



The Forum

of the Chicago Society, Group 1450 PNA
The Voice of an Autonomous Lodge of the Polish National Alliance

VOLUME 63

NOVEMBER 2012

NUMBER 11

DINNER NETWORKING MEETING

WEDNESDAY

November 21, 2012

6:00 P.M.

Przybylo's White
Eagle Banquets
Niles, Illinois

RESERVATIONS

BY NOVEMBER 19

TO 847-635-0883 OR

meeting@chicagosocietypna.org

ARE MANDATORY

NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

Monday, December 3, 7:00 P.M.

Folak's Lincoln Tavern

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, November 21—

Thanksgiving Dinner Meeting
& Election of Officers
Przybylo's White
Eagle Banquets

Wednesday, December 18—

Christmas Dinner Meeting
Przybylo's White
Eagle Banquets

GOBBLE SOME TURKEY AND CAST YOUR BALLOT

The Chicago Society Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Election Meeting will be held on November 21, 2012 at Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets on Milwaukee Avenue in Niles. The price for the carved turkey dinner is \$20. Reservations are mandatory; your payment may be made at the door. An open bar will be available before the meeting from 6 to 7 p.m. with a cash bar after the meeting.

The Election of Officers and Directors for the Chicago Society for 2013 will also be held on that day. Those members who do not wish to participate in the meal, but do wish to participate in the election, may enter the meeting room for free beginning at 6:00 to cast their vote. A government issued photo ID must be shown to receive a ballot.

The candidates are as follows:

President: Kenneth Gill and Mark Orwat

Executive Vice President: Robert Groszek

Civic Vice President: John Cieslik

Recording Secretary: Marian Skawski

Financial Secretary: Richard Jadczyk

Treasurer: Donald Gutowski

Advocate: Ted Makarewicz

Senior Director: Frank Czaja

Social Activities Director: Romuald Matuszczak

Clubhouse Director: Charles Cwiakala

Directors-at-Large (5 positions): T. Ron Jasinski Herbert, Charles Komosa, Ted Wiecek, John Wojciechowski (1 Director position has no candidate).



INAUGURAL BALL IS COMING

The Annual Inaugural Ball with Installation of Officers of the Chicago Society for 2013 will be held on January 19th, 2013, at Café La Cave in Des Plaines. Chairman Brother

Andrew Zapalski ensures that the evening will meet the high standards of the Chicago Society with great food, good drinks, and high quality entertainment. Music will again be provided by Brother **Anthony Kawalkowski** and his Orchestra. This year's Person of the Year will be Brother **Stanley Stawski**, honored for his philanthropic work for Polonia. Tickets for the year's Ball are \$120, which includes an open bar, a gourmet dinner, and a fun-filled evening. So make your plans now to attend this gala event.



Save the Date!

Chicago Society Inaugural Ball

Saturday, January 13, 2013

Café La Cave | DesPlaines, IL

Honoring our Person of the Year
Stanley Stawski

For early reservations
visit us at www.chicagosocietypna.org
call 312-520-6144



CHICAGO SOCIETY Forum

A monthly news bulletin for the
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DID YOU MAKE YOUR
MEETING RESERVATION?

Dear Brothers,

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!! I would like this opportunity to wish everyone and their families a healthy and enjoyable Thanksgiving Holiday. Enjoy the company of family and friends and the wonderful food. Enjoy the outdoors or the football games. Most of all, no matter how things may seem, be thankful for everyone and everything in your life. Take some time away from the hustle and bustle to relax.

I hope that everyone enjoyed their Halloween and were not too frightened by the ghosts and goblins and the rest of the trick-or-treaters. I always wonder who the candy and goodies are really for. There were some very ghastly decorated homes around the Chicago land area. Hope you got to check some of them out.

Thank you to Brother **Charlie Komosa** and his committee for another great Corned Beef dinner. Everyone had a great time and again everyone over ate the delicious corned beef dinner. We also had a number politicians and judges who will be running for office. Thank you also to Brother **Fred Koziol** for coordinating our Nite at the Races. We shared the night with P.A.P.A and all those that attended had fun and ate well at the buffet. Many even enjoyed the races and the wagering on them. This was a fun night.

