



The Forum

of the Chicago Society, Group 1450 PNA
Celebrating 100 Years of Brotherhood and Service

VOLUME 63

AUGUST 2012

NUMBER 8

DINNER NETWORKING MEETING

WEDNESDAY

August 15, 2012

6:00 P.M.

Sawa's Old Warsaw
9200 Cermak Road
Broadview, Illinois

RESERVATIONS
BY AUGUST 13

TO 847-635-0883 OR

meeting@chicagosocietypna.org

NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

Tuesday, September 4, 7:00 P.M.
Folak's Lincoln Tavern

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, August 15—
General Dinner Meeting
Sawa's in Broadview

Sunday, August 19—
Family & Friends Picnic
Busse Woods

Wednesday, September 19—
Business Expo & General Meeting
Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets

Saturday, October 6—
100th Anniversary Banquet
Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets

FOOD, FOLKS AND FUN

The Annual Chicago Society Family and Friends Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 19, in Busse Woods West Forest Preserve in Elk Grove Village, Grove #30. The entrance is from Golf Rd., west of Northwest Highway. The picnic is free for everyone attending. Freshly grilled and cold foods along with various beverages will be served under the covered pavilion. There is ample open space surrounding that platform, and everyone is encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets and pillows. There are proper rest room facilities nearby. Games will be provided for children. Chairman Brother **Richard Bivins** (the Chicago Society Grill Master) encourages everyone to attend this always enjoyable event. The ever-popular Raffle will again run by Brother **Ro Matuszczak** and his wife Chris. Brother Ro is asking members to donate any worthwhile prizes for the raffle. Musical entertainment is also being planned. Come, bring your friends for an afternoon of fun and relaxation.

A map with directions to the picnic grove was published in the July issue of the *Forum*.



NA ZDROWIE! POLISH BEER TASTING

Do you like Polish beer? Come to the Polish Beer Tasting, co-sponsored by the Chicago Society and the Copernicus Foundation. If you don't know the difference between Warka and Heweliusz, this is a perfect opportunity to sample a variety of Polish beers and compare your favorite with others. The Tasting will be held on Friday, September 14 at the Copernicus Center from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Tickets are \$15 pre-sale, \$20 at the door, \$5 for a designated driver or non-beer drinker. Food, wine, and mixed drinks will also be available for purchase. You can purchase your tickets online at chicagosocietypna.org/payments. Come and enjoy! *Do dna!*



QUO VADIS

The speaker at our August meeting will be Agnieszka Ptasznik of the Chicago Intercollegiate Council, who is hosting the *Quo Vadis* conference. According to their website, *Quo Vadis* is an annual conference for college and graduate students, as well as young professionals of Polish descent. The *Quo Vadis* conference draws delegates from all over the United States, Canada, and Europe. *Quo Vadis* was founded on the basis of giving its participants the opportunity to gain valuable leadership skills from inspirational speakers and interactive workshops. The conference provides networking opportunities facilitating idea exchanges between the participants and their counterparts from all over the world, allowing them to contribute and strengthen their respective communities while appreciating and emphasizing the spirit and values for all who share a background of the Polish heritage. Chicago is proud to be hosting the first edition of *Quo Vadis* in the United States. The three-day conference will take place from August 24-26, 2012.

Come to our meeting on August 15 to enjoy Sawa's delicious Polish-American buffet, and to learn more about this extraordinary event. Sawa's is located at Cermak (22nd St.) and 17th Ave. in Broadview. You can get more information at sawasoldwarsaw.com.





CHICAGO
SOCIETY
Forum

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**DID YOU MAKE YOUR
MEETING RESERVATION?**

Brothers,

Again, the weather is making the headlines here in Chicago. The obsessive heat seems like a daily occurrence. Do we wish for snow? I hope that all of you have fared okay, and that you have not experienced long power outages. Then there is the trick of remembering which day we can water on and which flowers/shrubs to water next. I wish all of you the best in these circumstances. With some luck, the weather will resume to the normal range.

Please reserve the date of August 19 for our annual Family and Friends' Picnic. In a perfect setting, a great time and experience, as always, will be provided by chairman **Richard Bivins** and co-chair **James Kopka**, including food, games, raffles and music. So plan to attend and invite your family and friends. This is a great opportunity for inviting prospective members as well.

