



# The Forum

of the Chicago Society, Lodge 1450 PNA  
Our Second Century of Brotherhood and Service

VOLUME 65

MARCH 2014

NUMBER 3

## DINNER NETWORKING MEETING

**WEDNESDAY**

**March 19, 2014**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets  
Niles, Illinois**

## RESERVATIONS

**by March 15 to**

[meeting@chicagosocietypna.org](mailto:meeting@chicagosocietypna.org)

**or 847-823-8747**

## NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

**Monday, March 31, 7:00 P.M.**  
**PNA Home Office**

## COMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, March 19, 2014—**  
**Dinner Meeting**  
**Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets**

**Wednesday, April 16, 2014—**  
**Dinner Meeting and Ham Raffle**  
**Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets**

**Saturday, May 3, 2014—**  
**Pre-Parade Brunch**  
**Hilton Chicago Hotel**

**Wednesday, May 21, 2014—**  
**Dinner Meeting**  
**Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets**

## POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY PRE-PARADE BRUNCH

The Chicago Society's Annual Polish Constitution Day Pre-Parade Brunch will be held **on Saturday, May 3, 2013**, in the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. The cost of the brunch is **\$30.00 per person**. Reception will be at 8:45 a.m., seating at 9:45 a.m., and a delicious plated brunch will be served at 10:00 a.m.

Brother **Mark Orwat** will present monetary awards to our scholarship recipients, who will be announced by Scholarship Chairman Brother **Charles A. Komosa**. The parade is scheduled to step off at 11:30 a.m. from Columbus and Balbo Drives, across from the Hilton. This is the 123<sup>rd</sup> Chicago parade in honor of this historic document, the first democratic constitution in Europe and second in the world only to the United States Constitution. The Parade is once again expected to draw 250,000 eager revelers to the lakefront.

The Chicago Society will have a float and marching unit in the Parade. There will be a band on the float and space for some persons to sit. Those members who will not attend the brunch but will march can contact Chairman **Ro Matuszczak** as to our place in the parade. Information on the day of the event can also be obtained from any parade marshal. Preferred attire for the marchers is gray slacks, dark jacket, red tie and white shirt. A business suit is certainly acceptable. To make reservations for the Brunch, please contact Chairman Ro Matuszczak at **847-635-0883 or 847-331-8007**. Tickets may also be purchased via PayPal at <http://www.chicagosocietypna.org/payments.html>. Tickets will be held at the door.

Brother Matuszczak has been involved with the Brunch since its inception in May, 1978, making this his 37<sup>th</sup> year. Co-chairmen are Brother Charles Komosa and Brother **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert**.

## ASTRONAUT JAMES PAWELCZYK TO BE SPEAKER AT PAA EVENT

Chicago (PMN)—The Polish American Association (PAA) presents its annual Chairman's Brunch on April 27, 2014, at the prestigious The Standard Club, 320 South Plymouth Court, Chicago, Illinois. Tickets are \$500 per person.

The speaker this year is James ("Jim") A. Pawelczyk, who will share his inspirational story on his distinguished career as an astronaut and academician, but also how he has taken such pride in his Polish identity.

Pawelczyk, born September 20, 1960, is an American researcher of physiology and kinesiology who flew aboard the NASA STS-90 Space Shuttle mission as a Payload Specialist. Pawelczyk is the first astronaut of full-blooded Polish descent to go into space. Proud of his heritage, he brought a Polish Flag with him on Neurolab, which was later presented to the President of Poland on May 3, 1999.

Born in Buffalo, New York, Pawelczyk graduated from Iroquois Central High School, Elma, New York, in 1978. He went on to earn two Bachelor of Arts degrees in biology and psychology from the University of Rochester, New York in 1982. At Pennsylvania State University he earned a Master of Science degree in physiology in 1985, and a doctor of



## CHICAGO SOCIETY Forum

A monthly news bulletin for the  
Chicago Society PNA membership

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DID YOU MAKE YOUR  
MEETING RESERVATION?

