

The Grago Society, Lodge 1450 PNA

Our Second Century of Brotherhood and Service

VOLUME 69

March 2018

NUMBER 3

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 Casino Day White Eagle Events & Convention Center 1:30pm to midnight

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

February General Meeting White Eagle Events & Convention Center 6:00 pm RESERVATIONS by February 19 to <u>meeting@chicagosocietypna.org</u> or (773) 444-0744 or https://www.chicagosocietypna.org

Monday, April 2, 2018 March Board Meeting PNA Home Office 6:00 pm FORUM Deadline Send all articles to editor@chicagosocietypna.org

Saturday, May 5, 2018 Polish Constitution Day Pre-Parade Brunch Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Chicago - 8:00 am

March 2018 Speaker & Dinner Meeting

Our speaker for the March General Meeting will be our Brother **Chris Grzadziel**. Chris will speak to us about Information Technology Security focused on personal and small business risks and threats.

Chris is an Information Technology Professional with over 24 years of IT experience. During his tenure working in the IT field he has designed, developed and implemented a multitude of IT solutions including many enterprise IT security initiatives based on industry best practices and requirements from the business. This includes projects for firewalls, IPS/ IDS, DLP, web browsing security, spam scanning, and virus scanning. He has also developed and implemented comprehensive disaster recovery plans for critical business systems. Chris has a Bachelor and Masters degree in Computer Science from the Illinois Institute of Technology. He also has several industry related certifications.

Continued on page 3

Polish Constitution Day Parade

The Chicago Society's Annual Polish Constitution Day Pre-Parade Brunch will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2018, in the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Reception will be at 8:00 a.m. with seating at 9:15 a.m. Brunch will be served at 9:30 a.m. Cost of the brunch is \$35.00 per person. Cost of the children's meal, 5 to 11 years old, is \$20.00. Tickets may be purchased by PayPal at www.chicagosocietypna.org. Tickets will be held at the door. For additional information please contact Chairman **Ro Matuszczak** at 847-635-0883 or 847-331-8007. This will be Ro's 41st year as Chairman. Co-chairmen for the event are **Adam Konopka** and **Chris Grzadziel**. Also on the committee are Chris Matuszczak and Kasia Grzadziel.

The Chicago Society will have a float and music will be supplied by **Tony Kawalkowski**. There will be space on the float for some persons to ride.

Please make reservations early!



Chicago Society float from 2017 Polish Constitution Day Parade



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

CHICAGO SOCIETY P.N.A. 2018 Board of Directors

> President: Steven Rakowski

1st Vice-President: Peter A. Dykas

2nd Vice-President: Mario Mikoda

Secretary: Charles Cwiakala

Financial Secretary: Richard Wiermanski

Treasurer: Robert Nowaczyk

Advocate: Adam Konopka

Senior Director Thaddeus Makarewicz

Social Activities Director: Romuald Matuszczak

Directors of Outreach: Ronald Topczewski

Director of Personnel: Mark Orwat

Director of Publications: Christopher Grzadziel Dear Brothers,

I hope this message is received on as nice a day as when it was written. I, for one, welcome the warmer weather, the Easter season, and the re-birth of things.



One of the things I always look forward to in the spring is the coho fishing. It's the best time to catch large numbers of tasty 2-3-pound fish. As is becoming a Chicago Society tradition, we will again be hosting a fishing derby. The date on our website calendar is May 26th. As of the writing of this message I learned that day conflicts with a Salmon Unlimited event. So, I picked May 20th instead. I have confirmation from my Salmon Unlimited partners of the availability of four boats for that date and our calendar will be updated shortly. Due to the high demand for charter boats at this time of the year, a rain date will not be available. In the event of inclement weather, a fall date will again be announced later in the year.

Representing Chicago Society, I attended the White and Red Ball on March 3rd hosted by the Legion of Young Polish Women. It again was a wonderful evening and everyone had a great time. Hubert Cioromski was the Master of Ceremonies. He did a good job. This year's queen was Nicolette Tukiendorf, daughter of good friends Anna and Kevin Wilhite from the PACC. Congratulations to Nicolette and her family.

