



# The Forum

## of the Chicago Society, Lodge 1450 PNA

Now in Our Second Century of Service

VOLUME 75

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NUMBER 11

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15**

#### **General Meeting**

**Sawa's Old Warsaw**  
**9200 W. Cermak Rd.**  
**Brookfield, IL**

**Call to Order: 7 p.m.**

#### **Reservations:**

**Andy Haszlakiewicz**  
**andyh9946@gmail.com**  
**or call: 847-341-1068**

**Reservation deadline:**

**Monday, Nov. 13**

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**Deserving Children's**  
**Christmas Party**  
**Saturday, Dec. 9,**  
**12 noon, PNA Building**

Dear Chicago Society Members and Friends:

I had the honor of representing the Chicago Society at two events recently. I attended the 150th anniversary celebration of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America at Drury Lane Oakbrook on October 1st. Congratulations to Brother James Robaczewski and the PRCUA for this wonderful achievement. I also attended the Polish American Congress Heritage Award Banquet on October 22nd at Allegra Banquets in Schiller Park. Many other Chicago Society members were also present at both of these events. Thanks for representing the Chicago Society at these events celebrating Polonia.

Even though we are nearing the end of the year, there are still some upcoming Chicago Society events planned. Our November general meeting (on Wednesday, Nov. 15) features a turkey raffle—come on by and see if you can get yourself a turkey! Also in the works is the annual Deserving Childrens' Christmas Party, at the PNA Building on Saturday, December 9th. More info on this is in the Forum and also on our website. Also remember that our December general meeting (on Wednesday, Dec. 20) is our Christmas meeting, and spouses and "significant others" are welcome to attend.

Please also mark your calendars for Saturday, January 27, 2024 for our annual "Evening of Elegance." More information about this will be upcoming in the December Forum, but invitations should be going out in the next couple of weeks.

Regardless if you are staying local or traveling to see family for Thanksgiving Day, I wish you and your families a safe and wonderful holiday.

Gobble, Gobble!

*Chris Grzadziel* President, Chicago Society PNA

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING! / SMACZNEGO INDYKA!**



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## November Forum Highlights

- ◆ Deserving Children’s Christmas Party is Dec. 9
- ◆ Polish Film Festival Still Running Through Nov. 19
- ◆ Lucyna Migala Honored by Kosciuszko Foundation

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Remember the Chicago Society’s address:

**Chicago Society PNA, Lodge #1450  
333 Busse Highway, #973  
Park Ridge, IL 60068-3285**

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SAVE THE DATE—OUR  
'EVENING OF ELEGANCE' IS  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024

## Bishop Wypych to Visit Our December General Meeting

The Most Rev. Andrew P. Wypych, a recently retired Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago, will attend the Chicago Society’s December General Meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 20 at The Great Escape in Schiller Park. The meeting will start at 7 p.m., with a Christmas dinner, music and related holiday merriment. Spouses and “significant others” are welcome to attend this event at an additional charge, which will be determined and announced prior to the meeting.

Bishop Wypych, a native of Poland who has been serving in the Chicago Archdiocese since 1983, has been invited to give a talk at the December gathering. An Auxiliary Bishop since 2011, he was Episcopal Vicar for Vicariate V, which includes much of Chicago’s Southwest Side and nearby suburbs, and is also currently the only Polish-speaking bishop in Chicago. He submitted his resignation as bishop to Pope Francis in September, citing health reasons.

## Deserving Kids' Christmas Party Is Dec. 9

Music in the background...children singing...Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and Bog Sie Rodzi (God is born) and Here Comes Sants Claus—yes, it's that time of year! Christmas is coming, and so is our annual Deserving/Underserved Childrens' Christmas Party, on Saturday, Dec. 9, starting at 12 noon, in the cafeteria of the Polish National Alliance headquarters on Cicero Avenue. We are still looking for volunteers to help set up, serve food and refreshments, clean up—and sing! We will have a magician this year, a pizza lunch for the children, and maybe another surprise. And Santa will also make an appearance, with presents for the kids!

