



# The Forum

of the Chicago Society, Lodge 1450 PNA  
Our Second Century of Brotherhood and Service

VOLUME 64

APRIL 2013

NUMBER 4

## DINNER NETWORKING MEETING

**WEDNESDAY**

**April 17, 2013**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets  
Niles, Illinois**

## RESERVATIONS

**by April 15**

**TO 847-823-8747 or**

**[meeting@chicagosocietypna.org](mailto:meeting@chicagosocietypna.org)**

## NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

**Monday, April 29, 7:00 P.M.**

**Folak's Lincoln Tavern**

## COMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, April 17, 2013—**

**Dinner Meeting**

**Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets**

**Saturday, May 4, 2013—**

**Pre-Parade Brunch**

**Chicago Hilton**

**Polish Constitution Day Parade**

**Columbus Drive**

**Wednesday, May 15, 2013—**

**Dinner Meeting**

**Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets**

**Thursday, July 11, 2013**

**Chicago Society Golf Outing**

**Carriage Greens Country Club**

**Darien, Illinois**

## POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY PRE-PARADE BRUNCH

The Chicago Society's Annual Polish Constitution Day Pre-Parade Brunch will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2013, in the Continental Ballroom of the Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. The cost of the brunch is \$30.00 per person. Reception will be at 8:45 a.m., seating at 9:45 a.m., and brunch will be served at 10:00 a.m. The invocation will be given by Rev. Jason Torba, Pastor of St. Ferdinand Parish. At the Brunch, Chicago Society President Brother **Mark Orwat** will present monetary awards to our scholarship recipients who will be announced by past Scholarship Chairman Brother **Ken Gill**.

The parade is scheduled to step off at 11:30 a.m. from Columbus and Balbo Drives, across from the Hilton. This is the 122<sup>nd</sup> Chicago parade in honor of this historic document, the first democratic constitution in Europe and second in the world only to the United States Constitution. The theme of this year's parade is *Młodość wspólnym dobrem Polonii i Polski* (Youth is good for both Polonia and Poland). The Grand Marshall will be Dr. Bronislaw Orawiec, cardiologist and founder of the Orawiec Cardiac Fund. The Parade is once again expected to draw 250,000 eager revelers to the lakefront.

The Chicago Society will have a float and marching unit in the Parade. There will be a band on the float and space for some persons to sit. Those members who will not attend the brunch but will march can contact Chairman **Ro Matuszczak** as to our place in the parade. Information on the day of the event can also be obtained from any parade marshal. Preferred attire for the marchers is gray slacks, dark jacket, red tie and white shirt. A business suit is certainly acceptable.

To make reservations for the Brunch, please contact Chairman **Ro Matuszczak** at 847-635-0883 or 847-331-8007. Tickets may also be purchased via PayPal at <http://www.chicagosocietypna.org/payments.html>.

Tickets will be held at the door. **Ro** has been involved with the Brunch since its inception in May 1978, making this his 36<sup>th</sup> year. Co-chairmen are Brother **Charles Komosa** and Brother **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert**.



## RETIREMENT SEEN THROUGH YOUR EYES

### AFTER YOU LEAVE WORK, WHAT WILL YOUR LIFE LOOK LIKE?



Our speaker at the April meeting will be Brother **Dale Ihssen**, financial advisor with Transamerica Financial Advisors, Inc. He will speak to us about planning for retirement. Even if you're close to retirement age, it's not too late to start planning for your "golden years." Some of the burning topics he will address include:

**How do you picture your future?** If you are like many baby boomers, your view of retirement is likely pragmatic compared to that of your parents. That doesn't mean you have to have a "plain vanilla" tomorrow. Even if your retirement savings are not as great as you would prefer,

— Continued on Page 3 —



CHICAGO  
SOCIETY  
Forum

A monthly news bulletin for the  
Chicago Society PNA membership

Director of Publications  
Ted Wiecek

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DID YOU MAKE YOUR  
MEETING RESERVATION?

Dear Brothers,

First I hope everyone had a joyful Easter.  
Happy belated Easter!!!

