



The Forum

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

VOLUME 66

DECEMBER 2015

NUMBER 12

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 16, 2015
6:00 p.m.
White Eagle Banquets
Niles, Illinois

RESERVATIONS
by December 14 to
meeting@chicagosocietypna.org
847-635-0883

NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

Monday, January 4, 2016
7:00 p.m.
PNA Home Office

COMING EVENTS

- Tuesday, January 12, 2016—
CS Texas Hold'em Casino Day
White Eagle Banquets
- Wednesday, January 20, 2016—
General Dinner Meeting
Place TBA
- Saturday, January 23, 2016 —
CS Inaugural Ball
Café La Cave
2777 Mannheim Rd, Des Plaines, IL
- Wednesday, February 24, 2016—
CS Texas Hold'em Casino Day
White Eagle Banquets

HO, HO, HO! MERRY CHRISTMAS DINNER!

The Chicago Society Board of Directors cordially invites all members and members' widows to our annual Christmas Dinner and Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, December 16, starting at 6:00 p.m. at White Eagle Banquets, located in Niles. An open bar will be available one hour before the dinner and one hour after. Guests will enjoy a plated dinner consisting of a traditional soup, a gourmet salad, chef's specially prepared pork cutlet, shrimp kabob, oven roasted potatoes, green beans and carrots Polonaise, a special dessert, coffee/tea/milk. The Polonia Dance Ensemble will perform. There is a \$25 charge per member and a \$25 charge for the member's first guest for the dinner. Widows (of deceased Brothers) are free of charge. The charge for each additional guest, including guest of a widow, is \$35. Prompt reservations for the dinner are a must! Please make your reservations no later than Monday, December 14, by contacting Brother Ro Matuszczak: e-mail (preferred) at meeting@chicagosocietypna.org or call 847-635-0883 for reservations. Payment and reservations can also be quickly and conveniently made via PayPal at www.chicagosocietypna.org/payments, or simply by clicking the link on our Home page. The annual Christmas Party raffle will take place following our dinner. Our tradition is that members, their guests, and our generous friends donate prizes for the raffle. Any item of merit will be appreciated and will be acknowledged in *The Forum*.



DESERVING CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



On Saturday, December 19, 2015, the Chicago Society, Lodge 1450 of the Polish National Alliance, will sponsor its annual Deserving Children's Christmas and Brother **Ro Matuszczak's** 52nd year as Chairman of this event. The Christmas Party will be held at the Polish National Alliance Headquarters at 6100 N. Cicero Avenue in Chicago. This is made possible by our Brother **Frank Spula**, President of the PNA, and Brother **Charles Komosa**, PNA National Secretary. As in the past, Brother Ro has solicited and received monetary donations to help with the costs of the party including purchasing nice presents for the children, cash and candy, goody bags, food, beverages, dessert, and entertainment for all the deserving children who attend. Brother Ro is expecting about 75 children for this year's Christmas Party.

continued on p. 5



CHICAGO SOCIETY Forum

A monthly news bulletin for the
Chicago Society PNA membership

Director of Publications

Charles A. Komosa

editor@chicagosocietypna.org

Visit Our Website At

www.chicagosocietypna.org

CHICAGO SOCIETY P.N.A.

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:

Ted Makarewicz

Executive Vice President:

John Cieslik

Civic Vice President:

Robert Groszek

Recording Secretary:

Ted Wiecek

Treasurer:

Ronald Topczewski

Financial Secretary:

Ryszard Jadczak

Advocate:

Vacancy

Senior Director:

Mark Orwat

Director of Social Activities:

Mario Mikoda

Director of Club House Admin.:

Romuald E. Matuszczak

Director of Personnel:

Peter Dykas

Director of Publications:

Charles Komosa

Director of Public Relations:

Mark Pasieka

Director of Finance:

Andrew Zapalski

Director of Special Projects:

Charles Cwiakala



Dear Brothers,

I would like to extend to you and your families a Blessed, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year! I look back upon the year's activities beginning with the Annual Inaugural Ball and Installation of Officers, drawing almost 200 attendees, to the incomparable cast of characters participating in our Śledź, to the standing room only Pre-Parade Brunch with Coach K, to the children orientated Family Picnic, to the diverse Business Expo, to the First Annual Fishing Outing, to the sold out Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, to the Chicago Society and Foundation being honored at the Polish American Association's Annual Gala, to the well attended Thanksgiving Dinner meeting, to the snowed out First Annual Pheasant Hunt (the largest snow fall in November in over 120 years) and to the upcoming Deserving Children's Christmas Party, chaired by Brother Ro Matuszczak for his 52nd year, bringing gifts and joy to the deserving children in our community. I would like to thank all of the officers and directors of the Chicago Society for their time and talent in making this past year such a success and to our members who have supported our events throughout the year. But what's next? What about a second act.

The second act begins with the recent election of the new officers and directors at our November Thanksgiving Dinner meeting. Beginning a second term as president, there is always a greater expectation of accomplishments because of the previous year's experience. In essence, you know the ropes. But there is also a greater expectation of our membership participating and moving the Society forward. I have noticed a lot of new faces at our monthly meetings but also some faces that I haven't seen in awhile. That's a good thing. So let's build upon this momentum going into the New Year, by supporting and attending our upcoming Inaugural Ball and Installation of Officers, to be held at Café La Cave on Saturday, January 23, 2016. We are honoring Brother **Ronald "Topper" Topczewski** and the Polish American Police Association and our Brother Retired Judge **Edward H. Marsalek**. So please mark your calendars. It should prove to be a memorable evening.

Fraternally Yours,
Brother Ted Makarewicz



Dear Brothers,

I wish you and your family a phenomenal Christmas, Hanukkah, or preferred religious celebration with much health, love, and spiritual wealth. Our transitional board of directors meeting will be in January and I wish the newly elected board much success and cooperation in helping build up the membership of the Chicago Society in 2016 and the future! Please consider attending the Chicago Society Inaugural Ball on Saturday, January 23, 2016, at the swanky Café La Cave in Des Plaines as we install our newly elected officers, and honor our "Persons of the Year." This is always a fun event to network, relax, dance, party and get dressed up! Another fantastic event is the Annual Chicago Society Śledź-Mardi Gras Dinner on Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at La Villa Restaurant & Banquets. Brother Mark Orwat & I, event chairmen, promise a very energetic event with great food, drink and a festive Śledź pageant & Mardi Gras-Carnival Celebration!

Fraternally, Brother Charles Komosa

THE 2016 INAUGURAL BALL IS COMING!

AN EVENING OF LAW & ORDER, AND FUN ENTERTAINMENT!

The Annual Inaugural Ball with Installation of Officers of the Chicago Society will be held on Saturday, January 23, 2016. The Ball has returned to ultra chic & swanky Café La Cave. Ball Chairman Brother **Ted Makarewicz** ensured that the evening will meet the high standards of the Chicago Society with great food, good drinks and quality entertainment. The reception starts at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails and passed hors d'oeuvres. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m.; the complete dinner selections will be provided in the January issue of *The Forum*. Invitations will be mailed soon.

The honorees at this year's Inaugural Ball are Chicago Police Officer Brother **Ronald "Topper" Topczewski**, retired, (LAW), and the Polish American Association (PAPA), and Circuit Court Judge Brother **Edward Marsalek**, retired, (ORDER). Music will be provided by The Music Company. The cost of the Inaugural is \$125 per person. Black tie optional. Please call Brother Ted Makarewicz at 847-456-0717 for more information. To make reservations easily and conveniently via PayPal using your credit card or checking account simply go to www.chicagosocietypna.org/payments

BROTHER POLICE OFFICER RONALD "TOPPER" TOPCZEWSKI (LAW)



Brother **Ronald "Topper" Topczewski** was born on August 18, 1939, in Chicago to his loving and wonderful parents Chester A. & Josephine M. Topczewski. Brother Topper grew up in the original Polonia at Division, Ashland, & Milwaukee Avenues. Naturally, because of his upbringing and neighborhood, Brother Topper thought that everyone was raised Catholic Polish! Subsequently, his hardworking parents had him educated at their family parish, Holy Trinity Grammar School & Holy Trinity High School. In high school, Brother Topper, very athletic and fit, excelled in sports and was named Team Captain of the 1957 Basketball Team. He earned an Associate's Degree in Applied Sciences and was subsequently drafted into the United States Army and was stationed at the United States Military Academy at West Point, also known as West Point, Army in New York.