I would like to say that it was a pleasure to represent the Chicago Society, on this our 100 year anniversary, at the 15th Annual Polish-American Heritage celebration. It was also an honor to receive the Distinguished Organization Award on behalf of all the members of the Chicago Society. It was also a pleasure to be at the Art for Heart fundraiser at the Polish Museum of America. We, the Chicago Society, were one of the sponsors of the event.

Do not forget to come out to our Thanksgiving meeting and celebrate the holiday with your brother members. Also, at this meeting is the election for the Board for the 2013 year. There are two candidates for President, so come on out and enjoy a wonderful meal and vote, or if you're not able to stay for the meal come and vote anyway. Remember you are the Chicago Society! Have a great Holiday and enjoy.

Fraternally yours,
Frank



November is a month full of emotions. The month begins with All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, when we remember our departed family members, loved ones, and friends. The following week is the national election, with so many important offices up for election, not the least of which is the office of our President. Depending on who

wins, there will be celebrations as well as tears of sadness. I congratulate all the winners of this election.

November 11th is celebrated in this country as Veterans Day, a day when we honor those who have fought for our freedom and for peace throughout the world. Many of us, however, remember when it was known as Armistice Day, celebrating the end of World War I. It is also an historic day in the history of Poland, as it is the anniversary of the day she regained her independence after 123 years of foreign control, and the birth of the II Republic of Poland. Despite the lack of a "country," the Polish people remained strong and defiant in their hope of a free and independent Poland, by keeping their faith, their language and their culture alive.

The end of November brings us Thanksgiving Day, a day when we give thanks for what we have been blessed with—not the material things, but for freedom, for health, and for all that brings us joy. Let us also find time to lend a helping hand to those who are less fortunate than we are. A warm dish and a warm smile will certainly gladden someone's holiday, and make you feel better about yourself. A Happy Thanksgiving to all. *Smaczego indyka!*





♦ Past President Brother **Frank Gonda** and his wife Beverly celebrated their Golden wedding anniversary with a Mass on Sunday, September 23, 2012, at Holy Name Cathedral. Francis Cardinal George, OMI presided before 425 couples celebrating their milestone anniversaries. An unexpected thing happened: one couple from Bensenville recognized Frank as he was taking pictures inside the cathedral. Frank and Beverly met this couple while on their 50th Anniversary cruise last May, on a tour in Naples, Italy, enjoying pizza together. Truly a small world!

♦ The Polish Arts Club will show the movie *Krzyżacy* ("Knights of the Black Cross"), based on the novel by Henryk Sienkiewicz, directed by Aleksander Ford. This epic film will be shown in its entirety, with English subtitles, on November 17 at 3:00 p.m. at the PNA Building, 6100 N. Cicero in Chicago. Admission is free, but reservations are necessary, by contacting Shirley Dudzinski 773-763-4069 or **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert** tronjh@comcast.net.

♦ A "Party at the Museum" was held in conjunction with the "Art for Heart" (*Sztuka dla serca*) exhibit at the Polish Museum of America on October 27, 2012. Enjoying the exhibit and the camaraderie were Brothers **Andy Pawlowski** (co-chair of the exhibit) and his wife Anna, **Darek Kozlowski** and **Ted Wiecek**.

♦ Congratulations to Brother **Robert Groszek** for being recognized for his commendable undertakings in helping

Polonia by Illinois State Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka and her Polish Advisory Council during Polish American Heritage Month in October.

♦ Congratulations to Brother **Frank Spula** for being reelected as National President of the Polish American Congress at the National Directors meeting held in Rosemont in October. A full cadre of PAC National Directors include; Brothers Charles Komosa, **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert**, **Hubert Cioromski**, **Rom Poplawski**, **Don Versen**, **Paul Odrobina** and **Marian Skawski**.

♦ Ship Ahoy! Brother **Charles Komosa** was spotted aboard the famous Queen Mary in Long Beach, California holding court at Sir Winston Churchill's Quarters on the ship's Sun Deck, after offering remarks at the closing banquet of the annual meeting of the California Fraternal Alliance (a trade association of fraternal insurance companies).