With the spring season upon us, we carry on the celebration of Polish Constitution Day on May 4<sup>th</sup>. As in previous years, we will continue the tradition of the Pre-Parade Brunch at the Hilton on Michigan Ave. For more info please contact Brother **Ro Matuszczak**, chairman of the event, at either 847-635-0883 or 847-331-8007. This event will have a great showing, so invite your friends and family to join us in the celebration. We will also present the winners of the scholarship contest. At the parade we will have a marching unit with a float and band.

Let all of us show our proud support of the Chicago Society and Polonia by attending the brunch and the parade.

Fraternally Yours,  
Mark Orwat



Elections of Officers of the Illinois Division of the Polish American Congress will be held soon. It is the opinion of this writer that these elections should provide an impetus for the Illinois Division to strengthen its focus on the Polonia's political strength in Illinois. It seems to this writer that we as a community have lost much of our power and influence in the political arena. There was a time when the City Clerk of Chicago was "unofficially" a Pole. The number of Polish-American aldermen, state legislators, and US senators and representatives has diminished to practically nothing. It is time to rebuild our strength and influence here at home, and not be concerned with the political situation in Poland.

Poland is now free and independent, and has been for over a generation. Whatever a person's political leanings in terms of Poland's politics, we must respect the fact that Poland's leaders, from the President to the *Sejm* and other officials, have been elected in free and democratic elections. It is not the place of Polonia, and the PAC specifically, to exert any influence on the internal politics of Poland.

Polonia needs to regain its political strength here at home. Admittedly, we have numerous "friends of Polonia" in high-ranking offices. However, we have very few Polish-Americans in such offices. We need to identify strong, competent people to be elected to political offices, which will allow Polonia to regain the strength it once had. And the PAC could, and should, be a strong influence in accomplishing this.

The upcoming May 3<sup>rd</sup> Parade is an excellent way of showing our strength as a group "to be reckoned with." It is extremely important, especially now that our political power is diminishing in Chicago, that we come out to the Parade in large numbers—either as participants or as spectators—to show Chicagoland how large and strong our community actually is. There are approximately 1 millions of us in the Chicagoland area. Every Pole, Polish-American, Polonian—whatever you call yourself—should come to the Parade to show support and to be counted. We should put all differences—political, social, economic—aside and stand strong as one Polonia, a force that those in positions of power and influence should pay attention to. Our whole is greater than the sum of our parts.

## POLISH TRIVIA

Tom Zbikowski, 27, who grew up in Arlington Heights and attended Buffalo Grove High School, was recently signed to a major Chicago sports organization. He joins the large ranks of Polish-American athletes playing for Chicago teams. Which team did he sign with? Please send your reply to [editor@chicagosocietypna.org](mailto:editor@chicagosocietypna.org).

Answer to February's question: Władysław Lutosławski was the famous Polish composer and orchestral conductor who was awarded the Order of the White Eagle, Poland's highest honor. He is also the first recipient of the "Great Europeans" Award presented this month in Warsaw by the European Union Youth Orchestra. Congratulations to Brothers **Marian Skawski** and **Vic Kay** for providing the answer.



✧ The Polish Women's Civic Club held their annual Palm Sunday Luncheon at Avalon Banquets in Elk Grove Village. This is the Club's major fund-raising event of the year. Scholarships were awarded to 5 deserving Polish-American students. Among those enjoying this great "eggsperience" were President Brother **Mark Orwat**, Brother **Rich Ciesla** with his wife Maria and their family, Brother **Ken Gill**, Brother **Don Gutowski** with his wife Lucille and their family, Brother **Charles Komosa** with his wife Agata and their family, and Brother **Ted Wiecek**.

✧ The 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of Painting and Sculpture of the Polish Arts Club of Chicago is currently open at the Polish Museum of America, and will remain open until April 21. The Museum is open daily from 11:00 to 4:00, closed on Thursdays. The president of the Club is Brother **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert**.

