



CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

Volume 62

January, 2011

Number 1

The Voice of an Autonomous Lodge of the Polish National Alliance

LAST CALL FOR BALL TICKETS

NETWORKING DINNER MEETING

WEDNESDAY
January 19, 2011
6:00 P.M.

Copernicus Foundation
5216 W. Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

RESERVATIONS
BY JANUARY 17
TO (847) 823-8747 OR
meeting@chicagosocietypna.org
ARE MANDATORY

NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

Monday, January 31, 7:00 P.M.
Folak's Lincoln Tavern

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, January 19—
General Meeting
Copernicus Center, Chicago

Saturday, January 22—
Inaugural Ball
Café La Cave, Des Plaines

Wednesday, February 16—
General Meeting
Copernicus Center, Chicago

The Ball Chairman, Conrad Miczko, and his co-chairman, Marian Skawski, will be at the January General Meeting to receive any last-minute reservations at \$150.00 per person for the Saturday, January 22, 2011 Inaugural Ball. No transactions will be accepted after Wednesday, January 19. Reservations will be held at the entrance table to the ballroom on the night of the Ball; no tickets will be mailed.

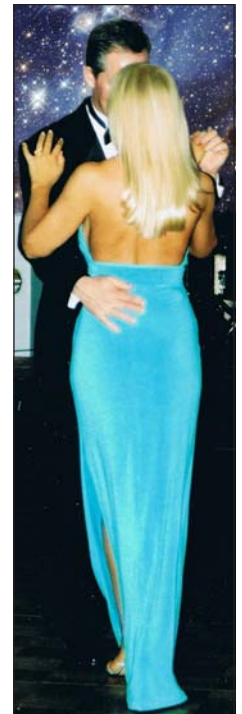
Tickets for the Gala are \$135.00 per person if payment and the accompanying reservation card are received at the mailbox (with a post mark of or before January 14) or be given in person to Conrad or Marian by January 15. After that date up to the deadline date of Wednesday, January 19, tickets will cost \$150.00 per person. If the reservation card does not contain a menu choice or a seating choice, the committee reserves the right to seat the patron where space is available and reserves the right to choose the entrée selection.

The Ball will be held at Café La Cave, a Zagat highly rated continental steakhouse, at 2777 Mannheim Road, on the east side of the street, located on the border of Des Plaines and Rosemont, approximately 6800 north, between Touhy and Higgins/Devon avenues. The site phone number is (847) 827-7818. Parking is free.

This black-tie optional Gala Benefit, the 99th consecutive celebration, will offer a delicious plated gourmet dinner featuring a choice of two entrées, filet mignon or filet of salmon, dancing, and a program featuring the Induction of Officers and the Presentation of the Booster Award to the member who sponsored the most new members during 2010.

The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. in the foyer with butler served champagne and unlimited hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. Premium call brand liquor is available complimentary at the bar in the main salon during the entire evening for six hours. No tipping at the bar is required as the chairman will pay a tip to the staff.

The menu will consist of a soup – sherry mushroom bisque, a salad – bouquet of baby lettuces with dried cranberries and walnuts wrapped in English cucumber with passed balsamic vinaigrette, and a choice of entrée - center cut filet mignon served with bordelaise sauce or basil crusted salmon with champagne saffron cream. Chef's choice seasonal vegetables and Dauphinoise potato accompany all entrées. The dessert will be tiramisù



Enjoying the Ball

—Continued on page 3—

IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION TIPS

Our speaker at the January General Meeting will be Scott Bieniasz. Scott is one of the new members of the Chicago Society PNA. He joined the organization in October, 2009. He has 13 years of accounting Controller experience with small to mid-size organizations. Over the past year, Scott has been an accounting contractor, but has also been working with individuals and employees of organizations regarding identity theft protection.