Dear Brothers,

March began with the Pulaski Day celebration, which was ignited with the Polish Museum's annual event attended by many. It was followed in the early evening with the Polish American Congress' Pulaski Day Dinner, which was held at the Polish Highlander's Club, also attended by a good number of our members.

With March being a busy month with events, the Chicago Society held its annual Śledź, which was held at the Przybylo's White Eagle Banquets.

Thank you Brother **Frank Czaja** and his wife Darlene once again for a wonderful successful event. We had a very good showing of member and guests. Brother **Ted Makarewicz**, this year's emcee, put a spark and more into this year's pageant and presentation.

I would like to congratulate Brother **Komosa** for being named our 2014 St. Joseph. Likewise, I would like to mention that the pączki were donated by our very own Brother **William Wojcik** from Laramie Deli and Bakery. I would also like to thank Brother **Kamil Bartoszcze** of KBE entertainment for supplying the music. Thank you to all who attended and helped out at this year's Polish style Mardi Gras party, our Śledź.

Our scholarship chairman Brother Komosa and his committee will be reviewing and selecting the scholarship recipients. He has received over 60 applications for a scholarship, beating all previous records.

Fraternally yours,  
Mark Orwat

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

PLEASE VOTE for Brother **Ted Palka**, candidate for Cook County Sheriff, and for Brother **James Pieczonka**, candidate for Judge in the 12<sup>th</sup> Subcircuit. The primary election will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2014.

On a serious note - Lent is a special time of prayer, penance, sacrifice and good works in preparation for the

celebration of Easter!

On a political note - Snow White, Superman and Pinocchio are walking along. They see a sign: "Contest for World's Most Beautiful Woman." Snow White goes in, later comes out smiling, wearing a crown. They walk along and see another sign: "Contest for World's Strongest Man." Superman goes in, later comes out smiling, wearing the belt. They walk along and see a sign: "Contest for World's Greatest Liar." Pinocchio goes in, later comes out with his head down crying. "Who the hell is Vladimir Putin?" Pinocchio sobs.

The Chicago Society Annual Golf Outing will be on Friday, August 1, 2014 at Carriage Greens. More information to follow.

I would like to thank all of the brothers **Mark Orwat** and **Ken Gill** for selecting me, later anointed by Brother Ken Gill, as the next St. Joseph for the Society at the Śledź. God Bless all of you in my flock!

Brother Charles Komosa

### ASTRONAUT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

philosophy degree in biology (physiology) from the University of North Texas in 1989. He completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in 1992.

An Associate Professor of Physiology and Kinesiology at Penn State University in University Park, Pennsylvania, since 1995, Dr. Pawelczyk took leave from Penn State University to fly as a payload specialist on the NASA STS-90 (NeuroLab) from April 17 to May 3, 1998. During the 16-day Spacelab flight the seven person crew aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia served as both experiment subjects and operators for 26 individual life science experiments focusing on the effects of microgravity on the brain and nervous system. The STS-90 flight orbited the Earth 256 times, covered 6.3 million miles, and logged over 381 hours in space.

## AROUND THE SOCIETY!

Condolences to Brother **Ted Lipkowski** and his entire family on the loss of his beloved wife, Loretta Lipkowski, in February.

Condolences to Brother **Michael Schneider** and his entire family on the loss of his beloved wife, Danuta Schneider, in February.

Get well wishes to Brother **Don Gutowski**, Brother **Donald Versen** and Brother **Ken Gill**, all rehabbing for a short time.

*Happy belated birthday wishes* to Brother **Ken Gill** who was born on February 29. As most of you know that is also known as the Leap Day of the Gregorian calendar, a date that occurs in most years that are divisible by 4, such as 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016 and 2020. Years that are divisible by 100, but not by 400, do not contain a leap day; thus 1900 did not contain a leap day, while 2000 did. For those of you who asked me the question at the last meeting – Brother Ken is not mystic or clairvoyant, but he does carry a joy buzzer in his dinner jacket! His next official birthday is in 2016!