Remember one of our organization's goals to help promote and support the businesses of brother members and Polonia. To help with that goal, our September meeting will once again be our Business Expo. Please contact Brother **John Cieslik** and advise him if you will be showcasing your business. Share with brother members your expertise. Let's make this even better than last year, which was grand. Also, if you know any prospective members, this would be a great meeting to bring them as a guest. Show them who and what the Chicago Society is.

There will also be an important vote for an amendment to our Constitution to lower the minimum age for membership in the Chicago Society from 21 to 18. This affects us all; please try to make it a point to be there and cast your vote.

If you have any criticisms about how the Chicago is being run or a specific issue, please contact me and let me know. I am willing to listen to all complaints and suggestions. Remember: we are The Chicago Society. We can only progress and serve our members if we all cooperate and work together. Help us move into the second 100 years and progress for the benefit of all.

Do zobaczenia na następnym spotkaniu

Fraternally Yours,
Frank



The games of the XXX Olympiad are well under way. Later this month, the *Quo Vadis* conference will be held in Chicago. These two events, while seemingly disparate, actually have much in common. At the Opening Ceremonies of the Olympics, athletes from over 200 countries (some of which I have never heard of; I'm glad I don't teach geography) gathered in the center of the arena in the spirit of peace and brotherhood, gathered for a common cause. There were no boundaries separating the athletes from one another. This is a time for them to put their political and economic differences aside and compete in the true spirit of brotherhood. They were all there for one purpose: to show their strength and to share their talents with the world.

The *Quo Vadis* conference draws participants from all over the United States, Canada, and Europe to afford them the opportunity to gain valuable leadership skills and to offer networking opportunities, allowing them to contribute and strengthen their respective communities. These participants also are united in one common goal: to improve their talents in the spirit of a united Polonia.

Both of these events allow their participants to look for opportunities for growth. The participants come together to share with one another and to benefit from each other's successes (and failures). The motto of the Olympics is "faster, higher, stronger," which inspires its participants to always strive to better themselves. Similarly, the *Quo Vadis* conference has as one of its goals the betterment of the communities we work and live in. One of the slogans seen at the Games is "inspire a generation." The *Quo Vadis* conference also hopes to inspire this new generation of Polonians to succeed, and through their success, improve Polonia. Let us all wish the participants in the *Quo Vadis* conference a successful and learning experience. *Witamy!* Welcome to Chicago!





♦ Brother **Norbert Barszczewski** and his wife Joanna became happy parents of two twin boys on July 24, 2012. Maximilian and Oliver are feeling great, are already at home, and are learning the world around them. Brother Barszczewski would like to thank everyone who kept his family in their thoughts and prayers for a smooth end of pregnancy and easy delivery. It all worked out well. Our congratulations to Brother Norbert and his wife, and welcome to Maximilian and Oliver!

♦ Brother **Frank Czaja** and his wife Darlene attended the Polish American Culture Club's Scholarship dinner, representing the Chicago Society, on Sunday July 22. The function was held at the Landmark Banquet Hall in Justice. The food was good; the music great. A fun time was had by all. Brother Czaja even won a raffle prize. Also attending from the Chicago Society was Brother **Ken Gill**. Brother **Richard Kula** is also the President of the P.A.C.C. and did an outstanding job organizing the affair.

♦ **Tie bar found!** A Brother member left a tie bar on the table at the April meeting (I hope that's all he took off). It has a round blue emblem. If you are the owner, please contact Ted at editor@chicagosocietypna.org or call him at 773-562-8006.

♦ Brother members, please remember to ...

... **donate your cell phones** and charger to the "Cell Phones for Soldiers" program.

... **bring your old, unusable flags**, USA or any other national flag, for proper disposal.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN

Many organizations, among them the Chicago Society, are slowly losing members. Old members pass away; new ones aren't joining in the numbers that we hope. A committee has been formed to address this problem, chaired by Brother **Ted Wiecek**. Any brother member who is interested in exploring and developing ways to increase our membership is encouraged to join this committee. Simply contact Brother Ted at editor@chicagosocietypna.org or 773-562-8006.