♦ Rebekah District Association One announces its 2013 essay contest for high school sophomores and juniors. Students can win a trip to New York to study the United Nations. To win, a student must submit an essay on the topic, "Do you believe in today's world, if there are any benefits of continuing the United Nations?" The trip is sponsored by the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs. For more information, call Brother **Ken Gill** at 773-852-6757.

♦ The Polish National Alliance is again sponsoring its Annual "Toys for Kids at Christmas" drive. This year the PNA will donate the collected toys and games to The Women's Center in Chicago. There will be collection boxes in the lobbies of the Polish National Alliance Home Office, at Alliance Printers & Publishers and both PNA Bank locations for toy donations from Monday, November 19, 2012 until Friday, December 7, 2012.

DESERVING CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Annual Chicago Society Deserving Children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 15, 2012, at the Polish National Alliance, 6100 N. Cicero Avenue in Chicago starting at 12:00 noon. This is Chairman Brother Ro Matuszczak's 49th year



chairing the event. There will be a lunch followed by an animal act. Santa (Brother **Rich Ciesla**) will arrive and distribute gifts to the children. Field representatives of the Polish American Association choose the children they feel are most deserving. Anyone who would care to make a donation of gifts or money should contact Chairman Matuszczak at 847-635-0883.

In Memoriam

November is the Month of Remembrance. Let us remember our deceased brothers, family members, friends and colleagues by saying a prayer for their eternal rest and lighting a candle in their memory. We especially remember our brothers and their families who passed away in 2012:

- † Brother **Anthony Wesley**
- † Anne Sufranski, mother of Brother **Bill Sufranski**
- † Florence Mazewski, mother of Brother **Al Mazewski, Jr.**, and wife of late Brother **Aloysius Mazewski**
- † Genevieve Kobelinski, mother of Brother **Gregg Kobelinski**, wife of late Brother **Mitchell Kobelinski**
- † Casmira Odrobina, mother of Brother **Paul Odrobina**
- † Joan Kosinski, wife of late Brother **George Kosinski**
- † Althea Przybylo Kroger, sister of Brother **Andrew Przybylo**
- † Stefan Kardas, father-in-law of Brother **James Kolak**
- † Richard T. Sanders, son of Brother **Ted Sanders**

Wieczny odpoczynek racz im dać, Panie, a światłość wiekuista niechaj im świeci, na wieki wieków. Amen

Eternal rest grant unto them, o Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them.

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CANDIDATE'S CORNED BEEF DINNER A HUGE SUCCESS!

I would like to thank all of our members who attended the Chicago Society Candidate's Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner at the ACC Eagle's Club in Chicago. Over twenty candidates seeking office at the federal, state, and county levels, and eighty guests enjoyed the evening dining on the world famous Harrington's Corned Beef, consuming exotic cocktails, listening to the candidates remarks, and enjoying the Vegas style action of the executive raffle. A special thanks to co-chairman Brother **Mark Orwat** for his work and raffle donations, and Brothers **John Cieslik** for moderating and introducing the candidates, **Bill Powell** for a patriotic reading of the Pledge of Allegiance, **Ken Gill**, **Ro Matuszczak** and **John Wojciechowski** for donating raffle prizes, and **Richard Jadzak** for arranging the Eagle's Club for the event.

Submitted by Brother Charles Komosa

HOW TO APPEAL YOUR TAXES

The speaker at our October meeting was Dan Patlak, Commissioner of the Cook County Board of Review. Mr. Patlak began his talk by giving some information about his background, and his goals in assuming this office. Among these goals were to make improvements in how clients are serviced, to digitize all the Board's documents, and to educate the public about their property taxes. One of the improvements he has instituted is to make any adjustment to a property's assessed value permanent with the Assessor's Office. He has also revised the complaint form to make the process smoother, as well as increased the number of foreign language speakers on his staff.