Did you know that this party has been hosted by the Chicago Society for the past 65 years-plus? Our late brother, Ro Matuszczak, served as its chairman for 53 years—and I am honored to now represent the society, serving in this role for the past five years. It's a joy to see how little things can make a child smile, and how happy they are when they see Santa. We are still seeking monetary donations to offset the cost of the event. Costs have gone up—we used to spend \$10 on a gift for a child; now it's \$15—every donation helps, and goes a long way! We are expecting about 65 children, most from the Polish American Association, and also some from Dom Samotnej Matki.

Speaking of contributions, I would like to send a big thank you to the following organizations that have made monetary contributions so far: Thanks to Frank Spula and the PNA for the hall rental once again; Robert Radkowski and the Polish and Slavic Federal Credit Union, \$350; Mario Mikoda and the Copernicus Foundation, \$350; and the Polish Scouting Association for supplying soda pop and chips. There's still time to send in your donation—please make a check payable to Chicago Society PNA and send it to me: Peter Dykas, 1213 Lois Avenue, Park Ridge, IL 60068—or hand-deliver it at the November 15 general meeting.

Thanks, *Peter Dykas*



# Polish Film Festival Runs Through Nov. 19

Tickets are still available for the 35th annual Polish Film Festival in America, which runs through Sunday, Nov. 19. Films are being shown at three different locations: AMC New City 14, at 1500 N. Clybourn Ave., Chicago; at Gallery Theatre (Society for the Arts), at 1112 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago; and AMC Village Crossing 18, at 7000 N. Carpenter Ave., Skokie. The festival will close on Sunday, Nov. 19 with an awards ceremony at AMC New City 14 at 3 p.m., followed at 5:30 p.m. by the award-winning film “Green Border” (Zielona Granica), about migrants from the Middle East and Africa trying to reach western Europe from the Poland-Belarus border. For ticket information and prices, visit the website [www.pffamerica.com](http://www.pffamerica.com), or call (773) 486-9612.

Here is the schedule of films to be shown, beginning Saturday, Nov. 11:

**SATURDAY, NOV. 11—AMC Village Crossing 18:** 7 p.m., Saint (Swiety); 9 p.m., Hunting (Polowany).

**Gallery Theatre:** 7 p.m., Fledglings (Pisklaki); 8:45 p.m., Always Fresh Money (Zawsze Swiezy Pienadz).

**SUNDAY, NOV. 12—AMC Village Crossing 18:** 3 p.m., Dad (Tata); 5:30 p.m., Dangerous Gentleman (Niebezpieczni Dzentelmani). **Gallery Theatre:** 3 p.m., Kajtek the Wizard (Kajtek Czarodziej); Best Comedies by Michal Waszynski—Bolek & Lolek; ABCs of Love (ABC Milosci).

**TUESDAY, NOV. 14—Gallery Theatre:** Ace of Intelligence, Major Jan Henryk Zychon (As Wywiadu), and Tadeusz Romer, Mission Impossible (Misja Niemozliwa); 8:45 p.m., Hidden Network (Ukryta Siec).

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15—Gallery Theatre:** 7 p.m., Calls (Polaczenia), and 1944 Uprisings in Europe; 8:45 p.m. Best Comedies of Michal Waszynski—God is Born (Bog Sie Rodzi) and Love, Cherish, Respect (Kocha, Lubi, Szanuje)

**THURSDAY, NOV. 16—Gallery Theatre:** 7 p.m., Cars from Ukraine (Trzy Samochody) and Two Flags (Dwie Flagi); 8:45 p.m., The Pawnshop (Lombard).

**FRIDAY, NOV. 17—Gallery Theatre:** 7 p.m., Best Comedies of Michal Waszynski—In the Land of the 10th Muse (W Krainie X Muzy) and Daddy Gets Married (Papa Sie Zeni); 8:45 p.m., Story of One Crime (Historia Jednej Zbrodni).

**SATURDAY, NOV. 18—AMC New City 14:** 7 p.m., Strawman (Figurant); 9 p.m., Apokawixa.

**Gallery Theatre:** 7 p.m., Young Polish Cinema—Ballad of Kychiev (Ballada Kyczejewska); Disgrace (Hanba); Eden (Do Raju); Dancing on the Clouds (Pierwszy Taniec w Chmurach).