✧ One of the traditional functions of the Society's St. Joseph is to send get well cards, condolences, etc. to sick members, widows etc. If you know of any member who is sick, or recently lost a loved one, please contact Brother **Ken Gill**, who is our current St. Joseph, and ask him to send a get-well card or a make phone call that he could make on behalf of all of us to put a smile on someone's face.



✧ The Polish Arts Club cordially invites everyone to a viewing of *Zemsta* (Revenge), a film by Andrzej Wajda, based on the comedy by Aleksander Fredro, starring Roman Polanski. This hilarious story of romance and its complexities will be shown at the Polish National Alliance building on Cicero on Saturday, May 11, starting at 2:00 p.m. Admission is free. To reserve your space, please contact Brother **T. Ron Jasinski Herbert**.

## RETIREMENT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

you still have great potential to design the life you want.

- ✓ What do you absolutely need to accomplish?
- ✓ What would revitalize you?
- ✓ Who should you share your time with?
- ✓ How much will you spend?
- ✓ Could you leave a legacy?
- ✓ How are you planning for retirement?

Reserve your spot now for our next Dinner Meeting, Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at Przybylo's. You can email your reservation (preferable) to [meeting@chicagosocietypna.org](mailto:meeting@chicagosocietypna.org), or call 847-823-8747.

## FRATERNALS OFFER DISCOUNT TICKETS TO SUMMER EVENTS

Chicago (PMN)—Polish National Alliance Vice President (PNA) **Paul C. Odrobina** announced that the four Polish fraternal organizations invite the public to partake in three summer events that the four organizations are supporting with tickets at reduced rates.

On June 1, 2013, it is Polish American Day at Six Flags Great America in Gurnee, Illinois. Tickets for this event are \$29.00 each and could be used on June 2, June 8 or June 9, by those unable to attend on June 1. The admission ticket price is also good to admission to "Six Flags Hurricane Harbor" located next door to the Theme Park.



On Tuesday, July 2, 2013, the annual Polish American Night takes place at U.S. Cellular Field. The Chicago White Sox will host the Baltimore Orioles at U.S. Cellular Field in Chicago, Illinois. Tickets are \$20.00 each (lower box seats). Orders must be placed by Monday, June 17, 2013 for this special price. Tickets went fast last year, so early ordering is suggested.

The final event of the summer is Polish American Night with the Chicago Fire Soccer. The game will take place on Saturday, August 10, 2013, at Toyota Park in Bridgeview, Illinois. The Chicago Fire will host the Montreal Impact. Tickets are \$22.00 (regularly \$40.00).

Tickets can be purchased for Great America and Chicago White Sox Game from the Polish National Alliance (1-800-621-3723 ext. 316); Polish Roman Catholic Union (1-800-772-8632, ext. 2601); Polish Falcons of America (1-847-877-4114); or the Polish Women's Alliance (1-888-522-1898 ext. 208). Please call during regular office hours.

Tickets for the Chicago Fire game can be purchased through the Chicago Fire Sales Office Contact, Ed Kaczynski (708) 496-6784.

Note that tickets are subject to availability and due to high demand, the cooperating organizations encourage ordering tickets as soon as possible.

A flyer with complete details for all three events is available at the PNA's website at <http://www.pna-znp.org> in the "Upcoming Events" located on the main page in the scroll down section.

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## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CHICAGO SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Chicago Society have approved the following as a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Chicago Society:

Article III, Section 3, Paragraph A: Active Membership. Any ~~male~~ *person* of Polish lineage or affinity, over 18 years of age, of good character and reputation, whose acceptance will add to the welfare and progress of the Chicago Society and who is a citizen or legal permanent resident of the United States residing in Cook County or its contiguous counties may be admitted to membership in the Society at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Note that a strikethrough means the word or number will be deleted; an italicized word or number means it will be added. In this case, "male" will be deleted and "person" will replace it.

According to the Constitution, the vote of two-thirds of the members in good standing in attendance at either the regular meeting or the special business meeting shall be effective to either adopt or reject the proposed amendment. This Amendment will be voted on at the May General Meeting.

