

The Grago Society, Lodge 1450 PNA

Our Second Century of Brotherhood and Service

VOLUME 69

July 2018

NUMBER 7

COMING EVENTS

<u>Friday, July 13, 2018</u> Chicago Society/ Charles Komosa Memorial Golf Outing Gleneagles Country Club Lemont, IL

Wednesday, July 18, 2018 July General Meeting White Eagle Events & Convention Center 6:00 pm RESERVATIONS by July 16 to <u>meeting@chicagosocietypna.org</u> or (773) 444-0744 or https://www.chicagosocietypna.org

<u>Monday, July 30, 2018</u> August Board Meeting PNA Home Office 6:00 pm FORUM Deadline Send all articles to <u>editor@chicagosocietypna.org</u>

Sunday, August 19, 2018 Chicago Society Picnic Busse Woods West Forest Preserve, Grove #31 12:00 pm

July 2018 Speaker & Dinner Meeting

Our speaker for the July General Meeting will be Adam Romanowski, President of The Polish Navy Responders. The Polish Navy Responders is a team of dedicated individuals that go into disaster stricken areas in order to help people in need. When disasters occur, the team goes into those affected areas to help rescue not only affected individuals, but animals as well.

The organization started with a simple Facebook post to collect water and toiletries after Hurricane Harvey hit Texas and Louisiana. They then took the collected supplies down to Texas.

Working with the Cajun Navy and local agencies like the Coast Guard, churches and volunteers they decided to name the group the Polish Navy. They were working side by side with the Cajun Navy and they thought the "Polish Convoy from Chicago" was way too long of a name.

The Polish community, with help from Spanish and American communities, collected over 500,000 supplies such as water, toiletries, baby food, dog/cat food and horse feed.

After a couple trips they established a 501c3 to become a not for profit organization. They mainly work based on personal donated funds and

Continued on page 3 📥

Chicago Society/Charles Komosa Golf Outing



Mark Orwat, the Chicago Society's 2018 Golf Outing Chairman and Steve Rakowski invite all PNA members, business associates, family, and friends to reserve their spots for the golf outing.

As always, there are only 144 spots available. The event is planned for Friday, July 13, 2018 at the Gleneagles Country Club located at 13070 McCarthy Road, Lemont Illinois 60439.

The day will begin with a cookout lunch in the outdoor pavilion along with check-in at 12:00 pm. The Shot-Gun scramble starts at 1:30 pm sharp. There will be a fleet of beverage carts patrolling the golf course, and other surprises. Open bar and appetizers will begin at 5:30 pm in the banquet room. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm.

We are planning for the world famous grand raffle and 50/50 squares! Please call if you or your company Continued on page 3



CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

A monthly news bulletin for the Chicago Society PNA membership

Director of Publications editor@chicagosocietypna.org

Visit Our Website At www.chicagosocietypna.org

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Director of Publications: Christopher Grzadziel Dear Brothers,

HAPPY 4th OF JULY!! Or as we should call it Happy Independence Day!



As you read this it is after the 4th, I hope all had a happy, safe and healthy holiday. This holiday commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, by delegates from the 13 colonies.

A brief history reminder ...

On April 19, 1775, during the Battles of Lexington and Concord (Mass.), the first shots were fired between colonists and British troops, starting the American Revolution. After these first military conflicts, tension between Britain and her American colonists continued to mount.

Finally, on July 2, 1776, the Second Continental Congress voted for independence from Britain.

Two days later, on July 4, the Congress approved the final draft of the Declaration of Independence, which had been written by Thomas Jefferson and edited by John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. On July 8, the first public reading of the Declaration took place at the Pennsylvania State House (now Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Later that same day, other readings occurred in Trenton, New Jersey, and Easton, Pennsylvania.

Printer John Dunlap made about 200 copies of the Declaration dated July 4. Known as the "Dunlap Broadsides," these were distributed throughout the 13 colonies. However, it wasn't until August 2 that the Declaration was officially signed. John Hancock, president of the Congress, was the first of 56 delegates who signed this enlarged version, writing in big, bold letters.

The Second Continental Congress actually made its decree for freedom on July 2, 1776, signing the Lee Resolution. Two days later, on July 4, Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, and the alarm for freedom was sounded at Independence Hall with the Liberty Bell. It was on August 4, 1776, after delegates of the Continental Congress had signed the document, that The Declaration of Independence was made official.

Here is an excerpt from The Declaration of Independence (US 1776):

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, Continued from page 1

Chicago Society/Charles Komosa Golf Outing

would like to donate raffle prizes. Closest to the pin, longest drive and a few other contests are planned for golfers.

