



The Forum

of the Chicago Society, Lodge 1450 PNA

Our Second Century of Brotherhood and Service

VOLUME 70

January 2019

NUMBER 1

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

January General Meeting
White Eagle Events &
Convention Center
6:00 pm

RESERVATIONS

by January 14 to

meeting@chicagosocietypna.org

or (847) 635-0883 or

<https://www.chicagosocietypna.org>

Saturday, January 26, 2019

2019 Inaugural Ball
Victoria in the Park Banquet
Mt. Prospect, Illinois
6:30 pm

Monday, February 4, 2019

February Board Meeting
La Villa Restaurant 6:00 pm

FORUM Deadline

Send all articles to

editor@chicagosocietypna.org

Friday, February 15, 2019

Scholarship Application
Deadline

More info in the Forum

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Śledź Mardi Gras
Dinner & Pageant
More info to come

January 2019 Meeting and Speaker

To kick off the year on a happy and entertaining note, our speaker for the January 16, 2019 dinner meeting will be award winning comedy magician Andrew Noyszewski. Andrew was developed and put on various shows for kids and their parents since 1980. His award-winning show, Kidzmagic by Andrew, has been broadcast on WGN, WTTW and NBC.

Inspired by a magician in a department store as a young boy, and encouraged by his grandfather, he went on to win several comedy magic competitions and attend the University of Illinois at Chicago where he started the comedy troupe called "The Sometimes Circus" through which he performed throughout the Chicago area.

Andrew's belief in the importance of children's theatre in elementary

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2019 Inaugural Ball

Chairman Brother **Chris Grzadziel** along with co-chairmen Brothers **Ro Matuszczak** and **Peter Dykas** invite you to the 2019 Annual Inaugural Ball and Installation of Officers and Directors. The event will be held on January 26, 2019. We will once again be at the elegant Victoria in the Park Banquet facility in Mt. Prospect, Illinois. This year we are honoring the Polish American Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is dedicated to fostering its members' business interests, educating and facilitating commercial contacts, and building relations.



The evening will start at 6:30 pm with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Dinner will be served in the main dining room followed by the installation of officers and directors and presentation of our honorees. Music will be provided by our own Brother **Anthony Kawalkowski** and his Orchestra. Tickets for this event are \$135 per person which will include an open bar before and after dinner as well as a dinner choice of Filet Mignon, Chicken Marsala, Salmon with Tomato Dill Sauce or Vegetarian. There may be some surprises but you have to be there to see what they are. Black-tie is optional for this event but always welcome. Invitations have been sent out.

We will also have a program book for this event. The program book will

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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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Vacant

Director of Personnel:

Charles Cwiakala

Director of Publications:

Christopher Grzadziel

Brothers,

Let me first say, HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all!!

Secondly, THANK YOU!! I am Honored, Privileged, and Excited that you entrusted me to be your next President of Chicago Society. This organization has a long and proud history in Chicago's Polonia Community. I will continue to make us the leader in Polonia as we once were and to increase our membership. We have an excellent board of officers and directors with already fresh new ideas coming in during our first Board meeting. We will try to add new twists to old events and add new events to our calendar. I want to bring back the idea of how 'Chicago Society can help me as a member'.

But I need your help. Many of us are members and or officers in other organizations that we should work with. We have friends. We need to bring them in to see who we are. We need participation from you in our events. We need to get younger members in. So please, bring in a member of the family, or friend, or even a past member that once attended and have them join.

Don't forget we have exciting events coming up. Our Inaugural Ball is less than 3 weeks away, followed by our Śledź. Come see some of the new ideas we will implement. I'm sure you will like it.

Fraternally, Brother **Peter Dykas**, President



Brothers,

Welcome to 2019! We start a new year with new goals and new ambitions. It is a time to reflect on what we have accomplished and a time to set new dreams. I am honored to continue as the Director of Publications and working on the website.

The new Board is working on scheduling events for 2019. This information will be published on the website as well as in the Forum. The Forum is always available on the website. My goal is to publish the current month within 1 week of the monthly Board meetings. I will always send an e-mail announcing that it is available but in the event the e-mail gets lost in cyber space you can always check the website.

Over the past few months we have announced that we will only mail hard copies of the Forum to those that request it. My old school paper list of these requests is missing in action. My sincere apologies for this. For January I will mail the Forum to those members that we do not have e-mail addresses and to those that I remember. Again, I apologize for this. If you need a hard copy of the Forum mailed, please contact me and I will make sure you get on the new list.

