



# The Forum

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

VOLUME 67

APRIL 2016

NUMBER 4

## MONTHLY NETWORKING- DINNER MEETING

**WEDNESDAY**  
**APRIL 20, 2016**  
6:00 p.m.  
White Eagle Banquets  
Niles, Illinois

**RESERVATIONS**  
by April 18 to  
[meeting@chicagosocietypna.org](mailto:meeting@chicagosocietypna.org)  
847-635-0883

## NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

Monday, May 2, 2016  
7:00 p.m.  
PNA Home Office

## COMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 7, 2016—  
CS Pre-Parade Brunch  
Hotel Allegro  
171 W Randolph St  
Reception 8:45 a.m.

Saturday, May 14, 2016—  
Chicago Society Fishing Derby  
Winthrop Harbor, Illinois

Wednesday, June 15, 2016—  
Monthly Networking /Dinner  
Meeting  
White Eagle Banquets

## APRIL 2016 SPEAKER & DINNER MEETING

Mr. George Swiderski, a professional taxidermist and author of a new book entitled *The Forester's Son*, a book about his hunting stories, will be our featured speaker at the April 2016 General Meeting. Mr. Swiderski will speak about the book



and his profession. The 74-year-old founder of award-winning Old World Taxidermy in Palatine boasts an incredible display of preserved wildlife, carved wood art, and other collectibles from around the world at his northwest suburban home, which looks more like an exhibit hall at the Field Museum. Many of the hundreds of big-game prizes—including lions, leopards, bison, tigers, musk ox, grizzly bear, wolves, springbok, warhogs and fox—are ones he successfully hunted on expeditions all over the planet.

The former Chicago resident and his wife Slawa—also an accomplished hunter—celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2014 at their home, which mirrors the flora of the Prussian estate where he grew up.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at the White Eagle. The April General Meeting not only offers great camaraderie, a featured speaker, but a delicious dinner menu! The dinner menu includes vegetable soup, house salad, European bread basket, breaded pork cutlet, veal in gravy, vegetable of the day, dessert, coffee or tea.

For reservations call Brother Ro Matuszczak at 847-635-0883 or email [meeting@chicagosocietypna.org](mailto:meeting@chicagosocietypna.org)



## CHICAGO SOCIETY Forum

A monthly news bulletin for the  
Chicago Society PNA membership

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Dear Brothers,

As I write this column listening on the radio to the home opener of the White Sox, and watching its snow outside, it's hard to believe that it's April, but again, this is Chicago! I would also like to take this opportunity to extend to you and your families a belated Joyous and Happy Easter. With Easter coming so early this year, it has thrown off our routine of activities, but hopefully we can get back on track.

Last month we had the Pre-Primary Election Candidate's Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner at the AAC Eagles Club. Many judicial candidates and local public officials were in attendance. I would like to thank Brothers **Charles Komosa**, who chaired the event with **Brother John Cieslik** and Brother **Mark Orwat**, for their efforts in making this such a successful event. It was another opportunity to have our fill of Harrington's World Famous Corned Beef during the Irish month of March.

It has been one of my goals to make our speaker forum at the general membership meetings interesting and beneficial to our members. Last month's speaker, Ms. Nicloe D. Milos, Esq., talked about concealed carry issues and permits which had everyone in attendance listening to her every word. She talked about the liabilities created by business owners choosing to or not to display the "no guns allowed" signs. If someone would like a copy of her handout, please contact me and I will forward a PDF file to you.

It is also that time of year when our members put on their grey slacks, white shirts, red ties and their dark or navy blue blazers and march in the Polish Constitutional Day Parade. Our Pre-Parade Brunch is chaired by Brother **Ro Matuszczak** and Brother Charles Komosa and will be held at the Hotel Allegro. Brother Ro has informed me that the brunch is almost completely sold out, so please contact him at 847-635-0883 to make your reservations.

Again, this is a great opportunity for the Chicago Society and their members to show Polonia that we are a vibrant group in organizing the Pre-Parade Brunch and leaders in the community.



Fraternally,  
Brother Ted Makarewicz

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY**  
**PRE-PARADE BRUNCH**

Please save the date! The Chicago Society's Annual Polish Constitution Day Pre-Parade Brunch will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016, in the Walnut Room of the Hotel Allegro, 171 W Randolph St, Chicago. Reception will be at 8:45 a.m., seating at 9:45 a.m., and a delicious plated brunch will be served at 10:00 a.m.