Mr. Patlak then spoke of the numerous exemptions for which a homeowner can qualify. Among these are the homestead exemption and the senior exemption. He cautioned, however, that many of these exemptions need to be applied for annually. If a homeowner does not have the exemptions to which he or she feels is entitled, he/she can file a claim with appropriate evidence with the Assessor's Office. An attorney is not needed to file this claim. A claim can be filed for the preceding three years. He finally urged all

property owners to examine their tax bills carefully, to study the assessed value and exemptions, to make sure they aren't being charged more in property taxes than they should be.

CHICAGO SOCIETY HONORED

The Council of Educators in Polonia presented the 15th Annual Polish Heritage Celebration on Friday, October 26, 2012, at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago. A number of awards and scholarship were awarded at this event. The Distinguished Organization Award was presented to **The Chicago Society PNA** by Wamucii Njogu, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of NEIU. In presenting the award, Dean Njogu highlighted the accomplishments of the Society for the benefit of Polonia. In accepting this award, President Brother **Frank Czaja** thanked the Heritage Club and NEIU for this honor, stating that the Society is strong thanks to its members. He introduced the members of the Society present at this event: Brothers **Ed Blicharski**, **James Kolak** (who received the Community Service Award), **Ken Gill**, **Frank Gondela** and his wife Beverly, **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert**, **Michael Schneider** (whose wife Danuta was named Educator of the Year) and **Ted Wiecek**.

POLISH TRIVIA

The Nobel Prizes for 2012 were recently announced. Among this year's winners is Robert Lefkowitz (in Chemistry), whose family emigrated from Poland in the late 19th Century. How many other Nobel Prize winners have a Polish background, either by ethnicity or by birth? (Hint: the number will surprise you; there are lots more than you expect.)

Answer to October's question: Poland was partitioned for the third (and final) time on October 24, 1795, erasing Poland from the map of Europe for the next 123 years.

CONDOLENCES

Stefan Kardas, father-in-law of Brother **James Kolak**, passed away October 26, 2012. Our condolences go to Brother James and his family.

Richard T. Sanders, son of Brother **Ted Sanders**, passed away recently. Our condolences go to Brother Ted and his family.

FROM THE ANNALS OF THE CHICAGO SOCIETY

We are in the land of the free, where every genuinely true American in these United States loves his country and its flag, and respects his fellow men. We of the younger generation of Polish descent, whose good fortune it has been to have been born on American soil and those of us whose good fortune it has been to emigrate to this country and become American citizens, can thank God for the privilege which has been ours to be a part of a country that not only extends, but guarantees liberty of action, liberty of speech, and liberty of religion. Having been under oppression for years, words cannot fully express the power and meaning of it.

But while we are enjoying the freedom here, let us rejoice with our people in Poland, for after the great World's War, and its resultant devastation, out of the great evil wrought, Poland became a free and independent country again, taking its rightful place among the Nations of the world.

Those of us who are here and a part of America, and those of us who are abroad, can use as our inspiration and guide the words of *My Country 'tis of Thee*. Just as those men, who had a duty to perform and who toiled and endured hardships to establish a country, based upon freedom for all, so we have a duty just as important to see that those principles are maintained. He who loves God, his country, his family, and who respects and honors his brother's rights, is doing his duty well; he who neglects any one of these, cannot in the true sense be a good American citizen.

John J. Romanowicz, Secretary
Excerpted from *Chicago Society News*
(forerunner of *The Forum*)

MARILYN IS NOT FORGOTTEN

Warsaw (PMN)—Marilyn Monroe photographs immortalizing the American blonde bombshell were auctioned November 8, 2012, in Warsaw. Poland's state treasury obtained the candid shots of Monroe in a collection of nearly 4,000 photographs it received as part of a 1995 foreign debt settlement. Monroe is seen dressed in jeans fixing her lipstick and hair, eating a meal and coyly chatting. The actress died on August 5, 1962. The auction had a fixed minimum of \$93 per photo.

100TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET "CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF BROTHERHOOD AND SERVICE"

Sto Lat! How often do we sing that? And how rarely do these wishes actually come true. Well, these wishes have come true for the Chicago Society. This milestone was celebrated by a gala banquet on Saturday, October 6, 2012, at Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets. About 200 members and friends of the Society gathered to share in the celebration.

