



# The Forum

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

VOLUME 67

AUGUST 2016

NUMBER 8

## MONTHLY NETWORKING- DINNER MEETING

**WEDNESDAY**

**AUGUST 17, 2016**

6:00 p.m.

White Eagle Banquets  
Niles, Illinois

### RESERVATIONS

by August 15 to

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

847-635-0883

## NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

Monday, August 29, 2016

7:00 p.m.

PNA Home Office

## COMING EVENTS

**Sunday, August 21, 2016—**

CS Family & Friends Picnic

Busse Grove #31, noon

Food, libations, music,  
raffle & kid's games

**Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016—**

CS Texas Hold 'em Casino Night

White Eagle Banquets

1:30 p.m.- 12:00 midnight

**Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016—**

Dinner Meeting & Business Expo

White Eagle Banquets

Cocktails 6:00 p.m./

Dinner 7:00 p.m.

## AUGUST 2016 SPEAKER & DINNER MEETING

The guest speaker for our August 2016 General Meeting, to be held on Wednesday, August 17, 2016, at the White Eagle, will be Mr. Jan M. Lorys. Mr. Lorys graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1971 with a BA in Political Science and MA in History, also from UIC in 1996. From 1992 till 1996, he was a bilingual teacher with CPS. He is the co-producer and writer of a film on Casimir Pulaski. Mr. Lorys served as the Director of the Polish Museum of America from June 1996 through February 2014. He played an important role as a Steering Committee member in the creation of the Chicago Cultural Alliance, a partnership of 20 ethnic museums and cultural institutions. He has also initiated beneficial exchanges and collaborations with cultural and government institutions in Poland.



As the PMA Historian since March 2014, Mr. Lorys focuses on scholarly research, as well as updating and developing museum exhibits, including events of the Polish Museum and a movie entitled *The Fourth Partition*. Jan will speak about the importance of Polonia Events, upcoming events in Polonia, the upcoming Centennial of the Polish Army in France, and current events including the Millennium of Poland's Christianity exhibit at the Polish Museum.

The August General Meeting not only offers great camaraderie, a featured speaker, but a delicious dinner menu! The menu includes Minestrone soup, bread basket, Italian sausage with peppers, Italian meatballs, mostaccioli and sauce, bread, dessert, coffee or tea. Mangia, mangia! Please contact Brother **Ro Matuszczak** at [meeting@chicagosocietypna.org](mailto:meeting@chicagosocietypna.org) or call 847-635-0883 for reservations. Please note: any guests at the meeting must be prospective new members and you must confirm the reservation with Brother Ro, no exceptions!

## The Picnic is Coming, The Picnic is Coming!

*see p. 3 for information*





## CHICAGO SOCIETY Forum

A monthly news bulletin for the  
Chicago Society PNA membership

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Dear Brothers,

As we approach the end of summer, I hope everyone had the opportunity to take a little time to relax and spend some quality time with your families and friends. But some people were very busy, like Golf Chairperson Brother **Charley Komosa** and his committee of Brothers **Mark Orwat**, **Frank Czaja**, and **Mario Mikoda** in putting together another outstanding golf outing this year. I believe this was a record year for the number of golfers, thanks in part to Brother **Steve Rakowski**, who signed up four foursomes! The weather was ideal, the golf course was in great shape, the libations served on the course were cold, the food at the dinner was exceptional and there were plenty of raffle prizes. Everyone had a good time and I hope to see everyone out there next year. The Annual Picnic is our last summer event which will be held on August 21, 2016 at Busse Woods. It is chaired by Brother **Robert Groszek** who has really tried to focus on the children and grandchildren of our members. This is where memories are created for the upcoming generations of potential Chicago Society members. There is no cost to our members and friends, but RSVP to Brother Groszek so he will be able to provide enough food and ice cream for everyone. Finally, to close out the summer and begin the fall season, we have been asked again to volunteer to work the Annual Taste of Polonia over the Labor Day Weekend. This year we will be serving beer and helping out in the casino. Please contact Brother Mikoda to make arrangements for a time and day to help out. I believe it is important for the Chicago Society to be active and visible at this event. I would also like to make an appeal to our members for the upcoming Business Expo to be held at our September General Membership meeting. This is an opportunity for our members to showcase their business to our fellow brothers. In other words, it's called networking! Brother **John Cieslik** is the chair again for the Business Expo, so please contact him immediately to secure your business space at the event. There is a lot going on in the next two months, so don't forget to call one of your brothers to join you in attending one of these activities. Enjoy!