All for the low cost of \$120 per golfer or \$40 for dinner/open bar.

Any questions? Contact... Chairman Mark Orwat at 773-502-6969 or <u>marko123@att.net</u> or Steve Rakowski 847-204-4106 or <u>lsr1211@yahoo.com</u>

To reserve your golf foursomes please contact the above Chicago Society members or register online at the Chicago Society website at https://www.chicagosocietypna.org/golf-outing. Individual golfers also welcome. Payment can be made via check or PayPal.

Advertising and hole sponsorships are available. These will be displayed at a tee box. Advertise your business with a tee/hole sponsorship!! For more information, contact **Mark Orwat** 773-502-6969 or <u>marko123@att.net</u> or **Frank Czaja** at 312-520-6144 or <u>frankcz@usa.net</u>.

Continued from page 1

July 2018 Speaker & Dinner Meeting

small donations they received for gasoline. They were featured on Polvision and spoke at a Polish American Police Association meeting. Check out their YouTube video at <u>https://youtu.be/ O3UXsn7gQLw</u>. Also check out a KPLC-7 news article about the organization at <u>http:// www.kplctv.com/story/36387770/two-chicagomen-help-louisiana-and-texas-harvey-victims</u>.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at White Eagle Events & Convention Center, 6839 N Milwaukee Ave, Niles, IL 60714. Cocktail



hour starts at 6:00 pm with the dinner meeting starting at 7:00 pm. Please contact Brother **Mario Mikoda** at <u>meeting@chicagosocietypna.org</u> or call (773) 444-0744 for reservations. You can also RSVP by going to the Chicago Society website. Please note: Any guests at the meeting must be prospective new members and you must confirm the reservation with Brother **Mario Mikoda**. No exceptions! All members must be current in their dues to attend the meeting! At each general monthly meeting, we offer and split a 50/50 raffle for the members. Please consider asking your wife or accountant for a few extra dollars to purchase \$5.00 or more in raffle tickets.

Chicago Society Membership Directory Online

The membership directory is available online on the **Members Only** page. To access this page you must login to the website by clicking on the **Login/Sign-up** link in the upper right hand side of the site. If you already setup your ID then you can login and proceed to the page. If you have not setup an ID then you need to click on the **Don't have an account? Sign up** link on the login page and follow the instructions. If you have any questions, send an e-mail to webmaster@chicagosocietypna.org.

Advertise in the Forum

Are you looking to advertise your business? Please contact the Forum editor at editor@chicagosocietypna.org

for more information on advertising rates. Also available are full page inserts on a per month basis.

Kulze Scholarship Winners

The Kulze Scholarship winners were announced in the April Forum. This year, the awards are being made to Piotr Królikowski, studying medicine at the Jagiellonian University Medical School in Kraków, Poland, Sylwia Osos, a psychology major at Loyola University, and Monica Zawisza, studying finance and management information systems at DePaul. These worthy students were chosen from a highly competitive group of qualified applicants.

Essays prepared by the awardees have been published over several months in the Forum. This month is the essay from Monica Zawisza.

Monica Zawisza

The Chicago Society of the Polish National Alliance has been around since 1912 with an overarching goal of advancing the community through economic, cultural and social opportunities. As the first Polish American Society in the United States, many philanthropic efforts have received grants from the organization and Polish culture has been supported through the society's monthly traditional events. Although the Chicago Society was initially only for men, a Ladies Auxiliary was created to assist in charitable efforts and create an opportunity for women to become more involved.

Attending DePaul University in Chicago, there are many overlapping themes between the Chicago Society's history and DePaul. The university initially only allowed men to attend and there was a focus on Vincentian values and helping the community. Women were eventually allowed to attend the school, and even though there is a majority of women attending DePaul, there is a small percentage of those women majoring in technical and business fields. I see this in the classes I take, where the majority of my peers are men. This is sad to see because there are many important, interesting careers to be had through majoring in these subject areas.

Majoring in Finance and Management of Information Systems, I have the opportunity to pursue a variety of careers. From investment banking to web development, I hope to pursue a career incorporating my passion for both business and technology.

I was honored to have an internship this past summer as a development intern at Pico Quantitative Trading; this experience helped shape and solidify my future plans with project management. As an intern, I worked with a variety of teams from project management to development and was able to effectively collaborate in order to compete all tasks assigned through the use of a variety of platforms including Microsoft Excel, Confluence, RedHat, and Visio. During my time at Pico, I was also taught how to solve unexpected problems and communicate with clients, other teams from around the world via video conference. The most significant project I worked on over the summer was working with the head project manager to restructure the entire collaborative, information platform the entire company was dependent on. This project taught me the importance of having an open line of communication, working with others to succeed; the final result of restructuring the database was dependent on cooperation of everyone from teams all over the world which made the project more challenging. This being said, the final result was a success as a result of my abilities to delegate tasks and work efficiently.