Brother **Mark Orwat**, Brother **Ted Wiecek**, Brother **Ted Palka**, candidate for (D) Cook County Sheriff, Brother **Jim Pieczonka**, candidate for Cook County Judge, Brother **Marian Skawski**, Brother **Walter Zarnecki** and Brother **Mark Kupiec**, were influential in scheduling the appearance of Governor Quinn at the PAC Pulaski Day Banquet held at

the Highlander's Hall on Archer Avenue. Brother **Frank Spula**, National President of the PAC and PNA, offered remarks about Brigadier General Casmir Pulaski, and Brother **Charles Komosa** served as emcee, introducing many elected officials and candidates.

## CHICAGO SOCIETY ŚLEDŹ A HUGE SUCCESS

Over 90 members and their guests—a record of recent history—enjoyed the Annual Chicago Society Śledź, held on March 4, 2014, at Przybylo's White Eagle in Niles.

Following a welcome from President Brother **Mark Orwat** and Chairman Brother **Frank Czaja**, our St. Joseph Brother **Ken Gill** gave the invocation, asking for God's blessings on those gathered as we enter the solemnity of Lent. A delicious dinner, starting with the traditional *śledzie* followed by a dinner of traditional Polish cuisine, including *zurek*, chicken, *pierogi*, and other accompaniments, was graciously served by the White Eagle staff. In keeping with the tradition of *Pączki* Day, the guests enjoyed delicious *pączki*, donated by Brother **William Wojcik**, manager of Laramie Bakery.

A revised and energetic *Śledź* pageant was narrated by Brother **Ted Makariewicz**, in a Mardi Gras costume, who spoke of the traditions incorporated in the pageant. These traditions stem from the Middle Ages, when people feasted prior to the fasting required of Lent. Singers traveled from house to house, with much frivolity, presenting a variety of plays and pantomimes. Our pageant included a number of "characters": the Angel, symbolizing all that is good; the Devil, tempting us to break our Lenten fast,

FatherTime, the reaper of all; and the pallbearers, carrying the *śledź*. Ruling over the festivities were the King and Queen of the pageant, Brother **Ro Matuszczak** and his wife Krysia (Chris).

Finally, our current St. Joseph Brother **Ken Gill** anointed Brother **Charles Komosa** as the Chicago Society's St. Joseph for 2014.

Brother **Kamil Bartoszcze** entertained the guests with a variety of music both during and after dinner. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the evening.

Asked about his first time as Śledź co-chairman and pageant narrator while wearing a costume, Brother Ted Makarewicz commented that while "*being fitted with tight black leotards and moccasins for my costume reminds me of my college days and a few old friendships!*"

Photos and video of the Śledź are available at our website.

## CHICAGO SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The 2014 Scholarship Committee proudly reports that **63--sixty three--** scholarship applications were submitted by the deadline of February 15, 2014. This beats all past records and a tremendous 1000% increase in scholarship application submissions in recent years. The Committee consists of co-chairman Brother **Ted Wiecek**, Brother **Mark Orwat**, Brother **Stanley Jendzjec**, Brother **T. Ron Jasinski-Herbert**, Brother **John Skaja** and Brother **Charles Komosa**, chairman.

The Committee is in the process of carefully reading the many essays, and the scholarships will be awarded at the Chicago Society Pre-Parade Brunch on Saturday, May 3, 2014, at the Hilton Chicago.

## CHICAGO SOCIETY'S MARCH MEETING SPEAKER

Brother **John Cieslik** has arranged for a mystery speaker to be our featured speaker at the March General Meeting to be held on March 19, 2014, at the White Eagle. You will not believe the speaker that Brother Cieslik has arranged until you see that person with your own eyes. Only one autograph per member will be allowed.