### FOR THE AMENDMENT

✓ We bill ourselves as one of the most progressive clubs in Polonia. Progressive means moving forward. It's a new world and era, so to be progressive now means to allow women.

✓ What were the principals that The Chicago Society was founded on? To help professionals of Polish descent and affinity, interact with others in same professional field, support business people and professionals in Polonia. The business and political and professional worlds are different than they were in 1912. Back then very few women were in business etc. They could not even vote.

✓ Today, women are in politics, business owners, lawyers etc. So our goals would seem to apply to them now in 2013.

✓ Members with daughters say they feel discriminated against because they don't have sons who could join. Some say their daughters volunteer and help at a lot of our events and would join if possible.

✓ The drop in our membership is constantly being brought up. Do we exist for another 100 years, or let the Society fade away because women are not allowed? New faces, new ideas might be needed.

✓ We won't fold if women join. Other clubs, organizations, and groups are co-ed. There won't be a rush of women to join or take over.

✓ Many members and members-to-be, who are inclined towards public service, have stated their desire for women members.

✓ Many professional women have shown an interest in joining the Society. This would bring new faces with new and fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

*Submitted by Frank Czaja*

### AGAINST THE AMENDMENT

✓ The Amendment is improperly written and incomplete. Changing gender references throughout the Constitution is not automatic. If adopted, it will still include male gender references.

✓ It will put the Chicago Society in competition for members with women's groups. Allowing female members will adversely affect such organizations as the Polish Women's Civic Club and the Legion of Young Polish Women.

✓ The Polish Women's Civic Club was originally the Chicago Society Women's Auxiliary, but eventually became a separate organization. We should not attempt to undo what they have done.

✓ Progress is fine, but not all change is progressive. The proposed amendment is a reversal of a 100-year-old tradition. A reversal is not progress.

✓ It will be extremely difficult to deny membership to the wife, girlfriend or

## FLIGHT OF DREAMLINER MAY BE APPROVED BY MAY

Washington, D.C. (PMN)—A Boeing plan to redesign the 787 Dreamliner's fire-plagued lithium-ion batteries won approval March 12, 2013, from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), moving the cutting-edge planes a step closer to flying passengers again.

The plan includes changes to the internal battery components to minimize the possibility of short-circuiting, which can lead to overheating and cause a fire. Among the changes are better insulation of the battery's eight cells and the addition of a new containment and venting system, the FAA said in a statement.

The FAA statement didn't provide an estimate, but the FAA could give final approval by late April for the 787 to resume flight.

Boeing would still have to retrofit the 50 planes already delivered to eight airlines in seven countries, including Poland.

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female relative of a member who may not be qualified according to our Constitution without creating dissention and discord among the membership.

✓ A whole new constitutional definition of membership qualifications would be necessary. Many women (and some men) now consider "housewife" or "caregiver to a relative" to be "professions." Accepting such definitions, which would be inevitable, would alter our purpose and standards.

✓ Although the liberal direction of the Amendment may appear beneficial at first glance, we need only observe some gender-mixed organizations which are in decline, filled with rancor and basically uncontrollable. The Milwaukee Society membership declined after including women and there are Chicago organizations that have become unmanageable.

✓ Many members consider our meetings as a "boys' night out," just as members of the women's organizations consider their meetings as a "girls' night out," a sometimes rare opportunity.

*Submitted by T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert*

## CHICAGO SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE WINNER – PAUL ODROBINA, JR.

### *How Would You Motivate People of Polish Descent to Unite Polonia?*

Every day around my campus I am faced with the task of representing myself and the organizations I am a part of to potential new members. I am a member of a social fraternity and also a member of the Honors College at my university. There are always opportunities to persuade my peers to join these organizations and I believe that I am successful in doing so. If I was trying to persuade a person of Polish descent to get involved in Polonia organizations I would use some of the same tactics that I use for my other organizations.