Brother Topper served in the Military Police and worked there as acting Desk Sergeant. His passion and love of sports never extinguished and he continued to play basketball post high school throughout his education, training, and professional career in college, the Army, and for the Chicago Park District for 56 years!

Brother Topper proudly and honorably served as a Chicago Police Officer for 33 years. He has been active in the Polish American Police Association for over 50 years, has served as 1st Vice president, was bestowed the title President Emeritus, and honored as its Man of the Year.

He has been active in the Chicago Society for many years and currently serves as Treasurer, always volunteers to sell raffle tickets at the general meeting, and is a fixture at the Chicago Society Annual Scholarship Golf Outing raising money on the golf course for the cause!

Brother Topper has been happily married to his lovely wife Tommy for over 50 years. They have two sons, Bryan and Charlie, and have been blessed with three beautiful granddaughters, Marina, Arissa, and Paige and an effervescent great granddaughter named Charlet! On a personal note, Brother Topper loves to ride his Harley Davidson motorcycle with his riding



crew and has travelled all over the United States of America. Brother Topper is very content to be blessed with a loving & dedicated wife and family, and great friends in life!

NEW & IMPROVED

CHICAGO SOCIETY WEBSITE

The "new" Chicago Society website is now online for members to get the latest *Forum*, news, and updates about the Chicago Society. This is made possible thanks to the creative juices and tireless efforts of Brother **Ted Wiecek**, who inherited the role of CS webmaster as well as layout editor for *The Forum* that Brother T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert did for many years. With the sudden passing of Brother T. Ron, the CS is fortunate that Brother Ted immediately transitioned into these positions. Please visit our new website www.chicagosocietypna.org and try our December Trivia Contest to win an exciting prize.

FANTASTIC PNA CHRISTMAS INSURANCE PROMOTION UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2015!

Join the PNA Fraternal Family of Lodge 1450, the Chicago Society and give your children and grandchildren advantages that other insurance companies do not offer! This offer is too good to pass up!

1. A Christmas Promotion earmarked for children ages 0-15. For a limited time (November 15th through December 31st, 2015) we are featuring the Single Premium Plan with a 5% discount on the premium payment. Please have in mind the great benefits PNA offers to our young members: Scholarship Programs, Tuition Rewards Program® and various fraternal activities.

2. A Direct Mail Campaign - 135th Anniversary Special Plan – Life Paid Up at 90 with a discounted premium of 13.5% for the life of the contract. (Offer valid through December 18, 2015) This plan is generally available on a non-medical basis. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to call Brother Richard Jadczyk at 847-516-3333 or Brother Charles Komosa directly at the PNA 773-286-7123.

BROTHER JUDGE EDWARD H. MARSALEK (ORDER)

Brother Judge **Edward Marsalek** attended Prescott Elementary School and then Lane Technical High School. In 1943, Brother Ed became a member of the armed forces—Marines—and remained on active duty until 1946. He served in World War Two, deployed to the South Pacific. During his tenure in the Marines he was assigned to the Joint Assault Signal Company. He participated in the Battles of Marshall Islands, Eniwetok Atoll Liberation of Guam and the invasion and capture of Okinawa. He concluded his military service by participating in the surrender of Japan.

After he returned from service, he attended Wilbur Wright College and University of Houston. He is a graduate of John Marshall Law School and passed the Illinois Bar in 1953. His professional experience includes a general practice of law at Marsalek and Lusak, Assistant Attorney General from 1960-1974 where he was the Chief of the Consumer Fraud Division and Assistant Attorney General assigned to the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority 1974-1976 and was later appointed the Deputy Executive Director of the Illinois Toll Highway Authority. In 1976 he became an Associate Judge and then was elected as a Full Circuit Court Judge in 1980. He was retained in 1986 and 1992 to continue to serve as a Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County. He worked in the Circuit Court of Cook County in the First Municipal Division, Juvenile Court, and Domestic Relations and then became the Supervising Judge of Housing Court until his retirement in 1998. He was a member of the Illinois Judicial Conference Committee on Ethics and served as a faculty member for the new Judges seminar.