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## PROPOSED FOR CHICAGO SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

The following gentlemen have applied for membership in the Chicago Society of the PNA. If any member has an objection regarding the admission of either of these prospective members, 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: Thomas Anthony Sieja  
 Address: 11123 S. Homan Ave.  
 Chicago, IL 60655  
 Phone: (312)-804 --6412  
 Occupation: Chicago Police Officer  
 Birth date: September 17, 1977  
 Birthplace: Elmhurst, IL  
 Education: M.B.A. Financial Fraud  
 Sponsors: Frank Czaja and Charles Komosa

Name: Robert Przybylowski  
 Address: 6125 N. Mason Ave.  
 Chicago, IL 60646  
 Phone: (312) 474-8227  
 Occupation: Chicago Police Officer  
 Birth date: January 4, 1981  
 Birthplace: Krakow, Poland  
 Education: B.A. Loyola University  
 Sponsors: Frank Czaja and Charles Komosa

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

The Chicago Society would like to congratulate Brother **Bernard Pacyniak**, celebrating his 15<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, and Brother **Terrance Przybylski** on his 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of their induction in March of their respective year.

## DELINQUENT 2014 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Pursuant to the Chicago Society By Laws, names of members who have not paid their current year's membership dues will be considered delinquent, have their names published in the March *Forum*, and membership suspended until reinstated. Please contact Chicago Society Financial Secretary Brother Ryszard Jadcak if you feel your name was listed in error or for payment arrangements at 847-639-2327, or you can pay via the Chicago Society PayPal account at <http://www.chicagosocietypna.org/payments.html>.

**FYI** –Two dues payment notices for 2014 were mailed to each member.

Barszczewski, Norbert	Kozlowski, Dariusz	Pawlas, Mark
Bartoszcze, Kamil	Krempa, Marcin	Poplawski, Romuald
Bauerle, Joseph	Kuk, Edward	Putz, Wojciech
Cizon, Frank	Kulze, James	Sawa, Stuart
Drozd, William	Kupiec, Mark	Siegel, Eugene
Folak, William	Kurczaba, Chistopher	Skaja, John, Jr.
Gadzinski, Michael	Kurziel, Zenon	Strojny, Voytek
Garrido, John	Laskowski, Slawek	Wawrzyniak, Andrew
Kaes, Gerhard	Marcyjan, Carlton	Wojcik, William
Kazmierczak, Walter	Olejniczak, Zenon	Zabelski, Richard
Kopka, James	Osiol, Ronald S.	Ziembra, Henry
Korzeniowski, Bogdan		

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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

- 9 Joseph Bauerle
- 10 Charles Komosa
- Edmund Nowak
- 16 Paul Odrobina
- 18 Jerry Sufranski
- 20 Les Sraga
- 22 Joe Kotlarz
- 23 Daniel Pikarski
- 24 Mitchell Pasiewicz
- William Sufranski
- 26 Wojtek Strojny

**Mark Your Calendar  
 for the Pre-Parade Brunch  
 May 3, 2014**

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## A CHICAGO SOCIETY SELF-PORTRAIT ANSWERED IN 13 QUESTIONS

I conducted a straightforward Q & A with Brother James "Jim" Pieczonka to draw his Self Portrait. Brother Jim is a candidate for Judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County on the Republican ballot for the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial Subcircuit, which includes Arlington Heights, Des Plaines, Elk Grove Village, Glencoe, Glenview, Kenilworth, Mount Prospect, , Northbrook, Northfield, Park Ridge, Prospect Heights, Rolling Meadows, Wheeling, Wilmette and Winnetka. Brother Jim is humbly asking for your vote and to help him spread the word about his candidacy to family, friends, and basically anybody who is eligible to vote in the 12<sup>th</sup> judicial subcircuit on Tuesday, March 18, 2014. Brother Jim also encourages the Chicago Society members to bring in their voting receipt to redeem for a free drink "on him" at the General March Meeting the next day on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at the White Eagle!