Scott wants to stress that identity theft is one of the most talked-about and fastest growing white-collar crimes in history. It is a big problem and we simply cannot afford to ignore it. What can you do to combat this crime? Scott will give us tips regarding the best practices to help prevent identity theft and will also introduce The Identity Theft ShieldSM, which provides a suite of services designed with detection and restoration in mind. You can never have too much protection when it comes to your personal data.



CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

A monthly news bulletin for the
Chicago Society PNA membership

Director of Publications
Norbert Barszczewski
editor@chicagosocietypna.org

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**PLEASE MAKE YOUR
MEETING RESERVATION**

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brothers,

Now that the joyous season of Christmas has passed, and the hustle of the holidays is behind us, I wish everyone a good and healthy New Year.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL AND MAY YOUR LIVES BE BLESSED WITH MUCH FOR WHICH TO BE THANKFUL.

I, myself, am grateful for knowing so many wonderful people who have given their time and energy to make the goals of the Chicago Society and its outreaches to the community a great success.

First, I would like to thank Brother Charles Komosa for his dedication and hard work as President the past two years in continuing to keep The Chicago Society as a premier force in Polonia. Thank you, Brother Komosa.

Second, I would like to give a special thanks to Brother Ro Matuszczak and his wife, Chris, who again have given so much thought and work in preparing and executing the Society's Annual Christmas Party for the Underprivileged Children. Without them and the help of so many of our brothers and their wives as well as widows the holiday would have been a bleak time for many immigrant families of Polonia.

Third, I would like to thank all of you who support our Society in whatever way you are able. I hope among your New Year resolutions is to join us for our monthly meetings and functions - especially the upcoming Inaugural Ball. Now is the time for relaxation and camaraderie. Plan to help us make this our premiere function of the year. Treat yourself, your wife or your girlfriend to an exquisite night out. Thankfully, Brother Conrad Miczko always sees to it that the Ball is an excellent event. So, please, make your plans now.

Beyond this, there are numerous new projects and functions in mind for the upcoming year. There will be more to come in future editions and at general meetings. And, if you have any ideas for functions or projects, feel free to contact me.

See you at the Ball,

Fraternally,
Frank Czaja



FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

First, I would like to thank all the current and outgoing Members of the Board for the warm welcome into the Board of Directors that I received at the January meeting. I appreciate all the support and words of encouragement that I heard from many, and I hope I will be able to meet the expectations and bring a meaningful contribution to the Board. Thank you also to

all of the members who supported me in my decision to run for the position of Director of Publications.

As the new administration of the Chicago Society takes over from the 2010 team, experiences are shared, tips are sent and all sorts of recommendations travel between the outgoing and incoming members of the Board. One of the greatest things about our organization is the spirit of mentorship. I have been the recipient of much of that throughout the last two years. I will not mention all the names here, as I fear I may forget some. But there have been many, and I am sure other, younger members of the club, can attest to this too. However, one name stands out and I want to give full credit to where the credit is due. Conrad Miczko is leaving a bar of professional conduct that has been raised really high during his two-year term as the Editor. His elegant language, insightful, respectful and often intriguing comments make him an artist of the pen, a rare breed these days by the way, and I am sure many will miss his tone. I have had the great pleasure of being the recipient of Conrad's mentorship, first as a new member, and lately as the person he saw as his replacement. Most of



—Continued on page 3—

EDITOR (Continued from page 2)

you have known Conrad well and long. For those who don't, let it be known that he is one of the great leaders of our organization and he is someone worth following and listening to. Thank you Conrad! You have inspired me and I hope you will continue to do so.

The channels of communications that we have are key factors in how we project our mission.

I intend to make good use of them, and I trust our best days, as a premier Polonia organization, are still ahead. As a community we have been shining, and we will continue to do so across the Chicagoland, this great country and beyond. We have things to brag about and let's don't be shy about it. I hope you can join me in this mission. Some things will change as far as the *Forum* is concerned. You may already see some signs of it, if you read through the pages. One of my goals is to demonstrate the many different aspects of Polonia life, and to do it in a way that we can all be proud of. Culture, business, and social life are all interconnected. The *Forum* is for all members and for all of our supporters.

