



CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

Volume 62

May, 2011

Number 5

The Voice of an Autonomous Lodge of the Polish National Alliance

CHICAGO SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP FIRST PLACE ESSAY

FIRST PLACE WINNER - STEPHANIE DOMAGALSKI

TOPIC: "AS A YOUNG POLISH AMERICAN, IN WHAT SPECIFIC WAYS DO YOU THINK YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO A VIBRANT ETHNIC POLONIA?"

NETWORKING DINNER MEETING

WEDNESDAY
May 18, 2011
6:00 P.M.

White Eagle Banquets
6839 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Niles, Illinois

RESERVATIONS
BY MAY 16
TO (847) 823-8747 OR
meeting@chicagosocietypna.org
ARE MANDATORY

NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

Tuesday, May 31, 7:00 P.M.
Folak's Lincoln Tavern

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, May 18—
General Meeting
White Eagle Banquets, Niles

Wednesday, June 15—
General Meeting
Copernicus Center, Chicago

Friday, July 8—
Golf Outing
Carriage Greens C.C., Darien

It's no surprise that technology and media play a large part in today's society. It influences the way we interact with people, the way we learn information, the way we manage our time, and much more. As a young Polish American, I can contribute to a vibrant ethnic Polonia through my knowledge of marketing and media.

There is little doubt that it's important to maintain the traditions and values of our community. So, it's crucial to keep the heart and soul of our culture in the forefront of any efforts to advance Polonia. I believe that in order to keep future generations of Poles interested and involved in our culture, we need to update the image of some of our organizations and associations. I say that not to denigrate what generations before me have built; but to call for Polish leaders to keep moving forward by taking an objective look at their organization's image, structure and mission. Every organization should do an assessment as to whether it is "keeping up with the times."

We should also be more visible in the media. The Polish community needs to mount a united effort to place "positive" stories with local television and radio stations as well as internet sources. We need to be utilizing the very media outlets that have become the "go to" source for news by tomorrow's Polish American leaders. Getting younger generations truly excited about their Polish roots through various media is going to be essential in the ever-growing technological future.

Better marketing techniques need to be implemented to entice Polish descendants to become involved in our endearing community. With technology becoming more and more popular and spectacular, the possibilities of marketing are endless. For example, we could possibly get "apps" on iPhones, which would provide facts and information about our community. Efforts to publicize our philanthropic events should not only concentrate on Polish media outlets but should be broadened to include all media outlets in the Chicago land area. The same is true of Polonia's advertising efforts. The Polish community needs to go beyond its usual methods of advertising in an effort to reach more Polish descendants who may not be "in the loop" of Polish activities and clubs. If we want to increase sponsorships and donations that we can use to support good causes, we as a community, need to better utilize technology to expand our voices and messages to a wider audience. While pursuing my degree, I've studied media and public relations which has familiarized me with strategies needed to expand Polonia's market. We can easily use technology and new media outlets while maintaining our wholesome image and traditions.

We should begin relying on technology and the media to help in our quest to preserve, improve, and expand Polonia. By utilizing new ideas and creative ways to get more people involved in our culture, we will ultimately enhance and advance our vibrant Polish community.



Stephanie Domagalski and President Frank Czaja



CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

A monthly news bulletin for the
Chicago Society PNA membership

Director of Publications
Norbert Barszczewski
editor@chicagosocietypna.org

Layout by Polonia Media Network
division of the AmeriPol Corporation

Printed by
A & B Graphics

Visit Our Website At
www.chicagosocietypna.org

CHICAGO SOCIETY P.N.A. 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT:

FRANK W. CZAJA

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT:

DONALD A. GUTOWSKI

CIVIC VICE PRESIDENT:

ROBERT P. GROSZEK

RECORDING SECRETARY:

DAREK KOZLOWSKI

TREASURER:

RICHARD W. CIESLA

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

RYSZARD JADCZAK

ADVOCATE:

T. RON JASINSKI-HERBERT

SENIOR DIRECTOR:

CHARLES A. KOMOSA

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

ROMUALD E. MATUSZCZAK

DIRECTOR OF CLUB HOUSE ADMIN.:

CHARLES E. CWIAKALA

DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

KENNETH P. GILL

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

NORBERT BARSZCZEWSKI

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

MARK ORWAT

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

RICHARD D. BIVINS

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROJECTS

FREDERICK E. KOZIOL

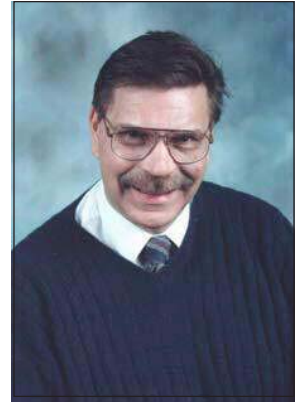
**OUR PICNIC IS ON
SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2011**

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brothers,

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable and blessed Easter Holiday and that a good time was shared by all. I also hope that everyone who attended the April meeting enjoyed the Ham Raffle and our new format. I have had much positive reaction to the April meeting setup. So, we will continue with this arrangement. Consequently, I would like to thank Chuck Cwiakala for all of his hard work to make this possible.

Now it is May, and, as they say, all the April rain will brighten up the days with the May flowers. I know this was certainly true for Polish Constitution Day. I would like to thank all the brother members and their family and friends who joined us for a wonderful pre-parade brunch at the Conrad Hilton. A great time and a wonderful experience was had by all. Not only did our members attend the event but also dignitaries and politicians alike as well along with many other Polish organizations. Thanks to everyone for their support. I would especially like to thank Ro Matuszczak and his charming wife Chris for all the hard work to make this possible along with their committee. I would like to give a big thank you to all those who marched in the parade and rode on the float and enjoyed the day as well as the music by the Polka Generations who entertained both us and the crowd. Thank you for letting everyone know that we are The Chicago Society P.N.A.



I would like to congratulate the 2010 winners of The Chicago Society of the P.N.A. scholarship essay contest. The First Place Winner was Stephanie Domagalski, the Second Place Winner was Brittany Kowalski, and the Third Place Winner was Patryk Czaja. We, certainly, all give our thanks to Dr. Klos along with his committee for all of the time and hard work in making this possible.

Finally, I would ask those who would like to inform members during the "For the Good of the Order" to try and be concise and to the point so as to give everyone a fair chance.

Fraternally yours,
Frank Czaja

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

The months of April and May this year are full of important anniversaries and events that are close to our hearts. A new date that will forever remain an important mark on our calendars is the anniversary of the Smolensk tragedy. It's hard to believe that it has been an entire year since we lost the President of Poland, Lech Kaczynski, his wife and so many other important, respected and loved people. The pain is even deeper when we take into consideration the whole investigation that followed the plane crash as well as attempts to politicize some of the factors involved. All about that event and that place is tragic, going all the way back to the Katyn massacre 71 years ago. Let's hope that there can somehow be closure to the families of all those who died there and that their loss won't be used for anybody's political agenda. April 10, 2010 will not be forgotten.

Undoubtedly the beatification of John Paul II is another very important event that everybody talks about. John Paul II is by many called "Our Pope" and I trust there is not a single soul that would argue with that term. Aside from his unquestionable and unmatched authority as the head of the Catholic Church, he was a very skillful and smart politician and diplomat. One may claim that the Catholic Church should not have been involved in any political processes. But those who watched John Paul II carefully and understood his actions know exactly how much credit he deserves for bringing the change to the Eastern Europe, particularly to Poland, and thus to the rest of the world. The world will remember him as John Paul II. We will remember him as Our Pope. Some yet will remember him as Karol Wojtyla. Whatever the name, he was our greatest diplomat ever.

Last but not least this year we are celebrating the 220 anniversary of the May 3 Constitution.