Fraternally, Brother **Christopher T. Grzadziel**, Editor

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2019 Inaugural Ball

allow you to demonstrate your support for the Chicago Society and the Polish American Chamber of Commerce by placing a congratulatory message or advertisement. Full page ads are \$100, half page are \$60 and quarter page are \$40. Inside front and back as well as outside back covers are also available on a first come first serve basis. The deadline for ads is January 9, 2019. This information can also be found on our website at <https://www.chicagosocietypna.org/ball-ad-contract>. Please contact Chris Grzadziel with any questions — cgrzadziel@gmail.com or 847-630-2863.

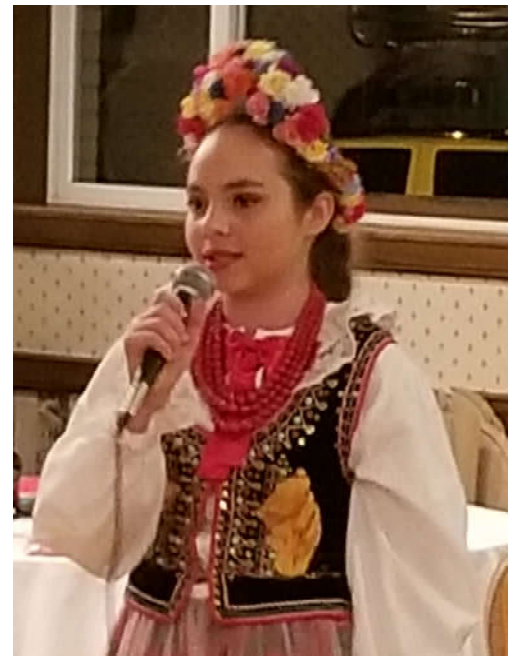
James and Lillian Kulze Scholarship

The Chicago Society Foundation, affiliated with the Chicago Society of the Polish National Alliance, Lodge 1450 of the PNA, announces that it will again be funding up to three \$7,500.00 scholarships through its James and Lillian Kulze Scholarship Fund. These scholarship awards are available to U.S. residents of Polish descent with financial need who are pursuing academic studies in college, graduate, or professional school.

Applications will be accepted through February 15, 2019. Selections will be made in April 2019 for the subsequent fall academic term. Forms, dates, and other information regarding selection criteria and requirements can be found on the Chicago Society's website at <https://www.chicagosocietypna.org/foundation-kulze-scholarship>. Please email Brother **Walter M. Pieciewicz** for further information at wpieciewicz@immaculaw.com.

Christmas Meeting

The Chicago Society Christmas meeting was held on December 19, 2018. We had 45 members and spouses/significant others in attendance. Prior to dinner there was the traditional opłatek exchange. Special thanks to Chris Matuszczak for a wonderful presentation of the opłatek for each person. The wonderful dinner included beef and chicken with potatoes and vegetables. After dinner we were treated to Christmas carols in both English and Polish by a member of the Polonia Dance Ensemble. At the conclusion of the evening we had our raffle. A thank you to the following brother members who brought raffle gifts to our December meeting: **Mario and Agata Mikoda; Richard and Maria Ciesla; Chris and Kasia Grzadziel, Don and Lucille Gutowski; and Ro and Chris Matuszczak.** If your name is omitted, please contact Brother **Ro Matuszczak**. It was a pleasant evening.



January Birthdays



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

- 02 Gregory R Ciesla
- 08 Zenon Olejniczak
- 13 Frank M Gondela
- 15 Joseph P Kotlarz
- 23 James Kolak
- 24 Robert Radkowski
- 26 Frank Spula
- 27 Walter M Piecewicz
- 27 Carlton R Marcyan

January Anniversaries

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

Brother **Jan S Plachta** is celebrating his **5th Anniversary**.

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

Correction...

Oops... We forgot to mention **Ron "Topper" Topczewski** in last month's forum article of who was at our November meeting who proudly served for our nation. There are many more who are Veterans in our organization. Once again Thank you to all who have served.

Winter Dress Code

Winter dress code is in effect from October to April for the General Meetings. Winter dress code is Business Casual — suit or slacks, sports coat and business shirt; tie optional.

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January 2019 Meeting and Speaker

and high school led him to start a local children’s theater program that continues to produce plays such as “Annie”, “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” and many more. His role included not only preparing the children for the productions, but serving as master carpenter and set designer.

He continues to spread the joy and wonder of magic across the country through his company Kidzmagic (www.kidzmagic.biz/) while spending his off time partaking in this hobbies which include boating, fishing, restoring antique cars, and spending time with his wife Eva and children Matt, Wes & Veronika at their family lake house in Wisconsin. Please join us for what promises to be an enlightening and entertaining evening.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at White Eagle Events & Convention Center, 6839 N Milwaukee Ave, Nilus, IL 60714. Cocktail hour starts at 6:00 pm with the dinner meeting starting at 7:00 pm. Please contact Brother **Ro Matuszczak** at meeting@chicagosocietypna.org or call (847) 635-0883 for reservations. You can also RSVP by going to the Chicago Society website. 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.