Fraternally,
Norbert Barszczewski

TOYS FOR NEEDY KIDS

The Polish National Alliance held its annual toy drive for needy children from November through the second week of December. A large decorated carton stood in the lobby of the Home Office for donations that would be given by PNA Employees and guests who entered the building. The PNA affiliates, the two PNA Bank locations (Niles and South Pulaski Ave. in Chicago) and the Polish Daily News (*Dziennik Zwiazkowy*) also participated in the toy drive with drop off boxes in their buildings.

PNA President Frank Spula appointed

LAST CALL FOR BALL TICKETS (Continued from page 1)

cake with caramel rum sauce.

During dinner Anthony Kawalkowski, known for his virtuosity at the Empire Room of the Palmer House on State Street and from public and private venues in Milwaukee to Santa Fe to California and as one of the eligible bachelors featured in Today's Chicago Woman magazine, will be serenading everyone with his strolling violinists. His ten musician orchestra will provide ballroom dancing music until 12:00 a.m., which yields an opportunity to dance to an orchestra more versatile than many playing at mainstream lakeshore/centrum parties.

The committee reminds the party-goers that dancers should move in a counter-clockwise path to dance around the dance floor center. The floor must have continuously traveling couples, preventing congestion and collisions, unless a stationary-area type of melody is being played. Staying in one place or talking with other couples on the dance floor thereby blocking others who are dancing is *déclassé*.

Those timid about dancing should not feel excluded. There are other enticements to do at Café La Cave. The partygoers are welcome to this Ball to enjoy conversations, wining, dining, and going out on the town. It's fun to dress up and get out of the house for the night.

Randy Sutter of Café La Cave can arrange discounted accommodations at the neighboring hotels. The hotel across the street formerly recommended by Conrad is closed and up for sale.

All readers of the *Forum* should consider adding this elegant evening to their calendar of activities and are invited to buy a ticket for his/her use or buy more than one to be used by himself/herself and his/her significant other and any friends, relatives, and business associates. Besides buying one or two tickets for self-consumption, it is very important to convince friends to purchase tickets. Only by bringing in outsiders will the event's bottom line look favorable.

The committee dispels the premise that this event is for couples only or for those of a certain age. Youth is welcome; all ages are welcome. Certainly, single men and women are welcome. Equally welcome are recently inducted members, newcomers to Polonia, and nonmembers.

Persons who don't know many members should not feel left out. The 22nd is the day for them to meet and make new and more friends. The committee will be honored to see many first-time guests and nonmembers, and it will introduce them to others to make them feel comfortable and feel appreciated at this event.

Kudos is extended to member Walter Piecewicz, who was the first person to send in his reservation card and check for four tickets (himself, his wife, and their close friends Neil and Patti O'Connor). Harrah goes to Conrad's friends, Janine Adamczyk and Cynthia Piech, who were the second and third to send in their responses for themselves and their gentlemen. Thanks go to the Polish National Alliance of North America, which purchased four tickets.

In conclusion, the bonding of the Brotherhood and the showing of loyalty to the organization take place annually at the Inaugural Ball. This Ball will stress elegance, simplicity, spirituality and brevity. It will also be an opportunity to savor a supper of gourmet quality and an open premium bar, surpassing those offered at most mainstream name parties elsewhere, and with a ticket price far less than what is being charged at previously mentioned galas.

Vice President Paul Odrobina to oversee the collections. Mr. Odrobina's Administrative Assistant Joan Oskorep assisted in the organizing of the drive. Many of the employees

donated cash or brought items in as well. Cash donations were used to purchase toys from area stores.