—Continued on page 5—

AROUND THE SOCIETY

Many familiar faces from the Chicago Society were seen during the official Gala commemorating the May 3 Constitution Day at the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland on Saturday, May 7. There were close to 200 members and influential figures of the Polonia circles there. Fine atmosphere was only interrupted by artistic performances, short speeches and serving of excellent food provided by Kasia's Deli.


Congratulations to **Dean Niedospial** on becoming the Executive Director of the Chicago Park District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago.

Condolences are extended to **Edmund Gronkiewicz** upon the May 1, 2011 death of his mother Mary, nee Balonek, age 97, in Berwyn.

Joann Ozog had 14 days of rehab at Bostford Hospital in Michigan as she had gone in on March 28 to have both knees replaced. She stayed in the hospital for 3 and half days. She came home to start home therapy

Thomas M. Kedzie, MBA, CFP
Certified Financial Planner, Practitioner

Lincoln Financial Advisors Corp.
8755 W. Higgins Rd., Suite 200
Chicago, IL 60631-2708

 **Lincoln** Financial Advisors®
A member of Lincoln Financial Group
phone 773 380-8533
fax 773 693-2531
Tom.Kedzie@LFG.com

www.LFAchicago.com

The Sawa Family
invites you to



SAWA'S
Old Warsaw Restaurant

Catering—Banquets

The Finest in Polish Home Cooking
9200 W. Cermak Rd. (at 17th Ave.)
Broadview, IL (708) 343-9040
Fax (708) 343-9825

for a month. **Wallace** thanks everyone for all their prayers.

Congratulations to **Andrew Pawlowski** on getting a new position within his current company, Continental Automotive Systems. With new position come trips to all the nice places in Europe and the United States.

Brother **Ken Gill** will have the pins and year tags once again at the May meeting. After that members will have to contact Brother Gill directly in order to get their pins and tags.

How about an Evening Ghost Cruise on August 20th, 2011? This spectacular one day only event is organized by Brother **Stuart Sawa** and his restaurant Sawa's Old Warsaw. Program includes dinner at Sawa's Old Warsaw, luxury coach shuttle to and from the boat, Ghost Cruise from 10 PM till midnight and lots of raffle, prizes and handouts. Check with Brother Sawa for details at the next meeting.

It was wonderful to see the fraternal spirit at the last meeting when winners of the ham raffle prize that were lucky to have more than one winning ticket, turned their second prizes back to the pool for others to win.

Philip Fulton, our guest speaker from the April General Meeting would like to share an article with the Chicago Society members as a follow up to his presentation on executive leadership. The article can be found on NYTimes.com and it was published on April 16, 2011 under the title Distilling the Wisdom of C.E.O.'s by Adam Bryant. It can be accessed directly from NYT web site or simply by googling the title. Philip would like to once again thank for the invitation to our club and says he enjoyed the atmosphere very much.

A reminder to all the members that the Chicago Society P.N.A. will once again organize the popular and cash-generating Casino Nights this year. It's a great opportunity to help the organization by donating your time. The fun nights this year are the following: September 7, October 12, October 27 and November 30. Talk to Brother **Ro Matuszczak** if you can help during any of those dates.

On Friday, June 10th, the Polish Museum of America will host a Summer Ball at the Sheraton Hotel. For information, call Maria Ciesla, wife of Brother **Richard Ciesla**, at 773-384-3352.

The Polish National Alliance is pleased to announce that the May Health and Wellness Seminar will feature an Asthma and Emphysema Testine at the Home Office Building at 6100 N. Cicero Avenue, Chicago, Illinois on Saturday, May 14, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. There will also screenings in the lower level (cafeteria) for spirometry (breathing testing), blood oxygen levels, Alpha 1 antitrypsin testing, EKG, BMI, glucose, cholesterol, body fat composition and blood pressure testing. The take charge of you health program is free to everyone in the community. The screenings will be done by the TTI Medical training. Lectures beginning at 11:00 will feature Anna Szpindor, MD, Marta Batus, MD, Dorothy Anasinski, DDS, and Grazyna Telichowski, RRT. Their topics will cover the featured topics of Asthma and Emphysema. Reservations are required for the spirometry and smoking cessation. To make an reservation time, please call 1-773-286-0500 ext. 380, other test do not require reservations. Refreshments will be served. Additional details could be found on the PNA website: www.pna-znp.org.