Each brother member is strongly encouraged to recruit new members from among his business associates, his family, and colleagues. You as a member can bring a guest as a potential new member to one of our General Meetings. If you wish to bring a guest, contact both the House Director Brother **Ro Matuszczak** and the President Brother **Frank Czaja**. Note that any guest you bring as a potential member must meet the criteria of membership.

CHICAGO SOCIETY BUSINESS EXPO

At our September meeting, the Chicago Society will showcase our brother members with a Business Expo. The Expo will be held on September 19 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 inform Brother **John Cieslik** at 312-859-5404 or Brother **Ro Matuszczak** 847-635-0883. The cost is FREE and tables will be available for marketing your materials and your business cards. Please bring a guest to



that meeting. It will be a one-of-a-kind opportunity to showcase our organization and the talents of our members.

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 Ro.

PNA 1ST ANNUAL CHESS TOURNAMENT

The Sports and Youth Department of the PNA is organizing the first National Chess Tournament, which will take place on Saturday, October 20 at the Holiday Inn Skokie. This tournament will be conducted in the Swiss system, with seven rounds in each group: open, U18, U16, and U14, with each round lasting 30 minutes. For more information, contact Krystyna Bialasiewicz at 773-286-0500, x296.



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PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE 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 of Polish lineage or affinity, over ~~21~~ *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, "21" will be deleted and "18" 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 August General Meeting.

2013 ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The Nominating Committee for the Chicago Society of the PNA's election of 2013 officers and directors has been chosen and approved. The Nominating Committee is composed of: chairman **Walter Pieciewicz, Andrew Zapalski, Mario Mikoda, Marian Skawski, Zenon Kurdziel**; alternates: **Jim Kolak and Raymond Golenia**. If anyone is interested in running for a position on the board, either as an officer or director-at-large, please contact the Chairman or another member of nominating committee to find out the procedure and qualifications. You must contact them as soon as possible because they will announce the slate at the October meeting.

RULES FOR VOTING AND RUNNING FOR OFFICE IF NOT SLATED

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee informs members that any member may run against a slated candidate for a particular office. The rules and procedures for doing such are stated in the Constitution, Article VII: Election of Officers and Directors.

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.

At the regular meeting in October the Nominating Committee shall accept for nomination such additional lists of candidates for the respective offices as

POLISH TRADITIONS IN AUGUST

In Poland August 15th is celebrated as *Święto Wojska Polskiego* (Polish Army Day), commemorating the anniversary of the *Bitwa pod Warszawą* (Battle of Warsaw) in 1920, also known as *Cud nad Wisłą* (the Miracle upon the Vistula). The victorious Battle, fought on August 12-25, 1920, during the war between Poles and the Bolsheviks, is considered a breakthrough in the history of the world. It was decisive not only for the independence of Poland, but it also protected all of Europe from the spread of communism and soviet totalitarianism. To celebrate the day, garrison churches hold masses in memory of the soldiers who fell in the fields of glory, and readings of the roll of the dead take place in cemeteries. The ceremonial Changing of the Guard takes place before the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw, attended by the Polish State authorities.



The Day of the Assumption, also known in Poland as *Święto Matki Boskiej Zielnej* (Day of the Blessed Mother of Herbs), is celebrated in the Catholic Church throughout the world. It is usually combined with the tradition of blessing and making an offering of herbs, crops, vegetables and flowers. Crops are blessed to ensure safe and harmonious homes through the year. Masses are held in all churches. The Sanctuary of Jasna Góra in Częstochowa is the destination for pilgrims from all over Poland and Europe, who pray and sing while walking hundreds of kilometers to show their devotion to the Blessed Mother.

Did you know? August in Polish is *sierpień*, from the word *sierp* (sickle) referring to the harvesting of the crops in August.

Sierpień, ten spoczynku nie chce dać, bo każe orać i siać. (August doesn't let us rest; we have to plow and sow.)

may be submitted by the petitions of ten or more members, provided however that the signed acceptance of each candidate is attached to each such petition. The adjournment of the meeting shall close the nominations in the absence of a motion for that purpose. Immediately thereafter, the nominating committee shall submit a list containing all of the names of the candidates to the Recording Secretary who shall cause the publicizing of such list to all members in good standing at least ten days prior to the date of the November

election meeting.