—Continued on page 6—

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AROUND THE SOCIETY

The signs indicating the Christmas season were obvious – outside the evening was frosty and dark while inside Joan Smuda wearing her multi-colored lighted bulbs necklace sang carols by the piano. It was the annual Advocate Society Holiday Dinner Meeting at the Copernicus Center. Partaking were **Mark Dobrzycki**, Drake, Jennifer and **Robert Groszek**, Noreen and **Mark Kupiec**, **Chet Lizak**, **Thad Makarewicz**, Diann Marsalek, **Edward Matuga**, **Conrad Miczko**, Maureen and **John Pikarski**, and **Daniel Starr**.

More signs indicating the season as each table was decorated with a lit miniature Christmas tree (which was part of a silent auction) centerpiece at the Polish Women's Civic Club Holiday Dinner Party. **Robert Dutka** and **Edward Ptaszek** provided the musical entertainment. Enjoying the ambiance were Lucy and **Casey Baczynski**, Maria Ciesla, Shirley Dudzinski, Alicia Dutka, Lucille Gutowski, Freida Holowicki, Wanda Kalin, Gen Kobelinski, Camille Kapielski, **Conrad Miczko** with Agnes Ptasznik, Anne Pieciewicz, Lorene Stach, Teresa and **Marian Skawski**.

The Advocates Society (The Association of Polish-American Attorneys) will have its Annual Installation of Officers on Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 6 PM at the InterContinental Chicago (505 N. Michigan Avenue). During the ceremony Judy Baar Topinka will be honored for her work in the Polish Community. Admission is \$125.00. Contact brother **Robert Groszek** for details.

Teresa and **Charles Cwiakala** sojourned in Sarasota Florida for two weeks. No need to worry about Northerners burning in the sun as

Chuck earlier had exposed himself to the sunshine of Southern California. **Daniel Starr** took his gal for a week long cruise to Grand Cayman, Cozumel, and Jamaica. Lucy and **Casey Baczynski** are planning a cruise.

Zoning Attorney and brother member **John J. Pikarski, Jr.** was recently invited to be a presenter at a symposium organized by the Warsaw Real Estate Board. He was accompanied by his son, **Daniel G. Pikarski**.



John J. Pikarski, Jr.

Norbert Barszczewski with his wife Joanna Porzecka were participating in a "Young Polonia - Old Country" [*Młoda Polonia a Stary Kraj*] Symposium in Warsaw in November. The event was partially sponsored by the Polish government and organized by PANGEA Polska, an affiliate organization of PANGEA Alliance with headquarters in Chicago. Topics discussed included the different ways of promoting Polish culture, business and image of our country in general all around the world, through young Polonia leaders. In attendance were over 60 participants from United States, Canada, Australia and numerous European countries. The three day event with filled with interesting

discussion panels and networking opportunities, not to mention distinguished, top cabinet level, speakers from the Polish government. The unquestionable highlight of the event was the visit by the current President of the European Union Parliament and former Prime Minister of Poland, Prof. Jerzy Buzek.

Speedy recovery wishes are beamed toward Joann Ozog, who underwent an operation on her second hip. The surgeon discovered that her femur was fractured, requiring her to put all weight on the right foot when walking. She will need surgery on both knees in the future. Also, recovery wishes are directed to **Milton Steinke**, who has experienced health issues in recent months.

The second Evening at the Polish Museum of America turned out to be an even bigger success than the first one. The organizing committee for this great fund-raising event includes **Andrew Pawlowski** with his girlfriend Anna Oleszkiewicz, **Norbert Barszczewski** with his wife Joanna Porzecka, **Jacek Szostka**, Paul Gustab, Peter Kubala, Marta Lefik and Adam Ruszala. Almost 200 people gathered at the Museum on December 9 including many of the Chicago Society members and their spouses. Sponsors included Sawa's Old Warsaw and Stawski Distributors, both well known to our organization. Representatives of local press, radio and TV were also present. The organizers are already planning the Evenings for 2011. Make sure you mark your calendars as the dates are announced, and join in to support this great institution of Polish culture and history. It was nice to see President of the Polish Museum of America, Mrs. Maria Ciesla attending our December dinner. She was presented a recognition letter by our outgoing president **Charles Komosa**. (See photos on page 7.)