Brother **Robert Groszek** participated in Rebuilding Together, formerly known as Christmas in April on April 30, 2011. Robert also attended on April 27, 2011 a reception sponsored by Advocates Society honoring Illinois Supreme Court Justice Thomas Kilbride at the Standard Club on Plymouth Court in Chicago.

Brother **Robert Groszek** and his wife Jennifer were visited by friends from Los Angeles, California, and showed them around Chicago and Polonia. They enjoyed wine at Kiki's Bistro owned by Denise Staniec on April 30, 2011.

T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert traveled to Buffalo, New York, over the Easter holiday to experience the world's largest Dyngus Day celebration. Thirty halls, bars and restaurants, connected by shuttle buses, participated with polka bands and parties. His next stop is Cleveland, Ohio, for the festival of the United States Polka Association.

**PLAN TO ATTEND
THE GOLF OUTING ON
FRIDAY, JULY 8**

NEWS BRIEFS

Prepared and Distributed by the
Polonia Media Network

Britain's *Guardian* newspaper revealed in an April, 2011, poll that 57% of surveyed Poles believe that their fellow Poles are good-looking. The average rating was and 8 out of 10 for attractiveness, the highest such opinion out of all of surveyed countries. Not only confidence about appearance was revealed in the poll: about 61% believe that they can hold their liquor well, as opposed to only 15% of the British polled. Poles also rated themselves higher with regards to cuisine and friendliness than those surveyed in France, Germany, Spain and the UK.

April saw a vast increase in the number of stag parties arriving in Krakow after the long winter. While a large number of the historic city's bars and restaurants rely of the type of trade such parties bring, the uncouth behavior that sometimes comes with it is often more than many locals can bare. Katarzyna Aniol, a spokesman for the Krakow police, states that while local authorities are not out to spoil party-goers' fun, they will not take lightly to any inappropriate behavior. "We have had reports from local residents and workers of drunken and disorderly acts from Brits and we've already made a few arrests," she stated. On the other hand, Magda Nowacka, a waitress on Krakow's Old Market Square, says, "They bring in good money and business. Ok, they can be a little bit wild at times, but most just want a good time and are polite and friendly."

Young Poles who hitchhiked to Italy for the beatification of John Paul II endured sleeping in the streets, waiting for lifts on Polish highways and braving the millions of pilgrims who flocked to Rome on May 1. Considered the largest youth group in Europe with its several thousand members, Beczka [Cask], the youth group of the Catholic Dominican Cathedral of Krakow, planned a pilgrimage of several hundred people to Rome for the beatification of John Paul II, the third of four steps in the canonization process. Transport was optional, but most chose hitchhiking for economic reasons.

Agnieszka Radwanska ranks seventh on the list of best paid women tennis players so

far this season. As of January, Radwanska had earned \$515,000 in prize money. The first on the list is Belgian player Kim Clijsters, followed by Karolina Wozniacka, the Danish player of Polish descent, and China's Na Li.

Poland's flagship airline, Lot, decided to suspend all flights to Egypt, Syria and Lebanon in May and June. The airline cited unstable political conditions as the main reason. Lot celebrated its inaugural flight to Beirut last June, and flights to Cairo and Damascus began last September.

The Voivodship [Provincial or County] Court of Administration in Warsaw declared on April 11, 2011, that an environmental decision concerning the construction of the planned Warsaw-Modlin airport is legally valid. The ruling paves the way for construction work to begin on the new airport.

THANK YOU NOTE FROM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

To: The Chicago Society P.N.A.