Judge Marsalek retired in 1998 from the bench after 22 years of service. His professional involvement in organizations included many bar associations and he served for two terms on the Illinois Judicial Inquiry Board. He is a long time member of many organizations including the Chicago Society where he was a former officer, Polish National Alliance and former President of the Sixth Marine Division. He is married to the beautiful Ann Marsalek and has three children—Cook County Circuit Court Judge Diann, Carolyn and Edward Marsalek. He also has three grandchildren—Nickolas, Alex and Peter whose parents are Joyce and Edward Marsalek.

**PAA ANNUAL GALA AND
BENEFIT AUCTION**

**CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY,
BUILDING OUR FUTURE**



On Saturday, November 14, 2015, the Chicago Society and Chicago Society Foundation were co recipients of the lofty Presidential Award presented annually by the Polish American Association. PAA's elegant gala was held in the Grand Ballroom of the J.W. Marriott in downtown Chicago. A video presentation was shown to the guests of Brother **Ted Makarewicz**, President of the Chicago Society, and Brother **Charles A. Komosa**, President of the Chicago Society Foundation, who both offered insight and remarks about the organizations and PAA. After the video, both Brothers Makarewicz and Komosa accepted the joint Presidential Award and offered remarks. Included in the full house of guests were Brothers **Donald & Lucille Gutowski, Romuald Matuszczak, Stanley Sawa, Mark & Renata Pasieka, Robert & Jennifer Groszek, John & Sandra Pikarski, Dan Pikarski, Steve Rakowski, John & Jeanie Cieslik, Ted Makarewicz, Robert Martwick, Mark Orwat** with fiancée Gina, **Mario Mikoda**, Charles & Agata Komosa, & **Tom Startek**, a Presidential Award recipient as well.



Local 708/579-0300
Toll Free 800/339-5300
Fax 877/360-5404

American Home Inspectors, Ltd.
Prepurchase Home Inspections Since 1988
A.S.H.I. Certified Member #001882
Ill. Home Inspector Entity License 451.000175
Stanley W. Sawa 5324 South Catherine
President Countryside, IL 60525
Ill. Home Inspector License #450.000424
E-Mail: STAN@AHINSPECTORS.COM
Web Page WWW.AHINSPECTORS.COM

**CASEY LASKOWSKI & SONS
FUNERAL HOME**

Dignified services for all denominations
beautiful surroundings · four Chapels
ample parking
Suburban Locations Available

Phone 773-777-6300
4540-50 W. DIVERSEY AVE.
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60639

RONALD J. OLECH

Certified Public Accountants
Tax Preparation and Planning for: Individuals
Accounting Tax and Business Planning for:
Small Businesses, "Start-Up" Businesses,

Cottage Industry, Computer Counseling
Ronald J. Olech, CPA
3939 N. Lawndale Ave., Chicago, IL 60618

Tel: (773) 267-0560 Fax: (773) 267-2420
E-mail: rolechcpa@aol.com
or rolech4042@aol.com

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

The Chicago Society would like to congratulate Brother **Thomas Laskowski** and Brother **Frederick Poska**, who are both celebrating the 35th Anniversary of their inductions into the Chicago Society, and Brother **Thaddeus Makarewicz** and Brother Eugene Urbaszewski, who are both celebrating the 20th Anniversary of their inductions into the Chicago Society.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

- 8 Mark Pasiaka
- 9 Frank Czaja
- 12 Jack Rohner
- 14 Charles Cwiakala
- 16 Benjamin Spire
- 21 Dean Niedospial
- Ronald Olech
- 23 Thomas Laskowski
- 27 Ronald Wolosiewicz
- 30 Robert Pietryka

1ST ANNUAL CHICAGO SOCIETY HUNTING OUTING

Due to the inclement weather and first snowstorms of the year on Saturday, November 21, 2015, the 1st Annual Chicago Society Hunting Outing had to be cancelled by brother chairman **Steve Rakowski**. At this time, a future Hunting Outing date is being planned.