As the guests entered the hall, they were greeted by Society President Brother **Frank Czaja** with his wife Darlene and banquet chairman Brother **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert**. Guests were able to view a number of proclamations and resolutions from numerous elected officials, including Governor Pat Quinn, Mayor Rahm Emanuel, and others. Over cocktails and passed appetizers, this was an opportunity for friendly conversation, to renew old acquaintances or make new ones, with background music supplied by DJ Brother **Lukasz Wróbel**.

Punctually at 7:00 p.m., Brother Jasinski-Herbert asked the guests to take their seats. The tables were decorated with roses in the Polish colors, the mood brightened by tea lights, and at each place was a stand with a Polish and a U.S flag, which each guest received as a souvenir of the evening. Seated at the head table were: His Excellency Bishop Andrew Wypych, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago, Consul General of the Republic of Poland Paulina Kapuścińska with her husband Eriusz Rybacki, PNA President Brother **Frank Spula**, President of the Society Frank Czaja with his wife Darlene, and T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert. The program began with the singing of Polish and American national anthems led by Maria Ciesla, president of the Polish Museum of America. Then the guests were greeted by Brother Jasinski-Herbert in both languages. In his greeting, he stated that, "The Chicago Society survived many difficult times, including two world wars, but also the joyous moment of the rebirth of the Republic of Poland. And through all those times the Society kept its identity, its history and tradition. Today, we can proudly look at the past hundred years, and look forward to another hundred years of brotherhood and service to the Polish community." Bishop Wypych gave the invocation, in which he thanked the Lord for allowing the Society to prosper over the past 100 years and asked God to provide further blessings on the members of the Society and its activities.

While the guests enjoyed a gourmet dinner, Brother Jasinski-Herbert introduced some of the distinguished guests who were present: president of PRCUA Brother **Joseph Drobot**, president of the Illinois Division of the Polish American Congress Mary Anselmo, president of the Advocates Society Regina Rathnau, president of the Legion of Young Polish Women Teresa Skawska, chairman of the Twin Cities Chicago-Warsaw Committee Brother **Thaddeus Makarewicz**, president of the Chopin Foundation in Chicago Brother **Wojciech Putz**, representing the Heritage Club of Polish Americans Brother **Kenneth Gill**, Comptroller of the State of Illinois Judy Barr Topinka, Cook County Assessor Joseph Berrios, State Senator Illinois Dan Kotowski, Alderman of the 31st Ward Ray Suarez, and a number of judges and other dignitaries.

After dinner, President Frank Czaja greeted the guests. He spoke about the strength of the Society and the good that is done for Polonia over the past 100 years. PNA President Frank Spula in

his remarks expressed his admiration that so many former presidents were present at the banquet. Of 15 former presidents still alive, twelve were present. That's the power of the bond found among the brothers of the Society. Mr. Spula also spoke of the many events the Society organizes, among them the pre-Parade Brunch and the Deserving Children's Christmas Party. During these past 100 years, said Mr. Spula, the Society has enriched the lives of hundreds of thousands of Polonians, which is a testament to their hard work, dedication and sense of commitment for the benefit of members of the Polish community. The Consul General of the Republic of Poland Paulina Kapuścińska then spoke, saying how impressed and honored she felt to participate in this ceremony. She also presented a resolution issued by the Consulate to honor the Society and its activities.

During its history, the Society produced two "children," the Polish Welfare Society, now the Polish American Association, and the Ladies Auxiliary, now the Polish Women's Civic Club. The Executive Director of the Polish American Association Brother **Gary Kenzer** in his speech thanked the Society for its financial support and stressed the close ties between the two organizations. Representing the Polish Women's Civic Club Geraldine Balut Coleman-emphasized that the club was originally organized as the Ladies Auxiliary of the Society of Chicago in 1924 and continues its philanthropic work. President Czaja then read a proclamation issued by Governor Pat Quinn of Illinois, proclaiming October 6, 2012 as "Chicago Society Day."