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CHICAGO SOCIETY PNA
2010 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

SUBMIT A ONE TO THREE PAGE ESSAY ON THE FOLLOWING TOPIC:

“ASA YOUNG POLISH AMERICAN, IN WHAT SPECIFIC WAYS DO YOU THINK YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO A VIBRANT ETHNIC POLONIA?”

In your response, please remember that we are looking for originality and thoughtfulness.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR E-MAILED BY FEBRUARY 28, 2011

Applicant's Full Name _____
Address _____
Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____ Telephone number _____ E-mail address _____
Chicago Society Sponsor (if applicable) _____ Relationship _____
Current College or University _____ City/State _____
Major _____ Started _____ Anticipated Graduation _____

Scholarship Rules

1. Applicant must be full time undergraduate attending a two or four year accredited college or university.
2. The applicant must demonstrate a minimum 3.0 (4 point scale) GPA or its equivalent as evidenced by an attached official college transcript. Freshmen are to submit his/her high school transcript.
3. Scholarship grants will be based on the quality and thoughtfulness of the applicant's essay, not financial need.
4. The applicant agrees that the Chicago Society may publish his/her essay in its organization publication.
5. A sponsored applicant means a child, grandchild, great-grandchild, niece and nephew of a member in good standing the prior three or more years.
6. Non-relative sponsored applicants must demonstrate some Polish heritage.

Amount of Grant

There will be three one-time awards of \$3000, \$2,000 and \$1,000. Two scholarship awards for sponsored relative applicants and one scholarship award to a non-relative sponsored applicant.

Application Process

1. To be complete and considered for an award, an application shall include a signed application form, school transcript, and the essay on 8½ x 11 sized paper, double spaced, 12 point font, one to three pages in length, on the above topic. It must be submitted by the due date stated above to be considered.
2. The essay will be reviewed on an anonymous basis, and therefore, must not identify the applicant or any sponsor, or else will be disqualified.
3. A non-relative sponsored applicant should state the basis of his/her Polish heritage in the blank space below or on the reverse side of this application form.
4. The Committee reserves the right to disqualify an application if it is incomplete, submitted after the deadline or otherwise not in compliance with these rules.
5. The applicant must submit his/her completed application and all materials to:

Chicago Society Scholarship Committee
c/o Dr. Chester P. Klos, Chairman
5841 W. Belmont Ave.
Chicago IL 60634 or e-mail: chetklos@gmail.com

Good luck!

Applicant's Signature _____ **Date** _____

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLISH MUSEUM OF AMERICA

January 2, 2011

Dear Charlie, Frank, Officers and Directors,

There are not too many times in my intuitive life that I have been surprised, but at the annual Members and Friends Christmas Party on December 15th, I truly was.

Thank you so very, very much for according me the honor of a special recognition for my work as President of The Polish Museum of America with the kind words and the proclamation. I will cherish it forever as a great honor from a very special, historic, and admired organization, Chicago Society, PNA.

How I was able to form my words at this surprise was a mystery, but I did so, and meant every word. I accepted this recognition on behalf of our Staff, Board, and Volunteers, who work so hard, especially early in 2010, when the future of the PMA looked quite gloomy. I also recognize the hard work of those who came before me to build the strong foundation upon which we weathered the crisis.

At the end of 2010, the PMA is strong and back on its feet, thanks to the diligence of the above, and to the financial support of organizations/foundations such as the Chicago Society Foundation. Thank you to the Chicago Society members who had the foresight to develop the Foundation, which is now a very successful and needed one, indeed.

Thank you so much again. Please know that you all are always welcome at the PMA. We count many of you as PMA members, and hope that others will follow their lead and become PMA members.

All the best to you and your loved ones for 2011 and always! *Wszystkiego najlepszego!*

Very gratefully,
Maria Ciesla

WHAT IS CHICAGO SOCIETY FOUNDATION?