**SUNDAY, NOV. 19—AMC New City 14:** 3 p.m. Closing Ceremony—Dovbush. 5:30 p.m., Green Border (Zielona Granica). **Gallery Theatre:** 12 noon, The Lost Art (Dziela Ultracone); Picasso’s Guitar (Gitarra Picassa); Diana; Portrait of a Young Man in a Wing (Portret Mlodego Mezczyzny w Peruce); 3 p.m., A Great Worry (Wielkie Zmartwienie); True Life of Angels (Prawdziwe Zycie Aniolow). 5 p.m., The Hamlet Syndrome (Syndrom Hamleta).

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## Polish Highlander Festival at Copernicus Center on Nov. 18

The Copernicus Center will host the sounds of the Polish Highlander Festival, “Goralskie Granie,” on Saturday, Nov, 18, from 6 to 11 p.m. at the center, 5216 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. All ages are welcome to attend this event, organized by Sonia Music Entertainment.

Among the musicians performing will be Krywan, Zboje, Future Folk and Mateusz Mijal. Doors will open at 4:30 p.m., and the theatre will open at 5:30 p.m. For ticket prices and other information on this event, please call (708) 262-9902.

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## A Special Salute on Veterans Day!

### Vets Can Get Meals at 50% Off at Sawa's on Nov. 11

As a special way of celebrating Veterans Day this Saturday, Nov. 11, all veterans are invited to come to Sawa's Old Warsaw Restaurant in Brookfield and enjoy a meal at a 50% discount. The restaurant, founded 50 years ago by Walter Sawa and run today by his son, Stuart Sawa, a Chicago Society member, offers the discount to honor all veterans in the spirit of Walter Sawa, who was a member of the Polish Army when Poland was invaded by Germany in September 1939, starting World War II.

Mr. Sawa was captured in battle, but then escaped to England, where he joined the British Army and continued the fight which had begun in Poland. He received Medals of Honor from both Poland and Great Britain. Arriving in the United States in 1948, he settled in the Chicago area, and opened Sawa's Old Warsaw, at 9200 W. Cermak Road in Brookfield, in 1973.

Any veteran is welcome to receive the 50% meal discount on November 11 simply by calling Sawa's to make an advance reservation, at (708) 343-9040, and bringing along an official document showing proof of military service.

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### Blazonczyk Family Sponsoring Summer 2024 Trip to Poland

The well-known musical Blazonczyk family is sponsoring a 12-day deluxe tour of Poland, from July 24-August 5, 2024. The itinerary will include Warsaw, Krakow, Czestochowa, Wisla, Zywiec, Wadowice and Zakopane. Featured highlights will be cultural festivals in Wisla and Zywiec, a visit to the Wieliczka salt mines, folklore performances, arts and crafts exhibits, a Gorale picnic in Zakopane and a raft ride on the Dunajec River. Transportation will be via a deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach. To secure reservations, a deposit of \$250 per person, payable to PAT Tours, must be sent by January 31, 2024. Anyone interested can visit the website: [info@belairerecords.com](mailto:info@belairerecords.com), and download the Poland PDF Flyer. The completed form, and copies of passports, should then be sent to: Bel-Aire Enterprises, P.O. Box 520, Palos Park, IL 60464.

### Lucyna Migala Honored By Kosciuszko Foundation

Lucyna Migala, the co-founder of the Chicago chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation, and also the co-founder, general manager and artistic director of the Lira Ensemble, was honored recently by the KF for her leadership and many years of promotion of Polish music and culture in Chicago. The award was presented on Nov. 3, during a celebration of Tadeusz Kosciuszko's name-day (Imieniny), held at the Polish Museum of America—reviving a Polish tradition, and also commemorating a significant historical event.

### Kick Off Thanksgiving with 'Polka Hop' on Nov. 22

Looking for a fun way to start the Thanksgiving holiday? Why not come down to Willow Springs on Wednesday evening, Nov. 22, for the "Thanksgiving Eve Polka Hop," sponsored by Bel-Aire Enterprises? Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., at Royalty West Banquets, 8675 S. Archer Ave., with music from 6 to 10 p.m. The Polka Family Band from Pennsylvania will be featured. Tickets are \$18 each and can be purchased at the door; a 50/50 raffle, door prizes and CD concessions will also be available. For more information, call (708) 594-5182, or visit: [www.belairerecords.com](http://www.belairerecords.com).



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