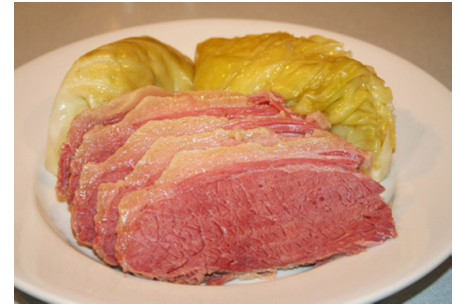
The cost of the brunch is \$35.00 per person. For additional information or reservations for the Brunch, please contact Chairman Ro Matuszczak at 847-635-0883 or 847-331-8007. Brother Matuszczak has been involved with the Brunch since its inception in May, 1978, making this his 39th year. Co-chairman is Brother Charles Komosa.

This is the 125th Chicago parade in honor of this historic document, the first democratic constitution in Europe and second in the world only to the United States Constitution. The Chicago Society will have a float and marching unit in the Parade. There will be a band on the float and space for some persons to sit. Those members who will not attend the brunch but will march can contact Chairman Ro Matuszczak or Brother Frank Czaja (official float chairman) as to our place in the parade. Information on the day of the event can also be obtained from any parade marshal. Preferred attire for the marchers is gray slacks, dark jacket, red tie and white shirt. A business suit is certainly acceptable.



**CHICAGO SOCIETY CANDIDATE'S**  
**ANNUAL CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER**

On March 10, 2016, the Chicago Society held its Annual Candidate's Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner at the AAC Eagles Club in Chicago (arranged by Brother **Richard Jadc**



**zak**—thank you!). Brother **John Cieslik**, Brother **Mark Orwat** and Brother **Charles Komosa** co-chaired and emceed a very successful event with many guests, elected officials and candidates. Tremendous help came from Agata Komosa. All enjoyed a delicious corned beef and cabbage dinner provided by Harrington's World Famous Corned Beef.

Brother Charles Komosa opened the program and greeted all the guests, then introduced his co chairs Brother John Cieslik and Brother Mark Orwat. Brother Cieslik called upon PNA President Brother **Frank Spula** to offer remarks. Brother Spula thanked the guests and candidates and wished Brother Komosa a humorous Happy 60th Birthday and the guests sang *Sto Lat* to him. (Brother Komosa actually turned 49 years young on March 10). Brother John Cieslik, the Chicago Society's 2016 St. Joseph, offered a blessing before dinner.

After the outstanding Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, President Brother **Ted Makarewicz** introduced the elected officials and candidates for elected office. Many officials and candidates were in attendance, including Brother Hon. **Robert Martwick**, State Representative 19th District, Brother Hon. **Andrew Przybylo**, Mayor of the Village of Niles, Brother Hon. **James Pieczonka**, Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County 12th Sub Circuit. The program ended with an executive raffle for various gifts. All of the guests had a great time! A big "thank you" to Brothers **Ro Matuszczak** and **Fred Koziol** for the raffle donations.

**Polish Constitution Day Parade**





## 2ND ANNUAL CHICAGO SOCIETY FISHING DERBY



Event Chairman  
Brother Steve  
Rakowski invites  
fellow sportsmen/  
women to join  
us for a relaxing  
fishing outing on

Saturday, May 14, 2016, from 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. We will be cruising Lake Michigan in search of limits of salmon and trout aboard boats captained by friendly and experienced fishermen. The cost will be \$125.00 per person and our event is limited to the first thirty people who deliver their reservation form with a check payable to the Chicago Society.

All fisher-persons will also need to purchase a one-day fishing license. Our meeting point will be dock AA of North Point Marina in beautiful Winthrop Harbor, Illinois. Meeting time is 5:30 a.m. for check-in and to receive boat assignments. Boats depart the dock at 6:00 a.m. sharp! Plenty of free parking will be available. Our boat captains will provide all equipment and clean and package your catch for the drive home.

After the event please stay for a light BBQ lunch and the swapping of pictures and stories. If you'd like to just attend the BBQ, cost per person is \$25.00 and we'll start at 1:30 at the Salmon Unlimited Pavilion adjacent to the Marina.

Please contact Brother Steve at 847-204-4106 for information, reservations, and complete details.