Although at Society general meetings, reports regularly are presented regarding the ongoing activities of the Chicago Society Foundation, it may be helpful to newer members, and a refresher to longer-standing members, to re-acquaint all of us as to the history and purpose of the Foundation.

The Foundation is a Code Section 501(c)(3) charitable organization affiliated with, but separate from, the Chicago Society. It is the successor organization to the Chicago Society Building Corporation, which originally held, and then sold off, the clubhouse because of changing neighborhood and building management circumstances. For tax-advantage reasons, to permit donors to obtain charitable deductions, and flexibility in managing philanthropic causes, the new Foundation was created. Its constitution requires it to provide philanthropic and charitable assistance specifically and only to individuals and organizations dedicated to the Polish American community.

Mindful of that purpose, the Foundation's directors, consisting of all former Presidents and the current serving President of the Society, have made grants to an array of organizations and causes consistent with service to the Polish American community. These have included, to name a few, The Polish Museum, helping fund the film "In the Name of Their Mothers" about heroic rescue of Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto during World War II by a Polish social worker Irena Sendler (maiden name Krzyzanowska), underwriting the Chicago Society scholarship winners, Polish dance groups, and placing a biography of Casimir Pulaski in many Chicago Public libraries. All Chicago Society members should be proud of the work the Foundation has done throughout its existence to carefully evaluate and identify only the most worthy recipients of support.

In addition to its initial seed funding from the Building Corporation, the Foundation has worked to enhance its funds by various means over the years, most notably its Casino Night sponsorship. Leaders in the Foundation have guided the Society to successfully sponsor its own Casino Nights to the benefit of its treasury. In short summary the casino annual income for the 4 events in 2010 was \$8,092.09. Importantly, the Foundation maintains a Finance Committee consisting of experienced individuals who have invested the Foundation's funds prudently and conservatively. In the face of the recent economic downturn, the Foundation's investments have actually increased in value at a time many professional managers and other nonprofit organizations have suffered disheartening financial losses compromising their missions. Rest assured there is no investment gun slinging at the Foundation.

The Foundation meets quarterly, carefully invests its funds to remain a viable source of grants for years to come, welcomes qualifying grant requests from worthy Polish American organizations and causes for consideration, and will continue to serve its mission. If you have any questions about the mission or would like to help with the fund-raising efforts, especially with the Casino Nights, please contact Walter M. Pieciewicz, who is the current President of the Foundation. The Foundation has only 7 members and 2 advisors, thus it depends heavily on support of the general membership to carry its mission as the charitable arm of the Chicago Society to donate to worthy Polish-American requests.

TOYS (Continued from page 3)

On Tuesday, December 14, 2010, the eight large boxes containing over 200 donated toys, games, stuffed animals and books were delivered to Loyola Hospital in Maywood, Illinois and to a Salvation Army location on the North Side of Chicago. The staff from Loyola Hospital and the Salvation Army expressed gratitude for the donations and would like to thank everyone who donated a gift or gifts to make a needy child at Christmas smile.

MEMORIAL PLANNED FOR POLISH SOLDIER BEAR

Edinburgh (PMN)—Wojtek the Soldier Bear, who fought alongside members of the Polish army of General Anders during World War II, is to have a memorial built in his honor in Edinburgh, the Scottish capital.

Organizers of the memorial have said that the statue of Wojtek, accompanied by his keeper Piotr Prendysz, may be erected

within 2011. The memorial has been designed by sculptor Alan Herriot, is to be over 6.6 feet tall and weigh in at around 498 lbs., costing \$309,000.

Wojtek was found by members of the 22nd Artillery Company of the Polish Second Corps in British occupied-Persia, in what is now Iran. He fought alongside Polish troops at the Battle of Monte Cassino, carrying mortar shells. The bear was actually registered as a soldier so that he qualified for transport, clothing, rations, etc.