Vice president Brother **Robert Groszek** then introduced the past presidents who were present. Each of them received a plaque expressing appreciation and gratitude for his sacrifice for the benefit of the Society and the entire Polish community. To conclude the program, the oldest member of the Society Brother **William Powell**, by both age (94 years old) and longevity (a member for 65 years) cut the birthday cake and the whole room sang *Dwieście lat!*

Guests then had the opportunity to continue to have conversations with their friends, dance to the sounds of Dan Mateja and The Downtown Sound, or enjoy their next cocktail. As they were departing this very successful celebration, all guests expressed their gratitude for a lovely evening and wished the Chicago Society another hundred years of brotherhood and service.

In addition to the letters printed in the Ad Book and displayed at the Banquet, letters of congratulations and gratitude were received from Attorney General of the State of Illinois Lisa Madigan, Cook County Treasurer Maria Papas and Treasurer of the City of Chicago Stephanie D. Neely.

Banquet Chairman Brother T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert would like to thank the members of the Committee for giving of their time, energy, and talents to make the event the huge success it was: Brothers President Frank Czaja and his wife Darlene, **Charles Komosa**, **Ro Matuszczak** and his wife Chris, **Mark Orwat**, **Anthony Szplit**, **Ron "Topper" Topczewski** and **Ted Wiecek**. He would also like to express his gratitude to Brother **Andrew Przybylo**, owner of White Eagle Banquets, for his efforts and generosity in ensuring the evening's success. *Bóg zapłać!* to all.

PROPOSED FOR 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: Michael J. Gadzinski
Address: 4323 N Newland
Harwood Heights, IL 60706
Phone: 708-705-9600
Occupation: Trustee, Village of
Harwood Heights; Cook
County Board of Review
Birth date: January 31, 1983
Birthplace: Poland
Education: BA, NEIU
Sponsors: T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert
and Charles Komosa

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

The Chicago Society would like to congratulate the following brother members, who are celebrating the anniversary of their induction in November.

Richard M. Wiermanski	1957	55 Years
Chester M. Przybylo	1962	50 Years
James F. Kulze	1972	40 Years

IT'S A BOY

Congratulations to Brother Dr. **Alexander Tzanos** and his wife Lauren (daughter of Brother **John Cieslik** and his wife Jean) who welcomed into this world baby Nicholas Alexander Tzanos on October 10, 2012. Baby and mother are all doing well, including proud grandpa John Cieslik.

CORRECTION

The following participants in the Business Expo were inadvertently omitted for the October print version of *The Forum*. We regret the omission.

Robert Groszek – Law Offices of Robert Groszek & Associates

Richard Jadczyk – Richard J. Money, Inc.

CHICAGO SOCIETY RULES OF ELECTION

1. The election committee shall consist of the same members who were appointed as the nominating committee. Ballots may be distributed starting at 6:00 p.m., but shall not be collected until later, as described below. Every member taking a ballot shall show photo identification.
2. The dinner shall take place at 7:00 p.m.
3. Following the dinner at approximately 8:00 p.m., in the event that there are contested offices, the candidates for those offices may, at their discretion, speak before the meeting for no more than 2 minutes each.
5. At the conclusion of any speeches, the election committee shall collect the ballots.
4. If a member shall inadvertently spoil his ballot, he shall return it to the election committee, a member of which shall write "spoiled" across the ballot, retain it, and give the member a replacement ballot.
6. When all the ballots are collected, the election committee chairman shall publicly declare the voting closed. After that announcement no more ballots may be cast or collected.
7. Any candidate in a contested election may appoint a member to watch the counting of the vote, but such watcher shall not touch the ballots or in any way interfere with the orderly counting of the votes.
8. After the ballots are counted, the election committee chairman shall publicly announce the result of the counting at which time the results shall be official.
9. In the event of a tie, a run-off will be conducted at the December meeting, but there shall be no speeches. In all other respects, the election, counting and announcement will be conducted as above.
10. The election committee shall deliver the cast ballots and any spoiled ballots to the Secretary, who shall hold them until the December regular meeting, after which they may be destroyed.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

