



CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

Volume 62

December, 2011

Number 12

The Voice of an Autonomous Lodge of the Polish National Alliance

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PARTY

MEETING AND CHRISTMAS PARTY

WEDNESDAY
December 21, 2011
6:00 P.M.

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

RESERVATIONS
BY DECEMBER 19
TO (847) 823-8747 OR
meeting@chicagosocietypna.org
ARE MANDATORY

NEXT BOARD MEETING AND FORUM DEADLINE

Tuesday, January 3, 7:00 P.M.
Folak's Lincoln Tavern

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, December 21–
General Meeting/Party
White Eagle, Niles

Wednesday, January 18–
General Meeting
Copernicus Center, Chicago

Saturday, January 21–
2012 Inaugural Ball
Beau Jolie by Victoria,
Schiller Park

The Chicago Society Board of Directors cordially invites all members and members' widows to our annual Christmas Holiday Dinner and Meeting, which commences at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, 21st December, at the Przybylo family's White Eagle Banquets & Restaurant, located at 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave., in Niles.

There will be a \$25 Charge per member or member's widow for the party, and a \$25 charge for a member's or widow's one guest, with the charge for further members' or widows' invitees being \$35 per additional guest.

An open bar will be available one hour before and one hour after the dinner. The individually-served dinner menu consists of a traditional soup, an upscale salad, twice-baked potatoes and fresh vegetables, a filet of sirloin and baked salmon combination plate entrée, coffee / tea / milk, and a red peppermint ice cream dessert. A 'Chicken Breast Rosemary' may be substituted for the baked salmon; please indicate the option choice at the time of making your reservations.

KBE Entertainment will provide the music for listening and dancing for the soirée and, as at the past Christmas parties, the Polonia Dance Ensemble will perform famous classical Polish folk dances.

Reservations for the party are a must! Please make your reservations by contacting Chuck Cwiakala at your earliest opportunity: Tel. (847) 823-8747, E-Mail CECwiakala@aol.com. Payment and reservations may also be made via PayPal at our website.

The annual Christmas Holiday Party raffle will take place following our dinner. Our tradition is that the members, their guests, and/or other benevolent friends, donate the prizes for the raffle. To that end, please contact Chuck to offer and detail your donation; any item of merit will be appreciated very much, and will be acknowledged in the *Forum*.



2012 CHICAGO SOCIETY OF THE P.N.A. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Congratulations to the following for being elected to the 2012 Board of Directors:

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Tomasz P. Pawelko Director at Large	Thaddeus P. Wiecek Director at Large	Frederick E. Koziol Director at Large

INDUCTED TO MEMBERSHIP

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

Alexander Tzanos sponsored by Brothers John Cieslik and Frank Czaja.



CHICAGO SOCIETY FORUM

A monthly news bulletin for the
Chicago Society PNA membership

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brothers,

Merry Christmas or *Wesolych Swiat!* I would like to take time to wish all the members of the Chicago Society of the P.N.A. and their families a very joyous and healthy holiday season. Thanksgiving is behind us, and I hope everyone had a good and fulfilling holiday. But now, the rush is on for just the right tree and that perfect gift for someone special. So, do take time for yourself. Enjoy the holiday parties, the hustle and bustle of the stores and the Christmas music. Also, take time to reflect upon the meaning of Christmas, and let us all try to have the Christmas spirit throughout the year. Truly we should all enjoy the days and *Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia!*

I would like to congratulate all of the new officers and directors of the Chicago Society P.N.A. for the year 2012. Let us work together to have a strong and prosperous year for the Chicago Society as we start the celebration of our 100th year anniversary. *Sto Lat!*

A hearty "Thank you" goes out to Brother Chuck Cwiakala for arranging an outstanding Thanksgiving dinner at the November election meeting. Thank you for an excellent job, Chuck. A great time was had by all and extra congratulations for all those who won a turkey.