Project Management is a future I see myself in as there is a great amount of communication to be had between teams of people and troubleshooting issues that clients may be having. As someone who likes to help others, this is an important factor in what I choose to do as a future career path. Additionally, my ability to work on a timeline, efficiently to ensure the ultimate success of a project which will help advance the goals of my workplace.

Continued from page 4

Kulze Scholarship Winners

Cultural differences are something project managers have to work around, and in order to overcome this challenge I plan to study abroad. I hope study abroad in Poland for a full year in order to become truly immersed in a new culture, become more proficient in the language. Even though I hope to receive an internship while abroad, I will also set time aside to travel. I hope to visit to a few different countries in Europe to see what kinds of cultural differences exist between other eastern European countries. The University of Warsaw and University of Krakow are among the best universities in Europe and both have an excellent business school. This means that I will be prepared to take the GMAT, return to DePaul ready to finish my major courses.

The transition to studying abroad in Poland will be relatively easy because my parents immigrated to the United States and Polish was my first language. Growing up I attended Polish school, religious education, Polish girl scouts, and was very involved in the Polish community. My family would attend Polish mass every Sunday, and we regularly visited Polish restaurants, museums, events. Today I continue to remain active in the Polish community through the DePaul Polish Student Alliance which strives to create events to maintain Polish culture and provide opportunities for students to become more active in the Polish community. Additionally, I am currently a Polish tutor; my objective through teaching the language is to not only help the children I tutor become proficient in the language, but to also develop a love for Polish culture through immersing the children in Polish children's books, games, cooking traditional Polish food, and playing Polish music.

In conclusion, the Kulze scholarship would allow me to pursue my educational goals of finishing school, studying abroad. Additionally, my professional goals would be supported through being able to finance study abroad which will give me the opportunity to work abroad, and be better prepared for future employment.



The Chicago Society will once again man the main beer tent at The Taste of Polonia. We will be working on the Friday of the fest which is August 31, 2018. For more information, contact Frank Czaja - frankcz@usa.net. More information is available on the Chicago Society website at www.chicagosocietypna.org/taste-

of-polonia. All volunteers must fill out a volunteer form which is also on the Chicago Society website.

The Taste of Polonia is also looking for volunteers throughout the weekend. Please contact Mario Mikoda for more information.

Congratulations to Bení Ćwiąkała, daughter of Brother Mark Ćwiąkała and granddaughter of Brother Chuck **Ćwiąkała**, on winning the MasterChef Junior competition. She topped 40 boys and girls to secure the trophy and \$100,000 first place prize.

Congratulations to Brother Chris Grzadziel on passing the exam and completing the process to become a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP). The CISSP is one of the top security certifications in the IT industry.

Membership Dues

The following members have until the July General meeting to pay their dues or their membership in the Chicago Society will be forfeited. You may pay at the June or July meeting, via PayPal or send your payment to Rick Wiermanski, 1906 Holly Ave., Darien, IL 60561.

Ihssen, Dale Kaes, Gerhard Klos, Chester Kolodziej, William Kosin, Gregory M

Kozlowski, Dariusz Kupiec, Mark J Lizak, Chester A Martwick, Robert Mytych, Jerome F

Nawrocki, Ronald J Pfannkuche, Christopher Teschky, John P Przybylo, Chester M Spula, Frank Sraga, Les

Stawski, Stanley O Tomczyk, Robert J Tzanos, Alexander Urbaszewski, Eugene R

July Birthdays

The Chicago Society would like to extend to the following



brother members, who are celebrating their birthday in July, a warm wish of Sto Lat!

- 01 Zenon Kurdziel
- 04 John Wasilewski
- 07 Krzysztof Zadlo
- 07 William B Drozd
- 10 Romuald E Matuszczak
- 13 Mark C Cwiakala
- 14 Tomasz P Pawelko
- 14 Thaddeus Makarewicz
- 19 Paul Stolarczuk
- 20 David B Cooper
- 20 William Wojcik
- 22 Edward H Marsalek
- 23 Donald A Gutowski
- 24 Jack Skaja Sr.
- 27 Edward T Sawa

July Anniversaries

The Chicago Society would like to congratulate the following Brothers on their anniversary of being inducted into the Chicago Society.