- 1 T. Ron. Jasinski-Herbert
- 2 Stan Lesniak
- 3 Tom Startek
- 4 Henry Kurzydowski
- 5 Marcin Krempa
- Jesse Soszko
- 6 Edmund Boduch
- 11 Chester Przybylo
- 12 Robert Groszek
- 16 Kamil Bartoszcze
- Martin Weihing
- 18 Scott Bieniasz
- John Garrido
- Marshall Olech
- Roman Piotrowski
- 19 Robert Mance
- 22 Ronald Nawrocki
- 23 Lawrence Boris
- 29 Christopher Zwiercan

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POLISH TRADITIONS IN NOVEMBER

Dzień Zaduszny or Zaduszki (All Soul's Day) is November 2. On this day Poles remember all those who have passed on. They attend Masses for the deceased and visit the graves of their departed family members and loved ones, lighting candles (*znicze*) and leaving flowers and wreaths. The tradition of lighting candles stems from the ancient pagan custom of lighting fires on graves, with the belief that they will warm the wandering souls.

Narodowe Święto Niepodległości (National Independence Day) is celebrated on November 11. On this day in 1918, the Treaty of Versailles brought an end to World War I. One of President Wilson's demands (his "Thirteen Points") was that Poland be granted independence. During the Communist era, this day was not an "official" holiday, but returned in 1989. It is now a national holiday, commemorated throughout Poland with observances and Masses.

Andrzejki (St. Andrew's eve), celebrated in the evening from November 29 to November 30, is a magic night that reveals a young woman's future husband. It is a night full of fortune-telling and predicting the future, particularly for unmarried women. The women play a number of traditional games and activities, in the hopes of finding out who their future husbands will be. In one such game, the women pour hot wax into a bowl of water. The resulting shape gives a prediction of the woman's future husband: his portrait, his profession, etc. In another game, the women line their shoes up, heel to toe, from the mantle to the doorway. The owner of the first shoe to reach the doorway will be first to marry. Yet another custom is to throw a shoe over one's shoulder; if it lands pointing to the door, the woman will get married in the same year. Since *Andrzejki* generally falls at the end of the liturgical year, it is also a last occasion to party before Advent.

Did you know? November in Polish is *listopad*, which comes from the falling autumn leaves (*liście padają*).

Jaka pogoda listopadowa, taka i marcowa. (As the weather is in November, so will it be in March).



ART FOR HEART FUNDRAISER

It was a pleasure to attend the 2012 Art for Heart fundraiser on Thursday Oct. 25, 2012. The Thursday opening was a multi-organizational business mixer. I was there with my wife Darlene representing the Chicago Society, which was one of the sponsors. Brother **Kamil Bartoszcze** provided the entertainment, for which he donated his time. It was a very fun, interesting and informative evening. There was a myriad of art work including hand crafted jewelry and the living art of artist Ewa Sumelka. The photos show how she designs clothes to be worn by models to represent life. Models were Stella Negrete as "Ayon," Lucja Lawniczak as "Folds" and Paulina Kijek as "Ear." Jewelry designer Iwona Narolewska was happy to show off her own hand crafted designs. There were ample refreshments, with food provided by LOKal. It was a very enjoyable time.

Submitted by Brother **Frank Czaja**



President Czaja at Art for Heart

NEWS BRIEFS FROM PMN

A Polish puppy may be the world's smallest dog. Meysi is a terrier, weighs just 3.25 ounces and is barely taller than a nail polish bottle. The dog's owner, Anna Pohl from Jarocin, Poland, was more concerned about the mini-puppy's survival rather than a possible world record. Meysi weighed only 1.58 ounces at birth about four months ago and Pohl had to provide 24-hour care for the little terrier. As of press time, Meysi is in great health despite her small size.

A group of Polish car thieves got some unexpected cargo when they stole a van in Germany: 12 sealed coffins. Polish police said the coffins were found early October 23, 2012, in the woods near the western Polish city of Konin.



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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED

At its last meeting, the Board of the Chicago Society approved to extend the deadline for submission of applications for the Chicago Society Scholarships to December 3, 2012. Applications should be sent to the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, Brother Ken Gill. The application was published in the July issue of The Forum, and is also available at our website <http://www.chicagosocietypna.org/documents/ScholarshipApplication2012.pdf>.

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