The Chicago Society has always had a reputation as one of the finest organizations serving the Polish Community. It has served as a flagship for other Polish clubs in Polonia. Consequently, I feel truly gratified to be recognized as one of the three award winners of the 2010 essay contest. As an honored recipient of your award, I will put it to good use for books and lab fees.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Petryk Czaja

MAY MEETING SPEAKER

At the May General Meeting the Speaker will be Zenon Kurdziel, a brother member who will speak to us about his involvement in the Chopin Monument Foundation, its progression and affect on the Chicago Polish Community.

Don't forget to call or email Brother Cwiakala to make your reservation!

YOUR TRASH COULD BE OUR TREASURE

The PMA will hold a fundraiser on May 14 and May 21, 2011. Please join Brother **Donald Gutowski** who, as a volunteer for the Polish Museum of America, will be collecting military items and souvenirs from WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam and turning some of them into cash donations for the Museum. If they happen to receive some rare and valuable items, they will be placed in the Museum's collection. Popular items donated include: uniforms, hats, caps, helmets, jackets, bayonets, knives, swords, pistols, clips, ammunition, belts and buckles, pouches, backpacks, pins, patches, medals, flags, military maps, photos, manuals and publications. These can be from countries such as USA, Poland, Germany, Italy, Russia, France and Great Britain. Go through that "stuff" that has been taking up space in the basement, garage, closet shelves and donate them. The collections points will be parking lot of the Polish Museum of America on Saturday, May 14 10 AM-2 PM, and parking lot of the Copernicus Foundation on Saturday, May 21 10 AM - 2 PM. In case of rain, collection points will be moved indoors. All donations to the Museum are tax deductible under the 501c (3) IRS tax code.

DON'T FORGET TO MAKE YOUR MEETING RESERVATION

Law offices of
MARK J. KUPIEC & ASSOC.
77 West Washington Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602
(312) 541-1878

Zoning, Real Estate
Building Code Compliance,
Business Licensing

Website: www.chicago-zoning.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

IN MEMORIAM

Edmund A. Okonek, May 4, 1925 - April 11, 2011, devoted husband of Jeanine, nee Golniewicz, loving father of Victoria (Dr. John) Smart, Renee, Martha (Lonnie) Arima, and Jeanine Mary (Gerard) Conrad, treasured grandfather of seven grandchildren. As a teenager and member of the Polish National Army he was taken from war involved Poland to Scotland and England and then to Chicago. He attended Northwestern University, where at a Chicago Intercollegiate Council dance, he met his bride to be. They raised their family in Park Ridge and in retirement lived in Hinsdale. He had served on the Board of the Polish Arts Club of Chicago, as a member of the Polish Museum of America, and as a volunteer for Hinsdale Hospital.

Joseph A. Kosin, age 88, died April 27, 2011 and was buried on May 3, 2011. He had been brought up in Cicero, married his late wife Genevieve, brought up his children Margaret, Paula, Gregory, Philip (deceased during the past five years) in La Grange Park, then to Darien, and spent the last decade in Plainfield. He leaves six grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Joe was a proud graduate of Morton Junior College and Miami University of Ohio. He was a World War II veteran, privileged to have served in the Military Police Platoon of the U.S. Army 63rd Infantry Division from 1943-46, credited with participating in major campaigns in the Rhineland and Central Europe. He was a Life Member and in the Honor Guard of Carillon VFW Post 12059. A representative for Metropolitan Life for three decades, he helped protect over 14,000 area families. He was known for his rich, resonant voice and sang in the choirs at St. Dionysius; St. Louise de Marillac, Divine Savior, and St. Andrew the Apostle. He was devoted to bringing back or introducing people to the Catholic faith.

May They Rest in Peace.

