

Our Second Century of Brotherhood and Service

VOLUME 65 SEPTEMBER 2014 NUMBER 9

# DINNER NETWORKING MEETING

#### **WEDNESDAY**

September 17, 2014 6:00 P.M. Przybylo's While Eagle Banquets Niles, Illinois

#### RESERVATIONS

by September 15 to meeting@chicagosocietypna.org or 847-823-8747

## NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

Monday, September 29, 7:00 P.M. Smakosz Restaurant

#### COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 17, 2014— Business Expo and Dinner Meeting Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets

Wednesday, October 15, 2014— Dinner Meeting Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets

Wednesday, October 22, 2014— Texas Hold-Em Casino Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets

Thursday, October 23, 2014— Candidates Corned Beef Dinner Eagles Club, 5844 N. Milwaukee

#### CHICAGO SOCIETY BUSINESS EXPO

At our September meeting, the Chicago Society will showcase our brother members with its annual Business Expo. The Expo will be held on September 17 at **Przybylo's 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 what your business is and get new referrals.



If you would like to promote your business at this Expo, please contact Brother John Cieslik at 773-775-0331. The cost is FREE and tables will be available for marketing your materials and your business cards. Please bring a guest to that 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. **Bring a Friend!!** 

The Business Expo is a perfect opportunity to introduce potential members to the Society. You are encouraged to invite a friend, associate or colleague to come and see what the Society has to offer. If you wish to bring a guest, he must meet the qualifications of membership, and inform Brother **John Wojciechowski**.

Brother **Chuck Cwiakala** has arranged a menu for the September General Meeting of salad, roast pork loin and bistro beef filet, mashed potatoes, green beans and carrots, *kolaczki* & coffee.

### 2014 CANDIDATES CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER

The Chicago Society Annual Candidates Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at the AAC Eagles Club located 5844 N. Milwaukee

in Chicago. As usual, all members and their guests are welcome to join us and network, break bread and have a great evening! The very low priced ticket of \$35.00 includes open bar with premium liquor starting at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner featuring Harrington's famous corned beef with horse radish, cabbage, boiled potatoes, pumpernickel bread, and apple pie and coffee for dessert.



After dinner we will have the ever popular Executive Raffle and continue to network! Please call co-chairmen Brother **Charles Komosa** at 773-286-7123, Brother **John Cieslik** at 312-859-5404 or Brother **Mark Orwat** at 773-502-6969 if you would like to attend or for information. Tables of ten are available. Please make your reservations early because **tickets will not be sold at the door**. Please reserve your tickets early because we sold out last year and expect many candidates seeking elective office to attend. You can pay online using PayPal on our web page at <a href="https://www.chicagosocietypna.org">www.chicagosocietypna.org</a>.

Listen to what the candidates have to say before you vote in the Illinois General Election a week later on Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

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CHICAGO SOCIETY

A monthly news bulletin for the Chicago Society PNA membership

**Director of Publications** Charles A. Komosa editor@chicagosocietypna.org

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**DIDYOU MAKEYOUR** MEETING RESERVATION? Dear Brothers,

As the summer winds down with the festivities of Labor Day behind us, I hope everyone had an enjoyable and memorable summer. I would like to thank our picnic chairman Brother Koziol for organizing an outstanding Friends and Family Picnic that was held in August. I would especially like to thank



Brother Matuszczak, Chris Matuszczak and Brother Czaja and Darlene Czaja for running the raffle and childrens' games, as they do every year. I would like to thank all that donated prizes for the raffle. Lastly, I would like to thank our Brother William Wojcik from Laramie Deli and Bakery for catering and donating some of the items for the picnic. Kudos to all who make this a wonderful event for all.

As we will still enjoy the many great weather days left, there are many events remaining for all to enjoy and support. Brother Cieslik will be organizing our annual Chicago Society Business Expo, which will be held on September 17 at our regular monthly meeting at Pryzbylo's White Eagle Banquets. Please contact Brother Cieslik by email at johncieslik@sbcglobal.net or phone at 312-859-5404 in order to have a table set up for you at the event. This is a great event to promote and advertise to brother members about your business or services.

Not too far away is our Friends & Candidates Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, which will be held on Thursday, Oct. 23, at the AAC Eagles Club located 5844 N. Milwaukee in Chicago. Cost is only \$35.00 for Harrington's Corned Beef and an open bar. The event starts at 6pm. Please call Brother Charles Komosa 773-286-7123 or Brother John Cieslik 312-859-5404 for reservations. Space is limited. Please make your reservations early.