As some of you may be aware, President of Poland, Andrzej Duda is visiting Chicago on May 19th. I am in contact with his secretary in the hope that a stop at a Polish American Association can be accommodated. This will be President Duda's first trip to Chicago and Consul General, Piotr Janicki, and I are hopeful we can confirm his availability and create a welcoming event for him. Please stay tuned.

At last count the Chicago Society has 146 members. We are hoping to swear in one more member at the March general meeting. One member submitted his resignation last month which was accepted by the board. I mention this because we remain in desperate need of new members. New applications are not coming in like I hoped following the defeat last November of the board resolution to allow women members. You may recollect that following that vote I challenged each member to bring in one new member in 2018. So far, we are off to a very slow start. Possibly as a reaction to the declining membership and revenue problem Brother Members circulated a petition to revisit the proposal made in November, 2017. The board recognized the legitimacy of the request by certifying its compliance with our Constitution. The Petition and the April vote will be announced in this month's Forum. If you are interested in voting on this matter, please make sure to attend the April general meeting.

Finally, I wish you and your families a heartfelt Wesołych Świąt Wielkanocnych!

Brother Steven Rakowski

Continued from page 1

March 2018 Speaker & Dinner Meeting

He currently works for the international law firm Locke Lord LLP where he is the Director of IT Projects and Integration. In his tenure at Locke Lord he has also served as the IT Director and Network & Telecom Manager. Chris has also worked for Arthur Andersen LLP and Microhard Technologies Inc.

Chris has been a member of the Polish Scouting Organization for over 40 years. For over 11 years he was an active member of the Lechici Dancers of the Polish Scouting Organization and performed across the Midwest, Canada and twice in Poland at the "Światowy Festiwal Polonijnych Zespołow Folklorystycznych". In 2016 he and his wife Kasia performed at the Lechici 50th Anniversary Concert. Chris was a long time member of the Chicago Intercollegiate Council where he served as President in 1998 and 1999.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at White Eagle Events & Convention Center, 6839 N Milwaukee Ave, Niles, IL 60714. Cocktail hour starts at 6:00 pm with the dinner meeting starting at 7:00 pm.Please contact Brother Mario Mikoda at meeting@chicagosocietypna.org or call (773) 444-0744 for reservations. You can also RSVP by going to the Chicago Society website. Please note: Any guests at the meeting must be prospective new members and you must confirm the reservation with Brother Mario **Mikoda**. No exceptions! 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.

Fishing Derby

Fishing Derby Chairman Steve Rakowski has announced that the 2018 Chicago Society Fishing Derby will be held on May 20, 2018. Join fellow fishing enthusiasts for a relaxing outing under the experienced supervision of licensed captains.

The cost will be \$140.00 per person and our event is limited to the first twenty-five 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. Available on-line at http:// www.dnr.illinois.gov/lpr/pages/fishinglicensesfees.aspx

We will meet at 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. Included in the price is a BBQ lunch. Join us to share pictures and stories of your morning experience. If you'd like to just attend the BBQ, the cost per person is \$35.00 and we'll start at 1:00 at the Salmon Unlimited Pavilion on the North side of the Marina.

For more information call Steve Rakowski at (847) 204-4106. You will also be able to RSVP and pay online at the Chicago Society website.

Golf Outing

It's not too early to think about golf. Chairman Mark Orwat and co-chairman Steve Rakowski invite you to the Chicago Charles Society/ Komosa Memorial Golf Outing on July 13, 2018 at the swankv Gleneagles Country Club in Lemont. The day will begin with a cookout lunch in the outdoor pavilion followed by a shotgun scramble start. There will be a fleet of beverage carts patrolling the golf course with free drinks and snacks and other surprises. After a great day of golf there will be an open bar, appetizers and dinner followed by awards and raffle. Schedule and costs will be announced in future

Forum articles. Reservations and payments will be accepted on the Chicago Society website.





Śledź Celebration - A Pre-Lenten Pageantry

The Chicago Society held its annual Słedź celebration on Tuesday, February 12, 2018 at the Victoria Banquets in Niles, Illinois. Słedź is the Polish version of "Fat Tuesday" or Mardi Gras where it's the last night of revelry before the beginning of the somber Lenten season's forty days of fasting and penance.