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.

THANK YOU FROM THE POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA

June 25, 2012

Dear Members of the Chicago Society PNA, Lodge 1450:

On behalf of the Polish Museum of America, its Board of Directors and Staff, we would like to thank you for your generous support of this year's Summer Ball.

Your gift in the amount of \$1,000 ... helps to secure the history of American Polonia and Poland for future generations.

Over the years, we have tried to make the Museum the center of our ethnic heritage and to preserve its holdings for succeeding generations. We, as ever, are most fortunate to have your financial support.

Sincerely,

Geraldine Balut Coleman Maria Ciesla
Program Book Chair President

BENEFIT FOR BISHOP ABRAMOWICZ SEMINARY

The annual benefit dinner for the Bishop Abramowicz Seminary will take place on Sunday, September 9, 2012, at the Westin O'Hare Hotel in Rosemont. The evening will start with cocktails and a silent auction at 5:00 pm followed by dinner at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$175 per person.

The Bishop Abramowicz Seminary program is unique. Commencing in September 1999, it has recruited seminarians in Poland who, with the approval of their respective bishops, have chosen to leave their native Poland to complete their seminary training here, first at the Bishop Abramowicz Seminary in Chicago, then at Mundelein Seminary.

Among those attending will be His Eminence Francis Cardinal George, OMI, Archbishop of Chicago, along with the auxiliary bishops of Chicago. During the dinner Mr. Roman Szabelski, Executive Director for the Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Chicago, will be honored with the Caritas Christi Award.

For tickets and reservations please call Mrs. Camille Kopielski 847-394-2520. For further information call Very Rev. Marek Kasperczyk 312-915-0598.

POLAND'S ORDER OF MERIT AWARDED TO 11 CHICAGOANS

With the regaining of Poland's independence in 1989 and the return to Polish traditions, the Polish Consulates throughout the world reinstated the practice of honoring individuals for their service to Poland and its cause. Originally these ceremonies were associated with three dates: May 3, Polish Constitution Day; August 15, Polish Soldiers' Day; and November 11 Polish Independence Day. Polish veterans were honored up till the mid 2000's, when the Polish government decided that there were no more Polish veterans to be honored for their service in WWII, thus Polish Soldiers' Day is not observed at the Consulates. Veterans still get honored, but for their civic and charitable work, not military service.

President Bronisław Komorowski visited Chicago in May as part of the NATO Summit. A reception and award ceremony was held at the Blackstone Hotel on May 21st, with a special presentation of the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit to Illinois Sen. Mark Kirk held on May 22nd. Eleven prominent members of Chicago's Polonia were honored for their service to Polonia, among them two Chicago Society

members. Brother **Stanislaw Stawski** was one of three recipients who received the highest decoration, the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit, for his and his firm's support for Polish events. Brother **Frank Spula**, president of the Polish National Alliance and the Polish American Congress, received the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit for both organizations' work on behalf of Poland.

President Maria Ciesla, wife of Brother **Richard Ciesla**, also received the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit, as did Zygmunt Biernat, Commander of Region 1 of the Polish Army Veterans Association. Other recipients of the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit were Wieslaw Chodorowski, President of the *Armia Krajowa* (Polish Home Army) Foundation, and Arie Zweig for his philanthropic work.

There were five recipients of the Cavalier's Cross of the Order of Merit. Teresa Skawski, wife of Brother **Marian Skawski**, president of the Legion of Young Polish Women, was honored for the Legion's philanthropic work on behalf of Poland and Polonia. Ted Czajkowski, president of the Alliance of Polish Clubs, was honored for the Clubs' work in the regions of Poland and for organizing Chicago's Constitution Day Parade. Zygmunt Dyrkacz was honored for his work in the Chopin Theater. Sculptor Jerzy Kenar was honored for his artistic achievements. Marek Rudnicki, M.D. was honored for his work in medicine (especially in the field of breast cancer) and for the World Wide Organization of Polish Doctors.

Adapted with permission from an article by Jan Lorys, PMA Director

CORRECTIONS

That printer's gremlin caused a few items in the July Forum to be corrected.