> Fraternally yours, Mark Orwat

Dear Brothers,



I hope that you and your family enjoyed a great Labor Day holiday. I would like to remind you that the Chicago Society Annual Candidate's Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at the ACC Eagles Club located on Milwaukee Avenue. The cost is \$35.00 per person and includes the dinner and open bar. Please make your reservations early because the event will

be a sellout. Please invite your friends aspiring for political office or are current elected officials to shake a few hands!

If you want to have a fun time with fellow members, then please volunteer for a shift at our Casino Nights. We have three dates left. It is an interesting time and Chairmen Brothers Chuck and Ro will feed you and possibly offer you a libation. Please see the article in this Forum for the remaining dates.

In support of our dear friend Maria Ciesla please don't forget that September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month! Wear teal colors in support!

"True friends are those who came into your life, saw the most negative part of you, but are not ready to leave you, no matter how contagious you are to them."

May September be a fantastic month for all of you!

**Brother Charles Komosa** 

#### CASINO DAYS SCHEDULED AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Texas Hold'em Casino Days to benefit the Chicago Society has been scheduled for the remainder of 2014. They will be held on Wednesday, October 22, Tuesday, November 12, and Wednesday, December 3. All of the Casino Days will be held at Przybylo's House of the White Eagle.

Volunteers are need for these events. You don't need to know how to deal, only how to smile. 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 Brother Chuck Cwiakala.

THE CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM SEPTEMBER 2014 - PAGE 3

# AROUND THE SOCIETY!

Brother Anthony "Tony" Kawalkowski and his world famous The Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra has two upcoming performances on Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Sun City Dell Webb in Huntley, IL entitled "Autumn Fest." His second magnificent concert will be held on Saturday, December 6, 2014 at the Copernicus Center at 6:00 p.m. entitled "The Love and Peace of Christmas." For tickets for either performance or information - please call (847) 515-7650.

Congratulations to Brother **Ro** and Chris **Matuszczak** on celebrating their 20th Wedding Anniversary in conjunction with Brother **Ro**'s 90th Birthday Party at their home with a pool party celebration on the 4th of July! Many guests attended and celebrated with Brother Ro and Chris. Needless to say, the rejuvenated newlyweds celebrated with their own private firework show later that evening!

Congratulations to Brother **Edward Marsalek** for celebrating his 90th birthday in August!

Congratulations to Brother Stanley Stawski who celebrated his 90th birthday with a gala party at Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets. Present were family, relatives, friends and business representations. There was a video depicting his life and achievements in importing and distributing of beer and liquor. The arrangement for the event was handled by Brother Les Sraga. Members present were Chris and Ro Matuszczak, Lucille and Don Gutowski, Jennifer and Robert

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Visit us online to sign-up for the Polonia Gazeta (Email Newsletter) www.SawasOldWarsaw.com **Groszek, John Wojciechowski** and guest, and **Andrew Zapalski** and Theresa Sokolowski. It was a grand night!

Good to have Brother **Frank Gondela** get a clean bill of health from Hines VA hospital on his prior bladder issues.

Congratulations to Jennifer and Robert Groszek on a successful Garden Party Fundraiser to raise funds for a Domestic Violence Women's Shelter for the Polish American Association held July 10th. Nearly 100 participants attended the event which raised over \$12,500.00. Brother members in attendance were Robert Martwick, Mark Orwat, Tom Startek and Charles Komosa.

My Midwest associates spotted Brother **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert** on a work holiday in the Cleveland/Independence area over Labor Day Weekend at the International Polka Association's Annual Convention; they reported that Brother T. Ron was the talk of the festival with his fierce polka dancing to the "Who Stole the Kiszka Polka!"

More Labor Day Weekend activities included the World Famous four-day Taste of Polonia Festival on the spacious grounds of the Copernicus Foundation where our very own Brother Hubert Cioromski serves as the Foundation President. Other volunteers included Brothers Les Sraga, John Skaja, Mario Mikoda, Ted Wiecek, Stanley Jendzejec, Tom Pawelko, Tony Kawalkowski, Mark Matker (security), John Wojciechowski and Charles Komosa. Other members spotted at the jam-packed venue enjoying the outstanding entertainment, cuisine and libations were Brothers Mike Dropka, who was escorting the effervescent Illinois

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State Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka through the lively crowds, Lucille and Don Gutowski, who were part of U.S. Senator Mark Kirk's and Republican Gubernatorial candidate Bruce Rauner's private entourage, Mark Kupiec escorting Governor Pat Quinn on the first evening of the festival, Barb and Jack Skaja, Wojtek Putz, Ted Makariewicz, Frank Spula, Tom Startek, Robert Martwick and Mark Pasieka. Working their individual festival booths were Dale Ihssen with World Financial Group, Judicial Candidate James Pieczonka and President Mark Orwat with 45th Ward City of Chicago Alderman John Arena.