CHICAGO SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY SECOND PLACE WINNER - BRITTANY KOWALSKI

As Americans, we are given many freedoms: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom to protest. We have the right to bear arms, the right to vote, and the right to a trial by jury. Being a young American is already a privilege; Americans have so many opportunities that are not available to many other countries. We are exposed to different cultures, ethnicities, and characters not only through our environments but also through our ability to connect through technology. In under a minute, my generation can connect to billions of people throughout the world with just the click of a button. Contemporary society has developed many efficient ways of communicating with one another. As a young American, I find that it is the responsibility of my generation to utilize these advanced ways of communication to educate each other of our humanities. As a student at a private art college I am constantly faced with the problem of what I should communicate to my peers through my artwork. Deciding what to teach everyone has proven to be a difficult task.

As a young Polish American, I am very grateful to have come from such a diverse community and to have been educated in environments that encourage diversity. Chicago is not only an extremely diverse city; it also has the second largest Polish population in the world. Not only did I have ample opportunity to learn about many other ethnicities but I was also able to learn more about my own culture from a community with strongly kept traditions. Going to an out-of-state school sometimes makes me homesick for the Chicago and its Polish community and I find that practicing my own Polish traditions and talking about my heritage to my peers helps soothe the sickness. Having an outlet to communicate with my Polish community back home has made the world of difference to me since moving out of Chicago. The large Polish community in Milwaukee, also helps make me feel more at home while I am away at school. Milwaukee, Wisconsin has the third largest Polish population in the United States and hosts America's largest celebration of Polish culture at Polish Fest. Seeing as I have no biological family with me at school, I have begun taking my family of school friends with me to Polish Fest. This allowed me to not only to celebrate my own heritage but also to share the Polish culture with other young Americans.

My contribution to Polonia as a Polish American in both Chicago and Milwaukee would have to be my youth. My young age and commitment to the Polish traditions of my ancestors are what make me not only who I am, but also a preserver of the Polish culture. My responsibility as a young person to expand communication and to educate others in my generation of my own culture and other cultures is my strength in the Polish community. Being in America, the land of the free, I am fortunate enough to be able to practice the traditions of my culture and I am proud to share my culture with the rest of my generation.



Brittany Kowalski and President Frank Czaja

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN (Continued from page 2)

Hopefully everyone had a chance to participate in the parade in Chicago commemorating that very important historical event every year. It was Europe's first and world's second modern codified national constitution, following only the 1788 ratification of the United States constitution. The tragic events that followed in Poland especially the partition of the country and lost of independence until 1918, led directly to the wave of immigration to the United States. Many fine organizations, including the Polish National Alliance were first created by Poles who had to leave their homeland and came here looking for freedom, liberty and happiness.

Fraternally,
Norbert Barszczewski

PROPOSED FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following individual has applied for membership in the Chicago Society of the P.N.A. Any member should contact the Personnel Director prior to the next general meeting if he has an objection regarding the admission of a prospective member. Sponsors are to attend the general meeting in which the new member will be inducted and to introduce him to the Personnel Director and to others before the Induction ceremony.

Name: Dale Ihssen
244 Sunset Dr.
Carpentersville, IL 60110
847-756-7400

Occupation: Financial Teacher
Birth date: March 21, 1942
Birthplace: Elgin, Illinois
Education: High School
Spouse: Sue
Sponsors: Frank Czaja
and Kenneth Gill

MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS

The Chicago Society of the P.N.A. would like to wish the following members, who are celebrating their birthday this month, a greeting of *Sto Lat*.

- 3 Wojciech Putz
- 9 James F. Kulze
- 11 Anthony J. Szpl
- 12 Lawrence R. Rzewski
- 14 John J. Domagalski
- 18 Len Krajkiwicz
Thaddeus P. Wiecek
- 22 Matthew Kubistant
- 24 Frederick J. Poska
- 26 Gerhard Kaes
- 28 Les Surowiec
- 31 Zenon Cebula

INDUCTED TO MEMBERSHIP

The Chicago Society of the P.N.A. would like to wish the following gentleman, who was sworn in last month, a greeting of *Witamy!*

Dariusz Budzikowski, sponsored by Marian Skawski and Casey Baczynski.