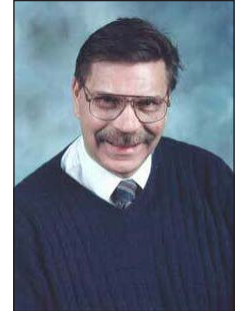
In addition, congratulations and thanks to Brother Ro Matuszczak for chairing and coordinating the Chicago Society's Deserving Children's Christmas Party for the 48th year. The party was held on Saturday, December 10, in the PNA cafeteria located at 6100 North Cicero Avenue in Chicago. A special "Thank you" goes out to his wife, Chris, for all the time and effort obtaining gifts for the children and wrapping them. "Thank you" also goes to all those who helped support the Children's Party with donations and volunteering their time on Saturday.

I would also like to take this time to thank all the officers and directors of The Chicago Society for their dedication and time devoted to further the progress and goals of the Society. I would also like to thank all of the brother members for their support and participation in the activities of the board and for volunteering to help in our many functions. Thank you for being a fellow brother member and let us strive to make 2012, our 100th year, even better than ever. Remember: Dare to be different!

1912 – 2012 – 100 years!!! The Chicago Society will celebrate a milestone in 2012. Start the year-long celebration of our 100th anniversary by attending the 2012 Inaugural Ball on January 21. It is sure to be an eloquent and prestigious affair. Join your fellow brothers for an evening of camaraderie, fine dining, dancing and celebration of all of us, for we are the Chicago Society. Celebrate the past, the present and the future of our brotherhood. Mark the date on your calendar.

May God bless you and your families in this Christmas Season.

Fraternally Yours,
Frank Czaja



**THE INAUGURAL BALL
IS ON JANUARY 21, 2012**



**HUBERT J. CIOROMSKI
PRESIDENT**



**5420 N. HARLEM AVENUE
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AROUND THE SOCIETY


Congratulations to Brother **Waldemar Wyszynski** who was recognized as one of the newest members of the Polish American Chamber of Commerce (PACC) at the monthly networking event held at Darpet, Inc. in Elk Grove Village in November.

Stephanie, daughter of the oldest daughter Deann of Brother **Don Gutowski** has received a scholarship with the Purdue University. Stephanie is a Junior Olympic swimmer. The whole Gutowski family is very proud of her academic and athletic accomplishments. Go Boilermakers!

Brother **Eugene Urbaszewski** and his wife, Teresa, were honored guests at the 60th Anniversary of the Saturday Polish School Thaddeus Kosciuszko on October 29 at the Hyatt Regency Woodfield. Teresa (Dzierzanowska) was one of five students present at the very first class of the school and took part in the anniversary program. The school was begun by Mrs. Albina Damsz with help from its first teacher, Mrs. Maria Zamora. Mrs. Damsz was president of Tow. Pobudka,

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Group 723 of Polish Women's Alliance and her group sponsored the school at its inception making it the first Saturday Polish Language School in Chicago under the sponsorship of Polish Women's Alliance.

On the 20th of January the Copernicus Center will have the official GRAND OPENING of the ANNEX. The V.I.P. reception by invitation will begin at 5:30 P.M. with a presentation of the COPERNICAN OF THE YEAR award presentation to Brother **Donald Gutowski**. Afterward there will be Grand Opening for the General Public and PACC will hold their monthly meeting at the same time with Copernicus Center as the sponsor.

The December 4 event "Celebrate! Polish Carols, Songs & Dance" put together by the Lira Ensemble and beautifully presented at the Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center in Chicago turned out to be a great success. Among the noble invited guests many current and former members of our organization were seen. It was an honor to see the Chicago Society Foundation name displayed on the front page of the program as one of the sponsors. It was an evening of Polish culture presented in celebration of the Polish Presidency of the Council of Europe.

The Chicago Society has received a thank you letter from Maria Ciesla, the President of the Polish Museum of America (PMA), thanking us for the check in the amount of \$1,044.00 from the proceeds of the October 12, 2011 casino night. PMA staff and volunteers were helping the Chicago Society at that event. Mrs. Ciesla also included an invitation to CS members and guests to visit the newly opened Stephen and Elizabeth Ann Kusmierczak 4th Floor Art Gallery. The gallery has been closed to visitors for four years.