More Labor Day family fun had Ellen and Ron Olech relaxing and enjoying a family get together of over 80 members on a family farm (Ellen's side) in Wadena, lowa. This has been the 33rd year Ron and Ellen and family have spent their Labor Day weekends on the farm.

Tuesday after Labor Day and working 11 hour shifts for the CS Texas Hold'em Casino Day at the White Eagle were Brothers Ro Matuszczak, Stanley Jendzejec, Tom Pawelko and Charles Komosa with assistance from Don Gutowski and President Mark Orwat — that's what we call a winning hand of Aces!

Congratulations to Brother Joseph Drobot for being reelected to his second four year term as President of the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America. Brother Joseph was elected at the PRCUA's 61st National Convention in Toledo, Ohio, in August.

Brother John Wojciechowski is hosting a Golf Outing on Friday, October 3, 2014, at Nippersink Country Club in Genoa City, Wisconsin to benefit the Magic of Christmas sponsored and presented by the Copernicus Foundation to benefit children a traditional Polish Christmas Celebration including a Wigilia, Jaselka and Kolędy. After the Golf Outing, an evening of dinner and entertainment will be provided on Brother Hubert Cioromski's farm on Powers Lake in Genoa, Wisconsin. If you are interested in golfing or would like to sponsor a golf hole for \$100, \$75.00 or \$50.00 to support the children, please call Brother John at (847) 909-1737.

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#### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

- 3 Chester Klos Edward Matuga
- 10 John Teschky
- 12 James Pieczonka
- 13 Paul Posch
- 15 Marian Skawski
- 17 Thomas Sieja
- 18 Warren Dulski Daniel Mateja
- 19 Andrew Batorski Walter Zarnecki
- 20 Mark Kaszubski
- 23 David Uting
- 25 Kenneth Walczak Dan Zolkowski
- 28 Richard M. Wiermanski
- 29 Chester Lizak Andrew Pawlowski

#### SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

The Chicago Society would like to congratulate Brother Mark Kaszubski and Brother Wojtek Skonieczny on their 15th anniversary of induction in September 1999.

### RULES FOR VOTING AND RUNNING FOR OFFICE IF NOT SLATED

The Nominating Committee shall select at least one candidate for each elective position who shall be required to sign an acceptance of nomination. At the October meeting, the chairman of the Nominating Committee will announce the slate of candidates that has been selected. Any member may run against

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The President shall appoint five Judges of Election, if necessary, who shall prepare a ballot, have charge of the polls of election, canvass the votes and certify the results to the Recording Secretary. Only members in good standing shall be eligible to be elected, to sign petitions or to vote. No member admitted to membership in the Society within five days of election shall be eligible to vote at the election. Brother President Mark Orwat appointed Brother Stanley M. Jendzejec, nominating committee chairman, Brothers Tomasz Pawelko, Stan Sawa, Jim Kopka, Andrew Zapalski and alternate committee members Joseph Hercik and Ray Golenia at the August Board of Directors meeting.

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# OUR PICNIC WAS A DAY OF FUN ... AND SUN

Gorgeous weather provided the foundation for a fantastic 2014 Annual Chicago Society Picnic, which was held on Sunday, August 17, 2014, at Busse Woods. There were over 100 adults and children present. Chairman Brother Frank Koziol did an outstanding job, ensuring no detail was overlooked. Brother William "Bill" Wojcik, owner of Laramie Bakery, provided the delicious picnic style buffet food and desserts. Brother Mark Orwat assisted Brother Frank Koziol in supplying an abundant and large selection of refreshments, which were ample and tasty. Ice cream was also provided for all the children.

Huge thanks to Brother **Stanley Stawski** and his wife Barbara for generously donating beer and liquor for the picnic. A hearty "Thank you" also goes to Brother **Bill Wojcik** of Laramie Bakery and Deli for his donations and discount for the food. Brother **Jack Rohner** and his wife Helen donated beer for both the Chicago Society golf outing and picnic.

Brother Ro Matuszczak and his wife Chris chaired the raffle as they have in the past years. This was one of the best raffles to date, thanks to the following who donated gifts: Maria and Richard Ciesla, Chris and Ro Matuszczak, Jean and John Cieslik, Lucja and Casey Baczynski, Lottie Pilarski, Stanley Jendzejec, Tom Pawelko, Bev and Frank Gondela, Cecylia and Richard Jadczak, Ted Lipkowski, Ruth and Matt Rodriguez, Agata and Charles Komosa, Teresa and Chuck Cwiakala, T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert, Theresa Sokolowski, and gifts from friends of the Society. There were 38 winners. The donations helped make the picnic a success.