First, I would point out the professional benefits of getting involved in a Polonia organization. I would talk about how there are many professional business connections that can be made through joining. There are countless successful people in these organizations and developing a professional relationship with them can only increase one's odds of being successful. These organizations are a great way to network with other people in the area and make reliable connections for the future. Those who are heavily involved in Polonia organizations will always want to help other people of Polish descent in any way possible.

Next, I would talk about the social and traditional aspects of being a part of Polonia organizations. Aside from developing professional relationships through these organizations, there are opportunities to develop lifelong friendships with other Polish people. Everyone likes to have a good time, especially with people who share the same beliefs and have similar backgrounds. Joining a Polish organization would add that traditional Polish heritage to one's life and help create a tighter knit group of Polish-Americans.

All in all I would talk about the professional and relational benefits of being part of an organization of people with so much pride in where they came from. There is really no downside to joining a Polonia organization and I hope it would be evident to any Polish-American who is looking to connect with other people of Polish descent.

*[Editor's note: The above essay was edited for mechanics, but not for content.]*

## CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to the family of Brother **Charles Komosa** on the recent death of his cousin Rob Komosa, a former high school football player who was paralyzed in 1999. The former Rolling Meadows High School football player was paralyzed during practice when he was 17. He beat the odds and lived more than 13 years after the accident. Komosa passed away at the age of 30 from pulmonary complications.

Michael Matuga, the son of Brother **Ed Matuga**, passed away on Monday, March 11, 2013. Our condolences to Ed and his family.

## INDUCTED TO MEMBERSHIP

We welcome **Mark Pawlas**, sponsored by Brothers **Ken Gill** and **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert**, who was sworn in as a member at our last meeting. *Witamy!*



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## SUSPENSIONS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

The gentlemen listed below have been suspended for non-payment of dues for 2013 in accordance with the Constitution. Call Financial Secretary Ryszard Jadcak at 847-516-3333 regarding reinstatement.

Cizon, Frank  
Ginilewicz, Stefan  
Gladziszewski, Richard  
Jackowski, Zbigniew  
Jakubczak, Richard  
Kobelinski, Gregg  
Kolakowski, Richard  
Kosin, Gregory  
Kupiec, Mark  
Lenard, Anthony  
Lipkowski, Theodore  
Mance, Robert  
Martwick, Robert  
Mazewski, Aloysius  
Olech, Ronald II  
Ozog, Wallace  
Placek, Marek  
Schupp, William  
Siemion, Artur  
Soska, Carl  
Startek, Tom  
Strojny, Voytek  
Szpindor-Watson, Michael  
Szplit, Anthony

## PROPOSAL GIVES "JOLT" TO VISA WAIVER PROGRAM

Washington, D.C. (PMN)—On March 21, 2013, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (D-Ill.), together with Rep. Joe Heck (R-Nev.), introduced the Jobs Originating through Launching Travel (JOLT) Act, a bipartisan initiative designed to create jobs, reform outdated visa laws and increase national security.

"Updating America's visa travel protocol will increase opportunities for international tourists, create jobs and drive valuable tourism dollars to cities across the country, including Chicago," said Rep. Quigley.

"Modernizing the Visa Waiver Program specifically will strengthen our national security and enhance relationships with important allies like Poland, who have been denied visa-free travel because of outdated policies."

—Continued on page 6—

## PROPOSED FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following gentleman has applied for membership in the Chicago Society of the PNA. If any member has an objection regarding the admission of this prospective member, he should contact the Personnel Director prior to the next general meeting. Sponsors are to attend the general meeting in which the new member will be inducted and to introduce him to the Personnel Director and to others before the Induction ceremony.