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Fraternally,  
Brother Ted Makarewicz  
President

### FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Dear Brothers,

The Chicago Society Golf Outing in July was a success. It was a beautiful and sunny day for golf and fun, we had a record number of golfers enjoyed the camaraderie, golf, libations and excellent dinner. I am going to write a full article in the September *Forum* thanking all of our sponsors, golfers, and volunteers. The Taste of Polonia takes place this year from September 2 to September 5, 2016. I am chairman of Big Nick's Casino with Brother Mario Mikoda. Please read the article I posted in this *Forum* asking for volunteers to help with Casino. Brother Robert Groszek is working very hard in planning the CS Annual Family and Friends Picnic which is going to be held on Sunday, August 21, 2016. Please read the article and insert in this edition of *The Forum*

Fraternally,  
Brother Charles Komosa, Editor



### CHICAGO SOCIETY ANNUAL BUSINESS EXPO IN SEPTEMBER!

At our September meeting, the Chicago Society will showcase our brother members with its Annual Business Expo. The Expo will be held on September 21 at the White Eagle in Niles. The purpose of the Expo is to give our brother members an opportunity to promote their businesses, and to encourage our own brother members to support them! Attorneys, roofers, plumbers, real estate agents, insurance agents, doctors, musicians, electricians, and all other professions are welcome. Let your brother members know about your business and get new referrals. If you would like to promote your business at this Expo, please contact Brother **John Cieslik** at 312-859-5404. The cost is FREE and tables will be available for marketing your materials. Please bring a guest to this meeting. This is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to showcase our organization and the talents of our members. This is also a wonderful opportunity for new members to find out what their brother members have to offer, and for them to showcase their business.



### CHICAGO SOCIETY FAMILY & FRIENDS PICNIC

Come to the Annual Chicago Society Family and Friends Picnic, which will be held on Sunday, August 21, 2016, rain or shine. Start time is 12:00 noon. The picnic will be held in the Busse Woods West Forest Preserve, Grove #31, located on the north side of Higgins Road (Rte. 72), west of Arlington Heights Road. The area is south of the Northwest Toll Road. This is the same location as the last three years. The picnic is free for members, their families and friends.



We will have brats, kielbasa, hot dogs, burgers, corn on the cob, watermelon, ice cream and more, along with various beverages—all under a covered pavilion. There is ample open space surrounding the pavilion, and everyone is encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets and pillows. There are rest room facilities at the site. Games, treats, and a goodie bag will be provided for children. We will have bean bags and horseshoe contests for the adults. We are working on special treats for the ladies and gents. We are seeking volunteers to play a set or two of music on their favorite instrument and also raffle prizes.



Please bring your family and friends for an afternoon of fun and relaxation. This is a great way to get to know your fellow members. RSVP to [robert@groszeklaw.com](mailto:robert@groszeklaw.com). If you like to donate a prize for the raffle drawing or be a picnic sponsor contact Picnic Chairman Brother

**Robert Groszek** at his office 773-267-7100 or cell 219-743-8001, or email: [robert@groszeklaw.com](mailto:robert@groszeklaw.com) Hope to see you there!