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# POLISH SUPERSTAR RETURNS TO LYRIC OPERA

Chicago, Illinois (PMN)—Mariusz Kwiecień, the superstar Polish baritone famous the world over, returns to the Lyric Opera of Chicago this fall in one of his signature roles, the title role of Mozart's *Don Giovann*i. The appearance is made in partnership with the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Chicago.

Between September 27 and October 29, 2014, Kwiecień will join a cast of internationally acclaimed artists in a new production of Mozart's dramma giocoso, which opens Lyric's 60th anniversary season at Chicago's Civic Opera House. The new production will be conducted by Lyric's music director Sir Andrew Davis and staged by the renowned director Robert Falls, artistic director of Chicago's Goodman Theatre.

Before the performances scheduled at the opera house, Kwiecień and his fellow cast members sang the final scenes of *Don Giovanni* as the grand finale of the annual Stars of Lyric Opera at the city's Millennium Park free concert on September 6, also broadcast live on WFMT radio and streamed live on WFMT.



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#### THE SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW UPRISING

By Brother Andrew Zapalski

August 1st marked the 7oth anniversary of the Warsaw uprising, which was observed in Poland's capital with ceremonies. The events were attended by government dignitaries, led by Poland's President and Prime Minister. Also present at the observances were veterans of the Rising, including a small group of former Home Army soldiers from Chicago. The veterans were also guests of the Polish President at his palace.

The Warsaw Uprising lasted for 63 days, despite its leaders' prediction that it would only go on for 3-5 days. The battles were fierce and deadly, as evidenced by the participation of a select German unit, known as the Dirlewanger SS regiment (named after its commander), which was made up entirely of select, convicted criminals and political offenders. On the eve of its departure to Warsaw, the regiment was personally ordered by the commander of the SS and police, Heinrich Himmler, that: "Every resident must be killed. Take no prisoners. Warsaw is to be leveled to the ground and in this way we will set a terrifying example to all of Europe."

Dirlewanger would suffer losses three times its total number of soldiers. On the Polish side, the units made up wholly of young scouts were the most combat-experienced, specifically the *Parasol* (meaning umbrella and taken from the idea of a parachute) and *Zoska* (the *nom de guerre* of the unit's first commander.) Their losses were extreme.

Twenty-five to thirty thousand troops stood on the Polish side, although there were only enough weapons for 3,500. There was a complete lack of heavy weaponry. The Germans countered at this point with 15,000-16,000 soldiers and members of various paramilitary defense units. The command of the German Ninth Army, whose sector of activity included Warsaw, was unable to lend even one unit to fight the insurrection. Already beginning on July 28, they were busy blocking the path of Soviet tank divisions headed to Warsaw from the south and east. Not far from the city, three tank divisions of the SS and one regular tank division were engaged in counter-attack against the Soviets. (This was undoubtedly the largest tank battle in Poland's history). In this situation, select units of SS and police were mobilized from deep within the Third Reich to put down the Rising.

The Uprising ended tragically. Around 200,000 Varsovians perished in the battles and were brutally murdered (including 16,000 fallen soldiers of the Uprising). This was not an even fight. The city was bombarded from the air and pummeled with rockets, artillery and mortars of the highest caliber, fired by Fat Berta [*Gruba Berta*], whose charges weighed half a metric ton. Warsaw was being transformed into ruins. The destruction of the city continued even after capitulation, when so-called *Spring Kommando* units blew up entire streets and fire-bombed any kind of building in the city, not to mention priceless library collections, as well as valuable collections of ancient documents and current records.

Already the day after capitulation, on October 2, civilians, having been quickly sorted through, began to be evacuated from the city and taken to concentration or work camps, to places of forced settlement, or loaded up into train cars and transported to a field in the middle of nowhere, where these ragged, hungry people were told to go where ever their legs will carry them.

The Germans wasted no time in totally liquidating the nation's capital. The city was totally sealed at its borders and no one could enter except Germans who quickly changed Warsaw into a *Festung Warschau* [Fortress Warsaw]. It is said that this was the second instance in the history of mankind that a city was entirely annihilated. The first was Carthage.

When we returned to Warsaw in February, 1945, the piles of rubble were 2-3 stories high and the streets, for all intents and purposes, were buried. There was no electricity, water, gas, public transportation or bridges. There were no schools and many churches were gone. People were searching for each other in this jungle of building skeletons and mountains of rubble. They anticipated the return of loved ones from the concentration camps, from deportation to work camps, from captivity, from service in the Polish Armies of the east and west ... But brick by brick, we rebuilt Warsaw. Yet there are still those living who continue to await the return of those who never will.

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