Brother Daniel J Mateja is celebrating his 5th Anniversary, Brother Len Krajkiewicz is celebrating his 10th Anniversary and Brother Ronald M Wolosewicz is celebrating his 20th Anniversary

Thank you for your loyal membership & **STO LAT!**

Summer Dress Code

Summer dress code is in effect from May to September for the General Meetings. Summer dress code includes casual shirt and slacks. Shorts, jeans and gym shoes are NOT permitted.

Polish Fishing and Hunting Club Fishing Derby

On June 10th, 2018 the Polish Fishing and Hunting Club hosted their 21st annual fishing derby for children in Wood Dale. The day started rainy but the kids had a blast. All were winners in each age group. 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place winners all went home with a medal, certificate, and fishing gear box. Chicago Society was presented with a plaque for being a sponsor. Accepting the



award was Brother **Peter Dykas** who attended with his wife Agnes and their 2 children.

Mailing of Printed Forums

As of January 2019, the mailing of The Forum via USPS will be to those that opt-in for the mailing. Please send your opt-in requests to Chris Grzadziel at <u>cgrzadziel@gmail.com</u> or 847-630-2863. Please respond by December 2018. The Forum will be e-mailed to members and is available on the Chicago Society website. Please send your current e-mail address if you are not receiving any Chicago Society e-mails.

Chicago Society Picnic

The Chicago Society Family and Friends picnic is scheduled for August 19 at Busse Woods Forest Preserve. Social Activities Director, Brother **Ro Matuszczak** is looking for volunteers from the general membership to take on the responsibilities for running this event. This event is a great time to bring together family and friends of Chicago Society members. The event is completely free to all. Unfortunately if there is no volunteers to run this event, it will be canceled. Please contact Brother Ro as soon as possible if you are interested.

Do you know a potential new member? Point them to the Chicago Society website for a membership application.

Membership Directory

The membership directory booklet has been published. It is available for purchase for \$8 and will be available at the general meetings. The booklet includes the Chicago Society constitution, bylaws, pledge, and member contact information.

Continued from page 2

President's Message

laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness

sound familiar....

More Fourth of July History...

July 4, 1776: In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence and formed the United States of America.

July 4, 1776: Thomas Jefferson noted in his "Weather Memorandum Book" that the weather was cloudy, the temperature 76°F.

July 4, 1826: Both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on this day.

July 4, 1884: The Statue of Liberty was formally presented to the U.S. by France.

July 4, 1911: It was a hot Fourth of July in New England. All-time state records were set in Nashua, New Hampshire (106°F), and Vernon, Vermont (105°F).

Independence Day Trivia...

Q. Why is the name "John Hancock" synonymous with "your signature?"

A. Hancock's bold signature on the Declaration of Independence dwarfed the signatures of the other signers. Legend says that Hancock wanted the king of England to see the rebellious signature without having to wear his spectacles!

Back to me; The summer is almost half over. The temperature is rising and staying HOT. Most of us waited 6 months for this and some hope it would be much cooler. The Chicago Society calendar is filling up, check online for dates and events. We are holding our annual Golf Outing event but renaming it the Charles Komosa Memorial Golf Outing in honor of our late member and friend. This was his passion as he ran it for many years. I hope you can come out and support this event and help raise monies for his 2 son's scholarships. The cost, as well as everything else, went up to \$120 but still worth it. For what you get, lunch, beer, golf, dinner and refreshments on the course and the cause, it is worth it. No one comes close in price. Please come out and bring friends. We are also looking for hole sponsors. Contact Brother **Mark Orwat** for more info and to RSVP your foursomes.

Another event coming up, I HOPE, is the annual Family and Friends picnic run by Brother **Ro Matuszczak**. It will be on Sunday August 19th in Busse Woods, same place as years past. If you have a good eye, you probably noticed the words 'I HOPE'. We are in need of volunteers to help Brother Ro run this event. We understand that this is in the summer, we all have plans set months ago, but hope you can pick out a time slot to help. Whether it is early morning to help set up, or after the picnic to clean up, or during the event or days prior to pick up some items, we can use your help to make this event happen. We also need raffle items donated to keep our costs down. The event will be catered by our own Brother **Bill Wojcik** from Laramie Deli and Bakery. Refreshments, warm and cold, will be served. Kids games will be on hand. Come for the comradery and stay for the food. All is FREE!!

Don't forget our meeting is tie and jacket free but please no jeans or t-shirts allowed.

Have a safe and happy rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

Brother Peter Dykas, 1st Vice President



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