The evening began with cocktails followed by dinner featuring herring (Słedź) in cream sauce, salad, pasta, a choice of Chicken Marsala and for our really devout Catholic brothers, Salmon with mixed vegetables. And of course, for dessert, there were copious amounts of Paczki supplied by our brother **Bill Wojcik** of Laramie Bakery & Deli.

But the highlight of the evening was the Słedź pageant performed by the Chicago Society's Not For Prime Time Performers. Our famous Brother **Tony Kawalkowski** opened the pageant playing his violin to set the tone of this theatrical misadventure. In the opening scene we have the Angel, played by our President, **Steve Rakowski** (wings and all) flittering around trying to save souls by passing out "life saver" candies. The Angel

is closely followed by the Devil (**Peter Dykas**) dressed in all red with a menacing red mask with green eyes and pitch fork prodding all in attendance to break their upcoming Lenten fast. Father Time (**Fred Koziol**) dressed in a white gown, long white hair and carrying a large clock, the reaper of us all, follows the Devil to reminds us that we are here for only a short time. Then comes the somber Pallbearers (**Mark Orwat, Chris Grzadziel, Topper Topczewski and Harold Brown**) with top hats and white gloves escorting the "Słedź" to be presented to the audience. And finally, we have the



entrance of the King and Queen of the Pageant (**Stanley Sawa** and Marcella Huff) giving their royal wave to their subjects and making royal proclamations to all.

Another tradition of the Słedź, is to anoint the incoming St. Joseph of the Chicago Society whose duty is to give a prayer throughout the year at the beginning of each general meeting. This year we had a miraculous conversion and our St. Joseph is none other than our Devil, **Peter Dykas**.

A good time was had by all and I would encourage all our members to put it on their calendars for next year.

Chicago Society March Casino Day

Our next Casino Day will be on March 20th at the White Eagle Events & Convention Center. Volunteers are needed for this event. Shifts are 1:30 - 6:30 and 6:30 - midnight. There is no need to know how to play any of the games. The volunteer work is for administrative functions of the

event. If you can give a few hours of your time, please contact cochairmen Brothers **Chuck Cwiakala** or **Ro Matuszczak** at 847-635-0883 or send an e-mail to casinoday@chicagosocietypna.org.

March Candidates Corned Beef Dinner

Due to scheduling issues, the March Candidates Corned Beef Dinner has been canceled. Please look out for information about the October dinner prior to the General Election in November.

SPECIAL NOTICE – UNPAID 2018 DUES

As required by our constitution and by-laws, Chicago Society dues are required to be paid by March 1 of each year. The following members still need to pay their dues to remain in good-standing:

George W Batorski Joseph N Bauerle John C Cieslik Andrew Csoke Mark Cwiakala Joseph D. Dondalski Michael C Dropka Thomas J Gabryszewski Dale Ihssen Gerhard Kaes Mark Kaszubski Walter Kazmierczak **Chester P Klos** William Kolodziej **Gregory M Kosin** Dariusz Kozlowski Len Krajkiewicz Joseph A Kuechel Mark J Kupiec Zenon Kurdziel Chester A Lizak Edward H Marsalek **Robert Martwick** David H Marutzky Mark Matker Robert A Michalik Jerome F Mytych

Ronald J Nawrocki **Dean J Niedospial Thomas Nowinski** Marshall S Olech Ronald J Olech Mitchell Pasiewicz Christopher Pfannkuche John J Pikarski, Jr. Chester M Przybylo Andrew Przybylo Wojciech Putz Matt L Rodriguez Jack F Rohner **Benjamin Sipiora** Frank Spula Les Sraga Stanley O Stawski William Sufranski John P Teschky Robert Tomszyk Alexander Tzanos Eugene R Urbaszewski John A Wojciechowski William Wojcik Anthony Zaskowski Dan Zolkowski

If you have paid and are listed in error, please contact Financial Secretary **Rick Wiermanski** to correct the error and receive an apology. Email: <u>febaway@comcast.net</u> or 815-222-3472.

Please remember that if your dues are not paid by April 1, you are "suspended" and will not be able to participate in meeting activities, including voting on any proposals. Avoid the required steps of completing a membership application and requesting reinstatement, along with paying yours dues.