CHICAGO SOCIETY ŚLEDŹ & MARDI GRAS FESTIVITIES!

This year's annual Chicago Society Śledź will take place on Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at La Villa Restaurant & Banquets, 3632 North Pulaski Road in Chicago. Free parking is available in lots located just north and south of the building. The festivities will begin with a social hour at 6:00 p.m. followed by a fine dinner of various entrée choices at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will start with śledź (herring) as an appetizer. After dinner, the traditional pageant representing Śledź will be held. The pageant is fun and exciting, complete with an angel, death, the devil, and much frivolity. The pageant is an experience not to be missed!! This will be followed by the crowning of St. Joseph for 2016. The gentleman selected acts as a chaplain at the Chicago Society meetings and at special occasions, leading those present in an appropriate prayer. There will be a raffle and a time for dancing to the music! The celebration of Śledź is the Chicago Society's version of Christian and Polish traditions that date back centuries. It is a celebration of carnival, or Mardi Gras, the period immediately preceding Lent. This festive event is open to members, nonmembers, family, relatives, singles, and guests. The cost of the event is only \$35.00 per person. Payments can be made via PayPal on our website. Please contact Brother Mark Orwat at 773-502-6969 or Brother Charles Komosa at 773-286-7123 or email at sledz@chicagosocietypna.org for reservations or information!




Congratulations and welcome to our newly inducted Brothers Jerome 'Jerry' Mytych, Scott Ciszek, and Robert Pietryka, inducted at the November meeting! ... While driving the highways of Michigan, Brother **Ted Wiecek** experienced a bad auto wreck when a piece of plywood became lodged in his passenger side front wheel. Unable to steer the vehicle, his auto spun in circles into a truck and then crashed into the guardrail. Fortunately, nobody was injured but it was a challenge for Brother Ted to get back home to Chicago from rural Michigan on the weekend! ... At the PAA Annual Gala, Brother Mark Pasiaka and wife Renata, were the highest bidders at \$6,500.00 for an amazing trip to China for two. The trip valued at \$17,500.00 was a steal. Brother Mark commented at our recent Thanksgiving meeting that the price of the trip does not include airfare! Now it makes sense that he was practicing eating turkey and stuffing with chop sticks during dinner!

DESERVING CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

continued from p. 1

He would like to thank Brother **Robert Radkowski**, Vice President of the Polish and Slavic Federal Credit Union, for his donation, Mario Pucharic of Integra Communications, who contacted PNC Bank for their annual donation, and attorney Brother **Warren Dulski**. Please contact Brother Roman Matuszczak at 847-635-0883 if you or your company would like to make a monetary donation to help offset the costs of this worthwhile event for the deserving children!



TROY REALTY
LTD.

HUBERT J. CIOROMSKI
President

<p>O'HARE 5420 N. Harlem Chicago, IL 60656</p>	<p>LINCOLN PARK 2502 N. Clark Chicago, IL 60614</p>
---	--

Office: 773.792.3000
Cell: 773.485.3000
hubert@troyrealtyltd.com

ALLERGY AND ASTHMA



ANNE SZPINDOR, M.D.
Board Certified Adult
and Pediatric Allergist

1000 West Lake Street
Suite G

Oak Park, IL 60301

Ph: 708-848-3393

Fax: 708-848-3395

1585 N. Barrington Rd.
Suite # 606

Hoffman Estates, IL 60194

Ph: 847-310-8844

Fax: 847-310-9224

Proud mother of Chicago Society member
Michael Szpindor Watson



THE SKAJA FAMILY

Family owned and operated
Serving our community
for 84 years

Jack Skaja and John Skaja
Members

SKAJA TERRACE FUNERAL HOME

7812 North Milwaukee Avenue
Niles, Illinois 60714
847-966-7302

SKAJA BACHMANN FUNERAL HOME

7715 W. Route 14
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60012
815-455-2233

CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

6348 N. Milwaukee Avenue, # 360
Chicago, IL 60646-3728

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



FIRST CLASS MAIL

*Merry
Christmas*