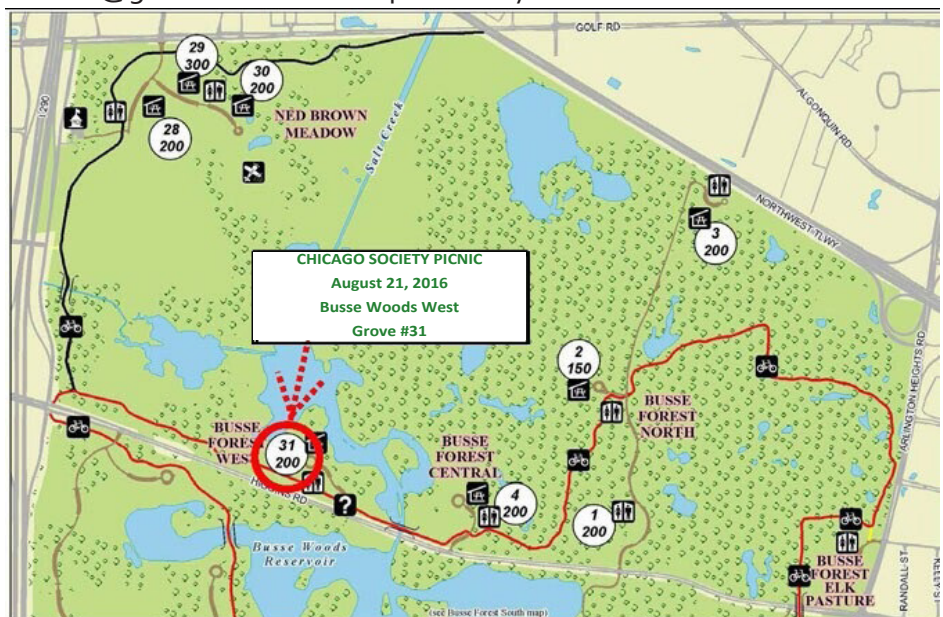


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## 3RD PLACE ESSAY — 2016 CHICAGO SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

BY JESSICA JENDZEJEC

*What did Solidarność and the fall of communism in Poland mean to you and your family?*

Being a fifth generation American (my great-great grandparents came to America in the late 1800's) Solidarity really did not have much of an impact on me or my family. Since I had no relatives living in Poland at the time.

I'm very pleased to see the fall of Communism in Poland and for the Polish people finally have the freedom for which they fought so hard for.

Solidarnosc is a Polish organization of independent trade unions founded in 1980, and was outlawed by the government in 1982. Independent of the government and of the Polish Communist Party, that grew to a membership of several million members in the early 1980's, it was lead by Lech Walesa. Solidarity pushed for many reforms and played a major part in the ouster of communism in Poland and its replacement by a multiparty, democratic government. The movement had the encouragement and blessing of Pope John Paul II.

After fierce fighting for 9 years. In June 1989, in the first free elections ever in the communist bloc, Solidarity won the maximum number of seats allowed in both houses of Parliament, and with two smaller parties, it formed the first non-Communist government in the Soviet bloc.

Six months later, the Berlin Wall came crushing down.

The important lesson from the Polish phenomenon is that First, it's important to not be afraid, to see what can be done. Secondly, it's important to see the political dimension of the resistance to the authoritarian regime. One should not accept that politics is a question regarding only professional politicians. Third, it's very important to accept nonviolent philosophy. In the Solidarity period, no windows were broken during the 500 days of freedom. The violence was only on the side of the authoritarian regime.

As Bronislaw Geremek, a key advisor to Lech Walesa said "It's important to see the implementation of this idea of the fight for bread and freedom in pragmatic terms, which means to accept that negotiation is the efficient means of actions. For starting such a negotiation process, it is important to obtain the minimum of trust from the other side. From one side and the other, it's not easy. But if you want such negotiations, it's extremely important."

Solidarity is the trade union that changed the world.

*Editor's Note: All essays were published as received, with no editing.*

**SCHOLARSHIP THANK YOU NOTES!**

The following thank you notes were sent to the Chicago Society by 2016 Scholarship recipients.