To pay your dues, you can:

Use PayPal on the website: <u>https://www.chicagosocietypna.org/shop</u> Bring your check to the March 21 General Meeting Mail to: Financial Secretary Rick Wiermanski, 1906 Holly Ave., Darien, IL 60561



For those who may have watched the "MasterChef Jr" show on Friday, March 2nd, Bení Ćwiakała, granddaughter of Brother Chuck and Teresa Ćwiakala, made it to the Top 24 (out of an original 1,600); Gordon Ramsay presented her with the 'official' "MasterChef Jr." apron. The weekly Friday evening Fox Channel show will continue for several more weeks.

Brother **Stuart Sawa** invites you to a St. Patrick's Day Celebration at Sawa's Old Warsaw in Broadview on March 17th. Dinner will include sliced corned beef, cabbage, Irish potatoes and soda bread. For more information please reach out to Brother Stu.

Membership Directory Booklet

The membership directory booklet has been published. It is available for purchase for \$8 and will be available at the general meetings. The booklet includes the Chicago Society constitution, bylaws, pledge, and member contact information.

Do you know a potential new member? Point them to the Chicago Society website for a membership application.

March Birthdays

The Chicago Society would like to extend to the following brother members, who are celebrating their birthday in

March, a warm wish of Sto Lat!

- 02 Les Sraga
- 09 Joseph N Bauerle
- 10 Edmund A Nowak Jr.
- 12 William G Marutzky
- 16 David H Marutzky
- 18 Jerry Sufranski
- 22 Alfred C Kotlarz
- 23 Daniel G Pikarski
- 23 Christopher T Grzadziel
- 24 William Sufranski
- 24 Mitchell Pasiewicz

Proposed for Chicago Society Membership

The following gentleman has applied for membership in the Chicago Society of the PNA. If any member has an objection regarding the admission of this prospective member, he should contact the Personnel Director prior to the next general meeting. 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: Slawomir Lapinski Address: 429 N Larch Ave, Elmhurst, IL 60126 Phone: 630-888-1580 Occupation: Commercial Financing Broker, Evergreen Avenue, Inc. Birth date: May 13 Birthplace: Poland Wife: Alicja Sponsors: Brothers Mark Orwat & Robert Groszek



Brothers,

As we start to shed our winter coats, there is a hint of Spring in the air. Tulips and daffodils are starting to peak through the thawing ground

and the grass is starting to wake up from its deep winter slumber. Please take this opportunity to renew your participation in Chicago Society meetings and events.

The Forum and website are tools to provide you information on the activities and news of the Chicago Society. I invite all brothers to submit any and all items they would like to share with the membership. This includes life-events, events you have attended, news about other members, anything you feel might be of interest to your fellow members. Send any information to <u>editor@chicagosocietypna.org</u>.

If you have any photos or videos of Chicago Society events please consider providing them to the webmaster to post on the website. Send an e-mail to <u>webmaster@chicagosocietypna.org</u> to discuss the best way to send them.

As we all sit down with our families to enjoy Easter brunch or dinner I would like to wish you and your families a happy and blessed Easter. Smacznego Jajka!

Fraternally, Brother Christopher T. Grzadziel, Editor

Easter Ham Raffle

Fifteen hams will be raffled off at our March 21st meeting at the White Eagle. Corned beef and cabbage will be served. Come join us. Please make your reservation. Our next two meetings will be at the White Eagle.



Advertise in the Forum

Are you looking to advertise your business? Why not consider advertising in the Chicago Society Forum. Your advertisement will reach all members and organizations that receive the Forum. The following are advertisement sizes and rates for 2018. Please contact the Forum editor at <u>editor@chicagosocietypna.org</u> for more information. Also available are full page inserts on a per month basis.

Page Size		Yearly Rate	
1/2 Page	7.5″ x 4.5″	\$	300.00
1/3 Page	5" x 4.5"	\$	200.00
1/6 Page	2.25" x 4.5"	\$	150.00
1/12 Page	2.25" x 2.25"	\$	100.00
Single page (one sided) B&W insert - 1 month	\$ 200.00		
Single page (one sided) Color insert - 1 month	\$ 250.00		



Petition From the General Membership

Subsequent to a petition received from the general membership titled "Petition for the revisiting & voting on amending the Constitution of the Chicago Society PNA Lodge 1450 to allow women to become regular members", the following ammendment to the Chicago Society Constitution will be voted on during the April General Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 18, 2018. As stated in the Chicago Society Constitution, notice of such a vote must be published at least 14 days prior to the vote.