Second Evening at the Polish Museum of America, December 9, 2010
(photos taken by Norbert Barszczewski)



DESERVING CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Saturday, December 18, 2010, the Chicago Society Deserving Children's Christmas Party was held at the Polish National Alliance Building at 6100 N. Cicero Avenue in Chicago. Our thanks are extended to PNA President Frank Spula and National Secretary Charles Komosa in arranging to have the event at PNA Headquarters.

There were seventy eight children and with their parents, over one hundred ten persons were in attendance. The children had been chosen by the Social Workers of the Polish American Association and some from a Saturday Polish School.

A lunch of hot dogs, potato chips, cookies, milk and soda was served. There was music and carols provided by our Brother Member Kamil Bartoszcze from the St. Albert the Great Church.

After lunch, entertainment was provided by a magician who had flying birds and a rabbit in his act. The children enjoyed the presentation with squeals of delight. Immediately after, Santa arrived and gifts were distributed to the children. Each child received a gift addressed personally by name and age.

As the children were leaving, each received an envelope containing five dollars as well as a coloring book and candy.

The following persons gave of their time and efforts: Chris Matuszczak, Ro Matuszczak's wife, kitchen supervisor; helpers Lottie Pilarski, Alina Tondryk and Maria Ciesla; Frank and Darlene Czaja, who also donated potato chips and candy; Richard Ciesla who did a great job as Santa Claus; Peter and Agnes Dykas who donated soda and cups; John Wojciechowski who donated candy; Tanya Theodosakis, Chuck Cwiakala's daughter, and her son Max; Richard Jadczyk; Charles Komosa who donated PNA calendars and coloring books; our picture taken by T. Ron Jasinski Herbert; and Ronnie Folak who obtained the hot dogs and buns at cost.

The following persons and organizations donated money for the event: the Chicago Society; Ted Szywala for his annual donation of three hundred dollars (Ted has been donating for over thirty years); Jack Skaja, two hundred dollars, who also has been donating for over twenty years; John Wojciechowski, one hundred dollars, who donated for his eighth year; Joan Kosinski who donated one hundred dollars as she has done in the past, and thanks to Mario Pucharic of Integra Communications for his efforts in having Jewel/Osco donate seven hundred fifty dollars towards the event. Mario has done this for over eight years for the Chicago Society Deserving Children's Christmas Party.

Gifts for the children were wrapped by Chris Matuszczak, Ro's daughters Yvonne Koontz and Diana Duff, as well as a grandson, Paul Koontz.

The Chicago Society Deserving Children's Christmas Party should be considered one of the finest and gratifying events of the years.

Congratulations to Ro Matuszczak chairing this event for his forty-seventh year. It takes dedication and effort and this he has done for all this time. Ro thanks the Chicago Society for making this possible.

AROUND (Continued from page 4)

The Polish American Business Men's Club elected the following officers and directors for the year 2011: President, **Ro Matuszczak**; Vice President, **Joe Bauerle**; Secretary/Treasurer, **Tom Laskowski**; Directors: Stan Ross, **Tom Marzec** and **Ted Lipkowski**. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at Sawa's Old Warsaw Restaurant in Broadview. New members are welcome. For information, call Ro at (847)635-0883 or (847)331-8007.

Condolences are extended to the two sons, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren of Florence Szafranec, age 91, who died just before Christmas. She was the widow of the late **Chester A. Szafranec**, owner of Cragin Industrial Supply Company on Laramie Ave. just north of Grand Ave. in Chicago.