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Peter Dykas has been member of Chicago Society for the good part of the past 12 plus years. He has served on a couple of committees while he was elected as a Board of Director At Large and has chaired the Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinners and The Family and Friends Dinners. He has also taken part in the Deserving Children's Christmas Party, donating soda for the past 12 years as well.



Prior to joining Chicago Society and looking to step up in Polonia, Peter was involved in various Polish organizations, namely:

- The Society of Young Polish Professionals, member. (early 2000)

- The Chicago Intercollegiate Council, where he has served as 2nd Vice President for 2 years, Sergeant At Arms, and a member for more than 10 years. During those days in CIC, he has performed the Polonaise and the Mazur dances for both CIC, at their Anniversary Balls, and for The Legion of Young Polish Women's White and Red Balls. Through CIC, he was able to partake in a translating program sponsored by Coke Cola for the Running of the Olympic torch that came through Chicago on its way to Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia. Also through CIC, he has served as a Parade Marshall for numerous years.

- served as Chairman of the Polish Museum's Summer Ball and also as Co-Chair of their silent auction.

- AMOPOD, Americans of Polish Decent, member since inception some 20 years

- The Polish Scouting Organizations, Harcerstwo.

Peter has long held Harcerstwo close to his heart since his youth when he became a cub scout. He gives credit to the scouts for helping him learn the history and culture of Polonia. He has traveled with them to Colorado on 3 separate hiking trips through the mountains, white water rafted down the Arkansas River during those trips, and climbed to the top of both Pike's Peak and Mt. Uncompahgre Peak, a 14,392 foot peak above sea level. Through this close bond he has developed with them, he calls all of them family and close friends with most of

them keeping in close contact. He has learned to snow ski, gives credit to them for his passion of the outdoors, and to this date he is still a member, but not nearly as active as he once was (more like a silent scout). He definitely plans to enroll his son in the upcoming fall. Peter still partakes in the Polish Parade marching with the scouts along with his 3 year old son and wife. He has probably missed only a few Polish parades in his lifetime.

Even though Peter was born and raised in Chicago all his life, he has been active in Polonia since he was born. He labels himself as someone who was "Made in Poland."

Peter attended St. James Grammar school, where he also went to Saturday morning Polish Classes, Weber High School, Class of '84, the University of Illinois at Chicago, Triton College, and DePaul University where he graduated with an accounting degree. While attending DePaul, Peter started working at the Cook County Assessor's Office as a part-timer. This past March, he marked his 22 years of public service, during which he has earned himself the designation of Assessment Administration Specialist, a 30 hour a year continuous education program required by the state of Illinois and accredited by the International Association Of Assessing Officers, where he attended and completed various seminars and numerous test courses to achieve this designation, and also the designation of Certified Illinois Assessing Officer thru the Illinois Property Assessment Institute. Peter is currently working as the Group Leader of Industrial Properties.

And last, but definitely not least, Peter is happily married to his beautiful wife, Agnes, for nearly 7 years now and they have a son, Matthew, who is 3 and a daughter, Isabella Karolina Dykas, who was born on May 3, 2011, 6 lbs., 11 oz., 19 in. long.

Both Peter and Agnes hope to continue where their parents left off by exposing them to Polonia's traditions and customs and hope that their children can follow in their footsteps.

Experts are predicting that Polish tourism will increase during 2011. Turbulence in North Africa and the Middle East, combined with the Polish presidency of the European Union (EU), could be a boon for the tourism industry. Almost 13 million people are expected to visit Poland, compared to 12.5 million in 2010.

MEMBERS' ANNIVERSARIES

The Chicago Society of the P.N.A. would like to commend the following members, who are celebrating the anniversary of their induction this month, for their many years of membership.

Theodore C. Sanders	1986	25 years
John J. Domagalski	1991	20 years
Aloysius A. Mazewski	1991	20 years
Andrew Zapalski	2001	10 years

WORLD NEWS

CZECH REPUBLIC MAY RETURN 902 ACRES

Warsaw (PMN)—The Czech Republic is considering a plan to hand back 902 acres (365 hectares) of land to Poland. Only the question of exactly which land is controversial.