Name: Daniel J. Mateja  
 Address: 14219 Ashford Court  
 Orland Park, IL 60467  
 Phone: 708-403-7991  
 Occupation: IT Manager, Navistar, Inc.  
 Birth date: Sept. 18, 1963  
 Birthplace: Evergreen Park, IL  
 Education: MBA, De Paul Univ.; BS, UIC  
 Sponsors: T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert  
 Charles Komosa

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

The Chicago Society would like to extend to the following brother members, who are celebrating their birthday in April, a warm wish of *Sto Lat!*

- 5 Matt Rodriguez
- Eugene Siegel
- 7 Ronald Olech, II
- Andrew Wawrzyniak
- 8 Andrew Przybylo
- 9 Eugene Urbaszewski
- 10 Peter Dykas
- Joseph Dondalski
- 13 Anthony Kawalkowski
- Anthony Lenard
- 14 Richard Jakubowski
- 15 Slavek Laskowski
- 17 Fred Koziel
- 19 Richard Kolakowski
- 28 Joseph Hercik
- John Wojciechowski
- 30 William Przybylski

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

The Chicago Society would like to congratulate the following brother members, who are celebrating the anniversary of their induction this month.

Zenon Cebula	2003	10 Years
Anthony Lenard	2008	5 Years

## MEET YOUR OFFICERS UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL, PART III

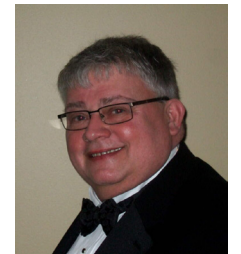
Brother **Thaddeus Makarewicz** is the Advocate of the Chicago Society. He has been a member of the Chicago Society since 1995. He is currently the chief legal counsel for the Assessor's Office of Cook County. Some of his outside interests include being an avid motorcyclist. He has been riding a motorcycle for over 40 years and hopes to be riding well into his 70's. His other interests include reading history, especially Polish history, and being involved in and promoting the various organizations in Polonia.



Brother **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert** has been member of the Chicago Society for over 40 years. He had served as its president and has held various other offices since 1990. Brother T. Ron has chaired many events for the Society, most notably the Society's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet. He wears numerous hats, and is best known in Polonia as the President and CEO of Ameripol Corporation. He is passionate about the polka, and is very involved in the polka community. He has also served as past president of the Advocates Society. He currently serves as a National Director for the Polish American Congress, president of the Polish Arts Club, and remains involved with numerous other organizations.



Brother **Ted Wiecek** is currently the Director of Publications and Editor of *The Forum*. He is still a "novice," having been inducted as a member only 4 years ago. However, he assists the Society at all of its events and its endeavors. He is currently a teacher of mathematics with both the Chicago Public Schools and the City Colleges of Chicago. He is single, but he is currently accepting applications. Be sure to include a credit report and 3 references.



## "JOLT" (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

"The JOLT Act is a jobs and economic growth bill that harnesses the power of travel to deliver increased revenue and economic opportunity to communities all across America," said Roger Dow, president and CEO of the U.S. Travel Association. "As America's number one service export that supports one in eight U.S. jobs, travel is an economic engine that powers growth and job creation. We applaud Rep. Mike Quigley and the bill's co-sponsor, Rep. Joe Heck."

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## POLISH FOLKLORE

Continuing our tour of the folklore of Poland, let us head southwest to the region of *Śląsk* (Silesia), which actually straddles three countries: Poland, Czech Republic and Germany. Silesia's largest city and historical capital is Wrocław. Other large cities are Opole, Gliwice, and Katowice. The region is bounded by the Sudeten mountains to the southwest, by the Beskid range to the south, and by the Kraków-Wieluń plateau to the northeast. *Śląsk* is populous as well as rich in resources. Numerous minerals are

mined in the region, the most abundant being coal. Other minerals include copper, zinc, silver, lead, and cadmium. Most inhabitants of Silesia today speak the national languages of their respective countries (Polish, Czech, German). There is an ongoing debate whether a local Silesian speech should be considered a Polish dialect or a separate language. In fact, some consider Silesians to be a separate ethnic group, distinct from Poles, Germans, and Czechs.

Ethnographically, the region is divided into two distinct major sub-regions: *Górny Śląsk* (Upper Silesia) and *Dolny Śląsk* (Lower Silesia). The names are not because of their location, but rather due to the geography of the region. *Górny Śląsk* is comprised mainly of mountains, *góry*, while *Dolny Śląsk* is primarily lowlands, *doły*. Some of

the popular songs and dances of *Śląsk* are *Trojak*, *Mietlorz*, *Kołomajki*, and *Kukuleczka*.