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publishing a monthly newsletter that covers a lot of interesting articles and aspects of life of Poles in the United States, but also about the situation in Poland. It can be obtained electronically at no cost and it comes in a PDF format. Requests can be sent to the editor-in-chief Mrs. Justine Jablonska at washington.press@msz.gov.pl. Thank you to Brother **John Wojciechowski** for sharing this information.

Eugene P. Mroz a former member and director of the Chicago Society PNA has recently passed away at the age of 76. In his professional career he was a Chairman and CEO of Gladstone-Norwood Trust and Savings Bank. Although he relinquished his membership in the Chicago Society several years ago, he retained many friends among us.

HONORING JUDGE DIANN MARSALEK AT BALL

The Chicago Society of the P.N.A. will for the first time, at the Inaugural Ball, honor a person of the year. The first Honoree for 2012 will be the Honorable Judge Diann Marsalek. Diann is the daughter of our brother member the Honorable Judge Edward Marsalek (retired). Diann K. Marsalek has dedicated her life to the betterment of the community through judicial reform from the



time she graduated from Immaculata High School. Diann Marsalek was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court on October 3, 2011 as a Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County and was sworn in by Justice Mary Jane Theis on October 4, 2011. Judge Marsalek is assigned to traffic court in the Daley Center.

Please join us at the Inaugural Ball to kick off the 100th anniversary of the Chicago Society and to honor Judge Diann Marsalek.

PROPOSED FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

Name: Robert F. Martwick
4138 N. Olcott Ave.
Norridge, IL 60706
708-906-7612

Occupation: Attorney
Birth date: February 28, 1966
Birthplace: Chicago, IL
Education: J.D.—John Marshall Law School; BA – Boston College,
Spouse: Sharon Tulos
Sponsors: Thaddeus Makarewicz and

Frank Czaja

Name: Paul E. Posch
5042 W. Hutchinson St.
Chicago, IL 60641
312-296-4576

Occupation: Stationary Engineer
Birth date: September 13, 1954
Birthplace: Chicago, IL
Education: AA. Business Administration, AAS HVAC
Spouse: N/A
Sponsors: Frank Czaja and Thaddeus Makarewicz

Name: Scott D. Tomczyk
2222 N. Western Ave.
Chicago, IL 60647
312-213-2000

Occupation: Liquor Business
Birth date: January 29, 1978
Birthplace: Skokie, IL
Education: Northeastern
Spouse: N/A
Sponsors: John Cieslik and Charles Komosa

the entire evening. You will have your choice of the three entrees, to be decided by you that evening. They are Delmonico Steak, Chicken Limon or Salmon.

During dinner Anthony Kawalkowski, will be serenading everyone with his strolling violinists. His orchestra will provide dancing music until 12:00 a.m.

Tickets for the Gala are \$120.00 per person. Frank Czaja can be reached at 312 520 6144 or frankcz@usa.net.

He is accepting requests for information and/or for an invitation to be mailed. You can pay by check when you return your acceptance or by PayPal on our website. Reservations are due January 10, 2012. Tickets will not be sold at the door. Reservations will be held at the entrance table; no tickets will be mailed.

All members should consider adding this elegant evening to their calendar of activities. Singles, non-members and newcomers are welcome! The committee would be honored to see non-members and members alike attending.

POLISH TRIVIA

This December marks the 30th anniversary of one of the most important dates in the recent history of Poland. What was the event that marked it?

If you know the answer, please email it to editor@chicagosocietypna.org. First person who emails the correct answer will be featured as the winner in the next Forum.

The winner of November Polish Trivia (correct answer: Gabriel Narutowicz) is Brother Ronald Wolosewicz. Congratulations!

MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS

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

Walter S. Bialka	6
Frank W. Czaja	9
Jack F. Rohner	12
Charles E. Cwiakala	14
Joseph A.Jr. Drobot	20
Thaddeus T. Dabrowski	21
Dean J. Niedospial	21
Ronald J. Olech	21
Thomas P. Laskowski	23
Ronald M. Wolosiewicz	27

MEMBERS' ANNIVERSARIES

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

Edward F. Blicharski	1966	45 Years
Edward T. Sawa	1996	15 Years

INAUGURAL BALL IS JUST AHEAD

The Ball Chairman, Mark Orwat, and his co-chairman, Frank Czaja, cordially invite all *members, family and friends* to attend the 2012 Inaugural Ball, This is the premier event of the year for the Chicago Society of the PNA. The Gala will be held on Saturday, January 21, 2012, in the near northwest side suburbs.

This black-tie optional Gala Benefit, will offer a delicious plated gourmet dinner featuring a choice of three entrées, dancing, and a program featuring the Induction of Officers and the honoring of our person of the year and the Presentation of the Booster Award to the member who sponsored the most new members during 2011. The invocation and induction of officers will be by The Most Reverend Andrew P. Wypych Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago. The Ball Committee would enjoy sharing the evening with all.

The Ball will be held at Beau Jolie by Victoria, 9950 Lawrence Avenue #5, Schiller Park, Illinois.

The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. Premium call brand liquor is available, complimentary, at the bar

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INAUGURAL BALL TABLE CAPTAINS

The concept of a Table Captain at the Inaugural Ball was introduced to the membership years ago,

The Table Captain is a very important role at The Club's winter Gala; and, in reality, the benefit of using a table captain system extends to the *Sledz* (Mardi Gras), the Candidates' Corned Beef Dinner and to the Pre-Parade Brunch.

Table Captains, whether they are male or female, members or nonmembers, or widows, are those special individuals who help the committee and The Club to fill the ballroom to ensure a full house. Each captain is responsible for filling a table with 8, 9, or 10 people including themselves. They organize a full table of party-goers by getting a commitment (mutual agreement) from those people with whom they desire to share and enjoy the dinner, the dancing, and the camaraderie of the evening.

As a Table Captain, one agrees to buy his own ticket and to fill the remainder of the table, having a capacity for eight or ten, with a wife/significant other/partner, friends, colleagues, co-workers, peers, neighbors and/or family members. Either the others pay with their own check or the captain pays for them with his own one check. While one agrees to use his best efforts to fill an entire table, one has no financial obligation for any unsold seats at that table. If you would like to be a table captain, please contact Brothers Mark Orwat or Frank Czaja

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FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

that we fall victims of it. But then again, I am pretty sure others, before us, said that too.

There is an interesting year ahead of us. The White House presidential election will definitely be the highlight of the year, as all of the current contenders are gearing up for a fierce battle. The United States will no longer have military presence in Iraq. One war finished, one more to be concluded, and let's hope there won't be any new wars anytime soon, or better yet, never. We are yet to see some serious signs of recovery in the domestic economic situation. Personally, I refuse to accept that the ever present uncertainty, is the new normal. And who can really realistically predict what is going to happen with the economy in Europe? Thus I am going to make an educated prediction, that if I were to write this column in December of 2012, I would sure mention that Chinese curse.

Unfortunately, this is the last month of my term as the Editor of the Forum. It has been a great experience for me, and I would like to thank everyone who helped me in fulfilling this position. Whether it was material you sent for publishing, errors you found that were missed in the proofreading process, articles you provided, or comments, including constructive criticism, that were made to me in person, I would like you to know, that it has all been very much appreciated. I am leaving this position with an experience I didn't have before, and that's very valuable. Thank you!

2012 is also the 100th year of being "in business" for the Chicago Society PNA. It is an honor that not many Polonia organizations can put into their pages of history. We can, and we should be very proud of it. But it is also an obligation. It is a call for leadership and responsibility. Let's all remember that and let's all have a great celebration of this unique anniversary.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to You and All Your Loved Ones!

Fraternally,
Norbert Barszczewski

I would like to wish everyone Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! 2011 is finally coming to an end. For some it has been a good year, for others a challenging one, but we can all agree that it was an interesting time. There is a very famous curse, that some attribute to be of Chinese origin, that says "May you live in interesting times." I think we can honestly say



Norbert Barszczewski with his wife Joanna at the Polish American Engineers Association Annual Gala.

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