- Thanks to Brother **Ken Gill** who showed up early at the Golf Outing and ran the selling of the squares for the raffle prior to the outing and afterwards. He also assisted Brother Orwat with the raffle.
- Brother **Frank Gondela's** wife's name is Beverly.

**ATTEND THE PICNIC ON
SUNDAY, AUGUST 19**



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AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

- 5 Romuald Poplawski
- 8 John Skaja, Jr.
Andrew Zapalski
- 10 George Batorski
- 11 Antoni Zaskowski
- 14 Robert Nowaczyk
- 16 Robert Maycan
- 17 Theodore Lipkowski
- 18 Stefan Ginilewicz
Marek Kowalczyk
Ronald Topczewski
- 20 Stanley Stawski
- 26 Stewart Sawa
- 27 Richard Bivins
- 28 Mark Kupiec
- 29 Mark Matker
- 30 Joseph Kuechel
- 31 Zbigniew Jackowski

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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

Arthur T. Siemion	1977	35 Years
Warren C. Dulski	1982	30 Years
Francis Gembala	2007	5 Years

POLISH TRIVIA

This famous Polish classical and film composer recently celebrated his 80th birthday. He has received numerous awards for his artistic activity and achievements. He has written the scores for such films as: *Ziemia Obiecana*, *Bram Stoker's Dracula*, *Pan Tadeusz*, and *The Pianist*. Among his classical compositions are: *Requiem for Father Kolbe*, *Magnificat*, *Uwertura uroczysta*, five symphonies and numerous other works. Who is this man?

Answer to July's question: Irena Szewinska. Between 1964 and 1980 she participated in five Olympic Games, winning seven medals, three gold, two silver, two bronze. She also broke six world records and is the only athlete (male or female) to have held a world record in the 100 m, 200 m and the 400 m events.

FROM THE ANNALS OF THE CHICAGO SOCIETY

Last October [1925], when the Chicago Society entertained the Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, and Milwaukee societies on the occasion of the installation of the Grand Society as a Group of the Polish National Alliance, a banquet was held for the occasion in the Gold Room of the Congress Hotel.

Although the keynote speech at the banquet was expected from an entirely different source, Rev. Charles Marcinkiewicz, a young man who is going forward in his calling, to bring back to the minds of all those present, the fact that the credit for the inspiration, growth, charity and good work of the Chicago Society must be given to three brothers, Leo S. Mallek, Frank Osuch, and Al Smietanka, who were instrumental in calling the first meeting of the best element of our people in Chicago. They saw it that the purposes of this Society were set forward as follows:

"The object of this Society shall be to form a more perfect union of Polish American men, to promote more efficiently a high regard for the principles of American citizenship, to insure to them a proper moral, intellectual and social development, and to foster the language, traditions and culture of Poland."

With such leadership they probably could have built at once a larger organization from the standpoint of membership, but they built a membership of prominence, ability, vigor and endurance so that today, thirteen years later, a large portion of the original membership is still active and very much interested in the Society's policy of "Building Well."

Rev. Marcinkiewicz said further, referring to the organizers, "they built so well that the results are far beyond their fondest expectations," and surely this friend of the Chicago Society, as he saw in this gathering of men and women far more than the impression of a college gathering.

Excerpted from *Chicago Society News* from 1925 (forerunner of *The Forum*)

HOW TO DRESS FOR SUCCESS

Our speaker at the July meeting was Jeff Schuster of Astor and Black, a custom clothier. Jeff has been with the firm for 8 years. His mission is to help everyone achieve a level of dress and to make sure they always look good. How we present ourselves is exceptionally important. First impressions, especially at interviews and business meetings, are lasting. According to Jeff, 55% of business is through non-verbal communication, i.e. how one is dressed. 50% of interviewees didn't get the position because of how they presented themselves through how they were dressed. Each of us has the power to change how we look and how others see us.

Jeff gave a few hints on how to look good. First is how your clothes fit, be they custom-made or off-the rack. We need to have a good tailor whom we trust to give us a good fit. Second is how your pieces are coordinated. We need to balance bold patterns with subtle ones. According to Jeff, "three stripes, you're out." Our shoes and belt should match; our socks shouldn't be loud. Every man should have in his wardrobe a navy suit and a gray suit. These are the most versatile, and most business-like, colors. Navy is a power color; gray is a confidence color. Earth tones (brown, beige) are to be worn for more casual affairs. And black is, of course, for formal occasions.