Michael Watson and Marysia Watson with President Lech Walesa (at the University Club)



Conrad Miczko, Ann Marsalek, Consul Zygmunt Matynia, Diann Marsalek and Edward Marsalek (at the Polish Consulate for Polish Independence Day)

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Ciesla, Gregory
Miller, Larry
- 13 Gondela, Frank
- 15 Kotlarz, Joseph
Sawko, Chester
- 21 Blicharski, Edward
- 23 Kolak, James
- 24 Radkowski, Robert
- 26 Powell, William
- 27 Marcyan, Carlton
Pieciewicz, Walter
- 28 Kedzie, Thomas
Korzeniowski, Bogdan
Siemion, Arthur

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Sawko, Chester	1971	40 years
Laskowski, Slawek	2006	5 Years

CHICAGO SOCIETY ON FACEBOOK, YOUTUBE AND LINKEDIN

At the last Board of Directors meeting, the creation of social networking accounts for our organization was approved. Chicago Society is now officially present on the most popular social networking portals: Facebook, YouTube and LinkedIn. We encourage all the members to join the sites and become friends, subscribers or members of the groups that are being created there. The environment of on-line social networking is very dynamic and even for people who use them on a regular basis; things often seem mysteriously new or undiscovered. If you have not used any of the sites before, do not feel intimidated. The simplest way to learn how to use them and what they are for is simply to join by setting up a free account and start using them. You will need to have an account created first in order to access some of the sites. All these sites, under professional administration, will be very helpful in promoting our organization.

Thanks to the work of Norbert

Barszczewski (Facebook & LinkedIn) and T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert (YouTube) our presence on these sites has been established, will be administered and constantly improved. If you have any questions please direct them to Norbert or Ron. They will be happy to assist you. The following are links to Chicago Society profiles on social networking sites, with a very brief description of each profile. Eventually all of the links will be posted on our main web site for easy access (YouTube is already there; check our website Video section).

Facebook Group

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=145783482118964>

Short Description: This group is open to members, members' families and all supporters, both male and female. This is our social channel of communication and way of reaching with our mission, successes and all activities to a larger audience, including potential new members. Requests to join have to be approved by the administrator.

Facebook Fan Page

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Chicago-Society-PNA/187004267992077>

Short Description: This is the professional face of our organization on Facebook. To associate yourself with this account you will need to click on the LIKE button on the top of the page. This profile cannot communicate directly with its supporters and vice versa. All communication happens through the Wall posts and is public. Think of this as a business message board and a PR channel.

YouTube Channel:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ChicagoSocietyPNA>

Short Description: YouTube is synonymous with videos on the internet. It's the largest of this type of video sharing web sites. A social community has grown around it and YouTube is now effectively used for business, PR and marketing. Whatever way you get to our channel, be sure to click on "Subscribe" at the top of the page. That will ensure that you get Chicago Society bulletins about new videos or other important news.

LinkedIn Group

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=2782519>

Short Description: This group is for members only. Non members will not be invited or allowed to the group. This is for a well intentioned level of privacy and exclusivity that we want to maintain. LinkedIn is very professional and no sharing of social chatter is welcomed here. Discussions on internal organization activities are encouraged. Requests to join have to be approved by the administrator. Join to learn more about professional backgrounds of your fellow members!



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or rolech4042@aol.com

OUTSTANDING POLE ABROAD CONTEST

The Outstanding Pole Abroad Contest is being organized by the Foundation of Polish Promotion [*Fundacja Polskiego Godła Promocyjnego*], located in Warsaw, and in cooperation with the Office of the President of the Republic of Poland, the Senate of the Republic of Poland, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland (including the Embassies and Consulates). The main purpose of the Contest is to create a positive image of Poles living around the world, to highlight the success they have achieved outside of their native country, and to demonstrate and reward their accomplishments. The Contest is being held in the following five categories: Business, Culture, Science, Personality, and "Young Pole". Candidates in all Contest categories may include Polish citizens or persons of Polish descent residing legally outside the Republic of Poland and conducting documented activity. A candidate may only be proposed in one category. The Contest will proceed in the following 2 stages: national and global. On the national level, contestants may be nominated by Polish community organizations and associations active in a given country.

Entry forms should be completed and sent to the Consulates of the Republic of Poland in Chicago and NYC. The deadline to submit candidates is January 30, 2011. For more information please refer to Pangea Alliance website at www.pangealliance.org, which is the national organizer for the United States, or talk to brother Norbert Barszczewski.



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