A Commitment to the Youth of Polonia

As you may recall, in 2018 the Board voted to set aside funds to support youth programs and in doing so the Society was proudly able to send three sisters in need to attend the PNA Youth Camp in Yorkville. Their adorable and grateful thank you notes are available in the September 2018 forum. The Board is happy to announce the passing of another resolution which reaffirms our continued commitment to the youth of Polonia. On January 2, 2019, the Board unanimously voted to commit 25% of the income from any Society event and 100% of all raffle income from general meetings be set aside in the youth fund to support causes and initiatives that directly serve the interests of the youth of Polonia. Article II of our Constitution states our Mission to support the youth clearly, and our actions and wallets are continuing to back that up. A portion of every dollar earned at a Society function will now go right to the youth of Polonia. Please therefore join us in participating in the raffles and all Society events so that we can make the biggest and most positive impact possible!



Are you the next Director of Outreach?

As the Society heads into 2019 following a year in which we saw membership continue to decrease and the activity of members remain stagnant, the Director of Outreach position remains vacant. With those realities looming and the expansion of our youth fund there has never been a bigger need or better time for a Director of Outreach. Pursuant to Article IX Section 6(D) of the Constitution, the Director would “initiate, oversee, coordinate and promote civic and cultural activities which uphold the mission of the Society with groups and individuals of the community...” Practically speaking, the Director would identify youth programs the Society could sponsor in our continuing youth initiative as well as contact fellow groups within Polonia to foster a partnership towards common goals and mutual support of events and initiatives.

If you are interested in this position, please contact myself or anyone else on the Board and we would be happy to provide you with any additional information.

Brother **Adam Konopka**, 1st VP

Deserving Children’s Christmas Party

The weather was warm and sunny for a mid December day. But it was ideal for Santa, the reindeers and some 65 children with their parents to come to our annual Deserving Children's Christmas Party at the PNA building. All of the children left with a present from Santa and a full tummy of hot dogs, chips and cookies.

The children came with their best singing voices in years as they sang in both Polish and English. They were also entertained by a traveling reptile show that featured some small creatures and a nice long snake. The children had no fear but the parents, that's another story. See more pictures on our web site.

Many THANKS go out to all of our supporters. Where do I begin as many members came out to help in one way or another. We lost one of our major sponsors from years past but our membership came through. We also had many volunteers to come out and help the day of. This event is blessed to have many friends like you.



THANK YOU to all the following who helped the day of: My Co-chair Brother **Ro Matuszczak** and his wife Chris who led the kitchen duties, Brother **Chris Grzadziel** (Santa) and his wife (Mrs Santa) Kasia, who helped in elf duties the week before and the day of, Brother **Rocky Nowaczyk**, Brother **Rick Wiermanski** and his wife Cindy, Tanya Cwiakala with her children Max and Eva, and also but not least my wife Agnes and our children Matthew and Isabella for many hours of help. I would like to send big Thanks to Dee Blicharski and Brothers **Rich Ciesla**, **Don Gutowski**, **Joseph Kuechel**, **Robert Radkowski** and the Polish Slavik Federal Credit Union, and **John Wasilewski** for stepping in with monetary donations. Plus to Brothers **Walter Piecewicz** and **Rocky Nowaczyk** for arranging donations of toys.

Brother **Peter Dykas**, Event Chairman

2019 Dues Notices

Your dues notice for 2019 has been sent out. Most were sent via email, just as you receive the Forum. If we do not have your email address, your notice was sent through the US mail. Full payment is to be made by March 1st. You can pay via the PayPal feature on our website, bring it to a general meeting, or mail to:

Rick Wiermanski, 1906 Holly Ave., Darien, IL 60561

Dues remain the same as last year:

Member: \$150

Out of Town Member: \$45

Senior Member: \$100

If you have any questions, please contact Brother **Rick Wiermanski** at Febaway@comcast.net or 815-222-3472.

For those of you that have already paid, Thank You!



**AROUND
THE
SOCIETY**

Brother **Andrew Zapalski** celebrated his 86th birthday in August with a flight on a "Flying Fortress" Boeing B-17G. He fell in love with this plane on September 18, 1944. On this day, 107 U.S. B-17s (and about the same number of RAF heavy bombers piloted primarily by South African crews) flew to Warsaw, Poland as part of the Warsaw Airlift, a British-led operation to re-supply the besieged Polish resistance during the Warsaw Uprising. Since that day, he dreamed of flying in one of these planes. This year his boyhood dream came true!



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