Dear board of directors and scholarship committee, "Thank you very much for awarding me your scholarship. I am honored to be distinguished in such a manner. The money awarded to me has been a tremendous help to my college education. I have decided to put it towards new musical equipment, which is required in my conservatory. I'm glad knowing organizations such as yours exist and provide support to many financially struggling students. Above all, I would also like to thank you for your support for the arts; being a classical musician, it means a lot to me. I am proud to further represent Poland's culture and arts."

Sincerely, Joanna Bahena

Robert Groszek, "I just wanted to send out a quick Thank you for the \$1,000.00 scholarship that I received from the Chicago Society. This scholarship will greatly help me with my loan payments for the 2016-2017 School year!"

Thank you, Jessica Jendzejec.

**2017 ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

The Nominating Committee for the Chicago Society's election of 2017 officers and directors invites anyone who is interested in running for a position on the board, either as an officer or director, to contact the Chairman or another member of the nominating committee to find out the procedure and qualifications. You must contact them as soon as possible because the slate will be announced at the October meeting. The chairman and committee will be announced at the August General Meeting.

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

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

- 8 William Marutzky
- John Skaja
- Andrew Zapalski
- 10 George Batorski
- 11 Anthony Zaskowski
- 14 Robert Nowaczyk
- 17 Theodore Lipkowski
- 18 Scott Cisek
- Marek Kowalczyk
- Ronald Topczewski
- 20 Stanley Stawski
- 26 Stuart Sawa
- 28 Mark Kupiec
- 29 Mark Matker
- 30 Joseph Kuechel

**PROPOSED FOR CHICAGO SOCIETY 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 introduce him to the Personnel Director and to others before the Induction Ceremony.

Name: Joshua David Czerniejewski

Address: 4847 North Rockwell, Chicago, IL 60625

Phone: 419-699-4807

Occupation: Mechanical Engineer

Birth date: February 13, 1985

Birthplace: Toledo, Ohio

Education: Mechanical Engineering, University of Toledo

Sponsors: Brothers Robert Groszek and Mark Orwat





Congratulations to Brother **Walter Kazmierczak** on his appointment to serve as Maine Township highway commissioner. He is filling a vacancy due to the retirement of the former highway commissioner. Township trustees voted to appoint Walter. The Maine Township Supervisor is Carole Teschky, wife of member John Teschky. Walter will serve up to April 4, 2017, when municipal elections will be held. He and Carol Teschky will be up for reelection at this time. Brother Walter Kazmierczak has served as a township trustee since 2001. He works as manager of community relations for the Illinois Council of Parks and Real Estate. Once again, congratulations and wishing you and Carole well in your reelection bids.

Brother **Peter Dykas** wanted to mention in the Polish language: Harcerski zespół Lechici wygrał Srebrną Jodłę a Orleńa Brazową Jodłę na Harcerskim Festiwalu Kultury Młodzieży Szkolnej w Kielcach, Poland!

Vroom, vroom! Brother **Ted Makarewicz** spent the first part of August riding his motorcycle at the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in Sturgis, South Dakota and then went on to visit Yellowstone National Park to celebrate its 100th year anniversary.

Steel City! While down in Pittsburg for the PNA National Golf Tournament, I had the opportunity to attend PNC Park and watch the Pittsburgh Pirates defeat the Cincinnati Reds and see the Three Rivers Regatta!

Mea culpa! Happie, also known as Anne Oerke, daughter of Brother **John** (deceased) & Wanda **Kalin**, was sworn in as president of the Polish Arts Club of Chicago and Renee Okonek, the daughter of **Edmund** (deceased) and Jeanine **Okonek** was sworn in as Executive Secretary.

Success! Brother **Robert** and Jennifer **Groszek** hosted their 3rd Annual Garden Party Fundraiser benefiting the Lydia Home Association/Safe Families in July in their parking lot that they converted into a cool oasis. Enjoying the festivities with the 85 guests were Brothers **Frank Spula**, **Steve Rakowski**, **Charles** & **Agata Komosa**, **Les Sraga**, serving as a volunteer bartender that featured Stawski Distributing Products, Alderman John Arena, Alderman Ariel Reboyras, State Rep. Jaime Andrade, and the CEO of Lou Malnati's. The event included an art auction, live music, wine, spirits, and hors d'oeuvres and raised \$13,000.00 for the Lydia Home Association!

