also active in four religious organizations - Sovereign Military Order of Malta, Federal Association; Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem; Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus; and Constantinian Order of St. George. He was a life member of The Polish Museum of America (PMA), currently served on the Board of Directors of the PMA and was the PMA's legal counsel, and a 49-year member of the Chicago Society of the Polish National Alliance.

Mr. Gronkiewicz had been a probate and estate planning lawyer for 55 years. He was a former partner at the law firms Hinshaw and Culbertson LLP and Reda, Ciprian, Magnone, LLC.

Visitation will be Wednesday, September 9th from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM at Skaja Terrace Funeral Home 7812 N. Milwaukee Ave. in Niles. The funeral mass will be Thursday, September 10th at 11:00 AM at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church 708 W Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL 60657, Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside, IL. Funeral info: 847-966-7302.

May He Rest in Peace. Cześć Jego pamięci!

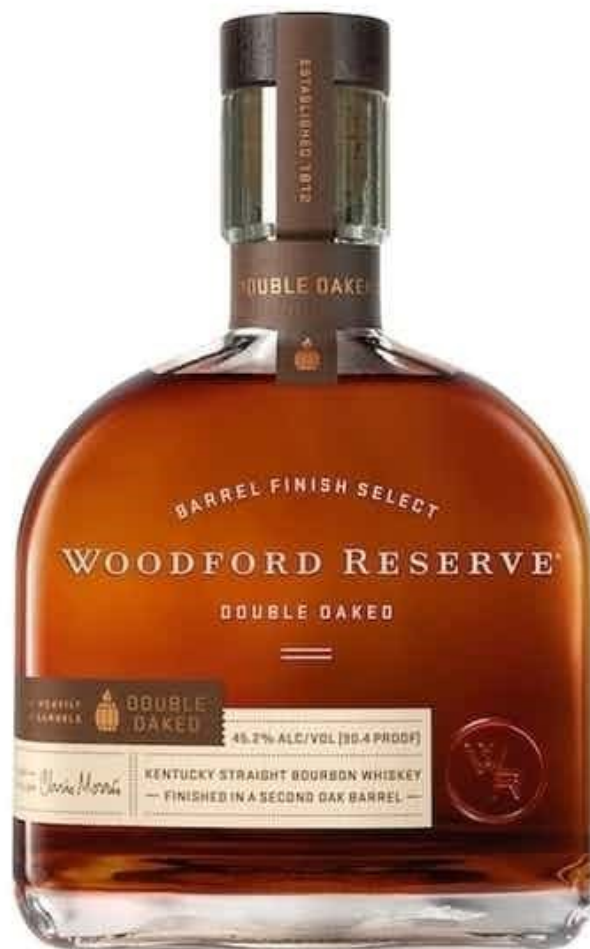


Woodford Reserve Double Oaked Bourbon

Woodford Reserve Double Oaked is an innovative approach to twice-barreled bourbon that creates a rich and colorful flavor unlike any other bourbon in the market.

Starting with Woodford Reserve Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey, which is matured in handcrafted new white oak barrels; the bourbon is then uniquely matured for a second time in another new barrel. The second barrel is deeply toasted before a light charring, creating the unique flavors of Woodford Reserve Double Oaked, a smooth, full-bodied bourbon with a long, rich finish.

Re-barreling whiskey to finish it in a second barrel isn't a new concept and wasn't new when Brown-Forman released Double Oaked. Barrel finished bourbons have been popular for a while and continue to gain popularity as the bourbon boom continues to expand. They make for an efficient way for distilleries to try to differentiate themselves in the crowded marketplace.



What was unique about Double Oaked when hit the market was Brown-Forman using a new charred oak barrel as the second finishing barrel instead of a used one. Additionally, they let it sit in this barrel for several months. While others including Jim Beam have since released double oaked products, Brown-Forman was one of the first to experiment in this area with an on-the-shelf product. This simple, yet effective barrel finish imparts a large dose of much needed flavor to the just-average standard Woodford Reserve. Sure it doesn't transform it into a super memorable bourbon, but it makes enough of an impact to question why given the option, you'd reach for a pour of Distiller's Select over Double Oaked.



THE SKAJA FAMILY

Family owned and operated
Serving out community for
84 years

Jack Skaja and John Skaja
Members

SKAJA TERRACE FUNERAL HOME

7812 N Milwaukee Avenue
Niles, Illinois 60714

CHCAGO SOCIETY FORUM

6348 N. Milwaukee Avenue, #360
Chicago, IL 60646-3728

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