Jeff told the members that a clothier is like a lawyer or financial consultant—let him worry for you. If you look good, you feel good.

PAA SELECTED FOR COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

The Polish American Association (PAA), based in Chicago, has once again been selected for participation in the United States Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), a program that allows selected charitable organizations to solicit contributions from employees of the United States federal government. Established by a Presidential Executive Order signed by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, the CFC continues to be the largest and most successful workplace fundraising model in the world.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Aug. 19—Chicago Society "Family and Friends" picnic, Busse Woods

Aug. 31 -Sept. 3—Taste of Polonia, Copernicus Center

Sept. 4—PAC III. Division General Meeting, PNA Building

Sept. 14—Polish Beer Tasting, Copernicus Center

Sept. 15—PAC III. Division training on Robert's Rules, PNA Building

Sept. 19—District XII PNA Golf Outing, Village Greens

Sept. 24—PAC III. Division General Meeting, PNA Building

Oct. 6—Chicago Society 100th Anniversary Banquet, Przybylo's

Oct. 19—PAC III. Division Heritage Award Banquet, Przybylo's

Oct. 20—1st Annual PNA Chess Tournament, Holiday Inn Skokie

Nov. 10 — Polish American Ass'n. 90th Anniversary Annual Gala, The Drake Hotel

Nov. 18 — "Night at the Races", Maywood Park



KOSCIUSZKO PARK OPENS IN OHIO

The City of Dublin, Ohio, has officially opened "Thaddeus Kosciuszko Park" on a portion of the land that was awarded to this Polish-American hero for serving in the Continental Army. When local resident Deborah Solove realized that she was living near a portion of Kosciuszko's former lands that had been taken from his estate, she talked with the city's Director of Parks & Open Space, Fred Hahn. Hahn said that he had never heard of Kosciuszko. "So I went down to the Dublin public library and checked out a book called *The Peasant Prince* by this guy named Alex Storozyński and really became fascinated with the life and times of Kosciuszko."



This kicked off a process by the City Council to set aside a portion of this land to be named Thaddeus Kosciuszko Park, which today includes a series of educational signs regarding Thaddeus Kosciuszko, as well as 1.7 miles of trails, fishing ponds and a gazebo. "Years ago, this land was taken away from Kosciuszko," Solove said. "Now, the city of Dublin gave it back." Kosciuszko played a pivotal role in the American Revolution and stood up for the rights of African slaves, European peasants, Jews, Native Americans & women. After coming up with the winning strategy for the Battle of Saratoga, Kosciuszko drafted the plans for West Point that Benedict Arnold tried to sell to the British. Kosciuszko left his salary from the Continental Army with Thomas Jefferson and asked that it be used to purchase and free slaves.

To celebrate the new park, the City of Dublin held a celebration of Kosciuszko with Polish food, dancing and music, which included members of the Kosciuszko Foundation's Ohio Chapter, the Columbus Polish Club, the Polish American Cultural Center of Cleveland, and local Polish schools and dance troupes. The community also invited Ohio State University President Gordon Gee who has come under fire for telling Polish jokes. Gee did not show up, even though the university is in Columbus, which borders Dublin.

CHICAGO SOCIETY DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

The long anticipated Centennial Edition of the Chicago Society Directory of Members is now available. The Directory will be distributed to members at the August meeting, so make sure you pick one up. If you know you will not be able to attend the August meeting and would



like to have your copy of the Directory mailed to you, contact Brother **Ted Wiecek** at editor@chicagosocietypna.org or 773-562-8006.

POLAND STRUGGLED TO FINANCE OLYMPIC TEAM

The Polish Olympic Committee (PKOl) struggled to gather funds necessary to send Polish athletes to the Olympic Games in London.

Rescue came from one of the country's wealthiest men, investor Jan Kulczyk, as *Puls Biznesu* [Business Pulse] reported on July 23, 2012. Kulczyk's companies, Kulczyk Holding and Kulczyk Investments, provided the Committee with a total of \$9 million payable over the next four years, increasing PKOl's budget by some 50%.



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