## VOLUNTEER FOR THE TASTE OF POLONIA

Since the Festival's inception, Chicago Society members have volunteered at the bars at the Taste of Polonia. The members of the Chicago Society are once again asked to volunteer; however, this year we will work at Big Nick's Casino, chaired by Brother **Charles Komosa** & co-chaired by Brother **Mariusz "Mario" Mikoda**. The Taste of Polonia takes place this year from September 2 to September 5, 2016. Chip counters, Poker and Black Jack dealers, and Pit Bosses are especially needed. To volunteer please call Brother Charles Komosa at 773-286-7123 or Brother Mario at 847-922-9521. The Casino opens on Saturday and needs volunteers to cover the all day shift from 2:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m., or a half day shift from 2:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m., or 6:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday, or 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Monday, or split that shift in half. All volunteers will receive food vouchers to cover their meals and drinks. Working at the Taste has been a tradition with the Society for many years. Members always have a good time.

## PNA'S POLISH AMERICAN NIGHT AT WRIGLEY FIELD!

Come join PNA's Polish American Night with the Chicago Cubs! Chicago Cubs vs. Pittsburgh Pirates on Wednesday, August 31, 2016 - 7:05 pm at the friendly Confines of Wrigley Field! Tickets cost \$52.00 per person. Please contact Brother Charles Komosa if interested or for further information at (773) 286-7123.

## CASINO DAYS FOR 2016 SCHEDULED!

Casino Days to benefit the Chicago Society have been scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 7, Monday, Sept. 19, Monday, Oct. 17, and Monday, Nov. 21, 2016. They will be held at the House of the White Eagle. Volunteers are need for these events. Shifts are 1:30—6:30 and 6:30—midnight. If you can give a few hours of your time on any of those dates, please contact co chairmen Brothers **Chuck Cwikala** or **Ro Matuszczak** at 847-635-0883.



## 7TH ANNUAL "CRUSIN" FOR ST. JUDE FUNDRAISER!

Brother **Tom Sieja** is Coordinator for the 7th Annual Chicago Cruisin' for St. Jude Fundraiser which raises money and awareness for the children of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The event is scheduled to take place on September 24, 2016. Brother Tom lost his brother Kevin, a patient at St. Jude's from the ages of 9 through 19, who battled brain cancer and passed away in April 2010. He asks for your generosity and donations will help stimulate the recruitment of participants, which is necessary to make this event a great success. Each day at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, more than 260 children are provided with complete and total medical care. No family ever pays St. Jude for treatment. Over the years, researchers have developed many successful treatments that are being used by hospitals and institutions worldwide to save the lives of children everywhere. This is all made possible because of the volunteers throughout this country who have joined St. Jude in the battle against childhood cancer. Together they can help preserve the world's greatest asset - our children. Your generosity and support will not go unnoticed! He is seeking sponsors (Gold Star, Silver Star & Bronze Star) as well as donations for raffle / auction. Bronze Star Sponsors (\$100 - \$249) will receive: Sponsor name / logo on website and on sponsor banner. Silver Star Sponsors (\$250 - \$499) will receive: One (1) FREE Rider Admission (will need names provided to us) One (1) FREE Ride T-Shirt, Sponsor name / logo on website and on sponsor banner, Gold Star Sponsors (\$500 & above) will receive: Two (2) FREE Rider Admissions (will need names provided to us) Two (2) FREE Ride T-Shirts, Stage recognition after the ride, and Sponsor name / logo on website and on sponsor banner. All donations will receive recognition on our sponsor section of the website as well as verbal recognition at our event. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Brother Tom at (312) 804-6412 and he thanks you, in advance, for your consideration and helping in the fight against childhood cancer!

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