The specific language is as follows.

 Art III, Sec. 3A: Any male person of Polish lineage or affinity, over 18 years of age, of good character and reputation, whose acceptance will add to the welfare and progress of the 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.

The addition of females will necessitate the following changes in various ar- ticles throughout the Constitution, as indicated below.:

Article III: Sec. 2: Replace the word "his" with "their."; Sec. 3 A: Replace the word "male" with the word "person."; Sec. 3 B: Delete the word "his."; Sec. 3 C: Delete the additional "C" and replace the phrase "his years" with the phrase "the duration."; Sec. 3 D: Replace "C" with "D."; Sec. 4: Delete the word "his" and insert the word "a."; Sec. 5: Delete the word "his" each place it appears. Sec. 6: Delete the word "his."

Article IV: Sec. 1: Delete the words "his" and insert instead the word "their." Further, insert the word "and" after the word "application."

Article VII: Sec. 9: Delete the last sentence and insert "No person administering the oath of office to the aforesaid officers and board members shall be one of the incoming officers or board members."

Article VIII: Sec. 1: Delete the semi-colon and the word "he" and insert a period after the word "Directors." In all other places "he" appears insert the phrase, "the Presi- dent."; Sec. 2: Each place appearing delete the words "he" and "his." In the last sen- tence delete the words "to him."; Sec. 3: Delete the word "he" in the first sentence. In the second sentence insert "Said officer" and delete the phrase "to him." Sec. 4: Delete the word "he" in each place it appears. Delete the phrase "to him." Sec. 5: Delete the word "he" in each place it appears. Delete the phrase "by him." Delete the phrase "to him." Delete "he shall give a bond for the faithful performance of his duties issued by a responsible surety company in an amount as approved by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Society;". Replace it with "shall give a bond for faithful duty performance issued by a responsible surety company in an amount as approved by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Society;" Sec. 6: Delete the word "he" each place it appears. Delete "he shall give a bond for the faithful performance of his duties issued by a responsible surety company in an amount as approved by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Soci- ety;" Sec. 6: Delete the word "he" each place it appears. Delete "he shall give a bond for the faithful performance of his duties issued by a responsible surety company in an amount as approved by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Board of Directors, the premium for the faithful performance of his duties issued by a responsible surety company in an amount as approved by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Board of Dire

Society;". Replace it with "shall give a bond for faithful duty performance issued by a responsible surety company in an amount as approved by the Board of Directors, the premium for which shall be paid by the Society;"; Sec. 7: Delete the word "his" and insert the word "the." Delete the phrase " to him."

Article IX: Sec. 6(E): Delete the phrase "to him." Sec. 7: Delete the Sec. and insert "Any Director may recommend the creation of such committees and members thereof who shall, under the direction of the President, assist in the performance of the President's duties.

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



American Home Inspectors, Ltd.

Stanley W. Sawa, President 5324 S. Catherine

Countryside, IL 60525 Prepurchase Home Inspections Since 1988 A.S.H.I. Certified Member #001882 III. Home Inspector Entity License 451.000175

Local 708/579-0300 Toll Free 800/339-5300 Fax 877/360-5404 III. Home Inspector License #450.000424 E-Mail: STAN@AHINSPECTORS.COM Web Page WWW.AHINSPECTORS.COM



HUBERT J. CIOROMSKI President

O'HARE 5420 N Harlem Chicago, IL 60656 Chicago, IL 60614

LINCOLN PARK 2502 N Clark

Office: 773.792.3000 Cell: 773.485.3000 hubert@troyrealtyltd.com

CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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

THE SKAJA FAMILY



Family owned and operated Serving out community for 84 years

Jack Skaja and John Skaja Members

SKAJA TERRACE FUNERAL HOME

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

SKAJA BACHMANN **FUNERAL HOME**

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