1) Where were you born?

*I was born on Sept. 12, 1956, and raised at 3416 North Kildare in Chicago, Illinois.*

2) Family background (parents alive or deceased, brothers and sisters), marital status?

*My parents are Chester and Irene Pieczonka, born in Chicago and married for 61 years until my mother died on April 5, 2008. Father resides in Gilbert, Arizona, at age 86. Older brothers Martin (65) resides in Arizona, Michael (58) resides in California; older sister Janet (62) resides in Arizona and a younger sister Eileen (55) resides in Arizona. I am married to Lucy for 36 years and we have three children; Thomas 33, 1st officer/pilot for US Air; Michael (30) CPA, Attorney and LLM in Federal Tax Law; Diana (28) Speech Language Pathologist. I have resided in Glenview, IL since August, 1988 (25 years).*

3) What is your educational background and current position in your profession?

*Grade School - St. Viator (Addison & Keeler), Gordon Technical H.S. (6/74), Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago (12/78), The John Marshall Law School (J.D. 6/83). Currently, I am an attorney with 30 years in private law practice with the Law Offices of James P. Pieczonka, P.C., at 7720 W. Touhy, Chicago, IL 60631 773-307-2575. I was a Tax Judge for the Illinois*

*Department of Revenue, 1985-1996.*

4) What were your first political affiliations and with whom?

*Assistant Precinct Captain with Joe Ozmanski in the 35<sup>th</sup> Ward under John C. Marcin, City Clerk; Associated with Dan Cepa (mother's cousin; Marcin's Chief of Staff), Casey Laskowski (former 35<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman); Ted Lechowicz (former State Senator), Dan Rostenkowski (former US Congressman), Joseph Kotlarz (former 35<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman); Mike Wojcik (former 35<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman).*

5) What do you like about the Chicago Society?

*The great camaraderie among its members and its causes to promote Polonia and help people.*

6) How would you improve the Chicago Society?

*Membership drives to promote younger members and include women.*

7) Do you have a childhood or school nickname?

*"Meaty"*

8) On a scale of 1 to 10 how important is your Polish Heritage?

*An "8", I am proud to be of Polish descent and am a hard worker like my ancestors.*

9) Do you have strong religious beliefs?

*Yes, I believe in being a good person and helping others.*

10) Which would you prefer, a street named in your honor or a postage stamp?

*Street name because I am more of a personal or local kind of person.*

11) Which actor would you choose to play the role in a movie about you and your life?

*George Clooney.*

12) If they made a mixed drink in your honor, what would it be? *Long Island Iced Tea.*

13) Tell us something that your wife does not even know about you?

*When I was young, I wanted to be a plumber.*



## CHICAGO SOCIETY MEMBER IS CANDIDATE FOR COOK COUNTY SHERIFF

With 30 years of dedicated and responsible service as a Deputy Sheriff and Inspector in the Cook County Sheriff's Office, Brother Tadeusz "Ted" Palka is the most experienced candidate for the prestigious position of Cook County Sheriff in 2014. Brother Palka has a vision to improve the lives of all Cook County citizens, sheriff's officers, employees and residents. Palka thoroughly understands the needs and the expectations of a large and diverse Cook County community. As an elected public servant, Brother Palka states that he will serve every single citizen of Cook County with respect, honor, and dignity,



guaranteeing law enforcement professionalism and ensure proper civil services.

Brother Ted Palka has countless professional awards and recommendations, including a "Certificate of Excellence" from the Cook County Sheriff's Office. His insight to crime-fighting strategies secured him membership in the prestigious Chicago Crime Commission, a non-profit, non-partisan organization of members including police officers, politicians, lawyers, business managers, and community leaders, who combine their efforts to make Cook County a better place to live.

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