The land debt dates from the late 1950s, when Poland and Czechoslovakia shifted their borders. At the time, the latter received more land than it gave up: 910.4 acres (368.44 hectares) more, to be precise.

The border between the two countries stretches 494.6 miles (796 kilometers) touching five regions on the Czech side and three voivodships [provinces or counties] on the Polish side. According to information from the Polish Press Agency (PAP), the Czech Ministry of the Interior has suggested handing over land located in the Liberec region between Swieradow and Bogatynia in the West-

ern Sudeten mountains. The area borders Poland's Lower Silesia voivodship.

However, PAP cited local Czech officials upset with the national government's plan. They complained, for example, that it would be unjust to take land from what is already the Czech Republic's smallest region. Polish officials, for their part, note that the proposal is still in the initial stages.

A Polish-Czech Border Commission has been dealing with the matter since the early 1990s, but despite several attempts, no resolution has been achieved to date. The last attempt, in 2008, would have seen the transfer of 914 acres (370 hectares).

RUSSIANS REMOVE KATYN FROM CRASH PLAQUE

Warsaw (PMN)—An international argument has broken out about the new plaque laid by Russia at the site of last year's Smolensk plane disaster. In a move that cast a shadow over the April 10 day of national mourning, the Russian government caused an uproar by replacing the original plaque placed by Poland and removing all mention of the Katyn massacre that those who died were on their way to commemorate.

According to reports in the Polish press, the plaque had been removed by authorities who had claimed it was only in Polish and wanted it also inscribed in Russian.

However, upon its return, the commemorative piece was left with only: "In remembrance of the 96 Poles including Polish President Lech Kaczynski who died on April 10, 2010, in a plane crash near Smolensk." The original second part, which stated "on the way to commemorate the 70th anniversary of

the Soviet crime of genocide committed against the Polish POWs and officers of the Polish Army in 1940," was missing in either language.

According to Andrei Yevseyenko, a spokesman for Smolensk's governor, it was "not necessary to mention Katyn."

WORKERS DISCOVER 1944 GERMAN BUNKER

Warsaw (PMN)—Workers repairing a streetcar [tram] line in central Warsaw on April 13, 2011, uncovered an intact German Nazi bunker dating from 1944 and museum curators immediately declared an interest in the find. The Museum of the Polish Army was quickly leading the bids to acquire the war-time relic. A spokesman for the museum told the *Gazeta Wyborcza* [Electoral Gazette] daily "We are assessing the costs of extraction and transportation."

The bunker would be first exhibited in the main building of The Museum of the Polish Army on Jerozolimskie Avenue. In the future it would be located at the Citadel Museum.

The defensive bastion, which was discovered on Plac Zbawiciela [Savior Square], belonged to an entire chain of bunkers built by the Nazi occupiers in late 1944. This bunker was created following the Warsaw Rising, the doomed insurgency in which the Polish underground army [Armia Krajowa] attempted to overcome the Nazi forces.

In October 1944, after Hitler's forces had finished stamping out the 63-day rising, the Germans then had to prepare to face the advancing Soviet army. So a chain of defensive bunkers were built in a hurry.

A similar installation was discovered in 2004 under a parking lot in central Warsaw and was transported to the newly opened Warsaw Uprising Museum.









HUBERT J. CIOROMSKI
PRESIDENT



5420 N. HARLEM AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60656

OFFICE: (773) 792-3000
FAX: (773) 792-8872

SUPPORT YOUR BROTHERS

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

**THIS EXCELLENT SPACE
IS AVAILABLE FOR
YOUR ADVERTISING**

Call the Editor Today
Norbert Barszczewski
224-717-9891
editor@chicagosocietypna.org



THE SKAJA FAMILY

Family owned and operated
Serving our community
for 84 years

Jack Skaja and John Skaja
Members

SKAJA TERRACE FUNERAL

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