Due to its proximity to Germany, one can see much German influence in the language, music, and costumes of *Dolny Śląsk*. Some of the areas of *Dolny Śląsk* are Jelenia Góra, Wrocław, and Wałbrzych. While there is much diversity in the costumes from area to area, common characteristics of the women's costumes of the region are long, solid skirts with a plain bodice and an apron, sometimes solid, sometimes flowered. The gentlemen's dress is very plain, consisting of wool pants, a vest or jacket with little decoration. Often, men will dress in a miner's dress uniform.

On the other hand, *Górny Śląski* partially encompasses parts of Czech Republic, so there is much Czech influence in the folklore of that region. The areas in this region include Cieszyn, Pszczyny, and Rozbarsk. In many of these areas *kierpce* are worn, well-known in the adjoining *Podhale* region. The costumes are also reminiscent of Podhale. The ladies wear a solid, sometimes pleated skirt with a unique bodice (the bodice doesn't close all the way, but opens in a "V"), a flowered apron, and often no headdress. The gentlemen wear wool pants and a plain vest or jacket. Symbolic of that region, however, are very colorful hats for the men, decorated with flowers and feathers. The folk music is also similar in style and tone to that of Podhale, using primarily strings.

## NEED AN INTERPRETER?

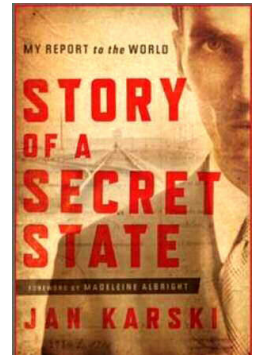
Our speaker at the March meeting was our Recording Secretary Brother **Marian Skawski**, who spoke about his job as an interpreter. Many people in the Chicagoland area are Limited English Proficient and require an interpreter when dealing with a government agency, such as Social Security or Unemployment, a medical care facility, the Police, etc. A client is not allowed to bring his or her own interpreter; rather, the agency calls a bureau to do the interpreting. Brother Skawski works for such a bureau. He is a certified interpreter employed by Language Line Solutions (LLS), located in Monterey, California. If someone needs an interpreter, all he or she needs to do is make a phone call to the interpreting bureau such as LLS and say the word "Polish." They will then connect the client and the agency with an interpreter in the appropriate language.

According to Brother Skawski, when interpreting it is important to be accurate and not filter or infer anything in the interpretation. Interpreting cannot be done word for word because of the differences in logic and syntax between languages. Brother Skawski has experienced many successes in this work, together with an occasional failure. However, he gets great satisfaction in helping people.

## "THE WORLD KNEW – JAN KARSKI'S MISSION FOR HUMANITY"

The acclaimed exhibit organized by the Polish government recently on display at the United Nations in New York will open in Chicago at the Polish Museum of America on April 26 with a reception from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

"The World Knew" illustrates the dangerous mission that Jan Karski undertook during the Nazi occupation of Poland in World War II to arrest the fates of millions who were being sent



to their deaths. At great peril, Karski entered the Warsaw ghetto and one of the so-called Nazi "transit" camps. As an eyewitness to atrocious crimes against humanity, Karski embarked on a mission to "inform the free world" with the hopes of stopping the ongoing genocide. But sadly his efforts were ignored by President Roosevelt and other world leaders. Karski was haunted by his own famous question: "Why was nothing done, when there was still time to save millions of human beings?"

The multimedia exhibition follows Karski's life from pre-war school days and beginnings of a promising diplomatic career to the dramatic events of the Second World War and his subsequent life in the United States. "The World Knew – Jan Karski's Mission for Humanity" was curated by the Polish History Museum, and first appeared at the United Nations thanks to the collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland and the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations. It can be seen at the PMA through May 19, 2013.

Copies of Karski's 1944 book, *Story of a Secret State*, just republished by Georgetown University Press with a forward by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, will also be available for sale at the Polish Museum during the exhibit.

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