Visit our website  
to stay in touch with  
Chicago Society activities  
[www.chicagosocietypna.org](http://www.chicagosocietypna.org)

## PNA SENIORS & LODGE 1450, THE CHICAGO SOCIETY 'LAND OF LINCOLN' TRIP!

On Wednesday, March 30, 2016, The Polish National Alliance (PNA) and PNA Lodge 1450, the Chicago Society, cosponsored a luxury bus trip to Springfield, Illinois, to visit the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and the State of Illinois Capitol Building. The day started off early at 6:15 a.m. as PNA Fraternal Coordinator and trip organizer Mrs. Mary Srodon greeted the guests on the bus from the north side departure point at the PNA Home Office and then motored to the second departure point at Mayfield Banquets on the south side of Chicago. From there, the forty six guests, including PNA National Secretary Brother **Charles Komosa** with his wife Agata, and sons Charley and Alex, PNA Treasurer Marian Grabowski, former District XII Commissioner Anna Kokoszka, as well as Chicago Society members Brothers **Richard Ciesla** with wife Maria, **Romuald Matuszczak** with wife Chris, **Mitch Pasiewicz**, and **Jan Plachta**, traveled directly to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and started their tour of the museum.

The guests received VIP treatment since the Museum's Executive Director, Nadine O'Leary, is a friend of Secretary Charles Komosa from his days when he worked for the State of Illinois. At noon, the group dined at the library on a gourmet catered lunch while enjoying a private 30-minute "history lesson" lecture by Dr. James M. Cornelius, Ph.D., Curator of the Lincoln Collection at the Library. Dr. Cornelius' topic was "Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief." "His only military experience had been as a three-month volunteer in a frontier Indian war. As a Congressman he had opposed the Mexican War. Yet it became his lot as President to preside over the largest war in American history to that time (and still the largest in terms of the loss of American lives and property). How did he do it?" Dr. Cornelius also told us of the first all-Polish Regiment of 1000 Polish born men from New York who fought in the Civil War. After a short question and answer period, Dr. Cornelius showed us several Lincoln artifacts, including books, his cufflinks, coins, and other items.

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*Rich and Maria Ciesla with their new friends.*

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The group returned for two more hours of the tour and then departed to the Illinois State Capitol. There, the guests were greeted by Josh Potts, Assistant Comptroller of Illinois, also a good friend and former work colleague of Secretary Charles Komosa when they both worked for Illinois State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka, and he arranged a guided tour of Senate and House of Representatives chambers from the balcony-level galleries. Later, Josh gave us a tour of the Illinois State Comptroller Leslie Munger's Executive Offices and overview of her responsibilities. The group then departed back to Chicago through very stormy weather but enjoyed a boxed dinner and watched a movie on the bus. Many of the guests commented on how the entire trip was fantastic!

#### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

The Chicago Society would like to extend to the following brother members celebrated their birthday in April, a warm wish of Sto Lat!



- 5 Matt Rodriguez
- 8 Andrew Przybylo
- 9 Eugene Urbaszewski
- 10 Joseph Dondalski
- Peter Dykas
- 13 Anthony Kawalkowski
- 14 Richard Jakubowski
- 17 Frederick Koziol
- Jerome Mytych
- 26 Mario Mikoda
- 27 Michael Schneider
- 28 John Wojciechowski
- 30 William Przybylski

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#### CHICAGO SOCIETY FOUNDATION MEETING

The Chicago Society Foundation Board of Directors will meet on April 25, 2016, to discuss grant requests submitted during the past quarter at LaVilla Restaurant in Chicago.



Brother Ro Matuszczak was honored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Des Plaines Post 2992, who rewarded him in recognition of his tireless contributions to the Post and community, with a Life Membership and Badge. Ro is currently the Post Chaplain and presides over the Advisory Board. He also takes part in memorial services for deceased veterans

#### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

The Chicago Society would like to congratulate:

Brother Jack Rohner, celebrating his 45th Anniversary of induction into the Chicago Society;

Brother Stanley Jendzejec, celebrating his 20th Anniversary of induction into the Chicago Society;

and Brother Mark Orwat, celebrating his 15th Anniversary of induction into the Chicago Society!

**Have you made  
your meeting reservation?**

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#### SUSPENSIONS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES IN 2016

Pursuant to the Chicago Society By Laws, names of members who have not paid their current year's membership dues will be considered suspended, have their names published in the April Forum, and membership suspended until reinstated:

Barszczewski, Norbert  
Drapszo, Wictor  
Garrido, John  
Hercik, Joseph  
Kaszubski, Mark  
Kenzer, Gary  
Kozlowski, Dariusz  
Krajewicz, Len  
Kupiec, Mark  
Kurzydowski, Henry  
Laskowski, Slawek  
Lebed, Fred  
Marciniak, Henryk  
Matker, Mark  
Pieczonka, James  
Posch, Paul  
Sraga, Les  
Sufranski, William

Please contact Chicago Society Financial Secretary Brother Ryszard Jadcak at 847-639-2327 if you feel your name was listed in error.

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